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St. Mary's St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020

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St. Mary's Votes BIG

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St. Mary's residents came out in large numbers to vote this year.



LOCAL 4

Colvin, O'Connor push to return recordation tax money to Valley Lee volunteers.



VETERAN'S DAY 11

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POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR TODD EBERLY OF ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND.

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Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

Voter Turnout Nears 75 Percent in St. Mary's

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Like all other Americans, St. Mary's County residents woke up Nov. 4 with no clear winner in the presidential race between President Donald Trump and Democrat challenger Joe Biden since key battleground states were still too close to call and ballots were still be counted.

Maryland's 10 electoral college votes went to Biden, however, and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer retained his 5th District Congressional seat, though his GOP challenger, Calvert resident Chris Palombi clearly won St. Mary's with 26,342 votes to Hoyer's 17,493.

St. Mary's remained solidly red, however, with Trump winning 25,885 votes compared to Biden's 17,417.

Wendy Adkins, the local director of the Board of Elections, said voter turnout was strong at about 60 percent between early voting, Election Day, and mail-in ballots.

The most current number of county residents who voted is 44,851, Adkins said, but she expected that number to increase as more absentee ballots are mailed in and canvassed.

As of Nov. 3 the elections board had received 9,450 absentee ballots with more on the way, Adkins said.

There are 73,818 registered voters in St. Mary's County and with all the ballots combined voter turnout came to 73.5 percent.

Though lines were long at the seven poll-



ing places around the county, the process had no major problems, said Adkins.

"Everything went well, everything went smoothly," Adkins told The County Times. "We'll be done [canvassing ballots] by next Friday, which is certification day."

"I'm honored to once again receive the support of Marylanders in the Fifth District," Hoyer said in a prepared statement. "As we look toward the 117th Congress, I'll continue to champion issues that matter greatly to my constituents, including taking action to address climate change, supporting legislation to reform our broken criminal justice system and address racial inequality in our nation, advocating for legislation to rebuild our infrastructure systems, and protecting our federal civilian workforce."

In the local Board of Education race, at-

large incumbent Cathy Allen easily won reelection against challenger DeForest Rathbone with 30,378 votes to his 6,274.

In the District 2 school board race incumbent Jim Davis held the lead with 20,024 votes against challenger Heather Earhart's 16,296 votes.

In District 4, school board member Mary Washington ran unopposed, earning 33,719 votes.

Circuit Court Judge Joseph Stalanis also ran unopposed and won 33,864 votes.

St. Mary's voters also approved an amendment to the state's constitution that would give more spending power to the state legislature, effectively diluting some of the governor's considerable power over the budget.

There were 25,877 St. Mary's residents

who approved of the measure, with 14,749 opposing it, this despite the county being a bulwark of support for Gov. Larry Hogan, who launched a campaign to oppose Question 1.

Question 1 passed statewide.

Todd Eberly, a political science professor at St. Mary's College of Maryland, said the emphasis on the presidential election took attention away from issues like Question 1.

"People were probably not paying as much attention to the ballot questions," Eberly said. "The way it was worded people probably assumed it was something the General Assembly could do anyway."


Question 2, which allowed for the expansion of gambling into sports and event betting, easily passed in the state and in St. Mary's with 27,738 residents approving of it, while 14,392 voted against.

Eberly said it would likely be days until the nation would know who the next president would be, though Biden would win the popular vote.

Still there were electoral college paths to victory for both candidates; Biden would find a hostile Senate held by Republicans, he said, while Trump would still have to contend with a Democratic House of Representatives.

"Divided government continues and with that comes the gridlock," Eberly said. "This election will settle who the president is, but it won't settle anything else."

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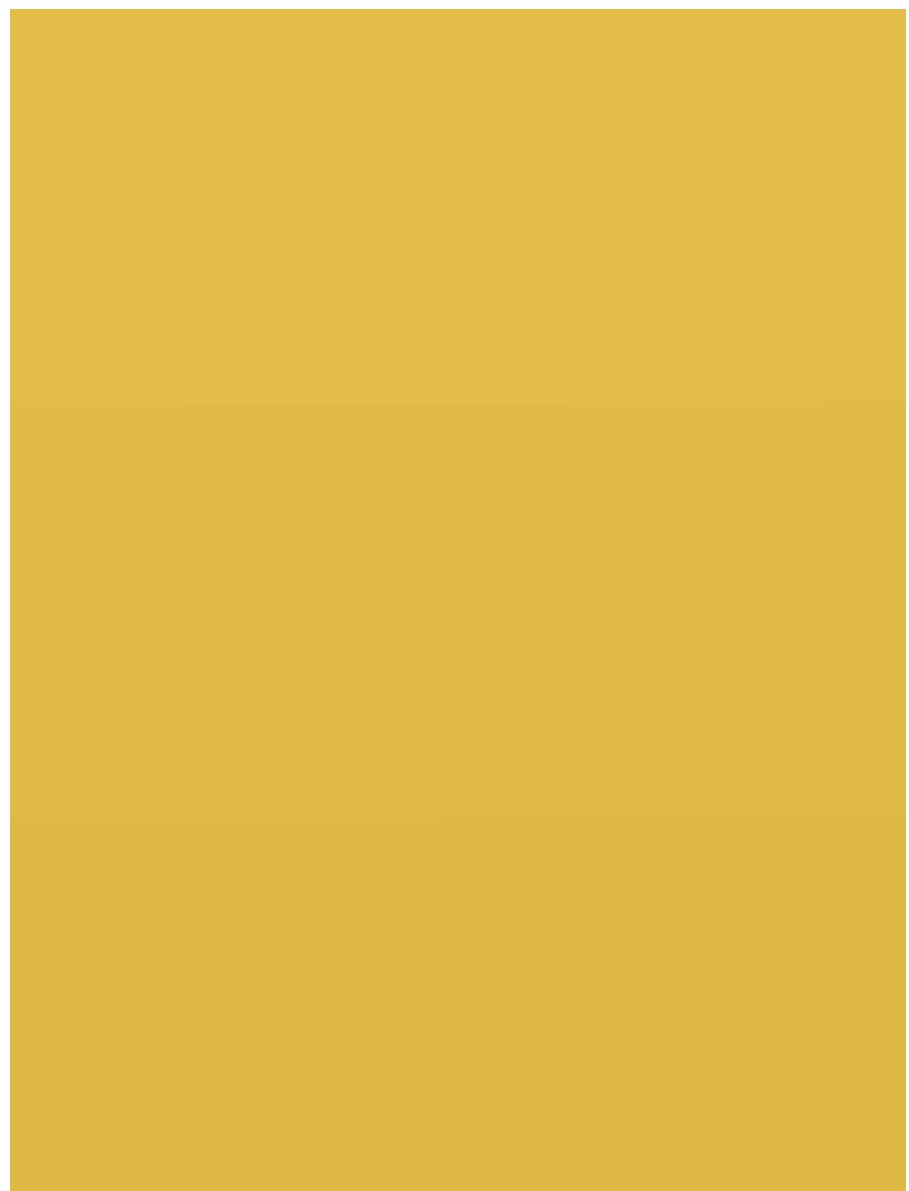
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Colvin, O'Connor Push to Return Taxes to Valley Lee Volunteers



Valley Lee Volunteer Fire Department

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County voted unanimously Tuesday to support state legislation that would make local volunteer fire and EMS companies exempt from paying the county recordation tax, a sum collected when securing a loan.

But Commissioner Eric Colvin and Commissioner John O'Connor both implored their colleagues on the board to return the recordation tax collected from the 2nd District Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad – a sum of \$84,000 – to support their operations.

The \$84,000 is the amount the volunteer group paid on their loan to build their new facility, which Colvin called “much needed” so they can house new equipment and apparatus.

Colvin explained the state collects the tax and gives it directly to the counties where it goes into its general fund.

“It seems wrong to me that we would build our operating fund off of taxing our volunteer fire departments and rescue squads,” Colvin said. “They asked for this money back; \$84,000 is a lot of money for them... to be able to provide services to the community.”

“Our emergency services are struggling right now across the county and we're making it harder for them by taking money away from them.”

Colvin said the commissioners had the authority to return the money to the Valley Lee volunteers but he did not have enough votes on the commissioner board to do so, despite the earlier unanimous vote.

“This tax should not happen, we need to fix this,” Colvin said. “It's wrong to build our budget off of tax-

ing these departments.”

Commissioner Mike Hewitt said in response to Colvin's plea: “It's about fairness.” “Bay District paid it when they [built their new station], Mechanicsville paid it when [they built their new facility,]” Hewitt said. “If the legislators can get this through in Annapolis, it's the ideal time for us to make it retroactive and help everybody who's paid that tax.”

O'Connor said the time was now to return the money to the Valley Lee department, especially since recordation taxes from those organizations were rare.

“We don't need the legislature to do this, that's just passing the buck,” O'Connor said. “Our fire departments and rescue squads are not popping up buildings left and right.”

He said he encouraged volunteer companies to check with legal counsel to ascertain whether they were tax exempt.

“You may have paid a tax you didn't have to pay,” O'Connor said. “This is double taxation; we're taxing the people in order for them to get taxed again to provide a service.”

“It's absolutely absurd, the right thing can be done here.”

The EMS system in the county was “collapsing,” O'Connor said, and it needed all the funding available to do its job.

The county is already paying for contract medics to fill daytime hours at volunteer rescue squads.

The commissioners did not vote to return the money but did act unanimously on a motion from Commissioners Todd Morgan to allow county employees who are qualified emergency responders more time off work to serve in life-saving capacities.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

More COVID Funding for Local Restaurants

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved the use of grant funding of nearly \$800,000 from the state to support the operations and employees of restaurants at their Nov. 3 meeting, but economic development officials admitted that the county's own restaurant assistance program had few takers.

The money comes from Gov. Larry Hogan's \$250 million Maryland Strong Economic Recovery Initiative announced late last month, \$50 million of which was to be used for a restaurant relief fund state-wide.

Chris Kaselemis, director of the county's Department of Economic Development, said the county's relief effort established months ago only allowed for locally or regionally owned restaurants and chains to apply for assistance.

The state's grant money was to be offered more broadly, Kaselemis said.

"If you're a restaurant in St. Mary's County you're eligible for this grant," Kaselemis said. "We excluded the national chains before [on the original relief effort]... and we've only had 21 applicants."

Kaselemis said there were roughly 200 restaurants in St. Mary's who could

have applied for county assistance, but the vast majority had not.

"Holy smokes," exclaimed Commissioner Mike Hewitt. "The folks I've talked to out there say they're hurting."

Commissioner Todd Morgan said it was necessary to draw a distinction between restaurants and fast food establishments.

"When I look at the little restaurants around here who are struggling, those are the ones I'm most concerned about," Morgan said. "I'm not worried about whether the big chains are making it."

Part of Hogan's requirements are that the money dispensed to the counties must be spent by Dec. 31.

Kaselemis said his department had planned to open the application process for the state grant money and Nov. 9 close the process on Dec. 4, leaving just three weeks to process all the applications.

Hewitt made the motion to accept the grant money in the amount of \$779,674, while Morgan added an amendment that for the first 10 days the priority would be for local restaurants.

The motion passed unanimously as amended.

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Commissioners Approve Bid to Extend Airport Runway

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A Gaithersburg-based construction company has been chosen to extend the runway at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport at a cost of \$4.8 million.

The bid was sent out for solicitation in May, procurement officer Brandon Hayden told The Commissioners of St. Mary's County at their Nov. 2 meeting, where more than 400 vendors had the opportunity to take advantage of it.

There were just six interested companies who took part in a virtual meeting on the solicitation in June, Hayden said, and the county received two bids by July 1.

Highway and Safety Services Inc. was the bidder chosen, Hayden said, as the best of the two to complete the project.

The other bidder was Penn Ave Construction, LLC of Calvert County, Hayden told commissioners.

"The second bid was \$5.5 million," Hayden said of Penn Ave's asking price to do the job.

"So, these guys were significantly

cheaper," said Commissioner Mike Hewitt.

Hayden said the Montgomery County contractor had done similar work at other airports and under the supervision of the same airport consultant the county hired to oversee the operations here.

"And they're bonded, and they can do the work and we won't have a runway issue in two years the asphalt gets soft," quipped Commissioner Todd Morgan.

This would be the first time the contractor had worked for St. Mary's County government, though, Hayden confirmed.

The county has long planned to extend the runway at the airport to allow for more and larger aircraft to land there; the airport has become a key economic development driver in the county with new hangar space and technology development occurring on a regular basis for civilian markets.

The bid approval passed unanimously.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



St. Mary's Regional Airport Runway 11

County Holds Off Privatizing STS Buses

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The county was to have accepted bids to privatize and run its STS bus transit system but the Commissioners of St. Mary's County voted last week by a 4-to-1 margin to defer bidding to allow the county's Department of Public Works and Transportation continue improving the system, which has been the subject of many complaints over the years.

Commissioner John O'Connor was the dissenting vote, saying that for various reasons the process has been dragged out for years and that the department has been too slow in making improvements.

"For six years we've heard the same thing," O'Connor said. "We're going to get the app, we're going to get the stops... STS has been mismanaged for a long time."

O'Connor called the request to not put out a bid because of COVID-19, "a horrible one" since there were contractors who were willing now to answer a bid.

"Saving 56 percent in overtime is great but we still don't have the stops, we still don't have the things there that need to be there," O'Connor continued. "How long do we have to wait... for all of these things to happen again, when a contractor can just come it and do it?"

Public works chief John Deatrick and his deputy Allison Swint told commissioners that things had improved at STS over the past several months and that they wanted more time to consolidate those improvements.

Among them were plans to roll out a mobile app and routing software



to improve service; Swint said other ideas for improvement included route studies to ensure they were being used efficiently as well as voice response software so riders could easily confirm or cancel appointments for bus pick-up.

Under the current system, STS picks up riders as they flag down the bus or pick up residents who have made appointments.

O'Connor was critical of statements continually made by public works staff about looking into providing bus stops but none having been activated.

Public works officials said they were working on getting bus stops.

Swint said the latest analysis showed that the county could still provide the service economically.

"It will cost more to contract services than it will in-house," Swint said.

Deatrick said the reduction in overtime since the novel coronavirus for bus drivers had led to an increase in morale.

"People are happier on the job and we're having fewer accidents," Deatrick said. "Just in general things are working a lot better at STS."

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Juvenile Charged As Adult in Burchmart Robbery

On Nov. 2 at approximately 11:55 p.m., troopers from the Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack responded to a 911 call for a robbery at the Burchmart, 25355 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown. The investigation revealed the suspect entered the establishment, displayed a knife and attempted to take money from the cash register. The suspect was unsuccessful, and an employee produced a knife. The suspect then fled the establishment.

While troopers were responding, the caller provided a description of the suspect. Troopers and deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office re-

sponded to the area and quickly located the suspect walking away from the area. Upon contact with the suspect, he was still in possession of the knife used in the commission of the crime. The suspect is identified as George Henry Wilson, 17, of Leonardtown.

Due to the suspect being a minor, the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services was contacted. It was determined Wilson would be charged as an adult. Wilson was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center and charged with armed robbery, robbery, Assault 1st Degree and Assault 2nd Degree.

St. Mary's Man Wounded in Calvert County Shooting

On October 31 at approximately 11:49 p.m., troopers from the Maryland State Police Prince Frederick Barrack and deputies from the Calvert County Sheriff's Office responded to the CalvertHealth Medical Center Emergency Room in Prince Frederick for the report of a shooting victim who had arrived in a civilian vehicle.

Troopers learned that the victim was shot during an altercation at a party in the 7500 block of Wayside Drive in Sunderland and that he was immediately trans-

ported to the hospital by other partygoers. The 24-year-old shooting victim from Lexington Park was subsequently transported by medevac to a trauma center for continued treatment. Criminal investigators from the Maryland State Police Criminal Enforcement Division immediately responded and have assumed the investigation, which is active and ongoing.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is encouraged to contact the Prince Frederick Barrack at 410-535-1400.



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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

Pedestrian Collision Under Investigation

On November 1, 2020, at approximately 12:32 a.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 22000 block of Three Notch Road, in the area of Chancellor's Run Road in California, for the reported collision involving a pedestrian. Upon arrival a male victim, later identified as Manuel Enrique Salamanca, age 18 of Lusby, was located lying in the roadway. The St. Mary's County Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene and continued the investigation.

Preliminary investigation determined Salamanca was in the pedestrian crosswalk of northbound Three Notch Road, when a black colored, four-door Nissan passenger car struck the victim and failed to remain at the

scene of the accident. The victim was transported to an area trauma center and is in stable condition. The striking vehicle sustained front-end damage from the collision.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Corporal Vincent Pontorno at (301) 475-4200 extension 72337 or by email at Vincent.Pontorno@st-marysmd.com.

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On View Arrests:

Drug Arrest- On October 16, 2020, Cpl. Pesante responded to the 30200 block of Memory Hill Lane in Charlotte Hall, for the reported CDS complaint. Investigation determined the complainant located suspected heroin hidden in the clothing of **Tracy Lynn Pickeral**, age 57 of Charlotte Hall. Pickeral was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana.



Tracy Pickeral

Trespassing- On October 22, 2020, Dep. Chase responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, for the reported trespassing. Investigation determined **Shawn Michael Miles**, age 28 of no fixed address, was at the business approaching customers.



Shawn Miles

Miles had previously been served a notice not to trespass, and was asked several times to leave the area and he refused to do so. Miles was arrested and charged with Trespass: Private Property

Assault- On October 22, 2020, Dep. Palmer was in the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, when he was advised of an assault involving a machete. Contact was made with the victim who stated **Michelle Noele Dickerson**, age 32 of Lexington Park, brandished a machete during an argument.



Michelle Dickerson

Investigation determined Dickerson and the victim were involved in a verbal argument when Dickerson exited a vehicle and approached the victim carrying a machete. The machete was recovered and Dickerson was arrested and charged with Assault 1st Degree and Deadly Weapon Conceal.

Editor's Note:

The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated.

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Local Veterans Get New Medical Clinic

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

After years of waiting the new community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC) in Charlotte Hall is finally open to serve the needs of local veterans.

At 17,000 square feet in size, it offers primary care as well as numerous specialty care options such as optometry, audiology, physical therapy, mental health counseling and telehealth options where patients can use video sessions to get diagnoses of ailments from doctors in real time.

The new building has all of its services on one floor, explained Dr. Narasimham Iswara, lead physician in charge of the facility, which is much different than the old facility.

The old CBOC was located at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home and had an elevator to access it.

“So there’s no going up that rickety elevator like in the old facility,” said Gloria Hairston, spokesperson for the D.C., Virginia area Veterans Affairs.

Iswara said the new facility far surpasses the old in terms of accessibility and ability to deliver care.

“Size wise, [the new facility] is phenomenally big,” Iswara said. “For services, we have much more opportunity to do that.”

There are multiple rooms to provide primary care as well as for all the other specialties; they are spacious and bright and equipped with state-of-the-art medical technology.

The old facility was one hallway with a few rooms for care, Iswara said, and the physician’s office served as the exam room.

In the new facility, all of the exam and treatment rooms are separated from the section that houses the physicians, nurses and technicians and their workspace.

The physicians at the new CBOC also offer specialized care for women veterans as well, Hairston said.

The construction of the new CBOC was the result of a process that included focus groups of veterans talking about their needs; veterans had



long complained about having to go to VA facilities in locations such as Washington, D.C. to get basic care.

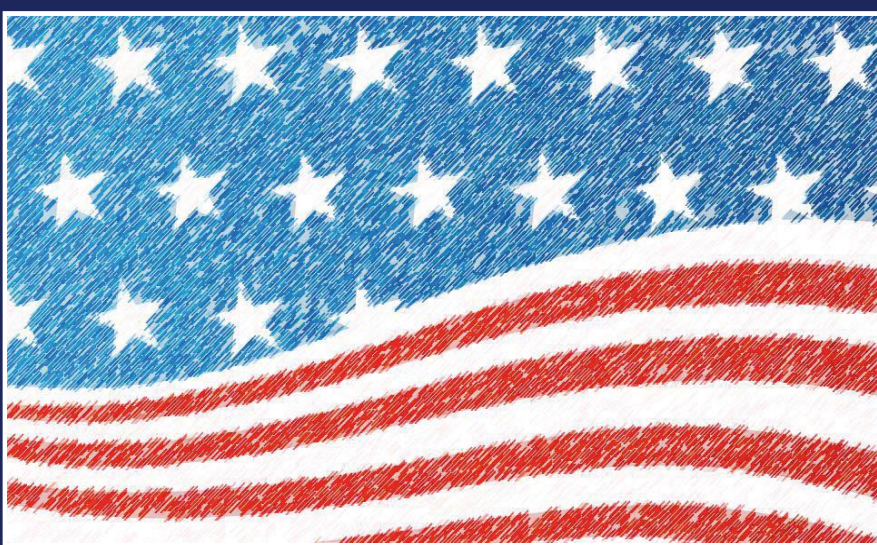
This facility is the only stand-alone CBOC of its kind in the D.C., Virginia region; all others are attached to a larger VA facility.

“It’s not just what the VA wants,” Hairston said. “We did focus groups

with the veterans, we captured the veterans’ voice.

“This facility shows the commitment of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide care... in a state-of-the-art facility. Our veterans deserve it; we nailed it this time.”

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Parade Honors Charlotte Hall Veterans



The residents and staff at Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home got a wonderful surprise awaiting them on Sunday, Oct. 25. A parade of approximately 40 vehicles to include police, fire, rescue, a motorcycle,

classic cars and trucks arrived to honor the veterans.

Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary George W. Owings, Jr. stood in the back of a pickup truck, in the rain, saluting to

all of the residents as they parade route took them around the entire facility.

The Commissioners Office of Leonardtown coordinated the parade with leadership at Charlotte

Hall Veterans Home. The residents truly enjoyed the show of support and seeing so many participants from the community out on such a rainy day.



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Crosby Remembers Being on Front Lines of Terror War

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Before he became a state delegate here in St. Mary's, Brian Crosby was in the U.S. Army fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan, first as an airborne infantryman and then as a Ranger in special operations.

It was one of the seminal experiences of his life.

He started as a platoon leader, a lieutenant, in the 173rd Airborne Brigade and counted himself fortunate to serve in such a unit.

"The talent for the lieutenants was the best in the Army," Crosby, the representative for District 29 B in the Maryland General Assembly said. "I learned about tactics, how to control assets and maneuver on the ground.

"That experience was invaluable; that was where I was in my very first firefight."

He found himself and his unit working in Wardak Province in Afghanistan in 2012, patrolling a rugged expanse of territory and trying to establish good relations with the local people who eked out a living in a warzone, just trying to survive.

It was an area that was not unlike the mountainous regions of the United States, he said.

"The biggest misnomer is that Afghanistan is all desert, the southern portion is like that, but a lot of it is similar to Colorado," Crosby said. "It gets cold and there's high elevations; your cardio has to be up there."

His patrols there focused on what is known as COIN, or counter insurgency, and that meant trying to convince local tribespeople to support the efforts of the United States and oppose the Taliban.

He was 28 years old.

"We were in the middle of absolutely nowhere," Crosby said. "You were trying to build rapport with the people; it's really no different than politics in some ways."

Fully equipped, he and his men carried about 65 pounds of equipment between weapons, ammunition, water and other gear.

He would make contact with people who had no contact at all with others living in a village just 10 minutes away.

"There was nothing to connect one village to another," Crosby said. "It is extreme poverty." Things have changed for the better in Afghanistan since he served and fought there, Crosby said, but change is slow.

"More women are involved, elections are taking place," Crosby said. "But what has changed there, strategically?"



Crosby's father pins on his Ranger tab.

During the day, when soldiers were trying to win hearts and minds, the Taliban was waiting to go back to the villages the soldiers had visited.

The local people were just trying to stay alive, Crosby said, and would agree to either the promises of the Americans or the threats of the Taliban.

"For them, it's survival," Crosby said. "I'm sure they don't want any more fighting in their back yard.

"When the sun goes down and you're not there, the Taliban is."

Aside from forging ties with villagers and hoping to deny territory to the Taliban, Crosby and his soldiers helped secure supply lines which were critical to keeping the Kabul government in power.

Direct contact with the Taliban was inevitable, he found himself being shot at and returning fire, fighting to stay alive.

"You're trained to do it," Crosby said of combat. "It's the fastest, slowest time period in your life.

"There's a rush and you're afraid, it's very much about survival."

When on patrol, Crosby and his soldiers had armored vehicles with them, providing both cover from incoming fire and superior firepower.

"They gave you such an advan-

tage," Crosby said.

Crosby soon went through Ranger School, a 62-day leadership course that is among the toughest elite soldiering training regimens in the world and earned the coveted Ranger Tab, setting him apart as a distinguished soldier.

But his journey with the Rangers did not end there as he soon tried out for a billet in the famed 75th Ranger Regiment, a premier special operations unit.

"You have to get a recommendation from your battalion commander to even tryout for selection to the Ranger Regiment," Crosby said.

He won the tan beret which tops off the service dress of a Ranger and was proud to serve with some of the finest soldiers in the world.

He was driven to work with the best, he said and be counted among them.

"In the end they were all part of the team," Crosby said. "They were all ultra-alpha.

"You don't want to let anyone down."

His job quickly changed in special operations.

"It's a different mission set," Crosby said. "You're going after high-value targets and you're targeting them

daily."

That included insurgent networks and their leaders.

Crosby commanded a sniper platoon and was heavily involved in intelligence gathering, facing a tenacious and hardened enemy.

Crosby said he was confident in his and other Ranger's ability to fight and win against the Taliban, but he gave them their due.

"In combat, the enemy gets a say," Crosby said. "In combat, you've got to be adaptable and the enemy will do what they need to survive.

"It's an ever-changing landscape; they're the reason we're in a 20-year conflict."

He spent two years in the 3rd Ranger Battalion and continued his service in the National Guard, mustering out in August.

He regards Veterans' Day as a time to reflect on his service, but also on those with whom he served.

"I'll check out some of my guys on Facebook," Crosby said. "I'll think about doing all those cool things with these people.

"It's about people who had an impact on my life far greater than they realize. It really changed the course of my life; I'm indebted to them."

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VETERANS DAY

November 11, 2020



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

CalvertHealth celebrates Veterans Day by honoring those who have served our nation in times of war and peace. We are thankful for the freedoms and liberties we enjoy because of the men and women who have bravely worn our country's uniform.

CalvertHealth proudly employs veterans from all branches of service. In addition to our gratefulness for their service, we also want to thank our physicians, nurses, techs, support staff and countless others who will be working on Wednesday, November 11 caring for the needs of our patients and their families.



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Veterans of Helen

35th Annual Observance Program



The Commanding Officer of NAS Patuxent River, MD, CAPT John Brabazon will serve as our guest speaker and Ernie Bell will be serving as our master of ceremonies. There will be limited available seating so consider bringing your most comfortable lawn chair and

dress for the weather conditions. The event is conducted outdoors.

The ceremony will be conducted at the veterans' monument in Helen, Nov. 11, 2020 starting at 2p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Veterans of Helen.



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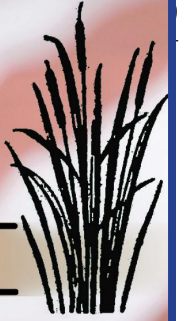
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Leonardtown's Virtual Veteran's Day



While the Annual Veterans Day celebration will look differently in 2020 because of COVID-19 precautions, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Commissioners of Leonardtown are proud to present a virtual celebration of our nation's heroes.

There will not be a parade or any public events but, beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, the community is invited to visit www.visitleonardtownmd.com or the Town of Leonardtown or St. Mary's County Government Facebook pages to watch this enjoyable and inspiring virtual tribute.

The virtual celebration will include rousing video messages from dignitaries, community groups, first responders, and many others. There will also be special feature segments that highlight veterans' topics of interest, musical presentations from

local talent, and patriotic readings.

At 11 a.m., the tribute continues with a special ceremony commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the end of World War II and the Victory at Iwo Jima. Guest speakers for this event include Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, St. Mary's County Commissioner President Randy Guy, Leonardtown Mayor Dan Burris and many others. This observance will conclude with a wreath-laying ceremony and memorial tributes to local families who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

For more information about the Veterans Day Virtual Celebration, please contact Brandy Blackstone with the Town of Leonardtown at brandy.blackstone@leonardtownmd.gov or ALisa Casas with St. Mary's County Government at alisa.casas@stmarysmd.com.



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OF THE WEEK

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And remember, if there is room in the heart, there is room in the house.

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/tri-county-animal-shelter>

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Free Document Shredding Event

You Got It - You Bring It - We Shred It! The Department of Public Works & Transportation will be conducting the 10th annual community document shredding event Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020, at the St. Andrews Landfill (44837 St. Andrews Church Road) from 8 a.m. to noon.

This community event will provide residents with the opportunity to have their confidential, private, and important documents destroyed by a professional shredding service at no cost, turning sensitive documents into confetti-sized pieces. This type of shredding ensures that confidential material cannot be copied. All paper material shredded during the event will be recycled.

Please refrain from bringing materials that are not confidential, such as newspapers and magazines (acceptable at the six Convenience Centers), as they will cause the truck to fill up more quickly. The shredder can handle simple staples, paper clips, spiral notebooks and thin metal prongs; however, it cannot accept three-ring binders. Please limit

the number of boxes you bring to 3 standard bankers' boxes (10"H x 12"W x 15"D) per person so we can serve as many residents as possible. A total of 9,300 pounds (4.65 tons) of paper was collected from over 225 vehicles at the last event held Sept. 28, 2019.

COVID-19 precautions remain in effect. Face coverings are required by all who participate in the shredding event. Social distancing of a minimum of 6 feet by those attending the Shred event is required. Residents may encounter delays due to the expected large numbers of residents at this event. Please be patient and adhere to staff's instruction while on-site and remain in your vehicle in the drop-off area until staff directs you to unload. For information on approximate wait times, residents are encouraged to call 301-475-4200, ext. 3551.

For more information about the Department of Public Works & Transportation, please call 301-475-4200, ext. 3517.

FROM ABSENCE TO PRESENCE

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Saturday, November 21, 2020 @ 11:00 a.m.

The Commemorative is an immersive art experience that honors the story of resilience, persistence, and creative problem solving that defined the lives of the enslaved individuals that lived in St. Mary's City between 1750 and 1815. Constructed on the St. Mary's College of Maryland campus, the Commemorative provides visitors with the space to acknowledge and learn from the lives of those who once toiled there, while providing a place for reflection and introspection about the nature of slavery and its connections to modern society.

This virtual dedication will feature a keynote message by nationally-known writer Jelani Cobb. This artistic construction being erected near the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium features commissioned work by artists Norman Lee and Shane Allbritton of RE:Site and poet Quenton Baker.

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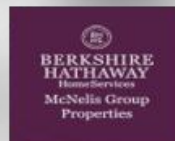
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The County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to guyleonard@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

In Remembrance

Martha Jane Smith Greenwell



Martha Jane Smith Greenwell (August 27, 1950 – October 29, 2020) died peacefully at her home Thursday evening with her loving husband at her side.

Martha Jane "Janie" is survived by her devoted husband, Stephen Wayne Greenwell, whom she married on December 14, 1996 at St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church in Hollywood, MD.

She is also survived by her sister, Sally Ann Mitchell, of Severna Park, MD, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Joseph Smith and Martha Genevieve Thompson Smith.

Prior to her retirement, she was a facilities manager for the Mercantile Banking Corporation in Towson, MD. Her home and gardens were her passions in retirement and both of these passions were self evident in everything she did.

All arrangements are private.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Second District Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 1, Valley Lee, MD 20692.

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

Bobbie Kay Ridge Hall



Bobbie Kay Ridge Hall (May 27, 1943 -October 28, 2020) went home to be with her lord and savior Jesus, surrounded by her loving family.

Kay led a very active life with family, church, work and cooking. Family and friends were Kay's passion and delight. Kay shared her smile while working in retail at the Guarantee Shop, as a teacher's aide at C.B. Greer, and 15 years with 1st National Bank of St. Mary's as the Customer Service Representative.

You could always find her in the kitchen making your favorite food. Kay was known for her smile and cooking especially her homemade desserts she made for the HVFD annual dinners. No one went away from Kay's home hungry. She loved to travel and visit her family in Tennessee, Mississippi, Florida and Georgia. She called everyone "hun" and always blessed your heart.

In 1972, Kay married the love of her life Steve Hall. She is survived by her loving, devoted husband, Steve Hall; her daughter, Dana (Nick) Goldstein, and her step-son Kevin (Denise) Hall; her grandchildren, Tyler, Trey, Trent, Ashley and Andrew; and her great-grandchildren, Sophie Claire, Addie Grace, Logan, and Lucy; her sisters, Brenda "my older little sister" R. Gilley, Milton, FL., and preceded in death by her identical twin, Alice Gay (Buddy) Floyd, Brunswick, GA.; nephews and niece, Eddy, Keith, Danny Gilley, Steven and Brad Floyd and their families.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent in her name to Hollywood United Methodist Church, St. John's Catholic Church of Hollywood, MD and Hospice of St. Mary's.

Richard Abraham



Richard Abraham (aka Rocco, Richy, Abe, Dick, Chief) passed away on October 24, 2020 in Washington, DC. He is survived by his wife, Margret Johnston Abraham, whom he married in 1959; his sons Michael Abraham, Richard Abraham, and Joseph Abraham; grandchildren Elizabeth, A.J., Meghann, and Jessica Abraham. Richard was born in Wilkes-Barre, PA on May 12, 1930 to Michael and Sadie Barrouk Abraham. He was predeceased by his parents and siblings June, Eddie, Catherine, and Joseph; and his best friend, cousin Joseph "Rico" Morrash.

Richard was a "first generation" American. His family were Orthodox Syrians who fled the great massacre of Christians by the Turks. Richard was baptized as a baby at St. Mary's Syrian Orthodox Church in Wilkes-Barre. Richard's mother, Sadie, died of pleurisy when he was 6 years old; his father, Michael, was a coal miner and died of black lung disease. Richard and his siblings grew up in extreme poverty, sometimes placed in orphanages when their father was ill. As a kid Richard set pins in a bowling alley and helped his godfather collect scrap metal to earn money. He attended Myers High School.

In 1949 Richard enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was stationed at Fort Lewis when he volunteered to go to Japan as a part of the post WWII occupation forces. When the Korean War broke out, his 25th Infantry Division, 27th Regiment was the second sent in to push back the North Koreans. Richard was on the front lines of the infantry; he saw his friend Scotty's head blown off; he was sitting beside his sergeant when a sniper killed him. Richard was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, Occupation Medal (Japan), Combat Infantry Badge, (ROK) Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Korean Service Medal w/3 Bronze

service stars, and United Nations Service Medal. He completed his Army service as a Corporal.

In 1954 Richard joined the U.S. Navy and became a "Tin Can" destroyer sailor, serving on the USS Delong; the USS M.C. Fox; the USS H.J. Ellison; and the USS Richard E. Byrd. During the Cuban Missile Crisis his ship purposely collided with a ship trying to breach the U.S. blockade. He completed his 20 years military service as a Chief Petty Officer.

Richard started his college education while in the Navy; when he retired he became a full-time student at Bloomsburg State College, earning a Masters in Education. He taught high school biology, earth sciences, and math.

In 1987, Richard and his wife returned to her home territory at White Point Beach, Leonardtown, MD. They loved to travel, criss-crossing the United States many times to see the national parks; then trips to Norway, Italy, France, Spain, Greece, and Bulgaria.

Richard felt that his greatest accomplishment was rising from childhood poverty to a comfortable old age. He loved his sons and took pride in his long marriage to Margaret.

Richard has asked that memorial contributions be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or to The Disabled Veterans of America, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301. The family will hold a Memorial Gathering at the family home. His ashes will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Angelina Theresa "Lina" Smith



Angelina Theresa "Lina" Smith, 85 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on April 6, 2020 at her home with her loving family at her side.

She was born on December 3, 1934 in Queens, NY to the late Giovanni Cardascia and Maria Linsalata Cardascia.

After living in Portsmouth, New Hampshire for many years, Lina moved back to Maryland and eventually settled in St. Mary's County in 2006. She was a loving aunt who enjoyed spending time with her family. She loved going to the beach, especially along the northeastern coast line of New Hampshire, Maine and Nova Scotia where she found peace and tranquility. She was a fantastic baker who specialized in desserts, notably her cherry cheesecake and homemade bread and butter. She enjoyed gardening and helped to maintain a beautiful flower garden while living at Cedar Lane Retirement community. She also enjoyed antique shopping, bargain hunting and collecting little knick-knacks mostly of angels.

Lina also had a passion for birds she



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In Remembrance

loved her cockatiel "Danny" and over the years raised several different varieties of finches, parakeets, and cockatiels.

Lina is survived by many nieces and nephews and extended family from all over the United States who brought her much joy and happiness throughout her life. In addition to her parents she is also preceded in death by her husband, William Smith; sisters, Lola Statler, Portia O'Brien, and Mary Anne Pulvirenti, and her brother, Frank Cardascia.

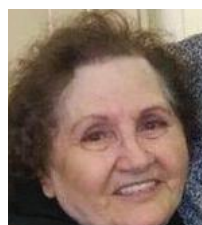
A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend David Beaubien on Friday, November 13, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 22800 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Cemetery in Mechanicsville, MD.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that you consider making a donation to Cedar Lane Retirement Community, 22680 Cedar Lane Court, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or Historic St. Mary's City Commission, P.O. Box 39, St. Mary's City, MD 20686.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Linda Kathleen Aicher



Linda Kathleen Aicher, 82, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away peacefully on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Linda was born on September 27, 1938, in Trenton, New Jersey, to the late Albert Feole and Linda (Perci) Feole.

Always one to follow her heart, Linda met and married her forever love, Kenneth Aicher and together they celebrated over 39 years of marriage before his passing in 2003. Together, they raised six (6) children, Cyndi, Vicki, Kenney, Brian, Stacy and Jennifer.

She was a wonderful woman who loved her family. She adored having everyone together for a family dinner. Besides her love of cooking, Linda loved The Waltons, especially John Boy (Richard Thomas), and her visits to Walton's Mountain. She made some very dear friends there. Linda loved music and dancing. She was crazy about Elvis and The Jersey Boys, especially Tommy (Vincent Piazza). Linda was proud of her beautiful family and the love that has been passed down for generations. She found great joy in the laughter and bright eyes of her beloved grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Her bright smile and quick wit will be dearly missed. To know Linda was to know a kind, loving soul. Memories of her inherent joy will last a lifetime for her family and friends.

Linda is survived by her six (6) children, Cynthia Aicher Madewell (Rodney) of Leonardtown, MD, Victoria Aicher Norris (Chris) of Leonardtown, MD, Kenneth

Aicher, Jr. of Leonardtown, MD, Brian Aicher, Sr. of Mechanicsville, MD, Stacy Lynn Aicher (Kevin) of Little Torch Key, FL and Jennifer Lynn Aicher (Jeffrey) of Mechanicsville, MD; fourteen (14) grandchildren, Jessica, Alyssa, Kayla, Corey, Christopher, Stephen, Becky, Kenney, Erica, Nicole, Brian, Meghan, David and Haley; and sixteen (16) great-grandchildren. Her brother, Albert Feole and many loving nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Aicher, Sr., her parents, Albert and Linda Feole, her sisters, Virginia, Dee and Debi; and her brothers, Buzzie and Earl.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to be made to the caretakers of their beloved mother/grandmother, <https://gf.me/u/y6w7mw>.

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

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

Joseph Emerson "Lindy" McKay



Joseph Emerson "Lindy" McKay, age 89 of Ridge, MD died October 28, 2020.

Born August 28, 1931 in Ridge, MD he was the son of Claude Ignatius

McKay and Mary Beatrice Peacock.

He was dubbed with the nickname "Lindy" as a toddler. He was born around the time that Charles Lindburgh, the famous aviator who made the first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean, had his son kidnapped. The proprietor of a store near Lindy's home started calling him "Little Lindy" and the nickname carried throughout his lifetime.

He attended Great Mills High School. Lindy joined the National Guard in 1951 and in 1952 was drafted into the U.S. Army. He trained at Camp Pickett, VA in infantry skills, marksmanship, survival and medical training. He was sent to Korea as a combat medic with the 224th Infantry Regiment at Punchbowl, SATAERI, Kumhwa and Chorwon Valley from May 1953 until April 1954. He was one of many who received a Korean War Service Medal and Letter of Appreciation from the President of the Republic of Korea, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the war and thanking him for his service to their country.

He was a member of American Legion Post 255, Ridge for 68 years and was an honorary life member. He was selected as Post 255 "Legionnaire of the Year" in 1994 and 2009. He served as Post Commander for two years and remained an active member, most recently serving on the Post Executive Committee until his illness.

He was a member of the Forty and Eight (40/8), Voiture Locale 456, a national veterans group dedicated to the needs of its

fellowman raising funds and supporting various child welfare programs, nursing scholarships, aid to veterans, Americanism and the Carville Star.

Lindy was an avid ball player for many years. He played baseball and softball. In 1951 he was voted the most outstanding player in the Charles-St. Mary's County Baseball League for hitting the most doubles, most Home Runs and most runs scored.

In October 1984 he was inducted into the St. Mary's Slow Pitch Softball Hall of Fame where his glove remains on display.

In recent years his primary interest was his grandchildren whom he loved dearly.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Shirley Ann Fenhagen McKay and their four sons, Joseph Warren "Herbie" McKay, Ridge, MD, Chris Dale McKay (Lori), Scotland, MD, Kevin Gerard McKay (Tina), Scotland, MD, and Kim Loubertus McKay, Scotland, MD and Kim's fiancé Karen White of Hollywood, MD; five grandchildren, Kayla Ann McKay, Kurt Anthony McKay, Kyle Robert McKay, Kole Harper McKay, and Conner "C.J." Little.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Jean Lengel and two infant sons, triplet brothers of son Kevin.

The family will receive friends on November 5, 2020 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Michaels Church, Ridge, MD. An American Legion Service will be held at 6:45 followed by prayers at 7:00p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on November 6, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michaels Church. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. Pallbearers will be: Kurt McKay, Kyle McKay, "C.J." Little, Ronnie Lengel, Leo Peacock, and Danny Raley.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be made in his name to the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 456, Ridge, MD 20680 or Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Joseph Randolph Atchison



Joseph Randolph Atchison, 90, of Prince Frederick, MD died on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

Joseph was born in Waldorf, MD, later raising his family in Temple Hills, MD. He enjoyed

nature walks, attending country music events, attending car shows and anything that involved his family. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1951 and served until 1959, receiving an Honorable Discharge in July 1959.

He worked for the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority for thirty (30) plus years. Joe started out as a streetcar operator, bringing in the last operating streetcar on January 27, 1962 to much fanfare. He retired in 1992 as a Metro Bus Driver. He had received many awards of recognition during his employment.

Joseph is survived by his loving children, sons, Joseph Atchison, Jr., Wayne Atchison (Violet) and daughter, Patricia Lyon (John); seven grandchildren, Benjamin Wilkerson, Steven and Bryan Harris, Samantha Windsor, Jesse Atchison, Jamie Nelson and Lisa Nelson. He is also survived by eleven (11) great grandchildren.

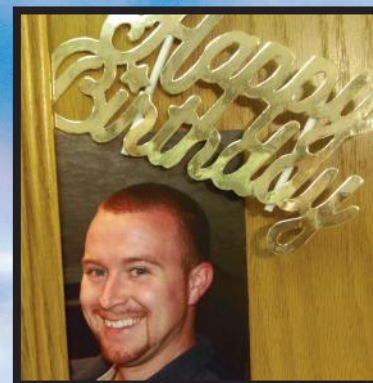
The family will receive friends for Joseph's Visitation on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. A Funeral Service is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. and officiated by Deacon Bill Kyte at Brinsfield Funeral Home, Charlotte Hall, MD with a graveside service immediately following at Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

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

All arrangements have been made at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622.

Frankie Bowles

Nov. 8, 1989 --- March 25, 2017



On this day we reminisce

With smiles and frequent tears,

As we think of our memories

And wish you were still here.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
FRANKIE**

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

Bernard James (Jimmy) Coyle, III



Bernard James (Jimmy) Coyle, III, 76, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on October 29, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Born on October 1, 1944 in Washington, DC, he was the son of the late Bernard James Coyle, Jr. and Mary Frances Lohr Coyle.

Bernard married his wonderful wife, Betty Joyce Coyle, on August 5, 1965 and they spent 55 years together growing in marriage and love. Together they started a family and were blessed with 3 wonderful children.

After Jimmy graduated high school, he then went on to become a graduate of the International Fabricare Institute. He worked in the Dry-Cleaning business where he owned his own Dry-Cleaners. He was a wonderful man who loved his family and friends with everything that he had. He will live on in their lives through the wonderful and priceless memories he made with them.

In addition to his beloved wife, Jimmy is survived by his children: Kimberly Lockard (Louie) of Clements, MD, Dawn Carpenter (Timmy) of Mechanicsville, MD and Jamie Coyle of Mechanicsville, MD; his siblings: Gary Coyle of Berlin, MD and Mary Shaffer of Bowie, MD; as well as 8 grandchildren, Nick, Samantha, Nathan, Trevor, Allison, Glenn, Wayne and Cal, and 3 great grandchildren, Addison, Connor and Levi.

Jimmy is preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Thomas Coyle and Michael Coyle.

Family will receive friends for a Life Celebration Memorial Gathering on Friday, November 6, 2020 from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm with a Memorial Service celebrated by Pastor Neil Grobler at 2:00 pm at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice House of St. Mary's or Mechanicsville Rescue Squad.

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

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

Frank Raymond Vause



Frank Raymond Vause, 61, of California, MD passed away on October 27, 2020 at his home after a months-long battle with cancer.

He was born on December 10, 1958 in Augusta, GA to

Christa Gorbing Vause of California, MD and the late George Clarence Vause.

Frank is a 1976 graduate of Great Mills High School. On February 4, 1977, Frank enlisted in the United States Navy and proudly served his country until his Honorable Discharge as an Electronics Technician in June 1983. On July 9, 1985, he married his adored wife, Annette (Jones) Vause. They were married for over 22 years until her death in April 2008. He was self-employed for many years as a skilled carpenter and he made his family many beautiful pieces of furniture including cabinets, shelves, and mirrors. He was incredibly handy and able to fix just about anything. As an avid reader, he enjoyed many different genres. He was very social and studied politics and enjoyed having conversations about various political topics. He was a movie buff, enjoyed watching South Park, listening to talk radio, and liked to play lottery scratch-offs and Keno. He also enjoyed a good card game of Rummy or Solitaire. Family was very important to him and he always looked forward to visiting with them.

In addition to his beloved mother, he is also survived by his siblings: Thomas Patrick "Tom" Vause of California, MD, Eric Steven Vause (Diane) of Chuckey, TN, and Heidi Lynn Vause (Jeff Pleines) of Catonsville, MD; his nieces, Arica Vause Sandoval and Jennifer Vause Miller of

NM; his step-son, Keith Roberson of FL; and many extended family and friends.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, April 17, 2021 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., with a Funeral Service celebrated by Pastor George Jarboe at 2:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will be private.

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

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Sylvia "Dumplin" Arnold Behr



Sylvia "Dumplin" Arnold Behr, 84, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away on October 26, 2020 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD.

She was born on October 22, 1936 in

Baltimore, MD to the late William Arnold and Lola Mae Buckmaster.

Sylvia married her husband, Jacob Behr on January 26, 1957 in Baltimore, MD and they have spent over 56 years happily married, until his passing in August of 2013. She worked at Western Electric as an Assembler for over 35 years. She enjoyed playing bingo, the lottery, dominos and playing card games such as pitch and poker. She loved to knit dishcloths and crocheting Afghans. She loved to go shopping especially checking out thrift stores. Spending time in Ocean City at the beach made her happy. She enjoyed going to lunch with friends. She especially loved spending time with her family.

Sylvia is survived by her siblings Joseph Vankirk (Robin) of Mechanicsville, MD; Linda Sullivan of Mechanicsville, MD; Patricia O'Neill of Baltimore, MD; Dorothy Simon of Myrtle Beach, SC; Bea Bartholomew of Glen Burnie, MD; and many nieces and nephews and extended family. She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband and her sisters Jeanne Szyborski and Nancy Gloriosio.

All services are private

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Virgie Maryjane "MJ" Beamer



Virgie Maryjane "MJ" Beamer, 95, of California, MD passed away on October 26, 2020 at The Hospice House of St. Mary's in Callaway, MD. Maryjane, the youngest

child of the late Charles William Johnston and Virgie Butler Johnston, was born in Washington D.C. on September 8, 1925.

Like many young women in D.C. during World War II, Maryjane went to work for the U.S. Government and held various clerical jobs before retiring to become a homemaker. Maryjane went back to work in 1972 for Peebles Department store. Maryjane worked as a floor clerk then in the office until she retired in 1992.

Maryjane married her beloved husband, Wallace "Wally" Randolph Beamer, on February 12, 1955 and they had three children, Scott P. Beamer, Terry T. Beamer and Judy L. Sargent (Beamer). Wally and Maryjane spent 62 beautiful years of marriage together living in both Maryland and Florida.

Those closest to Maryjane knew her as a spunky redhead who spoke her mind, loved bargain shopping, rearranging furniture and planting flower gardens that yielded the most breathtaking blooms.

With a flair for fashion, Maryjane prided herself on trendy attire and was a certified 'cool grandma' all the way down to her faux ankle tattoo bracelet. Maryjane also brilliantly executed 'semi-homemade' cooking and DIY décor long before they were trendy on HGTV.

Above all, Maryjane loved her family and showered them with her one-of-a-kind tough love, but also by shopping for their favorite things or making them her famous pre-dinner salad.

Maryjane lived by these philosophies of life: "Stay active" "Exercise" "Be yourself" "Always stay young at heart"

Maryjane is survived by her sons, Scott (Chris) of Traveler Rest, SC and Terry (Lisa) of Odessa, FL; daughter, Judy (Scott) of Mechanicsville, MD; grandchildren, Jason C. Wagner, Jacob S. Beamer, Tara N. Strickland, Lindsey R. Godwin, Blaire K. Beamer, Bryce A. Beamer; great grandchildren, Wyatt Beamer, Ruby Strickland, Emersyn Godwin, Audie Strickland and Lilah Godwin.

In addition to her husband and parents, Maryjane is preceded in death by her brothers, William Johnston, John M. "Dickie" Johnston, Woodrow Johnston, Charles "Bucky" Johnston; sisters, Helen Johnston Stanton, Ruth Johnston Ferrara and Vivian Johnston Hanna.

Family will receive friends for Maryjane's Life Celebration Gathering on Saturday, November 7, 2020 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm with a funeral service celebrated by Rev. James Chance at 1:00 pm at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to The Hospice House of St. Mary's or the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org)

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

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



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Wanderings

of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



GRATITUDE FOR SIMPLE THINGS



Wow, I think we are in for a beautiful stretch of days – something to be thankful for in this month of gratitude for even the smallest things. Just being outside with Mindy kicking her ball around in the leaves was heavenly. Taking the time to smell the leaves is a wonderful thing. Having a day free from exhaustion and some pain from a CESI described below is an indescribable blessing and I am full of gratitude for the technology, and to the surgeon and nurses. There are so many good things out there, and hopefully more technology and research to come for all that is facing us now.

Halloween was great here in Country Lakes! Didn't miss the Trails too much. We set out about half of our Halloween props and all of our electronic creatures, so it was still scary for some of the kids. Probably had over 100 kids come to grab our individually bagged treats on a table, and actually started to run out when a kind neighbor brought over extra bags from her neighbor. I always love seeing the hay-filled, decorated trailers pull up with entire families. Something felt normal for once. It was a perfect fire-pit evening with good food and drink. Yesterday (Wednesday), we finally got most all the Halloween stuff back in the Halloween Shed since it started raining Saturday night a lot earlier than we thought, yes, we need an entire shed for all of it. The last few items will go in today. Hope everyone had a fun, safe Halloween evening.

My CESI (cervical epidural steroid injection) in Annapolis went fine on Tuesday. Quick and painless since I was in twilight sleep. I don't remember getting dressed, but I must have because no one screamed as I left. We made a Nick's of Clinton stop for subs – I love their meatball and provolone subs - on the way home, and somehow a container of cannoli dip and chips found its way in the bag

too. The rest of the cannoli might be my breakfast shortly. When we got home it was off to an "off to dreamland", nap for me. An after anesthesia nap is one of the best in the world, except for the really heavy sleep drool that can happen. Then it was up to help put those Halloween decorations away. I know, they say to take it easy for a day or two to let the steroid shots to really work. I was careful – the creatures are pretty light.

In the middle of the night last night, I started to feel the steroid rush that can leave you a bit shaky, with mind racing, and an all over red glow (now I finally have some color in my face). It's nice not to feel totally exhausted and it shows in the "to do" list I wrote up this morning. There are so many projects I have wanted to finish, but the all over neuropathy, pain in my neck and back was not allowing me to finish anything. I hope the good effects stay for longer than a few months, but hey, if I can get through the holiday season I will be incredibly happy. Now, maybe I can finish all my partially finished paintings. I would really like to get my artwork back in a gallery again. The way my mind is racing now I may finish all my paintings and projects this week. One can only hope.

I have been bouncing around upstairs, downstairs, outside all morning getting things where they belong, starting laundry, and I did finish getting the Halloween items put away. I really hope this steroid injection lasts a good while – this is great! The only bad thing is I took too much time away from writing my column while getting up from the desk every 20 minutes to do something else. I'll probably be in lots of trouble...am I AL?????

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

Please send your comments to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Protect Your Family from Long-term Care Costs

Like everyone, you want to remain physically and financially independent throughout your life. But if you lose some of this freedom, the last thing you'd want is to become a burden on your family. How can you keep this from happening?

First of all, you need to be aware of the risk. Someone turning 65 today has almost a 70 percent chance of eventually needing some type of long-term care, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Of course, this doesn't necessarily mean that you face that 70 percent likelihood. In reality, you have either a zero percent chance of requiring long-term care (you'll never need it) or a 100 percent chance (you'll definitely need it).

Nonetheless, if you think you've got that zero percent chance, you're taking a gamble – and it could be a big one, because long-term care is expensive. The median annual cost for a private room in a nursing home is over \$102,000, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Other long-term care services, such as those provided by a home health care aide, also don't come cheaply.

Furthermore, you can't count on Medicare paying all these costs – in fact, it would probably only cover a small portion of a nursing home stay and provide limited assistance for home health care. So, if you were financially unprepared for the expense of long-term care, the burden might fall on your loved ones. This could be a big financial challenge, in two ways.

First, if a family member had to become your caregiver, this individual might have to abandon

a career, or at least substantially reduce their working hours. Not only would this result in a loss of income, but it could also lower the amounts that could be contributed to a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Second, if your family members couldn't leave their jobs or cut back on their hours, or they were simply unable to provide the type of long-term care you need, they might be forced to pay for a nursing home stay or home health care worker out of pocket.

To avoid these outcomes, you have a couple of options:

- Self-insure – You could conceivably "self-insure" against the costs of long-term care by devoting a portion of your investment portfolio specifically to this purpose. However, if at some point you require admission to a nursing home, it may require a significant commitment of your resources.

- Purchase protection – Over the past decade or so, there's been an increase in the types of long-term care protection vehicles available. These instruments vary widely in cost and in what they cover, but by choosing a protection option, you may greatly lower the financial risk you might face. By consulting with a financial professional, you should be able to find an arrangement that's appropriate for your situation.

Preserving your financial independence and helping protect that of your family should be a key financial goal. And you can make progress toward accomplishing this by recognizing the potential cost of long-term care and taking steps to deal with it.

*Article was contributed by David McDonough
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.
Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr Suite 302
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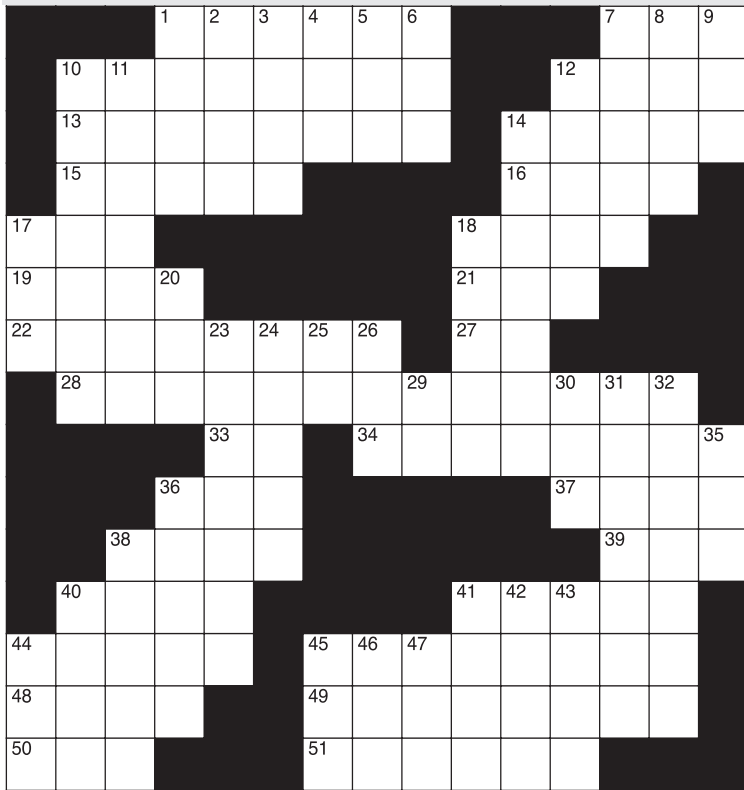
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of relic
- 7. Type of medical program (abbr.)
- 10. Outer defense of a castle
- 12. 1,000 calories (abbr.)
- 13. A way of using
- 14. Abounding with surf
- 15. Expressed violently
- 16. Shared a boundary with
- 17. Swedish krona
- 18. Thick piece of something
- 19. Wreaths
- 21. Animated program network (abbr.)
- 22. Regains possession of
- 27. Spielberg sci-fi film
- 28. 2-time Super Bowl winner
- 33. Ice hockey position (abbr.)
- 34. Circulatory system parts
- 36. Supervises flying
- 37. District in Peru

38. Impudence

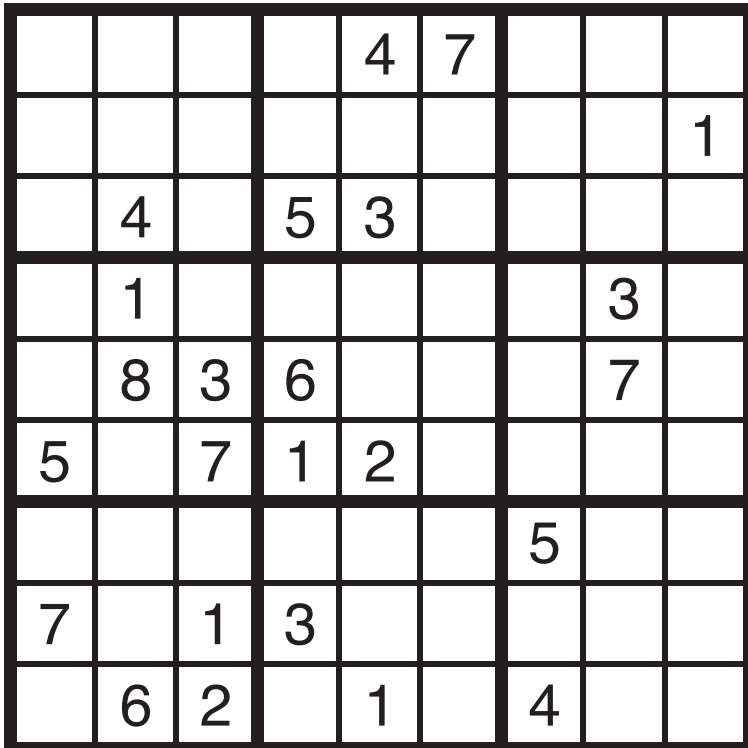
- 39. ___ willikers!
- 40. One point east of southeast
- 41. Papas' partners
- 44. Youngsters
- 45. Type of tree
- 48. A hazy or indistinct appearance
- 49. Poems with distinct pattern
- 50. Marketing term that denotes price
- 51. Fast drivers

CLUES DOWN

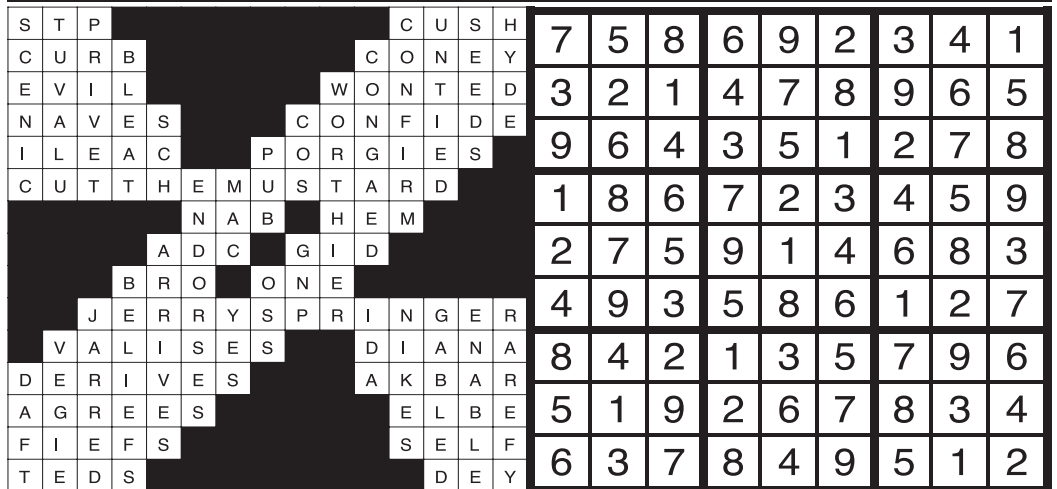
- 1. Grenade
- 2. Off-Broadway theater award
- 3. Small, immature herring
- 4. ___-fi (slang)
- 5. 007's creator
- 6. Liquefied natural gas
- 7. Cleanse thoroughly
- 8. Handle of a knife
- 9. Perform diligently
- 10. Drink pourer
- 11. Extreme greed
- 12. Southern Russia river
- 14. Type of cracker
- 17. Single Lens

Reflex

- 18. Barely sufficient
- 20. Slick
- 23. Reference books
- 24. Federally recognized native peoples
- 25. Manganese
- 26. Senior officer
- 29. Atomic #18 (abbr.)
- 30. Tax collector
- 31. World wonder ___ Falls
- 32. Origins
- 35. Car mechanics group
- 36. MMA fighter Urijah
- 38. Gland secretion
- 40. Gelatinous water creature
- 41. Good friend
- 42. Arab ruler
- 43. Capital of Belgian province Hainaut
- 44. English broadcaster
- 45. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 46. Affirmative
- 47. Trigonometric function (abbr.)



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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