

FREE

**COVID CASES
SKYROCKET**

**DANTE CHILDERS:
FIRST BABY OF 2022**

**DEER SEASON
REOPENS JAN. 7**

St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

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First Snow

Photo courtesy of Mike Kerr

CONTENTS

LOCAL 3

COMMUNITY 11

COPS AND COURTS 14

FEATURE 15

PAX RIVER 20

LEGALS 21

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS 24

CALENDAR 25

OBITS 27

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 30

FUN & GAMES 31



ON THE COVER 12
St. Mary's hit with snowfall, more expected.



LOCAL 5
St. Mary's welcome's the year's first baby.



COMMUNITY 13
Deer firearm season begins.

“IT IMPACTED US QUITE A BIT.”

ST. MARY'S DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR STEVE WALKER ON THE SNOWSTORM.

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>Thu 1/6 42° 29°F</p> <p>Mostly Cloudy</p>	<p>Fri 1/7 34° 20°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Sat 1/8 35° 26°F</p> <p>Sunny</p>	<p>Sun 1/9 50° 32°F</p> <p>Rain</p>
<p>Mon 1/10 38° 21°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Tue 1/11 30° 23°F</p> <p>Sunny</p>	<p>Wed 1/12 41° 30°F</p> <p>Mostly Sunny</p>	<p>Thu 1/13 43° 36°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>



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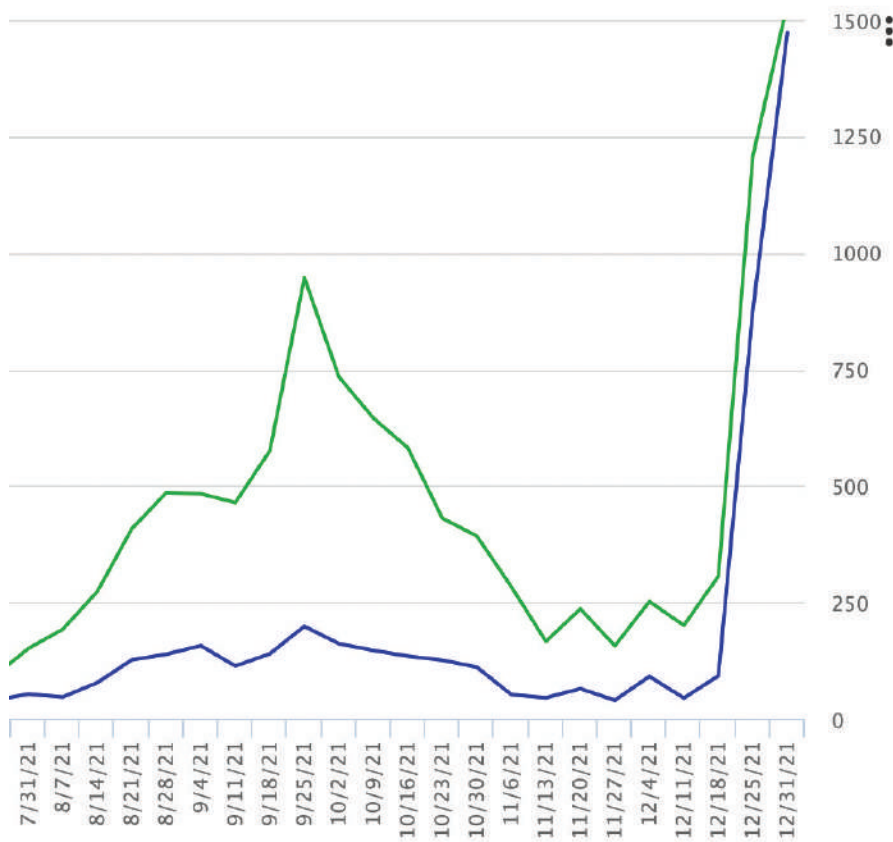
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For staff listing and emails, see page 23

COVID Cases Skyrocket

Weekly Case Rate Per 100,000 by Vaccination Status (Includes Lab Positive PCR & Antigen Tests)

This graph is updated weekly on Monday. The date listed represents the final day in a seven day period.



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

After several weeks of a lack of data due to a statewide computer system security breach, the St. Mary's County Health Department is again publishing the latest data on the spread of COVID-19 here.

The numbers do not look good. For the week of Dec. 25, during the Christmas holiday, the reported new case rate per 100,000 residents shot up to just over 300 for the 20-to-39 year old age group, the latest data shows.

The age group of 40 to 59 years old was much lower but still high at about 225 new cases per 100,000 residents.

The zero to 19 age group as well as the 65 and over age group had lower rates but they still showed sharp increases.

Some of the latest data also shows what may be a certain ineffectiveness of ant-COVID-19 vaccines.

Still, the latest data shows that the unvaccinated are hospitalized at a higher rate than the vaccinated, particularly those 60 years old and older.

Throughout the pandemic — once vaccines were widely available and administered — the majority of new cases have been unvaccinated but the last two weeks of data available from the health department shows the opposite.

For the week starting Jan. 1, with 1,699 new cases in St. Mary's, 1,030 of the new infections were fully vaccinated, while 669 were not.

This was a percentage split of 61 to 39.

For the prior week, of the 1,141 new cases, 529 were unvaccinated, according to the health department, while 612 were fully inoculated.

The weekly case rate for the week ending Dec. 31, according to health department data, shows that both vaccinated and unvaccinated infection rates are nearly identical at 1,473 and 1,534 respectively.

The cases statewide have risen sharply since the identification of the new Omicron variant of COVID-19. So far, a total of 181 county residents have died due to COVID-19.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Health Department vaccination line at Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department

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Commissioners May Support Neighboring Counties' Resolutions for Chesapeake Bay Span



By Guy Leonard
 Staff Writer

Three counties, Anne Arundel, Kent and Queen Anne's have thrown their support behind building a new span to replace the aging Chesapeake Bay Bridge in the same location and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County appear to agree.

The commissioners were to have voted to send a letter this week to Gov. Larry Hogan expressing their support for a new bridge in the same location but their meeting was cancelled due to the snowstorm.

The letter was set for a vote as part of the approval of the consent agenda.

"The Commissioners of St. Mary's County express their support for the Anne Arundel County, Kent County, and Queen Anne's County Resolutions concerning a replacement bridge at the current crossing of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge," the missive, which still needs to be voted on, reads.

The current bay bridge has two spans, one with two east-bound lanes and one with three west-bound lanes.

The new bridge would be a single span of eight lanes divided evenly back and forth across the Chesapeake Bay.

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge is about four miles in length, but it is aging badly.

"The existing bridge was designed for a 50-year life, but the eastbound span is nearly 70 years old, and the westbound span is nearly 50 years old," the St. Mary's

letter reads. "Consequently, maintenance needs and functional traffic management have become more challenging and expensive, as the bridge's age is beyond the original design intent, and future maintenance projects will have a significant, detrimental impact on available bridge capacity and operations."

The state has put forth an option to leave the original bridge as it is and build a third span, which has been widely opposed by many in the three counties to whom the St. Mary's commissioners seem ready to throw their support.

"The Commissioners of St. Mary's County support the Anne Arundel County, Kent County, and Queen Anne's County Resolutions in their finding that that the best solution is to maintain forward progress, support the investments already made along the US Route 50/301 corridor—specifically from I-97 to MD 404—and address the existing and future traffic capacity shortfalls by replacing the current two spans of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge with a single new replacement bridge, constructed at the same location, that includes a minimum of eight travel lanes," the yet to be approved missive reads.

In a later interview Commissioner Todd Morgan said he hoped the push to build a new bridge for the Chesapeake Bay would spark a renewed effort to get funding for a new Gov. Thomas Johnson Bridge between St. Mary's and Calvert over the Patuxent River.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

St. Mary's Digs Its Way Out of Year's First Snow



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The first snowstorm of the year, just days after the opening of 2022, hit Southern Maryland — and St. Mary's — hard, shutting down the county government and schools for two days, making some roads nearly impassable and leaving thousands without power.

The snow began to fall late into the night of Jan. 2 and continued on into the early afternoon of Jan. 3.

Many neighborhoods were blanketed in up to six inches of snow; the frozen precipitation was so heavy it bowed trees, snapped branches and caused an initial power outage for nearly 45,000 Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) customers throughout Southern Maryland.

By Jan. 5 SMECO still had 3,140 customers without power in Southern Maryland; St. Mary's still had 537 customers without power, according to the latest numbers from the utility provider.

Steve Walker, emergency services director, said the storm hit St. Mary's hard and it could get hit again this weekend.

"When it started snowing the

ground was warmer and we had just had some rain," Walker told The County Times. "So, I think we wound up getting about 10 inches of snow.

"There were some people reporting up to 12 inches."

Walker said areas such as John's Creek reported just under nine inches of snow, while Leonardtown and Park Hall reported about six inches of snow.

"At one time we had about 13,000 people without power," Walker said. "It [the snow fall] impacted us quite a bit."

The drop in temperatures the night of Jan. 4 had authorities concerned that some residents might not have enough heat available, but Walker said they received no emergency calls about the need to open a warming center, such as at one of the county's libraries.

"We had a great deal of concern about that," Walker said.

Walker warned that the county was set to receive more snow by Jan. 7, perhaps two-to-four inches worth.

"It could mean trees and power lines down again," said Walker.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

St. Mary's Welcomes First Baby of 2022



MedStar St. Mary's Hospital welcomed its first baby of 2022 in the early hours of Jan. 1. Dante Leon Childers, son of Samantha Garner and Anthony Childers of Bushwood, arrived at 8:47 a.m., weighing 8 pounds, 5 ounces, and measuring 22 inches long. Dante is the couple's first child, and he now shares a birthday with his maternal grandfather: Stephen Garner, a past First Baby of the New Year himself!

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Result Reporting Launched for At-Home COVID-19 Tests

St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) and PinPoint US, LLC are partnering to launch a new results reporting service for COVID-19 at-home tests, now available to St. Mary's County residents. The test results reporting service will allow community members to more easily report results from their at-home rapid antigen test to SMCHD. This allows SMCHD to help notify contacts and provide guidance and resources to prevent further spread of infection. Test reporting is conducted using the HIPAA-compliant PinPoint digital platform.

SMCHD will be distributing free at-home test kits through the drive-thru at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department on the following dates and times, while supplies last:

Saturday, January 8, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tests will be limited to two per person present, for individuals that live in St. Mary's County only. Community members are asked to please not arrive prior to scheduled distribution time.

"We are excited to provide St. Mary's County this test results reporting service," said Mr. Chris Nickerson, Pinpoint Managing Director. "Our partnership with the county health department has enabled us to lever-

age technology in innovative ways to protect health. This service creates a flexible platform for quickly uploading home test results and sharing real time guidance."

"As we expand access to take-home rapid antigen test kits, we need to make it easier for our community members to record and report their results," says Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "This also gives public health a better understanding of local burden of infection so we can provide guidance to infected community members, take data-driven action to protect our community, and prepare health care resources. We are grateful for our partnership with the PinPoint team in offering digital resources for our community as we work together to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic."

St. Mary's County residents can access the test results reporting service, and more information on COVID-19 testing at smchd.org/covid-19-testing.

For local COVID-19 updates, information, and data, please visit smchd.org/coronavirus or call SMCHD at (301) 475-4330.

*Joint Press Release:
PinPoint US, LLC*

St. Mary's County Health Department



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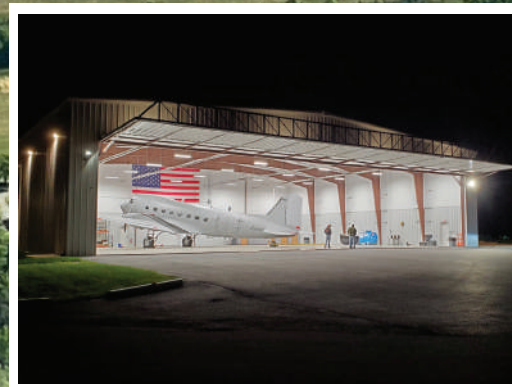
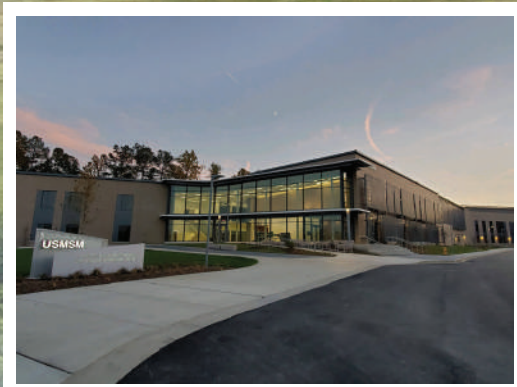
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Governor Hogan Declares 30-Day State of Emergency

Mobilizes 1,000 Members of Maryland National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 Surge

Governor Larry Hogan on Jan. 4 declared a 30-day state of emergency to take urgent short-term actions to combat the current COVID-19 surge and mobilized 1,000 members of the Maryland National Guard to assist state and local health officials with the ongoing pandemic response.

Today, Maryland hit a record high 3,057 COVID-19 hospitalizations, which is an increase of more than 500% in the last seven weeks. The newest projections show that COVID-19 hospitalizations could reach more than 5,000, which is more than 250% higher than the previous peak.

“The truth is that the next four to six weeks will be the most challenging of the entire pandemic,” said Governor Hogan. “All of the emergency actions we are taking today are to keep our hospitals from overflowing, to keep our kids in school, and to keep Maryland open for business, and we will continue to take whatever actions are necessary in the very difficult days and weeks ahead.”

In addition to the 30-day state of emergency, below is a list of the comprehensive actions Governor Hogan announced today:

Authorization of Maryland Secretary of Health to Regulate Hospital Personnel, Bed Space, and Supplies. To assist hospitals and nursing homes in addressing staffing shortages, Governor Hogan signed an executive order that authorizes the secretary of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to:

Direct and expedite the transfer of patients between facilities as necessary;

Establish alternate care sites, and allow the Health Services Cost Review Commission to set rates for them;

Allow interstate reciprocity for health care licenses;

Allow inactive health care practitioners to practice without reinstating their licenses;

Authorize graduate nurses to work at any health care facility and to provide full nursing services;

Allow health care practitioners to practice outside the scope of their licenses;

Regulate elective medical procedures as necessary; and

Issue directives to control and monitor COVID-19 in nursing homes and similar congregate care facilities.

Read the executive order.

Expansion of EMS Workforce. The governor enacted a second executive order that authorizes additional steps to further augment the state’s EMS workforce, which is on the front lines and also overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients.

Read the executive order.

Mobilization of 1,000 Members of the Maryland National Guard. At Governor

Hogan’s direction, 1,000 members of the Maryland National Guard are being mobilized to assist state and local health officials with the state’s emergency pandemic response.

Approximately 250 National Guard members will be deployed to support COVID-19 testing sites across the state, including at hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, and to assist with patient transport.

Additional National Guard soldiers will be immediately assigned to support operations at the two new state-run sites located at University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health in Bel Air and Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis.

Opening 20 New Hospital-Adjacent Testing Sites Across the State. To meet the rising demand for testing and divert people from visiting hospital emergency rooms to get COVID-19 tests, the Maryland National Guard will assist with opening 20 testing sites outside of hospitals across the state. To find a testing site, visit covidtest.maryland.gov. State health officials continue to urge residents not to visit an emergency room just to get a COVID-19 test.

Authorization of Booster Shots for 12- to 15-Year-Olds. Following the latest action from the FDA, the State of Maryland will now provide COVID-19 booster shots for children between the ages of 12 and 15. Marylanders are also now eligible to get a booster five months after completing their primary doses of the Pfizer vaccine. Previous guidance required eligible Marylanders to wait six months.

Read the updated MDH bulletin.

Calls For Federal Action on Monoclonal Antibodies, Rapid Tests, COVID-19 Antiviral Pills. Governor Hogan called on the Biden administration to take immediate action to:

Increase the distribution of monoclonal antibodies;

Expedite the approval of additional rapid tests for public use, and push to increase production and distribution to the states; and

Expedite the production and allocation of the new COVID-19 antiviral pills, which were recently authorized by the FDA.

Calls on Maryland Employers to Incentivize Vaccinations and Boosters, Encourage Masks or Face Coverings. Following yesterday’s announcement that the state is now providing two hours of paid leave for any employee who gets a booster shot, Governor Hogan urged other employers across Maryland to provide leave for vaccinations and boosters. With face coverings now required in all state government buildings in Maryland, the governor also urged more employers to encourage the wearing of masks or face coverings.



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Sidewalk Snow and Ice Removal Required

Clear sidewalks are a safety priority in the aftermath of a winter storm. The St. Marys County Sidewalk Snow Removal Ordinance requires property owners whose real property is adjacent to a public sidewalk to clear snow and ice within 72 hours after the storm's end. If a snowplow, vehicle or machine deposits snow, ice or other frozen precipitation onto the sidewalk adjacent to the property, the sidewalk must be cleared within 72 hours after the deposit.

If the snow, ice or other frozen precipitation cannot be removed entirely, home and business owners

must apply sand, abrasives, salt or deicing chemicals to make the sidewalk passable. Please don't shovel ice or snow from sidewalks into roadways to avoid additional safety concerns.

To see the St. Mary's County Sidewalk Snow Removal Ordinance, please visit [https://go.boarddocs.com/md/stmarysco/Board.nsf/files/9XUL7B520B1F/\\$file/Ordinance%20\(Snow%20Removal\)%20\(rev\)-signed.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/md/stmarysco/Board.nsf/files/9XUL7B520B1F/$file/Ordinance%20(Snow%20Removal)%20(rev)-signed.pdf).

For further information or details, please call the Department of Public Works & Transportation at (301) 475-4200, ext. 3527.

MedStar St. Mary's Modifies Visitation Policy



Due to an increase in COVID-19 cases, as of Tuesday, Dec. 28, our Emergency Department (ER) is now following YELLOW visitor restrictions, as outlined in our Visitor and Patient Support Persons Policy during COVID-19.

For the protection of patients and staff, no visitors are permitted in the ER. Exceptions include one parent or guardian to accompany children under 18 years of age; and/or one guardian or sup-

port person to accompany a patient with disabilities; and for end-of-life, palliative, and/or hospice care.

The YELLOW Visitor and Patient Support Persons Policy for all other departments/areas remains unchanged at this time.

For more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/3k4yKzh>

MedStar St. Mary's Hospital
Press Release

Clements Convenience Center to Close for Equipment Repair

Due to equipment failure, the Clements Convenience Center located at 24547 Horseshoe Road in Clements will close early Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022, and will remain closed until further notice.

The Department of Public Works & Transportation is working with the contractor to secure

replacement equipment and to reopen as soon as possible. We regret any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

For more information on alternate St. Mary's County convenience center locations, please visit <https://www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/FacilityLocations/>.

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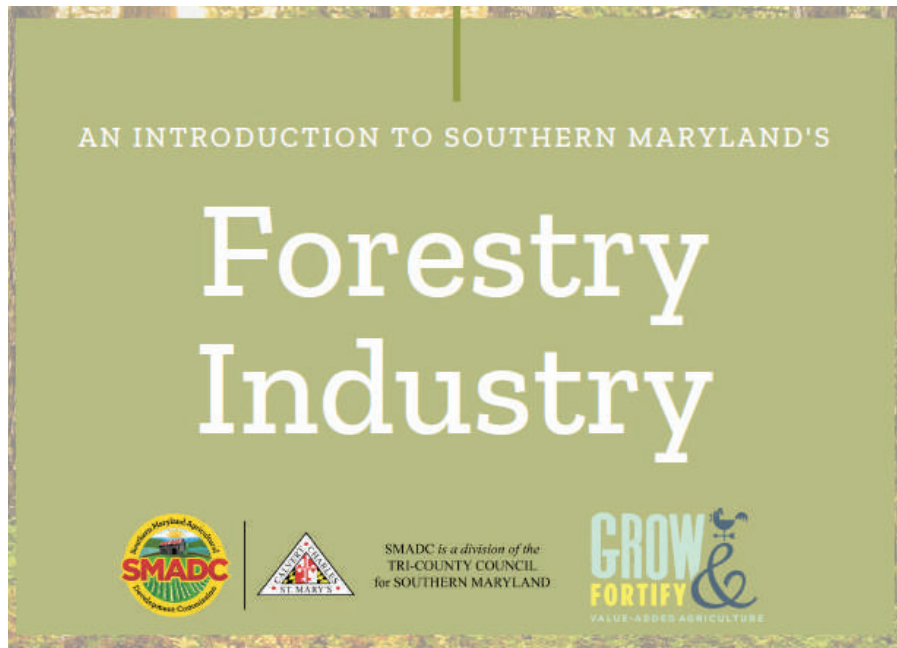
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New Guide Explores Forestry's Importance



Forestry grows food, creates hundreds of products and materials, supports the environment, and builds careers. Nearly 40 percent of Maryland is forested. As the single largest land use in the state, forests are vital to the health of the Chesapeake Bay and offer numerous environmental and economic benefits.

To promote and support this important industry, the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, and Grow & Fortify teamed up to develop a new resource guide and companion video 'An Introduction to Southern Maryland's Forestry Industry' to highlight how responsible forest management benefits our state's ecology and economy. The guide also encourages consumers to identify and seek out products made from locally sourced wood and explores forestry career opportunities.

Many climate experts believe that a responsibly managed forest offers one of the best and least expensive ways to mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon and using carbon-neutral renewable energy. "Forests also provide a viable timber market, incentivizing landowners to retain and care for their trees ensuring the overall health of their forests and habitat for wildlife," said Kelly Dudeck, Chief Strategy Officer at Grow & Fortify.

In 2017, the statewide forestry industry directly contributed

about \$4.2 billion and supported 18,046 jobs in the Maryland economy. In Southern Maryland, forestry businesses contribute over \$585 million to the state economy, supporting more than 3,000 jobs. "Forests provide much-needed employment and economic sustainability for our rural communities," commented Shelby Watson-Hampton, SMADC Director. "And here in Southern Maryland, we are very fortunate to have the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center, which offers students a wide variety of career-specific programs in natural resources, including forestry."

The new guide is available now as a digital educational resource for residents, entrepreneurs, and commercial interests. A brief video announcing the launch of the guide will be previewed for attendees at the 2021 Rural Maryland Council Summit in Annapolis on December 2, to be followed by the premiere launch of the full Forestry Industry Video on Friday, December 3, 2021. To view the forestry guide, forestry industry video and learn more about the important role forestry plays in Maryland, visit growandfortify.com or SMADC.com.

The 'Introduction to Southern Maryland's Forestry' Industry Guide and video were made possible in part by a Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund Grant (RMPIF) awarded to Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

Press Release from SMADC.

Eligibility Expanded for COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) has updated the eligibility criteria for local COVID-19 vaccine clinics in accordance with updated authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. All individuals 12 years of age and older are now eligible for a booster dose after completion of primary vaccination with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Additionally, a third additional primary series dose will now be available for immunocompromised children 5 through 11 years of age.

The following populations are now eligible to schedule an additional/booster COVID-19 vaccine dose through SMCHD:

- Individuals with compromised immune systems (Pfizer or Moderna recipients)
- 3rd additional dose, at least 28 days after 2nd dose (age 5+)
- 4th booster dose, 5 months (Pfizer) or 6 months (Moderna) after the 3rd additional dose (age 12+)
- When registering for a vaccine appointment, please mark "yes" to the immune-compromise question
- All individuals age 18 and older:
- Johnson & Johnson recipients, booster dose at least 2 months after 1st dose
- Pfizer recipients, booster dose at least 5 months after 2nd dose
- Moderna recipients, booster dose at least 6 months after 2nd dose

- Individuals age 12 - 17:
- Pfizer recipients, booster dose at least 5 months after 2nd dose
- Individuals ages 12 through 17 may only be registered for an SMCHD vaccine clinic offering the Pfizer vaccine. Adults (over age 18) do not have to receive the same type/brand of COVID-19 vaccine as their initial vaccination; each of the available COVID-19 vaccines may be "mixed and matched" for the additional/booster dose after completion of the primary vaccination. Children 5 through 11 years of age who are fully vaccinated and are not immunocompromised have not been approved by the FDA for a third dose at this time. The FDA will continue to review information and communicate with the public if data emerges suggesting booster doses are needed for this pediatric population.

For more information or to make a COVID-19 vaccination appointment, please visit smchd.org/covid-19-vaccine or call the SMCHD COVID-19 Community Hotline at (301) 475-4330 or St. Mary's County Library at (240) 523-3340. Please review the allergy guidance and the FAQs for SMCHD COVID-19 Vaccination prior to registering for a vaccine appointment.

For local COVID-19 updates, information, and data visit smchd.org/coronavirus.

Can't Find Us On The News Stand?

Find Us Online @

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For Daily News Updates On COVID-19 In St. Mary's And Calvert Counties Go To:

facebook.com/CountyTimesCalvert
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Finally a Snow Day



Mike Kerr, Valley Lee (contributed for free)



Audry McCray, Mechanicsville



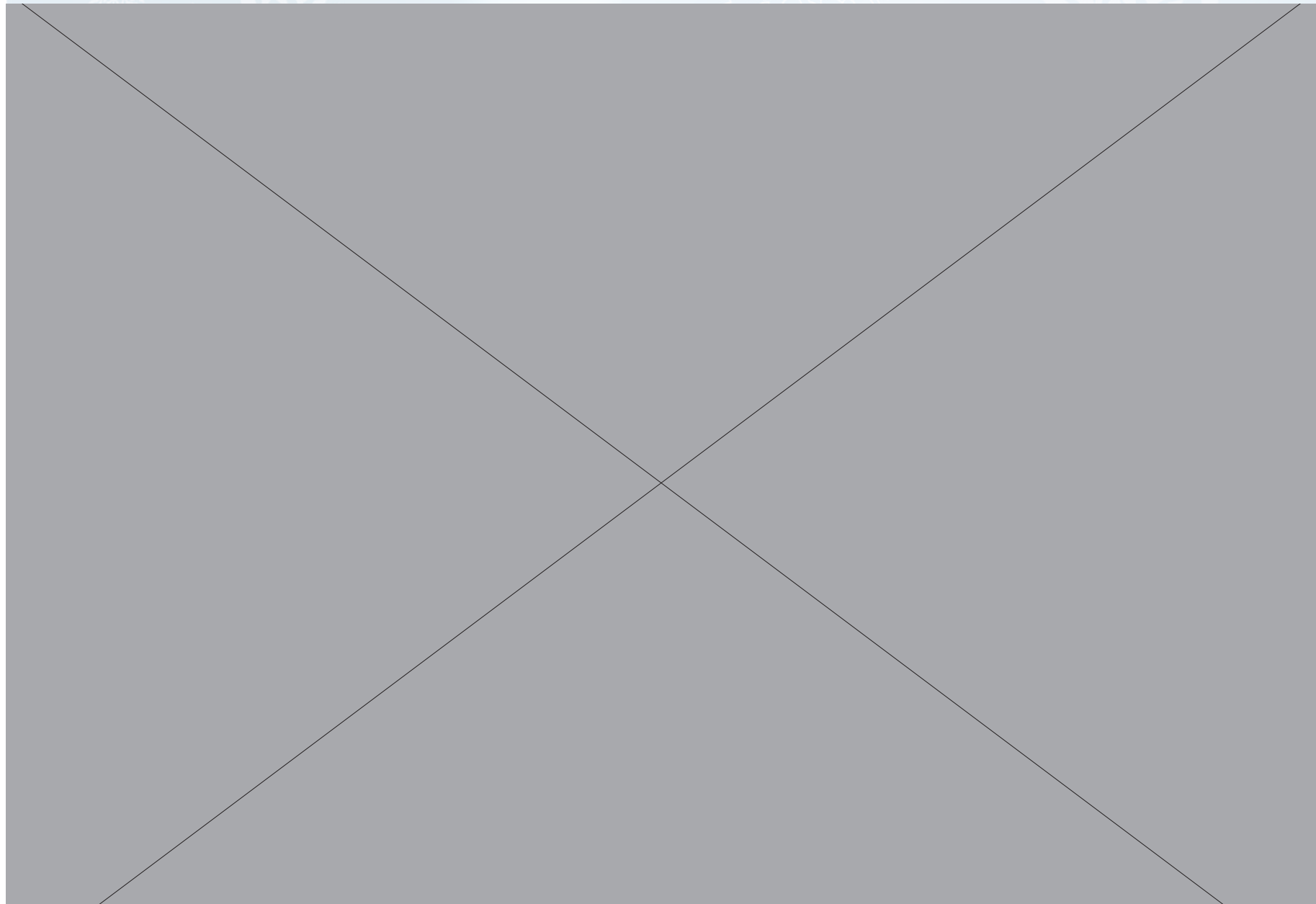
Leric Scriber, Leonardtown



Mary Davenport, Valley Lee



Tonia Delozier, St. Mary's City



Durane Gaulke, Drayden

Maryland Deer Firearms Season Reopens January 7

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces the January firearm deer hunting season opens Jan. 7, 2022, in Deer Management Region B, which includes all of the state except the westernmost counties. Hunters with a valid hunting license may use firearms to harvest sika and white-tailed deer during this season.

The season is open Jan. 7-8 in all of Region B. The season is also open through Sunday, Jan. 9 on private and designated public lands in Cecil and St. Mary's counties, and on private lands only in Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Washington (Zone 1), and Worcester counties. Shooting hours end at 10:30 a.m. in Kent and Montgomery counties.

"The January firearm season is a good opportunity for hunters to put one last deer in the freezer for the season," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "The harvest during this season favors antlerless deer, which helps to manage Maryland's healthy Region B deer population."

Hunters are reminded that an

antler-point restriction remains in effect. Deer hunters may harvest one antlered white-tailed deer within the yearly bag limit that does not meet the requirement of having at least three points on one antler. Any additional antlered deer taken within the established bag limit must meet the minimum point restriction. Licensed junior hunters and apprentice license holders, 16 years of age or younger, are exempt from this restriction.

During firearms season, Maryland requires deer hunters and their companions to wear daylight fluorescent orange or daylight fluorescent pink in one of the following manners: a cap of solid fluorescent daylight orange or pink, a vest or jacket containing back and front panels of at least 250 square inches of fluorescent daylight orange or pink, or an outer garment of camouflage daylight fluorescent orange or pink worn above the waist and containing at least 50 percent daylight fluorescent color.

More information on the firearms season, along with season bag limits and other deer hunting regulations, are available in the 2021-2022 Maryland Guide to



Photo by Lori Bramble

Hunting and Trapping.

Hunters should carefully inspect all tree stands and always wear a full-body safety harness while in the stand and while climbing in or out. The department strongly recommends using a sliding knot, commonly known as a prusik knot, attached to a line that is secured above the stand that allows

the hunter to be safely tethered to the tree as soon as they leave the ground.

Hunters are encouraged to help others by donating deer taken in Maryland. A state tax credit offers hunters an incentive for donated deer. Other local or state programs are also available so please check with your deer processor.

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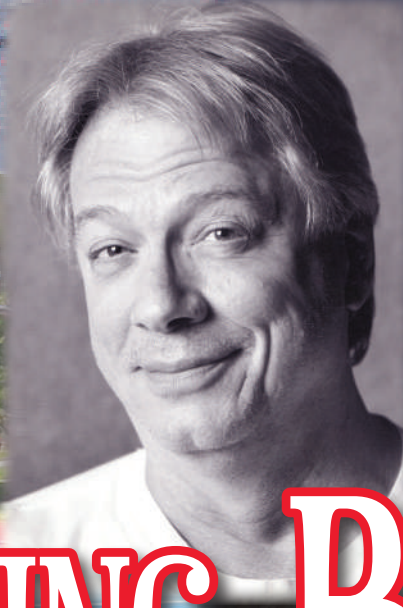
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LOOKING BACK

2021



The Last Half of 2021 St. Mary's C

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The summer heat brought county residents out despite continuing COVID-19 worries though the Delta variant and then the Omicron variant would continue to hang over the county.

July

Summer means sports and in the Nicolet Park area of Lexington Park that means basketball.

The Nicolet Basketball Association (NBA) has run for five years in Lexington Park and has become more than just a place for men 18 years old and up to take to the courts, it has become a part of the community's fabric and a way for people to connect in ways they might never have.

The person largely responsible for its creation and continued success, John "Duck" Duckett, said it is a labor of love that keeps him busy all throughout the summer.

Duckett, 43, is a county native and graduate of Great Mills High School where he was a star athlete.

He and some friends decided to do something about a lack of activities for local men, from young to old.

"I just wanted to start a basketball league," Duckett said. "A group of guys said there was just nothing for men to do here."

Shelly Hutchins, the NBA's coordinator, said it was a long-lasting problem in Lexington Park.

"There are plenty of things for women and children to do but there isn't that much for men," Hutchins said.

The league operates by registering players and assigning them to teams - which take the same names as the teams in the National Basketball Association, such as the Nicolet Celtics - and they play against each other on Thursdays and Saturdays, often for awards and prizes.

Those include haircuts at local barber shops, movie tickets at AMC Theatres, dinners at local restaurants like the Showtime Deli and even free hotel stays.

Waning COVID infections meant that Southern Maryland was ready to celebrate the most American of holidays, July 4th.

Fireworks to be seen on the Patuxent

River would draw crowds once again.

The grassroots effort to bring back the Solomons Island fireworks display has been so successful at raising funds that several extras will be added this year to make the event even more special, a senior member of the Solomons Business Association (SBA) said this week.

"There's more than what we need to pull this off," said Jennifer Stotler, vice president of the SBA. "So that means we've been able to add some things."

Bringing back the fireworks after they had been cancelled earlier this season came about after a local business owner, Kyle Webber, started a grassroots campaign to raise the funds to go on with the show.

Webber, who recently joined the SBA, has been giving regular updates on the progress of the effort as well as heading up the coordination of the event working with the SBA.

The funding has come from community donations and business sponsorships.

"We couldn't do this without the support and our sponsors," Stotler said. "They [the citizens] started it and the sponsors jumped on board."

The Solomons 4th of July celebration is predicted to bring substantial crowds this weekend as it is the only regional major public fireworks display of the season after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sheriff Mike Evans said his deputies were busy preparing for the weekend's festivities, including large crowds.

"Everybody's been cooped up and they're ready to get out," Evans said. "We're prepared for the worst but hoping for the best."

St. Mary's would also be able to make its infrastructure more whole as the state would complete repairs on box culverts and roads that had been washed out by the Aug. 4, 2020 Tropical Storm Isaias.

One of those bridges was the New Market Turner Road Bridge over Persimmon Creek, running through Mechanicsville and vast swaths of important agricultural land.

Del. Matt Morgan announced over social media June 30 that the State Highway Administration project to replace the bridge, one of the oldest in the county before it was destroyed last August, would be finished the same day.

"This is a pretty big deal," Morgan said in his social media video post standing on the soon-to-be-reopened thoroughfare. "From design to finish it took about 11 months to this replaced."

The new bridge was 57-feet wide, Morgan said with SHA construction crews gathered near him, performing finishing tasks on the project, and was supported by steel pylons.

For decades, he said, motorists had been driving over the aging bridge likely oblivious to its condition.

"A lot of times you don't realize what you're driving over," Morgan said. "[This new bridge] should be around for a long, long time."

The opening would be in time to aid for the harvesting season, Morgan said, allowing farmers to get their heavy equipment around to fields much faster; in the preceding months farmers had been forced to take their machinery out on Route 5 to bypass the construction area.

The Town of Leonardtown received a shock when it was the tangential victim of a nationwide ransomware attack, believed to be perpetrated by Russian hackers.

It shut down key town services for days.

"They ensured us all our data was safe and that it was backed up off site," said Town Council member Mary Maday Slade. "They said we shouldn't have to pay the ransom demand."

The contractor providing computer services for Leonardtown is JustTech, Slade said.

Ransomware attacks demand monetary payments to the perpetrators of the attack or they retain the files in an encryption lock or release those files to the dark web.

Town Administrator Laschelle McKay said the attack happened shortly after noon on July 2.

"We were typing on our computers when a warning flashed on our computers from the firewall and everything went away," McKay said.

An e-mail from JustTech's CEO detailed the ransomware attack.

"We discovered the breach, disabled, and shut down the affected servers within [eight] minutes..." said Joshua Justice. "Not all our customers were impacted, and we are still working with incident response teams to determine

the impact. In the meantime, please shut down your Windows based computers and servers until you hear from us.

"To confirm, neither JustTech servers nor your network were directly hacked or breached. The intrusion came through the remote monitoring and security software we utilize from an industry leading provider."

Russian-based computer hackers could be to blame for the cyberattack, the e-mail stated; cybersecurity experts are speculating that the most recent attack could be the largest in history.

The ransom demanded by the hackers was reportedly \$45,000 per computer; McKay said 19 computers employed by Leonardtown were still infected but should be operative within a few days.

"They will wipe all our computers and restore all of our backups," McKay said.

August

Just before July turned to August tragedy struck in Charlotte Hall as a young, soon to be married couple were killed by a motorist traveling at least 100 miles an hour through the intersection of Golden Beach Road and Route 5 while driving their own vehicle.

Shawn Bailey and Melody Russell, two young people who fell in love on the job while working at the Leonardtown McKay's grocery store and planned to get married in November, were both killed in the horrific traffic crash in Charlotte Hall July 30.

Their co-workers remembered them for being among the friendliest and hardworking young people they knew and were deeply saddened that their lives here were cut short so violently.

But they also said the couple, who shared many of the same interests and personality traits, were together in Heaven forever, looking down with love on those they left behind.

"I truly believe that," said Lisa Dean, a store employee who knew Russell for the eight years she worked in the bakery department. "She was reliable, energetic and full of life; she enjoyed what she did."

Karissa Stanley, who also worked with Russell, said she was a talented artist who loved to express her ability in the bakery as well as in crafts and projects she did on her own time.



Continued to Find Balance

"She was very passionate about what she did," Stanley said, noting Russell was also Bailey's great passion.

"He would've done anything for her," Stanley said.

Russell was a joy to work with, said bakery manager Gloria Hauck, and she had a quirky sense of humor that made everyone laugh.

Her esteem for her co-workers was so high that Russell would constantly give them gifts.

"She always gave us handmade gifts every Christmas," Hauck said. "She was very good at it."

The driver of the striking vehicle was Aleksandr Ivanchev, who has since been charged with two counts of 2nd degree murder.

When the collision occurred, State's Attorney Rick Fritz said, the victims' vehicle exploded.

Fritz told The County Times that he is considering charging Ivanchev with two counts of second-degree depraved heart murder, which hinges on the concept that the person charged may not have intended to kill, but whose actions were so dangerous that they should have realized there was a substantial risk of death.

"My question is why?," Fritz said. "Why is anyone driving like that?"

"It makes the case extremely aggravated."

Fritz said he saw the video and the ensuing explosion and fireball.

Educational leaders here said students would return to school in the fall but they would likely be doing it with their faces covered.

At the beginning of the school year they would make masks mandatory.

"What we're coordinating with the health department is the threshold response," said Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith in an interview with The County Times. "We're not just making some decision; we have to follow the data."

The data shows that the new case rate per 100,000 residents is well over 100, according to the county's health department.

Past guidance from the state on what constituted high transmission rates of COVID-19 showed that 100 or above cases per 100,000 residents met that threshold.

"For the whole summer in St. Mary's

were in the moderate range for the whole county (between 10 to 49 cases per 100,000)," Smith said. "The school system hasn't been impacted that much."

But the swift rise in recent weeks of infections could change all that, he said.

"Right now, St. Mary's County is really high," Smith said. "The wearing of masks would be driven by the rate of community transmission, as it should always be."

On July 29 Smith sent a letter to parent explaining that for the last two weeks of summer school masks would be required for the unvaccinated students attending class.

"The one thing that will happen is everybody will come back to school," Smith said. "That means classes five days a week, extracurricular activities, and full athletics."

St. Mary's County, aside from dealing with an unwelcome virus, also had to deal with an unexpected guest, an amphibious one.

Reports from almost two years ago that an alligator has been roaming in a portion of St. Mary's County coastal waters appear to be true, according to county officials and a local wildlife expert.

"We're getting credible information," said Steve Walker, director of the Department of Emergency Services. "About a year ago we got reports that there was an alligator in the county and we dismissed it."

"But one of the local wildlife groups claims they've seen it, that they've made a video recording of it."

Dave Edwards, of Gentle Hands Wildlife Rescue based in Hollywood, said he found the alligator after hearing of reports of its having taken up residence here.

"We're worried about the animal itself," Edwards told The County Times. "I'm working with another [rescue] service."

"It's [the alligator] going to a service in Florida."

Edwards said the rescue counterpart he is working with will keep the alligator at the sanctuary and not release it back into the wild.

Edwards said the alligator should be captured by the end of the week; the rescue agency already has all the trans-

port permits in hand.

"It will be a live transport," Edwards said.

The alligator is only about six-to-six-and-a-half feet in length, but could still be a threat to anyone who approaches it.

"They're all dangerous," Edwards said.

September

The winds of change were inevitable as redistricting on a federal, state and local level were in full gear, and there were high hopes that the governor's citizen's redistricting commission would draw senatorial and delegate maps that were fair and non-politicized.

This would eventually be true but an initial map for Southern Maryland put a stench in the nostrils of many that demanded being wafted away.

The Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission has offered a new congressional map that keeps St. Mary's County whole; a previous map that took a slice of the county from Mechanicsville down to California and gave it over to a senatorial district serving Anne Arundel and Calvert counties caused an uproar that led to protests to the commission at their Sept. 20 on-line meeting.

The new map, which still confers a sizeable piece of Charles County into a St. Mary's senate district, was developed from discussion at that same meeting, according to the redistricting commission.

"While this is not a final plan, it shows that your voice mattered in this process and that the Commission heard our concerns," said Sen. Jack Bailey in an e-mail to constituents.

"I am proud to have worked with Delegate [Matt] Morgan and excited to see that so many members of our community were involved to show the redistricting commission the importance of keeping St. Mary's County united."

The prior map that caused such a furor would have placed key economic development aspects, including the Airport Innovation District at the St. Mary's County Airport and the University of Maryland's new satellite campus dedicated to autonomous technological research, under the representation of a senator hours away, with a main constituency focused on entirely different



Nicolet Basketball Association game in Lexington Park



Solomonsfirework celebration provided by the SBA and donors



Concrete being laid at the MD 6 bridge over Persimmon Creek

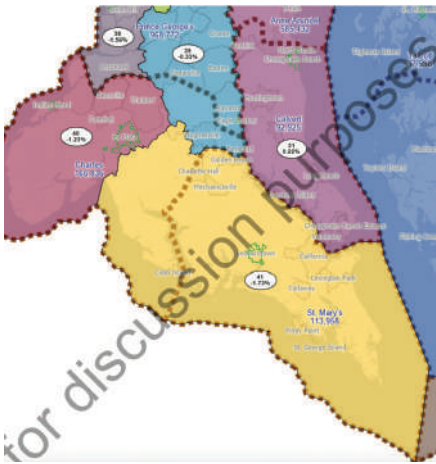


Aleksander Ivanchev, driver of the vehicle that killed two people on Rt. 5 in August





Alligator roamed in an area of St. Mary's in August



Redistricting map proposed by the Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission



Demolition continues at the Pax River Hotel in Lexington Park



Sheriff Timothy Cameron talks to commissioners about pending police reforms.

interests.

Morgan, who represents Dist. 29A, called the previous map an attempt at gerrymandering St. Mary's.

Lexington Park was undergoing changes of its own as one of the oldest, and sadly most dilapidated hotels, the former Belvedere, was mostly demolished.

Just one building and the front office remained.

"It's something we've been working on for well over six months," said Commissioner Todd Morgan during the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County Sept. 14. "Over the years that place has been dilapidated pretty badly, but thanks to a lot of work and communication, they'll be tearing down three of the four buildings where old Belvedere used to be."

The owners of the property are listed on the county tax rolls as Inder Hospitality LLC, based in Rockville.

State tax records show the property was sold in 2002 as The Belvedere Restaurant incorporated to Ganesh LLC for \$4.1 million.

Ganesh LLC in turn sold the property in 2007 to Braddock Realty LLC for \$5.6 million.

Braddock Realty sold the property to the current owners for a much reduced price of \$1.4 million, state tax records show, in 2014.

The building closest to Route 235 will likely remain intact, Morgan said, but the remaining buildings will be demolished.

"We're working on cleaning up Lexington Park and I want to thank the owners, particularly [County Attorney David] Weiskopf and [Director of Land Use and Growth Management Bill] Hunt for working through the process with me to begin to clean up one piece of Lexington Park."

Shahid Latiff, general manager at the Pax River Hotel, said that the remaining building would continue to offer rooms to guests; he said the owner of the property was planning to build a residential rental property where the older buildings once stood.

"We are already demolishing," Latiff said.

The Belvedere was one of many dinner and nightlife spots in what Morgan called "the heyday" of Lexington Park, when the economy there was more vibrant.

He said he remembered moving to the county in 1979 and renting an efficiency apartment at the once thriving establishment.

"There was many a fun night at the Belvedere with a few individuals," Morgan reminisced.

The struggle against illegal guns and the people who used them in street violence.

The Youth Gun Violence Task Force continued efforts this summer that originally began in July 2020. Since June of this year, the reformed task force executed 105 search warrants, made 65 arrests and seized 19 guns in its work in St. Mary's County.

The task force's mission included a high visibility presence in at-risk neighborhoods to reduce the frequency of gun violence; interdiction enforcement to recover illegally possessed firearms from persons and vehicles; using covert investigative strategies to identify suspects involved in gun crimes; review and evaluation of both open and closed gun cases for intelligence and engagement with community members and organizations for information and support.

"Over the past three months, the task force worked tirelessly to investigate and arrest violent criminal offenders who terrorized our community with a callous disregard for the sanctity of life," said Lt. Shawn Moses, Youth Gun Violence Task Force Coordinator. "The cumulative results produced by the task force undoubtedly serves as a testament to how the community and law enforcement can work together to investigate and deter violent crime," he said.

St. Mary's would also continue its mission to add amenities for its residents, even ones that had been closed for some time.

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 op-

erations 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 community 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.

October

By October many laws passed in Annapolis in the General Assembly had been signed and taken effect.

Police reform, which was not favored by many in law enforcement, had a deadline of July 1 in 2022 to be enacted and much of the work was to be done by the counties.

The law is largely transformative in the way law officers do their jobs and places a much higher level of scrutiny on their actions vis a vis a requirement to establish a Police Accountability Board (PAB), an Administrative Charging Committee which can direct a local law enforcement agency head on how to discipline their personnel for policy infractions and a trial board.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron, who largely opposed the General Assembly's take on police reform earlier this year, has said the new law will create new levels of bureaucracy on his agency and only make getting rid of bad law enforcement officers harder, not easier.

"I believe the original intent of this legislation was to get rid of bad cops as quickly as possible," Cameron told The County Times. "We were already getting rid of the bad cops faster than what this [the new law] allows."

He contends that his office is the only one charged with managing the agency and its personnel, including how they are disciplined for policy infractions.

Those infractions differ from criminal actions, which are investigated by the agency's Criminal Investigations Division.

Under the new law Cameron must abide by the ruling of the ACC in disciplining an officer, which he said is in direct contravention of his constitutional authority as sheriff.



“Under the ACC I could only do as they recommend or go higher not lower,” Cameron said. “There have been cases where there were mitigating factors where I lessened the punishment.

“I’d do it again.” The state and Cameron disagreed over who would appoint the members of these boards — Cameron said he should as he was the constitutionally elected official and the county had no executive as was outlined in the legislation.

“That is not this board’s role,” Cameron told commissioners last week. “I am the governing body of the sheriff’s office.

“Not one time in this bill is the term sheriff used; this was written for a county with a county police department.”

Cameron continued: “Make no mistake; this bill, in my opinion, encroaches upon the separately elected constitutional office of sheriff.”

“This is the beginning on the attack of the office of sheriff.”

The Amish and Mennonite community, known also as the plain folk, were badly shaken by the death of one of their own in a violent crash in the fall.

The County Times has learned that the deceased is Henry Stauffer, reportedly 61 years old.

Stauffer was well known in both his community and the larger county as the produce manager of the Loveville Produce Auction for the last 16 years.

County agricultural officials said Stauffer had been with the auction from its inception.

“He was a keystone member of that community,” said Cindy Greb, executive director of the Southern Maryland Resource and Conservation Development group.

Greb has been working with both the Amish and Mennonite communities to relocated produce vendors to a newly constructed farmers market on Thompson Corner Road to replace the one that has operated at the Charlotte Hall Regional Library parking lot.

David McKay, CEO with McKay’s Food Stores, said he had a long working relationship with Stauffer, purchasing significant amounts of locally grown produce for their grocery stores.

“It was extremely shocking,” McKay said of learning of Stauffer’s death. “I’m still in shock.”

The produce auction was where McKay first got to know Stauffer, he said, and he eventually became friends with him.

“He was a remarkable, friendly guy,” McKay said of Stauffer, who was part

of a large, well established Mennonite family from Loveville. “He was well liked by a lot of other produce growers.

“He was a great family man first and foremost.”

Those who knew him said Stauffer was likely killed while on his way to work at the produce auction site early in the morning of Oct. 27.

November

Soon after Stauffer’s death, police were able to capture his alleged killer.

Ryan Cherrico was alleged to have stolen the vehicle that hit and killed Stauffer while he was in his horse and buggy, all while in a drunken state.

According to an application for a statement of charges against Cherrico, sheriff’s deputies found him at the Third Base store just about one-half mile away from the incident just minutes after it had occurred.

The crash occurred at about 7:30 a.m. and witnesses said they saw the operator of the red 2000 Chevrolet Cavalier run away from the scene.

Officers questioned Cherrico and documented their encounter with him but said they did not detain him for lack of evidence.

But they noted that Cherrico, 31, of Mechanicsville had a strong smell of alcohol on his breath and exhibited “slow, slurred, deliberate speech.”

Surveillance video from several shops and stores in the area clearly showed Cherrico walking to Third Base, court papers showed, but the defendant gave police a false alibi to avoid being suspected of causing the crash.

Cherrico had a suspended driver’s license at the time of the crash, police said.

When law officers contacted the owner of the truck, Robin Lynn Nelson, they found she had reported the vehicle stolen after she had learned it had been involved in a fatal crash.

Nelson was in Florida at the time, court papers stated, and told law officers she had left her vehicle with a family member, with whom Cherrico would stay from time to time.

Law enforcement officers were also able to obtain text messages between Cherrico and his mother which showed he had been the operator of the stolen truck and knew he had caused a fatal crash; law officers also found that Cherrico’s family was attempting to send him to Colorado to avoid apprehension.

Peyton Ham’s family continued to rail against the official report on their son’s death, ruled essentially a sui-

cide by police officer and exonerating the state trooper for shooting the 16-year-old.

The eye witnesses, Ham’s grandmother Victoria Boyle, and Michelle Mills and her daughter Allision Mills, both immediate nextdoor neighbors of Ham’s, say that the boy’s killing could and should have been avoided.

Azzari responded to two 911 calls stating that there was a suspicious male subject in the neighborhood with a gun; it was later determined that Ham was one who made those two calls.

When Azzari arrived he reported he was confronted by the suspect, Ham, who was pointing what appeared to be a semi-automatic handgun at the trooper.

The gun was later found to be a replica that shot BB-style projectiles.

After opening fire on Ham with about 10 shots from his duty weapon, Ham eventually went to the ground, on his knees, dropping the replica pistol.

Ham was wounded and bleeding profusely but was said to have produced a knife and brandished it, according to the official report.

When Ham would not comply with the trooper’s order to drop the knife he opened fire, striking Ham in the chest, killing him.

According to the official report one eye witness said Ham was standing holding the knife, while Azzari said he fired when Ham was attempting to get back up.

In the official report’s account, Azzari said Ham was on his feet with the knife when he fired again.

“Trooper Azzari, reported that [Ham] then said he wanted to die and stood up and approached Trooper Azzari with his knife still in his hand,” the report stated. “The Trooper Azzari was once more in fear of his life and discharged his weapon again.”

All three eye witnesses who spoke to The County Times say that account is false.

“He didn’t move, he was almost like a statue,” Boyle said of her grandson as he was on his knees. “I saw the knife in his left hand; I never saw him raise his hands or raise the knife.

“He moved his [left] hand but only from his wrist down.”

Boyle said she watched her grandson get hit with the final rounds from Azzari’s weapon.

“I wanted him to drop the knife,” Boyle said of Ham immediately before he was shot. “He didn’t drop it but he didn’t do anything with it either.

“When I saw him, he was on his knees and he stayed there; he didn’t



Funeral procession for Henry Stauffer



Mugshot of Ryan Cherrico, the driver who allegedly hit Henry Stauffer



Andrew Sukhram



Judge David W. Densford retires





Mike Cahall, Chief of Lexington Park Rescue Squad



New South Point Church on St. Andrews Church Rd.



Thomas McKay, Todd Morgan, and Mike Schwartz of Mike's Bikes donating and volunteering for the Turkey giveaway



Shop With a Cop charitable Christmas event

hardly move at all.”

Tragedy would be a hallmark of November as Leonardtown High School had, the month prior, lost one of its own in a shocking suicide.

The parents of Andrew Sukhram would plead with the community to help their family through their crisis in its immediate aftermath.

“We are making a plea to the public that walk the shoreline, commercial fishermen, recreational boaters, etc.,” the Sukhram’s stated in a Facebook post for Leonardtown High School parents. “Please be on the lookout for his body.

“He was wearing a black LHS seniors 2022 t-shirt, gray shorts and white shoes.”

The day of Andrew Sukhram’s death, Oct. 28, the principal of Leonardtown High School Jill Mills posted a message to the greater school community.

“I am so sorry to tell you all that one of our students, Andrew Sukhram, was reported missing today,” Mills wrote. “The student left LHS sometime this morning and was traveling to an assigned internship in the California area.

“His vehicle was found abandoned on the Thomas Johnson Bridge. First responders are continuing on with their investigation. We will provide additional details when notified.”

Mills asked for a cessation to any open speculation about the victim’s motives for suicide.

“We are aware that there has been talk about this incident on social media,” Mills said, “Rumors may begin to come out, but please don’t spread them.

“They may turn out to be untrue and can be deeply hurtful and unfair to Andrew and his family and friends.”

Sukhram was a cross country track athlete at Leonardtown High School.

A local judge would reach his retirement age, after serving 10 years on the county’s Circuit Court.

Judge David W. Densford officially retired from the bench at the St. Mary’s County Circuit Court Nov. 10; compelled by law as he is approaching 70 years of age.

He wished he did not have to go, but is looking forward to trying cases as a retired judge on an as-needed basis.

His office is nearly cleared out. “I’m not taking anything,” Densford said. “Just 10 years of memories.”

Densford has been on the bench for the last decade, appointed by former Gov. Martin O’Malley and before that had worked as a defense lawyer for almost 40 years.

He remembers working “in the trenches” as a defense attorney, looking for relief for his clients from the judge.

“It’s been great,” Densford said of his time in judge’s robes. “I’d much rather make the decisions.

“When you’re in private practice you’re in the trenches, you have to work for every dime; there’s no guaranteed income.”

Densford has seen defendants come into his court that he believed needed to be reformed but had to conform his

judgements to the law and not what he might have personally meted out as a sentence.

“I want to be the least judgmental judge,” Densford told The County Times. “I’m not the kind of judge to put a sign on someone that says ‘I’m a thief,’ or something like that.

“That’s not me, that’s not how to address the issue.”

Densford says many consider judges in St. Mary’s soft on crime, but he disagrees.

He said each judge, himself, Judge Michael Stamm and Judge Joe Stanalonis all view violent crime very seriously.

“I’m not a long ball hitter (a judge known for handing down maximum sentences) but I’ve sentenced people who won’t ever breathe free air again and shouldn’t.”

December

At a time when families were coming together for the holiday season one was sadly sundered when Mike Cahall, chief of the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue squad, passed away unexpectedly.

Many in the fire and rescue community would spend some of December mourning his loss.

Cahall died Nov. 18 in Thailand while on vacation, according to sources close to the rescue squad.

Cahall was deeply involved in the Lexington Park community on many levels beyond his service at the rescue squad to include being an ordained minister in his church and a member of the local theater troupe.

A memorial service is scheduled for him Dec. 3 at the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department on Shangri-La Drive in Lexington Park.

“It was extremely shocking,” said Commissioner John O’Conner this week of Cahall’s death, calling him a “pillar of the community.”

“It makes it 20 times worse when it’s the season where families are supposed to be coming together,” O’Connor continued at the regular meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County Nov. 30.

Cahall joined the Lexington Park rescue unit 15 years ago and rose quickly through the ranks to leadership positions, eventually becoming a paramedic and serving in the county’s Advanced Life Support Unit.

David Klobnock, a former chief at the unit, worked closely with Cahall over the years and helped train Cahall up in the organization.

“I was the training officer when he joined us,” Klobnock said. “He ran calls with me during field training; Mike did well and he progressed.

“He had constantly been striving in an upward path.”

The members of South Point Church were looking to make a big change for the holidays, bringing themselves together into their own church home.

For the first time in almost two decades, the members of South Point

Church will have a place to call their church home.

Construction on their first permanent building, located on St. Andrew’s Church Road across from Fairgrounds Road in Leonardtown, is nearing completion.

Church leadership is confident that they will be able to open for in person services for Christmas Eve.

“We’ve been portable for 16 years,” said Jennifer Curtis, a member of the church’s executive council. “So, we’re very excited.”

First the church met at the former Southern Maryland Higher Education Center before moving to Leonardtown High School; they’ve had some of their services recently at R/C Theatres as well as moving to on-line formats.

Curtis said pre-pandemic that the church brought in about 900 members throughout an average week, now their attendance is about evenly split between in-person and virtual.

While construction continues at the site, Curtis said, services should be able to go forward despite the building not being entirely completed.

“That is our goal,” she said. “We are on track to get into the building.

“We’ll definitely not be finished but we will be functional.”

There are always needy people during the holidays but, fortunately, there has always been Mike Schwartz of Mike’s Bike’s with his turkey dinner drive to help them.

The annual holiday turkey dinner drive originated by Schwartz, gave away about 1,000 turkeys plus potatoes and vegetables to needy local families Dec. 13 and Dec. 14, and he says he wants to do more.

“I’m trying to get 100 more so we can hand out a total of 1,100,” Schwartz told The County Times.

This is the second year that Schwartz, and a small army of volunteers, partnered with business President Tommy McKay of McKay’s Food Stores to make the drive a success.

“He’s done great,” Schwartz said. “He delivers it, and he gives it to us at cost.”

Before his partnership with the locally-owned McKay’s Food Stores, Schwartz had worked with Wal-Mart to fulfill turkey orders but they stopped the relationship.

They offered Schwartz gift cards but that didn’t fit his mission.

Commissioner Todd Morgan also helped raise money for the drive, much of it coming from individual residents and larger donors such as Bubby Knott owner of Great Mills Trading Post.

He also helped dole out the food at Great Mills High School this week.

“I really enjoy doing this,” Morgan said. “He [Schwartz] started out with 11 turkeys [in 1983] and now he’s up to 1,000.

“This is a great thing for the community and it brings people together.”

As for the lack of corporate help, Morgan said: “Gift cards don’t fill people’s bellies.”

guyleonard@countytimes.net

MARYLAND STATE POLICE BLOTTER

On 12/28/2021, Tpr J. Pope responded to a residence on Pleasant Manor Road, Lexington Park, MD for the report of a disturbance. Upon arrival, Tpr Pope made multiple requests for the suspect, identified as Mark Allyn Richison, 60 of Lexington Park, MD to leave the property. Richison became irate and continued to cause a disturbance. Richison was arrested and transported to the St. Mary's County Detention Center where he was charged with Trespass: Private Property, Disorderly Conduct, Intoxicated Public Disturbance, and Failure to Obey a Reasonable and Lawful Order.

On 12/28/2021, Tpr J. Barlow responded to Walmart, located at 45485 Miramar Way, California, MD for the report of a theft in progress. Investigation revealed that Jill Marie Knittel, 42 of Hollywood, MD had been previously trespassed from Walmart. Knittel was also accompanied by a female juvenile relative who was found to be in possession of a stolen item from Walmart. Knittel was issued a criminal citation for Trespassing: Private Property and was released from the scene. The juvenile was charged with Theft: Less than \$100.00 and was released into Knittel's custody.

On 12/28/2021, Cpl T. Davis conducted a traffic stop on Three Notch Road at Hollywood Road, Hollywood, MD. A probable cause search of the vehicle was conducted by Tpr C. Willhite which revealed drug paraphernalia and Cocaine. The passenger of the vehicle was identified as Sara Wagner Zetty, 37 of Lusby, MD. Zetty was arrested and transported to the St. Mary's County Detention Center where she

was charged with Possession of CDS: Not Marijuana, Possession of CDS: Paraphernalia and Possession of CDS: In a place of confinement.

On 12/31/2021, Tpr R. Kaszubski conducted a traffic stop on Three Notch Road at Clover Hill Road, Mechanicsville, MD. Investigation revealed that the driver, Deandre Antonio Watkins, 29 of Lexington Park, MD was driving while under the influence of alcohol. A search incident to arrest revealed Adderall and Marijuana less than 10 Grams. Watkins was arrested and transported to the St. Mary's County Detention Center where he was charged with Possession of CDS: Not Marijuana, Possession of CDS: Paraphernalia, Possession of CDS: Opiate Without Prescription, Negligent Driving, Driving a Vehicle While Impaired by Alcohol, Driving a Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol, Failure to Obey Properly Placed Traffic Control Device Instructions, and was also issued a civil citation for Possession of CDS: Marijuana Less Than 10 Grams.

On 12/31/2021, Tpr C. Riggs and Tpr C. Willhite responded to Big Dog's Paradise, located at 28765 Three Notch Road, Mechanicsville, MD, for the report of an assault. While on scene, Joshua Alan Moore, 32 of

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 4, 2022**

Mechanicsville, MD became disorderly. Moore was arrested and a search incident to arrest revealed Suboxone on his person. Moore was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention Center by Tpr Willhite where he was charged with Possession of CDS: Not

Marijuana, Possession of CDS: Paraphernalia, Resist/Interfere With Arrest, Disorderly Conduct, and Failure to Obey a Reasonable and Lawful Order.

The following people were arrested for Driving under the Influence:

- On 12/30/2021, Charles Burton Shreve, 55 of Hollywood, MD was arrested by Tpr C. Riggs
- On 12/30/2021, Gabriel Enrique Garay, 36 of Lexington Park, MD was arrested by Tpr J. Pope
- On 12/31/2021, Deandre Antonio Watkins, 29 of Lexington Park, MD was arrested by TFC R. Kaszubski
- On 1/1/2022, Kristina Marie Bilo, 28 of Hollywood, MD was arrested by TFC J. Greathouse
- On 1/1/2022, Tashika Lynn Mobley, 30 of Lexington Park, MD was arrested by Tpr N. Zack
- On 1/2/2022, Thomas Robert Mueller, 56 of Waldorf, MD was arrested by Tpr D. Black

The following people were arrested for Open Warrants:

- On 12/29/2021, Randy Aloysius Wathen, 33 of Leonardtown, MD was arrested by Tpr J. Pope for FTA: Driving without a required license

• On 12/30/2021, Tameka Aleena Turner, 42 of Lexington Park, MD was arrested by Tpr C. Riggs for FTA: Driving while license was suspended

- On 12/30/2021, William Dashae Gough, 27 of Lexington Park, MD was arrested by Tpr K. Poland for FTA: Driving without a required license
- On 12/31/2021, Clements William Copsey, 45 of Mechanicsville, MD was arrested by Tpr D. Black for Second Degree Rape, Fourth Degree Sex Offense - Sexual Contact x2, and Indecent Exposure
- On 1/1/2022, Derin Roberto Perez, 19 of Baltimore, MD was arrested by Tpr C. Baden for FTA: Driving without a required license
- On 1/1/2022, Ian Christopher Emes, 34 of Charlotte Hall, MD was arrested by Tpr C. Baden for FTA: Driving while license was suspended
- On 1/1/2022, Dominique Rashad Myles, 31 of Lexington Park, MD was arrested by Tpr D. Black for FTA: Driving while license was suspended
- On 1/3/2022, David William Hower 2nd, 27 of Lusby, MD was arrested by Tpr D. Black for FTA: Driving while license was suspended

Editor's Note:

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

Legal Notices

**COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Leonardtown Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Office located at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD. The purpose of the hearing is to present for public review and comment a Special Exception request for St. Mary's Nursing Center Memory Care Facility to be located at 42156 Saint Andrews Church Road in Leonardtown. Tax Map 0041, Grid 0001, Parcel(s) 0001 and 0002.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend or to submit written comments by 4:30 p.m. on January 24, 2022 to the Board of Zoning Appeals, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Special accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities upon request.

By Authority:
Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

LAW OFFICE OF
**DANIEL A. M.
SLADE, L.L.C.**
LOKER BUILDING



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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

Israel to Purchase CH-53k King Stallion

The Israeli Air Force (IAF) has signed a Letter of Acceptance with the United States government to purchase the CH-53K King Stallion heavy lift helicopter on December 30.

“We’re happy the IAF recognizes the unrivaled capabilities and performance of the K and have chosen to move forward with us,” said Colonel Jack Perrin, Program Manager, heavy lift helicopter program office (PMA-261). “Welcome to the CH-53K family!”

The CH-53K is the most powerful helicopter ever built by the U.S. government and will replace

the IAF current fleet of modified CH-53D Yasur helicopters, which have been flying for over 50 years.

The signed agreement states first deliveries of the aircraft are planned for 2025. In addition to the aircraft, the agreement includes T408-GE-400 engines; facilities study, design and construction; spare and repair parts; support and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; aircrew and maintenance training; U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics

and program support.

As the long-range logistic support backbone for the U.S. Marine Corps, the CH-53K will support Israeli special operations programs first, as well as provide the Israeli Defense Forces with a platform that has the speed, safety and gross weight capability to support all of its missions, including troop and cargo transport, and search and rescue.

The decision wraps up a multi-year negotiation process. In the end, the King Stallion offered more capabilities and the latest technology compared to the

competition. During this period, PMA-261 hosted multiple visits by IAF leadership as they compared aircraft, including orientation flights and flight evaluations with IAF pilots and acquisitions professionals.

The CH-53K King Stallion program is in the Initial Operational Test and Evaluation stage and is on track to achieve Initial Operational Capability early next year, with first fleet deployment planned for FY2024.



18th Annual MLK Jr. Prayer Celebration at SMCM to be Virtual



Dr. Mary Frances Berry

Serving as chairperson of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Dr. Mary Frances Berry, led the charge for equal rights and liberties for all Americans over the course of four presidential administrations. She became the first woman of any race to head a major research university as chancellor of the University of Colorado at Boulder. Currently, she is the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania, where she teaches the history of American law and the history of law and social policy.

Berry is one of the founders of the monumental Free South Africa Movement (FSAM). She received the Nelson Mandela Award from the South African government for her role in raising global awareness of South African injustice that helped to end over 40 years of apartheid.

Berry's books cover a wide range of subjects, from the history of constitutional racism in America to the history of progressive activism. Her latest book, "History Teaches Us

to Resist: How Progressive Movements Have Succeeded in Challenging Times," examines the successful tactics of movements that ended the Vietnam War, jumpstarted government response to the AIDS epidemic, championed the Americans with Disabilities Act and advanced civil, women's and LGBTQ rights. Her previous book, "Power in Words: The Stories behind Barack Obama's Speeches, from the State House to the White House," offers insight and historical context of President Obama's most memorable speeches.

The Annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King Jr., Prayer Celebration is sponsored by St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's County Branch NAACP The 7025, St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission, St. Mary's County Public Schools, the College of Southern Maryland, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter.

For more information and registration, visit www.smcm.edu/mlk

FOUR WAYS TO RESPOND TO MARKET TURMOIL

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

Stock markets in the U.S. and worldwide have been volatile lately—large swings in short periods of time. China's market has lost a lot of its value. Other emerging markets are crashing and burning; however, the U.S. economy seems to be doing well. No one knows if the Federal Reserve is or is not going to raise interest rates. With all of this turmoil, it is no wonder many ordinary investors are concerned. There are four things you can do to give yourself peace of mind:

1. Turn Off the Financial News.

I personally enjoy listening to all the financial pundits talk about why markets move; however, keep in mind that the television news cycles are 24 hours a day and every news program needs "talking heads" to fill up their programming. And, the more the "talking heads" can create a controversial story with their comments, the better. When the markets are as volatile as they are today, your best bet is to withdraw from the talk and turn off the financial news.

2. Allocate Your Assets.

Understand that as an ordinary investor, you have absolutely no control over any of the events that are rattling world markets. Leading hedge funds are taking huge losses on market turmoil. If the managers of those funds don't know how to predict the market, what chance does the ordinary investor have? All you can do is what I hope you have been doing. If you have allocated your investments across a broad enough spectrum, the downturns will be much less difficult. The concept is "asset allocation" and you can learn more about this online at almost any financial services website. At younger ages, your investment horizon is a long one, many years. Older investors have a shorter horizon. The concept is to acquire "target date" investment funds. These are mutual funds that address the date you want to retire using asset allocation. No matter how long your investment horizon is, by allocating your assets, you guarantee that no matter what happens in the markets, your investments are likely to provide a much more predictable rate of return.

3. Get a Cash Cushion.

Give yourself true peace of mind by saving one year's worth of income in a "cash cushion." This is your own personal safety net. Make saving your cash cushion your number one priority. That means some self-discipline. Instead of going on that vacation, buying toys for the grandchildren, getting that new car, put your money aside in a savings account or money market mutual fund. Once you have set aside one year's worth of income in a money market mutual fund that you can easily access and that is not likely to decrease in value, you will be able to breathe a sigh of relief and lessen the fear that market turmoil creates. With a cash cushion, any really difficult event like losing a job has far less impact. You know, because of your cash cushion, if you lose your job you can still make the rent or mortgage payments. You can rely on your cushion to keep you going at the same lifestyle for a year. That should give you plenty of time to find another job or create your own through setting up a small business.

4. Get some professional help.

Many investors seek professional help to manage their investments. These days, some online money managers provide you with robotic investment services. Certainly those services may be less expensive. However, no robot can discuss family matters or your money concerns with you. When seeking professional advice, shop around. Make sure the advisor treats you with dignity and responds to your questions. In the event you find an advisor who is condescending to you or promises you a specific rate of return on your investments, turn around and leave. Once you have placed your investments into the hands of a trusted professional, you should be able to rely on that professional to watch out for you and your money. Let the advisors worry about the market turmoil instead of you.

Join me on the third Wednesday of each month for a no charge seminar to discuss this and other topics. We will meet at 11am at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

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A View From The BLEACHERS



PARKING LOT

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

This column's title suggests that a perch high in actual or figurative bleachers offers a broader perspective on sports - and life. The wider vantage point sacrifices intricate details, but it reveals a bigger picture and the interaction of forces in simultaneous motion that allows for more predictable and better understood outcomes.

The theory is sound, and it has largely served this column well (I hope) for its nearly 13 years of existence. But now? In this asynchronous, asymmetric and often unrecognizable world?

If any sense is to be made of our confusing recent history, it is fair to question whether a bleacher-view would be any more advantageous than any other seat in the world's metaphorical stadium. A ticket to the cheap seats, where the acquisition of wisdom once awaited, may now only offer a nosebleed, an oxygen-starved brain and burning quads from the steep, vertical hike.

But here goes something for 2022 - from the bleachers, the mezzanine, field level seats or the parking lot. Yes, the parking lot...that's it. The total opposite of the bleachers and a place where tailgating friends share drinks, deep thoughts and outrageous nonsense while seated on coolers and foldout chairs encircling a portable grill/heat source. With that fresh perspective, just this once, a few thoughts on these most confounding times...

Short of cryonics actually working or the development of some other sophisticated, multi-century life-extending technology, 2022 is the numerical year with the most "2's" any of us will see. And given the world's bizarre stretch leading into this new calendar year, the answer to the Rolling Stones' question in their song "Tumbling Dice" - "Don't you know the deuce is still wild?" - is an emphatic yes.

Every day the sports scroll identifies new players being added to COVID-related "health and safety" protocols. Unproven and inexperienced players are called up from practice squads or developmental leagues. Rusty veterans are signed off their couches. Rosters are in complete flux from game to game. I don't know how Vegas is setting betting lines, but with no clue as to

when or if games will be played, or who will actually participate, the smart money stays in your pocket.

This is the COVID sports world, two years into pandemic madness.

To express surprise over these disruptions would be naïve and a bit played out. Such things are simply reality now. How teams are actually coping with the chaos is intriguing. The guess is "as good as they can," which is likely synonymous with "not very well." For players, considering the effort required to prepare minds and bodies for games and a long season, being parked on the sidelines due to a positive COVID test must create intense frustration. It is almost certainly worse for coaches, a profession dominated by micro-managing control freaks who sweat every detail and attempt to choreograph every imaginable scenario. Now many don't know who their quarterback or point guard will be day to day. The competitive balance is decided as much by a virus as it is between the lines.

The real world has its own equivalent of that "health and safety" protocol scroll. Family gatherings, band concerts, youth sporting events, birthday parties, professional meetings and vacations all hang in the balance - all are susceptible to alteration or cancelation with the arrival of an ill-timed sore throat and positive test. What to do? Accept this reality - that deuces are wild in 2022 - and adapt to the fluidity of... everything. Develop contingencies. Be more spontaneous. Cherish anything that executes as planned. Such is life with an ever-present, evolving pathogen that seems destined to linger.

Society will grow from this and emerge with an altered perspective on sports, work and living life. Our adaptation is well underway, economically and socially. Through this process, and on the other side of it, are better bosses and employees, teachers and students, coaches and players - in short, this great disruption is building a society of greater strength, resilience, patience and compassion. Admittedly, that is hard to see right now with the omicron raging, but it is there.

The parking lot: where audacious dreams and optimism thrive.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



SNOW B GONE

My husband just popped his head in the office door and said, "Wow, your article looks like outside - white out!!!" Yeah, ha ha. I need a guest comedian/columnist, and I think my husband should be first.

Sunday night, I felt as if I were a child again hoping for no school on Monday. Wasn't that the most exciting, yet worried feeling? Worried because sometimes the school districts didn't decide until the morning of if there would be school or not. You would think that by 60 years of age that the excitement would be gone. I'm glad it's not. I couldn't even sleep through the middle of the night waiting for the snow to come, and then to wait for the soft hush when time seems to slow, and you can let out a contented sigh that all will be still for a time. Snow brings such a cozy, cocoon effect; the light changes, moods change, and as far as you can see everything looks clean and uncluttered. It helps get me in the de-cluttering mood for January, which I have already started.

I did have fun pulling out old photos that I haven't yet scanned into the computer. Looking back on snow photos of the sixties with my brothers makes me happy, and a little wistful for the simple pleasures of life. My favorite winter photo is me on a sled and my oldest brother behind me yelling mush! All I could find Monday was just the one of me on the sled, but I was happy to see it.

The snow has been pretty, though I will have better memories of it if it's gone soon. I absolutely love the first snowstorm, especially since I had a big pot of chicken soup & pot roast and mashed potatoes leftovers ready for the dreary parts of the storm. However, one snowstorm a season is enough for me personally. I may be a bit disgruntled because the only snow boots I have left decided to crack all over the rubber forefront. I didn't notice for a long time while I was clearing off things, shoveling a bit, and taking Mindy outside. Then I started to squish. Duct tape may be the answer. My other pair of snow/rain boots that belonged to Robert's mom also perished this year. I tried to fix where the heel came apart from the sole on one boot with Gorilla glue.



NOT A GOOD IDEA. I'm still trying to pick off the hard bits, which exploded and squeezed out, with an Xacto Knife. It wouldn't matter if I could get the glue off, now I can't find its match. So, I guess it will be a squishy, cold few days for me.

Hoping that everyone whose power went on has it back on. Our whole neighborhood was out for the most part of the day on Monday, but SMECO crews were out there working fast and hard to get everyone restored as quickly as possible. Thank you to SMECO. And big thanks to Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department, Mechanicsville Rescue Squad, Police, all first responders, and neighbors who did so much throughout the storm. We just don't have that many large snowfalls in Southern Maryland that we can get used to the hazards. My brother in Utah gets 80 to 90 inches per season and probably has a chuckle about me not wanting to drive anywhere.

The number of inches expected for Monday sure did change quite a few times; here in Country Lakes we had nearly 12", can't wait to see what this next snowfall will bring. We are going to try and hit the grocery store today for a few little things. I imagine, or I'm hoping, that everyone stocked up before the storm so it will be a normal crowd today. We have gone through so many eggs. Comfort food begins with eggs, milk, butter, and cheese (at least in my book). Though another comfort I do wish I still had is my old sled and that I could jump on, and fly down a hill as carefree as a child to enjoy the snow as it is meant to be enjoyed...yet another item for life's bucket list.

To each new year's adventure, Shelby

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

St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 6

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser Place

Action Lounge and Billiards
25470 Point Lookout Road
Leonardtown

Ticket Sales Start at 4pm, last sale at 7:45pm, drawing at 8pm. Dates:

EVERY THURSDAY Please join us to take a chance to pick a card and find the needed Queen to win. Each Thursday there will be a chance to win the jackpot, which increases each week the Queen is not found. There is also a nightly 50/50 raffle. Thank you for your support to the LVRSA.

Friday, Jan. 7

Elk's Texas Holdem Tournament

St Mary's County Elks Lodge
45779 Fire Department Lane
California

7p.m. to 12a.m.

Buy-in: \$80.00

Starting Chips: 20,000 chips

Blinds will increase every 20 minutes

Please enter through the side of the building

For any question or additional details contact

James Dean
240-577-0828

jdeanjunior@gmail.com

Please enter from the side of the building

Basketball

Margaret Brent Recreation Center
29675 Point Lookout Road
Mechanicsville

11a.m. to noon

Fridays, January 7-February 25

Cost: \$16

Recreational basketball games will be held in the gymnasium during this eight-week session. Registration is open to both males and females ages 50 and above. Advance registration is required; a minimum of 8 players is needed to run the session. Players may pay in advance at the Garvey Senior Activity Center in Leonardtown; registrations and payments will not be accepted at Margaret Brent Recreation Center. To register in advance, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075.

Saturday, Jan. 8th

SMTMD contra dance

Christ Church Parish Hall
37497 Zack Fowler Rd.

Chaptico

7p.m.

SMTMD is excited to announce that it is having its first contra dance in nearly two years this Saturday, January 8, at Christ Church Parish Hall in Chaptico. Jordan Kammeyer will be calling, with music arrangements TBD. Admission is \$6 for members, \$10 for non-members. Children under 17 are admitted free. The beginners dance workshop (no partner required) starts at 7pm, and the dance begins at 7:30 pm. There will be an ice cream social during the intermission. Come out and bring your dancing shoes! Go to www.smtmd.org for directions and more information. Watch the website for weather related cancellation notices.

NOTE: SMTMD follows the mandates of the St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) with regard to COVID-19. Presently there are no mandates for vaccination, masks or social distancing in St. Mary's County. More information and guidance from the SMCHD on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 can be found on their website [HERE](http://www.smtmd.org). While we would love to see you, we want you to be aware of the dancing conditions ahead of time so that you can make an informed decision. For more information, contact Christian at

christian.jewell@ymail.com.

Sun, Jan. 9

Bluegrass Comeback to Southern Maryland Concert Series-2022

Calvert Elks #2620
1015 Dares Beach Rd.
Prince Frederick
2p.m. to 5p.m.

To start off the Bluegrass Comeback series, will be the Larry Stephenson Band on Sunday January 9, 2022. Always a favorite to Southern Maryland Bluegrass fans. Larry is from King George, VA, but makes his home in Nashville, TN. He will kick off his 2022 touring schedule by joining us at the Calvert Elks.

The remainder of the series will be on Sunday February 20, 2022, with Danny Paisley & the Southern Grass and Sunday March 13, 2022, with Sideline Bluegrass band. Troy Jones will continue to be our sound engineer for the event. Opening each show will be show host, Jay Armsworthy, along with a different special guest for each show. The Calvert Elks #2620 is located at 1015 Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick, MD

For more information about the shows or tickets, call 301-737-3004 or go to bluegrasscomeback.webador.com/

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CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE

St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 71658
 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 71050
 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 73101
 Visit www.stmarysmd.com/aging for the most up-to date information

Beginner Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Dr. Paul Lam has developed an extensive Tai Chi for Health Series including the popular Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention. This evidence-based program will be offered at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Tuesdays & Thursdays January 18-February 10 (8 sessions) at 11 a.m.

In this class we will learn to do some core movements on each side in a graceful routine while applying basic Tai Chi principles. There is no fee for this class, but a commitment to attendance and practice is necessary for success. Pre-registration is required. Since space is limited to 20 new participants, we ask that you sign up only if you are sure that you will be able to attend regularly. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1660 and leave a message on our reservation line to sign up.

Nutrition Presentation and Counseling by Donna Taggart

Donna will present Eating for Thy-

roid Health at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Monday January 10 at 10 a.m. Registration is required- please sign up by leaving a message on our reservation line: 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. ADDITIONALLY- Donna will be offering free personal nutritional counseling at 11 a.m. on the days she is here if you make an appointment with her by text message or calling 240-538-6539.

Play with Watercolors with T.L. Ford

Come learn the basics of watercolor painting in a relaxing, informal setting. No experience or drawing skills are necessary and everything you need is provided. The Garvey Senior Activity Center will hold classes on Tuesdays, January 11 & 18 at 1:30 p.m. The cost for each class is \$20 per class. Secure your spot in class by calling the reservation line on December 20 starting at 8 a.m. Please call, 301-475-4200, ext. 1075 to register. Payments are due within a weeks' time of sign up.

Book Discussion Group

The Garvey Senior Activity Center will hold a book discussion group on Wednesday, January 12 & February 9 at 11 a.m. If you have a love for reading and are enthusiastic about sharing your thoughts about what you've read, this is the group for you. In January the group will discuss Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Allen Bradley. In February the group will discuss City of Girls by Elizabeth Gilbert. To learn more, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1080.

Video About Ruth Ginsberg

Loffler Senior Activity Center will be showing Ruth: Justice Ginsburg in her Own Words on Thursday, January 13 at 10 a.m. This video tells the improbable story of how Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who couldn't get a job despite graduating first in her law school class in a tie and making Law Review at Harvard and Columbia Law Schools, became an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. It also reveals both the public and private sides of a resilient, resourceful woman who has

survived the hostility of the profoundly male universe of government and law to become a revered Justice and icon for gender equality and women's rights. Register to see this video by leaving a message on our reservation line: 301-475-4200, ext. 1660 beginning Dec.20 at 8 a.m. Seating is limited to 16. (89 min.) Free

New Bible Study Forming

Loffler Senior Activity Center will begin hosting a new bible study class on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. beginning January 14. This non-denominational, Christian-based scripture group will be led by Phil Benedict. Mr. Benedict is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and Boise State University. He has spent most of his life teaching the Bible in churches as well as two rehabilitation organizations. The first sessions will focus on the gospel of John. A portion of each meeting will be dedicated to prayer. All are welcome. Reservations are not required. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 1658.



St. Mary's County Library Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Hours

All three locations of the St. Mary's County Library will be closed Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The Libraries will be open normal business hours on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

Winter Bird Feeding

Join us virtually on Thursday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m. as Barb Whipkey, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited in Lexington Park and LaPlata, MD, shares winter bird feeding tips with us. Choosing the right combination of foods and feeders can turn a dreary winter backyard into a beautiful

bird sanctuary. We have several birds who only come to Southern Maryland for the winter. Learn who these visitors are and how you can be a good host to them. Register on www.stmalib.org, you will receive a Zoom invitation link via email the day before the event.

Bridgerton Book Club: On the Way to the Wedding

Join us online on Thursday, January 13 at 7 p.m. to discuss the eighth book in the Bridgerton series, On the Way to the Wedding. If you were a fan of the Netflix hit, or if you just want to read the series, come join us for book 8 of a Bridgerton read-along! This month we will read



Gregory's story in, On the Way to the Wedding. We will discuss the plot, character casting, the use of tropes and all things Bridgerton related. Next month we will be reading and discussing the final book in the series, Bridgertons: Happily Ever After. Register on www.stmalib.org.

The Greatest Love Letters from the Last 300 Years

With over 5 decades of working on creating and examining documents, Terry Antoniewicz is an expert on all things handwritten. The Greatest Love Letters from the Last 300 Years shows correspondence from roy-

als, high-profile public figures and the Civil War. Join us on Thursday, January 18 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. With a touch of history, some laughter and maybe a tear or two, find out how history was made through the contents of some of the deepest feelings written on paper. This program is also suitable for high school students. Find out which 17th Century historical figure wrote letters as if they were the teenage texts of today! This program includes a Q & A session. Register on www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom meeting.

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

Daniel Ignatius Sebacher



Daniel Ignatius Sebacher, 89, of Lexington Park, MD, passed away on December 26, 2021, in Charlotte, Hall, MD. Born on January 23, 1932 in St. Charles, MO, he was the son of the late Elizabeth Sebacher and Leo A. Sebacher. Daniel was the loving husband of Shirley M. Sebacher, whom he married on June 8, 1957 in St. Peter Catholic Church, St. Charles, MO. He is survived by his children Kim Fancher (Scott) of Sammamish, WA, Andrew Sebacher (Donna) of Machi Pongo, VA, Lynn Sebacher of Hampton, VA, and Kurt Sebacher (Tammie) of California, MD, his siblings Joseph Sebacher of St. Charles, MO and Mary Catherine Sebacher of Columbia, MO, as well as nine grandchildren. Daniel was preceded in death by his siblings Robert Sebacher, Phyllis Kneemiller, and Joan Ebbesmeyer.

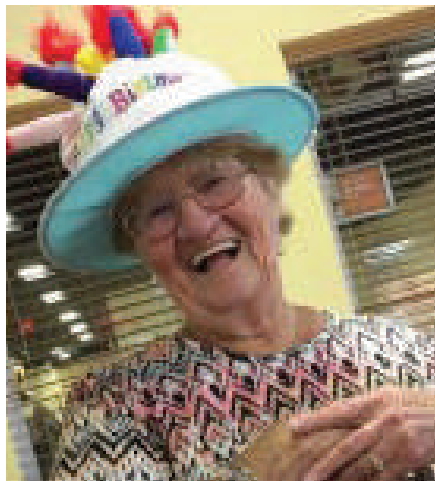
Daniel graduated from St. Peter High School in 1949. He graduated from St. Louis University in 1959 with a B.S. in Geophysical Engineering, and went on to obtain an M.S. in Physics from the University of Missouri in 1961. Daniel moved to St. Mary's County, MD in 013 from Osage County, MO. He served in the United States Air Force for four years, from 1951 to 1955 as an Air Traffic Control Operator, and then became an Atmospheric Research Physicist for NASA at the Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA for 26 years, retiring in 1988.

Interment will be held in St. Charles Borromeo Church Cemetery in St. Charles, MO at a later date.

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

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory, Leonardtown, MD.

Barbara Ann Sullivan Morgan



Barbara Ann Sullivan Morgan, 79, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away on December 30, 2021 in Abell, MD. She was born on October 23, 1942, in Baltimore, MD, to the late Thelma Frances Sullivan and Leo Joseph Sullivan. Barbara was the loving wife of James Roy Morgan, Jr., whom she married on October 10, 1992. Barbara is survived by her children Deborah Kollar (Joe) of Abell, MD, Wendy Long (Tony) of Mechanicsville, MD, Allen Modlin of Little Hocking, OH, 23 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren, and her sister Mary Frances Wheeler (Bryant) of Easton, MD. She was preceded in death by her son Kenny Modlin.

Barbara graduated from Holy Comforter. She worked the electronic division for Cooke Engineering, retiring after 15 years. She loved to sing, dance, and read. Barbara also enjoyed playing cards, bingo, and crosswords puzzles. She loved spending time with her family and friends, and will be greatly missed.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bushwood, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM with Father Stephen Wyble officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be Jason Guy, J.F. Nelson, Korbin Kollar, Myles Long, Michael Ryan Scott, and Jeffrey Butler. Honorary pallbearers Nikolas Butler, Danny O'Day, Matthew Bernd, Nathan Modlin, Jacob Modlin, Ricky Butler, and Daniel Modlin.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and ACTS (A Community That Shares) P.O. Box 54, Bushwood, MD 20618.

Condolences may be made to

the family at www.mgfh.com.

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. and Crematory Services, Leonardtown, MD.

Sara Ann Browne



Sara Ann Browne, 26, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on December 18th, 2021, in Cookeville, TN. Born in Leonardtown, MD on August 24th, 1995 to Bobbi and James Browne, Jr. She was a soon-to-be mom to her twin babies- Elizabeth Maria and Andrew

Lee.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather James Carlyle Brown, Sr., and great grandparents- Edgar B. And Charlotte (Newton) Browne, Jr, Leroy, and Sarah (Gibson) Brady, Theodore, and Goldie (Tasker) Newton, and Cecil and Elizabeth (Angle) Hager.

She is survived by her parents, her siblings- James Browne, III, Elizabeth Browne, Matthew Browne, Rebecca Browne, Robert Browne, Amber Browne, Christopher Browne. As well as her grandparents-Aileen Browne (Brady), Deborah and Jose Mejia (Newton), and Robert and Darlene (Kelley) Hager. And her uncle Robert Hager, her aunts Stephanie (Fogle) and Duston Shewbert, Charlotte (Browne) and Travis Wise, and Donna (Browne) and Dennis Richardson, as well as a multitude of extended aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Sara was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, MD. She graduated from Great Mills High School in 2014, where she spent her years playing the mellophone and bass drum in marching band, playing the French horn in band, and one

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year of indoor Color guard.

After high school, she followed her passion for helping others by getting an Associate of Arts degree in Arts and Science and an Associate of Arts degree in Arts and Science in Social Sciences.

Sara moved to Florence, Texas, in April of 2021 to pursue some leads to further her life. After finding herself pregnant with her twins, she decided to move back home to St. Mary's County, MD to be with her family to start and raise her family.

Sara was a follower of Jesus and was a born-again Christian.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, January 5th, 2022, from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 10:30 AM in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Chris McComb officiating. Interment will follow at Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Donnie Newton, John Vallejo, Isaiah Gressen, Dustin Shewbert, Patrick Browne, and Mathew Mincey. Honorary Pallbearers will be James Browne, III, Matthew Browne, Robert Browne, and Christopher Browne.

Allen Neilson Dyson, Jr



Allen Neilson Dyson, Jr. of Mechanicsville, Maryland passed away on December 15, 2021 at his home.

He was born on September 20, 1943 to Allen Dyson Sr. and Marie Dyson "Huntington" in Washington D.C. He was the youngest of two (2) children. After he graduated from La Plata High School, he decided to serve his country proud and signed up for the United States Air Force, in 1963. After he was honorably discharged in 1967, he worked many different jobs before finding his career at as a supervisor with Pepco. He truly enjoyed and excelled at this occupation and had many great stories and friends from these years. Even though he was great at his job, and had an admirable work ethic in the industry, he found his true passion

after retirement, working in the Amish Community. He considered them his family, calling most of them his brothers of choice. He grew up with Isreal Swarey and they have been "brothers" for the most part of his life, just being there for each other in their good times and bad, spending their off times together.

Even though he was born in Washington D.C. he grew up in Charlotte Hall, Maryland where he could enjoy fishing with his friends or out in the woods hunting. Most of his friends knew him as Neil. He never knew a stranger and would always make you feel welcomed. He would do anything for a laugh and always enjoyed a good joke. Anyone that truly knew him, knew he had such a big heart. He'd give you anything even if he didn't know you. He could make you laugh when you were mad, smile when you were sad, and truly entertain you with stories of bygone years.

He loved fiercely and deeply and we take comfort in knowing that Neil is now at peace and surrounded by light.

Neil is survived by his wife, Pamela Dyson of Mechanicsville, Maryland; his son Chris Dyson and his wife Michelina Dyson of Southern Maryland; his sister Lois Benton and her husband Bryan Benton and their son Steve Benton and his wife Lisa and their children Gabrielle and Rebecca of LaPlata, Maryland; his "brother" Isreal Swarey and many more friends. He is pre-deceased by his son Michael, late wife Carolyn, a great number of family, friends, and favorite dogs reuniting with him on the other side.

Interment will be held on January 6, 2021 at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery, at 11301 Crain Hwy, Cheltenham, MD 20623, at 10:30 a.m. with Military Honors.

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

All Arrangements have been made by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A.

Gazella Beveridge



Gazella Beveridge, 89, of Hollywood, MD, formerly of Rayland, Ohio, passed away on December 6, 2021 with her loving family by her side.

Gazella was born on August 21, 1932 in Powhatan Point, Ohio to the late Julius Horvath and Mary Kuhn Horvath.

On January 23, 1951 in Glen Robins, Ohio, Gazella wed her beloved husband, the late Thomas Kenneth Beveridge. Together they celebrated 66 very happy years of marriage. Gazella was an active member of the Rayland Presbyterian Church where she taught Sunday school. She enjoyed cooking and baking for her family and faith community, crocheting, gardening, watching birds, and most especially, spending time with her family.

Gazella is survived by her daughter, Mary Margaret Beveridge Clifton and son-in-law Wallace L. Clifton, of Hollywood, MD; her sister, Margaret Kurko of Martins Ferry, Ohio; grandchildren, Holly Clifton, of Seattle, WA, Theodore Clifton, of Mechanicsville, MD, Hope Colson, of Hollywood, MD, and Heidi Bajpai, of Ashburn, VA, and 13 great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, Gazella was predeceased by her son, Thomas Kenneth Beveridge Jr.; sisters, Virginia Shultz, Mary Hamvai, and Helen Bier; and brothers, Alfred, Julius, Henry, Ernest, James, and Eugene Horvath. Gazella was lovingly known as Guggie, Geezie, and Tootsie and was adored by so many who will miss her greatly. Contact the family for service information.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home in Leonardtown, Maryland.

Jean Elizabeth Terry



Jean Elizabeth Terry (93) of Hollywood, MD, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, at her home on December 27, 2021.

Jean was born on October 13,

1928 in Washington DC, to the late George Tabor and Rosalee Tippett. She was the beloved wife of Spurgeon D. Terry, Jr. for 72 years until he preceded her in death on July 31, 2020.

Together Jean and Spurgeon raised ten children: Robert Francis (Rosie) Terry of Desert Hot Springs, CA, James Joseph (Aurea Acosta-D) Terry of San Diego, CA, Michael Anthony (Fran) Terry, of Leola, PA, John-D (Gina) Terry of College Park, MD, Mary Rosalee Middledorf (Bob Middledorf-D) of Laurel, MD, Faye Marie (Richard) Winemiller of Lemon Grove, CA, Margaret Jean (David) Naber of Daytona Beach, FL, Kathleen Marie (Robert) Faber of Clarksville, MD, Joan Esther Stevens of Hollywood, MD, and Theresa Virginia Bond (Richard) of Ellicott City, MD.

She was loved by her baby sister, Joan Tippett Dalton, her brothers Michael (Jackie) Tippett and Tommy (Donna) Tippett, and her sisters-in-law, Gloria Tippett and Barbara Tippett-all from Tippett Point in Hollywood, Maryland, her 20 grandchildren, and her 17 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her son, John Edward Terry, her infant twin sister, Joan Esther Tippett, her brothers, Joe Tippett, Francis (June) Tippett, Jimmy (Janet) Tippett, John Tippett, her brother-in-law John Dalton, her granddaughter, Jennifer Burns, her daughter-in-law, Aurea Acosta Terry, and her son-in-law, Bob Middledorf.

Jean and Spurgeon were daily Mass and Rosary attendees at St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church for nearly 30 years. Before retiring to Southern Maryland, Jean and Spurgeon were active members of St. Jerome's Catholic Church in Hyattsville, Maryland. Their ten children attended school at St. Jerome's Catholic School. Jean was active in the women's sodality at St. Jerome's and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus at St. John Francis Regis. Jean volunteered at St. Jerome's School and later worked at Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Federal Credit Union. Jean enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her beautiful grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jean was loved by everyone who knew her. She was kind, loving, generous, and compassionate. She had a very strong faith that guided her life and was devoted to the Blessed Mother.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church, 43950 St. John's Road, Hollywood, MD 20636 or Hospice of St. Mary's County, Maryland, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Catherine (Dinkey)
Herbert**



Catherine (Dinkey) Herbert was born in Leonardtown, Maryland on July 23, 1949, and departed this life December 23, 2021. The Lord has set her free, he said it is time my child for rest, come home with me.

Catherine is survived by her husband of 49 years Joseph Herbert; with this union they raised seven children Kevin (Helvi), Kelvin, Felicia, Leslie, Tranyna, Kermit (Sonia) and Dana (Mark). Grandma Dink Dink has twenty-three grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, sister in-law Ann Butler, brother in-laws Ronnie (Vivian), David (Linda), Melvin (Ann) and Rob-Bernard a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Catherine is preceded in death by her parents James E. Armstrong and Catherine I. Armstrong, brothers William (Diddy) Scriber and James (Dingum) Armstrong, sister in-laws Sarah Scriber and Agnes Yates, brother in-law Francis Herbert and best friend Audrey Dickerson.

Catherine graduated from Chopticon High School. Catherine loved playing bingo with her riding partner (Mary Puddin Bowman), spades and pat. Catherine had a heart of gold and could never say the word "NO" if you asked her for a favor or two. She was a taxicab for many. Catherine was a member of the Knights of St. Johns Ladies Auxiliary #305 Bushwood for 29 years. Catherine worked at St. Mary's Nursing Home for 15 years before retiring, she also did home care for another 6 years before her health would not allow her to continue this was her love of caring for people, she will be missed by all.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, January 6, 2022 from

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Holy Angels Catholic Church, 21340 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m., by Reverend Stephen Wible. Interment will follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery, 23080 Maddox Road, Bushwood, MD 20618.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Mary Ruth Woodburn
Bowles**



Mary Ruth Woodburn Bowles, 84, of Great Mills, MD passed away on December 23, 2021 at her home with family by her side.

Born on April 17, 1937 in Leonardtown, MD, she was the daughter of the late Mary Ruth Norris Woodburn and Richard Dellie Woodburn. Mary Ruth was married for 42 years to the late Ralph B. Bowles, whom she married on October 28, 1961 at Holy Face Church in Great Mills, MD.

A lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, she was a devout Catholic and parishioner of Holy Face Church in Great Mills, MD and a past member of the Ladies of Charity. She graduated from Little Flower School in 1951 and graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1955. In the fall of 1955, Mary Ruth entered Warflynn Beauty College in Washington, D.C. and graduated one year later.

In 1956 after beauty school, Mary Ruth went to work for Mr. Bill Temple of the "Temple of Beauty" salon in Lexington Park, MD. She would tell stories of doing the hair of Navy wives whose husbands were attending the Test Pilot School on the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. The salon was sold in 1961, and she went to work for Mrs. Elsie Ford, who had a beauty shop in her home in Town Creek, MD.

After Donna was born in 1962, she stayed home with her for about a year but really missed working.

It was at this time she and Ralph decided to build a beauty shop for her at home. The shop was named "Bowles Beauty Nook" and was located in their backyard. Mary Ruth went back to work in 1963 and started working in the evening and on Saturdays and added hours as the business grew. It proved to be a very good opportunity for Mary Ruth; she wanted to work but also wanted to be home with her family. They welcomed two more girls, Lisa in 1970 and Karen in 1973. On September 26, 2005, Mary Ruth celebrated her 50th anniversary of working as a beautician. She considered all her clients as her extended family.

She had the gift of hospitality and enjoyed hosting luncheons, card parties, and holiday dinners, and enjoyed dancing and cooking. She loved camping with her friends in the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs. In later years, Sunday dinners with her family became a cherished weekly event.

Mary Ruth is survived by her three daughters: Donna Voithoffer (Barry), Lisa Thomas (Jamie), and Karen Rowand (Robert), and brother Francis Woodburn (Jean). She is also survived by her five beloved grandchildren: Eric and Ryan Thomas, Leah Voithoffer, and Lauren and Jenna Rowand. In addition to her parents and husband, Mary Ruth was predeceased in death by her sisters Janice Hayden and Erva Mae Woodburn and brother-in-law, Vincent Hayden.

Memorial contributions can be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650, the Second District Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 1, Valley Lee, MD 20692 or Little Flower School, 20408 Point Lookout Road, Great Mills, MD 20634.

Condolences may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Pollyanne Walker
Pearson**



Our dearest mother, Pollyanne Walker Pearson, 86, of California, MD, passed away peacefully on November 26, 2021 in California, MD with her family at her side.

She was born on November 7, 1935 in Miami, FL to the late Alexander Levette Walker, Jr. and Mary Louise Hobbs.

At the age of 2, the family moved back home to Birmingham, Alabama where Polly grew up and graduated from Woodlawn High School. As a Navy wife, she moved around the country settling, in 1972, in St. Mary's County where she remained the rest of her life. She was employed by Patuxent Business Machines and Colonial Office Supply as a supply clerk until her retirement. She was a delicious cook, known for her fried chicken and homemade soups. She was a wonderful piano player with a beautiful voice and enjoyed singing in various choirs over the years. She was the conductor of the choir at Callaway Baptist Church for many years. She was a devoted life-long Christian, having a strong faith. She was a long-time member of Callaway Baptist Church. Family was very important to her; She spent summers and holidays vacationing in Alabama visiting them she also loved to travel with her children. All you had to do was to mention a trip and she was ready and willing to go.

She is survived by her children, Jamie McLane (Jeff) of California, MD and Timothy Pearson (Shannon) of Lexington Park, MD; her sisters, Mary Louise Johnson of Athens, GA and Eleanor Jeane Barnes of Calera, AL; her grandchildren, Jenifer Downs (Devon) and Jessica McLane (Justin); her great grandchildren: Dallas Downs, Jackson Downs, Cole Downs, Gavin Liston, Owen Liston, Kai Brawner, and Theo Liston; and extended family and friends. She is predeceased by her parents, her brother, William Deane Walker (Jerry), brother in laws, Bev Johnson and Jack Barnes and ex-husband James Waldrop Pearson.

The family wishes to send their sincere thanks to Dr. Mehrdad Akhlaghi, MD and the wonderful staff at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in the ICU, 3 Central, Telemetry, MedStar Health and Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Callaway Baptist Church Building Fund, 20960 Point Lookout Road, Callaway, MD 20620.

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

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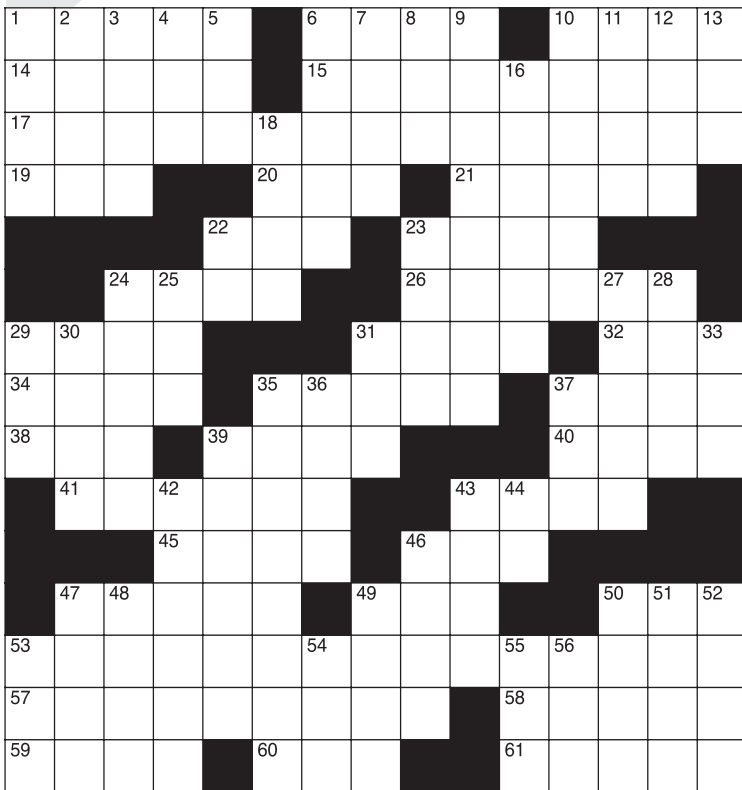
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GAMES & PUZZLES



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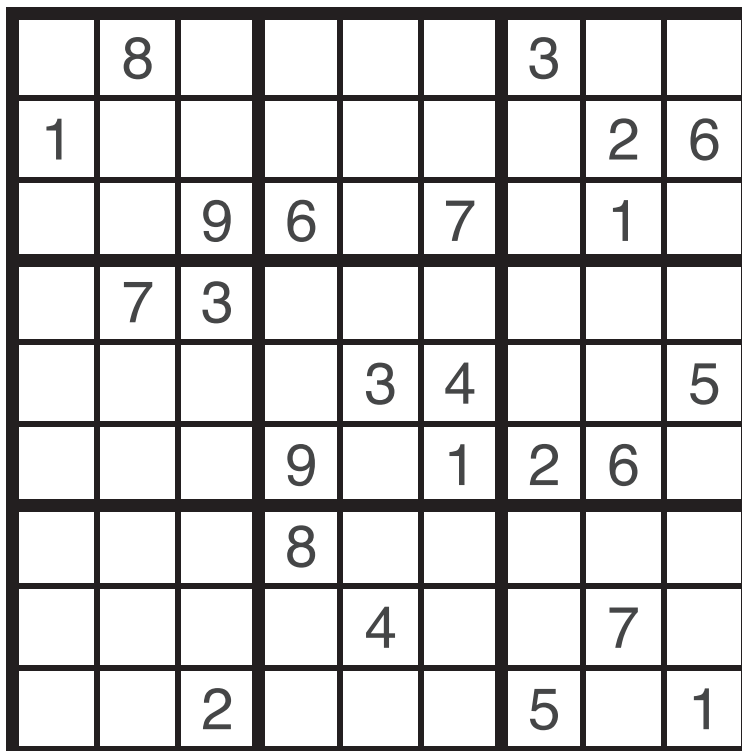
- 1. Partner to "oohed"
- 6. Relaxing places
- 10. Humorous monologue
- 14. Simple elegance
- 15. Bearable
- 17. Disobedience
- 19. Express delight
- 20. Gov't attorneys
- 21. Wake up
- 22. A type of band
- 23. Remain as is
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Battle-ax
- 29. Volcanic crater
- 31. The mother of Jesus
- 32. One's life history
- 34. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 35. Doubles
- 37. Jacob ___, American journalist
- 38. House pet
- 39. S. African river
- 40. Broad sashes
- 41. Establish as a foundation
- 43. KGB double agent Aldrich ___
- 45. Part of a book
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Train group (abbr.)

- 50. Frames per second
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal from a federation
- 58. Guitarist sounds
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Helps escape

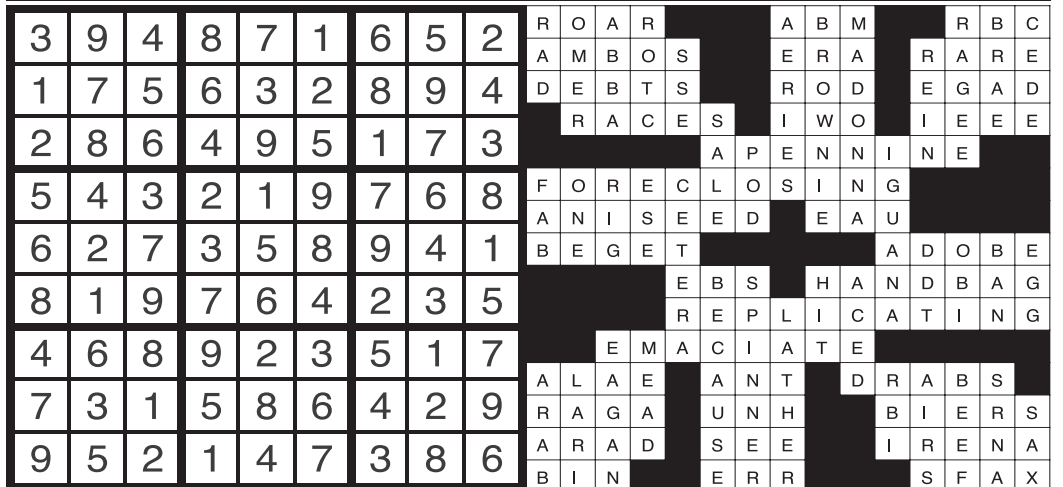
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Currency exchange charge
- 2. River in Tuscany
- 3. Breakfast dish
- 4. Defunct European currency
- 5. Upper class young woman
- 6. Part of a purse
- 7. Self-contained units
- 8. Boxing's GOAT
- 9. Legislators
- 10. Flightless birds
- 11. U. of Miami's mascot is one
- 12. Floating ice
- 13. Low, marshy land
- 16. Seldom
- 18. Lyric poems
- 22. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)
- 23. Full extent of something
- 24. ___ Claus

- 25. Naturally occurring solid material
- 27. Acquired brain injury behavior science (abbr.)
- 28. Thirteen
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 30. Member of a Semitic people
- 31. One thousandth of an inch
- 33. Former CIA
- 35. Most lemony
- 36. Engage in
- 37. Small Eurasian deer
- 39. Provisions
- 42. All humans have them
- 43. Swiss river
- 44. Storage term (abbr.)
- 46. Famed Broadway lyricist Sammy
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish
- 49. Egyptian sun god
- 50. Flute
- 51. Flew off!
- 52. Scottish tax
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Populous Brazilian city
- 55. Malaysian Isthmus
- 56. Pointed end of a pen



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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The St. Mary's County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of St. Mary's County. The St. Mary's County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The St. Mary's County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

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