



SALISBURY INDEPENDENT

Part of Independent Newsmedia, Inc., USA at BayToBayNews.com

Celebrating the Place We Call Home • Vol. 11 No. 40 • Tuesday, February 4, 2025

FREE

STUDENT STARS



A cast of James M. Bennett students are set to perform the annual Rock & Roll Revival show. For story and photos, see page 4. TRACY SAHLER

Stadium breaks ground on needed upgrades

By Richard Caines
Salisbury Independent

SALISBURY — Baseball fans attending the Delmarva Shorebirds April 8 home opener at Arthur W. Perdue Stadium may notice a few changes.

Facility improvements include a new 9,000-square-foot indoor performance center, a clubhouse renovation, updated bullpens and upgraded lighting on the field and in the parking lots.

Wicomico County, state and officials of the Shorebirds and the Baltimore Orioles attended a Jan. 30 ceremonial groundbreaking event highlighting the upcoming changes at the Single-A Minor League Baseball affiliate's home. Officials said construction is slated to be complete by July 31, with possible additional upgrades occurring as early as next off-season.

"This project represents more than just bricks and mortar," Wicomico County Executive Julie Giordano said during the ceremony. "It's an investment in our community, our quality of life and the future of baseball here on the shore."

"For decades, the Shorebirds have been a source of pride, entertainment and inspiration for families across our region. Whether it is a child seeing a game for the first time under the lights, or a rising star on their way to the big leagues, this team has brought people together in a way that few can."

Named for the founder of Perdue Farms — Arthur Perdue — the stadium opened in 1996 and currently seats more than 5,000 fans. The stadium has reinvented itself since its founding, with a new video board,

See **Stadium** on page 2



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Stadium

• From page 1

seats and other upgrades to make the experience better for fans of all ages.

Officials said the latest improvements will bring the stadium into compliance with MLB's Professional Development League Standards and allow Wicomico County to go above the minimum requirements in several areas. To date, the Maryland Stadium Authority has authorized \$28.6 million in state funding to perform the renovations.

"This really creates a lot of opportunity for economic development, and it really further elevates Maryland as a sports and entertainment destination," said Mike Frenz, executive director of the Maryland Stadium Authority, which plans, finances, builds and manages sports facilities, convention centers, entertainment venues and other projects in Maryland.

The improvements at Perdue Stadium are needed to keep the Shorebirds affiliated with the Orioles as a Single-A franchise. The requirements go back to 2020, when Major League Baseball took over the minor league system and cut the number of teams to 120, setting standards for player development including increased pay and several requirements at each ballpark.

"Having this upgraded facility in Salisbury really solidifies our position and long-term viability as a Major League Baseball affiliate in the system," said Pat Filippone, president of 7th Inning Stretch, the CA-based baseball ownership group, headed by Tom Volpe. "43 markets lost their teams when Major League Baseball did their reorganization of the system."

The ownership group's two other teams are the Everett AquaSox and the Stockton Ports.

Baltimore Orioles Director of Minor League Operations Kent Qualls said one of the most noticeable chang-



Construction is underway on a new 9,000-square-foot indoor performance center.

SALISBURY INDEPENDENT/RICHARD CAINES

es at the stadium will be the indoor performance center at the end of the existing concourse on the third base side.

"The training of baseball players has evolved especially over the last five years or so," Qualls said. "One of the key things that we train with hitters now is their launch angle. So, this building has bigger cages, higher cages, just a much bigger space. We also asked for classroom space for players. A lot of their learning is on the field, though a lot of their learning is also in a classroom."

Qualls said the updated bullpen areas will allow them to incorporate technology that helps players maximize throwing potential by capturing and analyzing biomechanical data, which the Orioles currently use at the big-league level.

"Those are designed large enough where we can bring our pitching lab from Baltimore, we've got room for all of the cameras around the pitching mounds," Qualls said. "You're going to see something a little unique where those mounds and home plates are covered, and the intent behind that is so we can use the technology in the heat of the day and still be able to capture the data that we need to best develop our pitchers."

Qualls added that although fans

won't regularly see the updated clubhouse underneath the seating bowl it is equally important to the future of the team. The clubhouse is expected to more than double in size.

"We're going to have a legitimate weight room for our players to train," Qualls said. "When this ballpark was built, and many of the ballparks were built around Minor League Baseball, weight rooms and weight training were really not a thing for minor league players, and now it's an everyday need."

The coaching staff, according to Qualls, has tripled in number over the last five or six years, and they did not have enough lockers.

"We didn't have enough room for them to work and with these renovations, we're going to have more than enough room," Qualls said. "We're going to be able to accommodate our male and female staff and we've got a nice collaborative workroom for our coaches to work, aside from the locker room."

Wicomico County Council President John Cannon said it is great to see that the team and stadium are constantly innovating themselves.

"Shorebird Stadium itself is like one of our crown jewels," Cannon said. "You go anywhere; you can tell them everything you want to know



Pat Filippone, president of 7th Inning Stretch, the CA-based baseball ownership group, speaks during a Jan. 30 ceremony.

about Wicomico County. As soon as you tell them you have a stadium, that's the only thing they remember.

"It's really an integral part of the county and I appreciate all of the effort that everyone is doing to make all of these improvements."

Former state Del. Carl Anderton Jr., now the Director of Rural Economic Strategy at the Department of Commerce, said he first learned of Major League Baseball's plans by reading an article in Sports Illustrated.

"The first thought in my head was, well I have to get to the front of the line because I know Aberdeen, Bowie and Frederick and everybody are coming," said Anderton, who explained that a meeting was soon initiated with Orioles general manager Mike Elias and Shorebirds general manager Chris Bitters.

"I'm just so grateful to be able to be here and to see this come to fruition, so that way my grandchildren and their children and the generations to come behind can be blessed by watching the greatest game, with the greatest Major League Baseball team, here in the greatest stadium, in the greatest county, in the greatest state, in the greatest country on Earth," Anderton said.



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JAMES M. BENNETT HIGH SCHOOL

Rock & Roll Revival set to return for 2025 season

Special to the Salisbury Independent

SALISBURY — The James M. Bennett High School Rock & Roll Revival is back for 2025, and tickets are available online for eight shows of “Juke Box Hero” Feb. 7-9 and 13-16. All seats for Rock & Roll Revival are reserved, so be sure to buy early for best selection of seats.

The annual event with professional lights, sound and performances draws its audiences from Salisbury, Wicomico County and throughout the Delmarva region. Shows will sell out as the Feb. 7-9 and 13-16 show dates approach.

The schedule for the first weekend of shows will be 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9. For the second weekend, the shows will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16. Tickets are \$25.

Visit the JMB Rock & Roll Revival website to see photos from past years of the show, get 2025 show information, and buy tickets for the shows:



The production is the largest fundraiser for the JMB PTSA. PHOTOS BY TRACY SAHLER

<https://jmbrockandrollrevival.com/>.

For those who would like assistance in person with purchasing tickets, the JMB Auditorium Box Office will be open for JMB Rock & Roll Revival ticket sales from 4:30-7 p.m. any Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (through Feb. 5).

For the past quarter-century, the

JMB Rock & Roll Revival has added excitement to the mid-winter calendar. The show is back in a big way for 2025, with two music-filled acts on the theme of “Juke Box Hero.”

The JMB Rock & Roll Revival is put on by a cast and crew of more than 100 James M. Bennett High students who sing, dance, play in the band, and

work in many areas backstage and behind the scenes.

The students are supported by a team of adults (including many Rock & Roll Revival parents and alumni from the show’s first two and a half decades). Show directors are the Bailey family: Gino and Susan Bailey and daughters Lauren Bailey Gaba and Rachel Bailey, all of whom have been involved in Rock & Roll Revival on stage and off stage for many years.

The show is presented by the Rock & Roll Revival team on behalf of the JMB PTSA. Net proceeds benefit the JMB PTSA, which puts those proceeds to great use to support the entire school. Your ticket not only gets you a seat for a terrific Rock & Roll Revival show, it gives you the opportunity to support James M. Bennett High’s more than 1,500 students as well as its staff members all year long.

Questions about the 2025 shows? Contact JMB Rock & Roll Revival at jmbrockandrollrevival@gmail.com, at 443-735-0711, or through Messenger on the JMB Rock & Roll Revival Facebook page.



James M. Bennett students are bringing back the Rock & Roll Revival for 2025 for multiple dates in February. This year’s production includes two music-filled acts on the theme of “Juke Box Hero.”



The JMB Rock & Roll Revival is put on by a cast and crew of more than 100 James M. Bennett High students who sing, dance, play in the band, and work in many areas backstage and behind the scenes.

SALISBURY

City Council overrides mayor's veto of downtown ordinance

By Richard Caines
Salisbury Independent

SALISBURY — Salisbury City Council has voted to override a recent veto by Mayor Randy Taylor, paving the way for a developer to build a downtown apartment complex, although the measure could ultimately end up in court.

The city council voted 4-1 at its Jan. 14 legislative session in favor of a text amendment that will grant developers the ability to increase the amount of housing that could be built on new lots in the central business district. The passage of the text amendment during the meeting mirrored a Dec. 16 vote by the council.

Taylor later used his authority to veto the plan's passage over parking concerns, but the council passed the measure for a second time during a special Jan. 27 legislative session.

By law, Taylor had six days to veto the text amendment. The Jan. 27 meeting was tense, with the mayor questioning why he was not allowed to speak or give a presentation before the deciding vote.

The mayor sent a memo to the council earlier in the day, asking them to correct "a potentially catastrophic mistake."

"The debate over the Downtown zoning density has been ongoing for many months," Taylor wrote. "In my view, the city and the developers arrived at an agreement in a manner that was far from equitable or workable for all parties."

Councilwoman Sharon Dashiell has continued to vote against the proposal, which allows the density of a project to double from 40 to 80 units per acre. Dashiell made a motion during the Jan. 14 meeting to table the final vote until the council received the results of a parking study, but none of the other council members seconded it.

"I realize you want it pushed through," Dashiell said during the Jan. 27 meeting. "You want it done and I'm figuring a little

more information is not going to hurt anybody. I don't know what there is to fear to get more information and then have a really solid yay or nay whichever, because this (will have) a very long term impact on our city."

The development, Salisbury Town Center, is planned for three downtown parking lots facing Unity Square and is slated to consist of 222 multi-family rental units within three buildings with commercial aspects when finished.

Gillis Gilkerson's proposed development has received opposition from Salisbury residents and nearby property owners, who have objected to the elimination of parking lots, the construction's impact on existing businesses and potential flooding issues. Other members of the downtown business community, Greater Salisbury Committee, Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce and others have offered their support.

Downtown business owner Holly Worthington, who said she would lose parking spaces to the project, has said in previous meetings there are "too many unknowns" with the apartment proposal. She told the council that her building has no street parking, no loading zone and no adjacent parking lot.

"I reached a point where no reasonable resolution has happened throughout the course of this, let's say year and a couple months, but I've put energy into it," said Worthington, who added that she directed her attorney to file a complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief. "I put money into it. I put time into it. I've taken time away from my child to be here at these meetings so that I could be heard, and I haven't.

"So now that we've reached this point where no reasonable resolution has happened, I've been forced to take action to protect myself and the best interests of the city."

ENTERTAINMENT



The Community Players of Salisbury, a nonprofit organization, was established in 1937. They run multiple shows annually. PROVIDED

Community Players performing first show in new theater

Salisbury Independent

SALISBURY — Community Players of Salisbury opened its new theater Jan. 31 with a performance of "A Few Good Men."


Organization leaders said there are still a few seats available for this weekend. For tickets, go to www.sbyplayers.org or call 410-546-0099


The show's last date will be Feb. 9 inside the theater located at 5109 Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury. The director is Pete Cuesta.


The play by Aaron Sorkin tells the story of a group of military lawyers assigned to defend two Marines in Guantanamo Bay. During the course of the trial, they uncover a high-level conspiracy designed to eliminate weaker soldiers in the name of patriotism.


The play is rated PG.


CIVILITY CHECKLIST


 **Take the High Road.** Respond to the topic — not the person. Refrain from demonizing others for their opinions. Assume those you disagree with are, like you, genuinely interested in improving the community.


 **Be Respectful.** Bullying, public humiliation, insults, name-calling, harassment, and threats directed at another person — or that person's race, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc. — have no place in civil discussions. Find ways to respectfully disagree without questioning someone's character or motives.

 **Be truthful.** Base your opinions/arguments on facts. Value honesty. Make only accurate statements when making your point and avoid exaggeration and stereotypes. When appropriate, cite your sources of information that others may question.

 **Don't misrepresent.** Always identify your opinions as opinions (not stating opinions as facts). Never misrepresent the views of others or falsely claim your opinions represent someone else. If quoting the words of others, identify and credit the source.

 **Listen & Learn.** It's both polite and respectful to listen to those we disagree with (as well as those we support) and be genuine in our attempts to understand their point of view. Expand your mind by thoughtfully seeking out views that don't agree with your own.

 **Look for common ground.** When disagreeing with others, look for even small areas of agreement — which can be the gateway to working together for the greater good.

 **Respect Privacy.** Keep private things private — whether it involves your own information or those with whom you disagree. Revealing private information about someone else is rude, unethical, potentially harmful and in many cases, illegal.

Now that you've read the checklist, take the Civility Pledge at baytobaynews.com/pledge

OPINION

Responding to Schablein's recent opinion piece

In response to Jared Schablein's opinion piece on "Randy Taylor's veto is conflict of interest", I would like to continue to point out Mr. Schablein's contradictions.

First, this density increase is not going to address affordable housing. Please stop mixing the two. Affordable housing will continue to be an issue for the foreseeable future and this density issue will only bring a certain population to downtown. Let's be honest, this will do nothing for surrounding neighborhoods that have been overlooked for over

10 years. Secondly, digging into campaign contributions to see who gave what to a particular person can be done for everyone. I'm pretty sure people who donated to city council members are for the density increase. So what does that prove?

On a final note, let's address some words Mr. Schablein used in this opinion piece and again let's have some integrity here. He used words such as "transparency", "public service", "ethical concerns", "ethical leadership", "accountability", and "fairness". Really? I think

he needs a reminder because there are receipts.

Mr. Schablein is the Chair at Shore Progress and was the former Eastern Shore Organizer at ACLU of Maryland. While in both roles he was not transparent on how he was assisting Megan Outten in her campaign for Mayor of City of Salisbury which, in my opinion, is not being a quality public servant and definitely brings up some ethical concerns. He has not been held accountable for his discrimination tactics against the

See **Responding** on page 7

MD legislative bills of interest to the Eastern Shore

It's that time of year again — the Maryland General Assembly is in session and bills are being filed by the dozens.

There are a few that are of particular interest to us here on the Lower Shore.

First and foremost is Fairness in Girls' Sports HB156) sponsored by many Republican members of the General Assembly. The name

of the legislation speaks for itself, of course, but basically it will give schools the right to designate certain sports as female only and will protect the institutions from retaliation for taking these actions. Please let your Legislators know your thoughts on this bill.

A bill of concern is HB0093/SB0234- Housing and Community Development - Homeless Shelter

Certification Program - Establishment. This legislation would establish a new program in the Dept. of Housing and Community Development and would require the Dept. to develop certain operational and building standards for homeless shelters and minimum standards for the protection of the rights of the

See **Bills** on page 7

Be part of an important project through online giving

The overwhelming generosity of the people of Salisbury, helped provide joy to children in need through Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts this season. Across the U.S., the Samaritan's Purse project collected 10.5 million shoebox gifts in 2024. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2024, the ministry is now sending over 11.9 million shoebox gifts to

children worldwide.

Shoebox packers brought joy and hope to children around the world through fun, full, personalized gifts. For many children, this is the first gift they have ever received. Each shoebox gift is a tangible expression of God's love, given to children in need around the world. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than

232 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

Across the region, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year, and many serve at a deeper level by becoming a year-round volunteer. Information about ways area participants can get involved year-

See **Giving** on page 7

Bills

• From page 6

shelter residents and would require the operator of a shelter to participate in a Homeless Management Information System.

As with most legislation, this would appear on the surface to be rather harmless and even beneficial. After all, the government is “here to help”. I have volunteered at the Ocean City Cold Weather Shelter for several years and in my opinion, this legislation is not only NOT NEEDED, it could definitely interfere with the goals of the churches and nonprofits that operate the shelters. There may be some homeless shelters that would benefit from government oversight, but there is no need to create a whole new government program and subject all homeless shelters to government

control. Frankly, the very idea is scary.

Finally, our very own Senator Mary Beth Carozza has sponsored legislation concerning setting standards for evaluators in child custody dispute cases (SB0025) which would make sure that those who have the power and responsibility to evaluate who should get custody in child abuse cases are qualified to do so.

I hope readers will take the time to familiarize themselves with these important pieces of proposed legislation and to take appropriate action. The text and status of the bills and the contact information for Senators and Delegates is at mgaleg.maryland.gov.

Carol Frazier

Ocean Pines resident

Reader reactions, pro or con, are welcomed at civiltalk@iniusa.org.

Responding

• From page 6

only African American candidate for Mayor, Jernicahel Mitchell, and still has not apologized personally to him. I guess because he takes pictures with our African American Governor he thinks it ok. I wonder if he thinks it was fair on how he treated Jermichael.

I am a big believer in holding our elected officials accountable, but when we only hold those accountable because they have a “R” or “D” behind their names is fake and phony. Jared Schablein, accountability? Start with yourself please.

Kevin Lindsay

Fruitland resident

Reader reactions, pro or con, are welcomed at civiltalk@iniusa.org.

Giving

• From page 6

round can also be found at samaritanspurse.org/occ.

Although local Salisbury drop off locations for shoebox gifts are closed until Nov. 17 – 24, 2025, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conve-

niently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love, remind children around the world that they are loved and not forgotten.

Hannah Murphy

Samaritan’s Purse

Reader reactions, pro or con, are welcomed at civiltalk@iniusa.org.

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Meet Our New Provider **Hannah Bristow, CRNP**



Please join us in welcoming Hannah Bristow, CRNP, our newest Nurse Practitioner at Chesapeake Health Care! Hannah earned her B.S. in Nursing and M.S. in Nursing from Wilmington University in Georgetown, Delaware. With nearly a decade of nursing experience, she has worked in critical care, primary care, and specialized areas such as rheumatology, asthma, and immunology. Previously, Hannah served as a Registered Nurse at Peninsula Allergy and Asthma in Georgetown, Delaware, where she managed intake, environmental allergen testing, disease education, prescription refills, medication effectiveness assessments, and phone triage under physician supervision. Hannah will be joining our Adult Medicine office located on Woodbrooke Drive in Salisbury. For appointments and more information, please contact us at 410-546-6650.

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HEALTH

TidalHealth announces three promotions in finance division

TidalHealth

SALISBURY — TidalHealth is pleased to announce key leadership changes within the Finance Division as part of an ongoing effort to strengthen the health system and support the organization’s continued growth.

Stephanie Gary has been elevated from Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to Senior Vice President of Finance/CFO.



Stephanie Gary

Gary joined TidalHealth in 2021. She is just the second person to hold the title of Senior VP of Finance/CFO, and only the third CFO in TidalHealth’s history.

Gary’s leadership and dedication have been instrumental in advancing TidalHealth’s financial strategy, and her new role will help guide the organization through its next phase of growth, including the anticipated addition of Atlantic General Hospital to the health system in the spring of this year.

Kathy Talbot has been promoted from Assistant Vice President (AVP) to Vice President, Finance, and Chief Revenue Integrity Officer.



Kathy Talbot

Talbot, who joined TidalHealth in 2022, has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership and strategic insight in her previous role, and this promotion will further enhance TidalHealth’s financial operations. She will continue to over-

see budget cost & reimbursement, tax/treasury, health information management and other areas of finance as TidalHealth continues its journey to improve processes and invest in technology to make it more efficient.

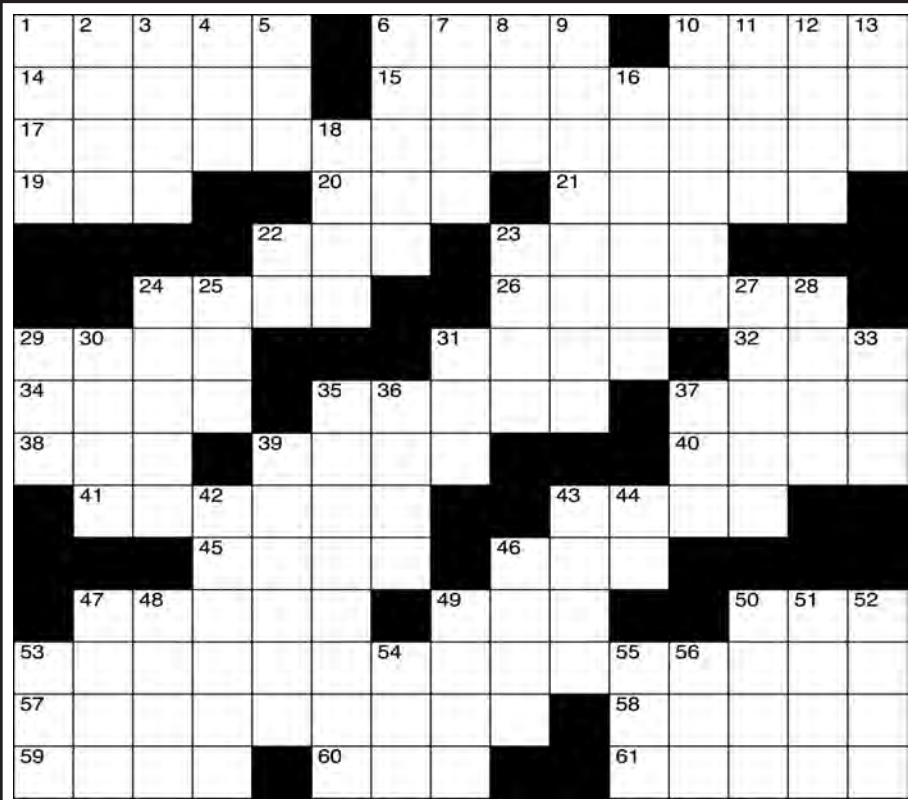
Steve Tracey has been advanced from Assistant Vice President (AVP) to Vice President, Corporate Ventures and President of Peninsula Health Ventures.

He has been with TidalHealth since 2023. Steve’s vision and dedication to expanding TidalHealth’s corporate ventures will play a critical role in driving new opportunities for

innovation and healthcare partnerships as the health system expands. Collaborating with TidalHealth in Peninsula Health Ventures are Peninsula Imaging, LLC, TidalHealth Home Care, American HomePatient of Delmarva, Your Doc’s In, and the POA Surgery Center.

The promotions also create seats on the Executive Team for both Talbot and Tracey.

“These changes reflect TidalHealth’s continued focus on growth, excellence, and fostering a strong leadership team. We congratulate Stephanie, Kathy, and Steve on their well-deserved promotions and look forward to their continued contributions to our commitment to excellence in financial management and corporate strategy,” said Steve Leonard, Ph.D., MBA, FACHE, President/CEO of TidalHealth.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. 'The Las Vegas of the East'
- 6. Cook
- 10. Manning and Wallach are two
- 14. Chameleon
- 15. A way to fill up
- 17. What MLBers hope to play in
- 19. Unhappy
- 20. Indefinite period of time
- 21. Excites
- 22. Males
- 23. Mongol leader Genghis
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Soda comes in them
- 29. Not nice
- 31. Professional organization
- 32. Part of a play
- 34. Sea eagle
- 35. Emily Blunt's character in 'Sicario'
- 37. Beige
- 38. Mental sharpness
- 39. Valley
- 40. Alcyone's husband
- 41. A place to gamble
- 43. Flightless Australian birds
- 45. Call out somebody's name over a P.A. system
- 46. US spy group

- 47. Pancakes from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Disfigure
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal
- 58. Early English council
- 59. Square measures
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Siskel and ___, critics

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mouths
- 2. Buffalo
- 3. You plug it in
- 4. Each
- 5. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 6. King of Thebes
- 7. English name meaning 'mythical hunter'
- 8. Indicates near
- 9. More herbaceous
- 10. Gas-powered cars need one
- 11. Dishonest individual
- 12. Systems, doctrines, theories
- 13. The woman
- 16. The whole of one's holdings
- 18. Witnesses
- 22. Doctor
- 23. Paul ___, Swiss painter

- 24. Kids look for him on December 24
- 25. Single
- 27. Competitions
- 28. Predict the future
- 29. Cage for trained hawks
- 30. Musician Clapton
- 31. Frozen water
- 33. Semiformal men's evening attire
- 35. Most worn
- 36. Common soap ingredient
- 37. Former EU monetary unit
- 39. Provisions
- 42. Book parts
- 43. Republic of Ireland
- 44. Partner to 'Pa'
- 46. Sammy ___, songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Clare Booth ___, American writer
- 49. Solar disk in Egyptian mythology
- 50. Minute arachnid
- 51. From a distance
- 52. Monthly apartment cost
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Tourist destination
- 55. 'Woman' in Ojibwe language
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

SALISBURY

Chestnutt returns to city as housing & homelessness manager

She will lead initiatives such as Anne Street Village

City of Salisbury

SALISBURY — The City of Salisbury is pleased to announce the return of Christine Chestnutt as the new housing & homelessness manager.

Chestnutt, who previously served in this role from 2018 to 2022, brings over a decade of experience in management, leadership and program implementation, with a proven track record of success in overseeing community projects and driving organizational growth.

Chestnutt’s background includes managing homeless services and permanent supportive housing programs, leading cross-functional teams, and securing funding to support housing initiatives. She has worked closely with community stakeholders to advocate for the unsheltered population and provide leadership during critical times.

“I am honored to return to the City of Salisbury to continue our work in helping the unsheltered population,” said Chestnutt. “Anne Street Village was my biggest dream, and I am grateful for the opportunity to return and see it come to fruition. I look forward to working with our community partners to provide sustainable solutions and support for those in need.”



Christine Chestnutt. PROVIDED

As housing & homelessness manager, Chestnutt will continue to lead key initiatives, including Anne Street

Village, which is dedicated to providing housing and supportive services to Salisbury’s homeless residents.

Her expertise in grant management, budgeting, and stakeholder engagement will be instrumental in furthering the city’s efforts to address homelessness and improve housing accessibility.

Mayor Randy Taylor stated, “We are excited to welcome Christine back to the City of Salisbury. Her expertise and dedication have been invaluable to our community, and we are confident that under her leadership, we will continue making significant strides in providing much-needed housing solutions and services to our most vulnerable residents.”

Maryland Capital Enterprises, Inc.



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Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by April 15.

WOR-WIC
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GOVERNMENT

Van Hollen ranking member of Appropriations Subcommittee

Special to the Salisbury Independent

WASHINGTON — On Jan. 29, U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) was announced as the ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies.

This subcommittee includes jurisdiction over funding for NASA; the Department of Justice, including the FBI; the Department of Commerce, including the Minority Business Development Agency, NIST, NOAA, and the Census Bureau; and many other critical federal agencies. In addition to the Appropriations Committee, the Senator will continue to serve on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee; Budget Committee; and Foreign Relations Committee. A full list of the Senator's subcommittee assignments is available below, as well as the jurisdiction of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

The Senator released the following statement regarding his move to serve as the leading Democrat on the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee:



U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) PROVIDED

“Serving on the Appropriations Committee has given me the opportunity to secure critical funds for both our national and Maryland priorities. As

the new Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, I look forward to an expanded role in overseeing funding for the many critical agencies that call Maryland home — including the future FBI headquarters, NIST, NOAA, the Census Bureau, and NASA Goddard — as well as many outside Maryland that provide crucial services to the American people. I’m lucky to follow in the footsteps of another great Marylander who served in this capacity on the subcommittee – Senator Barbara Mikulski.

“In this role, I will continue to be laser-focused on supporting investments that create an economy that works for all Americans, including by advancing innovation in science and technology. I will also continue to work to build a justice system that supports public safety and protects the rights of every American. I look forward to partnering closely with my counterpart, Senator Moran, to deliver critical investments in our communities and our nation.”

Harris renamed chairman of House Appropriations Subcommittee

Special to the Salisbury Independent

WASHINGTON — House Freedom Caucus Chairman Andy Harris, M.D. (R-MD) was renamed chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies.

Federal departments funded through this subcommittee's annual appropriations bill include the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Farm Credit Administration.

Chairman Harris will also sit on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies during the 119th Congress. Dr. Harris has served on the powerful House Appropriations Committee, which is re-

sponsible for appropriating funding for the federal government, since 2013.

“It is an honor to be named as Chairman of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies subcommittee on Appropriations. Agriculture is the economic backbone of Maryland's First Congressional District, and it touches the lives of Americans daily as we all depend on a safe food and drug supply overseen by both the Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration. Additionally, as a physician, I look forward to ensuring the safety and efficacy of the latest developments in drug and medical device research as well as steering our nutrition policy toward promoting healthy food choices, starting with changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).”



Congressman Andy Harris (R-MD) PROVIDED

COMMUNITY

Shore Transit to host upcoming listening sessions

Shore Transit

EASTERN SHORE — Shore Transit is currently embarking on a study with the goals to identify the most efficient, effective and inclusive way to design a public transit system that meets the needs of the Tri-County Council's residents. This includes ensuring equity and opportunity while maintaining sustainability within fiscal and resource constraints.

This study will provide Shore Transit with the opportunity to better understand the needs of its ridership, as well as the needs of our Areas of Persistent Poverty (AoPP) and historically disadvantaged populations who may or may not currently

use transit services within the region.

Shore Transit is committed to enhancing transportation services in their service area, and we greatly value the vital role that human services organizations like yours play in our community.

To ensure our transit improvements align with the needs of those you serve, we are hosting several listening sessions across the Tri-County area for your convenience.

These sessions will:

- Provide an update on our study and current details.
- Gather insights and feedback from organizations directly involved with community members.
- Foster collaboration to address transportation challenges effectively.

Your participation would offer essential perspectives to help us tailor our services to better support the community. We sincerely hope you can join us for a session that best fits your schedule.

Listening Sessions:

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 12

Time: 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Worcester County Health Department 6040 Public Landing Road, Snow Hill, MD 21863

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 19

Time: 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Somerset County Commission on Aging 8928 Sign Post Road, Suite 3, Westover, MD 21817

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 19

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Tri-County Council Multi-Purpose Center (Somerset Room)

31901 Tri-County Way, Salisbury, MD 21804

RSVP details:

Please confirm your attendance by Wednesday, Feb. 5, by emailing SHORETRANSIT.EXPLORE-MORE@WRALLP.COM.

If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your continued dedication to serving our community. We look forward to hearing your insights and working together to enhance transit services on the Eastern Shore.



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HIGHER EDUCATION

Wor-Wic's 93rd law enforcement class graduates

Special to the Salisbury Independent

Twenty-six law enforcement officers from Wicomico, Worcester, Talbot, Caroline and Queen Anne's counties graduated in the 93rd entrance-level class of the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy (ESCJA) operated by Wor-Wic Community College at the corner of Route 50 and Walston Switch Road in Salisbury.

Graduation exercises, which were held in the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City, featured a commencement address by Amanda Leonard, Dorchester County State's Attorney.

John C. Moses, director of criminal justice at Wor-Wic, Donald Rollyson Jr., associate director of the ESCJA, and Rob Dell'Erba, ESCJA coordinator, presided at the ceremony. Awards of certification and excellence were presented by agency representatives. Brandon West of the



Front row, from left, Jesse Pellegrin and Gabriel Travis of the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office; and Marc Stewart and Colin Renas of the Salisbury Police Department. In the back row, from left, are Julian Meza-Shockley and Cameron Johnson of the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office; and Candido Encarnacion De Aza and William Mitchell of the Salisbury Police Department.

Berlin Police Department was the class speaker.

In addition to West, graduates included Candido Encarnacion De

Aza, William Mitchell, Colin Renas and Marc Stewart of the Salisbury Police Department; Cameron Johnson, Julian Meza-Shockley, Jesse Pellegrin and Gabriel Travis of the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office; Michael Arnold and Kyle Mann of the Ocean Pines Police Department; Ryan Barrett, Hayden Gable, Fernando Garcia and Olive Taylor of the Ocean City Police Department; Mitchell Adams, Chad Miller and Nicholas Smithhart of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office; Marleni Baltazar, Andrew Roberts and Joshua Turner of the Easton Police Department; Khadijah Ameen of the Federalsburg Police Department; Zachary Robinson and Jaden Rowan of the Caroline County Sheriff's Department; Caitlyn Lane of the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office; and Sean Peterson of the Maryland Natural Resources Police.



Front row, from left, Andrew Roberts, Joshua Turner and Marleni Baltazar of the Easton Police Department; and Caitlyn Lane of the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office. In the back row, from left, are Zachary Robinson and Jaden Rowan of the Caroline County Sheriff's Department; Khadijah Ameen of the Federalsburg Police Department; and Sean Peterson of the Maryland Natural Resources Police.

PROVIDED PHOTOS



Front row, from left, Michael Arnold of the Ocean Pines Police Department; Brandon West of the Berlin Police Department; Chad Miller of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office; and Ryan Barrett and Fernando Garcia of the Ocean City Police Department. In the back row, from left, are Kyle Mann of the Ocean Pines Police Department; Nicholas Smithhart and Mitchell Adams of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office; and Olive Taylor and Hayden Gable of the Ocean City Police Department.

AGRICULTURE

New members named to Maryland Horse Industry Board

Salisbury Independent

ANNAPOLIS — The Maryland Department of Agriculture announced the appointment of three new members to the Maryland Horse Industry Board. Each member is appointed by the Governor of Maryland to serve a four-year term.

“The Maryland Horse Industry Board plays a critical role in strengthening the state’s horse industry and honoring the dedication of the thousands involved,” said Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary Kevin Atticks. “I extend my congratulations to the new members and look forward to your leadership.”

Established by the General Assembly in 1968, the Maryland Horse Industry Board was created to oversee equine welfare and license public riding stables. In 1998, its mission expanded under the Maryland Department of Agriculture to include promoting the equine industry and fostering economic growth. Today, the board licenses, inspects and regulates over 800 public riding and lesson stables while actively supporting all

facets of Maryland’s equine sector. By State law, its 12 members represent diverse segments of the industry, ensuring a well-rounded approach to its oversight and advocacy.

The new members include:

Dr. Kathleen Anderson (Equine Veterinarians) graduated from Western College of Veterinary Medicine in 1986 and has practiced in the Mid-Atlantic region since then,



Kathleen Anderson

focusing on Thoroughbred racehorses and elite equine athletes. She is the Equine Medical Director for Fair Hill Training Center and served as the 2016 Past President of

the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP). Anderson has held numerous volunteer leadership roles in the equine industry, including with the AAEP On Call program, and was recently appointed to the HISA Veterinary Advisory Committee. She brings nearly 40 years of experience and a passion for horses to the Maryland Horse Industry Board, working as

a racehorse practitioner from yearling sales through retirement and second careers; eventers, and beloved riding horses. Anderson has a menagerie at home of 5 horses, 2 wild corgis, and 2 barn cats that keep her grounded in reality and sensitive to the challenges facing horse owners and caretakers!

Genevieve Macfarlane (General Public) is a partner at the Law Offices of Stevens Palmer, LLC, located on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Her legal practice encompasses real estate transactions, land use and zoning, and equine-related legal matters. A lifelong equestrian, Macfarlane grew up riding in Maryland, which fostered a strong and enduring connection to the state’s vibrant equine community. She earned her undergraduate degree from Washington College and her Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland School of Law. Since law school, she has been focused on building a successful practice while combining her



Genevieve Macfarlane

work with her passion for the equine industry. Macfarlane serves as the President of the Queen Anne’s County Bar Association and sits on the Land Use Institute Committee for the Maryland State Bar Association. Macfarlane is an avid foxhunter and a member of the Wicomico Hunt Club.

Carolyn Mackintosh (Horse Council) is the owner of Loch Moy Farm and the organizer of the Maryland Horse Trials, Maryland International FEI CCI 1/2/3/4*, USEA Horse Trials, and USDF Dressage shows. She also hosts Bred to Event and unrecognized events, providing opportunities for horses and riders at the grassroots to the FEI level of equestrian sports. Traveling to international events to learn more about competitions and management, while fostering growth in Maryland’s competitive equestrian scene, is a true passion of hers. Mackintosh is on the board of the Maryland Horse Council.



Carolyn Mackintosh

BUSINESS

Reyes Styles Barbershop & Salon opens in Salisbury

Special to the Salisbury Independent

SALISBURY — Flo Brotzman, Senior Advisor, with The Hanna Team at SVN | Miller Commercial Real Estate recently leased a 3,000-square-foot space at College Square Shopping Center in Salisbury.

This space will be the home to Reyes Styles Barbershop & Salon. Wesley Cox, also from The Hanna Team at SVN | Miller Commercial Real Estate, represented the landlord in this transaction.

Reyes Styles Barbershop & Salon is owned by Yunior and Jasmin Reyes. Jasmin has been

in the salon business for over nine years and Yunior has been a barber for eight years. They had the idea of combining a barber shop and a full-service salon, offering haircuts for children and adults, color, highlights, lowlights, halo hair color, perms, conditioning, and more.

Reyes Styles Barbershop & Salon opened on Jan. 27, and will be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If Flo Brotzman can assist with any of your real estate needs, email flo.brotzman@svn.com or call 410-543-2440.



Reyes Styles opened Jan. 27 in Salisbury. PROVIDED

WASHINGTON

Officials move from rescue to recovery at site of plane crash

By Emma Tufo and Sasha Allen
Capital News Service

WASHINGTON — Authorities worked to recover the bodies of victims from the Potomac River Jan. 30 in the hours following a mid-air collision between an American Airlines passenger jet and a U.S. Army helicopter.

Emergency responders had pulled more than two dozen people from the plane and the helicopter, John Donnelly, chief of Washington, D.C.'s fire and emergency services, said in a Thursday morning press conference.

"We are now at a point where we are switching from a rescue operation to a recovery operation," he said. "At this point, we don't believe there are any survivors from this accident."

The crash involved American Eagle Flight 5342, which was traveling from Wichita, Kansas, to this city on Wednesday night. The flight had 60 passengers and four crew members on board, according to the airline. The military helicopter had three people on board.

Shortly before 9 p.m. that night, the control tower at Reagan National Airport sounded the alarm, local officials said. This set off an immediate response from several emergency departments across the metropolitan



Recovery crews search wreckage in the Potomac River for victims of the American Airlines crash.

GIUSEPPE LOPICCOLO/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

area, including the fire department from the District of Columbia and harbor patrol fire boats.

Ultimately, more than 300 people responded from other local agencies, and worked through the night to find survivors, braving high winds and ice-covered waters. After hours of work, officials said, it became clear there were no survivors.

"We're absolutely heartbroken for the family and loved ones of the pas-

sengers and crew members, and also for those that were on the military aircraft," American Airlines CEO Robert Isom said. "This is devastating. We are all hurting incredibly."

Isom confirmed the airline's plan to cooperate with all investigations. The National Transportation Safety Board is now the lead agency on the investigation, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser told reporters.

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth

said the U.S. Army and the Department of Defense are also launching investigations.

Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy said he believes the collision was "absolutely" preventable.

"Last night, it was a clear night," Duffy said. "The helicopter was in a standard flight pattern. The American airline flight coming in to land was in a standard flight pattern as it was coming in to DCA," as the airport is known.

Officials have located both aircrafts and are working to recover the fuselage of the plane.

"We will not rest until we have answers for the families, and for the flying public," Duffy said. "You should be assured that when you fly, you are safe."

Jack Potter, CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, said the airport was resuming flights.

"It's safe," Potter said. "We've worked with all the federal agencies, the FAA. It's been determined that we can operate that airport safely."

Grappling with their first major tragedy, the Trump administration worked to reassure the public that it's safe to fly.

"I can tell you with complete confidence," Duffy said, "We have the safest airspace in the world."

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HEALTH



TidalHealth Peninsula Regional is located at 100 E Carroll St. in Salisbury. SALISBURY INDEPENDENT/RICHARD CAINES

For American Heart Month, learn how to save a life with hands-only CPR training

TidalHealth

SALISBURY — February is American Heart Month, a time for all of us to show our hearts some love.

Being physically active, eating a healthy diet, quitting smoking, managing stress, knowing and controlling your blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels are great ways to take care of your heart health.

Each year, an estimated 350,000 people have an assessed out of hospital cardiac arrest, with over 70% of these cardiac arrests happening at home. When someone is experiencing cardiac arrest, immediately receiving CPR from someone close by can increase the chance of survival.

TidalHealth, Atlantic General Hospital, Salisbury Fire Department, Pocomoke Fire Department, Salisbury University and Worcester Health Department are partnering this February to help residents learn hands-only CPR.

No-Cost CPR training will be provided by Dr. Zachary Townsend, assistant professor of Exercise Science at Salisbury University. These sessions will help residents learn how to correctly perform hands-only CPR and participants will also receive additional heart health education materials. Trainings are scheduled as follows:

Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6-7 p.m. at the Salisbury Fire station HQ (station #16), 325 Cypress Street, Salisbury. Hands Only CPR Salisbury Fire Department.

Thursday, Feb. 2, from 6-7 p.m. at the Pocomoke Fire Department, 1410 Market St, Pocomoke City, MD 21851. Hands Only CPR Pocomoke Fire Department.

This is education focused on how the life-saving act is performed and not a certification or recertification course for CPR.

For more information about the No-Cost CPR training or for help registering for a training, please call the Worcester County Health Department at 410-632-1100 ext. 1108.

HEALTH

TidalHealth to offer free Heart Smart screenings

TidalHealth

SALISBURY — During American Heart Month in February and throughout the year, TidalHealth is offering free Heart Smart screenings for people who are not under the care of a cardiologist but are at risk for heart disease.

The service is provided monthly at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional in Salisbury and at various other locations in February only. Pre-registration is required.

The screenings include a heart disease risk assessment; resting 12-lead EKG; body fat/body mass index; blood pressure testing and pulse oximetry testing. Because of the blood test associated with the risk assessment, a 12-hour fast is required.

Dates at TidalHealth Cardiovascular Surgery at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional include: Feb. 11, March 18, April 15, May 13 and June 17.

For American Heart Month, the free Heart Smart screenings are also available on the following dates at these locations:

- Friday, Feb. 7, TidalHealth Primary Care, 100 Rawlins Drive, Seaford, Del. 19973

- Friday, Feb. 21, TidalHealth Primary Care, 30265 Commerce Drive, Suite 206, Millsboro, Del. 19966

- Tuesday, Feb. 25, TidalHealth Primary Care, 11101 Cathage Road, Berlin, Md. 21811

Please call 410-543-7026 to learn more or to schedule your free Heart Smart screening.

COMMUNITY

Delmarva Power encourages customers to take control of and reduce their energy use during the winter months

Assistance Finder can help with bill management

Delmarva Power

SALISBURY — Through most of the winter so far, we have experienced a significantly colder season than last year.

Delmarva Power would like to highlight ways customers can take control of their energy use to save energy and money on their bills.

Based on Heating Degree Days

data, we can assume heating systems had to run 80% more in December versus November, likely leading to an increase in energy use.

The weather remained very cold through January and will likely continue into February, making the following energy-saving tips especially important to help manage their energy use:

- Check your thermostat. If health permits, set the thermostat to 68 degrees. For each degree you lower the thermostat, you can save up to 5 percent on heating costs. Consider investing in a smart thermostat that can connect to your mobile devices,

helping you stay on top of your energy usage.

- Adjust your blinds. Keep your blinds up during the day to capture the radiant heating benefits of the sun. Close your blinds and curtains after the sun goes down to keep the cold air out and the heat in.

- Install energy efficient light bulbs. Energy-efficient LED bulbs use up to 75 percent less energy than standard bulbs.

- Insulate your home. Trap escaping air from windows and doors by using caulking or weather-stripping around leaky areas, install storm windows in winter, and close chimney flues.

- Dust or vacuum radiators. Dust and grime impede the flow of heat. Keeping radiators clean helps maintain their efficiency.

- Maintain home heating equipment. Have your heating equipment serviced periodically by a professional service representative.

- Heat pump settings: For locations with heat pumps, set the ther-

mostat to the lowest comfortable temperature and avoid frequent changes to prevent increased energy use. Only adjust if you'll be away for more than 24 hours.

A full list of ways to save energy and money during this cold stretch can be found at delmarva.com/WaysToSave.

Delmarva Power is also making it easier for customers who may need support with lingering energy bills from the hot summer months or for those who want to get ahead of cold winter temperatures. Delmarva Power's new Assistance Finder tool can help customers discover the best programs that fit their needs, including financial assistance and bill management.

For best results, customers are advised to sign in through My Account. Customers can also contact Delmarva Power Customer Care at 800-375-7117 for additional help.

THINGS TO DO

Benefit pork chop dinner set for Feb. 7 in Delmar

DELMAR — The public is invited to the Delmar VFW for a drive-thru charcoal grilled pork Chop dinner on Friday, Feb. 7, from 4 - 7 p.m. at the VFW Post, 200 W. State St., Delmar, MD.

The menu includes a large charcoal

grilled pork chop that has marinated for 24 hours, a large seasoned baked potato, and homemade succotash. The cost is \$15 per person.

Proceeds benefit the many local charities and organizations supported by the Delmar VFW.

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**CALENDAR
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throughout Downstate Delaware and
Maryland's Eastern Shore!

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ANNAPOLIS

2025 Maryland General Assembly update: Week three

Sen. Mary Beth Carozza's office

ANNAPOLIS — Sen. Mary Beth Carozza (R-District 38) testified in strong support of Senate Bill 325, which would extend the sunset of the Registered Apprenticeship Tax Credit until June 30, 2031 and repeals the current 50 percent prevailing wage requirement to earn the State Apprenticeship Tax Credit returning it back to the original 2017 tax credit. The hearing was held on Wednesday, January 22.

The need to fix the current Maryland Apprenticeship Tax Credit was brought to the attention of Senator Carozza and her colleagues on the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission by Lauren Martin, CPA and VP of Seaside Plumbing, a family-owned and operated business in Berlin, Maryland who established a state-registered program in 2014.

“During the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission’s visit to our office, we shared a key frustration: the 2020 requirement that apprentices be paid at least 50 percent of the prevailing wage rate (\$42 at the time) to qualify for tax credits. This stipulation made it nearly impossible for small businesses like ours – particularly those operating in residential plumbing on the Eastern Shore – to participate,” stated Lauren Martin of Seaside Plumbing in her written testimony.

“It is imperative that we have workable incentives for employers if we are to be successful in increasing the number of Registered Apprenticeships in the State of Maryland,” said Carozza, who represents Worcester, Wicomico, and Somerset counties. “This tax credit incentivizes employers to use Registered Apprenticeships, but the 2020 wage requirement to earn the tax credit has prevented both



Wicomico County Page Julia Gore of Parkside High School pictured with Senators Mary Beth Carozza (R-District 38) and Johnny Mautz (R-District 37) in the Senate chamber. PROVIDED

small business and some union employers from benefitting from Maryland’s apprenticeship tax credit.

The Maryland Department of Labor noted “there were significantly fewer applications” after the 2020 wage requirement was added with almost 850 employers who benefited from the apprenticeship tax credit before the 2020 wage requirement change and dropping to approximately 80 after the 2020 change was in effect.

Carozza was joined by Leslie Porter-Cabell with the Lower Shore Workforce Alliance; Brandon Butler on behalf of the Maryland Workforce

Association; Melanie Pursell, the Director of Tourism and Economic Development for Worcester County; and Jacob Hsu, the Chair of the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission. This legislation is based on one of the recommendations expected in the final report of the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission.

SENATOR CAROZZA’S MUST APPEAR IN COURT FOR RECKLESS AND NEGLIGENT DRIVING BILL HEARING

Carozza testified in strong support of Senate Bill 44 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on January 22. SB 44 would require that a

person charged with reckless or negligent driving which contributed to the death of another must appear in court without prepaying the fine.

Currently, a person charged with reckless or negligent driving involved in a fatal accident is not given a must appear citation. In practice, this means that these types of cases are put on a regular traffic citation docket and are not given the attention by the court that these sensitive cases deserve. The State’s Attorneys office is not alerted, and therefore is unable to take the necessary steps to provide the victims’ families much-needed support through the court process.

“SB 44 addresses an injustice in our current reckless and negligent driving law,” said Carozza. “Another year has gone by and more families have been shattered by the tragedy of losing a loved one at the hands of reckless and negligent drivers.”

Carozza was joined by Beatriz Medina-Diaz, who lost her brother Jonathan to a reckless driver on March 3, 2024. She spoke on behalf of all families who have lost a loved one due to reckless and negligent driving and the toll this oversight in the justice system can take on those who are left behind.

LOCAL WORCESTER COUNTY RV BILL

Carozza on January 22 also testified in strong support of Senate Bill 79 along with a panel of economic development and tourism experts. This local bill would allow out-of-state recreational vehicle dealers to display in vehicle shows for motor homes or recreational trailers in Worcester County. Out-of-state dealers would not be allowed to accept deposits or point of sales, and additional safeguards such

Update

• From page 17

as an out-of-state motor home and recreational trailer vehicle show permit have been added. The hearing was held before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

“We have worked in good faith with the promoter of the OC RV & Van Lifestyle Show and Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration officials to strengthen this legislation,” said Carozza. “By allowing more available, diverse options with out-of-state dealers being able to display their products at the OC RV Show while at the same time continuing to allow Maryland RV dealers to sell their products, the OC RV Show would increase attendance and sales for Maryland RV dealers, give consumers more options, and boost the local tourism economy.”

Carozza was joined by OC RV Show Promoters Rich Hutchins and Jen Evans, Worcester County Maryland’s Coast Executive Director Melanie Pursel, Matt Liber with the Maryland Tourism Coalition, and Larry Noccolino, Ocean City Convention Center Director.

COMMITTEE BRIEFING ON MANDATED CLEAN CARS PROGRAM

The Senate Education, Energy, and Environment (EEE) Committee on which Senator Carozza serves was joined by the House Environment and Transportation Committee on January 22 for a briefing on the implementation of the Advanced Clean Cars II standards (ACC II) in the State of Maryland.

The ACC II standards were adopted by the Maryland Department of Environment through regulations, and therefore, lacked the public input that drives the legislative process. By Model Year 2027, each Maryland dealer would be required to have 43 percent of the cars for sale at the es-

tablishment be electric. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, battery electric vehicles were only 7.1 percent of the light-duty vehicle sales in 2024.

During the briefing, Carozza pointed out the lack of a charging infrastructure in Maryland and objected to imposing EV sale mandates on the auto dealers and limiting consumer choice, especially with the lack of charging stations to support EVs on the Shore.

“President Trump’s executive order to eliminate the federal mandate that EVs should make up 50 percent of new car sales by 2030, to cancel federal tax credits for EV purchases and revoking an EPA waiver allowing California to ban sales of new gas-only cars by 2025 should effectively stop Maryland from moving forward with these onerous and unrealistic EV mandates that are hurting our local auto dealers,” said Carozza who has visited local auto dealerships like Pohanka Automotive in Salisbury to see firsthand the negative impact of Maryland’s current EV mandates on local businesses and their employees and customers.

REPUBLICANS HIGHLIGHT NEGATIVE IMPACT OF GOVERNOR’S BUDGET

The Senate Republican Caucus and the House Republican Caucus held a joint press conference on the Governor’s proposed budget on January 23rd.

“As we peel back the layers of Governor Moore’s budget proposal, it’s clear that this proposed budget increases the cost of living for all Maryland residents and relies too heavily on the wallets and bank accounts of Maryland’s taxpayers and businesses,” said Carozza.

Here are some examples of the impact of the Governor’s proposed budget on Marylanders:

- The Governor’s proposed income tax actually increases tax rates not just

on the highest brackets but also on the lowest. While he doubles the standard deduction, he eliminates the ability for Marylanders to itemize, which increases liabilities.

- His tax increase on the “wealthy” also impacts small business owners who file as pass-through entities on personal income taxes.

- His “tax cut” on Corporate Income Taxes is actually an increase of over \$100 million a year when his Combined Reporting proposal is implemented.

- His budget pushes over \$100 million in spending over to local governments already hit with the Blueprint education mandates.

The Department of Legislative Services has stated that the Governor’s proposed budget includes 18 instances of new tax and fee increases alone, with additional fee actions within certain agencies still being reviewed. According to the non-partisan Tax Foundation’s State Tax Competitive Index, Maryland currently ranks 46th in tax competitiveness.

EASTERN SHORE DELEGATION WEEKLY MEETING

Congressman Andy Harris (R-District 1) spoke at the Eastern Shore Delegation on federal efforts regarding Offshore Wind. Last Monday, President Donald Trump signed an executive order to temporarily halt offshore wind energy lease sales in federal waters and pause approvals, permits, and loans until officials review the environmental impact of these projects on wildlife, the economic costs, and the effects of subsidies on the viability of the wind energy industry.

“The questions that you raised at the congressional hearing we had a year ago in Ocean City on the negative impacts to marine life, commercial fishing, military communications and exercises, and of course, the expense to ratepayers and taxpayers were incredibly thorough. With the way the executive order is written, is

it your understanding that all of these issues will be covered in their review?” asked Carozza who presented testimony at the Congressional hearing organized by Congressman Andy Harris in Ocean City, Maryland in January, 2024.

“Yes, the executive order is very widespread and covers the negative impacts on navigational safety, transportation interests, national security interests, commercial interests including the commercial fishing industry, and on marine life,” said Congressman Harris. “We are going to urge the Secretary to conduct the review process. BOEM... rammed these offshore wind leases through. We need due diligence, and we need a high-level review.”

LOCALS IN ANNAPOLIS

Several local officials and community leaders visited Annapolis last week including Julie Giordano, Wicomico County Executive; Bunky Luffman, Wicomico Administrative Director; Chip Bertino, Worcester County Commissioner; Weston Young, Worcester County Chief Administrative Officer; Donna Richardson West of Worcester County, Choptank Electric Board of Directors; Susan Jones, Executive Director of the Ocean City Hotel Motel Restaurant Association; Skip Carey of Ocean City, President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association; Leslie Porter-Cabell, Lower Shore Workforce Alliance; Melanie Pursel, the Director of Tourism and Economic Development for Worcester County; Larry Noccolino, OC Convention Center; Rich Hutchins and Jen Evans, OC RV Show; Judith and Kelly Kennan of Wicomico County; and several representatives of the Maryland Bankers Association. Additionally, representatives from Farm Credit, the Delmarva Chicken Association, Maryland Grain Producers, and the Maryland Farm Bureau also visited Annapolis this week.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of
Audrey Shockley English



Audrey Shockley English, a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend to many, who left us on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at the age of 82. Born on July 19, 1942, in River-ton, MD, a daughter of the late Norris K. "Bob" and Velda Bradley Shockley.

A proud graduate of Mardela High School's Class of 1960, Audrey often looked back fondly on her days at Sharptown Elementary. Later in life, she returned to Northwestern Elementary, where she mentored young students and helped them understand the value of saving money with Kids Club banking. Audrey also dedicated many years to the Mardela High School cafeteria known for her friendly smile and delicious meals.

Audrey was deeply involved in her hometown of Sharptown.

She proudly served as town clerk to Commissioners of Sharptown for many years and later played a significant role in establishing the current town hall location. Her passion for preserving local history found her active with the Sharptown Historical Commission. A life member and past vice president of the Sharptown Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, she was always there for her community. You could find Audrey as cashier of the Oyster Fritters at the Sharptown Carnival or in the Cake Booth spinning the wheel! She loved the carnival. Audrey's dedication to loved ones, family and community leaves behind a legacy of public service that will always be remembered.

A woman of many talents, Audrey was an excellent cook who loved hosting holiday gatherings that brought the family together. She had a knack for baking, always contributing her homemade treats. Audrey was a spirited woman who loved to dance, bringing joy and laughter to all who knew her. In her spare time, she enjoyed shopping, going on cruises, and visiting places like Lancaster and Atlantic City. A loyal fan of Richard Petty, she cheered him on with enthusiasm on race day.

Audrey was a member of Asbury Methodist Church of Sharptown where she was baptized in 1944 and served as Treasurer. She loved helping with roast beef dinners. Audrey and Herman were married at Asbury Methodist Church on March 2, 1962, and together made many wonderful memories. She dedicated many years to her career in banking, serving as the branch manager at Farmers Bank of Mardela Springs and later with PNC Bank. She was a familiar face to many and treated everyone with kindness and respect. Before her banking career, she began her working life at Dupont Company in Seaford as a switchboard operator and later in textile testing.

Audrey is survived by her daughter, Cathy Koyanagi (Wendell), her son, Darryl English (Kelly), her treasured granddaughters, Casey Everngam (Nicholas) and Stephanie English (Colby Beeman), and her twin great-grandsons, Nolan and Barrett Everngam. She will also be missed by her sisters, Peggy Shaver (Mike) and Nancy Abbott, and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband of 62 years, Herman William English, and brother, Larry Shockley and his wife Sharon.

A funeral service will take place on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Asbury Methodist Church, 601 Main Street in Sharptown with a visitation beginning at 1:00 PM. Pastors Steve Willing and David Bennett will officiate. Interment will follow the service in Firemen's Cemetery in Sharptown.

In memory of Audrey, contributions may be sent to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, MD 21802 or to the Sharptown Historical Commission, P.O. Box 311, Sharp-town, MD 21861.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.shortfh.com.

**This Week's
Crossword Answers**



M	A	C	A	O		C	H	E	F	E	L	I	S
A	N	O	L	E		R	E	P	L	E	N	I	S
W	O	R	L	D	S	E	R	I	E	S	G	A	M
S	A	D		E	O	N	S	T	I	R	S		
						M	E	N		K	H	A	N
		S	O	D	S			L	I	T	E	R	S
M	E	A	N			I	E	E	E		A	C	T
E	R	N	E		M	A	C	E	R		E	C	R
W	I	T		V	A	L	E			C	E	Y	X
		C	A	S	I	N	O			E	M	U	S
		P	A	G	E			C	I	A			
	B	L	I	N	I		A	A	R		M	A	R
G	O	U	N	D	E	R	T	H	E	K	N	I	F
S	E	C	E	S	S	I	O	N		W	I	T	A
A	R	E	S		T	O	N			E	B	E	R

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Miscellaneous

WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in compliance with Chapter 22 of the Wicomico County Code and Local Government Article, Section 10-312, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, that the County Council of Wicomico County, Maryland will hold a public hearing at their regular meeting in the County Council Chambers, Government Office Building, in Salisbury, Maryland on:

February 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

The County Council proposes to enter into a Natural Gas Franchise Renewal Agreement with Chesapeake Utilities Corporation (Chesapeake) for a period of twenty-five years commencing in February 2025. A copy of the proposed Natural Gas Franchise Agreement is available for review in the County Council Office during normal business hours and is available online at <https://www.wicomicocounty.org/676/County-Council-Public-Notices>.

Wicomico County Council requests that all interested persons appear at said time and place for the purpose of expressing their views and opinions concerning the matter.

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Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WICOMICO COUNTY
Case No. C-22-CV-24-000516**

COLUMBIA LIENS LLC
Plaintiff,
v.
NANCY J WILKINSON
Wicomico County, Maryland
Occupant
Unknown Owners
ALEXANDER CHRISTIAN WILLIAMS
Wicomico County, Maryland
Occupant
Unknown Owners

ALL OTHER PERSONS THAT HAVE OR CLAIM TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY 700 MAIN ST., SHARPTOWN, MD 21861

Parcel No. 10-0008034

And
ANY UNKNOWN OWNER OF THE PROPERTY 700 MAIN ST., SHARPTOWN, MD 21861, Parcel No. 10-008034, the unknown owner's heirs, devisees, and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right title and interest.

Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property Parcel Identification Number 10-008034 in Wicomico County, sold by the Collector of Taxes for Wicomico County and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff in this proceeding:

L-1.12 AC 700 MAIN STREET, SHARPTOWN

The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid.

It is thereupon this 13th of January, 2025, by the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, That notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this order in some newspaper having a general circulation in Wicomico County once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 20th of March, 2025, and redeem the property with Parcel Identification Number 07-004796 and answer the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

Matthew A. Maciarelo
Judge Wicomico County
Circuit Court

15287 SBY 1/28; 2/4,11; CT 1/29; 2/5,12/2025

Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WICOMICO COUNTY
Case No. C-22-CV-24-000517**

COLUMBIA LIENS LLC
Plaintiff,
v.
ALEX VOLKONSKY
Wicomico County, Maryland
Occupant
Unknown Owners

ALL OTHER PERSONS THAT HAVE OR CLAIM TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY 105 E PINE ST., DELMAR, MD 21875
Parcel No. 11-005381

And

ANY UNKNOWN OWNER OF THE PROPERTY 105 E PINE ST., DELMAR, MD 21875, Parcel No. 11-005381, the unknown owner's heirs, devisees, and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right title and interest.

Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property Parcel Identification Number 11-005381 in Wicomico County, sold by the Collector of Taxes for Wicomico County and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff in this proceeding:

L-62 8120 SQFT 105 E PINE ST EDGEVIEW #2 PLAT

The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid.

It is thereupon this 13th of January, 2025, by the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, That notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this order in some newspaper having a general circulation in Wicomico County once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 20th of March, 2025, and redeem the property with Parcel Identification Number 11-005381 and answer the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

Matthew A. Maciarelo
Judge Wicomico County
Circuit Court

15297 SBY 1/28; 2/4,11; CT 1/29; 2/5,12/2025

Your new car could be in today's paper. Have you looked for it?

Shop from a gift catalog that's updated regularly: the classifieds.

Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WICOMICO COUNTY
Case No. C-22-CV-24-000518**

COLUMBIA LIENS LLC
Plaintiff,
v.
OSCAR LOPEZ VALLE, A MARRIED PERSON
Wicomico County, Maryland
Occupant
Unknown Owners

ALL OTHER PERSONS THAT HAVE OR CLAIM TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY 416 ROSE ST., SALISBURY, MD 21801
Parcel No. 09-041958

And

ANY UNKNOWN OWNER OF THE PROPERTY 416 ROSE ST., SALISBURY, MD 21801
Parcel No. 09-041958, the unknown owner's heirs, devisees, and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right title and interest.

Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property Parcel Identification Number 09-041958 in Wicomico County, sold by the Collector of Taxes for Wicomico County and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff in this proceeding:

BL 8 L 23-8280 SQFT 416 ROSE ST, CITY OF SALIS

The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid.

It is thereupon this 13th of January, 2025, by the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, That notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this order in some newspaper having a general circulation in Wicomico County once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 10th of March, 2025, and redeem the property with Parcel Identification Number 09-041958 and answer the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

Matthew A. Maciarelo
Judge Wicomico County
Circuit Court

15302 SBY 1/28; 2/4,11; CT 1/29; 2/5,12/2025

When you want something sold, advertise in the classifieds.

Join all the people who say, "I sold it in the classifieds."

Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WICOMICO COUNTY
Case No. C-22-CV-24-000515**

COLUMBIA LIENS LLC
Plaintiff,
v.
MARY H PURNELL
Wicomico County, Maryland
Occupant
Unknown Owners

ALL OTHER PERSONS THAT HAVE OR CLAIM TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY 112 CATHERINE ST., SALISBURY, MD 21801
Parcel No. 09-046984

And

ANY UNKNOWN OWNER OF THE PROPERTY 112 CATHERINE ST., SALISBURY, MD 21801
Parcel No. 09-046984, the unknown owner's heirs, devisees, and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, grantees, assigns, or successors in right title and interest.

Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property Parcel Identification Number 09-046984 in Wicomico County, sold by the Collector of Taxes for Wicomico County and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff in this proceeding:

BL-1B BL-8 112 CATHERINE ST CITY OF SALI

The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid.

It is thereupon this 13th of January, 2025, by the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, That notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this order in some newspaper having a general circulation in Wicomico County once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 20th of March, 2025, and redeem the property with Parcel Identification Number 09-046984 and answer the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

Matthew A. Maciarelo
Judge Wicomico County
Circuit Court

15282 SBY 1/28; 2/4,11; CT 1/29; 2/5,12/2025

The classifieds are the most successful salesperson in town.

Your next job could be in today's classifieds. Did you look for it?

Public Notice

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
WICOMICO COUNTY
Case No. C-22-CV-24-000513**

COLUMBIA LIENS LLC
Plaintiff,
v.

JACK D POLK & JACOB I POLK JR
Wicomico County, Maryland
Occupant
Unknown Owners

ALL OTHER PERSONS THAT HAVE OR
CLAIM TO HAVE ANY INTEREST
IN THE PROPERTY 3691 S UPPER
FERRY RD, EDEN, MD 21822
Parcel No. 07-004796

ANY UNKNOWN OWNER OF THE PROPERTY
3691 S UPPER FERRY RD, EDEN, MD 21822
Parcel No. 07-004796, the unknown owner's
heirs, devisees, and personal representatives
and their or any of their heirs, devisees,
executors, administrators, grantees, assigns,
or successors in right title and interest.

Defendants.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the
foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the
following property Parcel Identification
Number 07-004796 in Wicomico County, sold
by the Collector of Taxes for Wicomico
County and the State of Maryland to the
plaintiff in this proceeding:

**1.97 AC 3691 S UPPER FERRY RD
N OF ALLEN**

The complaint states, among other things,
that the amounts necessary for redemption
have not been paid.

It is thereupon this 13th of January, 2025, by
the Circuit Court for Wicomico County, That
notice be given by the insertion of a copy of
this order in some newspaper having a
general circulation in Wicomico County once a
week for 3 successive weeks, warning all
persons interested in the property to appear
in this Court by the 20th of March, 2025, and
redeem the property with Parcel Identification
Number 07-004796 and answer the complaint
or thereafter a final judgment will be entered
foreclosing all rights of redemption in the
property, and vesting in the plaintiff a title,
free and clear of all encumbrances.

Matthew A. Maciarelo
Judge Wicomico County
Circuit Court

15262 SBY 1/28; 2/4,11; CT 1/29; 2/5,12/2025

Earn some extra cash. Get a quick response to
Sell your used items any item you may be sell-
ing in the classifieds ing with a classified ad.

Public Notice

**Notice of Finding of
No Significant Impact
Salisbury-Ocean City: Wicomico
Regional Airport (SBY)**

Notice is hereby given that the Federal
Aviation Administration has issued a "Finding
of No Significant Impact" (FONSI) based upon
the results of a Final Environmental
Assessment (EA) for *Demolition of
Maintenance Hangar and Installation of
Drainage Conveyance*, which was finalized in
December 2024. The Proposed Action
consists of the following projects (together
referred to as the Proposed Action):

- Demolish the existing maintenance
equipment storage building on the airfield
- Install a drainage conveyance south of
the existing hangar

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is
the lead agency under the National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The FONSI indicates that the Proposed Action
is consistent with existing environmental
policies and objectives as set forth in the
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 in
that it will not significantly affect the quality
of the human environment.

A copy of the final EA and FONSI is available
for public review during business hours at the
Airport Management Offices (Salisbury-Ocean
City: Wicomico Regional Airport, Airport
Management Offices, 5485 Airport Terminal
Road, Unit A, weekdays 9 am to 5 pm), and
on the airport website (www.flysbvairport.com), through **March 6th, 2025**
16064 SI 2/4 CT 2/5/2025

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Notice to Creditors

**David Harty
8843 Greenbelt Rd., Unit 125
Greenbelt, MD 20770-2451**

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
ESTATE NO.: 27875**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE
ESTATE OF **EDITH NAOMI NUTTER**

Notice is given that Jerry Johnson Jr., 2611
Spring Ln., Nanticoke, MD 21840 was on
January 3, 2025 appointed Personal
Representative of the estate of Edith Naomi
Nutter who died on October 11, 2024 without
a will.

Further information can be obtained by
reviewing the estate file in the office of the
Register of Wills or by contacting the personal
representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the
appointment (or to the probate of the
decedent's will) shall file their objections with
the Register of Wills on or before the 3rd day
of July, 2025.

Any person having a claim against the
decedent must present their claim to the
undersigned personal representative or file it
with the Register of Wills with a copy to the
undersigned on or before the earlier of the
following dates:

- (1) Six months from the date of the
decedent's death; or
- (2) Two months after the personal
representative mails or otherwise delivers to
the creditor a copy of this published notice or
other written notice, notifying the creditor
that the claim will be barred unless the
creditor presents the claims within two
months from the mailing or other delivery of
the notice. A claim not presented or filed on
or before that date, or any extension provided
by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim
forms may be obtained from the Register of
Wills.

Jerry Johnson Jr.
Personal Representative

True Test Copy
Register of Wills for
Wicomico County
Karen A. Lemon
PO Box 787
Salisbury, MD 21803-0787

14989 SI 1/21,28,2/4 CT 1/22,29,2/5/2025

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Notice to Creditors

**Richard Duvall, Esquire
Richard M. Duvall, LLC
112 W Main St.
Salisbury, MD 21804-4905**

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
ESTATE NO.: 27878**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE
ESTATE OF **TIFFANY RENEE CAMPBELL**

Notice is given that Kayla Maron, 100
Lakewood Dr., Salisbury, MD 21804-7281 was
on January 8, 2025, appointed Personal
Representative of the estate of Tiffany Renee
Campbell who died on October 31, 2024
without a will.

Further information can be obtained by
reviewing the estate file in the office of the
Register of Wills or by contacting the personal
representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the
appointment (or to the probate of the
decedent's will) shall file their objections with
the Register of Wills on or before the 6th day
of July, 2025.

Any person having a claim against the
decedent must present their claim to the
undersigned personal representative or file it
with the Register of Wills with a copy to the
undersigned on or before the earlier of the
following dates:

- (1) Six months from the date of the
decedent's death; or
- (2) Two months after the personal
representative mails or otherwise delivers to
the creditor a copy of this published notice or
other written notice, notifying the creditor
that the claim will be barred unless the
creditor presents the claims within two
months from the mailing or other delivery of
the notice. A claim not presented or filed on
or before that date, or any extension provided
by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim
forms may be obtained from the Register of
Wills.

Kayla Maron
Personal Representative

True Test Copy
Register of Wills for
Wicomico County
Karen A. Lemon
PO Box 787
Salisbury, MD 21803-0787

14985 SI 1/21,28,2/4 CT 1/22,29,2/5/2025

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TIDALHEALTH

Heart & Vascular Institute among first to perform robotic convergent procedure

TidalHealth

SALISBURY — TidalHealth Peninsula Regional’s Guerrieri Heart & Vascular Institute has achieved a milestone in the field of cardiac care by becoming the first hospital in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. to offer the innovative robotic convergent procedure. The hospital is also one of only 14 medical centers nationwide to perform this groundbreaking heart treatment.

The robotic convergent procedure is a highly advanced, minimally invasive treatment option for patients suffering from recurrent atrial fibrillation (AFib). Atrial fibrillation, the most common and potentially dangerous heart rhythm (arrhythmia) disorder affecting an estimated 2.3 million people in the United States, is caused by rapid electrical signals in the upper chambers of the heart (or atria) that can disrupt blood flow, causing an irregular rhythm, and can lead to stroke.

The innovative convergent procedure is considered if the arrhythmia returns after an electrophysiologist performs a catheter-based ablation (scarring the inner heart surface via a blood vessel using a small tube threaded through the groin to the heart). The electrophysiologist then refers the patient to a cardiovascular surgeon who utilizes TidalHealth’s state-of-the-art robotic system to access the heart through a small chest incision and perform epicardial ablation (scarring the outer heart surface). During the procedure, the surgeon also clips the left atrial appendage, separating it from the left atrium, preventing it from throwing circulation blocking blood clots, causing a stroke.

“This is a significant step forward in



The da Vinci surgical system robot at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional is being used to perform revolutionary cardiac robotic convergent surgery. PROVIDED

the treatment of atrial fibrillation using this team approach to enhance precision and minimize risk” said cardiovascular surgeon Fawad Khan, MD, of TidalHealth Cardiovascular Surgery. “We’re thrilled to be the first in the region to offer this advanced procedure. It allows us to provide our patients with the best possible outcomes, using the latest technology to address heart rhythm problems in the most effective way possible.”

Both physician specialists use similar methodology of radiofrequency energy to create scar tissue in targeted areas of the heart, which effectively disrupts or blocks the abnormal electrical signals that are causing the irregular beats, allowing the heart to pace or beat in a regular or normal rhythm.

This groundbreaking procedure provides hope for patients who have not responded well to traditional treatments, offering them a new option for achieving long-term relief from AFib.

After the surgeon’s ablation, the patient returns to the electrophysiologist for follow-up.

The minimally invasive nature of the

robotic convergent procedure means heart tissue is treated more accurately, and patients experience less pain, smaller incisions, and faster recoveries, leading to a better quality of life.

“Electrophysiology is a rapidly growing field within cardiology, with innovative strategies emerging for the treatment of atrial fibrillation and other arrhythmias. This unique procedure, along with our collaboration with TidalHealth Cardiovascular Surgery surgeons, further enhances the comprehensive services we provide to our community,” said Arooge Towheed, MD, of TidalHealth Electrophysiology. “We have been performing this hybrid collaborative procedure for two years and are seeing promising results. The robotic approach, carried out by the cardiovascular surgeons, highlights our commitment to utilizing the latest technologies for the benefit of our patients.”

For more information on the robotic convergent procedure or to schedule a consultation with the Guerrieri Heart & Vascular Institute, call 410-543-7123.

Notice to Creditors

MICHAEL B. MATHERS
Webb, Cornbrooks, Wilber, Vorhis,
Douse & Leslie
115 Broad Street, P.O. BOX 910,
Salisbury, MD 21803-0910

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
ESTATE NO.: 27896**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE
ESTATE OF **MILDRED B. PALMER**

Notice is given that Jane P. Carmean, 6350 Snow Hill Rd., Snow Hill, MD 21863-3408 and Judith P. owe, 8717 Burnt Mill Rd., Willards, MD 21874-1339 were on January 21, 2025 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Mildred B. Palmer who died on January 10, 2025 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representatives or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the appointment (or to the probate of the decedent’s will) shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 21st day of July, 2025.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representatives or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent’s death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representatives mail or otherwise deliver to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Jane P. Carmean
Judith P. Lowe
Personal Representatives

True Test Copy
Register of Wills for
Wicomico County
Karen A. Lemon
PO Box 787
Salisbury, MD 21803-078
15943 SI 2/4,11,18; CT 2/5,12,19/2025/8/2025

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