



Chesapeake Beach NEWSLETTER

Fall 2020

CHESAPEAKE BEACH 2020 ELECTION

By Holly Wahl

The Town of Chesapeake Beach 2020 election for Mayor and Town Council will be held on **November 3, 2020 at Town Hall located at 8200 Bayside Rd. Chesapeake Beach, MD, 20732, between the hours of 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.** Citizens are encouraged to submit an absentee ballot application even if they plan to vote in person as voters can pre-fill the ballot and bring it to Town Hall to vote in person. **If you have completed a mail in ballot for the general election, you must also complete one for the Town.**

Residents will cast a vote for (2) two ballot questions that seek public opinion on expanded gaming in Chesapeake Beach. Voters will vote **Yes** or **No**.

- a. Do you support the State of Maryland awarding full casino gambling licenses (table gaming, casino slots, etc.) to venue(s) in Chesapeake Beach?
- b. Do you support the State of Maryland awarding sports betting licenses (i.e. sports betting, off-track racing, etc.) to venue(s) in Chesapeake Beach?

The Chesapeake Beach Board of Elections issued Certificate of Candidacy on September 9th, 2020 to each of the following Candidates:

Candidates for Mayor select one (1):

Stewart B. Cumbo
Joshua Johnson
Patrick J. "Irish" Mahoney (Incumbent)

Candidates for Council select six (6):

Valerie L. Beaudin (Incumbent)
Gary W. Curzi
Jonathan Evans
Derek Favret (Incumbent)
Charlie Fink (Incumbent)
Lawrence Jaworski (Incumbent)
Greg Morris (Incumbent)
Keith Pardieck (Incumbent)



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Candidate forum: A virtual candidate forum will be held on October 13th from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM moderated by the Women League of Voters of Calvert County.

Absentee Ballots for Town Election

Due to COVID all Chesapeake Beach Voters are encouraged to request and complete an Absentee Ballot with many options offered to reduce wait times on election day. Ballots can be submitted in person on voting day, by drop box or mail.

- **Ballot Applications** available on the Town web site or call Town Hall (410-257-2230). Ballots can be submitted in person on election day to SAVE TIME.
- **Ballot Return** Voters may deposit absentee ballot applications or return ballots in the drop box at Town Hall. The ballot drop box is under video surveillance and only Board of Elections and Town Clerk have access. Voters can mail ballots back, but please mail them well in advance of the election to ensure your vote is counted.
- **Weekend Ballot Pickup.** Pick up an absentee ballot application or pick up your absentee ballot on Saturday October 17th, 24th and 31st from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Polling Place COVID Safety Procedures:

- Each voter entering polling room must wear a mask.
- Each voter entering polling room will use our new touchless hand sanitizer dispenser. (Voter touches VAC, pen, ballot, chair, table, DS-200 screen. Judges and other voters touch as well.)
- Room is set up to maintain 6-foot safe distancing.
- All Judges will wear a mask in the polling room.
- Judges use hand sanitizer throughout day (with a small bottle at each table).

Chesapeake Beach Board of Elections: Randy Getman- Chair, Margaret (Peggy) Hartman- Member, Dominique Soroka- Member

For more information visit www.chesapeakebeachmd.gov.

Candidates for Mayor



Stewart B. Cumbo

During 19 years as your councilman, I advocated for Chesapeake Beach, procured millions of dollars in grant money for town projects, supported a balanced budget, restrained growth and sprawl, fought against water, sewer, and property tax rate increases. I am a Certified Municipal Official; graduate of Johns Hopkins University, MS Management; University of Maryland, BA Criminology; Past President of Maryland Municipal League and Southern Maryland Municipal Association. Now, it will be an honor to represent our community as Mayor; therefore, I ask for your vote and support. Please visit www.stewartcumbo.com



Joshua Johnson

Born and raised in small towns, it important to nurture it's identity. In a meager upbringing, I knew hard work was all I could control. It's what has made me a self made man.

My family is culturally diverse. I met my future bride while working on cruise ships; it was the Love Boat for us. Our passion is in education and our community.

We must have strong leadership balances the charm of the community while also ensuring the future for our children.

I'm 110% committed to low taxes, great schools, public/ fire safety and preserving the Bay itself. Economic growth equally and safety it provides are my purpose of life!



Patrick J. "Irish" Mahoney (I)

I oppose expanded casino gambling.

Accomplishments while Mayor:

- **Hired** professional Town Administrator
- **Reduced property taxes**- 4 consecutive years
- **Transparency**- E-blasts 3x/week, live streamed meetings, monthly Mayor's video
- **Reduced debt** - \$6M
- **Secured \$2.5M**- grants
- **Secured ownership** of Kellam's Field- \$0 cost to Town
- **Locals only Waterpark & Beach** reducing COVID exposure
- **Doubled** recycling services

Priorities:

- **Residents Needs**
- **Strong Leadership**
- **Fiscal Responsibility**
- **Revitalization of Kellam's Field:** Seniors Activity Playground, tot lots
- **Member**- new Beach Elementary Construction Committee
- **Green Initiatives:** buffer gardens, electric vehicle charging station,
- **Oppose** unregulated short term rentals
- **Safety:** Increased Police patrolling- Richfield Station, throughout Town

Please visit: www.MayorPat.com

Candidates for Council



Valerie L. Beaudin (I)

My pledge to YOU is a transparent government that finds common sense solutions to complex problems; always remembering it is your hard-earned tax dollars that are at work. I have always represented the families of Chesapeake Beach, NOT special interests. I will continue to work toward ensuring the stable recovery from the pandemic in terms of public health, safety, and with your government finances. With a track record of 16 years of elected service to the town, I respectfully ask for your vote so that I may continue to be your voice on Town Council. Thank you.



Gary W. Curzi

My family and I have lived in Chesapeake Beach for over 21 years. I am a Federal government civil servant for over 30 years and counting.

I pledge to:

- Keep the small town atmosphere
- Promote transparency with evidence-based and data driven policy decisions
- Not raise taxes and look for ways to run the town government more efficiently
- Balance the interests of residents and businesses.

My campaign is self-financed: My vote cannot be bought. Email me your questions at gary4tc@gmail.com. I ask for your vote on November 3 to serve the people of Chesapeake Beach.



Jonathan Evans

My family and I moved here in February 2018 and we have fallen in love with the charm and community of the town along with the schools, businesses and amenities.

- Current Planning & Zoning Commissioner working to preserve our small-town charm with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.
- I will bring new vision and ideas to the council and work to solve issues such as security & vandalism in town and short term rentals.
- I will vote NO on expanded gambling.
- I will listen to resident's needs, opinions and suggestions.
- I will support projects such as Kellam's Complex improvements and green initiatives.



Derek Favret (I)

Four years ago, you elected me to Town Hall. During this administration, we achieved many of my goals:

- reducing property taxes all 4 years and total debt relief over \$6 Million

- sidewalk improvements and Town walkability master plan
- securing Town ownership of Kellam's Field Complex
- new investments in critical water/sewer infrastructure
- preserving local access to beach/water park during pandemic

Moving forward, I will:

- not support the State awarding full casino gaming licenses in Town
- continue to manage your tax dollars wisely
- promote new pedestrian walkways/trails
- ensure more community input for "small-town" projects

I value your vote again on November 3.



Charlie Fink (I)

Charlie Fink has served the town for 10+ years, including on Town Council, Planning & Zoning and Walkable Community Committees, and as an event volunteer.

- Opposes casino gambling expansion in town

- Favors prioritizing access to town resources such as Brownie's Beach and the water park for town residents
- Prioritizes resident safety through increased sheriff patrols and careful monitoring of COVID mitigation efforts
- Supports town budgets that increase services and lower taxes
- Promotes Comprehensive Plan that addresses future environmental impacts
- Opposes unregulated short term rentals
- Supports acquisition/revitalization of Kellam's Field, creation of safe pedestrian streets, and green space for town residents



Lawrence Jaworski (I)

It has been an honor serving as Councilmember these past 4 years.

Accomplishments:

- Member NBVFD
- reduced property taxes each of

last 4 years

- reduced Town debt by \$6,000,000.
- As Co-chair Town Economic Development Committee and member County Economic Development Advisory Commission provided information to assist residents and businesses during COVID-19 crisis.

Goals

- Revitalize Kellam's Field – Senior Playground, tot lots
- Green Initiatives- Electric Vehicle Charging Station, buffer gardens
- Improved walkability
- Continue to protect the Bay
- Continued fiscal responsibility
- Oppose expanded gambling

I pledge to strengthen our local economy while preserving our small-town charm.

For more information: [Facebook.com/ReelectJaworski2020](https://www.facebook.com/ReelectJaworski2020)



Greg Morris (I)

My family and I have enjoyed 22 years in our great community. As your councilman, I've been honored to help my colleagues accomplish four amazing years of service. We work hard on countless fronts to amply serve all tax-

payers and town businesses while constantly expanding our knowledge base to even better serve. The important advancement of Town business is eclipsed by my commitment to transparency in influencing and establishing Council and Administration goals. Being collective, I reach out to all corners to better understand matters, sometimes challenging the status quo in efforts to fully examine and improve public policy.



Stay Safe....Pay Online!

Effective immediately: Transaction fees have been waived for online payments. Please use our online portal to pay your bills from the comfort of your home.

- Pay with your smartphone or mobile device
- Account access 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- View real-time account balances, payment amounts and due dates
- View your consumption history



Visit this URL:

www.municipalonlinepayments.com/chesapeakebeachmd



Keith Pardieck (I)

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you for a second Town Council term. Together we will continue to make smart decisions to protect our small-town community atmosphere,

maintain a healthy and safe environment, improve recreational opportunities, and ensure transparent, effective government. I am a professional biologist, Twin Beach Opioid Abuse Awareness Coalition Chairman, CBOCS architect, and active Japanese Kenpo Bujutsu Ryu (USA) Black Belt. I have enjoyed living in Chesapeake Beach since 2003 while raising my two children – Michael and Sarah, both thriving as they enter adulthood. Let's make smart decisions together to build a sustainable future (www.pardieck4towncouncil.com).

TRASH NEWS

Effective July 1, 2020

Evergreen Disposal serves Town residents as the Town's trash removal and disposal service provider. The collection days remain the same. Bagged yard waste is picked up every other Monday for Northside and every other Tuesday for Southside for the entire year.

Bulk trash collection has been extended to a weekly pick up by calling Evergreen 24 hours prior to your trash day. You should call 240-468-6677 and ask for Christina. You can have up to 3 items. Please get a confirmation that you are on their schedule.

The Town of Chesapeake Beach Code requires that all trash storage receptacles shall be made of durable material and shall be watertight with tight fitting covers to control odor and prevent animal access. No garbage, trash or debris shall be placed out for collection except in proper receptacles. Remember—all trash must be at the curb in containers with lids. The trash company cannot come on private property to retrieve your trash. ■

THE CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY MUSEUM

By: *Correine E. Moore*

The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum (CBRM) is operating much like the rest of the world due to the COVID 19 pandemic. While the museum was going to be closed due to renovations for the better part of the year, the additional COVID 19 measures added another layer to the project.

The scheduling plan for CBRM was to proceed with our 2020 summer programs during the renovations as our alternate site, the Northeast Community Center, was in place to hold all the events. However, all of our events were either cancelled or were offered via a virtual platform due to the pandemic. Our Annual Spring Family Fun Day and the Summer Children's Programs were offered on-line with a special virtual show performed by The Science Guys for the Spring Family Fun Day. Our ongoing prizes for the event were awarded via Facebook from The Friends of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum. Book selections and crafts were also posted on The Friends' Facebook page for each children's program. A special goody bag was made available for those who drove to the museum for curbside pickup as part of this season's final children's program.

In working with all of the scheduled musicians for the 2020 Bay Breeze Concert Series, we concluded that it was better to wait until such time when we could offer safe, live performances after considering virtual concerts as an option.

There is an enormous amount of planning that goes into these events and, conversely, just as much with

canceling or reconfiguring. I have a greater appreciation for the word "scramble". CBRM found solace in the fact that many larger institutions were experiencing the same challenges and results as we were. We rely on visitors to enhance the community we serve, and, we receive support through the numbers that are generated by the museum experience whether through on-site visitation or through programming. We consider ourselves fortunate to have been able to come up with alternative measures where feasible. A heartfelt thanks goes out to all who were part of the "scramble".

The grant awarded by the Maryland Historic Heritage Areas (MHAA) through the auspices of the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) for renovating CBRM and the Randle Cliff School building, as an auxiliary site, continues to move forward. The first phase of the grant to renovate the Randle Cliff School building has been, for the most part, completed. Preparation to move into the building is ongoing and should be completed soon. The second phase of the grant, to upgrade the exhibits at CBRM, is underway. This phase includes cosmetic interior improvements and an entirely new exhibit throughout the museum highlighting theme-based areas. The selection process of designing and implementing the new exhibits from the planned ideas is taking shape. The museum staff will continue to stay focused on the project so that when our doors open again, a new look will be waiting with the same continued commitment to present a treasured history to all who enter our museum. ■

TWIN BEACH DEPUTIES

The Town of Chesapeake Beach Recognizes Captain Naughton and Welcomes Lt. Hollinger to the Twin Beach Deputies

By *Holly Wahl*

The Mayor and Town Council announce a change in leadership of the Twin Beach Deputies with the recent promotion of Ronald Naughton to Captain of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office (CCSO).

The Town of Chesapeake Beach entered into an agreement on July 1, 2010 with the Calvert County Sheriff's Department, in partnership with the Town of North Beach, to provide nine (9) resident deputies to be shared between the Twin Beaches, known as the Twin Beach Deputies, with one (1) resident deputy dedicated to the Town of Chesapeake Beach.

Captain Ronald Naughton has served the Twin Beaches for over five (5) years providing leadership and direct oversight of the Twin Beach Deputies. Captain Naughton began his role in the Twin Beaches as a Sergeant on March 9, 2015, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in October of 2016. In Captain Naughton's new role, he will oversee the CCSO Patrol Bureau. The Patrol Bureau is the most visible of all the bureaus within the Sheriff's Office routinely providing first response to calls for police service in the community, maintaining a strong patrol presence 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout Calvert County's 219 square miles. In his new leadership role, Captain

Naughton will continue to provide oversight to the Twin Beach Deputies.

"The Town commends Captain Naughton on his recent promotion and is thankful for the leadership he provides, and will continue to provide, to the Twin Beach Deputies." stated Mayor Patrick J. "Irish" Mahoney.

The Town welcomes Lt. Gregory "Joe" Hollinger who will provide daily supervision of the Twin Beach Deputies. His recent promotion to Lieutenant places his focus in the Twin Beaches under Captain Naughton's continued guidance. Prior to his new assignment, Lt. Hollinger has served close to twenty-two (22) years with the CCSO. During his time, he served as a detective in the Criminal Investigative Bureau, investigating all manners of crimes, but specializing in child abuse investigations. Most recently, Lt. Hollinger worked in the Patrol Bureau where he supervised various Patrol squads, the Crime Suppression Unit, the Community Action Team and the Mountain Bike Patrol Unit.

Lt. Hollinger describes his highest priority in the Twin Beaches as being, "fair and friendly, prioritizing the safety and security of citizens through proactive policing, quick responses to calls for service and to be highly visible and approachable."

Lt. Hollinger wants citizens to know that they can expect to see him, and his team, walking the boardwalks, in the parks and on the beaches and to feel free to say hello and engage the Deputies in conversation to further their efforts to get to know the Town citizens.

Lt. Hollinger plans to further expand the CCSO Mountain Bike Unit for routine patrolling in the Twin Beaches. The Town looks forward to continuing to foster the great relationship with the Calvert County Sheriff's Department in servicing Town citizens. ■



Pictured from left to right: Sheriff Evans and Captain Naughton, Sheriff Evans and Lt. Hollinger. Source Calvert County Sheriff's Office

CBOCS

Oysters in Chesapeake Bay

For many years the oysters in the Chesapeake Bay were able to filter its 17 Trillion gallons of water every 3 days. They were able to reproduce at rates that hand tongs used by the natives and watermen could harvest the oysters. Starting in the 1800's a new method of harvest was introduced using dredges on bugeye and skipjack sail boats. This made harvesting much easier and therefore started to reduce the number of oysters. From 1850 to 2010 the number of oysters was reduced by 98 percent. That increased harvesting also disease reduced the ability of the oysters to filter the Bay water to once per year.



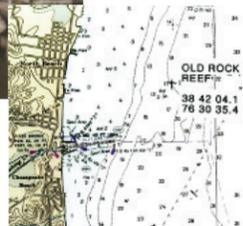
Oysters in Chesapeake Beach

The area off-shore from Chesapeake Beach to Herrington

Harbor is referred to as the Old Rock Reef. It was rich with oysters until January 1970 when DNR opened it up for harvesting. During the first 10 days more than 75,000 BUSHELS of oysters were harvested, and by the end of 2 years there were no oysters left on the reef. The reef remained this way for the next 40 years.



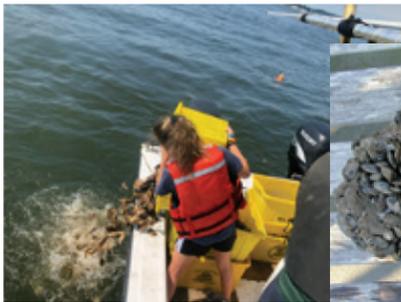
Skipjacks and dredge boats January, 1970 in Fishing Creek ready to harvest oysters from Old Rock Reef



Southern boundary of Old Rock Reef

In 2010 the Town of Chesapeake Beach organized the Chesapeake Beach Oyster Cultivation Society (CBOCS) and joined the Maryland Growing Oysters

(MGO) program sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The object was to start the replenishment of the Old Rock Reef with 1 year old oyster spat housed in protected cages in Fishing Creek. During the next 8 years CBOCS planted 860,000 oysters on the Old Rock Reef. A sample dredge in 2019 showed that our oysters are healthy and growing,



CBOCS volunteer planting oysters



8 year CBOCS oysters

Future of oysters in Chesapeake Bay

Repopulation of oysters in The Bay to historic levels depends on a number of factors and will take a long time.

- **Production of oyster larvae needs to be sustained and increased.** Currently the majority of oyster larvae is produced at the Horn Point Hatchery. Larvae is used for creating spat on shell. Major users of spat are the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for population of selected tributaries. Other larvae customers are Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), MGO and aquaculture watermen.
- **Sanctuary reefs should remain protected and continually populated.** DNR has set aside specific areas which are off limits to harvesting.
- **Pollution needs to be reduced and continually monitored.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set limits on the amount of pollution from tributaries to the Chesapeake Bay.
- **Education of all ages to the value that oysters have on the cleaning of The Bay needs to be increased.** Community groups are working on many forms of outreach. School systems have programs to educate

students. Foundations and newspapers (especially the monthly Bay Journal) are great resources.

Community MGO programs need to be sustained and increased. There are 17 MGO programs that currently house several thousand cages of oyster spat on shell for their first year. This is to protect the young spat from predators and increase their survivability when moved to The Bay.

- **Increase the Maryland aquaculture program.** Aquaculture is the growing of oysters on a private lease that a waterman can apply for. Oysters are seeded on the lease and allowed to grow for 1-4 years. They are then harvested and sold. In the meantime each year the waterman puts a new batch of oysters in The Bay. This continues and even increases the oyster population as not all the oysters are eventually harvested. The program also gives the waterman a continued source of oysters. Recently 25 percent of all oysters harvested are coming from aquaculture leases. This number is growing. A WIN WIN for The Bay.

Future of oysters in Chesapeake Beach

- **CBOCS has partnered with MGO for the past 9 years.** We receive young oyster spat on shell in September and house them in protected cages for 9 months in Fishing Creek.
- We then move them to The Bay. To date we have planted 860,000 oysters in The Bay with a survivability rate of more than 75%. To determine this rate we count a representative sample. We have placed several reef balls at our location to discourage potential poachers from dredging.
- **CBOCS monitors water Quality in Fishing Creek.** To insure the quality of water flowing from Fishing Creek to The Bay meets the EPA limits. CBOCS takes regular samples for Nitrates, Phosphorous and Total Suspended Solids. The numbers are below the



Loading spat in BOCS cages



Counting spat



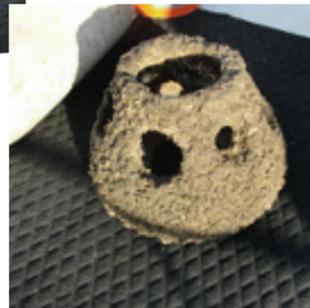
Unloading oysters from creek



Moving oysters to Old Rock



Reef ball 6 years in water



Reef ball 8 months on Old Rock

allowed limits. A special feature of Fishing Creek is the great marsh. The grasses and plants need Nitrates and Phosphorous to grow thus reducing pollutants flowing to the bay.

- **CHESPAX and CBOCS education.** The 5th grade oyster education program designed by CHESPAX is one of the best in the country. CBOCS is proud to facilitate the field trip which helps the students get hands on experience with oysters. These trips have reached more than 6500 students.



Testing for turbidity



Green marsh

In addition CBOCS presents an oyster program at community events, youth, and library groups.

- **Aquaculture has come to Chesapeake Beach.** When CBOCS was formed, Bobby Abner volunteered the use of his boat ramp to unload cages from The Bay and his boat to take the oysters to



Students monitoring

the Old Rock Reef. 5 years ago he decided to expand his business with the addition of oysters. He obtained an aquaculture lease near the CBOCS sanctuary in The Bay.

Then he purchased fast growing Triploid oyster spat from the Piney Point Hatchery for depositing on his lease. He has done this for several years and is now harvesting a portion of them. This year he added the proper equipment to form a hatchery.

Now he can take oyster larvae and spread them in a tank of shells so they form spat on shell. Then he can deposit them in The Bay. The first application spread 2.5 million larvae in a large number of cages in mid-July. CBOCS added several of their MGO cages in order to get oyster spat for their fall field trips. The public is welcome to view this operation when the larvae are spread on the shells. To register for future events email Johnbacon1@comcast.net with your name and phone number. He will contact you with date. ■

More pictures on page 15

CALVERT LIBRARY TWIN BEACHES BRANCH



March of 2020 would be a time like no other. As the scope and danger of the COVID-19 virus became more apparent, the world began to close its doors and Calvert Library was no exception. With doors locked and buildings quiet, librarians at home went to work, like everyone else, to figure out how to interact in this new world.

Librarians, above all else, live to serve their communities. From storytime for youngsters, to evening programs for school-age children to book discussions and employment resources for adults, the library's place as a community resource is unassailable. Yet without the possibility of face-to-face interactions with their customers, how would Calvert Library still fulfill its vital mission to serve as a gateway to imagination, information and inspiration. The answer? Creatively!

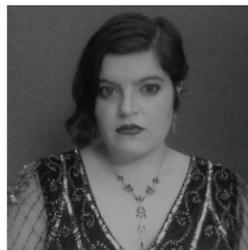
Almost immediately upon the close of business, Calvert Library staff began meeting and planning and discussing and meeting some more! Like many folks working from home, mastering the online meeting was the first step—"Someone needs to mute their line," "I don't think you have your camera turned on!" But slowly, librarians became Zoom masters!

Next step—how to offer educational and engrossing programming from afar? Already divided into teams focused on different age groups and program types, these teams each set out to make a plan to continue their vital work. How would customers be reached? What sort of training was necessary to make new programming happen? How could the best of Calvert Library be shared in an entirely new way?

The team of children's librarians devised a plan to produce "storytime snippets"—books, music and flannel board stories filmed at individual librarian's homes and posted regularly on social media then saved in playlists on YouTube. With virtually no experience in film production or editing, librarians diligently went to work relying most heavily on good, old-fashioned trial and error. Staff learned to film, to edit and to share materials in a completely digital environment.

Later, these same librarians began to film longer clips for school-age children called It's Elementary, sharing a picture book then modeling an activity that can be easily replicated at home. These clips premier every Monday morning on social media and will continue through the fall. The children's team is diligently working to determine the best way to continue offering educational programming to our littlest customers as the pandemic continues.

Teen and tween library customers have also been able to participate in a variety of online programming from a birdwatching tutorial with an expert birder via Zoom to an evening of playing online games together with Jackbox games. Other programs have introduced teens to experts in the county in the arts and in various types of crafting. Librarians have been continually brainstorming ways to bring educational and entertaining programming to teens and tweens while also offering them invaluable ways to remain connected and social in a time of social distancing.



Escape Room Hortensia

Upcoming programs include a virtual escape room that asks participants to act as a detective to uncover the details of a daring art heist!

Grown ups were not forgotten in all the bustle! Long-standing book discussion groups experimented with the best ways to continue to meet and share their love of literature. The literary meet-ups will continue in the virtual realm throughout the fall. Also continuing in a new virtual environment, popular groups such as Writers by the Bay and valuable resources like Lawyer in the Library. Calvert Library will continue to work with community partners and bring the best resources to their customers in new and innovative ways.

branches. Even this small step required much behind-the-scenes work by library staff. Circulation staff began reviewing software that would allow customers to make appointments to pick up materials that they had placed on hold. Luckily, the library's current calendar software had an add-on that did just that. Customers can place holds on items from all over the tri-county area and when they arrive, make an online appointment to pick them up or have the items brought to their trunk. This service will continue through the fall, as well.

What's next? While the world continues to walk oh-so-carefully toward "normalcy," Calvert Library will continue its efforts to bring library services to the

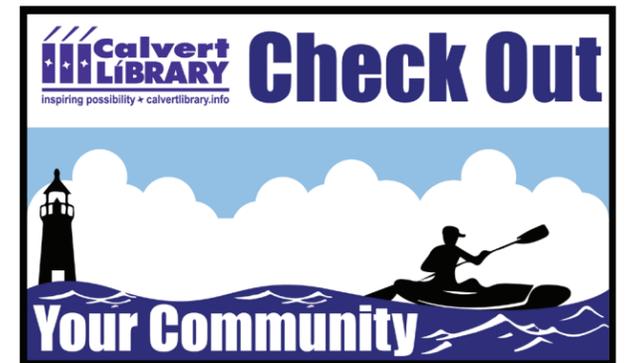


Summer is traditionally one of the busiest times for Calvert Library as the library offers a yearly program to encourage all members of the community to read over the summer months. Launched several years ago, the library's #calvertREADS team has been charged with overseeing all aspects of this effort. Luckily, some of the library's reading program had been online for several years, utilizing a platform called Beanstack to allow participants to track their progress in the program. Having to rely exclusively on this virtual program, however, presented some challenges. Particularly of concern to the team was the need to reach all community members, including those that might not have reliable and consistent access to the technology necessary to participate online. To alleviate this issue, the team designed a printed gameboard that could be distributed and used to track progress. Also added, the opportunity for participants to phone the library to register and to have their progress logged. Team members even went out into the community to distribute gameboards and gift free books to kids to encourage their love of reading!

In June, Calvert Library was delighted to begin offering curbside pick up of library items to customers at all

community in the safest way possible. The next step will be opening buildings with limited hours and services, which will hopefully happen on Tuesday, September 8 for the Twin Beaches Branch. Online programming for all ages will also continue through the fall with every team experimenting with new and innovative programming to bring joy and connectivity to the community.

Want more information on Calvert Library, curbside pickup and upcoming events? Check out the library's website at calvertlibrary.info or call the library at 410-535-0291. ■



THE WATER PARK WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER WORKING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC IN 2020!

By: Marilyn VanWagner, General Manager and Brooke Nastasi, Marketing Team Member

Although our 2020 Season did not go as we originally planned, we are so thankful for our community for making it a great year. We hope to see you all again next year for another unforgettable season!

CUSTOMER REVIEWS say that this has been our “best season yet!”

Took my granddaughter yesterday and we had a great time!!! Loved seeing the hand sanitizers stations everywhere!!! Love Chesapeake Water Park!!! -Norma

“I LOVE that it’s Calvert only. It was so nice. Not crowded no issues getting in. Food was great and no wait. Keeping social distance really wasn’t an issue. I’m so happy we bought season passes this year. It’s been so pleasant and worth it” - Ashley

LIFEGUARDS EXCEED NOT JUST ONE BUT BOTH OF OUR 2020 AUDITS... The Chesapeake Beach Water Park is excited to announce that our Aquatics Team scored an Exceeds on both their July and August, Ellis and Associates Unannounced Audits. Ellis and Associates work closely with the Chesapeake Beach Water Park to provide Aquatic Risk Management Services. During both unannounced audits, our Lifeguards and Aquatics Management staff were observed and recorded during operating hours by an Ellis and Associates auditor. Once each month, the auditor enters in disguise, and the lifeguards are scored for their vigilance and rescue readiness and the entire team is scored on their emergency response in a practice scenario. An overall score of fails, meets, or exceeds is awarded to the facility and Aquatics Team. We are happy to congratulate our Lifeguards and Aquatics Management team on this great achievement and we appreciate all their hard work and dedication that lead up to achieving these positive scores.

FAREWELL AND A BIG THANK YOU TO BROOKE NASTASI IN MARKETING! We’d like to take a minute to introduce you to Brooke Nastasi.

Brooke has worked at the water park since 2015 and has worked her way up in management. She started out as a cashier, progressed to Sales Manager, and is now on our marketing team. Brooke graduated this past Spring from the University of South Carolina where she studied public relations. “Working at the water park has set me up in unimaginable ways for my future, from creating newsletters to running social media accounts, my experience here has set me up for a position in my field.” says Brooke.



We are sad to say goodbye, but we know Brooke is going to excel at whatever she chooses to do. She says, “The water park is a place that I will always thank for giving me a variety of skills that will help me throughout life and my career.”

A NOTE FROM THE GM, MARILYN VANWAGNER ... If you would have asked me in January how 2020 was going to play out for the water park, I could have never guessed it would have been anything like it has been. We had made our printable calendar all pretty and we had many exciting events planned for Character Days and Night Slides and other special events. We were excited about our newly designed birthday party packages, we were off to great start with the bookings of many afterhours group events, and our swim lesson programs were booking up at the fastest pace ever. I was looking forward to



watching it all unfold. Instead we are here on the backside of summer and it has been one *crazy* ride!

So many things changed for us this season, and I want to give a shout out to so many. First to all our team members, mostly young adults, and our team leaders, for stepping up and doing what we always do: adapting. Holly Wahl, our Town Administrator was also here with us every step of the way. Thanks also to Mayor Mahoney and our Town Council for adopting a Resolution #R-20-3, to only allow the Town and other County residents to come to the park which helped to keep us all safe. Filo Blake, our Maintenance Technician kept up the pace. He installed 25 hand sanitizing stations, sneeze guards at all sales windows, social distancing stickers and many other new signs all over the park. The Calvert County Department of Economic Development and the Calvert County Health Department also worked very hard to keep us informed. I also want to thank our suppliers for keeping us informed as delivery schedules kept shifting and product availability was inconsistent.

Yes, we have all had to adapt to make it through the last few months. Just like other industries across the globe we joined online groups and communities to share ideas and it was nice to have a group to reach out to when we needed advice. We have all been thinking outside the box to continue to spread smiles and bring in revenue.

Kudos to all the ways we have been able to make it work with all the new restrictions and requirements. First, we adapted by advancing our technology. All of our orientations and interviews were done virtually via Zoom. Almost all of our training was also done

virtually via Learning Zen, an online training platform. We continued to use our e-scheduling system, When2Work, so that our team members could see when they worked and trade shifts with co-workers when necessary. We set up a new electronic reservation system to ensure that we never went over 25% capacity. Each of our team members also completed an automated health screening prior to each shift. We were required to keep track of every guest entering the park for the Calvert County Health Department just in case they needed to perform contact tracing.

We were able to keep our popular swim lesson program alive, but we adjusted by cutting sessions, offering fewer classes, and lowering the number of participants allowed per class. We also reduced our menu options at our Beachcomber Grille, to avoid crowding of team members inside and to ensure that there was as little contact with the food as possible. We enforced social distancing and all team members were required to wear masks unless they were eating. All guests were also required to wear masks which came with a whole set of complicated and confusing rules that we enforced. There were all the sanitation protocols during the day and at closing each evening. We even closed on Mondays so that we could do a more detailed deep sanitizing and cleaning of all necessary areas. And then, the signage. We had so many new signs that it was hard to see parts of the park. Some of these new signs even needed to be revamped during the seasons due to changing regulations.

It is kind of miraculous but as of the date of this writing we have not had any Covid-19 events with any of our employees and the Heath Department has

not called to get any lists for contact tracing for any of our guests or employees. But we know we are not out of the woods yet because just a few weeks ago the Calvert County Health Department released an article saying that over the previous two weeks that 40% of all COVID cases in the county have occurred in 15-19 year olds and the article went onto say that it is believed that many in this age bracket are known to be asymptomatic. I thought to myself, "oh great, this is 95% of our team". I was immediately on the phone with Holly Wahl, our Town Administrator, and together we came up with a plan. We had all employees sign a disclosure which would again reiterate all the risks and how to stay safe.

Yes, it's been challenging, but it has also been extremely rewarding hearing from all of you, our Town Residents, our core group, and how appreciative you are to all that the Town has tried to do by lowering the capacity and even more importantly, only allowing County residents. It was honestly all your wonderful comments and

feedback that kept us going each day. There are so many new ideas that have come out of this experience and we hope to carry over many of them next season. Not to sound cliché, but we truly are all in this together and we will really come back better and stronger. Stay safe and we hope to see you for the 2021 Season at OUR favorite water park.

FOLLOW US! As you know we have worked diligently to modernize our branding over the past few years. We rebranded with a new logo, a user-friendly website, and an active online social media presence. We encourage you to check us out and give us a follow. Facebook: Chesapeake Beach Water Park. Instagram and Twitter: @cbwaterpark_. These are all the best ways to stay in touch and of course our website: <https://chesapeakebeachwaterpark.com/> ■



KELLAM'S REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Sponsored by
Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.

Senate President Emeritus

By: Holly Wahl

During the September 17th Town Council meeting, the Mayor and Town Council announced the award of a bond initiative made available through Senate Bill 191 with the support of Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. Senate President Emeritus. Senate Bill 191 provides a grant of \$50,000 in matching funds for improvements to the Kellam's complex. In preparation for this grant the Mayor and Town Council included \$100,000 in capital improvement funds in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

"The Town Council joins me in sending a sincere thank you to Senate President Emeritus Mike Miller for his continued support of the Town of Chesapeake Beach. We are looking forward to seeing residents, of all ages, increase their use of the Kellam's complex." stated Mayor Patrick J. "Irish" Mahoney.

The Kellam's complex serves as the Town center for Chesapeake Beach, within walking distance to 90% of



the Town, and is a focus for recreational use in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan update and the Town's Walkable Community Committee, chaired by Councilman Derek Favret.

The Town will be conducting public engagement to understand what is most desired within the Kellam's complex with a focus on making needed improvements to the existing children's play area, including low impact work out equipment for seniors, increasing usable green space creating a meeting place for Town residents to enjoy.

In addition, the Town is in coordination with BGE to install Electric Vehicle charging stations at no cost to the Town in the Kellam's complex parking area for public access.

Mayor Patrick J. "Irish" Mahoney intends to provide a concept plan to the public in the coming month for comment. ■

CBOCS OUTREACH



CBOCS at Easter festival



Cages in tank



Oyster Shells



2.5 Million larvae



Spreading larvae on cages



P.O. Box 400
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732

TOWN CONTACT NUMBERS

In case of emergency, tune to
Channel 6 or WTOP Radio 103.5.

- Animal Control..... 410-535-2800
- Beach
- Elementary 410-257-1512
- Northeast Community
- Center.....410-257-2554
- Emergency..... 911
- Fire Department
- (non-emergency)..... 410-257-6564
- Library..... 410-257-2411
- Post Office410-257-6180
- Railway Museum.....410-257-3892
- Sheriff
- (non-emergency)..... 410-535-2800
- Town Hall410-257-2230
- Town Hall 301-855-8398

Town Hall is open Monday through Friday
from 8:30AM to 4:30PM

www.chesapeakebeachmd.gov
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