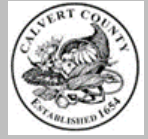




The Linden Times



Volume IX
No. 1 April 2026

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALVERT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Greetings, Members of the Calvert County Historical Society! Happy Spring!

As we celebrate and reflect on 250 years of United States history, we continue our work to research and preserve the stories that matter to Calvert County. Since the start of the year, we have assisted 80 researchers, including visitors from Florida who uncovered new information about their family.

Our archivist and librarian, Mary Rockefeller, is the first point of contact for research inquiries and supports projects. We welcome a new volunteer, Jennifer Pitts, who is studying Thomas R. Grover's 19th century account book. Her work is revealing valuable insights into interconnected African American and Caucasian families and communities in southern Calvert County, and we look forward to a future public presentation.

Several long-term projects have reached important milestones. All *Calvert Independent* newspapers have now been scanned, are searchable, and are available on the research computer. We're grateful to Larry Sears and Sylvia Freeland for their dedication to this project. Rosemary and Norm Dawley are transcribing oral history interviews for upload to Digital Maryland following training provided by the Calvert Library.

The Historical Society offers resources to help you explore your family history or better understand the past of your community. If you have inherited letters, photos, or other documents that you want to preserve and share, we can assist with digitization using our on-site scanners.

Together we can tell and share all the stories from the lives that have shaped Calvert County and honor those who have been part of its history. We welcome you to visit Linden to discover how you can help in that effort.
Kirsti Uunila



From the desk of the Executive Director,
Mary-Claire McNatt

The Calvert County Historical Society remains a vibrant hub of activity and research. Our volunteers continue to digitize the Calvert Recorder and have added an astounding 43 months (over 1000 pages!) have been added to our online collection (available only at CCHS headquarters, Linden). In addition, volunteers are working on oral histories for the Maryland's Digital Library. If you are interested in these and other volunteer opportunities at CCHS, please contact us at (410) 535-2452 or email director@calverthisory.org. Since January 2026, Mary Rockefeller, CCHS's archivist and librarian has assisted 80 in person and remote researchers.

On Tuesday, January 20, as part of the Semiquincentennial, thirty- five CCHS members, friends, and guests traveled by bus to the National Archives in Washington, DC to view the Declaration of Independence. The group was met by the National Archives visitor services staff and knowledgeable NARA volunteers who shared a wealth of information about the Declaration of Independence, the other documents in the Rotunda, the Faulkner Murals, and the 1297 Magna Carta. The group then explored the new exhibit, 'The American Story,' 'Records of Rights,' and the Discovery Center. We hope to offer more trips in the future.



Soaking in the history and the Faulkner Murals under the dome in the Rotunda at the National

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Continued Pg 1, From Missy McNatt, CCHS Executive Director

Volunteers were treated to a delicious lunch on Thursday, February 12. Over 30 people attended and enjoyed food provided by board members and former presidents. Everyone had a great time meeting new volunteers and board members and catching up with longtime friends.



Volunteers at the Volunteer Luncheon. Photo on left: (left to right): Bart Ewalt, Deborah Talbot Lusby, Don Brown, Peter Cochran. Photo on right (left to right): Sue Mills, Jackie Holland, Ava Hance, Sylvia Freeland

Farm-to-Table Heritage Breakfast

Once again board member, Susie Hance-Wells, led the charge for the Farm to Table Heritage Breakfast on Saturday, March 21 at the Calvert County Fair Grounds. Thank you to our sponsors, Bayside Toyota, Quality Built Homes, The Gott Company, A.H. Hatcher, Inc., Henry and Ann Trentman, Marshall Insurance and Associates, Charles F. Weber, Co. for their continued support of this very successful event. Approximately 400 people enjoyed the fresh Calvert County produce, dairy, and meats. Guests also had the opportunity to purchase books by local authors, prints and crafts by local artists, and a variety of antiques donated by CCHS members



Calvert County Commissioner Todd Ireland serves bacon.



Walt Wells and John Yoe chat at the breakfast.



Greeting breakfast guests



CCHS volunteer, Diane Harrison, shares items from the CCHS Gift Shop.

News Continued

Our Colonial-themed spring tea on April 19 was a resounding success, with many calling it our best one yet! Guests stepped back into 1776 as they enjoyed a menu of authentic period treats, from watercress sandwiches and ham biscuits to molasses cookies and traditional 'Great Cake.' The afternoon was a true community effort: CCHS board members and Calvert High National Honor Society students provided impeccable service, while Deborah Coffin Kennedy's stunning rendition of the Paca House kitchen set the perfect scene. A huge thank you to everyone who loaned colonial artifacts and volunteered their time—especially Chloe Ewalt and Carolyn Mohler, whose brilliant leadership brought it all together.



Margaret Prouty, aged 100, greets Luke, age 6 months



Tobacco Room at Linden decked out for the tea.



CCHS Bard Member, Richard Gray, serves tea to his aunt, Margaret Prouty.



Young guests at the tea learn about a colonial kitchen from the painting of the kitchen at the Paca House and colonial kitchen items on loan from CCHS members.



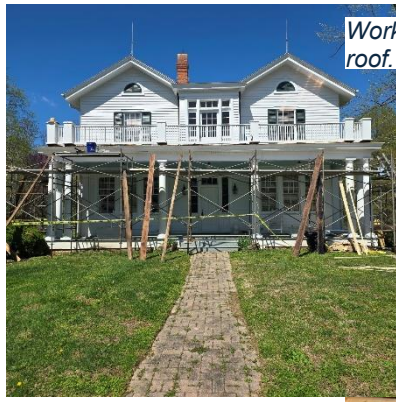
Tea Table in the Dining Room at Linden

Did you know there are approximately 18,275 historical societies in the United States.

There are There are 371 historical societies and organizations operating in Maryland as of early 2026. These organizations include specialized organizations and local heritage groups that work to preserve community specific histories.

Linden Porch Roof Renovation

When entering Linden from Church Street, be sure to notice the stunning new copper porch roof! The finish is so brilliant that it casts a warm, rosy glow onto the second floor—you might even need sunglasses on a sunny day. We were proud to partner with Cliff Layman of Historic Roofing Company, Inc. in Lothian, Maryland. With over 45 years of expertise, Cliff navigated an expanded scope of work after discovering significant wood rot in the supports and gutters. We are thrilled to announce that the restoration is complete, ensuring this historic feature stands strong for another century.



Scaffolding – The front of Linden

Work on the gutter on the porch roof.



Rebuilt gutter on the front of the porch roof.



Above left: Rebuilt porch floor before copper roof. Left: Shiny new copper porch roof Above: Notice the pink glow of the second floor of Linden!

Annual Dinner

Join us for the **CCHS Annual Dinner** on Thursday, May 14, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM at St. Paul's Parish Hall (25 Church Street). We are honored to host Franklin Robinson—noted author, historian, and Smithsonian archivist—as he presents "**Red Chalk and Rover: Benedict in the Revolution.**" As a George Mason professor and owner of Benedict's own Serenity Farm, Robinson brings a unique local perspective to this fascinating history.

This is a true "don't miss" evening! Please remember to mail in your **reservation and payment** by May 7 to secure your seat.

Upcoming Events ...

Speakers Series –

John Hanson: First President
of the United States under the
Articles of Confederation
Presenter: Peter Michaels
Thursday, May 21 – 12:00
noon – 1:00 p.m.

Calvert County in the
Revolutionary War
Presenters: Don Shomette
and Ralph Eshelman
Sunday, June 28 – 1:00 p.m.
– 2:00 p.m.
North Beach Town Hall

Back By Popular Demand!
Patriotic Porch Concert
July 16, 2026
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

CCHS Members Annual
Dinner
Thursday, May 14
5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Church Parish Hall
Prince Frederick, MD
\$45./person

CCHS Contact Info ...

The Calvert County Historical Society

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email: director@calverthistory.org

The newsletter has been renamed as of September 2024

The Calvert County Historical Society is an IRS 501(C)(3) Charity, and all contributions (both monetary and in-kind) are eligible for itemized deduction on your yearly IRS Income tax Returns, and may result in an Income Tax reduction at both the Federal and State level. Note that when you receive "value" due to your donation (for example, a meal at a dinner event or you purchase an item at our Gift Shop), these "costs" cannot be itemized as charitable donations. Thank you!