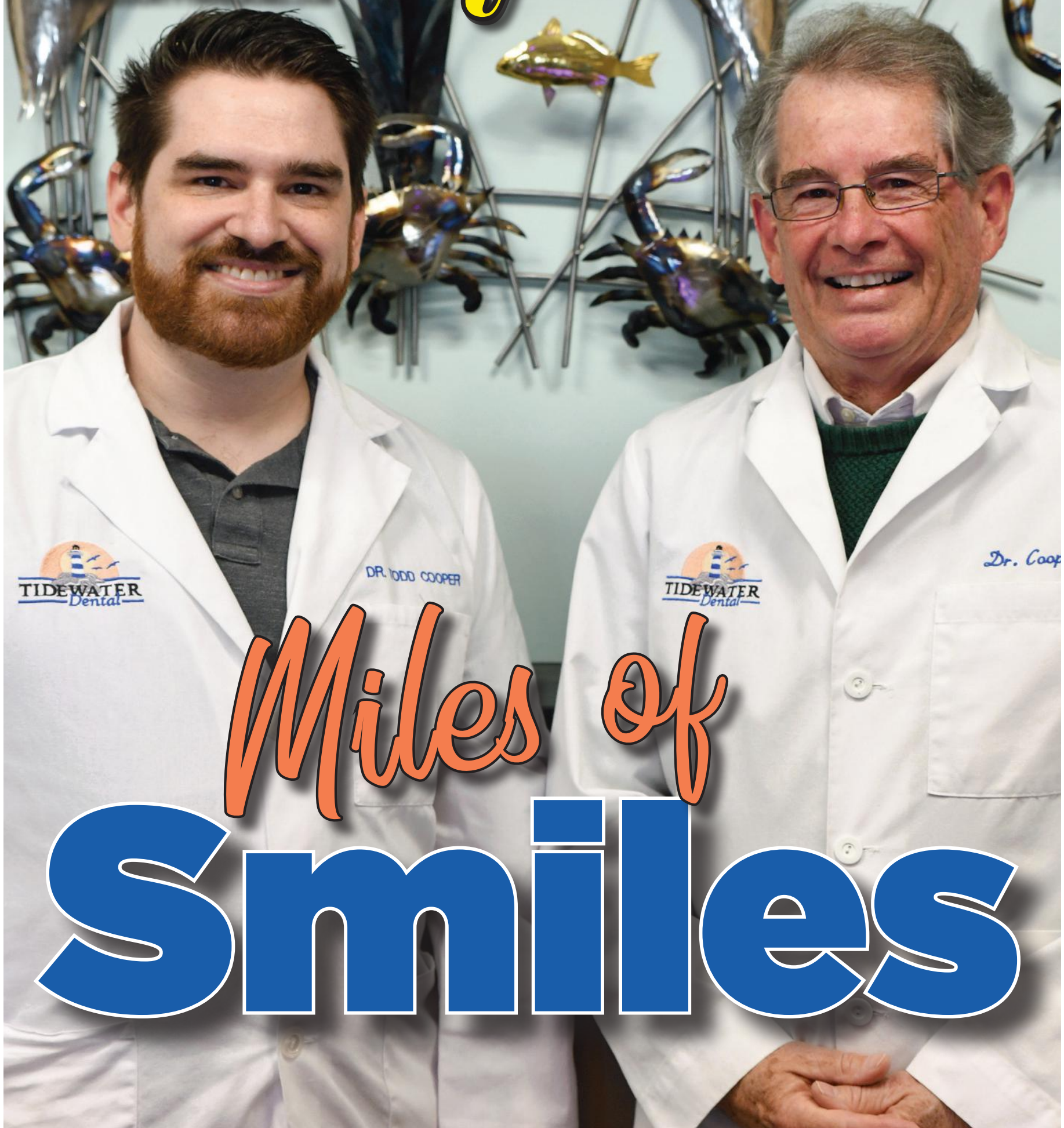


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THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020

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Tidewater Dental still seeing patients during the pandemic



EDUCATION

College of Southern Maryland holds virtual commencement



LOCAL

Local Barber reopens in St. Mary's

"I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY [OFFICIAL] COMPLAINTS OF POLICE BRUTALITY."

ST. MARY'S NAACP CHAPTER PRESIDENT WILLIAM HALL.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 6/11	Fri 6/12	Sat 6/13	Sun 6/14
81° 67°F	82° 65°F	79° 62°F	76° 62°F
Thunderstorms	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	AM Showers
Mon 6/15	Tue 6/16	Wed 6/17	Thu 6/18
75° 61°F	76° 63°F	80° 64°F	83° 66°F
Showers	Showers	Scattered Thunderstorms	Mostly Sunny

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Fifteen Hundred March Against Police Brutality Ends Peacefully



By Guy Leonard and Bri Corley
Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

A march organized by local young people protesting the violent death of Minneapolis man George Floyd at the hands of a white police officer, the third such event in St. Mary's in one week, went peacefully the evening of June 5.

The protest also drew the same size crowd to the greens in front of the Potomac Building at the county governmental center as the prior one June 3.

The approximately 1,500 demonstrators, according to sheriff's office estimates rallied at 7p.m. and marched down Hollywood Road towards the intersection with Route 5 in a massive procession, necessitating traffic routes being blocked by local law enforcement.

The gathering was a diverse mix of races, creeds and ages.

Despite warnings from the health department about exposure to coronavirus, there was virtually no social distancing during the rally or the march.

Weston Kilgore, 17, said rallying and marching for a good cause was worth the risk.

"I think injustice and police brutality have gone on too long," Kilgore told The County Times. "Everyone was there for the same reason."

"Everyone decided this was more important to speak up against all the bad things that are going on rather than stay safe from coronavirus."

But he disagreed with some of his friends that all police were bad.

"I have a hard time agreeing with that," Kilgore said. "There are a lot of cops out there, it's impossible for all cops to be bad."

And the riots, which have led to civilian and law enforcement deaths around the nation, were counterproductive.

"The riots are distracting from the message," Kilgore said. "If they really want change, they should protest peacefully, that's a better message."

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron, who spoke at the event, said in a later interview he would take part in a virtual public meeting later this month to discuss concerns about local policing.

Cameron said he believed that relations between his agency and the public were strong.

"But it matters less what I think than what the community thinks," Cameron told The County Times. "The discussion on [police] reform is a good and positive one."

President of the St. Mary's County branch of the NAACP William "BJ" Hall said coming out to the protest was not only a

matter of supporting the Black Lives Matter movement but also acknowledging racial inequality within St. Mary's county.

"There's so many different things we need to address here," said Hall. "We need to understand that so many African Americans are facing housing issues, healthcare access issues, education issues like the technology gap we were impacted by once (the coronavirus) hit and everyone had to go to remote learning. There are tons of ways we are impacted by racial inequality and I just want to make sure that we all have the same access to opportunity."

Hall said the St. Mary's County NAACP was working alongside police to reduce tensions between the black community and the police force.

"Right now, we are working with the sheriff and the state's attorney and reviewing policies and procedures to make sure that there is nothing there that would put someone in jeopardy of possibly losing their life as George Floyd did," said Hall. "Even if it does unfortunately happen, what we want to do is make sure the law is set up in a way that would prosecute that person to the fullest extent of the law."

In a later interview, Hall said the NAACP-sponsored virtual panel would be live-streamed June 25 on the local chapter's Facebook page.

Hall praised the sheriff's office in general for being fair and equitable in its operations.

"We have leadership in place who are willing to address issues once identified," Hall said, with some caveats. "I can't confirm we truly have an issue with racial profiling, but I have heard concerns."

"I haven't heard any [official] complaints of police brutality."

Hall said his other major concern with law enforcement locally was what he called over policing.

"The police presence is densest where the minority population is densest," Hall said.

St. Mary's County sheriff's deputy Cpt. David Yingling echoed this sentiment, saying that the discussion of police brutality and ethics "never ceases" within the agency.

"Since Sheriff Cameron has taken office, we constantly evaluate, learn, train, and respond to what's going on in the world", said Cpt. Yingling. "We wholeheartedly believe in holding the officers accountable for their actions and training officers to respond and deescalate situations...We monitor what is going on but I wouldn't say that's the catalyst that has us changing, we are always striving to be a leading-edge in a world-class agency."

Emmanuel Wright, one of the organizers of the event, and a Leonardtown High

School graduate, said he struggled while growing up with a mixed white and black racial lineage but realized he should not be ashamed of having African heritage.

He also railed against statements such as "Blue Lives Matter," which advocated for the lives of police officers have risen up at times against the "Black Lives Matter" mantra.

"Blue lives don't matter because blue is not a skin color," Wright said. "They can take their uniform off, but I can't take the black out of my skin."

Mary Maday Slade, Leonardtown town council member, also marched in the procession.

She was impressed by its peaceful, yet powerful, presence and by those who organized it.

"I admire an 18-year-old who can get up there and speak from the heart," Slade said. "I don't think I could have organized something like this when I was there age."

"It was a positive message that included everybody."

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Protestors at the St. Mary's Courthouse Photos Courtesy of Ceandra Scott

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Hutchins Calls for Review of Protest

Rally Ended in Tear Gas, Arrests

By Dick Myers
Editor

Calvert County Commissioner and former Maryland State Police superintendent Tim Hutchins has called for a review of the demonstration in Prince Frederick on June 1 that ended in tear gas and arrests.

Hutchins said, "We went through a very difficult time with COVID-19, now compounded by the events that have taken place since George Floyd's death. This is not a new phenomenon; it dates back easily to 1991 when Rodney King was the case. He quoted what King said: "Can't we all get along?"

Hutchins during the time set aside for commissioner comments at the June 9 meeting, said, "We as a county government have a responsibility to look at our actions, not ask people necessarily (about) their actions, but to look internally and ask ourselves, what could we do differently? What can we do better to that end? I've discussed with the county administrator an 'after action review.'"

Hutchins said regarding the June 1 march, a look needs to be taken at the preparations "from our part. How did we prepare for it, to look at what occurred and to look at what were the lessons learned? What are the recommendations that we as a county government can look to to implement?" Hutchins went on to say: "We have partners in this. Obviously, the biggest partner is in law enforcement and two law enforcement agencies," the state police and sheriff's office. "I've gotten many emails about that," he said about law enforcement's role in the march and aftermath.

He said after the review involving law enforcement and the country attorney, "that should come before the board in draft to be circulated to us early on and then be discussed in an open session."

Hutchins said once that was done he as District 2 commissioner would hold local meetings to get public comment "on what was planned, what occurred, have some breakout sessions as to what, if anything we can do differently or should have done differently in a setting that allows some give and take and discussion in a civil fashion."

He concluded by saying, "For all of us, we just need to think about where we are in this whole scheme of things, the unity that we need in coping with something like COVID-19

and still have to likewise, remember the inequities that still exist." He noted that law enforcement in the state is governed by a number of agencies and regulations.

Other commissioners also commented on the situation although there was no vote taken to implement Hutchins' suggestion of a review.

Commissioner Steve Weems said, "We certainly have some difficult times in this country right now with the death of George Floyd. We need more unity. We need reconciliation. We need to care for each other more. And, I firmly believe that Calvert County is one of the great places to live in this country. I can't speak for all of us, but I hope that I can be a vessel, an agent of goodwill to the people of this county."

Commissioner Buddy Hance said, "It's different sitting here today after the actions and activities that we've seen in this country in the last two weeks. We all live in our own little worlds. It informs who we are, our perceptions. I can't sit here today and completely understand how anybody's life has been formed and do the things that they've done and witnessed. But I do know this world is not perfect. We always need to work to improve ourselves."

Hance said, "When I hear comments from leaders of organizations that want to abolish police and get rid of jails and prisons, I have a hard time comprehending a world without law and order."

Hance added, "We need to work to make sure that we improve and that we have law and order, and its citizens rights and civil liberties are being protected. It's a difficult time. I don't ever remember a protest in Calvert County."

Commissioner Mike Hart observed that things have changed in Calvert since he was growing up, but it still is a small town. He said, "If you really look at it, we all still go to school together, grocery stores, play ball. The reason we haven't had a lot of the problems as the rest of the country and world is because we are friends. We are family. We do talk to each other."

Hart observed, "You can only control what you personally can control." He added, "I'm nobody to give any sermons, but really it's as basic as just treating each other how you want to be treated yourself."

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Hogan: Indoor Dining at Restaurants Resumes Friday

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Starting June 12 at 5p.m. restaurants across Maryland can reopen to allow indoor dining at 50 percent capacity, said Gov. Larry Hogan June 10 at an Annapolis press conference on the state's progress against COVID-19.

The indoor dining can resume with appropriate distancing of customers, Hogan said, as well as while adhering to public health safety guidelines.

This includes tables being placed six feet apart with no more than six people at a table if not part of the same family.

Buffets would not be allowed to reopen yet.

Hogan said his administration was also encouraging schools to continue with outdoor graduation ceremonies, again while following public health guidelines.

Outdoor activities that include rides, such as go carts, can also reopen this Friday, Hogan said.

The state's success in beating back the novel coronavirus, including a positive testing rate of just 7.2 percent statewide, which Hogan said was the largest decline in positive testing in the nation, allowed moving further into Stage No. 2 of the administration's recovery plan.

COVID-19 hospitalizations are down to 960 statewide, the first time there have been under 1,000 cases since April 10, Hogan said and there are just 380 Marylanders in intensive care.

"That's an eight-week low," he said. "More than flattening the curve, we have actually crushed that curve."

The following Friday, June 19 at

5p.m., Hogan said facilities such as gyms and dance and martial arts studios would be allowed to reopen at 50 percent capacity.

Casinos, arcades and shopping malls would also be allowed to begin to reopen, Hogan said.

Schools Superintendent Dr. Karen Salmon said that schools can bring in small groups for summer school programs.

The focus in these programs, she said, should be on students who have fallen behind the most and have not performed well or have lacked the resources to take part in distance learning.

Non-public special education schools can also begin to reopen, she said, for students with learning disabilities in small groups.

"I'm excited, I'm optimistic," Salmon said.

All childcare facilities can also reopen, she said, with 15 total people allowed in a room. The same limits apply to summer school programs, Salmon said.

The superintendent said the state had served vast amounts of food to needy students since the pandemic began.

"More than 13 million meals have been served since this began," Salmon said, noting that summer meal distribution to students would be up to the discretion of local school systems.

High school sports programs training can also resume, she said, as long as public health guidelines are strictly enforced.

Hogan said the battle against coronavirus continues.

"The virus is still out there," Hogan said. "This battle is not over."

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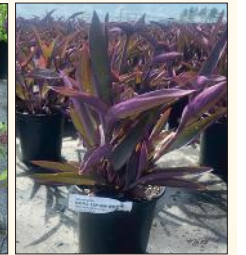
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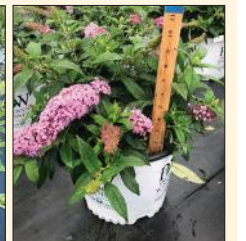
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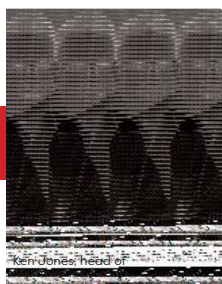


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Commissioners Adopt FY '21 Budget

Deputies Added

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has adopted a \$318,494,190 budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1. The budget adopted at the June 9 BOCC meeting includes a slight property tax rate reduction that will collectively save taxpayers \$600,000.

The proposed budget as presented to the BOCC by Director of Finance and Budget Tim Hayden included a slightly less than \$1 million surplus intended as somewhat of a buffer for potential fiscal fallout from the coronavirus pandemic. But before the discussion concluded and the formal vote had been taken, that surplus had dwindled by \$340,000 to cover the cost of four additional court security special deputies. Calvert County Circuit Court Administrative Judge Mark Chandlee and Sheriff Mike Evans made the plea for the extra court security.

Judge Chandlee noted the challenges of running the court during the pandemic, with trials postponed and much being done virtually or telephonically. The courts instituted the second phase of the reopening this week, but Judge Chandlee said the plans are for a full reopening with jury trials not until October.

The judge said with the appointment of two additional circuit court judges earlier this year along with a magistrate, the

court system was already putting stress on security even prior to the pandemic. As the courtrooms reopen, there will be additional social distancing required, he said, and that will necessitate two deputies for each courtroom in use.

Chandlee said he is making accommodations to reduce the number of people in the courthouse at any one time. He said he will be going from two scheduled court dockets to four daily to stagger the flow.

“Really all of this is subject to change,” he noted about the phased reopening of the courts, because the predicted second wave could occur

Judge Chandlee said they are also using technology to reduce the backlog of cases, but when jury trials are reinstated, things will be getting especially busy. He said social distancing for the jurors may require them to be held at a remote location and escorted to the courthouse, requiring extra deputies.

The four special deputies were part of Sheriff Evans original budget request, but the BOCC eliminated most new hires from the budget. Evans said all of his requests were warranted, “But I will stand by this one,” he said of the extra court security.

Pressed by Commissioner Buddy Hance, the sheriff said they were his No. 1 priority “at this time.”

Evans said the contract special deputies cost about half what sworn deputies do, in part because they don’t require cars and computers. He said he uses retired police officers and said he had several interested in the job. He said it would take about two months to complete the hiring process, in time for the return of the juries to the courthouse.

Evans said he had to provide court security and may be forced to press deputies into overtime situations to fulfill that obligation.

Commissioner Steve Weems was the sole dissenting vote on adding the court deputies. He said he had earlier promised to oppose adding any extra personnel until January and he would stick by that.

Before the final budget vote, Commissioner Tim Hutchins suggested the BOCC revisit the decision to give employees step and COLA increases at a cost of \$2 million to cover any potential impact from COVID-19. He said alternatively they could give a one-time stipend.

Weems also suggested revisiting the tax rate cut, although later he said he wasn’t recommending it.

Commissioner Mike Hart urged keeping the rest of the budget intact. He said he always says, “I don’t live in fear. And, I still don’t.” He said if the future proves him wrong, he’ll admit the mistake. “I’ll have to adjust, and we will.”

Hayden noted in a memo to the BOCC: “Overall, the revenues that fund the budget increased by approximately \$5.6 million, in comparison to the FY 2020 adopted General Fund Budget. \$3.8 million of this increase is related to the Dominion payment in lieu of tax (PILOT) agreement. Continued slow, steady growth in Calvert County is expected to provide most of the remainder of the increase, \$1.6 million in real property taxes and \$1.3 in income taxes. The growth in taxes is partially offset by a decrease of \$1 million in interest and dividends.

“\$4.1 million of the increased revenues will provide additional operating funding to the Board of Education. The other most notable increases include transfers (pay-go) to Capital Projects and Parks & Recreation.

“Funding towards education remains the primary focus of this Budget, at 45 percent of the General Fund Operating Budget and 24 percent of the six-year Capital Projects Budget. Education funding for operations is \$134.7 million, which is \$3.2 million above the state-mandated Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funding level.”

The final vote on the budget after adding the four special deputies and reducing the reserve was unanimous.

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Tourism Director Leaves Visit St. Mary's

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Jason Aul, who has been the head of the county's efforts to rebrand and enhance its tourism industry for the past two years, has parted ways with the non-profit, The County Times has learned.

"Beginning today [June 10] Visit St. Mary's MD (VSMMD) and Executive Director Jason Aul will end their relationship," stated Visit St. Mary's Board Chair Dr. Regina Faden. "Mr. Aul was the tourism agency's first director and held the position for approximately two years. Under his leadership, a new identity was established for VSMMD and progress was made on key strategic priorities."

"The change in leadership will allow VSMMD to refresh the tourism effort and to bring new energy toward goals and strategies contained in the Tourism and Hospitality Master Plan," Faden continued.

"The Board will soon embark on a widespread effort to attract a new leader to VSSMD. The recruitment

process will allow for consideration of local, regional, and national candidates for the position."

Last week the board of directors of Visit St. Mary's released a statement saying that they were reviewing comments posted by Aul on his personal Facebook account saying that he did not respect supporters of President Trump.

The board stated that they took Aul's comments seriously and that his opinion was not shared by the board.

His comments were open for public viewing on his Facebook page.

"Let me be abundantly clear. If you are still a supporter of Donald Trump, I do not respect you."

I will continue to live my life as best as I can, love who I love, be friendly with whom I am friendly, and work diligently with all my colleagues and business partners. None of that will change," Aul said in his social media post.

"However, if you still support Donald Trump, I do not respect you."
guyleonard@countytimes.net

Town Looks to Ride Out COVID-19 Impacts

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Rebecca Sothoron, Leonardtown's finance and budget officer, told the town council that the county's low unemployment rate, coupled with continued residential growth in town gave her confidence that the town could weather the impacts of COVID-19 better than much of the rest of the state.

Sothoron gave a monthly budget report to the town council at their June 8 meeting which showed that the tax revenue allotments the state gives out each quarter was 22 percent higher this May than the same time last year.

Sothoron said revenues coming from the state were not easily predictable because of losses due to COVID-19, but she believed the town was basically financially sound.

"I do think we'll reach budget for fiscal 2020," Sothoron said, noting the town was 92 percent through its budget year at the June 8 meeting. "And we may have a surplus for fiscal 2020."

The county's unemployment rate is now at 7.3 percent for May, according to state data, more than twice what it

was just the month before.

But, it's still the lowest unemployment rate in Maryland after the COVID-19 shutdown enacted by Gov. Larry Hogan in March.

"Not only do we have the lower unemployment rate, but we also have the benefit of growth," Sothoron told the town council members. "Those two factors should give us a cushion."

Each annual budget the town approves has capital construction projects included, Sothoron said, which could be delayed or cut to ensure that there would be enough money to provide basic operations and services to town residents if revenues dwindled more precipitously.

"We do have the funds for recurring expenses," Sothoron said. "We'd just have to cut back on those capital items."

She said it would take perhaps months to know the full extent to which COVID-19 would financially affect the state, county and town.

"Anyone trying to predict something is using a lot of assumptions," Sothoron said.

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Calvert State of Emergency Extended

Declaration Helps Secure Funding

By Dick Myers
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has extended the local state of emergency for another 30 days until mid-July.

The decision at the BOCC's June 9 meeting is the third extension of the state of emergency since the original one on March 17. The last extension on May 14 caused quite a bit of confusion and forced the BOCC to issue a clarifying press release.

That May 17 extension came at the same time that Governor Larry Hogan announced his Phase 1 reopening, the first lessening of restrictions for a state beginning to suffer from severe cabin fever. Calvert adopted the governor's rollout, but some citizens thought the state of emergency reversed that.

Not so, and Commissioner Buddy Hance quickly assured county residents, "This has no impact on the reopening" which is now into Phase 2. He noted the state of emergency was simply to allow the county to qualify for and receive state and federal funding.

For instance, at the same meeting, the county accepted \$311,000 in federal CARES Act funding through a Community Development Block Grant. The mon-

ies will be used for "a traveling senior care nurse, housing and homeless assistance case manager, emergency quarantine shelter, cloud-based case management software, and emergency rental assistance," according to Director of Community Resources Jennifer Moreland.

Moreland said the federal monies will be used to assist low- and middle-income individuals, the most vulnerable in the community to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In requesting the extension of the state of emergency, Director of Public Safety Jacqueline Vaughan told the BOCC, "COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that continues to spread easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death."

As to the pandemic's fiscal impact on the county, she said, "The total fiscal impact of this crisis is unable to be determined at this time; however, to date, the county has committed approximately \$1.5 million to protection, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts from the impacts of this health crisis. Our Department of Finance and Budget has established policies and procedures to track all costs related to the COVID-19 response and recovery from this ongoing health emergency."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Gatton's Barber Shop Coming Back from COVID-19 Shutdown

By Grace McCready
Special to The County Times

Gatton's Barber Shop of Hollywood has been part of the St. Mary's community for almost 90 years. John Gatton Sr.'s father opened the barbershop in 1933. Meanwhile, Gatton Sr.'s older brother worked there starting in the 1950s and his younger brother joined the business in the 1960s. Gatton Sr.'s son began working at the barbershop during the 1980s, while his daughter joined in the early 2000s.

Though Gatton Sr.'s first year in his father's barbershop was 1959, that location was in Sandy Bottom in Hollywood. The current Hollywood location, which was built in 1969, served as an experiment of sorts for Gatton Sr.

That experiment had perhaps its most difficult test with the outbreak of the novel coronavirus.

As for COVID-19's impact on the barbershop, Gatton Sr. shared candidly that it truly hurt the business.

He said, "I've never lost that much time in my whole career...you have to set aside [money] for the rainy day, the rainy week, the rainy month..."

Closed for about eight weeks, Kimberly Gatton Sullivan, his daughter and part business owner with his son John Gatton, Jr., mentioned that it was hard for her to be told not to work. She said that she'd never thought the barbershop and salon industry would be forcibly closed.

Though the barbershop stayed open for several weeks in March, Gatton Jr. noticed a decline in business. "...it was absolutely 100 percent related to the COVID situation," he said.

The relationships that Gatton's Barber Shop has with other salons and barbershops in St. Mary's County helped the business thrive during the shutdown. Gatton Jr. said, "Just because we're in the same business doesn't mean that we are enemies, because that's not the case...we were all communicating quite a bit either by telephone or through our own Facebook page that we had created."

Since Gatton's Barber Shop reopened on May 18, there have been several restrictions in place, such as having customers make appointments and frequently cleaning the chairs. The first week of the barbershop's reopening, Gatton Sr. said they were "really slammed."

Sullivan said, "I mean, we still cleaned everything [before COVID-19], but it's just...a



little bit more entailed now."

She added that the shop has had a steadier flow of business recently.

One of the barbershop's biggest challenges has been switching from its previous walk-in-only format to its current appointment-only format. Sullivan said, "...most of our customers are used to us being a walk-in facility, and now they're having to call to make an appointment."

Gatton Jr. said he misses the conversations that came from random interactions of customers gathered in the shop. However, he did say, "...while the appointment process was not something that we embraced, we readily admit that it helped us to manage the flow of people tremendously, particularly that first week because, as I said, it was tremendously busy." He said his colleagues in St. Mary's County had expressed a similar opinion.

Not only does the Gatton family have close relationships with each other and with their colleagues, but they also have strong relationships with their customers.

Gatton Sr. noted, "We try to cater to them and meet their needs...If somebody gets sick and can't get out, we go to the house and cut their hair. If they're in the hospital, sick, we go to the hospital. If they're in a hospice house, we do it for our customers...even if one of our customers passes away and needed a haircut, we'd go the funeral home and take care of it."

So, we try to care of them from beginning to ending."

mccreadyjc@gmail.com

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New Rescheduled Date

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- Practice appropriate "social distancing"; utilize hand washing stations/sanitizers; suggest use of face coverings when social distancing is not feasible.
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McKay's Announces Return to Normal Hours

Beginning on Monday June 8th, McKay's Supermarkets will return to normal hours as follows:

Charlotte Hall, Leonardtown: 7 am till 10 pm Everyday

Hollywood: 7 am till 9 pm

In addition, new Senior exclusive shopping hours will be Tuesday and Thursdays from 8 am till 10 am.



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Calvert Murder Suspect Found Driving Victim's Car

Thanks to an alert citizen who spotted the stolen vehicle, the suspect wanted in connection with the murder of a woman found dead June 8 in her Prince Frederick home was arrested early this morning by a Maryland state trooper and a Calvert County deputy sheriff.

The suspect is identified as David H. Johnson, 48, who had been recently living in Prince Frederick. He is charged on an arrest warrant this morning with first-degree murder, second degree murder, home invasion, first-and-second-degree assault, burglary and theft. Additional charges are pending. He is being processed at the Maryland State Police Prince Frederick Barrack and will be taken to the county central booking center for an initial appearance before a court commissioner.

Shortly before 10:30 a.m. June 8, state troopers from the Prince Frederick Barrack responded to the home of Rose M. Long, 71, of the 200-block of Stafford Road after a relative found suspicious circumstances at the home. Troopers found the victim deceased in the home. The home was in disarray and troopers found evidence of an assault.

State Police investigators from the Homicide Unit and the Criminal Enforcement Division, assisted by crime scene

technicians and troopers from the Prince Frederick Barrack, worked through the day and night yesterday processing the scene, collecting evidence and canvassing the neighborhood for anyone who could provide information about a suspect.

During the night, investigators were able to develop information and evidence that identified the suspect as Johnson. Investigators obtained an arrest warrant for Johnson and a search was initiated for him. A lookout for the victim's vehicle, which was missing from her home, had been issued last night.

Shortly before 5:00 a.m. today, a motorist spotted the victim's vehicle and called police. A Prince Frederick Barrack trooper and a Calvert County deputy sheriff located and stopped the car on Rt. 4 at Skinners Turn Road in Owings. The driver, identified as Johnson, got out of the car and was arrested without incident.

Investigators believe Johnson had been staying at a home in the victim's neighborhood during the past few months. Prior to that, they believe he was living in Washington, D.C.

A motive for this crime has not been established at this time. An autopsy is expected to be conducted today on the victim's body.

The investigation is continuing.

CALVERT SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME REPORT

June 9, 2020

During the week of June 1 – June 7 deputies of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to 1,403 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property: 20-28606

On June 3, 2020, Deputy Hardesty responded to Rousby Hall Road in Lusby for the report of damaged property. Deputy Hardesty observed a total of seven street signs that had been marked with profanity along Rousby Hall Road. The value of damaged property is \$999.

Damaged Property: 20-29052

On June 5, 2020, Deputy Anderson responded to Solomons Town Center Park in Solomons for the report of damaged property. The complainant advised an unknown male suspect was observed riding a red dirt bike through the turf field on June 4th at 5:00pm. The value of damaged property is \$500.

Theft: 20-28406

On June 2, 2020, Deputy Hardy responded to Hallowing Point Road in Prince Frederick for the report of a theft. The complainant advised sometime on May 22nd, an unknown suspect(s) stole two packages from their mailbox. A third package was opened, but left inside the mailbox. The value of stolen property is \$28.

Theft: 20-28821

On June 4, 2020, Deputy Plant responded to Llewelyn Lane in Huntingtown for the report of a theft. The complainant advised between 10:00am and 4:00pm on June 2nd an unknown suspect(s) stole a Dell Pro Series laptop, a Samsonite computer bag, a Makita skill saw, bank statements, a birth certificate, and a passport from their work van. The total value of stolen property is \$2,650.

Theft: 20-29272

On June 6, 2020, Deputy Sampson met with a complainant at the Calvert County Sheriff's office who was reporting a theft. The complainant advised that between 7:00pm and 8:00pm on June 5th, an unknown suspect(s) stole the handicap parking placard from their vehicle while parked at Walmart in Prince Frederick. The value of stolen property is unknown.

Arrests:

On June 1, 2020, Deputies responded to the Prince Frederick Shopping Center in Prince Frederick to assist with the demonstration. While attempting to clear the parking lot, Deputies made contact with **Demetrious Carrol Holland (29)** and **Shamiya Shawnte Taylor (20)** who refused to leave the premises. After multiple requests to leave the premises, Holland and Taylor continued to yell profanities and refused to leave. Holland and Taylor were placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where they were charged with Disorderly Conduct and Failure to Obey a Reasonable and Lawful Order.

On June 2, 2020, Deputy Freeland responded to the area of Cove Point Park to assist other deputies in locating a suspect involved in a firearms complaint. Deputies located the suspect, **Michael Gene Newkirk (31)**, inside his vehicle. Newkirk was removed from the vehicle and detained while a search was conducted, resulting in a hypodermic syringe containing suspected heroin, a small tea cup candle holder with burn residue, a small cotton wad, and a Suboxone film strip. Newkirk was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, and CDS Administer Equipment Possess/Distribute.

On June 4, 2020, Deputy Wilder responded to Rousby Hall Road in Lusby for the report of a vehicle theft. The complainant advised between 4:00am and 7:40am on June 4th, an unknown suspect(s) stole a small motorhome that was parked in the lot for cleaning service. While gathering information on the stolen motorhome, Deputy Wilder and complainant's observed an unknown male drive the motorhome back onto the property. The driver of the motorhome, **Bruce Craig Bluteau, Jr. (51)**, was stopped and removed from the vehicle. The complainant advised there was damage to the hitch area in the rear of the motorhome that was not there when the vehicle was dropped off for cleaning service. Bluteau was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Motor Vehicle/ Unlawful Taking, Theft: \$1,500 to under \$25,000 and Malicious Destruction of Property/ Value <\$1,000.

On June 5, 2020, Deputy Anderson was conducting a routine patrol check in the area of Rousby Hall Road and Clubhouse Drive when he observed a truck parked at the entrance of Clubhouse Drive. The driver of the truck, **Stephen Charles Quijada (26)**, was inside the vehicle and appeared to be passed out. Deputy Anderson observed Quijada to be holding a hypodermic needle and after multiple attempts, Quijada woke up and exited the vehicle. While speaking with him, Deputy Anderson observed Quijada's lack of balance a slurred speech. Quijada was detained and a search of the vehicle was conducted which resulted in an additional used hypodermic needle, a plastic water bottle cap containing a cotton filter with suspected white cocaine residue, and a cellophane wrapper containing suspected white cocaine residue. Quijada was placed under arrest and was transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana and CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia.

On June 6, 2020, Deputy Sampson conducted a traffic stop on S Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick. While approaching the vehicle, Deputy Sampson observed the driver, **Brian Keith Therres (37)**, fumbling around inside the car, and then observed an empty gun holster in the Therres' lap. Deputy Gough arrived on scene to assist and Therres was removed from the vehicle and detained. A search of the vehicle was conducted which resulted in a loaded, black Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm handgun wrapped inside a white shirt on the passenger seat, as well as an additional 10 round magazine loaded with Winchester 9mm rounds. Deputies also recovered ten unopened Buprenorphine and naloxone sublingual strips, and a pill bottle containing four suspected Clonazepam pills, two suspected Buprenorphine pills, three unknown pink pills, an empty 24oz can of Bud Light, two empty Bud Light Bottles, and two empty Fireball whiskey shot sized containers. Therres was observed to have incoherent, slurred speech and lack of balance. Therres was placed under arrest and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Loaded Handgun on Person, Loaded Handgun in Vehicle, Handgun on Person, Handgun in Vehicle, and CDS Possession- Not Marijuana.

Editor's Note: The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated



Bruce Craig Bluteau



Stephen Charles Quijada



Shamiya Shawnte Taylor



Demetrious Carrol Holland



Michael Gene Newkirk



Brian Keith Therres

Philip H. Dorsey III
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ST. MARY'S SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME REPORT

Sex Offender Arrested

Gary Ignatius Branson, a lifetime registered sexual offender, was arrested this week after being sought for violations of the law relating to his status.



Gary Branson

Branson, 34, of Lexington Park, was wanted on a warrant for failing to register as required by the sex offender registry and additional unrelated warrants.

Deputies Seek Burglary Suspect

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person pictured in a burglary investigation. On Monday, June 1, 2020 at 1:18 am, the suspect broke into the Slice House restaurant in Leonardtown and took an undisclosed amount of cash.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call Deputy John Gardiner at 301-475-4200, ext. 78150 or email john.gardiner@stmarysmd.com. Case # 34271-20

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Information Sought in Theft From Vehicle

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identities of those involved in a theft investigation. On Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 10:11 am, the suspects arrived at the 23000 block of Three Notch Road in California in a gray 2012-2016 Ford F150 truck driven by a white male wearing sunglasses. The passenger, wearing a Washington Redskins hoodie, grabbed the victim's Stihl model 430 gas-powered leaf blower

from the back of the victim's truck, placed it in the suspect's truck and the two fled southbound on Route 235.

Anyone with information about the identities of the suspects or this incident is asked to call Cpl. Gray Maloy at 301-475-4200, ext. 78035 or email gray.maloy@stmarysmd.com. Case # 34578-20

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact St. Mary's County Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Child Abuse:

On June 9, 2020, Deputy Richard Wilhelmi responded to the 46500 block of Valley Court in Lexington Park for the report of a disturbance. The victim advised that Daeshaun Dwayne Nelson, 20 of Lusby, struck the victim in the mouth and head while holding a child. The child was also struck in the head. Deputy Wilhelmi observed blood on the victim. Nelson was later located, arrested, transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown and charged with Second-Degree Child Abuse: Parent, Second-Degree Assault and Violation of Protective Order.

Editor's Note: The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated



Daeshaun Nelson

Teen Court Program Goes Virtual

The St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services Teen Court program has transitioned to a virtual system, the first in the state to have done so. According to Global Youth Justice, Inc., St. Mary's County Teen Court is now one of only 25 programs throughout the country hosting virtual Teen Court sessions.

Teen Court is a juvenile justice diversion program offering first-time misdemeanor offenders, ages 11-17 and first-time traffic offenders under the age of 18, the opportunity to accept accountability for their minor crimes without having to incur a permanent criminal record or traffic court fines and points. Teen Court is a voluntary program that allows juvenile offenders to be judged by a jury of their peers.

The 90-day processing requirement for juvenile cases was not changed when the courts closed in Maryland due to the COVID-19 emergency, said Gregory Jones, Teen Court Coordinator with the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services' Human Services Division. When the courts closed, Jones had cases already scheduled for hearings and others waiting to be processed. Without an effective alternative the only thing that could be done was to forward them to the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services for formal processing, where the offenders would potentially get a juvenile criminal record, the very thing Teen Court is designed to prevent.

"We would be very remis if we didn't do absolutely everything we can to give these children the second chance that Teen Court provides," Jones said.

With this in mind, Jones began researching the few virtual programs that existed at that time, finding ones in Texas and Arizona that could potentially be reworked to suit the needs of the St. Mary's County program. Security, confidentiality, and functionality were some of the major challenges these programs faced. With the security breaches and licensing requirements of some of the programs, the search continued for one that could meet the requirement of security, confidentiality, ease of access, and the ability to electronically move the offender and their parents during jury deliberations to a waiting area like was done when the cases were heard in the District Courthouse.

With the assistance of the St. Mary's County Information Technology Department, an existing video conferencing program was found to have some features which would meet the operating requirements without disconnecting any of the participants. Having a virtual alternative to in-person court sessions also provides Teen Court with a very valuable backup tool moving forward, Jones said.

In addition to holding the actual court hearings virtually, Jones can conduct

the intake interviews for new cases as well as the exit interviews following the completion of the hearing. He is able to scan the necessary paperwork and contracts and forward them to the parents via email. The development of these procedures not only facilitates addressing the cases still pending but allows for additional ones to be accepted until in-person court sessions can safely resume.

Michelle Lowe, Teen Court Bailiff and jury monitor, is pleased to be involved in the virtual Teen Court and believes it sends a strong message to both the volunteers and the teens with cases being heard.

"Moving online makes them realize the importance of the program in general; moving online shows that we believe it to be an important part of what we do," Lowe said.

While work was being done on the technical aspects of the virtual court session, Jones had to rewrite procedures designed for the in-person court sessions to operate in the virtual courtroom. He scheduled test sessions with the Teen Court adult, teen and Community Judge volunteers to walk through the evolving procedures, refine the technical operation of the virtual program and validate the operating procedures in a realistic setting.

"Credit truly goes to all the Teen Court volunteers who make this program happen. It still never ceases to amaze me the insight, dedication, and fairness of our teen volunteers. They are absolutely phenomenal," Jones said.

Teen Court hearings are normally held the second and fourth Monday of each month, but they are currently being held more frequently to allow them to get through the backlog that built up while the virtual program was being developed and to accommodate the longer amount of time virtual hearings take.

Teen Court utilizes the services of teen volunteers ages 11 - 17 as jurors and adult volunteers who serve as community judges, jury monitors, bailiffs and administrative aids.

"[Teen Court] is for teens and about teens, this really falls up the alley of the volunteers. We're dependent upon our young people to make this program work and they've been pulling us along," said Charlottis Woodley, Teen Court Community Judge, of the virtual program. She has been with the program for over eight years.

"Overall, [virtual Teen Court] has been very successful," said Katie O'Toole, a Teen Court juror who has been with the program for a year. Aside from some technical difficulties initially, the sanctions and order of procedures have been smooth, she said.

For more information, contact Teen Court Coordinator Gregory Jones at Gregory.Jones@stmarysmd.com.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

Legal Notice

IN THE MATTER OF JOSHUA MICHAEL BROWN
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO RONIN BLACK
In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-04-FM-20-262
Notice (Adult)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which he/she seeks to change his/her name from Joshua Michael Brown to Ronin Black. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: I dislike my current name and would now like something unique and more representative of myself.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 07/19/2020. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served on the petitioner (Maryland Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may issue a default judgement or grant the name change.

Kathy P. Smith,
Clerk of Court for
Calvert County Maryland

Real-Estate Industry Adjusts to Pandemic



By Bri Corley
Contributing Writer

When one thinks about the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on businesses, most tend to think of restaurants, stores, and the like. However, one field that has been impacted by both the initial outbreak and adjusting to reopening has been real estate. From complex guidelines to an unexpected market increase, the real estate business in Southern Maryland has had to jump through hoops in order to provide prospective buyers with their dream home.

Dave Spigler of Lusby has been selling homes in St. Mary's and Calvert County for nearly 29 years. According to Spigler, guidelines for real estate agents can change due to any sort of legal change on any level of government. However, much like every other aspect of life, the unprecedented nature of coronavirus led to a dramatic change in their system.

"In my time in this business, I have not experienced such rapid, dramatic changes in the way we go about our daily work," said Spigler. "I have witnessed change throughout my real estate career, mostly caused by changes in laws at both the federal, state, and

county levels."

One of the main adjustments the real estate industry had to embrace is how they conduct house tours. Guidelines have been set that limit the number of people on a tour and control what everyone must do in order to risk as much contamination as possible.

Spigler says, "Appointments are spread out to ensure no overlap. Our sellers need to have a logbook for all buyers who enter their home. Hand sanitizer must be available at the front door. The buyers must wear masks and need to remove their shoes as they enter the premises, They are asked not to touch anything in the houses other than doors. Sellers most often leave when buyers are scheduled, and there have been extreme cases where sellers take their homes off the market as they don't want to take any chances with strangers walking through their places. The Maryland Association of Realtors and the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors as well have produced forms for all clients to sign that make them aware of these new protocols."

However, these changes haven't scared off buyers. Spigler believes the increase, which is "well ahead of last year's figures," is due to a combination of factors. One is that quarantine with family may have brought to light any issues with space and show the need for an upgrade. It also may have something to do with houses receiving offers so quickly, which would encourage others to see the possible worth of their home. The seller's market is also at a low, which gives sellers an advantage to get their desired price.

"But the biggest and truest reason for this unexpected activity, ." Spigler said, "is because mortgage interest rates are at an all-time low and banks are lowering credit score requirements to allow younger people the ability to purchase a home. With these really low-interest rates, buyers can now afford to purchase much larger homes than they might have considered just six to nine months ago."

St. Mary's Unemployment Rate Celebrated

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Maryland has been hit hard economically by the COVID-19 shutdowns and most counties have a double-digit unemployment rate; but there is one doing better than the rest, and that is St. Mary's County.

The state's latest figures show St. Mary's County has a 7.3 percent unemployment rate; neighboring Calvert County has an 8.3 percent unemployment rate.

Worcester County, on the Eastern Shore, has a 22.8 percent jobless rate.

Local officials say that the county's largest economic engine, Patuxent River Naval Air Station, had much to do with local job security.

But even with that the April rate is more than twice that of March, which was just 3.1 percent.

Calvert's unemployment rate in March was just 2.8 percent before the COVID-19 shutdown.

The latest statistics show that there are now 3,915 people claiming they are unemployed in St. Mary's; in Calvert 3,954 report being unemployed.

Commissioner Eric Colvin said the

county's position was enviable compared to the rest of the state.

"It's still up," Colvin said of the jobless rate. "It's unfortunate but we're doing better than the rest of the state."

"It's understandable given the way our economy works."

Colvin said he first learned of the rankings last week at a meeting sanctioned by the Maryland Association of Counties (MaCO).

The MaCO presenters also said that the job losses in Maryland from the two years of the Great Recession from 2008 were equaled by the job losses sustained during the COVID-19 shutdown over just two months, said Colvin.

"The projection is anywhere from two years to three-and-a-half years for a full recovery," Colvin said. "Hopefully we can get through this and only see minimal impacts."

"We'll see."

The overall unemployment rate for Maryland is 10.1 percent; more than 306,000 Marylanders are without jobs.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Unemployment Rate by County	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020
Maryland	3.2	3.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	10.1
Allegany County	4.6	4.5	5.6	5.4	5.3	14.1
Anne Arundel County	2.7	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.9	10.0
Baltimore city	4.6	4.2	4.9	4.7	4.9	11.9
Baltimore County	3.3	3.1	3.6	3.6	3.6	10.8
Calvert County	2.7	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.9	8.3
Caroline County	3.2	3.1	3.8	3.8	3.6	9.2
Carroll County	2.5	2.4	2.9	3.0	2.8	9.4
Cecil County	3.5	3.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	9.6
Charles County	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.6	9.3
Dorchester County	4.2	4.2	5.1	4.9	5.2	10.7
Frederick County	2.8	2.6	3.2	3.2	3.0	9.8
Garrett County	4.2	4.5	5.3	5.4	5.3	13.2
Harford County	2.9	2.7	3.3	3.4	3.3	10.4
Howard County	2.4	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.6	8.1
Kent County	3.4	3.6	5.2	4.9	4.3	9.8
Montgomery County	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.9	2.8	8.5
Prince George's County	3.4	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.7	10.0
Queen Anne's County	2.7	2.6	3.3	3.3	3.0	10.2
Somerset County	5.5	5.6	6.8	6.0	5.9	11.8
St. Mary's County	2.8	2.6	3.2	3.2	3.1	7.3
Talbot County	2.9	2.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	10.6
Washington County	3.3	3.2	4.0	4.2	4.0	12.1
Wicomico County	4.4	4.5	5.2	5.0	4.8	13.5
Worcester County	8.5	9.5	10.9	9.3	9.4	22.8

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted data

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COVID-19

As of May 27

Positive Cases

Deaths

Calvert

369

6

St. Mary's

566

35

Information provided by St. Mary's and Calvert Health Departments
5-27-2020

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CountyTimes

Churches of Southern Maryland:

Pt.2: First Saints Community Church



Pastor Chris Owens

By Grace McCreedy
Contributing Writer

With campuses in Leonardtown, Callaway, St. George Island and Ridge, First Saints Community Church is an active community presence. Pastor Chris Owens, the lead pastor, is a main source of the church's energy.

Owens explained that the Leonardtown, St. George Island and Ridge campuses were previously separate churches. However, through shared ministry and shared leadership, these churches decided it would be best to become one church by arranging a cooperative agreement. The California campus, now in Callaway, didn't become part of First Saints Community Church

until later. Starting at Esperanza Middle School, this campus ended up in a permanent home that was owned by the church.

The name "First Saints Community Church" combines the original names of the churches. Owens added, "And, like, the perpetual challenge of this is the tension of being four distinct campuses with each with their own campus life and history and culture but also operating and seeing ourselves as one church. And so that always creates a good tension that we're always trying to live into."

Regarding leadership roles at the church, Owens explained, "So I'm lead pastor of First Saints. I'm the primary campus pastor of the Leonardtown campus, and then Reverend Trish Watson is the primary campus pastor for Callaway. And then Reverend Cindy Caldwell...is the primary campus pastor for [the] St. George Island and Ridge campus."

Owens started his relationship with Christ as an 18-year-old. He was actually interested in being an English teacher, earning his bachelor's degree from Towson University. He laughed, "It's funny I ended up being a teacher anyway in a lot of ways."

After that, he earned his Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary, pastored at Hollywood United Methodist Church for a few years and was appointed to First Saints Community Church in 2019. He is married and has three children.

When the coronavirus hit, the leaders of First Saints Community Church confronted the obstacles. Owens stated, "We had

to completely reinvent our ministry, which is significant and large. [We had to] completely reinvent it to be all online or virtual, and so we were working ourselves to the bone for a couple of weeks, just trying to get that all figured out."

Owens expressed plans for a virtual Vacation Bible School, though it's normally done at two or three church campuses. He mentioned, "And then we're also finding that we're doing more work in equipping parents who have had their kids at home."

The youth ministry at First Saints Community Church, called Harbor Youth, is "one of the best, if not the best, youth ministry in St. Mary's County," claimed Owens. He explained that the youth were able to serve at the Leonardtown campus' food distribution while taking proper safety precautions. More service opportunities are likely in store for them.

With two food pantries, one at the Leonardtown campus and one at the Ridge campus, First Saints Community Church is ready to assist the community. Owens claimed their Loaves and Fishes' food distribution in Leonardtown never shut down, even with COVID-19's spread. Also, Owens said Zoom has made small group meetings, Bible studies and communion possible, though small groups may have in-person outdoor meetings soon.

Another way the church has used the coronavirus to expand its impact is through American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation. Jody Cacko, the church's ASL interpreter, had mainly been interpreting for one man at the church's Leonardtown

campus. However, Owens stated, "So now we are one of the only online services I know of that are that is fully accessible to the deaf and hard of hearing."

Incorporating both traditional worship and contemporary worship, a single service is livestreamed for all campuses of First Saints Community Church. Owens shared, "But very quickly, we found that we now have a much, much wider worshiping community that is literally all over the world now."

Owens believes the pandemic has impacted the church's decision to expand to other campuses, perhaps anywhere in the world. "So one of the strategies we're thinking about is something called micro-campuses, where we're kind of taking the best of our campus mentality and the house church model that Callaway represents and trying to get people to gather in smaller groups," he explained.

Though the campuses each offered a format of outdoor worship starting May 31, Owens didn't sugarcoat his thoughts about resuming worship indoors. "We have no compunction to just fling wide the doors of the church to say that we're open again."

However, he made a point to say, "We have never been closed. Period. We have never closed. We have been open the entire time. And what I mean by 'open' is we are still the church in our community. And the doors of what we do and offer...are wider now than they've ever been."

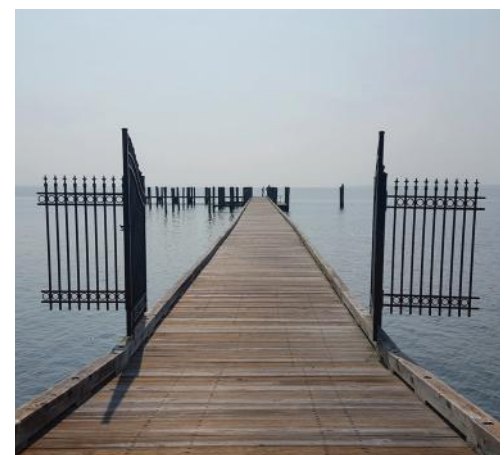
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Project Graduation Money Going Towards Student Computers

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Money that would have been spent on Project Graduation, which was cancelled due to COVID-19 fears, will now go towards purchasing laptop computers for St. Mary's public school students so they can continue distance learning.

Deputy State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling told the Commissioners of St. Mary's County at their June 9 meeting that the office had just over \$100,000 in revenue in a revolving fund to buy 315 computers.

While most St. Mary's students have access to on-line learning platforms, a small number do not and have had to work from paper packets specially prepared and distributed to them to complete their schoolwork over the past several weeks.

"It's a 36-year-old program," Sterling said. "This, unfortunately is the first time we won't be holding this event since 1984."

Project Graduation was held annually at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station drill hall and provided for every senior in the county a drug-and-alcohol free environment to have one last celebration with their classmates.

It had become something of a ritual in St. Mary's.

Sterling said the State's Attorney's Office wanted to do something positive with the money.

"This is a phenomenal use of this money," said Commissioner Eric Colvin, who praised

Sterling and the state's attorney's office, which could have chosen to keep the money to be used next year to sponsor the event.

The commissioners also voted Tuesday to approve state funding in the amount of \$200,000 to help complete the so-called "middle mile" project of extending rural broadband connections to farther flung areas of the county that have to find alternative means of internet access which are often less reliable.

Director of Information Technology Bob Kelly said the funding will complete the projects in 13 out of 15 areas identified as needful of the service here.

Completing the "middle mile" will eventually pave the way to finish the "final mile" commissioners said of connectivity to rural homes.

Commissioner Todd Morgan said completing this project will bring the county one step closer to providing for many employees on Patuxent River Naval Air Station to continue the popular COVID-19 practice of teleworking which has grown swiftly in just months.

"There are lots of people who are never going back on base," Morgan said. "The employees have to find ways to hook up to broadband and cable."

"The broadband here is for everybody's purposes," Morgan said. "Working from home is here to stay."

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Tidewater Dental: From 'A Good Place to Start a Practice' to the Area's Largest and Adjusting to the Pandemic



Tidewater Dental General Manager Jeff Tomcsik flanked by practice founder Dr. David Cooper (right) and his son Dr. Todd Cooper.

By Dick Myers
Editor

Editor's Note: It was in early March that The County Times visited the home office of Tidewater Dental in Lexington Park to speak to founder Dr. David Cooper and General Manager Jeffrey Tomcsik for an intended feature story about the practice that has evolved into the largest in the region. Best intentions were put on hold because almost immediately after that the governor shut down the state and dentists were restricted to doing only emergency procedures.

A definite bump in the road, but the story about Tidewater Dental that we would have originally run in March has not been altered by the passage of time and the imposition of COVID-19. Here it is:

Dr. Cooper graduated from Georgetown University in 1977 and chose St. Mary's County to start a practice. "It was a good place to set up a practice, and I really liked the climate. I looked through probably Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia," he said.

The area appeared poised for growth. He said, "And then we lost McDonald Douglas and that was a big blow to the community. But then ultimately, during BRAC alignment, we were able to acquire the Naval Air Systems Command out of Crystal City (Virginia) and a big group of people came down from Pennsylvania when they realigned the bases. So, we gained a lot of patients. I guess that's the way to put it."

Tomcsik was originally from New Jersey

but came to the area to attend St. Mary's College. After graduation he worked for a marketing firm in New York. He said, "I helped bring Ice Breaker Mints to fruition. I was getting tired of the constant traveling into the city every day. And so, I decided to go back to school to get my Master's in Education."

While doing that he started helping Dr. Cooper during the summer with marketing. "And after two summers of that, he said, 'Why don't you come on full time?'"

That was a key pivot for both men, because Dr. Cooper admitted that sometimes professionals, like dentists, aren't always the best businessmen.

"When you do want to expand a business, whether it be a medical business or any business, you have to have the right people in the right seats on the bus," Dr. Cooper related. "I was the right person on the seat of the bus from a clinical perspective. Growing a clinical practice from the business perspective, I was not. I did not have the expertise nor the amount of time because you can only really devote so much time to doing a business when you've got to be taking care of patients. So, when I decided that we were going to make our business a little bit bigger, I had to bring people on board to help me. And that's where Jeff came in."

There wasn't one "ah ha" moment that led to the decision to expand. It was more a process. He started his practice in St. Mary's Square and was there for 17 years. He decided he wanted his own building and bought his current one from Lewie Aldridge in what used to be a racquetball court. "I wanted to expand. I needed more room. So, 2001 was basically when I started the expansion project. Jeff would come onboard shortly after that."

He not only needed people, he needed infrastructure. "It's hard to do a business without the proper infrastructure, whether it be equipment or people." He added, "We just had one facility until 2010. So, we've grown from one facility to seven facilities in that 10 years."

Those facilities are in Lexington Park, Prince Frederick, Solomons, Lusby, Dunkirk, Glenarden and Charlotte Hall. Their Lusby office was destroyed by fire last year and they are in the process of reopening at a new location.

Tomcsik said of that growth, "I think one of the biggest things was, from my perspec-

tive, when Dr. Cooper brought me in, he gave me a lot of free rein to educate myself on the industry itself, going to courses and reading journals and things like that. And then we would have Tuesday evening meetings and we would discuss things that we can do to elevate the business, to change the business, to differentiate from the competition, to really look outwardly at what the patients want from us. So, by doing that, he can be laser focused on dentistry while I'm pulling the strings based on the decisions we're making in the evening. You can't be in two places at one time as a dentist and you give up a lot of production time if you're working on the business."

This reporter, as a Tidewater patient, has observed the practice's efficiency and asked Dr. Cooper about that. "That's a very perceptive observation. We kind of honed our business skills here. We looked and said to ourselves, if I'm a patient, what am I looking for when I want to go to a dental office? Well, I want to have quality doctors and health care professionals working on me. So, we recruited the top people that we could get our hands on to help us out, hygienists, assistants, doctors.

"But also, I want convenient hours. So, from the time we've started, we've seen patients from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. and through lunch hour. You won't find many practices to do that. In fact, I would challenge you to find any that have those kinds of hours."

Dr. Cooper added, "Not having anybody wait when they come into the office. Sometimes it happens, but for the most part we pride ourselves on it." He added, "We schedule so we're not wasting their time. Things that you would like as a patient, we took it to heart. All of our rooms in all of our offices have TVs on the ceiling and remote-control headphones, so that you can kind of tune everybody out."

He also explained, "We do what we call CAD Cam dentistry where we have cameras that can record what's in your mouth and then make the dental prosthesis right away. So, we try to incorporate the best and the most modern technology."

Dr. Cooper also said, "We utilize a water purification system that's the highest quality purification in the marketplace. All of our dental units have this purified water in it and no one else in the area does this. And that helps, especially with people that have immune deficiency issues; it helps prevent certain things from happening."

He said two of their offices have a unique machine that can make a crown in an hour. "These are six-figure units to purchase. So most dental offices will not buy one, but they provide a much better image for placing an implant or doing other more complicated than that."

Those offices also have CAT Scan machines, unlike normal dental x-ray machines, that can "zero in on a particular spot and see how big the space is. It's just really an exceptional tool for certain things."

"That economy of scale allows us to be more efficient. Because we're bigger we can afford to buy the better equipment. We can afford to negotiate with insurance companies. Because we're a bigger group we can say, 'We want you to give our patients a better deal because we literally take care of over

20,000 patients in this county alone.' So, like any other business, when you've got more resources, you can put more resources into your business."

There's not only an investment in equipment. Tomcsik said they pay for the continuing education of all 14 of their associates. "That is not just unique locally but unique in the industry," he said. Also, all of their dental assistants go through x-ray certification and qualified dental assistant certification.

Dr. Cooper still sees patients, especially for obstructive sleep apnea, his specialty.

One of Dr. Cooper's associates is his own son Todd. "He's been practicing for probably 11 years, and he worked with me for four or five years before he even went to dental school. So, he knows my patients, he knows the business and he has taken up taking care of my patients for the most part."

Dr. Cooper realizes being the biggest means they need to strive to be the best. "We have to adhere to a higher standard. So, we do."

dickmyers@countytimes.net

Notice from Tidewater Dental

According to General Manager Jeffrey Tomcsik, "While the governor of Maryland has proposed dentistry open to all elective procedures, Tidewater Dental is following more strict guidelines as directed by the CDC and the Maryland Department of Health. We are seeing limited hygiene patients, emergencies, and restorative care at this time. We are following all PPE guidance by the American Dental Association, American Dental Hygiene Association, the Center for Disease Control, and the Maryland Department of Health.

"All patients are being screened for COVID-19 related symptoms and high-risk scenarios before determining if a visit is recommended. This includes temperature check, pulse oxygenation level check, and a short questionnaire. Our appointments are spread out to accommodate social distancing and proper sterilization between patients. We have invested in dental systems and training that reduce aerosols generated from procedures getting into the ambient workspace. We have also followed all orders by Governor Hogan including the required posted signage attesting to our compliance with state regulations."

Tomcsik said, "If you are in a high-risk group for COVID-19, all routine dental visits should be avoided at this time. Many procedures in dentistry cause aerosols to be produced from the patients' mouths that can remain airborne much longer than the aerosols produced from a sneeze, cough or talking and eating. To combat this heightened risk, we are doing everything we can to reduce the risk of infection. While, as of this writing, there have been no known cases of COVID-19 traced back to a dental practice, it is important to weigh the risk of contracting COVID-19 versus the risk of postponing your dental care. For guidance on making an informed decision, contact Tidewater Dental at any of our six locations."





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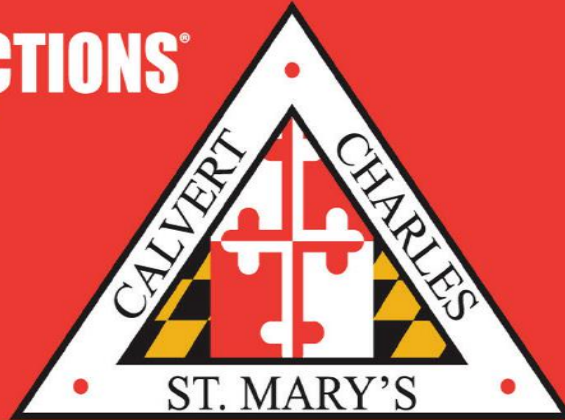
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White, Keen Remain in School Board Lead

By Dick Myers
Editor

On June 10, the Calvert County Board of Elections was still counting ballots that were coming in by mail. A week after the June 2 election, the stream has fallen to a trickle. Counting will be closed on June 12.

Although the counting is still ongoing, it appears that the two candidates from the field of six who will face each other in November for the Commissioner District 2 seat on the Calvert County Board of Education are Antoine White and Dawn Keen.

On election day Keen was the leader in the race followed by White but the ballots that have come in by mail in the last week have flipped the order, with White in the lead by 78 votes, 4,336 versus 4,258 in the non-partisan race.

White had garnered 22.7 percent of the vote to Keen's 22.3 percent.

In third place, too many votes behind to appear able to catch up in the last few days of counting, was Camille Miller, with 19.5 percent of the vote.

Although the school board race is non-partisan, the Calvert County

GOP before the primary came out with an endorsement of Keen.

White, 49, of Prince Frederick, is a Calvert County native, raised in Adelina, and a Calvert High School graduate. He joined the U.S. Air Force and continued his education there as a civil engineer. He is now a mortgage broker with Universal Mortgage. He and his wife have a son in college and a daughter in 4th grade at Barstow Elementary.

Keen, 41, of Port Republic, is a product of county schools and graduated from Lynchburg College with a major in business administration and a minor in psychology. After spending several years in retail, she went to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where she is a statistician.

dickmyers@countytimes.net



Antoine White

Dawn Keen

Conceptual Site Plans Now Mandatory

By Dick Myers
Editor

After a two-week hiatus, the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met on June 9 and took care of several lingering issues delayed by the coronavirus pandemic. They included finalizing a proposal that was first introduced a year ago. They gave unanimous approval to make Conceptual Site Plan (CSP) reviews mandatory instead of optional.

Planning staff believed the change would make it easier on developers because they would know earlier in the process what the planners wanted and would avoid having to make changes after large outlays of time and money. The flip side was the creation of a mandatory two-step process.

The development community was largely on board but there were concerns raised by three development community representatives at a Jan. 28 joint public hearing of the planning commission and BOCC.

Deputy Director of Planning Carolyn Sunderland told the BOCC at the June 9 meeting that a follow-up meeting with the three speakers along with planning and public works staff was held on Feb. 3 and some suggestions to streamline the process were made. She said, "Based on the February 3 meeting, staff proposed a new draft Site Plan Review process, requested in-house review and comments on February 12, 2020, and met in-house on February 24, 2020, to discuss responses."

The pandemic slowed things for several months while the planning commission didn't meet but they finally recommended approved of the revisions at their May 20 meeting.

Sunderland said the change would be budget neutral because "The mandatory CSP would require the same fee as the detailed site plan application, which is \$400 for Category I applications and \$100 for Category II applications."

Land Preservation Task Force

The commissioners agreed to form a Land Preservation Advisory Task Force (LPATF). There is currently a board in place that deals with agricultural land preservation. Director of Planning and Zoning Mary Beth Cook said the new task force would deal with the preservation of all types of land.

Cook said if the new task force makes recommendations involving agricultural land, those recommendations would be forwarded to the ag board. She said a member of the agriculture board would sit on the new task force.

Commissioner Tim Hutchins said he envisioned the task force as being temporary, making a report within a year and then being disbanded.

According to a memo to the BOCC from Rural Planner Ronald Marney, "Existing efforts towards land preservation in Calvert County have resulted in the preservation of over 30,000 acres of land to date. The BOCC expressed a desire to augment the work of existing boards, commissions, etc. on preservation of land and quality of life in the county."

Marney added, "The LPATF's primary task shall be to recommend additional land preservation initiatives for the BOCC's consideration. This will be completed by meeting monthly, providing an interim report, and completing a final report and recommendations to be provided to the BOCC on or before July 1, 2021. The LPATF members shall serve for 1-year unless the BOCC votes to extend the term."

Land Donated for Veteran's Housing

Following a May 19 public hearing, the BOCC agreed to accept the donation of a 15,000-square-foot parcel of land to construct a home for a needy veteran. The land donation will allow the Calvert Affordable Housing Alliance, Inc. to seek funding for construction monies.

dickmyers@countytimes.net



Calvert County Board of County Commissioners

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Virtual Graduation Watch Party Held



All photos are identified by the student's name with the exception of Katelyn Kluh.

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) celebrated 470 candidates for 462 associate degrees and 214 certificates during its 61st Spring Commencement Ceremony, held May 29. The 2020 graduating class boasts several unique characteristics, chief among them that they are the first CSM graduates to turn their tassels in a virtual ceremony shared on social media.

Of the students being celebrated during the online ceremony, 172 are from Charles County, 164 are from St. Mary's County, 109 are from Calvert County and 25 are from outside of the region. Sixty-one percent of the graduates are women and 39% are men.

The majority of degrees, or 26.2 percent, were in the field of arts and sciences, nursing (13.2 percent), business administration (8%), and engineering (4.5 percent). General study transfers, business management, cybersecurity and alcohol and drug counseling were the primary certificates awarded. The oldest graduate is 68 years young and the youngest is 17 years old.

The virtual ceremony drew more than 3,000 viewers; where normally about 1,200 people, including students, attend in person.

It was a rite of passage this year, marked by pre-recorded speeches, video salutes from professors, graduate Alexandra Grace Knudsen's memorizing rendition of the national anthem, graduate photos and quotes, and a webpage filled with well-wishes from



Ben Brown

local, regional and state politicians. Facebook viewers users left nearly 750 comments and clicked their love, like and hug button more than 300 times.

'Our World is in Good Hands'

"Thank you for being here this morning – online with the College of Southern Maryland family – to celebrate the amazing achievements of our candidates for graduation and for the first time in our history doing so in a virtual commencement ceremony," began CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy as she kicked off the ceremony for an 11 a.m. watch party on Facebook.

Calling the graduating class as "extraordinary," Murphy told the viewers how the events of 2020 had "demonstrated with unequivocal force what it means to persevere."

"This pandemic is like nothing any of us have ever experienced," she said. "It is a frightening marathon, with no end in sight. For the last three months, you have stayed home and studied. You have volunteered in our communities. You have worked as first responders on the front lines helping to fight this virus. You have been the essential workforce that kept us all going.

"And some of you fell ill and many of you lost jobs," she added. "Yet, you come before us today – as college completers ... And if the way that all of you, the Spring 2020 candidates for graduation, have handled yourselves through this year is any indicator, our world is in good hands. Your amazing, resilient and powerful hands."



Liana Coloma

'Be Present, Make Every Second Count'

Student Speaker Katelyn Kluh, of La Plata, told her classmates that if the COVID-19 pandemic has taught her anything, it's to indeed be resilient and make every second count.

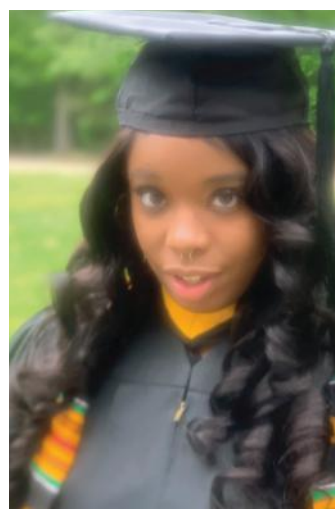
"If you knew a few months back about the looming pandemic and that we would soon be stuck at home, would you have done things differently?" was one of several questions she asked. "If I have learned anything during this time, it is that you cannot take people or experiences for granted. We often forget that things can change in an instant. Plans change, circumstances change, we ourselves change ... It is often our ability to adapt to change – our resiliency – that defines us. A resilient mindset is one of

strength and self-awareness."

Klugh, a two-sport, student athlete, earned All-Academic First Team honors for achieving a 4.0 grade point average (GPA) in her freshman year. A Greater Waldorf Jaycees Scholarship recipient, she played middle hitter for the CSM Hawks volleyball team in the fall and a center on the CSM women's basketball team in the winter. Klugh was one of 1,552 NJCAA student athletes in the nation to make the All-Academic First Team by maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

"This past season, my basketball coach would always tell us to play every game like it was our last," she shared. "He'd say, 'You never know what could happen when you walk out of this gym. Play like this is the last time you will see the court; be present and make every moment count.' I didn't truly get it until now."

After giving special shout-outs to Sociol-



Jehnae Linkins

ogy Professor Dr. Maria Bryant and Student Life Coordinator Melissa Chambers, Klugh shared her respect for her time at CSM.

"I can honestly say that coming to CSM was the best decision I could have made for myself," she said. "I had the opportunity to explore different interests, participate as an NJCAA dual-sport athlete, continue my passion for student government, meet a network of amazing and supportive individuals, and even graduate with two associate's degrees debt-free. Opportunity is here, if you choose to take it. I believe that I have really made the most out of my two years spent at CSM."

Oldest Graduate Benjamin Brown

At 68, Lusby resident Benjamin Brown is certain of his goal. He wants to be a lawyer, and after getting his associate's degree from CSM, he is on his way to Bowie State University for the next leg of his academic journey. His is a journey that has carried a life-long hard lesson from his youth and a high school diploma he finally earned when he turned 64 through Calvert County Public Schools at the Hunting Creek Annex.

Brown is not shy about sharing that he was with the wrong crowd in the wrong place when he made a bad decision at age 17. The decision cost him four years of his life to the penal system – and changed his focus forever.

"I knew when I walked out of those



Allison Perusse

gates, I had to work on me," he said. After incarceration, Brown went on to marry, parent his children, brag about his grandchildren and have a successful 30-year career as a machinist for a box company before retiring in 2011.

"It was after I retired, that I realized something was tugging at me," he said. "I remembered that as a child, I wanted to be lawyer. I wish my mom was still alive to see me graduate from the National External Diploma Program first, and then from CSM. She always said, 'You want to be a lawyer? Go do it!' So, I did."

Brown said that his words of wisdom for his fellow classmates is straightforward. "Do everything you can do, right," he said. "And don't let anyone or anything stop you from doing the right thing. Stay focused on a plan and don't let nothing stand in your way of achieving it."

Youngest Graduate Allison Perusse

Allison Perusse began her academic career with CSM when she was 15 and living in Lexington Park. As a homeschooler, she dual-enrolled at CSM and transitioned smoothly to a full-time student in 2018. At age 17, she earned the title of the youngest graduate at CSM's 2020 Spring Commencement.

Perusse holds another point of distinction. She moved to Tampa, Florida, and was finishing all of her classes to attain her degree through distance learning when CSM moved to remote operations due to COVID-19.

"This whole pandemic didn't impact me at all academically because I had already moved to a virtual environment," she said. "The only thing that changed was that I didn't have to return to Maryland to take my Spanish final."

While Perusse had great praise for her instructors, she said her best move at CSM was to join the Leonardtown Campus Student Association. "The professors at CSM are passionate, they really care," she said. "Every single student association meeting was so student-oriented and student-focused. Looking back, I am so glad I was at CSM where I could learn more about myself, afford to change my major and get involved in college activities."

Press Release from CSM

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

John Edward McDavid



John Edward McDavid, 62, of St. Leonard, Maryland passed away June 6, 2020 at his home. John was born on February 16, 1958 in Greenville Pennsylvania to Kathryn Sanford and the late Henry Clinton McDavid. He is also preceded in death by a sister, Diana Gonzalez.

John worked at Reagan National Airport, managing the shuttle buses, he was an Redskin fan, loved to deer hunt, and talk to his friends.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine Ann McDavid, daughters Catherine McDavid Jones and her husband Jermaine, and Ashley Ann McDavid. Grandfather of Camille Dunkley, he is also survived by his mother, Kathryn Sanford, brother David McDavid, sister Judy Turner and many other relatives.

Interment is private.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

David Grady Whitten



David Grady Whitten, who was born October 17, 1947, in Erie, PA, made the transition on Saturday June 6, 2020, at the University of MD Hospital in Baltimore. He suffered complications following surgery.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, J. Grady & Freda E. Whitten, and his mother-in-law, Doris Zanelotti. Dave lived in North Beach with the love of his life, Teresa A. Zanelotti-Whitten, and his German Shepherd, Woozy (5th, long story). He has left behind many friends and relatives, specifically his only sibling, little sister, Beth Swoap and her husband John, his children, of whom he was so proud: Tonya Boileau and spouse Randy, Mike Whitten and spouse Amy Shackelford, the lovely and talented Megan Whitten, his artist, and Denise Wayson. Dave also had 8 grandchildren whom he adored and to whom he was Pop-Pop: Jessica & Jared Boileau, Emza & Brynnah Shackelford-Whitten, Devon, Caroline, Garrett

& Preston Wayson. Dave is also survived by his extended family, Joe Zanelotti, his buddy and father-in-law, Joe Zanelotti, Jr & spouse Sandy, Joyce Hartman, Jimmy Zanelotti and spouse Mary, Joanie Zanelotti-Cook and spouse Buddy Cook. There are also many nieces, nephews and great nieces and great nephews left to miss Uncle Dave.

Dave went to school and graduated in 1965 from Harbor Creek High School in Harbor Creek, PA. He then went to Indiana State College (later Indiana University of PA), where he was a member of Kappa Delta Rho fraternity. He graduated with a degree in Land Planning. He went to American University for his graduate work. In 1971 he moved to Maryland, where he began his career as a planner at Tri-County Council, and then moved into the real estate industry. He spent his career working in various facets of real estate as a developer, builder and certified appraiser.

Dave played multiple sports while in school, loved football, fishing, boating, diving and his most recent passion was camping. He always enjoyed music, reading, loved a good meal, especially Teresa's many pasta dishes. He loved to travel, and was always a good and generous friend, sometimes generous to a fault.

After marrying Teresa, Dave found a strong faith and was a member of St Anthony's Catholic Church in North Beach.

We will all miss you terribly, and who am I going to aggravate, now?

Please be aware that attendees at David's visitation and Memorial Mass at St. Anthony's Church are required to wear a mask, and appropriate physical distancing requirements must be adhered to.

Visitation will be Thursday, June 11, 2020, 11 a.m.–noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 8816 Chesapeake Avenue, North Beach, MD 20714. Memorial Mass will follow at noon at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306; Link: <https://tunnel-2towers.org/>

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Robert Edward "Bob" Gillespie, Jr



Robert Edward "Bob" Gillespie, Jr., 76, of Dunkirk, passed away Thursday, June 4, 2020 at his home. He was born on September 8, 1943 in Cheverly, the son of Robert Edward Gillespie, Sr. and Mary Angeline Paxton. Bob grew up in Riverdale, and graduated from Bladensburg High School. He served in the Unit-

ed States Army from 1964 to 1966, then married Diane, his wife of 52 years, on April 6, 1968. They have lived in Dunkirk for the last 37 years. Bob worked as a Xerox technician prior to his retirement in 2005. He was a talented home mechanic and handyman, and enjoyed working on antique cars, as well as out in his yard. He was also a member of the Maryland Chevelle Club, and a proud owner of his 1967 Malibu Chevelle, which he enjoyed restoring, maintaining, and driving everywhere he went.

Bob is survived by his wife Diane, sons Cameron and Sean Gillespie, and grandchildren Destiny and Autumn Gillespie, all of Dunkirk, sister-in-law Linda A. Brown of Norfolk, VA, and brother-in-law Lawrence J. Bowman of St. Leonard.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

Virginia Davis Bowen



Virginia Davis Bowen 99, of Prince Frederick, Md. passed away peacefully at Solomons Nursing Center on June 2, 2020. Virginia was born in Prince Frederick Maryland on June 2, 1921 to the late

Charles V. and Jessie Davis.

In addition to her parents Virginia was predeceased by sisters Margaret Green, Dorothy Howard, Jeanette Bunting and ex-husband H. Rodel Bowen.

Virginia is survived by her son Ted R. Bowen (Janice), grandson Chris S. Bowen (Michelle), great-grandson C.J. Bowen and great-granddaughter Savannah J. Bowen of Prince Frederick, Md. She is also survived by her sister Nell M. Bowen of Solomons, Md and several nieces and nephews.

Virginia was employed at Maryland National Bank for more than 30 years and retired as assistant manager. She was a loving Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. She was loved by her family and will truly be missed. Virginia enjoyed crocheting, gardening and shopping.

There will be a private family graveside service at Huntingtown Methodist Church. Memorial contributions can be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

Rindy Pauline Montgomery

Rindy Pauline Montgomery 77, of St. Leonard MD passed away peacefully on Monday June 1, 2020 at home. Rindy was born in Kingsport, TN on March 11, 1943 to the late Bettie Lee and Paris Warren.

Rindy is survived by her two broth-



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FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR TWO GENERATIONS



ers Guy and Clint Warren, and Granddaughter Bobbi Parks (Aaron Carter), and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and 11 other siblings she is preceded in death by her husband Willie

James Montgomery, and children David Allen Montgomery, Barbara Gean Parks, Kenneth Willie Montgomery, and James Gillis Montgomery.

More than anything, Rindy loved her family. She was a caregiver by nature, putting others before herself all too often. Cooking big family meals and gathering her loved ones was among her favorite things to do. Along with her husband, she loved to garden, planting flowers as well as fruits and vegetables. She was a lover of the sun and being outdoors. In her earlier years you could catch her laying out in the yard, picking veggies from the garden, or enjoying the breeze on her porch. Rindy loved country music, which could be heard playing in and outside of her home at all times. She enjoyed shopping, reading, and watching her "stories and game shows". She was an armed security guard for the Nuclear Power Plant for many years before partially retiring, and settling into a part time job as a cafeteria worker at Appeal Elementary School. As a young child she had to abandon her studies at the 6th grade to help her family on the farm. Obtaining her High School Diploma was one of the many things she'd hoped to accomplish one day. After marrying, she spent all of her time raising their 3 children while working. After leaving the Nuclear Power Plant she set her mind to accomplishing that goal. In 1998 she earned her High School Diploma, striking it off her bucket list. Rindy was a funny, kind, humble, and strong woman. Despite the untimely losses over her lifetime, she found comfort and strength in her faith. She was loved and will be truly missed.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association, 217 E. Redwood Street, 11th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; Link: <https://www.heart.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

John Richard Marshall, Sr.



John Richard Marshall, Sr., of Huntingtown, MD, passed away peacefully on May 31, 2020, at the age of 90. He was born in South Carolina on October 19, 1929, to Otis and Opal

Marshall. He spent his youth in Green Creek, NJ. He married Dolores Elaine Headley on October 25, 1952. He served as a sergeant in the army during the Korean War. Upon his return, they lived in Atlantic City and Pleasantville, NJ. They moved to Cockeysville, MD in 1963 and eventually settled in Riverdale, MD. They later moved to Huntingtown, MD, where he has lived for the past 16 years.

John worked in the construction industry for over 57 years, first as a carpenter, and eventually a commercial superintendent. John spent many years as a Boy Scout leader and enjoyed camping, fishing, and canoeing. John's passion for the last years of his life was serving others. Even though John had a difficult time getting around, he would take others to doctor's appointments, deliver food, and simply spend time visiting those who were shut-in. He truly had the heart of a servant.

He was preceded in death by his wife, who died in 2016. He is survived by his three sons, John R. Marshall, Jr. and wife Paula, of Huntingtown, James R. Marshall and wife Pamela, of Orange Park, FL, and Jeffrey A. Marshall and wife Robin, of Swannanoa, NC. He is also survived by 8 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

A private service will be held at Maryland Veterans Cemetery in Cheltenham at a later date.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Michael Franklin Whitman



Michael Franklin Whitman, 74, of Hyattsville passed away May 30, 2020. He was born July 19, 1945 in Halifax, Nova Scotia to Addison and Laura (Stark) Whitman. Michael joined the United States

Army on January 16, 1966 and was honorably discharged on January 17, 1969. He was employed as a telephone troubleshooter with Verizon for many years. After retirement, he went to work as a security guard for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Michael was a member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and in his spare time he enjoyed real estate and boating.

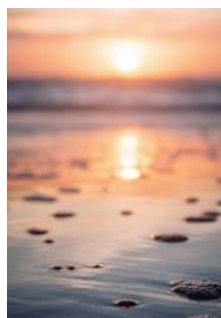
Michael is survived by his brothers Stephen Whitman and wife Robin of Owings and Bradley Whitman of York, PA.

A memorial service and celebration of Michael's life will be held at a later date.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Joseph Avram Bryan

Joseph Avram Bryan, 38 of Lusby, MD passed away on May 29, 2020 in Glen Burnie, MD. He was born on February



18, 1982 in Prince Frederick, MD to Lenore T. Hildebrand and Joseph Kenneth Bryan.

Avram is survived by his parents, sister, and daughter.

Due to the COVID-19 Virus and the executive

orders limiting gatherings, services for Joseph Avram Bryan were private for immediate family.

Funeral arrangements by Rausch Funeral Home.

Joan Marie Mullen



"One's sister is a part of one's essential self, an eternal presence of one's heart, soul and memory." (A quote by Susan Cabil, in the "SISTERS" gift book by Hallmark).

Joan Marie Mullen, age 71, of California, MD, died Friday, June 5, 2020.

She was born to the late Thomas Joseph and Mary Jane Mullen, April 11, 1949, in Bethesda, MD. Joan is survived by her sisters, Judith Ertter, Ashburn, VA., Jacqueline (Alan) Spence, St. Mary's City, MD., Jeanette (Joe) Scrivener, Drayden, MD., Jennifer (Keith) Nathe, Fair Oaks, CA., and predeceased by Juliet Mullen, Glen Burnie, MD. She is also survived by extended family including Niece, Rebecca (Jamie) Bowles; Nephews, Matthew (Peggy) Ertter, Aaron (Lindsey) Lancaster, and Mike (Jennifer) Scrivener; Great Nephews, Caiden Ertter, Harry Lancaster, Andrew Scrivener, Cole Scrivener, Aubrey Bowles and Noah Bowles; and predeceased by Nephew, Lank Lancaster, and Great-Nephew, Jack Scrivener.

The family moved to Tall Timbers, MD. in 1956. Joan's education took place at Little Flower; St. Michael's High; and St. Mary's Academy (now St. Mary's Ryken). She went on to attend Towson State (now Towson University) and graduated in 1971, with a Bachelor's degree in English; and later earned a Master's degree in Library Science. After graduation Joan remained in Towson, MD. to live and teach. She was very proud of her teaching career in Baltimore County, at the high school level. Books were Joan's passion from an early age and so the natural fit to work her magic in the field of Library Science is where she shined until retirement in 2001.

She enjoyed traveling with close friends to countries around the world, which included China, Japan, Spain, Egypt and England.

Joan was a generous, compassionate soul when it came to children.

In retirement, Joan fulfilled a lifelong dream of owning and operating a Bed and Breakfast. She moved back to St. Mary's County, MD. and purchased a large home in Ridge, MD. which became "Creekside Inn". She decorated with such impeccable taste and was a classy hostess for five years when she sold the Inn.

The family respectfully asks in lieu of flowers that memorial contributions be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650, Friends of the St. Mary's County Library, P.O. Box 165, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and The Alzheimer's Association, 1850 York Road, Suite D, Timonium, MD 21093.

The Funeral Service and Interment are private. Serving as Pallbearers will be Rebecca Bowles, Aaron Lancaster, Mike Scrivener, and Matthew Ertter.

A Celebration of Joan's life will take place at a later date.

Jimmy Edward Wathen

Jimmy Edward Wathen, 54, of Callaway, MD, passed away on May 28, 2020 in Dameron, MD. Jimmy is survived by his wife, Angela Wathen (Carroll) and

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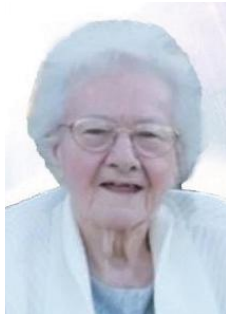
In Remembrance



daughters Sophia Wathen and Ashley Wathen. Jimmy was a devoted father and husband, the true definition of a provider. He was employed by Carroll's Equipment and worked as the delivery driver for 21 years. He was a dedicated employee and touched the lives of every customer he met. Jimmy was taken from us too soon and will be sorely missed.

There is currently a memorial at Carroll's Equipment, where the family is receiving cards, flowers and condolences. A signature book is also available on location for anyone who wishes to visit.

Eleanor Robinson Dych



Eleanor Robinson Dych, age 93, passed away peacefully on June 5th, 2020 surrounded by her loving family. She was born May 18th, 1927, in Woodstown, NJ to Walter James Robinson & Dorothy Fell Robinson. She met the love of her life and got married on December 30, 1949, in Elmer, NJ. They were inseparable for 57 years. She is preceded in death by her loving husband Arthur Dych Sr, who left this earth in 2007 and her sister Delma Robinson Clifford. She

is survived by her only son Ed Dych and daughter in-law Becky Dych, Grandchildren Lynnette (Chris) Beltran, Amber Dych, & Tim (Jessica) Dych, Great-Grand children Aydin Newman, Collin Dych, Jocelyn Dych, & Braylee Beltran.

Spending the majority of her life in Southern New Jersey on her parents farm, Eleanor developed a passion (in which she shared with her beloved husband) for farming and gardening. Eleanor was a devoted wife, mother and hard worker in the plastics factory at Cooks Inc. in Blackwood, NJ. Together they shared many passions that they passed along to their family. They adored traveling to the shore, eating seafood, taking the ferry to camp with their grandchildren, and traveling to see family & friends. Eleanor & Art were devout church members and always found opportunities to participate in church functions.

Eleanor had a love like no other for her family. Her son was one of her greatest accomplishments. Anytime she saw her family, it drew countless smiles that would brighten any room. She loved spending every minute she could with her great grandchildren, filled with cheerful memories and endless hugs & kisses.

Eleanor was loved and cherished by so many and will be profoundly missed. She is now at peace and reunited with her loving husband.

She will be laid to rest alongside her husband at Bethel United Methodist Church Cemetery in Hurffville NJ. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friendship United Methodist Church, 149 Friendship Rd, Monroeville, NJ 08343 or Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650

Mellissa Ann Billings



Mellissa Ann Billings, 29 of St. Mary's County, MD passed away on May 26, 2020.

She was born on September 5, 1990 in Leonardtown, MD to John and Margaret Billings of Lexington Park, MD. Mellissa attended Great Mills High School and the College of Southern Maryland. An excellent baker, her specialties being cookies and cupcakes, but she also

simple recipes like her garlic noodles. She enjoyed listening to a wide variety of music including hip hop and rock. In her spare time she also enjoyed reading and writing. She was often active in the Southern Maryland Chapter of AA/NA for support. Her biggest joys were spending time with her children, and visiting friends and family. She is missed dearly by those who she was close with.

She is survived by her parents John and Margie; her children, Jonathan, Arianna, Malala, Joy, and Owen; her sisters, Laura Dooley of Fort Benning, GA and Angel Billings of Sterling, VA, and her grandmothers Angelina "Angie" Billings and Gloria Stanley both of Lexington Park, MD and her many aunts, uncles and cousins. She is preceded in death by her grandfather Patrick Stanley Sr.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Shirley Elizabeth Bond



Shirley Elizabeth Bond, 85, of Leonardtown, MD passed away on May 26, 2020 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

She was born on April 16, 1935 in Mechanicsville, MD to the late James Howard and Henrietta

Veronica Thomas Woodland.

Shirley attended St. Joseph's Catholic School and graduated from Banneker High School. She had a beautiful voice and was a member of the school choir. On April 19, 1954 she married her beloved husband, King Philip Bond, Sr. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Morganza, MD. She was a delicious cook, and enjoyed hosting family gatherings and holidays. She was known for her cherry cheesecake, stuffed ham, and fried chicken. She also canned her husband's garden harvest, enjoyed dancing, knitting and sewing. However, her greatest love was for her family whom she raised to be caring, respectful and compassionate.

She is survived by her children: King Philip Bond, Jr. (Sheila) of Durham, NC, Julius Marvin Bond (Rita) of Mechanicsville, MD, Agnes Terry Lee Taylor (Arlin) of Forestville, MD; Deborah Ann Austin (Arthur) of Newport News, VA; Gary Ignatius Bond, Sr. (Michell) of Perris, CA; Eric Xavier Bond (Gladys) of Leonardtown, MD; Kim Christopher Bond of Leonardtown, MD; Norris Gabriel Bond of Mechanicsville, MD; Brian David Bond, Sr. of Leonardtown, MD; Kerry Alexander Bond, Sr. (Chanel) of Leonardtown, MD; 25 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and many extended family and friends. In addition to her parents and beloved husband, she is also preceded in death by her children: Gladys

Ann Bond, Michael Ciske Bond, Sandra Marie Hunt-Fant, Paul Agee Bond, Sr., and Karen Gail Bond.

Family will receive friends on Friday, June 12, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with a Funeral Service celebrated by Reverend David Beaubien at 12:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Cemetery of Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

Serving as pallbearers will be her grandsons: Troy A. Taylor, Derrick C. Mason, Paul A. Bond, Jr., Darrin M. Fant, Brian D. Bond, Jr., and Kerry A. Bond, Jr. Serving as honorary pallbearers are Brian C. Fant, King P. Bond III, Kenderick Fuller, Michael D. Marshall, Jr., Khalil M. Bond, Da'Shawn L. Evans, Tamari N. Taylor, Cameron M. Washington, Christian M. Washington, Derrick L. Foreman and Daxton A. Fant.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association of Maryland, 10665 Stanhaven Place, Suite 205 D, White Plains, MD 20695, Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650, and Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 299, Leonardtown, MD 20650

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Celverster G. Butler



Celverster G. Butler (Cy - Tike), 81 years old, of Mechanicsville, MD entered the gates of Heaven on June 1, 2020. He was born on September 12, 1938.

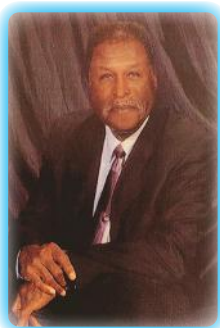
Cy was preceded in death by his mother Sybil (Butler-Adkins) & his Father, Kelly Wade Butler, his son, Bruce Butler and his mother-in-law Emogene Preston.

Cy is survived by his wife of fifty-five (55) years, the love of his life, Diana Butler (Preston), his daughter Sandi Junge (Mike), his seven (7) grandchildren, Christopher, Jason, Jeffrey and Amanda Junge, Jessica, Grayson and Weston Butler and one great grandchild Connor Junge. He is also survived by his sisters Phyllis (Lewis), Vicky (Tiny), Pat (Jack), Debbie (Walter), and brothers David (Debbie) & Jimmy. He is also survived by his father-in-law Willard Preston, Sr, his brother-in-law Willard Preston, Jr (Cindy), sisters-in-law, Judy Crisp (Luther, Jr.), Cindy Bond (Allen), Deborah Proffitt and Renee Kravats as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cy honorably served in the United States Navy from 1955-1964 on the 'USS Gunston Hall and USS Spiegel Grove'. He

Happy Birthday

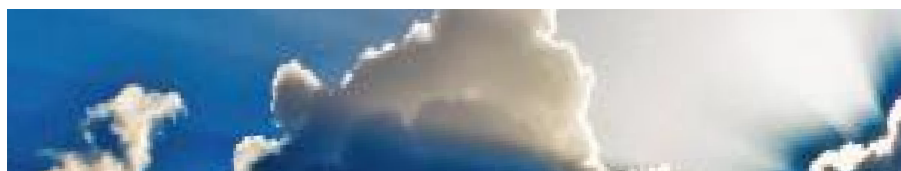
Joseph "Chummy" Tyer



Your life was a blessing,
Your memory a treasure,
You are loved beyond
words,
And missed beyond
measure.

June 14, 1943 - Aug 12, 2019

We will love you forever. Geraldine,
Alicia, LaTonya, Janicia,
and LaKia



then served as machinist at NAVORDSTA, in Indian Head, MD; as an industrial specialist, for NAVAIR at the Navy Yard, in Washington, D.C. and in Patuxent River, Md. After retiring, he worked for a few years with several Navy contractors. Cy was an extremely intelligent, respectful, kind, caring and giving man who touched the lives of many people.

He adored his wife and family and loved playing with his grandchildren. He was a strong Christian man. He loved to be outdoors. He loved gardening, crabbing, fishing and working in his yard. He loved to build computers and mentor others. He was an ordained Southern Baptist Deacon, a Baptist Men's Ministry (brotherhood) leader and a discipleship Bible teacher. He was also a Men's Sunday School teacher for many years. He loved the Lord Jesus Christ, his family, and his friends and thoroughly enjoyed studying and teaching God's word. Cy will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him.

Due to the pandemic and the desire to keep everyone safe (as he would have wanted) the family has opted to have a Private Funeral Service at Hughesville Baptist Church, on June 23, 2020 at 9:15 a.m. They would like to invite everyone to watch via live-stream at the link provided on the home page of the Brinsfield website. We ask that only the immediate family arrive ahead of the service to ensure a prompt start time. We will use the church protocol to keep everyone safe. Private Interment will follow the ceremony at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations be made to either the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, 29449 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622; Hughesville Baptist Church, 8505 Old Leonardtown Road, Hughesville, MD 20637; or the Alzheimer's Association, <https://act.alz.org/site/donation>.

(Obituary was lovingly written by the family.)

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

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

Linda Faye Kendall



Linda Faye Kendall, 68, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away peacefully at University of Maryland Charles Regional Hospital in LaPlata, MD on May 31,

2020.

Linda was born on February 8, 1952 in Tuscaloosa, AL to Pe-

ter Paul Raffeo and Margie (LeRoy) Raffeo. Linda's dad served in the Air Force for 30-plus years and the family lived in many locations both in and out of the country. Linda was the oldest of five siblings. Linda graduated from high school in Idaho in 1970 and just a few weeks after graduation received a job offer working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in their HQ location in Washington, D.C.

She soon met and fell in love with John A. Kendall, Jr., and married on April 10, 1976. Together they shared 44 years of happiness. Linda continued working for the FBI her entire federal career and retired as a Records Supervisor in 2007 with 36+ years of loyal, dedicated service. She loved her job and made many wonderful friends during her career. Shortly after her retirement from the FBI Satellite Office in Clarksburg, WV, where they spent nearly 14 years, Linda and Johnny returned to Southern MD rejoining the rest of the Kendall family and finally bought their first home in October 2008.

A gambler at heart, Linda spent many nights with Johnny and his family and friends at Rosecroft Raceway trying their luck on horses. She also loved the casinos especially playing the slots. The family made many trips by car and bus to Atlantic City. There are many CRAZY stories about those trips! She also loved playing poker with the Kendall boys and friends and could definitely hold her own in any hot poker game! She always enjoyed spending time with her family. When she enjoyed a quiet day at home, it often included watching her favorite game shows, western movies and many other favorite shows, including Perry Mason and Star Trek.

Linda was adored and loved by her family and friends. To know her was to know a kind, loving, generous and happy soul. She will be sorely missed and memories of her will last a lifetime.

Linda is survived by her husband, John A. Kendall, Jr., of Mechanicsville, MD; siblings, Dennis (Lorna) Raffeo of Winter Park, FL, Michael (Shelly) Raffeo of Clovis, CA and Barbara Raffeo of Fresno, CA; and many beloved nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. She is also survived by her life-long best friends, Mary Ann and Dave Gouge. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Peter Raffeo, Jr.

Charitable donations may be made in Linda's honor to the American Diabetes Association, 2451 Crystal Drive, Suite 900, Arlington, VA 22202 or the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 15, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

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

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

BASIC BUSINESS DOCUMENTS

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

The Articles

Once you have made the decision to incorporate your business, you need to decide what form the incorporation will take. A limited liability company, also called an LLC, is the most common form of incorporated entity. Why? It's simple and allows for changes in plans and approach. Owners of the LLC hold "membership interests" in the company. The membership interests carry voting rights similar to stockholder rights in a corporation. To create an LLC, you will file Articles of Organization with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation. A good tip on drafting the articles is not to insert a specific purpose to the LLC but to indicate that the LLC will pursue any purpose authorized by law in the State of Maryland. That way, if you change your business focus, you will not have to amend your articles.

A corporation is formed by filing Articles of Incorporation with the State. With a corporation you are talking about stock and the articles will list the number of shares the corporation proposes to issue. The larger the number, the higher the filing fee. Most corporations start with a very small number of shares of "no par value" stock to keep filing costs down. The

The Operating Agreement and the By-Laws

You have the outlines of the business you are starting or enhancing. Now to put some meat on the bones. The operating plan will do that. This part of the business plan will focus on details about how you will run your business. What is the legal structure of your business? That will outline your management requirements. For example, if you are an LLC, you will want to address whether there is a member-manager of the business and who that is, or whether the business will be run by a Board or membership group; whether executive officers will be appointed, etc. If your business is a corporation, you will need to address creating a Board of Directors. Most small businesses have Board directors who serve without compensation. The issue for those Board members is liability. Board members are liable for business management decisions and, even though they might not receive compensation for serving on a Board, directors want to be assured they are protected from liability through officer/director liability insurance.

If you are creating a business, want to be advised by an outside group and cannot afford officer/director liability insurance, you should consider forming an informal advisory group to help you with the business. The advisory group will have no liability for business decisions, but will be there for you to offer advice. Tap into those human resources you have to sit on this group. Even semi-annual meetings with a group of advisors who have agreed to serve as your mentors without compensation will offer you so much more perspective on your business and operations. And, don't discount the value of listing your advisors in your marketing materials (with their permission of course).

Depending on your structure and what it is you are delivering as a product or service, you need to address what it will take to deliver your product or service. Creating a short summary of the job skills necessary for the employee positions you must fill is necessary. Once you do that, you can also estimate the salaries you will have to pay

for the positions you need to fill.

One of the major issues to be determined by the new business owner is whether your employees are full-time employees who work only for you or whether they are independent contractors who also work for others. The Internal Revenue Service is focused on this issue because so many business owners have mistakenly classified their employees as independent contractors that catching and punishing employers for this is easy. This subject, alone, deserves an article. However, to summarize, if someone works for you full-time at your direction, they are employees and you must withhold taxes from their paychecks and pay over the taxes to the government. If they do not work for you full-time and collect salaries from other employers and meet other criteria, they can be classified as independent contractors. In that case, when you pay them, you do not withhold taxes. They are responsible for paying their own taxes. The IRS loves to challenge the classification of employees as independent contractors since most business owners do not back up their classifications with evidence and the IRS can easily re-classify employees, requiring the employer to pay back taxes on amounts not withheld that should have been, along with penalties and interest.

To protect yourself and your business, any employer who deals with independent contractors must have an independent contractor agreement signed by the employee and employer that recites all the IRS guidelines and represents that the employee and employer are following such guidelines.

Other issues to be determined and addressed in the operating plan involve the pricing of your products or services, whether you will accept credit in payment and, if yes, through what mechanism. Credit card processing machines are available through many sources, including your bank. But, processing rates vary and it is wise to shop around to find the best processing rates. These days, there are credit card processing "machines" that can fit onto your smart phone.

Since you have already researched your competition when you created your marketing plan, there will probably be operational issues your competitors deal with that will apply to what you are planning so address those in your operating plan.

Finally, don't neglect the issue of whether your business has obtained the proper licensing and permits. Your particular business may require a license from the Federal, state or county government. Fortunately, the internet has many resources you can check to determine if you need a particular license. Permits to open and operate a business will probably also be required by your local community and local regulations should also be checked.

If all of the above seems like a lot of detail, it is. But, the time to focus on the necessary details of operating your business is when you are creating the business plan and not after you open the doors.

JOIN US for a no-charge seminar on this and other estate planning topics on June 17th at 11am at our office at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve a spot.

Keep our less fortunate neighbors in mind by donating to Project Echo, our Calvert County homeless shelter. To Donate, go to www.projectecho.com



Letters TO THE Editor

Conversation Creates Understanding, Leads to Sustainable Action

To the Editor:

This is a time of crisis in our country. Not only are we experiencing a worldwide pandemic which is exposing serious inequities in our healthcare system, but we are once again witnessing racial injustice in our policing and justice systems. With the murder of yet another black man, George Floyd, we are confronted with the tragic toll of inequity in our society. It has led to protests, riots and fear. In spite of the unrest and uncertainty, this is a time for opportunity. It all starts with conversation – the opportunity to sit with one-another and share, honestly and deeply, the experience of our individual and collective lives. Dialogue is where understanding materializes, relationships form, and people are empowered to do the work that will contribute to justice for all.

The Big Conversation Partners for Dismantling Racism and Privilege (BC-DRaP) in Southern Maryland have worked to create a space where honest and open conversations can transpire between diverse community members. In previous Big Conversations we have examined the impact of racism and privilege in our individual lives and acknowledge the resultant systemic disparities such as in our public school systems. We have also looked at mass incarceration of African Americans in our justice system. We have offered workshops on bias.

These conversations can lead to realization, acknowledgement and understanding of the realities of life in America in the 21st Century. Acknowledging institutional racism is the first step to dismantling it, and that is where the opportunity lies in ourselves and in our community. By connecting people, policy, and

history, we can illuminate structural racism that permeates our institutions. We can begin to turn the pain and frustration of hundreds of years of oppression into a more just future for everyone. Conversations can lead to change in ourselves and our community. These and similar conversations over the past ten years have contributed to community awareness and concrete changes in policy.

The next communitywide Big Conversation, “Many Wounds to Heal: Health Care (In)Equity,” has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 13. It will address inequities in health care that results in worsening health and decreased life expectancy of African Americans and people of color. This program is supported in part by a grant from Maryland Humanities. In the coming weeks, look for other small group workshop opportunities offered by the BC-DRaP before the annual event in September.

The BC-DRaP is sponsored by Middleham and St. Peter’s Parish along with the following partners: All Saints Episcopal Church, Calvert County Public Schools, Calvert Library, Calvert Branch of NAACP, Charles County NAACP, Community Mediation Centers of Calvert and St. Mary’s Counties, Concerned Black Women of Calvert Co, Emmanuel SDA Church, Remnant Center of Excellence, Inc., St. Mary’s NAACP, St. Mary’s County Public Schools, and Patuxent Friends (Quaker) Meeting.

The Big Conversation Partnership encourages all of us to think broadly, listen actively, and pray boldly for equity and justice.

*Diane Davies
Chairperson, BC-DRaP
Solomons, Md*

Silence is not an option.

To the Editor:

By now we’ve all seen the video of the murder of George Floyd, an African American, by a white policeman in Minneapolis. At times like this we’re compelled to make our voices of outrage heard. Silence is not an option.

America is in crisis. Our country is in the grip of a worldwide pandemic, 40 million people are jobless, facing income insecurity and an uncertain future, and now our cities are convulsed with rage at yet another incident of racial injustice with fatal consequences.

After 400 years we’re still confronted on a regular basis with the news of black lives cut short by the violent criminal acts of white racists. And too many of these crimes are being committed by officers of the law who have betrayed their oath “to protect and to serve.”

History is a stern taskmaster. We know from the past that the crises we’re facing today could be a recipe for civil disorder and violence, the breakdown of social cohesion, democratic institutions, and the rule of law—and even a catalyst for revolution. In our country, rare and exceptional leaders have stepped forward at crucial moments like this to keep us on the path of unity and justice—even moving our society closer to the realization of our founding ideals and principles.

When I was a young man in the 1960’s I participated in the civil rights movement. During one demonstration organized by the SCLC in southern Georgia on February 22, 1969, I was walking next to an elderly black man when a jeering white mob spewed racial epithets at us from the roadside, raced cars through our line of march, and threw dead animals and even smashed beehives in our path. Suddenly my friend was overcome by the stress of this onslaught and collapsed on the street at my feet. I can still see his face, contorted with pain. In that time and place there was no police protection for a peaceful protest. The march organizers, knowing that no ambulance would ever answer their call, loaded my friend into the back of a station wagon and drove him to

the hospital.

The Atlanta newspapers confirmed his death the next day. Racism had claimed another victim. His name was Willie J. Simmons. There are no monuments to him, but I will always remember his final moments. He was a casualty of the struggle for equal justice—a struggle that continues to this day.

In my youth, I had hoped this dark chapter of our history would end, but the murder of George Floyd proves that after another half century it has not ended.

In the months ahead, we will be choosing new leaders—a President, members of Congress, and other officials. This is an important election, not only because the current occupant of the White House is unfit for the office and needs to be replaced, but because leaders of the government of the United States have proven themselves to be incompetent, corrupt and unresponsive to the needs of all our people.

In this year’s election, we need to make a personal commitment to choose leaders who are driven by the mission of service, not the selfish pursuit of money, power or celebrity. We need leaders of character and integrity, now more than ever. We need truth-tellers and truth-seekers. We need to elect workhorses, not showhorses. We need leaders who are ready to step up and tackle the nation’s legacy of racism, and eradicate it from our institutions, including law enforcement. It’s time for an age of reform in America.

In 1969 when I was a 19-year old college student, I could never have imagined that in 2020 we would still be living in a racially divided, separate and unequal nation of haves and have nots. Yet here we are. It’s up to each of us to do our duty as citizens to bring this chapter of our history to a close, and begin a new one.

*Gary V. Hodge
President, Regional Policy Advisors
Charles County Commissioner
(2006-2010)
Executive Director, Tri-County
Council for Southern Maryland
(1980-1998)
White Plains, MD*

The Four Sisters of Solomons

An Appreciation



Peggy Jacobs and Sister Grace Schmersal look on admiringly. Submitted photo

By Dave Spigler
Contributing Writer

Editor's Note: If there was ever a time for a truly feel good story, full of sincere happiness with much love and devotion that it will warm your heart and make you smile, this is the one.

This is a story about four “gems,” as people who have come to know them refer to them. They go by the names “Sister Ruth,” and “Sister Peggy,” and “Sister Grace” and “Sister Paula,” the beloved Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Providence at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Solomons. They are the latest of 60 nuns to serve the parish from the Provincial House in Melbourne, Kentucky. Their rich legacy dates back to 1933 when Father Maurice Alexander built a church and created a schoolhouse in the basement to educate 31 young people of the parish. Many of these early pupils later witnessed several generations of their family receiving a parochial school education during the 86 years of the sisters’ affiliation with the parish.

Sister Ruth Parent, aka “Ruthie” to her sisters, is the oldest of the four. People who come in contact with her say she is a lot of fun to be with! “Little” Ruth entered the convent at the quite young age of 14 along with her best friend Midge. Growing up in Minnesota, she was taught by the Sisters of Divine Providence. She was impressed by how kind, helpful, and friendly they seemed. Her family lived close to their convent and they would often help clean the classroom and bring the sisters treats her mother made for them. She recognized early on when the school year was over and the sisters returned to the Provincial House in Kentucky, she would feel their absence and greatly looked to their return to start the school year in late August.

After accepting her vows, Sister Ruth taught school for 50 years before coming to Solomons in 2010. During her time there she did part time teaching and took Communion to many of the homebound parishioners and to local retirement homes. She made many friends in the community and has been so impressed with the beauty of the local people as well as the environment. She said that of all the schools and churches she has been involved in during her long career, Our Lady “rates five stars

of the highest regards” One well known secret about Sister Ruth: she absolutely loves Key Lime pie! Upon retirement, she hopes to help out at the Provincial House and do light chores including driving the other sisters to their appointments and assisting in other ministries as needed.

Sister Margaret Jacobs, better known as “Sister Peggy” has been a member of the Sisters of Divine Providence for 57 years. Raised in Ohio as an only child, she went to a school where the sisters taught and became good friends with one who allowed her to help grade papers for her and just about anything else, she would need. She would talk at length to young Peggy about the order’s founder, Blessed John Martin Moye, and claims to have loved him based on the sister’s stories.

Following eighth grade she entered St. Anne’s and commenced her high school education in the convent as a 13-year-old “Aspirant.” While she didn’t really know what she wanted to do, she says “God knew and has been with me all the way.” Her community of nuns is a “Teaching Order” and she studied in college to become a teacher but was unsure if she would like this role. She thought she would like to get in medical work and with her friend Sister Renee, set out to study the sciences in hopes of working in a medical form of ministry. She took the exam and suddenly she was sent off to nursing school and then served as a nurse for 40 years, the last 10 as an Adult Nurse Practitioner. Additionally, she spent 13 years in Hospice work which she sincerely loved. She states she learned to use “her whole self as a therapeutic tool, and not just her stethoscope!”

Over the years she assisted at many births, often delivering the child without a doctor present as they could be as many as 20 minutes away. In a small hospital of 40 beds, she learned to do most everything, but avoided doing x-rays with a passion. She also spoke of assisting in many “births into eternal life” and found immense satisfaction to help grieving families while caring for their loved ones during their last days. Upon retirement from nursing she went back to the Provincial House in Kentucky doing various ministries and chores until learning there was room for one more sister in Solomons, a position she hoped and prayed for. She arrived in

October of 2012. “This was a great experience” as other sisters told her “the people here are soooooo nice and it’s a really beautiful place!” She immediately found that to be true! She says she has never been to a place where she was involved in so many activities. Sister Peggy said she is so very thankful for the friendship and the great sharing of the faith the people here have provided her!

The third “gem” is Sister Grace Schmersal. She comes from a long line of women who entered the convent; two of her great aunts became Sisters of Divine Providence and in fact her older sister Alice Marie served as a teacher and principal for Our Lady Star of the Sea School more than 30 years ago! Obviously, becoming a Sister was not a strange idea to her or her family. She says the Lord always knew where she should be as proven by her many years in several varied positions.

During her career she has worked as a sacristan taking care of the many altars at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. She served as a Food Service Director at the Theological College in Washington and at Rolland Park in Baltimore. She spent most of 30 years as an Activities Coordinator in nursing home settings. An interesting point she makes about the mission in Solomons came from the sisters she lived with in Washington who would drive down to Solomons for the day and would come back and tell her it was the best place to be.

Sister Grace has spent three years in Solomons and has enjoyed the freedom of being able to volunteer her efforts without being tied to a regular work schedule. Again, her joy has been the people who she came to know while helping with the church, working on the Gala Committee to put on this annual fundraiser for the parish, working with the hospital, bringing communion to the homebound, and supporting the local “SMILE” organization. She also worked with the “SAFE NIGHTS” group in Calvert County to ensure the homeless had a warm place to stay on cold winter nights. She volunteered at the Lusby Senior Center and Anne Marie Gardens and still found time to become involved with many others in their efforts to take care of the needy of the area.

She enjoyed the many relationships she has had with folks who have helped open her eyes to a much larger world, even learning what it is like to be so close to the water! She grew smarter by taking classes to increase her knowledge of her faith and sharing her experiences with fellow classmates. Learning about the history of Southern Maryland was especially enlightening.

Finally, the fourth “gem” is Sister Paula Gohs, a passionate, yet a serious, no nonsense sister somewhat reminiscent of a time when sisters could have the biggest of smiles, but a real heavy hand should you get out of line. Sister Paula is the

“Eveready Bunny” of Our Lady’s Convent. Seeming to be everywhere, doing everything, she always displays her famous welcoming smile just like the bunny. And like Sister Grace, she too comes from a family that has produced several Sisters of Divine Providence including a great aunt, and a second cousin who she visited with each month. Even her older sister Dolores entered the convent three years prior to Paula joining the Order. And she’s never looked back; the 23rd of August in 1963 when she took her final vows remains the happiest day of her life!

Sister Paula grew up in Kentucky not far from the Provincial Home and made a career of teaching high school all across the state followed by a period working with a Hispanic parish on the Texas border. She briefly served in two Hispanic communities back in Kentucky before arriving in Solomons during the Fall of 2015. Personable and friendly, she immediately made a favorable impression on the parish as a whole. Apparently, early on she realized how tough it was to live up to everyone’s idea of what a religious woman ought to be and decided to just “let go and let God,” and become the best version of herself as she could be! And it worked!

One great indication of how beloved this woman is in the community of Solomons, her recent 77th birthday was celebrated by many with great fanfare and laughter! With only a few hours’ notice, a few members of the parish arranged to have more than 80 cars loaded with neighbors and friends form a parade complete with a Calvert County deputy sheriff in his squad car with its siren blaring and lights flashing as he led this noisy entourage past the convent! The four sisters were sitting outside and Sister Paula, with tears rolling down her cheeks, was completely astounded to learn this was done in her honor! She stated she never experienced anything like this in her life and it touched her deep down in her heart that so many would respond to her with cards, balloons, posters, and gifts! And she was further surprised to receive a birthday card from Pope Francis himself smiling broadly with balloons in his hand as well.

When asked what she enjoys most about living in Solomons, she says “it’s the people, it’s the people, the people... and the totally magnificent sunrises and sunsets! Hawaii has nothing Solomons doesn’t have, except active volcanos, and who needs them!”

From Dave: These four dedicated women are an historic rock foundation for their parish, and they are woven tightly into the fabric of the community that appreciates them for all they do! As they leave for their return to their Provincial House in Kentucky, the community wishes them “Godspeed” and a safe journey! Most of all, your friends and neighbors here wish you a big “Thank You” for a job well done!!! You are loved”

A View From The **BLEACHERS** **This Feels Different**

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

Bi-weekly status check: it has been 92 days since the NBA suspended its season and 36 days since schools closed. The NBA is targeting a July 31 return in an Orlando bubble; hopefully everyone stays healthy and a season is salvaged. If schools reopen on schedule later this summer, and families feel confident in this return to normalcy (as much as one can living with COVID-19), then we will be in a much better place.

We are not in a good place at present.

In the 12 years this column has appeared in this fine paper, no entries have generated as many responses as those covering Colin Kaepernick's protest of racial injustice during the national anthem. Some feedback was positive. Most was flippant defiance. All were welcomed.

The disagreements with expressed opinions were rooted in the common interpretation of Kaepernick's protest as anti-American and anti-military. Kaepernick denied his act was either, even switching from sitting on the bench during the anthem to kneeling, after thoughtful conversations with Nate Boyer, a former Green Beret. But the die was cast for certain cross-sections of America – Kaepernick was ungrateful, didn't appreciate his country, its military or his afforded opportunities.

Powerbrokers enforced this narrative. In 2016, then presidential candidate Donald Trump suggested Kaepernick, "...try another country" and has gleefully criticized the former quarterback in the years since. The NFL first condemned Kaepernick's actions, then eventually banned kneeling during the anthem. But it's what the league did quietly – blackballing Kaepernick and ending his career (an objective analysis of employed NFL quarterbacks from 2017-2019 supports no other conclusion) – that spoke the loudest.

The most frustrating part of the bastardization of Kaepernick's message was that the original, real and critically important issue he sought to combat – systemic racism and police mistreatment of minorities – was lost in the static. The anti-American, anti-military angle was his critics' primary fuel, but it would be naïve to think that that argument wasn't, at least to some extent, a convenient cover for the heart of the matter - a

fundamental disbelief in the validity of Kaepernick's beef with white America and police authority.

Almost four years after Kaepernick first took a knee, and after more minority lives have been lost while in police custody or at the hands of racist vigilantes, here we are again. But this time, aside from now President Trump's callous rhetoric, much has changed. The issue isn't being clouded by tangential debates over the merits and motivations of a genuflecting quarterback. No, there is tragic, undeniable evidence in 2020 of the injustice Kaepernick tried to illuminate in 2016 – a disturbing nine-minute video of George Floyd, handcuffed, held face down in the street under a white police officer's knee, desperately voicing his distress, while his life is slowly taken.

Now protests rage in urban and rural America and around the globe. Sadly, it took Freddie Gray, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd and many other victims to realize the pressing truth Kaepernick was conveying in his silent but powerful act four years ago. America is in crisis again over an old, recurring and disgraceful flaw – systemic racism.

Still, somewhere in all this death and unrest is an opportunity. This feels different from Ferguson, Charlottesville and Baltimore. It is bigger and the push to "fix this" is coming from black and white America. There are more voices screaming "enough" than ones snickering, waiting for the chaos to subside and planning a return to status quo. Drew Brees issued an apology after regurgitating tired old criticisms of Kaepernick; he then sent a note challenging Trump to deeper reflection. Even Roger Goodell, the kingpin of Kaepernick's silencing and a political operative for the White House, admitted "We were wrong for not listening to NFL players earlier." It was an unfashionably late course-correction, failed to mention Kaepernick by name and will be proven authentic only by action, but the NFL's advocacy is significant.

What must Kaepernick be feeling now? Frustrated, no doubt, that more – especially his employer - didn't understand four years ago. But mostly hopeful, I think, that the movement he envisioned and the change he desired might finally be underway.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

Wanderings *of an* Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



"German food, Mexican food, or both?"



I am really enjoying all the food trucks that have been setting up at our Country Lakes park/ ball field. We didn't get to try a lot of them during these last two months, but this past Saturday I thought I have to try the Deutsch-Mex food truck. Interesting combination – I mean I am already a devoted Tequila Grill fan, so a German Mexican combination will be great too. The owner of Deutsch-Mex.com, Ruth Carmona-Murray and her husband Phillip, with inspiration from her mentor Master Chef Thomas Eckert from Hohenstein Germany, have created some delicious offerings.

I had a lovely phone conversation with Ruth and asked her how this combination came to be. Ruth, who is Mexican American, told me that she was married to a German man for 15 years and lived in Germany for a total of 23 years, so with encouragement from her Mother-in-law, Oma, she began to fuse the two food cultures together. She said their entire family is a strong military family which naturally brings lots of food choices. Her present husband, Phillip is right there with her in their food truck venture. Ruth also teaches languages, including German and Spanish and also teaches cooking classes with German, French, and Spanish foods at The College of Southern Maryland. She is one busy lady. I am trying to make her even busier by encouraging her to bottle and market her Pachuca dipping sauce. I want the first 10 bottles just for me.

Once at their food truck, I couldn't decide if I wanted to try the burrito schnitzels or taco schnitzels, but, ended up with the Bavarian pork Schnitzel with seasoned fries and the Pachuca and spicy mustard dipping sauces and a Schnitzel meal with potato salad as well. Our last name is Oppermann, so I figured this would be great for my husband. When he

came home hot and tired from pool work, he said he really wasn't that hungry, but once he tried the first bite of the schnitzel and then their "out of this world" potato salad, that was all she wrote. Bye, bye schnitzel.

Ruth just told me they will be back in our neighborhood on the 30th – can't wait. I am going to try the schnitzel burrito and the Mexi-Slaw (with jalapenos and cilantro) next. And I have to try their Three Milks cake along with the Horchata drink. I might have to get an order of the Spat 'n' cheese too made with spaetzle noodles...and LOTS of Pachuca sauce.

I called my sister-in-law Kathy in Utah after I had the meal, and she said that in many parts of Texas, including where she grew up, there are large German-immigrant populations that have blended their recipes with the local Mexican recipes over generations, so this is a very popular style of cooking there.

This is from The Texas Hill Country website: "Germans have one of the biggest influences on culture and Texas Hill Country cooking of those who came to the state. Today, sauerkraut, sausages, and potato salads area still frequently served at Hill Country events, though these may not be found as frequently in other parts of the state. It's perhaps the German dish of wiener schnitzel that chicken fried steak comes from. Instead of using veal, as the traditional recipe does, Texans often substitute tougher cuts of beef, which when cut thinly, pounded, battered, and pan-fried become much more palatable."

So, if you get a chance, try something different, lots of food trucks are hitting neighborhoods and business locations. The only problem I had with Deutsche-Mex was trying to stop eating from both meals before my husband came home.

St. Mary's & Calvert

Community

Ca

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, June 11

Chesapeake Beach Hydrant Flushing in Northside, Richfield Station, and Bayview Hills

Friday, June 12

Chesapeake Beach Hydrant Flushing in Northside, Richfield Station, and Bayview Hills

Saturday, June 13

4th Annual Paddle for Heroes cancelled

Sunday, June 14

Fairy House Festival
Annmarie Garden; 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Enjoy an over-the-top magical afternoon of creative play, games, unicorn rides, a petting zoo, face painting, crafts and more! Meet fantastical characters and journey to magical realms. Build your own fairy house or gnome home, special make-n-take activities along the way, and engage in a variety

of imaginative activities! It's an unforgettable day in the garden! Music, food, and drinks will be available as well! Rain or shine! This is a smoke-free event; no pets. \$7 per person; Members free; kids 2 & under free. For more information, please visit www.annmariegarden.org/annmarie2/content/fairy-gnome-home-festival-tour.

2020 Flag Day Video Retrospective

Noon, 5 p.m., 8 p.m.

The annual outdoor event, usually held on the Governmental Center Lawn in Leonardtown, has been canceled due to current COVID-19 guidance limiting the size of public gatherings. However, this hallmark event is an important tradition and, instead will be recognized via video retrospective presentation. The video will feature highlight segments from previous Flag Day events, including musical performances, inspirational speeches and various color guard presentations. The video will be aired on St. Mary's Government Channel 95 and on the St. Mary's Government YouTube channel. For more information, contact ALisa Casas, Communications Director, at 301-475-4200, ext. 71342.

Monday, June 15

Advanced Piano Recital 6:30 p.m.

Throughout the COVID-19 quarantine, these local high school students have continued to receive their lessons virtually. They are now prepared to share with our community the results of their many hours of practice. Music selections will include pieces by Bach, Brahms, Chopin, Debussy, Joplin, as well as arrangements of favorite melodies. Register at <https://stmalib.libnet.info/event/4358540> to receive an invite to the Zoom recital.

Tuesday, June 16

Caring for Your Backyard Birds 7 p.m.

Barb Whipkey of Wild Birds Unlimited will join us virtually to teach us some of the best ways to care for our backyard birds. Barb will talk about types of food specific birds like, and the many types of bird feeders available. She will also share ideas on how to provide shelter for our winged friends and what types of houses and nesting spots they prefer. Register at stmalib.libnet.info/

event/4358597 to receive session login information.

Wednesday, June 17

St. Mary's Library Romance Book Club 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join us online on the third Wednesday of each month to discuss a romance novel. All titles will be available to checkout via hoopladigital.com. June's title is Get a Life Chloe Brown by Talia Hibbert. Register at stmalib.libnet.info/event/4301644 to receive a link to join the meeting.

Ongoing

ACLT's Hit the Trails 22-mile Challenge

Hit the Trails and take ACLT's 22-Mile Challenge! Run, walk or hike all 22 miles of ACLT's trails! Explore trails you've never tried before and conquer some of our more strenuous ones! All participants receive a "Hike Local" window decal and an ACLT neck gaiter. Please note that this is a challenge and not a race! You can complete it over several days or weeks. Challenge ends June 30th. For more information, visit www.acltweb.org or call 410-414-3400.

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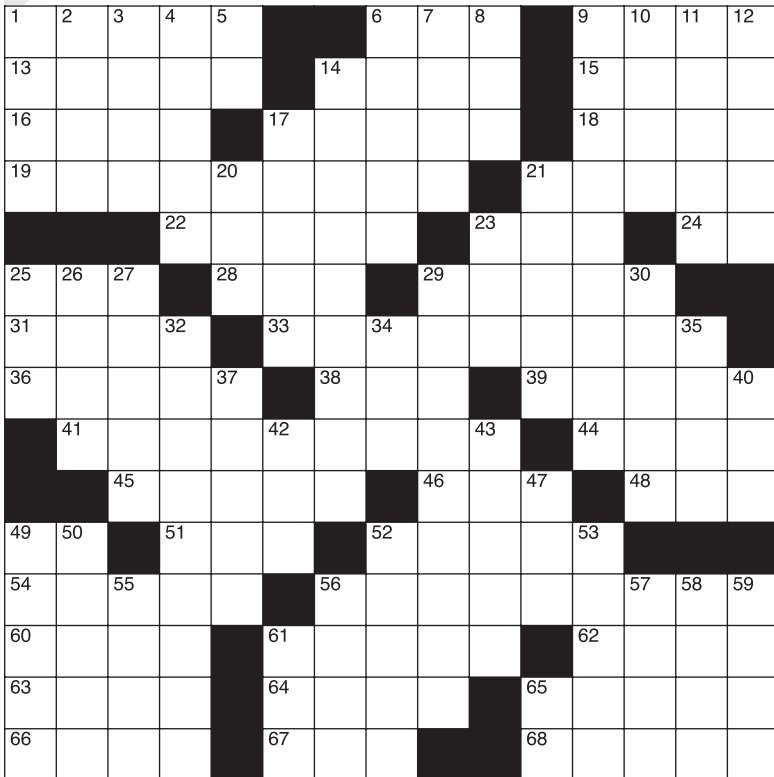
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

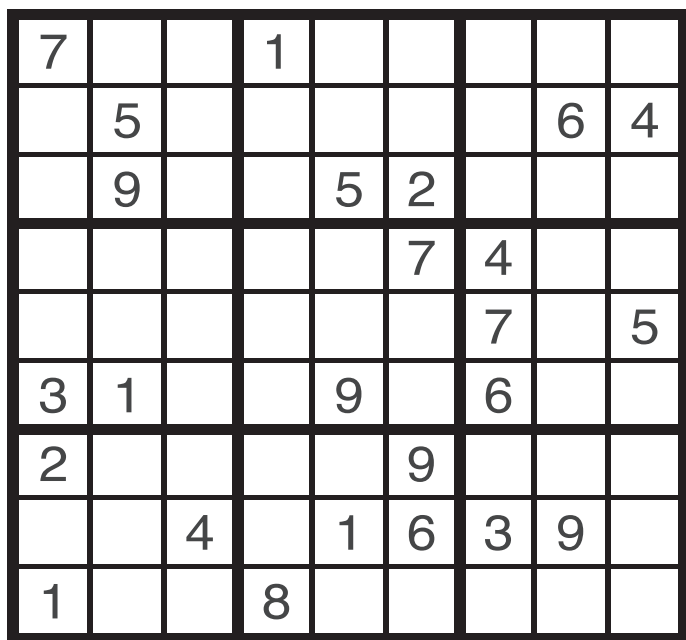
- 1. American composer
- 6. Very fast aircraft
- 9. Workplaces
- 13. A mount on a surface
- 14. Small freshwater fish
- 15. Double-reed instrument
- 16. Canadian flyers
- 17. Famed astronomer
- 18. Smooth, shiny fabric
- 19. Profited
- 21. Conspiracy
- 22. Infections
- 23. Chum
- 24. Secondary school (abbr.)
- 25. Resistance unit
- 28. Sound unit
- 29. Ancient city of Egypt
- 31. Crease
- 33. Polished
- 36. For goodness __!
- 38. College basketball tournament
- 39. Scorches
- 41. Describe precisely
- 44. Thick piece of something
- 45. Frocks

- 46. Indicates near
- 48. Senior enlisted US Army member
- 49. A note added to a letter
- 51. A nose or snout
- 52. Clumsy
- 54. Satisfied to the fullest
- 56. Display of strong feeling
- 60. Popular awards show
- 61. Cuisine style
- 62. Expresses pleasure
- 63. Monetary unit of the Maldives
- 64. Utah city
- 65. Fight
- 66. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 67. Body part
- 68. Suspiciously reluctant

- 7. Horse mackerel
- 8. Pearl Jam's debut album
- 9. Confines
- 10. First month of Jewish ecclesiastical year
- 11. Famed Idaho politician
- 12. Prevents from seeing
- 14. Indicate time
- 17. Male parents
- 20. Tab on a key ring
- 21. The Great Dog constellation: __ Major
- 23. Frying necessity
- 25. Former CIA
- 26. The leader
- 27. Produces
- 29. London soccer club
- 30. Closes
- 32. Region in the western Pacific Ocean
- 34. Not present
- 35. Small drink of whiskey
- 37. Begat
- 40. Helps little firms
- 42. Pointed end of a pen
- 43. Fencing swords
- 47. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 49. Hymn
- 50. Philippine island
- 52. Flemish names of Ypres
- 53. A way to inform
- 55. Small lake
- 56. Linear unit
- 57. Central Japanese city
- 58. Partially burn
- 59. Sports award
- 61. Part of your foot
- 65. Atomic #21

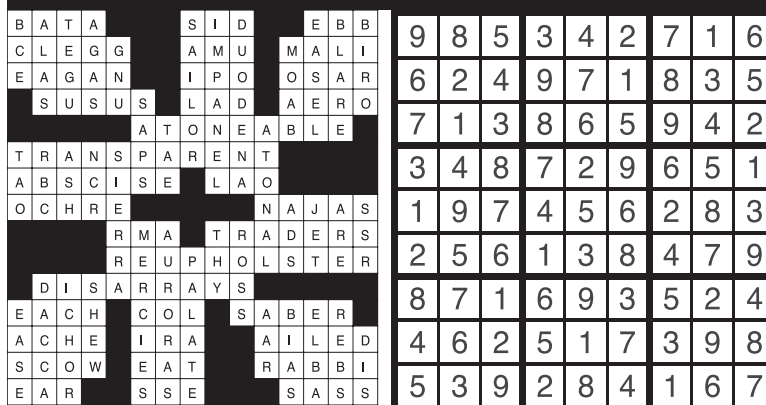
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Fruit of the service tree
- 2. At some prior time
- 3. Mongolian city __ Bator
- 4. Strongboxes
- 5. Russian river
- 6. Gurus



Level: Intermediate

LAST WEEKS ANSWERS



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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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