

One Maryland One Book author coming to Calvert

Will speak at Calvert High Sept. 25

By SARAH FALLIN
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Not one, but two international bestselling authors will come to Calvert High School on Monday, Sept. 25.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, author of the 2017 One Maryland One Book selection "Purple Hibiscus," will be interviewed on stage by Nadia Hashimi, author of "The Pearl that Broke its Shell."

One Maryland One Book is an initiative by Maryland Humanities to get all of Maryland reading the same book each year. Local libraries, including Calvert's, host book discussions and other related events. Library systems can apply to have the author appear for an

event as well. Southern Maryland's libraries applied together for the chance to host Adichie, said Robyn Truslow, public relations coordinator for Calvert Library.

In previous years, other Southern Maryland libraries have hosted the author of the One Maryland One Book. This year, the process is more competitive as the author is attending the Baltimore Book Festival and only two other regional events. Southern Maryland gets to be one of those two events. The other is in Gaithersburg. The event is co-sponsored by Calvert Library, Calvert County Public Schools, Charles County Public Library, Southern Maryland Regional Library, St. Mary's County Library, Anne Arundel County Public Library and Prince George's County Memorial Library System.

"We're super excited to get her," Truslow said.

"Purple Hibiscus" is the story of a Nigerian 15-year-old girl, Kambili. She leads a privileged life, but her father, a well-respected man in the community, is a religious fanatic and a tyrant at home. Nigeria begins to fall apart under a military coup while Kambili and her brother are sent to visit their aunt, where they discover what the world is like beyond their home.

"It's wonderful that the book shows how multidimensional people are," Truslow said, specifically referring to the protagonist's father, who is both a hero and a villain.

"As hard as the teenage years are for our [American] teens, this book really puts our experiences into perspective," said Meg Faller, public services librarian and mother of two

teenage sons. "We live in a relatively safe environment. Our government isn't in constant upheaval and there isn't a daily fear of being bombed. Sure, coming of age is tough, but it could be much harder. I think this book could help teens (and adults, as well) understand the depth of human strength we all have to cope with what life can throw at us."

Ultimately, "Purple Hibiscus" is about finding your voice, Truslow said. To foster this, the library is hosting a multi-week workshop on civic engagement called #DoSomethingCalCo. The workshops, led by former state delegate Sue Kullen, will aid participants in getting organized to effect change in the community.

For Adichie's Calvert County appearance Sept. 25, she wanted to present in conversation,

like an interview on a talk show. Truslow said she reached out to a number of people to have the on-stage conversation with the author and ended up with Hashimi. Hashimi already had a relationship with Calvert Library through a prior event, Truslow said.

In addition to the author event, Calvert Library is hosting several book discussions at each of the branches and the #DoSomethingCalCo series. To find out more about One Maryland One Book events at Calvert library, go to <http://calvert.lib.md.us/>.

For the Sept. 25 author event at Calvert High School, which begins at 7 p.m., doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The event is free, but registration is encouraged as the event is expected to be full. Register at <http://bit.ly/2xKIUM2>.

Twitter: @CalRecSARAH

Newburg man allegedly stabs person at Van Go bus stop

By JESSI STICKEL
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A 25-year-old man allegedly randomly stabbed a 37-year-old Waldorf man at the Van Go bus stop in front of the La Plata Walmart on Sept. 6.

Tramell Vandell Dorsey of Newburg has been charged with first-degree assault, second-degree assault, reckless endangerment and disorderly conduct.

Around 7:40 p.m., Charles County Sheriff's Office Deputy Plater responded to the Van Go bus stop at 40 Drury Drive in La Plata for a report of a stabbing. When arriving at the scene, Plater saw the victim who was standing up and had a 3-inch gash on his upper rear shoulder

and 2-inch gash on his left wrist.

Plater stated in court documents that the victim told him that he was walking across the Walmart parking lot to the bus stop when a female came running toward him and asked to use his walking stick. She told him that she had just been slapped by a man, who was allegedly Dorsey.

The female grabbed the victim's walking stick and ran toward Dorsey, who she said slapped her. The victim ran after the female and took his walking stick back. He then had to split up Dorsey and the female from fighting near the bus stop, according to court documents.

The victim said that Dorsey

was drunk and tackled him to the ground, took out a knife and stabbed the him in the back shoulder, according to court records. A bystander and the victim tried to get the knife away from Dorsey, and the victim received another cut on his left wrist from him. They then got the knife away from Dorsey. Dorsey got up off the ground and fled the scene onto a Van Go bus.

A lookout for Dorsey was broadcast through the Charles County Sheriff's Office dispatch for the Van Go bus that Dorsey was on.

Patrol Officer Beim located and stopped the bus on the 600 block of Charles Street in La Plata and detained Dorsey on

the scene, according to court documents.

Beim stated that Dorsey's eyes were red and glassy and he had a strong odor of alcohol on his breath and body. He also had scratches on his left eye and scrapes on his forearms and right hand; however, Dorsey refused medical treatment.

Capt. Becker at the La Plata Police Department said that Dorsey and the victim did know each other, but the victim was not targeted.

"It was because he intervened [with Dorsey and the woman]; that caused him to become the victim," Becker said.

Dorsey was arrested and taken to the Charles County Detention Center for processing, and he also admitted being at the Van Go bus stop where the incident took place, according to court documents.

Twitter: @JessicalndyNews



Photo courtesy of Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office

Truck burned, abandoned in Indian Head

Around 10 a.m. on Sept. 6, the Marbury Volunteer Fire Department responded to a call of a vehicle on fire at the end of Mattawoman Creek Road in Indian Head.

A Chevrolet Crew Car truck was intentionally set on fire and abandoned. The car was found already burned and the fire was burned out upon the fire department's arrival.

The owner of the vehicle is still currently unknown, according to the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office.

The fire marshal's office is asking anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Southern Region office at 443-550-6833.

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