

St. Clement's Island Museum and Piney Point Lighthouse Museum Now Offer Online Museum Stores

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LEONARDTOWN, MD - As many of us practice social distancing while still trying to patronize local businesses, the public is encouraged to support nonprofits as well. To this end, the Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Lighthouse Museums have launched a new online museum store this year with a selection of merchandise that can be shipped directly to your home without having to step into the temporarily closed on-site museum stores.

Karen Stone, Manager for the St. Mary's County Museum Division, reports, "We are fortunate that the website was already up and running as a part of our goal to expand services, sales and Friends memberships before needing to close the museums and stores for the safety of our visitors. The museum store manager has been adding store merchandise daily to the e-commerce site, so shoppers will be pleased at the selection."

To encourage and promote sales, the Friends are offering free shipping for a limited time on all purchases. There is a diverse offering of merchandise on the site, including books about regional history, St. Clement's Island, and Drayden African American Schoolhouse; Blackistone and Piney Point lighthouse ornaments; decal; pins; magnets; Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival merchandise; Memberships; and much more.

"We have also decided to introduce our new line of Capt. Sam's Oyster can t-shirts, long-sleeved shirts and sweatshirts through the website" said Jayne Walsh, Museum Store Manager. The new Capt. Sam's Oyster Can merchandise features the original oyster can logo and commemorates the Bailey Family's historic contribution to the oyster industry in St. Mary's County.

"The Museum Stores planned to introduce the line early spring, but the items were already designed and produced locally by Custom Promotions & Embroidery. A purchase now online does triple duty by supporting the Friends organization, the Museum Division and a St. Mary's County business." Walsh adds.

To access the museums online store, simply visit <https://friendsmuseumstore.square.site> or head to the Friends' Facebook pages at [Facebook.com/FriendsSCI](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsSCI) and [Facebook.com/FriendsofPineyPoint](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofPineyPoint) and click on the "Shop Now" button.

The Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums raise funds in order to support historical interpretation, education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the Museum Division of St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks. The Friends organization is a 501(c) 3 organization sponsoring events, assisting with acquisitions and supporting efforts to broaden the understanding of our culture and community's heritage.

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