



Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc.

www.ChristmasInAprilCalvertCounty.org

Volume 12

P.O. Box 2761

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

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Fall 2022

Board of Directors:

Russell Bowie, President
 Randy Kozik, Vice President
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 Steve Sanders

In 2022 Christmas in April Calvert County continued its recovery from the devastating impact of COVID-19. Improvements were made to 43 homes, including several carried over from 2020 and 2021 for COVID-related reasons. One additional home was part of an ongoing partnership with Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.

A total of 525 volunteers contributed about 8,400 hours of their time to help Calvert County homeowners live in warmth, safety and independence. A description of the work done at each house, along with some sincere personal comments from the affected homeowners, is included in this newsletter.

To protect the health and safety of the homeowners and volunteers, we continued to focus on exterior work. This included building or repairing access ramps, steps and decks; repairing or replacing windows and doors; repairing roofs and gutters, and general yard work.

Interior work was selected on a case-by-case basis with the consent of the homeowners and the volunteers. This included improving bathroom accessibility, repairing heating and cooling systems, and general safety improvements.

2022 data

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Number of homes repaired in 2022: | 43 | Ingress/egress improvements | 19 |
| Total number of residents served: | 81 | Bathroom accessibility | 1 |
| Average number of years lived in home: | 38 | Windows | 25 |
| Homes with disabled person: | 29 | Doors | 16 |
| Accessibility improvements: | 23 | Heating/cooling | 6 |
| Green building elements: | 20 | Roof/Gutters | 16 |
| (energy; water, and resource efficiency; indoor air quality, homeowner education) | | Plumbing | 10 |
| | | Safety improvements | 16 |

Resident Agent

Laurence W. B. Cumberland

Honorary Board Members

Pat Buehler
 Linda Herdeman

Our volunteers continue to understand the importance of their contributions to the community. Teams of student volunteers have returned, but not yet at pre-COVID levels, and teams with at-risk volunteers are slowly returning.

All of this was made possible by the local community, our dedicated volunteers and numerous individuals, businesses, churches and organizations that provided financial contributions and/or materials. Donors of \$2000 or more are acknowledged as a sponsor of a project, as are groups that sponsored an entire house, no matter the cost.

Please take note of our contributors listed in this newsletter and show them that you appreciate their support of Christmas in April and the services it provides to appropriate homeowners in Calvert County.

House Selection Committee

Carolyn Mohler, Chairperson
 Dick Alu
 Vince Antonioli
 Pat Baumann
 Steve Brooks
 Beth Carter
 Larry Carter
 Jon Gifford

Randy Kozik
 Natalie Moore
 Glenn Phelps
 Pat Pringle
 Tom Reinecker
 Bob Robertson
 Steve Sanders
 Guffrie Smith

House Sponsors

Cave to Castle Remodeling (5)
 Cedar Point Credit Union (2)
 Chaney Cares (2)
 Christmas in April Calvert County, Inc.
 Dominion Cove Point (4)
 Exelon Generation (7)
 Exelon Military Actively Connected (EMAC) (2)
 Friendship Community Baptist Church (2)
 Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church (2)
 HELP Association (5)

Home Depot
 Patuxent Habitat for Humanity (5)
 Paul C. Hayden & Sons, Inc.
 PNC Bank (2)
 S. MD Association of Realtors (SMAR)
 SMILE
 Smithville United Methodist Church
 Sneade's Ace Hardware (4)
 St. Nicholas Lutheran Church
 William Richmond Inc.

Christmas in April* Calvert County, Inc. in partnership with the community, repairs and improves houses and other physical structures to ensure that low-income homeowners live in warmth, safety and independence.



House Captains and House Partners

Calvert County Lions Club
Brian Owens
Calvert County Democratic
Woman's Club
John Yoe
Calvert Lighthouse
Church (7 houses)
Steve Brooks
Vada Brooks
Cave to Castle
Remodeling (3 Houses)
Glenn Phelps
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory
Chris Turner
Christmas in April Board
Russell Bowie
Steve Sanders
Concerned Black Men of Calvert
County Inc.
George Carter
Constellation (NAYGN)
Jeffrey York
Pat Pringle
Cove Point LNG (2 Houses)
Dennis Montana
Keith Barrett

Emerging Leaders: Leadership
Southern Maryland
Class of 2022
Megan Deaton
Exelon (EMAC)
Phil Klohr
Friendship United Methodist Church
Chuck Muler
Ken Reynolds
Grace Brethren Church Calvert County
Warren Courtney
Handy Man Construction
Jessica Harper
Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian
Church (6 Houses)
Beth Carter
Eric Stewart
Jon Gifford
Larry Carter
Huntingtown United Methodist
Church (3 Houses)
Bob Robertson
IET Corporation
Krystal Ringley
Marc Barbieri
Insane Wood Creations
John Lee
Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Randy Kozik
Knights of Columbus Council #9258
Vince Maldonado
Joe Suarez-Murias
Men's Group of Life Church Calvert
Mike Frederick
National Junior Honor Society of Mill
Creek Middle School
Jen Murphy
New Life Church
Randy Morgan
Smithville United Methodist Church
Dave Fondelier
James Jackson
Tom Miller
PEPCO
Matt Haynes
Justin Allen
St. Nicholas Lutheran Church (3 Houses)
Keith Williams

Tentative Calendar 2022-2023

For more details, see website www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org.

September 2022

September 30: Applications due for the 2023 Christmas in April year.

October 2022

House Selection Committee will visit the homes of applicants.

November 2022

The Board tentatively approves houses to be repaired for 2023.
Christmas in April will work on projects to celebrate Veteran's Day.

December 2022

House captains are assigned to recommended houses.
December 6: Christmas in April will work on projects to celebrate Giving Tuesday.

January 2023

Homeowners are informed of application decisions.

January/February 2023

House captains visit approved homes, determine work scope, and develop supply list.
Christmas in April will work on a project in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday.

March 2023

Preparations continue for the workday to be held the last Saturday in April.

April 2023

April 29: April work day

May 2023

Follow up contacts are made.

Throughout the year, donations are encouraged, sponsors and volunteers are recruited, applications are accepted, grants are applied for, emergency home repairs are completed, and the work continues to ensure low income homeowners will live in warmth, safety, and independence.

Thank You Christmas in April*Calvert County Partners: Volunteers, Businesses, Churches, Organizations and Individuals, who donated money, material, time and skills for the 2022 work year.

| | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| A H Hatcher | Exelon Militaries Actively Connected | Northern High School National |
| Airtec Inc | (EMAC) | Honor Society |
| Justin Allen | Exelon North American Young Generation | Patuxent Habitat for Humanity |
| Amazon Smile | Nuclear | Pathway Investments Group, LLC |
| American Rescue Plan grant | (NAYGN) | Paul C. Hayden Jr.&Sons Plumbing & |
| Clinton and Teresa Ashley | Fred Wyrstek Plumbing | Heating, Inc. |
| Atlantic Rotor | Friendship United Methodist Church | PEPCO (PHI Holdings) |
| Berkshire Hathaway Energy Cove Point | God's Bounty | Karen Price – Financial Management |
| Ellen Berry | Grace Brethren Church Calvert County | Pat Pringle |
| Richard Blasy Jr | Handy Man Construction | RGS Title |
| Margaret Buckler- McCarthy | Darlene Harrod | Janet Robertson |
| Calvert Beacon | Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church | S. MD Association of Realtors |
| Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant | HELP Association | SMECO |
| Calvert County Board of Education | Homebuilders Care Foundation | SMILE Ecumenical Ministries Inc. |
| Calvert County Democratic Woman's Club | Home Depot Foundation | Ann Smith |
| Calvert County Department of Solid Waste | Craig Hoying | Smithville United Methodist Church, |
| Calvert County Government | Huntingtown United Methodist Church | God's Bounty |
| Calvert County Lions Club | Youth Fellowship | Sneade's Ace Home Center Lusby |
| Calvert County Office on Aging | HVAC Enterprises | Sneade's Ace Home Center Owings |
| Calvert County Times | IET Corporation | Southern Maryland News |
| Calvert Garden Club | Insane Wood Creations | Spice Island Wicker |
| Calvert Lighthouse Church | Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church | St. Nicholas Lutheran Church |
| Cave to Castle Remodeling | Phillip Klohr | Steve Cleary Home Improvement |
| Richard Ciabattoni | Knights of Columbus Council 9258/Our | Steve Sanders |
| Cedar Point Federal Credit Union | Lady Star of the Sea Church Solomons | Joseph Suarez-Murias |
| Chaney Cares | Leadership Southern Maryland–Class of | The Baynet |
| Chesapeake Biological Lab | 2022 | The Well Doctor |
| Christmas in April Board of Directors | Phyllis Lester | Thomas Miller Electric |
| Christa Conant | Life Church Calvert | Ron Thomas |
| Concerned Black Men of Calvert County, Inc. | Lowes – California, MD | Joseph Thompson III |
| Constellation Energy | Robert Marino | Tri-County Tree Service |
| Cove Point LNG | Chris McCall | United Way of Southern Maryland |
| Crownstone Contractors | Sean McGowan, CPA | William Richmond Inc. |
| Dream Weaver Café | Mill Creek Middle School National Junior | Wortman Law Firm |
| EDI | Honor Society | Jeffrey York |
| Encompass Enterprises | Natalie Moore | Judy Zinneman |
| Exelon (PEPCO) Overhead Construction | New Life Calvert Church | |
| Exelon Generation | Nicoletti's Pizza | |

Shopping online with Amazon

When you are shopping online with Amazon, go to <http://smile.amazon> and select "Christmas in April Calvert County" as your charity of choice. Once you select Christmas in April, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from any eligible purchase made through Amazon Smile at no cost to you.

The following gives a summary of the improvements made on each home and project in 2022.

“I was used to doing everything myself and Christmas in April did things I just couldn’t do.”

“The deck and steps are really sturdy now. I really appreciate it.”

“My wife can now access the shower in our home.”

“The house is much safer and definitely looks much better. It almost makes the house look new.”

“Please tell the volunteers they were wonderful.”

“Thank you so much for the early Christmas gift of the furnace.”

Quotes from 2022 recipients.

House # 1 Larry Carter led this team of 10 volunteers in the Annual Day of Caring. Volunteers from Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church, Exelon Generation, Exelon Militaries Actively Connected, the Christmas in April Board of Directors, and Patuxent Habitat for Humanity worked together to make all of this possible. They completed many punch list type of items for a senior lady, including fixing a plumbing leak on her water supply line to the commode, replacing the existing commode with an ADA compliant commode, correcting a long standing plumbing issue with her hose bib, removing all tree limbs from around her house/roof, raking and cleaning up the yard from years of tree debris, and repairing a sink hole in the driveway. Additional improvements included repairing her lawn mower and hauling away a truck load of treasures.

The homeowner was thrilled with all this work. She said she had been on her own for many years and was used to doing everything by herself but these were things she just could not do. She said, “These little things just mean so much – like the toilet, but that was not a little thing. Tell the volunteers I think of them often.” This house was sponsored by Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

House # 2 Larry Carter of Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church and Keith Williams of St. Nicolas Lutheran Church served as co-house captains for these homeowners with three children. The team addressed immediate needs by correcting a roof leak and repairing the existing heat pump. The homeowner had been told the heat pump needed to be replaced but Keith Williams determined it simply needed a part and was able to easily repair it for less than \$20 for the part. The homeowner was very, very grateful. She said that her heating bill had gone from \$150 to \$400 a month with the need to use electric heaters. The roof leak repair was awesome. It was completed just days before the remnants of a hurricane came

through, and all was well. “I can’t put into words how much we appreciate this,” said the homeowner. This home was sponsored by St. Nicholas Lutheran Church.

House # 3 Russell Bowie led this team of volunteers from the Christmas in April Board of Directors and Exelon Military Actively Connected (EMAC) to make emergency repairs to restore a baseboard heater which recently failed. The team also verified that no additional safety issues existed on the installed electric baseboard heaters. The homeowner was very pleased with how well they worked and thanked Christmas in April. This home was sponsored by Exelon EMAC.



House # 4 Larry and Beth Carter, of Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church, were the house captains and volunteers for this project completed for a homeowner in her 80s. A storm door was replaced and new flooring was put down in both the kitchen and pantry. The homeowner is thankful for all of this work, saying that the storm door works well for her and that the new floors look good and are safer. She enjoyed the volunteers and said, “Christmas in April

has helped me in so many ways.” This home was sponsored by Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.



House # 5 Randy Kozik and Vada Brooks led this team of four volunteers from the Calvert Lighthouse Church and the Christmas in April Board of Directors who, in celebration of Veterans Day, replaced a leaking water heater and replaced a broken storm door and medicine cabinet for this homeowner. They then replaced carpet in the living room and dining room areas and removed carpet and installed vinyl plank flooring in the hallway.

Additionally, the sofa, end table, and coffee table were replaced with a donation from Spice Island Wicker. A dryer, refrigerator, and stove, all donated to Christmas in April, found a new home with this veteran. Exelon Military Actively Engaged volunteers replaced the existing decking, steps, and handrail on a 10' x 12' deck and hauled away the waste. “Thank you, thank you,” said the homeowner. “Everything is wonderful!” This home was sponsored by Patuxent Habitat for Humanity and Berkshire Hathaway Cove Point LNG.

House # 6 Russell Bowie led this multi-organizational team of volunteers on a blustery November day to construct a wheelchair accessible ramp for a physically challenged Navy veteran as part of our continued Veterans Day celebration. As part of this project, the team removed a section of railing and an existing temporary ramp from the existing deck

and constructed a 43' wheelchair accessible ramp. The homeowner says the ramp is “working real good. It is very nice. I used to need a whole lot of help getting in and out of the house. Thank you very much.”

The team consisted of volunteers from Exelon Generation, PEPCO (PHI Holdings), Exelon North American Young Generation Nuclear (NAYGN), Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church, St. Nicholas Lutheran Church, Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church, and the Christmas in April Board of Directors. The lunch for this project was sponsored by Exelon Generation. The project was sponsored by Lowes in California, Maryland.

House # 7 Brian Owens, of the Calvert County Lions Club, was house captain for the great team of nine Lions and friends joining them for the Christmas in April day. The day started with making major structural repairs to the deck stairs behind the house. Two new posts were added to shore up the structure and repairs were made to the stringers after removing the old tread revealed some severely rotted sections. After all of the structural repairs, the treads and risers on the stairs were replaced. Several bad decking boards on the main deck were replaced, a patch was made to the door frame and the storm door repaired. A light fixture was replaced and handrails were added to the side and rear stairways to the deck. After lunch, the team covered the entire deck, railings, and stairs with a fresh stain bringing the old deck back to life. The house was pressure washed prior to the workday. The homeowner said, “The deck is really sturdy now. I really appreciate it.” This home was sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Cove Point LNG. The Calvert County Lions Club also provided funding for some materials and breakfast and lunch for the volunteers.

House # 8 Steve Brooks served as house captain for our “Thanks for Giving” project which took place on a spring like day in November. The 88- year-old senior widow, who has lived in this house for 60 years, had been without running water for almost two months. Teams from Calvert Lighthouse Church and Cave to Castle Remodeling worked with The Well Doctor to install a shallow well pump and restore water. She told Christmas in April, “The water is running fine. I am enjoying it.” This project was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 9 Larry Carter and Eric Stewart of Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church led the effort to improve the heat within this senior lady’s home. The team installed two all mounted heating units and two ceiling fans in bedrooms to provide much needed heat and to replace space heaters which challenged the electrical system. The team also replaced the breaker

for the electric stove, returning the stove and oven to service. Last, but not least, the team replaced the front storm door which helped weatherproof the home. The homeowner is very thankful for the improved heating in the home, the ceiling fans and the other electrical improvements. "The workers were as nice and friendly as they could be. To me, it is a blessing what they did," she said. This home was sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Energy Cove Point LNG.

House # 10 Matt Haynes and Justin Allen, house captains, led a team of twenty-two volunteers from PEPCO to build an 83' ramp system for this 69 year old disabled home owner and his wife. This project was a multiday task. On Tuesday, most of the deck frame was pre-fabricated. On Wednesday, the existing stairs/porch rails were demolished. Then, the extensive ramp system, with handrails, was built on Thursday and Friday. Smoke detectors also were installed. It was truly a tremendous effort and, as the work was done in December, a great way to get in the holiday spirit. This home was sponsored by Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.



House # 11 This house was worked primarily on April 30 by a team from Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church, Lusby. Larry Carter served as house captain for the 24 volunteers. Projects included removing a tree that had crashed down two days before the workday and had been cut up by a relative, removing and replacing three windows, exterior painting, installing a new storm door, repairing the threshold under the interior and storm doors, and mulching of flowerbeds. Additionally, roughly 40 feet of gutter and corresponding downspouts were installed, the fascia boards along the rear of the house were painted, and fascia was repaired and painted on

the screened porch, plus there was gutter and downspout installation in this area. There was also clean up of the carport and surrounding area. The homeowner said she particularly needed the new windows as the old ones were very drafty. The guttering and downspouts had come off of the house. She said, "Thank you so much. They did a beautiful job." This home was sponsored by the Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

House # 12 Vince Antonioli and Keith Williams worked this bathroom renovation over multiple days in April and May with the support of six volunteers from St. Nicholas Lutheran Church. The task was to modify a small 6' x 9' bathroom into a bath that would be wheelchair accessible for a homeowner who had recently had a stroke. The old bathroom was gutted except for the commode and reconstructed "from the ground up." Paul Hayden and Sons Plumbing provided all the plumbing support and did an excellent job relocating services. A roll-in shower was installed, along with new vinyl plank flooring. The wall was insulated and dry wall hung. At that point, the commode was relocated to allow continuous use by the homeowner in need. The homeowners are very pleased that the wife can now access the bathroom with her walker. This home was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 13 George Carter was house captain for this project with eight volunteers from the Concerned Black Men of Calvert County, Inc. This team replaced a deteriorating back deck that had suffered from constant water damage caused by clogged gutters for what could have been years. They power washed the entire home, cleaned out the rear gutters, and fixed the dining room floor, which suffered from constant water damage from the patio door's improper installation. The door had been installed on the home's subfloor, exposing the subfloor to the outside elements which had caused the floor to deteriorate and become unsafe to walk on. The back deck required the team to replace the deck boards and hand railing which was not to code. Replacing the deck boards and handrail took two days to complete. The homeowner said, "The house and deck look really good since they have been power washed. Please thank the volunteers for the good job they did." This home was sponsored by Exelon Generation.

House # 14 Larry and Beth Carter worked on this home as volunteers from Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church. A major part of this project was roofing work. A corner of the roof appeared to be damaged after a car backed into the downspout. The downspout and gutter were reattached and an additional 10 feet of flex pipe was added to carry water away from the house. Then they determined

there was no damage to the roof. Dead branches were pulled off the roof and various dead branches and piles of leaves that had accumulated were removed. Branches were cut where they were touching the house. All of the soffit was missing. The homeowner had collected the individual soffit pieces as they were blown off the house and these pieces were reattached to the house. Only one soffit trim piece had to be purchased. Vinyl siding had blown loose on the end of the home and this was refastened. Additionally, a 2" x 6" x 12" handrail was replaced and 4" x 4" members of the front stoop were reinforced. The homeowner was very impressed and thankful for the good job done by these two volunteers. This home was sponsored by Harvest Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

House # 15 Steve Brooks led this team of seven volunteers to make improvements to the home of a disabled homeowner on a spring-like day in May. The team replaced five windows, repaired two doors, repaired two sets of entrance steps, and cleaned up the yard from winter's wrath. Upon completion of the work, the homeowner expressed her appreciation for all the work the team performed in a very professional manner. She said, "It was a marvelous crew Christmas in April sent out." This home was sponsored by Cedar Point Federal Credit Union.

House # 16 A small but dedicated team of 12 volunteers from the Knights of Columbus Council 9258 and Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Solomons teamed together at the Lusby Starbucks parking lot for the pre-job safety brief and then proceeded to the home of an elderly couple to restore home safety, comfort, and uplifted spirits by repairing or replacing the front porch steps and all railings, front storm door and insulation, rear porch steps, and kitchen sink plumbing. Yard trimming and roof raking and gutter cleaning, gutter guard installation, exterior power washing, and debris removal rounded out the project over three days of work. The homeowners assisted when able and shared lots of friendship and smiles. They felt much safer and were very appreciative of the yard and home improvements provided by the great Christmas in April volunteers. The homeowners said, "They did an awesome job! They did an excellent job with the power washing. I can now tell what color our house is. I no longer have to worry about water backing up to the house. We are really happy!" Thanks also goes to Sneade's ACE Hardware and house sponsor Berkshire Hathaway Cove Point LNG.

House # 17 Steve and Vada Brooks led this combined team of four from the Calvert County Board of Education and the Calvert Lighthouse Church to assist this disabled Navy Veteran. The team removed

and replaced three damaged windows in the bedroom and the kitchen area which is where he spends the bulk of his day. They also repaired the front porch railing, repaired drywall in the garage and repaired an exterior entry light at the basement door. The homeowner expressed his appreciation by saying, "Everything was perfect! Everything was good!" This home was sponsored by Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.



House # 18 Megan Deaton led this diverse team of Emerging Leaders for the Leadership Southern Maryland Class of 2022. This 23-member team worked multiple days to complete many needed projects for this senior widow. The repairs included, but were not limited to: Repairing the toilet, replacing the range hood, cleaning the dryer vent, replacing the sliding glass door screen, installing the smoke detectors, replacing the doorway thresholds, replacing interior lights with LED lights, replacing two exterior porch lights, installing a GFCI outlet in the kitchen, staining a fence, pressure washing vinyl siding, painting the shutters and door, removal of a "mountain" of leaves from the yard, replacing a hose bib, rebuilding flower boxes, and planting and mulching flower beds. This team obtained donations and made donations of much of the materials.

The homeowner was absolutely thrilled with all of these improvements. She described the volunteers as "a bunch of saints. They were amazing human beings who made me feel like they were family and I would do anything for them. Most of all, they gave me a good comfort level." This home was sponsored by SMECO.



House # 19 Warren Courtney and Jessica Harper led this team of 10 volunteers from Grace Brethren Church and Handy Man Construction to replace this senior widow's leaking roof and to install rain gutters in the front and rear of the home. The team also made numerous dry wall repairs within the home and cleaned up debris in the yard too. The homeowner said the roof is doing wonderfully and that she is most thankful for all of the work done by Christmas in April. She appreciated the assistance with her yard as well as the inside work. This home was sponsored by Chaney Cares.

House # 21 John Yoe was house captain for this team of volunteers from the Calvert County Democratic Woman's Club. The repairs for this older homeowner included repairs to his deck, power washing his house, and sealing the bottom of his front door. This home was sponsored by the Chaney Cares.

House # 22 Chris Turner led this new team of 10 volunteers from the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory to make needed repairs on this mother's home. The team replaced a deteriorated basement door and sliding glass door. The team also replaced a damaged bedroom window and removed miscellaneous trash from the home. The homeowner said that her deck was unsteady and Christmas in April was able to stabilize it to keep it from swaying back and forth. "They had a challenge but they could handle it." This home was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 23 Marc Barbieri and Krystal Ringley led this team of 25 enthusiastic volunteers from IET Corporation. The team replaced boards on the existing deck that had weathered over time, and cleaned the deck and siding. The rear entrance door was also replaced with a new steel door. They also replaced six sections of lattice work on the deck. Last, but certainly not least, the team reshaped and mulched all the existing flower beds/plantings around the home and yard. "The flowers are still blooming

and looking good. I mean they did a good job. They are volunteers and did such a nice job. I really appreciate it," said the homeowner. Lunch for the team was sponsored by the IET Corporation. The house was sponsored by the Cedar Point Federal Credit Union.

House # 24 James Jackson led this group of 11 volunteers from Smithville United Methodist Church to make repairs for this senior widow. The main bath required a complete renovation. Steve Cleary of Cleary Home Improvement led this task. A poor fitting on the toilet drain caused a leak that damaged the floor. The old iron pipe drain was trimmed and Steve installed a new PVC connection. He and his crew laid a new subfloor, put in a new seal and toilet, and retiled the floor. A bad water valve was also replaced. The result was stunning – a new bath and no leaks.

Kyle Cleary of Crownstone led a team that installed a new floor in the front bedroom. He removed the old linoleum floor and laid new laminate flooring and trimmed it out. It looked great, and the client's grandson was thrilled with the result. Other smaller jobs included installing window blinds, replacing an old stove, cleaning gutters, and trimming trees. The homeowner said, "It's a blessing! It's a blessing! They did a beautiful job. I enjoyed all of the volunteers." This home was sponsored by Smithville United Methodist Church.

House # 25 Bob Robertson, house captain from Huntingtown United Methodist Church, led this team of five volunteers to assist this homeowner. Nice weather, a wonderfully skilled work crew, and a terrific homeowner all contributed to a good experience for all. The roof that was replaced, about 600 square feet, was pretty straight forward but did require replacing some plywood and reinforcing a roof truss, as well as paying careful attention to the flashing where one roof section abutted another. The homeowner helped both days despite having worked night shifts as a security guard! He also "paid it forward" by delivering materials to another Christmas in April project the following week. The homeowner stated that he was very happy, very satisfied, and very appreciative of the work. This home was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 26 This team of four volunteers was led by house captain Pat Pringle. On a beautiful Monday morning, two volunteers gathered to perform needed repairs to the home of an elderly homeowner residing in Huntingtown. The work involved cleaning and power washing the deck and lattice work of the home. On another day, Glenn Phelps of Cave to Castle Remodeling and volunteers replaced the front and

back storm doors of the house. The homeowners were thankful for the improvements made to their home. This home was sponsored by Exelon Generation.

House # 27 Mike Frederick led this team of fourteen volunteers from the Men's Group of Life Church to assist this senior homeowner. They had great weather for their Day of Serving. They started off the day with repair of the back deck which had unsafe stairs and stingers and bad railings on just about the whole deck. All these items were rebuilt, making them safe and up to code. The next item was to completely rebuild the upstairs toilet that was leaking. The front door was remounted and made to work properly. A new handle was installed on the rear sliding door and the lock assembly and operation of the door were repaired so that this door would open and close properly. A new microwave with vent system was installed to replace the non-functioning one. The main drain line of the kitchen sink was snaked out. New flashing and flange were resealed to stop the master bedroom window from leaking. Two new smoke detectors were mounted to replace inoperable ones. The team also put in new flower beds and flowers and mulched and trimmed the bushes. This gave the home a much better outdoor appearance. The Men of Life Church put in a good full day and, at the end of the day, the homeowner had a better and safer quality of life. A big shout out goes to Larry Settle and the Dream Weaver Café for donating the lunches. The homeowner is very satisfied with all of the work. She had been unable to lock the sliding glass door and feels more secure now. She said, "The yard work is perfect." This house was sponsored by St. Nicholas Lutheran Church.



House # 28 Glenn Phelps of Cave to Castle Remodeling coordinated the work on this home. This bedridden and incapacitated 83-year-old homeowner along with his 73-year old brother/care giver lived in a mobile home with an inoperable propane gas furnace. After a visit by the house selection representative and later with the HVAC repair mechanic it was determined that, with winter weather approaching, replacing a 40+ year-old unreliable propane furnace of questionable future with a new more energy efficient propane furnace with accompanying ductwork connections would better serve the present and future needs of the homeowner and his supportive brother. The installation was completed in mid-December by a Calvert County company, HVAC Enterprises, with the help of their volunteer labor. A follow-up phone call reported that the homeowner was ecstatic "with this early Christmas present." This home was sponsored by the American Rescue Plan grant.

House # 29 Bob Robertson led the youth fellowship team from Huntingtown United Methodist church to repair this senior lady's ramp and deck on a brisk February morning. The team replaced deck material and parts of the structure that had decayed over years of use. The homeowner provided a delicious homemade lunch which included fried chicken and baked ham. The grateful homeowner said, "I am so thankful the ramp is strong and supported now. I want to say thank you, thank you to your organization so much. We had such fun and laughed on that day." This house was sponsored by Exelon Generation.

House # 30 Vada Brooks led this team of five volunteers from Calvert Lighthouse Church who made numerous repairs to a senior widow's home. The repairs included replacing a leaky shower diverter which required the toilet be removed and an access "hatch" had to be installed. They also replaced a leaky bathroom faucet. The team added structural support to the existing deck which was unsafe. The homeowner said, "All of the work is done and it is good." This house was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 31 On a beautiful Friday afternoon, the work for this house was led by the students of the National Junior Honor Society of Mill Creek Middle School and their sponsor Mrs. Jennifer Murphy. The team consisted of five students and five adults, including the school principal. The team tore down, removed, and hauled away old playground equipment. They also performed various yardwork projects, including removing weeds and cleaning out and mulching various flower beds. The homeowner, who was a very pleasant elderly lady, was on hand to help direct their activities. She took pleasure in talking, inspiring, and encouraging the students in doing their best in all their

endeavors. This home was sponsored by Exelon Generation.

House # 32 This project was led by John Lee of Insane Wood Creations and supported by a team of volunteers from the PEPCO Overhead Construction Department. The team removed the old shingles which had caused a roof leak. Four sheets of roof sheathing were also replaced due to deterioration. The new roof was installed and a ridge vent was cut into the roof to improve ventilation. “Christmas in April has been a lifesaver,” said the homeowner. “I could not be more appreciative of the work. No rain has come in.” Thanks also go to the Calvert County Department of Public Works for supporting this project and to Exelon Generation for sponsoring this home.

House # 33 Glenn Phelps of Cave to Castle Remodeling coordinated the work on this home. The homeowner is a single mother with two children (one with severe asthma) and they were living in a mobile home with no heat or air conditioning. The original request was for repairs to their leaking roof and inoperable heating and air conditioning system. A visit by Glenn Phelps of the house inspection team to assess the roofing repairs noted that the homeowner had already financed a needed roof replacement and could not afford to repair the broken heat pump system. She was dependent upon, as substitutes, energy expensive and risky space heaters. It was also noted that the skirting along the side of the home was missing and the ductwork and insulation were in such damage from stray cats that it was unusable. An assessment by HVAC contractors determined that the heat pump needed to be replaced, the duct work repaired and/or replaced, and insulation repaired and reattached, all of which is labor intensive. The labor costs were reduced significantly by installing an energy efficient 3.5-ton, 5 zone, ductless split air conditioning and heating system bypassing the ductwork. This work was completed in mid-December by a Calvert County company, HVAC Enterprises, with reduced and donated labor costs. This homeowner said that her electric bill went from \$271 a month to \$185 a month with the new furnace. She truly appreciated this gift from Christmas in April. This home was sponsored by the American Rescue Plan grant.

House # 34 Because of the major repairs required for the roof on this house, the work was outsourced to William Richmond Inc. with the project being coordinated by Steve Sanders. Work was also completed on the fascia, soffit, and gutters. The homeowner is thrilled with no longer having leaks in his home and is very thankful to Christmas in April for doing this work for him and for all the work that

Christmas in April does. His life has been difficult with many years spent caregiving for his mother and many health problems of his own this year. Therefore, he is particularly grateful to Christmas in April. This home was sponsored by Exelon Generation.



House # 35 Randy Morgan led this new team from New Life Church to join Christmas in April as they assisted a senior widow. The team of eight volunteers removed and replaced many decayed deck boards, stair handrails, and step treads. The team also replaced a concrete retaining wall and replaced the gutters on the home. The last project was to replace a damaged storm door. The homeowner worked alongside the team throughout the day and was thrilled with the results. She said of the volunteers, “You could not meet any nicer people. They were hard workers. Please tell them that I cannot say enough good stuff about them.” This home was sponsored by the HELP Association.

House # 36 This team of 10 volunteers was led by house captain Jeffrey York and Exelon’s NAYGN resource group. On a beautiful Friday morning, this team gathered to perform needed repairs to the home of an elderly homeowner. The work involved removing lots of clutter from the deck in preparation for power washing the deck. Once the deck was cleared, the deck, a fairly large deck, was power washed, removing a large build-up of dirt and grime that had accumulated over time. In addition, the team removed a large amount of tree limbs and debris from the yard that had accumulated due to the various storms that hit the area. With the use of several pick-up trucks, the team made multiple trips hauling the debris away from the front portion of the yard to an

area in the back away from the home. The homeowner expressed her thanks by saying, “I am more than pleased with the results. When my health improves, I hope to be able to help Christmas in April in their mission.” This house was sponsored by SMECO.



House # 37 Keith Barrett led this team of eight volunteers from Cove Point LNG on a hot and humid June day. The team removed and replaced a rotten deck that was a safety hazard. The team also replaced the stair stringers and steps, leaving the homeowner with a very solid new deck. A bathroom door was realigned to ensure proper closure. Years of debris which had accumulated around the house was also hauled to the landfill. The homeowner said, “You do not know how happy I am. My niece said to me, ‘You haven’t stopped smiling since you got the deck.’ That is my favorite place in the house!” Berkshire Hathaway Cove Point LNG sponsored this home and also provided the lunch.

House # 38 Vada Brooks of Calvert Lighthouse Church completed work on this senior widow’s home on a blustery March day. Repairs were made to a window, vinyl siding, and kitchen cabinet. Some painting was also done. The homeowner is very glad that water is no longer coming in that window. This home was sponsored by Sneade’s ACE Hardware.

House # 39 Dennis Montana of Berkshsire Hathaway Energy and Vada Brooks of Calvert Lighthouse Church led two teams of nine volunteers who replaced the decking on both porches. Additionally, two storm doors were installed, a non-functioning stove was replaced, and two broken windows were replaced. The grateful homeowner expressed her appreciation by saying, “Thank you Lord and thank you guys. Things are so tight that I just don’t have money to get this work done. I really appreciate it so much.” Berkshsire Hathaway Cove Point LNG sponsored this home.

House # 40 Bob Robertson of Huntingtown United Methodist Church, led this multi-organizational team of eleven volunteers to construct a wheelchair accessible ramp over a two day period during early June. The first day, five volunteers constructed the frame sections so they were ready to be installed by the larger team. The second day, the team constructed the wheelchair accessible ramp. The team modified the existing deck and attached the ramp to this existing structure. Concrete 2’x 2’ stone pavers were cut to transition the ramp to an existing sidewalk. The homeowner says, I love the ramp!! I don’t know what I would do now without the ramp. I could not go up and down the steps. I use this ramp anyway I can to my benefit. I use it to walk up and down to exercise to strength my legs. The volunteers, all of them, were so nice and worked together so well.” This project was sponsored by Lowe’s in California, Maryland.

House # 41 Over a period of several days, 13 members of Jesus the Good Shepherd Catholic Church were joined by five members of the Northern High School National Honor Society, four volunteers of the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors, two dedicated US Army soldiers, and a mom and son from DeMatha High School to repair and help with the necessary maintenance of the home of a 87-year-old homeowner and her 51-year-old grandson with some special needs. Randy Kozik was the house captain.

Prior to the April 30th work day the exterior of the house and shutters was soft washed with brushes, cleaner and hoses, and the porch along with a separate set of rear steps were lightly powered washed in preparation for painting on the Saturday workday. A 10’ x 16’ concrete floor was poured and finished to replace a dirt floor and to improve the work room beneath the back porch with two more storage shelves for the grandson’s county fair prize-winning jars of various preserved fruits and vegetables. Gutters were cleaned and the front drooping gutter removed and securely rehung. Shutters were removed, cleaned, and readied for painting on the workday.

When the workday arrived, the team went to work on multiple tasks: deteriorating soffit and fascia were removed and then replaced with new weather- proof fascia and vented soffit; the screens were removed, the window trim taped, and windows painted without the fuss of cleaning errant brush strokes; the shutters were painted and rehung; the side porch and rear steps were painted; the chimney on the roof for the unused wood stove was capped off at the

homeowner's request; four dead pine trees of substantial height and breadth were cut and hauled over to the wood line; flower beds were reestablished by weeding, cultivating in new topsoil, planting fresh flowers and rose bushes, and mulching all the beds; and, finally, the circular brick border of the large central flower bed was neatly reconstructed adding a focal point to the front yard. The homeowner was very appreciative of all of the improvements made to her home and yard. As volunteers, we believe at the end of the day when we finished sharing our time, labor, and skills that we received a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction greater than the sum of our time, labor, and skills. This house was sponsored by Chaney Cares.

House # 42 Chuck Muller and Ken Reynolds led this team of ten volunteers from Friendship United Methodist Church. The team removed and replaced eight old weather-beaten wood windows and "blocked up" two basement windows to improve the home's energy efficiency. The team also removed and replaced a 10" x 12' section of roof that was leaking. The homeowner described the volunteers as very nice and hardworking and said everything went smoothly. "I am blessed, so blessed." This home was sponsored by Home Depot.

House # 43 This 72-year old homeowner lives with a blind 53-year-old resident. In the spring of 2020, several leaks in her roof were repaired and in 2021 more leaks appeared. The house inspection team recommended an assessment of the condition of the roof before repairing it again. The results of the assessments were that the roof should be replaced with the possibility of the sheathing also requiring replacement due to soft spots on the roof and reinforcing deteriorating rafters. All this came to be true for this low-income homeowner and Christmas in April. Fortunately, with the help of the American Rescue Plan grant, we were able to save this house from further severe water deterioration and provide a safe, dry and energy saving home for these residents. The roof repairs and replacement were completed by the

Calvert County company William Richmond Inc. A follow up phone call reported the homeowner as "tickled pink" and "dumbfounded" when she heard she was getting a whole new roof. She said, "I was truly blessed and want to send a donation. When you get a blessing, you should pass it on!"

House #44 Randy Kozik led three volunteers from Calvert Lighthouse Church and Jesus the Good Shepherd Church as they worked on this home. This disabled mobile homeowner had been troubled by several leaks in his roof, especially one with a constant flow at the juncture of the main roof and the roof of an addition he added years ago to the kitchen of his mobile home. Leaking rainwater could fill a large bucket with water and weaken or ruin the drywall. In time, after multiple attempts to halt the leaking water, ranging from applying a rubberized tape along the juncture to shielding the juncture with sheet metal flashing and deflecting the water away from the area, it continued to penetrate the area and flow into the house. After two visits to assess the problem and repair the minor leaks, a third visit was needed by an experienced Christmas in April roofing veteran who liberally applied his special rubberized coating over a wide swath of the leaking juncture, and we waited for next significant rainfall. The following week after a day and a half of rain we received this text message, "Thanks again for the roof repair. So far, no leaks." This home was sponsored by Home Depot.

House # 60 Christmas in April supported Patuxent Habitat for Humanity in this work on a veteran's home. Volunteers also joining in with this project were from Constellation Energy and the United States Navy - Patuxent Naval Air Station. This team of volunteers regraded the area by the home and installed drain tile to facilitate adequate drainage around the house. The team also removed one and a half dumpsters of "treasures" from the home to allow proper mold remediation within the house. This project was sponsored by Patuxent Habitat for Humanity.



*Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc. A United Way Member Agency*

P.O. Box 2761
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Telephone: (410)535-9044
www.christmasinaprilcalvertcounty.org

Yes! I (We) would like to volunteer. Please contact me at:

I would like to donate the following material:

Please contact me at:

Please remember us during the annual United Way campaign code : 44840; or Maryland Charity Campaign code 4919.

Name:

Address:

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*Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions may be tax deductible. Consult with your tax adviser. Copies of the current financial statement are available on request by writing to or calling Christmas in April*Calvert County, Inc., P.O. Box 2761, Prince Frederick, MD 20678, and Telephone: 410-535-9044. For the cost of copies and postage, documents and information submitted under this title are available from the Secretary of State.*



Preparations Take Place Year Round for the April Workday

Applications are accepted year round with a deadline of September 30 for the following work year. Applications may be found in the churches, the senior centers, the libraries, and with a number of non-profit organizations. Applications may be submitted online at or may be requested by calling 410-535-9044. The application can be submitted by the homeowner or a family member, a neighbor, or by an organization with the consent of the homeowner. All of the legal homeowners must live in their house. All work and materials are supplied free of charge to the selected homeowner.

Once applications are received, the **House Selection Committee** meets and members of the committee, including a skilled labor volunteer, visit application sites in October to determine the homeowner's eligibility and the feasibility of repairs. The committee then makes recommendations to the Board based on the need and Christmas in April's ability to do the work. Homeowners will be informed in January of the decision, once Christmas in April knows it has a House Captain and group to do the work on the approved homes.

Parallel to the application process runs the **recruitment of House Captains and groups to do the work for approved homes**. Many of these House Captains and their organizations have supported Christmas in April for many years. The next step involves lining up House Captains with the different projects. The House Captain then meets with the homeowner to determine the work required. Together they will determine a list of priorities. Based on the priorities, the House Captain then makes up a list of the supplies needed for the workday, which will be ordered by the Home Logistics Committee and delivered to the home one to two days prior to the workday. Homeowners who need more work done on their house than can be completed in one day are encouraged to reapply the following year.

Christmas in April typically completes projects for Veteran's Day, Giving Tuesday, and Martin Luther King Day, as well as on an emergency basis throughout the year. The big workday when volunteers are actively working on a number of homes is the last Saturday in April. On that day, hundreds of volunteers, providing skilled and unskilled labor, meet at the different work sites. Others work behind the scenes, preparing lunches, and providing logistic support. The planned amount of work is based on an eight hour day.

Every House Captain will complete a report on the work done and the number of volunteer hours. A month later, members of the House Selection Committee contact all homeowners to determine if all work was completed. **The Board follows up until all work is finished.**

Funds for the workday are solicited throughout the year through the writing of grant applications, a mail campaign to the public, events, and through the generosity of many businesses, organizations, and individuals.

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