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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

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**Leonardtwn 7-11
Turned Down**

**St. Mary's a Gun
Rights Sanctuary?**

**Bank Robbery Under
Investigation**



Mechanicsville Rescue: *60 Years of Service*

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“HIS NAME IS SYNONYMOUS WITH WILDEWOOD.”

COUNTY COMMISSIONER TODD MORGAN ON THE PASSING OF WILDEWOOD DEVELOPER EDMUND WETTENGEL

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 2/13	Fri 2/14	Sat 2/15	Sun 2/16
63° 34°F	38° 21°F	35° 31°F	51° 35°F
AM Rain	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy
Mon 2/17	Tue 2/18	Wed 2/19	Thu 2/20
53° 40°F	57° 48°F	54° 35°F	47° 36°F
Partly Cloudy	AM Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy

County Times

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O'Connor: County Should Be Gun Rights Sanctuary

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

County Commissioner John O'Connor said this week that St. Mary's County should resolve to become a Second Amendment sanctuary county.

"I think it's important, after watching what's going on in Annapolis, that we take that initiative," O'Connor said at the Feb. 11 business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Local gun rights advocates have been speaking privately for months about encouraging local elected leaders to make the move, which would mirror the more than 90 counties in Virginia that have already done so.

Where gun rights once appeared secure in Virginia, which has been strongly Republican for the last generation, a recent shift in power towards the Democrats there in the state government has emboldened Gov. Ralph Northam to back a bevy of gun control laws, including an assault weapons ban that includes a prohibition on owning high capacity ammunition magazines.

The rapid shift in power in Richmond ignited the Second Amendment sanctuary movement just as quickly.

In the Maryland General Assembly, a new bill threatens to tighten restrictions on certain so-called assault weapons even further, imposing strict costs for their registration if the new law is passed.



Commissioner John O'Connor

Many such weapons were banned from further sale in 2013 the legislature.

John Mountjoy, a local gun rights advocate, said he and others started the sanctuary movement after the dramatic changes in Virginia; the climate in Annapolis towards their point of view had also chilled further.

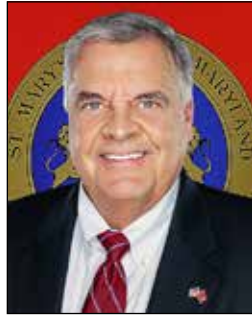
"We're being blatantly ignored," Mountjoy said. "The current incumbents... they will not listen to us."

Commissioner Todd Morgan said that the commissioners, Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron and State's Attorney Richard Fritz should have a public conversation on the issue.

"I'm a strong supporter of [the Second Amendment] and [Second Amendment] rights," Morgan said.

In a statement to The County Times, Commissioner Eric Colvin said: "I think having the sheriff, state's attorney and all the commissioners on the same page will send a strong message that St. Mary's County is a strong supporter of the Constitution."

County Attorney David Weiskopf said he was researching the issue and what legal force, and ramifications, such a resolution or decision would have.



Commissioner Todd Morgan



Commissioner Eric Colvin

"I'm still researching it," Weiskopf said, adding he planned on making a report to the commissioners in the next several weeks on his findings.

St. Mary's County, a Republican stronghold in a Democrat-controlled Maryland, has shown broad support for the Second Amendment.

Last year, at the county GOP sponsored Lincoln/Reagan Day Dinner, Cameron told attendees "no St. Mary's County law enforcement it going to go into homes and take guns."

His comments were in response to then Democrat presidential candidate Robert "Beto" O'Rourke's vocal support of confiscating legally owned military-style rifles.

Cameron called such plans illegal and unconstitutional.

"I support the idea of St. Mary's County being a Second Amendment sanctuary," Cameron said Wednesday. "Largely it's symbolic, but it's very important symbolism."

"It sends a clear and distinct message to our legislators."

Cameron said he would press challenges in the courts to gun control laws that were unconstitutional to seek relief.

If St. Mary's enacted a resolution declaring it a Second Amendment sanctuary, it would be the fourth county in Maryland to do so; Carroll, Cecil and Harford counties have already adopted such declarations.

Calls to Fritz's office seeking comment were not returned as of press time.

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Planning Commission Votes Down Leonardtown 7-11

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

By a narrow vote of 4-to-3 the St. Mary's County Planning Commission denied the concept site plan for a 7-11 that was proposed to be built across from Leonardtown Middle School at the intersection of Route 5 and Route 244 at its Feb. 10 meeting.

It was the third meeting in which residents continued to protest the project, saying it would create traffic problems at an already stressed intersection as well as bring in problems with increased crime.

One board member said they believed the project would exacerbate traffic safety.

"Whatever deflects from the safety of this project is under our purview," said Joe Van Kirk, who doubted the applicant's claim that the traffic leaving the 7-11 would only use Route 5.

Martin Siebert, board member, said he sympathized with concerns from the neighbors, but a denial by the planning commission would almost certainly be reversed.

"We can all say 'no,'" Siebert said. "But it would be reversed like that by the appeals board, and if not by them, then by the Circuit Court.

"I'm just not seeing a viable reason to say no to this that will stick."

Board member William "BJ" Hall said he was concerned the impact of proliferating gas stations would have; two other 7-11s are proposed, one in Callaway and the other across from Great Mills High School where a gas station once stood.

He said that intersection did not have much traffic anyway.

"How many empty gas stations are we going to have because of this?" Hall asked. "I don't think we should

approve things that will cause empty buildings to sit around our county.

"It bothers me, I'm just a regular citizen, just to hear that my voice doesn't matter when a business wants to come into my community."

Board member Joseph Fazekas said the planning commission should consider the spirit of the law versus the letter of the law.

"The applicant did very good at meeting all the letters of the law," Fazekas said. "But if it's something the community doesn't want it doesn't have to go through.

"We are supposed to listen to the citizens; does it meet the intention of the county's comprehensive plan?"

The applicant's representative's, Bohler Engineering, had a rebuttal earlier in the hearing Monday night before the vote, arguing that the concept site plan could be amended to address concerns and that the convenience store and gas station combination would have a fence around it as a buffer from the neighborhood.

Board Chair Howard Thompson said since the Town of Leonardtown was working to expand its water and sewer plant capacity, that, coupled with the site's commercial zoning, meant a much larger development could be built on that corner.

"They're [the applicant] using a small portion of this land," Thompson said. "There could be a lot more on that site."

Later that meeting the board approved the concept site plan for the 7-11 in Lexington Park and moved the hearing for the Callaway project to March.

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Resolution Sought Over MedStar Billing of Rescue Squads

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For years MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, formerly St. Mary's Hospital, provided medical supplies to local rescue squads at no cost but in 2014 the hospital administration, according to county rescue officials, began providing billing statements to local rescue squads for the supplies.

However, rescue squads were informed that they did not have to pay the bills and that the statements were being used to track how many supplies were being given out.

But now, rescue officials say, the hospital is holding them responsible for paying them back.

A letter from the Lexington Park Rescue Squad's Chief Mark Miller to the county's Emergency Services Board Secretary Shawn Davidson, requested an open discussion on the issue at this week's Feb. 12 meeting.

"This request is from our Board of Directors and directly involves the approximately \$110,000 of debt that currently shows against LPVRS financial statement and audit due to this issue," Miller wrote. "We understand the reasons the county wants us to close out the audit, but we believe that action incumbers LPVRS with officially accepting the liability of this new debt."

The supplies, which do not involve narcotics but items such as bandages and tourniquets, have been distributed under what was the community benefit program and went out to all the county rescue squads.

Steve Walker, director of the Department of Emergency Services, said the is-

sues affects all rescue squads in St. Mary's. "Basically, this is several years of billing," Walker said.

Davidson, who is also the county emergency medical services chief, said he was confident some kind of understanding could be reached with the hospital administration.

"It's trying to get some assurance in writing that we won't be held liable for these tremendous debts," Davidson said. "We have to get something worked out."

"There's no rescue squad in the county that could absorb that amount of debt."

Dr. Stephen Michaels, Chief Operating Officer at MedStar St. Mary's, said the hospital leadership and the rescue squads are in continued talks about how to deal with the problem.

"At some point there was a need and we felt it was wise to bring accountability to the situation regarding who was receiving medical supplies and how they were being used," Michaels told The County Times. "I'm not aware of an arrangement where the medical supplies were now and forever would be free."

Michaels said the hospital would continue to support the rescue squads while they worked out an agreement on how to proceed.

"There has been no decision on how this will be resolved," Michaels said. "It hasn't been negotiated."

"We are completely supportive of the EMS community; we're going to find a solution that makes sense to everyone."

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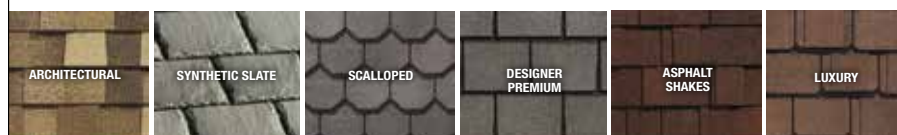
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Wettengel, "Father of Wildewood", Passes Away

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Edward Wettengel, the developer who started the Wildewood community in California more than 40 years ago, passed away over the weekend.

"He is synonymous with Wildewood," said County Commissioner Todd Morgan, who bought a home years ago in Wettengel's development. "It's all his creation."

Morgan remembered Wettengel as a home builder who wanted to keep the community green.

"He had the first really successful PUD (planned unit development) the county ever had," Morgan said. "He kept the trees; the green, that all stayed."

The difference between Wettengel's project and other developments, Morgan said, was that Wettengel was keen to build homes among the trees and green spaces.

"Developments today, it's just clear and build," Morgan said.

The commissioner, whose constituency includes the Wildewood community, remembers first meeting Wettengel decades ago and being a bit skeptical about the future success of the development.

"I remember telling him: 'Who'd want to live in Wildewood?'" Morgan said. "Two years later I moved to Wildewood."

At the Feb. 11 Commissioners of St. Mary's County meeting, Morgan called Wettengel "the father of Wildewood."



Edward Wettengel



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F-18 Growlers Flown as Drones at Pax NAS

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A test flight last week involving a manned E/A-18G "Growler" piloting two other identical aircraft as unmanned systems was successful, according to Boeing, the defense contractor that partnered with Patuxent River Naval Air Station in the experiment.

Unmanned systems specialists say that the test flight represented a breakthrough in the technology's development.

"The fact that they did it is huge," said Matt Scassero, director of the University System of Maryland's UAS test site in California. "It means its relatively easy to get more unmanned assets in the air."

This means that a combat proven airframe, which is already recognized as the mainstay fighter aircraft of the fleet, can be converted to a drone and used in combat missions, according to Boeing.

The "Growler" variant of the F-18 Super Hornet is used for electronic warfare missions, while the standard model is used in the traditional fighter and bomber roles.

"This demonstration allows Boeing and the Navy the opportunity to analyze the data collected and decide where to make investments in future technologies," said Tom Brandt, Boeing Manned-Unmanned Teaming demonstration lead. "It could provide synergy with other U.S. Navy unmanned systems in development across the spectrum and in other services."

Over the course of four flights, 21 demonstration missions were completed, according to Boeing.

"This technology allows the Navy to extend the reach of sensors while keeping manned aircraft out of harm's way," Brandt said. "It's a force multiplier that enables a single aircrew to control multiple aircraft without greatly increasing workload.

"It has the potential to increase survivability as well as situational awareness."

The development of unmanned aircraft can result in more cost effective designs, Scassero said, since they do not have to include space and airframe infrastructure such as oxygen systems and ejection seats.

These designs can also be smaller and more compact, he said, but they are all new construction projects.

"The Growler is already out there," Scassero said.



Detectives Investigate Wildwood Bank Robbery

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

St. Mary's Sheriff's Office detectives are still looking for leads in the robbery of the BB&T bank in the Wildwood Shopping Center Feb. 8.

Cpl. Julie Yingling, spokesperson for the sheriff's office, said the robbery occurred at about 10:29 a.m. this past Saturday when a suspect entered the bank and demanded money.

The suspect displayed no weapon, Yingling said, but made a threat that they had one.

The staff at the bank handed over money, Yingling said, and the suspect fled.

Detectives are not releasing any further details on the bank robbery, Yingling said.

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Van Hollen Talks Transportation, Military Priorities with Delegation

By Guy Leonard
 Staff Writer

Members of the Southern Maryland delegation quizzed U.S. Sen. Chris Van Hollen in Annapolis Feb. 7, fielding questions on how the state and federal governments can help get projects like the Thomas Johnson Bridge replacement built.

Del. Jerry Clark (R-Dist.29C) told Van Hollen the cost of the bridge was "north of half-a-billion dollars" and that the region needed federal assistance.

"It's going to take federal money to get that thing built," Clark said. "It's as much a security issue as it is for traffic."

Van Hollen said he had worked to create a bridge authorization plan within a highway bill that recently passed successfully out of his committee in the Senate, and though it authorizes more than \$3 billion for bridge maintenance and construction around the nation, no money has been appropriated.

The bill that contains the authorization has yet to pass the full Senate.

But the state has to prioritize the bridge first.

"The state can use federal formula highway money, it can do that," Van Hollen told The County Times in a later interview. "We don't earmark those funds."

Federal program grant money was also available, Van Hollen said, but "it could be difficult to qualify for special federal programs due to the cost."

Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist. 29B) wanted to know if the federal government could provide funding to improve the air traffic control tower at the Webster Field Annex to Patuxent River Naval Air Station in St. Iniges.

Van Hollen said he and U.S. Rep Steny Hoyer were successful in getting \$15 million to improve the outlying airfield at Webster Field.

The senator said the project was "a priority for us."

"We will always prioritize items presented to us by Patuxent River Naval Air Station," Van Hollen said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Midwinter Waterfowl Survey Shows Increase

In early January, aerial survey teams of pilots and biologists from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources made visual estimates of the ducks, geese, and swans along most of the state's Chesapeake Bay, Potomac River, and Atlantic coast shorelines. This year, the teams counted about 627,000 waterfowl, which was higher than the 566,300 birds observed during 2019, but lower than the five-year average of 738,440 birds.

"The abundance and distribution of wintering waterfowl is influenced not only by the annual changes in population size, but also the weather conditions during migration and throughout the winter," said Wildlife and Heritage Director Paul Peditto. "Moderate winter weather up and down the east coast has allowed most waterfowl species to

remain spread out across Maryland and our surrounding states."

Overall, the number of dabbling ducks was higher (93,000) than last winter (64,400). However, fewer diving ducks (149,700) were observed than in the 2019 survey (182,000). Biologists also counted more Canada geese this year (327,200) than last year (250,200). Following 2018's record low hatch, Atlantic Population Canada geese benefited from normal spring weather conditions on their nesting grounds in 2019, leading to average gosling production.

The Midwinter Waterfowl Survey has been conducted annually since the early 1950s and covers most of the tidal shoreline and near-shore waterfowl habitat in Maryland.

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Photo by Orietta Estrada

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POLICE BLOTTER

Assault- On February 3 Dep. Luffey responded to the 18400 block of Pt. Lookout Road in Park Hall for the reported assault. Investigation determined Frederick Lavonne Milburn, age 39 of Park Hall, strangled the victim, causing visible injury to the victim's neck. Milburn was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Milburn

Alter Drug Test- On February 7 Dep. Chase responded to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown for the reported altered drug test. A bottle containing a clear liquid was located on Jamar Daron Moss, age 38 of Lexington Park, and it was determined Moss had submitted an altered drug test. Moss was charged with Altering Drug Test.



Moss

Assault- On February 8 Dep. Palmer responded to the the 23300 block of Sawara Court in California for the reported assault. Investigation determined Justin Bryant Eid, age 32 of California, tackled the victim during an argument. Eid was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Eid

Resist/Interfere with Arrest- On February 4, 2020, DFC. M. Beyer conducted a traffic stop in the 21800 block of Pegg Road in Lexington Park. The operator of the vehicle was identified to be Carley Shayne Norris, age 22 of Lexington Park. During the traffic stop, the passenger fled and a foot chase ensued. While deputies were pursuing the passenger, Norris followed in her vehicle and attempted to pick up the passenger. The passenger was apprehended and Norris began yelling and approaching deputies. Norris was taken into custody and charged with Resist/Interfere with Arrest. CASE# 7212-20



Norris

Drug Arrest/Rouge and Vagabond- On February 4, 2020, DFC. Roszell responded to the 40500 block of Waterview Drive in Mechanicsville, for the reported suspicious incident. Investigation determined the witness observed a female on his front porch, and observed her flee and attempt to enter a vehicle at a nearby residence. DFC. Roszell located Shannon Elisabeth Lane, age 39 of no fixed address inside the vehicle the witness observed. The victim was contacted and it was determined Lane did not have permission to be in the vehicle. Lane was arrested and charged with Rogue And Vagabond. Once at the detention center three packets of suspected Suboxone and suspected methamphetamine were located Lane's person. Lane was also charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and Possess Contraband at Place of Confinement. Lane also had two outstanding warrants for her arrest which were served. CASE# 7115-20



Lane

Burglary/Theft- On February 5, 2020, DFC. D. Smith responded to the 17200 block of Three Notch Road in Dameron, for the reported burglary. Investigation determined Justin Allen Hoyer, age 30 of Lexington Park, forced his way into the residence, damaging the victim's door. Hoyer removed property from the residence which belonged to the victim. Hoyer was located at the scene and arrested. Hoyer was charged with Burglary First, Third, and Fourth Degree, Theft, and Malicious Destruction of Property. CASE# 7478-20



Hoyer

Handgun Recovered During Vehicle Stop

On February 4, 2020, at approximately 11:15 a.m. Deputy First Class Beyer conducted a vehicle stop in the 21800 block of Pegg Road in Lexington Park. The passenger in the vehicle was identified as Melvin Royce Jones Jr., age 24 of Virginia. During the vehicle stop Jones fled on foot and was pursued by deputies. Jones was taken into custody and a loaded firearm was located on Jones' person.



Jones

Jones was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center and charged with the following:

- Handgun in Vehicle
- Loaded Handgun in Vehicle
- Handgun on Person
- Loaded Handgun on Person
- Obstruction and Hindering
- Fraud Person/Identity to Avoid Prosecution
- Firearm-Possession-Felony Conviction
- Illegal Possession of Ammunition

Jones is currently incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no bond status.



Philip H. Dorsey III
Attorney at Law

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Sheriff's Deputies Assist in Reviving Great Mills Student

A student at Great Mills High School recently collapsed during basketball practice and stopped breathing. Working together, school staff, emergency responders and two deputies of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office successfully revived the 17-year-old student.

On the evening of Feb. 4, 2020, deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to Great Mills High School for the report of a person not breathing. Lt. Eva Jones and Deputy Andrew Burgess both arrived on the scene and continued life-saving measures.

As Deputy Burgess arrived on scene, Great Mills High School Athletic Trainer Haley Squires was already performing chest compressions while using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on the student. Deputy Burgess then took over chest compressions while Squires continued rescue breaths with a bag-valve mask.

Upon her arrival, Lt. Jones assessed that the student had no pulse and CPR continued. The St. Mary's County Advanced Life Support Unit (ALS) also arrived on scene. Certified in Advanced Life Support, Lt.

Jones placed the student on the cardiac monitor. She analyzed the patient's heart rhythm and delivered a shock through the AED. The student's pulse returned, and the student began trying to breathe again. EMS personnel took over and continued patient care.

The student was transported to Trooper 7 at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport and then flown to a regional hospital for treatment. The student is recovering from the incident.

AED devices are present at all St. Mary's County public schools and all Sheriff's Deputies are certified in CPR and AED use as part of their first-responder duties.

"This was a superb team effort between Great Mills High School staff, emergency first responders and the Sheriff's Office," Sheriff Tim Cameron said. "The quick response and actions by our deputies no doubt helped save the life of this student. Not only do our officers investigate crimes, enforce laws and protect the community, our deputies are prepared and trained to save lives each and every day," the Sheriff said.

Press Release

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JANELLE JAMES is a comedian seen on "The Comedy Lineup" on Netflix, "Late Night with Seth Meyers," and "Crashing" on HBO. She is currently a staff writer on "Black Monday" on Showtime.

Recently touring with Chris Rock and Amy Schumer, she now leads the The Janelle James Comedy Festival in Brooklyn, New York. Check out her comedy album, "Black and Mild," available on all major streaming networks.

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Farm Bureau Seeking Miss Applicants

The St. Mary's County Farm Bureau is seeking young ladies between the ages of 16-19 to compete in the Miss St. Mary's County Farm Bureau contest. Duties would include being a positive agriculture advocate, attending the 2020 St. Mary's County Farm Bureau Banquet, the Maryland State Fair, the 2020 St. Mary's County Fair, and other events as scheduling permits.

The Miss St. Mary's County Farm Bureau would also be competing in the Miss Maryland Agriculture Contest to be held August 25-27, 2020, at the Maryland State Fair. Applicants must be a member or a dependent of a member of St. Mary's County Farm Bureau.

In addition to the Miss St. Mary's County Farm Bureau contest, St. Mary's County Farm Bureau is also seeking young ladies between the ages of 8-11 to compete in the Little Miss Farm Bureau contest and young ladies between the ages of 12-15 to compete in the Junior Miss Farm Bureau contest. These applicants must be dependents of members of St. Mary's County



2019 Miss St. Mary's County Farm Bureau Annette Braun

Farm Bureau.

All questions should be directed to Susan Burroughs Vallandingham, Miss St. Mary's County Farm Bureau Chair by phone at 301-536-0774 or by email at Farmchic82@aol.com by February 14, 2020, in order to receive an application prior to the annual banquet scheduled for March 14, 2020.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Farm Bureau

St. Mary's County Lynching Victim from 1887 to be Memorialized with Historic Marker

The St. Mary's County Museum Division is once again partnering with the Big Conversation Partnership on Dismantling Racism in Southern Maryland and the Equal Justice Initiative on the Community Remembrance Project about Benjamin Hance, the only recorded lynching victim in St. Mary's County in 1887. In November 2019, the Division and partners held a Soil Collection Ceremony at the location where Hance was said to have died at the hands of a local mob.

Mr. Hance, a young African American, was arrested May 27, 1887 in Leonardtown and taken to the Old Jail. A mob broke in on the night of June 17th, held the jailkeeper at gunpoint, and removed Mr. Hance from his cell. They carried him to a site just out of town (now occupied by the Port of Leonardtown Winery) and proceeded to hang him from a witch hazel tree. This was the only documented lynching in St. Mary's County.

The Equal Justice Initiative believes that the Community Remembrance Projects like the Soil Collection Ceremony are more than opportunities to erect just another "historical marker". Rather, their hope is that this process emphasizes the tremendous responsibility of collective remembrance and will serve to facilitate conversations and interactions that will help to heal deep-seeded and long-standing wounds within families and communities.

Following the Soil Collection Ceremony in November, the partner groups sent one jar of soil to the National Memorial for Peace & Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. A second jar will soon go on display this spring, along with a traveling exhibit, at local community gathering places and organizations around St. Mary's County to educate local citizens, visitors and students about a little-known, and little talked about, period in local history.

The next step in the remembrance of Mr. Hance is to establish a historic

marker about his story, which will be erected on the grounds of the Old Jail in Leonardtown, where he spent his final days. The Equal Justice Initiative produce the marker, which will subsequently be erected and unveiled to the public at a commemoration ceremony. The marker will be two-sided and traditional silver with black letters. One side will tell Mr. Hance's story; the other will be a statement about racial justice.

Working with the partnership is Stephen Masson, an intern from George Washington University, who has been involved with the project since the beginning.

Karen Stone, Manager of the St. Mary's County Museum Division, explains the importance of the day: "Mr. Hance's story was not an easy one to hear. But we do these things to remember, to respect and to remember a man who should not have lost his life in the way he did. Mr. Hance deserved justice; he deserved a trial; he deserved what he never got. By bringing light to this hard story to hear, we honor Mr. Hance and all those who suffered similar fates with hope for a better future."

For more information regarding the progress of this project, please visit Facebook.com/DraydenSchoolhouse or contact Ms. Stone at 301-769-3235. For more information about the Equal Justice Initiative, visit <https://eji.org>.

The St. Mary's County Museum Division was established by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to collect, preserve, research and interpret the historic sites and artifacts which illustrate the natural and cultural histories of St. Mary's County and the Potomac River. With this as its charter, the Museum Division serves as a resource, liaison and community advocate for all St. Mary's County public and private cultural assets. For more information, please visit museums.stmarysmd.com.

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First Friday Fun and Fundraisers!

Love for our community (and creatively colored hairstyles!) were definitely in the air on First Friday, February 7th! A heart-felt “thank you” to all who braved the day’s wild weather and came out for a myriad of opening receptions and workshops at the art studios, one-night only specials at the shops and restaurants, live music and entertainment, and other activities and events.



SPICE Studio and friends rocked the evening with style in support of the St. Mary’s County Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace, whose mission is to build beds for children in our community who have been without these most simple of staples. Over \$700 was raised in just a few hours through SPICE’s W.I.I.G. (Women Invested In Giving) program via generous donations from guests Xella Winery, a pop-up shop at SPICE by Athleta, and the many individuals who contributed to the cause. Visit www.somdspice.com and www.shpbeds.org to learn more about how you can help. A raffle for gift cards from Athleta will continue to further support the fundraiser, stop by SPICE for your tickets through Feb. 15th and a chance to win!

Don’t forget to post your photos taken at the “selfie bench” Downtown at the corner of Washington & Fenwick Streets. Just add to your social media

and tag with #loveltown, to be entered into a random drawing for a gift card to a local restaurant.

Save the date for our next monthly event with the theme of “March Madness First Friday” scheduled for March 6th, 2020 from 5-8 PM, special events and activities will be announced soon on the Leonardtown First Fridays Facebook page. The audience participation Drum Circle with the SoMar Drummers will also continue from 7-8 PM at the Town Hall.

A note of appreciation to the Town of Leonardtown, the Commissioners of Leonardtown, LBA business members, the SoMar Drummers, the First Friday volunteers, and Platinum Sponsors (The County Times, Leonardtown Chevy Buick GMC, Marrick Homes, Quality Built Homes, and Visit St. Mary’s) who all helped to make this yet another wonderful community event!

Submitted by the Leonardtown Business Association (LBA). Photo by Nicole Magee of SPICE Studio.

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Mechanicsville Rescue Co



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For 60 years the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad has been helping to protect the largest first due area in all of St. Mary's County.

From parts of Oakville all the way up through Charlotte Hall, the Mechanicsville rescue volunteers answer emergency calls throughout some of the most populous and yet rural areas of St. Mary's.

Because of the vast area they have to cover, the volunteers have to be ready for a wide variety of situations, from infrequent car crashes to mostly medical calls and serious trauma cases.

Co. 29 has four ambulances and one utility vehicle, said recently elected Chief Cristie Daymude, but each one is outfitted with specialized equipment that allows paramedics to perform advanced emergency medical treatment.

"All four ambulances are ALS (advanced life support) capable," Daymude said. "Any St. Mary's medic can get on board any of our ambulances."

Daymude said there are only two local ambulance companies, hers and Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad, which has all its ambulances so equipped.

This was a key goal of providing services, Daymude said, as Mechanicsville has grown significantly since the rescue squad was first founded in 1959.

"We have the largest first due, significantly more than any other," Daymude said. "We need to make sure we can adapt to the population's growth."

Mechanicsville, much like the rest of St. Mary's County, is a highly diverse community, despite its appearance as a quiet and mostly rural community, said squad President Dale Lacey.

It's home to many races, creeds and cultures and age groups, he said, and the volunteers represent that diversity.

Among the most unique cultures chews modern conveniences to a great extent in the land.

"We have a lot of farms and Amish people, adding that their exposure to hard manual labor can increase their risk of serious injuries."

"We hold a lot of trauma training drills," Daymude said instead of waiting for an ambulance, the volunteers go to them to establish a protocol for emergency strikes.

"We teach them to stop the bleeding, to use a tourniquet," Daymude said. "We teach them to call 911 and to use the equipment they aren't taught to call for help."

The squad's territory is also home to several racetracks, including Wicomico International Raceway, Budds Creek Raceway and...

They have...
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Lacey...
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overs Much of the County



is the Amish community, which es-

eat degree and makes their living off

ch we have to deal with," Lacey said,

annual labor and dangerous farm equip-

injury.

ays," Lacey said.

or the Amish community to reach out,

relations ahead of time, before a trag-

ing, how to apply first aid," Daymude

when to call 911, because in their cul-

"

to venues such as Maryland Interna-

ay and a BMX track.

y can draw from hundreds to thou-

of spectators and competitors to races,

said, and the sporting events can be

ous, even fatal.

have a lot of big events where serious

can occur," said Lacey.

ugh Mechanicsville has grown com-ly

and residentially, it hasn't all been

ly located, making responding to

challenging, Daymude said.

"We've had a commercial and residential

," she said. "They've added homes in

ico Shores and they've added homes

in Country Lakes."

Both communities are relatively close together but Golden Beach, which

is also in their first due, is markedly farther away.

On top of this, the Mechanicsville rescue volunteers have never been

busier.

"2019 was our highest for call volume ever," Lacey said. "We had over

3,000 calls."

"Even we were flabbergasted by that number," said Daymude.

The volunteers have to respond in both urban and rural conditions and

partner closely with the Mechanicsville fire company on water rescues.

The fire company is equipped and trained for water rescues, Daymude

said, while the rescue squad must be ready to deal with reviving the rescued.

They never count how many times they respond to calls when they roll

out, they're just surprised when the tally comes in at year's end.

"We just go," Daymude said. "We can run anything, anywhere."

"With the exception of a mountain, we have to be prepared."

As one volunteer rescue company is bringing in a paid day crew working

on contract to answer calls, the Mechanicsville volunteers say they have a

strong group of volunteers – about 130 – that can be counted on.

"That 130 works together to get that ambulance out," Daymude said,

adding that times volunteers can run calls fluctuates.

Officers make calls each week to find out who in the company can fill

gaps on ambulance crews, Daymude said.

"It's an ebb and flow of life needs," Daymude said of the company's com-

mitment to helping their members maintain balance.

"We recruit at the high schools, we recruit at colleges," she said. "We've

recruited patients and patients' families."

"We can always use more," Lacey said.

But the group is far from the need for paid support staff, they said.

"That's not even on our discussion board," Daymude said.

The diversity of members at Co. 29 is one of their greatest strengths,

Daymude and Lacey said, because it helps to form new ideas and concepts

about how they can improve delivery of service.

"We take a lot of pride in the diversity in our department," Daymude

said. "We accept everyone here."

Of particular help is the fact that there is so much diversity in age in the

leadership, they said.

Lacey is 23, while Daymude is in her 40s.

They and other members still look to two of the most experienced of

volunteers, Vice President Faith Roache and Dr. John Roache.

They say their work over the decades has helped shape the strong founda-

tion they build on today.

"We live a lot by Dr. John Roache and Faith right behind him," Daymude

said.

Both of them have served in the rescue squad for decades and Dr. Roache

served the community as a general surgeon until his retirement several

years ago.

He currently serves on the board of trustees for the College of Southern

Maryland.

"We all brainstorm here," Lacey said. "It works well."

Daymude said the rescue squad brings people together through a shared

mission who normally never would have met.

"It's definitely a big family here," Daymude said. "We're definitely more

of a family than an organization."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

CSM Foundation Welcomes Two New Members

The College of Southern Maryland Foundation announces that Bob Carpenter and David Osterhouse have joined the Foundations' board as its newest directors. Both businessmen are residents of Calvert County.

"We are thrilled to have Bob and David join the CSM Foundation board and its commitment to our friend raising and fundraising efforts that support our students," said CSM Vice President of Advocacy and Community Engagement Michelle Goodwin, who also serves as the Foundation's executive director. "We welcome their knowledge, expertise and passion for the CSM mission."

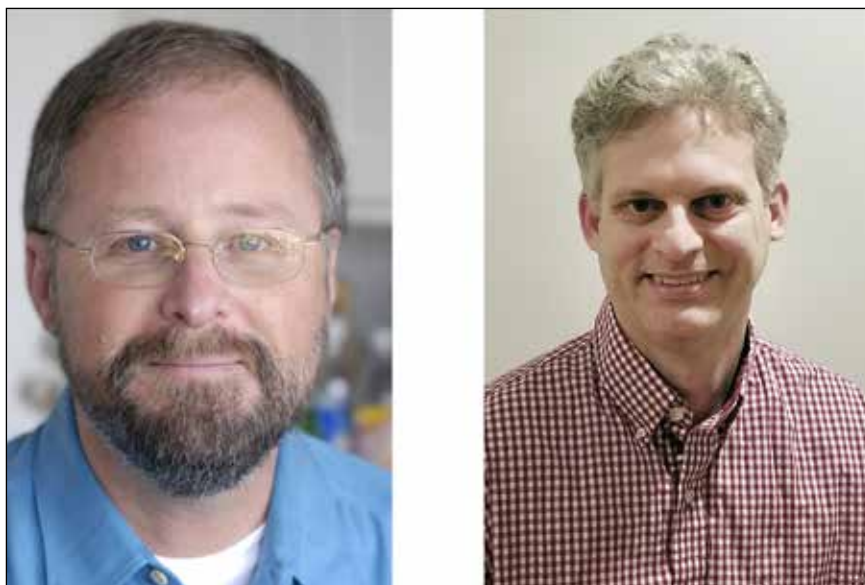
The CSM Foundation, a nonprofit, 501(c)3 charitable organization established in 1970, helps increase access to higher education at CSM through scholarship funding and assures the excellence of that education by raising and managing funds for college projects and objectives – including workforce development in Southern Maryland. The CSM Foundation is comprised of a tri-county, all-volunteer board of directors.

Carpenter, of Chesapeake Beach, brings more than 40 years of leadership experience working at corporate and government levels including the California Legislature, an Alaskan political central committee and the Chesapeake Beach Town Council. Carpenter most recently served at the helm of the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce for more than two years. He is also the founder and president of Chesapeake Beach Consulting, providing research and strategic consulting services to a variety of clients from around the world. His other affiliations have included membership on the Arts Council of Calvert County, the Calvert Marine Museum Board of Directors and the Calvert Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees.

"As a De Anza Community College graduate, I know how important it is for our region to provide and maintain a strong and thriving community college presence," Carpenter shared. "It is an honor to join the College of Southern Maryland team. CSM has long played an integral role in our area's economic development and offers phenomenal – and more importantly, affordable – learning opportunities for all ages."

Osterhouse is a senior accountant at the Charlotte Hall tax preparation company of Mudd, Lakes and Moreland LLC. A resident of Prince Frederick, the CPA specializes in preparing all types of taxes including individual, business, trusts and payroll.

His wife, Dr. Melanie Osterhouse is a professor of biology at CSM's Prince Frederick Campus and was recently awarded with the 2019 Faculty Excellence Award – an award based on the significance and impact of classroom teaching, institutional responsibilities, curriculum development, professional development and community commitment. The Osterhouses are active in the community with their children at New Life Church, Boy Scouts Troop 347 and the Calvert High School Marching Band.



Bob Carpenter, left, and David Osterhouse have joined the College of Southern Maryland Foundation's board as its newest directors.

"Our family is committed to helping all students achieve their dreams," David Osterhouse said. "We have had ties to CSM for many, many years and know first-hand how committed CSM is to providing necessary workforce development for our communities – and to providing excellent professors, facilities and equipment to every student."

For information about the CSM Foundation, visit <http://foundation.csmd.edu>.

Press Release from CSM

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St. Mary's Professor Awarded Collaborative Research Grant



Angela C. Johnson, professor of educational studies.

Angela C. Johnson, professor of educational studies, was recently awarded a \$103,473 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in support of her project titled: "Centering Women of Color in STEM: Data-Driven Opportunities for Inclusion." The two-year grant began September 2019, and will fund a continuation of Johnson's collaborative research with Apriel Hodari of Eureka Scientific, Inc. to identify and share what helps women of color thrive in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Johnson and Hodari have worked over the past two years with SMCM undergraduate students Rose Young '20 and Elizabeth Mulvey '20 to conduct and analyze interviews with faculty, staff, and students at SMCM and two United Kingdom institutions. The researchers compiled these fine-scale qualitative data from the interviews along with broad-scale quantitative data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) in collaboration with Eleanor Sayre, associate professor of physics at Kansas State University. They then identified major themes to provide guidance for organiza-

tions committed to creating better, more inclusive, environments for women of color in physics, math, computer sciences and other typical STEM fields. Results thus far include surprising patterns about institutions where women of color study STEM fields, and have been shared at conferences in Washington D.C. and London, England. Results will also be shared at the winter meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers in January 2020.

This recent award will allow the investigators to:

expand their dataset to additional STEM disciplines using data from IPEDS develop a public online portal for the final database and study user analytics to improve the portal's utility

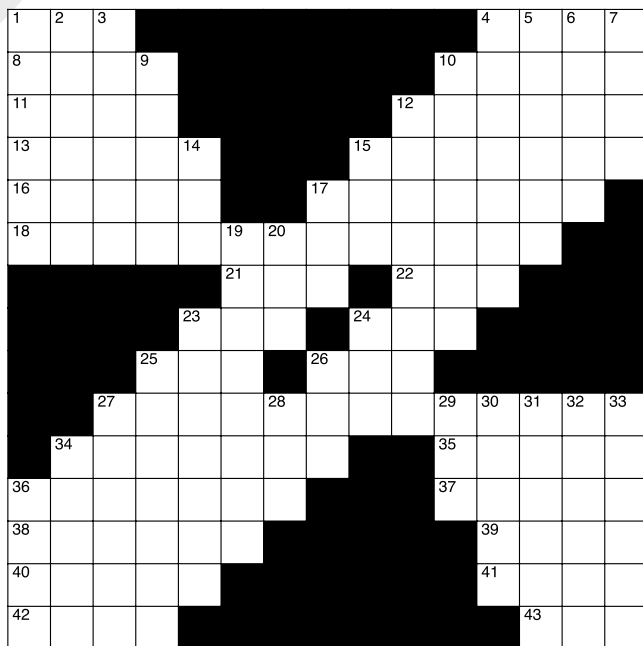
identify institutions where higher than typical numbers or percentages of women of color graduate in each discipline and work with these institutions to serve as models or case studies for others

present research findings from the database and make STEM professionals aware of the portal.

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 1933383. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Press Release from SMCM.

GAMES & PUZZLES



- 40. Wives (law)
- 41. Monetary unit of Samoa
- 42. Supplements with difficulty
- 43. Valentine's Day color

CLUES DOWN

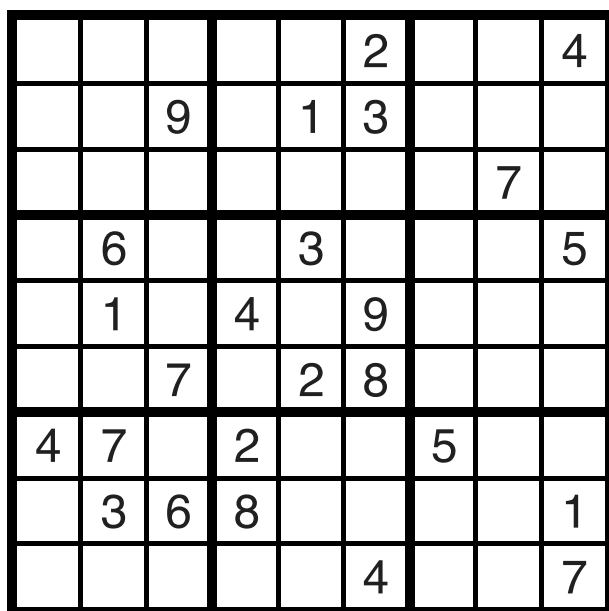
- 1. Warm climate tree or shrub
- 2. Silky case spun by larvae
- 3. Still in existence
- 4. Light, two-stranded rope
- 5. Wear away
- 6. Beginnings
- 7. Essence
- 9. American Standard Code for Information Interchange
- 10. Path

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A team's best pitcher
- 4. Designer Jacobs
- 8. Hip joint
- 10. A dialect of English
- 11. Portrays
- 12. Panic
- 13. The head of a team
- 15. High priest
- 16. League of Legends locale
- 17. Protective folds
- 18. Treats allergies

- 21. Voodoo spirits
- 22. Single unit
- 23. Unit of measurement
- 24. Brew
- 25. Burundian franc
- 26. Self
- 27. Bengals great
- 34. Making letters overlap
- 35. Piece of pizza
- 36. Illegal drug
- 37. Card game
- 38. The highest point in the development
- 39. Oh, God!

- 12. Repeated tones
- 14. Expresses surprise
- 15. Monetary unit of Burma
- 17. When you hope to get there
- 19. Brighten
- 20. Fifth note of a major scale
- 23. Dark brown timbers of tropical trees
- 24. We all do it
- 25. Scrounges
- 26. Unit of energy
- 27. Begin to be
- 28. Midway between northeast and east
- 29. Distinctive practice
- 30. Succulent plants
- 31. Performer
- 32. Gas station term
- 33. Required
- 34. Soviet monetary unit
- 36. Eating house



Level: Advanced

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

E	P	A	C	T	E	T	A	P	E	R	M			
N	E	G	R	O	A	A	H	S	A	L	E	E		
I	E	E	E	A	N	V	I	L	N	E	A	T		
D	R	E	W	B	R	E	E	S	P	O	A	C	H	
				E	P	I	C	S	C	A	R	H	S	
P	R	E	D	A	D	S	O	R	A	S				
H	E	A	D	S	O	M	E	T	I	M	E	S		
M	A	M	E	T	A	R	S	A	B	I	N			
		R	E	C	O	V	E	R	E	D	S	U	L	A
		S	A	R	O	S	N	A	M		S	M	O	B
C	B		M	A	W	S	A	R	I	S				
H	O	P	E	H	M	O	D	E	R	A	T	E	S	
A	D	I	T	B	R	A	E	S	B	A	A	L		
S	E	R	E	I	N	K	S		D	E	B	R	A	
E	D	E	R	D	A	S			B	R	I	N	G	

8	2	6	9	1	4	5	7	3
7	5	9	6	3	2	8	1	4
1	3	4	7	8	5	2	6	9
9	4	5	3	6	8	1	2	7
3	1	7	5	2	9	4	8	6
2	6	8	4	7	1	9	3	5
5	7	1	2	9	6	3	4	8
4	8	3	1	5	7	6	9	2
6	9	2	8	4	3	7	5	1

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann
Contributing Writer



"Caregiver Blues"

I may have mentioned in my quick column or the one I was able to get out a few weeks ago how great a caregiver my husband has been. He has been amazing; cooking, cleaning, sanitizing, talking sweetly, even through all my dizzy "strong antibiotic brain" ramblings... and then...all at once...one of his other Gemini personalities showed up (of which he says he has three not two) and, suddenly all sweetness and light was gone in the sweet talking department. Caregiver burnout phase had been reached. We had lift off.

What were once nice long, understanding conversations and thoughts between us turned into arguments that started over things like why did you drink all the milk? Because that is what one buys it for. Would a lawyer even consider a divorce declaration over used milk? I wasn't sure, but this could be a first. I can't even remember all the little arguments we had over the course of a week. I mentioned on the way to church last week how nice it had been to not worry about taking care of my appearance lately by putting on make-up very much or worrying about what I was wearing. He said, in a sotto voice, "Yeah, I know". Again, there was lift off and full explosion. It's a good thing that we say the Forgiveness Prayer every Sunday in church.

I thought my husband would flip out when he asked me if I was ready to leave for church, and I said "Yes, just about" because I was all showered, dressed, and fairly perky - I just didn't have on my make-up and hadn't dried my hair. He looked at me and said, "I am really trying to be nice after all our arguing recently, but I am not going with you if you are going like that." Whoa, I am thinking why not? He replied, "You are wearing patterned pants with a striped top". The Fashion Police strike again. I suppose he was right, though I really did have a plain shirt to wear to church and was just wearing my grunge shirt while getting ready. I was so tempted to wear that grunge

shirt if it hadn't been for all the paint and stain spots all over it, but why egg things on? Then again, why not?

I think the arguing was good, it didn't last long, and really relieved stress leading to hysterical laughter most times. It is hard being a caregiver, especially when you have to give your wife round the clock IV infusions for weeks, plus take care of everything else as well. This is what married couples are supposed to do right? It's in those words we say at the altar but really hope will never come about. Its not easy to turn from being a couple on the go to a couple pretty much homebound together, not just because of the Medicare Homebound Rule, but because your meds, fear of further infection, and side effects warrant it. We are not the type of people who can be home together every single day, and we knew this going in.

I still have 6 months to 1 year of oral antibiotic treatment to go through, as per the results of my final cultures and bloodwork and this is in no way a devastating illness like so many others are experiencing, just more annoying at this point. But it does make me appreciate the full-time caregivers who do this for those they love, day in, day out, year in, year out. Love and understanding can be tested during even the shortest of caregiving periods. I love my husband and know he is an amazing man who has given his all many times through these last 20 years through my chronic illnesses. He is here for me, as I have been, and will be, for him. My prayers to all who are in this position now all will be. Yes, that's what those words at the altar were truly about.

Wow, doggone I am thirsty, I am going to go drink up some milk, because there is nothing like a good old stress-relieving argument.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook, with a message please.



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SUNDAY: 11-5

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Valentine's Day Engagements

Valentine's Day is one to be the most romantic days of the year and, as many as six million people are likely to get engaged on February 14. About 40 percent of engagements occur between Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day. The winter months are the time when proposals reach their peak. Now that you are engaged, when should you start planning the wedding? Engaged Couples generally start planning one year before their wedding. As a Wedding Specialist, I tell couples that it is never too soon to start planning your wedding and honeymoon.

Have you considered a Destination Wedding?

Sandals & Beaches Resorts understands that your love story is unique and special and, your wedding should be, too. Destination weddings cost **significantly less**, plus they are **stress-free**. They say the best things in life are free, and Sandals & Beaches Resorts happens to agree. When you book a 3-night honeymoon, Sandals will gift you a **FREE Tropical Wedding**. You can also customize every detail and the cost is significantly less than a traditional wedding in the U.S.

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When should you plan your Honeymoon?

Many couples wait to plan their honeymoon because they are so busy with wedding & reception planning. If you are planning a destination wedding, your honeymoon is part of your wedding. But, if you are not having a destination wedding, the honeymoon planning should be at the top of your list and be one of the first things you plan after deciding on a wedding date and venues for the ceremony and the reception. Many couples that I work wait until just before the wedding to plan their honeymoon and are disappointed to find out that the resorts are sold-out. Sandals & Beaches Resorts offers 19 resort options in 6 countries. There are 16 adults-only Sandals Resorts and Beaches Resorts offers 3 that are family-friendly.

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

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Men's Lacrosse Take Season Opener



SMCM Men's Lacrosse Team | Photo Credit: Bill Wood

The St. Mary's College of Maryland men's lacrosse team (1-0) hosted the Randolph College Wildcats (0-1) in their season opener on Saturday (Feb. 8) afternoon. The Seahawks blew past the Wildcats by a final score of 22-1 for their first victory of the season.

St. Mary's College - 22, Randolph - 1

How It Happened

Much like the entire game, the Se-

ahawks dominated the first frame of play by outscoring the Wildcats 7-0. Dominic Venanzi (2), Ben Claffee (2), Jude Brown (2), and Abe Hubbard found the back of the net in the scoring streak. **Brown** was also credited with three assists during the Seahawks first seven scores.

Claffee tallied his third goal of the game at the 10:57 mark of the second quarter, but the Wildcats answered

minutes later with their only goal of the contest. Next, the Seahawks finished the opening half strong with four unanswered goals. Jeremiah Clemmer (2), Erich Wuesthoff, and Jack Brocato ripped shots into the back of the cage to end the half.

From there, the Seahawks poured it on with 10 unanswered goals to end the game. **Claffee** added two more goals to his stat line with one on a man-up op-

portunity. **Brocato** also recorded two more scores in the Seahawk scoring frenzy. Jack Conway made the most of his playing time in the second half by tallying three goals. Walker Krizman, Austin Brown, and **Hubbard** each found the back of the net once to end the contest, respectively.

Inside the Box Score

Brown led the Seahawks on the offensive end with eight total points, notching two goals and six assists. **Brocato** and **Claffee** followed with five points each. Additionally, **Conway** and **Clemmer** capped off their afternoon with four points each.

Luke McWright hustled for a team-best seven ground balls and also caused two turnovers. Alex Pfaff made his presence known on the defensive end causing a team-high four turnovers. In goal, Kyrle Pries eliminated the Wildcat scoring opportunities by gathering 10 saves.

As a team, the Seahawks held the advantage in faceoffs, winning 17 of 26. The Seahawks also finished a perfect 33 of 33 in their clearing opportunities.

Up Next for the Seahawks

Feb. 15 vs. Dickinson | 12:00 p.m. | at Sparks, Maryland | US Lacrosse Hall of Fame

Press Release from SMCM.

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Guest Preacher, March 14th Banquet
Guest Preacher, Sunday, March 15th, 10 a.m. Divine Worship

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¹³For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved. ¹⁴How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! Romans 10:13-15

Men's Basketball Edged on Senior Day

The St. Mary's College of Maryland men's basketball team (7-16, 2-6 CAC) hosted the University of Mary Washington Eagles (14-9, 4-4 CAC) on Saturday (Feb. 8) afternoon for Senior Day. The Seahawks were edged by the Eagles by a final score of 72-62.

St. Mary's College - 62, Mary Washington - 72

How It Happened

The Eagles grabbed the lead to begin the game, but the Seahawks battled back to grab a 6-5 lead at the 16:18 mark for their only lead of the game. The Seahawks used a six-point scoring run for the early advantage, thanks to three-pointers from Jack Foley and Justin Milstead.

At the 11:30 mark of the first half, Mary Washington strung together a 13-point run to take a 12-point lead over St. Mary's College. The Eagles stretched their lead to 14 with 7:43 remaining for their largest advantage of the game. Trailing 34-24, the Seahawks finished the half strong by tallying the final four points with scores from Reggie Rouse and Dee Barnes.

In the second half, the Eagles held a 12-point lead with 12:29 remaining. Next, the Seahawks recorded nine-straight points to cut the Eagle lead to three with 8:10 remaining. Miles Gillette highlighted the run with a layup



and a made three ball.

Mary Washington was able to hold their lead and used a six-point scoring run with 1:26 remaining to seal the victory.

Inside the Box Score

Gillette led the Seahawks with a double-double, notching a team-high 15 points and 12 rebounds. **Grant** followed with 14 points while **Barnes** finished the game with 13, respectively. **Barnes** and **Rouse** hustled for a team-high two steals, while **Rouse** also led the team by dishing out two assists.

Greg Rowson led the Eagles with a double-double, tallying 23 points and 10 rebounds.

Up Next for the Seahawks

Feb. 15 at Southern Virginia | 3:00 p.m. | Knight Arena

Press Release from SMCM.



NASCAR 2020 SCHEDULE



DAYTONA 500

SUNDAY, FEB 16 • 2:30 PM
Daytona International Speedway

PENNZOIL 400

SUNDAY, FEB 23 • 3:30 PM
Las Vegas Motor Speedway

AUTO CLUB 400

SUNDAY, MAR 1 • 3:30 PM
Auto Club Speedway

FANSHIELD 500

SUNDAY, MAR 8 • 3:30 PM
Phoenix Raceway

FOLDS OF HONOR QUIKTRIP 500

SUNDAY, MAR 15 • 2:00 PM
Atlanta Motor Speedway

DIXIE VODKA 400

SUNDAY, MAR 22 • 2:00 PM
Homestead-Miami Speedway

O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 500

SUNDAY, MAR 29 • 3:00 PM
Texas Motor Speedway

FOOD CITY 500

SUNDAY, APR 5 • 2:00 PM
Bristol Motor Speedway

TOYOTA OWNERS 400

SATURDAY, APR 19 • 2:00 PM
Richmond Raceway

GEICO 500

SUNDAY, APR 28 • 2:00 PM
Talladega Superspeedway

NASCAR CUP SERIES RACE AT DOVER

SUNDAY, MAY 3 • 2:00 PM
Dover International Speedway

NASCAR CUP SERIES RACE AT MARTINSVILLE

SATURDAY, MAY 9 • 8:00 PM
Martinsville Speedway

NASCAR ALL STAR OPEN

SATURDAY, MAY 16 • 7:00 PM
Charlotte Motor Speedway

NASCAR ALL-STAR RACE

SATURDAY, MAY 16 • 9:00 PM
Charlotte Motor Speedway

COCA-COLA 600

SUNDAY, MAY 24 • 6:00 PM
Charlotte Motor Speedway

KANSAS 400

SUNDAY, MAY 31 • 2:00 PM
Pocono Raceway

FIREKEEPERS CASINO 400

SUNDAY, JUN 7 • 2:00 PM
Michigan International Speedway

TOYOTA/SAVE MART 350

SUNDAY, JUN 14 • 3:00 PM
Sonoma Raceway

CHICAGOLAND 400

SUNDAY, JUN 21 • 2:30 PM
Chicagoland Speedway

KIDS FREE 325

SUNDAY, JUN 27 • 3:00 PM
Pocono Raceway

WORRY-FREE WEATHER GUARANTEE 350

SUNDAY, JUN 28 • 3:30 PM
Pocono Raceway

BIG MACHINE VODKA 400 AT THE BRICKYARD POWERED BY FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE

SATURDAY, JUL 5 • 3:30 PM
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

QUAKER STATE 400 PRESENTED BY WALMART

SATURDAY, JUL 11 • 7:30 PM
Kentucky Speedway

FOXWOODS RESORT CASINO 301

SUNDAY, JUL 19 • 3:00 PM
New Hampshire Motor Speedway

CONSUMERS ENERGY 400

SUNDAY, AUG 9 • 3:00 PM
Michigan International Speedway

GO BOWLING AT THE GLEN

SUNDAY, AUG 16 • 3:00 PM
Watkins Glen International

DRYDENE 400

SUNDAY, AUG 23 • 3:00 PM
Dover International Speedway

COKE ZERO SUGAR 400

SATURDAY, AUG 29 • 7:30 PM
Daytona International Speedway

*SOUTHERN 500

SUNDAY, SEP 6 • 6:00 PM
Darlington Raceway

*FEDERATED AUTO PARTS 400

SATURDAY, SEP 12 • 7:30 PM
Richmond Raceway

*BASS PRO SHOPS NRA NIGHT RACE

SATURDAY, SEP 19 • 7:30 PM
Bristol Motor Speedway

*SOUTH POINT 400

SUNDAY, SEP 27 • 7:00 PM
Las Vegas Motor Speedway

*ALABAMA 500

SUNDAY, OCT 4 • 2:00 PM
Talladega Superspeedway

*BANK OF AMERICA ROVAL 400

SUNDAY, OCT 11 • 2:30 PM
Charlotte Motor Speedway Road Course

*HOLLYWOOD CASINO 400

SUNDAY, OCT 18 • 2:30 PM
Kansas Speedway

*TEXAS 500

SUNDAY, OCT 25 • 3:00 PM
Texas Motor Speedway

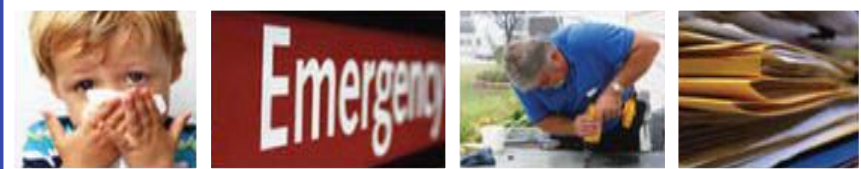
*NASCAR CUP SERIES FALL RACE AT MARTINSVILLE

SUNDAY, NOV 1 • 2:00 PM
Martinsville Speedway

*NASCAR CUP SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY, NOV 8 • 3:00 PM
Phoenix Raceway

*PLAYOFF RACE



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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

Anita Marie Meridith Nelson



Anita Marie Meridith Nelson, 74, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on February 7, 2020 in Callaway, MD. Born on July 28, 1945 in Washington, DC she was the lov-

ing daughter of LoVisa Jane Battenfield of Leonardtown, MD and the late John Robert Battenfield. Anita was the loving wife of John Vernon Nelson, Sr. whom she married on September 20, 2019 in Leonardtown, MD.

Anita is survived by her children Rachele M. Meridith of Mechanicsville, MD, Crystal L. Meridith of Waldorf, MD, and 1 grandchild Sarah Meridith Hicks. Siblings Barbara Bowles (George), Roberta Adams (Tony), and Rebecca Kendall (Tom). She is preceded in death by her first husband James E. Meridith, Sr., son James E. Meridith, Jr, and her sister Cecelia Adams.

Anita was a ray of sunshine to all who knew her, especially to her family. She was a loving wife, mother, daughter, aunt, sister, neighbor and friend. She married her late husband, James E. Meridith, Sr. on September 24, 1966. They spent 50 happy years together. She was a doting mom of her son, Jimmy Jr. and daughters Rachele and Crystal. She became a beloved "Maw Maw" to her first and only grandchild, Sarah Hicks in 2015. She was an eternal optimist and was one of Mickey Mouse's biggest fans as evidenced by numerous family vacations to Disney World. They also loved driving on the beach in Daytona during the FL trips. They once had the pleasure of attending the Daytona 500 races, driving south in Jimmy's sporty corvette on a 2nd honeymoon! Anita was an avid doll collector, doll maker and instructor. She acquired and loved all sorts of collectibles, from Franklin Mint, Danbury Mint, and Tom Clark Gnomes. She enjoyed gardening and working in her flower beds and had quite the green thumb! She worked hard raising a family, working as a secretary for the county government and after a short retirement period also worked for the Town of Leonardtown. Her first professional job was for the State government with Juvenile Services. She held various county government positions, including Planning and Zoning which included many late nights taking meeting minutes for the St. Mary's County Commissioner's meetings. Anita absolutely loved Christmas and decorated nearly every room. She loved baking

and made the prettiest lemon meringue pies anyone has ever seen! She was a very generous giver and was very crafty too. She also loved entertaining and threw some of the best super bowl parties in family history! She made many handmade treasures for her family and friends throughout the years. She had a true knack for decorating and would look at country magazines for hours until she could reproduce the same look in her own home. In 2018 she was reunited with her first love from 57 years ago, Jack Nelson, and they were married on September 20, 2019. She had recently taken on two new interests, playing weekly bingo at Mother Catherine Academy and attending local tractor pulls with Jack and his family and friends. She was learning all the ropes about tractor sports and they had so much fun darting around on their golf cart at various events. She dearly loved her three Shih Tzu puppies, Buttercup, Maggie and Bo Bo. She will forever be remembered for always having a smile on her face. Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Brenda Raye Thompson



Brenda Raye (Raley) Thompson, 72 of Waldorf, MD passed away on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at her home.

She was born on June 10, 1947 in Leonardtown,

MD to the late Raymond Raley and Catherine Cusic Raley.

Brenda was the loving wife of the late Carl Thompson, whom she married at Immaculate Conception Church in Mechanicsville on April 20, 1968. Together they celebrated 42 wonderful years. Brenda is survived by her son Chris (Robi) Thompson of Chaptico, MD and daughter Carrie Dalton of Mechanicsville, MD and by her three grandsons, Carl Dalton, Callen Thompson and Carsen Thompson. She is also survived by her siblings Marilyn (Wayne, deceased) Wood and Jeffrey (Lenore) Raley both of Mechanicsville.

Brenda graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1965. She was a long time dedicated employee at Adventist Health-Care Fort Washington Medical Center. Brenda enjoyed time with her family and watching Hallmark Movies, especially at Christmas time.

Pallbearers will be her nephews Jeffrey Raley, Jr., Dan Raley, Robby Raley, Ricky Thompson and friends of the family Perry Giovacchini, and Michael Paul Gilroy. Honorary Pallbearers are her grandsons Carl Dalton, Callen

Thompson, Carsen Thompson and her nieces Jenny Gray, Vickie Stinnett, Valerie Matheny and Lisa Bowen.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad, P. O. Box 15, Mechanicsville, MD or the Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department, 21660 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609.

Grace Elizabeth Kravats



Grace Elizabeth Kravats, 77, of Mechanicsville, MD formerly from Wheaton, MD passed away on February 4, 2020 at her home. She was born in Bethesda, MD

and was the daughter of the late Helen M. Shannon and Daniel Shannon. Grace was the loving wife of the late Michael Matthew Kravats, Sr. whom she married in Montgomery County, MD and who preceded her in death on May 3, 2019. Grace is survived by her children Michael M. Kravats, Jr. (Ginger) of Mechanicsville, MD, Theresa A. Kravats (Significant other Johnson Wathen) of Prospect, VA, John P. Kravats of Mechanicsville, MD, 8 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren. Siblings Patsy Souder of Gaithersburg, MD and Teresa M. Shannon Richards of FL.

Grace moved to St. Mary's County, MD in 1980. She attended St. Catherine Catholic School and was a housewife.

Edmund Weston Wettengel, Jr.



It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Edmund Weston Wettengel, Jr.

Eddie passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday, February 9, 2020.

Eddie was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up on a farm in rural Montgomery County. From an early age Eddie grew to love the outdoors, anything mechanical, and any challenge.

Eddie married his sweetheart, Connie Walker, in 1960. Although they began their life and family together in Bethesda where Eddie worked as an auto-mechanic, they chose to move their family to St. Mary's County in 1974. Over the

next 30 years, he and his family not only built incredible lifelong friendships, but also the beautiful Wildewood planned community. Eddie was dedicated and committed to creating the most environmentally sensitive community possible for St. Mary's County. As time passed and the county's needs changed, Eddie had the vision and forethought to also design and build Exploration and Expedition Office parks - where some of the County's now largest employers chose to establish and grown their businesses. None of which would have been possible without so many from this community.

Eddie loved being on and around the water - he loved hunting, traveling, and chasing the elusive blue marlin. If he didn't know how to do something, he learned. If something was broken, he fixed it. If someone needed help, he was there. All of our lives are better because of him.

While we may all think of Eddie's legacy to be Wildewood, it truly is his grandchildren. Eddie is survived by his son, Michael Wettengel (Teena); son, Tommy Wettengel; daughter, Cindy Greb; nine grandchildren: Bryan Wettengel, Kelsey McDermond (Frankie), Jeffrey Wettengel, Christina Seeley (Tim), Bradley Greb, Benjamin Greb, Samantha Wettengel, Alexandra Wettengel, and Lauren Heibel; and one great-grandson, Kolten McDermond.

To his grandchildren - thank you for being his inspiration, his strength, and his friend - he was so incredibly proud of, and loved, all of you!

The family will honor Eddie by hosting a reception on Sunday, February 23rd from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at Elements in Expedition Park so friends & family can share stories of Eddie's & Connie's life. Elements is located at 46580 Expedition Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad, PO Box 456, Ridge, MD 20680. May your contributions be a small way to say thank you for the years of care, love, and compassion they have provided to the family.

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

James Duane Pulliam



James Duane Pulliam, 83 formerly of Heathsville, VA, departed this life on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

in Charlotte Hall, MD.

Born in Omaha, NE on April 20, 1936, he was the son of the late James Finley Pulliam and Mildred Ferne Monson Pulliam.

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

Jim proudly enlisted in the United States Army in 1956 and served until his honorable separation in 1958. He began a contracting career as an Electrician.

Jim married Dorothy Louise Howard, and spent 56 wonderful years of marriage together until her passing in 2015.

In his free time, Jim enjoyed spending the day with a line in the water or in the woods hunting.

In addition to his parents and beloved wife, he is preceded in death by his brother John Pulliam, his granddaughter Amy Sue Pulliam.

He is survived by his children Steve Pulliam (Donna), Jerry Pulliam (Kelly Cook), and Alice Willison (Gene); grandchildren Kristin, Amanda, Julie, Taylor, Rachel; great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held 11:00 AM Thursday, February 13, 2020 at Covenant of Grace Presbyterian Church, 820 Nicodemus Road, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136. Family will receive friends at 10:00AM prior to the service.

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

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made Charlotte Hall Veterans Assistance Fund www.charhall.org/content/donations/

Roy Brown Loverin III



Roy Brown Loverin III, 89, of Lothian, MD, passed away on January 27, 2020 at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in Charlotte Hall, MD.

Born in Chicago, IL on December 15, 1930, he was the son of the late Roy Brown Loverin and Ruth Alma Dillion.

Roy married Patricia Loverin, and they spent twelve (12) wonderful years of marriage together until her passing in 2010.

Roy graduated high school and quickly decided that he wanted to serve his country. He spent twenty-three (23) years as a dedicated member of the United States Air Force where he became a Master Sergeant and retired in 1973. Roy was proud of all of his accomplishments in the military, including the time he spent in the Vietnam War. He was also honored to have had the unique opportunity of serving as a steward with the 89th MAC where he assisted former United States Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, as well as former Vice President Spiro

Agnew, on their flights. He also had the pleasure of assisting the Apollo space crew from NASA.

After his retirement from the Air Force in 1973, Roy started a career working with Capitol Police in the 80's. He enjoyed traveling, which his career often had him doing worldwide. He explored places like Rio de Janeiro, Spain, England, South America, Australia, the Mediterranean, Bangkok and Japan.

Roy had a life of great opportunities and adventure, but he also relished the simple things, like cooking for his family. He was an excellent cook and loved to make his famous "Shit on a Shingle". In addition to cooking, Roy loved his cars. He owned a Blue '63 Impala and a '69 Olds Cutlass. As a member of the American Legion Post, Masonic Lodge, Moose Lodge and National Rifle Association, Roy could be considered a community man. Although above all, Roy loved his family and treasured spending time with his children, grandchildren and great grandchild.

Roy is survived by his sons: Michael Roy Loverin of Waldorf, MD and Roy B. Loverin IV of Mechanicsville, MD; his brother-in-law, Robert Sciranko of North Carolina; his grandchildren: Andrew Sciranko, Ashley Brook Sciranko, Matthew Lee Loverin and Lauren Marie Loverin as well as his great grandchild, Kennedy L. Sciranko.

In addition to his parents and beloved wife, he is preceded in death by his daughter, Sandra Leigh Sciranko and his sister, Jacqueline Pistello.

A Funeral Service will be celebrated by Reverend Joe Orlando on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory. Interment will follow at 1:45 p.m. at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Hwy, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Disabled American Vets, #26 St. Mary's, Post Office Box 788, Hollywood, MD 20636.

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

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

Robert Neal Norris



Robert Neal Norris, 78, of Lexington Park, MD, passed away at his home on February 3, 2020.

He was born on April 4, 1941 in Scotland,

MD to the late James Edward Norris, Sr. and Burnette Ridgell.

Robert was a lifelong resident of South-

ern Maryland. He married the love of his life, Patricia Ann Cullison on November 17, 1989 and together they spent over 30 wonderful years together.

He worked full time for Compliance Corp at Webster Field, where he retired in 2011. He loved anything John Deere and farmed part time with his brother, Jamie. In his spare time, he enjoyed trips to Lancaster, PA, gambling in Delaware, and visiting his grandchildren in Colton's Point and New Jersey.

In addition to his wife, Robert is survived by his two sons, Michael Alderson, Jr. (Andrea) of Coltons Point, MD and Matthew Alderson (Andrea) of Bryan Township, NJ; his five grandchildren, Sean, Grace, Andrew, Sydney, Jacob, his brother-in-law, Jim Cullison (Mary Lou) and his nieces and nephews who were dear to his heart.

Robert is preceded in death by his parents and his siblings: Anna Marie Norris and James Edward Norris, Jr.

Donations may be made to the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad at P.O. Box 456, Ridge, MD 20680, or the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department at P.O. Box 520, Ridge, MD 20680.

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

Mary Mildred Lafler Fender



Mary Mildred Lafler Fender, 92 of Lexington Park entered into eternal rest on Friday December 13, 2019. She was born on September 20, 1927 in Rochester NY. to Daniel Arnez and Laura Mildred Lafler, predeceased.

She was a Wonderful mother to 4 daughters, Frelenda Mary, Kathy Ann, Teri Iris, Laura Alice and 1 son Grover Freelen Fender Jr. She had 11 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. She had 2 sisters, survived by Barbara Jean Edwards and predeceased by Elizabeth Madge Edwards. She has many niece's and nephews. She was a joyful and loving woman with a smile that would light up any room. Mary was especially connected with her Leonardtown Baptist Church. Mary proudly served in the U.S.Army from 1948 to 1951. Stationed at fort Belvoir, Va. And worked at the Pentagon as a High Speed Radio Operator. A Celebration of Life Memorial will be announced in the near future



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30195 Three Notch Road
Charlotte Hall, Maryland 20622
301-472-4400

Crematory on Premises
Obituaries Available Online @ www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

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, Feb. 13, 2020

Newtowne's "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"

Three Notch Theatre
21744 South Coral Drive
Lexington Park
8p.m. to 10:30p.m.

The Newtowne Players present Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts' musical "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change." Tickets, available at www.newtowne-players.org, are \$18 for adults; \$16 for NTP members; \$15 for military, seniors, NTP members and students; and \$13 for children under 12. All tickets for Thursday performances are \$13. Reservations may be made at 301-737-5447.

Friday, Feb. 14, 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!

Saturday, Feb. 15, 2020

Free Tax Preparation And E-Filing

Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Station 39
21685 FDR Boulevard
Lexington Park
9a.m. to noon

St. Mary's County AARP/IRS certified Tax-Aide Counselors will provide free tax preparation and electronic filing for low-to moderate-income taxpayers of any age in St. Mary's County. Taxpayers do not need to be a member of AARP. Walk-in services is available for those arriving from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday and Wednesdays, and from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

Each taxpayer must bring a copy of

their 2018 prior year tax returns, social security card, and a picture ID. A detailed list of tax forms to bring is available at <http://smctaxaide.org>.

Call 240-466-1740 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday for appointment.

Fly-In Farmer's Market

St. Mary's Regional Airport
44200 Airport Rd.
California
9a.m. to 1p.m.

Treat yourself, or someone special to local farm produce. There will be locally farmed oysters, breads, baked goods, honey, meats, eggs, pork as well as hard apple cider, Bourbon & Whiskeys!

Senator Jack Bailey and Delegate Brian Crosby will make a "bi-partisan" arrival by helicopter at 11 a.m. and be available to discuss local issues as well as the important legislation at the current Maryland General Assembly session in Annapolis.

Mother Catherine Academy Bingo

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
38833 Chaptico Road Mechanicsville Md. 20659 301-884-3165

All You Need is Love Dinner Show

Holiday Inn Conference Center
155 Holiday Drive
Solomons
5p.m. to 9p.m.

Enjoy a walk back in music history as never before and celebrate Valentine's weekend with a blast from the past!

Beatles Tribute Dinner Show featuring the National Touring Beatles Stage Show: Show starts at 6:30PM

Tickets are \$60 each; seating is general admission.

Purchase tickets online at: allyouneedislove.brownpapertickets.com

Proceeds benefit Sugar Faces Senior Dog Rescue, Just One More Dachshund

Rescue, and Friends of the Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter.

For questions, please call 410-474-2958

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020

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.

Grocery Auction

Mother Catherine Academy
38833 Chaptico Road
Mechanicsville
6p.m. to 9p.m.

The groceries arrive in a refrigerated trailer from distribution centers and major grocery stores throughout the area. Some items are over-stocked; some have "sell by dates" too close to put on grocery shelves; some are name-brand products and some are not. We never know ahead of time what we are getting, but expect anything that could be found in a grocery store such as candies, snacks, sodas, frozen meats, frozen vegetables, frozen pizza, canned goods, dry goods, cleaning supplies, dairy products, or just about anything else in between.

For more information, please contact: MCA—301-884-3165 or Ronnie Farrell—301-904-3402.

Maryland in the Age of Sail: The Tobacco Trade

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.

This lecture traces the evolution of the

tobacco trade first in Virginia then in Maryland. Find out why this commodity was so important and lucrative to global commerce.

Lectures are free and open to the public.

Up Coming Events

Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020

Monthly General Trivia Night

Quade's Store
36786 Bushwood Wharf Road
Bushwood
7:00 p.m.

\$5.00 donation per person
Proceeds for Seventh District Vol. Rescue Squad Auxiliary

Quade's Gift Certificate for Top Team or individual.

A cash prize for seasonal champion team or individual awarded after the May 2nd Trivia.

Cold drinks and excellent food available, and music and karaoke after trivia with DJ Pete.

Art Kids

St. Clements Island Museum
38370 Point Breeze Road
Colton's Point
12PM - 3PM

Join art instructor Ms. Ellen Duke Wilson in exploring fine arts through a variety of artistic styles. Young artists will expand their understanding of art while learning to sketch, paint, draw, weave, sculpt and more. Students will also reflect how making art can impact society in positive, impactful ways. At the end of each session, all participants will create an individualized work of art to share with family and community. For ages 7 to 17, pre-registration required; \$3 per child. Materials are provided; bring a light snack. To sign up, call the museum at 301-761-2222 to reserve your child's spot.

April 8; June 23, 24, 25; July 7, 8, 9, 21, 22, 23; August 4, 5, 6

For more information call 301-769-2222

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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

LIFE (Learning is ForEver) Booklets now available

The spring semester of the Department of Aging & Human Services' LIFE program is starting soon. Booklets are now available for pick-up at your local senior activity center, on-line at <https://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/life/> and at the three county libraries. Registration begins on Wednesday, Feb. 26, and will only be taken in-person at the Commissioners Meeting Room in the Chesapeake Building beginning at 11 a.m. For more information, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71063. The LIFE brochure is available online at - <https://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/life/>.

Skit Group at Loffler Senior Activity Center

Center Stage Seniors is a group that performs skits for some of the Thursday luncheons at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. This group meets every Thursday at 10 a.m. at the Center to practice. They are making plans for the March 26 luncheon and have openings for different parts. If this is something that interests you, stop by this coming Thursday and check it out! For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658.

Awakening Yoga

By popular demand, the Northern Senior Activity Center has added on a second Awakening Yoga class on Thursdays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Instructor Judi Lyons will guide you through your practice and mediation. This yoga class focuses on health-wholeness of mind, body and spirit. Experience gentle, yet effective, poses which improve range of motion and strength, while boosting mood, energy, brain function and immunity. Try your first class with Judi 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.

Growing Through Grief

Join us at the Northern Senior Activity Center on Thursday, Feb. 20, from 10-11 a.m. for a special presentation with Theron "TJ" Hudson, Bereavement Coordinator with Hospice of St. Mary's. Mr. Hudson is a sought-after speaker who brings sensitivity and wisdom to his engaging presentations. He is a respected resource who helps others in coping with and transcending change of life experiences related to loss: such as living alone, loss of companionship,

loneliness and isolation, caregiving responsibilities, and post-holiday blues. Space is limited, advance signup is required. To sign up for this free presentation, please visit the signup table. For more information on the presentation call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

AARP Safe Driver Course

Topics covered in this course include, but are not limited to: roundabouts, pavement markings, stop-sign compliance, red-light running, and safety issues such as speeding, seatbelt and turn-signal use. Come join us at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Tuesday, Feb. 18, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The cost is \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for nonmembers, payable to AARP. Members must show their membership card to get the member rate. Advance sign up is required. Lunch is available at the Center; cost is \$6 for those under the age of 60 and a donation for those ages 60 and above. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050 to register for the class. Make lunch reservations when registering.

Ceramics with Marti

The Garvey Senior Activity Center is now offering a ceramics class. 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 on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 10 a.m. 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.

AARP Smart Driving Course

The Northern Senior Activity Center will host an AARP Smart Driving Course on Monday, Feb. 24, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. This course includes proven safety strategies that older drivers can use to compensate for changes as they age and allow them to drive more safely and confidently for as long as possible. The fee is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members with cash or check made payable to AARP. Class is 4 hours with a break for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is beef tips in gravy and can be reserved by noon the day before. Lunch is by donation for those 60 and older; \$6 fee collected from others. To sign up and pay for this class in advance and to reserve lunch, please visit the front desk or call 301-475-4200, ext. 73101.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

Library Closed for Presidents Day

All three locations of the St. Mary's County Library will be closed on Monday, February 17 in observance of Presidents Day. All three locations will be open for regular business hours on Tuesday, February 18.

Into the Great Unknown: African American Adventurers and Explorers

Celebrate Black History Month at the Lexington Park Library with "Into the Great Unknown: African American Adventurers and Explorers" on Saturday, February 22 from 2 - 3 p.m. Leadership, courage, and adventure take center stage in this inspiring original presentation by Discovery Theater. From Matthew Henson, co-discoverer of the North Pole, to astronaut Mae Jemison, meet a century's worth of bold men and women who challenged the Western frontier, the highest of mountains, and the vastness of outer space—and triumphed. In the histories and heroism of these explorers and adventurers, young audiences find models to help them reach their own highest goals. Recommended for ages 5 to adult. No registration required. This program is co-sponsored by the St. Mary's County Branch of the NAACP, the Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC), and the Minority Outreach Coalition (MOC).



The Art of Paper Crafting: Paper Bead Earrings

Leonardtown Library will hold The Art of Paper Crafting: Paper Bead Earrings on Tuesday, February 25 from 1 - 3 p.m. Jewelry made from paper beads is a DIY paper craft that has become quite popular. Join us as Margo Baumann teaches us to create beads using recycled magazine pages, and a stunning pair of earrings from our original bead creations. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Introduction to 3D Printing and Design

Leonardtown Library will hold Introduction to 3D Printing and Design on Saturday, February 29 from 1 - 3:30 p.m. Curious about the world of 3D printing? Join us for an introduction where you will learn about the 3D printer and what it can be used for, how to submit a design for printing at the Library, and how to design an object using Tinkercad. For adults 18+. Registration required on www.stmalib.org. It is recommended participants create a Tinkercad.com account before the class. If you have a laptop, please bring it to the session. We will have a limited number of laptops available.

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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

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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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\$1495.00/mo.

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Chasko Road For Sale • Abell

Waterfront home, deep water protected creek off of St. Clements Bay. Fish & crab off pier, calming water views from most rooms. 2 story, 3 BR, 2 BA, large dining room, kitchen, gathering room with fireplace. Mindfulness space to read, relax & meditate or just take in the beauty. Welcoming porch to feel the seasonal breeze. Crab shack, 2 sheds to store mower, kayaks, canoes & crab pots. Easy drive to Leonardtown and Lexington Park. Lots of home for the money!!



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Keech Road For Sale • Charlotte Hall

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