



# SALISBURY INDEPENDENT

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FREE

## Wicomico County to get first state park along Wetipquin Creek

By Richard Caines  
Salisbury Independent

SALISBURY — Wicomico County is getting its first state park highlighted by a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Board of Public Works gave the Maryland Department of Natural Resources approval to purchase 445 acres along the Wetipquin Creek from owner Donald Graham for \$3.3 million during its Feb. 12 meeting in Annapolis.

State officials said the park, to be named Wetipquin Creek State Park, will “conserve and foster an appreciation of the natural resources on the Delmarva Peninsula.” Long Hill, a plantation home dating back to the mid-18th century, sits on the property and was listed on the national register in 1974.

The state said there is currently



The Long Hill plantation house will be part of the new Wetipquin Creek State Park in Wicomico County. Maryland Department of Natural Resources photo.

no timeframe for an opening to the public as the real estate deal will close later this year. Once acquired the park service will identify and inventory natural, cultural and historical

resources, as well as evaluate potential recreational uses. Design plans will include infrastructure to support

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### COMMUNITY

## Cambridge man shares memories of historic Selma march

By Debra R. Messick  
Dorchester Banner

CAMBRIDGE — 61 years ago, Cambridge resident Roy Davis, a native of Selma, Alabama, took part in three walks that changed American history.

On Monday, January 20, Martin Luther King Day 2025, Davis, a Man's Shelter Monitor at Delmarva Community Services, spoke to an

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# Park

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public access and amenities.

“We are really excited, and one of our biggest pushes here with our administration is bringing people to our county,” said Wicomico County Executive Julie Giordano during the Feb. 12 meeting. “And bringing people to Maryland. This is just one step in that direction.”

Officials said the park will offer a variety of interpretive and educational programs, tours, and events exploring the region’s history including the lives of enslaved people at Long Hill, the history of indigenous peoples in the region, and 18th- and 19th-century farm life on the Eastern Shore.

“Wetipquin Creek State Park will expand our state parks to every county in Maryland, an important milestone in our mission,” Maryland Park Service Director Angela Crenshaw said. “Once open, the new park will provide recreational and educational opportunities for visitors to immerse themselves in the outdoor world by fishing and paddling adventures on Wetipquin Creek as well as exploring trails that meander through forest, wetland and meadow habitats.”

The land is home to a variety of ecosystems, including Wetipquin Creek, a tidal tributary that empties into the Nanticoke River, plus acres of tidal marsh and associated inter-



The agricultural and woodland tract planned for Wetipquin Creek State Park is an ecologically and historically significant site that was previously protected with a conservation easement by its owners. Photo courtesy Maryland Environmental Trust.

tidal shrub-scrub areas, mature oak/hickory forests and mixed pine and hardwood forests.

Visitors could see wildlife including coyotes, foxes, white-tailed deer, raccoons, beavers, and multiple species of birds and waterfowl. The area provides stopover habitat for bird species using the Atlantic flyway and breeding areas for Forest Interior Dwelling Birds and animal species. The creek supports resident fish species, including largemouth bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed, pickerel, and crappie.

“This park land acquired through

the grant consists of a mixture of forestry and title wetlands, agricultural fields and will all be managed by the Maryland Park Service to allow Marylanders to bird watch or fish or enjoy the recreational activities,” said Gov. Wes Moore during the Feb. 12 meeting. “I look forward to getting out there and hiking. I would love for Marylanders to join me while out there.”

News of the state park comes after the Greater Salisbury Committee put out a report last year outlining challenges in Wicomico County and offering solutions.

The committee suggested a con-

certed effort involving many stakeholders was needed to start an initiative to get the ball rolling but stated that Giordano made “good” attempts to raises awareness with state officials.

“Wicomico is the only county in the State of Maryland that does not have a State Park,” the report said. “That should be addressed. Maintaining, promoting and taking full advantage of the excellent quality of life opportunities that Salisbury/Wicomico provides – from biking and hiking to access to our rivers and waterways, from golfing to our parks and recreation offerings – is key.”

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# Selma

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overflowing audience at Christ Episcopal Church on High Street in Cambridge, sharing his firsthand account of taking part in the pivotal marches with Dr. King which led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, ensuring that Black Americans have the right to vote.

Davis related the traumatic events he witnessed, as well as the inspiration from Dr. King's message and the example of other leaders, including future Congressman John Lewis, then serving as Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) leader Hosea Williams, and "The Courageous Eight," leaders of the Dallas County Voters League, an organization assisting Selma's Black citizens with organizing voter rights efforts.

National Archives records state the events leading up to the marches:

"Predating the three main Selma marches, Reverend C.T. Vivian led a peaceful march to the courthouse in Marion, Alabama on February 18, 1965, to protest the arrest of DCVL member James Orange. On the way to the courthouse, Alabama state troopers attacked the marchers, shooting Jimmie Lee Jackson in the process. Jackson died eight days later, prompting James Bevel of SCLC to call for a march from Selma to Montgomery to speak with Governor George Wallace about Jimmie Lee Jackson's death."

At age 14, Davis had his own reasons for being willing to face danger by participating in the marches deemed illegal by Wallace.

"The Whites Only water fountains and bathrooms. The places where we couldn't go in because our skin was dark, like McDonalds. We'd see all the White people in there, probably laughing at us," Davis said. "There



**At age 14, Selma native Roy Davis, right, was captured on the April 5, 1965, cover of Newsweek magazine. Davis said he didn't know the other boys in the picture. DORCHESTER BANNER.**

were places, like Sears, where we couldn't go in to shop.

"I did it for my mother and father, my family; I wanted better for them."

Davis recalled when march organizers came to his school to let them know it was time to go to Brown Chapel AME Church to hear about the plans, including the directive to remain nonviolent.

"It was a large church, and it was full, but you couldn't hear a pin drop, the speakers were so eloquent. I get excited now, just thinking about it," he said.

The first march, which came to be known as Bloody Sunday, took place Sunday, March 7, and was peaceful until reaching the downtown Edmund Pettus Bridge.

"We were at Broad Street, and as we came up to the Bridge, you could hear horses, dogs, screaming. When I got up to the tip of the bridge, you could see the horses, and the tear gas, and the dogs," David said.

"I felt sorry for the old people. I

could see people that had been beaten with billy clubs, then the tear gas and water hoses. I was scared, but I was 14 years old, I could run all day, so I didn't kneel down. I ran so fast, underneath the bridge, with one of my cousins," he said "But I told him, if they catch us down here, they're gonna throw us into the water, the Alabama River, which was nasty and brown. So, we ran back up and went back to the church grounds, and things calmed down."

(On Bloody Sunday, John Lewis' skull was fractured, and he later said he thought he was going to die that day. Amelia Boynton of the DCVL was beaten unconscious and 60 more marchers were injured, according to the National Archives.)

Despite his fears, when the next march attempt took place two weeks later, on March 9, Davis joined twice as many people joining in to try again. This time, the police "could not hit us, or do any harm, just stand in front of us. So, we went back to the church again," Davis said.

(Further violence was carried out that evening when members of the Ku Klux Klan attacked the Reverend James Reeb, who later died from his injuries.)

Thousands more people joined the third march attempt on March 21, which successfully made it to Montgomery on March 25.

"This time, they had to give us protection while we were marching," Davis said. "But all the way through, we had people hollering at us, cussing at us, trying to throw us off our game, but we had a game plan. It took us 15, 16 miles marching each day," he said. "Some stretches were just a two-lane highway, where only 300 people could walk. We'd pull over and rest,

At Montgomery, Martin Luther King gave his speech, then we got on buses and came back to Selma.

"I haven't been on any other Civil Rights marches since then. But what

I have been doing in my life, for the past 14 years with my wife, she's been doing it longer, is trying to help the homeless. This is the worst year I have seen for homeless people, with nowhere to go, no housing, we have to put them up as best we can,"

After Davis's remarks, MC Mary Handley held him back from leaving to give people a chance to ask questions, starting with a few of her own.

"You were fourteen years old. Why did you go? And did you tell your mother," Handley asked.

"I didn't tell her that day. But the next day when I was getting ready to march, she knew where I was going. She called my relatives in Chicago, New York, and Delaware, telling them, 'my boy is in the march with Martin Luther King,'" Davis said.

"After the march was over, we were at the school playground for recess, and kids were coming up telling me, 'Roy, you're on the cover of Newsweek magazine, come on let's go to the library,' that's when I saw this picture," he said, as wife Valerie helped unveil a framed portrait of the cover featuring him and two other youngsters he didn't know, dated April 6, 1965, titled The Road from Selma.

Longtime Cambridge educator Greg Meekins suggested to Davis that he share his stories with area school youngsters, and offered to help make it happen.

The Martin Luther King Day program presented by the Dorchester County Democratic Party, with program organizer Mary Handley serving as Mistress of Ceremonies, also featured Pastor Yvonne Wallace Penn, Maris Wicker, Marie Anderson and Adrian Newton.



# COMMUNITY

## City of Salisbury announces 3rd Friday event themes for 2025

Salisbury Independent

**SALISBURY** — The City of Salisbury has announced the official event themes for the upcoming 2025 3rd Friday celebrations in Downtown Salisbury. The monthly events, held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the third Friday of each month, provide a opportunity for residents and visitors to enjoy Downtown Salisbury.

2025 3rd Friday Themes:

- April 18: Think Green
- May 16: Paw Prints
- June 20: Summer Camp
- July 18: I Spy Art
- August 15: Time Warp Disco
- October 17: Weird Science
- November 21: Light Up the

Holidays

Note: There will be no 3rd Friday event in September, as the Maryland Folk Festival will be taking place that weekend on September 19-21 in Downtown Salisbury.

Get Involved:

Community members and local businesses are encouraged to get involved with 3rd Friday by hosting a booth, sponsoring an activity, or participating in any of the themed events. To learn more about how you can contribute, visit Get Involved.

For More Information:

To stay updated on event details, visit the official 3rd Friday social media account or website at 3rd Fridays.



**Pets were the star of the show at last year's 3rd Friday event themed "Paw Prints."** SALISBURY INDEPENDENT/RICHARD CAINES

## Wicomico Rec & Parks' Just Try It returns with spring sports



Special to the Salisbury Independent

**SALISBURY** — Kids are invited to try a new sport without committing to an entire season at Wicomico Recreation & Parks' free 'Just Try It' event on Wednesday, Feb. 26. Sports featured at this event include baseball, softball, lacrosse and golf.

"We want to give children a chance to try out a sport before they commit to it" said Recreation Program Specialist Randy McFadden. "Just Try It provides the opportunity for parents and children to come out, have fun with a variety of sports and then decide if they want to sign up for a full season."

The event is set to take place at the Wicomico Civic Center from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26.

The following sports and organi-

zations will be a part of Just Try It: Spring Sports:








- Baseball | TBD
- Softball | Junior Girls Softball League
- Lacrosse | Falcons Youth Sports
- Golf | TBD

Each organization will be running short clinics throughout the event to introduce multiple aspects of the sports. Participants must be between 3-11 years old.

Music, giveaways, information about Wicomico Recreation and Parks' scholarship opportunities and staff from all involved organizations will be on site.

Preregistration is recommended and can be found online at [www.WicomicoRecandParks.org](http://www.WicomicoRecandParks.org).

## 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](http://baytobaynews.com/pledge)

## OPINION

## Birthright not aim of 14th Amendment authors

The left has done a great job influencing the issue of birthright citizenship. Most Americans oppose granting automatic citizenship to children born to illegal immigrants, but they also believe that we're stuck with this policy.

They're told repeatedly that the practice is enshrined in the Constitution's 14th Amendment, that it has been affirmed by the Supreme Court, that the jurisprudence around it is settled law and that challenging the matter now is unconstitutional and disloyal.

None of that happens to be true, but meantime, we're saddled with a logically incoherent immigration system. Yes, immigrants are central to America's story. But immigration law must be dedicated to the common good, not the benefit of those willing to flout our laws.

Immigrants should be vetted to ensure that they are likely to assimilate and be of value to their adopted country. Instead, we incentivize illegal immigrant mothers to cross the border before birth, so their offspring can be entitled to lifelong citizenship.

So, did the writers of the 14th Amendment botch the job, subjecting their descendants to such a dysfunctional system? No. In language more commonly understood at the time, they plainly stated, "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the State wherein they reside."

The 14th Amendment was written in 1868, to clarify that the newly emancipated slaves were granted all the privileges and rights of citizenship. There is nothing in the historical

record to suggest that the authors had the slightest intent to grant citizenship to all born on American soil, much less those with parents living here illegally. The jurisdiction language was added specifically to prevent such an interpretation.

Advocates of constitutional originalism should also note that the author, Sen. Jacob Howard of Michigan, explained that it was meant to describe "a full and complete jurisdiction, the same jurisdiction in extent and quality as applies to every citizen of the United States now."

He clearly is not describing an illegal immigrant. Sen. Lyman Trumbull, an influential supporter of the amendment, also emphasized "jurisdiction meant not giving allegiance to anyone else."

The legal scholar Lino Graglia points out that, as the authors would have understood it, those who are born to parents legally in the U.S. "are subject to the jurisdiction thereof and so would have constitutional claim to birthright citizenship." Just as plain is the fact that the 14th Amendment, as written, would not apply to those born to illegal immigrants, soldiers posted in a foreign country or foreign diplomats.

Birthright advocates claim that the 1897 Supreme Court case of Wong Kim Ark clinches their claim that children of illegal immigrants born here are entitled to the full citizenship. Wong had traveled back to China with his parents and was unjustifiably denied reentry until the decision was overturned by the court. They ruled that to bar Wong would be "to deny citizenship to thousands of persons of (European) parentage who have

always been considered and treated as citizens of the United States."

That makes sense, since Wong had the necessary documentation, and his parents had been on American soil legally at the time of his birth, there being no laws defining them otherwise at the time. Which is exactly the reason why this much ballyhooed ruling does not apply to the practice of granting citizenship to the children of illegal immigrants. In fact, the Supreme Court has never opined on the question.

The clear intent of the amendment, the language and the historical record are all in accord. Yet the 14th Amendment has been completely untethered from its original meaning and impact. The left and the Democratic Party have taken something meant to right a wrong and manipulated it to the advantage of those entering the country illegally.

There are at least 5 million children in America who have received citizenship inappropriately, or about 1 in 8 U.S. births. That works well for those who relentlessly seek ways to produce millions of future Democrats.

The rest of us should continue to respect our Constitution and our history. The incredible privilege of citizenship should go only to those who merit it.

**Tom Patterson**

Patterson is a retired physician and former Arizona state senator who lives in Paradise Valley, Arizona.

*Reader reactions, pro or con, are welcomed at [civiltalk@iniusa.org](mailto:civiltalk@iniusa.org).*



## COMMUNITY

# 2025 Maryland General Assembly week 5 recap

**Sen. Mary Beth Carozza's office**  
Special to the Salisbury Independent

ANNAPOLIS — Sen. Mary Beth Carozza has provided a week 5 legislative recap on various topics including a response to the State of the State address, bill updates, Chicken Day and Delmarva locals visiting Annapolis.

## Response to Gov. Moore's State of the State address

"In his State of the State this year, Governor Moore did not say the State of the State was strong as he did last year, and this is an acknowledgement that Maryland families are struggling with their finances, energy costs, higher prices, and overall standard of life," said Sen. Mary Beth Carozza who listened to the Governor's address in the House chamber on February 5th. "I expected his State of the State to provide more details and solutions in addressing Maryland's immediate budget and energy crisis."

Carozza pointed to a February 3rd Wall Street Journal editorial entitled "The Californification of Maryland" highlighting Governor Moore's anti-growth tax proposals.

"The Governor has said repeatedly that Maryland must grow its way out of the budget deficit, yet his proposed tax policies do the very opposite," said Carozza.

From the WSJ February 3rd editorial, under Governor Moore's tax proposal, "... the top rate would rise to 10.7%. That would be one of the highest combined state-and-local rates in the country, behind only New York, New Jersey and California."

"I live in a border district with Delaware to the north and Virginia to the south, and I am extremely concerned that the Governor's current tax proposals will drive more residents out of state and prevent others from relo-



**Chicken Day in Annapolis: From Left to Right: Delegate Jay Jacobs (District 36); Delegate Charles Otto (R-District 38A); Delegate Barry Beauchamp (R-District 38B); Senator Mary Beth Carozza (R-District 38); Far Nasir of Pocomoke, Board Member of the Maryland Farm Bureau; and Zach Evans and Chad Carpenter of Mountaire Farms. PROVIDED**

cating and retiring in Maryland," said Carozza.

From the WSJ February 3rd editorial, "This trend should be familiar to Maryland Democrats, who have run this experiment before. From 2008 to 2010, Gov. Martin O'Malley increased the state's top income-tax rate to 6.25% from 4.75%. The rate applied only to taxpayers earning more than \$1 million, but in less than two years more than 1,000 of them no longer filed returns in the state. Maryland collected \$250 million less from taxpayers in that bracket then it did before the increase."

## Budget Solutions

The Maryland General Assembly Republican Caucus continues to put forward solutions to Maryland's current budget crisis ranging from slowing down the implementation of the Blueprint education plan to removing certain mandates like expensive requirements to electrify government buildings.

"We're putting ideas and solutions out there. Just this week our Senate Minority Leader, Senator Steve Hershey, proposed postponing the start date for the paid leave program for Maryland employees," said Carozza.

"The State's not ready to implement this program, and the cost of that programs has grown from about \$800 million to \$1.8 billion."

## Helping Constituents with Skyrocketing Electric Cost Increases

Members of the Eastern Shore Delegation requested that Delmarva Power representatives attend the ESD February 7th meeting and respond to the thousands of constituents impacted by dramatic increases in electric costs.

Delmarva Power representatives

# Recap

Continued From Page 7

reported that they are taking the following steps to help customers:

- No late payment fees for January and February 2025 and providing longer periods for repayment, up to 24 months
- Suspending disconnections for nonpayment in February 2025
- Waiving deposits for disconnected customers who are seeking to restore service
- Extended call center hours to support customers
- New banners on their website to help customers get self-service assistance
- Hosting customer education and assistance events

Delmarva Power's customer service line is 1-800-375-7117 and their online contact form can be found here.

The Maryland Public Utilities Commission has several programs to assist with paying utility bills: Help Paying Your Bill. You also may wish to contact your own utility for payment options. Delmarva Power offers a payment plan and Choptank Electric Cooperative has a similar plan: Payment Options ☎ Your Bill or call 1-877-892-0001.

## Two Carozza Bills Approved at Committee Level

Two of Carozza's bills received a favorable report from their respective committees this week. The Wicomico Roadway Solicitation Prohibition bill (SB 101) would prohibit a person from standing in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle within Wicomico County. "This is local, enabling legislation that is fully intended to increase public safety by ensuring that solicitation activities are not conducted in areas where it

could be dangerous," said Carozza. SB 101 received a favorable report on February 7th from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. Four other Maryland jurisdictions have similar legislation in place.

Senate Bill 299 would eliminate an unnecessary redundancy in statute which requires security guards to submit fingerprints and background checks to both the Maryland Cannabis Administration and the Maryland State Police. Under SB 299, the Maryland Cannabis Administration would use proof of MSP security guard certification to verify that the agent is eligible to work on the premises of a cannabis licensee or registrant. SB 299 was approved by the Senate Finance Committee on February 6th.

## Bills of Interest Approved by the Senate

Senate Bill 11, the Organized Retail Theft Act of 2025, unanimously passed the Senate on February 6th. This legislation would close a loophole that allows professional thieves and organized groups to avoid felony charges for organized retail theft by stealing in multiple jurisdictions. Organized retail crime is now an over \$100 billion problem in the United States and has resulted in higher prices, store closures, and reduced public services due to less sales tax revenue.

Senate Bill 157 establishes the Maryland Disability Service Animal Program in the Maryland Department of Disabilities to increase access for eligible individuals to be paired with an appropriate service animal. SB 157 unanimously passed the Senate on February 6th. Senator Carozza is a cosponsor of this legislation.

"Service animals are different from therapy or support animals as they are specifically trained to perform specific tasks to help people with disabilities. They eliminate barriers, promote independence, and create important opportunities for their owners," said Carozza.

## Chicken and Farm Day

The Delmarva Chicken Association hosted Chicken Day in Annapolis Feb. 4. In 2024, the Delmarva chicken community raised 613 million chickens, produced 4.6 billion pounds of chicken, and generated \$4.8 billion in wholesale value. Delmarva has been producing chicken for over 100 years.

The Maryland Farm Bureau celebrated Agriculture Week with a Day in Annapolis on Wednesday. Farmers from all over the State of Maryland, including Quint Riley and Steve Hurley with Wicomico County Farm Bureau, met with their representatives in the Maryland General Assembly to advocate for their businesses and communities. Currently, Delegate Charles Otto (R-District 38A) and Senator Jason Gallion (R-District 35) are the only farmers in the Maryland General Assembly.

"Our farm families work so hard producing healthy food for all Marylanders, and events like Farm Day and Taste of Maryland Agriculture are perfect opportunities to educate the Maryland General Assembly on the importance of agriculture to our entire state," said Carozza whose committee has jurisdiction over farm issues.

## SkillsUSA

Representatives and participants of SkillsUSA programs visited Annapolis this week to celebrate SkillsUSA week. Rick Stephens, an instructor at Worcester Technical High School; Hayden Flores, a SkillsUSA student in leadership at Worcester Technical High School; Charlene Zinner, an officer with SkillsUSA of Maryland from Dorchester County; and Chuck Wallace, the Coordinator of Career Programs at the Maryland State Department of Education were recognized on the Senate and House floors for their outstanding achievements.

"SkillsUSA students are among America's most highly skilled career and technical education students and

we want to recognize and encourage Maryland students to be career ready," said Carozza.

SkillsUSA is a dedicated nonprofit organization that empowers students across the United States to become career ready, skilled professionals and responsible community members. SkillsUSA students learn industry standards in more than 130 occupational areas.

"I constantly hear about the shortage of skilled and trained employees from local industry, students, and community leaders," said Carozza, who serves on the Apprenticeship 2030 Commission. "SkillsUSA and Rick Stephens are meeting a demand to reduce skill shortages in high-demand occupations and keeping our young talent right here on the Shore."

## Locals in Annapolis

Several local officials and community leaders recently visited Annapolis including Chip Bertino, Worcester County Commissioner; Rick Stephens, SkillsUSA Advisor at Worcester Technical High School; Hayden Flores, SkillsUSA student at Worcester Technical High School;

Quint Riley of Wicomico County; Steve Hurley, Wicomico County Farm Bureau President; Colleen Nichols of Princess Anne and Alyssa Sinagra of Salisbury for Benefits Insurance Professionals Advocacy Day; Kathryn Kendricks of Ocean Pines to advocate for DDA services and funding; Kevin McAdams, Perdue Farms CEO, Jayme Hayes of Salisbury, Junior Achievement CEO who received a Maryland Agriculture Council grant; and Dan Worrell, aquaculture farmer in Girdletree, attending Taste of Maryland Agriculture, and students from Stephen Decatur High School advocating for beverage container recycling and litter reduction on our beaches and coastal shorelines.



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## COMMUNITY

### Powellville United Methodist Church drive-thru luncheon

POWELLVILLE — March 15th 10 a.m. until till sold out. 35606 Mt Hermon Rd., Powellville. Famous oyster sandwiches and homemade chicken salad. Soups and desserts. No pre-ordering. For information call: 410-835-8796 or 443-880-8804.

### Green to speak at Wor-Wic

SALISBURY — Wor-Wic Community College will host a reading by Amber Green on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., in the Hazel Center on the college campus at the corner of Route 50 and Walston Switch Road in Salisbury.

Green is a poet, as well as the founder of the Fenix Youth Project, which provides a safe, creative space for young people facing adversity. She has been recognized by the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore as a Top 40 Under 40 in Philanthropy.

The event is free and open to the public. Visit the events section of worwic.edu for more information.

### Meals on Wheels benefit offers 31 delicious days to win

SALISBURY — Tickets are now on sale for MAC's exciting March for Meals 31 Raffles in 31 Days.

Here's how it works: Raffle tickets cost \$31 each. Purchasing a ticket gives you one entry into each of the 31 daily raffle drawings in March. Multiple tickets can be purchased. The best part: even if you win, your name stays in the pool for the rest of the drawings!

Thanks to generous sponsors, donors, and community supporters, every raffle prize is valued at a minimum of \$50. Prizes include gift cards to some of the best local eateries, cash and more! A special thanks to March for Meals event sponsor Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc.

It isn't all fun and games, however. MAC's March for Meals campaign also focuses on raising awareness of the hundreds of seniors in our communities who depend on MAC senior nutrition programs, like Meals on Wheels.

Meals on Wheels delivers more than a meal to local seniors in need of this most basic human necessity – food. The program also delivers a safety check, which is especially critical for seniors living alone, as well as a friendly visit to help combat social isolation and to help seniors feel less alone.

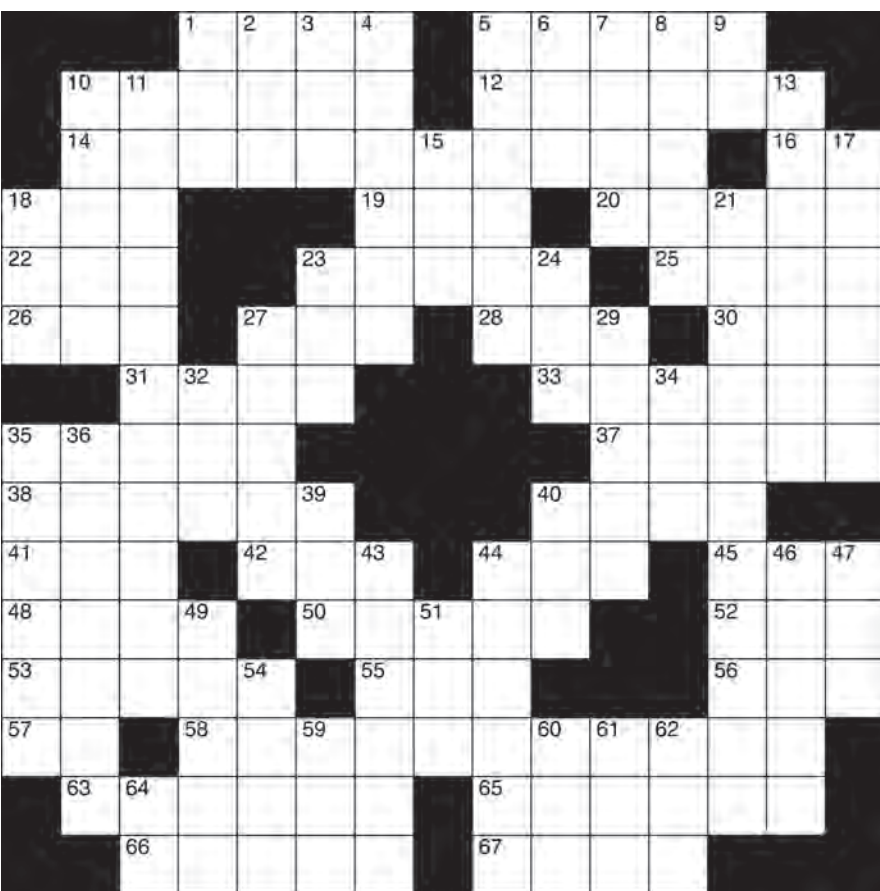
For tickets, details and a complete list of prizes, visit <https://macinc.org/special-events-march-for-meals/>

The following special fundraising events also are planned:

- On March 10, from 4 to 9 p.m. at Burnish Beer Company, 10% of all sales and 50% of special beer sales will be donated to MAC's Meals on Wheels program

- Monday, March 31 from 3 to 5 p.m., a Wrap-Up Party is planned for sponsors, community partners/supporters, and MAC staff at Burnish Beer Co. Tickets cost \$10 and get you a taco, pizza, and pretzel bite buffet! 10% of all special beer sales come back to MAC! Tickets for this event must be purchased in advance.

For more information, call 410-742-0505 or email [crobinson@macinc.org](mailto:crobinson@macinc.org).



#### CLUES ACROSS

- Tropical Asian plant
- Yankees' slugger Judge
- Helps to preserve food
- Plant disease
- One who predicts
- Equally
- Burundian franc
- Pouch
- Arizona city
- Surround
- Hard, heavy timber
- Witnessed
- They \_\_
- French river
- A way to drink
- Small constellation
- Peruse a written work
- Type of hound
- Plant of the goosefoot family
- Evade or escape
- A way to confine
- Volcanic crater
- Weekday
- Women's service organization (abbr.)
- Local area network

- Sensory receptor

- Posted
- Tibetan pastry
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Very willing
- Golf score
- Consume
- Touchdown
- Tends to remind
- In a way, smoothed
- Poke holes in the ground
- Herbaceous plants
- Taiwanese river

#### CLUES DOWN

- Body art
- Boxing's GOAT
- Film for posterity (abbr.)
- Prayer
- Calculating machine
- Keyboard key
- Outburst
- Man-eating giants
- New Hampshire
- Type of sword
- Counting
- Pants style
- Political action committee

- U.S. government legislative branch
- Civil Rights Act component
- Contractors take one
- Spanish soldier
- A person's brother or sister
- Expressed pleasure
- Song of praise
- Shock treatment
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Counteract
- Goes over again
- Popular Dodge truck
- Male adult
- A part of a river where the current is very fast
- Rope used to lasso
- Become less intense
- Subway rodent
- Lead alloy
- Japanese honorific title
- Advise someone
- Famous NYC museum
- Ocean
- Cathode-ray tube
- Cologne
- It starts with these two

## COMMUNITY

# UME researcher receives \$1.4M grant to develop science-based irrigation recommendations

University of Maryland Extension

MARYLAND — Determining when or how much to irrigate a farm field is currently more guesswork than scientific process. With more than 70% of the global freshwater supply used in agricultural irrigation, University of Maryland Extension faculty member Dr. Hemendra Kumar is working to make the process more science based to help farmers reclaim the energy, resources, and money associated with inefficiently irrigating crops.

To support producers in improving and optimizing their irrigation efficiency across Maryland, Kumar, the UME Precision Agriculture Specialist, received a \$1.4M grant from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) to develop comprehensive data for the site-specific Irrigation Water Management plans and a new guidebook to supplement to national guidelines.

“What I’m trying to do is climate- and water-smart irrigation management,” said Kumar. “With my engineering background, I look for solutions, how I can solve a problem, and we need to either optimize the systems that we have or find an alternative.”

Currently, the most advanced irrigation systems in the country are the center pivot system – prevalent on the Eastern Shore in Maryland – where large sprayers mounted on metal structures designed to cover multiple acres by rotating around a central point can pump thousands of gallons of water, and cost thousands of dollars to install, operate and manage. The technology is suitable, but the application strategies tend to be



Dr. Hemendra Kumar in front of a center pivot irrigation system. UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

uniform, with a sprayer pushing the same amount of water over a field regardless of the plant’s optimal needs.

However, when a farmer chooses to irrigate is not a science-based process, says Kumar, with many testing soil moisture by looking for visible plant distress like browning or withering leaves, or by grabbing a handful of soil from their field to see how dry it feels to the touch. Others may even simply see their neighbor irrigating and follow suit.

“That’s something we want to change. We want Maryland farmers to use more science-based methods than the feel of the soil and visible stress in the crop,” he said. “We in-

stall sensors in different parts of the field so that we can see how the field is behaving, see the changes from one part of the field to another part of the field, like soil variation and crop yield. So if you are seeing fluctuations in soil moisture, soil water retention properties, and crop yield from one part of the field to another part of the field – or losing yield – that’s where you want to make decisions about your irrigation strategy.”

To inform the supplemental guidelines, Kumar will employ advanced modelling methods to extrapolate data from those soil sensors in fields across the state, coupled with information from weather stations which

provide a wealth of input regarding precipitation, humidity, and other climate factors, and crop information like water requirements and row spacing for various plants.

Kumar and his team at the Precision Agriculture Lab (PAL) at UMD will work with Extension agents in the counties over the next three years to collect data on farm field and crop variations. The three year timeline will allow the team to account for shifts in weather and changes in precipitation variables from year to year, as well as determine how water is stored in the different soil types, how it’s released to the atmosphere through evapotranspiration rates, and how much is available to the plant itself.

The synthesized data will then be used to create the Maryland supplemental guide and shared with the NRCS to advise farmers seeking technical and financial assistance more specific than the national guidelines. It will also be used to help develop Irrigation Water Management plans for crop producers, which will help them save money while complying with water conservation standards.

“We need to take a holistic approach. We need to understand the importance of soil-water-plant-atmosphere continuum, explaining that effective irrigation depends on optimizing water use by accounting for the interactions between soil, plants, and atmosphere,” said Kumar. “It is essential to assess crop water demand accurately and provide irrigation based on their specific requirements, rather than solely relying on the available water supply.”





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and a comprehensive online business directory.

# CHAMBER MONTHLY

## The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce Installs 2025 Board and Council

On Thursday, January 23, The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce installed the newest members of the 2025 Board of Directors, the 2025 Voting Council, At-Large Council and returning Chairman of the Board, Zach Evans (Mountaire Farms).

Serving a three-year term are new Board of Director members Maureen Cody (Avery Hall Insurance Group), Chris Hall (TidalHealth), and Jacqueline Jennings (Piedmont Airlines).

Sworn in for the 2025 Voting Council were Hank Yuloff (Yuloff Creative Marketing Solutions), and returning members Dr. Heidi Anderson (University of Maryland Eastern Shore), Sandy Fitzgerald Angello (Pohanka of Salisbury Automotive), Jay Bosley (D3 Corp), Catherine Curran (GSB Media), Randy Day, (Former CEO, Perdue Farms), Justin Kelley (IMPACT Technology Group, Inc.), Habacuc Petion (Rebirth Inc.), Dr. Christy Weer (Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University), and Stephanie Willey (47 ABC – WMDT).

David Pierce, (NASA's Wallops Flight Facility) joined the 2025 At-Large Council.

The SACC Board Chair Zach Evans thanked outgoing Board Members Shawna Kearsley (Pohanka of Salisbury Automotive) and Chelsey Jones (Wicomico Youth & Civic Center) for their six years of service to the Chamber as Board members.

The swearing in ceremonies were conducted by the Honorable James “Bo” McAllister, Wicomico County Clerk of the Court.

The Installation, held at the Greater Salisbury Committee office, was followed by a luncheon sponsored by M&T Bank and the January Board and Council meeting.

The SACC welcomes its newest members and wishes to thank the returning 2025 Board and Council for their commitment and service!

### About the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce

With a strategic location along the east coast, the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce (SACC) is at the geographic center of the Delmarva Peninsula and the regional hub for economic development, art, education, transportation, business, agriculture, government, and health care for Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The SACC is an organization of community-focused leaders dedicated to promoting the growth of these sectors and thereby the area.

The overarching goal of the Chamber is to provide real value to our members and the business community. Businesses that take part in SACC tend to become more motivated and knowledgeable in their fields, benefiting the area.

Members have access to a multitude of events including educational workshops, business seminars, and informative luncheons featuring speakers ranging from government dignitaries to entrepreneurs to experts in the economic sphere.

The Chamber delivers the substantial



First row, left to right: D. Nicole Green, Legal Counsel; Karri B. Todd, SACC Foundation Board Chair; Veronica James; Zach Evans, Board Chair; Deanna Whittington, Chair-Elect; Chelsey Jones, Reena Patel Second row, left to right: John Cannon, Dr. Deborah Casey, Dr. Heidi Anderson, Stephanie Willey, Randolph Potter, David Pierce, Maggie Vincent, Treasurer; Catherine Curran, Melissa Geeslin, Jacqueline Jennings, Habacuc Petion Third row, left to right: Mike Dunn, Steven Miller, Hank Yuloff, Maureen Cody, Erica Joseph, Aaron Guy, Dr. Christy Weer, Christopher Hall, Jay Bosley, Jeff Merritt, Ex Officio

benefit of being present and visible through networking, as it helps in building connections throughout our community.

The SACC is dedicated to strengthening, broadening, and fortifying members' business strategies, relationships, and commerce through our three pillars: Education, Connection, and Advocacy.

Through these ideals, not only will the scenic, industrious Wicomico County realize

greater success, but the entire Eastern Shore and Maryland will as well.

The SACC represents more than seven hundred businesses and organizations from ten Maryland counties and four states.

For more information about the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce, visit [salisbuyarea.com](http://salisbuyarea.com) or call 410-749-0144.

## Upcoming Chamber Events February/March

For more information or to register for upcoming events, visit [www.salisburyarea.com](http://www.salisburyarea.com).

### Business After Hours - United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore

Thursday, February 13, 2025 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
803 N Salisbury Blvd #2100, Salisbury, MD 21801

### SACC Young Professionals Lunch & Learn

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 | Noon – 1:00 PM  
Real HVAC | 700 Eastern Shore Drive, Salisbury, MD 21804  
RSVP <https://forms.gle/avnnjEbb6sSqJWtc8>

### Ribbon Cutting – MAC. Inc.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM  
1315 S Salisbury Blvd., Salisbury MD 21801

### Ribbon Cutting – Smoking Monster BBQ & Sushi Bar

Thursday, March 6, 2025 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM  
1016 S Salisbury Blvd., Unit D, Salisbury, MD 21801

### Business After Hours - Salisbury University Sea Gull Stadium

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Salisbury University Sea Gull Stadium  
1301 Wayne Street, Salisbury, MD 21804

### General Membership Luncheon

Featuring Eric Morgan, Piedmont Airlines President and CEO  
Wednesday, March 19, 2025 | 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
Black Diamond Lodge  
219 S Fruitland Blvd, Fruitland, MD 21826

### Ribbon Cutting – Griswold Home Care

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM  
224 E Main Street, Suite A, Salisbury, MD 21801

### Marketing & Media Workshop: Amplify Your Reach: YouTube, Google Tours, and Case Studies

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 | Noon – 1:00 PM

### Dave and Patsy Rommel Center for Entrepreneurship

212 W Main St Suite 205, Salisbury, MD 21801

### 2025 SACC Ladies & Mixed Team Golf Challenge

Thursday, March 27, 2025 | 3:30 – 6:30 PM  
Green Hill Country Club | 5471 Whitehaven Road, Quantico, MD 21856

### Chamber 101

Monday, March 31, 2025 | Noon – 1:00 PM  
Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce  
200 E Church Street, Salisbury, MD 21801



# John B. Parsons Assisted Living Hosts January Business After Hours

On Thursday, January 9th, John B. Parsons Executive Director Joe Laque welcomed guests to the January Business After Hours, along with Donna Murray (Director of Community Services), and the John B. Parsons leadership team.

Offering tours of the facility, Murray shared, "The mansion, established in 1903 as a heartfelt wedding gift from John B. Parsons to his daughter, embodies a legacy of care. Following Mr. Parsons' passing, the East and West wings were transformed into the John B. Parsons Home for the Aging, designed to be a loving sanctuary for women who faced the challenges of losing their partners in combat or during wartime. Over 50 years ago the Harrison Family purchased this facility, and it has since been under their ownership. We have 48 beds available; 12 residents are in the memory care

and 36 in assisted living. We also offer respite care and bridge to home facilities. Join us for tours of the facility or stop by at any time to visit our residents, as they love to have company."

The iconic John B. Parsons Assisted Living facility is located on Lemmon Hill Lane, overlooking the city of Salisbury. Originally built in 1903, the management aims to maintain the original period aesthetic through renovations and modern upgrades. As you walk through the halls, you'll notice the grand, old-world charm characterized by high ceilings, numerous meeting spaces, and a welcoming large front porch. The property has been undergoing renovations since last year and still has some updates to complete, including improvements to color schemes, flooring, and more.

John B. Parsons creates a warm, welcoming

environment while delivering outstanding healthcare services. They proudly offer independent and assisted living options for seniors, along with specialized rehabilitation and memory care. With a dedicated and skilled team, families can rest assured that their loved ones will receive compassionate care, always treated with the dignity and respect they deserve. It's a place where comfort and care come together beautifully!

During the Business After Hours event, guests enjoyed a selection of wine, beer, and the "1905" cocktail, which offered a refreshing twist on a traditional whiskey drink, featuring notes of citrus, honey, and ginger. The delightful appetizer buffet, prepared by onsite Chef Todd Cathell and his assistant Slim, included a variety of dishes, such as crab dip, mini wieners wrapped in bacon,

meatballs, popcorn chicken served with BBQ and sweet Thai sauces, meat empanadas, cold shrimp, tomato bacon cups, crab deviled eggs, and an assortment of desserts.

Door prizes were raffled among chamber members and included 2 wellness baskets and gift cards. A 50/50 raffle, benefiting the SACC Foundation endowment initiative, generated money for lower shore students to pursue studies in a business-related curriculum or for training and certifications in the trades.

For more information visit [harrisonseniorliving.com/john-b-parsons](http://harrisonseniorliving.com/john-b-parsons) or call 410-742-1432.

Join us on March 11th for our next Business After Hours at the Salisbury University Sea Gull Stadium. Space is limited and registration is required at [salisburyarea.com](http://salisburyarea.com).



## The Furniture Nest Celebrates 1st Anniversary at Twilley Center

The SACC and its members battled the frigid cold weather on January 15 and joined The Furniture Nest as they celebrated their 1st year anniversary at their new location at the Twilley Center in Salisbury, MD.

Guests were welcomed by owner, Michelle Mayer, who shared that "I am so excited to celebrate our 1st year anniversary at this new location. This was the right move for me, as this location offers more visibility, better parking and a bigger store front that allows me to have a larger onsite inventory. I carry now all Ashley furniture, including bedding, adjustable bases, accents, accessories, and much more. If I don't have what you need on the floor, you can conveniently order it from our website."

The Furniture Nest, opened in May 2018 at another location in Naylor Mill Road, offers extraordinary personal service by its owner Michelle who is willing to stay past closing time, if needed. Clients have the option to pick up their merchandise, or have it delivered. If picking up, Michelle offers the option to rent a U-Haul right at her store as she is an authorized U-Haul dealer.

Various payment plans are available. The store is open Monday's and Wednesday to Saturday.

For more information call 443-880-0169, visit them at 329 Civic Avenue in Salisbury, or visit [thefurniture-nest.com](http://thefurniture-nest.com).





# January General Membership Luncheon Focuses on Maryland's Fiscal Challenges

The Wicomico Civic Center hosted the January 16th SACC General Membership Luncheon, which featured presentations by Maryland Chamber of Commerce President Mary Kane and Vice-President of Marketing and Communications Abbi Ludwig.

Ludwig analyzed data comparing Maryland's business climate with neighboring states and beyond. She examined various categories: business friendliness, population trends, tax environment, job growth, transportation, infrastructure, utility costs, internet access, and water/sewer services.

This comprehensive approach helps us understand where Maryland stands and where improvements can be made.

The State Chamber has been conducting these comparisons over the past three years. The 2024 rankings placed Maryland at number 31 of 50 states as the average for the data measures.

Ludwig commented, "Maryland's ranking of thirty-first shows a three-year trend of moving lower, while Virginia and Delaware have both moved higher across all data categories."

The data is alarming, as Maryland is number 49 nationwide in job growth. Ludwig stated, "Since 2020 through 2024, 118



thousand jobs have gone away in Maryland."

Job growth is hindered because only 33 candidates are available to fill every 100 job openings in Maryland. The State Chambers's next set of data comparisons will be released soon, and copies of the 'Maryland Red Book', a comprehensive guide to Maryland's business climate and legislative priorities, will be distributed to all Maryland Senate and House members.

State Chamber President Mary Kane focused on the Chambers 2025 legislative priorities. Business taxes, childcare, transportation funding solutions, and climate tax policies are priorities.

Kane commented on business loss in Maryland: "The migration of businesses

out of Maryland continues unabated. Our neighboring states' elected leaders actively seek to lure businesses out of our state. Legislators must be held accountable for unfunded mandates and policies that rely on taxing our businesses to fund these mandates."

Among the mandates Kane referenced is Maryland's aggressive climate change goals.

"The 2035 climate goals are fiscally not doable; many of these clean energy goals will force Maryland businesses to seek locations in neighboring states."

Kane applauded some pro-business reforms in Governor Wes Moore's newly released FY 2026 state budget. "These are good signs and small steps in the right

direction, but new taxes on businesses and Maryland's highest earners are in the same budget."

Kane mentioned the Trump administration's target to cut Federal departments, which may impact the Maryland workforce and fiscal dependency on the Federal presence. "President Trump has bigger things to address, but Maryland leaders need to be careful not to poke the bear."

The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee advocates for businesses by reviewing and taking action on proposed legislation that could adversely impact businesses and organizations.

This committee works closely with the Maryland Chamber of Commerce in developing action plans to support, oppose, or take no position on proposed legislation during the 2025 Maryland General Assembly Session.

The March General Membership Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, March 19 at 11:30 AM at the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, and will feature Eric Morgan, Piedmont Airlines President and CEO. Registration is required at [salisburyarea.com](https://salisburyarea.com)

## Coastal Palliative Care Celebrates New Location

Coastal Palliative Care is thrilled to announce the opening of our clinic located at 1113 Healthway Drive, Salisbury, MD 21804. Our celebration on January 23rd featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony, co-hosted by the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce, refreshments, tours, and giveaways with our Coastal Palliative Care team; Coastal Hospice staff, board members, and volunteers; and many community members and supporters from our four Lower Eastern Shore counties.

Coastal Palliative Care is a community-based medical program helping meet the needs of patients with serious illnesses while they continue to receive curative treatments, testing, medications, and other therapies. Our medical team collaborates with community providers and specialists to

address symptom management and provide other supportive services. In addition, we accept all insurance.

"We are delighted to open our new clinic," said Nancy Stewart, Director of Access and Palliative Care Services. "The Coastal Palliative Care team is very happy to be serving patients while they navigate their serious illness. With expertise in symptom management, disease education, and other support services, we look forward to further embracing our community and are honored to be part of their medical team."

To learn more about our services and team, please visit [www.coastalpalliativecare.org](https://www.coastalpalliativecare.org). To make a referral, please email [referrals@coastalpalliativecare.org](mailto:referrals@coastalpalliativecare.org).





## Governor Moore Meets with Maryland Chamber Executives

On January 24, 2025, the SACC President/CEO Bill Chambers met with Maryland Governor Wes Moore at the State House in Annapolis. Discussions included how the business community can support his economic growth proposals contained in his FY2026 state budget.

Following the meeting, Maryland Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (MACCE) Past Chair Bill Chambers led a "Fireside Chat" at the annual MACCE

Legislative Conference, where thirty chamber executives from across Maryland heard from Governor Moore on a variety of topics including his FY 2026 budget proposals, how his administration is committed to growing Maryland's economy and making Maryland more competitive.

*(Photos courtesy of the Executive Office of Governor Wes Moore)*



## Coastal Delmarva Chambers Gather for Second Annual Winter Mixer

The Coastal Delmarva Chamber Winter Mixer was held Wednesday, January 22nd at the beautiful Ocean Downs Casino in Berlin, Maryland.

In its second year, the mixer was open to the members from the Berlin Chamber of Commerce, Bethany-Fenwick Chamber of Commerce, Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, Worcester County Chamber of Commerce, and the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce.

The evening was filled with fantastic food and libations, music, door prizes, gaming, and networking among business and organizational leaders from across the Delaware and Maryland beach communities.

Sr. Director of Operations at Ocean Downs Bobbi Jones welcomed guests, encouraging them to consider hosting their corporate meetings and events in Ocean Downs' spacious, state-of-the-art event center. The

casino provides on-site catering and can accommodate events of any size.

Door prizes were donated by each participating organization. On behalf of the SACC, How Sweet It Is of Fruitland, Maryland provided a large planter filled with over \$311 of items including garden décor, coffee, jellies, cookies, and a \$100 How Sweet It Is gift card!

The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank our chamber members, friends and partners, the amazing team at Ocean Downs Casino, and Randolph Potter, Revive Sound Productions, LLC, for providing music.

The Lower Shore Chamber of Commerce Summer Mixer will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, from 5:00 – 7:00 PM, at the beautiful Bordeleau Vineyards & Winery in Eden, MD. For more information visit [salisburyarea.com](https://salisburyarea.com).



## The SACC Young Professionals Host Business & Bagels Kickoff Party

The 2nd Annual Business & Bagels Kickoff Party was a resounding success, with 16 enthusiastic new and returning members in attendance. The event was held last week at Junior Achievement of the Eastern Shore.

Newly appointed Co-Chair Jesus Cruz (The Insurance Market), Vice Chair Ryan Johnson (Avery Hall Insurance), and the Leadership Committee delivered a brief yet inspiring presentation about the mission of the Salisbury Young Professionals and their plans for the upcoming year.

The year's Young Professional's agenda promises to be dynamic and engaging, featuring 1-2 "Lunch & Learns," 2 leadership

training sessions, 2 YP-student collaborations with Salisbury University, 2-3 happy hour mixers, and many volunteer opportunities. This kickoff event set a strong foundation for a productive and impactful year ahead.

The Salisbury Area Young Professionals group is committed to creating opportunities for rising leaders. We strive to propel members, their organizations, and their communities forward through connection, support, and empowerment.

Real HVAC Services will host SACCYP's Lunch & Learn on Wednesday, February 19, from 12:00 – 1:00 PM, at 700 Eastern Shore Drive, Salisbury, MD 21804.

Registration is required at <https://forms.gle/avnjnEbb6sSjQWtc8>.

For more information on how to become a Member of SACC Young Professionals visit [salisburyarea.com](https://salisburyarea.com) or email the YPs at [salisburyareayps@gmail.com](mailto:salisburyareayps@gmail.com) to be added to the email distribution list. You will begin receiving news and information about events, programs, and everything you need to know about SACC-YPs.

Follow us on Facebook @SACCYPs or visit [salisburyarea.com](https://salisburyarea.com) to stay up to date on all news and events!





## COMMUNITY

# Farmer outreach campaign launched to promote tree planting and agroforestry incentives

Maryland Department of Agriculture

ANNAPOLIS — The Maryland Department of Agriculture has launched a new public awareness campaign to educate farmers about the benefits of planting trees on farmland. Spotlighting the department's full range of incentive programs, highlights include how farmers who plant trees can boost farm income, improve soil and herd health, and protect local streams and natural resources. The campaign will run throughout February and features a 30-second public service announcement airing on local cable and broadcast networks, including Maryland Public Television, as well as social media messaging shared across a range of digital platforms.

"Farmers depend on their land to support their families and their operations," said Maryland Agriculture Secretary Kevin Atticks. "If you own marginal farmland near a stream, pastureland that could be integrated with trees, or other land that could benefit from a tree crop, I encourage you to explore our tree planting incentive programs. Planting trees can benefit both your farm and the environment."

The department's tree-planting incentives support a range of soil health and agroforestry practices that combine farming and forestry to create healthier conditions for people, animals, and crops by allowing farmers to improve natural resources and generate income by planting nut and

berry trees. Eligible participants may qualify for up to 100% cost-share for selected practices and a one-time bonus payment of \$1,000 per acre for establishing riparian forest buffers. These efforts support Maryland's goal of planting 5 million trees by 2031 to capture atmospheric carbon and enhance public health.

Eligible tree-planting and agroforestry practices include:

- Riparian Forest Buffers—Trees and shrubs planted along streams to act as natural filters
- Alley Cropping—Growing crops in wide alleys between rows of trees to improve soil health
- Hedgerow Plantings—Living fences of trees and shrubs that attract wildlife and boost biodiversity

- Windbreaks—Rows of trees planted near farm production areas to filter the air and reduce odors

- Silvopasture—Integrating trees and grazing livestock to improve herd and soil health

- Tree and Shrub Establishment—Planting trees and shrubs to provide environmental benefits

Farmers and agricultural landowners who want to learn more about the department's tree-planting and agroforestry incentives should visit [https://mda.maryland.gov/resource\\_conservation/Pages/plant-trees.aspx](https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/plant-trees.aspx). Free technical help and application assistance for most projects is available through local soil conservation districts.

# Shuck & Stout celebrates Maryland oysters & beer

Maryland Department of Agriculture

ANNAPOLIS — As February, or FeBREWary, kicks off Maryland Beer Month in partnership with the Brewers Association of Maryland, the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Maryland's Best program is kicking off Shuck & Stout by inviting consumers to head to local restaurants and tasting rooms for Maryland oyster and beer pairings.

"February is a great time to celebrate local oysters and beer," said Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary Kevin Atticks. "Not only are these two great tasting products, you're also supporting local jobs and the economy. Shuck & Stout is a great initiative to get out to some of Maryland's best restaurants and

event venues to taste two delicious Maryland products."

Oysters are nutritious, as they are high in micronutrients, low in calories, and contain many vitamins and minerals. Both oyster and beer are a vital piece in Maryland's economy. In 2023, Maryland Eastern oysters had a commercial landing of about 6.1 million pounds, equating to \$31.1 million in dockside value. In 2024, 20,200 bushels of oyster shells were recycled from Maryland restaurants, equaling a total of 10.1 million shells that were recycled and planted back into the Bay to help grow future oyster populations. Additionally, there are 143 breweries in Maryland that produced 269,509 barrels of beer in 2023, according to the Brewers



The Comptroller of Maryland reported that Maryland beer contributed over \$6.9 million in revenue to the state through taxes in 2024. PROVIDED

Association. The Comptroller of Maryland reported that Maryland beer contributed over \$6.9 million in revenue to the state through taxes in 2024.

With more than 30 farm brewer-

ies and a variety of oysters, there are endless delicious combinations of oysters and beers to try. To find information about participating locations and promotions for the month, visit [marylandsbest.maryland.gov](http://marylandsbest.maryland.gov).

## HEALTH

# TidalHealth Peninsula Regional reaches milestones for WATCHMAN cardiac procedures

TidalHealth

SALISBURY – TidalHealth Peninsula Regional is proud to announce that it has successfully performed more than 500 WATCHMAN procedures, marking a significant milestone in the hospital's ongoing commitment to providing advanced, life-improving, life-saving cardiovascular care dating back to 1972.

Additionally, its Guerrieri Heart & Vascular Institute team has become the leader among all hospitals in Maryland for the number of WATCHMAN procedures performed, topping 180 in 2024.

These groundbreaking achievements underscore the Salisbury hospital's commitment to providing cutting-edge, life-saving treatments for patients suffering from atrial fibrillation (AFib), a common heart rhythm disorder that significantly increases the risk of stroke.

"Reaching 500 WATCHMAN procedures and leading the State of

Maryland is a testament to the exceptional skill and dedication of our cardiovascular team and the support from senior executive leadership," said Steven Hearne, MD, cardiologist, the first to perform WATCHMAN at TidalHealth and a champion to bring the service to the Salisbury hospital. "These milestones not only reflect the growing need for this procedure in our community but also underscore the trust that our patients place in TidalHealth for innovative and effective treatment options."

The WATCHMAN is a minimally invasive procedure designed to reduce the risk of stroke in patients with AFib who are unable to take blood thinners. By implanting a small device that closes off the left atrial appendage (LAA), the source of many stroke-causing blood clots, the procedure significantly lowers the likelihood of stroke while allowing patients to stop using blood-thinning medications, offering improved safety and quality of life.

TidalHealth is the only tertiary hospital on the Eastern Shore of Maryland providing WATCHMAN, first offering the procedure in 2016. Last year, it outpaced by 80 the number of WATCHMAN procedures performed by its closest peer heart hospital in Maryland. Currently, only eight hospitals offer patients the revolutionary procedure.

TidalHealth Peninsula Regional's multidisciplinary team, including interventional cardiologists, electrophysiologists, nurses, cardiovascular and radiology technologists, work together to ensure each patient receives personalized care and the best possible outcomes.

"Our goal is to provide patients with safe, effective treatments that improve their health and quality of life," said Jeanne Ruff, Senior Executive Director of the Guerrieri Heart & Vascular Institute. "Being at the forefront of this innovative procedure speaks to TidalHealth's ongoing commitment to providing the high-

est level of care for our patients. The WATCHMAN device offers a transformative option for those with AFib, and we are honored to be leading the way in Maryland."

As TidalHealth Peninsula Regional and its Guerrieri Heart & Vascular Institute continue to lead the way in cardiovascular care, it remains committed to expanding access to innovative treatments and improving the lives of its patients by providing a wide range of services—from preventive care to complex heart procedures and ongoing cardiovascular rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation and adult fitness—ensuring comprehensive care for all.

For more information about TidalHealth Peninsula Regional's cardiovascular services or to learn more about the WATCHMAN procedure, please visit [peninsula.org](https://peninsula.org) or call 410-543-7769.

## TidalHealth recognized with award in the 2025 Advancing Innovation in Maryland contest

TidalHealth

SALISBURY – TidalHealth is proud to announce that it has been awarded a prestigious honor in the 2025 Advancing Innovation in Maryland contest, hosted by the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) in partnership with the Maryland Department of Health, the Abell Foundation, and the Horizon Foundation.

The AIM Contest, launched to promote innovative approaches to improving patient care and reducing health-

care costs, received over 40 submissions from across the state.

TidalHealth's Mobile Community Paramedicine Program also known as SWIFT, the Salisbury Wicomico Integrated Firstcare Team, was selected as one of the top ten winning ideas for its groundbreaking approach to providing care to patients in underserved areas.

The program combines nurse practitioners and paramedics to deliver high-quality care to the community through mobile units. By connecting

hospitals with local fire departments, the initiative aims to enhance the delivery of preventive care and address the growing need for services outside of traditional clinical settings.

"Receiving this award is an incredible recognition of our team's dedication to improving the health and wellbeing of our community," said Katherine Rodgers, Director of Community Health Initiatives. "This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to innovative solutions that bridge gaps in healthcare

delivery, particularly for those who face barriers to accessing care."

The SWIFT program aligns with the mission of the AIM Contest to showcase new ways of improving health outcomes while reducing healthcare costs. By offering more proactive care, TidalHealth is helping to prevent unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations, ultimately improving patient experiences and overall public health.



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## HEALTH

**Chesapeake Health Care welcomes Rachel Shelton**

**SALISBURY** — Chesapeake Health Care has announced the newest addition to its Behavioral Healthcare team, Rachel Shelton, LMSW.

**Rachel Shelton**

Shelton earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from Salisbury University and has more than 13 years of expertise in the substance use field. Her professional journey includes extensive knowledge in Psychosocial Assessments, Treatment Plans, Crisis Intervention, and conducting both Group and Individual Counseling.

Prior to joining Chesapeake Health Care, Shelton served as Lead Counselor at Warwick Manor Behavioral Health in East New Market, Maryland, where she left a profound impact with her compassionate approach and steadfast commitment to client care.

"We are delighted to welcome Rachel to our Behavioral Healthcare team," said Crystal Lambert, Director of Mental Health at Chesapeake Health Care. "Her extensive experience and dedication to mental health and substance use treatment will be invaluable as we continue to meet the behavioral healthcare needs of our community."

Shelton will be based at Chesapeake Health Care's Behavioral Health location at 560 Riverside Drive in Salisbury. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact 443-358-6193.

**Chesapeake Health Care welcomes Hannah Bristow**

**SALISBURY** — Chesapeake Health Care has announced the ad-

dition of Hannah Bristow, CRNP, to its team of healthcare providers.

Bristow earned her B.S. in Nursing and M.S. in Nursing from Wilmington University in Georgetown, Delaware. Her nearly decade-long nursing career includes roles at Peninsula Allergy and Asthma in Georgetown, where she excelled in managing intake processes, conducting environmental allergen testing, providing disease education, handling prescription refills, assessing medication effectiveness, and triaging patient calls.

Dr. B. Lee Jennings, Chief Medical Officer at Chesapeake Health Care, expressed his enthusiasm about Hannah joining the team, stating, "We are delighted to welcome Ms. Bristow to Chesapeake Health Care. Her clinical expertise and dedication to patient-centered care will further enhance our ability to provide high-quality healthcare services to our community."

Patients can schedule appointments and obtain further information by contacting Chesapeake Health Care at 410-546-6650.

**Dr. Agarwal joins TidalHealth**

**SALISBURY** — Ramesh Agarwal, MD provides care at TidalHealth Cardiology in Salisbury, Md.

Dr. Agarwal earned his medical degree from MBBS Patna Medical College in Patna, India. He completed an internal medicine residency at Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY, and then completed a

**Hannah Bristow****Ramesh Agarwal**

second internal medicine residency and cardiovascular research fellowship at UMDNJ University Hospital, New Jersey Medical School in Newark, N.J. He completed a second cardiovascular research fellowship at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio, a clinical cardiology fellowship at The Episcopal Heart Institute in Philadelphia, Pa., and an interventional cardiology fellowship at the University of Virginia Health Science Center in Charlottesville, Va.

Dr. Agarwal is board-certified in interventional cardiology, cardiology, and internal medicine. He's a member of the American College of Cardiology-FACC, American Medical Association, American College of Physicians, and the American Federation of Clinical Research.

When he is not seeing patients, he enjoys exercising regularly. He also likes watching football games, basketball, and cricket.

TidalHealth Cardiology is located at 400 Eastern Shore Drive in Salisbury, Md. To schedule an appointment, call 410-543-7300.

**Dr. Kimelheim joins TidalHealth Rheumatology in Salisbury**

**SALISBURY** — TidalHealth welcomes Robert Kimelheim, DO, to TidalHealth Rheumatology in Salisbury, Md.

Dr. Kimelheim earned his bachelor's degree and master's degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa.; his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine; completed his internal medicine residency at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va.; and completed his fellowship from Temple University Hospital.

**Robert Kimelheim**

A former Naval officer, Dr. Kimelheim joins TidalHealth with more than 30 years of experience in medicine, 25 of which was spent in private practice. He is a board-certified rheumatologist who will care for patients in his Salisbury office and at TidalHealth Peninsula Regional.

Rheumatologists see patients with localized musculoskeletal complaints, as well as diseases that have multiorgan manifestations.

Dr. Kimelheim is accepting new patients. TidalHealth Rheumatology is located at 560 Riverside Dr., Suite B204 in Salisbury. To schedule an appointment, call 410-543-7720.

**Stewart joins TidalHealth Cardiology in Salisbury & Ocean Pines**

**SALISBURY** — TidalHealth is pleased to welcome LaToya Stewart, MSN, CRNP, to TidalHealth Cardiology in Salisbury and Ocean Pines, Md.

Stewart received her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of South Alabama with a focus on adult gerontological acute care and cardiovascular subspecialty. She is a certified Family Nurse Practitioner.

Stewart has more than a decade of experience offering comprehensive patient care as a registered nurse in various settings, including acute rehab, the emergency department, progressive care, cardiac catheterization recovery, and medical-surgical care. Her clinical interests include heart failure and following her patients' progress post-cardiovascular intervention.

She is a member of the Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland and the American Heart Association.

**LaToya Stewart**



EDUCATION

# Applications accepted for Spring Ratcliffe Foundation Shore Hatchery entrepreneurship competition

Salisbury University

**SALISBURY** — Applications are now being accepted for the 24th round of funding through Salisbury University's Philip E. and Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation Shore Hatchery entrepreneurship competition. Applicants have until Monday, March 10, to submit their full business plans for consideration.

Mid-Atlantic businesses within five years of launching are eligible to apply for their share of \$200,000 per academic year. Participants who pass the business plan review stage will pitch their business ideas to a review board during a competition similar to the format used for the hit ABC-TV

show Shark Tank. Recipients will be selected based on live presentations Friday, April 25.

The Ratcliffe Shore Hatchery program was established with the foundation's initial \$1 million contribution in 2013. The Ratcliffe Foundation announced subsequent renewals of \$1.9 million to continue the Shore Hatchery through spring 2026. It is administered through SU's Franklin P. Perdue School of Business.

For more information visit <http://shorehatchery.salisbury.edu>.



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EDUCATION

# SU associate dean selected for Leadership Maryland Emerging Leader Program's Class of 2025

Salisbury University

SALISBURY — Dr. Ryan Shifler, associate dean of Salisbury University's Richard A. Henson School of Science and Technology, is among 36 professionals selected from across the state as members of the Leadership Maryland Emerging Leader Program's second class.

"We are excited to announce the new Emerging Leader 2nd Class and welcome these motivated and forward-thinking individuals to our program," said David Fike '16 (LM) president and CEO of Leadership Maryland. "After the program's suc-



Dr. Ryan Shifler

cessful first year in 2024, we are excited to build on that momentum with a class that represents a dynamic cross-section of ambitious and promising rising leaders. The knowledge, experience, and connections they will gain in our program will prepare them to become more adaptive and impactful leaders in their careers and communities."

The program will run from June

to November, consisting of monthly day-long sessions that include interactive training led by facilitators and panel discussions featuring leaders from across the state as guest speakers. The program's curriculum offers a holistic approach to leadership development, designed to help each applicant increase their self-awareness and gain behaviors, skills and tools to become more adaptive, inclusive, strategic and impactful leaders.

Leadership Maryland's Emerging Leader Program is open to individuals who are advancing in their careers, are actively involved in their

communities, and desire to become stronger leaders in both areas. Members have a desire to learn more about Maryland's most critical issues and a personal commitment to be a force for positive change in their organizations, their communities and their state.

Founded in 1992, Leadership Maryland is an independent, educational, non-profit organization designed to inform top-level executives, from the public and private sectors, about the critical issues, challenges and opportunities facing Maryland and its regions.

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### **WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025  
Commencing at 6:00 P.M.

in the Council Chambers of the Government Office Building, Salisbury, Maryland, in conformity with Section 311(d) of the Charter of Wicomico County, on the following Bill, which was introduced for consideration at a Legislative Session of said County for the year 2025. The following Bill may be called for final reading and consideration commencing immediately after the aforesaid public hearing.

**Legislative Bill No. 2025-03:** AN ACT to Amend Chapter 59 of the Wicomico County Code, Titled "Personnel Rules" Article V Titled "Other Rules," Section 59-23, Titled "Payment Of Unauthorized Salary; Penalties, Removal And Liability," by adding a Subsection C.

If the foregoing Bill No. 2025-03 is enacted, it will take effect sixty (60) days from the date it becomes law, subject to the referendum provisions of the Charter of Wicomico County, Maryland.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF WICOMICO COUNTY  
BY: Laura Hurley, Council Administrator  
16778 SI 2/18,25 CT 2/19,26/2025

## Registration open for Maryland Farmers Market Conference

Special to the Salisbury Independent

ANNAPOLIS — The Maryland Department of Agriculture has announced that registration for the 2025 Maryland Farmers Market Conference is open.

The annual conference brings together local markets and farmers to share topics that will promote the success of farmers markets across the state. The conference will be held Tuesday, March 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Maryland Department of Agriculture in Annapolis. Maryland Agriculture Secretary Kevin Atticks will serve as the keynote speaker and will be on hand for a meet and greet with participants.

Direct marketing farmers, market managers, and agricultural professionals are invited to join and learn more from speakers about nutrition benefits, food

safety, insurance options, and conflict resolution. The conference will also feature a panel discussion from farmers market managers from around the State. Farmers Market Nutrition Program training and reauthorization will be available for all new and returning farmers participating in the program.

Additionally, farmers are encouraged to bring their scales to certify with the department's Weights and Measures office and to bring proper documentation if interested in registering with USDA to accept SNAP at their market or farm stand. A farmer panel discussing electronic benefits usage and experience will be facilitated as well.

Tickets to the conference are \$35. To register for the conference visit <https://www.velocitypayment.com/client/maryland/mda/farmersmarket/index.htm>.

## Public Notice

### WICOMICO COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Applications have been filed with the Wicomico County Board of Appeals, and;

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON

**February 27, 2025**, beginning at **6:00 p.m.** in the County Council Chambers, Room 301, Third Floor, Government Office Building, Route 50 and North Division Street, Salisbury, Maryland. **The Board reserves the right to close a part of this meeting as authorized by Section 10-508(a) of the Maryland Annotated Code.**

**Tenisha Ennis**, in accordance with Section 225-67 of the Wicomico County Zoning Code, requests a Special Exception – Doublewide Manufactured Home on property located south of Hebron, at 26718 Wood Avenue in the Town Transition Zoning District. M-27, G-6, P-71

**Goddard Parkway, LLC**, in accordance with Section 225-67 of the Wicomico County Zoning Code, requests a Special Exception – Minor Solar on property owned by Phyllis J. Christian and located south of Delmar binding upon the westerly side of Goddard Parkway, about 3/10 of a mile north of its intersection with Naylor Mill Road in the I-2 Zoning District. M-29, G-3, P-41

**Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club, Inc.**, in accordance with Section 225-136 of the Wicomico County Zoning Code, requests a Special Exception to allow a deviation from the parking requirements set forth in 225-135-C on property located east of Salisbury and binding upon the southerly side of Winterplace Parkway, about 6/10 of a mile east of its intersection with Hobbs Road in the LB-1 Zoning District. M-39, G-10, P-720, L-4A

**Salisbury Riverside West Solar, LLC**, in accordance with Section 225-67 of the Wicomico County Zoning Code, requests a Special Exception – Minor Solar on property owned by Bierman Family, LLC, and located northwest of Fruitland, binding upon the southerly side of Riverside Drive, about 3/10 of a mile west of its intersection with Sharps Point Road in the Town Transition Zoning District. M-47, G-16, P-65

**Salisbury Cross West Solar, LLC**, in accordance with Section 225-67 of the Wicomico County Zoning Code, requests a Special Exception – Minor Solar on property owned by TWD, LLC, and located east of Fruitland binding upon the southeasterly side of Nutters Cross Road, about 3/10 of a mile northwest of its intersection with Coulbourn Mill Road in the A-1 Zoning District and the A-2 Airport Overlay District. M-58, G-6, P-95

**(FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL (410-548-4860)**

**J. Phillips Wright, Jr. – Chairman**

16578 SI 2/11,18 CT 2/12,19/2025

## This Week's Crossword Answers



Time to clean out the attic, basement and/or garage? Advertise your yard sale in the classifieds and make your clean up a breeze!

Reading a newspaper helps you understand the world around you. No wonder newspaper readers are more successful people!

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Grab a bargain from your neighbor's garage, attic, basement or closet in today's classifieds.

## Public Notice

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND

WICOMICO WILBER SOLAR 1, LLC,  
WICOMICO WILBER SOLAR 2, LLC AND  
WICOMICO WILBER SOLAR PROJECT 3,  
LLC'S APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF  
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY  
TO CONSTRUCT 3 CO-LOCATED SOLAR  
PHOTOVOLTAIC GENERATING FACILITIES  
TOTALING 15.00 MW IN WICOMICO,  
COUNTY, MARYLAND  
CASE NO. 9771

#### NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

A pre-hearing conference in the above-entitled matter is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.**, via virtual platform, concerning Wicomico Wilber Solar 1, LLC, Wicomico Wilber Solar 2, LLC, and Wicomico Wilber Solar Project 3, LLC's application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct 3 co-located solar photovoltaic generating facilities totaling 15.0 MW in Wicomico County, Maryland.

Anyone wishing to observe the live stream of the hearing may do so via the Public Utility Law Judge Division's YouTube channel, <https://bit.ly/2X6wLiP>. At the pre-hearing conference, any preliminary matters will be discussed, including consideration of any petitions to intervene that have been filed, and the establishment of a procedural schedule.

Petitions to intervene must be filed by **Monday, February 24, 2025** and may be filed electronically through the Commission's website at [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us), or by first-class mail with the Commission's Executive Secretary, Andrew S. Johnston, Maryland Public Service Commission, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202, **and must reference Case No. 9771**. The Commission encourages parties to use the Commission's "e-file" system for filing. Instructions for e-filing are found under the "Tools" section of the Commission's website under the "Make a Public Comment" tab, which can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/>.

17075 SI 2/18 CT 2/19/2025



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### 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  
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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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## Notice to Creditors

**Sarah Baugh  
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& Walker LLC  
100 N West St.  
Easton, MD 21601-2710**

### **NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27922**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE  
ESTATE OF **BEVERLY J. HILL**

Notice is given that Abigail E. Smith, 546  
20th Ave. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33704-4622  
was on February 3, 2025 appointed Personal  
Representative of the estate of Beverly J. Hill  
who died on January 3, 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  
representative or the attorney.

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

Any person having a claim against the  
decendent 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  
decendent'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.

Abigail E. Smith  
Personal Representative

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

16930 SI 2/18,25,3/4 CT 2/19,26,3/5/2025

## Notice to Creditors

**Nathan K. Long, Esq.  
Laws, Insley & Benson, PA  
209 East Main Street  
Salisbury, MD 21801**

### **NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27907**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE  
ESTATE OF **KATHLEEN F. PUSEY**

Notice is given that Lori A. Lambden, 27867  
Chesterfield Ln., Salisbury, MD 21801-1784  
was on January 29, 2025, appointed Personal  
Representative of the estate of Kathleen F.  
Pusey who died on January 3, 2025 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  
decendent's will) shall file their objections with  
the Register of Wills on or before the 29th  
day of July, 2025.

Any person having a claim against the  
decendent 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  
decendent'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.

Lori A. Lambden  
Personal Representative

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

16432 SI 2/11,18,25 CT 2/12,19,26/2025

## Notice to Creditors

**Kathryn A. Whitehead, Esquire  
Caldwell & Whitehead  
109 Camden Street PO Box 4520  
Salisbury, MD 21803-4520**

### **NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27905**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE  
ESTATE OF **ELLEN MAE WELCH**

Notice is given that Gary D. Welch, 509  
King St., Laurel, DE 19956-1510 and David P.  
Welch, 7346 Forest Plains Ln., Salisbury, MD  
21804-1880 were on January 27, 2025,  
appointed Personal Representatives of the  
estate of Ellen Mae Welch who died on  
December 31, 2024 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  
representative or the attorney.

All persons having any objection to the  
appointment (or to the probate of the  
decendent's will) shall file their objections with  
the Register of Wills on or before the 27th  
day of July, 2025.

Any person having a claim against the  
decendent 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  
decendent'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.

Gary D. Welch  
David P. Welch  
Personal Representatives

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

16431 SI 2/11,18,25 CT 2/12,19,26/2025

## Notice to Creditors

**Victor H. Laws, III Esquire  
Laws, Insley & Benson, PA  
PO Box 75  
Salisbury, MD 21803-0075**

### **SMALL ESTATE NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27919**

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE  
ESTATE OF **BARBARA MARIE STEFFAN**

Notice is given that Jessica Steffan Gilbert,  
49 Broadway, Apt. 103, Jim Thorpe, PA  
18229-1943 was on January 31, 2025  
appointed personal representative of the  
small estate of Barbara Marie Steffan who  
died on September 26, 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 shall file their objections with  
the Register of Wills within 30 days after the  
date of publication of this Notice. All persons  
having an objection to the probate of the will  
shall file their objections with the Register of  
Wills within six months after the date of  
publication of this Notice.

All persons having claims against the  
decendent must serve their claims on the  
undersigned personal representative or file  
them 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  
decendent's death; or

(2) Thirty days 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 claims will be barred unless the  
creditor presents the claim within thirty days  
from the mailing or other delivery of the  
notice. Any claim not served or filed within  
that time, or any extension provided by law,  
is unenforceable thereafter.

Jessica Steffan Gilbert  
Personal Representative

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

16916 SI 2/18 CT 2/19/2025



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## Notice to Creditors

**Kathryn A. Whitehead, Esquire**  
109 Camden Street PO Box 4520  
Salisbury, MD 21803-4520

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF APPOINTMENT OF FOREIGN PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE Estate No. 27924

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Chancery court of Sussex county, Delaware appointed David Nickerson, 3600 Goose Creek Rd., E New Market, MD 21631-9600 as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Lloyd H. Hickman who died on August 1, 2019 domiciled in Delaware, USA.

The Maryland resident agent for service of process is Kathryn A. Whitehead whose address is 109 Camden St., Salisbury, MD 21801-4916.

At the time of death, the decedent owned real or leasehold property in the following Maryland counties: Wicomico.

All person having claims against the decedent must file their claims with the Register of Wills for Wicomico County with a copy to the foreign personal representative 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 foreign personal representative mails or 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 claim within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Claims filed after that date or after a date extended by law will be barred.

David Nickerson  
Personal Representative

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

16936 SI 2/18,25,3/4 CT 2/19,26,3/5/2025

## Notice to Creditors

### SMALL ESTATE NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27921

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE  
ESTATE OF **CYNTHIA ANN ECKMAN**

Notice is given that Jason W. Eckman, 12 Chesapeake Dr., Seaford, DE 19973-5794 was on February 3, 2025 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Cynthia Ann Eckman who died on January 28, 2025 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 shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this Notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this Notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them 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) Thirty days 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 claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Jason W. Eckman  
Personal Representative

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

16929 SI 2/18 CT 2/19/2025

## Notice to Creditors

**David W. Simpson, Jr., Esquire**  
PO Box 3496  
Ocean City, MD 21843-3496

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27901

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE  
ESTATE OF **BOBBY RAY ALLEN SR.**

Notice is given that Barbara A. Webster, 26429 California Inn Rd., Princess Anne, MD 21853-3567 was on January 31, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Bobby Ray Allen Sr. who died on January 20, 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 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 31st 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.

Barbara A. Webster  
Personal Representative

True Test Copy  
Register of Wills for  
Wicomico County  
Karen A. Lemon  
PO Box 787

Salisbury, MD 21803-0787

16440 SI 2/11,18,25 CT 2/12,19,26/2025

## Notice to Creditors

**Rachel Harris, Esquire**  
PO Box 62  
Pocomoke City, MD 21851

### IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR (OR) BEFORE THE REGISTER OF WILLS FOR WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND Estate No.: 27903

IN THE ESTATE OF  
**GARY LEHMAN MOORE**

### NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE

To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Rachel B. Harris, Esquire on behalf of Sue Phillips for judicial probate of the will dated September 20, 2018 (and codicils, if any, dated) and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at 101 NORTH DIVISION STREET, COURTHOUSE, ROOM 102, SALISBURY, MD 21801 on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 12:00 PM.

The hearing may be transferred or postponed to a subsequent time. Further information may be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the Office of the Register of Wills.

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Register of Wills for  
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Karen A. Lemon  
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16955 SI 2/18,25 CT 2/19,26/2025



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## Notice to Creditors

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27011

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF **SHARON PAULINE WILSON**

Notice is given that Ashley King, 408 E Vine St., Salisbury, MD 21804-5520 was on January 21, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Sharon Pauline Wilson who died on September 2, 2023 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 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 21st 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.

Ashley King  
Personal Representative

True Test Copy  
Register of Wills for  
Wicomico County  
Karen A. Lemon  
PO Box 787  
Salisbury, MD 21803-0787  
15969 SI 2/18,25,34 CT 2/19,26,3/5/2025

## Notice to Creditors

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27923

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF **BETTY JANE RYALL**

Notice is given that Charles Lee Ryall, 212 Creekside Dr., Salisbury, MD 21804-2801 was on February 4, 2025 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Betty Jane Ryall who died on January 20, 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 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 4th day of August, 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.

Charles Lee Ryall  
Personal Representative

True Test Copy  
Register of Wills for  
Wicomico County  
Karen A. Lemon  
PO Box 787  
Salisbury, MD 21803-0787  
16933 SI 2/18,25,3/4 CT 2/19,26,3/5/2025

## Notice to Creditors

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27910

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF **H. LANIER HICKMAN JR.**

Notice is given that David W. Simpson, Jr., PO Box 3496, Ocean City, MD 21843-3496 was on January 29, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of H. Lanier Hickman Jr. who died on July 21, 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 29th 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.

David W. Simpson, Jr.  
Personal Representative

True Test Copy  
Register of Wills for  
Wicomico County  
Karen A. Lemon  
PO Box 787  
Salisbury, MD 21803-0787  
16434 SI 2/11,18,25 CT 2/12,19,26/2025

## Notice to Creditors

**David W. Simpson, Jr., Esquire**  
PO Box 3496  
Ocean City, MD 21843-3496

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS ESTATE NO.: 27913

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF **MILLIE WILLIAMS**

Notice is given that Valencia Williams, 1300 Aspen Dr., Salisbury, MD 21804-2065 was on January 31, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Millie Williams who died on December 28, 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 31st 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.

Valencia Williams  
Personal Representative

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

- Philip C. Federico, Brockstedt Mandalas Federico
- Chase Brockstedt, Brockstedt Mandalas Federico
- Brent Ceryes, Brockstedt Mandalas Federico
- Catherine Cramer, Brockstedt Mandalas Federico
- Roger Truitt, environmental law consultant
- Deborah Jennings, environmental law consultant



*The attorney responsible for this communication is Philip C. Federico (licensed in MD) of Brockstedt Mandalas Federico, 2850 Quarry Lake Dr, Suite 220, Baltimore, MD 21209.*

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