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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021

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WEEKLY FORECAST


Thu 7/22 83° 64°F Partly Cloudy	Fri 7/23 84° 69°F Partly Cloudy	Sat 7/24 83° 71°F Mostly Sunny	Sun 7/25 89° 71°F Mostly Cloudy
Mon 7/26 91° 72°F Isolated	Tue 7/27 87° 71°F Partly Cloudy	Wed 7/28 89° 72°F Partly Cloudy	Thu 7/29 89° 69°F Partly Cloudy

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Commissioners Table Decision On How to Spend \$22 Million

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Last week county department heads came before the Commissioners of St. Mary's County with their requests for a portion of the \$22 million in federal American Rescue Act Funds; the commissioners were set to make a decision on how to divide the money but held their decision.

Chief Financial Officer Jeanett Cudmore told county leaders July 20 she was working on getting more clarity from the federal government on what uses the money could and could not be used for.

Consensus quickly formed among commissioners about delaying their decision.

"There's no rush to spend the money," said Commissioner John O'Connor. "It's not an emergency."

The requests before commissioners are numerous and total just over \$36 million. The federal supplementary funds are supposed to be used for one-time purchases and not recurring expenses.

The Department of Emergency Services, through its director Steve Walker, asked for a new recording system for the county's 911 system as the department's top priority, and secondly a communications infrastructure that would enable direct interoperability between St. Mary's and Calvert counties emergency responders as well as between the communications centers of the two counties, Walker said.

It would also allow for encryption of sheriff's office radios that would allow them to speak to other jurisdictions securely.

Other emergency services department requests include a box truck for supply delivery to fire and rescue stations, over time pay for employees in the county health department and the EMS services due to COVID-19 exposure, expansion of radio frequencies to include the marine band.

The total cost of emergency services requests is just over \$1 million.

The county's fire companies also asked for a bevy of new expenditures.

Those include eight fit test machines to ensure safety clothing properly fits each volunteer to protect their respiratory system as well as seven washer/extractor machines to properly decontaminate personal protective equipment.

According to a summary of requests presented by John Nelson, president of the St. Mary's County Fire Board, seven fire companies also need new personal protection equipment (PPE) dryers as well as 15 sets of new PPE for all of the fire companies here.

The requests go on to include many other equipment improvements including self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), mass decontamination tents and a bunk room renovation for the Hollywood fire company.

The Department of Public Works wants money to fund two new building maintenance workers for a two-year period at a cost of more than \$354,000 as well as an additional \$6,000 for signing bonuses for county STS bus drivers.

The signing bonuses are designed to entice applicants who would be "on the front line of potential exposure to COVID-19 because they transport sick passengers to doctor's appointments..." a request from public works reads. "In addition, most of the ADA transit passengers are by definition high risk."

Public works also wants to hire a water storm program manager for a two-year term at a cost of a little more than \$218,000.

The county's Department of Information Technology wants \$4.7 million of the supplemental funding for multiple projects including to add "middle mile" and "last mile" broadband cable infrastructure to advance tele-work, tele-health and tele-school capabilities in the county's remote and underserved areas as its top priority.

Department chief Bob Kelly said part of that overall funding would be used for digital security at county facilities as well as additional telecommunications towers.

These would help bring wireless service to entirely unserved and remote areas of the county.

Other requests from other departments and agencies included improvements to the Carver Recreation Center in Lexington Park, a fully equipped mobile command response vehicle, funding for the expansion of the St. Clements Shores wastewater treatment plant in Compton, and COVID-19 surge response capabilities for the county health department.

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Family Seeks Justice for Peyton

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Keith Raley, grandfather of 16-year-old Peyton Ham – gunned down by a Maryland State Trooper in April – broke down in tears speaking about his grandson’s love of baseball and their special times together watching the Orioles.

Saturdays were their special days, when the Orioles wore their orange jerseys, as Raley was wearing an orange shirt.

“I should be going to the ball park today with Peyton to watch the Orioles game,” Raley said holding back tears. “But instead, we are seeking justice for Peyton.”

Raley, Ham’s family and about 200 other residents rallied on the main lawn of the county’s governmental center July 17 to press the St. Mary’s County State’s Attorney’s Office for answers over Ham’s death three months ago.

“The thought of no justice being served is just unbearable,” Raley continued.

Tpr. Joseph Azzari responded to a 911 call that day to reports of a suspect with a gun; state police say Ham pointed the weapon – which later turned out to be an airsoft pistol – at the trooper.

The trooper fired multiple shots - family members say they have not been told how many, and the State’s Attorney’s Office is not divulging that information - knocking Ham to the ground.

State police say Ham attempted to get back up with a knife – revealed later to be a folding knife of about three inches in blade length – when the trooper shot him again.

By the time Peyton was taken to MedStar St. Mary’s Hospital he was dead.

Ham’s mother, Kristee Boyle, said this past Saturday that two weeks prior the state’s attorney’s office had told the family they expected to release the report on the criminal investigation in Azzari’s actions that day 30 days hence.

Deputy State’s Attorney Daniel J. White has said he expects to report on the shooting by the end of July.

“We’re praying it will happen,” Boyle said. “We are pro-law enforcement and as such ... we as citizens have a duty to ensure that our officers are held to the highest standards of conduct and to speak up when we feel those standards are not being met.”

Boyle said the family is still left wondering what happened that



Kristee Boyle, Peyton's mother

day, including whether deadly force was even necessary against their son.

“How much time elapsed between the officer’s first contact with Peyton and the shots?” Boyle asked, speaking to the assembled crowd. “Were de-escalation tactics used by the officer before shots were fired? Did the officer have less lethal options before escalating to deadly force?”

“How many bullets were fired from the officer’s weapon? Where did they land?”

“How many times was Peyton shot?”

The family’s application for an autopsy report on their son’s death from the Office of the State Medical Examiner has also been denied, Boyle said, under the rubric of the information being part of an ongoing investigation.

Also, the slain teen’s mother said the state’s attorney’s office has told the family there was no body or dash camera footage or “clear audio information” from the dash board camera.

Boyle also said a representative of the state’s attorney’s office had told the family that witnesses to the aftermath of the shooting had not been interviewed but were encouraged to come forward to the office with information.

“It strikes me as very strange,” Boyle said. “Why ... wait for witnesses to contact his office instead of actively seeking them out as part of the ongoing investigation?”

White told The County Times that the investigation is continuing into Ham’s killing.

“We’re moving as quickly as we can but I want to be thorough and I want to get it right,” White said. “Our office has not interviewed any witnesses directly; the police interviewed witnesses.”

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Superintendent: No Mask Mandate Currently for Schools

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As new COVID-19 cases are rising again in St. Mary's, Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith told the board of education that the new case rate for the student population, roughly between zero to 19 years of age, was so low that it did not require masking of students in schools.

"If there's only one student per 100,000 [residents] it's very challenging to say all children must wear masks all day long," Smith said at the July 21 meeting in Leonardtown. "That's the data we're following."

Vaccines are only available to those who are 12 years and older, Smith said, leaving many in the student group the school system is trying to track unable to get inoculated.

Still, Smith said, the school system wanted more from state authorities on how they should proceed if the cases continue to climb.

"We are waiting to hear from the state department of education, state department of health and the



governor's office as far as what their concrete guidance is," Smith said. "You can't close schools and have a mask mandate and then say 'Now everybody you get to make your own decisions, thank you very much.'"

"We need leadership and we need it to be consistent and backed by true numbers and data."

Smith said in a later interview that he and his staff want the state to come up with a plan for what new case rate must the county reach before it returns to hybrid

learning, complete virtual learning or must engage in mask wearing or social distancing in schools.

None of those requirements are now in place, Smith said, and neither students nor teachers are required to get vaccinated or wear masks if they are not vaccinated.

If they are not vaccinated, Smith said, they are strongly encouraged to wear masks.

Summer learning has about 2,000 students in current attendance, Smith said, and they have been participating in close quar-

ters without being required to wear masks without any serious problems.

Masks are still available, however, to any students whose parents want them to wear one.

Smith said there are about 750,000 such masks still held in store by the school system to serve those requests.

"We are following [Gov. Larry Hogan's] direction," Smith said. "We do not have a mask mandate for any of our schools."

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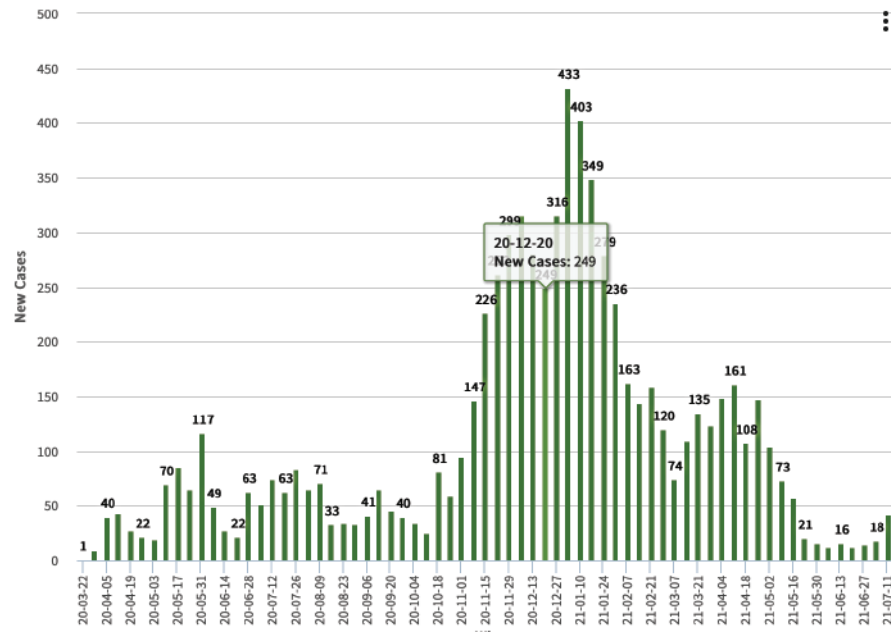
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COVID Cases Surge

New Cases by Week



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The latest data from the St. Mary's County Health Department show that COVID-19 cases are on the rise again after a period of sustained decline.

For the week starting July, the health department recorded 42 new cases as opposed to just 18 new cases for the week starting July 4.

The week of June 27 had just 15 new cases reported in St. Mary's.

Despite the surge in new cases there have been no new deaths from COVID-19 for several weeks; the total number of fatalities tallies at 132 county residents anywhere in the state.

According to the health department's figures 104 county residents have died from the virus while inside the county's borders since the pandemic started in March of last year.

The Delta variant of the virus, which has been labeled as the reason for surges in the disease across the county, was found in

Maryland first in St. Mary's County but the health department reports there are only two Delta variant cases so far.

The disease's Alpha variant, which, like its Delta and other counterparts, exhibits higher transmissibility and greater resistance to vaccines and other treatments, has caused 58 total cases in St. Mary's.

The Gamma and Epsilon variants have caused four and five cases here, respectively.

Overall, the health department reports that just over 53 percent of the county's approximately 115,000 residents have been vaccinated against the disease, with the greatest percentage, 88 percent, among the age group 65 and older.

The lowest by far is the age group from 17 years and under, with just 12 percent inoculated.

County health officer Dr. Meena Brewster has reported that young people who are not vaccinated are at the most risk of contracting COVID-19.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Recreation and Parks Announces Open Play at Synthetic Turf Fields

The Department of Recreation and Parks announces Open Play on the synthetic turf fields at Chancellors Run Regional Park, Chaptico Park and Lancaster Park beginning Tuesday, July 27 through Thursday, Aug. 26.

There will be no charge to participate during the scheduled days and times listed below. Staff will be on-site to monitor safe and appropriate participation.

Chancellors Run Regional Park
Tuesdays - 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Full-time staff is on-site at this park. No other park is staffed at this level.)

Chaptico Park
Wednesdays - 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.



Lancaster Park
Thursdays - 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.
For additional information contact Tyrone Harris, Facilities Coordinator, at 301-475-4200 ext. 1673 or 240-434-6669 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or email tyrone.harris@st-marysmd.com.

Wentworth's Charlotte Hall Property Sold

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Wentworth's Nursery located on Three Notch Road in Charlotte Hall will be closed and consolidated into the family business's Oakville location, owner and operator Richard Wentworth told The County Times this week.

According to county documents from the Department of Land Use and Growth Management, the property will be redeveloped to include the county's first Royal Farm fuel and food convenience store.

The 5,380 square-foot property is also slated to include future fast-food restaurant pad site with a drive-thru service.

The entire property up for a concept site plan public hearing at the July 26 meeting of the county planning commission is 7.87 acres in size.

The Royal Farms and fueling site would encompass 3.92 acres, while the proposed fast food site would sit on 3.95 acres.

The family business had to consolidate as members were looking to move on to other things.

"We've got family retiring," Wentworth said. "It's what happens when people get older."



Wentworth Nursery's Charlotte Hall greenhouse

The family sold the Charlotte Hall property, which has operated for decades as the community grew around it, to ARLS Properties LLC.

"We're expanding here at the Oakville property," Wentworth said. "We're going to have gardens and greenhouses in Oakville."

"Everything we had at Charlotte Hall, we're going to have at Oakville."

Bay Engineering Inc., the planners and surveyors for the Royal Farms project, has included extra parking spaces for the lot once it has been redeveloped to ensure they can "adequately serve their customer base."

The novel site plan includes 59 spaces to serve customers, whereas the county only requires 22 spaces.

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St. Mary's County Property Tax Challenge Program

St. Mary's County seeks to stimulate and incentivize investment in commercial real property and has announced a new program to provide tax relief to commercial property owners. The Property Tax Challenge supports renovations, rehabilitation, and upgrades of commercial real property. Commercial property owners in challenged areas who invest at least 10% of the property's assessed value at a minimum of \$25,000 are eligible for this program! Those who qualify will not see an increase in their county property taxes for a minimum period of seven years.

On Tuesday, May 4, 2021, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved this program. The Commissioners hope to encourage revitalization and investments in the commercial areas of

the county. The Lexington Park Development District is a targeted area for revitalization in the county; however, projects located in Charlotte Hall Town Center and the Town of Leonardtown's Downtown area will also be considered. Many commercial property owners would like to improve their properties by building renovation, painting, façade improvements, streetscape improvements such as landscaping and signage. This new program will provide some tax relief.

The St. Mary's Department of Economic Development is currently accepting applications.

For more information about the Property Tax Challenge Program, please visit <https://www.yesstmarysmd.com/doing-business-here/property-tax-challenge/>.

County Government to Offer Citizens Academy

The 2021 St. Mary's County Government Citizens Academy is now accepting applications for participation in the nine-week overview of county government operations.

The academy will meet on consecutive Tuesday evenings, between September 7 and November 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. at various county locations. It is open to St. Mary's County residents, 18 years of age and older and limited to 30 applicants. Participants will gain a better understanding of County government operations and will receive a certificate upon completion.

At the first session participants will receive an overview of County Administration. Subsequent sessions will focus on the departments of Aging and Human Services, Economic Development, Land Use and Growth Management, Recreation and Parks, Public Works and Transportation and Emergency Services. New to the curriculum for 2021 is St. Mary's County Government Partner Night on November 2. Participants will



learn more about the Health Department, Libraries, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission, the Sheriff's Office, and the Department of Social Services.

Citizens interested in learning more about the academy can go to <https://www.stmarysmd.com/pio/citizensacademy/> to download a brochure and/or application. Deadline to apply is August 20, 2021.

For more information, please contact the Public Information Office at 301-475-4200, ext. 1340.

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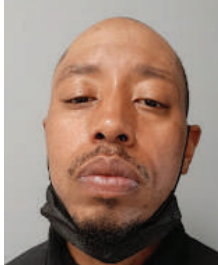
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ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Sex Offender Wanted

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of **Richard Howard Tucker Jr.**, who is wanted on an outstanding warrant for a Sex Offender Violation. Tucker is 36 years old with an address in California, MD.



Richard Howard Tucker Jr

Anyone with information on his whereabouts is asked to contact Detective Cpl. Taylore Nauman at 301-475-4200, ext. 78109 or taylore.nauman@stmarysmd.com.

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

Youth Gun Violence Task Force Arrest-Robinson

On July 14, 2021, members of the

Youth Gun Violence Task Force with assistance from the Emergency Services Team, executed a search and seizure warrant in the 21800 block of Primrose Place in Lexington Park. Located at the residence was **Keyonte Tarez Robinson**, age 28 of Lexington Park. A loaded handgun, suspected cocaine and a scale containing suspected cocaine residue were located in the residence. Robinson is prohibited from possessing regulated firearms and ammunition.



Keynote Robinson

Robinson was arrested and charged with the following:

- Firearm/Drug Trafficking Crime
- CDS: Distribution with Firearm
- CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute
- CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana
- C D S : Possession-Paraphernalia
- Regulated Firearm: Illegal

- Possession
- Firearm Use/Felony Violent Crime
- Illegal Possession of Ammunition

Robinson remains incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no-bond status.

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

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Youth Gun Violence Task Force is a collaborative effort with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Maryland State Police (MSP) and the State's Attorney's Office for St. Mary's County to ensure the safety and security of all residents, through the arrest and prosecution of those seeking to do harm unto others through gun violence.

#StopGunViolence

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Terrence Milburn

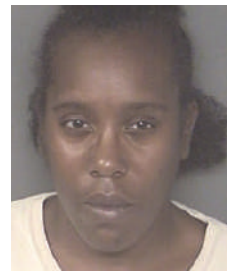
Youth Gun Violence Task Force Arrests-Milburn and Weaver

On July 14, 2021, members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force received information that **Terrence Andre Milburn**, age 27 of Great Mills, was in possession of a handgun at a business located in the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park. Milburn was ob-

served in a carwash bay with a vehicle that had the trunk open. Located inside the trunk was a loaded handgun. Milburn was arrested and charged with the following:

- Handgun on Person
- Loaded Handgun on Person
- Handgun in Vehicle
- Loaded Handgun in Vehicle

Also, on July 14, 2021, members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force served an indictment on **Latoya Tonelle Weaver**, age 37 of Lexington Park, for the charge of Regulated Firearm/Unlawful Sale/Transfer.



LaToya Weaver

Weaver was arrested and transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown.

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

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Editor's Note:

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

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Big Conversation Concludes ‘Building Trust in Our Health Care Systems’

On June 13, The Big Conversation successfully concluded its three-part webinar series Building Trust in Our Health Care Systems. Participants included: physicians, nurses, health administrators, school nurses, representatives of related health care fields, and members of the Southern Maryland community. The series was in response to the community feedback to “learn more” from the September 13, 2020, Big Conversation: Many Wounds to Heal: Health Care (In)Equity, How Does it Affect Me?

These online sessions were led by Steven K. Ragsdale, an associate faculty member at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who has more than 25 years of experience in developing health care innovations and advancing pathways to better, safer, and more equitable care. Over one hundred diverse community members participated over the six hours of sessions. The three sessions were as follows:

Sunday April 25 – A History of Health Care. How were the present systems built? Why they no longer work. In this session, Ragsdale presented a historical perspective on the treatment of African Americans from slavery to modern times. This included how black health care professionals and recipients were treated.

Sunday, May 23 – Exploring systemic unconscious bias and the importance of understanding its effects on society, healthcare models, patients and staff. Addressing implicit bias, Ragsdale stated, “It can literally happen anywhere in healthcare from when you call to make an appointment, all throughout care, all the way until you are discharged and, in the pharmacy, or rehab.”

Sunday, June 13 – How we can reimagine future healthcare for Southern Maryland. How we can implement it.

In the third session, in facilitated small groups the participants generated several ideas for positive change and practical methods of implementation. Key findings to build trust in our health care system included:

Advocacy and better-informed consumers – A key aspect for developing

trust in health care is improving how well the recipients understand how the system works and their communication with the provider. Navigating the health care system can be daunting for everyone. Having an advocate to support underserved individuals as they seek and obtain health care and communicate with providers would improve the quality of care. Use community and interfaith groups to adopt and promote both advocacy and providing information for underserved populations about navigating the system. There needs to be more and clearly written information about health care resources and insurance benefits. Provide patient training in the use of patient portals. More computer access for the underserved located near their homes.

Access - The pandemic has taxed health care systems in accommodating large numbers of individuals both in care and vaccinations. New and creative ways of reaching underserved populations have been developed that can continue and expand access in the future. This has included the use of mobile care and the involvement of community non-profits and church groups to reach the “invisible people” and the homeless. Increase and make better use of behavioral and mental health services. Across Southern Maryland, health departments are reaching out to the Black community to increase vaccination rates. These techniques need to be continued in the future to provide improved health services. Improve communication through posters and videos in waiting rooms. Provide a guide for consumers on navigating the health care system. Challenge local media to give more press to consumer needs and views.

Staff Training – Providers and staff need to learn to be more sensitive to consumers and co-workers through bias training and awareness of cultural differences. Increase understanding of the history of how things got to where they are, because this information is deep and has typically been untouched. Encourage People of Color to share their stories so that providers can better understand their experience. Reach

out to the medical community to provide training on the history and bias as was provided in these sessions.

Policymaking and leadership – Hospital and health organization boards should reflect community culture and values, and reflect the population that they serve. Hospitals and public health departments should consider creating advisory committees that reflect the “Closing the Gap Coalition” created to advise the educational system. Make more effective use of the Community Health Needs Assessment Survey. Look at who is involved and make sure that all levels of the community are included. Give thought to using different data collectors. Share the assessment results broadly and deeply with the community. Community health and health inequities need to be a priority for county policy officials and legislators. Promote improved health care in the same way that education was promoted through Strong Schools Maryland.

Provider diversity – Health care for People of Color would improve if there were more providers that looked like them. This was highlighted in the “Black Men in White Coats” documentary and follow up, where it was pointed out that only two percent of physicians are Black men. POC children should be encouraged to go into health professions through career guidance, scholarships, and mentoring programs. Create a “STEM” like program for health care occupations, career academies, and advertising that features people of color in health occupations. There are systemic changes as well to address with medical schools failing to enroll a proportionate repre-



sentation of People of Color, and the past closing of Black medical schools due to the Flexner Report.

Interagency coordination – There needs to be better coordination across local agencies. Schools can be used to provide a broader set of information to students and families and be a point of delivery for health services and food and nutrition education. Full time school nurses are a must. Health care and related issues should be better integrated with law enforcement. There needs to be stronger coordination between public health, health delivery systems, and social services. St. Mary’s County offers good examples of steps toward such systems.

This Big Conversation presentation received significant support from two partner organizations: Calvert Library provided the technical support for the sessions online and the Community Mediation Center of Calvert County provided the facilitators for the small group sessions.

For more information: www.dismantleracism.org Bigconmosp@gmail.com
Press Release from Big Conversation.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT

The Commissioners of St. Mary’s County has determined that it is necessary to revise the approved use(s) under the grant awarded by the Maryland Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for a rental assistance program due to the coronavirus. As other sources have been identified for this use, the CDBG funding can be used for other needs in conformance with program regulations.

In accordance with our CDBG Citizen Participation Plan, we are seeking public comment on our plan to divert funding from rental assistance activities to the following activities:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Housing Counseling | \$91,090 |
| 2. Food Program | \$50,000 |
| 3. Services for Disabled | \$60,000 |
| 4. Services for Disabled | \$1,150 |
| 5. Homeless Services | \$497,760 |

Written comment will be accepted until July 30, 2021, via email at: cynthia.brown@stmarysmd.com or delivered to St. Mary’s County Department of Aging & Human Services, P.O. Box 653, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Contact Cynthia Brown at 301-475-4200, ext. 1846, for additional information.

If you would like to place a LEGAL NOTICE contact

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Cardin, Van Hollen, Hoyer Announce Funding for Fire and EMS Departments

U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen and Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (all D-Md.) today announced \$1,037,955 in American Rescue Plan funding for fire and emergency rescue departments in Southern Maryland and along the Eastern Shore.

“Our volunteer firefighters and first responders often risk their lives to serve and protect our communities and have worked around the clock during the COVID-19 pandemic,” the lawmakers said. “This new federal funding will provide our fire and rescue teams with the necessary supplies and equipment to keep Marylanders safe.”

The award comes from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, through the American Rescue Plan passed by Congress, to help departments offset the financial strain of the CO-

VID-19 pandemic. The awardees include:

Hollywood VFD
\$39,091.07
Leonardtwn VFD
\$9,553.52
Mechanicsville VFD
\$6,949.68
Ridge VFD
\$33,120.50
Second District VFDRS
\$3,550.00
Total for St. Mary’s County
\$92,264.78

Huntington VFD
\$17,306.74
North Beach VFD
\$58,219.28
Prince Frederick VFD
\$12,511.66
St. Leonard VFD
\$32,534.57
Total for Calvert County
\$120,572.25

Wild Birds Unlimited Store Recognized



Barbara and Chip Whipkey, owners of the local Wild Birds Unlimited, were recognized at the company’s annual Enterprise Leadership Conference for their hard work with the Highest Flying Fledgling award. This award recognizes new franchise store owners with the highest sales volume during their first full year of business.

“We are truly honored to receive this recognition,” said Barbara. “We have brought together an incredibly talented and hard-working group of people to form our team of bird feeding specialist who helped us win this award. We are so thrilled to have our daughter, Mandie, working with us and leading the team as Store Manager.”

Barbara and Chip opened the La Plata store in September of 2019. While faced with various obstacles, including opening during a pandemic, the couple exceeded new store sales volume goals by more than 50 percent. This is the Whipkey’s second store; their first is in Lexington Park, opened in 2015.

Barbara and Chip both served in the Marine Corp and feel their Marine Corp training helped guide them in their ability to successfully lead their team. Barbara has always had the entrepreneur spirit. Barbara first opened a pet sitting business when they moved to Southern Maryland in 2003, which she later sold.

Press Release from Wild Birds Unlimited.

Explore Local Lighthouses During National Lighthouse Weekend



Join the St. Mary’s County Museum Division in celebrating some of St. Mary’s County’s most significant lighthouses during National Lighthouse Weekend, Saturday, Aug. 7 through Sunday, Aug. 8, 2021, at Piney Point Lighthouse in Piney Point and Blackistone Lighthouse on St. Clement’s Island, near Colton’s Point.

Special activities and tours will be available at both locations during the entire weekend. In Colton’s Point, check out the St. Clement’s Island Museum before taking a boat ride out to St. Clement’s Island, where visitors can experience a free tour of Blackistone Lighthouse (the replica of the original lighthouse that stood near the same location on the island) from the St. Clement’s Hundred Blackistone Lighthouse volunteers. Regular museum admission and water taxi fees apply.

At Piney Point, visitors can celebrate the oldest lighthouse on the Potomac’s 185th anniversary with tours of the museum, Potomac River Maritime Exhibit featuring full-sized workboats, two floors of brand-new exhibits main museum building, the Piney Point lighthouse tower, Keeper’s Quarters and grounds. The keeper’s quarters and the lighthouse will offer special tours featuring Lightkeeper Yeatman and his wife. The National Capital Radio and Television Museum from Bowie will also be on-site with

a special exhibit. Visitors will also be able to view special Lego Lighthouse Contest displays at the main museum. While admission and tours are offered free of charge this weekend only, donations are greatly appreciated to support the museum.

The official day (National Lighthouse Day), as designated by Congress Aug. 7, 1989, is the anniversary of the signing of the Aug. 7, 1789, Congressional Act “for the establishment and support of lighthouses, beacons, buoys and public piers” and the date of the first commissioned federal lighthouse.

For more information about St. Clement’s Island Museum, please call 301-769-2222 or visit Facebook.com/SCIMuseum. For more information about The Piney Point Lighthouse Museum, call 301-994-1471 or visit Facebook.com/1836Light.

About the St. Mary’s County Museum Division

The St. Mary’s County Museum Division was established by the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County to collect, preserve, research and interpret the historical sites and artifacts which illustrate the natural and cultural histories of St. Mary’s County and the Potomac River. With this as its charter, the Museum Division serves as a resource, liaison and community advocate for all St. Mary’s County public and private cultural assets.

Tom Hodges Auto Sales Presented with Length of Service Citation



Delegate Matt Morgan, Jim Hodges (Tom's Father), Lynn Delahay (from Senator Jack Bailey's office), Anne Hodges (Tom's wife), and Commissioner Todd Morgan.

On July 7, 2021, Tom Hodges and Tom Hodges Auto Sales were presented with a Length of Service Citation from the Maryland Department of Commerce from Governor Larry Hogan's office-issued by Commerce Secretary Kelly Schultz. This citation is in recognition of 31 years of service as an auto dealer and was presented to Tom Hodges at his dealership by Mr. Steve Wall, the regional representative for the state commerce department.

Tom began his career in auto sales 42 years ago at age 18 with the Ken Dixon Automotive Group in Waldorf. In 1986, Tom purchased his grandparent's 1930's farmhouse and some land from his mother and three aunts. In 1990, he opened his dealership -Tom Hodges Auto Sales - in Hollywood Maryland. The in-law bedroom and dining room became sales offices for the business, the detached garage became the detail shop, and the tobacco barn was used for storage of tires and parts.

He had two employees- his mother and himself.

Through the years, sales grew and staff increased, and the entire old house was converted to a sales office. Tom leased a warehouse in the industrial park nearby and opened up a tire and service center. In 2009, he built a state-of-the-art Tom Hodges Tire, Parts, Service Center and Car Wash adjacent to his sales office. In 2016, the old farmhouse was demolished and a modern showroom was built. Almost six years ago, Tom acquired Mitsubishi as a new car franchise.

Tom Hodges Auto Sales is believed to be the oldest family-owned, full service dealership in Southern Maryland.

Tom considers it a great honor to receive this prestigious award. He thanks his family, friends, employees, and -of course- his customers. His motto is, "if you take care of your customers, they will continue to do business with you."

For more information, visit tom-hodgesauto.com

Sheriff's Office Mourns Loss of Retired Deputy

It is with profound grief and sadness that we announce the passing of retired Corporal Margaret "Peggy" Ann Smolarsky, who passed away on July 20, 2021 after a hard-fought battle against cancer.

Peggy was born in March of 1958, in Cheverly, Maryland and grew up in Prince George's County.

Peggy began her career with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office in April of 1999 as a deputy and retired in November of 2016 after more than 17 years of service, to move with her husband of 38 years to South Carolina, as was always their dream. Prior to joining the St. Mary's Sheriff's Office, she served as a U.S. Capitol Police Officer for four years.

Peggy had a distinguished career and served in several capacities while at the Sheriff's Office. She served as a patrol officer for three years and was transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division in 2002. Peggy was a detective for three years, and during that time investigated and closed 275 criminal cases. In 2009, she became the Leonardtown Community Police Officer, and served in that capacity until her retirement.

During her time at the Sheriff's Office, she received numerous awards and accolades to include the CALEA Gold Standard Accreditation Award, and two Sheriff's Commendations in May of 2005 for bringing 10 burglary cases to a successful conclusion and a Lifesaving Award in 2006. Peggy was also a member of the Critical Incident Negotiations Team.

Peggy believed in service to her community and to others as evidenced by her numerous selfless



Corporal Margaret "Peggy" Ann Smolarsky

deeds and constant involvement in her church. She and her husband Ed went on many missions with their church in service to others and she was the first person to offer her assistance or a kind word to others. Peggy continually exhibited love for others and put other's wishes above her own. In April of 2021, Peggy travelled back to Maryland and walked a former coworker down the aisle for her wedding.

"Peggy was a good soul and we were very fortunate to have her working alongside with us for so many years," Sheriff Tim Cameron said. "She will be missed by all those who were lucky enough to know her."

Peggy is survived by her husband Ed and her three children, Stephanie, Jereme, and Sarah and 10 grandchildren. She is preceded in death by one granddaughter.

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Calvert Counties Go To:

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facebook.com/CountyTimesStMarys



Elms Beach Closed Weekdays, Temporarily



The Department of Recreation and Parks announces that Elms Beach Park will be closed during the weekdays beginning Tuesday, July 20, 2021. The park's closure is to remove grasses that have accumulated on the shoreline due to recent storms. Elms Beach Park will be open on weekends from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. for citizen enjoyment.

The grass removal project may take up to two weeks. Additional announcements can be found on

the department's webpage www.stmarysmd.com/recreate and social media at www.facebook.com/stmarysmdrecreation

We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience. For additional information, contact Tyrone Harris, Facilities Coordinator, at 301-475-4200, ext. 1673, or 240-434-6669 or by email at tyrone.harris@stmarysmd.com Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Are You Up for a 'Challenge'?

The statewide Buy Local Challenge (BLC) encourages Marylanders to support local farms and producers by choosing to buy and enjoy Maryland grown and produced farm products every day during Buy Local Week, July 17 through 25, 2021.

Buying local is good for you, good for the local economy and good for the planet!

Spending locally with farms and other makers helps you get products that are fresher and have traveled much shorter distances overall from farm to fork.

Plus, you're supporting independent family farms and local businesses which helps strengthen the local economy.

Now more than ever, it's important to show support for your local farms.

"I PLEDGE TO ENJOY ONE MARYLAND GROWN PRODUCT EVERY DAY DURING BUY LOCAL WEEK!"

#BuyLocalChallenge



Shop at your local farms, farm stands, farmers' markets, wineries, grocers and markets that stock genuine local products.

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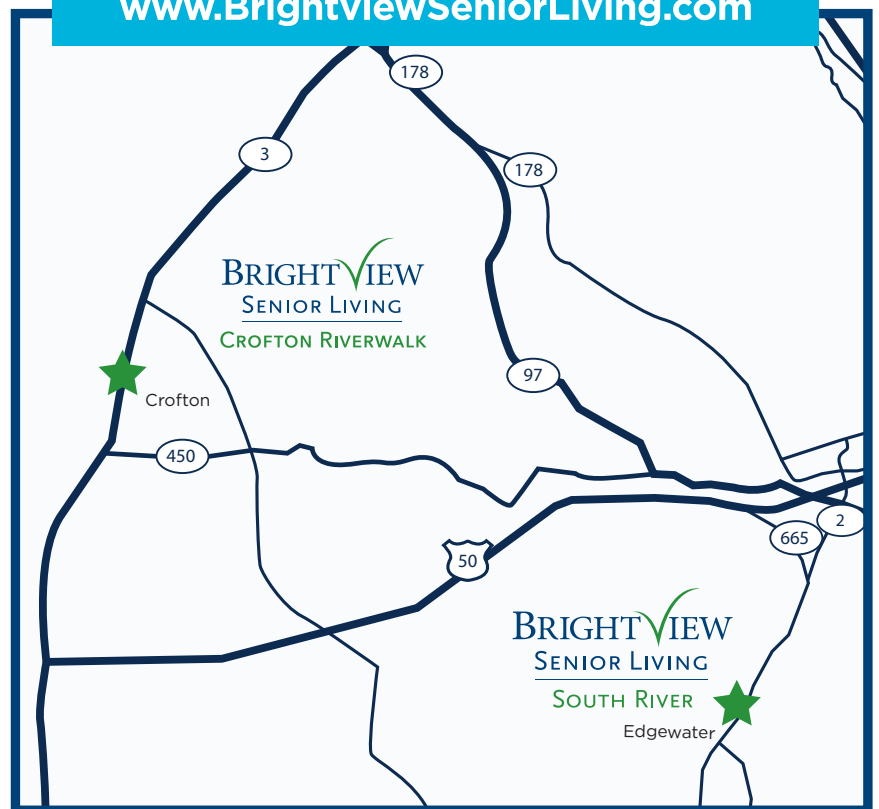
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Students From St. Mary's Shine at National Conference

Maryland Career and Technical Education (CTE) students recently participated in technical skill competitions organized by SkillsUSA, a nonprofit organization for students in CTE programs. A team of Maryland's most talented CTE high school students showcased their mastery in 61 technical skill competitions at the 57th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in June 2021.

Competing against 3,400 student champions from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Maryland SkillsUSA delegation brought home 13 medals in Nurse Assisting, Additive Manufacturing, Audio-Radio Production, Commercial Drone, Customer Service, Plumbing, Promotional Bulletin Board, and Medical Terminology competitions.

"We at MSDE are extremely proud of our Maryland CTE students in performing so well at the SkillsUSA conference," said State Superintendent Mohammed Choudhury. "We know that CTE is an incredibly important part of Maryland education, providing academic knowledge and technical skills to help students succeed in their future careers. Congratulations to the Maryland NLSC delegation!"

SkillsUSA is a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO), providing co-curricular learning experiences that allow CTE students to engage in competitive events to demonstrate their mastery of technical skills. Maryland's 6,000 SkillsUSA student members have consistently demonstrated their expertise and professionalism while participating throughout the year in a variety of leadership and competitive conferences.

The following students placed in

the top 10 at NLSC:
SkillsUSA Maryland National Top Ten

2021 National Leadership and Skills Conference

Bronze Medal – Audio-Radio Production

Kathryn Moats and Grady O'Neill: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Bronze Medal – Commercial Drone (Demonstration)

Joshua Montgomery, Abigail Sandberg, and Nolen Willey: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Bronze Medal – Customer Service
Abigail Sandberg: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

4th Place – Aviation Maintenance Technology

Ryan Bryant: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

4th Place – Principles of Engineering and Technology

Liam King: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

5th Place – Medical Math
Annalee Johnson: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

6th Place – Health Knowledge Bowl

Samaria Miles, Allyson Raley, Andera Rivera, and Christian Wolpert: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

10th Place – Broadcast News Production

Justin Brown, Aiden Buchness, Lydia Landreth, and Jacob Straub: Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center – St. Mary's County

Applications Accepted for School-Age Care Site Staff

The Department of Recreation and Parks is now accepting applications for School-Age Care Site Directors, Lead Teachers, Inclusion Aides and Substitute positions in our School Age Care Division.

Positions require enthusiastic candidates who have experience working with school-aged children in a formal setting and meet Maryland State Department of Education school-age care qualifications. Site Directors manage before and after school care programs in county elementary schools. Lead teachers are responsible to plan and implement activities for children attending our before and after school care program. Substitutes are on-call to fill in as needed for staff. All staff is responsible for interacting with children and parents and participating in activities with the children. Positions are located throughout St. Mary's County.

Candidates must have reliable transportation and be able to work between 6:15 - 9 a.m. and 2:30 - 6:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, and all day on school vacation days. Training is available for highly qualified candidates requiring additional coursework to meet state licensing requirements. Former teachers are encouraged to apply.

These job openings will be available until the positions are filled. For further information on job opportunities with our School Age Care programs, please contact cherie.nelson@stmarysmd.com or call 301-373-5410/4689. Additional job descriptions and applications can be found at www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/recreationjobs. Applications may be dropped off at the Recreation and Parks main office, 23150 Leonard Hall Dr, Leonardtown, or emailed to cherie.nelson@stmarysmd.com.



Pet

OF THE WEEK

MEET BUSTER

Sit with animals quietly and they will show you their hearts.
Sit with them kindly and they will help you locate yours.
-Unknown

Hi there, my name is Buster. I'm a YOUNG FRIENDLY HAMSTER who enjoys long conversations, my busy wheel, and, of course, yummy treats! I'm a WONDERFUL LOW COST, LOW MAINTENANCE FRIEND. My buddies here at Tri-County Animal Shelter rescue more than just cats and dogs. IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR ANY KIND OF ANIMAL, CHECK THE SHELTER FIRST. Please Adopt, Don't Shop!! Now is the time to email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov to schedule an appointment to come 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>

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Recreation & Parks Presents Summerstock Theater

The Department of Recreation & Parks announces the 39th production of Summerstock Theater this upcoming weekend at Great Mills High School. This year's production will be Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance: A Live Concert Reading*. Showtimes are Friday, July 23 at 7 p.m., Saturday, July 24 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Sunday, July 25 at 3 p.m. *The Pirates of Penzance* is a preposterous story full of sparkling music and fun (if silly) characters. It is great family entertainment and is suitable for all audiences.

Purchase your tickets online or at the Department of Recreation & Park's main office in Leonard-

town. If tickets remain, they will also be one hour before showtime at Great Mills High School. Come out this weekend only for a production filled with laughs that is fun for the whole family.

For online ticket sales and show information, please visit www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/summerstock. The Recreation & Parks main office is located in the Patuxent Building at 23150 Leonard Hall Drive in Leonardtown. For additional information, please call 301-475-4200 ext. 1800. Follow St. Mary's County Recreation & Parks on social media @stmarys-recandparks and at www.facebook.com/stmarysmdrecreation

Scammers Imitating Senior Activity Center Staff



The Department of Aging & Human Services has been alerted to a scam involving individuals claiming to represent St. Mary's County Senior Activity Center Staff. These callers ask seniors if they want to join a senior club and tell the seniors they need a verbal "yes" before they can move forward in registering them.

The Department of Aging & Human Services will never call anyone about joining the Senior Activity Centers unless they are returning a call.

To protect yourself against scam calls, consider following these steps:

- If you don't recognize the phone number, don't answer

the phone. You can always call back.

- Do not say yes and hang up if you suspect something is wrong, even if you cut the caller off.

If you answer a call and you suspect it may be a scam, tell the caller you will call them back. If you need to speak to someone to get help after receiving a suspected scam call, you can reach the Department of Aging & Human Services, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1050.

Your safety is our priority, if you need more information or assistance, please contact the Department of Aging & Human Services at 301-475-4200 ext. 1050.

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North County Farmers Market Taking Shape

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The North County Farm Market, one of three key pieces of infrastructure to support and boost agriculture here in St. Mary's and across Southern Maryland, is under construction and should be completed by the fall, officials with the Southern Maryland Resource, Conservation and Development (RCD) group told county leaders this week.

The road has been long and difficult to begin building the project, which started in March, from getting approval for the initial concept site plan from the county's planning commission in August of 2019 to getting the permit approvals in October 2020 in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cindy Greb, executive director of the RCD told the Commissioners of St. Mary's County that the project should be completed by October.

The project consists of two distinct buildings built across from each other on the property situated on Thompson Corner Road; visitors driving in will see the year round market on the left of the entrance road, according to Greb's RCD presentation, with the seasonal market on the right.

"As the community grows, the uses there will grow," Greb said.

Those uses include space for agricultural workshops, county public meetings, aggregation and distribution of farm products as well as some limited processing.

Both structures will resemble barns but the year-round market will have vendor space for value-added products – essentially taking raw agricultural products and selling them once they have been processed into more refined items – and a kitchen in a 5,100 square foot facility.

There will also be restrooms there, some of which may be available afterhours to service hikers and bikers on the nearby Three Notch Trail.

The accompanying seasonal market will be divided into 14 stalls to allow for farmers to bring their harvests to market, and will include a secured storage area so their items can be safeguarded by the facility management.

It will have the same square-footage as the vendor market.

The North County Farmers Market is designed to provide a new venue for the one that has operated out of the parking lot of the Charlotte Hall Regional Library for years.

The project is largely funded by the county government but it is also seeking donations to help complete its construction as well as the building of a boardwalk and viewing platform that connects with the Three Notch Trail.



New Farmers Market construction underway on Thompson's Corner Rd



The other projects being pursued by the county are the Regional Agricultural Center to be located near Lettie Marshal Dent Elementary School in Mechanicsville and a slaughter house run by independent operators from the Amish community that is working towards certification by the USDA to butcher and process local livestock meats.

The three facilities are designed to meet a growing demand for local raised meats and locally grown produce sought after by consumers who want to know more about how their food is produced.

Demand for space at the farmers market from vendors could exceed supply and farmers and vendors would be put on a waiting list, Greb confirmed to commissioners at their July 20 meeting.

Chris Kaselemis, director of the county's Department of Economic Development, said that local farmers would have the first chance at space at the market.

"Someone from St. Mary's would have precedence over someone from Charles or Calvert [counties]," Kaselemis said.

Jamie Raley, president of the St. Mary's County Farm Bureau, said the project was of such importance that both his organization and its counterpart in Charles County have thrown their support into its construction.

"St. Mary's and Charles County farm bureaus both redirected grant funds in that project," Raley said. "It will benefit local farmers because buyers will know it's a central location and the people will know they're [the farmers] are going to be there and when they'll be there."

"The people selling there will come from all over the tri-county area."

While the farmers market at the library parking lot location has been very popular for decades, it has created problems on occasion, including taking up parking space for library patrons.

"It's going to solve the problem of the market interfering with the operations at the library," Raley said. "And it will be a boost to tourism as well."

"People like that ambiance, they love it."

The new farmers market is designed to be accessible by all, according to the RCD website.

Their fundraising campaign to help complete the project includes plans to install bike racks, a bike repair station, benches, picnic tables, educational signage and native plant gardens.

Donations are tax deductible and contributors are to be given public recognition at the market.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



MARYLAND BUY LOCAL WEEK

Governor Larry Hogan today proclaimed July 17-25 "Maryland Buy Local Week" to support Maryland farms and seafood operations that continue to provide Marylanders with fresh, local products. Throughout the week, Marylanders are encouraged to participate in the Buy Local Challenge by incorporating at least one locally grown, produced, or harvested product into their meals each day.

"We are fortunate to live in a state that produces world-class agricultural and seafood products, and I encourage all Marylanders to join the First Lady and I in choosing Maryland-made ingredients," said Governor Hogan. "Buying local puts more money back into the pockets of our farmers, watermen, and producers, allowing them to grow their operations, hire more people, support other local businesses, and reinvest in their communities."

Marylanders are encouraged to visit MarylandsBest.net to be connected with fresh produce, meat products, farm-made ice cream, and craft beverages across the state. The Maryland Department of Agriculture's marketing program, Maryland's Best, will also share a series of recipe videos from local chefs throughout the week that highlight the state's outstanding culinary culture.

"Agriculture and seafood production are a critical part of our state's economy, especially in our rural communities," said Maryland Agriculture Secretary Joe Bartenfelder. "Maryland Buy Local Week is a great opportunity to support those who grow and produce our food. With plenty of fresh, delicious produce in peak season right now, there has never been a better time to incorporate more Maryland-made ingredients in our lives and our meals."

The Buy Local Challenge, created in 2006 by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission, has grown into a statewide initiative that has continued to expand. Maryland's agriculture and seafood industries contribute more than \$16 billion to the state's economy and account for more than 68,000 jobs, according to a 2018 study from BEACON at Salisbury University. Nearly 1,350 Maryland farmers sell directly to consumers, generating over \$54 million in sales annually, according to the 2017 Census of Agriculture.



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION *News*

Naval Test Pilot School Welcomes 50th Commander

Cmdr. Jeremy “Silas” DeBons took command of United States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) from Lt. Col. Rory “Pikey” Feely during an airborne change of command ceremony at Pax River, July 15.

Col. Richard E. Marigliano, Commodore of Naval Test Wing Atlantic, presided over the ceremony.

“USNTPS is the foundation of all we do in flight test and Lt. Col. Feely passionately led this organization who champions the school at every turn,” said Marigliano. “Cmdr. DeBons is ready to take the reins and will continue to train the students at USNTPS to be ready for the toughest of challenges.”

DeBons, who served as USNTPS’ executive officer for the last 18 months, is the first

commanding officer of USNTPS that did not graduate from the school. He participated in an exchange program with the French Test Pilot School (EPNER), another one of the four major test pilot schools around the world.

“I remember the constant repetition of “travail en equipe” or as we would say in English - teamwork,” said DeBons. “Flight test is not a one person show, it is a collaborative effort because no one person has the answers, and that is foundational to all that we teach here.”

While DeBons brings a diversity of academic experience with him, he did say that the training at EPNER is not that different as problem solving and critical thinking are at the core of each school’s curricula. DeBons is ready to continue the tradition of

training flight test professionals. A tradition Feely is passionate about.

“My job as commanding officer was to be the champion of my team’s hard work, and that was easy,” said Feely. “You get to provide influence and shepherd the team for a time, and then you turn it over to those coming behind you.”

Feely not only ended his time as the commanding officer of USNTPS, but also concluded his time as an active duty Marine. After nearly 27 years of service Feely retired from the United States Marine Corps.

During the ceremony, Marigliano awarded Feely the Meritorious Service Medal for his leadership and judgement while guiding the world’s largest test pilot school. He initiated modernization of

aircraft systems and increased capabilities for the Command’s aircraft securing the school’s future in manned and unmanned aviation.

USNTPS trains pilots and engineers for development, test, and evaluation of aircraft. USNTPS is a component of Naval Test Wing Atlantic, test wing under Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division in Patuxent River, Maryland. NAWCAD advances capability and operational readiness for naval aviation.

For more information about NAWCAD, please go to www.navair.navy.mil or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MyNAWCAD/>.



DeBons and Feely post flight

CSM to Return to Normal Campus Operations

Sports in Regular, Competitive Fall Season

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) announces it will return to normal campus operations Aug. 23, 2021, after 17 months of restricted or remote operations in response to the COVID-19 crisis. This operational shift includes an increase in the number of in-person class instruction options and the reopening of conference, meeting and event spaces and common areas.

"We cannot wait to see our students face-to-face and back on our campuses," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy. "We have prepared well and are being deliberate in resuming our campus operations in the safest manner possible."

When the fall semester begins Aug. 25, faculty, staff and students will not be required to wear masks or face coverings; however, those who wish to wear a mask on CSM's campuses are encouraged to do so. Anyone coming on campus who is not fully vaccinated is strongly encouraged to always wear a mask or face covering for everyone's safety.

In addition, COVID vaccinations will only be required for students in

CSM's nursing and health programs and those students have been notified that they will need to provide proof of their vaccination along with their other health screening, immunization, background check and drug screening program requirements.

All students, faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to get their COVID-19 vaccination before the fall 2021 semester begins Aug. 25. To help facilitate vaccinations, the college will host vaccination clinics prior to, and throughout, the fall semester.

"As we resume normal operations, the college will capitalize on innovative practices developed over the last year to achieve learning outcomes and deliver effective services online or remotely while also offering face-to-face options," explained CSM Vice President of Operations and Planning Bill Comey.

Comey added that on-campus classes are scheduled to run at reduced room capacities this fall to provide for physical distancing. CSM is also set to offer approximately half of its fall credit classes in an online or hybrid format. Meanwhile, the con-



ference, meeting and event spaces will return to full capacity and the college will continue to provide enhanced cleaning throughout the campuses and extra hand sanitation stations will remain in place.

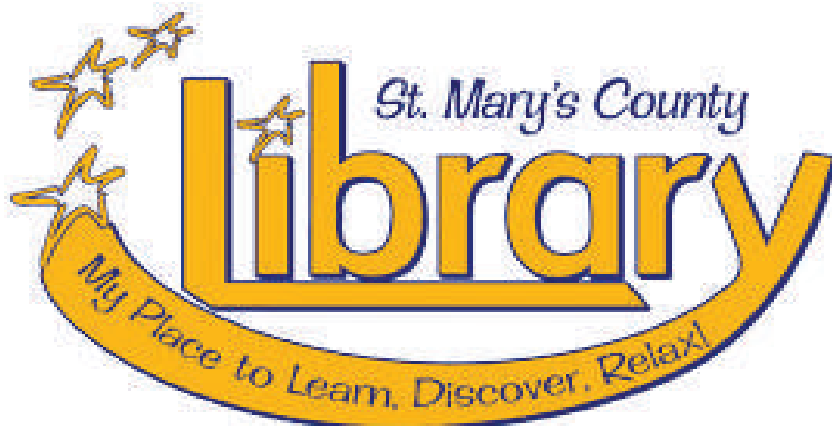
CSM athletes will be suiting up for a regular, competitive fall season, according to CSM Executive Director of Student Life and Athletics Michelle Ruble. "CSM's preseason training for our fall athletic program begins August 2 and off-season training begins for all other athletic programs the first week of classes," she added.

Registration for a limited program of fitness-related personal enrichment courses taught by CSM opened for fall registration on Wednesday July 13, 2021. CSM remains in close con-

tact with St. Mary's County Government Parks and Recreation regarding a memorandum of understanding for the operation of the Aquatics and Fitness facility on CSM's Leonardtown campus. As soon as the MOU is finalized – which is expected soon – an announcement will be made. Meanwhile, fitness-related personal enrichment programs at the La Plata Campus will not be held at the campus' Physical Education Building as it undergoes considerable HVAC and plumbing upgrades.

Stay up-to-date with the status of CSM's campus operations by visiting CSM Ready at <https://www.csm.edu/ready/>.

Press Release from CSM.



Author Talk with Charles Holden, Jerald Podair, and Zach Messitte

Did you know that infamous former president Spiro T. Agnew was from Maryland? Generally remembered for his speeches and resignation, Agnew had a significant impact on the modern Republican Party. The authors will discuss the book and historical context in a panel format, followed by a question and answer session as time allows on Wednesday, August 4 from 7 – 8 p.m. Agnew is known for his efforts to be representative of the 'silent majority.' Join us for an evening author talk with Charles J. Holden, Jerald E. Podair, and Zach P. Messitte, the authors of the book *Republican Populist: Spiro Agnew and the Origins of Donald Trump's America*. A fascinating political portrait of Agnew from his pre-vice presidential career through his scandal-driven fall from office and beyond, this book is a revelatory examination of Agnew's role as one of the founding fathers of the

modern Republican Party. – University of Virginia Press

Register to receive the Zoom link on www.stmalib.org.

Create Your Very Own Tie-Dye Face Mask!

Bring your personal style and join us on Saturday, August 7 at the Lexington Park Library to create your very own tie-dyed face mask. Four sessions will be held: 9:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Register for the session you'd like to attend on www.stmalib.org. Simple and spectacular for lower and upper elementary children! Join your Lexington Park Librarians outdoors to create a custom-made cotton tie-dyed face mask using markers!

International Children's Literature Book Club

Join us LIVE for the International Children's Literature Book Club for pre-school and lower elementary children



on Monday, July 26 from 3 – 4 p.m. Join in the enjoyment of learning about and reading children's literature from other countries. Each month we will highlight literature originating from and published in other countries and later published and if applicable translated to English. This month we will be sharing books from France and the United Kingdom. Gather a copy of one of your favorites from another country or culture and share it with others. Are you looking for books to read for the club? Here are a few easy to use Cosmos search terms/words "originally translated", "translated from", "translated by", and "originally published" to help you in your travels. Register on www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom meeting the day before the event.

Dinner at William and Mary Goe's Plantation: Circa Early 18th Century

This illustrated talk is the first public presentation of recently completed ar-

chaeological excavations at the Amphill Grange plantation site in Bowie, MD located in Prince George's County. Join us on Monday, July 26 from 7 – 8 p.m. Archaeological excavations of the Amphill Grange site exposed buildings, privies, and numerous trash deposits dating between the 1720s and 1770s. The remains of meals, represented by large numbers of bones, burned beans, and grains reveal what the Goe household (who were Anglo-Scots) ate, and how they prepared and presented those foods. Dr. James Gibb will present what archaeologists found and what he thinks it all means. Dietary studies from several other Colonial-era sites in the region provide some context for interpreting Amphill Grange and the Goe family who occupied the site. Register on www.stmalib.org with an email address to receive a link to join the online event.

Waterfowl Blind Licensing Process Now Available

Online Lottery, Virtual Appointments

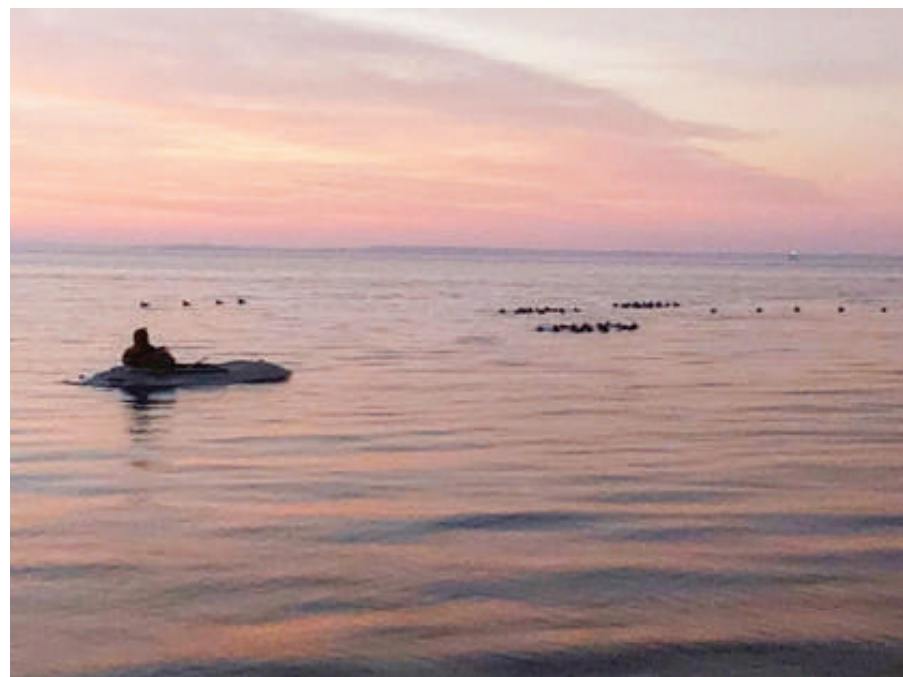


Photo by Jake McPherson, Ducks Unlimited. Used with Permission.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is now offering an online-only process for Maryland hunters to apply for a 2021-2022 waterfowl blind site license. From now through July 26 at 11:59 p.m., hunters may enter the lottery for the opening days of blind site licensing through the department's Compass portal.

Hunters can register to be entered into a random lottery for a county of their choice. Landowners who would like to license their own property may also enter the same lottery.

Lottery entrants will be asked to provide a current email address and phone number where they can be reached in the event of any connection problems.

There is no charge to enter the lottery. Hunters must be Maryland residents and must have purchased either a 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 Maryland hunting license prior to their appointment to license sites.

Winners of the lottery will be posted on the department's website and will be notified by email with

the time and date for a virtual online meeting. These virtual meetings will begin August 3 and continue during normal business hours. In some counties, appointments will take place on multiple business days.

Additional information and important instructions are available on the department's website. Lottery entrants and other interested individuals should check this site often for updates.

After the opening days, licensing for all counties will occur by appointment only. Customers may begin making appointments through the department's website on August 18 for virtual meetings that will begin August 23. Customers who schedule an appointment will receive an email that includes a link to communicate with DNR staff at the appropriate date and time.

Preview maps of shoreline licensed by waterfront landowners will be available on the department's website.

Press Release from MD DNR.

Tackle Box Fishing Report



By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

Cobia have taken center stage in southern Maryland waters. Chummers using chum logs and cut alewife are setting up chum lines in the lower bay and are catching some beauties. Live eels in the chum lines are attracting plenty of strikes. There are lots of boaters fishing the area from the Target Ship to Smith Point and beyond into Virginia waters. The fish are more numerous and bigger than last season with few below the 40 inch minimum size.

Spoilers in all this are the cow nosed rays (skate) that love to eat the bait intended for cobia. However, the cobia hang around the schools of rays; even though they can be pesky, they are an indicator that you are doing everything

right.

Trollers using big surgical eels are having some success. Trolling allows you to cover a lot of water.

Sot fishing is excellent with the mouth of the Patuxent being ground zero. They are getting bigger. There are more bloodworms in the bait shops this week.

Perch are in the rivers for lure casters along the shoreline. Look for clean water free of nettles. The creeks are not as productive for perch as tide flows have been poor and the nettles are thick. Sea nettles love hot salty water and we have plenty of that this year. We normally see this in August, but the dog days have arrived early.

Spanish mackerel are still on the horizon. Blues are here now in Cedar Point Hollow and at the targets.



LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS

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County Times

Lear Goes Flag to Flag at Potomac Speedway

Mann Strikes Again in RUSH Crates

Kyle Lear took full advantage of his front row starting spot to score his second win of the season in last Friday night's 20-lap Limited Late Model feature at Potomac Speedway. The win for Lear, steering his infamous Rocket no.151, would be his 25th career division win and fourth overall of the 2021 season. As Lear set the pace, Brandon Long and Sam Archer battled for second with Long prevailing at the finish.

"We seem to be getting in a rhythm and I hope we can keep it going." Lear stated post race. "My mom and dad are here tonight and it's pretty special to win with them being here."

Archer settled for third with current point leader Billy Tucker and Dale Murphy completing the top five.

Megan Mann stayed as hot as the weather as she rolled to her second win of the season in the companion 20-lap RUSH Crate Late Model feature. Mann shot from her second starting spot into the lead but would have to repel the repeated advances of current point leader and defending track champion Jeremy Pilkerton to post the popular win aboard her Rocket no.55.

"Jeremy is hands down the best driver in the class this season and it's a great feeling to beat him." Mann emphasized from victory lane. "I have to thank my mom and dad and all of our sponsors, it's been a great season."

Greg Carrico, Ed Pope Jr and Ben Scott trailed at the finish.

In support class action, Deuce Wright drove to his 2nd win of the season in a thrilling 15-lap Street Stock feature/ Mikey Latham scored to his 4th win of the season and career 21st in the 15-lap

Hobby Stock main, Justin Bottorf claimed his 3rd of 2021 in the 15-lap Roadster feature with Justin Hatcher rolling to his second straight, and 6th of the season in the nightcap 15-lap Strictly Stock contest.

Limited Late Model feature finish

Kyle Lear, Brandon Long, Sam Archer, Billy Tucker, Dale Murphy, Jeff King, Wayne Bryant, Chuck Cox, Ray Ciccarelli

RUSH Crate Late Model feature finish

Megan Mann, Jeremy Pilkerton, Greg Carrico, Ed Pope Jr, Ben Scott DNS-Bo Lollar

Street Stock feature finish

Deuce Wright, PJ Hatcher, Walt Homberg, Stevie Gingery, Ben Pirner, John Cobb, Steve Hilgenberg, Mike Bladen DNS-Scotty Nelson

Hobby Stock feature finish

Mikey Latham, Austin Lathroum, Troy Kassirs, James Rainey, Wyatt Hanson, Hilton Pickerel, Casey Sheckles, Owen Lacey, Mason Hanson, Erik Hanson, Colin Long, Stephen Suite DNS-Billy Crouse

Strictly Stock feature finish

Justin Hatcher, Casey Sheckles, John Hardesty, Daniel Knodle, Brian Johnson, Richie Gibson, Eric Huntington, Jim Hardesty, Natalie Davis, Jayden Hatcher, Scooter Tippett, Nabil Guffey, Travis Dye, Greg Mattingly

Roadster feature finish

Justin Bottorf, Kelly Crouse, Jason Penn, John Burch, Joey Suite, Emily Quade, Richard Inscoc, Tim Steele, Brian Cusick, Joseph Beard, James Stonestreet, Jason Jarvis

By Doug Watson for Potomac Speedway.

A View From The BLEACHERS



TIP

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

The hunt for the story: that has been the most fascinating part of maintaining this column. Usually, a handful of prospects are jotted down and allowed to marinate until there is a detectable vibe.

Every now and then, something obvious happens. My favorite, playoff-cursed hockey team, wins the Stanley Cup. The baseball team I had spent 30 years wishing into existence, finally arrived in Washington D.C. and, after many painful teases, actually wins the World Series. Political buffoonery makes a direct connection to sports. Sports offers an unmistakable reflection on the course of American or human history. The owner of the endearingly generic "Football Team" does something profoundly and astonishingly foolish, like enabling a toxic, boys club culture for decades or declaring the team would "NEVER" (he said to use all caps) change its racist former name. Such happenings align topic and inspiration, and beg for commentary. The content follows quickly in these creative gardens and, 700 words later, a new "View" is sent to press.

Other times, I'm lost, struggling in a wasteland of my knotted and dysfunctional brain. It's a twisted scenario that descends down the psychological death spiral from curiosity to frustration to stress. But I get through it. Beer helps.

Then there is the rarest of sources: the tip. A faithful reader, perhaps one familiar with the occasional creative desert, offers a suggestion – a ray of light that sometimes rescues me from myself. That, my good readers, is how I was introduced to Nico Hoerner.

The guy who added his suffix the same day he assigned mine – my dad – delivered a hand-written note from a friend. It spoke of a Nico Hoerner, a 2018 draft pick of the Chicago Cubs, who had recently returned to the lineup from the injured list. Seems Hoerner is the son of Frank, same surname, who played football at Chopticon High School in the 1970s. A quick internet search confirmed the name association, if not the lineage definitively. Without the inclination

to cyber-stalk the Hoerner family, this evidence will have to suffice.

A few days later, I was horizontal on the couch absorbing the NBA Finals. The note, now a faint thought in my crowded, work-week brain, was on the coffee table buried under various debris. During a timeout in the basketball game, I scrolled through the channels and selected the Phillies v. Cubs game for a quick peek. The Phillies batter hit an infield fly off the first pitch I saw. My tired eyes were at half-mast as the Cubs infielder followed the ball's descent through the swirling wings at Wrigley Field. As the ball landed in the glove, the announcer credited the put-out to... Nico Hoerner.

Hearing the semi-familiar name, I rose from the couch, tossed bills, magazines and a coaster aside and found the note. Nico Hoerner! What are the odds? Not only was that the first pitch I saw in that Cubs game, I'm confident it was the first pitch I saw from any Cubs game this year. "If you build it they will come." Or, if a kind soul writes a note about Nico Hoerner, hands it to the dad of a local writer, the baseball gods will lead that writer to the story.

But what is the angle? What makes the coincidence consequential?

I mulled over that for a few days with little success combating the inclination to hyper-analyze. It was in front of me the entire time. The impossible odds that connected note, to writer, to channel change and to Hoerner's put-out were just another unexplainable example of life's unique way of providing what you need, if not always what you want, as the Rolling Stones surmised. Can you explain how you met your spouse? How you found that doctor who fixed a body part or saved your life? Why you had that friend or pastor in your life at the precise moment you needed someone to lean on during a difficult stretch? I can't. I'm only left to conclude that life is littered with good vibrations from strangers, scrap pieces of paper, timely channel changes and, ultimately, fortuitous and baffling intersections with Nico Hoerners.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

find us on **facebook**



www.facebook.com/CountyTimesSt.Marys

The Way We Were...

History and Stories of St Mary's County from long-ago to just yesterday from



St. Mary's
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Ordinary People. Extraordinary Lives. Lasting Legacies.

A Lesser Known – and Gruesome – Part of County History

Travelers coming from the north along Point Lookout Road (Rt 5) may stop at the McDonalds or Exxon station at the intersection with Newtown Neck (or Compton) Road. Or, they may head into the CVS Pharmacy, unaware they are in the area of one of St Mary's County more gruesome landmarks: Gibbet Hill. This is not a story for the squeamish, so be forewarned before reading further.

Now entirely leveled and gone, Gibbet Hill ran along Point Lookout and Maypole Roads where CVS now stands.

Its name "derived its name from the fact that it was here that criminals were executed by placing them in steel cages and hanging the cages in trees," wrote George Morgan Knight in his 1938 book, "Intimate Glimpses of Old Saint Mary's" (now out of print). A steel cage used for this purpose is called a "gibbet" (pronounced "JIB-it"). The term derives from the Old French gibet meaning a staff, cudgel, or gallows.

"The lawbreakers were left in the steel cages without food or drink until death relieved their agony. A guard was posted beneath the cages, in order to see that no food or drink was smuggled up to them," Knight wrote.

Gibbeting was practiced in early 18th century England until it was finally abolished in 1834.

In his recounting the history of Gibbet Hill, Knight continued, "To be 'gibbeted' to death was one of the most fearful forms of punishment in those days. In many instances the bodies were allowed to rot in the cages until only the skeletons

remained as warning to other law breakers".

The last sentence to Gibbet Hill was on June 8, 1761. According to accounts at the time, an enslaved man named Peter was convicted of first killing a servant, and then murdering his master's wife and three-year old son "as he lay sleeping in his bed". Hung in chains "on the main road in St Mary's County", it was said that the cries from the starving man were so distressing that many persons refused to travel the road.

It is an interesting twist of fate that what once was a place of unbearable grief is now home to a pharmacy dispensing all sorts of things, not the least of which are pills and formulas to ease pain and suffering.

St Mary's County is not the only place with a "Gibbet Hill". There are many. One of note is Gibbet Hill in Groton, MA, in the 2019 movie production "Little Women" starring Saoirse Ronan and Timothée Chalamet was filmed. It is also a place for elegant wedding receptions and dinners.

Note: If you'd like to learn more about the Gibbet Hill in St Mary's County, see Jason Babcock's article, "Gibbet Hill' Near the Old Plank Bridge" in the Summer 2018 edition of the Chronicles of St Mary's, the quarterly journal of the St Mary's County Historical Society.

Peter LaPorte
Executive Director

If you would like to learn more about the people, places, and events that shaped St Mary's County, please visit our website – www.st-maryshistory.org

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



RUMINATIONS IN THE SHADE



It is a beautiful day to sit outside, handwrite my column first, and bask in the shade, you know I don't bask in the sun. I'm gazing at my gladiolas, mentally willing them to bloom. Patience is not a virtue to me when it come to bloom arrival. The start of one red bloom has caught my eye at the bottom of the flowering part of the stem. It is a beautiful deep red, can't wait for the rest to bloom. Though I worry the gladiolas may fall over from the weight of the flowers when in full bloom. Must be time to stake around the glads and tie a circle of twine around them. The only thing that gives me pause about doing this is having found snake skins in this large ring of gladiolas in the center and sharpened Iris's around the outer edge there in the past. When snakes are sloughing off their old skins what better place to do so than around sharp stemmed flowers. Maybe I will be brave enough to do that tomorrow, or maybe the flowers will fall as they will.

As I look past my ring of flowers, I remember how I wanted to get my fairy lights around the tree stump fairy garden by midsummer on June 24th. That didn't happen so I thought that I will wait for the little girl and boy with their grandma who stop by the fairy stump every so often. The little girl will tell me how she has rearranged the fairy furniture and accessories, so it is better for them. As if knowing (by fairy magic I assume) I was writing about them, they just stopped by and now we have a plan for them to help set up the fairy lights next Wednesday. She is a very determined little girl, so I imagine that I will be following her lead.

I am enjoying it out here as always, but the haze, and the smoke from distant fires are stinging my eyes and heart. I worry about all the families and the forests out west including my brother and sister-in-law who live on the side of a small mountain in Utah, always having their "to go bags" ready by

the door in case of fire or flash floods. My last surviving Uncle, Uncle Dick and his wife Aunt Dot out in Boise are both 91 with the beginning stages of dementia. I worry about them with the heat and the smoke. And just yesterday, I spoke to my Cousin Bobby out in Las Vegas who suffers from Asbestosis from his time welding on ship during the Vietnam War. He told me it is really hard to go outside at all out there. If we are getting residual smoke from the fires out west and in Canada, I can't even imagine what it is like for all those who live in close proximity. Even those who have gone to space recently can see the smoke from all the fires. I guess I am a worrier and always will be.

Wasn't there an old spy movie from the 1960's or 70's where a villain threatened to control the earth's weather. There could be a scientist, hopefully a good, altruistic scientist somewhere right now working on creating rain clouds over fires, something non-toxic hopefully. I don't think anything is far-fetched anymore. In the last few weeks, I have heard former astronauts, and the new crop of billionaire space adventures saying how going into space and seeing the earth in a new way, changes them forever. I, personally, can only hope that Branson, Bezos, and whoever comes next might come up with the inspiration and funds on how to combat the fires and other earth problems below, and not that billionaires should be the only ones charged with seeking solutions. I know there are not answers for everything, like fires and floods and hunger, but I hope that reaching these new horizons above will help all of us below. Maybe, I should stop watching the news and spend more time waiting for my flowers to bloom.

To each new days adventures, Shelby
Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on facebook

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, July 22

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, July 23

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.

Monday, July 26

Republican Women of St. Mary's Meeting

Kevin's Corner Kafe;

11 a.m.

Social at 11, meeting stars at 11:30. For more information, please call Lynn Delahay, President at 240-925-6485.

Tuesday, July 27

Grief Support Group

Calvary Chapel;

7 p.m.

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

Wednesday, July 28

Wayback Wednesdays

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

DAV Assistance Program

St. Mary's Square ReStore;

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Veterans - do you have a service-connected disability? Did you receive an injury while on active duty and are now filing for disability through the Veterans Administration (VA)? The Disabled

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

Food Pantry

Noon- 6 p.m.

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

Thursday, July 29

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

Summerstock Show

July 23 at 7 p.m., July 24 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., July 25 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale for the production of The Pirates of Penzance: a Live Concert Reading. You can purchase online, at the St. Mary's Recreation and Parks office in

Leonardtown, or one hour before the show. Seating is limited.

AmazonSmile Charity

AmazonSmile could donate a percentage of shoppers' purchases to the 2nd District VFD & RS (AKA Co. 6 / Valley Lee). For more info / instructions how to shop contact Cheryl @ 240-925-7559

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

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

www.somd.com

St. Mary's 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

Scammers Imitating Senior Activity Center Staff

The Department of Aging & Human Services has been alerted to a

scam involving individuals claiming to represent St. Mary's County Senior Activity Center Staff.

These callers ask seniors if they want to join a senior club and tell the seniors they need a verbal "yes" before they can move forward in registering them.

The Department of Aging & Human Services will never call anyone about joining the Senior

Activity Centers unless they are returning a call.

To protect yourself against scam calls, consider following these steps –

- If you don't recognize the phone number, don't answer the phone. You can always call back.
- Do not say yes and hang up if you suspect something is wrong, even if you cut the caller off.
- If you answer a call and you suspect it may be a scam, tell the caller you will call them back. If you need to speak to someone to get help after receiving a suspected scam call,

you can reach the Department of Aging & Human Services, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1050.

Your safety is our priority, if you need more information or assistance, please contact the Department of Aging & Human Services at 301-475-4200 ext. 1050.

Medicare Seminar

Residents who are turning 65 this year are invited to attend a Medicare presentation on Wednesday, July 28, from 5-7 pm at the Garvey Senior Activity Center located at 23630 Hayden Farm Lane, Leonardtown to understand what options you have when choosing your Medicare benefits. We will be discussing Medigap plans, Part D, how retirement insurance works with Medicare, etc. To register contact us at medicarequestion@stmarysmd.com or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1064.

August Monthly Craft- Wrinkled Torn Paper Landscape

Loffler Senior Activity Center is the place to go on Friday, August 20, 11 a.m. if you want to learn an easy but interesting collage technique using torn, colored paper that has been wet, crumpled, then flattened out to

dry. We will try our hand at giving different paper types this wrinkle treatment. Then we will make our own pictures using colored papers that have been treated in advance. This live class requires a reservation. To register, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. Space is limited. Time and date stamp will determine who makes the list.

August Health Watch Presentation: How Could I forget?

What is normal forgetfulness and what is not? Are there things impacting your memory that you can fix by adjusting? When should you be concerned enough to see a doctor? This Health Watch Presentation by Mary Tennyson will take place at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, August 18 at 10 a.m. and will require a reservation. To register, leave a message on our reservation line at 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. Free.

Energy Assistance

It is that time of year to apply for assistance with your electric and heating expenses. Eligibility is determined by the gross household income for everyone living in the residence. New

this program year is varying income criteria based on the age of household residents. If all household members are under the age 67 the maximum monthly income for one person is \$1,878 and \$2,540 for a two-person household. For households with at least one member age 67 or over the monthly income for one person is \$2,147 and \$2,903 for a two person household. Higher income guidelines are available for households with three or more members. Persons age 60 and over or for those with a disability you may receive assistance applying for this program by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 3104. For those under 60 you may call the Tri-County Community Action Committee at 301-475-5574, ext. 200.

Pinochle Players Needed

Do you like playing this game? Our group plays on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. They are looking for a few more people to get another table going. Interested? Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1658 or e-mail Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com.



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In Remembrance

Deborah "Debbie" Gardiner Friedrich



Deborah "Debbie" Gardiner Friedrich, 67, of La Plata, MD passed away on July 14, 2021 in Washington, DC. She was born on May 9, 1954 in Baltimore, MD and was the daughter of the late Louise "Weedie" Parlett Gardiner and Adrian Posey "Jimmy" Gardiner, Jr. Debbie was the loving wife of Ronald Friedrich, Sr. whom she married on July 13, 1974 in La Plata, MD. Debbie is survived by her children, Jamie Friedrich of Huntingtown, MD, Chris Friedrich of Newburg, MD, grandchildren Bailey M. Friedrich, Gabrielle Friedrich, Logan Friedrich, and Aiden Friedrich, along with her siblings Steven J. Gardiner of Maryland, MD and Michael K. Gardiner (Brenda) of Clements, MD. She was preceded in death by her grandson Chandler B. Friedrich, siblings Josephine L. Hill, Donna M. Haigley, Lonnie A. Gardiner, Sr. and Brenda A. Dodd.

Debbie graduated from Archbishop Neale High School in 1972. She was a homemaker.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory, Leonardtown, MD.

Mary Ann "Walker" Gibson,

Mary Ann "Walker" Gibson, 92, of La Plata, MD, formerly of Bryans Road and Abell, MD, passed away on July 15, 2021 in La Plata, MD. Born on May 16, 1929, she was the daughter of the late Ethel V. Crismond and James Paul Walker. Mary Ann was the loving wife of the late John Edgar Gibson whom she married in December 1971 in Virginia, and who preceded her in death on October 27, 1977. Mary Ann is survived by her children Barbara Moran



of La Plata, MD and James M. Hall of Tarpon Springs, FL, along with 14 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her children Virginia Gass, David G. Hall, and Carol Zanco, as well as her siblings Buster Morris, Roy Morris, Sam Morris "Biggie", Thelma Morris, and Buddy Walker.

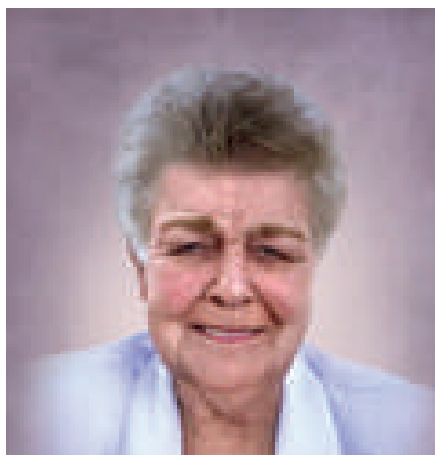
She was a bank teller for Security National Bank in Washington, DC.

Mary Ann loved the beach, boating with her sons, and spending time with family. She enjoyed crabbing and eating crabs.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 10:00AM to 11:00 AM in Holy Angels Catholic Church Avenue, MD where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM with Father Stephen Wyble officiating. Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be Mark Quarry, Mandy Quarry, Bob Skatez, Jay Walker, David Gass, and R. Kevin Quarry.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory, Leonardtown, MD.

Dorothy "Dot" Elizabeth Reichard



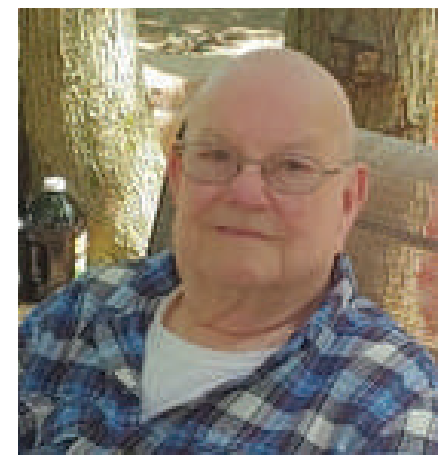
Dorothy "Dot" Elizabeth Reichard, 79, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on July 12, 2021 in Washington, DC. She was born on August 4, 1941 in Avenue, MD and was the daughter of the late Ann Louise Russell Thompson and Thomas Bertrand Thompson. Dot is survived by her daughter Rebecca Quade (Jimmy) of Clements, MD, two granddaughters Sarah Quade and Kelly Quade, as well as her siblings Thomas B. "Billy" Thompson (Alice Ann) of Mechanicsville, MD, Harriet Cuel of Tracy, CA, George Thompson (Franny) of Hollywood, MD, John J. "Johnny" Thompson (Janet) of Avenue, MD, and brother in law Larry Mills of Leonardtown, MD. She was preceded in death by her siblings Sister Mary Martha Thompson, Teresa Mills, Robert A. "Butch" Thompson, Joan Victoria Thompson, and sister-in-law Myrtle Thompson.

Dot graduated from Margaret Brent High School in 1959 and was a homemaker.

She enjoyed crafts, crocheting, sewing, slot machines, gardening, playing bingo and cards. Dot especially loved spending time with family, her dog, and grand dogs.

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

Eugene Francis Langley, Jr. "Gene"



Eugene Francis Langley, Jr. "Gene" 91, formerly of Martinsburg, West Virginia passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on July 10, 2021 at Hospice of St. Mary's in Callaway, Maryland. He was born on December 22, 1929 in Capitol Heights, Maryland to Eugene Langley, Sr. and Florence Langley.

After he completed his educa-

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In Remembrance

tion, in 1951, he was called upon by the United States Army and he was deployed to Korea to assist the US during the Korean War. While stationed in Korea, Private 1st Class Eugene Langley, Jr. was a cook and prepared three meals a day for the troops, from February 1952—November 1953. If you ever asked him about his service, he would tell you he prepared meals for at least 5,000 men each day, peeled hundreds of pounds of potatoes, and he hasn't eaten a single grain of rice since he returned home.

When he returned home from the war, he worked in D.C. in management at a department store called the Hecht Company, where he met and fell in love with one of his employees, Thelma Martin. It wasn't long after meeting Thelma, before he realized that she was the one for him and he married her on January 26, 1957 in Hyattsville, Maryland. Soon after, they began their family and raised their family of six in College Park, Maryland.

Gene provided for his family the best way he knew how through hard work and dedication. He worked at a variety of retail stores before "retiring" and moving to Martinsburg, West Virginia. He wasn't one who could just sit around and do nothing, so he found work doing what he loved, "working with people" in retail. In his later years, he worked for Hallmark greeting cards, putting up and taking down card displays.

With Thelma's health declining, they decided to move back to Maryland to be closer to their family. Gene and Thelma were married for 58 wonderful years before she passed in 2015. At that time, he was living at Cedar Lane Senior Living or "the compound" as he called it, and he absolutely loved his apartment. He had many friends there and enjoyed a very active lifestyle. In 2020, he decided to become a "traveling man," and visited with all of his children and their families where he enjoyed working puzzles, playing Rummikub, and watching westerns: until his death.

Gene was a dedicated and loving husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his children Alvin "Butch" Langley of North Carolina, Patty (Bob) Miller of Piney Point, Maryland, Tina Simms of Lusby, Maryland, Tammy (John) Bell of Beltsville, Maryland, Kelly (Kenny) Anderson of Elkridge, Maryland, and Gene (Terri) Langley of Berkley Springs, West Virginia; sixteen grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; a brother Alvin Langley

of Florida and a sister Genevieve Huff of Florida. Gene was preceded in death by his father Eugene Langley, Sr., his mother Florence Langley, his wife Thelma Langley, seven siblings, and his son-in-law Mickey Simms.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, July 31, 2021 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., with a Funeral Service at 1:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Eugene's honor to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

John Duke Stackpole



John Duke Stackpole Dr. John Duke Stackpole, a retired meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service and a professional parliamentarian, died on January 12, 2020, at his home in Solomons, Maryland at the age of 84. The cause was pancreatic cancer.

John Stackpole was born in Boston, Massachusetts and attended Milton Academy (1953), where his father Pierpont Stackpole taught English Literature. He received his Bachelor's in Physics from Amherst College (1957) and his Ph.D. in Meteorology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1964), where he also served as president of the M.I.T. Graduate Student Council.

In 1960, John Stackpole wed Laurie Jean Eveleth of Falls Church, Virginia. In 1964, John and Laurie moved to District Heights, Maryland, where John began a 30-year career at the Weather Service. After his retirement, he focused on his second career as a registered and certified parliamentarian.

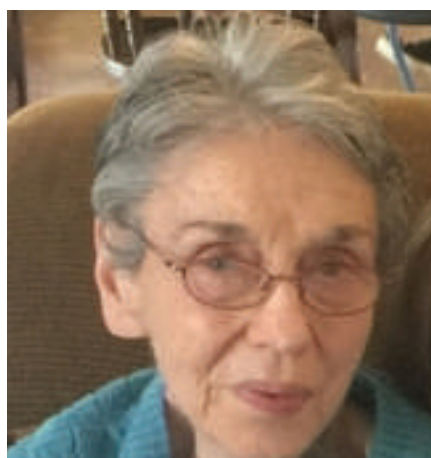
John and Laurie's life together spanned 59 years. They were both avid readers, were active at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Forestville, Maryland, enjoyed family camping trips when their children were younger, summers in Maine

as they grew older, enjoyed square dancing, the arts, and attending lectures. John was also an accomplished calligrapher and bicycle rider.

They were loving parents of three children: Mark Stackpole and wife Laura Strom, Paul Stackpole and wife Lessley, and Jean Brown and husband Dr. Jeffrey Brown. They were cherished grandparents to six grandchildren and three great grandchildren. John is also survived by his sister Antoinette Stackpole Russin.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for both John D. & Laurie E. Stackpole on Friday, July 30, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, 22800 Washington St., Leonardtown, Maryland. Interment will be held at Saint James Catholic Cemetery in Falls Church, Virginia at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund—UNICEF—125 Maiden Lane, New York, NY 10038.

Laurie Eveleth Stackpole



Laurie Eveleth Stackpole, who served as the Chief Librarian at the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) for more than 15 years, retiring in 2002, passed away at the age of 87 on July 8, 2021, at home in Solomons, Maryland. The cause of death was respiratory failure.

Born Laurie Jean Eveleth, Laurie Stackpole grew up in Falls Church, Virginia and was a graduate of Trinity College (1956) in Washington, D.C., where she was president of the physics club and editor-in-chief of the Trinity Times college newspaper. Her education continued with a Master's in Physics from Smith College (1957).

In 1960, Laurie Eveleth married John D. Stackpole of Boston, Massachusetts. In 1964, John and Laurie moved to District Heights, Maryland, where John began a 30-year career at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National

Weather Service. Laurie spent the next decade busy with the couple's three children: Mark (1961), Paul (1963), and Jean (1965). Once all three had begun school, Laurie returned to school herself, earning a Master's in Library Science from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. in 1977. She began working at NOAA's main library, before transitioning to NRL in 1985.

John and Laurie's life together spanned 59 years. They were both avid readers, were active at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Forestville, Maryland, enjoyed family camping trips when their children were younger, summers in Maine as they grew older, enjoyed square dancing, the arts, and attending lectures. Laurie also enjoyed crafts and hosting family holiday get-togethers.

They were loving parents of three children: Mark Stackpole and wife Laura Strom, Paul Stackpole and wife Lessley, and Jean Brown and husband Dr. Jeffrey Brown. They were cherished grandparents to six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

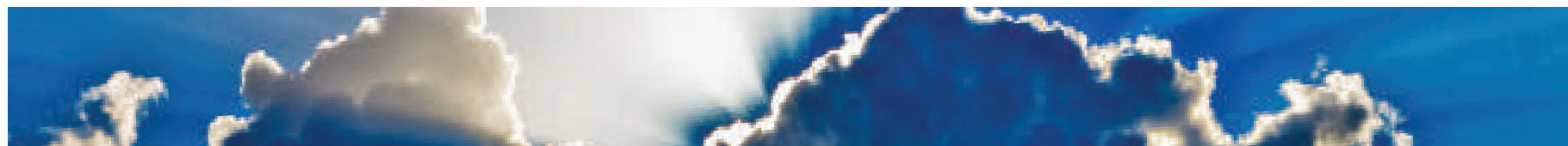
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Emma Byrum Weaver



Emma Byrum Weaver 101, went home to be with her Heavenly Father on July 17, 2021. She was born, raised and lived in the Tenleytown community of Washington, D.C.

After retirement from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Services where she served as an administrative assistant and



later as executive secretary to the administrator of NOAA. Emma and her husband Allen moved to Cobb Island, MD in a home they had purchased in 1952. They later renovated into a year-round home. While in Cobb Island, Emma was a member of the American Antique Association, Charles County Chapter and many other civic organizations. After Allen developed Alzheimer's and entered into Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, to be closer to him, Emma moved into the Wildewood Village in St. Mary's County, MD.

She is preceded in death by her to be closer to him husband Allen, her parents Emory L. and Annie E. Byrum, her sister Louise Cudmore, five brothers, Emory, Thomas, William, Octavius and Pete and a beloved grandmother "Granny Roaten". She is survived by many nephews, nieces and friends.

Visitation will be 10:00 am with a Funeral Service at 11:00 am, Friday, July 23, 2021 at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory at 30195 Three Notch Rd, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 from. Interment will be at Culpeper National Cemetery at 305 US Ave, Culpeper, VA 22701, Monday, July 26th at 11:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hollywood United Methodist Church 24422 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood, MD 20636, or a charity of your choice.

Condolences may be sent to her nephew, Ron Weaver 8323 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Va. 22308 or at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

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

Thomas Allen Meiser



Thomas Allen Meiser, 77, of Lexington Park, Maryland, passed away on July 15, 2021, at his home with his loving family at his side.

He was born on October 12, 1943, in San Francisco, California,

to the late Thomas Wilson Meiser and Florence Shepp Meiser. Tom grew up in York, Pennsylvania, where he graduated from York Suburban High School. During high school, Tom met the love of his life, Shonna Miller, at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Tom's church. Tom and Shonna quickly fell in love and were married on February 14, 1964, in Dover, Pennsylvania. Together they celebrated over 57 wonderful years of marriage.

After graduating from York Junior College in 1961, and relocating for Tom's job with IBM, Tom and Shonna began their married life in Falls Church, Virginia, where their first son, David, was born in 1964, and then subsequently moved to Silver Spring, Maryland, where their second son, John, was born in 1967. In 1972, Tom and Shonna moved to St. Mary's County, where Tom was co-owner and operator of Loffler Marine in Lexington Park. Tom then returned to complete his college degree at St. Mary's College of Maryland, while working at Raley's Home Furnishings. Upon graduating from St. Mary's College in 1983, Tom went to work for Mantech where he pursued a successful career in government contracting until his retirement in 2013.

While Tom was thoroughly committed to his professional endeavors, there is no question that his family was his priority. In addition to being a loving and supportive husband, Tom never missed the opportunity to attend any of his children's or grandchildren's life events, regardless of the distance or the sacrifices required to do so. Whether as husband, Dad or "Bepa" (as his seven grandchildren called him) Tom was each family member's greatest fan and supporter. Anyone who knew Tom, knows of his abundant love and pride in his family, because Tom could masterfully provide a quick update or photo of the kids and grandkids, within the context of any conversation.

In Tom's spare time, he loved boating and anything that had to do with the water. Tom instilled this love for the water in his sons, who have both perpetuated Tom's passion for sailing and power boating as a focus of their lives. Tom also shared his love for the water with anyone he could--- often taking co-workers, church friends and neighbors out for evening boat rides. Tom was an active member of the Southern Maryland Sailing Association since 1973, and also of the South-

ern Maryland Recreational Fishing Organization, and the Coastal Conservation Association.

In addition to his beloved wife, Tom is also survived by his sons, David Henry Meiser (Jacki) of Solomons, Maryland, and John Thomas Meiser of Annapolis, Maryland; seven grandchildren: Mallory, Elizabeth, Henry J, Bayard, Tilghman, Skylar, and Beau; and extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial contributions may be made to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at jdrf.org, Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad, 46763 South Shangri La Drive, Lexington Park, Maryland 20653, or Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Barbara Henderson Cullison



Barbara Henderson Cullison, 74, of Valley Lee, MD passed away on July 13, 2021 at her home.

She was born on March 27, 1947 to the late James M. Henderson and Myrtle Thelma Leizear Henderson.

As a young girl she would summer vacation in St. Mary's County on the Potomac River. Her father and her would enjoy boating. She often reminisced of sitting on the front of the boat enjoying nature.

Barbara is a graduate of Towson State College earning her degree in Education. She was employed in Baltimore County for several years until she met her would be husband at a Fire House Dance here in St. Mary's County. Moving to St. Mary's County at the time of their marriage, on December 3, 1971, she married her beloved husband, Clayton Edward Cullison at Holy Face Catholic Church. They

celebrated over 38 years of marriage before his passing in December 2009. She was an avid reader with a vast collection of books. She also had extensive collections, particularly peacocks and loved their beautiful blue colors. Her other hobby was shopping, which she enjoyed finding things that would make her or others smile. She would say "It's just so cute!" She could spend an entire day going from store to store. Her greatest love was for her family, especially her grandchildren who fondly call her Nannie.

She is survived by her son, Clayton Edward "Eddie" Cullison, Jr. (Jessica), her grandchildren: Gracie Ann Cullison, Lily Elizabeth Cullison, and Landon Bernard Halle; extended family and friends. In addition to her parents and husband, she is also preceded in death by her sister, Jo Anne Albertsen.

All services will be private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Gary Lee Taylor



Gary Lee Taylor, 75 of Great Mills, MD passed away on July 6, 2021 at home with his family around him.

He was born on March 24, 1946 in West Virginia to the late James H. Taylor and Betty Jean (Smith) Taylor.

Gary was in the Air Force from 1965 to 1969 where he specialized in electrical and mechanical engineering. He continued in this vocation for several decades as a civilian travelling all around the world.

He is survived by his two children, Greg Taylor and his wife Karen Ross Taylor, Gennifer Taylor Morgereth and her fiance John Toich; and his two granddaughters Jamie and Julia Morgereth- all from Baltimore, MD; and his sister Cecelia St. Don, niece Tammy

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In Remembrance

Hall, nephew Jim Seidenstricker, and niece Vicki Pilkerton all from St Mary's County.

He is preceded in death by his parents, ex-wife Judith DeHart Taylor and daughter Gina Taylor.

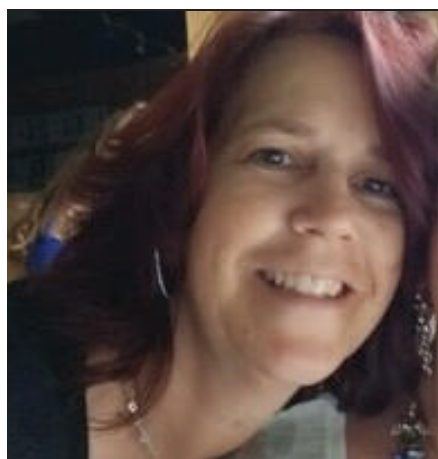
Condolences to the family may be made in the virtual guestbook at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Interment of cremains is private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his name can be made to the Parkinson's Foundation at parkinson.org

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Tammy Lynette Quade (Wood)



Tammy Lynette Quade (Wood), 51 years young, of Clements, MD, passed away peacefully at Med-Star Georgetown University Hospital of Washington, D.C.

Tammy (Tamstang) was born on January 7, 1970 in Washington, D.C. to Dale and Julia "Judy" Wood (Quade). Tammy was the second born child out of her (7) seven siblings; which are three brothers and three sisters.

She was a woman with a heart of gold and genuine strength of character, Tammy was a dedicated mother to her four (4) children. She would do anything to care for her children and gave them unconditional love. When Tammy met her husband, Danny Quade, she knew she'd found her match. She knew him for many years prior, but both decided to marry on February 14th, 2020 and combined their families. This gave Tammy (2) more bonus children in addition to her (4) children.

Tammy loved to be around people and was always seen with a bright smile. She enjoyed working as a hair assistant at Nancy's Guys and Gals Hair Salon of Charlotte Hall, MD. The clients could always make her laugh and she would do the same, which made them friends. She was a beautiful daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, cousin/relative, coworker

and friend to many.

She was an active member of her community, Tammy enjoyed going to the Moose Lodge to dance and relax with her husband and friends. She was always ready to jump into her Mustang and cruise around. She didn't need a destination, just someone in the shotgun seat or some good tunes on the radio. She also loved to watch racing, whether it was on television or personally at the racing track. She would yell over the roar of the engines to root on her favorite drivers.

Tammy is survived by her husband, Daniel "Danny" Quade of Clements, MD; her four children; Prescilla Quade of Clements, Maryland; Presley Quade of Clements, Maryland; Tanya Thompson of Mechanicsville, Maryland; and Julia Humphrey of Stuart, Florida, along with two (2) grandchildren. She left behind her bonus children from her marriage, Kaitlyn Quade and Ryan Quade, both of Clements, Maryland.

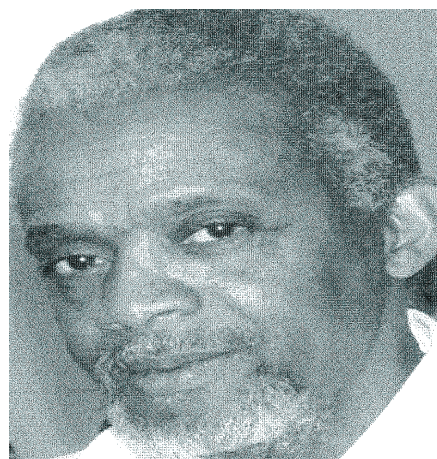
She is also survived by her parents, Dale and Julia "Judy" Wood of Shady Side, Maryland, and siblings; Teresa White, Dale Wood (Jr), Terry Wood, Becky Fitzwater, Kelly Wood and Robert Wood. Along with many nieces, nephews and extended family members.

All family and friends will gather for Tammy's Celebration of Life on Friday, July 30th, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. Interment will be private.

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

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

Joseph B. Johnson, Jr.



Joseph B. Johnson, Jr. affectionally called (Ben), 60 of Chickasha, Oklahoma, formerly from Callaway, Md., St. Mary's County, went home to be with the Lord on

February 1, 2021. He was born on March 17, 1960 in Leonardtown, MD, to the late Joseph 8. Johnson Sr. and Myrtle L. Johnson. He was educated in the St. Mary's County public school system graduating from Great Mills High school in 1978.

Ben enlisted in the United States Navy after graduating from high school and served for four years. He was honorably discharged in 1982. After his military career ended, he worked for Webster Field Navy Base located in St. Indigoes, Maryland, as a computer programmer. He also worked as a Nurses Assistant in St. Mary's County until moving to Oklahoma to further his education and becoming a Certified Nurses Assistant. His career also led him to working at Gabriel Ride Control in Chickasha, Oklahoma until his untimely death.

Ben was an active member and teacher of TMA Martial Arts. He took his time in training each student to perfect Martial Arts skills. He was a good teacher, mentor, role model and very much cared for his students.

His greatest enjoyment was teaching the discipline of Martial Arts, fishing, and shooting his rifles. Ben received much recognition for his kindness, loving care and being generous with what he had and with his time.

Ben was a very quiet son, loving brother, uncle, great uncle and very lovable in his Oklahoma community to the many friends he met in his thirty years plus.

He leaves to cherish his fond memories his siblings, Cynthia L. Johnson, Mechanicsville, MD, Glenda L. Fenwick (Charles), Munford, TN, Lionel Johnson, Hyattsville, MD, Tony Johnson (Heather), Bath Maine, Connie A. Mackey, Virginia Beach, VA, Darleen Outing (John), Clinton, MD, Kelvin A. Lawrence, Chickasha, Oklahoma, Karen A. Thomas (Michael), Hollywood, MD, Cortina Nelson (Oldest Niece), Jacksonville, FL, Brian Ball (Shannon), Martinsburg WV.

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7/20/2021 Gmail - Joseph Benjamin Johnson JR.

One additional brother-in-law, Joseph Green, Callaway, Md., one Uncle, James Johnson, Lexington Park, Md. and one Aunt, Rossetta Smith of Callaway, Md.

A special niece Lenita Lawrence, Oklahoma City, Ok. and a host of other nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, rela-

tives and friends.

Ben was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Johnson, Sr. and Myrtle Lawrence Johnson, his older sister; Christine Green and niece Yameka Rodgers.

Services will be on Friday July 30, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. in Evergreen Memorial Gardens Veteran Cemetery in Great Mills MD.

Rebecca June McHale Schramm

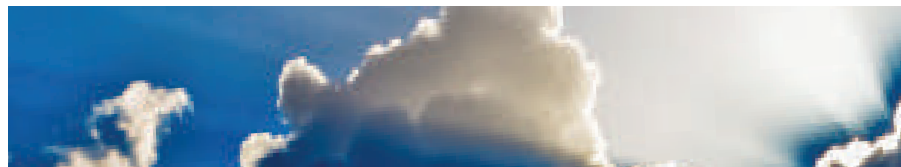


On July 15, 2021, Rebecca June McHale Schramm, 93, passed away peacefully. Rebecca was born in Houston, Texas in 1928, and was the daughter of Charles and Nancy (May) McHale. Rebecca had one sibling, Mary V. (Ginger), who is also deceased. Rebecca attended high school at St. Agnes Academy in Houston, Texas, and after graduation, worked as well as attended evening college in New York City.

She was married in 1957 to Jack J. Schramm in Tangiers, Morocco. They resided in St. Louis, MO. Early on, she was active in Missouri politics working on campaigns for Jack, a State Legislator. As parents of two children, they divorced in 1981.

Rebecca pursued a degree in Library Science at Washington University in St. Louis, but ultimately obtained a degree in nursing. As a licensed RN, she worked for various hospitals until retirement in 1994. She loved to travel and spent many years doing genealogy research. Rebecca was a 9th generation American, descending from John May, an Irish Ship Master who settled in Boston, MA in 1640. She felt strongly about preserving the principles of our founding fathers. She frequently visited Ireland, the origin of her father's family.

Rebecca is survived by a beautiful family – daughter Lori Geis (Randall), son Adam Schramm (Kirsten), granddaughters Sara Geis Hyson (Jim), Amber Geis, Nakeya Geis, Alexis Schramm Mar-



tin (Ben), Sydney Schramm Smith (Brandon), great granddaughter Kiley Hyson, great grandsons Grayson Martin, Keaton Martin and niece Amy Helfrich Davis (Jim). Also, she enjoyed many great friendships throughout life.

If desired, donate to your favorite animal shelter.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory, Leonardtown, MD.

Roberta "Bobbi" Louise Evans



Roberta "Bobbi" Louise Evans, 73, of Lexington Park, MD passed peacefully on June 11, 2021 at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC. She was born on January 17, 1948 in Leonardtown, MD to the late Robert (Bob) and Virginia Burton Gunter.

She is the loving mother of Jeff (Sandra) Evans of New Market, TN and Brian Evans of Park Hall, MD, "more than a" daughter-in-law, Mallory Evans of Lexington Park, MD and 3 grandchildren: Blake, Rylee and Breanna Evans. She is also survived by her brother, Bill Gunter and wife, Kathleen of Great Mills, MD and their 2 sons, Bob (Lisa) and Ian (Andrea) Gunter. She was predeceased by her sister, Judy Hall, daughter-in-law, Marsha Evans and father of her two sons, Robert C. (Bob) Evans.

She was a graduate of Great Mills High School Class of 1965. She received her Associates Degree from Charles County Community College and later achieved her Bachelors of Science Degree majoring in Financial Management from University of Maryland, University College in May 1998 while she was raising her sons. She began her career with the Federal Government on 9/21/1968. She held various administrative and financial positions during her 34 plus years.

One of her longest spans was providing support to the Physical Sciences Branch of Computer Services Directorate. She received many outstanding performance awards during her career. She retired as a Budget Analyst on 03/03/2003 from NAWC AD Comptroller. Roberta decided to continue working and did so for various defense contractors until present. She will be remembered by many of her co-workers "as a knowledgeable and fun person to work with".

Roberta was a very sweet, kind and loving woman who was always taking care of others ahead of herself. When she did have relaxation time, she enjoyed listening to Beatles music and reading on her Kindle. She loved lighthouses and the season of fall. She never played sports herself but she always cheered for the Redskins.

She was a member of the First Saints United Methodist Church, St George's Island Campus. In fact, she was the President of the St George's Island UMC Chapter of United Methodist Women for 15 years. Roberta also taught Sunday school to her sons and later her grandchildren.

As a young mother, Roberta was soon to take on the role of "Single Mom". She accepted this role with strength and dignity and dedicated her time to make sure that her sons had all they needed to achieve their goals in life. She was active in their Cub Scout Pack 561 (Piney Point) and all their school activities. She was most proud of both of her sons' involvement in volunteering for the Fire and Emergency Services.

Her grandchildren have brought her great joy. She learned how to play the Battleship game and was skilled at playing UNO. She always praised them for their achievements. She loved being their "Berta". She always told them "I love you a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck".

Family will receive friends on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., with a prayer service recited by Pastor Cindy Caldwell at 7:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will be celebrated by Pastor Cindy Caldwell on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at First Saints United Methodist Church, St George's Island Campus. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to A Community That Shares (ACTS), P.O. Box 54, Bushwood, MD 20618.

SMALL BUSINESS TIPS

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They provide jobs, pay taxes and contribute to our society. For any of you contemplating setting up your own small business, I applaud your courage and offer some basic tips for you:

1. Start with the professionals.

When you set up a business or enter into a lease or create a contract or agreement between your business and landlords, vendors, suppliers, bankers, etc. you need to obtain professional advice from attorneys and accountants. Yes, this will cost your business money up front, but it will be worth it to avoid mistakes.

2. Structure. Incorporating your business is important to avoid personal liability. If you incorporate, either as an LLC (limited liability company) or a corporation, and you are sued, the corporation is liable, not you personally. The contrary is also true—without incorporating, any business you run can be sued and you can be held personally liable. Exposing your personal assets, or your family's assets, to liability for a business you run is simply taking too much risk.

3. Documentation is Critical.

Before you run to Legal Zoom or some similar forms service to create your articles of organization or incorporation, think about your business structure. This is not the time to choose a "one size fits all" form. If you have partners or shareholders, you cannot use the types of basic documents provided by a forms service. You need professional guidance.

4. Small Business Pitfalls.

There are three areas of potential difficulty every small business person must figure out: employees, leases and other agreements and ownership.

a. Employees. Be very careful about classifying your employees either as employees or independent contractors. The Internal Revenue Service now uses an 11 factor test to determine whether an independent contractor is truly independent. As a business owner, you are responsible for withholding taxes on employee salaries. Independent contractors pay their own taxes. Don't get into difficulty by misclassifying. If the IRS determines you should have classified someone as an employee rather than an independent contractor, your business could be liable for paying back all the withholding taxes you should have taken out since the employee was first hired. Multiply that by several misclassified employees and you see the problem. Understand the rules.

b. Leases and Other Agreements.

The type of lease you sign for commercial space can be very confusing, especially when it is 30 pages long and full of legalisms. There are gross leases, net leases and percentage leases. You may receive a low rent in a triple net lease but you will be responsible for paying taxes, insurance and repairs on the space. If the space needs a new roof, that could be a major expense. Every business has different needs and will use different types of contracts and agreements.

c. Ownership. One important tip—never enter into a 50-50 partnership. This simply doesn't work in the event of a dispute. Make your structure 51-49 or something else, but put one person in charge. Don't make your spouses or children the owners of the business if they are not involved in the business. Divorce can wreak havoc on a business with married couple owners.

5. Free Advice. One of the best tips I have for small business is to structure an Advisory Board. Unlike Boards of Directors, members of an Advisory Board have no liability for the advice they give your business. There is no need to pay Advisory Board members if you cannot afford it. Call on friends and advisors who understand your type of business and can give you practical advice. Those Advisory Board members may very well become your future investors.

6. Buying a Business. One word—investigate. You must have a complete understanding of what you are buying as possible.

7. Selling a Business. Sellers of a business want to sell stock. That allows them to charge the buyer for goodwill that has been built-up in a business. Buyers of a business want to buy assets—they want to stay away from the liabilities that come with stock ownership.

8. Running a small business is not for the faint of heart. But, there are resources to help you. Take advantage of them—attorneys, accountants, cyber security specialists, financial advisors, the internet, business books, classes at the College of Southern Maryland, the Calvert County Dept. of Economic Development and many other resources. And, best of luck to you!

Join me for a free seminar on this and other matters every third Wednesday of the month at 11am at our office at 8906 Bay Avenue, North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve a spot.



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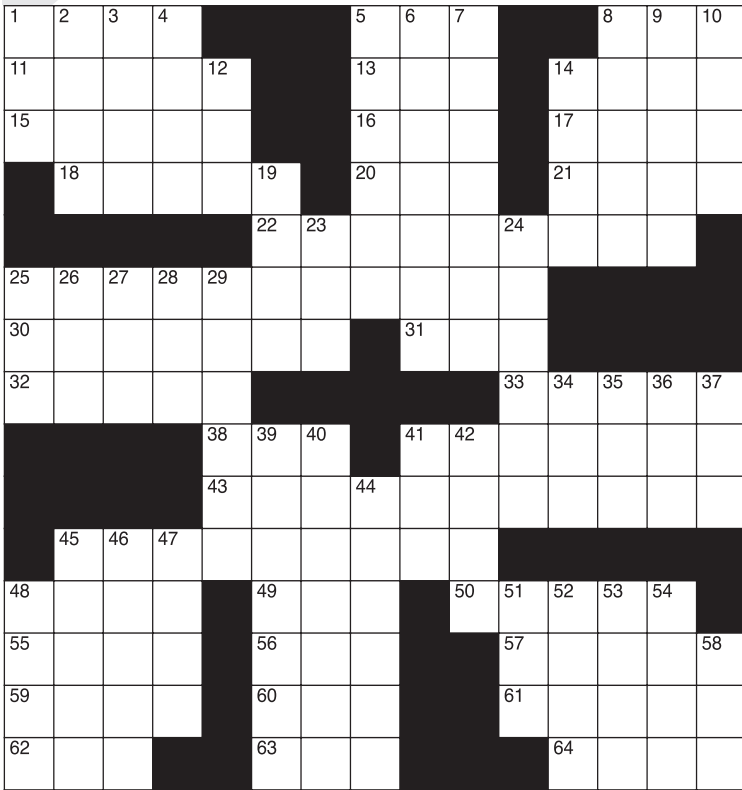
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Language group with Iranian influence
- 5. No seats available
- 8. Health insurance organization
- 11. Having a strong sharp smell or taste
- 13. Defunct European economic organization
- 14. Dutch word for "language"
- 15. Hard to penetrate
- 16. When you'll get there
- 17. Iranian city
- 18. Small fishes
- 20. Dry white wine drink
- 21. Turkish city
- 22. U.S.-born people
- 25. Synthetic resin
- 30. Major nerve in human body
- 31. Type of recording
- 32. Small drum
- 33. Alters
- 38. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 41. Venezuelan capital
- 43. Free of deceit
- 45. Member of Ancient Hebrew nation

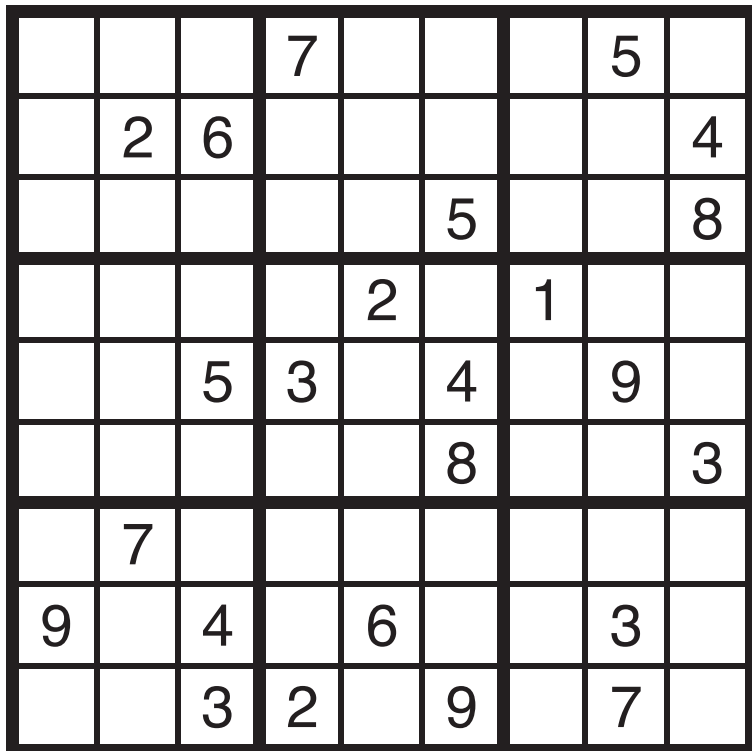
48. Competition

- 49. Launch an attack on
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 55. Spiritual leader
- 56. One point east of due south
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Database management system
- 60. Snakelike fish
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. Small drink
- 63. Not wet
- 64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Father
- 2. Perfected perfectly
- 3. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 4. Thin, compact object
- 5. One attempting to find something
- 6. No longer working
- 7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 8. Book of Genesis character
- 9. Volcanic craters
- 10. Brand of American automobile (slang)
- 12. Hip hop icon Kool Moe ___
- 14. Bangladeshi

- monetary unit
- 19. Self-immolation by fire ritual
- 23. Family of genes
- 24. Et ___: indicates further
- 25. Pacific Standard Time
- 26. S. American wood sorrel
- 27. Women's ___ movement
- 28. Chinese hoopster Ming
- 29. Layers of rock
- 34. Patriotic women's group
- 35. Solid water
- 36. Shade of brown
- 37. Very fast airplane
- 39. Put clothes on
- 40. Quality of one's character
- 41. Time zone
- 42. Primates
- 44. Pleasantly
- 45. Metrical feet
- 46. Rogue
- 47. German river
- 48. Relieves from
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Those who resist authority
- 58. Criticize



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

S	A	S	H		B	O	S	O	N		S	A	M	A	1	9	7	6	2	5	3	4	8
O	R	E	O		C	R	A	P	E		A	R	A	K	4	3	2	7	9	8	1	6	5
L	E	L	Y		D	A	L	E	Y		G	A	G	A	8	5	6	3	1	4	9	2	7
S	A	F	A	R		T	O	R		S	A	B	I	N	3	7	8	4	6	1	5	9	2
					S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S		2	4	1	5	7	9	8	3	6
O	P	S		D	A	D		T	E	A		S	I	S	5	6	9	8	3	2	4	7	1
S	A	C	K	E	D		S	I	C		V	I	V	A	9	1	4	2	5	6	7	8	3
S	T	O	A	S		S	A	C		S	A	T	I	N	6	8	3	1	4	7	2	5	9
E	N	O	W		S	U	E		P	O	C	K	E	D	7	2	5	9	8	3	6	1	4
T	A	P		S	I	B		E	A	R		A	D	S									
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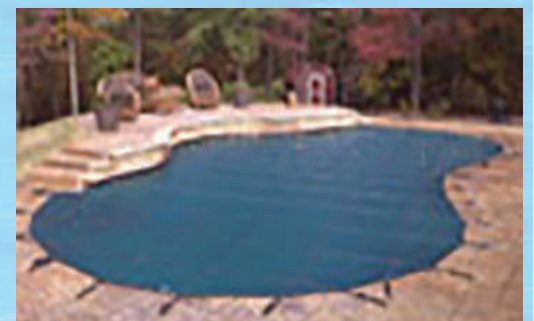


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