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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021

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SHOWTIME

In The Park

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“IT’S A STRANGE ALLURE THIS COUNTY HAS. ITS A GOOD LIFE.”
SHOWTIME DELI’S PAUL GELRUD ON LIVING AND WORKING IN ST. MARY’S COUNTY

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 6/17 77° 58°F Sunny	Fri 6/18 83° 70°F Mostly Sunny	Sat 6/19 88° 68°F Isolated	Sun 6/20 84° 69°F Isolated
Mon 6/21 86° 69°F Partly Cloudy	Tue 6/22 84° 65°F Isolated	Wed 6/23 79° 65°F Partly Cloudy	Thu 6/24 82° 66°F Partly Cloudy



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Teenager Killed at Chancellors Run Park

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Two shootings, one in Great Mills and another in Lexington Park have left one person dead and another wounded.

Both victims, who the sheriff's office said were adult males, were transported to area trauma centers for treatment where one, 19-year-old Valdez Rico Baker III, who was the first to be shot, died, according to the latest reports from the sheriff's office.

The first shooting took place at the Chancellors Run Regional Park in Great Mills at about 7:07 p.m. June 14th, the sheriff's office reported, where the victim sustained a gunshot wound to the back of the head.

The second shooting took place approximately 8 minutes later on Daisy Lane in Lexington Park, according to the sheriff's office, with the victim in that attack suffering from a gunshot wound to the upper torso.

That second victim remains hospitalized.

LaTonya Butler, the mother of the victim recovering from the second shooting, said her son was shot for no reason at all.

Her son is conscious and speaking with her, Butler said.

Police have not released the second victim's name.

"He didn't even know the person who did it," the mother said. "I just think it's senseless; there were people around who saw things and didn't say anything about who did it."

She said police were often unfairly criticized "for not doing their jobs, but when they do their jobs, the community just shuts down."

"I just feel like it's never going to stop."

Butler, who said she was not in the area where her son was attacked, said witnesses who did see



Valdez Rico Baker III

it told her that a black male shot her son.

"We're stuck with a medical bill, thank God it's a medical bill," Butler said. "But now another mother is stuck with a funeral bill."

Investigators are still gathering details of the shootings, and the sheriff's office is asking for the community's help in finding suspects.

Elected leaders called for an end to the violence, saying law enforcement needed help.

The community must step up to help police find the perpetrators, said Commissioner John O'Connor.

"The issue that always arises... is that it's a partnership with the community," O'Connor said. "Our law enforcement can only do so much."

Time and again, O'Connor said, police investigations into such shootings are stymied by a lack of leads from the community that lead to arrests or even a suspect.

"The community needs to step forward and identify who these people are; because you know who they are; there is no doubt in my mind the community knows who they are," O'Connor, a police officer working in Prince George's County, continued. "If you think the streets are going to fix this



Basketball rims were removed from backboards after Monday's shooting at Chancellors Run Park

they're not; when you live by the gun, you die by the gun.

"If you're hiding the identity of these individuals, you're just as bad as them and you're a coward."

Commissioner Eric Colvin echoed O'Connor's sentiments.

"It's not good, it's not acceptable," Colvin said of the violence. "This is not good in our community."

"The amount of illegal guns in our community is unacceptable, the violence that's happening there is unacceptable."

Capt. Ed Willenborg, commander of the Criminal Investigations Division, said both victims were African American males.

"We're looking for witnesses who might have been at the scene of these shootings," Willenborg said. "We've received information on potential suspects."

Willenborg said he believed the two shootings are related.

Members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force and detectives from the Criminal Investigations Division along with crime lab personnel responded to both locations and continued the investigations.

Anyone with information regarding the shootings, or anyone who was at Chancellor's Run Regional Park who witnessed the incident, and has not provided a statement is asked to contact the Criminal Investigations Division at (301) 475-4200 extension 71950 or the Youth Gun Violence Task Force at (301) 475-4200 extension 78087 or by email at stopgunviolence@stmarysmd.com

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Police presence increased after Monday's shooting at Chancellors Run Park

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- July 26-30 Half day
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- Aug 16-20 Full or half day

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ST. MARY'S COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Gov. Hogan: COVID-19 State of Emergency To End

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

With more than 70 percent of adult Marylanders vaccinated against COVID-19 and health metrics showing that the virus' spread is quickly diminishing, Gov. Larry Hogan announced June 15 that at the end of the month the state of emergency he enacted more than a year ago would be over.

"We've faced immense and unprecedented challenges... we've been through so much in the past 15 months," Hogan said at a press conference in Annapolis. "We have reached the light at the end of the tunnel."

By July 1 the state government's mandates dealing with social distancing and face coverings would end, Hogan said.

"Masks or face coverings of any kind will not be required in any settings, anywhere including schools, camps and childcare facilities," said Hogan.

However, businesses and workplaces are still able to make their own policies regarding such mandates, Hogan said.

Starting July 1, there begins a 45-day grace period, which will allow certain COVID-19 related



restrictions and mandates to be relaxed including allowances for residents to get their drivers' licenses renewed.

The moratorium on evictions will also be extended, Hogan said, through Aug. 15.

Hogan said the state had arrived at a hopeful point but the virus still posed a potentially lethal threat to those left unprotected.

"It does not mean the virus and its variants no longer pose a threat," Hogan said. "Those who have not gotten vaccinated will continue to be at risk."

The vaccines were safe and readily available, the governor said, and he claimed there were no plausible reasons for refusing to be inoculated.

The vaccination campaign was the main reason Maryland had reached this point he said.

"Infections continue to fall," Hogan said. "We are seeing amazing declines in our health metrics across the board."

The state's positivity rate, which stood at 6 percent in January, was now less than 1 percent, or just 0.82 percent, Hogan said.

Hogan said the state owed much gratitude to the front-line health workers who fought the pandemic but they should also remember that their actions of social distancing and wearing masks were also instrumental in quashing the virus.

"Each and every one of you, your actions, have made this day possible," Hogan said. "It is truly a day for celebration."

But, Hogan said, Marylanders should take time to remember the 9,472 residents lost to the pandemic so far.

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County Signs Agreement Over Potential YMCA Sites

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the YMCA of the Chesapeake this week to engage a consultant to make construction proposals for a new facility on two possible sites in Lexington Park.

The first is in Nicolet Park and the other would be located near the community pool, operated by the county's Department of Recreation and Parks, on Great Mills Road.

Robbie Gill, director of YMCA of the Chesapeake, said his organization would employ Gro Development LLC to promulgate the site plans for the two separate locations in an effort to determine which would be best for the first YMCA to be built in St. Mary's County.

"It'll give us a conceptual design on the two sites so we can really go from there and determine where we think the best location is," Gill said.

The consultants would keep in mind that however the facilities are designed, Gill said, the market studies done here to ensure the building would be able to provide the "core amenities" residents had said they wanted in their new YMCA.

The total project cost of a community center, which would be operated by the YMCA, would be \$16.9 million in tax payer dollars according to the county's capital construc-



YMCA of the Chesapeake CEO Robbie Gill

tion project schedule with the estimated completion date in 2025.

In May the county commissioners authorized \$450,000 in architectural and engineering work, which included site selection the development of a non-profit group to help raise community funds to support the new YMCA's construction.

Last month the commissioners also heard a report from a separate consultant on a study they conducted showing that the local community would likely support a \$1.5 million to \$2 million fundraising campaign.

If the YMCA would take four to six months to market their brand locally and persuade between five and 10 of the donors assessed to have the highest capacity to give the campaign could net as much as \$2.8 million.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Commissioners Hear Good News on Job Growth

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The director of the region's Small Business Development Center (SBDC), located at the College of Southern Maryland, told county commissioners this week that new job growth and businesses creation flourished in St. Mary's despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Wynne Briscoe said her office exists to provide consultation to small businesses on strategies to achieve success; the service is funded by tax payer dollars.

"During the pandemic we've seen a tripling in our business services," Briscoe told commissioners at the June 15 meeting. "It's been incredible."

The SBDC aided 189 businesses in from July to December of 2019, Briscoe reported, with 29 new businesses created; but last year saw even greater growth with 306 businesses served, of which 69 were newly created.

This resulted in 260 jobs added to the local economy during that six-month period of July to December.

"The businesses were actually growing and thriving," said Briscoe. "The year prior it was just 33 [jobs created.]"



Wynne Briscoe, SBDC Regional Director

The COVID-19 pandemic presaged the end of many businesses here, though, Briscoe reported, but their demise was likely already underway.

"Many of these businesses were already struggling," Briscoe said. "They didn't have the working capital to sustain themselves beyond the first month or two."

SBDC advisors working with small business owners always press for them to have six-to-eight-months-worth of working capital, if not more.

Briscoe also said there were a "tremendous" amount of start-up businesses in St. Mary's during the pandemic, which she said could have been, in part, the result people who had lost their jobs and "decided to follow their dream."

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PAX River Contaminant Release Still Under Investigation

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Officials with Patuxent River Naval Air Station are still trying to find the cause of the inadvertent release of 2,400 gallons of foam used to fight fires into a local sanitary sewer, a report they released to the Metropolitan Commission states.

The release occurred May 16 at around 4p.m., the report states, but was reported to MetCom the next morning; the foam, known as aqueous film forming foam (AFFF), leaked from a fire suppression system at Building 2168, Hangar 110 and entered part of the sanitary sewer system, what is known as an equalization basin, that feeds wastewater from the Navy base to the wastewater treatment plant operated by MetCom.

The Navy said once it realized the contaminant had been released – the equalization basin became filled with foam – it shut down the connection to the MetCom plant.

The report to MetCom from the Navy was provided five days after the accidental release, the report states.

By May 18, two days after the initial foam release, the basin had reached its capacity and foam was

still present, even after treatments administered by base personnel of de-foaming agent.

The Navy shutdown the wet well pump from about 8:55 a.m. to 9:50a.m. that day to “avoid overwhelming the MetCom [wastewater treatment plant.]” the report stated. “At approximately [9:55a.m.], the wet well pump was turned back on.

“Between [9:50a.m.] to [9:55a.m.] the release of raw liquid sewage occurred and overflowed to the surrounding ground.”

A preliminary investigation into the fire suppression system at Hangar 110 showed there were multiple problems; investigators are trying to determine how those issues played into the foam’s release.

“Most notable of the issues was the electronic systems failure to initiate valve opening/closing to divert contents from the sanitary sewer to the diversion tanks,” the report states.

The Navy stated that they are procuring large amounts of anti-foaming and de-foaming agents for “immediate use” if another situation such as this were to occur again.

“Storage of these agents will be held at the MetCom [wastewater



Aqueous film forming foam



treatment plant] equalization basin, [the installation’s] wet well and [the installation’s maintenance contractor facility] for quick response to on-site point of release,” the report stated. “The faulty fire suppres-

sion system at Hangar 110 is still under investigation, as additional information becomes available [the Navy] will provide details to MetCom.”

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ST MARY'S
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Food vendors will be onsite. The Townhouse Green, on the St. Mary's College campus, opens at 4 p.m. The event is free of charge and open to the public.

A Johnson & Johnson vaccination clinic will also be on site for the general public from 6-9 p.m.

Walk-ups will be accepted but registration in advance is advised. After being vaccinated, the public will need to wait at least 15 minutes with the clinic before returning to the festival.

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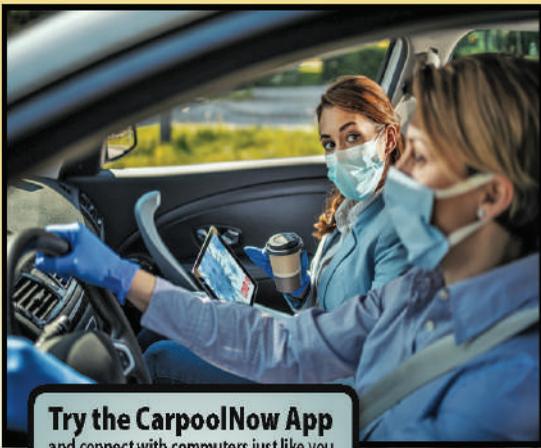
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Gansler Looks For St. Mary's Support in Gubernatorial Run



Doug Gansler

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Former Maryland Attorney General Doug Gansler said he appreciates St. Mary's County's place in Maryland and would work to support its interests if he is elected governor.

Gansler said, that while not a St. Mary's resident, he had spent much time here with a home on the shores of Breton Bay.

"A lot of politicians, they come to St. Mary's County during election time and never come back," Gansler told The County Times. "Along with new bridges and roads the infrastructure in Lexington Park needs to be upgraded.

"We need to support the base and the best way to do that is to improve infrastructure."

Gansler, who has run for governor before, is a Democrat looking for votes in a mostly conservative Republican county, but he said he would serve all if elected governor.

"You're there to serve all the people whether they voted for you or not," Gansler said.

Gansler said he wants to focus on post-COVID-19 recovery of the state's economy, which by several analyses, including Gov. Larry Hogan's, is already off to a strong start.

But Gansler said he has the executive experience, eight years as Maryland's attorney general, to make things happen in Annapolis.

"Right now... people are looking for experience," Gansler said. "They're looking for executive expe-

rience and someone [as a Democrat] who can actually win the election."

Comptroller Peter Franchot, the state's chief tax collector since 2007, is also running for governor on the Democratic ticket.

Franchot also served 20 years in the Maryland General Assembly as a delegate representing Takoma Park and Silver Spring, showing both legislative and executive bona fides.

"He's very experienced at collecting people's taxes," Gansler said of one of his presumptive opponents for the Democratic nomination. "But the Democrat party needs someone who is progressive but practical."

Gansler said he wants to focus on policy that helps residents who he said are underserved or otherwise lack access to certain services or economic prosperity.

"These are people who don't have a safety net," Gansler said. "I believe in the ability of government to help people.

"I believe in equality, equity and inclusion," Gansler said. "We need to have jobs and focus on small businesses and the people who work at businesses."

Gansler said the Democratic Party has lost its proper focus.

"It's gone to the sole focus of attacking other Democrats, Gansler said, noting that continued calls to defund the police were "ludicrous."

"There's a need for police reform," Gansler said. "Police risk their lives for us and we need to remember that."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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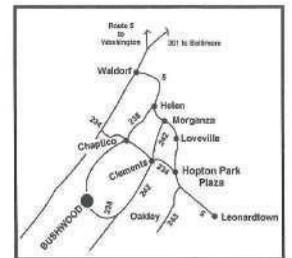
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Commemorating Flag Day



The Commissioners of St. Mary's County recognized Flag Day, Monday, June 14, with a patriotic event on the grounds of the governmental center in Leonardtown.

The Flag Day ceremony began with a Pass in Review showcasing color guards from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, the Civil Air Patrol St. Mary's Composite Squadron, the Great Mills High School NJROTC, the Leonard Hall Junior Naval Academy and the Knights of Columbus Father Andrew White Assembly 377.

Following the procession, guests enjoyed an oral presentation on the American Flag history presented by Elks Lodge 2092. Students of the St. Mary's Ryken Chorus and St. Mary's Ryken Youth Honors Chorus, led by Ms. Kim Norris, accompanied the presentation with patriotic songs.

Capping off the festivities was a Flag Retirement Ceremony present by South-

ern Maryland American Legion Post 221 from Avenue. According to the U.S. Flag code, unserviceable American flags are to be destroyed by fire. More than 300 flags were presented for disposal by members of the American Legion.

The Commissioners extend appreciation to all who made Flag Day 2021 a success, including the Leonardtown Fire Department, the Bay District Fire Department, Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, the Disabled American Veterans, and Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Chapter 26. Lastly, thank you to the members of the Seventh District Opticist Club for providing refreshments.

A video of the event may be viewed on the St. Mary's County Government YouTube Channel beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, June 18. In addition, photos from the event are available on the county government Flickr page at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/stmaryscountygovernment/albums/72157719410793859>.

St. Mary's Resident Wins \$224K in Lottery

While lucky numbers can lead to a Maryland Lottery win, a FAST PLAY game called Lucky Numbers gave a Mechanicsville man his big win. The game, one of several selected at random by a clerk, was his ticket to a six-figure progressive jackpot prize. It turned his \$10 Lucky Numbers game purchase into \$224,935 in an instant!

The emergency services worker said his big win happened when he was following his routine. He often visits an area corner store, Race-N In, to buy a few small items and a Lottery ticket. This time, the 41-year-old pushed \$15 across the counter and asked the clerk to pick out a couple of FAST PLAY games at random. Shortly after his purchase, the player checked his Lucky Numbers ticket. He didn't see anything exciting right away.

"I must have missed something, because I put the ticket's QR code under the scanner and it chirped back a strange message and things got really

quiet. That's when I knew I had won," he said.

The St. Mary's County resident took a closer look at the ticket and saw the word "progressive" under a matching number. A quick check of the progressive jackpot amount at the top of the ticket confirmed he won \$224,935!

"I showed the clerk and the owner the ticket and asked 'Who do I have to hug,'" said the winner.

Although the reality of his big win had not truly set in, the player said he had already thought about how to use his lucky payout. He plans to save most of the prize after paying off bills and buying a new truck.

The site of his FAST PLAY Lucky Numbers progressive jackpot win was Race-N In located at 26755 Stone Corner Lane in Mechanicsville. For selling a progressive jackpot-winning ticket of \$100,000 or more, the St. Mary's County business will earn a \$1,000 bonus from the Lottery.

SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Bryan Allen Roberts Located

On June 10, 2021, DFC. Budd responded to the 22500 block of Three Notch Road in Lexington Park, for the reported wanted individual. Contact was made with **Bryan Allen Roberts**, age 33 of no fixed address, who was wanted on numerous warrants. Roberts refused to cooperate with deputies on scene and attempted to flee on foot. Roberts was ultimately taken into custody and charged with resisting arrest and served the following warrants:

- Armed Robbery
- Robbery
- Assault 1st and 2nd Degree
- Dangerous Weapon/Intent to Injure
- Reckless Endangerment
- Burglary 2nd Degree (two counts)
- Burglary 4th Degree (two counts)
- Malicious Destruction of Property (two counts)
- Theft (three counts)
- Violate Protective Order
- Trespass: Private Property
- Disorderly Conduct

On June 11, 2021, members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force arrested **Jermaine Anthony Bell**, age 26 of Great Mills, on an outstanding Circuit Court Indictment for the following charges:

- Firearm/Drug Trafficking Crime
- CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute-Narcotics

Anyone with information pertaining to gun violence in St. Mary's County is asked to contact the Youth Gun Violence Task Force at (301) 475-4200 extension 78087 or by email at stopgunviolence@stmarysmd.com.



Jermaine Bell

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.

For official news and information, follow the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Twitter @firstsheriff.

Youth Gun Violence Task Force Arrests

On Saturday, June 12, 2021, members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force were on foot patrol as part of a crime prevention initiative in the 21800 block of Three Notch Road in Lexington Park, when an individual was observed discarding a clear, plastic bag. The item was recovered by the task force and determined to contain suspected cocaine. The individual who discarded the item was identified as **Antonio Leroy Hines**, age 40 of Lusby. Hines was arrested and located on Hines was an additional plastic bag containing suspected marijuana and packages of suspected Suboxone. Hines was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown, and charged with two counts of CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana.



Antonio Hines

On June 12, 2021, members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force responded to the 45900 block of Indian Way in Lexington Park to serve an outstanding warrant on **Aaron Dwayne Johnson Jr.**, age 24 of Lexington Park. Johnson was located during a search of the residence and arrested for Failure to Appear/Driving While Suspended.



Aaron Johnson

Anyone with information pertaining to gun violence in St. Mary's County is asked to contact the Youth Gun Violence Task Force at (301) 475-4200 ext. 78087 or by email at stopgunviolence@stmarysmd.com.

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

For official news and information, follow the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Twitter @firstsheriff.

Legal Notices

IN THE MATTER OF TIMOTHY WILLIAM SHILLING
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO EMILY ARROWAY SHILLING

In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-FM-21-000382
Notice (Adult)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name from TIMOTHY WILLIAM SHILLING to EMILY ARROWAY SHILLING. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: This my name of common usage and my preferred name

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 07/15/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

Debra J. Burch,
Clerk of Court for
St. Mary's County Maryland

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN

The 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) will be available July 1, 2021 to Town residents and the public at the Town Hall office, 22670 Washington St. Leonardtown, MD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and at the Leonardtown Post Office, 22735 Washington Street and is also available online at <http://leonardtown.somd.com> under Town Government, Water Quality Reports.

If you would like to place a
LEGAL NOTICE contact

AlDaileyCountytimes@gmail.com

Philip H. Dorsey III
Attorney at Law

LEGAL SERVICES

-Serious Personal Injury Cases-

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EMAIL: phild@dorseylaw.net



www.dorseylaw.net

Editor's Note:

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

Summerseat Open House Tracking the Blue Cat:

Saturday, June 19, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Summerseat Farm will hold an Open House on Saturday, June 19, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Tour the house and gardens and visit the farm animals at the farm. Meet the buffalo, chickens, ducks, goats, pig and horse.

A special talk on the American Bison (buffalo) will take place at 11:00 am. Our volunteers will be available to show you around the animal barn area throughout the

day.

Summerseat Farm is a nonprofit formed to "Save the Farm" so that it may be shared with the community for generations to come. It is completely supported by volunteers, memberships, donations and fundraisers.

Located in Mechanicsville, donation of \$5 per family appreciated. See www.summerseat.org or our facebook for more information.

The greatest investment we can ever make isn't in financial markets or accounts but in another human being. Wayne Combs is fighting for his life.



Prayers Requested Donations Gratefully Accepted

See Wayne's story @

<http://www.gofundme.com/f/Waynes-fight-for-life>



Releasing tagged blue catfish



Catfish with transmitter implanted in the stomach cavity and streamer below the dorsal fin



Lonely fisherman on the Patuxent River by Terry Thomas



Researcher installing stationary radio receiver in the field

Hidden below the surface of the calm waters of the Patuxent River lies a vast ecosystem. Over time, this aquatic environment has gradually changed, ebbing and flowing like the tide. However, along with natural change, this fragile ecosystem has been disturbed by human activity, very notably within the past century by the arrival and proliferation of invasive species.

The blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*) was introduced in Virginia decades ago to provide an exciting angling experience to East Coast anglers. As an unexpected consequence, the species thrived in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and expanded into Maryland's tidal waters and tributaries. The blue catfish has today become more of a nuisance than a trophy catch.

With a ferocious appetite, blue catfish will indiscriminately and opportunistically eat anything. To better understand their impact on the local ecosystem, the department's Fishing and Boating Services is taking a close look inside the belly of the beast, asking exactly what species blue catfish consume in the course of their scavenging.

Examining the blue catfish's stomach contents will give biologists a better understanding of the fish's diet. Even more, biologists are curious whether the blue catfish is consuming some of our native aquatic life like blue crabs, striped bass, American shad, and yellow perch.

In addition to studying catfish's stomachs, scientists have new technology at their disposal to track and tag blue catfish throughout the Patuxent River watershed. This tracking technology will give biologists the fullest view yet of this species' lifestyle, habitat, and migration patterns.

Starting in the fall of 2020, biologists began tagging blue catfish using both radio and acoustic transmitters. Acoustic tags function well in deep, brackish water like the Chesapeake Bay and river mouths, while radio tags are especially useful in shallow water with thick vegetation, such as upper Patuxent River habitats. For the Patuxent River study, biolo-

gists used a combination radio/acoustic tag that should function well throughout the entire study area.

These transmitters are small. They weigh less than an ounce and are roughly the size of a standard AA battery. Each transmitter is surgically implanted in the fish's stomach cavity. To help identify each fish, biologists also implanted an external streamer just below the back portion of the dorsal fin. Each tag has a unique fish identification number, instructions, and a contact phone number. After each tag is implanted, the fish are released back into the water, ready to be monitored.

To help aid in tracking the movement of blue catfish, 10 stationary radio receivers along the upper Patuxent River log the movement of blue catfish when they swim by. Due to the importance of the study, biologists are encouraging anglers in the Patuxent River who happen to capture a tagged blue catfish to report the tag number, call the phone number listed on the tag, and release the fish immediately back into the water. Like the radio transmitters, anglers' reports are an important element in helping biologists gain an understanding of these fish.

These tracking and tagging efforts are expected to last a few years. At that point, the data will be analyzed to determine where populations of blue catfish are thriving and how they are affecting the environment. Ultimately, survey results will provide guidance for both recreational and commercial anglers who can use this information to harvest blue catfish.

While it may be too early to determine the lasting impacts of blue catfish in Maryland waters, continuing studies like these are an important first step in keeping tabs on our ecosystems.

dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries
By Eric G. Wilson, public affairs officer for DNR's Fishing and Boating Services. Article appeared in Vol. 24, No. 2 of the Maryland Natural Resource magazine, spring 2021.

Garden Clubs Renovate Health Department Courtyard Garden

Appreciation for COVID-19 Pandemic Response



The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) and St. Mary's County Government welcomed the renovation of the health department courtyard garden at the SMCHD main office in Leonardtown with a dedication ceremony held on June 14. The renovation project was led by the Society Hill Garden Club of Breton Bay and the St. Mary's County Garden Club to demonstrate appreciation for the local COVID-19 pandemic response.

The garden clubs contributed \$1,500 and many hours of labor, and secured a matching contribution from Chaney Enterprises to support this project. Volunteer gardeners from each organization designed, planted, and nurtured life into the courtyard garden. The courtyard garden will be used by SMCHD for staff and community activities, events, and meetings.

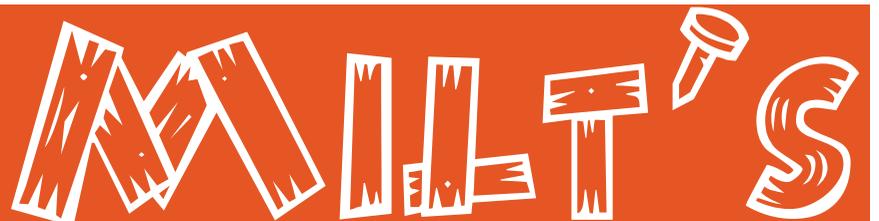
Garden tables were also dedicated by the health department in honor of the first responders, law enforcement, health care workers, and other essential workers that continued to serve the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

A magnolia tree was planted in memory of those St. Mary's County residents whose lives were lost to COVID-19.

"We are beyond grateful for the stunning transformation our local garden clubs made to our health department courtyard," said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "In a year that has been extraordinarily difficult for our health department team, community partners, and county residents, this incredible act of kindness soothes our collective soul and symbolizes how the generous heart of St. Mary's County still beats strong."

Commissioner President Randy Guy said, "This garden represents the beauty of our community. In the hardest of times we find ways to connect and support each other. While we won't soon forget the difficulties of the past year, we will continue to look for bright spots like this that reignite our hopes for a healthy future."

Joint News Release from St. Mary's County Government and St. Mary's County Health Department



5-STAR DADS

TO ALL THE DADS WHO INSPIRE US, HAPPY FATHER'S DAY.

YARD DAD

Dad works hard all week, but that doesn't mean he slows down when the weekend comes. From chainsaws to lawn mowers, we've got a wide range of tools to make sure your dad has everything he needs to conquer those weekend projects.



DIY DAD



It seems like there are a million projects for Dad to tackle. And he's got the skill and the will to take them all on. But does he have the right tools? With a Father's Day gift from STIHL, you'll be giving your DIY dad a gift he'll love.

FARMER DAD

For the Farmer, the work is never really done. When your dad comes home from the field or ranch, he still expects to pick up a tool that's as hardworking and reliable as he is. Our great line of equipment is perfect for the dad that never quits.



HUNTER DAD



Your dad doesn't do spring, summer fall or winter. He's more of a deer or duck season kind of dad. STIHL loves the outdoors too, which is why we've got a great selection of tools, accessories, and apparel to outfit your outdoor dad.

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milt@md.metrocast.net • 301-373-5904

Free Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Card Available

St. Mary's County Health Department and PinPoint US, LLC are partnering to offer free digital COVID-19 vaccine cards for St. Mary's County residents. The VaccineCheck service will generate a personalized digital version of a CDC vaccine card after verifying COVID-19 vaccine history through Maryland's statewide immunization registry.

Residents can also use the service to upload images of their paper CDC vaccine card for safe digital record-keeping accessible through their smartphone or computer.

Data uploads and verification of vaccine history are conducted using the HIPAA-compliant PinPoint platform.

"We could not be more excited about the partnership with St. Mary's County Health Department, the first local health department to implement the VaccineCheck program in the country," says Mr. Chris Nickerson, PinPoint Managing Partner. "The VaccineCheck program will create an authenticated digital copy of vaccination cards for all St. Mary's County residents after their

records have been verified with the Maryland State Immunization Registry, enabling ease of access county-wide."

"This innovative and user-friendly service offers St. Mary's County residents a convenient way to carry with them an electronic version of their CDC vaccine card," says St. Mary's County Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster. "In addition, residents who have lost their paper record can now access an authenticated digital version to verify their vaccination status. We are so grateful for the ingenuity of the PinPoint team and their partnership in making this service available for free to St. Mary's County residents."

St. Mary's County residents can access the VaccineCheck service at www.smchd.org/covid-19-vaccine

For local COVID-19 updates, information and data, please visit www.smchd.org/coronavirus or call the St. Mary's County Health Department at 301-475-4330.

*Joint Press Release from
PinPoint US, LLC and St. Mary's
County Health Department*

SMECO Issues Credits to Members of \$4.2 Million

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) is refunding members' capital credits totaling nearly \$6.6 million. Of that total, a general refund of approximately \$4.2 million will be issued in July. Eligible active members will receive credits on their bills, and checks will be issued to eligible former members. Special refunds of about \$2.4 million will be paid throughout the year to include estates of deceased members.

"We are happy to issue capital credit refunds to SMECO members when our financial obligations have been met. Passing savings on to members is a basic co-op principle," said Sonja M. Cox, SMECO president and CEO. She added, "SMECO members invest in their cooperative every time they pay their bill, and receiving their share of a portion of SMECO's margins is one of their rewards."

SMECO's margins for 2020 totaled more than \$27 million. SMECO uses margins—revenue minus expenses—as working capital for new construction, system improvements, and facility upgrades. Cox explained, "Our members help to finance SMECO's operations, and they realize one of the benefits of being a co-op member when they receive a refund."

At the end of each year, SMECO's margins are allocated to a special account for each member, based on how much electricity the member purchased and the rate at which the account was billed. SMECO's Board of Directors regularly evaluates the financial condition of the cooperative and determines when SMECO members' capital credits will be refunded. Refunds will be credited to members' bills beginning July 12 and checks will be mailed to eligible former members beginning July 19.

All eligible active members will receive a credit on the bill for their primary account. If members wish to contact SMECO to designate their primary account,

they may call 1-888-440-3311. Eligible former members will receive a full refund of the balance in their capital credit account if the balance is \$100 or less. Any remaining balances attributable to allocations made in the years 1986 and 1987 will also be issued to eligible members and former members. Whenever SMECO members move out of the co-op's service area, they should contact SMECO to update their mailing address in order to receive refund checks in the future.

SMECO - The Cooperative Difference -

SMECO was incorporated in 1937 and is one of the 15 largest electric cooperatives in the United States with more than 169,000 member accounts in Charles County, St. Mary's County, southern Prince George's County, and most of Calvert County.

Electric cooperatives are shaped by the communities they serve, because co-ops are owned by their customers. Co-op members elect the men and women who serve on the Board of Directors. Members share the responsibility of ownership by financing the cooperative's operations, but they also share its rewards.

At the end of each year, SMECO's margins (profits) are allocated to members' capital credit accounts. SMECO uses its profits to invest in new construction, system improvements, and facility upgrades. The Board of Directors regularly evaluates the financial condition of the co-op and determines when members will receive a refund. Since 1937, SMECO has refunded more than \$110 million.

As a cooperative, SMECO will always put its members first and be responsive, reliable, and resourceful—the power you can count on.

Follow SMECO on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SMECO, coop and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/somdelectric.

The SMECO 24/7 mobile app is available at www.smeco.coop/247.

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Gelrud Family Part of Lexington Park's Business Fabric

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Jonathan Gelrud is busy these days serving up deli sandwiches and other hearty meal staples at Showtime Deli in Lexington Park but he's just the latest generation of a family that not only has been a major entrepreneurial force in St. Mary's oldest, urban community but one of its founders.

Being in the food service business is just one of the business endeavors the family has prospered in since their patriarch Jack Gelrud, a World War II veteran, settled in St. Mary's shortly after the war.

Their father started a pharmacy in Lexington Park and his sons, Gary, Steve and Paul, started the well-known but now long-gone Stop, Look and Listen in St. Mary's Square starting in 1974, which sold mostly stereo and sound system equipment but soon morphed into the county's first video cassette - VHS and Beta-max -rental store.

From 1988 to 2001 the family ran three Showtime Deli's at various times, with the first on Coral Drive in Lexington Park.

There was another in Wilde-wood and one in Leonardtown.

Jonathan, 37, works with a few others in the kitchen of the latest iteration of Showtime Deli, pushing through lunch rushes every day for hungry customers looking for that special delicatessen style of flavor.

He's dedicated to his job.

"I'll do this until it's time to retire," Jonathan told The County Times. "It's rewarding."

"We try to give people a place to hang out and be comfortable."

He got a lot of his training at an early age from his father, Paul, who has worked as a chef trainer for the Harry Lundeberg School Seamanship in Piney Point, bringing recipes to the delicatessen side of the family business.

"He knew what to do and what not to do," Jonathan said of his father. "I was old enough to shut my mouth and listen."

"We just try to be part of the community."

Paul said he relishes working up close in the food service business.

"I'm hand on," Paul said. "Jonathan grew up with me so he knew the deli."

Paul said his father Jack was one of a small core of people who helped make Lexington Park the first urban hub of St. Mary's County.

"There were about 30 to 40 families that built this town,"



Jonathan and Paul Gelrud and John Duckett



Paul said, noting they were part of the Greatest Generation. "The people out of World War II were amazing."

Paul said his father was in the 10th Mountain Division as a medic, earning the bronze and silver stars for his gallantry.

"He thought everyone was a hero over there," Paul said of his father's opinion of those who served.

Paul remembers days long gone in Lexington Park when local banker and financier Jack Daugherty, president of Maryland Bank and Trust, made deals with him and people like his father with just a handshake a promise.

Paul said he asked Daugherty if he could borrow \$15,000 and Daugherty agreed to it on the spot and had his people authorize the transaction that day.

"I didn't even have to sign my name," Paul said. "It was a different world."

The family's time in the community has earned them plenty of

friends and close contacts over the years.

Many of their customers at the deli are not only regulars, but people who have had long associations with the family.

"If one of us there doesn't know the person, it's weird," Jonathan said.

Sometimes when they are busy with the orders that pile up at the small restaurant located in the Millison Plaza shopping center some of their usual customers will even help the staff bus tables and ring up customers' checks.

"We have really good people, we're really lucky," Paul said.

Working on your feet in a kitchen all day can be an arduous task but Jonathan said it suits him to be face to face with customers each day.

He used to work in another of the businesses owned by Steve Gelrud in Waldorf in Charles County selling big-screen televisions.

It just wasn't for him, he said.

"I just got sick of standing by

myself all day," Jonathan quipped.

Their delicatessen operation has many of the same challenges other businesses have, especially in the waning days of the COVID-19 pandemic trying to find people who are reliable.

They're willing to give most who want a job a chance.

"As long as you're willing to work, it's fine," Jonathan said. "It's hard to find someone we don't have to watch and make sure they don't just stand in a corner."

Businesses help each other out in Lexington Park, the father and son team said, and many of their business friends have helped them be successful, so they pay them back by giving them advertising space on their placemats at the deli.

"They all helped us get started so we help them out," Jonathan said.

The names of businesses at the deli change periodically to give other businesses a chance to get recognized by customers; the Gelruds also give to various local charities.

"We thought it would be a great way to give back," Paul said. "Giving back is the only way to leave a legacy."

"It's about helping people."

Having made Lexington Park their home and their way of making a living for so long, Paul said he finds that many of the residents who have patronized their many businesses have fostered close relations with the Gelrud family that have lasted years.

"I'm closer to people in town than I am with my own cousins," Paul said. "It's a strange allure this county has."

"It's a good life."

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- Hand poured Candles
- by Janet
- Tastefully Simple
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Piney Point Lighthouse Museum to Host 4-Day Outdoor Summer STEAM Program for Children



Children ages 6 to 10 are invited to enjoy a whole week of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and technology) oriented programming at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum focused on outdoor science and exploration from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., July 19 to July 22, 2021.

Kids can explore different topics at Piney Point while having fun. Each day will feature a different nature theme filled with tons of fun

crafts and activities. Throughout this 4-day week, participants will also create their very own Field Journal based on their findings and discoveries. During their adventures, kids will create lots of exploration materials that they can take home and continue exploring with their families. Day one will focus on tree identification, day two on fishing and crabbing, day three on exploring local insects and day four on being a sailor.

“Because Piney Point has so many interesting things for kids to explore, we thought it would be great to develop a fun, yet educational, multiday STEAM program for children to take part in while off school for the summer,” says Karen Stone, Manager of the St. Mary’s County Museum Division. “With such a broad range of topics, they’re sure to find lots of fun things to do while enjoying the outdoors at the lighthouse.”

Parents are encouraged to book their child’s slot soon, as this program is limited to 20 participants to give each child the best hands-on experience possible. Call 301-994-1471 to book; the cost is \$40 per child for the entire 4-day program.

For more information about the program, other educational activities or Piney Point Lighthouse Museum, please call 301-994-1471 or visit <http://www.Facebook.com/1836Light>.

Home Grown Farmers Market

Treat Dad on Father’s Day with Everything for the Grill

Saturdays
9AM-1PM

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301-884-5636

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(9AM-6PM), & SUNDAY (10AM-4PM)

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301-475-2531

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240-237-8266

STORE HOURS
7AM-10PM

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Farm Bureau Awards Four Scholarships



(Left to Right) Sara Van Ryswick, Sophie Anderson, Kayla Thomas, Elijah N. Thomas.

The St. Mary's County Farm Bureau awarded scholarships to the following students:

\$500 in memory of Mr. Floyd Raley to Sara Van Ryswick, who will be graduating from high school this year. She has applied to several colleges and will be majoring in Nursing.

\$500 in memory of Mr. Robert Jarboe to Kayla Thomas, who is attending the College of Southern Maryland where she is majoring in Criminal Justice.

\$500 Trade School scholarship awarded to Elijah N. Thomas. Elijah is attending the College of Southern

Maryland Center for Trades and Energy. He is studying to become an electrician.

\$1,000 scholarship awarded to Sophie Anderson for her service as the 2020-2021 Miss St. Mary's County Farm Bureau. Sophie will be graduating from high school this year. She has applied to several colleges and will be majoring in Nursing.

All recipients are dependents of members of the St. Mary's County Farm Bureau.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Farm Bureau.

Pet OF THE WEEK



MEET RUSSIAN

Doing something
Is always better
Than doing nothing
Cat by cat
And kitten by kitten!
-Kathy Carroll

Hi everybody, my name is Russian. The vote here at TCAS is unanimous. Everybody agrees that I'm an ADORABLE 8 WEEK OLD SWEETHEART KITTEN who would love to go home with YOU! My loving pals here say that I enjoy furry toy mice, swatting a ball across the floor, and spending time doing some SERIOUS SNUGGLING. Now I'm Russian to find my FOREVER FAMILY. Ready to take me home? JUNE IS ADOPT A CAT MONTH! YOU CAN ADOPT ME FOR ONLY \$50! Email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP! BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

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

Volunteers Needed

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity? Consider Home-Delivered Meals!

The Home-Delivered Meals Program with the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services delivers well-balanced meals and a friendly visit to seniors who are homebound and cannot shop or cook for themselves.

Meals are delivered Monday -Friday, 11:15 a.m. -1:30 p.m.

No meals will be delivered on days that the Senior Activity Centers are closed.

Volunteers pick up meals at one of three Senior Activity Centers in St. Mary's County and deliver to homebound consumers.



Driver Qualifications and Requirements:

Valid Drivers License

Access to reliable mode of transportation

21 years of age or older

Participate in training provided by HDM coordinator

Mileage Reimbursement Available

For more information, contact Monika Williams at:

301-475-4200, ext.1060

monikaw@stmarysmd.com

www.stmarysmd.com/aging/homedeliveredmeals.asp



ST. MARY'S COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES
Working Together ~ Caring About You



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

Home-Delivered Meals Seeking Volunteer Drivers

The Home Delivered Meals Program is looking for reliable help to deliver meals to homebound seniors within St. Mary's County. If you are looking for volunteer opportunities, please consider delivering for our very rewarding program. Meals are delivered to homebound seniors Monday through Friday from 11:15 am – 1:30 pm. Mileage reimbursement is available.

Driver qualifications and requirements:

- Valid Driver's License
- Pass background check
- Access to reliable vehicle
- 21 years of age or older
- Attend provided training
- Please contact Monika Williams at 301-475-4200, ext. 1060, or monikaw@stmarysmd.com for more information.

Project Linus Resumes at Loffler

Project Linus will meet for the

first time in over a year on Friday, June 18 at 10 a.m. at the Loffler Senior Activity Center under new leadership. Many thanks to Debbie Rumble, who dedicated many years to this organization before relocating last year to another state. Ginger Barnes has graciously stepped in as the new Southern MD Project Linus Coordinator as well as volunteer leader of the Loffler Senior Activity Center Chapter. If you have an interest in making blankets, quilts, afghans, throws or other comforting coverings for ill or traumatized children and teenagers, e-mail Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1655 for more information.

Nutrition Presentation and Counseling

Donna Taggart, RD/LD/CDE will be at the Loffler Senior Activity Center to present Improving Your Immune Health on Monday, June 28 at 10 a.m. Learn how proper nutrition can be your

strongest ally in support of your immune system. Advance sign up is required. Access our Reservation Request Line at 301-475-4200, ext. 1660 and leave a message. Additionally, Donna offers free personal nutrition counseling before and after the presentation. You can make an appointment with her for that by texting or calling 240-538-6539.

Loffler Book Club

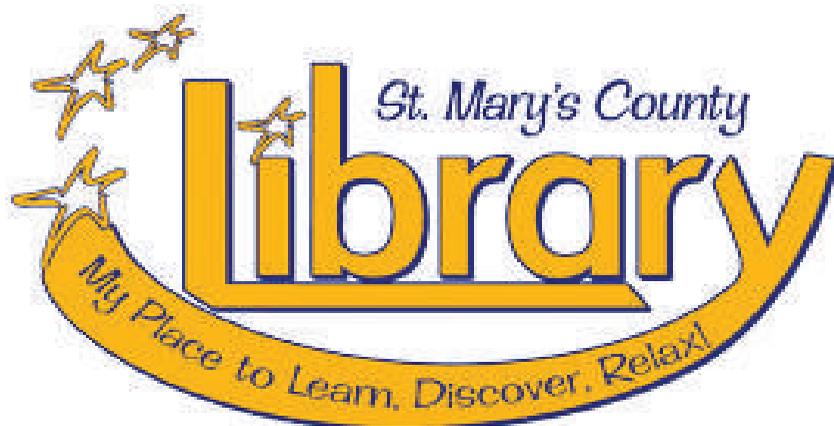
This month the Loffler Book Club is reading *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. To request this book from the library branch of your choice, let them know that you are a member of the Loffler Book Club. Book discussion will take place on Friday, July 2, 2 p.m. in the Senior Lounge at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. E-mail Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1655 for more information.

What in the World is Happening?

Current Events is once again holding court on the latest topics of the day at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. This group has resumed meeting every Monday at 10 a.m. Walk-ins are now welcome! For questions call 301-475-4200, ext. 1655.

Beginner Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

This popular and evidence-based program will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays July 13-Aug. 5. We will learn to do some core movements on each side in a graceful routine while applying basic Tai Chi principles. There is no fee for this class, but a commitment to attendance and practice is necessary for success. Pre-registration is required by calling the Reservation Request Line at 301-475-4200, ext. 1660 and leave a message beginning at 8 a.m. on June 20.



Meet the Author and LIVE Concerts! – Summer Reading Kickoff!

We're ready for Summer Reading! Pre-register for the St. Mary's County Library Summer Reading challenge (June 19 – August 14) on www.stmalib.org. Earn a free glow-in-the-dark t-shirt and be entered to win gift cards by reading, attending Library programs, and other fun activities. Join us for one of our kick off events: Christina Baker Kline, #1 New York Times bestselling author of eight novels, virtual author event on Monday, June 21 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. and Mr. Jon Live in-person outdoor concerts. Mr. Jon will hold four concerts, two (10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.) on Friday, June 25 and two (10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.) on Saturday, June 26. Register for all events on www.stmalib.org to reserve your space.

International Children's Literature Book Club

Join us LIVE for the first meeting of the International Children's Book Club for pre-school and lower elementary children on Monday, June 28 from 3 - 4p.m. Join in the

enjoyment of learning about and reading children's literature from other countries. This month we will be visiting Canada and China! Each month we will highlight literature originally published and/or originating from other countries and, if applicable, translated to English. This month's amazing read (with a surprise twist) is *Norman, Speak!* by Canadian author, Caroline Adderson and illustrated by Chinese Canadian author/illustrator, Qin Leng. Gather a copy of one of your favorites from another country or culture and share it with others. Register on www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom meeting the day before the event.

Southern Maryland, 2000 BC: A Maryland Archaeology Program with Dr. James Gibb

This illustrated talk examines what we have learned about Southern Maryland from the vantage of Mattawoman Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River between Charles and Prince George's County. Join us on Monday, June 28 from 7 – 8 p.m. For more than a century, archaeologists have



explored a poorly understood period in the Chesapeake region's past, an era for which neither oral history nor written chronicles survive. Only those discarded items of everyday life that have survived decomposition over the millennia (mostly stone tools and the waste created in their manufacture) survive. With these items, archaeologists can test ideas about how we think Native Americans lived and how they interacted with their environs. Register on www.stmalib.org with an email address to receive a link to join the online event.

Bold and Fierce Modern Cross Stitch

Express yourself! Join us as we cross-stitch and discuss Stephanie Rohr's book, "Feminist Cross-Stitch: 40 Bold and Fierce Patterns" on Tuesday, June 29 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Pattern and kit supplied. All skill levels. From samplers to elaborate landscapes, cross-stitch has been passed down for ages, primarily by women. Cross-stitch can be used to commemorate events or decorate the home, but many are picking up cross-stitch for relaxation and expres-

sion. Let's cross-stitch together and talk about how women are reclaiming this art as a means of fierce, and sometimes snarky, self-expression. Register on www.stmalib.org. Registrants will receive a zoom link for the program. Check out *Feminist Cross Stitch: 40 Bold and Fierce Patterns*

Tie Dye Block Party

It's hip. It's happening. It's a tie-dye block party. Join us and make your very own groovy garment Friday, July 2 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Ages 8 to 18. Each appointment is for one participant. The Library will supply 1 cotton bandana per person to tie-dye, but you are welcome to bring 1 additional item (tee, bag, hat, etc.) if you'd like. You will have 20 minutes to complete your tie-dye project. Each appointment is for one participant. This program will be taking place outdoors. Wear something you won't mind getting messy. Register on www.stmalib.org.

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, June 17

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. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

Friday, June 18

Evolution of a Black Girl: From the Slave House to the White House

Virtual; 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

"Evolution of a Black Girl: From the Slave House to the White House" is a powerful one woman show where writer/performer Morgan McCoy portrays 12 different characters. Her unforgettable performance of these women takes the audience on a journey from Africa during the 1600's to present day in America. Register at <https://ccplonline.libnet.info/event/5213659>.

Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID19. Beth Israel Synagogue will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7 PM. Check our website calendar (bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html) for event details.

Bingo

Father Andrew White School;
6:30 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus Council 1470 in Leonardtown is reopening bingo.

Saturday, June 19

Footprints and Roots

Virtual; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

This virtual community event is sponsored jointly by the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc.-Prince George's County, Maryland Chapter, the Prince George's County Historical Society and the Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board, Elizabeth M. Hewlett. The event features a keynote address given by Professor Dale Green and workshops on Quilt Codes and the Underground Railroad: History or Mystery by Dr. Blanche Brownley, Georgetown Memory Project: The Ge-

neological Pursuit of Truth, Reconciliation & Reunion by Malissa Ruffner, and Moses Grandy Opens Doors to Our African Homeland by Eric Anthony Sheppard. More information at <https://ccplonline.libnet.info/event/5207585>.

Step Afrika!

Virtual; 8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Step Afrika! returns to the virtual theater to commemorate Juneteenth as the day that federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to ensure that all enslaved people were freed. Step Afrika! honors the determination, resilience, and reclamation of freedom with newly filmed choreographic masterpieces inspired by the African American experience. Register at <https://ccplonline.libnet.info/event/5207603>.

Summerseat Farm Open House

Summerseat Farm; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tour the house and gardens and visit the farm animals at the farm. Meet the buffalo, chickens, ducks, goats, pig and horse. A special talk on the American Bison (buffalo) will take place at 11:00 am. Our volunteers will be available to show you around the animal barn area throughout the day. Summerseat Farm is a nonprofit formed to "Save the Farm" so that it may be shared with the community for generations to come. It is completely supported by volunteers, memberships, donations and fundraisers. Located in Mechanicsville, donation of \$5 per family appreciated. See www.summerseat.org or our facebook for more information.

Tuesday, June 22

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@ccsmd.com.

Wednesday, June 23

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://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.

Food Pantry

Noon - 6 p.m.

St. Matthew's Pentecostal Church, 23755 Hollywood Road Leonardtown, MD 20650. 301-475-2910

Thursday, June 24

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. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

Ongoing

Blackstone Grill Raffle

To benefit 7 th District VFD Auxiliary Range Top Combo with Griddle, Two-Burner Stovetop & Fryer A basket full of Cooking Essentials included. Tickets: \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 Raffle: July 2, 2021 Contact: Barbara Sue at 301-769-2654

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 Leonardtown 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 and will not be charged.

Upcoming

Indoor Flea Market

Christmas in April will be holding an indoor Flea Market (Rain or Shine) at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds on June 25th and 26th. Setup on June 25th from 2 pm-4pm and open for sales 4pm-7pm. Also open for sales on June 26th from 7am-1pm. \$20 for 8' x 10' space inside the building and \$10 for additional space. For reservations or questions, please call Jini at 240-577-5468. CASH ONLY accepted at time of registration. **NO FOOD SALES PERMITTED.**

Yoga Classes

\$100 per class. All classes will meet at Leonard Hall Rec Center. Register at www.stmarysmd.com/recreate.

Classes are:

Yoga Basics - ages 10 and up 6/23 - 8/11; 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Vinyasa Flow Yoga - ages 16 and up

6/24 - 8/12; 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Gentle Yoga - ages 10 and up 6/21 - 8/23; 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. or 6/26 - 8/21; 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Restorative Yin Yoga - ages 10 and up

6/22 - 8/10; 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Tween Yoga and Mindfulness - ages 9 to 13

6/25 - 8/20; 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Wanderings

of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



STRIKING A POSE FOR CHARITY

I hope if you happened to be driving down Rt. 242/Colton Point Road last Sunday evening that you didn't get surprised at what you saw and run off the road. I am pretty sure I did see a few drivers swerve just a bit as they passed by. What was it the drivers saw? Greeting their eyes were three of the Clements Cuties; my husband, Harry Pool, and Dave Carr, all dressed to the nines in the middle of a photo shoot with a beautiful cornfield in the background. It's not every day you see a big man with a two foot tall Baltimore Hon Beehive wig laying across the hood of a red Mustang... and that's a good thing. Carol and Tom Davis owners of Your Journey Studios photography studio had the "guys" posing with our '65 Mustang and Harry and Deb Pool's big, beautiful Harley Davidson Trike.

There was so much laughter and fun in Carol and Tom's photography studio even before we went across the street to the cornfield on a beautiful, dusky St. Mary's County evening. I think you can see that in the photo that Carol Davis graciously let me use for the column. We raided all the props in her studio, rubber chickens even made an appearance a time or two. Carol took lots of great photos even with all the jokes and laughter going on. This was only the first of several photo shoots, with the others to be held down on the water at Quade's Store, with Wayne Mast's Clydesdales, and of course, down at Back Road Inn in Compton. The result of all these photo shoots with all the Clement's Cuties will be a calendar you "should" be proud to hang in your home if you would like a hearty laugh to start your day. The real reason for the calendar as you probably know is to be another avenue for raising funds for the Clements Cuties Foundation's goal of helping raise awareness for childhood cancers. We raise funds each year for two or more local children fighting cancer and for several youth scholarships.

Our day didn't end at the cornfield, Carol Davis also had some photo shoot ideas to take down at Anderson's Bar at the Clement's circle. You would think that Blair Anderson or the bar patrons would show some shock with three

APPEARING SOON
AT A BALLFIELD NEAR YOU



"Cuties" walking into a bar late Sunday evening, and jumping up to sit on the bar and pose, but it was all in a day's work for Blair. Standing out in that cornfield made us all a bit parched, so Anderson's was the perfect way to end our day. Those were some good Bourbon Sweet and Sours Blair. Purely medicinal.

Carol is hoping to have the calendars out soon, hopefully we might have them for when Fox 5 DC makes another Zip Trip into Leonardtown Square on July 30th for a fun-filled day in the town and with the Clement's Cuties and, if possible, the child recipient's and their families. We sure had fun the last time Fox 5 came down. Come on into Leonardtown that day and be a part of the fun.

I can only imagine what fun the Cuties scheduled for tonight's photo shoot will have. I heard talk of canoes, and who knows what other props and jokes will be involved. It's all for a good cause, and there is no reason you can't have a ton of fun while doing so. I hope you will keep September 11th in mind for our big softball game down at Back Road Inn and for the Halloween Golf Tournament at Chesapeake Hills Golf Course on October 29th. You can have fun, support the organization, and get back out there doing things again.

Well, be careful when driving around the county the next few weeks, you never know when a Cutie with a big beehive might be wandering about.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Father's Day gifts ... for your kids

If you're a dad, you may be in line to get some nice gifts on Father's Day. But your greatest gift may be your ability to help your children. One way of doing that is to get them started in the world of investing – and making a few investments on their behalf.

Here are three possibilities:

- **529 plan** – If you invest in a 529 education savings plan, your earnings can grow federally tax-free, provided the money is used for qualified educational expenses. (Withdrawals not used for these expenses will generally incur taxes and penalties on investment earnings.) If you invest in your own state's 529 plan, you might receive some state tax benefits, too, depending on how your state's tax laws apply to 529 plans. State-by-state tax treatment may vary, so you'll need to consult with your tax professional about your situation.

Provided you stay within certain limits, you can also use a 529 plan to pay for qualified K-12 expenses and registered apprenticeship programs. And you can even use it to repay certain qualified student loans, within limits.

A 529 plan can affect financial aid, but its effect is generally lower than that of other assets. And as the account owner, you have control of your 529, so, if one child decides not to go to college or pursue further education, you can switch beneficiaries.

- **UGMA/UTMA account** – When you establish a special type of custodial account known as either UGMA (Uniform Gift to Minors Act) or UTMA (Uniform Transfers to Minors Act), you are providing financial resources that can be used for education or another purpose that benefits your child, such as summer

programs.

One potential benefit of an UGMA or UTMA is that some of the earnings will be taxed at the child's rate, which is likely lower than your own. Plus, UGMA/UTMA accounts typically allow a wide range of investment choices. However, once children reach the age of majority (typically 18 or 21) they gain complete access to the money and can do whatever they want with it.

- **IRA** – A child with any taxable compensation, such as money from an after-school job, is eligible to fund an IRA. You may want to open one on your child's behalf – and you can "sweeten" the offer by matching some of their contributions. You can't directly invest in the IRA, but you can give your child money for that purpose. Keep in mind, though, that the total amount contributed can't exceed your child's taxable compensation for the year.

An IRA is a great introduction to the world of investing. For one thing, your child can make small contributions throughout the year, so investing in an IRA doesn't seem burdensome. Also, since an IRA can be invested in different types of securities, your child can learn about various investment vehicles – stocks, bonds, mutual funds and so on. Plus, you can point out that, with a traditional IRA, taxes won't be due on the earnings until your child starts taking withdrawals decades from now. (And with a Roth IRA, withdrawals are tax-free, provided certain conditions are met.)

On Father's Day, you can show your appreciation for whatever gifts you receive from your children. But by investing in their future, you can gain some longer-term contentment.

*Article was contributed by David McDonough
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.
Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr Suite 302
Leonardtown MD, 20650
301 997 1707*



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

NFL Pro Herschel Walker Visits Pax River to Share the Importance of Mental Health

Herschel Walker, former professional football player, Heisman Trophy winner, and Olympic athlete, visited NAS Patuxent River June 9 to visit with installation and tenant command personnel and discuss the importance of mental health. Walker serves as a spokesman for the Patriot Support Programs' Anti-Stigma Campaign, and visits military installations to share his story of dealing with dissociative identity disorder and discuss the importance of seeking help when needed.

At every stop on his tour of Pax River, Walker would discuss highlights of his career, sign autographs, and take photos with fans. But he would always remind all in attendance of his reason for being there.

"There is no shame in getting help," said Walker. "I did."

Walker made visits to the Na-

val Health Clinic Patuxent River, and Air Operations Tower before speaking to a limited crowd of 100 in the Drill Hall. There he relayed his experiences of coming to terms with his own mental health, how it affected his family and friends, and finally reaching out for help.

"The best thing that ever happened to Herschel Walker was not the Heisman Trophy, it was not playing in the NFL; it was going to a behavioral health hospital."

Walker explained that one of the hardest things for people who are suffering to do is ask for help, especially when there is a perceived expectation to hide it.

"We see it every day in professional sports; I worked with a player who spoke up about being depressed, and was vilified for it," said Walker. "But no one was asking him why he felt that way. His

mother had died and his brother committed suicide. But he was reaching out for help."

He said that stress can impact people in different ways, but in the end if someone needs help they should ask and receive it with no fear.

"The thing people don't understand is that mental health is different for everyone," said Walker. "As service members, you go down range, you see and smell and do things that most people never will, and while some may be able to deal with it well, not everyone can. But people don't want to talk about it. It doesn't make them bad at what they do, they just need some help. And that's what we need to get them comfortable doing without hesitation."

Walker followed his remarks at the Drill Hall with squadron tours at HX-21 and VX-1 to speak with

their personnel as well, eventually closing his tour with a visit to the Security Department personnel at Gate 1.

While many thanked him for visiting and sharing his experiences, Walker was quick to point out that the service members he talks to on these tours make as much an impact on him.

"It's not just you; you're doing everything you can for other people, you wouldn't be here if that wasn't the case," Walker said of the military personnel and veterans at Pax. "It takes you guys to make me be Herschel Walker."

To learn more about the Patriot Support Programs of Universal Health Services Anti-Stigma Campaign, visit <https://patriot-supportprograms.com/about-us/anti-stigma/>.



NFL great Herschel Walker talks to base personnel about mental health.

The Tackle Box Fishing Report

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

Cobia season opened June 15th and lasts until September 15. The minimum size is 40 inches and the limit is one per person per day, with a boat maximum of two fish. The favorite locations to find these big bruisers is in the lower bay from the Target Ship to the Virginia line. The fish also foray in the shallow waters in the Mud Leads all the way to Richland (Richland Point).

Trollers use big surgical eels with success. Chummers grind alewife and drift chunks of cut bait or live eels into the chum line. Another technique is to visit a likely location and chunk pieces of cut bait and see if the fish show, if not, it is off to another location. There is a lot of water out there and the schools of fish seem to be always on the move,; the trick is to find them and present the bait and hope for the best.

The big bull reds (channel bass, red drum) tend to move around with the cobia.

I heard rumors of trollers and casters out of St. Jerome's Creek caught some spanish mackerel and bluefish late last week. The spanish are a favorite food fish for the cobia and reds.

Rockfish are in the Potomac for trollers and lure casters in the shallows and in the deep, but the major schools seem to be heading up the river all the way to Port Tobacco. The Patuxent has plenty of rockfish around the shorelines, getting one 19 inches can be a challenge.

There are tons of small spot in the Patuxent from the Line marker at Hog Point to Benedict. These



Cobia like this beauty are coming soon

fish will need another couple of weeks to grow big enough to eat. Plenty of perch now mixed with the spot. Bigger perch are available for spinner bait throwers along the shore lines of the Patuxent and Potomac and in the creeks.

There are catfish in the upper reaches of the rivers and one can fill the boat with these tasty fish using fresh cut alewife.

Intrepid anglers are loading up on large mouth bass at St. Mary's lake. One kayak fisherman reported landing 31 bass in an outing along with crappie, sunfish, and pickerel.

A View From The BLEACHERS



The Villain and the Hero

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

A weary traveler sauntered into an inviting pub, occupied the nearest available barstool and anticipated liquid rejuvenation. "What'll it be, sir?" asked the barkeep. Seeking assistance, the traveler murmured, "Recommendations?" The barkeep grinned and offered, "The two favorite poisons are the Irresistible Stout and the Unavoidable IPA." The traveler contemplated the descriptions - "irresistible" and "unavoidable" - and returned the only acceptable answer: "Suppose I'll have both."

In beer there is truth. And so, when two stories beg to be written, two go to print - one with villainous undertones and other with transcendent heroism.

In 1985, I remember debating the merits of the Johnny Dawkins/Tommy Amaker/Mark Alarie-led Duke basketball team with an eighth grade classmate. In high school, I followed the Duke career of Danny Ferry, son of long-time Bullets/Wizards executive Bob Ferry. My college years were dominated by the Christian Laettner and Grant Hill Blue Devils. Early in my professional career, I attended Shane Battier-vintage Duke NCAA tournament games with colleagues. J.J. Reddick was leading Duke when my first child was born; Jon Scheyer was on the Durham campus when my second child arrived. Kyle Singler, the Plumlee brothers, Jabari Parker, Grayson Allen, R.J. Barrett and Zion Williamson followed.

I hated them all.

The constant through all this disgusting greatness has been head coach Mike Krzyzewski. I'm 48-years-old and he is the only Duke men's basketball coach I've ever known. Mercifully, Krzyzewski announced last week that next season would be his last on the Duke bench. I can only hope this leads to 40 years of losing and inescapable suffering for Duke fans.

Seems fair, right?

Funny thing though: When contemplating Krzyzewski's retirement, my joy was accompanied by a dash of unexpected sorrow. Masked by my deep disdain for all things Duke is a gratefulness for the existence of Krzyzewski's irreproachable standard. Duke has dutifully played the role of villain for decades. While Coach K's teams have frequently shattered my heart, there was no joy like a Maryland victory over Duke; similarly, Maryland's 2002 National

Championship was made all the more special because it signified equivalency - with Duke - where there had been only inferiority. Stated more broadly, any sense of accomplishment, athletic or otherwise, is heightened by the challenge overcome. To that, I grit my teeth and admit: The world needs its Dukes.

Speaking of beating "The Standard," in the 2018 U.S. Open final, a 20-year-old Naomi Osaka defeated crowd favorite Serena Williams in match marred by dubious calls and heated exchanges between Williams and the chair umpire. The post-match player interviews were a painful human moment - Osaka, who had just defeated her idol and won the biggest tournament of her life, was emotionally overwhelmed by the crowd's agitation with the chair umpire and outcome. Lost on the classless mob - until Williams attempted to redirect - was the brilliance of Osaka and the appreciation she deserved.

Three years and three more major championships later, Osaka occupies the pinnacle of women's tennis - and she is still courageously reminding us of the bigger picture. After being fined for not doing pre-tournament interviews, Osaka withdrew from the upcoming French Open last week. Osaka's decision, she revealed, was based on ongoing mental health challenges and how she was feeling at present. The reaction was, predictably, mixed. Her critics - various personalities and virtual muscle-flexing social media trolls - cited interviews as Osaka's duty and her withdrawal as a sign of weakness.

My species rarely fails to disappoint me, especially of late.

Fortunately, support for Osaka has swelled and now dominates the narrative (as it should). Osaka doesn't owe the French Open, tennis or the media anything. Profit, entertainment and click bait mining should never be prioritized over an athlete's wellness. On the court, Osaka's heroism is proven; by withholding her labor - and star power - to focus on her health and, indirectly, destigmatize a common, serious, but sadly still misunderstood ailment (mental health), she became a hero off of it.

That's a wrap. A wise fellow once told me, "You know what's better than a cold beer? Two." The gamble is the same logic applies to stories within a sports column.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

find us on **facebook**



www.facebook.com/CountyTimesSt.Marys

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 Rosalie "Rose" Gerek Pace



Mary Rosalie "Rose" Gerek Pace, 72 died at her residence on Saturday, February 29th, 2020. She was born on December 25, 1947 in St. Mary's City, MD. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Robert L. Pace III and Angela, Joseph "Jay" pace and Shannon, Daniel "Pete" Pace and Hope, her honorary daughter, Sherry Cooper Jones and Phillip, two brothers, Rick Gerek and Joe Gerek, both of St. Mary's City, nine grandchildren, Taylor Pace and Allen, Lee Chiasson, Chi Pace and Lacy, Caleb Pace, Kacey Pace Core and Justin, Brett Pace and Jessica, David Hayes and Brittney, Ryan Jones and Jessica Jones; eight great-grandchildren, Hagen Lamb ert, Aaliyah Chiasson, Adaline Pace, Westin and Bristol Core, Rustin Pace, Alexis and Cassidy Hays. She was preceded in death by her parents, Cyril Joseph and Teresa Gertrude Hammett Gerek, brothers Mike Gerek, Pat Gerek and sister Betty Gerek Stewart.

She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. Although a long time resident of Louisiana, Rose held St. Mary's County in her heart as 'home'. She put everyone's needs before her own and always welcomed family and friends into her home. She enjoyed making ceramics of all kinds and crocheting baby blankets.

The family will receive friends at the Parish Hall of Trinity Episcopal Church for a memorial service on July 4, 2021 (47477 Trinity Church Rd., St. Mary's City 20686)

Susan Adreon Claggett

Susan Adreon Claggett, age 79, passed away Monday June, 14 at her residence.

She was born August 14, 1941 to Thomas West Jr. and Blanche Claggett of Frederick, MD who preceded her in death. She attended St. Mary's Junior College, American University and the University of Maryland where she received a Masters of Social Work. She was employed by the US Navy



as the Director of the Family Service Center at Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

She was married to Billy D McKissick and is survived by brother Thomas Claggett III, children DeChantel Yates, Peter Parmentier, Bill McKissick Jr. and grandchildren McKenna (Wren), Ryan, Caroline, and Connor.

Funeral services for Mrs. Claggett will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 24th at Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Mary City, MD with a reception following.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Alzheimer's or American Heart Association.

Debra Layne "Debby" Garman



Debra Layne "Debby" Garman, 58, of Coltons Point, MD, formerly of Brandywine, MD passed away on June 7, 2021 in McLean, VA. She was born on August 12, 1962 and was the daughter of Roberta Faye Garman of Prince Frederick, MD and the late William R. Garman of Upper Marlboro, MD. Debby is survived by her son, Vincent Parrett, of Stamford, CT, her brother, Kevin Garman (Kerrie) of Prince Frederick, MD, her sister-in-law, Cheryl Garman, four nephews, one niece, and three great nephews. She was preceded in death by her brother, Michael Garman of Mechanicsville, MD.

Debby graduated from Suitland High School in 1980, and worked as a media buyer for an independent

contracting company. She was a passionate Washington sports fan, an adventurous cook, and had a fiery passion for politics.

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

Arrangements by the Mattingly-Gardner Funeral Home, P.A..

Elizabeth Anne McCoy Hayes



Elizabeth Anne McCoy Hayes, 68, passed away peacefully at home with her family by her side in Leonardtown on June 6th, 2021. She was born in Scotland, Maryland of Fred and Beth

McCoy, one of 12 children.

Married Walter Edwin Hayes in 1976 with three children, Walter Ian Hayes, Matthew Brendan Hayes, and Mary Elizabeth Hayes. She is survived by a large family of McCoy's and is deeply admired and loved by her brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews.

Anne attended St. Mary's Academy, and graduated University of Maryland School of Nursing (1975) and was a Registered Nurse, Certified Diabetes Educator and administered care to thousands of patients across Maryland. As a nurse she practiced in hospice, pediatrics, public health, and diabetes and served on the board of directors of the St. Mary's Nursing Home.

She was the spiritual heart and acting matriarch of the McCoy family who ensured that her siblings remained a tight knit family. She was an inspiration of strong faith, compassion, sincerity, unity and caregiving. She was a true giver, an advocate for those who most needed her help and attention and exemplified unconditional love without judgement in her actions and dedication to her family, friends and patients.

Instead of flowers, in her honor, reach out to your family, friends and



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In Remembrance

neighbors who are less fortunate and need help without judgement.

Robert Oliver Guyther, Jr.



Robert Oliver Guyther, Jr., of Leonardtown, Maryland, known to one and all as Robin Guyther, departed this life on June 3, 2021, after a courageous battle with gastroesophageal cancer. He was born on April 21, 1948, in Leonardtown, Maryland, to the late Oliver R. Guyther and Elizabeth McNey Guyther.

Robin married Darlene Ann Tucker Brown on November 11, 1983, and they had 37 wonderful years together before his passing. There were no children born of the marriage but Robin acquired a stepdaughter and eventually a grandchild and great-grandchildren as a result of his marriage to Darlene. It amused him that he became a grandparent before his mother.

Robin was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Darlene, his stepdaughter, Amy Brown Egger (Jay) of Compton, Maryland, granddaughter of the heart, Laura Estrada (Andy), and great grandchildren, Julian, Callie and Piper, of Omaha, Nebraska, his brother, David Guyther (Rebekah),

sisters, Candy Guyther, Betsy Fritz (Rick), and Mary Jo Willenborg (Willie), all of Leonardtown, Maryland, nieces and nephews, Jack Fritz, Brooke Fritz, Andy Guyther, Ben Guyther, Eliot Willenborg, and Allie Willenborg, all of St. Mary's County.

Robin was born and raised in St. Mary's County, Maryland, and his roots go deep there. He graduated from Leonard Hall School and Ryken High School, and obtained his degree from St. Mary's College of Maryland. He earned his masters in land planning at the University of Virginia. After high school and during his college days he worked as a reporter for the local newspaper, "The Enterprise". For many years he worked at St. Mary's County's Department of Planning & Zoning and later he worked at Land Use and Growth Management, where he was director of the permits and inspections department. In recent years he worked part-time at the County's Museum Division, a job he enjoyed, especially when it was busy. He got to tell people about the County he loved. He was also self-employed doing marine construction permits.

Robin had many interests outside the workplace. He was an excellent photographer and produced many beautiful photos of the local scenery and the scenery of the many places he and Darlene visited, from the glitz of Las Vegas to the majesty of California and the Pacific Coast and the grandeur of old castles and churches in Alba, Italy. In his 50's he returned to his love of music, brushed up on the old guitar, and performed in many local venues as a solo artist and with the band "Geezer". In addition to performing, Robin wrote songs, including one entitled "Maryland's Mother Is Like No Other" which includes all the place names in St. Mary's County. He was a member of the Leonardtown Lions

Club, Southern Maryland Traditional Music & Dance, and Friends of the Piney Point and St. Clements Island Museums.

Robin Guyther was a kind and patient man. He was friendly and outgoing. He could be accosted on the street by a stranger, new in town, asking for some direction, and Robin would make a friend of him. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

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

Arrangements by the Mattingly-Gardner Funeral Home, P.A..

Dale Darwood Van Meter



Dale Darwood Van Meter, 84 of Lexington Park, MD passed away peacefully on May 27, 2021 at home with his wife and children by his side after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Dale was born on December 5, 1936 in Petersburg, WV to the late Mary Elizabeth Van Meter. He was preceded in death by his sister Yvonne "Bonnie" Crites and brother Arno Van Meter.

After graduating high school in Petersburg, WV, Dale entered the United States Navy and proudly served from July of 1957 until his retirement as Chief Petty Officer in September of 1977. After retiring from the U.S. Navy, the family moved to St. Mary's County, MD, where Dale was employed by government contractors.

He married the love of his life, Betty Jo Kimble, on March 21, 1962 in Upper Marlboro, MD. They were blessed to raise four wonderful children together. In addition to his wife, Dale is survived by his children Anthony "Tony" (Melody) Van Meter of Mechanicsville, MD, Terri Van Meter (husband Richard Worden) of Lexington Park, MD, Michael (Donna) Van Meter of Tall Timbers, MD and Melissa Van Meter (Todd Goings) of Lexington Park, MD, his two grandsons, John and Dale M. Van Meter of Mechanicsville, MD and his two granddaughters Lauren and Alyssa Van Meter of Tall Timbers, MD.

Dale was an amazing, hard-working, caring man who lived a private life and loved his family. He was a quiet man but had a great sense of humor and could be sarcastic at times. He had a special love of animals and was also a talented auto mechanic and handyman who could fix anything needing repair. He attended First Saints Community Church in Callaway, MD. Even though Dale endured Parkinson's Disease the last ten years of his life, he never complained and could even find humor in it at times.

The family would like to thank Hospice of St. Mary's County for their guidance and support.

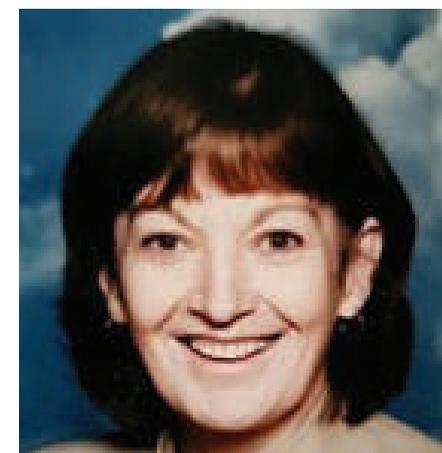
All services are private.

In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (michaelfox.org), St. Mary's Animal Welfare League (www.smawl.org) or Feral Cat Rescue (feralcatrescuemd.org).

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Elizabeth "Betty" Jean Longmore



Elizabeth "Betty" Jean Longmore, 74, of Westminster, MD passed away on June 8, 2021 at Brightview Senior Living Center where she had lived since 2016. She was surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on December 16, 1946 in Leonardtown, MD to the late James Abell Longmore, Sr. and Rose Theresa (Alvey) Longmore.

Betty was a resident of St. Mary's County until she graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1964. She attended college at Mount Saint Agnes which is now Loyola University in Baltimore, MD. She graduated from college in 1968 with a Master's Degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology. She was hired by the Baltimore County School system and later she worked for Pleasant Plains Elementary School in Anne



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Arundel County where she dedicated her time to helping children with developmental issues in speech and hearing. She retired from teaching in 1999.

She was a talented seamstress and her needlepoint creations continue to bring joy to those who received her works of art. She was always ready to enjoy a shopping trip or any excursion when the opportunity presented itself. Her favorite outings were annual trips in the fall with her sisters.

Betty lived her life caring for and loving her family and friends. She was never too busy to lend a hand to anyone who was in need. If someone was ill, she was there to clean for them, mow their lawn or drive them to appointments. If it was a shoulder you needed, Betty was there to listen. She was a humble, kind and loving woman and anyone who had the pleasure of meeting her knew she was a gift placed in their lives.

She was everyone's favorite aunt because she didn't simply show up to watch events or visit, she listened and was honestly interested in everything her 15 nieces and nephews did. She attended every activity she could and when they were little, she was always in the floor playing with them. They knew they could trust and count on her for anything.

Betty is survived by her siblings: Rose Marie Weiland (Joseph Hugh) of Fredericksburg, VA; Mary Lou Frain (Charles) of Finksburg, MD and Marian Bowser of California, MD as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family and friends. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her siblings, Leonard Longmore, Elsie (Longmore) Sullivan; Abell Longmore Jr.; her brother-in-law Joseph Bowser.

In lieu of flowers please send donations in memory of Elizabeth Longmore to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

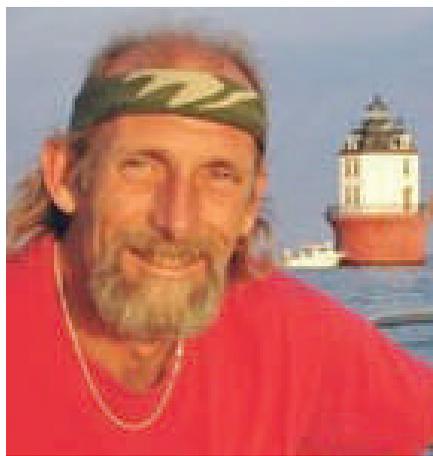
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Richard Paul "Ricky"

Yeatman

Richard Paul "Ricky" Yeatman, 64, of Ridge, MD, died at home on June 7, 2021. He was born July 28, 1956, in Leonardtown, a twin son of Harry and Margaret Raley Yeatman. He grew up in Dameron and attended St. Michael's School and Great Mills High School, graduating in the Class of 1974.

In 1978, he married Barbara Jean White and they raised two daughters in Mt. Airy. Ricky moved back to St.



Mary's County following their divorce in 1999. He was a self-employed contractor (C & N Maintenance). He was always willing to use his skill and expertise to help others.

Ricky was an avid deer hunter and fisherman. He lived many years on St Jerome Creek and owned a patch of woods on St. Jerome Neck, where he and his brother hunted. He also enjoyed turkey shoots at the American Legion and NASCAR.

Ricky was predeceased by his parents and his former wife. He is survived by his loving daughters, Christina Moore (Matt) of Summerville, South Carolina, and Nicole Little (Chris) of Ravenna, Ohio, and his grandchildren –Jaden Moore, Claire Moore, Bailee Little, and Calee Little. He is also survived by his brothers Larry Yeatman (Nancy) of Towson, Ron Yeatman of Dameron, and Ted Yeatman (Charlotte) also of Dameron, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Please join us in remembering of our dad at St. Michael's Church on Friday, June 18, 2021:

11am Church Visitation

12pm Church Service

12:30pm Graveside Burial

Food and fellowship to follow at the American Legion

In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Point Lookout Lighthouse Preservation Society, Inc., P.O. Box 135, St. Leonard, MD 20685.

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

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Dave Hamblin

Suddenly on the morning of June 6, 2021, Dave unexpectedly passed away at the age of 74. Dave was born in Cincinnati, OH, to the late Everett Hamblin and Marion (Insko) Hamblin.

Dave enlisted in the United States Navy after graduating from High School and trained as a data systems technician. While stationed in California, Dave served aboard the



USS Truxtun which included two tours in the Gulf of Tonkin during the Vietnam War. In 1970, Dave married Peggy (nee Brofft). Their son Jesse was born in 1971 followed by daughter Molly in 1972. Their daughter Jill was born overseas in 1980 while he was stationed at RAF Brawdy, Wales, UK. In 1981, Dave left active duty service and completed his 20 year Naval career as a reservist. Dave worked in St. Inigoes, MD for Bendix Field Engineering Corp. which later became Allied Signal. During this period of David's career, he earned a BS Degree from the University of Maryland. He then transferred to Goddard Space Flight Center where he worked for Honeywell until his retirement in 2013. Dave has been a devoted caretaker for daughter Jill. Dave was an avid reader and had an amazing memory. He would vividly describe trips that he took and other events in his life. Dave enjoyed camping, golf, tennis, volunteering, and fishing trips in Canada and locally in MD. He also enjoyed catching blue crabs with his grandchildren. Dave is survived by his wife, Peggy Hamblin, his mother-in-law Dottie Brofft, his son Jesse Hamblin, his daughter Molly Hamblin, Oregon and daughter Jill Hamblin of Maryland. He is also survived by grandchildren Carson, (17), Lily (11) and Remi (11).

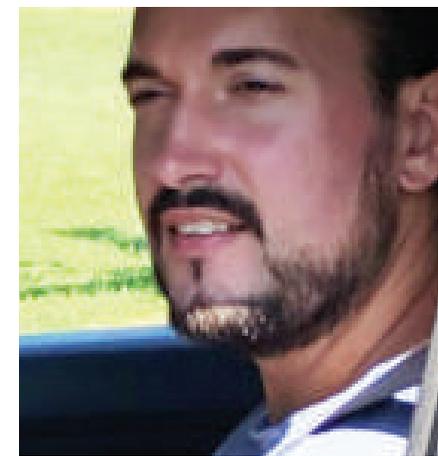
Donations in David's memory may be made to the American Legion Post 238, Hughesville, MD. A celebration of Life service is planned in his honor at Cryer's Back Road Inn on June 26th from 1-3.

Andrew "Andy" Owen

Thompson

Andrew "Andy" Owen Thompson, 35, of Myrtle Beach, SC (formerly of Mechanicsville, MD), passed away unexpectedly on June 2, 2021. He was born on February 22, 1986, in Clinton, MD to Charles Owen Thompson and Brenda Elaine Thompson.

Andy was a complicated man who loved his family. He was a devoted husband to Nancy Thompson and loved her deeply. He supported them



by working various jobs.

Andy had a big heart full of love, spirit wild and would be the first to lend a helping hand without asking anything in return. He was extraordinarily kind, caring, and compassionate. He was a great listener and was always worried about the wellbeing of those around him. He enjoyed spending time at the beach with his wife and family. He also enjoyed bike rides and long walks with his wife, Nancy, and dog, Gomita. Andy had a love for nature, cooking, and reading. He was very intelligent with vast knowledge of many things. Andy never wanted the material things in life as his pleasure derived from living green and helping others. Andy had a beautiful smile with warmth, love, and kindness behind it.

Andy cared about people in the purest way. He had a deep love for his family, he adored his nephews, and cherished the time they would spend together. He loved everyone for who they were, and he wished the best for them always. Andy had so much goodness, so much ability to bring happiness to others, the world is a lesser place without him.

A loving son, husband, brother, grandson, uncle, and friend. Andy was loved and will be missed by family and friends. As you stop and remember the man who impacted so many, know he has found peace in his new home and will continue to watch over you. We know that he is without pain and is now at rest in God's arms.

Andy is survived by his parents, Charles Thompson and Brenda Thompson of Mechanicsville, MD; siblings, Ryan (Angie) and Ashley (Brian); nephews, Austin, Luke, Elias, TJ, and Owen; and his grandmothers, Shirley Thompson, and Frances Johnson. He is preceded in death by his wife, Nancy Thompson, and grandfathers, Benjamin Thompson, and Gerald Johnson.

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

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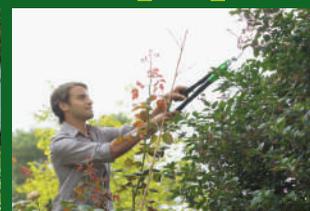
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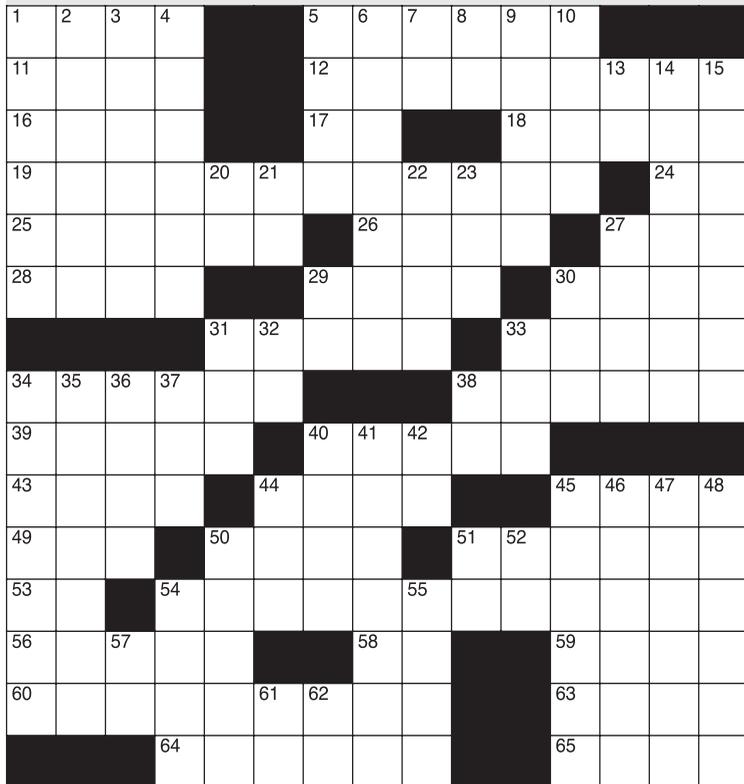
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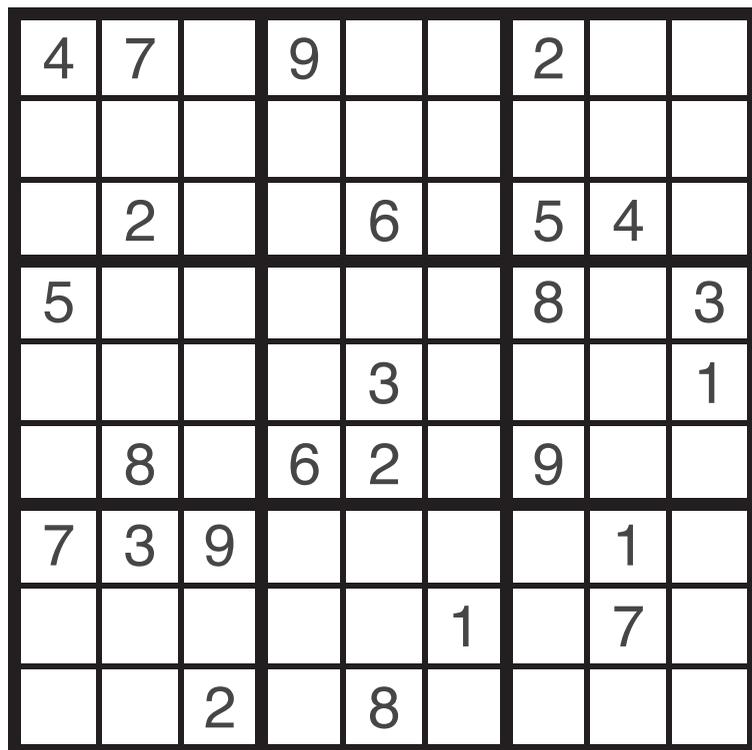
- 1. College group
- 5. Small morsels of food
- 11. Actress Dunham
- 12. Puts a limit on
- 16. Used for baking or drying
- 17. Commercial
- 18. Zookeeper Bindi
- 19. Walk in one's sleep
- 24. The Great Lakes State
- 25. Winter sport
- 26. A thin layer on something
- 27. Peacock network
- 28. Give birth to a lamb or kid
- 29. "Too Scared to Cry" author
- 30. Nose
- 31. Friend
- 33. Country music legend Haggard
- 34. Curved
- 38. More deformed
- 39. Bleated
- 40. Set on its end
- 43. An aspect of Ra
- 44. Releasing hormone (abbr.)
- 45. Harsh, grating noise
- 49. ___ Francisco
- 50. Common

- Japanese surname
- 51. Punish with an arbitrary penalty
- 53. Football position (abbr.)
- 54. Not in the know
- 56. African antelope
- 58. Popular tech (abbr.)
- 59. Baseball teams get three of them
- 60. Make up one's mind
- 63. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 64. Martens
- 65. Susan and Tom are two

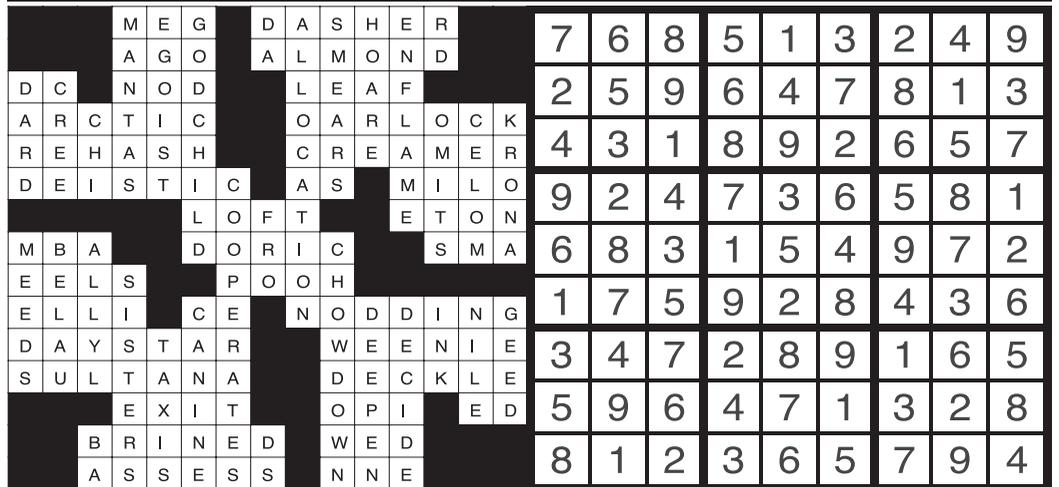
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Excessively showy
- 2. Put an end to
- 3. Blood disorder
- 4. Ingredient in wine
- 5. Shellfish
- 6. Made smaller
- 7. We
- 8. The Treasure State
- 9. ___ Eklund, actress
- 10. Male parent
- 13. One hundredth of a watt (abbr.)
- 14. Dish of minced meat
- 15. Smothered laugh
- 20. Article
- 21. Atomic #12
- 22. Small parrot
- 23. Fictional "Star Wars" planet

- 27. French wine grape
- 29. Football stat (abbr.)
- 30. Sound unit
- 31. Where you sleep
- 32. University of Dayton
- 33. Miller beer offering
- 34. Feel embarrassed
- 35. Able to be estimated
- 36. Commune in NW France
- 37. Adult female chicken
- 38. Intergovernmental organization
- 40. Archaic term for until
- 41. That which is not sacred
- 42. Sound made in speech
- 44. Handgun (slang)
- 45. Fill up again
- 46. Evoke or awaken
- 47. Beam Me Up, ___!
- 48. Spider wasp genus
- 50. Headdress
- 51. Exclamation of surprise
- 52. Of I
- 54. Figures
- 55. Men's fashion accessories
- 57. Indicates position
- 61. Megabyte
- 62. The Prairie State



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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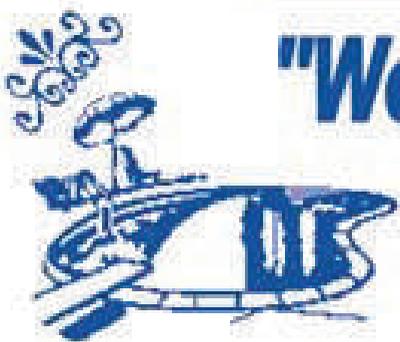


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