

### Have a Comment?

Have a comment, opinion or other public issue? Send a letter, to 914 W. Main Street, Crisfield, Md., 21817, email [crisfieldnews@newszap.com](mailto:crisfieldnews@newszap.com) or call Sound Off! at 410-968-1197.

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# Public Forums

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

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Crisfield-Somerset County Times



The most impressive line of motor cars in America today, in style, comfort, price and performance!

The New 1927 Standard Six Sedan \$995 E. S. H. Cleveland

The New 1927 Metropolitan Big Six Sedan \$1595 E. S. H. Cleveland

**WALK** clear around a new 1927 Chandler and study the car from every angle. What a picture of grace and charm, and perfect harmony of line, curve and color!

Step inside. Sink into the deep, rich cushions. Comfortable? Why, you've never felt more restfully at ease in all your born days!

Start the motor. Listen to that whispering murmur under the hood. Hardly a sound! A mighty mechanism purring like a kitten!

And power—say, when you tamp your toe on the go-trigger, you get the sensation of waking up all the power in the world.

Reel off the miles at any speed—you'll never feel the slightest vibration. And on hills that make the average car growl up in intermediate gear, give Chandler the gas and whiz up in high!

All models have the great "One Shot" system of centralized chassis lubrication; an air cleaner; an oil purifier; 4-wheel brakes; thermostatic cooling; self-adjusting spring shackles.

The cars themselves reflect the stability of a powerful company with no bonded indebtedness, no mortgages, no bank loans, no notes—and assets 20 to 1 over liabilities—stability that enables Chandler to offer finer cars at lower prices!

19 Smart New Models—\$945 to \$1795

**MIMS & GERALD MOTOR CO.**  
225 WEST MAIN ST. CRISFIELD, MD.

CHANDLER-CLEVELAND MOTORS CORPORATION • CLEVELAND

# CHANDLER

## In Times Past

Not feeling the vibe on golf carts now that they're legal on Crisfield streets? Too bad a Chandler isn't available especially at those prices. On Oct. 16, 1926 the Mims & Gerald Motor Co. advertised the new 1927 models ranging in price from \$945 to \$1,795. The Crisfield agents were located at 225 W. Main Street. Chandlers were built by the Cleveland Motors Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio, and the corporate strategy was to make good quality cars for the middle class. "A mighty mechanism purring like a kitten," the ad copy states. Founded in 1913 Chandler's business peaked in 1927 but overexpansion left it in debt the following year and in 1929 the company was purchased by the Hupp Motor Car Company, which itself went out of business in 1940.

# Why have a community economic development corporation?

The full text of the following, submitted by Charlotte Scott, president of the Greater Crisfield Action Coalition, can be found in the commentary section of [www.csctimes.com](http://www.csctimes.com).

The Greater Crisfield Action Coalition was formed in May 2015 based on the findings of the Lofton Report completed 14 years earlier. The findings were valid then and remain valid today. [I]t was clear Crisfield did not

need another study or more ideas for projects. What Crisfield needed then (and now) was "capacity to implement projects that offer real potential for improving the economy."

What emerged from the \$30,000 examination was "the framework for a new organization that has the potential to provide Crisfield with a high-performance economic development team that will mount a sustained program to invigorate the

## From Our Ol' Saltz

# More than worthwhile meals

By Donald Saltz

I'm not one who likes to eat out very often and when I went to a job I usually took a bagged lunch and still do to some nighttime meetings. But there have been, occasionally, exceptions that have provided what remain fond thoughts never to go away.

Mostly, those meal get-togethers were with well-known persons. One that stands at the top was a long lunch with Tex Ritter, cowboy movie star and father of TV actor, the late John (*Three's Company*) Ritter. In my earlier days I'd seen Tex in a bundle of films and comic books.

I was with a friend, as was Tex. He had run for governor of Kentucky, then a Democrat-leaning state but now Republican, where Tex would win.

What impressed me about Tex Ritter was his mild and plain behavior. In fact, he was one of the warmest people I've had the pleasure to meet, and there have been many.

A lunch interesting but far different than the time with Tex Ritter was a time with Sargent Shriver, President Kennedy's brother-in-law and himself a Democratic nominee for Vice President. Usually, I'm quiet but when Shriver began talking in a liberal way my conservative feelings came out.

Others at the table were silent as Shriver and I argued. In a way I'm sorry I exploded verbally, but then always I am not. I'm really glad to express my conservative feelings especially when confronting a big-time liberal.

A meal I remember well was with an entertainer long-established in my field — Virginia Payne, radio serials' venerable Ma Perkins. She spent 27 years as Ma, never missed a broadcast, and she was the highest-paid of all the radio serial personalities.

I don't recall how the meeting was arranged but with Ms. Payne in Washington for a role in a play my wife and I met her at her hotel, and near dinner time we asked if we could take her to dinner, near the theater. Frugal, "Ma" took my wife's suggestion and took with her the food she hadn't eaten. It was wonderful that this memorable homemaker, Ma Perkins, wasn't too proud to take the uneaten food.

Another of a number of notable people whom I shared lunch was Frank Perdue, built a chicken empire. We all ordered chicken, my order especially because of being with the chicken magnate.

These lunches have good food but it's the company that is with you, whether a business lunch or strictly for pleasure.

## Card of Thanks

### Thanks, Crisfield for being a good host to marina visitors

Thanks, Crisfield.

Late last month, Somers Cove Marina had the opportunity to host a large, national boater's group, the Marine Trawler Owners Association. Approximately 50 boats with more than 150 members spent a week enjoying the culture and heritage of Crisfield and Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore.

Mother Nature didn't completely cooperate during their stay, but the good people of Crisfield surely did. Boaters from all over the country were walking around town and down by the depot when they were caught in the storm and torrential downpour. Marina personnel, as well as local residents, including Crisfield Mayor Kim Lawson, noticed what was happening and graciously assisted shuttling our guests back to the marina safely.

See **Thanks** — Page 7

local economy." The bottom line purpose was "to ensure the economic future of Crisfield" through people, a process, and projects.

Why create a new organization? In short, the City does not have the personnel, resources or time required to follow-up or pursue opportunities that would impact the economy.

So what solution did the report recommend? Specifically, the report proposed "a highly focused, profes-

sionally staffed, private not-for-profit corporation," a 501(c)(3) community economic development corporation. The Lofton Report recommended that the corporation would function as the "implementation arm" of the Mayor and Council for economic development activities and would be empowered "to act in an aggressive manner consistent with the policy goals of the Mayor and Council."

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Dear Community,

The Greater Crisfield Action Coalition continues to receive wonderful support and much positive feedback, encouraging us to continue our work on behalf of the citizens, business owners, and property owners of Crisfield. Below is what others are saying about our mission

and our five year Action Plan. We will provide an explanation of each of the five components of the plan in a series of articles in the County Times in the coming weeks to help you to be better informed about our goals.

Board Members:

- Charlotte Scott, President • Paul Regester, Vice President • Darlene Taylor, Secretary
- Jay Tawes, Treasurer • Keith Campbell, Director of Workforce Development
- Angenette Stewart • Isabelle Regester

www.GreaterCrisfieldMD.org



Owner at Harbour Lights:

"Thanks for including me with this information. This is an extremely ambitious, well thought out and presented plan. I am looking forward to seeing it take shape over the next several months and years. Crisfield owes you and this board a huge debt of gratitude, especially if it materializes as planned."

Local businessman regarding the Action Plan:

"This is nice to see. Been needing an action plan for a long time."

Owner at Harbour Lights:

"It was refreshing to see that you did this plan yourselves with community support."

State official:

"I read the plan, and I like it. I like how comprehensive it is."

Local resident:

"Their (GCAC's) plan is based on common sense, realistic and obtainable goals for everyone involved and has the residents' best interest at heart. In this plan is a common sense layout based upon the knowledge of experienced people who have the town, its residents and business owners as their core objective.

I ask that our City Council and Mayor take great consideration that we are all in this together and it's ultimately your decision to join hands with a group that provides the best opportunities for itself, its residents and our future residents."

Community leader:

"I couldn't get over Mark saying the plan was "too big... If you're gonna come in with a plan, don't make it a small one."

Retired State Community Development Professional:

"My first impression is that this is a very complete and ambitious plan. Whoever wrote this did a nice job in communicating and laying out an action plan."

Property owner:

"If this plan, or even a portion of it comes to fruition, it could have an enormous positive impact on the economic value of our property and on the quality of life in Crisfield."

State official:

"WOW!! That is some editorial [letter to editor from Paul Regester]. I have been hearing about what is going on, and it is a shame. I hope this all gets turned around sooner rather than later."

Owns property here and has family here:

"Keep up the fight!"

Businessman from Somerset County and owner at Harbour Lights:

"Very interesting....I thought I heard it was a tie vote. Which members aren't supporting this? I appreciate your effort in trying to make Crisfield a better place for all of us."

Has a very successful business in DE and owns a condo here:

"Sorry to read the account of the Crisfield council meeting."

Has family roots in Crisfield:

"Thank you. Our war is not of earth but of principalities that have controlled Somerset way too long. Maybe back to slavery or before we were here. The battle is God's, and He will be victorious. Hang tough."

Community leader:

"I saw Paul's letter, and it was great. The failure of the Council to endorse GCAC is not only sad, but it reflects poorly on the Crisfield Government. Hang in there!"

Community leader:

"I did read that letter [by Darlene Taylor] and hopefully we will take a picture of that downtown instead of a drawing!"

Property and business owner in area:

"Great article, and we loved the rendering."

Frequent visitor:

"We noticed improved service in restaurants after the GCAC training. Keep it up!"

Owns property here and has family here:

"I hope that there will be fruitful meetings now between GCAC and City Council, and I hope I am able to come home for the meeting where Council finally agrees to accept the help that this exceptional group of people is eager to provide. I guess I'm not giving up hope just yet."

Community leader:

"I do hope and pray that the work session on the action plan happens. One thing that struck me at last night's meeting was that the audience in support of your organization was comprised of the most diverse group of people I have ever seen in Crisfield. There were both white and black folks from the upper end of the socio-economic spectrum, the same for working folks and the same for those seeking jobs and training. That was impressive!"

State leader:

"Keep the faith!"

Retired local businessman:

"If that meeting [August 24th] didn't change the council's mind, I don't know what it would take... One of the council had told me most people were against this. Where were they?"

Community leader:

"For city council members to say they didn't hear about GCAC was a "self indictment" with 80-100 people standing there who did know about it..."

Successful businessman to Mayor Lawson:

"You need growth, and you've got as talented a group of people as you have in this town, and you're pushing them away... They can help you get the growth!"

Local business woman:

"Thank you for caring for our town and having a vision. I admire all of you."

Supporter:

"I'm grateful for the magnificent job and your efforts put forth in the betterment of Crisfield. Keep up the good work."

Community leader:

"I found it 'remarkable' the poor quality of the reasons given for not supporting GCAC's mission."

Retired local leader:

"I read the plan off Facebook. Looks great and I truly hope it will be achieved."

Supporter and friend and Crisfield visitor:

"Wow! There has to be some divine help with this project. It seems all-inclusive, comprehensive, and a labor of faith. Kudos to you and your team."

Former resident, property owner:

"I grew up here in Crisfield, moving away in 1968, but I keep a vacation house here and come back once a month or so. I really love this town and have hated to see how it has gone down since I was a kid, and I am very happy to see the work that your group is doing. I will continue to give small amounts as I am able to support your efforts."

Retired teacher and supporter from Princess Anne:

"Best of luck. I will keep you and Crisfield in prayer."

# GCAC

Continued From Page 6

There are four key concepts or phrases that need to be highlighted:

1) "Implementation versus ideas." Crisfield doesn't need more ideas. Crisfield needs a means of "implementing" the best ideas/opportunities.

2) "Highly focused, professionally staffed non-profit." Implementation requires people. An experienced, professional staff requires significant and sustained funding.

3) "Highly qualified, all volunteer Board of Directors." Like GCAC? Yes. GCAC has a highly qualified, all volunteer Board with representatives from the whole community. Once funding is secured, this Board will

work with the staff, including the CEO and administrative assistant, the same two staff positions the Lofton Report recommended in 2002.

4) "Empowered to act." Empowered by whom? Empowered by the Mayor and Council to act "aggressively" on behalf of the City and in line with the City's "policy goals." The corporation's stated immediate goal in the Lofton Report was to bring the corporation's corporate charter to City Council for unanimous passing of a Resolution to support the operation of this economic development corporation."

In February 2013 and again in April 2015, the City Council was asked to form the recommended private corporation. In both cases, council declined to act. So in May 2015, two City Council



members and a small group of citizens set out on their own to form the Greater Crisfield Action Coalition, Inc. On August 24th, City Council declined to support the mission of this group, created to fulfill the intent of the Lofton Report.

The conclusion of the report was that "Crisfield was not organized to seize economic opportunity." It predicted what would happen, and what has happened, since the report was completed if the proposed community development corporation was never formally formed or put into action. It said: "Finally, in the absence of a new energetic approach to economic development that includes an organization with the skills, knowledge, resources, and passion to see good ideas to a successful conclusion, there is little reason to expect Crisfield will reverse its economic decline."

## 350 acres to be placed under Md. conservation easement

PRINCESS ANNE — More than 350 acres of waterfront property will remain undisturbed if conservation easements are granted by the Maryland Board of Public Works (BPW).

The Maryland Environmental Trust is working with two landowners on proposals that would let them be eligible property tax credits for 15 years.

The largest parcel is 203 acres near Oriole at 10373 Locust Point Road, which fronts the Manokin River. It is owned by Kevin Barr. The other is 156.5 acres at 27949 and 27947 Fairmount Road, owned by Randy and Barbara Stadler. It fronts the Annesmessex River.

County Administrator Doug Taylor advised the County Commissioners that he will investigate what tax consequence this will have on the county.

### The Greater Crisfield Action Coalition feedback continued:

CHS graduate and corporate analyst in metropolitan area:

"Wow, is that resistance I'm reading...? It seems like some folks don't want change. You guys may need some media attention, so that the city council can explain itself in front of everyone. I've been talking Crisfield up to some folks (possible donors). Trying to get them to come down and take a look. I'll get back to you once I get a feel about what they will do."

CHS graduate and leader in sales:

"What can I do to help? I would love to support my community. God is blessing me and my Family more and more. You can call on me anytime."

Property owner:

"I have been following the GCAC, and I am in support of what you are trying to do. I also believe Crisfield has great potential and that is why I initially invested a lot in property. However, I am convinced it is virtually impossible to improve our situation as long as the unfair property taxes are forced upon those who are actually paying taxes. Crisfield has to enlarge its tax base to survive, and they will never do it with these ridiculous taxes. I am sure you have had the same responses I've have when talking with potential home buyers. The statement is always that the taxes are higher than they are paying in Baltimore, New York, etc etc.

It seems the only way to get away from this unfair tax situation is to either suspend the Crisfield City Charter or do what is necessary to not pay Somerset County taxes. Since the County does little or nothing for these monies, it would not hurt us. Even though I really enjoy the view and the fishing, I have a hard time justifying this kind of cost. Anyway, keep up the good work, and I hope things do change for the better."

Municipal leader in the region:

"I supported whatever would help my town... This [GCAC] seems like a no-brainer."

Local business owner:

"I could not comprehend why a council representing the city they themselves live in would turn down free help from a group of professional business men and women who are offering their services free of charge. These are professionals who have proven over the years of their careers that they can get successful results. Wasn't it Moses who asked Joshua and Caleb to hold up his arms in battle? When his arms were raised, they won; when they were lowered, they lost. Right now I see Crisfield with its arms down. Vision [imagine] Crisfield as Moses, the City Council on one side and the GCAC on the other side for a business plan of triumph. The Coalition is not asking you for funds; citizens and businesses are freely giving of their time, talents and monies to move forward."

Resident and businessman:

"I can't for the life of me understand why they would not accept help from GCAC. Crisfield has had study after study... Isn't it time for some action?!"

Retired local businessman:

"I want to see Crisfield up and running."

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DELMARVA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS RETAIL RATES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND

CASE NO. 9424

September 8, 2016

### PUBLIC UTILITY LAW JUDGE'S NOTICE OF EVENING HEARINGS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Evening hearings for the purpose of receiving comments in connection with application of Delmarva Power & Light Company ("Company") for an increase in its retail rates for the distribution of electric energy are hereby scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, October 25, 2016 6:30 p.m.	Kent County Public Library 408 High Street Chestertown, Maryland 21620
Wednesday, October 26, 2016 6:30 p.m.	Chesapeake College Economic Development Building, Room EDC27 1000 College Circle Wye Mills, Maryland 21679
Thursday, October 27, 2016 6:30 p.m.	Salisbury University Teacher Education Technical Center, Room 156 1101 Camden Avenue Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Written comments also may be filed by October 31, 2016. The comments shall be addressed to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, and reference "Case No. 9424."

The Company is directed to publish as a display advertisement in newspapers of general circulation throughout its service territory a notice of the evening hearings for public comments, including the caption, case number, the time, date, place of each hearing, and the purpose of each hearing, at least two times on or before October 21, 2016. The Company shall file certificates of publication with the Commission on or before the date of the first evening hearing.

The Company also is directed to place on its home page a notice of the evening hearings for public comment in a manner that a customer need not click the link to determine the date, time, location and purpose of each hearing.

Terry J. Romine  
Chief Public Utility Law Judge  
Maryland Public Service Commission

Reasonable accommodations will be made at Public Service Commission proceedings for qualified persons with disabilities, if requested 5 days in advance of any proceeding. (Dial 410-767-8000 or 1-800-201-7165 or access the prior numbers through the Maryland Relay Service at 1-800-735-2258.)