

FREE

FALL HOME & GARDEN PG. 10

St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

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**Leonardtwn
Library Closed**

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**Peyton Ham
Update**

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**Gator Still Loose
in Hollywood**

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Tangerines
\$5.00 A
BASKET

**Slow
Changes
in Charlotte Hall**

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Search for alligator continues

“WE HAVE SEEN IT, BUT WE CAN’T GET OUR HANDS ON IT.”
EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR STEVE WALKER ON ATTEMPTS TO TRAP A LOCAL ALLIGATOR.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 9/2 73° 60°F AM Rain	Fri 9/3 75° 61°F Mostly Sunny	Sat 9/4 77° 65°F Partly Cloudy	Sun 9/5 81° 66°F Partly Cloudy
Mon 9/6 82° 64°F Mostly Sunny	Tue 9/7 81° 67°F Mostly Sunny	Wed 9/8 85° 65°F Partly Cloudy	Thu 9/9 77° 62°F Showers



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MedStar St. Mary's Employees Must Be Vaccinated

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The chief medical officer of MedStar St. Mary's in Leonardtown told county leaders this week that all employees of the hospital, even those who are not medical staff, must be fully vaccinated if they plan on maintaining their employment status there.

"What happens if they don't?" asked Commissioner Mike Hewitt of Dr. Stephen Michaels. "Are you going to fire them?"

"Yes," Michaels replied. "It's a condition of employment."

"It's a tough one, it really is."

Michaels joined Dr. Meena Brewster, the county's health officer, in briefing the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on the current status of COVID-19 in St. Mary's and how it is affecting the local hospital.

Michaels said the requirement was in keeping with Gov. Larry Hogan's recent order requiring all hospital and nursing home workers throughout the state to



Dr. Stephen Michaels

get vaccinated or submit to regular COVID-19 tests.

Michaels said getting more people vaccinated was key to eliminating the "peaks and valleys" the county had experienced with declining and then rapidly increasing infection rates.

When the Delta variant hit, it infected a largely unvaccinated population, Michaels said, which meant it had other opportunities to mutate in different hosts and spread again.

"Right now, we're looking at the next generation of mutations," Mi-

chael said. "Lambda is coming up. The way to get COVID out of our system is to get the population vaccinated such that there isn't an opportunity for the virus to mutate on a continual basis."

If left unchecked, he said, the virus would continue to adapt.

"There is the possibility it could mutate into a form that is very, very virulent," said Michaels.

Summer time is usually a time when patient population at the hospital declines, the hospital's chief operating officer said, but this summer was the exception.

"This summer ... has been the busiest summer I've ever seen," Michaels said. "Not necessarily because of COVID but COVID cases have been going up dramatically over the past couple of weeks."

"We were below 10... now we're over 20 [hospitalizations.]"

At one point during the recent surge of the virus, roughly 30 percent of the hospital's beds were taken by COVID patients.

Currently the hospital is trying to transfer patients who can be moved, Michaels said.

"Eventually we'll be in a situation where we can't accept anymore because we're stuck with patients."

There have even been times the hos-

pital was over capacity this summer.

"We've had up to 130 patients and we have 125 beds," Michaels said.

Brewster said the health department is continuing to encourage businesses to create policies to encourage vaccinations and for individuals to continue to take precautions such as masking and other hygiene practices to help stop the spread of the virus and its variants.

Brewster said booster shots are good for those who have immunity even after they are infected, because that immunity wanes after a few months.

The mRNA technology used to develop the vaccines was about three decades old, Brewster said, and the vaccines helped to teach the body how to produce its own antibodies to fight the infection.

Booster doses are now available to those age 12 and older who have immune systems that are "moderately or severely" compromised, according to the health department at least 28 days after the recipient has gotten their second dose.

Booster shots for the general public are not expected to be available until the end of September, Brewster said, adding that there is a mass vaccination clinic planned for Sept. 10 at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Library Employees Test Positive for COVID-19

The Leonardtown Branch of St. Mary's County Library is closed until September 9 because two employees tested positive for the coronavirus this week. We have a near 100% vaccination rate at this library but "breakthrough" cases have occurred. Transmission did not occur in the library; these were "at home" situations. We believe that only a portion of our employees may have been subsequently exposed during a lunch break but enough of them that it will be impossible to staff the library.

Staff have always masked both behind the scenes and when working with visitors to the library. Cleaning has been rigorous and HEPA filters are in place. We think that exposure to library visitors is unlikely. We are consulting with the County Health Department in this matter. We think it is best for the health of employees

and the public to act with an abundance of caution.

Curbside pickup services and all operations inside the building will be suspended until September 9. Book drops at the branch remain open. No fines will accrue for items returned to Leonardtown during this time.

Our Charlotte Hall and Lexington Park Branches are fully open. Library users may always access content online at <https://www.stmlib.org/>

We deeply regret any inconvenience and ask for your understanding in a difficult time. Employees will present negative tests before resuming work at this branch on September 9. The branch will be well cleaned in the interim.

Michael Blackwell, Director St. Mary's County Library System

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County Takes Over Operations at CSM Aquatics Center

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A new lease agreement between county government and the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) puts the Department of Recreation and Parks in charge of the aquatics and wellness programs at the fitness center on the college's Leonardtown campus.

The lease agreement was approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County at their Aug. 31 business meeting.

Arthur Shepherd, director of the recreation and parks department, said the facility would be operated as an enterprise fund managed by the county, which means it would be expected to turn a profit to support itself in the next several years.

But, Shepherd said, during its first year the facility would operate at a projected loss of \$50,000.

Dr. Bill Comey, vice president for operations at CSM said the college began to take stock of its facilities about two years ago; the Wellness and Aquatics Center was one that was underutilized. "We started looking out for commu-

nity partners... that we could work with to enhance the facility," Comey said.

They arrived at a deal with the county to run the facility.

"Branding our swimming classes and fitness courses as college classes was not as open and inviting," Comey said.

The college will still be offering programming of its own at the facility, Comey said, and students and faculty will still have access to it.

"It'll be a much better return on investment," Comey said.

Shepherd said the county would access the facility the following day commissioners approved the lease and open it Sept. 13.

The aquatics center posed a similar problem as the one presented by the county-owned and operated public pool in Great Mill in that the county would have to hire more life guards to meet the demand for recreational access.

The lease is two-years in length, with the option to increase it to five years, Shepherd said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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Fritz: Autopsy In Teen's Shooting Under Review

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

State's Attorney Richard Fritz has confirmed that his office now has the autopsy report offering some insight into what happened in the shooting of 16-year-old Peyton Ham in April, slain by a state trooper responding to a 911 call just yards from the Leonardtown barracks to report of a man with a gun.

Fritz declined to talk about the contents of the long-awaited autopsy report, received 10 days ago as of Sept. 1, from the Chief Medical Examiner's Office.

"Not until we're finished the investigation," Fritz said when asked about the release of the autopsy's findings.

The case will go before the Grand Jury on Sept. 13, said the county's chief prosecutor, where transcripts of witnesses to events surrounding the shooting will be reviewed.

"We will be asking for some of them [the witnesses] to come before the Grand Jury," said Fritz. "It's part of our normal investigative procedure."

The results of the Grand Jury inquiry will help shape the next steps in the investigation, he continued.

The County Times recently shared an audio recording taken the day of the shooting from a home nearby the site of the incident; it recorded 15 rounds being fired by the responding officer, Tpr. Joseph Azzari, in just under one minute.



Peyton Ham

Law officers have not revealed how many times Ham, who is alleged to have taken a shooting stance and pointed a gun at Azzari, was hit.

The gun Ham is alleged to have pointed at Azzari was found to be an airsoft pistol.

During the initial stages of the altercation, law officers reported that Ham was knocked down after being hit but attempted to get back up with a blade — a folding pocket knife with a blade length of approximately three inches — in his hand.

It was at this time that Azzari fired again, Maryland State Police reported.
guyleonard@countytimes.net

California Home Invasion Suspect Fatally Shot

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Police have identified the man shot dead by a California homeowner responding to a break-in on Aug. 27 as Tavein Malik Dickens, 23, of Lexington Park.

Sheriff's officials say that Dickens had been seen by the homeowner banging on their windows at about 11:30 p.m. that night, and even forcing entry through the door to the home and entering, before being told to stop.

As Dickens entered the residence, he was confronted by the homeowner at which time a struggle ensued. During the struggle, the homeowner discharged a firearm, striking Dickens in the upper body.

Sheriff's officials said the homeowner shot Dickens more than once in the struggle.

Dickens later succumbed to his wounds at an area trauma center.

Police have not revealed if Dickens was armed while breaking into the home, which was located on Wood-

land Acres Road in California.

The investigation is ongoing and will be reviewed with the State's Attorney for St. Mary's County.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron said detectives were continuing to track down leads in the case but they had determined that there was no relationship between the homeowner and the alleged intruder.

Cameron said the shooting appeared, initially, to be one of legitimate self-defense.

"Preliminarily, yes," was Cameron's answer to the question of the shooting's being lawful. "But we still have a long way to go in this case."

A search of on-line court records showed Dickens had only ever been charged with traffic offenses, never with a felony or crime of misdemeanor or violence.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Daniel Sidorowicz at (301) 475-4200 extension 78043 or by email at Daniel.Sidorowicz@stmarysmd.com.
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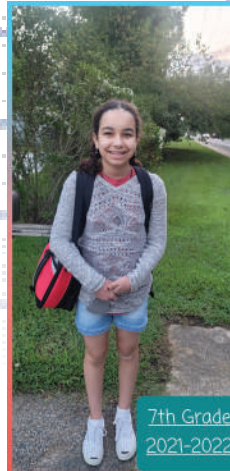
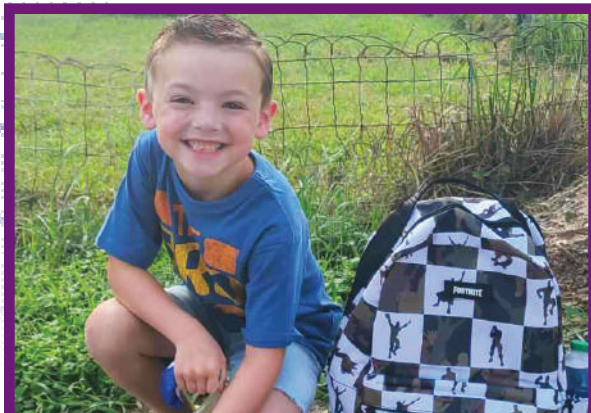
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Billy Fitzgerald

Alligator Still On The Loose

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

County animal control staff have confirmed for themselves the existence of an alligator in a Hollywood area pond but it has yet to take the bait set for its capture.

“We have seen it,” said Steve Walker, director of the county’s Department of Emergency Services. “But we can’t get our hands on it.”

The county has partnered with Gentle Hands Wildlife Services in Hollywood in an attempt to track down the reptile; the rescue’s proprietor, Dave Edwards, has brought in an expert contractor to trap and resettle the alligator in a Florida wildlife preserve.

Reports of an alligator roaming free in the Hollywood area came to animal control a year ago, but, as Walker has told The County Times, the reports were ignored.

When the county agency received more reports on the reptile last week, backed up by Edwards’ video evidence of its existence, they set about making a plan to capture the creature.

The county’s public works department fashioned 24-inch diameter corrugated pipe traps; just



one has been set out, Walker said.

The alligator is not believed to have approached the trap, Walker said, though it has been baited with chicken.

Walker said it may be necessary to wait another week before the alligator could be caught; he speculated it was wary of the baited trap because it had disturbed its natural habitat.

Walker said the alligator is confining itself to a single pond; the county has not released the precise location of the alligator.

Walker said the county wants to avoid a situation such as the one in Calvert County this June in which an alligator was spotted, hunted and killed by a man and his son who had found it in the area of Driftwood Beach.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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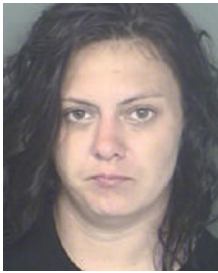
Future Auction Plans:
Fall Harvest Auction: Tentatively scheduled for Friday, October, 1st. To be held at Westfield Farm, Mechanicsville, MD.
So. Md. Farm & Country Christmas Auction: Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 4th. This auction will be held with a new format and will focus on (and be limited to) “live”, handcrafted evergreen wreaths & decorations; new furniture/items; handcrafted quilts, etc. To be held at Westfield Farm, Mechanicsville, MD. More details coming soon.

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ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Trespass/Assault- On August 16, 2021, Dep. Mattera responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, for the reported trespassing. Investigation determined **Nichole Corine Underwood**, age 32 of California, was issued a notice not to trespass for the victim's residence. Underwood later returned to the residence, and assaulted the victim by hitting and scratching the victim. Underwood was arrested and charged with Trespass: Private Property and Assault 2nd Degree.



Nichole Underwood

Violate Protective Order- On August 17, 2021, Cpl. Roszell responded to the 46200 block of Collette Lane in Lexington Park, for the reported protective order violation. Investigation determined **Jonathon Wade Muckleroy**, age 33 of Great Mills, contacted the victim in violation of



Jonathon Muckleroy

a valid court order. Muckleroy was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order.

Violate Protective Order- On August 17, 2021, Dep. Mattera responded to the 22500 block of Three Notch Road in Lexington Park, for the reported protective order violation. Investigation determined **Larry Donnell Dorsey**, age 60 of Leonardtown, violated a valid court order by calling and texting the victim repeatedly. Dorsey was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order and Harass: Course of Conduct.



Larry Dorsey

Burglary- On August 18, 2021, Dep. Wimberly responded to the 21800 block of Three Notch Road in Lexington Park, for the reported burglary. **Keon William Sanders**, age 33 of no fixed address, was located in the hotel room that the employee/witness advised was not rented and should not be occupied. Located on Sanders' person was a suspected CDS smoking device. Sanders was arrested and charged with Burglary 4th Degree and CDS: Possession/Paraphernalia.

Driver in Charlotte Hall Fatal Crash Charged with Manslaughter

Aleksandar Ivanchev, 38, of Lexington Park was been charged with two counts each of negligent manslaughter with a vehicle and negligent manslaughter stemming from a July crash that killed two people at the intersection of Golden Beach Road and Route 5.

Deputies arrived on scene and located one vehicle engulfed in flames, with at least one occupant inside the vehicle. Members of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene and continued the investigation.

Investigation determined a 2008 Subaru Outback operated by Ivanchev, was traveling north bound on Three Notch Road at a high rate of speed. Ivanchev contin-



Aleksandar Ivanchev

ued through a solid red light and struck a 2005 Ford Escape, which was traveling from Golden Beach Road through the intersection of Three Notch Road, with a solid green light. Upon impact, the Ford Escape became engulfed in flames. The Ford Escape was occupied by Shawn Bailey and Melody Russell, who were pronounced deceased on scene.

Ivanchev is being held at the county detention center on a no bond status.

Public Notice

The Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Inc. is currently soliciting bids for the following:

Cummins QSL9 Diesel Engine and a Navigation Electronics Package for a New Fire/Rescue Vessel. Separate bids will be required for each package. The packages shall include:

Package #1 Cummins QSL9 Engine

One new Cummins QSL9 Diesel engine, heat exchange marine engine, 405 HP @ 2100 RPM.

Display panel, wiring harness, exhaust riser system, isolators, and fluids.

The engine will be test ran and coupled to the customer supplied fire pump. Once test ran, the crankshaft endplay will be checked and documented. The engine and pump shall be delivered and installed at P.L. Jones Boatyard and Marina in Fishing Creek, Maryland. After installation is complete, vendor will perform an installation review and sea trial.

Package #2 Navigational Electronics Package

3 ea. Garmin GPSMAP 8616xsv chart plotter, 1 ea. Garmin GPS24xd NMEA sensor, 1 ea. Garmin AIS800 Transceiver, 1 ea. Garmin GXM54 Sirius XM/Weather, 1 ea. Garmin VHF215 AIS, 1 ea. GMS 10 Network Port Expander, 1 ea. Garmin GT34UHD-TH, 1 ea. Garmin MSC10 Satellite compass, 1 ea. Panoptix PS60 Thru Hull Down Transducer with RealVu 1 ea. Fantom 126 Radar 6-ft open array, Garmin Yamaha Interface Cables,

FLIR M364C Dual Payload Camera, FLIR JCU2 Joystick and 1 ea. Shakespeare 9.5 ft antenna.

The vendor will also provide recommendations of additional equipment, installation, wiring, and any additional cabling and mounting brackets required. The bidder shall provide training for 1 year at the vendor's location. All equipment and installation provided by the vendor will be guaranteed for 2 years minimum from date the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department takes delivery of the boat from P.L. Jones Boatyard and Marina. The installation of the material shall be at P.L. Jones Boatyard and Marina in Fishing Creek, MD.

One original and one copy of the sealed bid should be addressed to John Gatton, Chief Engineer and marked "Sealed Bid for Marine Equipment". The bid will be received at the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., PO Box 520, 13820 Point Lookout Road, Ridge, MD 20680, until 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on September 17, 2021. At which time, the bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bids for comparable equipment will be accepted for only Package #2. The Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the proposals submitted when such waiver is in the best interest of the Department.

Inquiries concerning proposal information should be directed to John Gatton, Chief Engineer, at 301-872-5571 or email peanutgatton@msn.com.

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Change Comes To Charlotte Hall, Slowly

Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Redevelopment and reinvestment projects are underway in Charlotte Hall, an historic restaurant has changed hands and a major property acquisition has residents wondering how much will change in their community and how fast.

There is much speculation, The County Times has learned, and it has spread in the community quickly.

Despite Charlotte Hall's, and North County's, mostly rural appeal, entrepreneurs are counting on a brisk movement in local traffic to keep fueling growth, however moderate.

Banks Shao, the new general manager at St. Mary's Landing Restaurant in Charlotte Hall, said the restaurant his long-time associate Kim Po Seow just purchased needs a lot of attention.

He said he does not like the condition of the aged building but it has a lot of potential; he credits its location for that advantage.

"It's a wonderful location," Banks told The County Times. "It has a lot of potential."

"It just depends on what we can do for the restaurant."

Shao is one of several investors who have taken an active interest in North County from a commercial standpoint; ARLS Properties LLC of Baltimore is another, now that they have purchased the Wentworth Nursery property and most recently the 77-acre Charlotte Hall Center property from the Burroughs family.

The out-of-town developer plans to tear down the plant nursery, located at Charlotte Hall Road and Route 5 near the border with Hughesville, and build a new Royal Farms convenience store and fuel canopy.

Their purchase of the Burroughs property has peaked speculation in the community about the old shopping center's future; it is the current home of the Charlotte Hall Farmers Market and further north many businesses front Route 5 heading into Charles County.

Rumors have circulated that the site could be the future home of a big box retailer such as a Wal-Mart or Home Depot, but the new owner, elected leaders and local developers say that scenario is highly unlikely.

It is a fact of life in North County, they said, that growth comes but only so much at a time.

John K. Parlett, a long-time Charlotte Hall-based developer, said Charlotte Hall, New Market and Mechanicsville are akin to a de facto development district much like their official counterparts in Lexington Park and Leonardtown.

"There has always been significant business interest here," Parlett said of North County. "It's just



spread out some.

"It's been growing continuously but certainly not fast."

While a central water system exists that has been taken over recently by the Metropolitan Commission, a lack of central sewerage is an obstacle to major developmental growth, both residential and commercial, Parlett said.

"It's been the design to keep multi-family housing out," he said, speaking of high-density projects such as apartments and condominiums that could support a surge in commercial growth.

This presents a problem in that young people who call North County home might not be able to afford to stay there.

"There are zero housing opportunities for young folks or those who are low income," Parlett said. "Where do your kids go?"

"Where is the next generation going to live? They're not going to be where they grew up."

Parlett said this could result in a situation where the lack of demand for new residential growth in North County, especially in Charlotte Hall, could impede commercial growth.

"The saying goes that if you're not growing, you're dying," Parlett said. "I'll guess we'll find out if that is true."

Still, Mechanicsville is the county's largest zip code, with high population numbers in communities such as Country Lakes, but many of those residents still south to places like California where commercial density, and choices, are much higher, if not north to Waldorf.

County Commissioner John O'Connor said that the only way for major development to take place quickly in Charlotte Hall would be for regulations governing density and big box stores to be changed.

Moreover, said O'Connor, who represents the region on the commissioner board, residents there



have made their opposition clear on major residential growth.

"They just don't want random development," O'Connor said.

The purchase of the Charlotte Hall Center property has, so far, not promulgated any official documentation of its future development.

"There are no proposed plans for that property," O'Connor said. "This isn't going to be some random project that will pop up."

Rumors that a big box store would come to the North County area, particularly Charlotte Hall, have circulated for years, but have never come to fruition.

"When people don't know, they want to know," O'Connor said. "But Wal-Mart, Lowes, Target... none of that is on the horizon."

Residential development may be slow in coming, O'Connor said, but he did not believe that would be an impediment to attracting steady commercial variety to residents.

"It's not just about the residential component, it's the traffic passing by," O'Connor said. "It's not going to be a stopping point for North County residents to get what they want."

Significant traffic problems exist in the Charlotte Hall area, he said, including heavy volumes and stalled intersections, but the traffic also brings service customers.

Parlett estimated that 40,000 vehicles travel through North County a day, either headed towards Patuxent River NAS or north towards Washington D.C. or other commuter destinations.

That traffic flow is one of the aspects Shao is depending on to make the transition to running St. Mary's Landing as a steak house successful.

But, just as change and growth comes slowly to North County, so will changes to their investment.

Shao estimates it will take six months to adjust to the market before they can begin an extensive renovation to the building; he also wants to bring in new customers to join those who come in almost daily.

"It will take time," Shao said. "I want to keep all the old customers but I want to attract new customers."

Parlett said he believed the new owner of the former Burroughs property would remove the Charlotte Hall Motel, now closed, and replace it with a mixed retail element as well as replace the farmers market.

But Parlett estimated there would be no "wholesale" change in Charlotte Hall for the next five years.

"Nothing happens quickly," Parlett said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Fall 2021

**A Pull Out
Section**

Fall Home & Garden

- **Renovation Projects**
- **Hardwood Floor Maintenance**
- **Picking Paint for the Interior**



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Popular Renovation Projects

Spending so much time at home during the pandemic led many homeowners to spruce up their homes. According to HomeAdvisor's 2021 State of Home Spending report, spending on home improvements increased by an average of \$745 per household in 2020.

In the face of travel restrictions and social distancing guidelines, many homeowners pivoted in 2020 and spent money they initially intended to use for vacations on home improvements. Though many such projects required the services of a professional contractor, others, including the most popular project among the 5,000 homeowners who participated in the HomeAdvisor report, were do-it-yourself endeavors. That not only gave homeowners' homes a new look, but also gave them something to do during quarantine. The following are the five most popular home improvement projects of 2020 according to the HomeAdvisor report.

1. Interior painting

Just under 35 percent of participants reported taking on an interior painting project in 2020. Interior painting projects can be perfect for DIYers, but homeowners also can trust this task to skilled professionals.

2. Bathroom renovations

Real estate professionals routinely report how much prospective buyers love updated bathrooms, so it's no surprise that roughly 31

percent of homeowners who took part in the HomeAdvisor report indicated they renovated their bathrooms in 2020.

3. Flooring

Floors took on a lot of extra traffic during the pandemic, so it shouldn't be too surprising that flooring projects were popular in 2020. More than one-fourth of participants told HomeAdvisor their homes were updated with a new floor during the pandemic.

4. Landscaping

With nowhere else to go to escape the daily grind in 2020, many homeowners took to their yards. Twenty-four percent of those homeowners reported making their backyard retreats more appealing by repairing or upgrading the landscaping outside their homes. In fact, the average homeowner reported completing 3.4 landscaping projects in 2020.

5. Kitchen

Another project that makes sense given the circumstances, kitchen renovations were the fifth most popular home improvement project in 2020. Restaurant closures and social distancing guidelines led many people to dine in more often than they otherwise would, and just under 23 percent of homeowners reported renovating their kitchens in 2020.

As the world gradually emerges from the pandemic, many homeowners who caught the



renovation bug while in quarantine also will be emerging with what feels like an entirely new home.

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With the return of spring, many people are excited to head outdoors and get started on some projects around the house and yard. It's important to stay safe and be aware of overhead power lines. Look up.

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Design Ideas to Give Your Home a Farmhouse Feel



Farmhouse style homes are having a moment. A 2020 survey from Homes.com asked more than 5,000 adults across the United States about their favorite house style from a list that included bohemian craftsman, mid-century modern ranch, French chateau, and Tudor, among others. Modern farmhouse was the runaway winner, as participants in 42 of the 50 states indicated this simple, cozy style was their favorite.

Home renovation projects can help homeowners put their own unique stamp on their homes, and such projects can be both aesthetic and functional in nature. The following are some farmhouse design elements homeowners can consider as they look to transform their home interiors with this popular style in mind.

- **Exposed beams**

Exposed beams instantly evoke images of a farmhouse. The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that this rustic renovation project can utilize real wood or faux beams that look like the real thing. Decorative beams that have nothing to do with a home's structural integrity can be installed by skilled do-it-yourselfers. However, even faux beams are heavy, and BobVila.com recommends homeowners have an engineer assess their existing structure prior to installation.

- **Distressed wood finishes**

Distressing is designed to make something look less than perfect. Distressed wood finishes can be found throughout many farmhouse style homes. Furniture and picture frames can provide the distressed look farmhouse fans are looking for. This is a relatively inexpensive project that many homeowners can tackle on their own after watching some online tutorials that recommend the right tools and techniques to get the job done right.

- **Kitchen sink**

Many components combine to create a truly classic farmhouse kitchen. But perhaps no component is more essential than the classic farmhouse sink. The renovation experts at HGTV note that a classic farmhouse sink features a deep, wide basin. Farmhouse sinks are large enough to handle all the dishes that come after a big family meal. Old-fashioned porcelain sinks are worth consideration by homeowners who want their kitchen sinks to evoke a traditional farmhouse feel.

- **Countertops**

HGTV recommends butcher block countertops for homeowners who favor European farmhouse style. Homeowners overhauling their kitchens to create a farmhouse feel should consider installing a large island with a walnut butcher block countertop for an authentic farmhouse feel.

Farmhouse style homes are wildly popular. Some simple renovations can help homeowners with a fondness for farmhouse style bring this classic look into their homes.



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How to Maintain Hardwood Floors

Hardwood floors have long been sought after by home buyers. In its 2019 "Remodeling Impact Report," the National Association of Realtors® revealed that new wood flooring was the fourth most popular project to attract buyers.

Of course, hardwood floors aren't just for buyers. Homeowners who already have hardwood floors know just how impressive these floors can be, especially when they're well maintained. Maintaining wood floors is not necessarily as straightforward as it may seem, and homeowners may benefit from a tutorial on how to keep the floors under their feet looking good.

To polish or not to polish?

Polishing floors is an inexpensive way to keep them looking good. But the home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that not all floors can be polished, and determining which ones can depends on the finish. Floors with waterproof barriers such as urethane will benefit from routine polishing. However, floors with penetrating finishes like tung oil will need to be waxed rather than polished.

What finish is on the floor?

The Hardwood Distributor's Association recommends a simple way for homeowners to determine which type of finish is on their hardwood floors. Homeowners are advised to rub a finger across the floor. If no smudge appears, then the floor is surface sealed. If a smudge is created, then the floor has been treated with a penetrating seal. The HDA also notes that recently installed wood floors are likely surface sealed.

How often should floors be polished or waxed?

Wood flooring professionals recommend polishing floors that can be polished once every few months. Waxing wood floors does not need to be done as frequently, and most can benefit from a fresh coat of wax every 12 to 18 months.

What can I do on a daily basis?

Some simple tricks and daily maintenance can help wood floors maintain their impressive look.

- *Utilize floor mats.*

The HDA notes that floor mats near entryways can reduce the time it takes to clean hardwood floors and reduce the wear and tear they endure. For example, tiny particles like dirt can scratch the floor and contribute to the kind of minor damage that adds up to significant scarring over time. Floor mats near entryways ensures that most of that dirt never makes it to the wood floors.

- *Vacuum without a beater bar.*

Some vacuums contain beater bars, which are designed to pick up human hair, dog hair and other things that conventional vacuums may not be able to pick up. The HDA advises vacuuming without the beater bar, as it can contribute to small scratches in the floor. Sweeping with a high-quality broom or microfiber cloth is another way to pick up dirt without damaging floors.

- *Use manufacturer-recommended cleaning products.*

Local home improvement stores sell a host of hardwood floor cleaning products, but the HDA notes that many flooring manufacturers now sell their own hardwood floor cleaners designed specifically for their floors. These products are likely homeowners' best bets. Homeowners who can't find them can seek recommendations from a local flooring retailer.

Hardwood floors are attractive for many reasons. And they look even more stunning, and last much longer, when homeowners make an effort to maintain them.



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Pre-winter Perennial Pruning Pointers



Foliage and football might be two things people instantly associate with fall, but there's more to this beloved season than brightly colored leaves and action on the gridiron.

Gardeners know that spring is an ideal time to plan and plant their favorite flowers and most flavorful fruits and vegetables. However, seasoned gardeners know that gardening is a year-round commitment. Pruning is one of the keys to keeping perennials coming back for years to come, and fall is an ideal time to take on this important task.

Pruning perennials in the fall is not a one-size-fits-all endeavor. According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, some perennials can be cut down after the first killing frost, while others can be left to benefit wildlife, including birds and insects. Understanding pruning and when to do it this fall can help gardeners lay a strong foundation for their gardens that will benefit them next spring.

Why should some perennials be pruned?

The College of Agricultural Sciences at Pennsylvania State University notes that perennials that have become diseased or infested with insects are pruned to prevent those problems from

resurfacing in the spring.

In addition, according to the Old Farmer's Almanac, many herbaceous perennials have old foliage and dying stems after several hard frosts. If dead foliage or dying stems aren't pruned, disease, slugs and other pests can overwinter in the plants. Cutting these plants down to the ground after several hard frosts allows the base of the plant to remain dormant over the winter but makes the plant less hospitable to disease and insects.

Which perennials should I prune?

The first step to pruning perennials is to recognize which need to be pruned and which can be left intact for the winter. The Old Farmer's Almanac notes that bee balm and phlox are prone to powdery mildew and should be cut back once they're gone. Hostas harbor slug eggs, so they, too, should be pruned after a hard frost. Hosta leaves that have fallen on the ground should be removed as well. There's no need to cut back certain perennials if they're healthy. For example, hardy geraniums do not require pruning in the fall, and Penn State Extension notes that hardy perennials like garden mums are more

likely to survive a cold winter if they're left intact. That's because the tops of such plants will collect leaves and snow for insulation and moisture over the course of winter. Gardeners who are unsure about fall pruning can speak with their local gardening center for additional advice regarding which plants to cut back before winter.

When to prune perennials

Gardeners need not rush to prune perennials in the fall. Diseased or infested plants can be pruned at the first sight of disease or infestation, but gardeners can wait until several hard frosts have occurred before they prune healthy perennials. In gardening parlance, a hard frost refers to when temperatures drop below 28 F. Several hard frosts kill the uppermost growth of most perennials, making this an ideal time to prune them.

Pruning perennials in fall can be the first step toward creating an awe-inspiring spring garden.

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Tips for Planting Fall Vegetables

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

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

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

- The summertime location of the garden may still be adequate, but be sure to choose a location that gets eight full hours of sunlight per day.
- If using an existing garden site, clear out any detritus from summer plants and any weeds that have sprouted. If you are planting a new garden, remove any turf before tilling the soil.
- Amend the soil with sand, compost, manure fertilizer, and any other nutrients needed depending on the types of vegetables you intend to grow.
- While fall vegetables can be grown successfully from seeds, it may be more time-friendly to work from larger transplants, advises the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension.
- Some plants may need a little protection as they grow if temperatures begin to dip. Cover with a blanket, cardboard box or plastic tunnel to insulate.

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

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



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How to Pick Paint for Home Interiors

Many components combine to define a home's interior. Some homeowners may be partial to certain styles, such as ultra modern or farmhouse, while others may opt for a more traditional look that cannot necessarily be categorized as one style or another. Though many homeowners may spend considerable time and devote a lot of energy to making their home embody a certain style, those who aren't willing to commit to a particular look can lean on one component to make a stylish statement all their own: paint.

Color can be a part of every homeowner's design arsenal. Bold colors can be used to create a stunning accent wall, while homes with open concepts often utilize color to define rooms. Homeowners who want to revitalize their home interiors can do so with paint, and this approach doesn't require homeowners to commit to a whole new design style.

Though paint may seem simple to novices, homeowners who have painted home interiors in the past recognize how complicated the process of picking paint can be. Paint retailers have a seemingly endless swatch of paint colors to choose from, and before long homeowners heads may be spinning as they try to narrow down their options. The following tips can help homeowners pick the perfect paint for their home interiors.

- **Take stock, and photographs, of your current furnishings.**

Many interior designers rely on a simple technique when recommending color schemes to their clients. Choose a standout color from existing furnishings, such as the dominant color from a patterned decorative pillow or piece of furniture, and then look for the same shade to paint the walls. A photograph of the item can be handy when visiting the paint store.

- **Lighten colors as you go up.**

The home renovation and design experts at HGTV recommend picking darker color values for the floor, medium color values for the walls and light values for the ceiling. This approach mimics the look of the great outdoors, where the ground tends to be darker than the trees, and the trees are darker than the blue sky.

- **Utilize paint to create the vibe you want.**

The home renovation experts at This Old House note that colors evoke an emotional response. Cool colors like blue and green give off a relaxing vibe, which makes them ideal for bedrooms and bathrooms. Red is an intense color that can up the energy ante in any room, which can make it an option for homeowners who want to spark debate around their dinner tables.

- **Give personal preference its place at the table.**

Though interior designers may have years of



experience picking paint colors for a home and researchers may have determined how certain colors can be utilized to create a desired ambiance in a given room, ultimately homeowners are the ones who will be living in the home. So it's important that homeowners pick colors they like for their home interiors.

Paint is an inexpensive way to transform a room. Homeowners can rely on a combination of color strategies and their personal preferences as they try to decide which colors they want on their interior walls.

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A View From The BLEACHERS



TOM BRADY, PSYCHOTHERAPIST

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

The car snaked through city streets as a computer voice rattled off directions to the human behind the wheel. Exit here, came the command – I-376 East. “Copy”, the wistful driver silently thought. The numb pilot steered the metal beast under the overpass and merged onto a multi-lane artery. As the morning sun beamed through the windshield and glistened off the tears in his eyes, he waved weakly to the iconic campus landmark in the distance and trained a zombie stare on the highway ahead. He was headed home without a piece of his heart.

Five miles east of Monroeville, now on a long stretch of open road and alone with inescapable thoughts, the grip of all this took hold. His life with her flashed through his mind. The precious, swaddled human handed to him for the first time. A massive pack of diapers teetering atop a shopping cart. The pitter-patter of little feet throughout the house. Bedtime stories. Sand castles. Nursery rhymes blasting through the car speakers. A television dominated by a constant loop of Hanna Montana. Tear-drying, reassurances, encouragement and, when all else failed, long hugs. Tee Ball, Girl Scouts, art and dance lessons, dentist and doctor appointments, band concerts, field hockey games, homework assistance, Taylor Swift sing-alongs and school plays.

Memories...all still so vivid, many now well over a decade old.

Which seems, in a desperate way, utterly impossible. But it's just time, man - the relentless tick-tock, tick-tock, tick-tock of time. The more living crammed into the seconds and the more years trailing off your stern, the faster it passes. Some contend it's an allusion, but, with all apologies to the orderly cosmos and precision clock manufacturing, his perception is his reality.

A slow and steady summer farewell had led to this day of final departure and a lonely ride home. And what awaits his heavy heart there? An empty room and remnants of a life – one he cherished – now forever changed. The gray-bearded domestic warrior knows, though, that with every closed door, life opens another. Things will re-route. His muddled

brain chemistry will flush out. The future holds exciting new experiences in his parental journey with her. This transition is part of the natural order, something to celebrate. But in this moment, he is stuck in the hallway, somewhere between the door (and life) he just exited, and whatever doors (portals to the future) will open.

Near Boonsboro, as he sorted through pieces of his tattered heart and mind, Tom Brady arrived (psychologically, not physically) with more positive thoughts. Brady's tenure in New England had started not long before his fatherhood arrived and unceremoniously ended a year ago. After 20 years with one team, in one system and playing for one coach, after six Super Bowl wins and a peerless legacy, the brutal business of the NFL shredded the fairy tale: the Patriots cut Brady loose.

What must have that felt like? Did Brady feel emotionally gutted like a melancholy father after a college drop-off? Did Brady have, figuratively if not literally, a similar, brain-scrambling lonely drive away from Patriots headquarters wondering how he would re-wire his life?

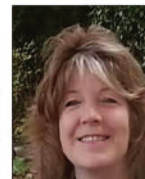
Life often follows its own script, a fact Brady, given his subsequent success with Tampa Bay, apparently embraced. Among his many accomplishments, this - leaving behind the only thing he had known professionally and winning a Super Bowl in another town, with another coach, 50 new teammates and at the ancient football age of 43 - has to be the most impressive. For a heart-heavy dad, Brady's mental pivot offered a timely tonic. Football doesn't root quite as deeply into the psyche as parenthood, but Brady's seamless reemergence in Tampa is relevant. Facing complete strangitude, the dude flew south, switched uniforms and carried on.

As Leonardtown and the end of a difficult drive neared, he pondered his evolving role as a father in context of a jersey switch. He doubted he would wear his new colors as well as Brady, but a “Super Bowl title” wasn't his goal; for the moment, he would settle for a respite from the ache in his heart.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



Chicken Little, the “sky” is falling...

You all know how excited we have been about getting our new bedroom furniture – it was a long time coming. The process is not over yet, because we are still waiting for a replacement headboard and a board on the bottom. We have enjoyed our month of finally having every piece. We were both tired of not sleeping in our bedroom. My husband and I love opening the drawers and smelling the cedar drawers and new furniture smells. Having a brand new vinyl wood flooring and new paint has completed our dream. I still haven't re-framed and put up a yellow rose picture I have loved forever, or a few other things yet. My husband got all his hang up clothes back in the closet, and it was nearing the last few finishing touches when.....

Disaster struck. It would be us if anyone I guess. This past Saturday my hardworking pool man got home and thought he would take a nap before we decided our plans for the evening. He was sleeping happily, Mindy was out in the living room on her new, large plush doggie bed, I was on the couch just thinking well, if Robert is taking an afternoon nap, then maybe I should just lay my head down on the couch pillow for a few minutes too, which quickly lead to a drowsy state.

Though both upstairs air-conditions, and both TVs were on, I heard a thud from somewhere in the house, then I heard help, help. I was a little drowsy, got my feet caught up in my blanket on my race to our bedroom. It took me a few minutes to process what I saw and was stunned for a minute as I looked at the bed, the surroundings, barely making out Robert under a huge, heavy sheet of ceiling board and tons of old, blown attic insulation. He was stunned too, and finally said, “get this off me”.

Nothing like being sound asleep and having a ceiling fall on you. I had no idea how heavy that piece was but was able to slide it off of him enough so he could climb out from under it. The fan housing and blades shot off to the front of the floor. Of course, the ceiling piece fell on his side with the shoulder that he is so much pain from and is having surgery on in December. I kept thinking how lucky he didn't happen to be laying on his back or it would have broken his nose. Or if it had been bedtime all of us would have been there, and Mindy could have been hurt badly or killed. While Robert stood there stunned shaking loads of insulation off his pillow and himself, I ran back to get my phone and take a couple photos. I had a momentary regret that I didn't get



a photo of him underneath the ceiling, but realized that would have been rude, though I wish I had now just in case there is a problem later with his lungs or something else. I know he must have gasped when it happened and probably sucked in a ton of the stinky insulation. We both just stared at all the insulation that covered the bed, the floor, and everything in the room, shaking our heads in disbelief.

Then we got to work. I got my N95 masks from my workshop, he got gloves, a broom and dustpan and we tried to get as much as the floating fluffy piles of insulation we could in bags just so we didn't have to walk in it too much. As I was sweating because of the heat from the attic and having our deck door open the insulation stuck all over me, and Robert, and the attic and insulation smell was awful. We notice that the part of the ceiling nearest the hallway door was in danger of coming down next, so Robert got a long 2 x 4 and he wedged the ceiling up, having to unfortunately use the mallet towards the bottom on the nice new floor. We did as much as we could, and shut the door, realizing Homeowner's Insurance could take it from there. Then it was shower time.

We thought that the drawers and closed closet doors would protect all the clothes, but my husband found that the insulation dust was everywhere. What bothered him the most, was when he opened one of his drawers, that the new drawer/furniture smell was gone. When I got the photos on Facebook after a bit, we had all sorts of comments, and of course, Chicken Little came up – which summed up our afternoon. Needless to say, we have a lot to go through yet, and the insurance adjuster comes tomorrow. The weirdest thing? – She said this is her 3rd case like this in Southern Maryland...maybe Chicken Little was right.

To each new day's crazy adventure, Shelby

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

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FIVE TIPS ON HOW NOT TO GET SUED IN BUSINESS

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

First, the title of this article is a misnomer. Everyone can get sued. Anyone can sue you. The issue is not whether someone can sue you, it's whether you will prevail because the procedures you have put into place protect you. Common sense is your best guide to not getting sued. This article will focus on FIVE tips to protect yourself against the most problematic areas business owners face.

TIP #1: IF IT'S A BUSINESS AND NOT A HOBBY, TREAT IT LIKE ONE

Stay away from being a sole proprietorship if you are thinking about creating a business. A sole proprietorship is fine if you have a hobby. A business structure like a limited liability company or a corporation is relatively easy to create and, once in place, that structure will protect your personal assets from a business lawsuit. What does that mean? If someone wants to sue your business, that person can only reach the assets of the business, not your personal assets. To protect yourself and your family, make sure you have correctly created the business structure. This requires, by the way, that you use a professional to help you set up your business.

Business structures are not one size fits all. If you have a spouse or a partner you want to work with as a business owner, your basic corporate documents must address what happens if one of you dies or is disabled. The basic corporate LegalZoom documents will not help you. Go to a professional for the creation of the business and get it done the right way.

Does just creating the correct business structure protect you from suit? No. Especially not if you have not followed customary business procedures. The way for an adversary to get to your personal assets is to prove that you have not run the business like a business. This is called "piercing the corporate veil". Basically, if you have all your business financial statements on the backs of envelopes, your contracts are oral, your "business" bank account is actually your personal bank account, and you do not refer to your formal business name when conducting business, there is a good chance in a lawsuit you would not be able to protect yourself against piercing.

TIP #2: DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT USING ORAL CONTRACTS

Contracts, agreements, financial transactions must all be written and made easy to understand. The major problem all small service businesses face is not using a written contract with standard terms and conditions that relate to your business. It takes a professional to help you figure out what your standard contract should address. For example, if you are a wedding planner and your customer cancels the wedding, who pays you if your services have already been rendered. Unless you have a contract that is very specific about what happens if the wedding is cancelled, you are likely to be on your way to litigation. How easy it is to protect yourself with a visit to an attorney to create a contract for your business. The basic saying is don't be "penny wise and pound foolish." Pay money up front to get your business and contracts organized.

TIP #3: IF YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT, YOUR CUSTOMER CAN'T EITHER

This relates to the prior point about written contracts. Once you do obtain a standard contract, make sure it is written in standard

language. If you cannot understand the language, neither can your customer and misunderstanding the terms of your service is a clear path to litigation. This is true about more than just contracts. Be very clear with your customers about expectations. What are you saying you will do in terms of tasks. To what extent will your performance of your services depend on what the client does? What if the client doesn't do what they say they will? You can and should address these issues in your written contracts, but just in oral conversation, you need to make clear what you expect out of the relationship and the customer needs to know the ground rules of the engagement.

By the way, do not vary from your standard terms unless you specifically put that in writing. If your standard contract calls for a payment of a certain percentage of the bill upon certain events and you want to do something different with a customer, make sure you write it down and both of you sign it.

TIP #4: EMPLOYEES OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS?

One of the major issues to be determined by the new business owner is whether your employees are full-time employees who work only for you or whether they are independent contractors who also work for others. The Internal Revenue Service is focused on this issue because so many business owners have mistakenly classified their employees as independent contractors that catching and punishing employers for this is easy. This subject, alone, deserves an article. However, to summarize, if someone works for you full-time at your direction, they are employees and you must withhold taxes from their paychecks and pay over the taxes to the government. If they do not work for you full-time and collect salaries from other employers and meet other criteria, they can be classified as independent contractors. In that case, when you pay them, you do not withhold taxes. They are responsible for paying their own taxes. The IRS loves to challenge the classification of employees as independent contractors since most business owners do not back up their classifications with evidence and the IRS can easily re-classify employees, requiring the employer to pay back taxes on amounts not withheld that should have been, along with penalties and interest.

To protect yourself and your business, any employer who deals with independent contractors must have an independent contractor agreement signed by the contractor and employer that recites all the IRS guidelines and represents that the contractor and employer are following such guidelines.

TIP #5: PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

You are in business to make money. Not focusing on your form of invoices or requests for payment almost invites disputes with customers. How will you be paid for your services? What if the customer is not satisfied with your services and refuses to pay you. What will you do? You need to focus on a policy to use under all circumstances. Imagine all of the "horribles" that could occur with your customers and address how you will handle those up front directly to the customer. The rule to follow is no surprises for your customers or for you.

Join us for a free seminar on this and other matters at 8906 Bay Avenue, 11am on the third Wednesday of each month. Just call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.



The Way We Were...

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

The House of Three Bears Part Three

The "telescope house", better known as the "Three Bears House" on Bull Road has sat vacant since the Russell family moved out in 1999. While it isn't known when or by whom the house was built, it has been and, thus far at least, remains a well-known landmark in the County,



The Three Bears House today.

particularly for the residents of the Bull Road/Breton Bay area.

While Mrs. Mary Cusic, owner of the property and living next door, can be seen out on her lawn tractor tending the



grounds, nothing has been or will be done to the structure despite the interest in and affection shown to it by residents nearby. After twenty-two years of neglect, both the exterior and interior of the building have deteriorated and are likely beyond economic repair.

The exterior walls and roof have lost their integrity while on the inside in series of photos taken about five years ago, the erosion of floors, ceiling and walls is clearly evident. Plaster is falling from walls and ceiling. Wallpaper is peeling from the walls. Floors are growing weaker as weather and insects work their slow but persistent way through the woodwork.

In addition to the decline brought about by the elements and absence of continuing maintenance needed by all wooden structures, Mrs. Cusic reports

that a family of turkey vultures



One of several turkey vultures keeping an eye on the Three Bears House.

have taken up permanent residence in the Three Bears House. "Don't dare try to go in!" she warned me. "For one, the building isn't safe and for another, the vultures are nasty and will spit at you."

It appears that the decline and eventual loss of the Three Bears house is irreversible. We can only imagine what transpired within over its many years, it's unknown builder and early residents lost to history – a history that, thus far, has not been recovered.



Faye and Don Cusic at the front to the Three Bears House in earlier times water faucet - still in place today.

Yet from what this writer has learned, it holds endearing memories for many. "I didn't know until a few years ago that the house was famous or a landmark," Don Cusic told me during an interview. "It was just a place to live."

People in the area continue to glance at the Three Bears House as they drive, walk, or bicycle along Bull Road. It is a visible reminder of earlier times when life may have been harder but pleasures were often simpler.

When it is gone, we hope the land remains untouched for a while at least. No other house, no matter how grand, will be as elegant as the Three Bears House.

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, Sept. 2

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Action Lounge and Billiards,
25470 Point Lookout Road,
Leonardtown
Ticket Sales Start at 4pm, last sale at 7:45pm, drawing at 8pm
Every Thursday. Thank you for your support and good luck!

American Legion Post 221 Meeting

21690 Colton Point Rd
Avenue
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM
American Legion Post 221 invites all active duty personnel and veterans to join us for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00pm. Visit our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Post-221-105239187962458/ or e-mail us at alpost221@aol.com. Call 301*848*9458 for more information.

Friday, Sept. 3

Old Jail Museum Extended Hours for Leonardtown First Fridays

The Old Jail Museum
Court House Road
Leonardtown

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

The Old Jail Museum, a popular landmark in the heart of Leonardtown, will be open to the public during Leonardtown First Fridays. Come take a tour of this unique and fascinating historic site while enjoying Leonardtown First Friday that evening.

Numerous safety precautions will be enacted during the available hours, and staff will be on-hand to showcase the Old Jail and its interesting story.

This location also serves as the official Leonardtown Visitor Center. Information and literature about Leonardtown and area attractions, activities, dining, events and much more is available.

A museum store is on-site with local products, books, apparel, kids items and more for purchase.

Admission is FREE and open to all ages. Walk-ups only.

Leonardtown Summer Music Festival

Leonardtown Square
22670 Washington Street
Leonardtown

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Higher Standards

Higher Standards returns to Leonardtown for Arts & Entertainment First Friday on Friday, September 3rd. Enjoy smooth jazz stylings during this popu-

lar annual event that celebrates Leonardtown's anniversary of becoming the only Arts & Entertainment District in Southern Maryland.

Saturday, Sept. 4

Donations Wanted Save the Farm

Summerseat Farm
26655 Three Notch Road
Mechanicsville

Help us 'Save the Farm' by donating items for our Sep 18 yard sale: bring to Summerseat Farm on 11 and 3 or call 301-769-4353 for special arrangements. Accepting antiques, tools, lawn mowers, garden tools, household items (no clothes). The sale will be Sat, Sep 18, 8 to 1. Summerseat Farm is a non-profit, completely supported by volunteers. See website for more information: Summerseat.org

Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open House

18287 Cherryfield Rd
Drayden

1:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Visit one of the nation's best-preserved one-room African American schoolhouses one Saturday of each month. Check out the renovated schoolhouse and learn about its rich history and importance to education in St. Mary's County. Staff will be available at the school during this time to answer any questions and provide information.

The Museum Division also offers special programs for school, bus and other tour groups who would like to visit the site. Visitors who would like to see the schoolhouse outside open house hours can contact Piney Point to arrange a visit at 301-994-1471.

Sunday, Sept. 5

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

St. John's Catholic Church
43900 St Johns Rd
Hollywood

Knights of Columbus Breakfast re-

turns from 8:00 until 11:00a.m. in the Parish Center.

The usual fare of sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns and pancakes with toppings.

Carry outs available as well. Families are welcome. The cost is your donation.

Play chess for fun

The Taphouse
23418 Three Notch Road
California

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

We're looking for friendly competition with all skill levels of chess players. This is not an organized league or sponsored event. Please bring your chess set.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Cornhole Tournament

St. John's School
43900 St Johns Rd
Hollywood

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Join us for competitive and social tournaments. We'll have prizes, raffles, food, drinks, and more! Cost is \$40 per social team, \$60 per competitive team. Competitive check-in begins at 10 a.m. Social check-in begins at 2 p.m. Sponsorships available! Contact sjscornholetournament@sjshollywood.org.

Taste of St. Mary's

Leonardtown Square
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Rain or shine! Family event. Activities for the kids. Classic car show and free entertainment. Samples of restaurant and catering specialties will be available for purchase. Admission and parking (in designated areas) are free. Chance to win gift certificates from area restaurants and caterers. Drawings to be held all day at the event. For more information email info@smcchamber.com, call 301-737-3001, or visit our website: smcchamber.com.

Pet

OF THE WEEK

MEET CALLIOPE



To sit with a dog on a hillside on a glorious afternoon, is to be back in Eden, where doing nothing was not boring-it was Peace.

-Milan Kundera

Hello, my beautiful name is Calliope. I'm a really SWEET, AFFECTIONATE, CARING pup. I love EXPLORING, getting BELLY RUBS, and giving KISSES! The wonderful TCAS gang say I'm VERY SMART and that I already know my basic commands. I've got the LOVE and the SMARTS all in one wonderful package! I'm only a YEAR AND A HALF OLD and ALL READY to be part of YOUR FAMILY! Hurry and email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP! BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

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

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Legal Notice

IN THE MATTER OF HANNA ELAINE GILPIN
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO HANNA LANETTE GILPIN
BY AND THROUGH THEIR MOTHER/FATHER/GUARDIAN
LEONARD JORDAN KELLY-GILPIN

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-21-571

Notice (Minor)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name from HANNA ELAINE GILPIN to HANNA LANETTE GILPIN. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: Changing her middle name.

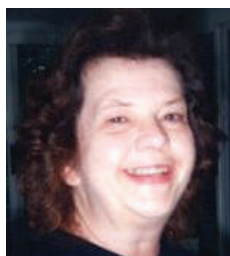
Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 09/25/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

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

In Remembrance

Beverly Ann Haack



Beverly Ann Haack from Mechanicsville, passed away August 24, 2021. Her husband Russ was by her side.

Born June 5, 1944 to Dottie and John Bucher from Rockville/Wheaton area in Maryland. She went to Wheaton High School. Later she worked at Montgomery ward where she met the love of her life, Russ Haack.

On March 20, 1965 the love birds were married. Through the years they had 2 children, Eddie and Beth.

Beverly worked at Piccowaxen Middle School in the cafeteria. After that she worked at McKay's in the deli.

She loved cross stitch, going to the movies, having lunch and shopping dates with her daughter. But the thing she loved the most was spending time with her grandson Alex Thompson.

Beverly was a fantastic wife, mom, grandmother, sister and friend.

Beverly is survived by her husband Russ; daughter Beth Thompson; son in law Andy Thompson; son Eddie (Dottie, 2 grand kids); brothers Skip Bucher (Kris) and Bob (Marlease); niece Terri Bliley and many nephews, great nephews, great nieces and brother-in-law Ed Haack.

In lieu of flowers, if you wish, make a donation to American Heart Association, in her name, Beverley Ann Haack.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Keith Allan Swann



Keith Allan Swann, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on August 20, 2021 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonard-

town, MD.

He was born on September 21, 1972 in Washington, D.C. to Christopher and Karen Virginia (Langdon) Swann.

Keith was a simple man who didn't need much in life but to see his Heavenly Father approve and smile at his handiwork. His whole

life revolved around his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and he strove to make Him happy in everything he accomplished. Through his relationship with the Lord, God blessed Keith in all he put his hands to. Keith grew in much wisdom through the Lord's help; developing skills far beyond his official trade which was a Master Electrician. He loved worshipping God, whether he was playing drums or singing while playing guitar, he delighted in giving praise to his Maker. Keith cared a lot for restoring broken down and forgotten things. He also carried this mentality in his ministry to others. Whenever he wasn't working on one of his many projects in the shop or fixing up his foxbody mustang, Keith loved being out on the water and crabbing. It was his favorite pastime. The memories of Keith will be forever cherished by his family and also those he was around and influenced. We know that the restorative work of God through Keith does not stop here with his death, and we take comfort knowing that Keith has finally made his journey to paradise in Heaven with his Savior.

In addition to his parents and his loving wife, Angela he is survived by his children, Mark, David and Micah Swann, all of Lexington Park, MD and his brother Brian Swann of Severn, MD.

Family will receive friends for Keith's Life Celebration Service on Friday, September 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. with a Funeral Service at 12:00 noon, celebrated by Mike Ward, at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will follow at 1:00 p.m., at Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Gustave William Lambeck



Gustave William Lambeck also known as "Gus", 82, of Great Mills, MD, passed away peacefully at his home on

Thursday, August 26, 2021. He was born on March 17, 1939, in Philadelphia, PA, to the late Dorothy Anna and Gustave Lambeck. He graduated from North East High School in Philadelphia, PA in 1956. Gus married Carol Marie (Hutt) Lambeck on April 30, 1960

at the Nativity Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, PA and were blessed with two children, Michael Frederick Lambeck and Debra Lambeck Somerville. Together Gus and Carol shared 61 wonderful years of marriage.

In 1956 he joined the United States Navy Reserves. A year later he enlisted as Active Duty. He was also associated with the VP Navy since 1962 when he received orders off the USS Kitty Hawk (CVA-63) to VP-9 which had P2V-7 aircraft. At that time is which he then was a part of the transition into P-3A's in 1964. From that point on he was an avid supporter of the VP Navy vice the haze gray and Underway Navy. In 1966 he became a member of Project ANEW crew at the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Maryland. Where he was a part of the testing and development on the specifications for the P-3C aircraft platform. He flew many hours on 148883 which is now parked on the Naval Air Station Patuxent River. This than lead to the testing of the very first P-3C aircraft built for the U.S Navy. Since those times that he then after work with the P-3C Platform up until his retirement date. One of the saddest part of

his career was in 1964 with VP-9 when his flight crew was involved in an aircraft accident. One of the highlights was setting a World's Turboprop Distance Record on the P-3C Orion (156512) from Atsugi, Japan to Patuxent River, Maryland in 1971. Obtaining an altitude of 49,000 plus feet. This was both an altitude and long distance world's record for a heavy weight turboprop aircraft at that time. He proudly served until retirement as Master Chief on March 31, 1978 after 22 years of service. He had 50 plus years of being employed by the U.S Navy as a military service member, a civil servant and as a defense contractor. On January 7, 2011 he officially entered retirement.

Gus loved being part of something larger than himself, contributing to many organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Trinity Lutheran Church, Thrivent and Christmas in April, just to name a few. His favorite past times included spending hours on his computer creating a spreadsheet of some sort, playing with his train collection, and watching countless Hallmark movies. Gus had a heart of gold and a soft-spot for his family



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FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR TWO GENERATIONS

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In Remembrance

and he enjoyed making memories with them. Carol and Gus always looked forward to making trips back to Pennsylvania to visit family. He enjoyed looking at maps, calculating the average gas mileage, and the mile marker that was coming up next. His long time pet companion Champ was never too far and you could find him sitting in the back seat. Gus didn't have a particular football team he rooted for it usually was any team that was playing against the Washington Redskins.

He was a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. In addition to his beloved wife he is survived by his two children, Michael Lambeck (Nicole) of Great Mills, MD, and Debra Somerville (Jeffrey) of Chaptico; two grandchildren Brittany Lambeck (Sheron), Michael Lambeck; two adored great-granddaughters Mckenzie Runnels and Brynn Chase and one special Son-in-law Jeffrey Somerville who jokingly referred to Gus as the "old timer". He also leaves behind his brothers Robert Lambeck (Phyllis) and Carl Lambeck (Sheila), his brother-in-law Albert Wegler; his sister, Dorothy Stevenson (Joe) and sister in law Barbara Stauffer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dorothy and Gustave Lambeck, his brother William Lambeck, and sister-in-law Mildred Cronrath (Walt) whom he shared a special bond with and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, September 2, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., with a Funeral Service celebrated by Pastor Matthew Borrasso at 11:00 a.m., all at Trinity Lutheran Church, 46707 S. Shangri-La Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653. Interment will be at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Dr. Michael Warren Owens



Dr. Michael Warren Owens, 53, of St. Inigoes, MD passed away suddenly on August 21, 2021 at Med-Star Georgetown University Hospital with his loving wife at his side.

He was born on October 27, 1967 in Leonardtown, MD to Robert

and Gayle Owens of St. Mary's City, MD.

Mike is a graduate of St. Michael's School in Ridge, MD and a 1985 graduate of St. Mary's Ryken High School. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He began his career working for the Department of Defense for the next nine years. In 1990 he earned his Captain's License for the Coast Guard and spent over 25 years running several charter boats. He was proud of his boat, the Gracie Gayle that he owned and operated with his brother, Steve. In 1997 he continued his education at Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, graduating in May 2001. He loved working at all three of his locations, his team while taking care of his patients. He was a former member of the Ridge Rescue Squad. On October 12, 2013 he married the love of his life, Lindsey Owens, in St. Inigoes, MD. Together they celebrated over seven wonderful years of marriage. His hobbies including fishing, crabbing, and hunting. He loved to cook, especially homemade pizza in his pizza oven. He also liked to smoke meats, with his specialty being jerky.

In addition to his parents and wife, Mike is also survived by his children, Justin Owens and Rachael Owens of Leonardtown, MD, and Scott Massey, Jr. of St. Inigoes, MD; his siblings, Steven Owens of Ridge, MD and Marsha Thomas (Tim) of Tall Timbers; his nieces and nephews: Isabella Owens, Michael Owens, Natalie Thomas, and Gracie Thomas; his aunts and uncles: Jeff & Phoebe Williams, Phyllis Cantrell, Jack Owens, Joe Owens, Ralph/Alice Owens, Greg/Andi Owens; and many extended family and friends.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, September 2, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., with prayers recited at 7:00 p.m., at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 16566 Three Notch Road, Ridge, MD 20680. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, September 3, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michael's Church. Interment will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Michael's Catholic School, P.O. Box 259, Ridge, MD 20680.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Christine Lorraine "Chris" Komar

Christine Lorraine "Chris" Kom-



ar, 53, of Charlotte Hall, MD passed away on August 23, 2021 at UM Charles Regional Medical Center. She was born on September 11, 1967 and was the devoted daughter of Lillian (Michaliga) Komar and the late John Komar.

A 1985 graduate from St. Mary's Ryken High School, Chris went into the information technology sector as a sales representative. She made so many wonderful friends throughout her career that became more like family members.

Chris was a dedicated mother to her three (3) children, Mary Ashley, Matthew, and Casey. Family meant everything to her and spending time with her kids always put a smile on her face. As a single mother, she cherished the tight family unit the four of them possessed. Chris was always available for a hug, tough love or just a shoulder to rest your head upon. A truly gentle soul with a smile that could light of the darkest day.

An avid sports fan, Chris rooted for the Baltimore Ravens and proudly wore her purple on game days. As the seasons changed, she would Rock the Red for the Washington Capitals and could yell the loudest for a bad call. She was a supportive fan and loved to talk sports. She looked forward to the cooler weather and afternoons with friends watching football and hockey. Her caring heart always had a soft spot for animals. She loved all of her fur babies and supported the local shelters.

A beautiful woman with a heart of gold, who supported her children and friends and would give you the shirt off her back or last dollar, has gone too soon. Although her presence will be missed, the true glory of her spirit has left an imprint on the souls of all those she touched throughout her life. May the sun shine bright and memories warm your heart as you remember the blessing of being her family and friends.

Chris is survived by her mother, Lillian Komar and children, Matthew Hunt, Casey Hunt, and Mary Ashley Brubaker (Komar); and many extended family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her father, John Komar.

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

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

Fritz A. Jones



Fritz A. Jones, 76 of Lexington Park, MD passed away on August 24, 2021 at Solomon's Nursing Center.

He was born on January 31, 1945 in Monterey Park, California to the late Thomas A. Jones and Jennie J. (Rios) Jones.

Fritz grew up surrounded by the beauty of the Alaskan terrain. He graduated from Ben Eielson High School in 1964. Upon graduation he was drafted in the U.S. Army and served 3 years in Vietnam. After finishing his mandatory enlistment, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1968 which he proudly served for 20 years until his retirement at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD. After studying Aviation at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, he earned his Associate Degree in Aviation Maintenance Science in 1991 and was later employed by the U.S. Government. He was a member of the VFW and the American Legion. He married the love of his life, Linda S. Jones on July 14, 1971 in Leonardtown, MD. They enjoyed traveling together to the west coast, especially the coastline of the scenic state of California and the beautiful landscapes of Moose Creek, Alaska. Family and friends were very important to him and he was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He was kind man that would lend a hand to anyone in need. He enjoyed being outdoors and kept his yard looking well-manicured. He enjoyed watching football and cheering on the underdogs.

He is survived by his children, Christopher M. Jones (Virginia) of Upper Marlboro, MD, and Dana M. Whorl of California, MD; his brother, Tony A. Jones of Skiatook, OK; two grandchildren, Faith E. Whorl and Matthew S. Connelly. Along with two close friends of 40 years, Glen Olson and Nick Potts. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and his sister-in-law, Dearlene Jones.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St Mary's in the memory of his loving wife Linda S. Jones.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

TSG Peter Hartmut Krex (Ret.)



TSG Peter Hartmut Krex (Ret.) 76, passed away August 19, 2021, at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. He was born January

22, 1945, in Gorldsorf, Germany to Walter and Gertrude Krex. He was one of (2) children.

Peter's parents immigrated to America in 1953. He was eight years old. In 1965 he joined the United States Army and served in the Vietnam War as a Door Gunner on a Huey Helicopter before receiving his honorable discharge in 1967. He then proudly served in the United States Air Force and raised to the rank of Technical Sergeant before retiring. Altogether he served a total of 33 years in the military.

He then met the love of his life, Galina. He met Galina through mutual friends, and they dated for one year before marrying in 2006. They spent 15 wonderful years together. He was an avid wood and metal craftsman and loved to spend time doing projects around his home.

He is survived by his wife Galina, brother Hans Krex, son Keith Krex, daughters Kristy Krex-Dimier and Lisa Parum. He leaves his three grandchildren, Courtney, Logan and Damian as well as one niece Jennifer and three nephews John, David and Brian. He is preceded in death by both of his parents, Walter Krex and Gertrude Stielow Krex.

The family is receiving friends and family for a graveside service September 10, 2021, at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Hwy, Cheltenham, MD 20623, at 1:45 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Homes for Our Troops at <https://www.hfotusa.org>.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Benjamin Valentine Jett, Sr

Benjamin Valentine Jett, Sr., 83, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on Saturday, August 21, 2021 at the Hospice House in Callaway, MD with his family by his side. He was born on February 14, 1938



(hence his middle name) in Washington, DC to the late Charles Samuel Jett and Martha MacKenzie.

Ben married the love of

his life, Kay Elizabeth Plauger, in November, 1958 and together they spent fifty-eight (58) wonderful years of marriage together before her untimely passing on March 9, 2017. There wasn't a day that passed, that Ben didn't miss his forever love.

A wonderful father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Ben loved his family deeply. They were his greatest joy and spending time together always brought a huge smile to his face. He enjoyed attending events to watch them play sports or perform their varied talents. Ben was also an advocate for animals and volunteered for over ten (10) years at Tri-County Animal Shelter. His love for the animals could be seen in the care and attention that he paid them all.

As a younger man, Ben loved to go camping on Chincoteague Island with his wife and children. They would all join in at the RV and spend a few days splashing in the water and fishing/crabbing on the piers. As he aged, he liked to spend his time tinkering in his shed working on his lawn mower and anything else needing his attention.

A great man has left his family to remember his caring and loving nature, infectious laughter and bright smile, while he has reunited in his heavenly home with his wife and all of those who left too soon.

Ben is survived by his children, Carol Ludka of Huntingtown, MD, Benjy Jett of Newburg, MD, Kevin Jett of Mechanicsville, MD, Daryl Jett of Lusby, MD, Debbie Wood of Johnson, TN, David Jett of Germantown, MD and Wanda Greenwell of Mechanicsville, MD. He was the proud grandfather to nineteen (19) grandchildren and twenty-one (21) great-grandchildren. He was also a loving brother and was a very proud uncle to many, many nieces and nephews (too many to name). He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Kay Elizabeth Jett and his parents, Charles and Martha Jett.

The family will receive friends for Ben's Life Celebration on Thursday, September 2, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622.

Interment will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. at Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

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

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

Jeremy Christian Chism



Jeremy Christian Chism, 50, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on August 26, 2021 at his home surrounded by his wife and sons.

He was born on March 4, 1971 in Fort Wayne, IN to the late Kenon Taylor Chism, Jr. and Antoinette Cocorullo Chism.

Jeremy married his wife Kelly Dingle on October 2, 1999 and they have celebrated 21 years of marriage. For the past 20 years, he was employed at Pearl Works, LTD. in Charlotte Hall, MD, as a CAD/CAM operator/manager, and considered all who worked with him part of his family. He enjoyed serving his community as an EMT-IV Tech with the Second District Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad as an EMT. His greatest joy was spending time with his wife, sons, and pets. He also loved playing on-line video games, and established special and lasting friendships with his fellow gamers. Jeremy had a deep love and appreciation for music. He enjoyed spending time reminiscing with his siblings at family functions, and especially enjoyed his many fishing adventures with his brother, Jason, and childhood friends. The trips to Hawaii, Alaska, Pennsylvania and New York were adventures he talked of often and remembered fondly. He and Kelly were planning to eventually retire to Hawaii. He will be remembered for the pride he had in his boys, his dedication to the interests he valued, and for the kindnesses he bestowed on those he loved.

Jeremy is survived by his beloved wife, Kelly and their children: Christian Taylor Chism and Travis Richard Chism, both of Leonardtown, MD; his siblings Lori Chism Pick (Gary) of Alexandria, VA; Teri Chism (Wayne Lanham) of Winchester, VA; Kenon Chism (Shirley) of Oak Island, NC; Sheryl Chism Campbell of Woodbridge, VA; Carolyn Chism and

Jason Chism both of Alexandria, VA; Kelly's family and extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Family will receive friends on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., with a Service of Remembrance at 3:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Immediately following, will be a celebration of life at Second District Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, 45245 Drayden Road, Valley Lee, MD 20692.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Second District Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, PO Box 1, Valley Lee, MD 20692.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Mi Van Nguyen



Mi Van Nguyen, 97, of Lexington Park, MD passed away surrounded by his loving family on August 31, 2021 at his home. Born

on December 31, 1924 in Sa Gon Vietnam, Mi was the loving son of the late Tho Thi Mai Nguyen and Thoi Van Nguyen. Mi was the loving husband of Ung Thi Vo Nguyen whom he married in Cù Chi Saigon, Vietnam. Mi is survived by his children Tam X Nguyen (Khiêm) of Wichita, KS, Tan Nguyen (Cuc) of Portland, MI, Hùng Nguyen (Phuong) of Lexington Park, MD, Kim Duong (Hoa) of Mechanicsville, MD, Thinh Nguyen (Hok) of Lexington Park, MD, Thuan Nguyen (Hong) of Lexington Park, MD, 12 grandchildren, four great grandchildren. Mi worked as a farmer in the agriculture industry.

The family will receive friends on Friday, September 3, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD where a funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM in the funeral home chapel. Interment will follow in Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Great Mills, MD.

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

Arrangements by the Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A.



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