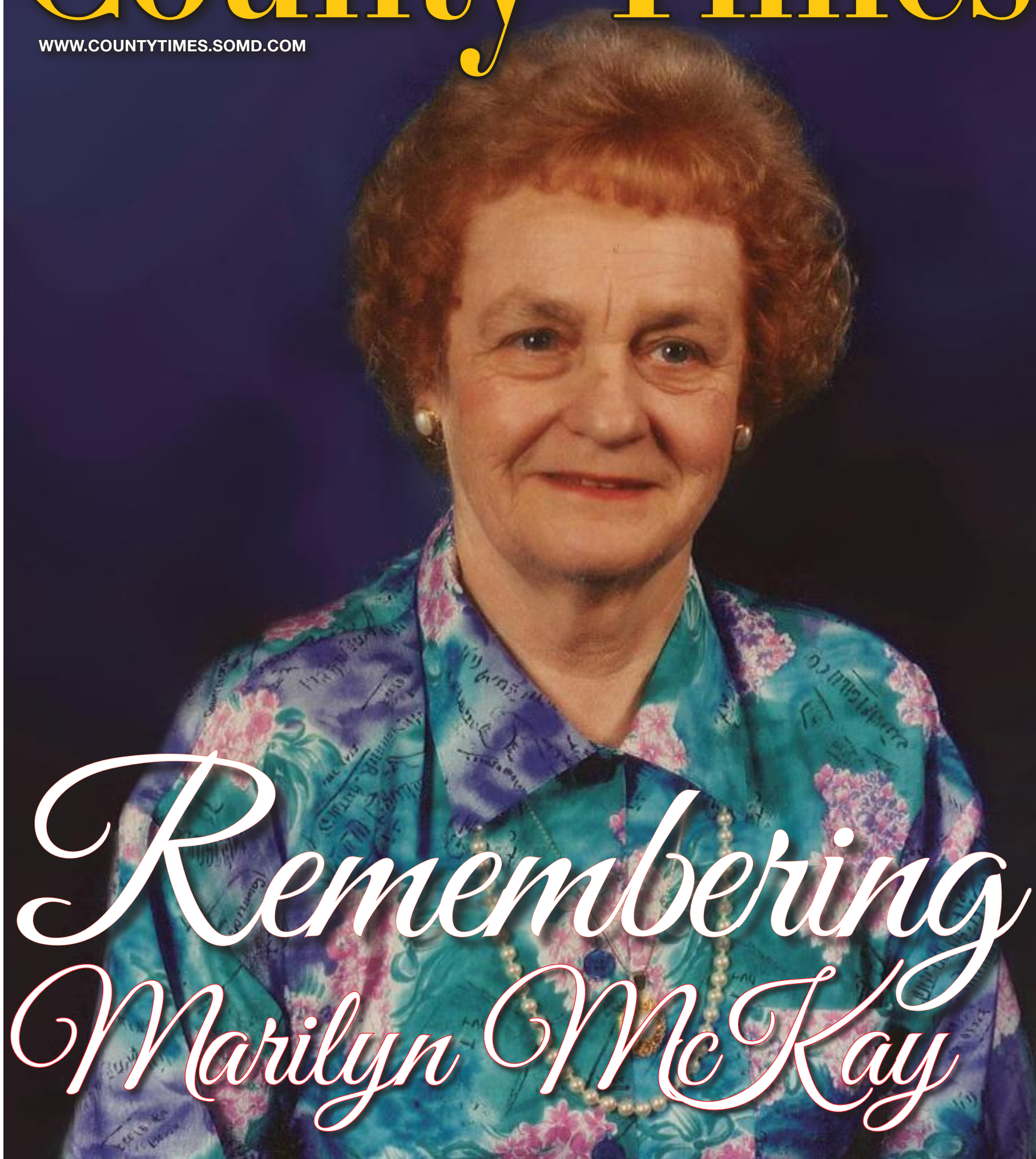


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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020<sup>TH</sup>

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*Remembering  
Marilyn McKay*

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## Remembering Marilyn

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Marilyn McKay passes away, leaves a legacy of community service and entrepreneurship



### LOCAL 4

Parochial schools are bringing back their students for the fall



### FALL HOME & GARDEN 13

Special pull-out section

**“I THINK THEIR SERVICE IS HORRIBLE, AND IT’S EXPENSIVE.”**  
 COMMISSIONER JOHN O’CONNOR ON ATLANTIC BROADBAND

## WEEKLY FORECAST

<b>Thu 9/3</b> 88°   72°F  Mostly Sunny	<b>Fri 9/4</b> 86°   68°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Sat 9/5</b> 78°   67°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Sun 9/6</b> 79°   66°F  Partly Cloudy
<b>Mon 9/7</b> 84°   68°F  Mostly Sunny	<b>Tue 9/8</b> 82°   71°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Wed 9/9</b> 84°   72°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Thu 9/10</b> 80°   67°F  Scattered

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# COVID-19

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Deaths

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St. Mary's

1142

55

Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

# Son Kills Father in Leonardtown Shooting



Detectives and crime scene technicians respond to a double shooting in Leonardtown

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

A family dispute drove a son to shoot his mother and father at their home on Newtown Neck Road in Leonardtown Sept. 1, sheriff's office top detective Capt. Edward Willenborg told The County Times.

"There was a family dispute, he got a handgun and drove to their house," Willenborg said. "They were shot in the driveway and the suspect fled."

The suspect, Gregory Wayne Arnold, Sr. 48, of Callaway was spotted heading north on Route 5 before turning down Route 6 into Charles County, Willenborg said, and the suspect then turned back to St. Mary's and was stopped by law officers on Budd's Creek Road.

The shooting suspect refused to leave his car, police reported, and police surrounded the vehicle while Arnold, Sr. barricaded himself inside.

Victim Stephen Edward Arnold, 72, of Leonardtown, was transported to an area trauma center for treatment, and ultimately succumbed to the injuries sustained in the shooting.

Rosalea Denise Arnold, 66, also of Leonardtown, was transported to an area trauma center for treatment and remains in critical condition.

Members of the Critical Incident Negotiations Team (CINT), and members of the Emergency Services Team (EST) responded to the scene and negotiators from CINT began negotiating with Arnold in an attempt to peacefully resolve the barricade. Arnold Sr. ultimately sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound and was transported to an area trauma center for treatment, where he later succumbed to his injuries, police said.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office received assistance from the Charles County Sheriff's Office and the Maryland State Police during the incident.

The investigation is ongoing, and updates will be provided as they become available. Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective James Bare at (301) 475-4200 extension 78118 or by email at James.Bare@stmarysmd.com.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

# Hogan: All Businesses Can Reopen Friday

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Gov. Larry Hogan announced Sept. 1 that all businesses will be allowed to open this Friday at 5p.m., ushering in the third and final stage of the state's recovery plan dealing with COVID-19.

Movie theatres and similar entertainment venues will be able to reopen to 50 percent capacity, Hogan said, or up to 100 people for indoor activities or 250 people for outdoor activities.

Retail stores and churches will also be allowed to reopen above 50 percent capacity to 75 percent while still following "appropriate health and safety guidelines."

Hogan noted that all the counties in the state had reached testing positivity rates of less than five percent, with the statewide metric down to 3.39 percent; other rapidly declining health metrics also showed that the state was ready to fully reopen for business.

The governor said that the state's economic recovery was far ahead of many other states and that Maryland was able to retain 70 percent of its economy through the pandemic over the last six months.

Hogan thanked doctors and nurses for their continued efforts under great

stress to combat the deadly novel coronavirus.

"It's thanks to all of you that you've crushed the curve and saved lives," Hogan said. "We've seen a sustained drop in cases per 100,000

"In the last month alone our statewide case rate per 100,000 has dropped by 45 percent."

Hogan said his decision was to strike a balance between vigilance against the virus and fighting to recover the state's economy.

"The law still empowers the counties to make decisions that are more restrictive regarding timing of Stage 3 re-openings," Hogan said. "Just because we are moving into Stage 3, it does not mean this crisis is behind us.

"We must remain vigilant to ensure Maryland remains open for business."

Secretary of Commerce Kelly Schulz said Maryland's unemployment rate is "7.6 percent and falling" and that the state has gained more than 156,000 jobs during the recovery.

It has also let \$175 million in grants and loans to thousands of small businesses to stay operational, she said.

"We have stayed strong during this pandemic and we will remain vigilant," Schulz said. "We are, in fact, keeping Maryland open for business."

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# Parochial Schools Welcome Students Back to Classrooms

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

With their smaller class sizes and student populations, local parochial schools have decided to bring their students back into classrooms – either all at once or in a hybrid system that allows for virtual learning – a week before public schools returned to their virtual teaching model.

St. Mary's Ryken High School Principal Catherine Bowes said Aug. 31 was the first day back for sophomores, juniors and seniors but the week before all the freshmen came in for in-person learning.

"It's gone really smoothly," Bowes said Monday. "We've been pre-thinking this for so long."

"We brought our freshmen back last week; we wanted them here getting used to the campus, getting used to their teachers and each other."

With the four grades now working in the same space, the school has embraced a hybrid model of instruction with all of the students in the first half of the alphabet coming in on Mondays and Tuesdays and the remainder attending class on Wednesdays and Thursdays; each section not in school will learn virtually using a learning management system called Veracross, which is an equivalent platform to the Schoology system used by the county public schools.

"To maintain social distancing, we have to divide the kids in some way," Bowes said. "As long as the [Gov. Larry Hogan's] order stands, that's what we'll be doing."



Social distancing at St. John's School

Using a system known as Acendo, which puts a sound bar and camera in each classroom at their campus in Leonardtown, students will be able to see and interact with their teachers while learning virtually.

The system has not been fully implemented, Bowes said, but it will especially benefit that 20 percent of students who have decided to remain home.

Fridays are left for extracurricular activities that can be done virtually, Bowes said, and it also allows teachers to plan their lessons and other tasks for the coming week.

St. Mary's Ryken has 650 students enrolled and it is now the responsibility of the students and their parents to ensure they are healthy each day before coming to school.

They have an at-home checklist, which includes taking their temperature and monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19 that must be completed each morning.

"We're working in close cooperation with the county health officer and she [Dr. Meena

Brewster] said we just can't test 650 kids a day; we'd never be able to open the school," Bowes said. "So, we've asked families to take up that responsibility."

For contingencies, the school does maintain temperature check stations for the few students who do not have the form completed at the beginning of the day, Bowes said.

At Mother Catherine Academy in Mechanicsville, students started last week with early dismissals each day, but Aug. 31 was their first full day.

Nearly all of the school's 170 students returned to full-time in-person instruction, with a small number choosing to learn virtually, said Principal Anthony Wojt.

Wojt said he was concerned that he and the school staff would have to teach students about social distancing but found they were already well versed in the precaution by their parents.

"They know distancing," said Wojt. "We're really impressed with our

community."

Wojt said Zoom and Google allowed for synchronous learning by students and they were able to socially distance with relative ease due to the capacity of the building, which allows at least 100 more students.

But Wojt decided to cut off enrollment this year even though there was increased interest among parents from as far away as Prince George's County who wanted to get their children into a classroom.

He said he wanted to make sure parents would keep their children at Mother Catherine even if COVID-19 abated.

"I already have a waiting list for 2022/2023 school year," said Wojt.

St. John's School in Hollywood offered their families the choice of in person learning or to work virtually, said Principal Susan McDonough.

"We've updated our Wi Fi throughout the building so teachers could work virtually with their students," McDonough said. "Some teachers have three platforms; I have virtual learners all the way into kindergarten."

Of the 225 total students there, 45 have chosen to learn virtually, she said.

Students are tested each day with infrared thermometers when they arrive for class, McDonough said.

"It's one week down and it's been going very well," McDonough said. "It's been difficult on the teachers... but they've been real rock stars."

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*



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for more detailed information

# Commissioners Address Cable Complaints

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

County elected leaders used their bully pulpit at their Tuesday meeting to talk about the cable and internet service provided by Atlantic Broadband (ABB) and the verdict was universal; it could use a lot of improvement.

"I've been getting a lot, a lot, a lot of complaints about Atlantic Broadband," said Commissioner Mike Hewitt. "We get it, we get it."

From frequent service outages and high costs to incorrect data about which residents are actually connected to cable, commissioners said the franchise agreement the county has with ABB is not a monopoly, but it was virtually impossible to bring competitors here.

The franchise agreement allows ABB to use count right of ways to lay cable but there was very little the county could do to influence the providers business practices.

"Competitors don't want to come into a rural area like St. Mary's County and install additional infrastructure," Hewitt said. "It would take tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars to do that."

"So, we're stuck with Atlantic Broadband."

Hewitt encouraged customers to petition the provider and "hold their



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feet to the fire" for better service.

Commissioner Eric Colvin said he knew of a petition that had already circulated to "end the monopoly" held by ABB.

Reiterating it was not a monopoly, Colvin said the commissioners welcomed any competitor to come to St. Mary's County to use the right of way and provide internet and cable service.

"Comcast has an agreement to come to Lexington Park and provide internet service, but they choose not to," Colvin said. "We want competition, we want better internet service."

Commissioner John O'Connor said ABB's claims that some residents were connected to cable but simply needed to pay for the service were wrong.

O'Connor said numerous of his neighbors had no physical connection to cable that was run near their homes.

"Atlantic Broadband's data is wrong in many, many situations," O'Connor said. "I'm sorry, Atlantic Broadband, they're not connected."

"The cable still needs to be run." He encouraged customers to file complaints with the Federal Communications Commission to get satisfaction for their complaints; he said his own complaint was eventually heard and the agency made ABB address the problem.

Overall, O'Connor lambasted ABB's service.

"I think their service is horrible and it's expensive," O'Connor said.

A representative for Atlantic Broadband defended the company.

"We understand how critical connectivity is to our communities, particularly as the new school year begins and distance learning is underway," said Andrew Walton, company spokesman. "That is why we've invested in a state-of-the-art, fiber-rich broadband network that is designed to support distance learning, work-from-home, and other data-intensive applications."

"The fact is, we consistently deliver high-performance services with the reliability our customers depend on, backed with professional customer care and support. In instances where our services are not meeting our customers' expectations, we are always eager to assist to ensure their complete satisfaction."

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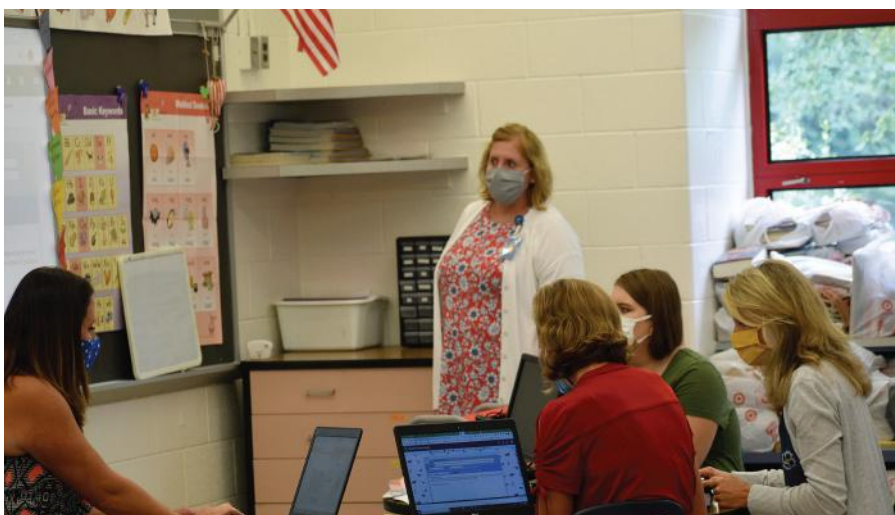


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## Pet OF THE WEEK



### MEET CALAMITY JANE

Cats never strike a pose that isn't photogenic.  
-Lillian Jackson Braun

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## Elections Board Looks To Expand In-Person Voting Sites

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Board of Elections has proposed three new in-person voting sites for Election Day, Nov. 3 but the state board must approve them.

Local director of elections Wendy Adkins said board members here chose Lexington Park Elementary School, Springe Ridge Middle School and Lettie Marshall Dent Elementary School as new voting sites.

"The state board of elections is going to meet this Friday; hopefully, they will consider it," Adkins told The County Times.

On Aug. 28 the state Board of Elections met and proposed using Great Mills High School as an early voting site to be used between Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, during the same time that teachers and some students are to be in classrooms teaching and learning either virtually or in-person.

"They did not approve that," Adkins said of the local board's decision on the state entities proposal.

The state board's move last week got

the attention of Sen. Jack Bailey, who, in a missive to Adkins, strongly opposed the idea.

"The safety issues surrounding this plan lead me to be incredibly concerned that our county health officer, sheriff, board of education, superintendent and general members of our community are not aware of the plan being considered," Bailey wrote in an Aug. 31 letter. "During a non-pandemic year, our school system does not allow citizens to enter school buildings while they are occupied.

"This is why when our schools are utilized as polling locations the schools are closed and no students are present."

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department remains as an early voting polling location, according to the county election's board website, as well as an Election Day voting site.

Great Mills and Leonardtown high schools will also be open to voters on Election Day as will Margaret Brent Middle School.

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)

## Leonardtown Launches Welcome Back Campaign

"Leonardtown is excited to invite everyone back to Town. Our local businesses are opening their doors and are happy to safely welcome you back again!", says Leonardtown Mayor, Daniel Burriss. The Town of Leonardtown launches a Welcome Back Leonardtown Campaign, a collaborative effort from the Commissioners of Leonardtown, the Leonardtown Business Association, St. Mary's County Arts Council, Visit St. Mary's Maryland, and St. Mary's Economic Development, to welcome residents and visitors back to Town for shopping, dining, personal services and recreational activities.

"As you and your loved ones return to Leonardtown, your safety is our utmost concern," continues Mayor Burriss. "You'll find that our businesses are open to 50 percent capacity with some businesses requiring reservations." Please visit the individual business websites for more detailed information about openings, including hours of operation and COVID-19 practices.

Please note the following general guidelines that are required for all public spaces:

Face coverings: It is required for residents and visitors to wear masks or face coverings in indoor public areas and

stores and on public transportation. It is recommended to wear masks or face coverings in outdoor public places where physical distancing is not possible.

Physical Distancing: Residents and visitors should continue practicing physical distancing of six feet or more outdoors and inside public places.

For more information regarding openings and public guidelines, please contact the Commissioners of Leonardtown at 301-475-9791 or [leonardtown.commissioners@leonardtownmd.gov](http://leonardtown.commissioners@leonardtownmd.gov). For a listing of area businesses and events and happenings in Leonardtown, please visit: [www.VisitLeonardtownMD.com](http://www.VisitLeonardtownMD.com).

*Press Release from Town of Leonardtown.*



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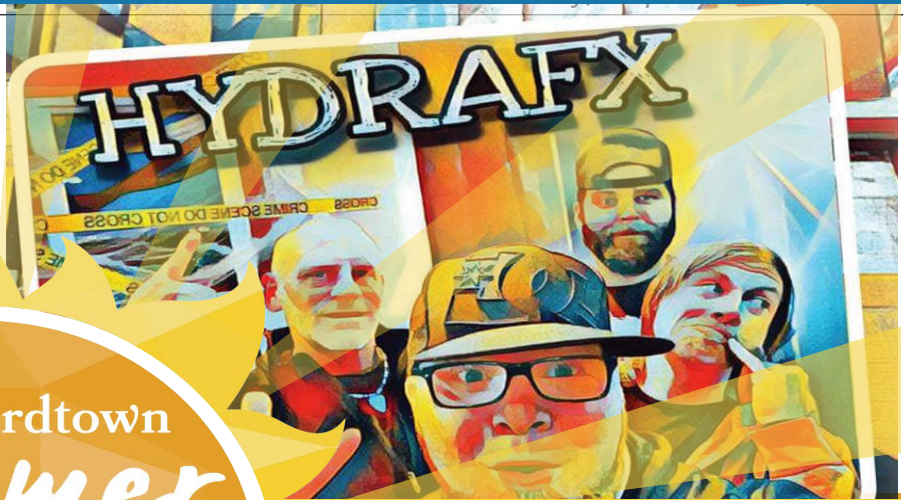
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# Marilyn McKay: Matriarch, Business Owner, Passes Away

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Friends and family of Marilyn McKay, who passed away last week at the age of 96, say they will miss a woman who not only had deep roots here but invested her time and effort in St. Mary's County to make it a better place over her entire life.

Marilyn was the matriarch of the McKay family and owned and operated the family chain of local grocery stores, which at one time included the Woodburns store in Calvert County, along with her husband James Manning McKay, who passed in 2008.

She was also the owner of The County Times Newspaper as well as Marilyn's Fine Fashions in Charlotte Hall.

Former state delegate John F. "Johnny" Wood, whose family was also in the grocery industry, had many fond memories of Marilyn as they were both members of the same purchasing cooperative.

Wood said they would often share car rides going back and forth to meetings.

"In the late 1970s we dealt with the same wholesale group," Wood told The County Times. "We would hit the road together and we got to be very good friends."

Marilyn and her husband started the McKay's Supermarkets chain in 1948 and dedicated decades thereafter to help ensure their growth all while raising a family of eight children.

Wood remembered Marilyn as not only a dedicated mother but as a hard-working businesswoman.

"If there were 100 hours in her day, she spent 99 of them in the store and then went home to take care of her family," Wood said. "In those days, work at the stores was 15 hours a day, seven days a week. "That was life."

Wood said his own children and family worked in their grocery stores and the situation in the McKay family was the same.

"We never had to worry about our kids or whether they'd have a job," Wood said. "She was a nice lady and she raised a good family."

"Marilyn was a hard worker."

She also had a keen interest in politics and served as campaign treasurer for her husband's successful bid to become president of the Board of County Commissioners from 1974 to 1978 as well as for her son Thomas F. McKay who was commissioner president from 2002 to 2006.



Marilyn graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1942 and had entertained the possibility of becoming a nun but decided to start a family instead.

One of her classmates said she and Marilyn became fast friends.

"I really don't remember not knowing her," said Lorretta "Tiny" Taylor.

Taylor said she and Marilyn learned from the nuns there about living a Christian life, with caring, compassion and scholarship being at the core of their student life at St. Mary's Academy.

Years later, St. Mary's Academy, an all-female school, would merge with Ryken High School to become St. Mary's Ryken High School.

Taylor said Marilyn excelled in everything she did and took the lessons she learned there to heart.

"They taught us how to be kind and compassionate," Taylor said of the lessons she and Marilyn learned from the nuns there. "They taught us to have respect for others, their property and that everybody has value."

Taylor also remembered Marilyn taking well to the nun's discipline and being a strong student; she would look to Marilyn for help in their schoolwork.

"For me she was a source of wisdom," Taylor said. "When we were in class, I'd often tap Marilyn on the shoulder and asked her 'What did you get for No. 4.'"

Taylor remembered Marilyn as being especially kind and compassionate and that Marilyn would go out of her way to help people in their time of need.

"Marilyn had a lot to offer," Taylor said. "We played ball together; she was easy to be around."

"I'm going to miss her," Taylor said. "She was very special to me."

Marilyn's easy and friendly demeanor was evident even to people she did not have long-term relationships with.

Taylor said when salesmen would come to any one of the family's stores, they would always find a friendly welcome from Marilyn whether she purchased anything from them or not.

"Salesmen aren't always welcome at a business," Taylor said. "But they had nothing but praise for Marilyn; they liked her because she was such a fine woman."

"She was a masterful worker and operator."

Taylor is also the matriarch of the local family which owns Taylor Gas Company.

Marilyn also encouraged integration of white and black people in the workplace when it was not a popular notion; she would not only encourage hiring of black people to work in her stores but also to shop there.

In that era of St. Mary's County, black residents would often only patronize black-owned businesses with the same practice adhered to by white residents.

"They believed in serving the community, whether black or white... rich or poor," said David McKay, one of Marilyn's sons and owner and CEO of Fairland Markets, Inc. "We weren't going to let a choice of who cuts their meat, because of their skin color, affect who we do business with."

McKay explained that in years past certain customers would not patronize a McKay's store because of the black employees who worked there; but his parents stood firm in their hiring and employment beliefs.

"It didn't matter to them, they were there to serve the community," McKay said.

Marilyn was so involved in the business, McKay said, that she would shop for and deliver groceries to families who could not afford the fuel money to come to the store.

When the family first started their stores, McKay said, his father was head of public works on Patuxent River Naval Air Station, which meant that Marilyn was running the daily operations of the stores.

"We all worked under her guidance," McKay said of being brought up working in the stores. "But she still made us breakfast every morning, made dinner at night and got us to church."

Marilyn would continue working even while she was pregnant, McKay said, often up until she was going into labor.

McKay said his mother learned to be strong, independent as well as a woman of faith from her mother and grandmother.

Her father died when she was 9 years old due to injuries he had sustained in World War I, McKay said, and her grandmother had also lost her husband.

"That's who gave her her strong Catholic faith, her mother and grandmother," McKay said. "They taught her to be a strong independent woman."

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)

# Win Tickets To The Leonardtown Summer Music Festival!

Leonardtown, MD—the Leonardtown Summer Music Festival, scheduled for Sunday, September 20, 2020, will include a full day of exciting performances from talented local performers Robbie Boothe, HydraFX and Wes Ryce. To ensure the safety of everyone present, a limited amount of tickets will be awarded by drawing to attend this special, one-day only event.

The Town will hold a drawing for a total of twenty, 4-ticket bundle packs. Each of the twenty winners will be able to invite three friends or family members to join them for the concert. ONE lucky Grand Prize Winner will win a 6-ticket bundle pack that will allow them to invite five friends to join them in the VIP Seating area where they will receive a complimentary lunch and Music Festival Swagbag.

Anyone interested will be entered into the drawing when they make a purchase at one of our participating businesses (for a full list of participating businesses, visit: [www.LeonardtownMusicFest.com](http://www.LeonardtownMusicFest.com)) during the time period of Wednesday, September 2nd through Tuesday, September 15, 2020. The random drawing will be held on Thursday, September 17th, 2020 with the winners announced the following day.

Highlights from the Music Festival will be shown during an upcoming "Leonardtown LIVE! Watch Party" (air date TBA). For more information about the Leonardtown Summer Music Festival, visit: [www.LeonardtownMusicFest.com](http://www.LeonardtownMusicFest.com). Information about upcoming Leonardtown LIVE! Watch Parties may be found here: [www.VisitLeonardtownMD.com/LeonardtownLiveEvents](http://www.VisitLeonardtownMD.com/LeonardtownLiveEvents).

## ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

### Juvenile Arrested for Possession of a Firearm

Due to the recent incidents of violence in Lexington Park, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office has dedicated additional law enforcement personnel and resources to the Lexington Park area, to combat and aggressively pursue illegal activity. As a result of the proactive police investigations, a 16-year-old male juvenile from Lexington Park was found to be in possession of a loaded handgun and was arrested.

On August 27, 2020, at approximately 12:50 a.m. Deputy Chase observed an individual in the area of Great Mills Road and Pacific Drive walking, with a vehicle following the pedestrian. As Dep. Chase made a U-turn to investigate, the unknown individual fled on foot. As the individual fled, Dep. Chase observed him adjust a suspicious object in his waistband. The individual was quickly apprehended, and a handgun was located near where the individual was taken into custody. It was determined the individual involved was a juvenile and he was subsequently charged as an adult with the following charges:

Possession of Firearm/Minor  
Know/Alter Firearm ID Number  
Handgun on Person  
Loaded Handgun on Person

Due to a change in Maryland law, the juvenile will not be identified by the Sheriff's Office, and no booking photograph will be released until a waiver hearing is conducted to determine the jurisdiction of this case.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Deputy Chase at (301) 475-4200 extension 78079 or by email at [Robert.Chase@stmarysmd.com](mailto:Robert.Chase@stmarysmd.com).

Citizens may remain anonymous and

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

### Fatal Leonardtown Crash Under Investigation

On Thursday, Aug. 27, 2020 at 12:16 am, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Deputies and emergency medical personnel responded to the area of Point Lookout Road and Budds Creek Road in Leonardtown for the report of a motorcycle crash. When patrol units arrived on the scene, deputies found the operator of the motorcycle had been ejected from the vehicle.

The operator, identified as Samuel Stephen Tayman, 26 of Bryantown, sustained fatal injuries in the crash and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit was contacted to assume the investigation. Preliminary investigation determined that Tayman was driving an unregistered black 2015 Suzuki GSX1300 northbound on Point Lookout Road and lost control of the motorcycle for unknown reasons.

The motorcycle entered the grass median, which ejected Tayman from the motorcycle causing fatal injuries.

At this time, speed, alcohol and/or drugs are contributing factors in the crash.

Anyone who witnessed the crash or has more information is asked to contact Cpl. Vincent Pontorno at 301-475-4200, ext. 72337 or email [vincent.pontorno@stmarysmd.com](mailto:vincent.pontorno@stmarysmd.com).

## Public Notice

### Charles Memorial Gardens Cemetery Clean Up

Charles Memorial Gardens Cemetery will begin the annual fall clean up on October 15th through October 31st. We will be cleaning up the grounds from the preceding seasons and preparing the cemetery for the new season. If you wish to save your tributes and decorations, please remove them before the clean-up period. During these dates, we ask that you refrain from placing new decorations until November 1st. Please visit our website [www.charlesmemorial.com](http://www.charlesmemorial.com) or our front office for our Rules and Regulations.

### Philip H. Dorsey III Attorney at Law

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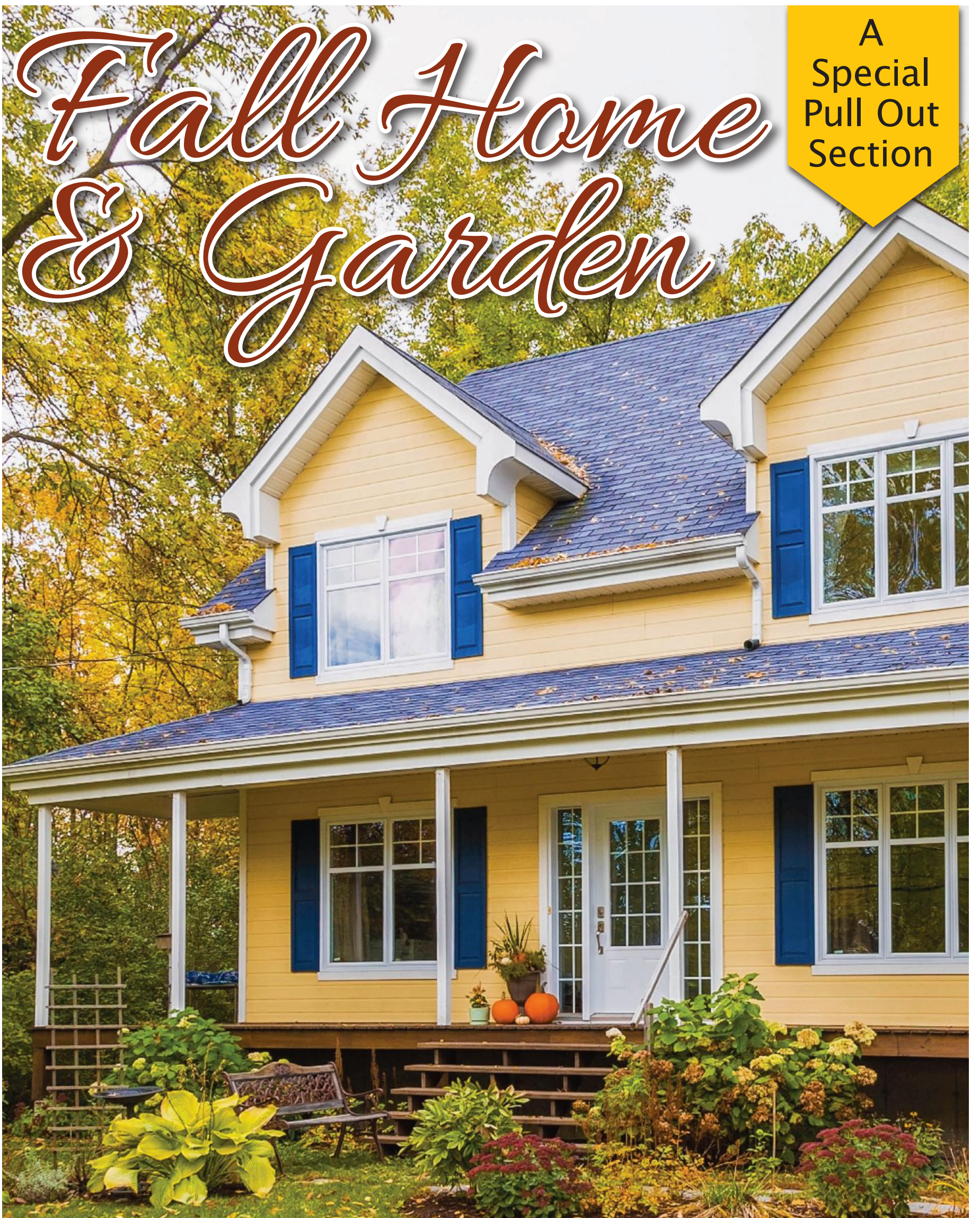
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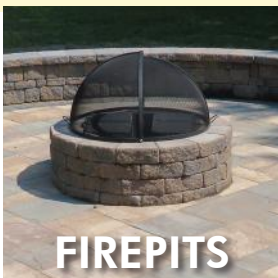
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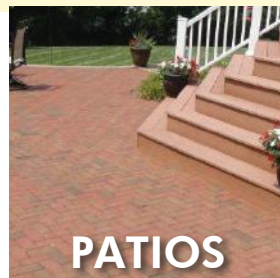
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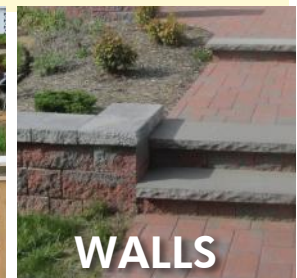
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## Laundry Room Renovations You'll Love



Does it seem like your hamper is always full and the washing machine is running constantly? You may not be imagining it. Laundry Butler for You, a wash, dry and fold service, says the average household washes 50 pounds of laundry a week and 6,000 articles of clothing every year. Families with children at home are doing laundry most often, and those with pets may find there is ample laundry to wash as well.

With so much laundry being generated, homeowners may want to consider paying extra attention to the space in the house where their clothing is being cleansed. Laundry room renovations may not top homeowners' priority lists, but it may be time to give these rooms another look.

### Assess your equipment

If your appliances are aging, a laundry room renovation can start with an investment in new appliances. New models have large capacity loads, tend to be energy-efficient and could have innovative features that help fit with your laundry lifestyle. Purchasing front-loading models also can free up design space, as you can install a counter directly above the units, saving room for other items like drying racks.

### Figure out your room needs

A laundry room need not be limited to laundry only. Many homeowners make large laundry rooms

catch-all spaces that can serve as utility or mud rooms, pantry overflows, or off-season storage areas. Consider the functions you want the room to serve and include those ideas in your designs.

### Add some natural light

If possible, include a window in your laundry room. Natural light can help make the room more enjoyable. It also can help you identify stains on clothes that need to be addressed and make it easier to fold matching items like socks.

### Think about a utility sink

Many washing machines drain out directly to waste pipes in the floor or wall, but you also can opt to have them empty into a utility sink. This sink also provides a convenient place to handwash items, clean tools or paintbrushes, or store items that perhaps you do not want to bring into a bathroom or kitchen sink.

### Include some flair

This utilitarian space need not be boring or bereft of design elements. Mirror your home's style in the laundry room, and include wall hangings, plants, accent items, and even task lighting. Play up certain features with a bold floor tile or brightly colored walls.

Updating laundry rooms can be a great way to make doing laundry more enjoyable and efficient.

## Signs Your Gutters Are In Need Of Repair

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundation if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

- **Gutters hanging off the home:** Gutters were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Gutters hanging off the home need not necessarily be replaced, but rather secured to the home, ideally with hanger brackets instead of spikes. Brackets hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home.

A professional who specializes in gutter

repair can perform this task relatively quickly, and it's an inexpensive yet highly effective solution.

- **Gutter separation:** Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive fix.

- **Peeling exterior paint:** Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.

- **Basement flooding:** Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding.

Fall is an ideal time to inspect gutters and have any issues fixed before leaves begin to fall or harsh winter weather arrives.

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# Turn Your New House Into A Home

Historically low mortgage interest rates are helping to drive a new wave of home sales. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicates roughly 14 percent of the population, or around 40 million people, move every year for various reasons.

People relocate for various reasons. After moving into a new house, it can take some effort to turn that house into a true home and feel comfortable in your new environs. These steps can help that process along.

- Create at least one complete and serene space. Focus on setting up the bedroom so you can retreat at the end of the day. Invest in new furniture or get new bedding to give the room this comforting feeling.

- Create an organizational plan. It can be tempting to want to throw everything in closets and unpack quickly, but give yourself time to fully analyze where you want to store items, where you may need to paint

or reconfigure spaces, as well as any home improvements you want to make before taking out all of your stuff. When you fully unpack, you can immediately enjoy your hard work.

- Hang artwork. Hang a few select pieces of artwork or family photos shortly after moving in. Surround yourself with things that make you feel good.

- Bring mementos. Your first home may bring about warm feelings. While you can't recreate it entirely, you can use a piece of furniture or a few family heirlooms to make your new space feel homey.

- Rely on familiar scents. Break in the new space with familiar aromas, whether it's preferential air fresheners, scented candles or baking your favorite chocolate chip cookie recipe.

Moving into a new home can be exciting. Certain touches can help make the new space feel more like home.



# Tips For Planting Fall Vegetables

Tending to backyard vegetable gardens can fill many hours of enjoyable downtime in the great outdoors. What's more, the bounty produced by such gardens provides healthy, fresh foods to gardeners and their loved ones.

Although spring and summer are widely seen as the peak of gardening season, the mild temperatures of autumn can be a prime time for planting vegetables as well. Certain late-season treats like carrots, kale, spinach, and turnips can thrive in fall gardens. Many different foods are quick crops that can go from seed to table in about six weeks. When sown in early fall, these vegetables will be ready to put on the table for mid-October feasts. Beets, green onions, broccoli, and cabbages can be planted in late summer for fall harvest. Gardeners who live in hardiness zones eight through 10 (the southern portion of the United States) can plant fall vegetables as late as December. Many of these plants can tolerate light frost, which may even help sweeten the vegetables.

A handful of unique factors need to be taken into consideration when planning fall vegetable gardens.

- The summertime location of the garden may still be adequate,

but be sure to choose a location that gets eight full hours of sunlight per day.

- If using an existing garden site, clear out any detritus from summer plants and any weeds that have sprouted. If you are planting a new garden, remove any turf before tilling the soil.

- Amend the soil with sand, compost, manure fertilizer, and any other nutrients needed depending on the types of vegetables you intend to grow.

- While fall vegetables can be grown successfully from seeds, it may be more time-friendly to work from larger transplants, advises the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension.

- Some plants may need a little protection as they grow if temperatures begin to dip. Cover with a blanket, cardboard box or plastic tunnel to insulate.

Remember to water according to the vegetables planted and to keep an eye on readiness for vegetables. Turnips, beets, rutabagas, and carrots can be dug out when the roots are plump and crisp.

Vegetable gardens need not cease when the last days of summer vanish. Fall produce is delicious and can be easily planted and harvested even after the first frost.



# How To Protect Wood Floors From Inclement Weather

Wood floors are a worthwhile investment that can improve the beauty and function of just about any room in a home. Even though wood floors are durable, and new protective treatments help seal out many of the things that may have damaged floors in the past, homeowners still need to prioritize protecting their hardwood floors.

Certain seasons of the year can be more harsh on wood floors than others. For example, seasons characterized by moisture and precipitation, particularly the early spring, winter and fall, can be hard on wood floors. The experts at ServiceMaster Clean say that cold, snowy days can damage wood floors, and Lumber Liquidators agrees that winter weather can be harsh on flooring.

Homeowners need not give up on hardwood if they live in an area that sees all four seasons. They just need to take a few steps to keep floors looking beautiful.

- Clean up the salt. Salt that keeps sidewalks and streets clear of snow and ice inadvertently gets tracked inside a home. Hard chunks of salt can scratch wood floors, and, if left to sit, that salt can eventually cause white marks and other stains. Routinely vacuuming and sweeping up salt is necessary to protect wood floors.

- Invest in shoe storage. Wet or snowy boots can create puddles around the house. Have a special mat or tray by the front door where wet shoes can be kept. A

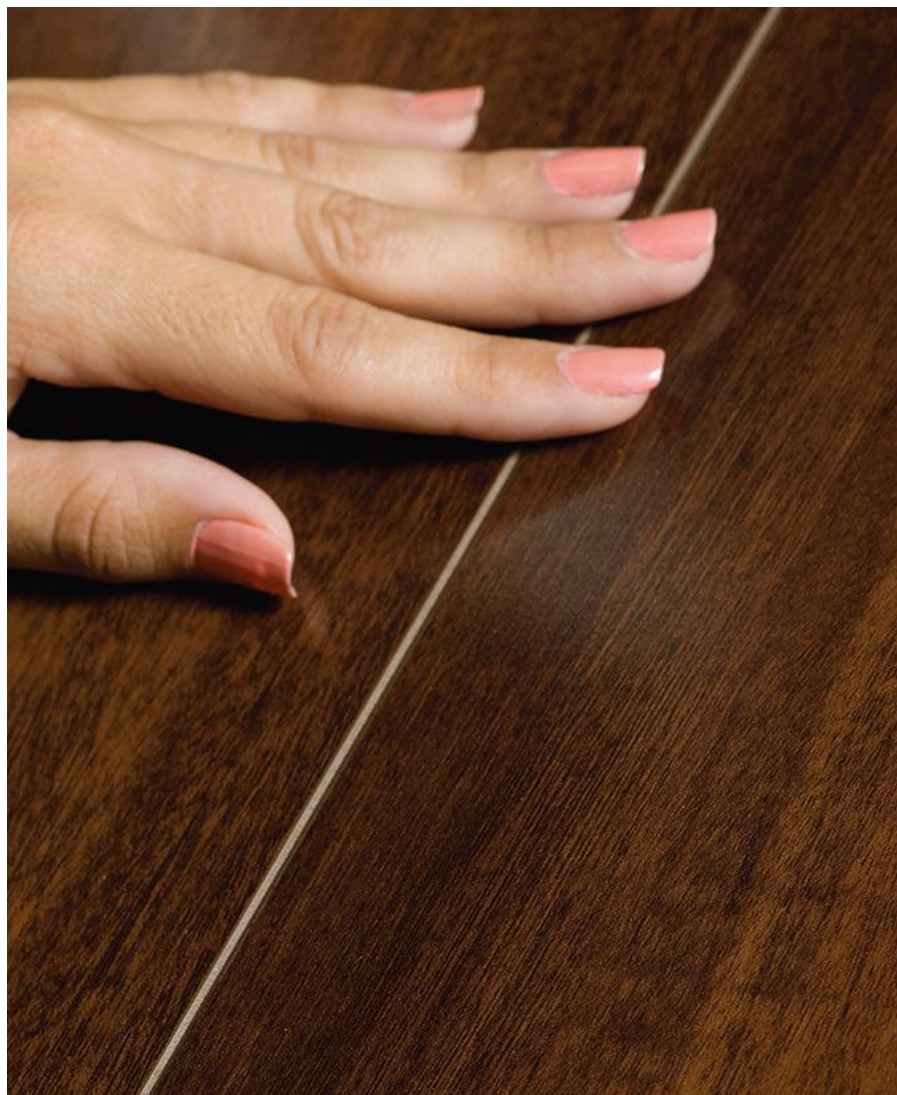
nice bench in the entryway makes it easy for residents and guests to remove their shoes until it's time to go back outside.

- Use water-wicking mats. Homeowners will probably need a few extra mats around to tame errant drips and wipe shoes. Any entrance that might be used by people or pets should be protected. Try to avoid petroleum-based, rubber-backed mats, as they could discolor the wood floor.

- Control humidity indoors. Cold, dry air in a home can be problematic because the moisture in the wood can eventually evaporate into the air. The heat will suck that moisture from the flooring, causing it to shrink, creak and splinter and become more brittle. Think about investing in an in-line humidifier for the home's HVAC system that can keep a moderate amount of humidity in the home. Hardwood floorboards are installed to accommodate minor temperature and humidity fluctuations. This is typically a range of between 60 and 80 degrees F with a relative humidity range of 35 to 55 percent, advises ServiceMaster.

- Use the right cleaning products. Avoid excessive water to clean wood floors, and select soaps that are specially designed for wood flooring. Consult with the flooring manufacturer for a list of detergents that are safe to use.

With proper care, hardwood flooring can survive rain, snow and cold weather.



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# Prevent Growth Of Mold/Mildew In Colder Months

Mold and mildew are not only unsightly, but unhealthy. These fungi grow readily in damp areas and are found in the air breathed both indoors and outside. If left unaddressed, mold and mildew can threaten the health of a home's inhabitants.

Mildew is a type of mold that remains relatively flush with the surface it grows on. Other molds can grow puffy in appearance. Molds serve the purpose of destroying organic materials, but in high amounts, these microorganisms can cause respiratory problems, sinus congestion, throat irritation, headaches, and other issues, particularly when mold grows unchecked indoors, says Better Homes and Gardens. As a result, it is essential to address mold before it becomes problematic.

According to Polygon, a drying technology and temporary climate solutions company, the wet season in winter is when molds often grow and expand. Mold can break down the integrity and strength of the surfaces where it grows.

Homeowners can employ the following strategies to prevent mold growth.

- Keep all surfaces clean, using proper cleaning products. Diluted bleach solutions are highly effective at killing microscopic fungi, viruses and bacteria.
- Reduce moisture and humidity by ensuring sufficient air circulation in rooms, particularly bathrooms and

kitchens. An exhaust fan will help remove moisture quickly.

- Fabrics covered in mildew that can be laundered should be carefully removed and washed in chlorine bleach and hot water. An oxygen bleach product also can be effective.

- Invest in a dehumidifier that can reduce moisture in the home in problem areas, such as damp basements or garages.

- Fix plumbing leaks as soon as possible.

- Remove damp leaves and snow from areas around the foundation of the home. Ensure that gutters and downspouts are clear of debris and can shuttle water away from the house effectively.

- Replace cracked or defective mortar in basements.

- Make sure all seals on windows and doors are not compromised and are in good working condition.

- Be sure an HVAC in-line humidifier is adjusted to the right setting and isn't pumping too much moisture into the heated air; otherwise, the added humidity can contribute to mold.

- If there is a flood or water infiltrates a home in other ways, hire a professional service to help clean and dry the home effectively.

Mold and mildew are problematic, but with diligence they can be kept at bay.

# Understanding R-Values



Insulation recommendations are based on certain factors that coordinate with regional climate zones to increase energy efficiency. These factors are known as R-values. The R in R-value stands for "resistance," and refers to how certain products resist the flow of heat through walls, floors and ceilings. Products should reduce heat escape so heat is kept on the right side of the wall. In summer this means outdoors, in winter it means indoors. R-values relate not only to insulation, but also to walls, windows and other barriers. R-values also coordinate to the type, thickness

and density of the material being used. The higher the R-value, the more resistant to heat the product is. The U.S. Department of Energy coordinates R-value to climate zones 1 through 7 (1: Tip of Florida; 7: Canadian border). A higher R-value is needed in Zone 7 and a lower R-value is necessary in Zone 1. Those embarking on home improvement projects that involve choosing between R-values are urged to speak with a professional or to visit the Department of Energy website (www.energy.gov) to determine which R-Value is ideal for their homes.

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## What To Do To Prepare Your Garden For Winter

Gardens provide an idyllic escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In fact, many gardening enthusiasts typically cannot wait for the spring thaw so they can spend the next several months tending to their plants under the warm sun. But a gardener's work is never truly done, and the work to make gardens stun in the spring actually begins during the preceding fall.

Preparing gardens for winter is an important step that can help homeowners ensure their gardens return to full strength in the spring. The tasks necessary to prepare gardens for winter may depend on what homeowners are planting, but the following are some general maintenance suggestions that can keep gardens safe this winter.

- Remove weeds and debris. Weeds and debris are unsightly and detrimental to plant life in spring, but they also can be harmful in the winter. Weeds and debris left to linger in gardens through the winter provide overwintering spots for insects and can contribute to disease. So it's imperative that weeds and debris are removed before the ground hardens in winter. Don't wait until the ground hardens, as that can make it hard to remove the roots of weeds, adversely affecting the garden as a result.

- Prepare the soil. The Farmer's Almanac advises homeowners to gently till the soil in their gardens so they can expose

any insects before they settle in for the winter. Once garden soil is exposed, add a layer of compost, leaves, aged manure, and, if necessary, lime, gently tilling it into the soil. According to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the only accurate way to determine if lawn or garden soil needs lime is to test it. Lime makes soil less acidic and reduces soil pH. Low soil pH makes it hard for certain plants to grow, but acidic soil is ideal when growing blueberries. Test the soil for lime and amend it depending on what you hope to grow in the spring so it's ready to thrive when winter ends.

- Remove dead or diseased plants. Dead or diseased plants should not be left in the garden through the winter. These plants can attract insects and are vulnerable to disease, which can make it hard for the garden to thrive in the spring.

- Protect fruit trees. If you have fruit trees, install mouse guards around the base to prevent mice and voles from killing the trees over the winter. If left to their own devices over the winter, mice and voles may eat the bark of fruit trees, killing the trees as a result. The Farmer's Almanac notes that mouse guards made of fine mesh hardware cloth can effectively protect fruit trees from hungry mice and voles over the winter.

A gardener's work is never done, and the work to create beautiful spring gardens begins in the fall.

## How To Recognize When You Can Stop Mowing



Each weekend in spring, summer and fall, millions of homeowners fire up their mowers and cut the grass in their yards. A few hours spent mowing the lawn can be a great time to get some sun and some exercise in the great outdoors.

As fall gradually transitions to winter, homeowners may wonder when to stop mowing their lawns. Each lawn is different, and when to stop mowing may depend on a host of factors, including local climate and the type of turf. In addition to climate and turf, homeowners can keep an eye on these conditions to determine when the time is right to put their mowers away for the winter.

- Frost: Warm-season grasses typically go dormant after a couple of significant frosts. Homeowners can jot down each frost during fall. Frosts are most noticeable in the early morning hours, so be sure to check lawn conditions each morning as the weather begins to grow cold. Frost may be noticeable without even going outside, but homeowners may need to go outside to check on chilly mornings or on days when the previous night was especially cold. If you must go outside, stay off the grass to protect it. Two or three frosts might be enough to make warm-season grasses go dormant for the winter. Cool-season grasses may keep growing and require mowing even after a few frosts, so it's imperative that homeowners determine which type of grass is in their yards.
- Soil temperature: If it's hard to deter-

mine if frosts have occurred, homeowners can try checking the temperature of their soil to decide if they need to keep mowing. The lawn care experts at Pennington recommend homeowners continue mowing warm-season grasses so long as they keep growing. Lawns may not grow as quickly in fall as they do in spring or summer, and growth may not be as visible to the naked eye during this time of year as it is in other times. Homeowners can routinely check soil temperature to determine if their grasses have stopped growing. Warm-season grasses tend to stop growing once the soil temperature is consistently at 55 F or below, while cool-season grasses tend to stop when temperatures are 45 F or lower.

Falling leaves have long been a barometer used by homeowners to determine if they need to keep mowing their lawns. That's not necessarily a reliable metric, as grass can still keep growing even if leaves have been falling for weeks. In addition, using a mulching mower when leaves begin falling is a great way to provide the lawn with nutrients it can use throughout the winter. Some trees shed their leaves more quickly than others, but it's a good rule of thumb that lawns will need to keep being mowed if trees are still retaining more than half their leaves.

A host of factors can help homeowners determine when it's safe to put their mowers away for the winter.

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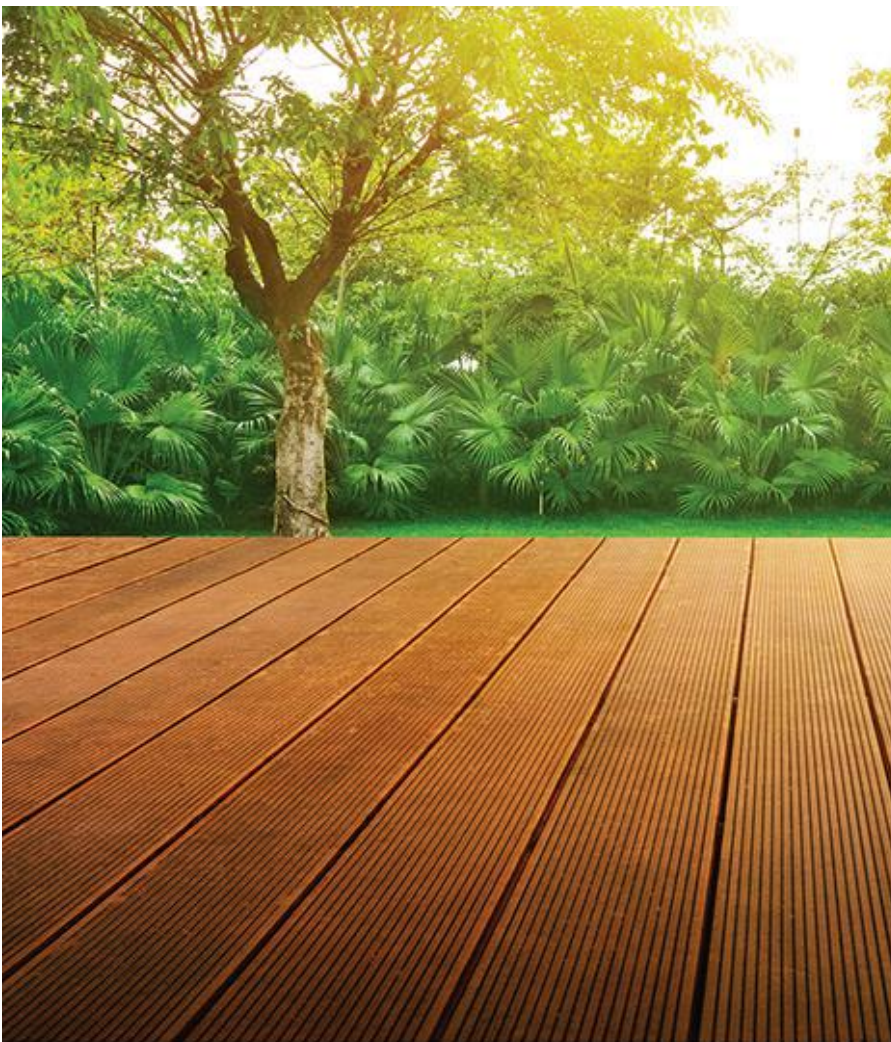


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# Prepare Your Deck For Winter



Homeowners often take steps to winterize the interior of their homes in the weeks before winter's arrival, but such efforts should extend to the outside of a home as well.

Decks make for great gathering places when the weather permits. Decks are where many people spend their free time and eat their meals come spring and summer, when the temperatures climb and the sun sets well into the evening. But as summer turns to fall, homeowners must take measures to protect their decks from potentially harsh winter weather.

- Inspect the deck for problems. Decks tend to be used more often in summer than any other time of year. That makes fall and early winter an ideal time to inspect for wear and tear and any additional issues that may have cropped up throughout the summer. Damaged boards and loose handrails should be fixed before winter arrives, especially for homeowners who plan to use their decks in winter. Fixing such issues in winter and even into spring may be difficult thanks to harsh conditions, so make good use of the relatively calm autumn weather to fix any issues on the deck.

- Clear the deck of potted plants. Even homeowners who intend to use their decks in winter should remove potted

plants from the deck in the fall. The home improvement experts at HGTV note that moisture can get trapped between deck boards and plastic, wood or ceramic containers in cold weather, and that can contribute to mildew, discoloration or decay.

- Store unnecessary furniture. Homeowners who like to sit on their decks in winter will no doubt want to leave some furniture out over the winter. But those with lots of furniture for entertaining guests can likely move the majority of that furniture into a garage or shed for the winter. HGTV notes that doing so will prevent the potential formation of blemishes on the deck that can result from inconsistent weathering.

- Remove snow, but do so carefully. Prolonged contact with snow and ice can damage a deck. As a result, homeowners should clear snow from their decks when accumulation is significant. HGTV recommends using a snow blower on the deck to avoid scarring. If a shovel must be used, push snow with the planks to reduce the risk of damaging the deck.

Homeowners who take steps to protect their decks throughout the winter months can ensure these popular areas are ready once entertaining season returns in the spring.

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# Stay safe around power lines

As we slide into fall, many people are finishing projects around the house and yard in preparation for the coming winter months. It's important to stay safe and be aware of overhead power lines. Look up.

- Never climb power poles or transmission towers.
- Never climb trees near power lines.
- Keep equipment away from overhead lines when carrying ladders, pool skimmers, and pruning tools.
- If you are doing work close to power lines—such as trimming trees, working on your roof, or doing exterior renovations—keep yourself, your ladder and anything you are handling a safe distance from the power line.

In addition to overhead lines, SMECO has many underground electric lines. Call **Miss Utility** at **811** before you dig.

- Contact SMECO to disconnect power if you are doing work that requires close contact with overhead lines attached to your home.

- Use a licensed electrician for all electrical work.
- Plant trees away from power lines.



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# Time To Replace Old Wiring?



Old homes can be charming and contain architectural elements not often seen in many modern housing developments. But what older homes may have in design appeal, they may lack in updated features.

While cosmetic changes are not necessarily difficult, one area of concern in historic homes — and sometimes even in houses built 40 or 50 years ago — is archaic wiring. Wiring provides power to every room of the home. In today's electronics-driven society, electricity that works is an essential component of daily life. Over time, wiring can be compromised through simple aging, pest infiltration, weather, or other conditions. Deteriorated wiring can present a shock hazard and also a serious fire hazard, warn the home renovation experts at The Spruce. Furthermore, the home improvement site This Old House advises that the amperage of old wiring may not be able to meet the needs of the devices used in homes — overpowering the circuits. This can cause breaker blowouts and other problems, such as overheated wires that may spark and cause fires from within the wall.

Wiring often falls into the “out of sight, out of mind” category. Homeowners may make allowances for inadequate electrical systems, such as running extension cords or using multiplug connectors to increase

their wiring capacity. However, they may not be diligently keeping on top of upgrades needed to stay safe. Confirming that a home's electrical system is safe is a necessary part of home maintenance.

For those who haven't already done so, schedule an inspection with a licensed electrician to go over the home's wiring. He or she can determine if any areas pose a safety risk and/or do not conform to local code requirements and the National Electrical Code. Failure to meet code can lead to difficulty obtaining permits to make other home renovations, or difficulty selling a home later on.

The electrician can also go over improvements that can improve safety and function. Additional outlets, including GFCI outlets in kitchens and bathrooms, may be part of the plan, as well as rewiring a fuse box or circuit panel to allow for better flow of power around the house. Frayed wiring or underinsulated wiring also may need to be replaced.

Owners of old homes should recognize possible electrical system dangers that require attention. Plus, considering electrical codes change quite frequently, it is always in a homeowner's best interest to work with a qualified electrician to keep wiring inspected and up to date.

# Affordable Kitchen Renovations

Kitchens are popular gathering spots in many homes. That popularity is reflected in various ways, including how many homeowners choose to remodel their kitchens.

A report from the home renovation and design resource Houzz found that kitchens were the most popular room to renovate. Homeowners considering kitchen remodels should know that the Houzz report also indicated that spending on kitchen remodels has increased by 27 percent.

Homeowners concerned by the cost of remodeling a kitchen should know that there are ways to give kitchens a whole new feel without breaking the bank.

## Appliances

Consumer Reports notes that luxury home buyers expect high-end features, including professional ranges and built-in refrigerators that match the surrounding cabinetry. However, many mainstream brands offer “faux pro” features that can equal more expensive alternatives. Consumer Reports even notes that many budget-friendly faux pro appliances outperformed their high-end counterparts in terms of reliability.

## Countertops

Countertops tend to capture the eye's attention when walking into a kitchen. Outdated and/or damaged countertops grab that attention for all the wrong reasons, while updated countertops made from today's most popular materials provide that wow factor homeowners seek. If granite is a must-have, Consumer Reports notes that homeowners can save substan-

tial amounts of money by choosing granite from remnants at the stone yard. If marble is your ideal countertop, save money by choosing a domestic product as opposed to one imported from overseas.

## Cabinets

Custom-built cabinets may be a dream, but they tend to be a very expensive one. Such cabinets are designed to adhere to the dimensions of the kitchen, and Consumer Reports notes that they can cost tens of thousands of dollars. If that estimate would bust your budget, examine the current layout of the existing cabinets. If the layout is fine but the cabinets need work, you can give them a whole new look by refinishing them. If the cabinets must go, stock units or semi-custom cabinets can provide a new look without busting the budget.

Kitchen remodels can be expensive. But there are many affordable ways to revamp a kitchen.



# Add A Pop Of Purple Around The House

Pantone named “Ultra Violet” its color of the year in 2018, helping to create a resurgence in popularity of all things purple. As a result, homeowners who pride themselves on staying on top of the latest trends have increasingly turned to purple when designing their home interiors.

Purple influences can range from the dramatic to the subtle. Here are some ways to embrace purple in your home.

## Transition bedroom color

Purple has long been a favorite shade for adolescents who are growing up and moving away from pinks and peaches into more mature room colors. Purple looks well when accented by white, magenta and yellow.

Even though it is embraced by young girls, purple also can be used by adults who want to create soothing retreats in their bedrooms.

## Create an accent wall

A purple room may intimidate people who prefer mild, more neutral design schemes. But a purple accent wall can add a pop of color, suggest the home experts at Realtor.com. When it comes time to list a home, it's easier for the next homeowner to embrace a purple ac-

cent wall than an entire room decorated in this jeweled tone.

## Use accent items

It's easy to add a splash of plum or other variations of purple without making a permanent commitment. Dress up neutral decor with throw pillows, rugs, table linens, or draperies in all shades of purple. As trends change, it's easy to exchange accent items.

## Modern kitchen

Homeowners can offset efficient, modern design in kitchens characterized by white cabinetry and stainless appliances with some well-placed grape focal points. A purple backsplash, purple-clad island or lavender bar stools can lend vibrancy to a space.

## Purple powder room

A purple guest bathroom is the ideal place to help overnight guests feel regal. Violet and deeper shades of purple can feel warm and luxurious. Beige or cream bathrooms can be enhanced with a deep purple bath mat, shower curtain and hand towels.

Purple is hot right now and turning up in unexpected places in many homes.

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# Colleges Celebrate Democracy Day

## Marks Inauguration of Miller Center for Leadership

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) and St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) are partnering to kick off a five-part leadership and voter education series entitled 'Informed, Engaged, Empowered = Ready - Set - VOTE!' on Sept. 15 - International Democracy Day - with the inauguration of the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Center for Leadership. The series of virtual community-focused events to promote voter education, civic engagement and personal empowerment are a collaboration between the center, CSM's Equity and Inclusive Diversity Office and Student Life Department; and SMCM, the Center for the Study of Democracy and SMCM Student Activities Department. The events are aimed to prepare students and the Southern Maryland community for the upcoming elections.

CSM established the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Center for Leadership a year ago in September to support students, faculty and rising community leaders who demonstrate and inspire leadership in others. Maryland's Sen. Miller was the nation's longest serving state senate president, having been a member of the Maryland Senate since 1975 and serving as the president of the Maryland Senate from 1987 to January 2020. A resident of Calvert County, the Senate President Emeritus continues to serve District 27.

"Imagine being a young person today, trying to find your footing and make sense of the world amid chaotic public discourse and polarized news sources," CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy said at a fundraising event last fall that established an endowment in Miller's honor to support the center. "Imagine being a college whose charge is to support young people as they learn to reconcile contradictory ideas in a culture that gives as much credence in opinion as in fact. In our current environment, helping students grapple with complexity and learn that there can be multiple valid perspectives on issues is becoming increasingly difficult."

During the series' kick off Sept. 15, students will hear a message from Miller on leadership and his lessons for bridging political divides with a focus on how all citizens can work together for the good of our communities. Student leaders from CSM and St. Mary's College of Maryland will then share thoughts on unity and the future of American Democracy in a panel moderated by the center's director, CSM Communication Professor Denise Gilmer-Knudson and Director of the Center for the Study of Democracy Dr. Antonio Ugues.

The 'Informed, Engaged, Empowered = Ready - Set - VOTE!' series continues with a National Voter Registration Day virtual event Sept. 22 hosted by the Calvert County League of Women Voters entitled "Your Vote. Your Choice. Your Future." On Oct. 8, CSM and SMCM will virtually host "A Pledge to Truth and Civility" that focuses on the need for media literacy and civility in public discourse and an Oct. 22 event entitled, "Liberty and Justice for All? The History of Voting Rights in America." The series concludes Nov. 10 with "Indivisible: A Post Election Debrief."



A five-part series entitled 'Informed, Engaged, Empowered = Ready - Set - VOTE!' will kick off the inauguration of the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Center for Leadership Sept. 15 on International Democracy Day. Senator Miller is shown here with his wife Patti.

"We do not know what the results of the 2020 presidential election will be, but we do know that many of our neighbors will celebrate, and many will be frustrated—perhaps feeling despair," shared Anderson about the series' final event. "Our last moderated session will enable CSM and SMCM faculty, staff and students to come together again to process thoughts and feelings about the election process and results and to begin to envision a positive path forward as one community."

The Sept. 22 and Nov. 10 events are for CSM and SMCM's student, faculty and staff. The three other events will be open to the public.

The CSM Foundation has established an endowment in Miller's name that funds, in part, the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Leadership Academy which provides a framework agreed upon by the Maryland Community College Activities Director's Association (MCCADA), that will help students become engaged leaders.

"Upon successful completion of the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Leadership Academy, students will receive a CSM Certificate of Completion and be eligible to apply for the Maryland Community College Leadership Certification, a statewide recognition of exceptional leadership skills in Maryland community college students awarded by Maryland Community College Activities Director's Association (MCCADA)," explained Gilmer-Knudson.

About the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Center for Leadership: The purpose of the Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. Center for Leadership is to serve and connect the College of Southern Maryland and surrounding region by offering leadership training and other opportunities to develop student and community leaders who contribute to their local and global communities. For more information, visit [www.csmd.edu/community/miller-center-for-leadership/](http://www.csmd.edu/community/miller-center-for-leadership/).

Press Release from CSM.

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# CSM Golf Classic In Full Swing This Fall



The 2020 CSM Foundation's Golf Classic is a go - with a twist. Will you be the next Dave Eicholtz - shown here collecting his golf ball that took the hole-in-one contest at the CSM Foundation Golf Classic in 1999?

The College of Southern Maryland Foundation's Golf Classic returns to Swan Point Country Club in Issue this fall with a twist. To ensure physical distancing guidelines and keep everyone safe, golfers who sign up for the Foundations 29<sup>th</sup> annual event can play their round any time within the tournament's six-week date range starting Sept. 3.

Marrick Homes continues its support as the grand tournament sponsor of CSM Foundation's signature event which has raised more than \$1 million for students through the years. This year, proceeds will go to the CSM Foundation's Help a Hawk efforts which was established in April to aid CSM's most vulnerable students experiencing challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are grateful to Marrick Homes for their relentless commitment to our students and this event," said CSM Foundation Chair Kim Rosenfield. "This is the 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that Marrick Homes has partnered with the foundation to make a difference in our students' lives. We're even more inspired by our team and CSM staff who came up with this creative and fun way to keep our fundraising momentum going," Rosenfield continued. "Our students need us now more than ever in these extraordinary times."

In fact, the CSM Foundation has already raised more than \$120,000

specifically to help students impacted financially by COVID-19 and more than \$73,000 has been awarded to 149 students thanks to the foundation's Help a Hawk effort.

"Marrick Homes is excited to have the opportunity to be the grand tournament sponsor again this year," said Jay Webster, vice president, Marrick Properties, Inc. "We are looking forward to a great day of golf while remaining physically distant."

The tournament runs from Sept. 3 through Oct. 15, and golfers can play their round any weekday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. or weekend 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. with a pre-scheduled tee time. Golfers can register using the link below and schedule tee time directly with the Swan Point Pro Shop. The golf pros at Swan Point will manage our CSM scoreboard and will post weekly updates online.

Other generous supporters include Corporate Sponsor of former CSM Coach Danny Williams & Vickie Williams - Century 21 Real Estate; and Community Partner Sponsor Greene Turtle, of La Plata.

Sponsorships are still available, and include opportunities for exposure in marketing materials and social media campaigns. For information, contact the CSM Development Department at 301-934-7599 or [csmfoundation@csmd.edu](mailto:csmfoundation@csmd.edu).

*Press Release from CSM*

## A View From The BLEACHERS

### EPITAPH ON HUMANITY

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

The texts and emails arrived in mass last week. Daniel Snyder, overlord of the Washington Football Team, was back in the news - always a bad thing - and a volley of ill-intended friends of other NFL persuasions wanted to ensure that I, longtime fan of the team, was aware. I was easy prey; it was a familiar wound to peck.

Twenty years into Snyder's abysmal ownership, such occurrences have become cliché. The ribbings from opposing fans have ceased to cause irritation. After all, how could they resist? Snyder's been a treasure trove of botched coaching hires, obnoxious free agent signings, odd front office structures and disgraceful on-field performances. The incompetence is just too tempting to ignore.

But Snyder has gone next-level embarrassing this offseason. First, after receiving pressure from big corporate sponsors (threats to his precious bottom line), he had to move on, kicking and screaming, from the team's racially insensitive (being kind here) nickname. Snyder's years of foolish defiance of the inevitable left him so ill-prepared that his team will now play nameless this season.

After this debacle, a raging feud between Snyder and his minority owners was exposed - the tiff has one in a legal wrangle with Snyder and others so fed up with him that they are seeking to sell their stakes.

Worst of all, though, are the growing reports of a deep, systemic organizational culture that permitted rampant incidents of sexual harassment and sowed a hostile, demeaning work environment for female employees. The Washington Post first exposed the moral rot within Snyder's franchise in a July expose. It has proven to be the tip of an ugly iceberg, as last week, The Post published an expansive follow-up chronicling more boorish, disgusting behavior. In all, 40 women have made various allegations - propositions, verbal abuse and salacious outtake videos from a swimsuit calendar shoot - against some of the highest ranking men in the organization, including Snyder himself.

It would be easy to lay this all at the feet of Snyder, slap him with the Scarlet letter and feel good that justice was served to society's great

amoral villain. The uncomfortable reality is that what happened in Snyder's organization is too common, and with creeps like Larry Nassar and Harvey Weinstein, among many others, this feels like just the latest chapter in human indecency. And these are just examples of how women are treated; what about our ongoing struggles with racism or the disgusting predation of children by the likes of Jerry Sandusky and evil doers in the Catholic Church?

If humans suddenly vanished and the epitaph on our species was written today, it would be "They had so much potential." When the next advanced Earth inhabitants or aliens sift through our artifacts, they will be puzzled by humans' demise. They will discover our amazing technological advances - including the ability to live sustainably within the planet's resources, our great works of arts, the music of Louis Armstrong, Chuck Berry and the Rolling Stones, the deep thoughts of Eleanor Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr., the courage of Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman, the imagination of Dr. Seuss and Steve Jobs and a widely documented moral code - various "good books," the seven deadly sins or Dangers to Human Virtue and the 10 Commandments (even reduced to two...and one adder...by the brilliant George Carlin), among many others. It will all leave the beings analyzing human history asking, "How did they fail?"

Not as evident in the relics will be our susceptibility to tribalism and fear-based propaganda, our failure to address inconvenient existential threats, our obsession with differences and our inability to embrace our common humanity. There will be evidence of war but it will inadequately convey the depth of our compulsion to fight over territory, ethnic or racial dominance or whose god was cooler. Despite our brilliance and accelerating technological arc, humanity's legacy is its inability to tolerate, achieve equality, share vast resources and recognize our intertwined destiny - fatal flaws so illogical that it will shroud our ruin in mystery.

Hypothetically speaking, of course...for we are still here, and our ending remains mercifully unwritten.

Send comments to [RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com](mailto:RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com)

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# PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

# News

## NAWCAD Sailors Clear Trash From Community Roadside

By Donna Cipolloni  
NAS Patuxent River Public Affairs

Thirty Sailors from Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) demonstrated their commitment to service by volunteering their time to pick up trash along both sides of a 1.3 mile stretch of Pegg Road on Friday, Aug. 21.

The roadway had been adopted by NAWCAD Command through the St. Mary's County Adopt-a-Road program, wherein NAWCAD signed a contract to clean up their adopted stretch for a two-year period, and at least four times per year. Though the contract was originally signed in March, COVID-19 restrictions kept the group from being able to conduct a clean up until now.

"I worked with the county to pick up the supplies: safety vests, plastic bags, trash grabbers and the safety signs I had to post at either end of the clean up [while it was in progress]," explained event coordinator Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class Dale Koch. "We mustered at 0715, had a safety brief, and then got started cleaning up."

The Sailors, sweeping the sides of the roadway between Midway and Chancellors Run, collected enough litter to fill 80 of the large 33-gallon trash bags provided by the county.

"There was a lot of fast food trash and bottles," Koch noted. "When we finished, we stacked the filled bags and supplies under the highway sign

that shows the road was adopted by NAWCAD, and the county was scheduled to come by later to collect it all."

While conducting the cleanup, the group was sure to adhere to all recommended COVID-19 guidelines.

"Masks were a requirement for everyone for sure, and we maintained physical distancing whenever possible," Koch added.

Joining the Sailors was NAWCAD command leadership, including Rear Adm. John Lemmon, outgoing Vice Commander Capt. Craig Lee, incoming Vice Commander Capt. Joseph Hornbuckle, and Command Master Chief Michael Clark.

"Southern Maryland is an important part of naval aviation," said

NAWCAD Commander, Rear Adm. John Lemmon. "NAWCAD is immensely proud of the service we provide to the Navy. As the area's largest employer — and primary operators of the aircraft flying over the community — we were excited for the opportunity to show some of that pride on the ground, right outside the gate."

Koch, who arrived at Pax River in January 2019, wanted to be involved because he believes the communities around our military bases are an integral part of any installation.

"I always enjoy giving back to the communities wherever I'm stationed," Koch said. "This was a productive effort and we cleaned up a lot of stuff."



Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) Sailors gather for a photo Aug. 21 after volunteering to pick up trash along both sides of a 1.3 mile stretch of Pegg Road, outside Gate 2

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

## Marilyn Ann Dixon McKay



Marilyn Ann Dixon McKay "Mary", 96 of Hollywood, MD passed away on August 27, 2020 in Hollywood, MD. She was born on January 4, 1924 in Leonardtown, MD. Mary was the

daughter of the late Viola Norris Dixon and Thomas Dixon. Mary was the loving wife of the late James Manning McKay whom she married on September 21, 1943 in Leonardtown, MD and who preceded her in death on December 9, 2008.

Mary is survived by her children; Pat Murr (Bobby) of Adelphi, MD, Betty Johnson (Frankie) of Hollywood, MD, Jimmy McKay of Hollywood, MD, Cherry Price (Billy) of Leonardtown, MD, Beverly Ryan (John) of Derwood, MD, Tommy McKay (Laschelle) of Hollywood, MD, David McKay of Hollywood, MD, and Ed McKay (Laura) of Fairfax, VA, 27 grandchildren, 34 great grandchildren and 11 great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her brothers Ralph Dixon, Thomas Dixon and grandson Jim McKay, III.

Mary was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1942. She was the business owner of McKay's Supermarkets, which she and her husband Manning McKay started in 1948; along with Marilyn's Fine Fashions and The County Times Newspaper.

Mary was a member of the Maryland Food Dealers Board of Directors; Maryland Retailers Association Hall of Fame, and Catholic Daughters. Her hobbies included attending and watching the Baltimore Orioles Games, playing cards especially Pitch, with her family on Saturday nights. She loved her trips to New York to buy clothing for her dress shop.

The family will receive friends on Friday, September 4, 2020 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in St. John's Catholic Church Hollywood, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM with Father Ray Schmidt officiating, co-celebrating will be Fr. Keith Woods and Fr. John Dillon. Interment will follow in St. John's Catholic Cemetery, Hollywood, MD.

Serving as pallbearers will be Mike Murr, Joe Johnson, Ricky Hammett, Steve Hammett, Chris Ryan, Eric McKay, Justin McKay and Mitch McKay. Honorary pallbearer will be Robbie Murr.

Contributions may be made to St. John's Catholic Church, and School 43950 St. John's Road Hollywood, MD 20636 and

Hollywood Vol. Fire Department, P.O. Box 7 Hollywood, MD 20636.

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

## Harold Eugene "Gene" Williams, Jr.



Harold Eugene "Gene" Williams, Jr., 50, of Lexington Park, MD passed away suddenly at home on August 22, 2020. He was born on July 25, 1970 in Leonardtown, MD; he was the loving son

of Eleanor Mae Williams and Harold Eugene Williams, Sr. of Lexington Park, MD. Gene is survived by his children Ashley Mattingly, Jessica Williams, Amanda Williams, Brittany Williams, Gene Williams, Shawn Williams, Lindsay Williams all of Lexington Park, MD, and 7 grandchildren. Along with his sister Michelle Williams of Lexington Park, MD. He was preceded in death by his sister Sheila Williams.

He was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and attended Choptican High School. Gene was a laborer for the Maryland State Highway for 6 years.

Interment will be private.

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

## LoVisa Jane Battenfield



LoVisa Jane Battenfield "Lee", 96 of Leonardtown, MD formerly from Coltons Point, MD passed away on August 25, 2020 in Leonardtown, MD. She was born on September 9, 1923 in Canton, OH, and

was the loving daughter of the late Marie Osborne McFarland and Wilbur McFarland. Lee was the loving wife of the late John Robert "Juggy" Battenfield, whom she married on March 26, 1944 in Washington, DC and who preceded her in death on February 11, 1980. Lee is survived by her children; Barbara Bowles (George) of Loveville, MD, Roberta Adams (Tony) Mechanicsville, MD, Rebecca Kendall (Tom) of Mechanicsville, MD, son-in-law Jack Nelson of Mechanicsville, MD, 10 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her children; Anita Meridith Nelson, and Cecelia Adams, son in law James E. Meridith, Sr, and her brother Gerald McFarland.

She graduated from Columbiana High School Columbiana, Ohio in 1941. She moved from Greenbelt, MD to St. Mary's County, MD in the early 1950's. Lee was a Nurses Aide for St. Mary's Nursing Home for 10 years, retiring in the early 1980's.

Lee was an avid book reader from the early days of her visiting the bookmobile at Coltons Point to her visits later in life to the library in Leonardtown. She was a great seamstress making and altering clothes for her "girls" and family members throughout the years. She also enjoyed taking ceramics classes in which she made many beautiful items she proudly gave as gifts. Together with daughters Anita and Barbara they also enjoyed taking classes to make, fire, paint and dress porcelain dolls. Each of us girls have special dolls gifted from mom which we treasure. We are most proud of her returning to school after she turned 50 to study geriatric nursing. After completing her courses, she worked at St. Mary's Nursing Center as a nurse's aide working the night shift. She also enjoyed crocheting and taught many of her co-workers at the Nursing Home the beloved granny square during breaks. She enjoyed working at the Nursing Home for over 10 years but following the death of her husband soon retired and began to serve the community for the next twenty years providing in home care to the elderly in her local neighborhood. During her residency at St. Mary's Nursing Center, she could always be found with one of her beloved word search books; she also loved watching the History Channel and didn't miss her nightly viewing of Jeopardy. Most of all she enjoyed spending time with her "girls" and we have many, many happy memories of trips to the Lancaster, PA area, Florida, Tennessee, Las Vegas and a long road trip to the west coast in the early 90's. Mom's favorite trips were religious in nature and she stood strong in her faith. She took several pilgrimages to Conyers, GA, traveled to Medugorje in 1997 and a trip to The Holy Land with Barbara was the trip of a lifetime for her! Lee was a great cook and gracious entertainer and enjoyed preparing dinners or cookouts; she was most noted for her wonderful holiday spreads! We were always welcome at her table!! Her smile was infectious; you could count on being greeted with one! She was a treasure to many but especially her children and grandchildren who will miss her greatly; she will remain in our hearts forever!

Contributions may be made to St. Mary's Nursing Center 21585 Peabody Street Leonardtown, MD 20650.

## Carol Jane Wolf



Carol Jane Wolf, 73, of Leonardtown, MD formerly from Rockford, IL and Eastanollee, GA, passed away on August 19, 2020 in La Plata, MD. She was the daughter of the late Catherine Beatrice Paterson and Robert Martin Paterson.

Carol was the loving wife of the late Richard Frank Wolf whom she married on August 24, 1993 in Wonder Lake, IL and who preceded her in death on August 30, 2014. Carol is survived by her children; Michael



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Kindgren (Kristi) of Callaway and Jeffrey Kindgren (Cyndi) of Belvidere, IL, and her three grandchildren; Athena, Taylor, and Audrey. Along with her sister Connie Catherine Garmoe of Springfield, IL. She was preceded in death by her brother Robert Lawrence Paterson.

She graduated from East High School in Rockford, IL. Carol worked for Jewel Foods in Rockford, IL as a Deli Clerk. She retired in November 2001 after 25 years. Carol moved from Eastanollee, GA to St. Mary's County, MD in September of 2017.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time.

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

**Olivia Ann Somervell**

**Camalier Wathen**



Olivia Ann Somervell Camalier Wathen died August 29, 2020 at home surrounded by her loving family. Born April 24, 1932 in Leonardtown she was the daughter of the late

Charles Henry Camalier and Olivia Sewell Somervell Dent Camalier.

She was the mother of Leslie Roberts (Shawn) of Leonardtown, MD., Libby Wood (Jim) of Lexington Park, MD., Faith Wathen (Mike) of California, MD., Wade Wathen of Lexington Park, MD., and Colin Wathen (April) of California, MD.

She is also survived by 6 grandchildren, Kent Wood Jr., Ben Wood, Leslie Wood, Elizabeth Kandler, Andy Wathen, and Max Wathen and 7 great grandchildren, Lily Wood, Aiden Wood, Tyson Wood, Sydney Wood, Hope Honsowitz, Summer Honsowitz, and Jax Honsowitz.

She was preceded in death by her brother Benjamin Camalier, her sisters Charlotte Welch, Ruth Mattingly, and Elizabeth Hansen, and her husband Robert Wathen, and her great grandchild Blake Honsowitz.

She is survived by her sister Mary Ashkenas of Santa Paula, California, as well as many dear nieces and nephews.

She was a lifelong parishioner at St. Aloysius Gonzaga church in Leonardtown, MD, a long-standing member of the Catholic Daughters, and greatly enjoyed spending time with her family in addition to early morning walks in Leonardtown, reading, gardening, and jigsaw puzzles.

Before her marriage she worked at the new theatre in Leonardtown, MD., for Dr. B. Harris Camalier, dentist, The First National Bank, in Leonardtown, MD., and Lansburgh's Department Store in Washington, D.C.

After raising her five children she worked at the Christmas Shop in Leonardtown, MD, the Leonardtown Beauty Shop, and volunteered at the St. Mary's Hospital gift shop in Leonardtown, MD.

All services will be private.

Interment will follow at St. Aloysius new cemetery in Leonardtown, MD.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD. 20650 or to the St. Aloysius Debt Reduction Fund, P.O. Box 310, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

**Kendra LeAnn Dudley Arnold**



Kendra LeAnn Dudley Arnold, 33, of Hollywood, MD, passed away suddenly on August 25, 2020 in California, MD.

Kendra was born on January 12, 1987 in Silver

Spring, MD to James Carroll Dudley and Deborah LeAnn (Austin) Dudley of Hollywood, MD.

Kendra is a 2005 graduate of Leonardtown High School. She was active in field hockey, lacrosse and dance, which she was the team manager. She loved ice skating and went every Saturday to Annapolis with her mom for many years. Her mom made all her beautiful skating costumes. After high school she earned her Certified Nursing Certificate through St. Mary's Nursing Center and was employed there for two years. She was devoted to her patients and had great compassion. She was a dog lover and had many pets. She was extremely close to her grandparents, prior to their death, and named her son after her grandfather. Her son was her greatest love and she enjoyed spending her time with him.

In addition to her parents, Kendra is also survived by her son, Clifton Lacey Arnold of Hollywood, MD, her siblings: Joshua Paul Dudley of Westminster, MD, Deborah Gail Dudley of Leonardtown, MD, and Maggie Lynn Dudley of Hollywood, MD; her nieces, Avery and Emery Dean, her nephew, Henry "Mikey" Dean; and extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Pete and Audrey Austin.

Pallbearers for Kendra will be her Dad, James Carroll Dudley, her brother Joshua Paul Dudley, Michael Hall, Michael Paul Terry, Thomas Maddox and Albert Dennison.

Kendra's services will be private.

Contributions in Memory of Kendra may be made to charities of your choice.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Erlene Warren Gay**

Erlene Warren Gay, 88 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on August 24, 2020 at MedStar St. Mary's

Hospital, in Leonardtown, MD.

She was born on March 19, 1932 in Gastonia, NC. She was the daughter of the late Loyd Jackson Warren and Rose Zula Stowe.



Once retired, Erlene traveled throughout the country and the world. She enjoyed going to Blackwater Falls in West Virginia and beach trips with her family. The most important thing was

being with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren creating wonderful memories and watching them grow.

She is survived by her children: Charles Jackson Gay (Terri) of Ellicott City; Rosalind Rowan (Scott) of Mechanicsville, MD; and daughter-in-law Vicky Gay of West Virginia; and her grandchildren Alex Rowan, Lauren Kiefert, Caitlin Rowan, Colin Rowan and Hannah Custer and six great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, three siblings-Evelyn, Henry, Lawson and her son Alan Gay.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**James Francis Howe**



James Francis Howe, 74, of Hollywood, MD passed away on August 21, 2020 at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C.

He was born on July 30, 1946 in Leonardtown, MD to the late John Sheldon Howe, Sr. and Mary Evelyn Owens.

He graduated from Chopticon High School. James married his loving wife Ellen Earhart on August 27, 1966 in Hollywood, MD. The couple have spent 53 wonderful years together.

James went into the Army, then Vietnam. He came home and started working at NAVAIR Special Flight Test Pool. Then to the Calibration Lab, Structures Lab and the Vibration Lab and as an Electronics techni-

cian in the Calibration Labs. He retired after 30 years.

He enjoyed working in his yard and enjoyed playing with any animals that came around. He enjoyed playing softball in his younger years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and he was always willing to help people. He loved his family and friends and enjoyed spending time with them.

In addition to his beloved wife, Ellen, James is also survived by his daughter, Samantha Ann Watts (Keith) of Leonardtown, MD. He has siblings Dorothy Skok, John Howe, Betty Greenburg and Susie Russell. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his siblings: Mary Ann Shaw and Paul Howe.

The family will have a life celebration service at a later date.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Nancy Kaye (Knott) George**

Nancy Kaye (Knott) George of Lexington Park, MD passed away peacefully on Monday evening, August 24, 2020 in Silver Spring, MD. She was born on March 2, 1972 in Leonardtown to Joseph Knott, Sr. and Maude (Tippett) Knott.

She attended Father Andrew White School and graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1991. Later she earned her cosmetology degree from Blades School of Hair Design. She worked for many years as a hair stylist at Unique Chic, Bernie's Hair Salon, and Walmart.

Nancy will be forever remembered by her son Hunter George of Lexington Park; brother Joseph Knott, Jr (Nancy) of Comp-ton; sister Janet Williams (Danny) of Lexington Park; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She is preceded in death by her parents.

All funeral services will be private.

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



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*September 3, 1949 - August 26, 2012*

*I thought of you with love today but that is nothing new. I thought of you yesterday and days before that too. I think of you in silence as I often speak your name. All I have are memories and your picture in a frame.*

*Not a day goes by when you are not loved and missed. Held in our heart forever, missing you much.*

*Your Loving Twin  
Carolyn*

# Wanderings

of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



## ZOOMING WITH THE FAMILY



Well, my Lee family relatives have finally embraced the new Zoom technology. I have used Zoom for church refreshment hour a couple times, and helped my husband with his Zoom church meetings, but haven't used it yet for anything else. I am intrigued with what I have seen on the morning news shows when thousands of chorus members from around the globe all singing one song separately, yet together, or the Broadway actors somehow coordinating their acting parts via Zoom. This technology was made to order for a global pandemic.

My brother and sister-in-law in Utah let me know that our cousin Alicia in Boise was setting up our first ever Lee family brunch Zoom meeting this past Sunday so we could video visit with Eileen, one of her other sisters, her parents (my father's brother Uncle Dick and wife Aunt Dot, both 90 and as I mentioned last week both have Covid with no symptoms and suffer mild Alzheimer's disease). I was really excited about this, especially since I am the next to last baby of the cousins in that generation – so much younger that I don't even remember cousins Alicia, Eileen, and their other sisters and brother. And seeing Uncle Dick after 12 years, and Aunt Dot for over 35 years was really a treat. My biggest fear was that Uncle Dick wouldn't remember me at all.

Sunday brunch time finally arrived and after 20 minutes of cousin Alicia trying to get camera and sound right to encompass their entire dining room table, we finally all had "lights, camera, action". My sister-in-law Kathy was already an old hand at Zoom from her Longaberger and Air Force officer's wives club meetings, so they had no trouble and were ready. I had a few minutes worry trying to get the audio right on my end.

That first moment when I saw Uncle Dick brought tears to my eyes. He was white-haired, but still the tall, strong uncle I remembered. He sat with his back to us and kept eating his breakfast, occasionally turning to look at the camera. It took quite awhile for his daughter to get him to get fully involved with the discussion – but oh, was it wonderful.

My Dad, Uncle Dick's older brother, has been gone 40 years, but I felt like he was right there with me when I heard Uncle Dick's voice. They have the same laid-back, yet sarcastic way of speaking, and their body language is identical.

All of us brought up places where Uncle Dick had lived from DC, Clinton, Takoma Park, and Hooper's Island. Uncle Dick had great stories about all those places, so it was hard to believe he had Alzheimer's. My brother Bobby and I asked him questions about our father and their other brother, Uncle Harley, also deceased, and Uncle Dick told us how they pretty much left him to his art career, while they worked on cars and as, Uncle Dick said, "chased women". My brother and I got a kick out of that because our father seemed quiet and shy to us. I had never heard Uncle Dick tell me that he and my father weren't that close before. Up until last year, he always had lots of stories about things they did. It made me wonder if Alzheimer's brought out more of the real truth. I could see my brother's face crumple a little bit then, because he had so many more years of memories with all of them, since he is 14 years older. It hurt inside a bit to me as well, thinking that Uncle Dick and Daddy weren't as close as it always sounded. His daughters, and Aunt Dot, who was on the ball the whole time, and a real talker anyway, did have to keep reminding Uncle Dick who we were throughout the conversation, which lasted 2 hours.

But to me the Zoom meeting was a grand success, and I think it was to everyone else. My cousin wrote to us afterwards and said she thinks this was really good for her parents and hopes to do this once a month now, and gradually add in other family members. I was surprised to find out that she did not tell her parents ahead of time, no wonder Uncle Dick kept happily eating breakfast. I'm looking forward to the next Zoom brunch, and where else these new, technologies in a changing world can take us...or take us back to.

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

# THE RULE OF 72

Contributing Writer:  
Lynda J. Striegel

Financial planning involves strategy. Basically, you need to plan how to get to where you want to go and how long it will take you to get there. If this involves retirement, planning should encompass both your current and your anticipated lifestyle. If this involves financing a child's college education, planning involves setting aside sufficient funds in savings to pay tuition, books and living expenses when your child needs the money.

But, how do you calculate how long it will take to get to your goals? The easiest way is to use the "Rule of 72". The Rule of 72 is a handy rule used in finance to estimate quickly the number of years it takes to double a sum of capital given an annual interest rate, or to estimate the annual interest rate it takes to double a sum of money over a given number of years.

Simply, dividing 72 by the rate of return on your investments equals the approximate number of years it will take for your money to double. Or, dividing 72 by the number of years you have until you need to use the money you have set aside equals the rate of return you need to have on your investments.

For example, David and Susan have saved \$10,000 towards their six year old child's college education. They want to know how long it will take them to double that amount. Their daughter is 6 years old. Assume she will need the money to go to college when she is 18. That's 12 years of saving. 72 divided by 12 equals a 6% rate of return on their investments. In other words, David and Susan need to obtain a six percent rate of return on their investments for 12 years to double their savings to \$20,000. That means no spending from the college account and reinvestment of all dividends and interest for the period of 12 years.

The Rule of 72 can also be used to calculate the effect of inflation. If college tuition increases at 5% per year, tuition costs will double in 72 divided by 5 or about 14.4 years. Think about it. That means David and Susan need to save much more money for college than they might at first have anticipated.

The Rule of 72 is a simple math shortcut to estimate the effect of any growth rate. The formula is "years to double equals 72 divid-

ed by interest rate." The results you achieve, a doubling of growth shows you the tremendous effect of compounding interest.

What is compound interest? For example, start with \$1 at 10% interest. At the end of one year you have \$1.10 and at the end of year 2 you have \$1.21. The dime earned in the first year starts earning money on its own (a penny). Next year add another dime that starts making pennies, along with the small amount the first penny contributes. Ben Franklin, said by some to be the inventor of the Rule of 72, apparently said: "The money that money earns, earns money."

Compound interest is deceptively small, cumulative growth that is very powerful. No wonder that Einstein is reputed to have called it one of the most powerful forces in the universe.

Don't let the rule of 72 work against you, as it does when you take on high interest debt. At an average interest rate of 18%, the credit card debt doubles in just 4 years (18 X 4 equals 72), quadruples in only 8 years, and keeps escalating with time. The first rule of your financial plan should be to pay off all high interest credit card debt and avoid it like the plague.

Using the Rule of 72 will help you figure out what you need and for how long. Compound interest will be the way you get there. These simple concepts provide the basics of financial planning. Let the Rule of 72 work for you by starting saving now. At a growth rate of 8% per annum, you would double your money in 9 years (8 X 9 equals 72), quadruple your money in 18 years and have 16 times your money in 36 years. No wonder financial planners advise 20-year olds to start a savings plan. Over time, with compound interest, even a small amount of savings consistently set aside when you are in your twenties could make you a millionaire by the time you are retired. But, even if you are older, compound interest works for you and you are never too young or too old to save.

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

# St. Mary's Community

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

## Friday, September 4

### Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID19. Beginning July 17, 2020 Beth Israel Synagogue will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7PM. Check our website calendar ([bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html](http://bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html)) for event details.

## Saturday, September 5

### Outside Yard Sale

7th District Firehouse, 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Table Rental is \$10, additional tables are \$7. For more information, call 301-769-4042, 301-769-2016 or 301-769-2654.

## Sunday, September 6

### Drive Thru Breakfast

St. John's Church; 7:45 - 11:30

Carryout \$5.00 per person, \$20.00 max per family (up to 6). Donations encouraged. The meal will consist of: scrambled eggs, hash browns, two sausages, two bacons, three pan-

cakes. Customers should drive up to the school door where you order & pay. Profits will be split evenly among CCD, St John's School and the Charitable Society, please consider adding a donation. See parish website for more information.

### Family Skate

Leonard Hall Recreation Center; 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Come inside to cool off, bring your own skates or pay to rent. Admission is \$5 per person and \$2.50 for skate rental. All entering the facility, must participate and pay the fee. If you are accompanying your child, but not skating, you must still pay and only one adult per child is allowed - no spectators at this time. Social distancing and max capacity limits are being enforced. Reservations are required to attend. You can reserve multiple Sundays through August using our online registration system. Simply choose the date you would like to register and do so for each person in your family who will be attending. If you choose not to show up for your reservation, you forfeit your payment. Refunds will not be issued. All guests will be required to wear a mask while entering and mov-

ing through the facility. Masks will not be required while you are roller skating. Additional cleaning and sanitation practices are being implemented to ensure a clean space for your family to enjoy roller skating this summer. Please be sure to bring your own water bottle as water fountains will not be available. Food and vending machines will not be available for use. Consuming food is prohibited in the facility.

## Wednesday, September 8

### Wayback Wednesdays

We hope you're loving our weekly video series showing some of the stories that make St. Mary's County's history so unique and interesting. We thought this would be a fun way to bring our closed museums to you while we all keep our social distance. Join us every week for short videos featuring everything from the quirky to the fascinating - tune in! We have several episodes in the playlist! [Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum)

## Ongoing

### Enchanted Summer

Annmarie Garden and Arts Center; August 1 - September 7

"Frolicking Fairy Fun" - a new event w/ all the best parts of the Fairy & Gnome Home Festival transformed into an amped-up, low-touch/no-touch, multimedia, daily, outdoor experience! Details located on the website at [annmariegarden.org](http://annmariegarden.org)

### COVID-19 Appointment-Free Testing

Monday - Friday; 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The St. Mary's County Health Department is now offering COVID-19 testing at the SMCHD Harm Reduction Program Office, located at 46035 Signature Lane in Lexington Park, MD 20653 (co-located with the U-Haul Moving & Storage of Lexington Park). Community members may walk up for testing, parking is available. If you need assistance or any accommodations, please contact the Harm Reduction Program Office at (301) 862-1680. No prior test order is required.

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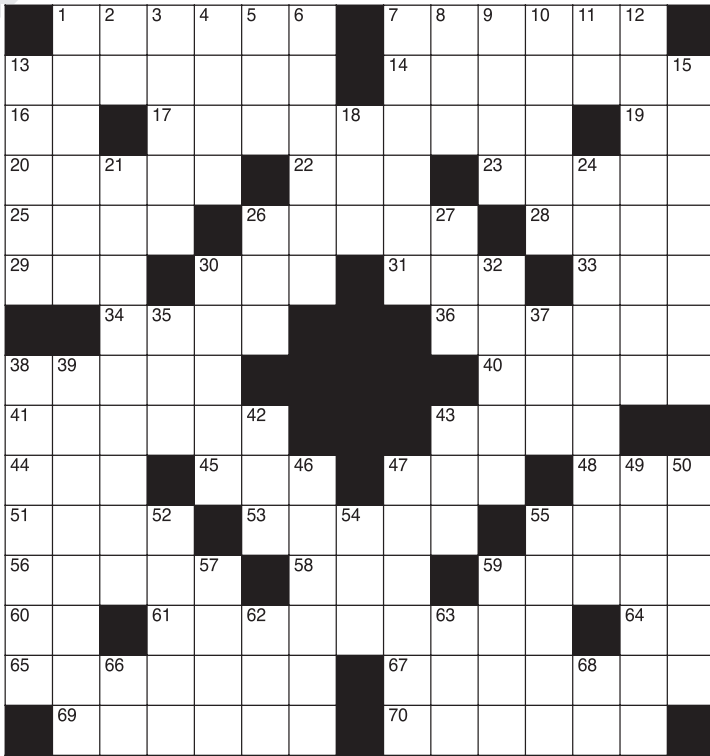
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# GAMES & PUZZLES



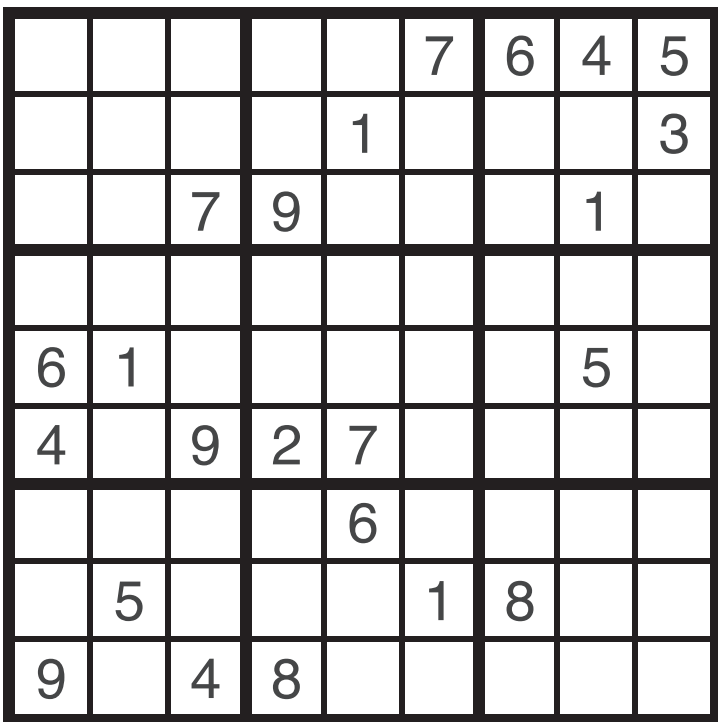
**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Slopes
- 7. Attacks
- 13. One who has left prison
- 14. Goes against
- 16. Atomic #37
- 17. Home of The Beatles
- 19. Mac alternative
- 20. A common boundary with
- 22. Fluid in a plant
- 23. Genus that includes scads
- 25. Longer of the forearm bones
- 26. Gradually disappears
- 28. AI risk assessor
- 29. Type of whale
- 30. Jaws of a voracious animal
- 31. Patriotic women (abbr.)
- 33. Ancient Egyptian God
- 34. Obsessed with one's appearance
- 36. Erase
- 38. A type of smartie
- 40. Nostrils
- 41. Influential French thinker
- 43. Popular K-pop singer
- 44. One point south of due east
- 45. Payroll company
- 47. Moved quickly on foot

- 48. Bar bill
- 51. An idiot
- 53. Indicates silence
- 55. Protein-rich liquids
- 56. Rhythmic patterns
- 58. Scatter
- 59. Belongs to bottom layer
- 60. Impulsive part of the mind
- 61. Carousel
- 64. Type of degree
- 65. Ornamental molding
- 67. Locks in again
- 69. Sounds the same
- 70. Come into view

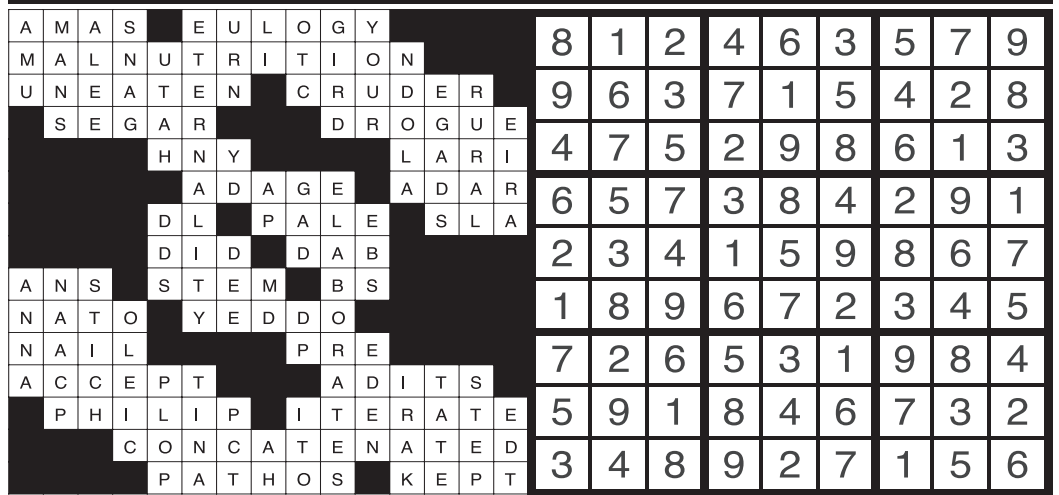
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Speak rapidly
- 2. Trauma center
- 3. River in W. Africa
- 4. Ancient Greek district
- 5. Bulgaria's monetary unit
- 6. Children's ride
- 7. Absorbed liquid
- 8. Markets term
- 9. Retail term recording sales
- 10. Automaton
- 11. Spanish form of "be"
- 12. Divide
- 13. Malaysian sailing boat
- 15. Writers
- 18. Cool!
- 21. Popular tourist attraction studio
- 24. Sets free
- 26. An enthusiastic devotee of sports
- 27. Unhappy
- 30. Alternate term for Holy Scripture
- 32. Influential French scholar
- 35. What thespians do
- 37. Local area network
- 38. Free from contamination
- 39. Coastal region of Canada
- 42. Sun up in New York
- 43. High schoolers' exam
- 46. Fathers
- 47. Call it a career
- 49. Suitable for growing crops
- 50. Rose-red variety of spinel
- 52. Orange-brown in color
- 54. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
- 55. Late TNT sportscaster
- 57. A way to wedge
- 59. Cold, dry Swiss wind
- 62. Hockey players need it
- 63. Something highly prized
- 66. Atomic #45
- 68. Top lawyer



Level: Intermediate

**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**



**Publisher** Thomas McKay  
**Associate Publisher** Eric McKay  
**General Manager** Al Dailey [aldailey@countytimes.net](mailto:aldailey@countytimes.net)  
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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.

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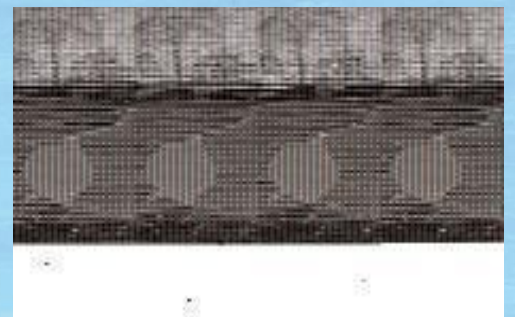
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