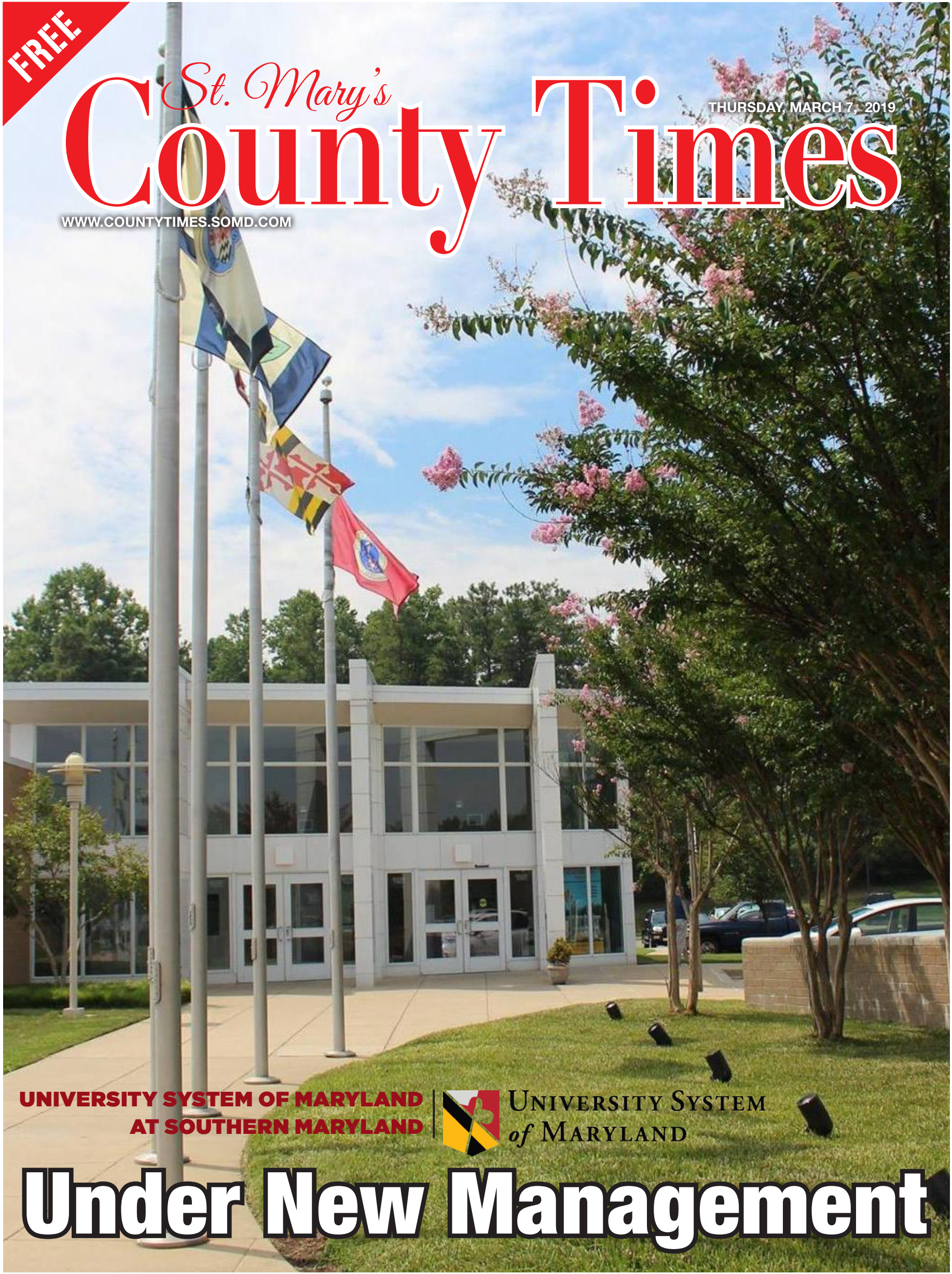


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LOCAL 5

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ENTERTAINMENT 19

March is for wine

"IT'S A LITTLE NOISIER THAT THE [F-18] SUPER HORNET,"

CAPT. CRAIG LEE, VICE COMMANDER OF NAWCAD, OF THE F-35 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO JET NOISE DURING TESTING OPERATIONS.

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Mon 3/11	Tue 3/12	Wed 3/13	Thu 3/14
54° 35° F	49° 35° F	48° 41° F	54° 46° F
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Showers



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Commissioners Keep Property Tax Rate



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Citing a tight fiscal outlook this budget season a majority of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County agreed that they should keep the current property tax rate of .8478 for \$100 of assessed value this week.

The decision not to move to the constant yield rate, a rate which would have to be reduced to insure the county would only collect as much in property taxes as they did the last fiscal year, came during a Tuesday

budget work session.

By keeping the property tax rate as it is for fiscal 2020 the county can expect to reap an extra \$642,991 in property taxes; the current rate is only .6 percent higher than the constant yield rate.

The county collected about \$110.4 million in property taxes as of November of last year.

The proposed fiscal 2020 operating budget is \$232.2 million.

"I'll speak up since I've been consistent," said Commissioner Todd Morgan. "I want to keep it [property

tax rates] where it is."

Commissioner Mike Hewitt was the lone vote to move to reduce the rate.

"And I'll be consistent in going to constant yield," Hewitt said, who earlier praised the commissioners' agreement from last week to reduce the homestead tax cap from five percent to three percent, which meant more savings for those who have spent decades in one residence.

County finance chief Jeanett Cudmore said that, modeled on a home of about \$100,000 in value the homestead tax credit would move from \$126.42 a year to \$144.13 a year.

Morgan confirmed, though, with Cudmore that: "With all the credits we give out we have a decrease in revenue of about \$1.3 million.

"And the homestead tax credit saves folks about a buck-and-a-half a month," Morgan said.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron's budget request was also up for discussion at the work session; this year's request is \$40.9 million.

The request included \$622,179 for six additional corrections officers needed for the adult detention center expansion.

Cameron said the sheriff's office is requesting additional non-recurring funds in the amount of \$193,542 for uniforms and equipment for seven deputy positions that had been reinstated in his agency.

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Some Serious Crimes Up In St. Mary's for 2018



Sgt. Shawn Moses speaks with the NAACP about crime statistics and community policing in Lexington Park

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Crime statistics for 2018 show that rapes and robberies have increased significantly over 2017.

Such crimes are called Part 1 crimes and are collated and reported annually as part of the the FBI's Uniform Crime Report (UCR).

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron and members of his command and community policing staff spoke about the crime trends at a meeting with the local chapter of the NAACP last week.

"Part 1 crimes are the most egregious violations out there," said Sgt. Shawn Moses, head of the Lexington Park COPS Unit, which specializes in crime reduction in the community.

Moses said rapes county wide were up 60 percent for 2018, while robberies were up 47 percent over 2017.

Rapes increased from five to eight, statistics showed, while robberies – strong arm and armed – jumped from 21 to 31.

Moses said two defendants believed to be responsible for a rash of robberies last year have since been apprehended.

Part 1 crimes also include murder or homicide, aggravated assault, burglary, theft and arson, according to the sheriff's office.

Murders decreased from three to two in St. Mary's for 2018, while aggravated assaults decreased by one incident from 44 to 43.

Burglaries also decreased slightly from 107 to 101 as

did thefts from 291 in 2017 to 239 in 2018.

Arsons doubled from one to two for 2018, according to the latest figures.

"Overall were down about 9.5 percent for Part 1 crimes," Moses said. "We've also had an uptick in fraud."

Moses said the increase for reported fraud and embezzlement cases was due in large part to a hacking of the computer system at Cedar Point Federal Credit Union which exposed many of their customers.

The number of fraud cases jumped from 29 to 45, according to the latest statistics.

Lesser offenses such as alcohol violations and calls for trespassing also increased vastly in their reporting, in one case by 162 percent, Moses said, but this was mostly due to more citizens contacting the COPS Unit in Lexington Park.

He viewed this as a positive step in cementing community relations.

Much of the Part 1 crime activity occurs along Shangri-La Drive, the Colony Square community and Patuxent Homes and has been so for the past decade, Moses said.

There was often a revolving door involved in combating such nuisance and quality of life crimes, Moses said, especially since deputies were dealing with third and fourth generation alcoholics.

"One day we're arresting people, the next day we're walking them into social services," Moses said. "It happens all the time."

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Highway Fatalities Continue to Mount in St. Mary's



Fatal crashes continue to rise in St. Mary's

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In the first three months of 2019 there have been four vehicular-related deaths, either from crashes or pedestrian strikes, on St. Mary's County roads, law enforcement records show.

The fourth occurred Sunday night at Route 4 and Kingston Creek Road when a vehicle crashed and left its driver became entrapped.

The current rate of deaths on local highways is in keeping with the rate of fatal collisions and pedestrian strikes last year; in 2018 15 people were killed on county roads or more than seven times the number who were killed in homicides.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron said numerous factors contributed to the continual deaths on the highway; all were familiar.

"Driver inattention and speed," Cameron said of two main factors. "The average speed [in crashes] has gone up and alcohol has become more involved."

Cameron said discussions on the abatement of traffic fatalities has been

in concert with the local State Police barracks.

"We've talked with our patrol officers about the need to identify drivers who are DUI [driving under the influence].

Lt. Krystle Rossignol, commander at the Leonardtown barrack, confirmed that alcohol had become more prevalent as a contributing factor in fatal crashes.

The only remedy seems to be strict enforcement of traffic and driving laws, said Cameron, particularly when it comes to seat belt rules.

"We don't see compliance with occupant restraints like we used to," Cameron told The County Times. "You have to have visible enforcement."

He said increased enforcement on the roads would be soon coming, including more citations for any number of violations including speed, distracted driving, failure to wear seat belts as well as failure to use hands-free devices while driving.

"You'll start to see more of that," Cameron said.

Both the sheriff's office and the state police were investigating a crash in which an 87-year-old woman and

20-year-old man, Machiavelli Savoy, were critically injured Sunday afternoon in Lexington Park.

Police say they gave chase to Savoy who was wanted on warrants and that he lost control of his vehicle and struck the Volkswagen sedan owned by Carol Anderson.

A firearm was recovered from Savoy on his person immediately following the crash, police said.

"She was completely blameless," Cameron said of Anderson's involvement in the crash.

There is currently an internal investigation underway to determine if the chase was within agency policy, Cameron said.

"We're in the midst of that now," he said.

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Status Update: Local Measles Case Invalidated by Further Testing

Additional testing and evaluation of the suspected measles case currently under investigation by the St. Mary's County Health Department has found that the individual in question does not have measles.


The Maryland Department of Health initially reported the case as positive to the St. Mary's County Health Department. Due to the highly contagious nature of the measles illness, local communications were issued promptly in order to reduce the potential exposure risk to other community members. Subsequent testing by the Maryland State Laboratory determined that the individual did not have measles. Final test results by the state laboratory, available as of 5:30

p.m. today were negative for measles.

The local response hotline will be deactivated as of 6:00 p.m. Additional questions may be directed to the St. Mary's County Health Department during regular business hours at (301) 475-4330.

Given current outbreaks of measles in other states, the St. Mary's County Health Department advises the community to learn more about measles, the vaccine to prevent it, and the importance of vaccinating according to CDC's recommended schedule. For more information, visit <http://www.smchd.org/measles/> or <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/index.html>.

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Woman Claims Mistreatment by STS Drivers



Public Works chief John Deatrick talks with Mary Burroughs about her complaints of mistreatment by STS bus drivers.

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The county's director of Public Works

and Transportation John Deatrick, who also oversees the operation of the county's STS bus service, said an investigation into the conduct of several drivers

and their alleged mistreatment of an elderly Leonardtown woman has resulted in several drivers being disciplined.

"No one was fired," Deatrick told The County Times. "But some drivers definitely needed a refresher in the human side of delivering a service."

The allegations come from Mary Burroughs, 79, who claimed that in late January there were several incidents in which certain drivers balked at lowering the platform on the STS bus in order to bring her and her motorized scooter on board.

Burroughs claimed that on several occasions she was berated for wanting to bring her scooter on board; on one occasion she claims she was left out in the cold in the town square in Leonardtown at the corner of Fenwick Street for 15 minutes before a bus driver would bring the left down to bring her on board.

Deatrick acknowledged that Burroughs' treatment at the hands of certain drivers was not acceptable, particularly the incident in which she was left in the cold for a quarter of an hour, but was not sure why that had occurred.

"I took Mrs. Burroughs' complaints very seriously; there's fact behind them," Deatrick said. "I regret the inconvenience she had."

Burroughs also claims that one driver caused some small damage to her scooter when he attempted to secure it inside the bus further than it had already been.

"They seem to resent me getting on [the bus] with my scooter," Burroughs told The County Times.

In examining Burroughs' scooter personally on Monday, Deatrick agreed that it was neither too large nor too heavy to be brought on board the bus.

Deatrick said securing scooters or other aids for mobility on a county bus was a matter of policy but his office was still pursuing Burroughs' complaints for being mistreated.

"We must tie them down," Deatrick said, noting that two people have been injured recently when such devices had not properly been secured. "But we want people to be spoken to in a polite way."

Deatrick said Burroughs' complaints led to his formulating an action plan to ensure drivers both know the requirements for bringing on devices riders need as well as how to treat them.

Deatrick said he had not received any other complaints about driver behavior.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Attorney General Announces Wells Fargo Redress Program

Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh today announced that Wells Fargo has begun a consumer redress review program through which consumers who have not yet been made whole through other remediation programs already in place can seek to have their inquiry or complaint reviewed by a Wells Fargo escalation team for possible relief.

"Through this program, all affected consumers have an opportunity to have their claims reviewed," said Attorney General Frosh. "Not one customer who was wronged should slip through the cracks."

The consumer redress review program was a key component of the December 2018 settlement with the attorneys general of all 50 states and the District of Columbia to resolve claims that the bank violated state consumer protection laws by

- Opening millions of unauthorized accounts and enrolling customers into online banking services without their knowledge or consent;
- Improperly referring customers for enrollment in third-party renters and life insurance policies;
- Improperly charging auto loan customers for force-placed and unnecessary collateral protection insurance;
- Failing to ensure that customers received refunds of unearned premiums on certain optional auto finance guaranteed asset/auto protection (GAP)

products; and,

- Incorrectly charging customers for mortgage rate lock extension fees.

As part of the program, Wells Fargo is maintaining a website that describes the issues covered by the settlement agreement and provides information regarding consumers' eligibility for redress and the escalation phone numbers consumers may use to request review. In addition, Wells Fargo will provide periodic reports to the states about ongoing remediation efforts. Wells Fargo's redress website address is www.wellsfargo.com/commitment/redress.

Consumers with questions or concerns may call the following Wells Fargo escalation phone numbers for more information:

- Unauthorized Accounts/Improper Retail Sales Practices: 1-844-931-2273
- Improper Renters and Life Insurance Referrals: 1-855-853-9638
- Force-Placed Collateral Protection Auto Insurance ("CPI"): 1-888-228-9735
- Guaranteed Asset/Auto Protection ("GAP") Refunds: 1-844-860-6962
- Mortgage Interest Rate Lock Extension Fees: 1-866-385-5008

Consumers may also call the Attorney General's consumer protection hotline at 410-528-8662 or 888-742-0023.

*Press Release from
Office of Maryland Attorney General*

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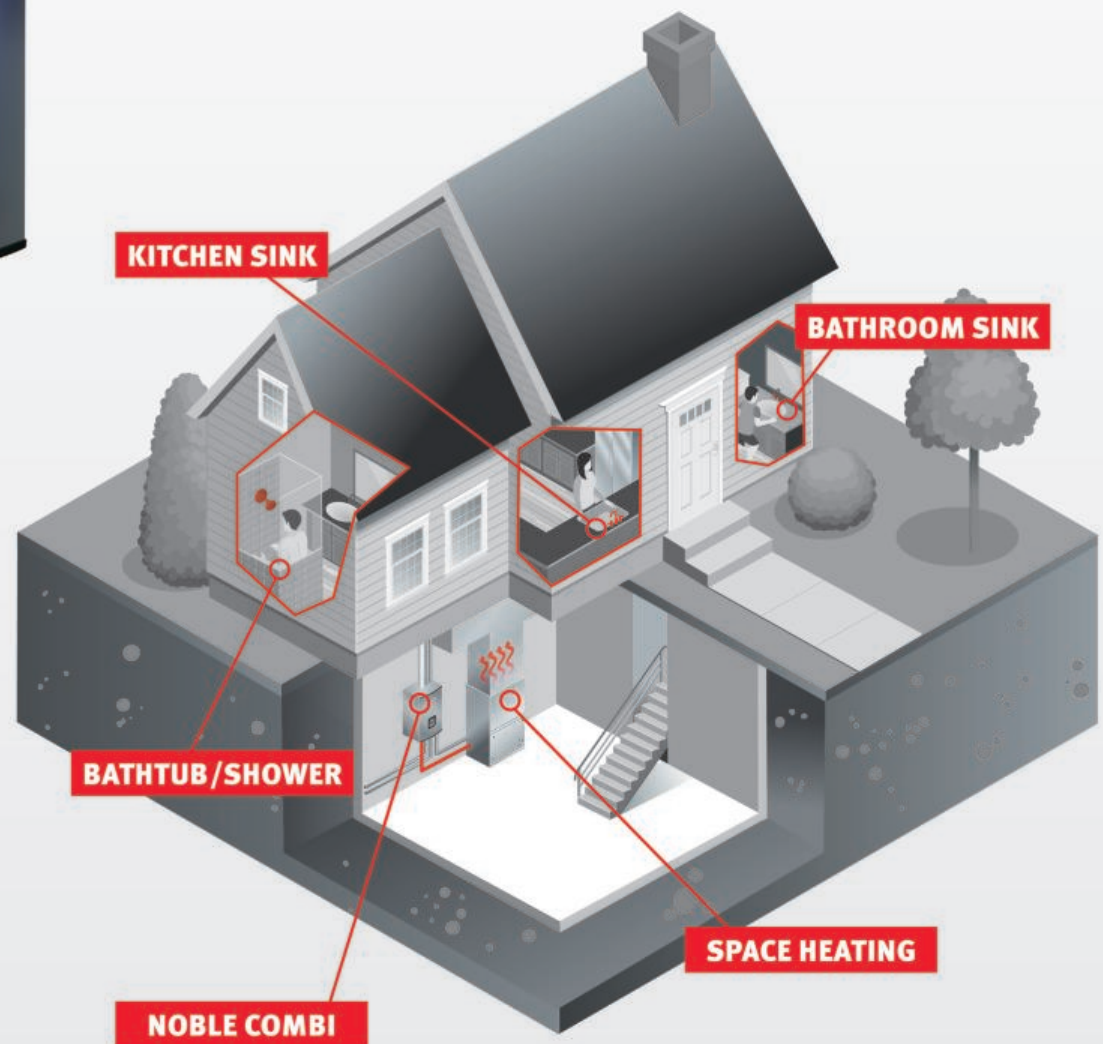
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Navy Wants Community Input on Environmental Impacts



Francis Gray, Tribal Chairman of the Piscataway Conoy tribe talks with Navy representative Jason Stewart at an open house for an environmental impact study

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Back in 1998 officials at Patuxent River Naval Air Station completed an

environmental impact study (EIS) that detailed the effects the training and testing of aircraft had on the surrounding community.

The time has come for another one,

they have said, and they are seeking the community's comments, including any complaints, about the continued operations there.

"We have a 1998 EIS and we're re-evaluating that," said Jennifer Paulk, project manager at the base Sustainability Office. "It's been 20 years, there is new science and we have new technology."

Much of the complaints or comments in the prior EIS centered around noise from aircraft testing and evaluation; despite the growth of programs on base in the past two decades the amount of flight time there has remained much the same.

"Flight hours on the test range (often out over the Atlantic Ocean) has been pretty constant," Chris Jarboe, head of the Sustainability Office on base, said. "It's about 18,000 flight hours a year."

A significant portion of that takes place at altitudes of up to 25,000 feet, far above where residents can hear it.

The community can call in noise complaints at any time, Jarboe said, and they have actually been in decline.

"They've been trending down the past two or three years," Jarboe said.

This week the Navy held four community forums for residents from as far away as the Eastern Shore and Virginia, who are also impacted by flight operations, to offer their opinions.

Residents impacted by the operations at Patuxent River NAS can still offer their comments up to April 1, said Paulk.

Some new developments in naval aviation, such as the F-35 Lightning II, have made operations somewhat louder.

"It's a little noisier that the [F-18] Super Hornet," said Capt. Craig Lee, Vice Commander of Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Draft Oyster Management Plan Open for Comment

Public Input Accepted Through March 19

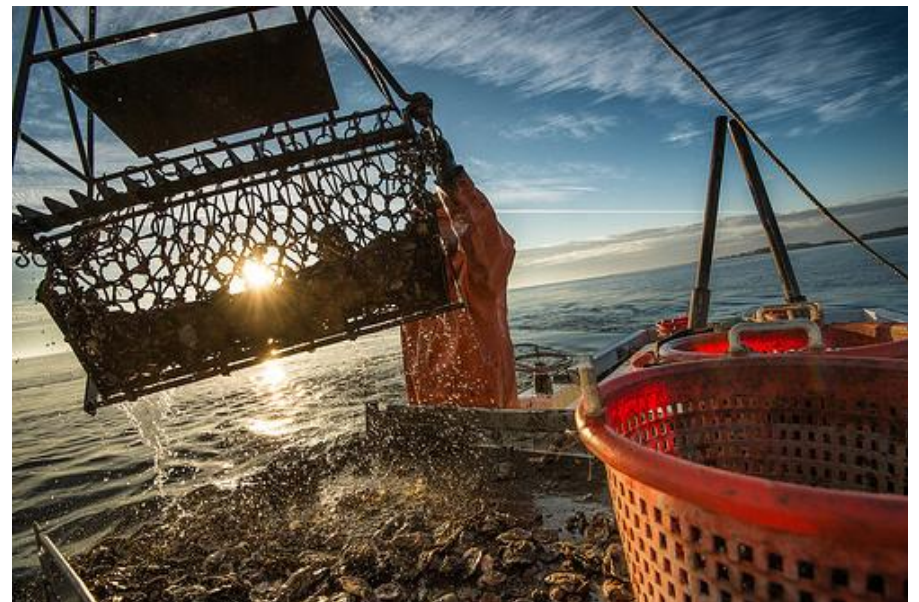


Photo by William Whaley

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is now accepting public comment on a draft Maryland Oyster Management Plan, the first updated fishery management plan since 2010 for one of the Chesapeake Bay's most ecologically- and economically-important natural resources. The public comment period will continue until March 19.

The updated plan incorporates the results of the department's 2018 stock assessment.

"The work leading to this initial draft has been developed in consultation with scientists, academics, and a variety of stakeholders, including the environmental community and commercial watermen," Department of Natural Resources

Acting Secretary Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio said. "We welcome input from the public as we work through the process of finalizing the plan."

In addition to feedback from the public, the plan will be reviewed by the Oyster Advisory Commission, Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission and Aquaculture Coordinating Council. A final draft plan is expected to be approved in late spring.

Public comments can be submitted to fisheriespubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov.

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Shooter Gets Prison for Firing Into Home



Nicholas Osborne

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A St. Mary's Circuit Court judge sentenced a California man to 10 years in prison this week for firing at a man

while the victim was in his Leonardtown home last year.

Nicholas Osborne, 19, pleaded guilty to two counts, one for first-degree assault and the other for carrying a handgun on his person during the assault he committed.

He avoided prosecution on numerous other charges including attempted murder and other first-degree assault charges as well as possession of drugs, according to court records.

The incident occurred on Mary Helen Way in February of 2018 when deputies with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to reports of gunfire being poured into a residence.

When they arrived they found Osborne's vehicle, a Buick LaCrosse, abandoned in a ditch near the home he had just fired into; the car in the driveway, a silver Chevrolet Impala, had been sprayed with neon spray paint.

One of the victims, Kyle Dishner, had told police he saw Osbourne outside his house as he was in front of a mirror; Dishner ran up the stairs once Osbourne started shooting, court records show.

Both Taylor Gorniak and Jessie Sink,

who were upstairs in the residence, were listed as victims.

Dishner said Osborne had been wearing a black hooded sweatshirt during the shooting and a red bandana across his face.

When deputies got reports of a suspicious pedestrian in the area, they apprehended Osborne and charged him in the shooting.

While he was being taken away Osborne yelled back at the victim in the

case that he was responsible for the vandalism and admitted to firing into the home.

Osborne must submit to five years of supervised probation upon release from prison; he was given credit for one year and 12 days for time served in the local detention center, court records show.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

LEGALS

Legal Notice

IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTOPHER EDWARD DESALVO
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO CHRISTINE ELIZABETH DESALVO

In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-CV-19-000013
Notice (Adult) (DOM REL 61)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which he/she seeks to change his/her name from Christopher Edward DeSalvo to Christine Elizabeth DeSalvo. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: This is my name of common use.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 1st day of April, 2019. The objection must be supported by an affidavit and served upon the Petitioner in accordance with Maryland Rule 1-321. Failure to file an objection or affidavit within the time allowed may result in a judgment by default or the granting of the relief sought.

Debra J. Burch,
Clerk of Court for
St. Mary's County Maryland

March 7, 2019 _____

Legal Notice

IN THE MATTER OF LAURA JEAN HOLTON
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO LAURA JEAN VENNEMAN

In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-FM-19-000140
Notice (Adult) (DOM REL 61)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which he/she seeks to change his/her name from Laura Jean Holton to Laura Jean Venneman. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: I've been divorced for 5 1/2 years and request to go back to my maiden name.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 10th day of April, 2019. The objection must be supported by an affidavit and served upon the Petitioner in accordance with Maryland Rule 1-321. Failure to file an objection or affidavit within the time allowed may result in a judgment by default or the granting of the relief sought.

Debra J. Burch,
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March 7, 2019 _____

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Wanted for Sexual Abuse of a Minor



The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of **Timothy Patrick Hogan**, age 27 of Great Mills. Hogan is currently wanted for the charge of Sexual Abuse of a Minor. Hogan is 5'7" in height, weighs 165 pounds; he

has black hair and green eyes. Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Timothy Patrick Hogan is asked to contact Detective Trevor Teague at (301) 475-4200 extension *8128 or by email at Trevor.Teague@stmarysmd.com. Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at (301) 475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Sheriff's Office Press Release

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Blotter

Police Pursuit-Motor Vehicle Collision

On March 3, 2019, at approximately 12:44 p.m. law enforcement officers located **Machiavelli Tyzhae Savoy**, age 20 of Lexington Park, operating a vehicle in the area of Midway Drive in Lexington Park. Savoy is wanted on numerous outstanding warrants, to include Handgun on Person, Handgun in a Vehicle, and Loaded Handgun in Vehicle. Officers attempted to take Savoy into custody, however Savoy refused to stop and a pursuit ensued. During the pursuit, Savoy lost control of the vehicle he was operating while negotiating a curve on Pegg Road. Savoy's vehicle crossed the centerline of the roadway, and was struck by another vehicle. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene and continued the investigation.



Preliminary investigation determined a 1995 GMC Jimmy, operated by Machiavelli Tyzhae Savoy, was traveling northbound on Pegg Road when Savoy lost control of the vehicle in the area of West Westbury Boulevard. Savoy's vehicle crossed the centerline, and entered the southbound lanes of travel, where it was struck by a 2016 Volkswagen Beetle, operated by Carol Jean Anderson, age 87 of Leonardtown. Both operators sustained incapacitating injuries, and were transported to MedStar St. Mary's Hospital; both operators were subsequently transported to area trauma centers for further treatment and remain in critical condition. Located on Savoy's person prior to being transported to the hospital was a loaded handgun; other items of evidence were also recovered from the

vehicle. Additional charges are pending review with the Office of the State's Attorney. At this time speed, driver error, and attempting to elude arrest appear to be contributing factors in the collision.

Anyone who witnessed the collision or events leading up to the collision are asked to contact Corporal Brian Connelly at (301) 475-4200 extension *8031, or by email at Brian.Connelly@stmarysmd.com.

On View Arrests

Drug Arrest- On February 20, 2019, subsequent to a search and seizure warrant executed by the Narcotics Division, **Joseph Anthony Scriber**, age 50 of Mechanicsville, was found to be in possession of suspected cocaine and a suspected CDS smoking device. Scriber was charged with CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana and CDS: Possession- Paraphernalia. CASE# 07763-19



Drug Arrest- On February 21, 2019, Cpl. Kerby responded to 23110 block of Leonard Hall Drive in Leonardtown, for a warrant service. **Joseph Gerard Denaro**, had an outstanding warrant for his arrest for the charge of FTA/ Violate Protective Order. Denaro was taken into custody and discovered to have suspected amphetamine pills on his person. Denaro



was served the outstanding warrant and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana. CASE# 10857-19

California Women Killed in Route 4 Crash



Maryland State Police are continuing to investigate a fatal multi-vehicle crash that occurred Sunday in St. Mary's County.

Shortly before 6:15 p.m. on Sunday, troopers from the Leonardtown Barrack responded to northbound Maryland Route 4 at Kingston Creek Road in California, Maryland regarding a serious motor vehicle crash.

The initial investigation revealed that a 1994 Toyota Corolla, driven by Raul Hernandez, 72, of California, Maryland, was attempting to make a left turn from northbound Maryland Route 4 onto Kingston Creek Road At the same time, a 2012 Hyundai Tuscon, being driven by Ashley Radano, 29, and occupied by Ella Fay Radano, 9, both of Solomons, Maryland, were traveling on southbound Maryland Route 4 at Kingston Creek Road.

According to a preliminary investigation, the Toyota failed to yield the right

of way and entered the travel path of the Hyundai. The Hyundai subsequently struck the passenger side of the Toyota. Hernandez was transported by ambulance to University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center for treatment of his injuries. The passenger in his vehicle, Bonnie Hernandez, 71, of California, Maryland, was transported by ambulance to Charles Regional Medical Center, and was later pronounced deceased at the hospital.

Bonnie Hernandez had been a special investigator with the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights with an office in Leonardtown, but had retired in 2016.

Both occupants of the Hyundai were transported by ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital.

The Maryland State Police CRASH Team responded to the scene to assist with the investigation.

The incident remains under investigation.

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Grocery Auction - Hughesville VFD
SAT - March 9th @ 5 pm
Millwood Amish Community Public Auction
27429 Thompson's Corner Rd - Mechanicsville, MD
FRI - MARCH 15th @ 3 PM: Groceries, Misc. Housewares & Box Lots
UPDATE & NEW THIS YEAR - Friday will consist of a load of groceries (from Richard Betz who supplies the regular grocery auctions in the area), and a variety of misc. housewares/box lots.

SAT - MARCH 16th @ 8 am: Tools; Farm Equipment & Machinery; Furniture & Crafts; Antiques/Collectibles; Sheds and More! Selling with several auctioneers at a time. Food and Refreshment available both days.

Grocery Auction - St. Mary's Bryantown School
SAT - March 22nd @ 6 pm

So. Maryland/Flat Iron Farm Public Consignment Auction
Flat Iron Farm Auction Complex - Great Mills, MD
March 22nd and March 23rd @ 8 am
Contact Ronnie (Local Point of Contact) to participate in this Large So. MD Community Auction Event!
For more information go to: www.CochranAuctions.com

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St. Mary's Nursing Center Foundation Members and Girl Scout Troop #319 Visit Nursing Center Residents

On February 10th the St. Mary's Nursing Center Foundation members and Girl Scout Troop #319 under the leadership of Kay Jahn and Maria Ficalora visited the residents of St. Mary's Nursing Center. Each year the Foundation prepares Valentine Goodie Bags for all the residents. This year the Girl Scouts assisted in the preparation of the bags and helped to deliver the bags to the residents. Each Goodie Bag contained a pair of non-slip socks and a stuffed animal. All of the rooms were decorated with a hand crafted cut glass heart shaped sun catcher. The sun catcher was placed on the windows of the rooms to reflect rainbows into the rooms to delight the residents. Trays of cookies and

other delicacies were given to each nursing station for distribution to the residents and nurses. A tray of cookies was also placed at the front desk for visitors to partake. The Girl Scout Troop also visited with the residents and was able to complete the requirements for their Health Care Badge. The Foundation would like to thank the Girl Scouts for their help and we look forward to having them return next year for our Valentine Day Visit with the residents. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization that has raised contributions to underwrite improvements to the Nursing Center. These enhancements have had a significant improvement on the quality of life of its residents. We are in the process of



Local girl scouts delivered goodie bags to St. Mary's Nursing Home residents.

completely renovating the Beauty Salon at the Center. These enhancements are made possible in part with contributions and funds raised from our annual Preakness Day Party. This year the Preakness Party will be held at Olde Breton Inn on May 18th. Tickets will be available soon

and you can leave a request for tickets by calling 301.481.6898. Won't you help us help them. All monies raised by the Foundation go to Help the Residents and to provide Scholarships for the nursing staff at the Center.

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Pet

OF THE WEEK

MEET BELLA

Age is only a number, especially when it comes to pets. We've gone through our childhood phase and are more CALM AND FOCUSED. We KNOW ROUTINE. I will be that QUIET ENERGY to BALANCE the busy part of your life! Hi, my name is Bella and I'm a SWEET, RESERVED, MATURE girl looking for a quiet home. I like other dogs, enjoy my dog bed, and I love treats. If you want to find a GENTLE LOVING PAL to just hang out with then I'm ready to meet you! And meeting me is SO EASY! Just give TCAS a call and you will have a chance to BE MY MIRACLE! When you adopt from TCAS you are literally saving a life.

PLEASE CHOOSE ME!

And remember, if there is room in the heart, there is room in the house!

Come meet me and the wonderful gang at Tri-County Animal Shelter (6707 Animal Shelter Road, Hughesville) or call **301-932-1713** for more information. To see more of my amazing friends available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD.

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First Friday Happenings in Leonardtown



Photo courtesy of St. Mary's County Arts Council

Students from the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts Capstone (Chopticon High School) were the featured guests on First Friday, March 1st at a special Art Share Series presentation. These talented high school artists discussed the various techniques used to create their artwork, their past and present inspirations, and goals for the future. This exhibit is hosted by St. Mary's County Arts Council and will run through the month of March at the Leonardtown Arts Center.

In addition to celebrating Youth Art Month, Women's History Month was

also recognized. At Fenwick Street Used Books & Music guest author Carol Booker signed copies of "Alone atop the Hill", an autobiography of Alice Dunningan, a sharecropper's daughter who made her way from poverty to the nation's capital through her journalism career in a groundbreaking period of time in the 1940's.

The Leonardtown Business Association (LBA) would like to thank everyone who came out to dine, dance, shop, and joined in for the Art Gallery receptions and studio workshops. Save the date to come join us April 5th from 5 to 8 PM for a pet-friendly First Friday with the theme of "Reduce, Reuse, Rescue". A Dog Costume Contest will be held at 6 PM and as always there will be one-evening-only specials offered at the stores and galleries throughout town. Visit the First Friday Facebook page or www.FirstFridaysLeonardtown.com for details.

Submitted by the Leonardtown Business Association

Funding Available for Resilience, Restoration and Stewardship



The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced that \$24.75 million in funding is available for local governments and nonprofit organizations seeking to restore local waterways, increase climate resilience and develop the next generation of environmental stewards.

To streamline the grant application and management process, the department has created a new "Grants Gateway" that provides a single entry point for prospective grantees, and assures access to funding for innovative, local projects.

"Whether it is fostering healthy ecosystems, building resiliency, or providing outdoor learning experiences, the Grants Gateway will serve as a one-stop shop for communities seeking support for their projects," Maryland Department of Natural Resources Acting Sec-

retary Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio said. "Local efforts play an important role in attaining our environmental goals. By adding increased efficiency to our process, we hope to encourage more entities to do comprehensive and integrated projects across our state."

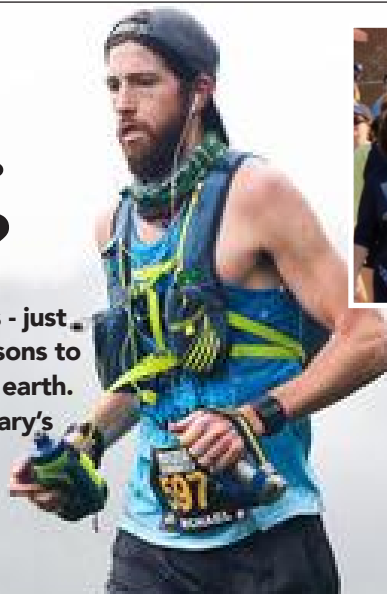
In addition to ease of use for applicants, the Grants Gateway provides the department an integrated grant-management system to monitor sources, manage data and ensure grants are consistent with the department's strategic priorities.

Grants are made possible with funding through the State of Maryland, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay Program.

Maryland DNR Press Release

I run for distance. I also Run for Hospice. What do YOU run for?

"I've journeyed to 7 continents in 7 days to run 7 marathons - just to push the limits of mind and body. But there are many reasons to run for Hospice - including perhaps the most epic brunch on earth. But the best reason? All net proceeds help Hospice of St. Mary's provide care to those facing terminal illness. Not a runner? No worries - many participants do the Fun Walk - a great way to start your own journey."



Legendary Ultra Runner Michael Wardian
World Marathon Challenge Champion
3X Run for Hospice participant

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Long Journey to the Basketball Court

When I began my weekly veteran recovery support group on December 20, 2018, I had no idea the path it would lead me to tell you about today. During our group I was touched by a story from a very special veteran. This gentleman served in the Army and has been attending my group for the last six months. He often is just a listener in group but that day I asked him this question, "What is the biggest waste of human potential?" I wanted to get him to talk more. After a few minutes of thought, he spoke up. He stated that he feels the biggest waste of human potential is when a child who lives in the ghetto doesn't get the opportunity to live up to their potential, their talents, their dreams. He proceeded to tell the group this story. In high school he was a star athlete, he played football, baseball and basketball. He was the quarterback, pitcher and a guard. He made the All-city team twice while growing up in Brooklyn, NY. He lettered in all three sports and was offered a scholarship to play basketball at University of Maryland.

Unfortunately, he chose the wrong path of drugs and ultimately lost the scholarship as a result. He came from a pretty unstable home, an alcoholic father who wasn't present, only a stepmom who didn't love him. When he finished his story, the group was silent at first but then everyone began to show their support for him for sharing such a

painful and life altering event, that resulted in years of regret and struggle. He has been sober for several years. Needless to say, I was moved to reach out to athletic director, Damon Evans at University of MD via email telling him this story and asking for the opportunity for this gentleman to be able to attend a Terps basketball game and maybe even get a chance to meet the team. I could only imagine how much different his life could have been, had he had the right guidance, a stronger family. He is a gentle and kind man who has begun to age and have health issues. If only we could give him one great experience, this would be the one. And sure enough a week or so later I received a call from another athletic staff member, Jake Longenecker and they wanted to do something special for him!

On February 23rd, I along with the veteran, his sister and brother were greeted at the Xfinity Center by one of the student team managers, Alex. We were given a tour of the whole facility, met some amazing people, shot some hoops on the court and then sat front row for the UMD vs. OSU men's basketball game. To say it was beyond his wildest dreams is an understatement. He thoroughly enjoyed the entire experience along with his sister and brother. And we all agreed that we want to make this a yearly event and that I am now a part of their family! For me, to see the huge



Bill Payne, Shirley Payne, Robert Payne, Renee Nordstrom

smile on his face the whole day made it all worth it. Doing kind and simple things for our fellow man can go a long way and I will continue to do so for as long as I can! Serving those who served!

Renee Nordstrom
Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

Blue Crabs to Test Rules, Equipment Changes Atlantic League Partners with MLB



Major League Baseball (MLB) has announced it has reached a three-year agreement with the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball (ALPB) that will permit MLB to test experimental playing rules and equipment during the Atlantic League's Championship Season. In addition to rules governing the transfer of players from the Atlantic League to Major League Baseball, the new agreement includes rights for MLB to implement changes to Atlantic League playing rules in order to observe the effects of potential future rule changes and equipment. MLB will work with ALPB to modify the experimental playing rules and equipment each season during the agreement.

MLB also will enhance its scouting coverage of the Atlantic League, installing radar tracking technology in the eight Atlantic League ballparks and providing statistical services to ALPB clubs.

The new agreement continues Major League Baseball's longstanding practice of testing potential new approaches under game conditions. In recent years, MLB has utilized and evaluated experimental rules in its Arizona Fall League, the game's top off-season developmental platform.

"We are excited to announce this new partnership with the Atlantic League," said Morgan Sword, MLB's Senior Vice President, League Economics & Operations. "We look forward to bringing some of the best ideas about the future of our game to life in a highly competitive environment."

Atlantic League President Rick White added: "The Atlantic League prides itself on innovation. In that spirit, our Board of Directors, led by Chairman and Founder Frank Boulton, enthusiastically and unanimously approved this forward-looking agreement."

Major League Baseball and the Atlantic League will announce the experimental playing rule and equipment changes for the 2019 ALPB Championship Season in the coming weeks.

The Southern Maryland Blue Crabs are members of the Atlantic League.

King's Christian Academy Spelling Bee



King's Christian Academy hosted its first middle school spelling bee Friday. Winners (1st place Mathew Tigrett and 2nd place Charlynn Lowe) advance to the regional competition in Annapolis,

MD March 23 and then hopefully on to the Scripps national spelling bee in DC. Back row from left to right: Jason Chen, Violet D'lima, and Bella Owens.



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Higher Ed Center Merges with State University System



Artist rendering of the proposed third building.

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As of March 1 the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center officially merged with the University System of Maryland (USM).

The long-awaited merger is a harbinger of not only advanced unmanned and autonomous systems technology, vis-à-vis the planned, new research building, but of expanded educational opportunities for county residents and the rest of Southern Maryland.

Anthony Foster, Associate Vice Chancellor for Planning and Accountability for USM, said the transition is underway.

“We need to get a reasonably smooth handover,” Foster told *The County Times*. “This is not something we usually do.” The regional centers the USM operates are of the system’s creation and are not from merging with another entity; more over the universities that already offer courses at what will now be known as the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland (USMSM) will continue to have a home there.

Foster said another of the main aims of USM at the center was to bring enrollment of students back up; it had suffered in recent years as a result of restrictions in federal funds available for defense and civil servant workers to continue their education.

Also, the inclusion of hybrid courses, as well as those taught entirely on-line, reduced the number of face-to-face students at the center, Foster said.

“The center had been buffeted by some difficulties in recent years,” Fos-

ter said. “But there’s still good stable enrollment.”

A regional workforce needs study USM engaged in showed that along with the need for more degreed professionals in high technology jobs, there was an urgent need for courses that offered degrees in health care, business and education.

USM was looking to fill that need in taking over at the higher education center.

“Clearly Southern Maryland is one of the more advanced technology economies in the state,” Foster said. “But there’s also demand for more business degrees, more health care degrees and also for education.

“We are looking at these needs and trying to match programs to meet them.”

Another key program USM will pursue in the merger are “2 plus 2” programs or partnering with the College of Southern Maryland to bring graduates from that institution to finish out their degree with USMSM.

“That’s the vision,” Foster said.

Joe Anderson, a member of the Board of Governors at the higher education center which is now the Board of Advisors, said the merger promised to bring new and important educational opportunities to Southern Maryland.

“That’s going to be a major focus over the next few years,” Anderson said. “That’s going to be a big and important change.

“It’s going to allow a lot of young people, who might not have thought they would have been able to, to go to college in their own community.”

Anderson said the transition, which

has only been underway for a week, has been smooth.

“I’m very happy with the way things are going,” Anderson said.

Dr. Ben Latigo, the interim executive director at the center and also the chief academic officer, said the center would operate administratively from the USM’s main campus in Prince George’s County.

“Starting today [March 1] USM has appointed College Park as the administrative body,” Latigo said. “We are now part of the state university system.”

The Board of Regents at USM will conduct a search for a new director to run USMSM later this year.

Currently, the larger body is ensuring that the financial systems between the two are merged properly.

“The transition will be done in stages,” Latigo said. “It will be gradual.”

The key to making the merger as effective and productive as many elected leaders, both local and state, as well as education officials hope is the autonomous systems research facility more commonly known as the third building.

The funding for the third building at USMSM, at least in the engineering and planning phase, has been included in Gov. Larry Hogan’s capital budget.

The engineering funding stands at about \$13 million; while the entire project could cost about \$78 million to construct.

“We expect approval in the next month,” Latigo said of the third building. “If the new building is approved, we expect to break ground in October.

“The third building is key.”

The research facility is expected to bring a substantial boon to the local

and regional economy by providing a way to take traditionally military technology used in drones and other autonomous systems and help bring it to the civilian market.

This fits with the vision of local leaders to diversify the county’s economy away from the defense industry and its tightening budgets.

But the third building will also allow for the critical expansion of the education programs available at USMSM, Latigo said.

“The third building will provide the space we need,” Latigo said. “Half of the space will be for the additional classrooms we need; the other half will be for the pure research of unmanned systems.”

Latigo said the latest addition to the USM will be unique.

“All the private institutions will stay,” Latigo said. “It will be the only institution [of the regional centers] with a research component.

“This is an exciting time and it will be even more exciting with the third building; we will be able to attract new universities.”

The expansion of the USM’s presence in St. Mary’s is in addition to the unmanned air systems center they run next to the county’s airport terminal on Airport Road.

The county’s vision is to turn the entire area into a technology innovation hub, also known as an airport innovation district with an emphasis on aerospace technology.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

School Board Passes Recommended Budget

County Asked to Fund \$6.7 Million More



By Dick Myers
Editor

The St. Mary's County Commissioners now have in their hands the proposed budget from the Board of Education. That budget passed unanimously Feb. 27 by the school board without comment calls for \$6.7 million more from the county in the next fiscal year.

The \$224,579,858 proposed budget is essentially the one submitted in January

by School Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith. That is a \$10.3 million increase over the current year. The school system is expecting \$3.5 million more from the state to help fund the budget.

According to materials presented by Chief Financial Officer Tammy McCourt, it will cost almost \$8 million to fund the school system's negotiated agreements with the three bargaining units they deal with. She said almost \$5 million of that would not be covered by the state-mandated Maintenance of Effort requirement for county funding.

McCourt also reported that the proposed budget includes \$1.3 million in unfunded mandates for safety and mental health. Those costs include more than \$400,000 for psychologists and counselors and more than \$500,000 for a Safety and Security Coordinator and multiple assistants.

The proposed budget also includes almost \$1 million in what are characterized as "enhancements." They include a Special Education chair, and new teachers and nurses.

The three categories, negotiated agreements, unfunded mandates for security, and enhancements make up the entire \$10.3 million budget increase proposed.

When he presented his budget on Jan. 16, Smith said about the proposed increase, "It is a large number. It will grab the headlines." He added, "It's going to be quite a conversation." That conversation will begin almost immediately as the commissioners develop their budget for an April 23rd hearing.

Smith at the Jan. 16 school board meeting pointed out that historically the commissioners had applied an additional \$4 million yearly to education. He said that stopped with the previous board (with four returning members), putting the school system perpetually in the hole in attempting to fund their negotiated agreements with employees. He noted that personnel costs, including health care, make up 92 percent of the school system's budget.

Smith said instead of funding that \$4 million in the current budget, the com-

missioners gave the schools less than half that amount, choosing to bank \$10 million in an undesignated fund balance which ballooned to \$60 million. The school system will be eyeing that fund balance in their talks with the commissioners.

Smith said the budget has three priorities: people, support for students and staff, and sustaining what they now have. On the latter, he said, "We need to be stable."

Smith noted that in the fiscal years of 2011 through 2015 the school system was unable to meet their negotiated agreements, either by not providing employees any increases or when they did so it was to make up promised increases not met in previous years.

For the Fiscal Year 2020 budget the school system will be in the 4th year of a four-year negotiated agreement that has provided that stability, Smith said. The agreement calls for STEP and Cost of Living increases.

dickmyers@countytimes.net



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Four More Years: School Board Extends Smith's Contract



By Dick Myers
Editor

The St. Mary's County Board of Education has given a strong vote of confidence to Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith. They did so at their Feb. 27 meeting by unanimously voting to extend his contract for another four years, beginning July 1 of this year.

Smith is currently making slightly more than \$200,000 a year but his contract is expected to be renegotiated before the new four-year term kicks in.

Smith was chosen interim superintendent when Dr. Michael Martirano resigned to take the position as State School Superintendent in West Virginia. Martirano has since left that position and became superintendent in Howard County last year.

Martirano and Smith had opposite personalities. Martirano was flashy and prone to publishing slogans, such as "Work Hard and Be Nice." Those slogans were plastered on the walls of the school board's hearing room. He was often out in the community at such events as the annual Running of the Balls at

which he could be seen cheering on the crowd.

Smith on the other hand is much more reserved and prone to deflecting the limelight from himself to others. At the board meeting at which his contract extension was announced, he said, "Thank you for the opportunity." And then he quickly moved on to say one of the pleasures of the job was being able to visit schools and also share the successes with other educators. He mentioned having just attended a Maryland State Board of Education meeting at which the goal of hiring quality teachers was discussed.

That led him to say he was looking forward to the next presentation in which five teachers were honored for receiving board certifications, including four for the first time. They were Brett Johnson of Chopticon High School, Taren Long of Chesapeake Public Charter School, Jamie Penny of Mechanicsville Elementary School, Marjorie Walsh of Great Mills High School and April Wathen of Lettie Marshall Dent Elementary School.

Smith said board certification was a teacher's ticket into any school system in the country but the five had chosen the best - St. Mary's County. "Thank

you very much for staying in St. Mary's County," he said.

According to his biography in the school system website: "Dr. Smith has been with St. Mary's County Public Schools for 26 years. He began as an English teacher at Leonardtown High School (LHS) in 1991. While in the classroom, he also sponsored the school newspaper, the literary magazine, the school newsletter, several drama productions, and the National Honor Society. Beyond the classroom, he was the English department chair and administrator in charge of Evening High School.

"He left the classroom in 2000 to become an assistant principal at LHS. Two years later, he became the principal of the school. In 2007, he became the Director of Secondary Schools and advanced to Executive Director in 2012. In the spring of 2013, he was named the acting Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and held that position until the appointment of Interim Superintendent. On July 1, 2015 Dr. Smith's appointment as Superintendent of Schools began.

"He holds a Bachelor's degree in English Education from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo, a Master's Degree in Human Resources

from Towson University, and a Doctorate of Education from the University of Maryland at College Park. He is certified to teach English 7-12 and holds Administrator I and Administrator II credentials."

His contract extension at the Feb. 27 board meeting was met with a round of applause by those in attendance. Dr. Smith's roots in the classroom and his stated goal of improving salaries have endeared him to the teachers, who at times had a rocky relationship with Dr. Martirano.

Smith's biggest challenge of his first term came just a year ago when he was reluctantly thrust into the national spotlight with the shooting incident at Great Mills High School that left two dead and one injured. He has generally received high marks in the community for how he handled himself during the crisis and his leadership in getting students moved to Leonardtown High School as a staging area and then home to their parents or guardians.

An attempt to talk to Dr. Smith about the contract extension and his first four years was unsuccessful as of press deadline.

dickmyers@countytimes.net

PLAY 12 ROUNDS

Pitch Tournament

High - Low - Jack - Game

Date: Friday, March 22, 2019

Where: Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department

Time: Doors open at 6:00 PM • Tournament starts at 7:30 PM
Must be on time as all tables have to start at once!

Cost: \$20.00

NOTE: Each bump will cost an additional \$1 per partner at your table. Bid 4 and have a chance to win the Buddha Bump Money Fund - \$100.00

****NEW** Early Bird Pitch Games!**

Play 5 QUICK rounds of cards. Games start at 6:30.
Cost \$10 a person - Team wins \$60.00, plus bump money.

Nightly Payouts: 1st Place - \$250 • 2nd Place - \$175
3rd Place - \$125 • 4th Place - \$75 • 5th Place - \$50
The BIGGEST Loser will receive \$20

NOTE: Prize money is guaranteed with 80 or more players.

Amenities:
Cash Bar (beer & mixed drinks) • Food 50/50 • "King of Diamonds"

Additional Info: Contact Jenny Russell
Email jennifer1107r@msn.com
Cell 301-904-0169 Monday-Friday after 4:30 PM
Saturday or Sunday (anytime)
Home 301-769-3175

Future Dates

4th Friday of the Month

October 25, 2019
January 24, 2020
February 28, 2020
March 27, 2020

January thru March 2019 Pitch Tournaments overall points winner announced after play on March 22, 2019! Win \$100!

Scores will accumulate after each tournament date.

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\$ 350,000

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Wineries Kick Off Third Annual Maryland Wine Month



MARYLAND WINE



Members of the Maryland Wineries Association are preparing for a month-long celebration of the state's flourishing wine industry. Several wineries are hosting unique educational events and tastings, while others are working with local restaurants to pair their wines during exclusive wine dinners.

"Maryland Wine Month gives the state's many wineries an opportunity to raise a glass to our industry and our great consumers," explains Judy Crow of Crow Vineyard & Winery and president of the Maryland Wineries Association.

Maryland Wine Month hopes to celebrate the culture of enthusiasts supporting the wine industry in the Free State. The #WeAreMarylandWine social media challenge engages the savvy wine consumer and encourages them to share photos of their wine experiences. The best submission will receive a pair of brunch passes to Decanter Reimagined, a racing and wine experience at Laurel Park in April, while all of those sharing their images will receive a pair of passes to the general tasting at the event.

Jim Bauckman of the Maryland Wineries Association says, "we hope consumers will share their stories about Maryland wine."

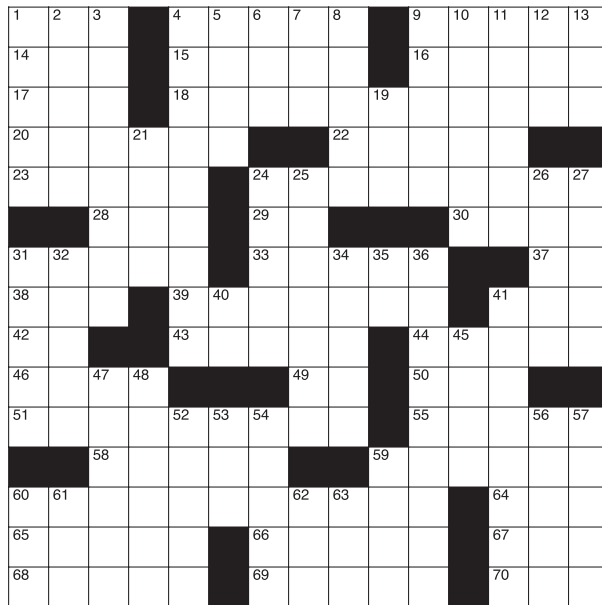
Retail partners of Maryland's wineries will also receive promotion through the "Retailer of the Day" campaign. Winery operators and consumers have nominated their favorite wine shops that feature great selections of Maryland wine and support wine education. Those nominated retailers will be announced via Maryland Wineries Association social media platforms.

Full details about Maryland Wine Month events and activities can be found by visiting the Maryland Wineries Association online at marylandwine.com or on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

About the Maryland Wineries Association. The Maryland Wineries Association (MWA), formed in 1984, is the non-profit trade association that represents more than 80 member wineries in Maryland. MWA's mission is to develop and expand the grape and wine industry in Maryland – through education and promotion.

Press Release from Maryland Wineries Association

Fun & GAMES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Public broadcaster
- 4. The media
- 9. Manila hemp
- 14. Not just "play"
- 15. Trailblazing German historian
- 16. Type of puzzle
- 17. Plant in the daisy family
- 18. Not young
- 20. Dennis is one
- 22. Revealed
- 23. But goodie
- 24. Absurd
- 28. Commercials
- 29. University of Dayton
- 30. Expression of annoyance
- 31. Stories
- 33. More critical
- 37. Of I
- 38. Time units (abbr.)
- 39. Arousing intense feeling
- 41. High schoolers' test
- 42. Trauma center
- 43. Astronomical period
- 44. Fights
- 46. Italian Lake
- 49. Rhenium
- 50. Baseball stat
- 51. State of consciousness

- 55. Some is dietary
- 58. Stringed instrument
- 59. ___ Kidman, actress
- 60. Orator
- 64. Ottoman military commander
- 65. Makes known
- 66. Type of font
- 67. Cool!
- 68. Short musical composition
- 69. Porticos
- 70. Not wet

CLUES DOWN

- 1. The upper part of a duet
- 2. Carpenter's tool
- 3. Outrageous events
- 4. Procedures
- 5. Type of party
- 6. Between northeast and east
- 7. Sanskrit (abbr.)
- 8. NJ college ___ Hall
- 9. Sharp mountain ridge
- 10. Observed something remarkable
- 11. One who obeys

- 12. ___ de sac
- 13. Sign language
- 19. Predecessor to Protestantism
- 21. Right-hand man
- 24. ___ anglicus: sweating sickness
- 25. People who proof
- 26. Israeli Defence Forces sergeant
- 27. Remains as is
- 31. Receptacle
- 32. Archers' tool
- 34. Gets up
- 35. Unit of energy
- 36. Explains again
- 40. Pa's partner
- 41. Region bordering the sea
- 45. Type of acid
- 47. Lesotho capital
- 48. Gave a speech
- 52. Irregular as though nibbled away
- 53. Neither
- 54. Copyreads
- 56. Edward ___, British composer
- 57. Prepared
- 59. Launched Apollo
- 60. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 61. Protects from weather
- 62. Feline
- 63. Equal

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

B	A	Z	A	R		V	A	S		S	A	C	K
O	R	A	C	H		D	A	B	A		A	B	O
S	C	A	R		A	I	R	E	D		M	I	L
C	H	R	I	S		P	A	U	L		S	A	B
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A	B	I	E	S		L	A	T	E	C	O	M	E
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		4						
		7	5		1		3	
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2						8	5	1
	4				2	5	6	
								6
			5	7				3
			8		9		7	

Stout Defense Leads Seahawks Past Cardinals



Ray LaPlaca '19 | Photo Credit: Bill Wood

Stout defensive play led the St. Mary's College of Maryland men's lacrosse team (3-2) to an 8-4 victory over the visiting Catholic University Cardinals (3-3) on Saturday (Mar. 2) afternoon for Military Appreciation Day. Four goals was the fewest amount of scores the Seahawks have allowed this season.

St. Mary's - 8, Catholic - 4 How It Happened

- The first quarter of action saw the most offensive production as a combined four goals were scored in the opening stanza. Catholic struck first, but the Seahawks quickly responded with back-to-back goals to take a 2-1 lead. Erich Wuesthoff and Ray LaPlaca buried shots in the back of the cage for the early advantage. The Cardinals evened the game a two a piece with one minute remaining in the first quarter.
- The defense came up big for the Seahawks in the second quarter as they blanked the Cardinal offense. In addition, the St. Mary's College man-down unit didn't allow a score in three extra-man opportunities for Catholic. Wuesthoff recorded the Seahawks first goal of the second quarter and Jude Brown tallied the second score off a diving attempt. St. Mary's College took a 4-2 lead into halftime.
- Dominic Venanzi began the scoring to start the second half when he

ripped a shot past the Catholic goal-keeper. The Cardinals answered with a score on a man-up opportunity, but St. Mary's College finished the quarter strong with a goal from Jeremiah Clemmer.

- In the final quarter of regulation, the Seahawks outscored the Cardinals 2-1. Ben Claffee found the back of the net as time was dwindling down on the shot clock with a goal at the 10:29 mark. St. Mary's College played smart the rest of the way and started to drain the clock with long offensive possessions. Catholic scored with five minutes left to keep themselves in the game, but the Seahawks continued to play strong defense and tacked on a goal from LaPlaca to seal the victory.

Inside the Box Score

- LaPlaca, a senior with plans to join the military after graduation, shined with a team-best two goals and one assist on Military Appreciation Day. Wuesthoff added two goals, while Dominic Venanzi finished the afternoon with one goal and one assist.
- Alex Pfaff led the Seahawks with three ground balls, while Anthony Sparacino and Pfaff finished with a team-high two caused turnovers.
- In goal, Ross Snodderly had an excellent game with 12 saves.

Press Release from SMCM

A View From The BLEACHERS The Process

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

This began as a speculative piece on final destination of Bryce Harper, baseball's best and, after months of rumors and now weeks into spring training, oddly homeless free agent. It was being written, literally, as news broke of him inking an unthinkable long 13-year, \$330M contract with the Philadelphia Phillies. So scratch the speculation. Now we know. All the better.

"Harper 2018", which turned into "Harper 2018-19", was supposed to be the greatest free agent courting in the history of North American sports. Maybe global sports. Or intergalactic sports. That might not be an exaggeration from Harper and super-agent Scott Boras's perspective.

Harper peddling his wares across an adoring MLB landscape has been an unfolding story for years. From the time he was drafted by the Nationals in 2010, the question was whether the phenom from Las Vegas, who grew up rooting for blue-blood teams like the Dallas Cowboys and Duke basketball, and who idolized Yankees great Mickey Mantle, would outgrow the still regenerating baseball town of Washington, D.C.

Harper just always seemed destined for the brighter baseball lights in New York, Los Angeles or Chicago. But the Yankees seemed an awkward fit with Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton, two slugging corner outfielders, already in place. The Chicago Cubs, employers of Harper's BFF Kris Bryant, were considered a likely landing spot, but the Cubbies' bloated payroll prevented serious pursuit. So Los Angeles then? The Dodgers were in the mix, having shipped Yasiel Puig and Matt Kemp – two pricey outfielders – to Cincinnati. Washington was always a player too and allegedly offered a 10-year, \$300M contract last fall; but neither party ever felt committed to a forever deal.

In the end, Philly won. I guess they won – these mega-deals rarely work out well (see: Alex Rodriguez, Albert Pujols, Miguel Cabrera and the aforementioned Stanton). Money aside...thirteen years? Where were you in 2006? The County Times was two long years from "A View From The Bleachers" appearing in its pages for the first time and changing the course of the paper's future forever. For good? For ill? Alas, the final de-

termination is still pending...

Harper landing in Philly was quite an adventure. The length of his free agency was unexpectedly long. Undoubtedly to Harper's chagrin, the suiters were too few and dominated by B-listers. Harper did ultimately get the desired long-term deal and broke the MLB record for biggest contract ever (the previous record was Stanton's \$325M deal), but his average annual salary was below expectations.

All things considered, the process was confusing. If reports of Washington's offer last fall are true, Harper could have remained a Nat for more annually (\$30M) and only \$30M less overall. And if Harper really wanted to play for the Phillies, the one team seriously in play throughout, couldn't he have signed there months ago? Or were the terms not sweet enough? Did Harper need to feel like he bled every last dime and every last committed season from all bidders before finally settling for Philly?

These are things we'll never know. Regardless, it must have worn on Harper. A glimpse of the burden may have leaked through when he mistakenly said in his first press conference with the Phillies that he wanted to "bring a title back to D.C." Cringe...

I don't begrudge Harper, the Nationals or any other team that pursued him. Harper putting pen to paper was a massive pivot point for him and multiple franchises. Put the silly money and pomp and circumstance aside and you have a relatable human moment – a massive career decision layered with location, opportunity, salary, benefits and family considerations. Harper opted to leave behind what he built in Washington and to start over in Philadelphia. It was decision almost certainly reached after great consternation. In the end, I hope he's at peace and wish him well as he continues a shared endeavor: the pursuit of happiness.

Harper's ultimate signing prompted many emotions – frustration, disappointment, excitement, anticipation – but ultimately, the one likely felt most acutely by all vested in this process – Harper, the fans and the teams – is relief. Now it's time to just play ball. Finally.

Send comments to
RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

YOUR TAX REFUND & FIVE SUGGESTIONS

You worked hard in 2018 and have now paid your taxes and are expecting a refund. Keep in mind that your refund money is not a gift from the government—it is your money. This article makes some suggestions on how you can use your tax refund money.

Some people purposely withhold too much money from their paychecks, knowing that they will receive a larger lump sum tax refund. A type of forced savings. But, why do that when the government provides you with no interest on your money? You would be better off to take the money in your paycheck and set some aside in an interest bearing investment. Even if the interest amounts are small, your money will be earning something. If you are receiving a huge tax refund, take a look at your W-4 form and adjust your federal income tax withholding.

What are the smartest ways of dealing with a tax refund? Making a plan for your refund money is always a good idea. Without a plan, that money can easily disappear into a cloud of buying whatever suits your fancy. You will be better off if you make a plan to handle the tax refund.

To get you started, here are five suggestions on how to use your tax refund:

1. Pay down your consumer debt.
2. Set up an emergency fund.
3. Protect your loved ones.
4. Invest in yourself.
5. Plan a vacation.

Pay Down Your Consumer Debt.

High-cost consumer debt is a killer. Times have been tough and many people have lived on their credit cards, racking up huge balances at very high cost borrowing rates. For many people, the amount of the debt is so large, it is intimidating. Don't be discouraged. Try to stop charging on the credit cards and use all excess funds, including your income tax refund, to pay down the debt. The smartest thing you can do is to pay off that consumer debt so that when you do use a credit card, you can afford to pay off the entire credit card bill within one month.

Create a Fund Just for Emergencies.

Many people live in fear of having an emergency because they have saved nothing to help them. In most cases, giving yourself some financial peace of mind is all that is required to make life much more enjoyable. By setting aside your tax refund money in an emergency fund, you

will be able to weather the downturns like the loss of a job, expensive car repairs, medical emergencies and other catastrophes. Generally, the amount you need to save for emergencies should represent at least six months of living expenses plus whatever it takes to make you feel secure. Setting up an emergency fund will take away that fear of the unknown and put you in the position of being able to cope with whatever happens.

Take Care of Your Loved Ones

The vast majority of people have done absolutely no estate planning. Everyone needs to have a Will or a Trust, a Power of Attorney that covers medical and financial needs, and a Living Will. Why? To protect your loved ones and yourself. Once you have organized your estate plan, you will feel a great burden has been lifted from your shoulders. Whether this relates to appointing guardians for your minor-aged children, designating someone to take care of you if you can't do that for yourself, or deciding how your assets will be divided on your death, taking steps to put your strategy into writing is well worth the effort. This year, make an effort to get yourself organized.

Invest in Yourself

If you have been putting off career or skills training because of the cost, it may be time to use your refund to help you start a new career. College courses, technology skills improvement, books to help you help yourself, all of these are part of a strategy to improve your skills and your job prospects. Or, consider joining a health club or purchasing a piece of exercise equipment to improve your own health. Taking steps to improve yourself will always pay dividends.

Have Fun-Take a Vacation

This is the fun part of using the refund and since the money you are receiving is money you have already earned, why not use it to take that vacation you have always planned? Yes, you can buy that big screen TV but over the long term you will probably benefit more from the memories you make on a great vacation.

Whatever you decide to do with your tax refund, take your time and make a plan of action for that refund money so that you can use it wisely to your advantage. Enjoy!

Join me for a free seminar on estate planning on Wednesday March 20th at 11am in our offices at 8906 By Avenue, North Beach, Maryland 20714. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your seat. See you there.

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann
Contributing Writer



“I just di-dent realize”

Maybe I am the only one this bothers. Has anyone noticed (or cringed) when hearing the new pronunciation of “didn’t”? Its all over television, the radio, interviews, and coming out of grandchildren’s mouths. I always thought it was supposed to be said as didint, but it is now pronounced di-dent. I just cringed even reading it. I know, I know, this makes me sound old and nitpicky. Guess what? I am! I mean, I am getting closer to that stage.

The word “important” seems to have followed the same fate as didn’t. Now, I am probably wrong on this one, because who’s to say which syllable should have the most emphasis. Maybe it is Southern Maryland speak, but I swear I never heard anyone saying importAnt growing up, I always heard importint or sometimes a contraction of that; impor’tant with no discernable t sound. Potato, potahto, etc.

My husband was reading me a Facebook post this morning about all the code words that kids use these days via text and messaging. I am so glad my sons are grown, but yes, there are always the grandkids to worry about as mentioned above. Some tweens and teens do not think ahead to consequences (possibly having been one of those for a time, I can say this from experience), and can get in a lot of trouble with this texting and the newer scarier ways its being used. Forever seems even further away than forever as a teen. I have figured out a lot of the easier texting abbreviations, but still have to look some up when my cooler, “on point” - another trending word” friends sprinkle them in our text or messenger conversations. I always feel so behind the times when I have to stop and Google text slang.

I’m sure my parents got tired of hearing “cool” (which unfortunately has never left my vocabulary and can be pronounced either quickly as an affirmative answer to a request or statement or pronounced slowly to denote OMG in current speak). Another favorite 70’s term was “man” (could be used the same ways as cool, but was mostly pronounced as maaaaaaan – oh, wow, I still use that too). And then there were the words for greeting friends, “Hey dude or Hey dudette”. If you had some money, you had duckets instead of dollars. So, a normal exchange would be, “Hey dude, maaaaaaan, wish I some duckets.” Response: “Yeah hey dude, I have a few duckets, ‘wanna go to 7-11 and get a dog and a Slurpee?” Response: “Cool!”

My parents must have had some good 1940’s slang words, been trying to recollect some they used, though I do remember my father using “man” quite often when he spoke, but it wasn’t like the way we teenagers used it. His way was more like in the Johnny Cash song, “I’ve Been Everywhere Man”:

“I’ve been everywhere, man. I’ve been everywhere, man. Crossed the desert’s bare, man. I’ve breathed the mountain air, man. Of travel I’ve a’had my share, man. I’ve been everywhere.”

When I was a teenager, my mother somehow got hold of the slang word “twat” which has one meaning in Britain; a stupid or obnoxious person, and an entirely different meaning in America which I will not write here. It was truly horrifying as a teen to hear her use that in a conversation with someone. I think I finally asked my mother if she knew what the word twat really referred to.

None of it could be as bad as when one of our former priests texted me a question, and my response back was supposed to be, “Well you know us St. Mary’s County Girls”, but my text autocorrect was on and “County” somehow autocorrected itself into a very offensive four-letter word beginning with “c”. His response: “Are you sure that is what you meant to say?????” Talk about horrifying, my only saving grace was that he was a retired military MP and assured me he had heard and seen much worse. Yes, autocorrect is now OFF!

To each new day’s adventure, Shelby
Please send your comments or ideas to:
shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook.

The County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to gyleonard@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

In Remembrance

Elizabeth Dolly Latham



Elizabeth Dolly Latham, 87, of Chaptico, MD formerly from Loveville, MD passed away on February 27, 2019 at

her home. She was born on October 20, 1931 in Loveville, MD to the late Mary Agnes Nelson Thompson and Joseph Ger-vase Thompson, Sr. Dolly was the loving wife of the late James (Snook) Melvin Latham, Sr., whom she married on April 14, 1951 in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Morganza, MD, and who preceded her in death on March 20, 2017. Dolly is survived by her children Patsy Stillwell (Edward) of Chaptico, MD, Jimmy Latham (Patty Kenney) of Chaptico, MD, Larry Latham (Debbie) Latham of Hughesville, MD.

As well as 8 grandchildren Rick, Joey, Sherri, Jimmy, Lisa, Frankie, Christy, Ashley, and 19 great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her siblings Albert Thompson, Leonard Thompson, Mary Alice Thompson, Lucelle Wood, Marie Thompson, Rose Thompson, June Thompson, and Joseph Thompson, Jr. She was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from Margaret Brent in 1947.

Dolly loved crocheting, painting, and ceramics. She was an avid church goer, and loved her musical shows. Dolly was an active and respected member of Our Lady of the Wayside Church. She was happiest surrounded by her family, celebrating special holidays, and holding one of her many great grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital Center 262 Danny Thomas Place Memphis, TN 38105.

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A.

Kathleen Joan Roy



Kathleen Joan Roy, "Jo", 52 of Lexington Park, MD formerly from Callicoon, NY, passed away in her home surrounded

by her loving family on February 28, 2019. She was born on May 12, 1966 in Omaha, NE to Noreen Leona Moseke Mudge and Gerald Lewis Mudge of Callicoon, NY. Jo was the loving wife of Gordon Lee Roy of Lexington Park, MD, whom she married on February 17, 1990 in Virginia Beach, VA. They were married for 29 years. Jo is survived by her children Joseph Lee Roy and Kaitlin Marie Roy both of Lexington

Park, MD. As well as siblings Jeanette Ferrick, Caryl Perree, and Pamela Mudge-Wood. She was preceded in death by her siblings David Mudge, and Barbara Kirk. She moved from Virginia Beach, VA to St. Mary's County, MD in January, 1994. She graduated from Delaware Valley High School, Callicoon, NY in 1984, and earned an Associate's Degree in Paralegal Studies from Sage Junior College in Albany, NY. Jo worked as a Librarian for the Lexington Park Library in Lexington Park, MD, retiring on April 1, 2014.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 from 10:30 Am to 12 Noon in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Lexington Park, MD. Where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 12:00 Noon with Father Marco Shad officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Contributions may be made to Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church 22375 three Notch Road Lexington Park, MD 20653.

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. Leonardtown, MD.

Mary Davis Hartshorn



Mary Davis Hartshorn, born October 10, 1928, passed away at the age of 90 on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at The Hermitage at St.

John's Creek with her loving family at her side. Married to Robert Hartshorn on September 12, 1959 in Bethesda, Maryland, they celebrated 48 years of marriage before Robert passed away in 2007.

In 1950, Mary earned her Bachelors of Fine Arts, with a minor in Economics from George Washington University. While attending George Washington University she was integral in developing and implementing the GWU Women's Sailing Team.

Mary had an adventurous spirit, traveling around the United States and Europe while working for Pan American Airlines. She loved to snow ski, sail, play tennis, and swing dance. Music was a passion of hers, especially Big Band music. The ocean was her favorite place to be. Pacific, Atlantic, it did not matter as long as she could take a dip and hunt for sea-shells. In her later years she held many different jobs but most enjoyed her work as a Registrar at Harry Lundenburg School of Seamanship in Piney Point, Maryland.

A loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and loyal friend, Mary was devoted to God her Father and lived out her lives' verse, Ephesians 4 verse 32. She truly was kind to all.

Mary is survived by her children Susannah Lynch of Hollywood, Md., Sarah Hartshorn-Brown of Hollywood, Md., Beth Beardall of Canada, her niece Mau-

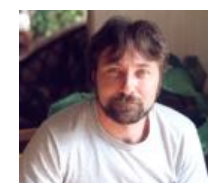
reen Blanton of West Va., and her six grand children and two great grand children. Mary is preceded in death by her husband Robert Hartshorn, her sister Jane Arrants, and her niece, Joy Arrants.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 14, 2019 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home Chapel, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, Md. 20650. The celebration of life service will begin at 6:30 p.m. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the CareNet Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland in Lexington Park Md., or to Calvert County Hospice in Prince Frederick Md. Condolences to the family may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Mark Steven Ratliff



Mark Steven Ratliff, 62, of Great Mills, MD passed away Thursday, February 28 2019, at his residence. He was born on July 19,

1956 in Morocco, Africa to the late Rudy Ratliff and Dorothy Twilley.

Mark was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He grew up on St. George's Island, attending Great Mills High School. Mark retired as a truck driver from Quality Moving and Storage. Even after retirement, Mark continued to be a hard worker, taking pride in every task he did, from caring for his home, to keeping his lawn maintained and always presentable. Mark enjoyed fishing, crabbing, camping, and taking walks in the evening time. Mark was known for being kind, giving, and enjoyed cookouts with his family and friends at Take it Easy Ranch. Mark enjoyed babysitting his great granddaughter, and having all of the family together as often as he could. Mark was a loving father, grandfather, brother, and son.

Mark is survived by his three children, Daniel Clements and wife Sheryl of Leonardtown, Melissa Tiger of Great Mills, and Andrew Ratliff and wife Jennifer of Leonardtown; two siblings Glenn Ratliff and wife Betty of Park Hall, Ronald Ratliff and wife Janie of Lexington Park; six grandchildren, Sarah, Shay, Charles, Hannah, Layla, Ava, and also one great granddaughter, Aubrey. Mark is also survived by his loving long-time companion, Ann Marie Ratliff, of California, MD. Mark is preceded in death by his mother and father, and four siblings; Jerry Ratliff, Sandra King, Sue Heath, and Donald Ratliff.

All services will be private.

Condolences to the family may be made at <http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com>

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301-472-4400

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Linda Fay Stotler



Linda Fay Stotler, 76, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on February 27, 2019, at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD

with her family by her side.

She was born on August 28th, 1942 in Winchester, TN to the late Daniel L. and June M Reynolds Buckner.

Linda and her husband Ralph Edward Stotler, celebrated over 58 wonderful years of marriage. She was the loving mother of four children, Lorraine Snyder (John) of Lexington Park, MD, Ruth Vath (Perry) of Pensacola, FL, Candy Visele (Brian) of Lexington Park, MD and Daniel Stotler (Linda) of Anchorage, AK. She was proud of her 12 grandchildren, Eva, Timothy, Deborah, Victor, Rebecca, Benjamin, Megan, Danielle, Nate, Jon, David and Joshua and her 5 great-grandchildren, Andrew, Lillian, Micah, Joel and Hope. One of Linda's greatest joys was being surrounded by her family and being called "Nanny".

Linda focused her energy on being a homemaker. She enjoyed cooking and baking for her family and friends. She was known for her old-fashioned buttermilk sugar cookies and walnut chocolate chip cookies plus various pies. Sewing was her form of relaxation. She and her husband were devoted fans of the Washington Redskins and enjoyed watching games together.

Linda taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School specializing in assisting with special needs classes in the various states that her husband was stationed in over 59 years of Military Service (Active/DON Civil Servant/USN Contractor). After her husband's retirement in 2007, the couple joined the Lexington Park Vol. Rescue Squad. Linda served as an Associate Member until her health required her to stop being active but she never stopped being supportive of her family's involvement in EMS.

Along with her parents, Linda is preceded in death by her brother, Daniel Buckner and sister, Sandra Buckner.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Lexington Park Vol. Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 339, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

Condolences may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., Leonardtown, MD

Avvington John Painter



Avvington John Painter, 73 of Lexington Park, MD (Formerly of Warren, PA) passed away on February 22, 2019 at his home

surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on October 26, 1945 in

Kane PA to the late Everett Avvington Painter and Edna E. (Walker) Painter. He is also preceded in death by his sister, Ten-nice (Painter) Strickland.

Av graduated from Otto Eldred High School in 1963, where he excelled in football and baseball. Av was a member of the 1958 Potter/McKean Counties Little League team that made it all the way to Williamsport for the Little League World Series tournament. He attended the University of Pittsburgh Bradford Campus in its inaugural years. He graduated from the Pittsburgh Computer Institute. He served in the Pennsylvania National Guard for 6 years.

Av was married for 50 years to his 8th grade girlfriend, Suzanne Lehman Painter. Av was an employee of National Forge for 33 years as a computer programmer/analyst. He was an avid golfer and a member of Blueberry Golf Club for over 30 years and a member of Blueberry Men's Golf Association. He was a longtime participant in the Industrial League, match-play league and scratch leagues at Blueberry Hill. Av was proud of his hole-in-one on hole #8 at Blueberry.

He and his wife were longtime parishioners of Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church and were members of the Warren Conewango Club. In his later years, Av was a participant in the University of Pittsburgh international COPD DNA gene research studies to assist future generations. He was proud to know that his participation would benefit others. Av was a quiet man. He was earnest and always a hard worker. He was a moral man who loved his family and provided for them unselfishly. His most precious memories include golfing at Blueberry Hill, vacationing at Van Buren Point on Lake Erie, Ocean City with his children and grandchildren, and most recently spending March in Destin, Florida with Suzy.

In addition to his beloved wife, Suzanne, Av is also survived by his three children: Courtney Halle (Painter) of Pittsburgh, PA, Paige Painter of Lexington Park, MD, and Dustin Painter and his wife, Cari (Alexandria, VA); seven grandchildren: Ethan and Esme Boyer, Gage and Emma Halle, Hayden, Penn and Trey Painter; a brother-in-law, Neal Lehman and his wife Marilyn (Tulsa) and 3 nephews; his dear friends the H's and the O's. He is preceded in death by his parents and sister.

"I am glad God saw Death"

"And gave Death a job taking care of all who are tired of living..."

A Memorial Service will be announced at a later date.

Condolences to the family may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

Dorothy Ann Thompson

Dorothy Ann Thompson passed away on February 25, 2019, at her home in Ridge, MD.



She was born on April 4, 1954 in Leonardtown, MD to the late George Elmer Goddard and Ethel Gertrude Goddard.

She was a graduate of Great Mills High School. On December 28, 1974, Dorothy married her beloved husband, George Aloysius Thompson, Jr. in St. Mary's City, MD. Together they celebrated over 44 wonderful years of marriage before his passing in 2017.

She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She worked beside her husband on a tobacco farm while also being a stay at home mother. In 2004, she started her career as a coffee hostess at Sheetz. She created many relationships with her everyday customers and coworkers.

Dorothy enjoyed spending time with her family, whether it was a small cookout or going shopping. She was absolutely crazy about her grandchildren and spoiled them rotten.

She is survived by her children Lori Thompson of Lexington Park, James Thompson of Lexington Park, Robert Thompson (Crystal) of Salisbury, NC, Victoria Clark (Vaughn) of Great Mills, and Tiffany Thompson (Brian) of Lusby and her sister Gertrude Lacey (Joe Lacey) of Avenue, MD and ten grandchildren; Katrina (Larry Jr.), Amber, Savannah, Dominick, Jacob, Justice, Yasmynn, Jaelien, McKenzie, Liberty, and two great-grandchildren Maleiah and Zamyia.

Along with her parents and husband she is preceded in death by her sister, Mary Goddard.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Brinsfield Funeral Home, Post Office Box 279, Leonardtown, MD 20650; or Sheetz for Kidz, 5700 Sixth Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A. in Leonardtown, MD.

Sheila Cheplowitz Maroldy



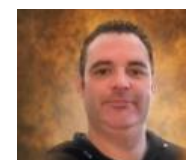
Sheila Cheplowitz Maroldy, 71, of Hollywood, MD passed away on February 22, 2019 at her home. She was born on October

23, 1947 in Baltimore, MD to the late Milton Cheplowitz and Dorothy Weitenfeld Cheplowitz. Sheila was the loving sister of Jeffrey and Frank Cheplowitz, sister in law to Lois and Nancy. Sheila grew up and attended school in Annapolis, MD. Upon graduation Sheila worked at the circuit court as a court clerk for twenty years. In 1986, Sheila moved to Saint Mary's County, MD and later married her husband Tom. Sheila enjoyed reading, and sailing. She was also a partner in the Trident Yacht Sales Company.

A Graveside Service will be held in Arlington National Cemetery Arlington, VA at a later date.

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. Leonardtown, MD.

Louis "Steven" Fenwick



Louis "Steven" Fenwick, "Steve", 41 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on February 25, 2019 in Mechanicsville, MD. He

was born on January 6, 1978 in Leonardtown, MD and was the son of Frank and Lorrie Fenwick of Leonardtown, MD. Steve is survived by his siblings Juli F. Williams of Lusby, MD, Joe Fenwick (Robin) of Port Orange, FL and many nieces and nephews. He was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident. Steve graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1996 and was a construction worker. Steve loved riding his motorcycles, and fishing. He loved going kayaking with his niece and picking out Christmas trees. Steve loved his nephew and nieces very much.

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. Leonardtown, MD.

Happy 82nd Birthday in Heaven

"Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories."

Author Unknown

Love you,
Karen & Monkey, Debbie & Ray and Junior

3.7.37 - 3.12.13

Community Calendar

To submit your event listing to go in our Community Calendar, please email timescalendar@countytimes.net with the listing details by 12 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication.

UPCOMING

Academy Application

St. Mary's County Public Schools will accept online applications for its four signature Academy Programs: The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Academy, The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, The Academy of Global and International Studies and The Academy of Finance. Applications can be accessed online at www.smcps.org/academies and will open beginning Wednesday, March 6. The application window will close on Friday, April 19. Please note that no late applications will be accepted. More information and frequently asked questions can be found at www.smcps.org/academies. Department of Curriculum and Instruction, 301-475-5511 x32104.

Moose Lodge Turkey Shoot Mechanicsville

Moose Lodge 495 is sponsoring a Turkey Shoot for Young Life St. Mary's on Saturday, March 17 from 1:00pm to 3:30pm. The shoot will be held at the Lodge at 27636 Mechanicsville Rd, Mechanicsville, MD 20659. The entry fee is \$80 for 15 rounds. Prizes will be awarded after each round. There will be 12 rounds with meat prizes (Nick's of Clinton) and 3 money rounds (\$50). The shoot will begin at 1:00pm with a 12:00 - 1:00 sign-in and practice period. Participants must bring their own guns; shotgun parameters are: .675 choke, 32-inch barrel. To ensure your spot or for any questions, please contact Cindy Balazs at 240-298-5265 or tcbalazs93@gmail.com. Money raised by the shoot will be used to send St. Mary's county kids to Young Life and Wyldlife summer camps. Young Life is a non-denominational Christian ministry committed to making a positive difference in the lives of kids through the friendship and influence of caring adults.

ONGOING

Drive Thru Seafood Dinner

Third District Optimist Club is having a drive thru seafood dinner every Friday starting March 8 thru April 19 starting at 4 PM, weather permitting. We will be set up in the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds parking lot in front of the main gate. Dinner is \$10 and will include fish fillet, shrimp, clam strips, fries, hush puppies, and applesauce.

Thursday, March 7

Divorce Care

Our Fathers House, 45020 Patuxent Beach Rd, California
6:30 - 8:30 PM

A support and recovery group offering hope, help, and healing during and after divorce.

12-week program Feb. 21 through May 9. 301-862-9200. www.ourfathers-house.org/resources/divorce-care

Friday, March 8

Queen of Hearts Drawing

Brass Rail Sports Bar, Great Mills
7:00 PM

Ticket sales, \$1 each, begin at 4:00 PM. Drawing at 7:00 PM. 50/50 raffle each week. Jackpot begins at \$2,000+ and continues to grow each week until the Queen of Hearts is found.

Benefit the Archangel Scholarship Foundation Corporation in support of St. Michael's School, Ridge. Info/updates: Facebook page or: archangelfoundation.wordpress.com

Texas Hold'em Tournament

VFW Post 2632, 23282 Three Notch Road (Rt. 235)
7:00 PM

No Limit Texas Hold'em Tournament. \$50 Buy in (\$40 Prize Pool + \$10 Charity). Early Bird Bonus: sign in 6:20-6:45. Pre-registration encour-

aged; not required. Must be 18 or older to play. Info/pre-register: Brian, email: poker@vfw2632.com. 240-925-4000

Saturday, March 9

Chicken Dinner

K. of C. Hall, Ridge
11:30 AM - 5:00 PM
\$12 a dinner. Baked goods available.
301-872-4641

Talent & Visual Arts Show

Patuxent Presbyterian Church, 23421 Kingston Creek, California
6:30 PM

Enjoy paintings, photographs, quilts and more. The Talent Show will begin at 6:30 and includes singing, instrumentalists, jokes and an all-around good time. Doors open at 5:45.

Elks Texas Hold'em Tournament

St Mary's County Elks Lodge, 45779 Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park
6:00 PM

No Limit Texas Holdem Poker Tournament. Buy in \$80. Food and drink for purchase. James Dean 240-577-0828. Email: jdeanjunior@yahoo.com

Sunday, March 10

Daylight Savings Time

2:00 AM
Turn clocks ahead one hour.

Monday, March 11

Calvert Marine Museum Reopens!

14200 Solomons Island Road S., Solomons
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM daily
After nearly two months of renovations, the Calvert Marine Museum is excited to announce its official reopening. 410-326-2042.

Jay Fleming Photography Exhibit

Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM daily
Showcase of local watermen earning a living by means of the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River runs through December 31. 410-326-2042

CABS

Garvey Senior Center, Leonardtown
6:00 PM

Companions and Buddies for Singles is an adult social group of friends. Meets every Monday except Holidays. \$15/year; no dues first four visits. 240-794-8033. CABSorg.WixSite.com/CABS

Elks Hold'em Bounty Tournament

St. Marys County Elks Lodge, 45779 Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park
7:00 - 11:00 PM

No Limit Holdem Poker Tournament. \$25 Buy in = 4,000 chips. \$5 add-on = 1,000 chips and raffle drawing. Food and beverage for purchase. 240-577-0828. Email: jdeanjunior@yahoo.com

Tuesday, March 12

2nd District Fundraiser

Texas Road House, 45255 Abell House Lane, California
5:00 - 9:00 PM

10% of bill goes to 2nd District Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad. Homemade Bake Goods for Sale. (Physical or Digital copy of flyer must be presented to your server at event) POC Robin 301-737-4366 (H) or 240-577-0270 (C)

Wednesday, March 13

St. Mary's County Camera Club

Pax River Naval Air Museum (back building conference room)
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Critique Night. Bring several photos in .jpg format on a memory stick for open, fair discussion, and ideas to improve the shot through cropping and advanced editing methods. Attendance is free. smccc.org

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St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 71658
Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 71050
Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 73101

Visit www.stmarysmd.com/aging for the most up-to date information

Brought to you by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County: James R. Guy, President; Michael L. Hewitt; Tom Jarboe; Todd B. Morgan; John E. O'Connor; and the Department of Aging & Human Services

Keys to Independence Workshop Series

What are your plans for retirement? Do you know how to access Medicare, Medicaid, or other programs and services? Are you seeking volunteer opportunities within the St. Mary's County Community? Find all that and more with the Department of Aging & Human Services!

This free community workshop series is hosted by the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services and the College of Southern Maryland at the College of Southern Maryland's Leonardtown Campus in Building C - Room 304 on Tuesdays, April 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2019, from 6- 8 p.m. Topics will include –

Introduction to the Department of Aging & Human Services (Tuesday, April 9)

The Department of Aging & Human Services provides a wide variety of programs and services to the county's senior residents, as well as other segments of the population in need. Join Community Programs & Outreach Manager Sarah Miller to learn about home and community-based services, social and recreational programs, community outreach, volunteer opportunities, supportive services to families and children, Christmas Caring, Teen Court, and much more.

Music and Memory (Tuesday, April 16)

Spend an evening with Program Specialist

Kathy Creswell from the Department of Aging & Human Services' Garvey Senior Activity Center learning about the effect of music on memory, health, and wellbeing. Participate in an interactive demonstration of Drums Alive using rhythm as the source of inspiration to discover a new group fitness experience.

Mobility & Independence (Tuesday, April 23)

Join College of Southern Maryland and Department of Aging & Human Services staff to learn about mobility aids and how they can be utilized successfully. Also learn how physical fitness classes offered at the Department of Aging & Human Services' Senior Activity Centers can assist in promoting improved mobility.

Scams, Frauds, and Elder Abuse Prevention (Tuesday, April 30)

Corporal Kristi Nelson and Sgt. Shawn L. Moses will teach community members about scams that are directed toward the aging population and how to detect, avoid, and report them. Also learn how the Department of Aging & Human Services may provide additional advocacy in the community and in long-term care.

For more information, or to sign up, contact Community Programs & Outreach Manager Sarah Miller at 301-475-4200, ext. 71073, or Sarah.Miller@stmarysmd.com. Registration is required, space is limited.

Dance! The Shamrock Shindig with Mean Gene

Join us at the Northern Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, March 13, from 1-4 p.m., and get down with your Irish roots at the Shamrock Shindig. Dress in your gaudiest green and show your St. Patty's Day spirit. DJ Mean Gene will lead the way in an afternoon of pure dance fun. There will also be a money raffle so bring the luck of the Irish with you! The ticket cost is \$5 and supports the cost of the DJ. Refreshments will be provided as a courtesy of the Northern Senior Activity Center while supplies last. Payment is due at sign up. To sign up and pay for this program in advance, please visit the front desk. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 73101.

Jewelry Class

Do you love jewelry and want to learn how to make your own? We will be offering a low cost class on how to make your own necklace or bracelet at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, March 13, at 10 a.m. The cost for the class will be \$10 and you will take home a unique necklace to wear. You do not have to have any experience making jewelry. If you have your own beads feel free to bring them along. We will provide the instruction as well as the tools and materials. Payment is due at the time of reservation. Call the Garvey Senior Activity Center at 301-475-4200, ext. 71050, for more information or to register for the class.

Advance Directive Presentation

Deep Launching, Inc. will be at the Northern Senior Activity Center on Thursday, March 14, from 11-11:30 a.m. to discuss Advance Directives. An Advance Directive allows you to appoint someone to make healthcare decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so yourself. It can also be used to communicate the types of treatments you would like to have administered in the event of a medical emergency. Space is limited. To sign up for this free presentation in advance, please visit the signup table or call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

Wearin' of the Green Bash at O'Garvey

For the luck of the Irish, join us at our Annual St. Patrick's Day bash at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Thursday, March 14, at 12 p.m.! Enjoy a traditional meal of Corned Beef, Cabbage, Carrots, Potatoes, WW Dinner Roll and fruited Jell-O for dessert. Irish tunes to be performed by John Pomeroy, singer of traditional Irish pub tunes. Cost for lunch is by donation for those ages 60 and above and \$6 for those under the age of 60. To make reservations, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050. Remember to wear your lucky green!

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

Paws to Read

Leonardtown Library will hold Paws to Read on Saturday, March 9 from 2 - 4 p.m. For beginning readers, or any student who needs a confidence boost. Join "Pets on Wheels" to practice reading out loud to a therapy dog for 15 minute sessions. Registration opens 2 weeks before each program. Readers should bring a book, or arrive at least 20 minutes early for help to choose a book.

Chillax at the Lex: Board and Card Games

Lexington Park Library will hold Chillax at the Lex on Thursday, March 14 from 4 - 5 p.m. Chillax at the Lex is a time set aside for kids ages 8 - 13 on the 1st and 2nd Thursday of each month. We switch it up with Games, crafts, and activities. Walk ins welcome, we'd love to have you drop in! THIS WEEK: Try out some table top games like Apples to Apples, Wits & Wagers, Connect

4, or Operation. Snacks provided!

Master Gardener Series: Prelude to Spring

Leonardtown Library will host Master Gardeners for Prelude to Spring on Tuesday, March 19 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. Spring is a busy time for the serious gardener. It's time to order and start your seeds, get started cleaning your garden beds, prune, mulch, and create your lawn care plan. Master Gardeners will get you focused. Bring your calendars and get your spring gardening schedule on track.

Retirement and Estate Planning

Leonardtown Library will hold Retirement and Estate Planning on Wednesday, March 20 from 2 - 4 p.m. Worried about the effects of the recent tax changes on your retirement planning? Join us as Gene Townsend, Certified Financial Planner, covers retirement contribution changes, retirement distributions, estate planning steps, and the recent tax law changes impacting retirement and estate planning.

TAG, You're It!

Lexington Park Library will hold TAG, You're It! on Thursday, March 21 from 4 - 5 p.m. Teen Action Group meeting. Help us set up for the Cinderella Society, earn volunteer hours!

Cinderella Society

Lexington Park Library will hold Cinderella Society on Thursday, March 21 from 5 - 7 p.m. Join us for the Cinderella Society, an event that offers free prom dresses and formal attire to high school students. Learn some quick tips and tricks from hair and makeup artists to prepare for prom. Volunteers will be available to perform quick alterations. Ages 14-18.

Friends of the St. Mary's County Library Spring Book Sale

The Friends of the St. Mary's County Library will hold their annual Spring Book Sale at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds from Friday, March 29 through Sunday, March 31. The first day of the sale, Friday, March 29 will be open for Friends members only from 12 - 8 p.m. Become a member online at www.stmalib.org or at the door! The sale opens to the general public Saturday, March 30 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 31, 12 - 4 p.m. Sunday will also be ½ price day. Cash, checks, and credits cards will be accepted, and an ATM will be available onsite. Volunteers will be needed on moving and set up days (Saturday, March 23 - Thursday, March 28), as well as during the sale. Please sign up on www.stmalib.org if you're interested in volunteering!



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