



The Calvert Recorder

Feature Article: Interfaith Food Pantry volunteer turns 90

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**Food pantry volunteer Irene
Norris recently celebrated her 90th**

“Keep on trucking” is Irene Norris’ philosophy. Norris turned 90 years old May 15 and volunteers with four different organizations in Calvert County.

Norris worked at CalvertHealth Medical Center for 33 years. After her retirement, she went on to volunteer in the hospital gift shop and at the St. John Vianney Interfaith Food Pantry, St. John Vianney’s monthly breakfast, SMILE Ecumenical Ministries and St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad.

Norris grew up near Johnstown, Pa., and moved to Calvert County in 1979.

“I might as well use my time ... I didn’t have anything else to do,” Norris said.

The other volunteers at the food pantry helped Norris celebrate her birthday on May 16 last week with cake, before the pantry opened for the day.

One of Norris’ primary tasks at the food pantry is to line paper shopping bags with plastic ones so that they’re easier for volunteers to carry.

“She is saving us so much time,” said Larry Donnelly, food pantry chairman.

One time, Norris got into a car accident on a snowy day and crashed into a guard rail. Donnelly said Norris was more concerned with getting up to Prince Frederick to serve in the church breakfast than she was about the accident.

“I live my life, not my age,” Norris said.

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**Food Pantry chairman Larry
Donnelly unveils a birthday cake
for Volunteer Irene Norris.**