

FREE

St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021

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Can We All
Get Along?

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WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 1/21	Fri 1/22	Sat 1/23	Sun 1/24
50° 32°F	47° 27°F	38° 23°F	40° 30°F
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Mon 1/25	Tue 1/26	Wed 1/27	Thu 1/28
43° 34°F	40° 26°F	38° 28°F	37° 23°F
Showers	AM Showers	Partly Cloudy	Snow Shower

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COVID-19

Positive Cases

Deaths

As of January 20

St. Mary's 4,702

98

Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

Crosby Pushes Local Election, Voting Reforms

Del. Brian Crosby (D-District 29 B) is filing legislation in the General Assembly this year that would fundamentally transform the way St. Mary's County voters select the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Also, Crosby is pressing a bill that would allow for a second early voting center to be positioned in Lexington Park.

Crosby spoke about his proposals on a podcast this week hosted by William Hall, president of the local NAACP Chapter 7025, on his Facebook channel.

The podcast is known as Sunday In The Park.

Crosby's commissioner election bill would have voters select their commissioner constrained to their own commissioner districts, rather than cast a vote for all five commissioners on a county-wide basis.

Crosby argued that the commissioner president position, which is an at-large seat, should be elected county-wide but the other four commissioner candidates, who are required to live in one of four commissioner districts should only be elected by residents who live in those districts.

"Our community, our vote is diluted," Crosby said to Hall on the podcast, stating the change would almost certainly seat one strongly positioned Democrat on the board and perhaps one more.

"District 1 would be extraordinarily competitive," Crosby said.

Hall said, given the demographics of Lexington Park, the District 4 seat could become one that favored an African American candidate.

"We've only had one African American commissioner here," Hall said.

Crosby said the District 4 commissioner, in particular, should be someone more closely associated with the economic realities of everyday life in St. Mary's.

"Not to take a shot," Crosby said, without naming Commissioner Todd Morgan. "But how can the District 4 commissioner live on the water?"

"I live in a row home."

Crosby said District 4 residents needed someone "who represents us and what us working people are going through."

Crosby lives in a townhome in Great Mills.

Morgan said Crosby's efforts were meant to "isolate and divide" and were "hypocritical" for steering away from the recent Democrat message of unity from newly-sworn in President Joe Biden.



Delegate Brian Crosby

He also said he was not ashamed of either his record as county commissioner or his material success; Morgan was one of the founders of local defense contractor Egan, McCallister and Associates, which the partners eventually sold.

When he started in St. Mary's, Morgan said, he lived with his wife in a simple townhouse.

"I was one of those working people he referred to for 30 years," Morgan said.

Crosby's bill to bring a second early voting site to Lexington Park is an extension of his fight to get one during the recent 2020 presidential election.

He, along with the local NAACP, had petitioned for one and were initially successful in getting it at Great Mills High School but that approval was rescinded due to COVID health concerns in the summer.

Crosby said the denial of a second site that was more convenient to the largest segment of the county's population amounted to voter suppression.

His bill would lower the requirement of registered voters for a second site from 100,000 registered to 70,000; St. Mary's has about 73,000 registered voters, Crosby said.

The only site is the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

"If you go from Gate 3 [at Patuxent River NAS] to the Hollywood fire house, that can take an hour in traffic," Crosby said. "It's an unnecessary barrier to voting."

"When I was first elected, I never thought in a million years that voting would be my top priority."

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Task Force Seeks Hearing On Solar Project Moratorium



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A commission formed to investigate the impacts of utility-sized solar power projects in St. Mary's County is asking the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to hold a public hearing on placing a temporary moratorium on such sites.

The moratorium would function to give more time to formulate a consultant report from the Chesapeake Conservancy, under contract with the county, whose recommendations could then be incorporated in the zoning ordinance, guiding the site choice for solar projects, according to county documents.

The report would contain "legally and technically feasible solar sites, screening out areas where zoning, protection status or other factors preclude solar energy development," county documents on the process show.

The report would also suggest opportunities for rooftop solar development on residential, commercial and public sector buildings and even sites that were previously thought not suitable, including disused industrial sites or those with some kind of contamination.

In January of last year a solar project near property owned by at Patuxent River Naval Air Station was halted after military security officials voiced "serious concerns regarding some of the specified vendors, sub-contractors, and sourcing of materials which appear to be either foreign owned, sourced or controlled by foreign government entities and, or have,

close associations with other foreign owned firms that have been added to the Department of Commerce's Entity List and banned from the U.S."

The temporary moratorium could be up for a public hearing in late February, according to county documents, and would cease the review and approval of application for such sites.

In a Nov. 30 memorandum to the Solar Task Force, one week before their Dec. 8 vote to pursue the public hearing, County Attorney David Weiskopf wrote that such a moratorium was in the scope of authority for the county commissioners.

"The Solar Task Force is suggesting the moratorium last until the passage of new zoning and regulatory requirements," Weiskopf wrote of the task force's request. "The ban should last for no more than six months and not apply to projects that have already begun the siting process."

He noted that temporary moratoriums were often upheld by courts as legitimate uses of power by local governments.

The final report from the Chesapeake Conservancy is due in June.

The task force was formed at the behest of County Commissioner Todd Morgan, with the support of other commissioners, because stringent state requirements will require to have clean, renewable energy sources make up half of the state's power supply by 2030.

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www.museums.stmarysmd.com
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Event made possible by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County



MLK Day Speaker: King's Warning on White Supremacy Stands Today

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

White supremacy and white nationalism are just as much a barrier, and a danger, to democracy in America as it was during the Civil Rights era, a Harvard-trained sociologist said at this year's Martin Luther King, Jr. prayer celebration hosted virtually by St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Dr. Crystal Marie Fleming, who specializes in studies on racism and anti-racism as an associate professor at Stony Brook University, said white supremacy was deeply ingrained in the history and political culture of the country.

King, the most famous civil rights icon of the 20th Century in America, warned of and spoke against white supremacy as more than just the Ku Klux Klan or Nazi ideology, Fleming said, but a mindset that dated back before the founding of the country.

"We must squarely acknowledge the continuing legacy of white supremacy in the United States," Fleming said.

The breaching of the Nation's Capitol Building Jan. 6 by what Fleming called a white nationalist mob was aimed squarely at subverting democ-

racy by trying to interfere with the certification of President-Elect Joe Biden's election victory in the Electoral College.

The mentality that gave rise to the insurrection, she claimed, "has been mainstreamed in this nation since its inception."

"White power was not a right wing movement, it was the law of the land," Fleming said. "White men make up only one-third of the population, but they dominate in politics."

"White supremacist groups are more outspoken than they have been in at least a generation."

Only about 100 people have been arrested so far in the capitol breach incident, Fleming said, but Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old African American boy was killed in 2014 in Cleveland, Ohio by a police officer who saw Rice carrying an object that later was found to be a toy gun was just one of many black males shot unjustifiably.

The officer shot Rice almost immediately upon arriving on the scene; a grand jury did not return an indictment however as Rice appeared to draw what appeared to be an actual firearm from his waistband.

Rice's family's civil suit against the



Dr. Crystal Marie Fleming

city was successful, however, with an award of \$6 million.

The killings and violence against black men around the country was indicative of a trend, Fleming said, that their lives were considered worth less than whites.

In the face of such pervasive racism, Fleming said, it was all the more important to stand up to it to elimi-

nate it, even if it meant confronting uncomfortable truths.

"Telling the truth about racism is critical to moving forward," Fleming said. "They [white supremacists] want to impose an anti-democratic, fascist rule over all of us."

"As soon as you stand up against racism, you'll face resistance."

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Hogan Moves State Into Next Vaccination Stage



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The first stage of vaccinations against COVID-19 have been successful, said Gov. Larry Hogan in a Jan. 14 press conference, and the state is now able to expand its distribution of vaccines to more of the population.

“On Monday, January 18, eligible groups will be expanded statewide to include all Marylanders 75 and over, as well as anyone of any age living in assisted living or independent living facilities and developmental disabilities and behavioral health group homes,” Hogan said. “In addition, those now eligible in phase 1B include all K through 12 teachers, education staff, as well as childcare providers.”

The partnership with pharmacies CVS and Walgreens will also now expand their inoculation programs to include all assisted living homes and other congregant living facilities.

The day before Hogan’s announcement Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary’s County Health Officer, announced the county was moving on its own into phase 1B of vaccinations.

Brewster explained to the county Board of Education that they wanted to continue to quickly inoculate residents and not keep any vaccine doses in storage.

Hogan said more than 99 percent of the vaccine Maryland has received from the federal government has been distributed throughout the state to either health departments and hospitals or the pharmacy partnership.

“As of today, the state of Maryland has successfully allocated, deployed, and distributed 547,300 doses of vaccines directly to those responsible for doing the vaccines at hospitals, nursing homes, and local health departments for all of the priority 1A populations,” Hogan said.

This represents 99.6 percent of all the doses that the federal government has allotted to the state of Maryland.”

The state was also partnering with other pharmacies to expand vaccine distribution.

“We are launching a pilot program with Walmart and Giant to begin administering vaccines at many of their pharmacies,” Hogan said. “This pilot program will begin the following Monday, January 25th, at 22 Giant locations across the state as well as their three Martin’s locations in Washington and Allegany Counties, and will also include 10 Walmart locations primarily on the Eastern Shore and western Maryland.

“When the state begins to receive higher allocations from the federal government, we will then be able to rapidly expand this program to include more and more pharmacies and at many more locations across the state.”

Starting Jan. 25, Hogan said, the state will also be moving into Phase 1C, which will prioritize other senior citizens.

“In phase 1C, we will expand and be able to open to all adults between the ages of 65-74 anywhere in the state,” Hogan said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Anderson Family Nears 70 Years of Serving Clements



Bobby Anderson and his son Blair

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Until six months ago, the Anderson family owned all the businesses at the four corners on the intersection of Route 234 and 242 in Clements; a recent sale of the gas station to a different owner takes it out of the family's ownership but they still own the remaining three.

Bobby Anderson, owner of Anderson's Bar, said the Hurry/Anderson clan has been in Clements since the 1930s and has no intentions of leaving.

His family still owns the bar, the building that houses it, as well as three other business tenants on the northwest corner of the traffic circle intersection, the ball field on the northeast corner and the old, unused building on the southeast corner that used to house Hurry and Anderson's country store.

He said his family owes a lot to the Clements community for prospering them all these years.

"My father opened it [the bar] in 1953," Anderson said. "I came in in 1965 as a partner and he retired in 1987.

"I've been here for 56 years; it's a good chunk of your life isn't it?"

Though the bar started in 1953, Anderson's mother and father owned a combination restaurant and dress shop before changing it to what it is now.

It was just a one-unit business then, but it expanded into the four-unit building it is today over the decades to include Abell's Diner and other shops.

COVID-19 hit them as much as any other business in St. Mary's.

"It's been hard," Anderson said. "I've lost quite a bit of money in this."

Their offsite sales license helped them retain some of their business.

"We had decent business before COVID-19," Anderson told The County Times. "It's mostly a local crowd."

Health restrictions mean Anderson can only have about 25 people in the bar at a time -it's close quarters in the small unit.

"But believe it or not I'm rated to have 115 people in here," he said.

The three of four corners the Andersons still own remain one of the few commercial centers in Clements but Anderson can remember, as a child, when the Navy base opened in 1943.

It brought new workers from Charles County through Clements and their family business, the country store, was always busy.

"Old country stores were the big business," Anderson said.

Anderson's son Blair manages the day-to-day business at the bar and the family has no intentions of selling, the elder Anderson said.

He doesn't come down at night as much, he said, but he still minds the business's affairs closely.

"I guess that's why I say I'm semi-retired," Anderson said. "I like the people; I miss seeing the people."

"The community's been good to us."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Governor's Budget Focuses on Pandemic, Tax Relief

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Gov. Larry Hogan's fiscal 2022 budget calls for passage of his signature COVID-19 relief plan, the Relief Act of 2021 and its \$1 billion in aid as well as an additional billion in tax relief for retirees, including those who served in the military.

Hogan spoke about his budget proposal at an Annapolis press conference laying out many of his budget priorities but holding back specifics until the official unveiling of the state's spending plan until Jan. 20.

"My top economic priority is making sure that Marylanders can keep more of their hard-earned money in their pockets," Hogan said Jan. 19. "We have a 100 percent structurally balanced budget without any tax increases, laying off of hard-working state employees or cutting of critical services."

The budget still allows the state to keep its AAA bond rating, Hogan said, and allows for what he called "record funding" of public education.

The budget includes \$7.5 billion for public education, which Hogan said

exceeded what the General Assembly's funding formula allocation, which would have reduced school funding due to COVID induced declines in student enrollment.

Hogan's spending plan also includes \$833 million in additional school construction funding.

"This is the largest investment in public education in the state's history," Hogan said.

The budget also includes \$1 billion for roads and highways throughout the state as well as nearly \$1 billion for mass transit; other priorities include \$74 million for local law enforcement funding as well as an additional \$44 million in grants.

There is also about \$985 million in funding to be dispersed statewide to combat the continuing opioid epidemic, which continues to be serious problem in Southern Maryland.

The latest local numbers on the opioid crisis show there were more than 160 known overdoses here and 30 overdose deaths for 2020, which is on par with recent years.

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Mike Miller Remembered

His Daughter Talks About Her Father

By Dick Myers
Editor

Many people in Southern Maryland witnessed the political side of Mike Miller during his almost 50 years in the Maryland General Assembly. He was everywhere, at events large and small.

Yet Miller, who died Jan. 15 at the age of 78, was also a family man, a terrific husband and father, according to his daughter Melissa “Missy” Miller, an attorney in the law practice founded by her father.

“He loved and adored my mother (Patricia) and showed her the utmost respect. He got married very young and they had four kids right away,” said Missy, who was the second of their five children.

Mike and Patty were married for 61 years. They met at a fraternity party at the University of Maryland. She was 18.

Missy said her father promised his mother that he wouldn’t have any children until he finished law school. But by then they already had those four of their five children.

Miller was first elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1971 when Steny Hoyer was a senator. Missy said her father’s law practice and being a legislator were flip sides of the same coin labeled “public service.”

Mike grew up working in his family’s store in Clinton, B.K. Millers, as did the rest of his siblings and as did Missy and her siblings. Mike always said he learned the value of hard work and customer service there.

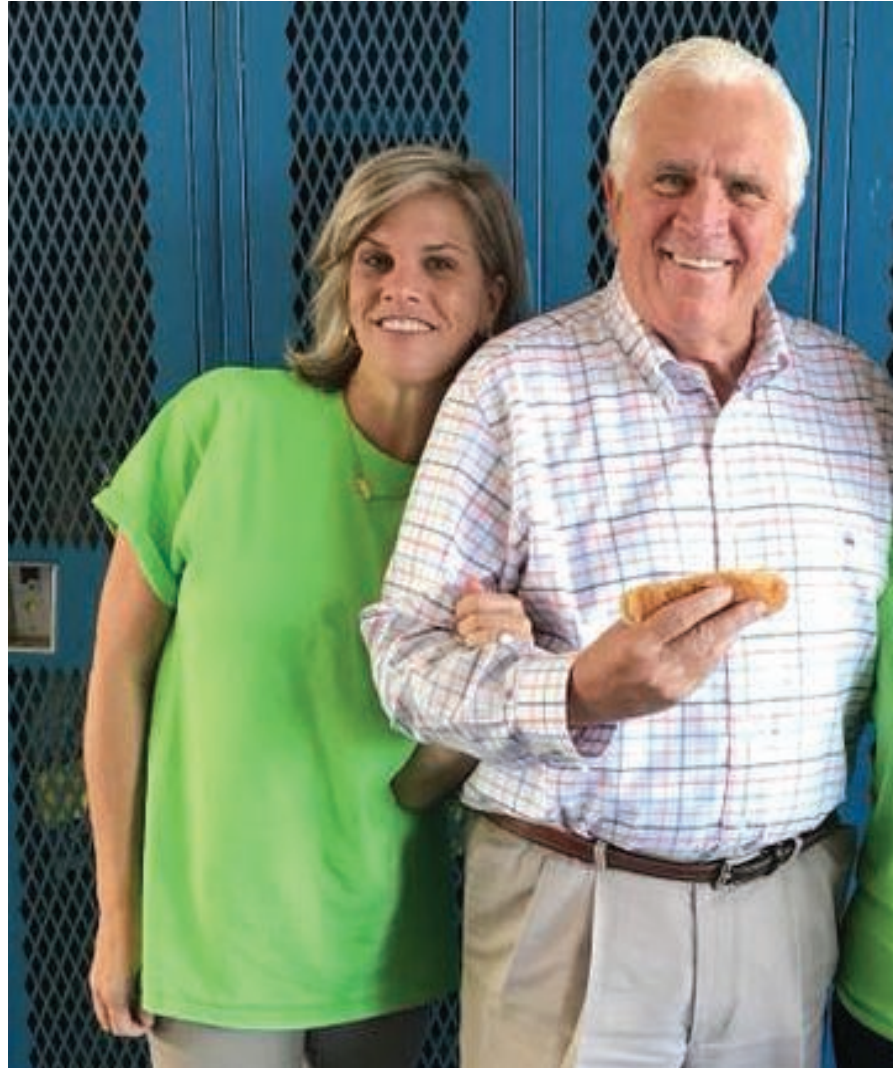
From her earliest years, Missy said of her father, “I remember him being a father, but not a politician. I thought everybody went to every event. We went to every spaghetti dinner locally. We went to every award ceremony. I just thought it was something you did.”

She added, “I never felt special, that we had a unique life at all. He was always part of our lives. And now looking back on it, I realized what a dedicated mother my mother was because he was always working. But on Sundays it was our day, the four (of us) and him.”

She explained, “We would have events – bowling was his favorite. We also had horses. This man rode horses, bareback, down Brandywine Road with his kids.”

She said, “School was the main thing for him. And we were not stellar students...he pushed us all to read.”

Anyone who ever heard a Mike Miller speech knew he was an



Mike Miller with his daughter Melissa

amateur historian, although based on his knowledge of history, particularly of Maryland, he could have been mistaken for a history professor.

The study in his home south of Chesapeake Beach was chock full of books.

She said, “He read a book every single night, growing up, on history, whether it’d be biographies or fictions.”

“It’s pretty amazing how many [books] he has,” saying they number in the thousands.

She remembered, “My father always played an active role. He always quizzed us every car ride. We’d go on great trips every weekend.” She said that was how they eventually found their Calvert County home.

“This is kind of a crazy story and I don’t mind it being said, but I never knew my father said a cuss word until I came to work for him at the office,” she said.

“Working with him [in the law firm], there’s been no greater gift in my life than to work for my father,” Missy said.

“He is a task master. He wanted everything. He believed people

were paying us for a service and we needed to provide the best from our law firm compared to others. We provide a service and work our butts off. No case is more special than the other. We charge fair, reasonable fees” she said, noting that they do a lot of pro bono work. The original Clinton office was expanded to one in Dunkirk.

“It’s just the way he is. We serve the people. And that came from his long years at B.K. Millers. The customer’s always right.”

Did he encourage her to become a lawyer? “I just picked it up from him. I saw the love of the people and it really is. And he would always say, how lucky are we to go to work every day to do something we love where people are first and we serve the people and it’s like really going to work with your friends every day. Our clients are our friends; our staff, our friends; the courthouse people, our friends. It’s pretty amazing.”

As he became the longest serving state senate president in the country, he acquired many friends nationally including former president Bill Clinton, who visited

Miller’s hometown of Clinton during a famous campaign stop.

Missy said Clinton “called my mother after my father died.”

Missy said her favorite story about her father is how he got the nickname “Mike.” He was born Thomas Vincent Miller Jr. “When he was born, my grandfather was away at war. And so, she (her grandmother) didn’t know if he was coming back or she’d never have any more children. So, her favorite name was always Michael. So, she just started calling him Mike.” But he did return, and they had nine more children, but the nickname stuck.

She said her father wasn’t a stellar student. “Actually, the letter does exist where my grandmother called Louis Goldstein, she did not know him, and begged him to help my father get into college. And in it, Louis Goldstein wrote back and said, although he, Mike is not a stellar student, ‘I will help him get into law school’ and which he did. And my father went into law school, graduated law school with Ben Cardin, who was top of his class. My father always says he was at the bottom, but he knew what he had to do. And he got through it.”

As to his budding political career, she said, “He was just very smart and just kept working and working and just kept serving. He learned, he said, history repeats itself. And he learned some of the past and he knows people. He studies people. He loves them.”

But he still spent every weekend with his family. “Even though with his law, he needed to make money for his young family. So, he was working his butt off nonstop, getting clients. And he took on cases, pro bono. He helped many, many different people. The amount of love and support that comes from people that he’s helped over the years is tremendous.”

The daughter stood up for her father. “It makes me so angry when people say negative things about my father, especially when he does so much for the community. People have no idea. He gets money for our volunteer fire departments. He’s such a dedicated person when it comes to giving back to the community money for our parks, money for our schools. I know the county commissioners are going to miss him.”

dickmyers@countytimes.net



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Commission for Women Announces Virtual Recognition Event



St. Mary's County
Commission
for Women

The St. Mary's County Commission for Women (CFW) is pleased to announce that it will hold its first Women's History Month Virtual Symposium in place of the traditional Women's History Month Banquet to celebrate Women's History Month and the many accomplished women and girls in our community on Thursday, March 18, 2021, via the Commission's Facebook page. This year's theme is a continuation of last year's theme - Valiant Women of the Vote. Donations to this year's virtual event will support the Jane Hale-Sypher scholarship through the College of Southern Maryland. This scholarship was established to help returning non-traditional students further their educational goals.

The CFW was created to address matters of specific concern to women in the areas of employment, education, health, public office, family and legal rights. This group stays busy in our community reaching out to women in many walks of life. In addition, each year the CFW takes the time to recognize some of the female volunteers who represent the backbone of our community. The members are appointed by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and report to them the areas of concern to women in our community.

St. Mary's County is blessed with an abundance of women who, through their volunteer contributions, have fought long and hard to stand up for other women and girls in our community in more ways than we will ever know. We invite you to help us celebrate their accomplishments! Each year three awards are given: Lifetime Achievement (chosen by the members of the Commission for Women), Woman of the Year and Tomorrow's Women (both chosen by independent judges).

The 2021 Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lifetime Achievement recipient is Grace Fuller. We'd love to have you join us and show your support of the many women champions in our community! Keep an eye out so you can

tune in and join us.

The Commission for Women is accepting nominations for the Woman of the Year Award and Woman of Tomorrow Award. Click on the hyperlinks to download the nomination form. Forms can be submitted several ways:

Email to CFW Chair, Norma Pipkin at commissionforwomen@st-marysmd.com

Sent via fax to the attention of Debra Kane at 301-475-4200, ext. 1680

Mail:

St. Mary's County Commission for Women c/o Debra Kane, Department of Aging & Human Services, P.O. Box 653, Leonardtown, MD 20653

Submission deadline for nominations is January 31, 2021. Please call 301-475-4200, ext. 1680, with any questions.

The Commission for Women is also seeking sponsors for the Women's History Month Virtual Symposium. We invite you to consider the many ways you can support the banquet listed below. Perhaps your employer, a business you frequent, or you, would like to show their support of the amazing women in our community? Please spread the word! Each level provides opportunities for exposure both on-site and through pre-event advertising.

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We hope you can join us on March 18! Cheers to valiant women who lead the fight for our right to vote!

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

Waterfront Conservation Easement Acquired

Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) on Jan. 12 acquired a conservation easement on a 65-acre waterfront property in Dameron. The purchase of the easement was funded by Maryland's Rural Legacy Program, St. Mary's County's Land Preservation Program, and the Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program through the U.S. Navy. RC&D worked closely with these funding partners over the last two years to bring this important land conservation project to fruition.

"We are incredibly happy to help preserve this land for future generations, while protecting valuable habitat and simultaneously supporting the Navy's mission. It's truly a win-win for all involved," said Cindy Greb, Executive Director of Southern Maryland RC&D.

The property is south of Naval Air Station Patuxent River and beneath U.S. Navy airspace used for aircraft testing and training. Its protection enhances military readiness by preventing encroachment on military operations. "All naval aircraft are tested at Naval Air Station Patuxent River and in the surrounding Atlantic Test Range airspace, making it essential for military readiness. The Department of Defense REPI Program provides funding for military Services to share the cost of the acquisition of easements or other interests in land from willing sellers to preserve compatible land uses. It is a key tool for combating encroachment that can limit or restrict military training, testing, and operations. By preserving open space, the U.S. Navy ensures that flight operations occur without interference and that we can continue to meet our mission, while actively promoting public safety. We are grateful to RC&D, St. Mary's County, and state project partners for supporting national defense through land conservation," said Captain John Brabazon, NAS Patuxent River Commanding Officer.



Located within the Mattapan Rural Legacy Area in southern St. Mary's County, the easement property is fully forested and potentially supports several rare, threatened, and endangered species. Its forests are a critical buffer to the Chesapeake Bay, helping to protect water quality by filtering pollutants.

Philip Barber, Managing Member of St. Jeromes Crossroads, LLC, which owns the land, uses the property's shoreline for oyster aquaculture. "I am pleased that this property will be part of a larger landscape of preserved lands in southern St. Mary's County."

Maryland's Rural Legacy Program seeks to preserve large, contiguous tracts of land and to enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry, and environmental protection while supporting a sustainable land base for natural resource based industries. Southern Maryland RC&D continues to seek landowners interested in preserving property within the Mattapan Rural Legacy Area as well as the Calvert Creeks Rural Legacy Area in Calvert County.

Interested landowners should contact Caroline King, Program Manager, at 240-577-6413 or caroline.king@somdrd.org. Southern Maryland RC&D is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit land trust. Contributions to support its land preservation efforts may be made at www.somdrd.org.

Press Release from Southern Maryland RC&D.

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County Times
St. Mary's County - Calvert County

Lexington Park Lions Serve Those Who Serve



In response to the pandemic and incredible efforts being called for from our health professionals, para-professionals and our first responders, Lexington Park Lions provided “care packages” of grab-and-go snacks and drinks to let them know we care and to help keep them on top of their game.

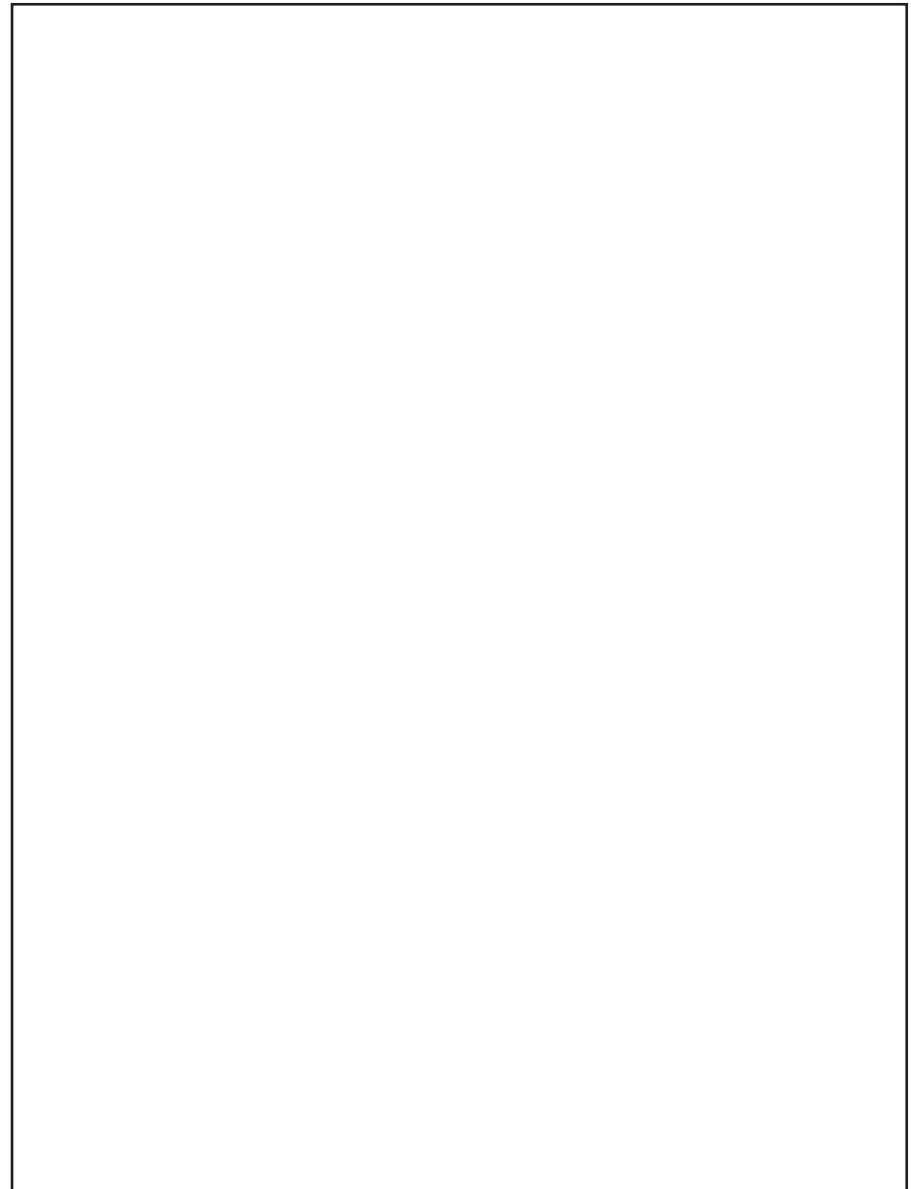
Beneficiaries:

- Bay District Volunteer Fire Department Stations #3 and #9
- Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Stations #38 and #39
- 7th District Volunteer Fire Department
- 7th District Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad

- St. Mary’s County Sheriff
 - St. Mary’s County Department of Corrections
 - St. Mary’s County Emergency Call Center
 - Maryland State Police Leonardtown
- And finally, Lexington Park Lions provided dinner, including the world famous Chaptico Market fried chicken, for healthcare workers at St. Mary’s MedStar Hospital.

We are most appreciative of all our first responders and all of those that are on the front lines working to keep America moving. Lions roar and Americans respond. Together we stand; better times are coming.

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New Species of Fossil Found Along Calvert Cliffs

Prehistoric Cobia Named for Local Amateur Paleontologists

On April 27, 2019, local fossil enthusiasts Stephen Groff and Marcus Jones found a partial skull of a fossil fish along Calvert Cliffs. Little did they know at the time that it would turn out to be the find of a lifetime.

Using a microscope, needles, and fine brushes, Groff carefully removed the entombing sediments from around the 10 million-year-old bones to reveal a true treasure. This fossil-find consisted of the bony braincase of a cobia – the first ever found in the fossil record.

The only known species of living cobia is a marine inhabitant that occurs nearly worldwide in a variety of tropical, subtropical, and warm temperate habitats and occasionally enter estuaries, feeding on crustaceans, cephalopods (squid and their kin), and other fishes. The hand-sized fossilized partial skull was different enough from the living cobia that a new species was named in honor of Groff and Jones, and published recently in the *Journal of Paleontology*.

Calvert Marine Museum Curator of Paleontology Dr. Stephen Godfrey, along with fossil-fish expert Dr. Giorgio Carnevale of Torino, Italy, named the new species of cobia *Rachycentron stremphaencus*. When paleontologists describe a new fossil species, one of the perks is that they get to invent a new name for the new species – and they can name it just about anything they like! In this situation, it seemed most fitting to name it after the co-discoverers. So, the new species name “stremphaencus” is derived from a combination of the letters of “Stephen” and “Marcus” with some rearrangement of the letters to make it mellifluous.

Up until now, no species of cobia had ever been named in the fossil record, so this is a first, and big news for paleontologists, both ama-



Marcus Jones (l) and Stephen Groff, co-discoverers of the new species of fossil cobia, *Rachycentron stremphaencus*. Behind them are the 10 million-year-old sediments in which the skull was discovered. Jones and Groff are also volunteers at the Calvert Marine Museum. Photo by S. Godfrey, CMM.

teur and professional.

When asked about the find, Jones said, “It’s a privilege to be able to participate in such an exciting field.” Groff and Jones found the braincase in a block of sediment that had fallen onto the beach from the adjacent cliff face.

When asked about the find, Groff responded, “It wasn’t until the next day when I returned with Calvert Marine Museum Paleontology Collections Manager John Nance to collect the specimen, that we realized it was a skull, and it was then that I knew this was going to be something special.”

A word of warning! Digging in the cliffs is dangerous and is prohibited without a permit on all state and federal lands. On private land, permission must be obtained from the owners before digging. If you see a skull, bone, or unusual fossil in the cliffs, please report it to the Calvert Marine Museum at 410-

326-2042. The museum appreciates getting this information and, if justified by the importance of the find, will make every effort to obtain the necessary permission and have trained personnel collect the specimen, giving full credit to the finder(s).

The clay and sandy sediments in which the fossil was found indicate that the prehistoric environment was a shallow marine one, perhaps even an estuary similar to the present-day Chesapeake Bay. (The Chesapeake Bay as we know it did not exist 10 million years ago.) A large number of predominantly marine species have been found in these deposits, with representatives from several groups of microscopic fossils and invertebrates, like snails and clams, as well as an array of vertebrate species, including a host of sharks and rays, bony fishes, turtles, crocodiles, sea-faring birds, seals, sea cows, dolphins, and baleen whales, and the very rare remains of large terrestrial mammals like extinct elephants and rhinos.

Based on the ecological requirements of the only living species of cobia, and a reconstruction of the environmental conditions that ex-

isted when the fossil cobia was alive 10 million years ago, it is reasonable to conclude that *Rachycentron stremphaencus* was a predatory fish that inhabited the subtropical to warm temperate Atlantic coast of North America during the Late Miocene, where it lived and hunted in shallow marine waters.

Inspired by their recent contribution to the world of paleontology, Groff and Jones continue to hunt for fossils along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay.

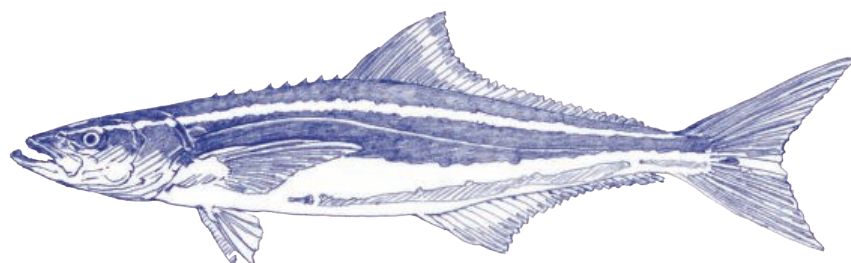
Explore how the prehistoric past, natural environments, and maritime heritage come to life and tell a unique story of the Chesapeake Bay. The Calvert Marine Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with limited capacity and a new timed entry system. Admission is \$9 for adults; \$7 for seniors, military with valid I.D., AAA and AARP members; \$4 for children ages 5 - 12; children under 5 and museum members are admitted free.

For more information about the museum, or to make a reservation for your next visit, please go to our website at www.calvertmarinemuseum.com.

Press Release from CMM



Photo of the new cobia braincase showing the top of the skull that housed the brain and the eyes. Front of the skull to the upper right. Photo by S. Godfrey, CMM



Drawing of what the fossil cobia might have looked like in life, similar to its sole living relative. Illustration by Tim Scheirer (from Carnevale, G., and Godfrey, S.J., 2018, Miocene bony fishes of the Calvert, Choptank, St. Marys, and Eastover Formations, Chesapeake Group, Maryland and Virginia: *Smithsonian Contributions to Paleobiology*, v. 100, p. 161-212. https://smithsonian.figshare.com/articles/book/The_Geology_and_Vertebrate_Paleontology_of_Calvert_Cliffs_Maryland_USA/9761762)

Tri-County Council Offers Skillup Southern Maryland

In an effort to both increase the skills of the region's workforce and provide residents with tools to train for new job opportunities, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) has launched its SkillUp® Southern Maryland program. All Southern Maryland residents are eligible and can take classes, explore career pathways, and even prepare for various industry-recognized certifications, all for free and all from home.

Through an online portal, TCCSMD provides free access to over 5,000 courses from Skillsoft, a nationally recognized training provider of workplace, business, technical and IT courses.

"Through SkillUp® Southern Maryland, our workforce development board can serve a significantly larger portion of our community and enhance our overall career services offering," said TCCSMD Director of Regional Workforce & Business Development Ruthy Davis. "In addition, we are providing the tools necessary to upskill our local workforce and increase the pool of qualified candidates to support our existing and potential local businesses."

Whether they are looking for a first job, a new job, or to advance in their chosen field, residents

can take advantage of this career enhancing training. SkillUp® Southern Maryland delivers flexible, self-paced learning that can be accessed from anywhere with a high-speed internet connection, 24/7. Users will complete a self-assessment of their skills, identify any skill gaps, and automatically receive recommended courses to remediate those gaps. Jobseekers can train in essential workplace skills, study job interview talking points, and search for employment opportunities nationwide.

Available topics include Microsoft Office, Effective Customer Service, Project Management, Leadership, Critical Thinking, CompTIA, and many more.

Click here for a 1-minute video overview of SkillUp® Southern Maryland. To enroll online, learners can visit <http://southernmaryland.skillupamerica.org>.

Local businesses can take advantage of SkillUp® Southern Maryland for new hire training. Custom curricula can be developed pertinent to a particular employer or industry. Businesses can also access the platform's employer portal to identify skilled candidates or list their job openings. Interested employers can contact TCCSMD at SkillUp@tccsmd.org.

Smoke Alarms Save Lives

The National Fire Protection Agency estimated 1,291,500 fires in the U.S. These fires caused an estimated 3,704 civilian deaths; 16,600 civilian injuries; and \$14.8 billion in direct property damage. On average, a fire department responded to a fire somewhere in the U.S. every 24 seconds in 2019. A home structure fire was reported every 93 seconds, a home fire death occurred every three hours and 10 minutes, and a home fire injury occurred every 43 minutes.

Three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms.

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.

Test smoke alarms every month. If they're not working, replace them.

Talk with all family members about a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.

If a fire occurs in your home, GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL FOR HELP. Never go

Maryland Smoke Detector Law requires the replacement of any battery-only operated smoke alarm that is more than 10 years

old. Homeowners are required to



install an alarm that has a sealed-in battery.

For local information on preparedness and other safety topics contact the Department of Emergency Services or visit prepare.stmarysmd.com.

Press Release from St. Mary's Country government.

Regional Library Association Announces New CEO

The Southern Maryland Regional Library Association (SMRLA) Board of Trustees and staff are excited to announce the appointment of Ashley Teagle as SMRLA chief executive officer effective Oct. 26, 2020.

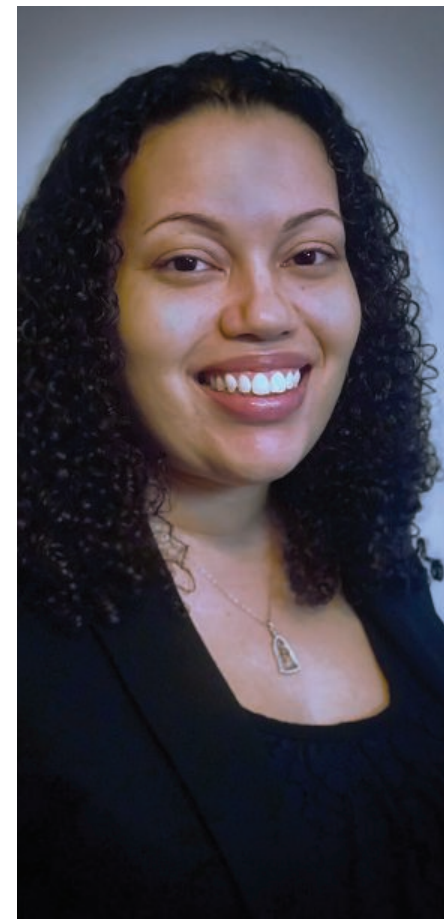
Teagle returns to Southern Maryland after having served as executive director of Wicomico Public Libraries. Prior to her time on Maryland's Eastern Shore, Teagle worked for Charles County Public Library in various capacities including in children's services, reference, and as a branch manager. She replaces former SMRLA CEO Sharan Marshall, who retired in April following 24 years of service.

"I am extremely grateful for this opportunity to support the public libraries of Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties," Teagle said. "I'm passionate about libraries and the benefits they provide to the community. I hope to help foster greater collaboration with and support for public libraries in Southern Maryland."

At Wicomico Public Libraries, Teagle led the library through the development of a new strategic plan and obtained funding for the future purchase of a new bookmobile.

A resident of Charles County, Teagle holds a B.A. in English and Communications Arts from Hood College and a Master's of Library and Information Science from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a member of the American Library Association; Public Library Association; Maryland Library Association (MLA); and the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. She is also a member of the MLA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force and a member of the Library Associate Training Institute Oversight Committee.

Formed in 1959, SMRLA lever-



Ashley Teagle

ages economies of scale to support the three Southern Maryland library systems with efficient, coordinated services. SMRLA operates the tri-county circulation and online catalog system known as COSMOS (Collections of Southern Maryland's On-Line System); provides access to downloadable books, ebooks, online research and information resources, and other free electronic services; runs the region's interlibrary loan system for books and materials; and organizes in-service training for library staff.

For more information about the Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, visit smrla.org.

Press Release from SMRLA.

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Legal Notices

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN FAIR SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 204

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of Leonardtown have passed, and the Mayor has approved, Ordinance No. 204, Critical Area Program. A fair summary of the ordinance will follow:

Ordinance No. 204, An ordinance for the purpose of repealing and reenacting Chapter 60 Critical Areas of the Code of the Town of Leonardtown pursuant to, and in conformity with, MD Code Ann., Natural Resources § 8-1801, et seq. and COMAR Title 27, Subtitle 1.

Ordinance No. 204 will become effective February 1, 2021. Full text of this ordinance may be obtained at the Town Office at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday or online on the Town's website at www.leonardtown.somd.com

By Authority:
Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN FAIR SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 205

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of Leonardtown have passed, and the Mayor has approved, Ordinance No. 205, Sale of Surplus Real Property, Acquisition of Real Property for Public Purpose and Exchange of Stormwater Management Easements. A fair summary of the ordinance will follow:

Ordinance No. 205, An ordinance for the purpose of 1) approving the sale of a portion of certain real property located on Courthouse Drive, Leonardtown, Maryland; 2) approving the purchase of certain real property located on Van Wert Lane; 3) approving the exchange of easements with Van Wert, LLC for the purposes of stormwater management and parking; 4) authorizing the Mayor and Town Administrator to execute all documents.

Ordinance No. 205, will become effective February 1, 2021. Full text of this ordinance may be obtained at the Town Office at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday or on-line on the Town's website at www.leonardtown.somd.com

By Authority:
Laschelle McKay, Town Administrator

Commissioners of Leonardtown Notice of Public Hearing

The Leonardtown Mayor and Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 4:15 pm at the Town Hall, 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD to hear comments on Resolution No. 2-20 request for Annexation of four (4) parcels consisting of 37.6845 acres +/- . More particularly described as the ST MARY'S ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, LLC PROPERTY (1), Tax Map 41, Parcel 0002, containing +20.4825 acres and ST MARY'S ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, LLC (2), Tax Map 41, Parcel 221, containing 0.5490 acres and VALLI INVESTMENTS, LLC PROPERTY, 42120 St. Andrews Church Road, Tax Map 41, Parcel 0057, containing 2.147 acres and STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION PROPERTY, described as a variable width public-rights-of-way as shown on State Road Commission of Maryland Right-of-Way Plat No.'s 52610-52612 containing 14.5040 acres.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend or to submit written comments by 4:00 p.m. on February 8, 2021 to the Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Special accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities upon request.

By Authority: Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

**If you would like to place a
LEGAL NOTICE contact**

AlDaileyCountytimes@gmail.com

ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

Arrests, Seizures in Narcotics Raid
In January of 2021, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Vice Narcotics Division executed 14 search and seizure warrants on numerous cases under investigation. The search warrants were executed with assistance from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Team, Vice Narcotics Support Team, Special Operations Division, and the Charles County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Team. As a result of the search warrants executed, five firearms, three vehicles, \$6,000 in currency, and various controlled dangerous substances (CDS) with a street value of \$7,500 were recovered.

The following individuals were charged in connection with the search warrants executed:

Lekuarius Clifford Plater, age 38 of Lexington Park

CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana (two counts)

CDS Distribution (two counts)

Lance Kelem Cutchember, age 39 of Valley Lee

Violation of Probation

Charlie Earl Horn, age 45 of Great Mills

CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute

CDS Distribution-Narcotic

Marquita Sherie Horn, age 36 of Great Mills

CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana (two counts)

CDS: Possession With Intent to Distribute/Conspire (two counts)

Markus Antonio Carter, age 23 of Lexington Park

Registered Firearm-Illegal Possession

Possession-Stolen Firearm

Possession of Shotgun-Disqualified Person

Possession of Short Barrel Shotgun
Illegal Possession of Ammunition
CDS: Possession of Marijuana
Norman Kenneth Dickerson, age 60 of Lexington Park

CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana

Michael Fitzgerald Dobbins, age 33 of Lexington Park

CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana

CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute

Firearm/Drug Trafficking Crime

CDS: Distribution with Firearm Possession of Short Barrel Shotgun

Possession of Shotgun-Disqualified Person

Regulated Firearm-Illegal Possession
All cases are pending review for additional charges with the Office of the State's Attorney for St. Mary's County.

Theft Suspect Sought

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person shown in a theft investigation. On Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021 between 2:30 and 3 am, the suspect stole six 26R type car batteries from the front of PowerTech Electric on Old Three Notch Road in Hollywood. The suspect is described as a white male, approximately 6' tall, weighing 200 lbs and wearing a hooded sweatshirt. The suspect made three trips, carrying the batteries two at a time, heading toward Sotterley Road.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call Cpl. Gray Maloy at 301-475-4200, ext. 78035 or email gray.maloy@stmarysmd.com. Case # 2656-21

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.



Norman Dickerson



Michael Dobbins



Theft Suspect



Lekuarius Plater



Lance Cutchember



Charlie Horn



Marquita Horn



Markus Carter

**Philip H. Dorsey III
Attorney at Law**

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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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Thursday: 10 AM - 7 PM

Friday: 10 AM - 7 PM

Saturday: 10 AM - 7 PM

Sunday: 11 AM - 5 PM

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Closed

22725 Duke Street, Leonardtown, MD
Behind the Volunteer Fire Department

Democrats, Republicans Not Easily Reconciled

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

President Joe Biden has been officially sworn to his new office this week as the nation's leader; his followers are jubilant and former President Donald Trump's supporters are largely deflated, many believing alleged election fraud stole a second term from him.

Attorney Shane Mattingly, who is also the St. Mary's County Democratic Central Committee Chair, said there can be reconciliation nationally and locally between the two parties to achieve Biden's vaunted goal of bringing the nation back together.

But it won't be easy, said Mattingly, and Republicans who hold on to the belief their candidate was cheated by claims of mass voter fraud in battleground states will hamper the process.

"There can't be healing unless we agree on what reality is," Mattingly told The County Times, evoking the memory of the Jan. 6 storming of the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. by a violent minority of Trump supporters who sought to stop the Electoral College certification of Biden's win.

"We had thousands of people storm the Capitol in an attempt to interfere with the Constitutional transfer of power... that's sedition and treason," Mattingly said. "There's this big lie that needs to be addressed, that Trump had the election stolen from him.

"He lost fair and square."

Mattingly's counterpart, David Willenborg of the St. Mary's Republican Central Committee, said the opinions of local GOP members run the gamut on whether Trump was cheated.

He, too, repudiated the violence at the Capitol.

"It's a Constitutional function, they're required to do it," Willenborg said of the Senate's duty Jan. 6. "They [violent protesters] shouldn't have done it."

Willenborg said he believed local divisions in the party will be healed by the next election cycle.



Shane Mattingly

"In two years we'll be back together and moving on."

Willenborg said he was "disgusted" by the breaching of the Capitol but that the protests that day were mostly peaceful.

"That's part of the DNA of our country is to be able to protest but when it turns to violence it has to be stopped," Willenborg said.

Mattingly said the incoming president's agenda must be focused on the single issue that has bedeviled the nation since early last year - COVID-19.

"He does seem to have a plan, where we didn't before," Mattingly said on Biden's vow to increase the distribution of vaccines. "Under the Trump administration, state's were basically left on their own to deal with the pandemic."

Aside from more resources for COVID testing and treatment, Biden has also proposed a massive \$1.9 trillion stimulus package to aid private citizens, and small business owners alike.

Mattingly said GOP concerns that continued stimulus bills, which are financed by debt generated by the U.S. Federal Reserve, could increase the danger of debasing the currency rang hollow.

"I certainly take with a grain of salt that Republicans are concerned about the national debt," said Mattingly after the debt vast-



David Willenborg

ly increased under the Trump administration. "We have a national health crisis and we have to get ahead of it."

While many in the GOP fear that Biden's political agenda will take the country to the far left political spectrum, Mattingly said the president's reputation suggested otherwise.

"His entire career seems to fit those [centrist] parameters," he said.

If Biden does not deal with COVID to such a degree that the national effort does not deal the disease a crippling blow, nothing else would matter much.

"It should be the central focus of his administration," Mattingly said. "I want him to deal with COVID, deal with it immediately, forcefully and effectively.

"Until you get ahead of COVID, nothing's going to bounce back."

Willenborg said he hoped the Biden administration would put an end to the second impeachment process against Trump, the first president in American history to be impeached twice.

This time, he was impeached for allegedly inciting the Jan. 6 Capitol riot but the Senate has yet to take up the case and Biden has already been sworn in.

Some legal scholars have argued that impeaching a president who

has already left office would be unconstitutional.

"I think the first thing for him [Biden] would be to end the impeachment," Willenborg said. "It's a waste of time."

Willenborg disagreed with critics of the Trump administration, that he reduced the esteem of American world-wide.

"Don't roll back the foreign policy," Willenborg said. "He did foreign policy well."

Biden has already signaled his willingness to return to a deal with Iran designed to limit that country's production of fissionable material for nuclear power.

Many fear Iran's ultimate goal is nuclear weapons.

"There is no trust when it comes to Iran," Willenborg said.

Biden has also expressed willingness to stop approvals for a multi-billion dollar oil pipeline project Keystone XL that would increase America's standing as an energy exporter.

"Look at all the jobs [that would be lost,]" Willenborg said. "That can't be good for the economy."

Willenborg was not sure what Biden's economic plan holds for St. Mary's County, which is heavily dependent on federal dollars.

"That depends on what happens with defense spending," he said.

Both local party leaders said each side had to stop hateful speech towards each other, but there were limits, Mattingly said.

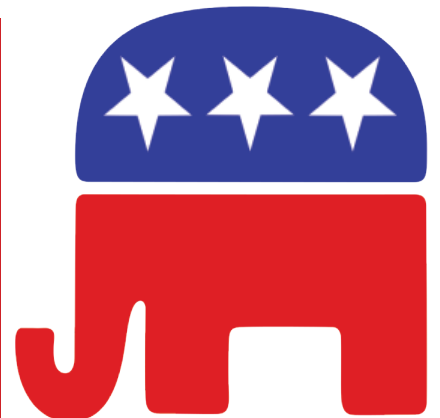
"We shouldn't ignore or vilify anybody just because they're part of another party," Mattingly said. "But you are what you do."

"I don't want to unify with Nazis or QAnon conspiracy nuts."

Willenborg said being civil meant keeping the opportunity open to bring someone around to an opposing point of view.

"These days the conversation is: 'If you don't agree with me, get lost,'" Willenborg said. "Once you do that, you've lost the opportunity to engage someone and to show them that some of your views have value."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



CSM Holds Virtual Winter Commencement

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) celebrated 754 candidates for 403 degrees and 500 certificates during its 22nd Winter Commencement held Jan. 15 during a spirited virtual ceremony held in a Facebook Live event.

Of the students celebrated during the online ceremony, 306 are from Charles County, 229 are from St. Mary's County, 167 are from Calvert County and 52 are from outside of the region. Twenty percent of the associate degree candidates graduated with honors. Sixty-five percent of the graduates are women and 35 percent are men.

The majority of degrees, or 26.6 percent, were in the field of arts and sciences, nursing (11.7 percent), criminal justice (7.2 percent) and business administration (6.9 percent). General study transfers, accounting, business management and cybersecurity were the primary certificates awarded. The oldest graduate is 63 years young and the youngest graduate is 18 years old.

The virtual ceremony drew more than 1,400 viewers. The annual tradition was marked with themes of perseverance, survival and resiliency – as students were recognized for succeeding despite the challenges of the global pandemic and a charged environment surrounding race relations and politics.

CSM student Domonique Rinaldi kicked off the event with a beautiful and riveting rendition of the national anthem followed by speeches, graduate photos and quotes, and a web page filled with well-wishes from local, regional and state politicians. Facebook viewers users left more than 411 comments and clicked their love, like and hug reaction buttons more than 150 times. Within an hour of the event, more than 1,117 people had interacted with the online ceremony.

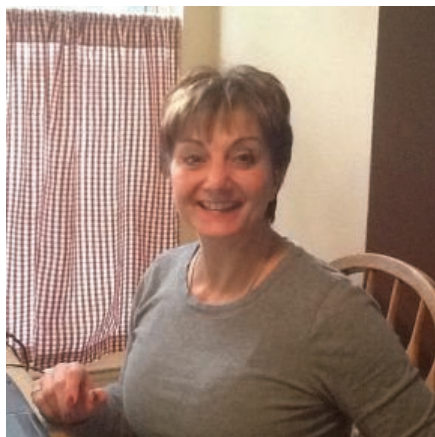
'You are the Role Models'

"Students gathered here today at graduation navigated a global pandemic along with the rest of the world that turned our lives upside down," began CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy. "Many of us felt the impact the pandemic has had on mental health and finances. Members of our community experienced food and housing insecurity – perhaps for the first time. And students, amid all this, you dealt with an emotionally charged environment around race relations and politics. But you decided what success would like for you and you chose the College of Southern Maryland. For that, I thank you. You've worked hard and you've earned the right to feel pride in your successes.

"We've entered a new world, and I find hope for all of us ... in you," Murphy continued. "You have proven you know how to overcome adversity. You are the role models for those who come after you. You have rewritten the story of success and you are now uniquely prepared to become the pioneers in our new post-pandemic world. I know you are ready. It is with great excitement that I will watch where you will take us."

Plot Twist and Opportunities

The keynote address was delivered by



CSM Com Jackie Curry

Christine Wray, FACHE, president of MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center and MedStar St. Mary's Hospital. She also serves as a senior vice president for MedStar Health.

Explaining that she is a huge movie buff, she shared that she can't wait for the day she and her husband can settle into the local movie theater and enjoy a new plot twist.

"The COVID 19 pandemic has been a plot twist for all of us," Wray told the students. "Thankfully, the fact that you're joining us now means that you were able to view this crisis as an opportunity to innovate and adapt. So much has been asked of our teachers and students this year. It is amazing to see the ways in which you have all collaborated toward common goals and remained committed to your education.

"You don't have to have all the answers now," she added. "You simply have to be ready to work hard and be the hero of your own story. How do I know you can do it? Because I see it every day in the bright committed people who have graduated from CSM and come to work at our hospitals. Their work ethic and willingness to go the extra mile for our patients is a testament to the skills and values instilled in you by your own families and experiences, and by your professors, fellow students and your college programs."

Wray acknowledged that obstacles in lives are unavoidable, but she hoped the graduates could "keep finding a way to turn a plot twist like COVID-19 into an opportunity to grow and touch the lives of others."

'You've taught me to Persevere'

Recalling that her two years at CSM flew by "in the blink of an eye," student speaker Joan Popoola shared how her time at the college shaped and molded her; taught her to think critically as an engineer; and succeed, fail, and work as a team. And it taught her how to "inspire and aspire" as a leader while keeping her faith foremost in all her actions.

"Most importantly," the Great Mills resident shared, "You – fellow CSM graduates – have taught me how to persevere."

Calling her attendance at CSM the best decision she ever made, she said her academic journey also taught her about service leadership.

"Attending CSM, I was able to join a few clubs such as the Engineering Club



CSM Com Joan Popoola

and the National Society of Black Engineers both of which work to help people in our community, whether it be mentoring girl and boy scout troops; giving coffee and doughnuts to first responders and police officers; or helping female students at CSM who don't know if engineering is the right field for them," she said. "Part of being empowered as a female engineer has been empowering other female students and letting them know how women and their unique strengths and perspectives are needed in the global engineering industry.

"I think my biggest takeaway from my time shared with you at CSM is that the myth that community colleges aren't as good as the bigger universities is false," she said. "CSM has an abundance of opportunities, but you have to be the one to take them."

'We are Proud of You'

Referring to the graduates as 'accomplished, survivors and completers,' CSM Vice President of Student Equity and Success Dr. Tracy Harris told the graduates he admired them for facing unrelenting challenges in both their personal and academic journeys over the last year.

"You may not understand completely – yet – what you've been through," he shared. "But we know what we witnessed of you. You were flexible, patient, resilient, and understanding that we all were adjusting to a new normal: Wearing masks, isolating and then only reuniting to small gatherings, and then Zooming, online proctoring, [having] study sessions on Microsoft Teams. Surviving unimaginable losses; but still making the grades."

"We are proud of you on this day because you forged ahead and got the job done," he said.

'Making a Difference'

CSM Professor of Communications and Faculty Senate President Dr. Sarah Merranko told the graduates to continue to be compassionate, caring, and contributors to the greater good.

"The world becomes a better place when we do good," said Merranko. "However, most people focus on individual success, rather than contributing to the greater good. Today you are graduating and going on to your next great adventures. Some of you will be continuing your education elsewhere, while others may be heading off into the workforce, or the military. The late President at Il-



CSM Com Miranda Shipman

linois Wesleyan University, Minor Myers Jr. said it best when he said, 'go into the world and do well. But more importantly, go into the world and do good.'"

Oldest Graduate Finishes with Double Major

At 63, Waldorf resident Jackie Curry said she wasn't surprised she was the oldest graduate in her class, but she was a little surprised when she looked back to realize it took her 14 years to earn two degrees; one in Arts and Sciences and one in General Studies.

"When I turned 50, I decided to make a change after a career in mortgage banking," Curry said. "After taking some time off for myself, I took a job as a high school instructional assistant with Charles County Public Schools ~ with no experience at all ~ and I quickly realized I needed to catch up with what was being taught in the classrooms. Then I switched to middle school, and was put in an eighth-grade algebra class and had no idea what was going on, so I enrolled at CSM."

Plus, Curry said she wanted to get her degree because everyone else in her family had one. "And I helped every one of them [husband, daughter, son] get through school," she laughed. And like the majority of students enrolled at CSM, Curry could only attend college on a part-time basis as she balanced her job and her family.

"It's funny," she reflected. "I ended up having some of my students I taught in public schools, in my college classes over the years."

Curry said she had a 'thorough' experience at CSM and over the years discovered a new fondness for the knowledge she gained in her Irish Literature class and her all-time favorite class: The History of Rock and Roll.

"The things I've done since I started working in the public school system really helped me at CSM, and vice versa," she said. "And being a student at CSM helped me look at things from the students' perspective when I was teaching. Every professor and teacher I had at CSM was understanding and helpful. I had a really great experience. I am able to use what I learned in my own classroom. I loved every minute of my time at CSM."

'CSM: 110% Best Decision I've Ever Made'

Press Release from CSM.

Theater Instructor Receives Adjunct Faculty Award

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) honored Theater Instructor Jan Adair, of Hollywood, with the college's 2020 Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award. The award, which was presented prior to the CSM's Winter Commencement Jan. 15, 2021, honors adjunct faculty for outstanding achievement in classroom teaching, contributions both to their department and the college, professional development and community commitment.

Adair has been an adjunct instructor at CSM for 14 years and before that spent 30 years teaching theater and English in the St. Mary's County school system where she is well-known for building the renowned theater program at Chopticon High School. Starting first as an adjunct English teacher, Adair moved to CSM's theater program when an opening became available in 2012.

"I've had the pleasure of working with Jan as Chair for six years, during which time she has been the senior theater instructor," wrote Acting Associate Dean of Liberal Arts and Chair of Visual and Performing Arts Stephen Johnson in his nomination form. "Jan has had excellent feedback from students throughout this period. As the lead general education instructor, Jan has consistently been flexible and willing to take on extra duties when it was for the good of the program."

According to Johnson, in fall 2019 and with the departure of the full-time theater instructor, Adair stepped up to fill in some needed slots for the Introduction to Theater class. She soon began the task of assessing the Theater 1010 class for its upcoming review. During the 2019-2020 school year, she continued working on the course and began collaborating with other theater adjuncts on curriculum design. Then COVID-19 arrived and Adair stepped up and immediately agreed to serve as Interim Coordinator for the theater program in summer 2020.

"She has proven to have boundless energy and dedication to the theater students throughout this time," Johnson said. "Now tasked with reviews for the remaining theater classes, she has led the adjuncts in the redesign of classes and a long overdue reassessment of the theater/dance degree plan into CSM's course pathways. She consistently receives high marks as a coordinator from our senior acting teacher, as well as the first-time costume, makeup, and stage management instructors. Jan has definitely made a mark on CSM's theater program and general education offerings."

"I built my course with a desire to share my love of theatre with students who might never actually get on a stage," Adair shared. "My goal was to develop educated, discerning consum-



Jan Adair

ers of a uniquely interactive form of storytelling."

Adair said she is also proud to have had a hand in deepening the online presence of the theater classes at CSM almost 10 years ago.

"It was quite a challenge to translate a theatre course with its exploratory classroom activities to an online format, while still maintaining the essential objectives of discovery," she shared. "I developed some innovative ways to get my students to achieve objectives in some of the practical areas like acting and stagecraft. For example, to explore effective acting, we learn about the technique, but then watch master actors in performance to see the techniques in action. I also have found some resources from professional designers to bring the tech areas of theatre to life."

Since moving to a fully remote learning environment in March 2020 due to COVID, Adair said she again had to raise the creative bar to help students find ways to attend live theatre.

"I have had students attend tribal dance demonstrations in Africa and Indonesian puppet theatre in Myanmar," she said. "I have assisted students who were TAD [temporary active military duty] in Las Vegas, and in South Carolina, to find local theatre productions that fit our criteria. When confronted with a military student who was working as a missionary in the Arctic Circle, I found alternatives for him which I since have used with students who were homebound with illness and throughout COVID. These students would have never completed the course without the changes and I have applied the format changes to further accommodate students with disabilities."

"The online environment has never been a big deal for me, and I think my students really enjoyed it," Adair added. "When you give students the license to be creative – and online is different – it always amazes me the different ways students deliver. It has been a challenge and a pleasure to meet each and every situation so that my students could succeed," Adair said.

Press Release from CSM.

CSM Ranks State's Fourth Best Online Community College

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) was named the fourth best online community college in Maryland based on affordability and convenience. The ranking comes from OnlineU and was based on 2020 program data including available degrees, tuition rates and programmatic accreditations, and profit statuses collected from accreditation agencies or from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

As a pioneer of distance learning, it was easy for CSM to continue its 20-year tradition of offering flexible online choices when the nation's public and private school systems, and colleges, were required to lift all classes to an entirely remote environment to help combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus in March 2020. In fact, CSM was a founding partner in the MarylandOnline (MOL) organization created in 1999 – which remains a consortium of Maryland's 16 community colleges, plus a few four-year institutions, dedicated to providing high quality online learning.

"[These] community colleges in the state of Maryland that make it possible for their students to earn an associate degree or certificate entirely online," OnlineU posted when releasing the rankings. "Ten of the schools on this list have annual tuitions under \$4,000, so attending these online community colleges is both affordable and convenient."

CSM's Online Choices

CSM's spring semester begins Jan. 19. All of CSM's credit classes during the spring 2021 semester will be taught primarily in a virtual environment. There will be differences, however, in how CSM's various course offerings will be presented. The classes will be offered via Real-Time Technology, web-based or in a hybrid fashion.

Web-based courses take place completely in a virtual environment, with no set or required meeting days or times. CSM has offered these classes for years, but now they are listed with a location of "Virtual Campus." Each term has a start and end date, but these classes do not have regularly scheduled dates and times for students to log in.

Real-Time Technology (RTT)

ONLINEU
BEST ONLINE
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES

Maryland

★ 2020 ★

courses take place in a virtual environment, with scheduled meeting days and times for live lectures and class activities. The campus location may be either a specific physical campus (La Plata, Leonardtown, Prince Frederick or Regional Hughesville) or the new "Virtual Campus."

Hybrid courses combine distance learning and in-person instruction. Some on-campus instruction or activity is mandatory for these courses, in order to meet requirements that can't be fulfilled remotely. Examples of the classes that may require on-campus instruction include courses for Emergency Medical Technicians or involving the trades and construction. Hybrid courses have physical campus locations for the on-campus component; have start and end dates; and have specific meeting days and times.

Learn more at <https://www.csmd.edu/apply-register/>.

About OnlineU: Since 2004, OnlineU has been helping students accomplish their educational goals by finding the online degree with the best value. By providing manually researched tuitions and salary data from alumni in their college rankings, as well as collecting over 13,000 reviews from online students, OnlineU hopes to empower more Americans to go to college while lowering the overall cost of earning a degree. OnlineU's rankings have been recognized by more than 475 colleges.

Press Release from CSM

Sabre Systems Contributes to Scholarship Fund

Sabre

SABRE SYSTEMS, INC.

Sabre Systems, Inc. contributed \$5,000 towards the Patuxent River Science & Technology (PRS&T) Consortium Scholarship Fund. The scholarship fund provides financial assistance to local students who are interested in pursuing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) degrees at St. Mary's College.

STEM education develops a future, competitive workforce of scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians to help sustain our growing global economy. This is especially important within St. Mary's County, where our local defense industry requires a STEM-trained and educated workforce to support the growing demands and technological advancements of the 21st century.

Sabre, along with five additional consortium members, pledged to contribute \$5,000 annually for a four-year period, totaling \$20,000 in contributions each. With St. Mary's College matching each \$5,000 donation with \$2,500 per student, each student will receive a total of \$7,500 in scholarship support per year. As part of the scholarship, students will participate in two credit-bearing internships and networking events that will help develop strong connections with local industry contractors. These activities introduce the community to known and trusted talent to fulfill future workforce needs and increases the likelihood of STEM alumni gaining post-graduation employment.

Sabre has been a long-term proponent of STEM initiatives, with a strong focus on providing educational opportunities within the Southern Maryland community. Sabre is proud to support the PRS&T Consortium Scholarship Fund because it offers educational opportunities for those who may not have otherwise pursued de-

grees while also positioning them for future success in their careers. Encouraging St. Mary's College students to engage with the Southern Maryland industry may also have a lasting impact on STEM related jobs in the local community.

Sabre President and CEO Glen Ives stated, "As a leading high tech solutions and services company, we see first-hand the tremendous opportunities in critical, relevant and growing technology domains like cyber, digitization, automation, artificial intelligence and machine learning, data science and analytics, cloud computing and autonomous systems. There hasn't been a more exciting time to be part of this ongoing wave of transformational technology development ... all with the idea of making our world a better, safer and healthier place for everyone. We also know that our future always starts with our workforce and the young and imaginative and creative minds that can sustain and advance technology growth and transformation to meet the many and growing requirements of our mission customers. Our students at St. Mary's College of Maryland represent the best and brightest and our support for the PRS&T Consortium Scholarship Fund is our sincere commitment to them and our future together."

To learn more about becoming a PRS&T consortium member, contact Lauren Sampson, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, at 240-895-3220 or lksampson@smcm.edu. Students interested in learning more about scholarship requirements should contact the Admissions Office at 1-800-492-7181 or admissions@smcm.edu.

Press Release from Sabre Systems, Inc.



Letters to the Editor

Airbnb Motels

To the Editor:

The following statement was delivered at the St. Mary's County Commissioners Public Forum on Tuesday, January 12:

I am here tonight to update the SMC Commissioners on the commercial Airbnb Motels operating in my residential waterfront neighborhood and to plead for restrictions to protect neighborhoods from this commercial encroachment.

A Dec. 10, 2020 Wall Street Journal article announced that Airbnb stock would be offered to the public on Dec. 17, 2020.

Airbnb is a \$47 billion worldwide commercial enterprise and the two Airbnb Motels within a nine-house span on Waterside Drive are franchises.

Airbnb's are not subject to zoning laws, are not owner-occupied, and do not need a permit. They are not taxed as commercial entities.

The average person renting out a room or house does not list it on the New York Stock Exchange.

Between May 14, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2020, I calculated 67 relentless turnovers of transients at the SandyBeach Airbnb Motel next door to me: an average of every 3.4 days – CLEARLY a commercial use.

The SMC Commissioners' written response to my Oct. 20, 2020 Public Forum appearance stated that rentals are permitted by the week, month, year.

I'm talking about by the DAY if not by the HOUR.

My voice is that of the only neighbor in such close proximity: SandyBeach Airbnb Motel is barely 15 feet away – too close between a commercial business and a private residence.

The SMC Attorney took action during the Summer of 2020 to

eliminate a commercial industrial park from my street – I'm asking now for restrictions on commercial Airbnb Motels similar to what Mayor Mahoney has done in Chesapeake Beach in Calvert County.

I'm requesting the SMC Commissioners to delegate to the proper authorities the cleanup of accumulated raw sewage from the old, abandoned failed sand mound system on the property of the SandyBeach Airbnb Motel. The contaminated effluent continues to run onto neighbors' properties, into the road, into a pond that drains into Breton Bay and into the Potomac River creating a PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS.

This old mound system has twice been declared and documented as failed for spewing raw sewage into the air by the St. Mary's County Health Department: ...in 2002 based on a complaint from another neighbor who has since moved away (no follow-up); and again based on my complaint prompted by COVID made in March 2020.

The old system was subsequently disconnected July 1, 2020 but the runoff continues, exacerbated by unprecedented rainfall.

In Closing

1. I invite all 5 SMC Commissioners to walk my property line

2. I ask the SMC Commissioners to enact an emergency text amendment to explore restrictions on commercial Airbnb motels in residential neighborhoods.

Couldn't I just SELL my house?

WHO would buy it?

Would YOU?

*Respectfully submitted,
Ellynn Brice Davis
Leonardtown, MD*



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CountyTimes

A View From The BLEACHERS



Talking Football

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

"I smiled and lit a cigarette. The scene was so unreal that I felt like laughing out loud – to find myself zipping along a New England freeway in a big yellow car, being chauffeured around by a detective while I relaxed in the back seat and talked about football with my old buddy Dick Nixon, the man who came within 100,000 votes of causing me to flee the country in 1960."

Hunter S. Thompson penned those words in his book "The Great Shark Hunt: Strange Tales from a Strange Time (Gonzo Papers, Volume 1)." The excerpt describes an unlikely meeting between the passionate Nixon antagonist and the then 1968 Republican presidential candidate. There was a catch, though: pro football was the only approved topic. As the story goes, Nixon's staff wanted to give the boss a chance to relax, and an eager writer probing about race riots and Vietnam wasn't going lower Nixon's blood pressure. Thompson, despite his frequent, biting and brilliant criticism of Nixon, was as knowledgeable about football as the future president – and Nixon's handlers knew it. So Thompson got the unlikely and coveted, if constrained, access. Given the heat of the time, it was likely a welcomed, disarming breather for both candidate and writer.

Over the last four years, I have often pondered the late 1960s, Thompson and Nixon. The corollaries between that chapter of American history and the present – racial tension, presidential calls for "law and order" but practices of lawlessness and chaos, an administration with disdain for the free press and a nation struggling to find common ground – are obvious. But a shared love of the NFL broke through those barriers in 1968. Briefly? Yes. With no real lasting change to the parties' relationship? True. But it happened – a proud politician and relentless critic, with the nation on fire, had a cordial discussion about a mutual passion.

Could the NFL help again in these turbulent times? Should it?

Ah, football – America's game. I watch it like no other sport. I love it, but the affection is tinged with conflict. My consternation started with "Concussion," the movie that

removed all doubt about the game's long-term health consequences for its participants. My beef with the NFL went next-level the following year with the vicious reaction to Colin Kaepernick kneeling during the national anthem to bring attention to racial injustice and the gap between our nation's creeds and reality.

It is curious what offends and what prompts only a casual shrug. Kaepernick, a courageous truth-teller, deserved our ear; instead, he got white America's fist and a consumer-pacifying career pink slip from the NFL. Four years later, George Floyd was murdered while under a white police officer's knee and a segment of America, many of whom vilified Kaepernick as unpatriotic and anti-military, were puzzled and put-off by the ensuing nationwide protests. Was this segment of America equally as outraged by the mob of mostly white insurrectionists who attacked the Capitol, the crucible of American democracy, two weeks ago?

This is an uncomfortable episode for all Americans to consider - but for different reasons depending on the acceptance of truth or baseless conspiracy. Regardless, the NFL, and pro football more broadly, is intertwined in this reflection point in American history. In theory, football is still one of the great shared cornerstones of our society. But it has struggled, intentionally at times, to lead social progression. I get it – conscience is the only incentive for a wealthy white male dominated league that is printing money to rattle the status quo and tweak the financial golden goose. And with a pro football ownership fraternity that counts deviants like Dan Snyder, Jerry Jones, Eddie DeBartolo, Jim Irsay, Jerry Richardson, Robert Kraft and Donald Trump among its current and former members, odds are slim this group will ever follow a moral compass.

Still, we are a mess and in desperate need of a coalescing agent. The NFL is flawed, contradictory and even hypocritical, but it is, regardless of political persuasion, the great American game. So, I suppose, let us chat about football like it is 1968, perhaps passing on the cigarette this time...

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

Winter Turkey Season Now Open



Photo by Isaac Bonneville

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces the opening of the winter turkey season, which runs statewide from January 21-23 for hunters who did not harvest a turkey during the 2020 fall season.

Hunting hours are from one half-hour before sunrise to one half-hour after sunset. The bag limit is one turkey of either sex.

"Wild turkey populations are at record high levels in many areas of Maryland," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "The winter hunt provides an additional opportunity to bag a turkey when many hunters are putting their

gear away for the season."

During the winter turkey season, hunters may only use shotguns loaded with No. 4 shot or smaller, crossbows, vertical bows, or air-guns that shoot arrows or bolts.

illegal to hunt turkeys with the aid of bait. Hunters are required to check in their harvest via phone at 888-800-0121, online, or via the department's mobile app.

The Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping provides information about winter turkey hunting, including season open dates and regulations.

Press Release from MD DNR.

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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

Rice, Moore NAS Patuxent River Civilians of the Year

By Donna Cipolloni
NAS Patuxent River Public Affairs

Assistant Security Officer/Installation Antiterrorism Officer Jason Rice and Patrolman 1st Class Russell Moore were named the NAS Patuxent River Senior and Junior Civilians of the Year, respectively.

“The analytical rigor put into the competition by the Command Awards Board for the ‘of the year’ recognition is intense, and the members took several hours deliberating this year’s Civilians of the Year, who both represent the Security Department,” said NAS Patuxent River Commanding Officer Capt. John Brabazon, who is not involved in the voting. “Congratulations to Jason Rice and Officer Russell Moore. I’ve learned how personal our security mission is for many members of our team. Our civilian teammates continue to be the heart and soul of Team Pax and we are proud to be their shipmate.”

Jason Rice

In addition to his normal duties, which also include Command Antiterrorism Training Team Leader and Training Program Manager, Rice accomplished the following:

- Re-wrote and updated the Pax Riv-



er Antiterrorism and Physical Security Plans to comply with CNIC and USFF requirements

- Developed comprehensive Short and Long Range Training Plans for the installation

- Demonstrated professional ability during the planning and execution of the 2020 Citadel Shield/Solid Curtain exercise; the 2020 CNIC-led Virtual Program Review; and the NDW 2020 Regional Assessment visit

- Significantly improved the installation AT score from 54% to 93% during a three-phase training cycle

Rice advises the NAS commanding officer on all threats and criminal activity on and around Pax River and provides security management in support of three installations, 52 tenant commands, 800+ buildings, more than 25,000 daily visitors and \$3,600,000,000 installation-wide assets, in addition to the Presidential Helicopter and F-35B/C integrated test facilities; NAVAIR/NAWCAD; U.S. Naval Test Pilot School; and VQ-4 strategic TACAMO aircraft; and oversees law enforcement operations which includes four watch stations and staff totaling 191 military and civilians.

“Mr. Rice’s conduct and attitude have been beyond reproach,” wrote NAS Patuxent River Security Officer Lt. Jesse Izdepski, in Rice’s nomination package. “He has superbly led and supported his team, demanding excellence from his personnel and enabling them to excel under all circumstances.”

ski, in Rice’s nomination package. “He has superbly led and supported his team, demanding excellence from his personnel and enabling them to excel under all circumstances.”

Russell Moore

While performing his duties as a Navy Security Force Patrolman, Patrol Supervisor, and Reaction Force Member, Moore displayed exceptional levels of leadership and management acumen resulting in the following noteworthy accomplishments:

- Graduated from the 524-hour hour Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Uniformed Police Training Program
- Qualified as an NSF Patrolman, Patrol Supervisor, and Watch Commander – all positions normally held by higher GS-level personnel
- Qualified as a Field Training Officer responsible for training/qualifying new military and civilian NSF patrolmen
- Qualified as a Reaction Force Team Member – a first responder for intrusions, active shooters, and all emergencies
- Member of the Command Antiterrorism Training Team, and the Command In-



tegrated Training Team

- Completed six FEMA Emergency Management Institution courses

Moore’s training was put to use Oct. 28 when he responded to a report of a possible active shooter at Webster Field where he met additional military and civilian responding units, formed a Reaction Force, and made a tactical entry in the building in question, where the suspect was eventually detained without incident. Moore then coordinated with units on the ground to facilitate administrative processing, suspect and witness questioning, and provide detailed information to NCIS, Incident Command, and the Emergency Operations Center.

“PFC Moore is always dependable and demonstrates strong initiative evidenced by his drive and focus to excel professionally,” wrote NAS Patuxent River Security Office Lt. Jesse Izdepski, in his nomination package. “At the same time, he also coordinates and supports command-sponsored community outreach programs and activities such as the 2020 “National Night Out”, “Trunk or Treat,” and Toys for Tots” events which build trust and positive relations between law enforcement and the communities in which first responders serve.”

Both Rice and Moore will now advance to the Naval District Washington Region level of competition.

NAS Patuxent River Announces 2020 Sailors of the Year

By Donna Cipolloni
NAS Patuxent River Public Affairs

The Sailor of the Year Program was established by the Chief of Naval Operations to recognize the superior performance of enlisted personnel, pay grades E-1 to E-6, and emphasize outstanding achievement and professionalism, exemplary personal conduct, command impact, mission contribution, dedication to self-improvement, and superb initiative.

Congratulations go out to Naval Aircrewman 1st Class Jonathan Smitherman, NAS Senior Sailor of the Year; Aviation Boatswains Mate (Handling) 2nd Class Iris Aquino, NAS Junior Sailor of the Year; and Aviation Boatswains Mate (Handling) 3rd Class David Miller, NAS Bluejacket of the Year.

Aws1 Jonathan Smitherman Search & Rescue Operations Leading Petty Officer

- Supervised 13 Sailors in the exe-

cution of 562 flight hours, supporting 24/7 coverage for high visibility test events across 52 tenant commands

- Dedicated leadership resulted in two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals; seven Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals; three Flag Letters of Commendation; two Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medals; two MAPs; two promotions; and a 100% retention rate

- Unrelenting perseverance and steadfast devotion to duty reflected credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. naval service

Abh2 Iris Aquino Airfield Services Division Section Leader

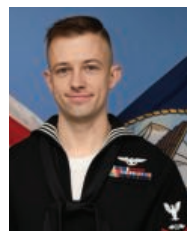
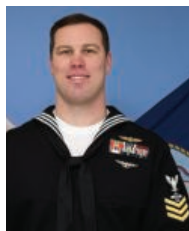
- Led 21 Sailors in the completion

of over 5,200 preventive and corrective maintenance actions totaling more than 4,563 man hours

- Expertise ensured Pax River’s Trapnell Airfield was 100% mission ready at all times, resulting in an overall grade of “Outstanding” on the 2020 Carrier Airfield Service Unity Inspection and Certification

Abh3 David Miller Assistant Airfield Services Division Section Leader

- Led 10 Sailors in the completion of more than 5,200 preventive and corrective maintenance actions, totaling 4,563 man



hours

- Expertise ensured Pax River’s Trapnell Airfield was 100% mission ready at all times, resulting in an overall grade of “Outstanding” on the 2020 Carrier Airfield Service Unity Inspection and Certification

The Sailors’ exceptional professionalism, unrelenting perseverance, and selfless devotion to duty reflected credit upon themselves and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. naval service.

“We are very proud of these Sailors who have demonstrated outstanding skill and leadership by example,” said NAS Patuxent River Command Master Chief Abel Griego. “I look forward to seeing these young leaders taking the initiative to mentor peers and subordinates to continue the strong tradition of achievement and recognition of our Pax Pros.”

St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 71658

Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 71050

Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 73101

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

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

Videos from Aging & Human Services

The Department of Aging & Human Services is proud to announce our brand new Virtual Senior Activity Center and YouTube page! Go to <https://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/virtual-senior-center/> or www.youtube.com, keyword SMC Aging & Human Services, to see what we have for you! There are more videos coming soon!

First Project for Independent Sewing Club Announced

Do you like to sew? Do you want to make a project once a month and bring it by the Loffler Senior Activity Center to show staff at our monthly Curbside Reveal Event? For the month of January, make an APRON in any design or pattern you desire. Then show it to us on Wednesday, February 10. Reservation required. We will take a picture of you and your project to post on our Facebook Page, plus slip the next assignment in your car for you to work on until Wednesday, March 10 when we have our next Curbside Reveal Event. To participate and make a reservation to show your project or for more information, e-mail Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com or leave a voice mail message at 301-475-4200, ext. 1655.

How to Give Yourself a Reflexology Session

Holistic Wellness Practitioner and Licensed Reflexologist Sarah Strain will guide you through the basic steps of a self-reflexology session on Friday, Feb. 12, at 10 a.m. Learn how to improve your

circulation, reduce stress and pain by applying pressure to various reflex points on your feet and hands. Educational as well as fun, this session is available for up to 20 people via Zoom. Register by e-mail: Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com.

Cooking for One or Two (Virtual Class on Zoom)

Cookbook author and Chef/Owner of No Thyme To Cook, a culinary school in Solomon's Island, will be offering a cooking class via Zoom just for us! We will be preparing a selection from her latest book One Pot Supreme, a collection of delicious and easy recipes that can be made in one cooking vessel. For this class, we've chosen Baked Ravioli with Sausage & Spinach

which will be accompanied by an interesting salad and dressing. The first 10 individuals to sign up will have their registration fee covered by the Senior Center Operating Funds Grant. All participants will still need to purchase the recipe ingredients on their own. Once we have reached 10 people on the registration list, the fee will be \$25 plus the cost of ingredients for any other individuals wishing to register. The class will be held live via Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m. Please note: Must have at least 10 participants for this event to happen. Register by e-mail: Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com.

Chair Assisted Yoga via Zoom

Boost your immunity, strengthen your bones, reduce stress, and increase your flexibility. These are just some of the scientifically proven benefits of yoga. Join Kar-

en Weaver on Tuesdays and Gail Wathen on Fridays through Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. for a gentle chair assisted class to help you in your pursuit of better health. Classes will consist of seated postures that focus on opening the joints, standing postures to increase strength and flexibility, and a relaxation/meditation that will help to reduce stress. Sign up for one or both days. Attendees must have an active email address, high speed internet and a computer or tablet enabled with a webcam and microphone. Space is limited; St. Mary's County residents will be given priority. To register, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1080.

Art Classes via Zoom!

The Garvey Senior Activity Center is excited to announce upcoming art workshops taught by instructors at the College of Southern Maryland. Classes will be held remotely via Zoom. Funding for this series is supplemented by the Garvey Senior Activity Center Council, Inc. and the St. Mary's County Arts Council. The first class, Introduction to Drawing: Put Pencil to Paper, is Thursday, Jan. 21, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$5 and includes instruction via Zoom and supplies. Curbside supply pick-up is Jan. 19 at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. Pre-register by calling the Garvey Senior Activity Center at 301-475-4200, ext. 1080. Payment and supply pickup instructions will be given during preregistration. Ask for information about future art classes!

Arthritis Foundation Exercise

Arthritis Foundation Exercise

with Debbie Buckler is available virtually each Wednesday at 10 a.m. via Zoom. Debbie is excited to have you work out with her. Get ready to strengthen and loosen those muscles! If you're interested in participating, please email MarieNoelle.Lautieri@stmarysmd.com, and your email address will be added to the participant list. You will receive an email each Wednesday morning with instructions so you can join the class using your computer. Debbie is an enthusiastic instructor who you will love to exercise with.

Wanted: Senior Pen Pals

Would you like to be a correspondent friend to someone from a younger generation? Someone with whom to exchange cards and share personal experiences of historical moments (Where were you when President Kennedy was shot?) statistics (How much was a candy bar when you were ten years old?), maybe offer some pearls of wisdom you've picked up over the years. Would it be interesting to learn about perspectives of someone who is/was growing up in the digital age? Perhaps a younger person also has some information/advice that you can use! We are looking for people who would like to develop a relationship via mail with others from an era different than their own. You could be paired with a child, a teenager or an adult, but it is an opportunity to enjoy a new friendship in an old format. Contact Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com if you are interested in having a new pen pal. (We are preparing for up to 25 seniors to participate.)

Southern Maryland

Online

Your Online Community for Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties

Stop by & see what Southern Maryland Online has to offer! Stay abreast of community happenings, speak your mind, & make new friends in the forums, or buy & sell in the most popular classified market in the area.

www.somd.com

St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Thursday, January 21

CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RS-VPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

Friday, January 22

Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID-19. Beth Israel Synagogue

will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7 PM. Check our website calendar (bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html) for event details.

Saturday, January 23

Annual Appraiser Fair

St. Clements Island; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The public must make an appointment to see an appraiser by calling St. Clement's Island Museum at 301-769-2222 during museum hours. Only one appointment per person to see one Fine Arts appraiser will be allowed. Each appointment is 10 minutes long and is good for a maximum of 2 items. The Appraiser's Fair provides an opportunity for the public to learn the value of their

heirlooms and how to properly care for them. Appraisers will be available to offer oral appraisal to members of the public for the following categories: fine arts, coins, and currency. The fine arts category includes ceramics, pottery, glassware, artwork/paintings, music boxes and small furniture pieces. Items in this category are limited to two items per person at a fee of \$5 per item. Other category fees are \$5 each.

Tuesday, January 26

Grief Support Group

Calvary Chapel; 7 p.m.

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. The support group meets weekly. You are welcome to begin attending at any point. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. For more information call the church office and leave a message at 301-645-0660 or email us at admin@ccsomd.com.

Wednesday, January 27

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)

DAV Assistance Program

St. Mary's Square ReStore; 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Veterans - do you have a service-connected disability? Did you receive an injury while on active duty and are now filing for disability through the Veterans Administration (VA)? The Disabled American Veterans organization is here to assist you with those VA forms at no cost to you.

These men and women (who are disabled veterans) are volunteers who ensure you are placing the proper information in the proper blocks and advise you on common mistakes that are made on these VA forms. Their spaces are toward the rear of the building on the left side. Stop by and see if we can be of assistance to you. No appointment necessary.

Thursday, January 28

CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RS-VPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

Ongoing

COVID-19 Appointment-Free Testing

Lexington Park Office:

Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

46035 Signature Lane, Lexington Park (co-located with U-Haul Moving & Storage)

For assistance or accommodations, call ahead to (301) 862-1680

Leonardtwn Office:

Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

21580 Peabody Street, Leonardtown

For assistance or accommodations, call ahead to (301) 475-4330

SMCHD COVID-19 Testing:

Walk up for testing, parking is available

Appointment-free

No doctor's order needed

Free of Charge (no out-of-pocket cost, co-payment, co-insurance, etc.)

Bring health insurance information and identification, if possible - Uninsured community members are welcome.

Pet

OF THE WEEK
MEET JOJO



Everybody deserves somebody who makes them look forward to tomorrow!

Hello there, my name is Jojo.

My wonderful friends here at TCAS say I'm a GOOD, GOOD CAT. I've been REALLY AWESOME at the shelter and I'm so AMAZINGLY FRIENDLY! They really feel I deserve a home where I can be LOVED AND SPOILED. You can currently visit me at the Petco in La Plata. Hurry because I'm so excited to spend our tomorrows together! Email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov if you want to adopt me. BE MY MIRACLE and PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life. 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>

TRI-COUNTY
ANIMAL
SHELTER

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

Mary Jeanette "Jean" Raley Brown



Mary Jeanette "Jean" Raley Brown, 82, passed peacefully Sunday, January 17, 2021 at her home in Leonardtown surrounded by her loving family. Jean was born October 14, 1938, the second of four children, to the late Joseph Howard Raley, Sr. and Mary Jeanette Russell Raley and raised on a farm in Clements. Her siblings are Charles Raley of Lexington Park, and Carolyn (Bubby) Norris of Chaptico. In addition to her parents, Jean was also predeceased by her older brother Joseph "Joe" Raley, Jr.

The Raley family attended St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Morganza. Jean graduated from St. Joseph's School in 1952 and from Margaret Brent High School in 1956. Soon after graduation she began working at the John R. Drury Insurance office in Leonardtown. Jean married Ralph Hewitt Brown on February 16, 1963 at St. Joseph's and moved to the Brown family farm in Leonardtown where they built their home. She promoted herself from the insurance office to fulltime wife, mother and homemaker in 1967 at the time of her first child's birth. Two more children followed, and her hard work continued, including working on the farm with Ralph. She did whatever was needed, from preparing meals to climbing in the barn to help hang tobacco. Together, Jean and Ralph always managed to make the ends meet and keep them tied. They instilled in their children belief and faith in God, devoted commitment to family, and a strong work ethic. Each week started by attending Mass at St. Aloysius.

In addition to her husband, Ralph, and siblings Charles & Carolyn, Jean is survived by her sons David (Lisa) of Mechanicsville and Michael (Dora) Brown of Leonardtown, and daughter Diane (Rick) Gooding of Leonardtown. She is also survived by her greatest source of pride and joy, her seven grandchildren who knew her as "Maw Maw," Taylor Brown, Madalyn

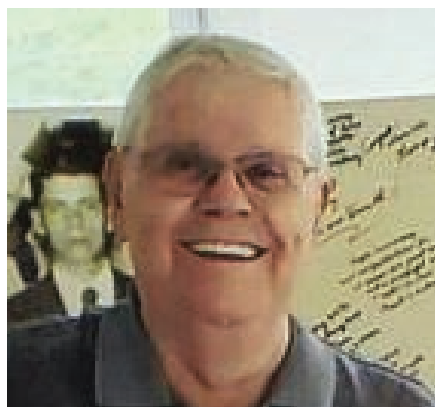
Gooding, Britney Brown, Dylan Brown, Breana Brown, Laci Brown and Colby Brown. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive Aunt Jean. She was a role model example to us all and is now soaring with the angels and cardinals.

In addition to nurturing her family, Jean enjoyed cooking, baking, vegetable and flower gardening, canning, recipe collecting, playing cards, cowboy movies, good, old country music, doing crossword, wordsearch, sudoku and jigsaw puzzles, sitting on her porch and watching the birds, especially hummingbirds, as they visited her feeders and birdbath, and just about anything that was red. She cooked for and hosted many family and holiday meals. Everyone loved her cooking and there were many things she simply made "the best of."

Services for Jean will include viewing at Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home on Friday, January 22, 2021 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. with an 11:00 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Aloysius Church followed by interment at St. Aloysius Cemetery, all in Leonardtown. Pallbearers will be grandsons Dylan & Colby Brown and nephews Chip Raley, Mark Norris, Gary Norris, and Randy Raley. Honorary pallbearers will include granddaughters Taylor, Britney, Breana & Laci Brown and Madalyn Gooding along with Jean's remaining nieces and nephews, near and far.

Donations in honor and memory of Jean may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, or the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services.

Thomas Frederick "Tommy" Gray



Thomas Frederick "Tommy" Gray, 86, of Hollywood, MD, passed away peacefully on January 14, 2021, at his home with his loving family by his side.

Tommy was born in Chaptico, MD, on May 31, 1934, to Frederick

Carroll "Freddie" and Mary Elizabeth Anderson Gray. He was Freddie and Mary's first-born child and grew up working on the farm. Tommy married his sweetheart, Agnes Patricia "Pat" Hall Gray, on June 26, 1954. Together they celebrated 66 years of marriage, had five children, and built a foundation of love and faith on which their family has grown.

After graduating from St. Mary's Academy in Leonardtown, MD, in 1952, Tommy was on the road the majority of his life. His favorite motto was to Keep on Truckin'. Tommy drove a truck for Southern MD Transportation for several years, traveling to and from Baltimore making deliveries daily. In 1989, he bought the company and turned it into Government Contract Services (GCS). As owner of GCS, Tommy provided logistical support to the U.S. Government which included hauling secret and classified material. The best part of Tommy's business was that his devoted wife and two sons worked alongside him until his retirement in 2014.

Tommy enjoyed playing pitch and catching the jack with a big thump on the table (like father like son!) He was a great card player and also

loved playing the slot machines, especially at Horseshoe and Dover Downs. Often times after delivering a GCS shipment to the Dover Air Force Base, he would swing by Dover Downs just to try his luck.

Tommy was quite the rascal and his jokes would have even the best blushing. He was quick-witted and ALWAYS smiling, which he said made others wonder what he was up to next. Tommy had an infectious, likeable, and easy-going personality. Every stranger was a friend, and because of his honesty and personality, many of his GCS customers became lasting friends of the family.

As a husband, Tommy was very attentive and doted on his beloved wife, Pat. He could not do enough to help her out around the house and was sad when he could no longer do all that he wanted to make her comfortable. Every morning, they would sit with their coffee and say their prayers together. Every night, he would say to her "Good night darling. I love you darling. Sweet dreams darling. Dream about me darling." Pat was the love and light of his life. Their faith in our Lord and in each other was truly a blessing to witness.

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In Remembrance

Tommy loved all of his family "so very very much", and you could not visit him often enough. Although he was a jokester, his children and other family members could always count on him for the best advice. He was a wonderful father who gifted his children with unconditional love. He would call them everyday just to hear their voices and see how they were doing; he always wanted to be present in their lives. His children knew his love was a guarantee and that he would always welcome them with loving and open arms.

As a grandfather, Tommy embraced all of his grandchildren with everlasting love, respect, and kindness. He wouldn't let a day go by without reminding them just how much he loved and cared about them. Tommy's grandchildren knew that whenever they walked onto his front porch, they would be greeted with a big ole' smile, followed by a hug and a kiss. His face would light up whenever he saw any of his grandchildren, no matter the occasion. Tommy made sure their lives were filled with endless memories of love and laughter. His love was one of the purest and sweetest kinds, leaving an unmistakable mark on all of their hearts forever.

He is survived by his loving wife, Pat, and five children Patricia Anne "Patti" Johnson (Kenny); John Bernard "Johnny" Gray (Sally) both of Hollywood, MD; Michael Anthony "Tony" Gray (Donna) of Mechanicsville, MD; Mary Susan "Susie" Norris (Ricky) of Hollywood, MD; Catherine Marie "Cathy" Propst (Brian) of Glen Burnie, MD, and a special granddaughter/caregiver Christina Leigh "Christi" Johnson Sabol (Bill) of Dundalk, MD. He is also survived by his brothers William Bernard "Bunny" Gray (Joyce) of Citrus Heights, CA; Charles Patrick "Charlie" Gray (Wilma) of O'Fallon, MO; Robert "David" Gray (Mary) of Hollywood, MD; Ralph Thelbert Gray (PeeWee) of Mechanicsville, MD; sister-in-law Peggy Berry; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends all who love him very much. He was predeceased by his parents, his brother James Anthony "Jimmy" Gray, and sister, Mary "Rosalie" Carpenter.

The family would like to express our sincerest gratitude for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers on Tommy's passing. Until we meet again...

Memorial Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church, 43950 St. John's Road, Hollywood, MD 20636.

Francis DeSales "Frankie" Lacey, Sr.



Francis DeSales "Frankie" Lacey, Sr. 81, of Avenue, MD passed away on January 12, 2021. He was born on October 3, 1939 in Oakley, MD. He was the son of the late Ann Gertrude Quade Lacey and George Albert Lacey.

Frankie is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Barbara Jean Wathen Lacey and his children Gloria Grinder (Ronnie) of Avenue, MD, Donna Faunce (Terry) of Leonardtown, MD, Cheryl Faunce (Dale) of Clements, MD, Karen Buckler (Timmy) of St. Leonard, MD, and Francis "Rusty" Lacey, Jr. (Melissa) of Avenue, MD, as well as 8 grandchildren – Joseph "TJ" Faunce (Tammy), Amy Williams (Darrell), Madison Edelen (John), Dylan Faunce, Nathan Grinder, Declan Lacey, Collin Lacey, and Brooklyn Lacey, and 7 great grandchildren – Mackenzie Landau-Long, Mia Young, Madison Faunce, Kyle Williams, Chloe Williams, Olivia Faunce, and Nolan Faunce.

He was preceded in death by his siblings Joseph Lacey, Helen Seymour, Elizabeth "Puddin" Huseman, George "Dink" Lacey, Eleanor Russell, Thomas Lacey, William Lacey, Lorraine Hall, John "Stevie" Lacey, Robert "Bobby" Lacey, Jim Ed Lacey, and his "adopted brother" Willie Hill.

Frankie will be remembered as a man who was hard working, kind, dependable, faithful, and fun loving. As a young man, he drove a delivery truck, farmed tobacco, and worked as a brick layer. Later, he started his own masonry business and was a school bus contractor for St. Mary's County Public Schools. He had great faith in God and was a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Bushwood, MD and also attended mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Solomon's, MD. His love for community was demonstrated by his service in (and later his support of) the fire department, at church dinners, school fundraisers, and at various functions supporting the Sea

Scouts. He was very generous with his time, talent, and resources and could always be counted on to lend a hand to someone in need. He could fix anything (appliances, cars, or toys) and if he couldn't fix it, one of his brothers could. He never turned down a project. In his spare time, he liked to go out with friends, play cards, fish or just go for a boat ride, watch NASCAR races, travel and spend time with his family. He was loved deeply and will be truly missed.

Darrell Peter Frerichs



Darrell Peter Frerichs, "Tiny", 77, of Loveville, MD formerly from Clarksville, IA passed away at his home on January 6, 2021. He was born on September 22, 1943 in Clarksville, IA and was the son of the late Pauline Matilda Wedeking Frerichs and George Henry Frerichs. Darrell was the loving husband of Sandra Sue Butler Frerichs whom he married on June 7, 1964 in Adamsville, OH. Along with his children; Jeff Frerichs of Monroe, TN, Tim Frerichs of Hollywood, MD, Bobbie Mather of Huntsville, AL 7 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. Siblings Norma Sulentic of Waterloo, IA and Joyce Fenneman of Clarksville, IA. He was preceded in death by his siblings; Gladys Degrotte, Lavonne Flugga, Marva Crowe, and August Frerichs. Darrell graduated from Clarksville High School in 1961.

Darrell served in the United States Navy from 1961 to 1981. He served during the Vietnam War, and had multiple duty stations. He moved from Virginia Beach, VA to St. Mary's County, MD in March, 1981. Darrell was a Field Engineer for BAE Systems for 22 years, retiring in 2003. After retiring he volunteered for a number of years driving the Charlotte Hall Veterans Activity Bus.

He enjoyed woodworking, shooting black powder guns, practical jokes, photography, blue grass music and family.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at

2:00 PM in St. Paul's United Methodist Church Mechanicsville, MD.

Contributions may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church 37707 New Market Tuner Road Mechanicsville, MD 20659. www.stpaulssomd.org

Patrick Henry McGuire

McGuire, Patrick Henry, 81, passed peacefully on Sunday, January 17, 2021, 1:25pm at his home in Maryland. Patrick spent his final months in the care of his son Greg McGuire, daughter-in-law Tammy and his grandchildren Josh, Jake and Tommy in Great Mills, MD after moving from Holiday, FL where he resided the past 25 years. He passed peacefully with Greg and Tammy at his side.

Pat was a graduate of Harding High School, a member of the US Marine Corps & worked for Packard

Electric until he retired. He loved golfing at Timber Greens in FL where the club nick-named him the "Pace Setter" as he & his group were the first to tee off every Saturday. His other passions were helping countless people on their road to recovery from addiction and The Ohio State Buckeyes.

As the tenth of 10 children, Pat was preceded in death by his parents, James and Amelia (Loibl) McGuire; his sisters, Claire McGuire and Suzanne Hayes, as well as his five brothers James, Bernard, Robert, Thad and Ronald McGuire.

Pat is survived by two sisters Edie Hitchcock and Helene Haughney of CA and four sister-in-law's:

Lucille (Guarnieri) McGuire/Bayman, Sheila McGuire, Charlene McGuire and Lucy McGuire.

Pat is survived by his three sons and their families: Steven and wife Deanna McGuire of Catawba, NC, Greg and wife Tammy McGuire of Great Mills, MD, and Patrick and wife Katie McGuire of Warren, OH; his five grandsons Tommy, Josh, Jake, Michael and Seth, and two great-grandchildren.

Pat was a private person and will have no calling hours and/or funeral. The family requests that any memorial contributions be made to your local animal shelter and/or local Hospice organization.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's County, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Patricia Viola Rose

Patricia Viola Rose, 66, of Cal-laway, MD, passed away peacefully on January 14, 2021 at her home, with her loving husband at her side.

She was born on November 16, 1954 in King George, VA to the late James Linwood Rose and K. Patri-



cia Taylor Rose.

She was employed for over 18 years by the Department of Defense as a skilled financial analyst. On November 13, 2020, she married her long time love, Marcus "Tyrone" Harris, Sr. They celebrated over 16 years of love prior to their marriage. She enjoyed vacationing in the mountains of Western Maryland and Virginia. She was a delicious cook with one of her specialties being corn pudding. She canned the harvest she grew. She enjoyed nature and fed over 38 different species of birds that came to her flower gardens. Her hobbies included photography, especially of nature. Other hobbies included listening to music, particularly Rhythm and Blues and Country. She loved spending time with her family, who were her greatest loves, including her pet Chihuahua, Precious.

In addition to her husband she is also survived by her sons, Christopher Z. Ordiway of Seattle, WA and Michael Z. Ordiway of Inglewood, FL; her grandchildren: Selene, Sirus, Sarek and Cailou; her great-grandchildren: Kaelyn Viola, Jaiden, Hazael, and Chozen; her mother-in-law, Bernezia Elizabeth Green of Baltimore, MD; her aunts, Alicia Garnett, Lillian Guy, Brenda Gibbs, and Sylvia; her uncles, Robert Taylor and Joe Taylor; and her special friends, Jason Dyson, Larry Chase, Michelle "MeMe" Cogar, and Maria Scott. In addition to her parents, she is also preceded in death by She is preceded in death by her parents, siblings Brenda Arlene Jones, Donna Darlene Riley.

All services will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, Post Office Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Condolences may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Lt. Danny Glen Smith Sr., USN

Lt. Danny Glen Smith Sr., USN (Ret.), 72, loving husband, father of



four children and grandfather to 13 grandchildren passed on to his eternal home during the early morning hours of January 15, 2021, surrounded by his loving family after a long battle with cancer.

Danny was born on August 9, 1948 in Portales, NM, the oldest child of Ben William Smith and Francis Jo Short. As a child, he lived in various locations throughout New Mexico as his family moved in support of his father's career in road construction, the family eventually settling in Lubbock, Texas in 1960. After joining the Navy at the young age of 17, he would seek out the thrill of bull riding in the rodeo near NAS Imperial Beach. While stationed in California, Danny would meet the love of his life, Judee Gisele Giguere, at the Enlisted Club and they would be wed just 3 months later on March 24, 1969, in San Diego, CA. His Navy career would lead them from California to Arizona, the Philippines, Texas, Hawaii and Maryland, where together they would raise their four children.

Danny was known for his honest character, love of Jesus and dedication to his family. He was active in his church, Lexington Park Baptist and then moved to Leonardtown Baptist in 2006. You could often find Danny in Bible studies, as he was always eager to learn more. He always had a loving smile and hug for his family members and was known for his kind words and compassionate heart. Danny was a dedicated board member for Lexington Park Christian School for many years and was instrumental in the founding of the Kings Christian Academy and their campus site selection. He also served as the treasurer of his church for countless years and would devote much of his time to integrating and updating the financial systems of both organizations. In his free time, Danny enjoyed relaxing while golfing at the Cedar Point Golf Course or hitting a bucket of balls at the driving range.

Danny's naval career began in 1965 at boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois during the dead of winter. After attending "A" school to

become an Aviation Machinist's Mate Jet Engine Mechanic, one of his earliest assignments was Plane Captain and Landing Signalman to "Old 66", the helicopter made famous for its role in recovering the Apollo missions. During this time, his squadron would recover Apollo 8, 10 and 11 and was also diverted to support the USS Pueblo after it had been captured in North Korea. His Navy career led him to Vietnam in 1969 while onboard the USS Ranger and again after being reassigned to CH-46 Squadron HC-3 onboard the USS White Plains. Many of the aircraft he supported while stationed in the Vietnam theater would come back to the ship saturated in the carcinogen Agent Orange after having flown support missions behind the aircraft used to deploy the deadly herbicide. Later, he would go on to be stationed at MCAS Yuma, NAS Cubi Point, NAS Beeville, NAS Barbers Point and eventually retiring after 24 years of active duty at NAS Patuxent River. While at NAS Cubi Point in the Philippines, after having been named Sailor of the Year and promoted to Chief in record time, Danny would apply and be accepted into the Navy's Limited Duty Officer program. Danny's dedication to the Navy led him to develop several specialized aviation tools and equipment to be used in servicing the aircraft which would be recognized his numerous Navy Achievement medals – some of these devices are still in use by the Navy to this day. He accepted his Commission in 1979 and would go on to serve as the Maintenance Officer of HSL-37 in Hawaii and then Rotary Wing and Strike Aircraft Directorates at NAS Patuxent River in Maryland. Danny was honorably retired in 1989 and would continue on as a government contractor supporting NAVAIR for the next 28 years, much of that time with Veridian, which would eventually become Wyle Labs while supporting PMA-265 through the Super Hornet transition and then with the Blue Angels upgrade evolution.

After retirement, Danny and Judee were able to travel to visit friends and family in their RV. They took many road trips that included much of New England and even parts of Canada and the Smokey Mountains. They even went on an amazing once-in-a-lifetime dream cruise to Alaska where they were able to create lasting memories. At home he enjoyed bird watching, swimming in their pool with his beloved grandkids and woodworking in his workshop. An artist with wood, Danny would build beautiful hand-crafted baby cradles for each of his grandchildren.

Danny was preceded in death by

his father, Ben William Smith and his mother, Francis Jo Short (Norris), both of Lubbock, Texas. He is survived by his wife of 52 years – Judee Gisele Smith; their four children, Danny Glen Smith, Jr. (Terri) of Fall Branch, TN, Donna Christine Kumar (Allen) of Raleigh, NC, Benjamin Paul Smith (Kathleen) of Leonardtown, MD and Travis John Smith (Laura) of Lusby, MD; his sisters Lynda Sharron and Alma Cleo (Snooks) both of Lubbock, Texas and his thirteen beautiful grandchildren – Samuel Christopher Smith, Emily Elizabeth Kumar, Benjamin Elijah Smith, Grace Alexander Kumar, Alexandra Meadow Smith, Nathanael Thomas Smith, Hannah Elizabeth Smith, Katelyn Joy Kumar, Abigail Elizabeth Smith, Lincoln Travis Smith, Lillian Grace Smith, Lucie Taylor Kumar and Andrew Jackson "AJ" Kumar.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, January 23, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with a Celebration of Life in honor of Danny beginning at 12:00 p.m. at Leonardtown Baptist Church, 23520 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD, 20650. There will also be a live presentation via Zoom for those unable to attend in person – you may join the celebration at noon on Saturday by going to <https://zoom.us/j/93609580038> and using the passcode: cowboy. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a date later to be determined.

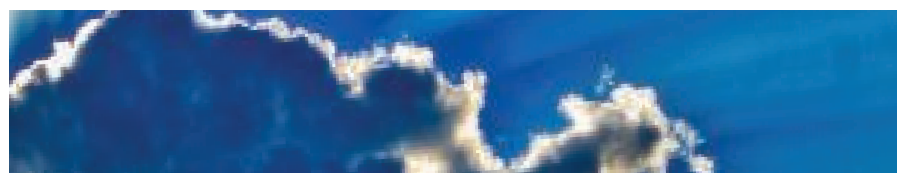
In lieu of flowers, the family requests consideration of memorial contributions to either the King's Christian Academy Scholarship Fund, 20738 Point Lookout Road, Callaway, MD, 20620 or to the Care Net Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland, PO Box 31, Lexington Park, MD, 20653 – or online at <https://www.mygiving.com/App/Giving/carenetsomd>.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Rose Kordish Hundert





Rose Kordish Hundert ("Brooklyn Rose") was born to Louis and Cecelia on Washington's Birthday in 1922, yes that's 2/22/22, in Plymouth, Massachusetts. She died peacefully in Leonardtown, Maryland on January 7, 2021, nearly 99 years later.

Rose is predeceased by her two older brothers (Al and Isadore) and older sister (Jean) were born in the Ukraine. She is survived by her younger brother (Milton) who was also born in Massachusetts. Rose's family moved and she grew up in Brooklyn, New York, living over her parent's grocery store. She had fond memories of spending time with her father in the store and often delivered groceries to their customers. After graduating High School and training to be a secretary she worked in a law firm on Wall Street. Then, while on vacation in the mountains she met the love of her life, Murray. They were married in 1948 and enjoyed 72 years of marital bliss together. Murray passed away in June, 2019.

They moved to Long Island where Rose raised her two sons and also became a champion bowler. Their home held many trophies. She was also a champion cook, particularly known for her cookies. There were always a batch in the freezer when visitors stopped by (particularly her grandchildren).

Rose loved New York City, and with Murray, her boys, or her friends, she enjoyed walking the streets of the Village, SOHO, Chinatown, Little Italy, Midtown and the Upper West Side. She loved opera and theater and went regularly. She enjoyed going to the opera in St. Mary's County, too.

Rose and Murray were great travelers. After traveling around the USA and Canada, in 1966 they and the boys went to Europe. (on \$5 a day!) They caught the travel bug and she and Murray visited dozens of countries on nearly every continent. Then, when the kids were grown and she retired, Rose became an avid hiker, quilter, and knitter. She knitted an afghan for every one of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She continued knit and to take long walks even this past year.

With all of her interests and accomplishments, nothing meant more to her than her family. Growing up she lived with Aunts, Uncles and cousins nearby, but that didn't last. Her family is spread out from New York to California, from Maryland to Nova Scotia and Calgary. But Rose would visit them all regularly and loved a family get together, especially the lobster bakes with her grandson Thian and the Canadian

'gang'. Fortunately, there was one final, big gathering in August 2019 for Murray's 100th birthday.

Rose Kordish Hundert is survived by her two sons, Eric and Steve, daughter in law Betsy, Grandchildren Thian, Asa, Sam, Jacob and Amos and great grandchildren Meredith, Ella, Jocelyn and Henry. Rose lived life to the fullest. We miss her dearly.

Services will be private.

Donations can be made in her name to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or St. Mary's Caring, P.O. Box 144, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

Vernon Matthew Holt



Vernon Matthew Holt, 59, loved spending quality time visiting his family and friends on special occasions or just because. He was famous for bringing his banana pudding recipe to all of the family gatherings. He enjoyed dancing, watching softball, youth football and supporting activities that his nieces and nephews participated in. He took great pride in his work even receiving the "Mr. Clean Award 2019" from St. Mary's County Park and Recreation. He was always willing to give helping hand whenever he was needed. He helped other selflessly. He loved to dress up (his famous purple shirt) and have a good time.

Vernon is preceded in death by his parents, his brothers; Paul I. (Junior), Charles D. (Charlie), James I. His sisters; Thyris M. Miles, Arlene R. Hawkins, Jacqueline A. (Jackie) Herbert and brother-in-laws, Robert (Bob) Mcleod, Aloysius HERbert. Vernon leaves cherished memories with loved ones, brother; Ralph J. Jolt (Roslyn), Sisters; Clara I. Sanderfer (Mac A.), C. Maxine Holt, Shelia B. Barber (Ralph), Edith L. Mcleod. Brother-in-laws; Lewis Miles and Kevin Hawkins, Uncle; William Holt (Louise) Aunts; Louise Chase, Ann Elizabeth (Bess) Swales (Scooty), Helena Holt Nelson, and Great Aunt; Josephine Young, nieces nephews, great nieces, great nephews, relatives and friends. He will be greatly missed.

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TIPS TO AVOID PROBATE

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

When you die, if you are holding property in your sole name, the only way that property can get to your loved ones is through the probate process. The only way to avoid probate is to create a Revocable Living Trust. By placing your assets into the name of your trust, when you die you will not have assets held in sole name and therefore, no probate.

Many people want to avoid putting their beneficiaries through the probate process. They don't like the fact that the filings in probate are publicly available or that it takes 8-12 months to close a probate. Or, that legal fees in a probate proceeding can be expensive. Additionally, they don't want their loved ones to have to sort through their assets in order to make the probate filings. They seek to make it simple. But, they don't want to spend the money to create a Revocable Living Trust.

What can be done? It is possible to minimize the number of assets that have to go through the probate process.

Since probate applies only to property held in your sole name when you die, you can transfer title of the property to someone else during your lifetime. Or, if you want to continue to maintain some control your property, you can transfer title to yourself and someone else. If you re-title the asset with someone else so that each of you are holding the asset jointly with "right of survivorship", then when one of you dies, the other will inherit ownership of all the asset and there will be no probate.

Keep in mind that if your property is the subject of a mortgage, the mortgage company may restrict your rights to transfer your ownership.

Most commonly, a husband and wife will hold an asset like their primary residence in joint name with right of survivorship (also termed "tenants by the entirety"). This means that when one spouse dies, the other takes ownership of the entire property and there is no probate of the asset since it was held in joint name. Of course, when the survivor dies, there is probate of the asset.

Suppose you own a house and your spouse is deceased, meaning you own 100% of the property in your sole name. You have one child and want to add that child to your title to the property. Can you add another person, like a child, to your title to the property? Yes, that can be done with a deed. But, there are consequences you must think about

before you re-title any property.

The first issue is a tax issue. When you buy a house, your cost is your tax "basis" in the house. Suppose you buy a house with your husband forty years ago for a price of \$20,000 and the house is paid off. Today that house is worth \$200,000. If your husband is deceased and you own the house and add a child to your title, that child receives the property at your tax basis or \$20,000. When you die, if the child wants to sell the property, the child is going to have to pay capital gains tax on \$180,000, being the difference between your tax basis of \$20,000 and the market value of the property, \$200,000.

That tax can be avoided by passing the property to your child through your Will or Trust. A Will or Trust provides a "step up" in basis so the child or beneficiary takes the property at the market value. If the child then decides to sell the property, there is no tax since the child inherits the property at a value of \$200,000 and sells it for the same amount.

The other issue to be faced with putting a child on your title is whether the child has or will have creditors. Once you place property in the name of the child, their creditors become your creditors.

Another option to avoid probate is to use what is called "payable on death" forms at your bank. Every bank will have a "payable on death" form you can fill out indicating who will take the money in your accounts when you die. By filling out this form and designating a beneficiary to take your accounts, the accounts are not held in sole name and there is no probate on those accounts when you die. For investment accounts, you can designate beneficiaries to take the accounts when you die and avoid probate. These forms are called the "Transfer on Death" forms.

The best approach to probate is to focus on organizing your assets now so that your loved ones will not have to search through years of paperwork to try to find out what you own, where your accounts are, what insurance policies you have, etc. Believe me, your loved ones will love you even more if you leave them with very little to do in a probate proceeding.

Join me for a free seminar on the third Wednesday of each month at 11am at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



FINALLY AT THE FINISH LINE

Well, we are finally on this home stretch of finishing our bedroom. It has only taken 15 years since we first thought about it to get to this point. My husband, Robert finally asked me, "You don't like change do you?" No, I am not good with change, my mother never changed the furniture or rearranged stuff, so I don't think of it too often. Robert, on the other hand loves to rearrange. I would come home from the shop and the living room would be completely different – he has been about changing it again, which makes me nervous. Don't get me wrong I really did not like the furniture in our bedroom, it was here long before I married my husband. But, I seem to always have something holding me back from actually getting to the final decisions, even though in my head I know exactly what I want it to look like. Now, put me behind a frame picking out counter and I can see what will work around someone's picture. When it comes time to pick out frames for my own paintings I get indecisive again. Crazy.

This past two weeks, Robert has been busy patching, sanding, and painting the walls of the bedroom, and finishing off the ceiling where something from the attic had slipped over and left a long crack – looks great now though. At first, I didn't like the color I chose. It is in the cream family, you might say a morning glow color, but kind of a dusty cream, not too bright, but not too dead looking when the lighting isn't right. Our bedroom is on the dark side of the house, so everything looks grey. Another question my husband asked was, "You really stick to the same tones everywhere." Yes, to that, I like neutral tones on the walls, with exceptions for creamy yellows, and sage greens – they always make me happy. Sometimes, I would love to have some really dramatic colors, but I am always thinking ahead, hopefully many years ahead, when we might have to think of selling, which would mean downsizing or switching to a ranch house with no stairs.

My husband would move now if he could find a ranch house on the water. He loves open water, and I love lakes or ponds. After seeing a friend/reader's beautiful log cabin home a couple weeks ago when we bought clothing racks for use during the renovation, my husband now says he would be happy with a one-level log cabin with a river on



one side and a lake out back for me. Hmm, not making changes is good to a certain point, but I think I could go for this particular change. Right now, I love our house and yard. I understand that my husband has lived here for well over 30 years and he would not hesitate to sell and then buy our dream house.

I think the only aspect of the bedroom renovation that my husband was dreading was cleaning out his closet. Anyone who knows my husband well, knows he is a clothes horse. He loves to shop for clothes, not fancy stuff, but regular wear. Plus, he hadn't taken everything out of the closet since before he and I met. So, yesterday he decided to tackle that. We brought up the clothes rack, and then he set to work on pulling everything out. Every few minutes, he was bringing out items he hadn't seen in 20 -30 something years: an old Marlboro backpack, Redskins duffle bag, X rays and photos from a head-on collision in Florida with his first wife and son and daughter a long time ago, and more clothes than he ever thought he had. He brought out two piles of Khaki shorts and couldn't believe there were that many. And he asked me about sticking to the same tones?

I am just glad we are making progress. The flooring is on its way, and today we go and order the furniture. WooHoo! Maybe change is good! I must admit, I am starting to get a little excited. Now, will be the real test, when the furniture arrives, and I say, "Okay let's put the furniture right where all the old stuff sat, and he will say, "Why don't we try moving this here and this there". Oh my, my nerves are already starting to fray...change is good, repeat, change is good...

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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



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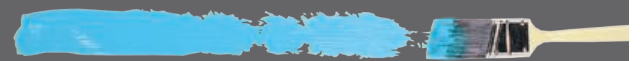
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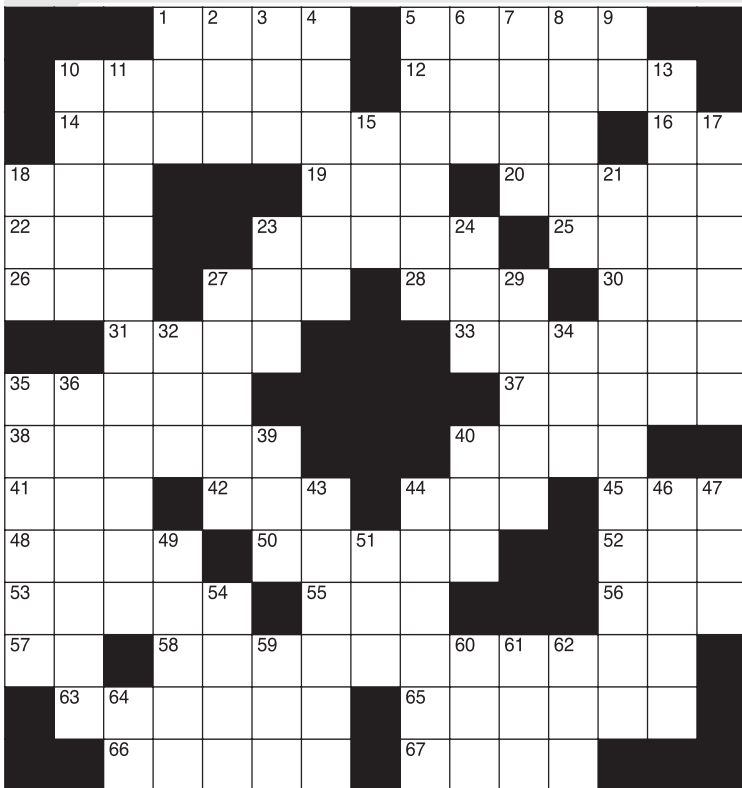
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CLUES ACROSS

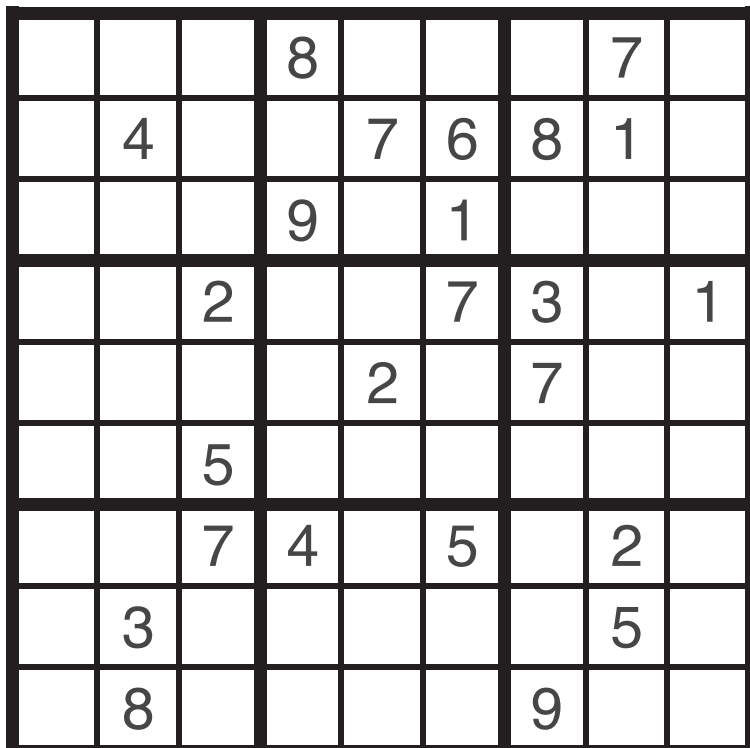
- 1. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 5. 2014 Winter Olympics host
- 10. Soft fabric
- 12. Covered in flowers
- 14. Works at a college or university
- 16. Keeps us cool
- 18. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- 19. Similar
- 20. Birthplace of Muhammad
- 22. They ___
- 23. Preamble to a book
- 25. Southern China people
- 26. Hair product
- 27. The woman
- 28. Partner to cheese
- 30. One point north of due east
- 31. Round Dutch cheese
- 33. Be in awe of
- 35. Christmas song
- 37. Emits coherent radiation
- 38. Something that is comparable to another
- 40. Monetary unit
- 41. The cutting part of a drill
- 42. Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects

- 44. Touch lightly
- 45. Toyota SUV
- 48. ___ and Andy, TV show
- 50. Made less dangerous
- 52. Assets under management (abbr.)
- 53. Nostrils
- 55. Moved quickly
- 56. Thai isthmus
- 57. TV personality Roker
- 58. Honors anew
- 63. Rags
- 65. One who obtains pleasure from inflicting pain or others
- 66. Marketplaces
- 67. Dark brown or black

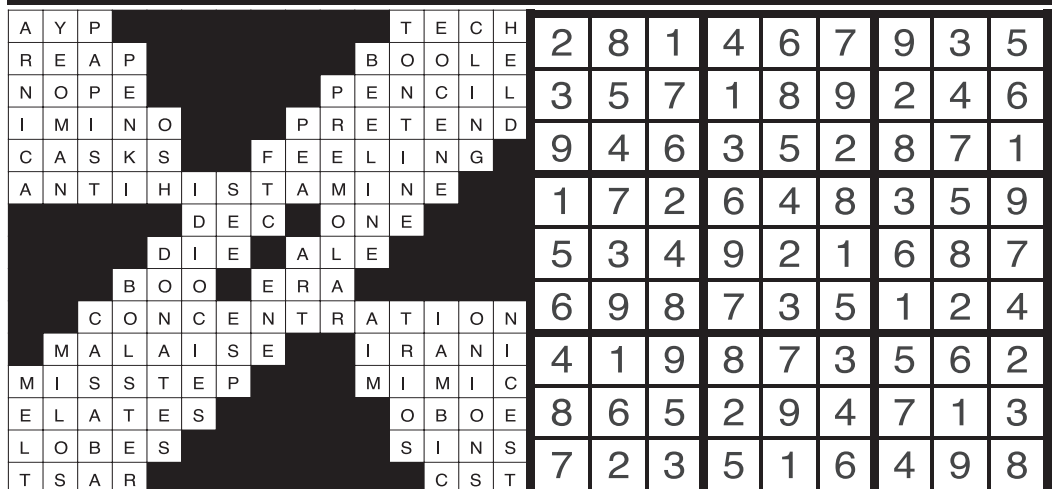
- horrifying
- 15. Equal (prefix)
- 17. Hosts film festival
- 18. Tattered piece of clothing
- 21. Rich desserts
- 23. Unique motor (abbr.)
- 24. Disfigure
- 27. Chemical substance
- 29. Slang for famous person
- 32. Department of Labor
- 34. The A-team rode around in one
- 35. Beach cabin
- 36. Living things
- 39. Gun (slang)
- 40. Disconsolate
- 43. Stroke gently
- 44. Actress Richards
- 46. "Cletus Hogg" actor
- 47. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 49. Brazilian mountain range
- 51. Upset
- 54. One with supernatural insight
- 59. Insecticide
- 60. Taxi
- 61. "Much ___ about nothing"
- 62. Cannister
- 64. Popular clothing retailer

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Nowhere to be found (abbr.)
- 2. Not new
- 3. Brew
- 4. Stain with mud
- 5. Chief or leader
- 6. Luke Skywalker's mentor ___-Wan
- 7. Type of sauce
- 8. Sharpens
- 9. Priestess loved by Zeus
- 10. Jean Henri ___, French entomologist
- 11. Regulates supply of fuel
- 13. Disturbing and



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Publisher Thomas McKay
Associate Publisher Eric McKay
General Manager Al Dailey aldailey@countytimes.net
Advertising Jen Stotler jen@countytimes.net
 Tim Flaherty timflaherty@countytimes.net
Editor Dick Myers dickmyers@countytimes.net
Staff Writer Guy Leonard guyleonard@countytimes.net
Graphic Designer/Layout Artist Jim Lucke jimlucke@countytimes.net
Contributing Writers Laura Joyce, Ron Guy, Shelby Opperman, Dave Spigler

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