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# St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

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HOLLYWOOD INTERSECTION  
IMPROVEMENTS

LEXINGTON PARK SHOOTING  
UNDER INVESTIGATION

SCHOOLS STAND UP THREAT  
ASSESSMENT GROUP

# A St. Mary's Country Christmas

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## ON THE COVER

Carson Huett, Madison Huett and Brooklynn Huett celebrate the season at an open barn event at Vandemere Farm Dec. 14 in Leonardtown. Photo credit: Meghan Huett



**LOCAL 4**  
County ALS wants a new headquarters



**COMMUNITY 13**  
Kids got to Shop with a Cop over the weekend



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CSM offers classes for homeschoolers

**“THEY’VE GROWN OUT OF THAT SPACE TWICE OVER.”**

SHAWN DAVIDSON, COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES CHIEF,  
ON THE NEED FOR A NEW ALS HEADQUARTERS

## WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 12/19	Fri 12/20	Sat 12/21	Sun 12/22
32°   25°F	37°   28°F	40°   30°F	46°   34°F
Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Mon 12/23	Tue 12/24	Wed 12/25	Thu 12/26
49°   35°F	49°   35°F	48°   38°F	50°   36°F
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# County Considering Traffic Circle in Hollywood

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

With the pending construction of a new commercial center in Hollywood on what was once 14 acres of farm land north of the intersection of routes 235 and 245, county public works officials are looking to make improvements to the intersection that would be most affected by the back end of the development at Route 245 and Old Three Notch Road.

The intersection county officials want to improve is also one of the most dangerous, known locally by motorists as a “lazy x” with poor visibility all around.

County public works chief John Deatrick spoke about the need for improvements there last week at a combined meeting of all county commissioner boards in Southern Maryland at the Prince Frederick campus of the College of Southern Maryland.

While considered a minor highway project in the county, the effort would center around



County officials are considering a plan to improve the intersection of Old Three Notch Road and Sotterley Road with a traffic circle.

placing a traffic roundabout at Old Three Notch Road and Route 245, according to Deatrick’s presentation.

“With the future development of the Hollywood Commercial Center pending as well

as the current inadequate geometric alignment, we request a review of this intersection for a roundabout or other appropriate solution,” Deatrick’s briefing stated. “The current unsafe geometric alignment is badly

skewed with poor vertical and horizontal sight distance.”

Deatrick told The County Times that the county has acquired some right-of-way property along Old Three Notch Road to make the project hap-

pen, but Route 245 was under the State Highway Administration’s jurisdiction.

The county would need their cooperation to move ahead with the improvements, Deatrick said, and the county has been unsuccessful in getting the state to require the developer to build the roundabout.

Another option, the public works director said, was to include the project proposal in the county’s annual transportation project priority letter to get state funding.

The Hollywood Commercial Center, which includes a pharmacy and other retail shops, is estimated to generate approximately 10,000 additional car trips there. An adjacent car dealership will also be on the property.

“It only makes sense,” Deatrick said of some traffic calming measures at the intersection. “We’re trying to prepare for the future.”

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# ALS Seeks Funding for New Headquarters

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The county's Emergency Services Board voted last week to approve and send along a request for funding to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County for a new headquarters for the St. Mary's Advanced Life Support (SMALS) unit.

SMALS made a request for the county commissioners to allocate funding for the new building for the fiscal 2021 capital budget.

"Our organization was founded in 1983 and has occupied the same building since 1988," a missive to the commissioners stated, as read at the Emergency Services Board meeting held Dec. 11 by County Emergency Medical Services Chief Shawn Davidson. "That building currently houses SMALS and provides 2,200 square feet of space.

SMALS is now leasing the property, located next to the grounds of MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, according to their letter.

"Now at 100 members the current facility no longer meets our needs for training, storage, vehicles or meetings," the letter stated.

SMALS estimates that they will need a facility that is at least 7,000 square feet

in size to meet their growing needs.

Davidson summed up the ALS mission as one that has done more with less for years.

"We've been providing a vital service... out of a two-car garage," Davidson said. "They've grown out of that space twice over."

Currently, there is \$75,000 in the county's capital construction plan for a feasibility study for a new ALS facility; Davidson said a steady revenue stream would still be required "to make sure we can pull this thing off."

The feasibility study would establish the price of a new facility as well as its design.

Some members of the emergency services board wanted to modify the request made by SMALS to the commissioners, since the initial letter called for the commissioners to include design and construction money in the upcoming capital budget beyond the money for the feasibility study.

"Let's start this journey with a \$75,000 feasibility study," said board member Steve Facini. "We'll see what comes out of the feasibility study."

Davidson warned against the board "micromanaging" the SMALS request.

"We're stretching out a process that



The building housing the Advanced Life Support Unit only has two bays for emergency vehicles.

has been painstakingly and tortuously... long," Davidson said, noting SMALS had petitioned the county for help in getting a new building for six years.

Scott Cooley, president of the county medic unit, told emergency board members the group had purchased a piece of land but had been directed by the county commissioners to sell that land.

"We're in the process for that now," Cooley said of a plot of land across

from the Cedar Lane living facility. "The county engineers looked at it and thought it probably wasn't the best place to go."

Board Chair Mock Mattingly made a motion to vote on sending the original letter from SMALS to the county commissioners, which passed unanimously.

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## Census Committee Looks To Count All “Low Response” Residents

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

By next spring the 2020 Census will begin to count all the residents, young and old, in St. Mary’s County but not everyone has a history of completing mailed census forms, much less returning them.

These so-called low response groups, which can include undocumented immigrants, those for whom English is not their first language, members of the LGBTQ community as well as those with resentments towards the government.

These groups are the charge of the local Complete Count Committee (CCC) of the census.

Other groups include the homeless, low-income households, children under 5-years-old who are sometimes not reported on forms by their parents, and racial and ethnic minorities.

“We’re trying to get the word out quickly so that people respond as soon as possible,” said Bill Hunt, director of the county’s Department of Land Use and Growth Management.

Hunt, along with Lee Osberry, of the U.S. Census Bureau, said the more outreach that can encourage low-response groups to answer census questions, the less expensive and time consuming the citizen count process.

Residents who don’t answer census questionnaires, either on-line, by phone or in mailings, require an enumerator, a census worker making a home visit, to personally gather the information.

Osberry said some don’t want to answer for fear their information could be used against them by the government, but that was not a concern.

“We want people to understand the information is protected,” Osberry said, noting that releasing such information carried a penalty of up to \$250,000 and five years in jail. “I’m not going to jail for releasing information.”

Having a clear and accurate picture of the county’s population was critical, Osberry said, because census data helped steer funding and other resources to jurisdictions based on population size; some of these included emergency response resources as well as transportation projects.

Residents will be asked to complete 10 census questions on-line or over the phone this year, Hunt said, while some forms will be mailed out for eventual completion and return.

“We only have one shot to get it right,” Osberry said. “It’s going to affect your schools, your communities over the next 10 years, so please make sure you’re counted.”

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## Commissioners Support Legislation on CSM Budget

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

A majority of the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County agreed to support a piece of legislation and a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that would provide for a unified budget for the College of Southern Maryland at their Tuesday business meeting.

Under current law, College of Southern Maryland’s (CSM) budget, which comes from each of the three Southern Maryland counties, must be spent on each campus in proportion to what each county provides.

Having a unified budget, CSM officials have said, would allow the college greater flexibility in placing funding where needed.

“The proposed legislation has no effect on the county funding levels nor does it obligate a county to fund increases requested by the college,” a Dec. 13 letter from the college’s board of trustees to the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County stated. “It merely changes how the college is able to use its existing funds and will allow better service to students in all three counties, as well as financial savings through operational efficiencies.” The MOU between the three counties and CSM, the letter reads, could include

a funding formula geared towards equity, a definition for emergency financial situations that would necessitate a county giving less than its maintenance of effort amount as well as guidance on maintaining the regional campus in Hughesville.

Commissioner John O’Connor voted against the proposed legislation over concerns that the college was pressing for the legislation to be passed with the MOU to be formulated later; it left open the possibility of one county choosing not to provide funding for which the other two counties would have to compensate.

“If we’re not dictating it in the legislation, how are we making the MOU optional?” O’Connor asked. “All I can see happening is contention between the three counties on legislation we’re not going to enact with CSM left on the hook.”

O’Connor further argued that if funding questions were not answered in legislation between the three counties, and the MOU was optional, one county could provide less than their maintenance of effort funding.

“There needs to be some strong guidance on this,” O’Connor said. “Either get rid of the MOU entirely and put it in legislation or make the MOU required.”

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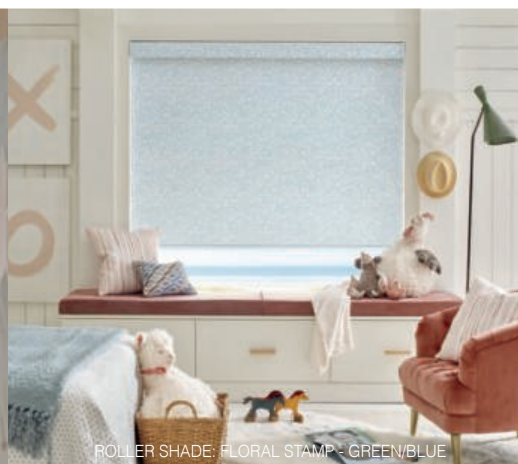
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# Crosby Looks To Rt. 5 Project Funding

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Of the many issues with which legislators will have to grapple in the General Assembly next month, Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist. 29B) says the road project to improve Route 5 near the intersection with Great Mills Road is perhaps the most important local goal.

The legislature opens Jan. 8 and ends April 6, Crosby told constituents meeting at the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Dec. 12, and during that time he will be fighting to get the funding for the project.

"The project at Route 5 and Great Mills Road, that's the \$7.5 million I care most about," Crosby said.

The intersection that serves so many commuters to and from Webster Field in St. Inigoes, and creates one of the worst traffic jams in the county during the morning and evening rush hours, got its first improvement this summer, Crosby said, when the State Highway Administration closed off a portion of the spur leading around the Sheetz convenience store there connecting with the Route 5.

The main project will include replacing the bridge culvert over a portion of the St. Mary's River and provide two dedicated north-bound lanes on Route 5, Crosby said, from the Trading Post construction company nearby to Little Flower School.

The improvements, though, Crosby said, will not include the intersection itself, where a perpendicular traffic jam occurs each day as well.

"The [Route] 246 intersection is not part of the plan," Crosby said.



Del. Brian Crosby

The dual north-bound lanes will merge again, he said, at a point near the Dyson Lumber store, which he called "not the best merger point."

But, Crosby said, the project was finally underway and would start construction in 2021.

"I'm just happy they've done something," Crosby said of the state's finalizing a plan. "I'm confident it will be finished before FDR Boulevard."

FDR Boulevard is scheduled to be completed in 2022.

The legislature will likely be consumed with budgetary issues this year, said Crosby, to include the Kirwan Commission's recommendations to drastically increase spending on public education.

"This will drive the full 90 days," Crosby said. "There will be monumental changes coming."

The Kirwan Commission, which is pushing for an additional \$4 billion in education spending over the next 10 years, still has no funding formula, Crosby said, and has yet to have legislation modeled on its recommendations.

Crosby discounted many of the fears over tax increases prompted by the spending recommendations noting there was already \$700 million set aside for Kirwan in its first three years, he said.

Gov. Larry Hogan will have to deal with a \$890 million deficit, Crosby said, and the state Court of Appeals could soon make a ruling on historic black colleges and universities allegedly being short changed \$500 million over the years.

The costs to the state could be enormous, he said, on top of fears of a recession.

"It could be a perfect storm ahead," said Crosby.

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# Commissioners Mull Revenues, Expenses in Tight Budget

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The county continues to experience growth in property and income tax revenues, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County learned at a Tuesday budget work session, but expenses continue to rise as well.

The process for formulating the fiscal 2021 capital and operating budgets are just beginning but county leaders saw projections showing that even revenues exceeding normal expenses by the county would be consumed somewhat by other operational costs.

Current estimates provided by the county's Chief Financial Officer Jeanett Cudmore estimate the county will collect \$249.2 million in revenues, between taxes and other fees, for fiscal 2021 with expenses an estimated total of \$242.8 million.

This leaves a remainder of \$6.4 million.

But Commissioner Mike Hewitt pointed out that the capital operation cost of the county detention center expansion would likely top \$3.7 million; that would have to be taken directly out of that variance.

"It's tight," Cudmore said.

"It's real tight," Commissioner Todd Morgan agreed.

A five-year projection of revenues versus expenses show that by fiscal 2025 revenues would outpace expenses by \$23.9 million, but the same projection warned that the positive variances did not take into account capital construction operating costs.

Cudmore recommended the commissioners proceed with their budgeting of operation costs based on a 4.5 percent rate of income tax revenue growth which, if the estimate holds, would bring in \$92.6 million in tax



year 2019 and \$102.3 million in tax year 2020.

Morgan expressed concern that the 4.5 percent estimate was too high but agreed to go along with the consensus among commissioners that it would be the right number.

"We've constantly underestimated our growth," said Commissioner John O'Connor. "I think 4.5 percent is the right number."

Budget documents showed the county has a reserve of \$46.3 million, but much of that was required to maintain a 15 percent reserve relative to the county's revenue totals to satisfy the county's reserve policies.

Of that \$46.3 million, \$14.2 million, was kept to sat-

isfy bond rating agencies, while \$1.6 million rested in the county's "rainy day" fund.

That left \$30.3 million in unassigned fund balance but, Cudmore said, just \$9.5 million of that was available to spend.

The rest maintained the 15 percent fund balance policy.

"Right now, we're in good shape," Cudmore said. "We've identified the amount that can be used and still maintain our 15 percent."

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## Governor Announces \$130 Million Education Investment

More Slated for Pre-K Expansion, Other Priorities

Governor Larry Hogan, following his recent announcement to launch the next chapter of education reform in Maryland, has committed another \$130 million in additional education spending, including prekindergarten expansion and Concentrations of Poverty Grants. The governor will also introduce new legislation to expand access to Advanced Placement (AP) tests for low-income students.

"I believe very strongly that every single child in Maryland deserves access to a world-class education, regardless of what neighborhood they happen to grow up in, and that commitment must begin with our youngest Marylanders," said Governor Hogan. "Education has been, and will continue to be, our administration's highest priority. With this funding, we are reaffirming our commitment to provide increased investment for our schools, more accountability for Maryland parents, teachers, and taxpayers, and most importantly, better results for our children."

### Pre-K Expansion

More than \$100 million will be dedicated over the next two years to expand access to early support and interventions for young children and their families, including access to high-quality, full-day prekindergarten for three- and four-year-olds.

In Fiscal Year 2020, \$31.7 million in Pre-K Supplemental Grants provided funding for more than 8,000 four-year-olds in full-day Pre-K.

The governor also committed more than \$30 million over two years to fund Concentration of Poverty Grants to provide full-time coverage of health care practitioners and community school coordinators. The funding would also include wraparound services for extended learning time, safe transportation to school, and additional social workers, mentors, counselors, and psychologists. This investment would allow the state to provide funding for a total of 309 local schools.

Since taking office, Governor Hogan has invested a record \$32 billion in K-12 education and committed over \$420 million above the current funding levels required by legislatively mandated formulas. Additionally, this year the governor released \$255 million for the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education's Fiscal Year 2020 spending plan.

### AP Opportunities Act of 2020

Governor Hogan committed to fund over \$1 million with the AP Opportunities Act of 2020 to provide low-income students in Maryland access to AP tests free of charge. This legislation would



Gov. Larry Hogan

cover the costs of over 25,500 AP exams.

"With this important legislation, we are giving deserving Maryland students from low-income families the opportunity to take AP exams free of charge," said Governor Hogan. "We are excited to expand access to the AP program, which gives high school students the chance to pursue college-level studies, allows them to learn skills that are essential to college and career access, and provides students with an opportunity to save time and money through college placement and credit-granting policies."

*Press Release from Office of Gov. Larry Hogan*



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# Calvert Man Struck by Vehicle in St. Mary's

On December 14 at 6:15 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the area of Three Notch Road and Pegg Road in Lexington Park, for the reported motor vehicle collision involving a pedestrian. Upon arrival deputies determined a single vehicle had struck a pedestrian causing injury. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene and continued the investigation.

Preliminary investigation determined a 2004 Scion xB operated by Kyle Deven Shelnut, 20 of Drayden, was traveling southbound on Three Notch Road, and entered the right turn lane for Pegg Road. A pedestrian, later identified as Brandon Wayne Johnson, 28 of Chesapeake Beach, entered the vehicle's path of travel as he attempted to cross the southbound lanes of Three Notch Road. Johnson sustained incapacitating injuries and was transported via helicopter to an area trauma

center and remains in critical condition. Shelnut and his passenger, Jordan Michelle McLaughlin, age 21 of Ridge, were not transported from the scene.

Sheriff's officials say Johnson is in stable but critical condition.

At this time circumstances surrounding the collision remain under investigation. Anyone who witnessed the collision or events leading up to the collision is asked to contact Corporal Brian Connelly at (301) 475-4200 extension 8031 or by email at Brian.Connelly@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.

# Lexington Park Man Arrested for Felony Drug Possession

On December 11 the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Vice Narcotics Division with assistance from the Emergency Services Team (EST), K-9 Unit, and members of the Patrol Division executed a search and seizure warrant at a residence located in the 46400 block of Chapman Drive in Lexington Park. Thomas Emanuel Gross, 34 of Lexington Park, was located at the residence and found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected heroin and cocaine, indicating the intent to distribute. Gross was in possession of a handgun which he is prohibited from owning due to a prior felony conviction.

Gross was arrested and charged with the following:

- CDS: Possession With Intent to Distribute-Cocaine
- CDS: Possession With Intent to Distribute-Heroin
- Two counts of CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana
- Firearm-Possession- Crime of Violence With Felony Conviction

Gross remains incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no-bond status. Additional charges are pending review with the Office of the States Attorney for St. Mary's County.



Thomas Gross

# Sheriff's Office Investigating Shooting Incident in Lexington Park



On December 15, 2019, at approximately 2:30 a.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 46800 block of Rogers Drive in Lexington Park, for the report of shots fired. Investigation determined numerous shots were fired from a handgun and as a result several vehicles and one residence sustained damage. At this time, no injuries have been reported.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Daniel Sidorowicz at (301) 475-4200 extension \*8043 or by email at Daniel.Sidorow-

icz@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.

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Press Release



**Philip H. Dorsey III**  
*Attorney at Law*

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# Shop with a Cop 2019



Cpl. Angela Delozier helps out with Shop with a Cop 2019.



Multiple law enforcement agencies took part in Shop with a Cop this year, including Maryland State Police

On December 14, 2019, the Optimist Club partnered with the St. Mary's County Fraternal Order of Police, and the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, in hosting the 16th annual "Shop with a Cop" program.

Children nominated by St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS), police officers, and other agencies in the community, were picked up at their homes by local, state, and federal law enforcement officers, as well as members of the United States Coast Guard. The children then shopped with the officers at Walmart for themselves, family, or friends, and were treated to breakfast made by members of the Optimist Club

of St. Mary's County. The children were allotted money to shop with; the money comes from donations from private citizens and businesses throughout the county.

The "Shop with a Cop" program is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization consisting of members of the St. Mary's County Optimist Club and the St. Mary's County Fraternal Order of Police. This program is an all-volunteer program with no paid employees.

Due to the generous donations collected throughout the year, this year "Shop with a Cop" was able to take approximately 100 children shopping to spread Christmas joy.

# Forrest Center Breakfast with Santa



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# A Little Girl's Big Battle



Photo of Benefit Ball for Princess Malaun by Joshua Herbert

By Ceandra Scott  
Contributing Writer

One word...Beautiful! According to Marvin Briscoe, president of Pyramid Society Entertainment, "A community that came together as one for a little Princess who just beat cancer! Keep ringing the bell Princess Malaun! You are a hero to many people that are young and old. No matter what you face in life, keep ringing the bell!"

As I followed Malaun's story for the past two years battling cancer and seeing what the parents were going through, I pictured my daughter's going through the same thing. I thought to myself "What can we, as a community do to contribute to Malaun and her family?" She lives in Pittsburg but has fam-

ily in Calvert and St. Mary's counties, Yes, we know what the parents showed, but what about the things that were going on behind the scenes? The heartaches and the sacrifices that they had to make for their little Princess.. I prayed on it and God gave me a vision. I thought to myself 'We should have a Benefit Ball for Princess Malaun to show the community that if she can ring the bell with one of the hardest battles in life, they can too!'

With faith and love, you can overcome anything in life. Malaun already had the faith, but we just showed her that we cared as a community and we are glad that she is still with us. She is our real life superhero.

The benefit ball was held Dec. 8 at Southern Community Center in Lusby.

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**TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

# The Knowledge from 12,000 Dental Implants Placed Leads Marylanders to Healthier Smiles

**BY: JEFF TOMCSIK**  
Research Reporter

General dentist, Wayne L. O'Roark is one of the leading providers of comprehensive implant dentistry in Maryland. He is a clinical graduate instructor at the dental school at the University of Maryland. He is a Diplomate in both the American Board of Oral Implantology and the International Congress of Oral Implantologists. He has dedicated the past two decades to placing and restoring implants. Dr. O'Roark has successfully placed well over 12,000 implants since focusing his practice on this area of dentistry. Since 2006 he has been practicing out of Tidewater Dental in Lexington Park, Maryland and Tidewater Dental Solomons Island, Maryland.

**Tomcsik:** How did you get your start in Implant Dentistry?

**O'Roark:** Early on, when I got out of school I realized that the traditional prosthetics were not very good and I had the opportunity to listen to a lecture by one of the leaders in implant dentistry. From that I did extensive studying and incorporated implants in my general practice. I had experience in removable partial dentures, full dentures, crowns and bridges but I found none of them satisfied the need for replacement of a missing tooth or missing teeth, whether that be one tooth, a section of teeth, or a whole arch of teeth. The point is, it is important for these teeth and roots to be replaced to prevent bone loss. If you take the function away from bone by extracting a tooth, and you do nothing about it, you will lose bone and it will continue for a significant amount of time. If I can put that root back and keep the bone in function we will preserve the bone very nicely.

**Tomcsik:** What are you replacing the root with?

**O'Roark:** Most people don't have a good idea about what an implant is. So I like to call them root replacements. When you lose or remove a tooth you remove the crown, which is the part you see and the root which is under the gum and goes into the jawbone. What I do is

replace the root with my root; and my root is made out of titanium. Titanium has the incredible capacity to stimulate the bone to not only grow around it but to bond to it. Once you have integration, and bone biology requires ninety days for that to occur, you have a platform on which to build teeth or a tooth. This keeps the bone in function and helps to prevent loss of bone.

**Tomcsik:** Why replace a tooth with an implant rather than a bridge?

**O'Roark:** Conventional dentistry says, when you have a missing tooth, you put a cap on each tooth on either side of the open space and form a bridge over the gap where the missing tooth was. Well, in order to do this you must cut each healthy tooth down so that a prosthetic crown can fit over the existing teeth on each side of the space. You then have a fixed prosthetic bridge attached to each cap, filling the gap. So you've now involved two more teeth in the problem area by cutting them down to support the bridge. So what happens if one of the teeth used in making the bridge fails? Now the bridge fails and you have two missing teeth.

**Tomcsik:** So what you're saying is you now have two healthy teeth that you are compromising to fill the space of the one missing tooth...

**O'Roark:** Exactly. Now that's not wrong, but you must keep in mind that those teeth are being compromised and if something should go wrong with either of those teeth supporting the bridge you will lose the bridge too and now your problem is larger.

**Tomcsik:** So let me understand something. In a single tooth replacement you've given me two options. One is a single root replacement called an implant with a crown that integrates into the system. The other option is a bridge where you've cut two teeth and you've bridged the gap between them with just a crown with no root replacement. Give me, if you will, a ten year prognosis of the patient in both scenarios. What does the patient look like in scenario 1 and scenario 2 in ten years?

**O'Roark:** The life expectancy of a fixed bridge can be anywhere from ten to fifteen years. On the other hand, since you've not replaced the root the bone underneath will continue to deteriorate. If the bridge is lost or one of the abutments (teeth that hold the bridge) is lost or damaged then your problem gets bigger. In the case of the root replacement, I have implants that have been in function for well over thirty years.

**Tomcsik:** So those people don't have bone retention problems. The implant is enough support to keep the bone from disappearing?

**O'Roark:** It's not so much that the implant is a support for the bone. Bone doesn't like to be put out to pasture. It doesn't like to have nothing to do. And when its function has been taken away from it, it will disappear. And it will disappear rather dramatically. With an implant the bone remains in function and has the potential to last indefinitely. The first implant I ever put in place in 1971, remained in function, in the patient's mouth until she passed away in about 2004. I will not put a timeframe on how long they'll last because they literally have the potential to last indefinitely.

**Tomcsik:** When you talk about putting an implant into the jaw bone that sounds like a pretty elaborate surgery. Can you elaborate on that?

**O'Roark:** Actually, the surgery to place the implant is very nominal. It's relatively painless. I operate under local anesthesia and oral sedation if you wish. If I put the root replacement in this morning, you can go back to work this afternoon. There will be no stitches. There is virtually no swelling. There's generally no pain. There's no bleeding and the procedure is quite innocuous.

**Tomcsik:** The other major concern I imagine people having about implant dentistry is the cost. How does that compare to other options?

**O'Roark:** The simplest thing to do is compare one missing tooth implant to a three unit bridge as discussed earlier. The cost of the implant/crown combi-

nation is very comparable to the price of the three unit bridge. This amplifies the fact that the value of replacing that tooth with a root replacement, not only does not involve adjacent teeth but it is comparable to the cost of a three unit bridge. I consider that as a number one advantage of doing the implant over the bridge.

**Tomcsik:** I see a lot of ads for periodontists, oral surgeons, general dentist that all claim to place implants. How does one decide who to go to if they need to get an implant?

**O'Roark:** You can ask for referrals from your friends and family. You can ask your general dentist for a referral or you can go to The American Board of Oral Implantology. They are the premiere source for finding highly experienced doctors doing implants. They will list for you the board certified doctors doing implants today. It's important to know the specialist cannot do the restorative work, whereas the general dentist that restricts their practice to specializing in implants will place the implant and restore the prosthetics for the implants.

**Tomcsik:** So when a specialist provides a quote, they are just quoting the root replacement or implant and not the tooth replacement or crown?

**O'Roark:** That is largely true. That's a very good point. If you get a quotation from a specialist you must make sure that he is being clear that the price he is giving you is for the implant and not the prosthetic part. One of the things that I have tried to do is restricting my practice to placing implants and providing the prosthetics for about 15 years now and have incorporated into my general practice for at least 35 years now. The important thing is that the continuity from the implant through the placement of the prosthetic is all done by the same person. There is a lot to be said for that because I can design your implant placement to accept the prosthetic results that we want as an end result, especially in complex cases.

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## St. Mary's Holiday Lights



Nativity scene on Jones Wharf Road in Hollywood

## Airport Plans 50th Anniversary Celebration

The St. Mary's County Regional Airport is planning a series of events to celebrate 50 years of service to the community. The original airport properties were acquired in August 1968, construction was completed in 1969, and the Airport was in operation before the end of that year. 2020 will mark 50 years of operation.

Planned events include pilot safety forums, a taxiway 5k run, and several fly-in breakfasts. All events are free and will take place at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport located at 44200



Airport Road, California, MD. The kickoff event is Saturday, December 21, 2019 with a Holiday Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and a fly-in from Santa Claus at 10 a.m. John Deatrick, Director of Public Works and Transportation stated "The anniversary of the airport is a yearlong celebration to showcase this terrific facility and the all of the unique services, job

opportunities and learning environments available. St. Mary's County Regional Airport is more than a hub for transportation, it is rapidly becoming a center for community resources mirrored in the events we've put together to commemorate the 50th anniversary."

For more information on the airport, please visit [www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/airport-operations/](http://www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/airport-operations/) or contact Airport Manager, Allison Swint at 301-475-4200, ext. 73511.

*Press Release from  
St. Mary's County  
Government*

## Helpful Hooves Celebrates the Christmas Season



Santa and his elves along with Frosty the snowman, visited the Christmas dinner dance held at the Löffler Senior Center, Friday December 13, hosted by Helpful Hooves Equine Therapy LLC. and the Commission for Persons with Disabilities. Over 80 people attended the festive event. It was an evening of dinner, dancing and holiday fun.



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# St. Mary's Gets Its First Food Bank



Linda Lymas, holding scissors, cuts the ribbon on the Feed St. Mary's Food Bank Dec. 13.

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

There are more than 20 food pantries in St. Mary's County that help provide food to needy families but there has never been a locally operated food bank to supply those pantries; until now.

Dozens of supporters gathered at the Feed St. Mary's Food Bank, located along Great Mills Road at the U-Haul rental headquarters in Lexington Park, to celebrate the opening that was more than a year in the making.

The food bank represents a partnership between local churches, the county's Department of Economic Development, a local defense contractor, citizen supporters and the Lexington Park Rotary Club and its local sister organizations.

It will still be at least a month before the food bank begins making deliveries to the local pantries, said past president of the Lexington Park Rotary Club, Linda Lymas.

"We'll make our first delivery in January," Lymas said. "Sometime soon we'll have a grand opening."

County Commissioner Mike Hewitt, who attended the ribbon cutting for the food bank Dec. 13, said Lymas had long been in contact with him about how to get space for the food bank.

Hewitt said he was able to reach out to U-Haul and help convince them to provide the 3,000 square feet of space the project needed.

"I told them 'We need space and we need it for free and we need you to pay the utilities for about three to five years,'" Hewitt told those gathered at the nascent food bank on Signature Lane.

Hewitt was able to help work out the deal for a rent-free facility with paid utilities for Feed St. Mary's and the food bank is now weeks away from accepting its first delivery.

Regina Faden, current Lexington Park Rotary president and executive director at Historic St. Mary's City, said the project was Lymas' doing and that she was the force which drove it to its initial success.

Rotary Club presidents serve for one year each, Faden said.

The local club will have a presence on the board which runs the new food bank, Faden said, and will continue to support the endeavor.

But much depends on the community's response.

"We provided seed money," Faden told The County Times. "We hope the community will take it on and support it."

The food bank's main task is to take in food donations from the public and the Maryland Food Bank to distribute to local pantries.

Faden said the local food pantry would shorten the supply chain and help get more food, faster and in better quantities to the pantries, mostly located at community churches.

Tackling the issue of food insecurity, defined as lack of reliable access to sufficient amounts of nutritious and affordable food, is why the food bank became a serious project.

Faden said the food bank leadership would have to work hard to ensure it maintained its mission and its residence.

"U-Haul may rethink its donation," Faden said. "We're going to have to show we're going to do what we say we can do."

The space at Feed St. Mary's is currently empty but has some loading equipment and will feature shelf space for food items that don't need to be refrigerated.

A refrigeration unit as well as a freezer take up prominent positions in the space, though, to keep perishable items such as fresh meats.

Lymas said the year 2017, in which she served as Rotary Club president, was the year she became more familiar with the idea of food insecurity locally, not just in the Lexington Park area, but in areas all over St. Mary's County.

"I got to see first-hand the concerns about food insecurity," Lymas told The County Times. "We saw a study done by Leadership Southern Maryland on food insecurity for the Lexington Park Rotary Club... I volunteered at pantries and had a chance to interact with



Lymas shows George Hurlburt, left, and Commissioner Mike Hewitt the new freezer at the food bank.

people who were in need.

"This was the spark."

All of her research and outreach led her to seek out the leaders of local food pantries and soup kitchens, either associated with churches or operating on their own, to see what they saw in their fight to keep people fed.

She found that many who needed supplemental amounts of food were neither homeless, nor unemployed but working poor with restricted incomes.

They had to decide what to go without on limited resources, Lymas said.

The food pantry directors had their own problems, she said, which a local food bank could help solve.

Many of the meetings she had with these service providers were at the St. Inie's Coffee House in Lexington Park on Willows Road.

"They talked about all their problems, like having to go out of the county to get food and not having enough food for the people in need," Lymas said.

That same year the Rotary Club's chief fundraising event, the St. Mary's County Oyster Festival, was particularly successful, said Lymas, and the club voted to provide \$50,000 to start the bank.

End Hunger of Calvert County was instrumental in helping Feed St. Mary's find their way to starting the new food bank, Lymas said, which included gaining the cooperation of the Maryland Food Bank and its steady stream of donations.

Much work still needs to be done, Lymas said, as they prepare to accept their first orders the beginning of next year.

The local system will allow food pantries to go online and make their food orders which will then be delivered to the new food bank for pick up by workers at the various pantries.

January will give the food bank leadership a "trial run," Lymas said, to ensure their logistical plans work.

By February, she said, the food bank would begin bringing on more and more food pantries and soup kitchens to serve.

Between 2017 to the present, the effort to make the food bank a reality took many hands working quickly, she said.

"The team never stopped moving forward," Lymas said. "The most difficult part was to find a suitable location.

"We're starting small with the space we have." Lymas said the food bank is also looking for "startups," or others who are willing to form new food pantries in St. Mary's where no churches or soup kitchens exist.

"We think we're ready for a good, solid start," Lymas said. "We just wanted to give back to the community."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

# Mike's Bike's Holiday Food Drive Gets Helping Hand From Elk's Lodge



The local Elk's Lodge No. 2092 raised \$2,000 and collected 25 cases of food to assist Mike Schwartz of Mike's Bikes with his annual holiday meal delivery to the needy. Photo courtesy of Elk's Lodge #2092

# Maryland Deer Firearms Opening Day Harvest Up 29%



Maryland's firearm deer harvest was up this year.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced that hunters reported 8,061 deer taken on opening day of the 2019 Maryland firearm season, Nov. 30. This represents a 29% increase over last year's Saturday opener. The overall weekend harvest of 9,201 was down 9% from 2018 due to nearly non-stop rain and wind across the state on Sunday.

The harvest total includes 4,248 antlered and 4,953 antlerless deer, including 147 antlered and 126 antlerless sika deer. The two-week deer firearm season ran through Dec. 14.

"Rain once again plagued hunters this year for part of the opening weekend, but many hunters took advantage of a dry Saturday and were still able to put venison in the freezer," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto

said. "The strong antlerless harvest for the weekend is reassuring, and is vital for managing deer numbers in the state."

In St. Mary's County hunters harvested 175 on Saturday of the opening weekend and 208 on Sunday.

Hunters in Region A — Allegany, Garrett, and western Washington counties — harvested 878 antlered deer. Hunters in Region B — the rest of the state — harvested 3,370 antlered and 4,953 antlerless deer.

Junior hunters enjoyed excellent deer hunting weather and harvested 2,423 deer during the Junior Deer Hunt Days on November 16 – 17. The harvest was 12% higher than the official harvest of 2,164 last year. Juniors registered 1,471 antlered and 952 antlerless deer.

Maryland DNR Press Release

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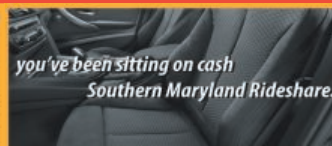
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# School Board Approves Threat Assessment Policy

By Dick Myers  
Editor

The St. Mary's County Board of Education has officially adopted a Threat Assessment Team Policy. The adoption at the board's Dec. 11 meeting was a requirement of the Maryland Safe to Learn Act of 2018.

Director of Safety and Security F. Michael Wyant and Director of Student Services Cheryl Long presented the policy for approval. It had originally been the topic of a Nov. 20 public hearing before the board.

According to Long, the purpose of the policy is "to establish procedures for the assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of the school staff and/or students."

A threat, she said, "is the expression of an intent to cause

physical harm to someone. The threat may be expressed, communicated behaviorally, orally, visually, and writing electronically or through any other means. It is to be considered a threat regardless of whether it is observed by or communicated directly to the target of the threat or observed by or communicated to a third party, and regardless of whether the target of a threat is aware of the threat. They may be direct or indirect."

She said a threat assessment is "a comprehensive process emphasizing an appraisal of observed or reasonably observable behaviors to identify potentially dangerous or violent situations to assess them and to manage and address them."

The team, she said, is "a multidisciplinary team of school personnel that will be convened to identify, evaluate

and address threats or potential threats to school safety or security." The team, she said, may also consist of members of other governmental agencies and law enforcement.

Student member Naggena Ohri wanted to know how the "See Something, Say Something" button in school was working. Wyant said, "It's absolutely the main way that we receive information and certainly we receive them in other fashions as well. Sometimes they go directly to the sheriff's office and they will call us. The whole concept of a multidisciplinary team is alive and well here in St. Mary's County."

School Board Vice Chairman Cathy Allen added, "That big blue button -- I need people to understand that if they report through that, it comes to appropriate staff, day or night, 24/7."



Karin Bailey was re-elected school board chairman at the Dec. 11 meeting.

Also at the meeting, the board approved acceptance of a "Safe School Grant" of \$284,673 from the state. This will be the third year of the grant and the monies for it were budgeted in anticipation of receiving it. The monies will be

used for: community counseling, the PREPare program, Conscious Discipline training, restorative practices training and the School Watch Program.

Board member Mary Washington wanted to know where the students had to go to receive the community counseling. Long said, "Right now we do have services in three of our schools, Lexington Park and Greenview Knolls Elementary, and Spring Ridge (middle school). We also have identified Green Holly, Park Hall and Carver as schools that would have students in there that we're looking to provide services." She said other schools can be added if the need is identified.

Also at the meeting, Karin Bailey was re-elected chairman and Allen vice-chairman.

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*

## CSM Offers Classes for Homeschooled Students Registration Now Open for Spring Semester Beginning January 24

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) is now providing special opportunities for homeschoolers during the school year.

Known for its outstanding Kids' and Teen College educational courses during the summer months, CSM is offering multiple fall and spring semester courses that are designed for kindergarten through 12th grade homeschooled students. The first classes were offered this fall semester, and registration is currently available for the spring semester, which starts Jan. 24.

"The Kids' and Teen College's Homeschooling pro-

gram saw a need in the community to provide homeschool students with opportunities to explore the fine arts, language arts and STEM courses in unique, fun and engaging ways on a college campus," said CSM Kids' and Teen College Youth Program Manager Tony Warrick, who supervises the new program.

Seventeen courses are being offered for the spring semester, including introductory courses for Early Learners (ages 5-6) on painting, music, science and technology. Classes for Elementary (ages 7-10) and Middle School (ages 11-14) include painting, physics,

coding and robotics and Spanish. Courses for High School (ages 14-17) include physics, Spanish, coding and robotics.

A Family Yoga for Homeschoolers class for ages 6-9 is also being offered as well as Basic Swimming for ages 6-14. All courses are held at the CSM's La Plata Campus.

For a list of available classes, visit [www.csmd.edu/kidscollege](http://www.csmd.edu/kidscollege).

"CSM is extremely excited about the new homeschooling program that has been developed," Warrick said. "It is giving young people exposure to their own local community college and everything thing that it has to offer. Our goal is to fill in the gap for the homeschool families and instill a lifelong love of learning."

Dr. Rachel Cezar-Martinez, who is an adjunct faculty member of CSM and a veterinarian, is one of the instructors who taught in the first semester of the homeschooling program. She taught two animal anatomy classes for the homeschoolers, one for 6- to 9-year-olds and the other for 10- to 14-year-olds.

"It has been a joy to teach the homeschool students about basic anatomy in humans and in animals," Cezar-Martinez said of her classes. "The students are very energetic and motivated."

Her classes met in the same lab where Cezar-Martinez teaches her veterinary assistant courses for the college. Her younger students in the new program had the chance to use an incubator to hatch chicken eggs among other activities.

"I am happy to see CSM expanding these types of opportunities to the community and even more excited I was able to be a part of this new beginning," Cezar-Martinez said.

Parents can register for the spring semester classes online by visiting [www.csmd.edu/KidsCollege](http://www.csmd.edu/KidsCollege) or by registering on campus. For more on the CSM Kids' and Teen College programs, email [awarrick@csmd.edu](mailto:awarrick@csmd.edu) or call 301-934-7645.

*Press Release from CSM*



CSM Adjunct Faculty Professor Dr. Rachel Cezar-Martinez, right, teaches animal anatomy to two students in the initial semester of CSM's homeschooling program.

# Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann  
Contributing Writer



## “The Spirit is weak”

The Christmas spirit in me was a little slow getting started this year, but I am in the spirit now. I guess all it took was watching a Charlie Brown Christmas last night while putting the second round of lights on the tree and starting the decorations. I can tell you that last night was much better than the previous night, which you know already if you are a friend of mine on Facebook. Originally, I was thinking that I would like the old type of C6 Christmas lights that we all grew up with strung on the tree this year. It was a nice thought. First of all, let me make a Public Service Announcement: Drinking wine while attempting to string lights on a Christmas tree should be avoided, due to dulling of brain and all (common) senses. PLEASE, never completely string the tree until you have plugged all strands of lights in first to make sure they operate. This is VERY important. Doing so could cause irreparable damage to your tree, to your Ho Ho Happiness, and to your marriage. Another good idea is to maybe ask a salesperson, as you snatch up those half off lights after Christmas, if you could please plug them in somewhere in the store before you buy them.



So, last night, after I ripped off all the C6 strand which only lit for half of their strands, I decided to just put on the white min-lights we already had. And of course, I thought we had enough, but ran out about one foot from the bottom. UGH, back to the store, though I did make a thorough search through all the Christmas boxes before we left. We bought two more boxes of mini-lights – just in case. I wish I would listen to my own advice. Another PSA: Check to see whether you have strung your tree with LED mini-lights or the old, regular lights. Also check whether they are bright white or warm white. Yes, you guessed it. The lights we strung were bright white LED mini-lights and we bought warm white regular mini-lights. So now the bottom part of our tree is warm white with a huge area on the back side where I just crammed in the last few feet of lights in frustration. Then I thought, well we did get two boxes just in case, so I opened the second box to add in the warm white lights behind the bright whites to even the look out, when what to my wondering

eyes should appear? NO lights! The second strand was dead! Ohhhh, razzin, frazzin, fricken, fracken....I really get Yosemite Sam now.

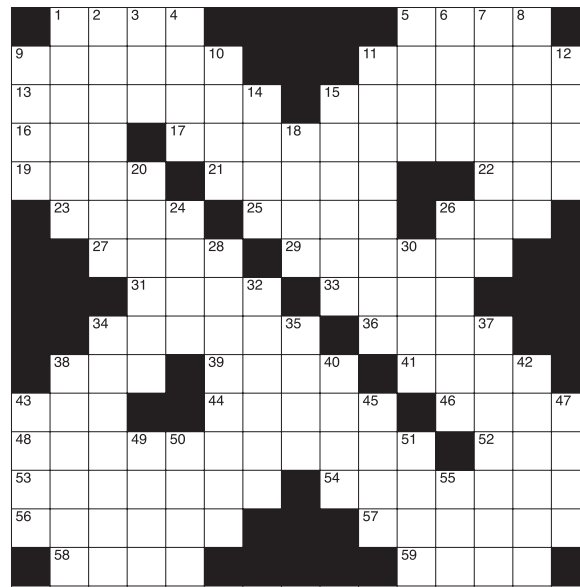
I suppose another trip to the store is in order with the box of dead lights for an exchange. At this point, I might just leave the tree the way it is, or it might look good outside. It wouldn't be my tree if something wasn't wrong with it. Last night, and without wine, but with a late night cup of coffee, I had at least covered the tree in strung beads. Now it looks like a fancy wedding cake. I bet by tonight though the tree will be so covered with glittered pinecones, ornaments, and maybe even some tinsel if I can find it, that no one will notice this area of warm light. I've got it! I will have to wrap Christmas presents early and set them over on that side of the tree. I can change my Christmas Eve wine and wrapping evening to an earlier wino and wrap-it-up evening. Perfect.

I am getting happy again, getting the spirit back. Yes, I think I will get it finished tonight. Why is this so hard for me? I know what will make it easier. While I am out, I am going to find Charlie Brown's Christmas on DVD and play it all night tonight. Oh, never mind, I still can't operate the DVD.

To each new day's adventure,  
Shelby

Please send your ideas  
or comments to:  
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# Fun & GAMES



### CLUES ACROSS

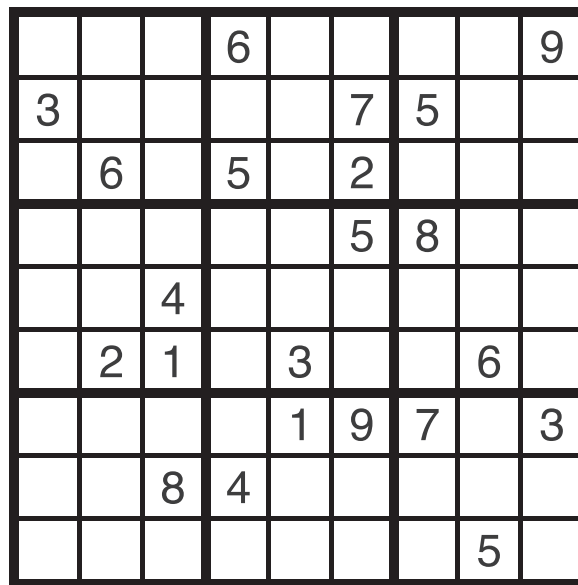
- 1. No longer on the market
- 5. W. African language
- 9. A way to open
- 11. A type of pigeon
- 13. Japanese warrior
- 15. Pelvic areas
- 16. No seats available
- 17. Not working
- 19. In a way, soaks
- 21. Growing outward
- 22. Ritzy local \_\_\_ Air
- 23. Telegraphic signals
- 25. Metric units

- 26. Large wine cask
- 27. Fiber from the husk of a coconut
- 29. Gets up
- 31. French river
- 33. Witnesses
- 34. They make great neighbors
- 36. The sun does it
- 38. Used to store ashes
- 39. First Chinese dynasty
- 41. Network of nerves
- 43. Word element meaning ear
- 44. Metric unit of length

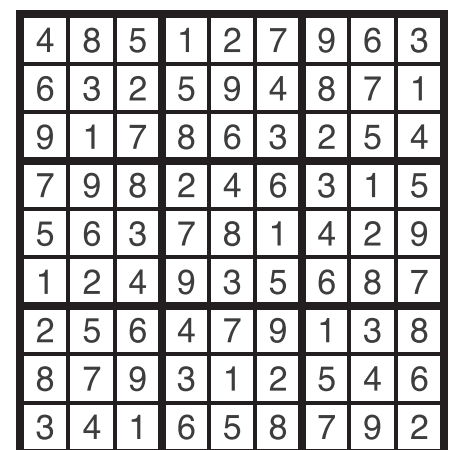
- (Brit.)
- 46. Tributary of the Danube
- 48. Off-limits
- 52. Appeal earnestly
- 53. It's good to have them
- 54. Commercial flying company
- 56. Acted out in protest
- 57. Took to the sea
- 58. Cuckoos
- 59. Drove fast

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Trapped
- 2. About osmosis
- 3. Romanian monetary unit
- 4. Form of Persian
- 5. Cold wind
- 6. Leave out
- 7. Small vehicle
- 8. A little off
- 9. Soviet Union
- 10. A narrow path or road
- 11. Contrary beliefs
- 12. One who speaks Gaelic
- 14. Private school in New York
- 15. Jackson and Townshend are two
- 18. Soldier in an airborne unit
- 20. Taken illegally
- 24. Capital of Valais
- 26. Male reproductive organs
- 28. State capital
- 30. One with supernatural insight
- 32. Starts all over again
- 34. Jai alai arena
- 35. Star Wars antagonist
- 37. Freestanding structure
- 38. The ideal place
- 40. The extended location of something
- 42. Made level
- 43. Distinctive smell
- 45. Greek goddess of discord
- 47. Got older
- 49. Type of monkey
- 50. Travels to
- 51. Geological times
- 55. Edge



### LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS





# PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

# News

## Joint Team Solves Engine Integration Issues for CH-53K King Stallion

Industry and government engineers have mitigated an ongoing engine integration issue for the CH-53K King Stallion – the new heavy-lift helicopter from Sikorsky for the United States Marine Corps.

This “tiger team” of experts from a variety of engineering backgrounds came together to find and optimize aircraft modifications using state-of-the-art computational modeling methodologies, risk management, flight test data and Systems Engineering tools.

“Bringing together the tiger team exemplifies the importance and purpose of an integrated test team,” said Col. Jack Perrin, PMA-261 program manager, heavy lift helicopter program office. “It was great to see the team turn the corner for the program and produce a resolution to an ongoing problem. This was a priority for NAVAIR, industry and the Marine Corps, and the team hit it out of the park,” he said.

The program office oversees both the CH-53E Super Stallion, which is currently in use by the Marine Corps, as well as the new CH-53K.

The CH-53K King Stallion is the premier heavy-lift helicopter ever built by the United States government. It is an all-new heavy-lift helicopter that will expand the fleet’s ability to move more material more rapidly. That power comes from three new General Electric T-408 engines, which are more powerful and more fuel efficient than the T-64 engines currently outfitted on the CH-53E.

According to Debbie Cleavenger, PMA-261 assistant program manager engineering and the program office’s chief engineer, three engines created several integration issues, including the most troublesome - exhaust gas re-ingestion (EGR).

“EGR occurs when the hot engine gasses are ingested back into the system,” explained Cleavenger. “It can cause anything from increased life-cycle costs, poor engine performance and degradation, time-on-wing decreases, engine overheating and even engine stalls.”

The tiger team’s work began in April 2019, with experts in Engine Performance; Computational Fluid Dynamics; Modeling and Simulation; Materials; Structures; Logistics; Systems Safety; Reliability and



Colored oil smoke indicates rotor wake and wind effects while external “tufts” adhere to the outside of the CH-53K King Stallion showing surface airflow.

Maintainability; Flight Test; and Fire Protection and Survivability completing more than 30 test events and evaluating 135 potential design solutions for engine integration.

“The systems constraints were significant,” said Cleavenger. “One change impacted multiple systems.”

Team members worked different root cause analyses in parallel, determining the cause and developing design models to mitigate causes for EGR. From those models, iterative flight testing resulted in a validated model to assess the most promising answer.

That model was then used to construct components

for one of the test aircraft that flew a rigorous series of test flights to collect data to validate the model. The extensive set of flight test data was then condensed, analyzed and presented in December 2019 to show that the result performed as predicted and provided an overall design modification that would meet the needs for fleet aircraft.

“This is exactly what an integrated test team is supposed to do,” said Perrin. “Bring their expertise to a project, look for resolutions in a dynamic and collaborative environment, determine the best path forward and keep this aircraft on track to the fleet.”

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## St. Mary's to Switch Athletic Conferences



St. Mary's College of Maryland will join the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC), beginning the 2021-22 academic year. Founded in 2004, The NEAC is an intercollegiate athletic conference affiliated with the NCAA's Division III. Member institutions, comprised of public and private institutions, are located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States.

"We are excited to welcome St. Mary's College to the NEAC as a full member beginning Fall 2021. Throughout the application process, it was evident that St. Mary's College of Maryland is dedicated to providing its student-athletes with a well-rounded, high-quality Division III experience. We felt strongly that the ideals of St. Mary's College and its vision for the future aligned with that of our membership. The addition also allows our league to solidify a southern anchor with Gallaudet University and we are confident St. Mary's College will play a key role in our continued efforts to elevate the profile of the NEAC," said NEAC Interim Commissioner Stephanie Dutton.

The NEAC's Presidents' Council and Board of Athletic Directors voted unanimously to approve the application for conference membership from St. Mary's College. The Seahawks will join core members Gallaudet University, Lancaster Bible College, Penn College, Penn State Abington, Penn State Berks, Penn State Harrisburg, SUNY Morrisville, and Wells College in 2021-22.

"I am excited about this opportunity and believe our high-quality student-athletes will make an exceptional addition to the league," said Tuajuanda C. Jordan, president of St. Mary's College. "Academically, we will be among the strongest schools in the conference. Athletically, our student-athletes will be in the upper echelon of the majority of the sports we play. And, philosophically, the schools align very well with the core values of our athletics department: excellence, humility, legacy, teamwork, and integrity."

Davie Gilmour, president of Penn College and of the NEAC presidents' council chair, said "The NEAC is very pleased to have St. Mary's College of Maryland join our conference. The College's level of dedication from Dr. Jordan and the athletics staff, combined with the strong focus on the student-athlete and the values of Division III athletics make them an ideal member for us."

"St. Mary's College looks forward to renewing rivalries with schools such as Gallaudet University and Penn State Harrisburg and forging new rivalries with additional schools in the conference," said Scott Devine, director of athletics and recreation at St. Mary's College.

Joining the NEAC will allow St. Mary's College student-athletes to continue to compete for conference championships and automatic bids into the NCAA Tournament, while expanding the geographic footprint of the St. Mary's College athletics' program into new areas. The Seahawks will compete in 15 of the NEAC's 18 sports.

Dutton added, "I'd like to thank Dr. Tuajuanda Jordan, Scott Devine, Jim Cranmer and the entire athletics staff for their sincere commitment throughout the membership process. We look forward to a future that includes St. Mary's College and are eager to begin collaborating with the Seahawks staff as we continue to chart a new course for the NEAC."

Press Release from SMCM

## Best Christmas Gift is Travel

Are you missing that WOW gift to give someone special this Christmas? They say memories last a lifetime, so this holiday why not give your special someone or your family a trip they'll never forget? Vacations produce memories that last a lifetime, which makes the gift of travel one of the most meaningful ones you can give.

The gift of travel will last way longer than anything you might buy. Just think back to when you were a child and try to remember every toy you were given at Christmas. Can you remember each one? I have a feeling that you do remember the family vacations.

This year, you can give a vacation instead of Christmas gifts! It's something your whole family will remember forever. You can give your spouse or special someone the WOW gift of travel when you plan a romantic trip for two to a couples-only, all-inclusive resort in the Caribbean. Imagine the excitement when he or she finds out that you planned this especially for her! It will not matter that the trip is several months away because they will have time to prepare and plan every detail. The anticipation of such a trip will keep them remembering that WOW gift under the tree for months.

If you want to plan something right away, there are several "last minute options" with huge savings during the first three weeks of January. For instance, Sandals Resorts (couples-only) and Beaches Resorts (for families), is offering last minute deals on three to four-night vacations with ONE NIGHT FREE. You can easily extend the vacation to more nights. Plus, there are some great deals this year on cruises in January that you can still take advantage of.

If you are worried about how you are going to pay a trip now, Dream Vacations has a brand-new financing option to help you pay for the trip.

This new option is just like a credit card and once approved, your entire trip is completely paid, and you will have twelve months to pay for the vacation! If you are giving the gift of travel later next year or even next Christmas, you can make a small deposit now and make the final payment forty-five days before your travel.

When you give your family/spouse the surprise gift of travel, you give them a Christmas to remember. The absolute best part is unveiling the surprise and there are so many creative ways to give them the vacation of their dreams. You can give them gifts that they can use while on the trip. That will surely leave them puzzled when they unwrap gifts like new luggage, sunglasses, beach towels or suntan lotion. You could also wrap their passport, a puzzle, pocket size calendar with travel dates or simply wrap up the travel documents that your travel agent has prepared for you. There are so many clever and fun ways to unveil this big surprise and I suggest having your phone close so that you can videotape their reaction.

As a Travel Agent, I have enjoyed hearing the stories about unveiling the surprise gift of travel. My favorite story from 2019 is for a "couples-trip" in 2020 that the husband planned for his wife over two years ago. He told me that his wife had always wanted to go to a Sandals Resort and that this would be their first vacation in 20 years without the three children. The anticipation of the surprise reveal was making me anxious since I helped him plan this so long ago. I prepared their travel documents and gave him suggestions on the romantic ways that he could reveal this "once in a lifetime" celebration. In August, they celebrated their 19th Anniversary so he took her to dinner at one of the restaurants in Solomon's Island. As she explored a

beautiful decorative box with seashells with the words, "all you need is love", she was curious about the gifts of sunglasses, flip flops, beach towels and a bottle of wine. When she picked up the folder that contained their travel documents, he bent down on one knee and asked her, "will you marry me again?" He opened a box that contained a new diamond ring for her. She opened the folder with the travel documents to see that he was taking her to Sandals Royal Caribbean in Montego Bay, Jamaica for their 20th Anniversary! She was thrilled beyond belief and there was one more surprise. He had already scheduled a "Retie the Knot" (vow renewal) at the resort! Most of this reveal was captured on video and it heart-warming for me to be able to see this surprise reveal.

My favorite surprise "family" vacation story is the family who was taking their two boys to Disney just after Christmas. They had both children open a huge cardboard box and inside were Disney balloons with a sign attached that announced the upcoming trip in two weeks! They were two happy and surprised little boys. Of course, all of this was captured on video.

The happiest people may be the ones who understand that experiences and memories are greater than things. Not only are vacations good for your physical health, but you will have time to bond and grow together as a couple or as a family. There's more and more evidence that people who vacation feel healthier and happier. It makes us feel alive again, which is exactly what they're meant to do.

By Jeneva Lucianetti  
Certified Sandals Wedding Specialist  
Owner & Vacation Specialist at  
Paradise Travel Team



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# St. Mary's College Athletics Director to Retire

Scott Devine, director of athletics and recreation, will retire at the end of the 2020 school year. President of St. Mary's College of Maryland Tuajuanda C. Jordan made the announcement.

"I am incredibly grateful for the vision and hard work Scott has put into the St. Mary's College athletics department," said Jordan. "For 20 years, Scott has poured his heart and soul into the College, overseeing the evolution of the athletics department operation, increasing programs and assembling a menu of truly outstanding D-III facilities. He has secured an invitation for the College to join the North Eastern Athletic Conference

before his departure, effectively ensuring the future of Seahawk Athletics for many years to come."

"It has been one of the great pleasures and professional experiences of my life to have served as director of athletics and recreation at St. Mary's College of Maryland for two decades," said Devine. "What stands out as I reflect on my career in college athletics are the amazing student athletes, coaches, staff members, and professional colleagues within the NCAA that I have been able to work with and form relationships with. I feel so fortunate for the overall experience of addressing challenges and celebrating successes through team-



Scott Devine, director of athletics and recreation, speaking during the dedication of the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium.

work and collegiality, and not many people get to have a career like that."

Devine was hired at St. Mary's College on July 1, 2000, as the director of athletics and recreation. He has spent an incredible 35 years of service in college athletics administration, with five years at NCAA D-I UMass Amherst and 10 years at NCAA D-I Tulane University, before spending the last 20 years at NCAA D-III St. Mary's College.

Thanks to Devine, St. Mary's College can now boast to having some of the best NCAA D-III small school athletic facilities in the mid-Atlantic region. Devine has overseen the complete rebuilding of the St. Mary's College athletics and recreation facility menu, which includes the Hawk's Nest Baseball Park (2000), the Somerset Seahawk Tennis Complex (2001), the Michael P. O'Brien Athletics and Recreation Center renovation (2005-06), the Mattapan practice fields featuring two Bermuda surfaces (2005), and the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium (2018-19). He successfully implemented a "student-run" model of operating the Michael P. O'Brien Athletics and Recreation Center, which currently generates over \$150,000 a year in contracted outside user group events.

With the addition of men's and women's cross country and men's and women's rowing, he has overseen the addition of four new varsity sports, from 15 in 2000 to 19 today, serving more than 95 student athletes. Seahawk athletic teams have led the Capital Athletic Conference in academic performance nine out of the last 12 years. His latest accomplishment is leading the membership application process to secure an invitation to join the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) beginning in the fall of 2021.

He currently is the most senior athletic director in the Capital Athletic Conference with 19 years of league service, serving as CAC treasurer for two of those years. He was elected as one of two college athletic directors in the state of Maryland to serve as an adviser to the executive committee of the Maryland High School Athletic Directors from 2015-16.

Passionate about family, he has been married to the former Karen Germano for the last 35 years and together they have two children, Kelli Laracy and Kaitlin Devine, and five grandchildren: Gregory, Mary, Philip, Timothy, and Andrew Laracy.

Michael Wick, provost and vice president of academic affairs, will lead the effort to identify the new athletic director through a national search in spring 2020.

Press Release from SMCM

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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 guyleonard@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

# In Remembrance

## Patricia Ann Graves



Patricia Ann Graves, 87, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on December 12, 2019 at Hospice House of Charles County. Born on August 10, 1932 in Benedict,

MD, she was the daughter of the late Harry A. Shorter, Sr. and Pearl E. (Hitch) Shorter.

Patricia graduated from St. Mary's Academy, Leonardtown, MD in 1950. She later married her beloved husband, Walter Z. Graves, on November 25, 1950. As lifelong residents of Mechanicsville, MD, they welcomed four children and shared a celebrated life together for nearly 50 years until his passing in 2000.

Patricia worked as a teacher's assistant for St. Mary's County Public Schools and retired in 1993 after 26 years of service. She was a devout Catholic and devoted parishioner of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Mechanicsville, MD for over 60 years.

Patricia is survived by her children: Marilyn A. Montgomery, Lawrence A. Graves (Marlene), Donna J. Wood (Ronnie), and Kenneth W. Graves (Rodie). She is also survived by five grandchildren (Jessica, Jennifer, Josh, David and Zack) and six great-grandchildren (Joslyn, Cameron, Jordyn, Caleb, Alanna and Jacob). In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Harry A. Shorter, Jr., and infant granddaughter, Stephanie L. Wood.

The family will receive friends for Visitation on Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 10:00am to 11:00am at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Mechanicsville, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00am with Reverend Michael Tietjen officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Gardens, 3221 Mattawoman Beantown Rd., Waldorf, MD 20601. Serving as pallbearers will be Rayner Blair, Josh Graves, Zack Graves, Laurence Moeller, Glen Rollins and David Wood.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Hospice of Charles County, 2505 Davis Rd., Waldorf, MD 20603 or Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 28297 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com)

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

## Clara Jane Carter Saunders



Clara Jane Carter Saunders, 80, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away at Med-Star Franklin Square Medical Center, Baltimore, MD on December 8, 2019 surrounded by family.

Born on August 19, 1939 in Alton, VA, she was the daughter of the late Charlie Carter and the late Lillian Edwards Carter.

Jane was married to Dewey Lawrence "Sonny" Saunders on June 13, 1959 and shared 47 years of marriage until Sonny's passing in 2006.

Jane worked for the Federal Government for over 30 years when she retired as Staff Assistant to the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1995.

Mom loved God, her family and friends. She was born and raised on a farm in Alton, VA, number nine of ten children. She had many fond memories and often shared stories of growing up on the farm. She was raised in the Baptist Church and continued to be a very active member throughout her life. She was on various committees, taught Sunday School and every year during Vacation Bible School. She loved spending her time with family and friends, reading and learning all she could about the Bible, making delicious treats, crafting, crocheting, and sharing her hand made gifts.

Mom lived her life with grace, love and kindness. She always started each day with the Lord in her heart and a cup of coffee and ended each day still with the Lord, but replaced her coffee with a handful of Cheetos. She was a beautiful woman, an amazing Mother and Grandmother who taught us all what it meant to love and love unconditionally. We take comfort and know that the gates to heaven flung open wide when she arrived. We are blessed unmeasurably to have been able to call you Mom, Grandma, Friend and Sunshine. We LOVE YOU MORE!!!

Jane is survived by her children, Susan Stymiest and William "Billy" Saunders and son-in-law Glenn Stymiest and daughter-in-law Jennifer Saunders; her siblings, Thomas Carter, Mary Ellen Goss, Jack Carter, Hilda Nostrandt, and Jimmy Carter. Also surviving are her four grandchildren, Christopher Stymiest, William Saunders, Jr, Victoria Stymiest and Nicholas Saunders. She was preceded in death by her husband Dewey, her parents, Charlie and Lillian Carter and her siblings, Aubrey Carter, Sarah Calvert, Charles Carter, Mildred Wilson.

Visitors will also be received on December 19, 2019 from 11:30am to 12:00pm at Hughesville Baptist Church with a Funeral Service following at 12:00pm Senior Pastor Derek Yelton and Pastor Kevin Cullins officiating. Interment will follow at Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623 where Jane will be laid to rest next to her beloved husband. Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com)

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

## Mary Kathryn Carter



Mary Kathryn Carter, 86, of Hollywood, MD, passed away Friday, December 13, 2019 at Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home in Charlotte Hall, MD, with her family at

her side.

She was born on December 11, 1933 in Alderson, West Virginia to the late Cecil Edgar Shires and Okey Ora Meadows.

Mary is a graduate of Hinton High School in West Virginia. She was married to her beloved husband, Kenneth C. Carter for almost 58 wonderful years until his passing in 2010. She was devoted to her husband, who loved her dearly and enjoyed spoiling his princess. She was a loving mother of 4 whom she en-

joyed spending time with; family always came first. She was very athletic and was an avid golfer. She was a long time member of Breton Bay Golf and Country Club. She was a socialite and enjoyed travelling, especially with her sister to Europe and Hawaii. She had an extensive doll collection. She was a long time member of First Saints Community Church, St. Paul's Campus.

She is survived by her children: Stephen Paul Carter of Norfolk, VA, Rebecca "Becky" Bogie of Hollywood, MD, and Lisa Elizabeth Goldsborough (Dale) of Hollywood, MD; her grandchildren: Michael Lee Hurry, Jeff Anthony Albright, Benjamin Charlton, Corey Nicholas Higgs Carter, Olivia Katherine Goldsborough, and Chase Manning Goldsborough; her great grandchildren: Isaiah Miller, Jalen Hurry, Deziray Hurry, Kacira Hurry, and Halo Hurry; and many extended family and friends. In addition to her parents and husband, she is also preceded in death by her daughter, Mary Carol Hurry, and her siblings: Abe Shires, Maria Johnson, Ervin Shires, Paul Shires, and Pat Shires.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. with Pastor Chris Owens presiding. Interment will follow at First Saints Community Church Cemetery, 25550 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Servings as pallbearers will be Michael Hurry, Benjamin Albright, Corey Higgs

Carter, Chase Goldsborough, and Pat Goldsborough.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Maryland, 10665 Stanhaven Place, Suite 205D, White Plains, MD 20695.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

## Bruce Alan Wilhelm



Bruce Alan Wilhelm, Colonel, US Army (Ret.), 64 of Swan Point, MD and Great Mills, MD, passed away on December 11, 2019 at home in Swan Point surrounded by his

family after a 6 month battle against cancer. Bruce will forever be in our hearts; loved and cherished and respected for the grace, bravery and integrity he showed through this debilitating ordeal.

Bruce was born on July 17, 1955 in Baltimore, MD to Anna Stoffa Wilhelm (deceased) and William James Wilhelm, of Dundalk, MD. Bruce graduated from Dundalk High School in 1973 and the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, NY in 1978 with a degree in aeronautical engineering and his initial helicopter qualifications.

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He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. After completing Airborne School, the Officer's Basic Course and serving in the Transportation Corps supporting Special Operations, Bruce obtained his attack helicopter transition and went to Maintenance Test Pilot School and the Advanced Officers Course. During this period he tested over 11 different types of aircraft and transitioned to Apache helicopters.

Bruce left active duty in 1986 with an Honorable Discharge as a Captain and relocated to Annapolis, MD where he worked for AIRINC. In 1996, Bruce accepted a position as a civilian with the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) and moved with his family to California, MD. Bruce's last position was Director, Industrial Business Operations for NAVAIR which he held until the time of his death. In that role, he led the efforts of a multifunctional team of NAVAIR, Navy, and Joint Force employees to formulate plans and policy to implement overarching strategies affecting industrial operations, capability assessments, industrial source of repair decisions and depot-level posturing decisions.

Bruce continued his military service in the reserve components, 15 years in the Maryland National Guard and 6 years in a US Army Reserve Unit in Richmond Va. for a total of 30 years, retiring as a Colonel in 2008. During his tours in the reserves, he traveled to Somalia and Afghanistan in support of military operations. Bruce received 33 military awards during the course of his career, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Joint Command Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters. He was recognized for his significant and long-term contributions in the promotion of Army Aviation by being presented the Silver Order of St. Michael Award by the Army Aviation Association of America.

Bruce loved music, riding his motorcycle in years past, spending time with Diana after they met in 2013, fishing with his family, and had been an avid member of the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishing Association.

Bruce is survived by his loving daughter, Anna V. Wilhelm who so cherished his love, and was with him every step of the way through this incredibly hard chapter, so unselfish in her love in providing him compassion and dignity in his final months, and by his loving son, William H. William (partner

Corrin Griffith) of Rising Sun, MD., by his wife, Diana L. Havenner of Swan Point, MD., father, William J. Wilhelm & brothers, William "Billy" Wilhelm, and Phillip J. Wilhelm (Bonnie) all of Machipongo, VA., father-in-law, John "Jack" Havenner of Swan Point, MD, his prior spouse and mother to Anna and William, Emily Harman of Staunton, VA, his step-daughter, Brittani Croft (Dustin) and their children, Weston and Hayden, and step-son John-Brooks "JB" Bowling, both of SC, nephews Alex Wilhelm (Emily), John Wilhelm (Christina), nieces Ola Wilhelm, Yana Wilhelm, and Victoria Wilhelm, as well as a large close-knit family of uncles, aunts and cousins, many of whom are members of the Surotchak and Stoffa families in Pennsylvania.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Brinsfield Funeral Home, 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, Md. 20622 on 20 December 2019, with a Memorial Gathering from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Prayers with Eulogies at 4:30 p.m. Interment will be at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Bruce's memory to the Folds of Honor Foundation, Department 13, Tulsa, OK 74182 or online at [www.foldsofhonor.org](http://www.foldsofhonor.org).

All arrangements being made at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

### Patricia Ann "Annie" Gaston

Patricia Ann "Annie" Gaston, 75 of California, MD passed away on December 11, 2019 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

Annie was born on March 16, 1944 in Florida. She was a hard working woman who could be found working around the family farm and later on as a painter for the government for 20 years. She married her loving husband Richard Larry "Rich" Gaston in March of 1967 in Millington, TN. They were married 48 years before his passing in November of 2015. Annie and Rich cherished spending time with their family and friends. Annie was an excellent cook and loved hosting gatherings and entertaining where she could share her many delicious dishes. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her.

She is survived by her children, Cheryl Ann Walker, Son-in-law Scott Walker of Bushwood, MD and Richard Larry Gaston

II of California, MD; and one grandchild Hannah Elizabeth Walker. She is preceded in death by her husband, Richard Larry Gaston, and granddaughter Jessica Renee Walker.

All services will be private.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Rosemary Eileen Gray



Rosemary Eileen Gray, 84 of California, MD passed away on December 10, 2019 at Hospice House of St. Mary's with her family at her side.

She was born on July 19, 1935 in Rocky Grove, PA to the late Calvin A. Mouck and Mary Ewing Mouck.

In August 1958 Rosemary married her beloved husband, Clair E. Gray in Meadville, PA. Together they celebrated over 57 wonderful years of marriage before his passing in September 2015. She was employed as the owner of Alternative Business Solutions until her retirement in 2001, when she sold the business. She was a delicious cook and enjoyed hosting family dinners. She supported her husband at steam engine and tractor shows, where he displayed and sold his wood crafts and honey, as he was a bee keeper. Her hobbies included painting, both acrylic and watercolor, wood burning art, reading mysteries, and sewing. She was the past president of the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary in Saegertown, PA.

Rosemary is survived by her children: Michael Gray (Nancy) of Saunterstown, RI, Amanda Trick (Lawrence) of Hollywood, MD, and John Gray (Monica) of Sicklerville, NJ; seven grandchildren: Colin Gray, Kevin Gray, Keenan Gray, David Trick, Melissa Trick, Elizabeth Gray, and Jessica Gray; and many extended family and friends. In addition to her parents and husband, she is also preceded in death by her brothers: Robert, George and Paul Mouck.

A Graveside Service will be held at a later date at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Condolences may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD.

### Anna May Herriman Richardson



Anna May Herriman Richardson, 88, of Leonardtown, MD passed away on December 8, 2019 at Chesapeake Shores Nursing Center.

Born in Washington, D.C. on February 6, 1931, she was the daughter of to the late Albert Herriman and Anna May Davis.

Anna was a lifelong resident of Southern Maryland. It was here that she met and married the love of her life, LeRoy Roger Richardson. Together they spent over 64 wonder-

ful years together, building a life and a family, until his passing on April 25, 2015. Anna loved volunteering at St. Andrews Episcopal Church and dedicated many years to the well-being of that church. She was an active member of her church community where she ran the Thrift Shop for 35 years and was a member of the Women's Club of St. Mary's County. In her free time, Anna liked to garden and absolutely loved spending time with her family and her cats.

Anna is survived by her children: Steven Wayne Richardson (Janet) of Hollywood, MD, David Brian Richardson of Leonardtown, MD and Ellen Leigh Whitehouse (Rick) of Great Falls, along with many extended family and friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, she is preceded in death by her son LeRoy Roger Richardson III and her two brothers, Richard Herriman and Melvin Herriman.

Family will receive friends for a Life Celebration Visitation on Friday, December 20, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Rd. Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will take place on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 44078 St. Andrews Church Rd. California, MD 20619. Interment will immediately follow in the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Andrews Church, 44078 St. Andrews Church Rd. California, MD 20619.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Richard Samuel Quigg, Jr.



Richard Samuel Quigg, Jr. "Rick", 53, of Leonardtown, MD passed away on December 15, 2019. Richard was born on March 29, 1966, and was the loving son of Vivian & Rudolph

Worch and the late Richard Samuel Quigg, Sr. He was the loving fiancé of Renee Reining. Richard survived by his children Lauren Oliver (Nick) of Alexandria, VA, Brady Quigg of Baltimore, MD, and Colin Quigg of Towson, MD, 1 grandchild: Camden Oliver. As well as his brother, Jay Worch (Jayne) and their children Carley and Tommy of Drayden, MD.

Richard was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, MD and graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1984. He attended University of Maryland and received his Bachelor Degree in Business in 1988. Richard was the VP of Sales Eastern Division for Kurin.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 5:00 PM to 8:00PM and prayers at 7:00PM in the Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 10:00AM at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Leonardtown, MD with Father David Beaubien officiating. Interment will follow at Charles Memorial Gardens in Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Kevin McCleaf, Tim McCleaf, Keith Bridgewater, and Dave Squillante.

Contributions can be made to Hospice of



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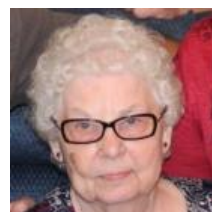
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St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or the National Brain Tumor Society at [www.braintumor.org](http://www.braintumor.org).

**Gertrude M. Hammett**



Gertrude M. Hammett, "Gerty", 84 of Waldorf, MD formerly from St. Mary's County, MD passed away on December 15, 2019 in Berlin, MD. She was born on January

24, 1935 in Oakley, MD and was the loving daughter of the late Carrie Frances Graves Farrell and Charles B. Farrell. Gerty was the loving wife of the late Daniel Ignatius Hammett, who she married on February 27, 1954 in Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bushwood, MD and whom he preceded her in death on October 27, 2013. Gerty is survived by her son Robert D. Hammett of Ocean City, MD, Donald E. Hammett (Bonnie) of Shady Side, MD, Tammy M. Ashworth of Waldorf, MD 5 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Siblings Marie Lamm, Charles Farrell, Jr. and Melvin Farrell. She was preceded in death by her brother Edward Farrell.

She graduated from Margaret Brent High School in 1952. Gerty was a homemaker, mom, and wife. She loved watching the Washington Nationals and Washington Capitals. Along with making crafts, going to the casino, and spending time with family.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM with prayers recited at 7:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM in Sacred Heart Catholic Church Bushwood, MD with Father Samuel Plummer officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be Eric Hammett, Aaron Felton, Arleen Godfrey, Daniel Hammett, Brittany Felton, and Jeff Farrell.

**Joan Mercedes Polko**



After a long fight, Joan Mercedes Polko, beloved mother and grandmother, lost her battle with cancer on December 13, 2019, at the age of 84 years young. She passed

away peacefully at home, surrounded by her four children. Born April 29, 1935 in Clairton, PA, she was the loving daughter of the late Margaret Gilmore Harding and Charles Harding. Joan was the loving wife of John Joseph Polko whom she married June 27, 1959 in Aliquippa, PA, and who preceded her in death on October 8, 2014.

Joan is survived by her children: Dr. Lisa Polko (Dianne) of Leonardtown, MD, Cindy Bassford (Bryan) of Leonardtown, MD, John Polko II (Shelley) of Huntingtown, MD, Kathy Daye (Daryl) of Johnson City, TN, 5 grandchildren: Jessica Moser, John Logan Polko, Brandon Bassford, Kaitlin Beasley-Polko, and Kylee Beasley-Polko, 1 great-grandchild: Laniya Harris, along with her sister: Eleanor Harding Sweterlitsch of Coraopolis, PA. She was preceded in death

by her siblings Vivian Sweeney, Edgar Harding, Charlotte Sweterlitsch, and Mary Elizabeth Johnson.

Joan graduated from Moon High School in 1954, she then received her Associates Degree in Business in 1956. She moved from Rivia, MD to St. Mary's County in 2008. She was an accounting secretary at Bowie High School for 32 years and then she retired in 2005. She loved bowling, golf, gardening, and painting. Her passion and purpose was her family, which she placed above everything else. She was strong in her faith and was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Leonardtown, MD.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 10:00AM in St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Leonardtown, MD with Father Rob Maro officiating. Interment will follow in St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be John Polko II, Daryl Daye, Logan Polko, Brandon Bassford, Bryan Bassford, Bill Sweterlitsch, and Tom Koviak.

In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to the Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

**Gladys Lavender Guy**



Gladys Lavender Guy, 92 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on December 11, 2019 in Callaway, MD. Born June 17, 1927 in Washington, DC, she was the daughter of the late

Leona Potter Clarke and Charles Lavender.

She survived by her children: J. Glenn Guy (Patricia), Brenda G. Surfield (Ron), and Karen P. Guy all of Leonardtown, MD, siblings: William Lavender of Leonardtown, MD, 4 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Gladys was preceded in death by her brother, Charles Lavender Jr. and sister, Dorothy Lavender.

Gladys moved with the family in 1933, to St. Mary's County to live on St. Georges Island. She attended the One Room School House on the Island, then she attended Great Mills Middle and High School. After school, she moved she moved back to Washington for a job at the Navy Yard. A serious head injury from an assault on the street, forced her to move back home for the long recovery. In 1946, she married George Guy and became a wonderful homemaker and mother. After the children were older, she enjoyed her job at the Town & Casual Dress Shop in Leonardtown, particularly the Buying Trips to New York. She was a Red Cross Volunteer (Grey Lady), and later years a volunteer at the hospitals gift shop. Gladys really enjoyed time spent with family and friends, over really good food. She loved to try new recipes, her crab cakes and crab imperial were legendary. Sharing anything she cooked was her pleasure. Gladys also enjoyed traveling, especially to the beach, and watching golf was a favorite past time. Her greatest joy was her family; especially her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren. Gladys will be greatly missed by her family and the many wonderful friends she made in her 92 years.

In a lieu of flowers contributions can be made to the Hospice House of St. Mary's,

P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 299, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

**James F. Gatton, Jr.**



James F. Gatton, Jr. (Jimmy) age 35 of Mechanicsville, Maryland passed away on December 10, 2019. He was born August 5th, 1984; the son of Debra Gass and James

Gatton, Sr. He attended Leonardtown Tech Center and received honors in the welding program and graduated in 2002 from Chop-ticon High School.

Jimmy is survived by his loving mom, Debra Gass of Mechanicsville, Maryland, his dad James Gatton, Sr. and brothers Dillon Gatton and Scott Cheseldine. He also leaves behind his many friends and large family he spent time with cooking out, camping, fishing, crabbing, and many outdoor sports, including his love of cornhole, the Washington Nationals, the Redskins, and NASCAR. Jimmy had a contagious laughter and never met a stranger. His loss will be forever felt by his family and all who loved him.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Mattingly Gardiner Funeral Home to assist with funeral expenses.

**Yvonne Rosser**

Yvonne "Eve" Rosser, 85, of Burlington, Ontario, Canada passed away quietly in her sleep Wednesday, September 11, 2019. She had just celebrated her 85th birthday on Sept. 5. She retired after a long and rewarding career at the Burlington Public Library. She loved her flowers and cats and was an avid reader.

Eve is survived by her brother-in-law the Rt. Rev. William McClean, Jr. of Charlotte Hall, a niece, Mary Kathleen McClean and a nephew Matthew George McClean of Mechanicsville and a great nephew Christopher Michael Andujar of Charlotte Hall, along with several cousins in England.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother, Henry William Charles Rosser (1952) and Daisy Maude Sivier Rosser (2000) and her only sibling, Barbara Lorraine McClean in December of 2013.

The family expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to the parishioners of St. Anne's Catholic Church in Charlotte Hall for their prayers for her and for the many cards and notes sent to her over the years as well as the much appreciated telephone calls.

And also to Wendy Schick and William and Mandy Niziol of Burlington, Ontario for their love and care during Yvonne's illness over the past two years.

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# Community Calendar

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

## Thursday, Dec. 19, 2019

### Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser

*Fitzies Marina and Pub Restaurant*

*Joe Hazel Rd*

*Leonardtown*

*4p.m. to 7p.m.*

Please join us to take a chance to pick a card and find the Queen of Hearts to win the jackpot. Each Thursday there is the opportunity to take a chance to win until the Queen is found, with the jackpot rolling over each week. Thank you for your support to the LVRSA.

### Help with Mike's Food Fund

*Zion Methodist Church,*

*21291 Three Notch Road*

*Lexington Park*

*5p.m. to 7p.m.*

Volunteers are needed by Mike's Food Fund to help package and deliver holiday turkey dinners (a frozen turkey, bag of potatoes and canned veggies) to local families in need. We have over 2500 families in need this year, so any and all help is appreciated. We need volunteers to deliver dinners to addresses all over the county, and help to package up and load the dinners for the drivers.

## Friday, Dec. 20, 2019

### Elks TEXAS HOLDEM Tournament

*St Mary's County Elks Lodge*

*45779 Fire Department Lane*

*Lexington Park*

*7p.m. to 12:30a.m.*

Each player can re-enter one time before the end of the first break for \$60 (8000 chips). This is not a late entry event you must be signed in before the start of the tournament. Top ten percent places paid. Food and Beverage are available for purchase. Questions: James Dean 240-577-0828. Email: [jdeanjunior@yahoo.com](mailto:jdeanjunior@yahoo.com)

## Saturday, Dec. 21, 2019

### Fly-In Farmer's Market

*St. Mary's Regional Airport*

*44200 Airport Rd.*

*California*

*9a.m. to 1p.m.*

Historic Sotterley is sponsoring its second annual Fly-In Farmers' Market at the St. Mary's Regional Airport. And for the second year, Santa will be making a visit from the North Pole and should arrive in his Helicopter around 11:00 am! Anyone with their own aircraft is welcome to "Fly-In" for this farmers' market via the airways. Check out Historic Sotterley's Facebook Page for updates and more details.

### Santa and Mrs. Clause on the Square

*Leonardtown Square*

*22670 Washington Street*

*Leonardtown*

*11a.m. to 1p.m.*

Santa and his lovely wife are coming back to Leonardtown! This event is FREE and open to the public.

## Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019

### The Promise of a King

*Mt. Zion United Methodist Church*

*27108 Mt. Zion Church Rd.*

*Mechanicsville*

*9:45 am to 10:45 am*

A Christmas Proclamation of Hope. Music by Lloyd Larson and Joseph M. Martin. Narration by Pamela

Martin. Orchestration by Brant Adams. Join us in the Fellowship Hall of the The Family Life Center. This is a FREE event. For more information call 301-884-4132 or [www.mtzionmech.org](http://www.mtzionmech.org)

### VCMI St. Mary's Church Service

*Chancellors Run Activity Center*

*21905 Chancellors Run Rd*

*Great Mills*

*10a.m. to noon*

Nondenomination Church Service. We welcome you! We Are a Church That Loves God and Loves People. Join us for Sunday service, with Pastors Tyrone & Cynthia Marshall. You wont leave out the same way you came in! See you soon! visit our website @ [vcmisc.org](http://vcmisc.org)

### Mix Mingle Jingle Vendor/Crafter Open House

*Mechanicsville Moose Lodge*

*27636 Mechanicsville Road*

*Mechanicsville*

*11a.m. to 3p.m.*

Your one stop shop for last minute gifts. Over 40 vendors/crafters to shop from. Awesome door prizes donated by the vendors & crafters. Please come and enjoy, some good ol southern Maryland hospitality, enjoy mimosas, wine snacks shopping and a lot of deals and steals, meet some fantastic ladies, and enjoy yourself. Also check out our facebook page to see what our vendors & crafters are giving away. [www.facebook.com/events/1740709049396828/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1740709049396828/)

## Monday, Dec. 23, 2019

### Toastmasters Meeting—Talk of the Town

*Lexington Park Library*

*21677 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Blvd*

*Lexington Park*

*11:30a.m. to 12:30p.m.*

Talk of the Town Toastmasters is a Toastmasters International club open to anyone to join. If you want to improve your communication and leadership skills, pay us a visit and bring a friend! Toastmasters International website: [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org). Our club web-

site: [club9410.easy-speak.org](http://club9410.easy-speak.org)

## Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019

### Blood Drive

*MedStar St. Mary's Hospital*

*25500 Point Lookout Road*

*Leonardtown,*

*9:30a.m. to 2:30p.m.*

Did you know someone in the U.S. needs blood every two seconds? Give a meaningful gift this holiday by donating blood. Appointments are available, though walk-ins are welcome. Register in the Outpatient Pavilion lobby. Visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) to make an appointment!

### Christmas Eve Services

*Mt. Zion United Methodist Church*

*27108 Mt. Zion Church Rd.*

*Mechanicsville*

Early service for families with small children at 4:30 pm. Communion and Candlelight Services 7 pm and 10 pm - children are welcomed to attend these services also. For more information call 301-884-4132 or [www.mtzionmech.org](http://www.mtzionmech.org)

## Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019

### Christmas Day

## Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019

### Winter Wildlife

*Calvert Marine Museum*

*14200 Solomons Island Road*

*Solomons*

*11a.m. to 3p.m.*

Discover the animals that make the wintry waters of the Chesapeake their home. Create pine cone bird feeders at 11 a.m., 12 p.m., and 2 p.m. Find fun facts in our aquarium and walk through a jellyfish maze. FREE with museum admission.



## 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](http://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; Eric Colvin; Todd B. Morgan; John E. O'Connor; and the Department of Aging & Human Services

### Holiday Closings

The Department of Aging & Human Services will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and Thursday, Dec. 26, in observance of Christmas and on Wednesday, Jan. 1 and Thursday, Jan. 2, in observance of the New Year. Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals will not be served. Please call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050, or visit [www.stmarysmd.com/aging](http://www.stmarysmd.com/aging) for more information.

### R&B Line Dancing

Marie Bond and Catherine Bush will lead R&B Line Dancing at the Northern Senior Activity Center on Fridays, Jan. 3-Feb. 7, from 1-2 p.m. These ladies will guide you step-by-step as you learn so of today's trendiest line dances; including dances such as the Git Up Dance, Cupid Shuffle and the Wobble. Payment of \$12 for 6 classes/\$2 per class is made directly to instructors the day of class. To sign up for this 6-session class in advance, please visit the signup table or call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

### Diabetes Self-Management Program

Living with diabetes is a full-time job. The Diabetes Self-Management classes gives attendees tools need to take control of their disease. Topics covered include nutrition, stress management, medication management and many more! This class will be held at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Mondays at 1:30 p.m., Jan. 6-Feb. 24. Space in the class is limited. Register by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71050. There is no fee to attend; however, attendance at all six sessions is highly recommended.

### Tai Chi for Arthritis – Complete Series

The Northern Senior Activity Center will start a new Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall prevention on Tuesdays

Jan. 7-March 24, from 10-11 a.m. This program was developed by Dr. Paul Lam with the Tai Chi for Health Institute as a safe and effective exercise program for those with Arthritis to improve balance, build strength, and promote total-body wellness. Dr. Lam developed his original TCA routine and later added the TCA Part 2 movements. In this class series, participants will learn both the original and Part 2 movements in a complete 12-week cycle. The first 7 weeks will focus on the core and extended movements taught in the original program. The final 5 weeks will focus on the Part 2 movements. Space is limited. Advanced sign up is required, no drop-in space is available. To sign up for this 12-week series in advance, please visit the signup table or call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

### Educational Video Series

In January, the EVS (Educational Video Series) at the Loffler Senior Activity Center will present a Hallmark Hall of Fame movie that is based on a true story: Front of the Class tells the story of Brad, who, as a young child, started making funny noises - all the time. Only he and his supportive mother realized that he could not control it. He was teased, misunderstood, and punished for disrupting class. By the time he was diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome, Brad had learned to hate school. When an understanding school principal offered encouragement, he decided to become a teacher. Now he has to find a school where someone with Tourettes can teach in front of a class. After 24 schools turn him down, he discovers one that will finally give him a chance. This movie will be shown on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m. (Free- 97 minutes) Register to see this movie by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk to sign up. (Seating is limited to 16.)

### Assess Your Mental Health at Loffler

There is a new Health Watch Coordinator at the Loffler Senior Activity Center: Meet Mary Tennyson on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 10 a.m. when she will be on hand to discuss ways you can assess your mental well-being. To sign up call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk. Free.

### Luncheon with Phil McKenney

Back by popular demand! Phil McKenney will be at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 12 p.m. for another great interactive music program. By the late 1950's the Wild Men who had created Rock-n-Roll just a few years earlier had been pretty much wiped out either by their own excesses, by the powers that be who hated them or by fate. A new group of clean-cut pop singers took over. They wore suits, skinny neckties, were non-threatening and controlled the record charts for the next several years. They were the Teen Idols, the second wave of rockers and this is their story! The menu for the day will be baked ham, green beans, tossed salad, WW dinner roll and a fruit cup. 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.

### Learn the quick and easy way to fill out the census form!

Another decade begins- which means it's time for the census! There will be a presentation at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on how to fill out the newest census forms on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 9 a.m. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk for more information or to sign up.



### Spend an Hour with a Job Coach

Leonardtown Library will host Spend an Hour with a Job Coach on Monday, January 13 from 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Southern Maryland JobSource job coaches will be available to meet with job seekers on-on-one for an hour long appointment. If you would like assistance with writing your resume conducting a job search polishing your interview skills or career change advice call the Leonardtown library at 301-475-2846 to schedule an appointment. Appointments will be available on the hour from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### New Storytime Schedule at St. Mary's County Library!

Storytime is back at the St. Mary's County Library starting on Monday, January 13. Check [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org) for the full schedule, including new storytimes such as evening Pajama Storytimes, Saturday Sensory-friendly storytimes, and many new days and times to choose from. Starting with the January storytime session, day-time weekly storytimes will be seating-limited based on a first come, first served basis.

### College Scholarships and Financial Aid Opportunities for Maryland Residents

Leonardtown Library will host College Scholarships and Financial Aid Opportunities for Maryland Residents on Wednesday, January 15 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Join Marsha Wilcox Assistant Director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance St. Mary's College of Maryland as she explains the importance of filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The discussion will focus on the aid opportunities the FAFSA gives college students and the importance of meeting the state of Maryland deadlines. The various Maryland scholarships available to MD residents will be discussed in detail as well.

### Cricut for Beginners

The Charlotte Hall Library will hold Cricut for Beginners on Thursday, January 16 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Learn how to use the new St. Mary's County Library Cricut machine. This home die-cutting machine can be used for cutting paper felt vinyl fabric craft foam and other products such as fondant. Presenter will demonstrate how a design is created on the computer and sent to the Cricut machine for cutting. Attendees will create a small project to take home with them. Registration required.

### Mini Monet

The Lexington Park Library will hold Mini Monet on Friday, January 17 from 10 - 11 a.m. Join us on

an art adventure! We will explore the world of art through various forms. Please expect and prepare for messy activities. Baby-toddler. Registration required and opens on January 3.

### Snow Much Fun!

The Charlotte Hall Library will hold Snow Much Fun! on Saturday, January 18 from 2- 3 p.m. Enjoy the magic of winter with snow themed crafts and activities! Recommended for children ages lower through upper elementary. Registration is required and opens on January 4.

### Library Holiday Hours

All three locations of the St. Mary's County Library will close early at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31 and will remain closed on Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day. All three Library locations will be open for regular business hours on Thursday, January 2.

### Glow in the Park for Teens and Tweens

The Lexington Park Library will hold two sessions of "Glow in the Park" on Thursday, January 9. The first session will be from 5-6 p.m. for teens 13-18, and the second hour 6-7 p.m. for tweens 8-12.

It's dark outside so get your glow on! Come in to make GLOW IN THE DARK SLIME and play glow in the dark games. All materials provided no experience needed and no registration required.

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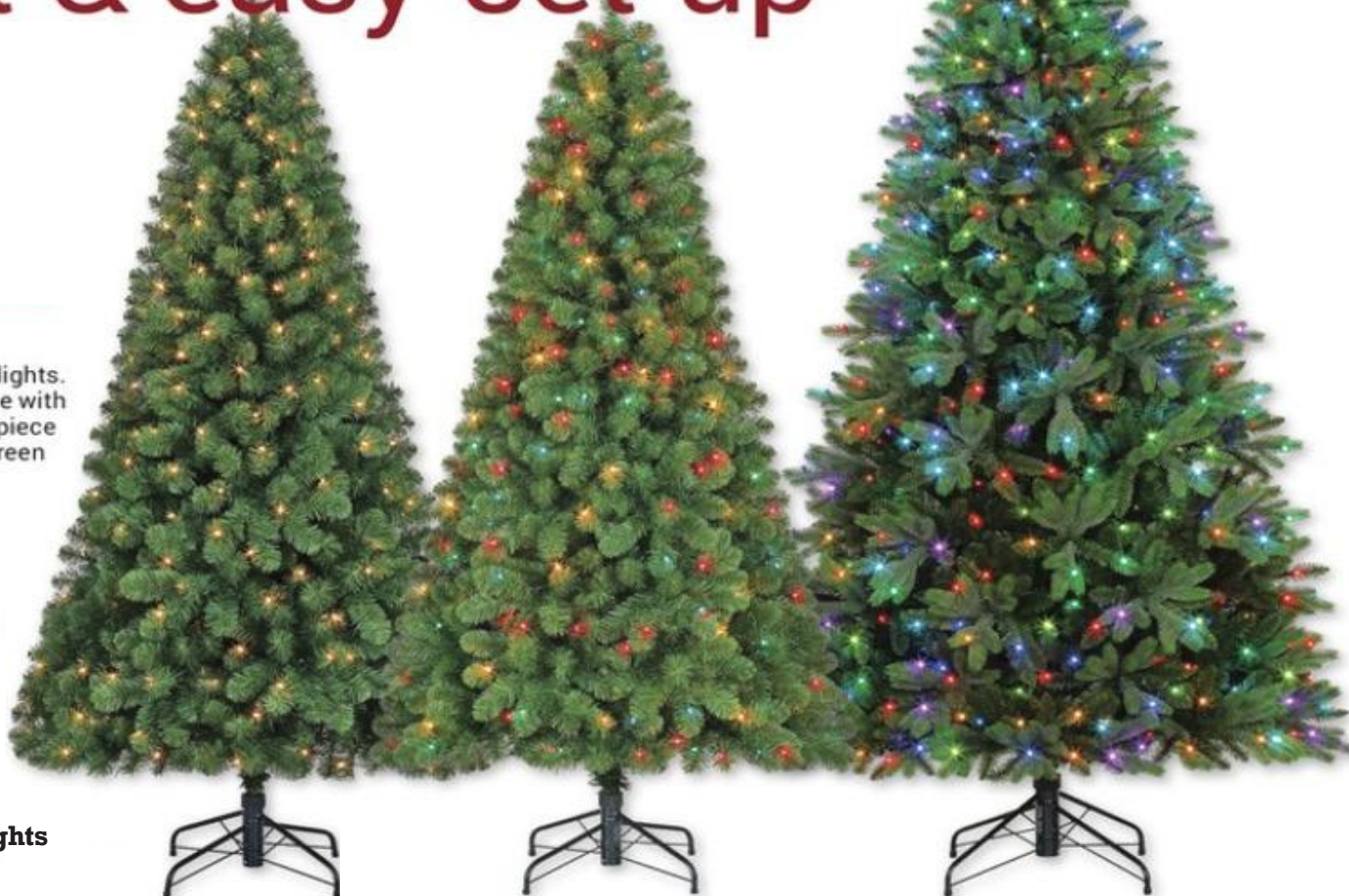
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