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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020

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INSIDE

- MURDERED GIRL'S FAMILY SUES SCHOOLS
- STUDENT CHARGED FOR GUN AT SCHOOL GYM
- STATE BUDGET FUNDS LOCAL PROJECTS



One of a Kind Chesapeake Charter

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Chesapeake Public Charter School Principal Angela Funya works with a student one on one.



LOCAL

5

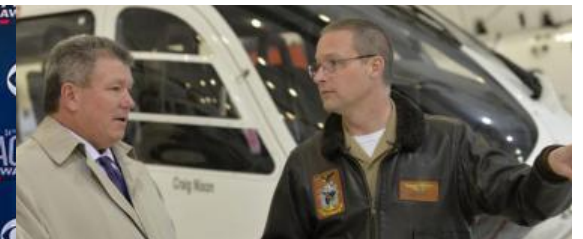
This year's MLK Prayer Breakfast was a call to service



ENTERTAINMENT

17

Old Dominion Coming to Calvert Marine Museum



PAX RIVER

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Sen. Jack Bailey tours U.S. Navy Test Pilot School

"MY KIDS ARE DEFINITELY LEARNING."

CHESAPEAKE CHARTER SCHOOL PARENT MARY MADAY SLADE ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNIQUE SCHOOL.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 1/23	Fri 1/24	Sat 1/25	Sun 1/26
45° 33°F	49° 41°F	52° 35°F	47° 32°F
Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Rain	Partly Cloudy
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Family of Murdered Student Sues School Board

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The family of the young girl shot and killed by a classmate in March of 2018 with whom she had had a relationship has filed a lawsuit in federal court against the St. Mary's County Board of Education, claiming they failed to take action to protect Jaelynn Wiley from harm.

Wiley was shot and killed March 20, 2018 by Austin Wyatt Rollins, who used his father's legally owned Glock 17 9mm pistol that he had brought to school in a backpack.

"Prior to this subject incident... Great Mills High School knew that Austin Rollins... was likely to commit an act of deadly violence against Jaelynn Wiley," the lawsuit reads. "In fact, less than 24 hours before the subject incident, a threat of mass violence at the school had been made.

"Moreover, one month before this incident, another threat of mass violence at the school had been made."

The lawsuit claims that the school failed to protect the victim "in any way" and "made informed decisions and took steps which actively increased the danger to her and created new dangers" for

Jaelynn.

The lawsuit goes on to claim that before the shooting, which drew national attention as well as a massive local law enforcement and first responder presence in the immediate aftermath, school authorities knew it needed to employ security vestibules as well as metal detection and surveillance technology but did not.

Many of these upgrades were installed and completed after Willy's death, including bullet-resistant laminate on the front entrances of high schools.

Wiley engaged in a romantic relationship with Rollins in 2017, the suit claims, but "quickly soured" because Rollins pressured Wiley into behaviors, believed to be sexual in nature, she had no interest in taking part in.

The suit claims that Rollins victimized Wiley by physically abusing her outside of classrooms "on a repeated basis," which was witnessed by students and school personnel alike.

Wiley was also subjected to constant harassment via text messages and social media by Rollins, the suit claims.

The suit also states that Rollins constantly stalked Wiley during school hours and school staff was aware of his behavior; the family even warned



Jaelynn Wiley

the school's swim coach (Wiley was a member of the swim team) that they were concerned for their daughter's safety because of Rollins' behavior.

"As a result of the parents advising the swim coach, nothing was done nor escalated by the school," the lawsuit claims.

The same bullet that killed Wiley exited her body and struck another student, Desmond Barnes, in the leg, wounding

him seriously.

Rollins used his own gun to kill himself once he was confronted by Cpl. Blain Gaskill, the school resource officer, who also fired on Rollins as he was committing suicide, according to police reports at the time.

A statement issued by Superintendent J. Scott Smith denied that the school staff had prior knowledge that Wiley would be the target of a homicide.

"The death of Jaelynn Wiley was a tragedy and the entire school community mourns her loss," the statement reads. "However, the contention that school staff could have somehow prevented this tragedy is incorrect.

"The school system has worked closely with the Sheriff's Department and the Maryland Center for School Safety, and there is absolutely no evidence whatsoever that any employee of the St. Mary's County Public Schools had any reason to foresee the tragic shooting that took place at Great Mills High School on March 20, 2018. As a school community, we will continue to support the Wiley family in any way that we can."

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Juvenile Charged As An Adult In Bringing Handgun to School

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A 17-year-old Mechanicsville male who has been charged with bringing a firearm to Leonardtown High School during a sporting event Jan. 17 remains incarcerated at the county's adult detention center, said sheriff's

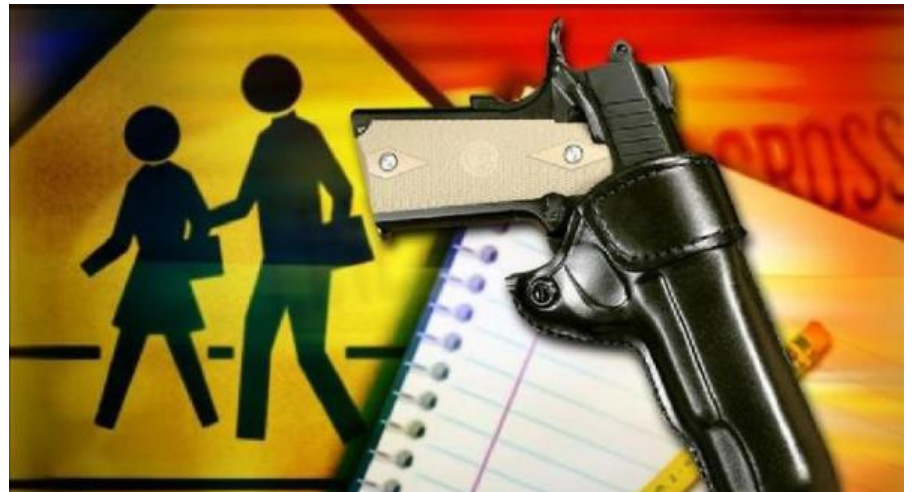
office spokesperson Cpl. Julie Yingling.

Samuel Tony Bryant, a student at Chopticon High School, has been identified as the juvenile charged.

"He has been charged as an adult," Yingling told The County Times.

According to sheriff's office reports, school re-

source officer Cpl. Angela Delozier was working a basketball game at Leonardtown High School when she was alerted to suspicious activity involving a group of juveniles by staff at the game. Delozier and staff from the St. Mary's County Public Schools immediately moved the



juveniles to a secure location away from students and spectators and began an investigation. During the investigation, Delozier located a loaded handgun on Bryant.

The juvenile has been the only one charged in the incident so far, Yingling said, but other charges of disrupting school activities could apply to others involved.

The juvenile arrested and charged faces five

counts, including: carry and possess a handgun on school property, carry and transport loaded handgun on person, wear and carry a dangerous weapon in concealment, possession of regulated firearm by an individual under 21 and disruption of school activities.

Superintendent J. Scott Smith said the accused juvenile faced a mandatory 10-day suspension for bringing the handgun

into the school property and would also be subject to an expulsion hearing to determine whether he could continue to attend classes on school property.

Smith said the school system was still obligated to provide an education to the student even if he was forbidden from attending classes.

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Call To Service Issued at MLK Prayer Breakfast



Dr. Jason Johnson talks about the importance of service at the annual MLK Prayer Breakfast at St. Mary's College. Photo by Weston Kilgore.

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Dr. Jason Johnson, the keynote speaker at the Martin Luther King, Jr. prayer breakfast at St. Mary's College, said looking up to the great civil rights leader as an example of how to serve had its pitfalls.

Sometimes, just thinking about how much King did to bring justice to the oppressed and trying to live up to that record, Johnson said, could discourage people from even trying.

But that just wasn't the case Johnson said.

Johnson is a noted political consultant, journalist and political science professor who often makes the rounds on evening news broadcasts on MSNBC.

"There are multiple ways to serve," Johnson said Jan. 20. "We don't all have to be Martin Luther King.

"All we have to do is change our attitude towards service." Being willing to serve in the first place, which Johnson defined as any selfless act done for the benefit of another or others, was the first question one had to ask of themselves. "That requires self-reflection, that requires humility," Johnson said, adding that serving out of a sense of obligation or anything other than compassion meant the endeavor would likely suffer.

"That destroys the project and the program; If you don't want to serve, that's OK." Johnson said even someone who sweeps the streets performed an act of service as they were cleaning it for the benefit of all who walked them.

Even offering support through social media for those working for justice and equality, he said, was an act of service.

Johnson remembered his days reporting on the riots in Ferguson, Missouri in the days following the shooting death of a black man by a policeman.

He said he had never been more afraid for his life, even more so than covering disturbances in places such as Mexico and South Africa.

"When they tweeted 'hands up, don't shoot,' they were with us," Johnson said. "Hashtag activism actually works."

In his famed "drum major" sermon given in 1968, King reminded church members that if they wanted to be great or important, they must first be a servant.

Congressman Steny Hoyer told prayer breakfast attendees that King was at the forefront of fighting for justice in America during the Civil Rights Movement.

"He said 'You are not doing what you'd promised you'd be doing as a country,'" Hoyer said. "America needs more drum majors today."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

YMCA Committee Picks Third Potential Site

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer



The committee tasked with suggesting sites for a new community center, perhaps a YMCA-run facility, have picked the Nicolet Park area in Lexington Park as their third option.

Members of the board came to a consensus at their Jan. 16 meeting now that they have chosen three potential sites, they can move forward with a feasibility study to find the best of those three sites.

Bennet Wilson, the citizen at-large member of the board and its chair, called the Nicolet Park area "interesting" for a potential site for a community center, though there were no major roads leading directly to it.

Dr. Monika Lee, board member, said there were several parcels available in the park area that could be combined to "get us

close to that magic 15 acres" that seemed to be the ideal size for the facility plus parking.

Sue Veith, county senior planner, said a facility of about 110,000 square feet could be built on the property, though the county could do more, since they owned the property.

Nicolet Park had the same zoning as the surrounding community, residential neighborhood conservation, and normally allowed only limited buildout.

"Technically, the county government doesn't have to follow its own regulations," Veith said, noting the land was outside the flight safety zone imposed on land immediately surrounding

Patuxent River Naval Air Station, which restricts development.

The other two sites chosen by the exploratory committee include land at the Great Mills community pool, also county owned, on Great Mills Road and a piece of property owned by the county's Housing Authority next to the Lexington Park Public Library.

The Great Mills pool site allowed 264,000 square feet of construction, Veith said, but committee member Mike Brown said traffic crossing Great Mills Road from the site or heading away from the base would have problems.

"Traffic is bumper to bumper," Brown said.

Veith said of the library site that it was "not impossible to put a pool there" but the size of the parcel would not offer much space for parking.

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State Budget Funds 3rd Building, County Jail

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The budget released last week by Gov. Larry Hogan has funding set aside in the capital construction portion for long awaited projects, chief among them is the third academic building at the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland, formerly known as the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center.

The fiscal 2021 budget includes \$62.2 million for the bulk of the construction of the project, which promises to be a hub for unmanned and autonomous systems research and development in the region to take what was once military technology in some cases and make it suitable for the civilian market.

The project was so important that several years ago the Commissioners of St. Mary's County allotted \$1 million in taxpayer money to the project.

The entire project is projected to cost \$85.9 million. The academic building will include both research and teaching space in the 84,316 square foot building.

Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist. 29A) praised the governor's commitment to St. Mary's represented in the latest budget.

"There's a lot in it for St. Mary's County to celebrate," Morgan said in an e-mail to constituents. "I'm extremely pleased to see that Governor Hogan did not forget his commitment to advancing technology in Southern Maryland."

Many other construction projects, including renovations for the county's adult detention center, have also been included in the state's budget.



Construction on Airport Road in California makes way for the 3rd Building of the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland

Those projects are: \$6.6 million to widen Route 5 to Point Lookout State Park, \$3.4 million for intersection improvements at Abell/Moakley streets in Leonardtown and \$3.2 million for Route 5 upgrades from Route 471 to Route 246.

St. Mary's College of Maryland also received \$28 million in state operations funding as well as \$35 million for capital projects at the college including a new

auditorium and academic building there.

The adult detention center received an additional \$5.5 million towards its renovations; the entire project is projected to cost \$28.5 million with \$6.2 million already appropriated in prior budgets.

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Chief Mark Trowbridge, Sgt. Jake Senatore and President John Montgomery with a framed cover of The County Times profiling the fire company.

St. Mary's County School Age Care Sites Awarded Maryland EXCELS Level 1

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Department of Recreation and Parks are pleased to announce that the School Age Care sites operating in nine locations throughout the county have been awarded a Level 1 by Maryland EXCELS, a quality rating program for licensed Maryland child care centers. The programs have been evaluated on nationally recognized standards and have been determined to exceed state licensing requirements and demonstrate a commitment for quality improvement.

Before and after school care sites operate at the following elementary

schools: Benjamin Banneker, Captain Walter Francis Duke, Evergreen, Green Holly, Leonardtown, Lettie Marshall Dent and Oakville. In addition, programs operate at the Chesapeake Public Charter School and the Hollywood Recreation Center.

Openings remain at select locations for the current school year and registration for the 2020-21 school year will open March 1, 2020. Please call 301-475-4200, ext. 71800, or visit the website <https://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/schoolagecare/> for more information.

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Delegate Gerald "Jerry" Clark Named Minority Ranking Member

Delegate Gerald "Jerry" Clark was named the new Ranking Member of the Environment and Transportation committee by the House Minority Caucus today.

"I am grateful for the opportunity. Being part of this committee has given me the opportunity to grow and expand my knowledge in many areas. I look forward to the new responsibility of keeping my colleagues informed of the progress and challenges of bills in committee," said Delegate Clark.

The Ranking Member of the committee is responsible for giving reports on bills as they progress through the committee and advocating on behalf of bills sponsored by members of the minority party.

The Environment and Transportation committee, hears bills pertaining to the environment, transportation, natural resources, agriculture, land use, ethics,



Delegate Jerry Clark

housing and local government. Delegate Clark is a member of the Land Use and Ethics and the Natural Resources, Agriculture and Open Space subcommittees.

Governor Hogan Announces 2019 Award of \$9 Million in Tax Credits for Student Loan Debt

Governor Larry Hogan and Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Secretary Dr. James D. Fielder announced the awarding of nearly \$9 million in tax credits for 9,600 Maryland residents with student loan debt.

"It is critical that we look for ways to help those in our state crippled by student loan debt," Governor Hogan said. "This program helps Maryland taxpayers pay off student debt, while remaining in the workforce and having a positive impact on the state economy."

"MHEC staff is proud to administer programs like this that support student success with less debt," Secretary Fielder said. "Governor Hogan's ongoing efforts to find solutions to the national student loan debt crisis is one more example of his unwavering commitment to make education a top priority of his administration."

There were 9,600 applicants who were eligible for the Student Loan Debt Relief Tax Credit. The tax credits were divided into two groups of eligibility, including Maryland



Governor Larry Hogan

residents who attended a Maryland institution and Maryland residents who attended an out-of-state institution. There were 6,331 eligible applicants who attended in-state institutions and will each receive \$1,000 in tax credits, while 3,269 eligible applicants who attended out-of-state institutions will each receive \$813 each in tax credits.

Last year, MHEC

awarded 9,484 Maryland residents the Student Loan Debt Relief Tax Credit with 5,238 applicants who attended an in-state institution receiving \$1,000 each in tax credits and 4,246 applicants who attended an out-of-state institution receiving \$883 each in tax credits.

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Sheriff's Office Crime Report

PAX River Sex Offender Sentenced to 25 Years In Federal Prison

Vandalism Suspect Sought

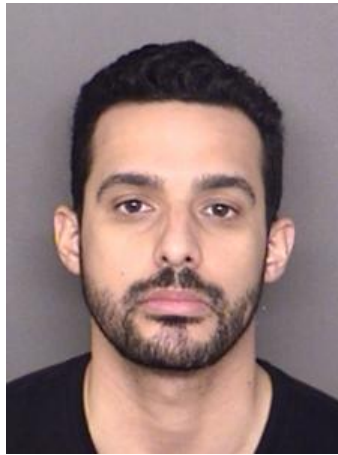
The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person driving the vehicle pictured in a vandalism investigation. On Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2020 at 10:38 pm, the image of the suspect vehicle was captured at the same time a projectile pierced the window of the Five Below store in California. A small white marble was recovered, believed to be the projectile.



Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call DFC Dustin McClure at 301-475-4200, ext. 78038 or email dustin.mcclure@stmarysmd.com. Case # 2898-20

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact St. Mary's County 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.

Assault- On January 14 Dep. Lawrence made contact with the victim who advised of an assault that occurred earlier in the 22300 block of Douglas Court in California. Investigation determined **David Alexander Rivera, 29** of California, assaulted the victim during an argument by grabbing the victim's arm, and forcibly removing the victim's watch from the victim's wrist. Visible injury was observed to the victim and Rivera was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Assault- On January 14 DFC. Budd responded to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown, for the reported assault. Investigation determined **Amanda Lynn Grumbine, 36** of Lexington Park, assaulted the victim during an argument by striking the victim in the face, at which point a mutual confrontation between Grumbine and the victim took place. Grumbine was charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Assault- On January 15, 2020, Cpl.

Handy responded to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown, for the reported assault. Investigation determined **James Thomas Lanzi, 28** of California, threw a bottle containing a beverage at the victim. The bottle did not strike the victim, however the beverage splashed onto the victim's face and clothing. Lanzi was charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



U.S. District Judge George J. Hazel sentenced Justin Paul Keener, age 31, of Patuxent River, Maryland, to 25 years in federal prison, followed by lifetime supervised release, on each of two counts of abusive sexual contact with a child, to be served concurrently. Judge Hazel also ordered that, upon his release from prison, Keener must register as a sex offender in the places where he resides, where he is an employee, and where he is a student, under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA).

"The sexual abuse of a child devastates the victim and their family," said U.S. Attorney Robert K. Hur. "Justin Keener will now have 25 years in federal prison, where there is no parole—ever—to think about the suffering he has inflicted on these innocent children. This office will continue to prioritize child exploitation cases in order to protect our children from predators like Keener."

The sentence was announced by United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Robert K. Hur; Special Agent in Charge John Salazar of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Washington Field Office; and Special Agent in Charge Jennifer C. Boone of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Baltimore



Field Office.

According to his guilty plea, in November 2017, while residing at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Keener sexually abused a victim who was under the age of 12. In and before November 2017, Keener sexually abused another victim, also under the age of 12, on multiple occasions.


This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorney's Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims.

Greenbelt U.S. Attorney's Office

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Tech Center Programs On Display at Open House



Jaylen Raybon, 18, foreground and James Mejin, 17 demonstrate carving poultry as one of the many skills taught in the culinary arts program



Cadets in the criminal justice program at the James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center take visitors through how to examine a crime scene at the Jan. 16 Tech Expo

Southern Maryland Meats to Install Little Free Libraries



Southern Maryland Meats (SMM), a program of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), is set to build and install 100 Little Free Libraries throughout the Southern Maryland region of Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties within the next six months.

Little Free Library (LFL) is a worldwide non-profit organization that increases access to books through the creation of book-sharing boxes. These libraries are housed in parks, playgrounds, neighborhood common areas, on school grounds, at government buildings, at farmer's markets, and other regional public/private venues in order to boost community involvement with the intention of inspiring readers. To date, there are more than 90,000 libraries globally.

The Southern Maryland Meat's Little Free Libraries will be stamped with the SMM logo and constructed in the shape of little red barns. They are designed in a way that encourages awareness of the importance of agriculture in our everyday lives, as well as to promote the Southern Maryland Meats livestock producers, and to provide free reading materials to the community.

By working with neighborhood associations, parks and recreation groups, government agencies, and schools, SMM hopes to place up to 100 LFL in places where people gather as a community. "These Little Free Libraries don't just belong to SMM, they belong to you and your community," says Craig Sewell, SMM Marketing and Livestock Manager. "It's our hope that the Little Free Libraries will bring a little more connection to your local food producers and a whole lot more books to our community."

Southern Maryland Meats is looking for groups to maintain libraries throughout the Southern Maryland region such as scout troops, 4H Clubs, HOAs, Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, and schools. Organizations and individuals interested in the possibility of becoming a Little Free Library steward or host are encouraged to contact SMM Program Manager Craig Sewell (240)528-8850 ext. 314, or email: csewell@smadc.com or contact Rachel Norris (240)528-8850 ext. 306, or email: rnorris@smadc.com.

Press Release from SMADC

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St. Clement's Island Museum to Host Artist Reception for Pop-Up Art Show

The public is invited to St. Clement's Island Museum for a reception to meet local artists Harriet Gossett, Jeanne Huett, Trish Clark and Angela M. Wathen during a Pop-Up Art Show featuring their artwork at the museum Feb. 1, 2020, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.,

Meet and mingle with the artists while enjoying live music, light fare and beverages, and the art show at the museum. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase original artwork directly from the artist. The Pop-Up Art Show will be highlighted at St. Clement's Island Museum from Jan. 25, 2020, through March 30, 2020.

The artists all have something unique being featured at the Museum during the show. Harriet Gossett's art is often described as "Something from Nothing." She uses discarded books and papers for her fascinating 3-D artworks. Papers are painted, cut, folded and glued to create exciting, colorful and compelling pieces. Her work has been shown locally at the 2019 Leonardtown Artwalk, Port of Leonardtown Winery and Annemarie Gardens in Solomons. Gossett's art is currently on display at the Arts Council Gallery in downtown Leonardtown and has recently been invited to be the featured artist for the Lexington Park Library Gallery Show from Aug. 1 to Sept. 1, 2020.

Angela M. Wathen, originally born in Washington D.C. but now a St. Mary's County resident, considers herself a surrealist that works with many mediums. Wathen's past and present life with family and friends are the inspiration for this show. Ms. Wathen started her career in several galleries along the East Coast, where she was the founding member and owner of Opal Gallery in Leonardtown. Now, you will only find her works at several pop-up shows a few times



throughout the year. Her art is usually found in series, where the public can only purchase original works. Her most popular series include "A Crabs Life," "I Am Woman," "Music is my Religion," and "The Struggle is Real." Her favorite thing is to personalize her artwork for clients by doing commission pieces, where the opportunity for customization truly makes a unique work of art.

Jeanne Huett has loved art since she can remember. As a teacher, she used her artistic talents in the classroom with her students. She found it satisfying to help young people express themselves creatively - whether it be in writing creative stories or painting murals. Huett has explored many mediums but it is in the freestyle painting with acrylics and the photography transfers that pushed her to become a self-taught artist. Her retirement has allowed her to pursue her passion of becoming an artist. With a handful of suc-

cessful shows, she is just getting started on her artistic journey and the future looks bright. Her inspiration for this show is the beautiful unique place we live - Southern Maryland. She creates art from what she sees in her surroundings.

Last but certainly not least, Trish Clark has a passion for photography, but her true love is for the arts. Clark's mixed media style is charming and whimsical in nature. She utilizes a variety of methods in her works, including paint, glue, torn pieces of paper, twine, beads and more. Though she uses many approaches, her favorite medium is glitter. Clark elaborates that she loves the effect that glitter has when light reflects off her artwork. It makes things "prettier, brighter, happier" - and that's what she wants her audience to feel when they see her pieces. You can see Ms. Clark's artwork, and even purchase select pieces, at Historic Cecil's Country Store in California, MD.

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Submit your cover design
for the 2020 St. Mary's County
Fair Catalog of Classes

The drawing should depict some event,
symbol, item or animal that reminds
everyone of the St. Mary's County Fair.

The winning Cover Designer will
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Opening Night at the Fair.
Second Prize Designer receives \$50.

The deadline for entries is January 30
Your entry should be a black line drawing on
an 8.5" x 11" sheet & should be mailed to:

Ann Richards
Catalog Cover Chairperson
20370 White Point Road
Leonardtown MD 20650

St. Mary's City's Miller Earns Top Award

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) archaeologist Henry M. Miller on Jan. 10 in Boston, Ma. received the J. C. Harrington Award from the Society for Historical Archaeology. It is the highest international award for the profession of historical archaeology.

Named for J. C. "Pinky" Harrington, a founder of the field who conducted early work at Jamestown, Yorktown and other sites for the National Park Service, the award is given for scholarly contributions to the field. Since its initiation in 1981, only 35 people have received this award.

Miller began at St. Mary's City in 1972 and later served as the museum's Archaeology Curator and Director of Research. Beginning in 2015, he became the first Maryland Heritage Scholar. He has also long been an Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at St. Mary's College, teaching his first class there in 1974.

Much of Miller's career has been devoted to early Maryland and its first capital of St. Mary's City. His efforts have resulted in the discovery that the city was not the scattered gaggle of buildings as was assumed by historians but an elaborately planned urban place, laid out using new and sophisticated ideas of baroque planning. Among his major projects was the excavation of Chapel Field, which led to the finding of Andrew White's 1635 wooden chapel, the impressive 1660s Brick Chapel, and an early rectory. This work also led to the remarkable discovery of three lead coffins buried inside the brick church in 1990. The lead coffins were investigated in 1992 as part of a major scientific project involving 150 scientists, historians, chemists, and other specialists which brought international attention to St. Mary's City and led to the identification of the coffin occupants as members of Maryland's founding family – the Calverts.



Featured in the group photograph are participants and organizers of a paper session held in Henry Miller's honor at the Historical Archaeology conference earlier this month. (from left): Robert L. Schuyler (University of Pennsylvania), Laura E. Masur (The Catholic University of America), Travis G. Parno (HSMC), Terry P. Brock (Montpelier Foundation), Henry M. Miller (HSMC), Garry Wheeler Stone (former HSMC Director of Research), Beverly A. Straube (Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation), Douglas Owsley (Smithsonian Institution), and Silas Hurry (HSMC)

A major part of Miller's working life has been devoted to converting archaeological and historical findings into interpretations for the public. This involves the analysis, design and reconstruction of 17th-century structures including the 1660s Brick Chapel, Smith's Ordinary, Corda's Hope, the Print House, the Van Sweringen site, and converting the St. John's archaeological site into a major exhibit building. Miller has also worked on the creation of numerous exhibits at St. Mary's as well as those at Jamestown, Colonial Williamsburg, the Maryland Historical Society, and the very successful Written in Bone exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution.

Besides decades of work in Maryland, Miller has excavated sites and conducted analysis in Arkansas, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia,

and Ireland. The Irish work involved the first exploration of George Calvert's Clohamon manor, established in County Wexford in southeast Ireland by Lord Baltimore in 1625.

Miller also spent a year teaching and conducting research at the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Oxford University.

Among Miller's long-term interests are the environment and food. This led to his doctoral dissertation which conducted the first large scale analysis of food remains from colonial sites in the Chesapeake region. This work not only explored the changing nature of the colonial diet over the 1600s and 1700s, but yielded valuable insight about the natural environment in the early Chesapeake and how colonial activities began to change it.

One notable source of ecological evidence long ignored by archaeologists were oyster shells. Miller worked with ecologist Brett Kent and archaeologist Michael Smolek to unravel the secrets of the shells, leading to the analytic guide "Making Dead Oyster's Talk" in 1990. Oysters are now a significant source of ecological data about the past estuarine habitats due to this effort.

Miller's food interests include colonial recipes and research on Southern Maryland's famed stuffed ham, resulting in a Bon Appetite magazine article featuring Southern Maryland cuisine.

Miller continues to conduct research and write about Maryland history and archaeology for Historic St. Mary's City with one book in press and two more planned. He and wife Carol live in Hollywood.

Press Release from HSMC

Coming January 30 in the County Times

The Local Guide to Planning a Wedding in Southern Maryland



Chesapeake Charter Makes Learning a Family Affair

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For 13 years Chesapeake Public Charter School, located in Lexington Park on Great Mills Road has sought to give a unique educational experience to students in St. Mary's, combining rigorous academics with a broad range of enrichment activities all geared towards providing students real-world, hands on project work.

Much of the study there is focused on environmental stewardship, the arts and fostering creativity.

Individual class sizes are relatively small and there are just 460 children there spread across grades from kindergarten to the 8th grade.



The educational model there is so unique that the school has a waiting list of over 500 potential students who want a seat.

The school has a five-star rating on the state's new ranking system, the highest in Maryland.

Maddie Slade, 14, of Leonardtown, spent four years there before beginning her freshman year this year at Leonardtown High School.

"We did a little bit of everything," Maddie told The County Times. "A lot of the activities ranged from archery to rollerblading."

The academic portion of her education there allowed her to excel and ensure she got a deep understanding of the material, she said.

There was plenty of time to talk to her teachers to ensure she grasped the subject matter.

"I really enjoyed math and science," Maddie said. "It [the classroom setting] was where you could go at your own pace."

"You could talk to teachers during lunch and get more help."

The main theme of her time there centered on the closeness that developed between her classmates and her teachers.



"It was such a small community," Maddie said. "I really got to know them so closely."

"It was like a family; I really loved it."

Out of all the educational opportunities afforded to Maddie during her time at Chesapeake Charter, perhaps the most unique was her 10-day trip to Italy with



her classmates as part of an educational and cultural exchange program.

It's an opportunity afforded to the 8th grade students at the charter school.

"The classes were all in English but we learned a little Spanish and French," Maddie said. "We even went to Milan."

"I had a lot of fun."

Maddie's mother, Leonardtown council member Mary Maday Slade, still has two children, another son and daughter, in 4th and 5th grade attending the charter school.

There is a sibling policy at the school, which gives priority to placement of family members so they can share the same experiences.

"We decided to try something different; we were lucky enough to get all our kids in," Slade said. "For my older daughter it was a fantastic experience."

Her daughter's entire 8th grade class was just 36 students.



There were no gradings on assignments until her oldest daughter reached the 8th grade, but the family got written progress reports every six months.

"It's much more than your child is getting an 'A' or a 'B,'" Slade said. "The culture there is the kids are very involved with each other and the parents are, too."

"They have to turn parents away from going on field trips."

One example is the 4th graders spending two days on Smith Island to go mud mucking and look at all the fauna right under their feet, Slade said.

Slade was never concerned that all the enrichment activities would drown out the academic rigor for her children.

Charter school students have to take the same high stakes tests as the rest of their public school counterparts.

"My kids are definitely learning," Slade said.

Maddie is doing well in high school, her mother said but she was concerned that her daughter would experience culture shock as a freshman; she did but her education at the charter school has served her well.

"I was incredibly nervous," Maddie said of moving on to 9th grade. "I'm just one of 400 [freshmen] right now."

"[At the charter school] we learned the basics but we

also went further; it's nice being on the same academic level as everyone else."

Shannon Norris, the treasurer of the board which governs the charter school, said the charter school gets most of its funding from the school system but the charter school alliance raises tens of thousands of dollars a year to help pay for all the enrichment activities students enjoy.

The public money pays for the building's mortgage, for teachers salaries and for the limited busing of students, among other line items...

Busing is only offered to students who live in close proximity; students who live farther out in the county must find alternate means of transportation.

Norris said the opportunities for her children at Chesapeake Charter were special.

"The biggest draw was the integrated learning," Norris said. "They integrate classroom lessons with project based learning with real world connections."



Angela Funya, educational director and principal at Chesapeake Public Charter School

Angela Funya, educational director and principal at the school, said they are slowly but surely filling out into the space at the building where they currently reside, near the school system's Fairlead Academy just down the street.

The buildout should be complete by 2024, just a few years away, Funya said.

It will also mean that there will be more spaces available for students.

"When we're done we'll have 540 students," Funya said.

Perhaps the school's most unique traits are that it encompasses kindergarten through middle school grades and works off of an 11-month calendar.

There are several breaks interspersed throughout the year, Funya said, but the greater amount of classroom time for students is of real benefit.

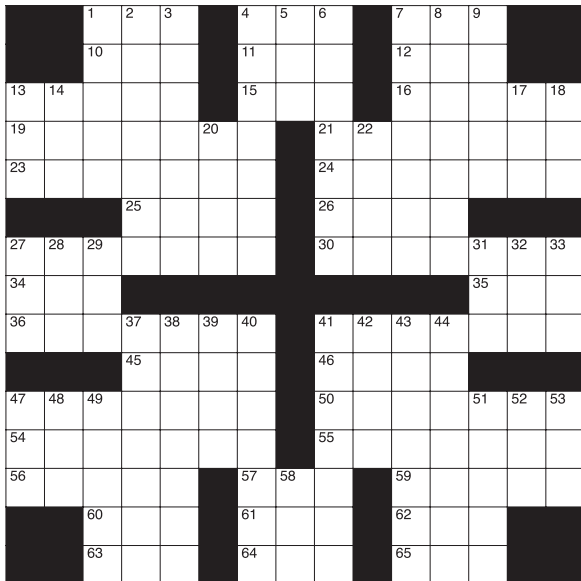
For the summer vacation they get all of July off with just a bit of the surrounding months as well, she said.

"It's a bit of a shorter break but it stops that summer slide," Funya said.

As the charter school continues to grow and prosper they will stay with their core mission of providing rigorous academics with providing a larger and more in-depth immersive educational experience for students.

"We like being here and being a choice for people in the community," Funya said.

Fun & GAMES



CLUES ACROSS

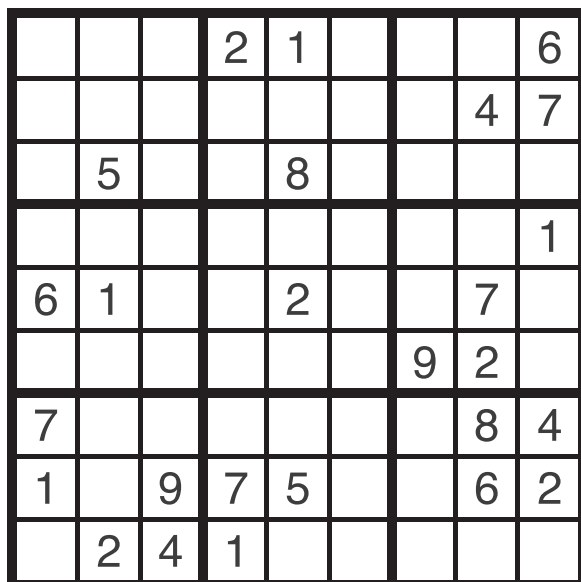
- 1. Public broadcaster
- 4. Hit lightly
- 7. Keyboard key
- 10. Grain
- 11. Make a mistake
- 12. To the ___ degree
- 13. Endure without complaint
- 15. Chinese-American actress Ling
- 16. Edible stomach lining
- 19. Sunrooms
- 21. Feared
- 23. Most eager

- 24. Excessive chatting session
- 25. MLB ace
- 26. Major Central European river
- 27. Muscular weaknesses
- 30. Where seedlings germinate
- 34. Former monetary unit of the EU
- 35. Personal ads abbreviation
- 36. Mythical animal
- 41. Members of Orthodox Jewish sect
- 45. German city
- 46. Algerian coastal city

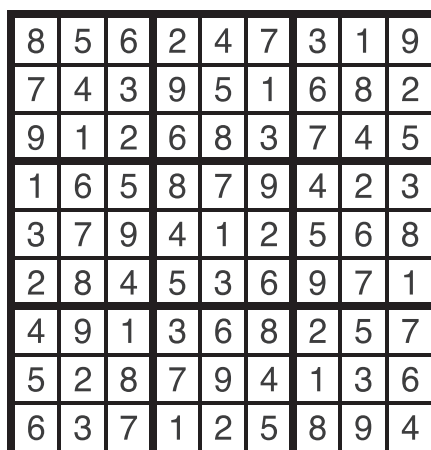
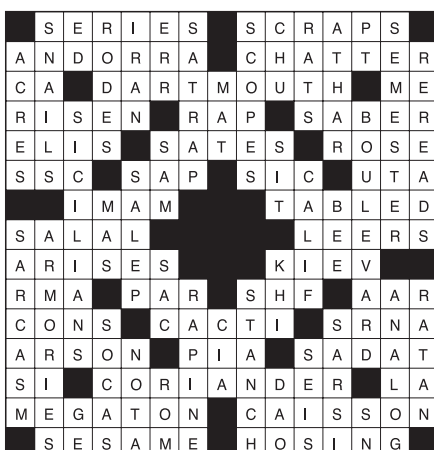
- 47. Military men
- 50. Salt of sulfuric acid
- 54. Rhododendrons
- 55. Mixture
- 56. Recommended quantities
- 57. 007's creator
- 59. Men
- 60. Kids need it
- 61. Midway between east and east-northeast
- 62. OJ trial judge
- 63. Yes vote
- 64. USDA branch that manages the FCIC
- 65. Create with cloth

CLUES DOWN

- 1. English seaport
- 2. What's owed
- 3. Sound systems
- 4. Elections feature them
- 5. Southern constellation
- 6. London and Brooklyn are two
- 7. One-time Ugandan capital
- 8. Attacked with bombs
- 9. Rebuke
- 13. Expression of disappointment
- 14. A way to work the soil
- 17. The human foot
- 18. Sun up in New York
- 20. A small island
- 22. Abnormal rattling sound
- 27. Make lively
- 28. A team's best pitcher
- 29. It goes on the floor
- 31. Not good
- 32. Peyton's little brother
- 33. Barrier that holds back water
- 37. Move quickly
- 38. Deteriorate with age
- 39. Colorless crystalline compound
- 40. Cheekier
- 41. Expresses praise or joy
- 42. Famed boxing promoter
- 43. Cured sausages
- 44. Fill with air or gas
- 47. Angry
- 48. Chemistry prefix
- 49. Practitioner of Jamaican religion
- 51. Softly bright or radiant
- 52. Buffer solution used to separate nucleic acids
- 53. First responder group
- 58. Defensive nuclear weapon



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann
Contributing Writer



Norcardia, Schmardia

It has been really nice being home for a week since my recent ten day stay at the St. Mary's Hospital Bed and Breakfast...which not only included the breakfast, but lunch and dinner too. My adventure was actually a lot longer than that, having begun on December 29th/30th with a seemingly innocuous ragged cuticle. And like many people I tried to chew off that little ragged cuticle edge on the corner, not thinking about the warning that when you are on biologics to bring down your immune system which is already in a war within your body that it is strictly forbidden to do so...and with good reason. You open yourself up to a whole host of infections. You know all those Biologic commercials that are constantly on TV warning about all the infections you can get? Well, it is all true. I have had most all of those side-effects from my many years of biologic injections, five different brands so far.

So, after opening up a tiny cut after gnawing on the cuticle and kept aggravating it further until my right index finger starting swelling and turning colors. Not known for common sense, we headed up to DC with about 16 or so friends for a hockey game and overnight for New Year's Eve. After taking an extra prednisone, Excedrin Migraine, and maybe too much alcohol, too early, the inevitable bad decisions followed which I am known for.

After the hockey game, it was time for a lovely dinner at a great restaurant, then an extremely fun evening at the rooftop bar of the hotel we were all staying in. I am really happy that at least if you are going to be out of partying commission for awhile that I had a blast New Year's Eve. Extra Prednisone always gives you that euphoric, I am invincible even though I should not be doing this feeling. I really shouldn't have danced the night away ignoring my increasingly worrisome finger and the arthritis pains, but I was having so much fun ignoring it all for one night. Yes, my husband continually warned me how I would feel the next day, but I was beyond the point of reason. The other thing about Prednisone if you have never taken it is that it makes you extremely hot, so I was continually going out on the beautifully appointed deck that surrounded the glass enclosed bar area to get cool. The deck part had beautiful areas of plants and flowers and since it was raining also had nice pockets of water around. I was so happy to see all the flowers that I had to feel the petals and brush my hands over the tops of the plants that had soil splashed up on them from the rain.

Bad, bad move on my part. Unbeknownst to me, a nasty little opportunistic bacteria called Norcardia, with many different species available



to choose from, invaded my cut and overnight turned into a hugely swollen, skin blackening, flu-like symptoms infection. Next step once home was ER with a culture done and a broad spectrum antibiotic. Didn't work and spread throughout the finger and badly inflamed the lymph nodes up and down my right arm. Back to the ER and admitted to the hospital with various antibiotics tried, finger surgery, more cultures, and the possibility of losing all or part of my finger. I was sent home with a PICC line through my upper arm and inserted in a main artery.

I must say St. Mary's Hospital was great, all the nurses were wonderful and the doctors kind throughout. I even liked all the food which was really good. My husband has been amazing with cooking, cleaning, sterilizing everything in the house, and doing all my infusions and wound care. As of now, I am on a schedule of IV antibiotic infusions every 6 hours plus oral antibiotics and considered Homebound under Medicare rules. We are getting ready to head to the Infectious Disease doctor in a few minutes and find out what the last set of culture results have revealed, and then find out the treatment plan and length after that. The finger is looking better I think, and the lymph nodes are starting to calm down. I will keep you updated on my journey, but I have thought since the beginning that there are so many friends and others with life-threatening health problems to think about. Okay, watch those cuticles!!

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

Old Dominion Coming to Calvert Marine Museum



CMA Vocal Group of the Year Old Dominion

CMA Vocal Group of the Year Old Dominion will perform live at the Calvert Marine Museum's PNC Waterside Pavilion on Friday, August 21 as part of their "We Are Old Dominion" summer tour. Old Dominion has emerged as one of the hottest bands out of Nashville, fusing clever lyrics and an infectious sound with popular hits such as "One Man Band," "Make It Sweet," and "Hotel Key."

Their lyrical wit and hook-heavy songwriting has certainly proved a winning method: since breaking onto the music scene in 2014, the band has notched eight #1 singles on country radio, surpassed one billion on-demand streams, earned several Platinum and Gold single certifications, and are currently headlining arenas and amphitheaters around the globe. Don't miss the opportunity to see one of country music's hottest acts, right here in Southern Maryland.

Ticket prices and sale dates will be announced soon. As always, CMM members will be able to purchase tickets one week before the general public. To become a member and enjoy all that the museum has to offer year-round, visit www.calvertmarinemuseum.com.

Opening for Old Dominion are rising country stars Dustin Lynch and Carly Pearce. Fans best know Lynch for popular songs like "Ridin' Roads," "Small Town Boy," and the 2018 hit "Good Girl." Rounding out this trio of country music sensations is Carly Pearce. Defying odds, her No. 1 debut "Every Little Thing" designated Carly as the highest charting solo female debut since July 2015 and one of only three women to accomplish the feat in the last decade. Other well-known hits include "I Hope You're Happy Now" and "Hide The Wine."

Proceeds from the Waterside Music Series support the education and preservation efforts of the Calvert Marine Museum. This event would not be possible without the generous support of the community and many local businesses. Sponsors include: Prince Frederick Ford Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram, PNC Bank, O'Brien Realty, Bozick Distributors, Inc., Tidewater Dental, Sunshines Catering, Roy Rogers, Equity Resources, Inc., Directmail.com, Holiday Inn Solomons, TitleMax, LLC, City Wide Mechanical, 102.9 WKIK, Quick Connections, Bay Weekly, Southern Maryland Newspapers, Isaac's Restaurant, Papa John's Pizza, Comcast, Atlantic Broadband, Southern Maryland Blue Crabs, Results Health & Fitness, and Asbury-Solomons. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Vanessa Gill at 410-326-2042, ext. 18. Individualized packages are built based on your needs.

For additional information, please visit the website at www.calvertmarinemuseum.com.

Press Release from
Calvert Marine Museum

Have you Planned your Vacation?

Now is the perfect time to plan your vacation because it's Wave Season! Cruise lines have their own version of Black Friday but, instead of a single day of deals, it lasts an entire season of three months. Plus, it's the time of year when cruise lines traditionally cut their prices and offer the best deals. National Plan for Vacation Day is on Tuesday, January 28, and it is a day to encourage Americans to plan their time off.

If you plan a family cruise, you'll enjoy the thrills of an unforgettable vacation before you even get to your destination. Easy-to-plan, fun onboard activities are an enticing reason to choose a cruise instead of a land-based vacation for your family getaway. There are a variety of incredible options that the whole family can enjoy.

The major cruise lines all offer supervised kids' programs for toddlers through teens that include arts and crafts, contests, movies, and other activities. Options on some cruise lines include skydiving, air machines, shows at an aquatic theater to riding a carousel at sea. And while mom and dad are sipping a cocktail at the ship's swim-up bar, the kids will be having the time of their lives on one of the ship's many adventure sites, including bumper cars, roller skating, and ice skating rinks. There are Broadway shows, rock climbing walls, water slides, trampolines, batting cage, basketball courts, and of course, video games. With so many indoor and outdoor activities available for the whole family, these cruises will let you leave your stress on land, far, far behind.

If you are planning an adults-only vacation, you can be among the first to experience for the first time, an adults-only cruise. Virgin Voyages will make a big splash into

the cruise market when it debuts the Scarlet Lady in April 2020. This cruise is for ages 18 and up on a top luxury cruise line that is taking a more inclusive approach that includes dining, group fitness classes, Wi-Fi, basic non-alcoholic beverages, and gratuities. Your cruise fare includes nearly all onboard amenities such as your accommodation, meals, snacks, fresh towels and bed linen, most onboard activities for Sea days, plus evening entertainment. It features world-class interiors and luxury options to meet the distinctive needs of its passengers and will give you a yacht-type of cruise experience.

Virgin Voyages will bring dining experiences to sea that will have no conventional buffet venue, no main dining room with formal evenings. All restaurants will be open-seating with there are no dining times. Plus, there will be later restaurant hours to allow for greater flexibility. With over 20 dining choices, Virgin Voyages has opted to forgo the practice of specialty dining venues coming at an up-charge, and instead, will be including all dining within the cruise fare.

This bold new cruise ship will be based in Miami and sail to the Caribbean and Mexico. The three to five-night itineraries include port stops in Key West, Puerto Plata, Cozumel, and Costa Maya. Plus, you will visit Virgin's private Beach Club on Bimini Island in the Bahamas, where you can hang by the pool while their DJ spins some tunes or relax in the evening with a bonfire on the beach.

The ship will accommodate more than 2,700 passengers and will feature restaurants, suites, lounges, and cabins with solo options. It has a total of 1,330 cabins and 78 Rock Star Suites. Automatic light, temperature adjusters, autonomous

charge unit, 4K flat-screen 43in HDTVs, and mini-bars will form part of the standard cabin design.

It will feature a First World War-themed restaurant. The multi-cuisine restaurant will primarily offer dishes for vegetarians. The Test Kitchen will offer a lab-like environment, where the chef will provide all the list of ingredients and details of the recipe to enable guests to choose their preferred style of cooking. Geonbae will be a Korean BBQ restaurant. The Dock is a lounge area offering a beach club-like experience to guests onboard. Pink Agave, a Mexican restaurant, will serve a variety of cuisines onboard. The Galley restaurant will offer different food options ranging from breakfast to dinner. Pizza Place will offer pizzas, while Extra Virgin, an Italian restaurant, will serve pasta-focused food and offer homemade food experience to travelers.

Custom-designed for adult passengers, Scarlet Lady, will offer multiple entertainment venues. The Runway will be a raised red jogging track around the top of the ship, while Athletic Club will be a yacht-inspired feature. Scarlet Lady will also feature a tattoo parlor called Squid Ink. Other entertainment venues onboard the Scarlet Lady will include Redemption Spa, Gym and Tonic Bar, Well-Being pool, four basketball courts, Crow's Nest yoga center, and Stubble & Groom barbershop and a casino.

You can be one of the first to experience an adults-only cruise on Virgin Voyages new, Scarlet Lady.

By Jeneva Lucianetti
Certified Sandals Wedding Specialist
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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

Maryland Senator Tours US Naval Test Pilot School

Maryland Senator John D. "Jack" Bailey (R-Calvert, St. Mary's) recently toured the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at NAS Patuxent River to learn about its mission to train developmental test pilots, flight officers, engineers, and partners in cutting-edge techniques for testing and evaluating aircraft and aircraft systems.

USNTPS commanding officer Cmdr. Glenn P. "Neo" Rioux began the tour with a briefing on the history and mission of the school, which was established in 1945. USNTPS is in the forefront of developing the latest test flight test techniques and standardization for use in testing military and commercial aircraft. Rioux explained that USNTPS is the only school in the United States that offers training for rotary wing test pilots and serves as the U.S. Army's dedicat-

ed test pilot school. Nearly 100 NASA astronauts are USNTPS graduates. Rioux also pointed out that many of the school's civilian employees are local residents.

As a member of the Senate's education subcommittee, Bailey was very interested in learning about the school's educational mission and expressed his desire to help the school strengthen its connections with other educational institutions in St. Mary's County, including the University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland, where nine colleges and universities currently offer programs in education, management, engineering, and the applied sciences. Located near the St. Mary's County Regional Airport, USMSM is just six miles up the road from NAS Patuxent River.

Bailey also offered his

support for the idea of awarding master's degrees to USNTPS graduates upon completion of their 11-month course of study, which would make the school more attractive to students and with other test pilot programs around the world that offer similar degrees. He also suggested exploring ways to strengthen the school's ties with other academic research and development projects in the region, such as the University of Maryland's drone test facility in Crisfield and its aviation sciences program in Salisbury, and NASA's Wallops Island rocket test facility, all of which are located across the Chesapeake Bay.

Marine Corps Maj. Camille "Vigo" Lampert, a rotary wing instructor at USNTPS, guided Bailey and his chief of staff, Christina Vigorito, through the school's flight



Cmdr. Glenn Rioux, right, commanding officer of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, points out the features of one of the school's aircraft to Maryland Senator Jack Bailey during a recent tour of the school's hangars.

simulation lab, which is a critical component of students' ground training. In the lab, students learn about the practical applications of subjects they study in class, such as aerodynamics, thermodynamics, electro-optics, and radar, before using those systems to collect data during test flights.

The tour culminated in a visit to the two USNTPS hangars, which house the 44 fixed- and

rotary-winged aircraft that students use to complete their required 120 flight hours over as many as 100 sorties. During the tour, Bailey shared reminiscences from his time in the Covert Operations Unit of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police, when he flew in aircraft on drug interdiction missions.

"It was a pleasure hosting Sen. Bailey and Ms. Vigorito for their visit,"

Rioux said. "I'm looking forward to working with the Senator and his staff to develop some of the exciting ideas we discussed about how USNTPS can broaden our students' experience by taking advantage of the wide range of educational opportunities in the area."

*By Paul Lagasse
Naval Test Wing
Atlantic Communications*

Pet OF THE WEEK MEET NUTSY

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Smith's Budget Call for \$12M Increase

Request Includes \$9M More from County

By Dick Myers
Editor

The "sixth rodeo" is the way St. Mary's County Superintendent of Schools Dr. J. Scott Smith described his sixth budget. It's always a hard ride from the introduction in January to the adoption by the county commissioners in May and finalization by the school board in June.

Smith unveiled his proposed budget at the Jan. 15 school board meeting. The board will hold a work session on the budget on Jan. 29 and there will be a public hearing on it on Feb. 12.

Smith presented a proposed \$234.5 million budget. He said, "What will draw most attention is the fact that we're seeking a little over a \$12 million increase, which is over a five-percent increase over our 2020 budget."

Of that increase, he is seeking \$9.6 million more from the county, of which \$2 million would be from the county fund balance for one-time expense and the rest from the county's general fund, which in order to accomplish would also necessitate the county dipping into its reserves.

Smith noted that about half of its revenues come from the state and that remains an unknown for this year because

of the Kirwan Commission, although he does not anticipate any additional monies for this coming fiscal year over what have already been appropriated. He said only a small portion comes from the federal government.

Smith said the school system has no influence over state or federal funding. That leaves the county. "The only thing that we can exert any influence over is our local funding," he said.

Smith said 93 percent of the budget is associated with personnel expenses, including salaries and wages, medical insurance and other benefits. Instructional salaries and wages alone account for more than \$3 million of the budget increase. The school system is currently negotiating with the union that represents teachers and support personnel for STEP and cost-of-living increases.

People are Smith's Number One budget priority, he said. Other priorities are "support for students and staff" and "sustaining our system."

Regarding salary negotiations, Smith said, "It's exceptionally important that we honor the process and that we recognize that the Kirwan initiatives at the core are predicated on how do we keep the very best people working with our kids."



School Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith

The budget reflects an increase of 32.2 full-time equivalent employees, of which 10 are safety and security assistants. He said, "We have a school resource officer in every one of our secondary schools and have been able to locate grant funds to make sure that every one of our elementary schools has an adopted sheriff's officer, a person who's coordinating with them. But across our 18 elementary schools we don't have any safety assistants."

The budget also includes one more pupil personnel worker. Smith said, "Those are the people that work beyond the walls of the classroom and really assist families whose children are strugg-

ling academically and specifically with attendance."

He added, "Oftentimes if you have somebody who's medically fragile or somebody who's going through some kind of challenge, social/emotional, in their lives, the pupil personnel worker is out there working with them and assisting with the family to get them engaged."

After the Feb. 12 budget public hearing, the board will have another work session on Feb. 19 before adopting their budget on Feb. 27 and sending it to the county commissioners.

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A View From The BLEACHERS

No Artificial Ingredients

By Ronald N. Guy Jr
Contributing Writer.

Hearts race. Knees shake. Perspiration dots foreheads. Anxious spectators take one last deep breath and then...

A football is booted off a tee and flies toward a far-off end zone. An umpire yells "Play Ball" and a pitcher hurls a stitched sphere toward a catcher's mitt 60 feet and six inches away. Two giants leap to tip an orange-ish ball tossed skyward. A puck is dropped at center ice as sticks violently clash.

The games begin. Viewers exhale, but only briefly. Adrenaline quickly swells as relentless competition continues through quarters, halves, periods or innings and ends with the scoreboard, the ultimate authority, deciding the victor - the best on this day and for this single game.

The essence of sport resides between the lines - the rink, court, links, gridiron, pitch or diamond; there, it is player versus player, coach versus coach, scheme versus scheme and team versus team. The result is sometimes glorious (the thrill of victory) and sometimes painful (the agony of defeat), but the process is always captivating.

The assumption, naïve as it may be, is the competition is pure. No one is on the take. The combatants achieved this height of athletic competition based on merit and dedication to craft; the integrity of the sport is held in the highest regard.

That simple task is sometimes too much for humans in general, much less highly competitive, ego-centric humans, some of whom are afflicted with a lust for wealth and fame. The same determination required for athletes, coaches and executives to reach the pinnacle of sports can entice some to cross ethical, maybe even moral boundaries to profit or gain an advantage...or both.

The Black Sox scandal happened. Former NBA official Tim Donaghy did make calls to manipulate point spreads. Point shaving has occurred in college basketball. Bad actors have funneled talent to major college programs with financial overtures. The NFL's greatest and most recent dynasty, the Belichick-Brady Patriots, shook our confidence with "Spygate" and "Deflategate." And for many (myself included), sports completely lost its innocence with the shameful explosion of PED us-

age in MLB near the turn of the century.

And now, not even a generation after "the juice" soiled MLBs sacred record-books, complicated Hall of Fame inductions and made us question baseball's identification as the national pastime, the Houston Astros have been caught stealing pitching signs using live video feeds in their dugout (and maybe signal buzzers on their person). Former Astros pitcher Mike Fiers was the first to blow the whistle in November 2019; the internet and video sleuths took it from there. Now we know: the Astros employed the scheme in 2017 through their World Series victory and in the 2018 regular season - at the very least.

The fallout has been swift and significant: Astros General Manager Jeff Luhnow and manager A.J. Hinch, Red Sox manager Alex Cora (Astros bench coach in 2017) and Mets manager Carlos Beltran (a player on the 2017 Astros) have all been fired. Beyond that, the Astros' 2017 championship and the tremendous success of their talented, potent lineup is forever tainted. This era of Astros baseball gets filed next to Barry Bonds's flawed homerun record and Roger Clemens's late-career revival - all accomplishments achieved with artificial ingredients. Brand them with the cheater's asterisk - Houston Astros* evermore. What a shame.

Mark Twain once said, "It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world, and moral courage so rare." How appropriate that quote is for gifted athletes who so cavalierly succumb to temptation. But will this latest sordid episode in sports incite the universal outrage that prior scandals have? A gaze across the American landscape suggests no. The court of public opinion, once the nation's great authority on standards of decency, seems more lenient. Excursions from long shared tenets of right and wrong are quickly rationalized, sometimes even lauded, if the pursued outcome pleases certain sects of the court. This suggests winning is valued over method or means. And to the extent this is true, the Astros are America's team and baseball, with its latest group of liars and cheats, is a fitting pastime.

Send comments to
RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

Great Mills Girls Basketball Continues Undefeated Streak Against Calvert



Kyla Daniels #10, one of the three lead scorers for the game. Photo by Ceandra Scott.



GMHS Girl's Basketball still undefeated with 13 wins. Photo by Ceandra Scott.

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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

Erma Marie Stover



Erma Marie Stover, 88, of Charlotte Hall, MD, formerly of Cumberland, MD, passed away peacefully on January 3, 2020.

Born on February 19, 1931 in Colcord, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Howard Stover and the late Maudie Jarrell Stover. Erma was the 6th of 14 children (8 girls and 6 boys).

Growing up, she and her siblings worked the family farm when they weren't in school. When her brothers left for the war, she and her sisters had the primary job of working the farm without them, including plowing the fields with the manual mule driven plow. She often reminisced about growing up the way she did, as "life being hard, but good." Watching her brothers and male schoolmates go off to war sparked a desire in her to join the military too from a young age. Although it was not an ordinary path for a young country girl to pursue, Erma knew there was a bigger world out there and she was determined to experience it! After graduating high school, she moved to work in Charleston and began to put her plans into action to enlist in the Navy. In 1951, she finally was old enough and received the permission of her parents to realize her dream. She was proud of this decision her entire life, and only realized later what a trailblazer she was in doing this at that time. She was proud to serve her country from 1951 to 1953. Erma's military dreams brought her to the DC area where she lived and worked, married and began to have her family (Rita, Brenda, Donna and Gary), and moved to the Maryland suburbs in the early 60's.

Erma was a devoted mother and consummate homemaker. It was important for her to make every home she lived in beautiful and she was quite exceptional at doing that. Later in life she worked as a bookkeeper in the automotive and banking fields. She loved gardening and music and keeping her home beautiful - always ready to receive visits from friends, neighbors and especially her family.

Erma is survived by 3 children, Brenda Wolfe (Ted), Donna Hendricks-Nowak (David) and Gary Tugwell; 12 grandchildren, Michael Strickland (Jacque), Karen Beal (John), Laura Galvin (Jimmy), Heather Ridgway (Kevin), Adam Nowak (Melissa), Jenna Nowak (John), Kara Abrams (Sam), Sara Milli (Louis), Katie Bambacht, Shelby Tugwell, Sydney Tugwell, and Sawyer Tugwell and her 21 great grandchildren, April Webb, Alex Strickland, Alyssa Hitt, John Paul Beal, Shaye Beal, Alek Beal, Matthew Klein, Matthew Nicholson, Noah Galvin, Milo Harris, Savannah Ridgway, Mila Barfour, Ayden Bar-

four, Wesley Abrams, Maya Abrams, Gracie Milli, Louis Milli, Evie Bambacht, Audrey Nowak, Clark Nowak and Gideon Nowak. Also surviving Erma are her siblings, Claude Stover, Giora Skaggs, Phyllis Fish and Loulou Stover Brock.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her siblings, Tassie/Coon, Debra/Sarge, Helen, Jean, Jimmy, Fred, Jack, Ray and Bernice; her daughter, Rita Strickland (Wally) and her granddaughter, Andrea Wolfe.

There will be a Chapel Service and interment with military honors on Monday January 27, 2020 at 1pm at Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623 with Deacon William Kyte officiating. A Wake will follow at a private residence in Huntingtown, MD. Address and directions will be given at the chapel.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to be made to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

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

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

Debora Marie MacTaggart



Debora Marie MacTaggart, 62, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on June 14, 2020 at Med-Star St. Mary's

Hospital.

She was born on December 26, 1957 to the late Joseph Gray Lumpkin and Helen Norma Helton.

Debora married her beloved husband, Gavin MacTaggart before his passing in July 1994. Together they celebrated 14 wonderful years of marriage. She was employed by Amber House (previously Chesapeake Shored) and St. Mary's Nursing Center as a Certified Nursing Assistant for 6 years. She has spent the last 15 years as a dedicated Office Assistant with Food Lion. She enjoyed travelling, especially to the mountains of North Carolina, crabbing, fishing and boating. She loved to tend to her beautiful flower gardens. Her greatest love was for her family and companion, Kenneth, whom she enjoyed spending her time with.

She is survived by her children, Kefie Hensley of Lexington Park, MD and Bass Hensley of Burlington, NC; her siblings: Robert Raines of Tahlequah, OK, John Raines of Henderson, FL, Sharon Hernadaz (David) of San Antonio, TX, Judith Johnson (Bruce) of Bristol, CT, Joseph Lumpkin of Lexington Park, MD, Charles Helton of Lexington Park, MD, and Sue Waugh of Leonardtown, MD; her loving companion of 19

years, Kenneth Biscoe of Leonardtown, MD, seven grandchildren and many extended family and friends.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she is also preceded in death by her children, Bob Hensley and Kora Hensley, and her brother, Louis Raines and her grandson, Shawn Morgan.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to St. George's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 30, Valley Lee, Md 20692.

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

Arrangments by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

George Clarence Vause



George Clarence Vause, 86, of California, MD died January 9, 2020 at Hospice House of St. Mary's in Callaway, MD.

He was born on February 15, 1933 in Pittsburgh, PA to the late Clarence and Nora (Sullivan) Vause.

George was a 1951 graduate of Great Mills High School. He enlisted in the

U.S. Navy Reserves (June 18, 1951 to January 11, 1953); the U.S. Army (Jan. 12, 1953 to August 5, 1960); the U.S. Air Force (October 4, 1960 to October 3, 1968); and again in the U.S. Navy Reserves on May 16, 1980, where he proudly served his country until his retirement on February 5, 1993. On March 12, 1957, he married his beloved wife, Christa Vause, in Germany. They celebrated over 62 wonderful years of marriage. He earned his Bachelor's degree from New Hampshire College and was employed by the Department of Defense as a dedicated Computer Programmer until his retirement. He was a skilled woodworker and made many beautiful pieces of furniture for family and friends. With the help of his brother and father, he built his own house. His previous hobbies included playing fast pitch softball, gardening, and traveling. He traveled to Germany three times, taking his wife back to her hometown in Germany to visit her sisters and extended family. He also traveled to Hawaii, Japan, and Florida. He was an avid reader, especially of westerns and military based books.

In addition to his beloved wife, George is also survived by his children: Thomas Patrick "Tom" Vause of California, MD, Frank Raymond Vause of

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California, MD, Eric Steven Vause (Diane) of Chuckey, TN, and Heidi Lynn Vause (Jeff Pleines) of Catonsville, MD; his brother, Eugene "Gene" Vause (Barbara) of Edgewater, MD; his granddaughters, Arica Sandoval (Josh) of Clovis, NM and Jennifer Vause Miller of Alamogordo, NM; his great grandchildren: Whitney, Nasser, Aaiden, Jackson, and Alluralyie; and many extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Ronald Vause, and his sister, Marilyn McGirr.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, February 8, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., with a Funeral Service by Rev. Joe Orlando at 2:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 79, Hollywood, MD 20636 and Lexington Park Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 339, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Charles Franklin Leroy Stokes



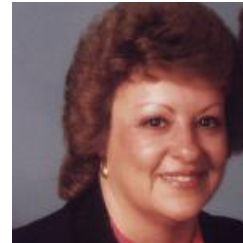
Charles Franklin Leroy Stokes, "Roy", 76, of Mechanicsville, MD formerly from Airville, PA, passed away on January 18, 2020 in La Plata, MD. Born on February 19, 1943 in York, PA, he was the loving son of the late Mary Elizabeth Gordon Stokes, and Franklin Leroy Stokes. Roy is survived by his children Brenda Denton (John), Sherry McManus both of Mechanicsville, MD, 6 grandchildren Joseph L. Welch, Jr, Albert L. (Speedy) Lyon, III, John R. Denton, Jr, Natalie B. McManus, Jamie M. Cochran, Joshua M. Denton, and 4 great grandchildren. As well as siblings Shelby J. Choate, and Gary L. Stokes. He was preceded in death by his brother Gordon W. Stokes. He graduated from Red Lion High School in 1962.

He moved to St. Mary's County, MD on February 14, 1974. Roy worked for the Local Union 602 as a steamfitter. He started in 1969, retiring on August 1, 2004. Roy served in the United States Army for 2 years and was stationed at Ft. Meade, MD.

Roy loved playing the lottery and scratch offs. He was a nature lover and gun collector, he enjoyed fishing, hunting, cooking, car racing in the ¼ mile, shooting pool, hanging out with his friends at Big Dog's. Roy loved anything Ford, especially mustangs and trucks, and listening to bluegrass and country music.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 23, 2020 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD where a Funeral Service will be held at 7:00 PM in the Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Dennis Gillikin, Sr. officiating. Interment will be held on Friday, January 24, 2020 at 11:00 AM in Bethel United Methodist Cemetery Brogue, PA.

Virginia Louise Thompson



Virginia Louise Thompson, 75, of Clements, MD passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at the Hospice House of St. Mary's.

Louise was born on August 7, 1944

in St. Mary's to Virginia Louise Gatten and the late Elmer Grove. She married the love of her life, Buddy Thompson, on October 14, 1961. Together they celebrated 58 years of marriage and raised three sons, Ricky, Scott and Mark.

Alongside her husband, Louise and Buddy owned and operated two successful businesses, Buddy's Disposal & Sons and T&T Sweeping & Port-O-Let Services. She took great pride in their companies and worked every day in the office up until her illness. Even with being a busy business owner, Louise always made time to spend with her 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. They brought her so much joy! Louise loved family time and enjoyed hosting Christmas dinner at their house. She would welcome anyone to the table with a smile. Louise also enjoyed watching NASCAR and cheering on the Baltimore Ravens. She always took care of herself as she always had her hair and nails done.

In addition to her father, Louise is preceded in death by her sisters Jean Wood and Trish Lahocki. In addition to her mother, she is survived by her husband, Buddy, of Clements, her three sons, Ricky (Sissy) of Mechanicsville, Scott (Patti) of Avenue, and Mark (Laura) of Hollywood, her grandchildren, J.R., Crystal, Ashley, Stacey, Brittany, Bobby, Jenny, Jackie, J.S., Morganne,

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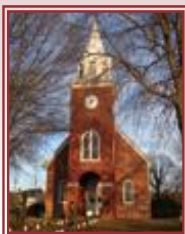
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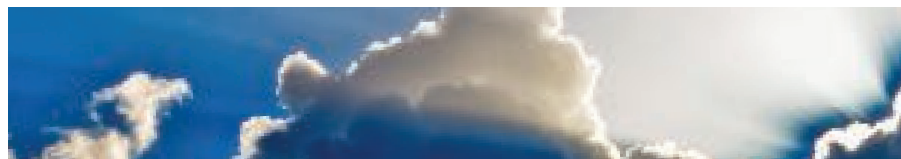
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and her great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to Hospice House of St Mary's and the Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Nedra Sue Duysen



Nedra Sue Duysen, 75, of Tall Timbers, MD, went home to be with Jesus on December 25, 2019, after her battle with congestive heart failure. She was born on May 12, 1944 to the late Donald Shoopman and Hattie Tucker in Whitley City, Ky.

Nedra is survived by her son Tony Andreoli and wife Patty; grandson Zachary Andreoli; and grand-daughter Alyssa (Andreoli) Mitchell, husband Clay Mitchell Jr, and two great-grandchildren, Camden and Harper Mitchell, all of Lexington Park, MD. She is also survived by her siblings Donna Strunk and husband Sam, Raymond Shoopman and wife Anna, and Linda Slaven. In addition to her parents, Nedra was preceded in death by her loving husband Larry, and her siblings Donald Shoopman Jr., Tommy Shoopman, June Stephens and Shirley Ross.

Nedra worked for the Navy for 35 years before retiring in China Lake, Ca. After retirement in 1998, Nedra and Larry spent several months crossing the country in their RV and seeing the sights along the way, before settling in Southern Maryland to be closer to their family. Nedra and Larry were blessed and shared a beautiful life and family together. Nedra will be lovingly remembered by her family for his kindness, support, and unconditional love. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Nedra had a passion for cooking and loved to garden, however her favorite thing was to spend time with her family. She found great joy in watching her grandchildren and great grandchildren grow and discover the world.

Nedra's family mourns the loss of a kind, gentle, and loving woman, and her physical presence will be sorely missed, however they find great comfort and peace in knowing she is resting eternally with our Heavenly Father.

Nedra will be laid to rest alongside Larry in a private service at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Eleanore Louise Wilkinson Keegan

Eleanore Louise Wilkinson Keegan ("Louise"), 89, of Avenue, MD passed away at Riderwood Village on January 11, 2020, with her family by her side.

Born on April 6, 1930 in Washington,



D.C., she was the daughter of the late George Albert Wilkinson and Lillian Grace Hayden Wilkinson.

Louise lived for significant periods in Washington, DC, the Maryland suburbs, and St. Mary's County. She married her beloved husband, Richard Joseph Keegan on January 10, 1953 in Washington, D.C. They were married for 35 years. They loved hosting family and friends for any occasion, especially their legendary Thanksgiving dinners!

After raising five children, Louise worked for the Archdiocese of Washington, both as a teacher and principal until her retirement in 1993 after 20 years of service. She taught at St. Martin's Elementary and St. Mark's Elementary School, where she ultimately became principal. She later served as Assistant Principal at Immaculata College High School. She had a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry and a Master's Degree in Education.

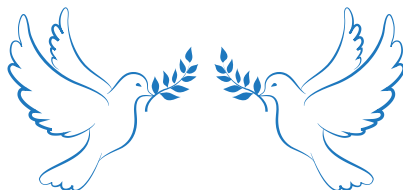
Louise was a member of Holy Angels parish in Avenue and was very involved, including as a Eucharistic Minister. She not only loved teaching and mentoring, she enjoyed traveling, especially to France, where she had many good friends. Louise loved the house she designed and had built on St. Clement's Bay, and spending time there with her family and friends.

She is survived by her children Sarah Keegan (Joel), Richard "Rick" Keegan (Trish), James Keegan (Achsah), Mary Catherine Keegan-Ayer (Brent), and Elizabeth Bailor (Tom). She also leaves behind her two sisters Joan Craft (Gary) and Susan Burgoyne (Jerry), and her brother Reverend George Wilkinson, Jr. "Buddy". She also leaves behind 7 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren along with many extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband Richard "Dick" Keegan, her parents George and Lillian Wilkinson, two children, Brigid Keegan and John Keegan, and her sisters-in-law Mary Anne Wilkinson and Mary Louise Keegan.

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

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Alzheimers Association, Holy Angels Parish, or St. Anselm's Abbey Monastery.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.



AVOID RETIREMENT PLANNING MISTAKES

We have discussed the need to get professional assistance with your retirement plan. Why? For the same reason you would use a brain surgeon to take out a brain tumor. There is no way most of us can understand all of the investment options that are available or how those options might be put to good use in your retirement plan. Here is the good news—your investigation of professionals will not cost you money, only time. Creating a retirement plan can be done at any age and at no cost. What is required is your commitment to doing it and your time and energy. Problems have solutions. You may not like the solutions you come up with as you create your retirement plan, but at least you will have solutions to review.

We note that 10,000 baby boomers are turning 65 every day for the next 19 years. And, many of those have no retirement plans in place.

The time to begin is now and that is true whether you are a baby boomer or in your 30's, 40's, 50's or wherever. Planning is not rocket science—it begins with a willingness to take a hard and honest look at your own financial situation.

Use all available resources to educate yourself. Today, the number and variety of free online investment education services is staggering. Every brokerage firm, insurance company and bank has a website full of learning tools, including retirement calculators, that will help you understand where you are and where you need to be. Or, if you prefer, your local library has hundreds of books available to you free of charge. Your goal is to spend the time to learn the basics of financial planning, including retirement planning. Once you have learned the language of investing, then seek out the professionals to help you.

Get a second opinion. If you have already been working with an investment professional and are not happy with the results, call them. Meet with them. Discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied, seek a second opinion. Take your lists of investments to another professional. Keep doing that until you find an expert who relates to you.

Do not become obsessed with the daily financial news. You are thinking and planning for long term success. You do not need to get sidetracked by the daily ups and downs of the market. It's fine to watch the financial news but keep in mind this is entertainment, nothing more.

Remember liquidity—your comfort zone. Plan for that cash cushion

that feels right to you. Discuss this with your professional.

Take some investment risk. Why? Because taking some risk will help you to ride out inflation. We haven't had much of that recently but you can be assured it is coming. That means your portfolio cannot be restricted only to fixed income investments. You need something in that portfolio to help you keep up with inflation. Again, your investment professional will help you select what you need, but you need to know that some investment risk is required to achieve the rewards you want.

Plan for your loved ones. Get a will or a living trust. Make sure you have a current power of attorney, both medical and financial, so if something happens to you, someone you love will be able to take care of you. Make it easy on your loved ones. Get all your documentation together in one place including insurance policies, car and boat titles, etc. Check all of your beneficiary designations to ensure they are up to date. There is nothing worse for your family than finding out after you die that your 401(k) plan proceeds have been paid to some relative you designated when you were single. Remember—"it's not an if, it's a when." When you die, leave behind a plan for your loved ones, not a mess.

Finally, retirement should be a joyous time for you and your loved ones. The most powerful predictor of satisfaction after retirement is the extent of a person's social network, not health or wealth. Having a plan helps, if course, but maintaining your social networks, giving of yourself to others, these are the predictors of retirement happiness. This is your retirement. To get the most out of it, you need to make it work for you. Good luck with your retirement!

Join us at 11am on the third Wednesday of every month at our office at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach for a free seminar on this and other topics. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

PROJECT ECHO is the name of the homeless shelter in Prince Frederick, providing emergency shelter, food and clothing. This great organization also operates shared living boarding houses to help people with jobs get on their feet and has recently opened a special shared living recovery house to help abused women and children. They need our help. Drop off your donations at our office or donate directly to www.projectecho.net. Help your neighbors.

Community Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 23, 2020

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser
Fitzies Marina and Pub Restaurant
Joe Hazel Road
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. Tickets are sold from 4pm-6:45, with the drawing at 7pm.

Wing Night
VFW Post 2632
Three Notch Road
California
5p.m. to 8p.m.

Queen of Hearts, 50/50 and Money Tree tickets will be sold from 5 to 7. Karaoke from 7 to 11.

Maryland in the Age of Sail: Wooden Shipbuilding

Calvert Marine Museum
14200 Solomons Island Road
Solomons,
7p.m. to 8p.m.

Join Mark Wilkins, Curator of Maritime History at the Calvert Marine Museum, as he explores "Maryland in the Age of Sail". This eight week lecture series includes topics ranging from European influence to the tobacco trade to the Civil War on the Chesapeake and more, through the 20th century.

Open Mic
Christ Church Parish Hall
37497 Zach Fowler Road
Chaptico
7p.m. to 10p.m.

Musicians, vocalists or folks who just like to listen! Acoustic musicians of all skill levels are warmly welcomed.

Come out for some great music and friendship, to hone your performance skills, to meet new friends and possibly learn a few new licks. The doors open at 7:00 PM, and the music starts at 7:30. The admission is \$7, and performers are admitted free. To sign up to perform, please contact Mike Smith at smtmdmike@gmail.com. Visit www.smtmd.org for more information. Refreshments will be available.

Friday, Jan. 24, 2020

Park Place Toastmasters
Church of Ascension
21641 Great Mills Road
Lexington Park
Noon to 1p.m.

Come visit us to find out how we can help you develop your speaking, listening, and leadership skills in a non-threatening environment!

Shrimp Dinner
American Legion Post 238
6265 Brandywine Rd.
Hughesville
5:30p.m. to 7:30p.m.
Steamed or Fried Shrimp with Sides.
Price—\$12

For more info call 301-274-3522 or check us out on the Web www.alpost238.org or Facebook

Saturday, Jan. 25, 2020

Southern Maryland Decorative Painters-Meeting & Paint-In
Immaculate Conception Church
28297 Old Village Rd.
Mechanicsville
9:30a.m. to 3:30p.m.

A business meeting will start at 10:00 followed by painting a Linda Sharp project, "Tropical Fantasy Pencil Box" led by Karen Showalter. Guests are always welcome and should contact us for supply info if you'd like to paint on the date of your visit.

You can visit our website at www.smdpaint.org/Calendar.html. Any questions contact Garnett Joy @ 301-884-2835 or email smdp.LearnToPaint@gmail.com. Thank you.

Appraiser Fair at St. Clement's Island Museum

St. Clement's Island Museum
Colton Point Road
Colton's Point
10a.m. to 3p.m.

You may have a hidden treasure in your attic or garage and not even know it! Visit with expert appraisers as they determine the value of your prized possessions at St. Clement's Island Museum.

Appraisers for various types of items will be available at the museum. Only items that can be hand-carried will be ap-

praised. Space is limited and items will be viewed on a first come, first serve basis.

Cold Weather Fellowship
Lexington Park Service Station
21697 Great Mills Road
Lexington Park
Noon to 2p.m.

During the Cold Weather Fellowship FREE lunch & warm outerwear will be given to those without shelter. For additional information please contact First Missionary Baptist Church at 301-863-8388

Mechanicsville Moose Texas Holdem Tournament

Mechanicsville Moose Lodge
27636 Mechanicsville Road
Mechanicsville
5p.m. to 11p.m.

\$100 buy-in (includes \$10 Bounty) Starting Stack is 20,000 chips. This is also a RE-ENTRY tournament!! You can re-enter 1 time before the start of the 2nd Break for \$80

For more info please contact James Dean 240-577-0828. Or the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge- 301-884-5454.

Mother Catherine Academy Bingo Every Saturday

Mother Catherine Academy
38833 Chaptico Road
Mechanicsville
6:30p.m. to 10:30p.m.

Doors open 4:30 Early Birds start 6:30 Regular Games start at 7:00. 301-884-3165

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020

VCMCI St. Mary's Church Service
21905 Chancellors Run Rd
Great Mills
10a.m. to noon

Non-denominational Church Service We welcome you! A Church of Love Join us for Sunday service, with Pastors Tyrone & Cynthia Marshall You won't leave out the same way you came in! See you soon!

Monday, Jan. 27, 2020

St. Mary's County Genealogy Society Monthly Meeting

University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland
44219 Airport Rd.
California
7p.m. to 9p.m.

Jeanne Pirtle, Education Director at Historic Sotterley, will describe her research into the families who resided at Sotterley and how they connected to families on Maryland's Eastern Shore and Virginia. For more information visit smcgsi.org

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020

Taco Tuesday

VFW Post 2632
Three Notch Road
California
5p.m. to 7p.m.

Tostada with Refried Beans 2.00
Soft or Hard Shell Tacos
Ground Beef, Shredded Chicken or Black Beans
1 For 2.00 Dollars
3 For 5.00 Dollars
5 For 8.00 Dollars
Nachos with Cheese 3.00 Dollars
Add Meat 1.00 Dollar
Taco Salad 5.00 Dollars
Walking Taco chicken or beef 2.00 dollars

Thursday, Jan. 30, 2020

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser

Fitzies Marina and Pub Restaurant
Joe Hazel Road
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. Tickets are sold from 4pm-6:45, with the drawing at 7pm.

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

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

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

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

Zumba Gold at Northern Senior Activity Center

Looking for an exercise class that gets you moving while having fun? The Northern Senior Activity Center has Zumba Gold on Tuesdays from 10-11 a.m. Certified instructor, Geno Rothback will have you sweating while dancing to contemporary and Latin beats. Never tried it before? Try your first class for free! After that, class can be taken through the purchase of a fitness card; \$35 for 10 sessions. For more information, call 301-475-4200, ext. 73101.

Ceramics with Marti

The Garvey Senior Activity Center will have ceramics class on Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 10 a.m. If you enjoy painting and creating personalized gifts or decorations for the home this is the class for you! Marti Cotterell will be teaching the class and offering instruction on painting techniques. The theme for the class will be Valentine's Day. The cost of the class is \$10 for each item painted and includes the firing of the item. For more information please call, 301-475-4200, ext.71050.

Beginners Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Loffler Senior Activity Center will be offering Beginner Tai Chi for Arthritis

classes on Mondays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. beginning Monday, Jan. 27. In this class we will learn to do some core movements on each side of the body in a graceful routine while applying basic Tai Chi principles. There is no fee for this class, but a commitment to attendance and practice is necessary for success. Pre-registration is required. Since space is limited to 20 new participants, we ask that you sign up only if you are sure that you will be able to attend regularly. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk by Jan. 23 to sign up.

Nutrition Counseling & Presentation with Donna Taggart

Do you have questions about your diet that you would like answered? Donna Taggart, Certified Diabetes Educator and Registered Dietician will be at the Garvey Senior Activity Center to help answer those questions. Call Ms. Taggart directly to make your appointment - 240-538-6539. She has openings at 9 a.m. & 10 a.m. for counseling. Join her on Monday, Feb. 3, at 11 a.m. for her presentation of Heart healthy Eating. There is no cost to attend; however, advance sign up is required. Register for presentations by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

Jewelry Making

Come join us as we create your personalized pieces of beautiful jewelry at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 10 a.m. We will supply the beads and tools you just supply the creativity! Kathy Creswell will be there to help you with how to make your piece and provide instruction as needed. You are welcome to make either a necklace or a bracelet or you can make both. The cost for each piece is \$10. Please let the receptionist know when signing up how many pieces you plan on making as supplies are purchased ahead of time. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050 to register for the class.

Saturday Enhance Fitness

Saturday Enhance Fitness is back at the Northern Senior Activity Center starting Saturday, Feb. 1, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Senior fitness instructor Cheryl Hiller will get your heart pumping in this evidence-based cardio and strength training class. Never tried it before? Try your first class for free! After that, class can be taken through the purchase of a fitness card; \$35 for 10 sessions. For more information, call 301-475-4200, ext. 73101.



ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

Illuminating St. Mary's County's Past Lecture Series: Archaeology 101

Leonardtown Library will hold the first presentation in a monthly series 'Illuminating St. Mary's County's Past' lecture series about Archaeology 101 on Tuesday, January 28 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This presentation is the first in a monthly series which will cover the science of archaeology and the scholars who map out and chart excavated sites, and document and verify their finds. Have you ever wondered why archaeologists are so interested in the dirt in a square pit, or why they get so grumpy when they see a metal detector? How can we determine human activity through the recovery and analysis of materials found in dirt? Craig Lukezic and James Gibb will address these questions and other archaeological mysteries. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

radKids

The Lexington Park Library will host radKIDS, a 2-day personal safety and life skills program filled with hope to escape violence on Saturday, February 1 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.) and Sunday, February 2 (1 p.m. - 5 p.m.) In today's world,

our children and their parents deserve the ability to recognize, avoid, resist, and if necessary, escape violence and or harm including abduction, bullying, abuse, or sexual assault. By replacing fear and confusion with confidence, knowledge, skills, and self-esteem, we will not only help our children prevent harm and escape violence, but also we will literally save lives. Registration and guardian's consent required on www.stmalib.org.

Income Tax Knowledge and 2018 Tax Changes

Leonardtown Library will host Income Tax Knowledge and 2018 Tax Changes on Tuesday, February 4 from 1 - 3 p.m. Would you like to improve your personal income tax knowledge? This program will provide participants with an understanding of the 2018 tax changes and 2019 tax updates; standard deductions, personal exemptions, changes to tax brackets, estate tax, child tax credit, itemized deductions and retirement savings. Join us in learning how to have a tax mindset all year long. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Illuminating St. Mary's County's Past Lecture Series: Archaeology 101

Leonardtown Library will hold the second presentation in a monthly series 'Illuminating St. Mary's County's Past' lecture series about Resurrecting the Jesuits on Tuesday, February 4 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Archaeology of the 1662 and 1731 Churches and Manor Houses. The first church at Newtowne Neck was built at about the same time as the chapel at St. Mary's City. The St. Mary's Chapter of the Ar-

chaeological Society of MD found the church, in addition to the house that the Jesuits lived in from 1662 to the end of the century! What did those buildings look like? What kinds of trash did the Jesuit fathers and lay brothers throw out? Join us as James Gibb presents a glimpse into what the Jesuits did at their "new" church and house down the road. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Groundhog Day

Charlotte Hall will celebrate Groundhog Day on Wednesday, February 5 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Celebrate the legacy of Punxsutawney Phil with this evening of groundhog themed crafts and activities! Recommended for ages lower through upper elementary. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

'I Can't Do Yoga' Yoga

Lexington Park Library will hold 'I Can't Do Yoga' Yoga on Saturday, February 8 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Come join us for "I Can't Do Yoga" Yoga. You will learn to use your mind, body, and breath to awaken your wellbeing and self-healing power. Please bring a yoga mat or a towel. Registration required. Dr. Lisa Clow, Ph.D., and Awake Yoga and Integrative Health Coaching invite you to experience how to use the Genius Breaks Method to develop your home-based yoga practice and join our yoga community to learn to move your joints through the appropriate range of motion. The "I Can't Do Yoga" yoga class was designed for all levels of interest and abilities and will help develop your ability to stay calm during stressful situations and find joy in living. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.



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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Leonardtown Fire House
22733 Lawrence Ave. • Leonardtown • MD 20650
February 25, 2020 • 4:30PM - 7PM

Pancakes • Eggs • Country Sausage
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Contributing Writers	Laura Joyce, Ron Guy, Shelby Opperman, Dave Spigler

The St. Mary's County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of St. Mary's County. The St. Mary's County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The St. Mary's County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

To be considered for publication, articles and letters to the editor submitted must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number. Submissions must be delivered by 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication to ensure placement for that week. After that deadline, the St. Mary's County Times will make every attempt possible to publish late content, but cannot guarantee so. Letters may be condensed/edited for clarity, although care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. Copyright in material submitted to the newspaper and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the St. Mary's County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The St. Mary's County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.



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