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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

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CONTENTS

LOCAL 3

COMMUNITY 13

COPS AND COURTS 12

FEATURE 17

PAX RIVER 22

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS 23

CALENDAR 24

OBITS 26

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 30

FUN & GAMES 31



ON THE COVER 17
Local 6th grader is a champion drag racer



LOCAL 8
Leonardtwn government supports memory care facility



COMMUNITY 15
Nine Quilts presented

“WE ARE SEEING MORE BREAKTHROUGH INFECTIONS, EVEN MORE THAN WHAT WE SAW WITH THE DELTA VARIANT.”

DR. MEENA BREWSTER ON THE INFECTIOUS NATURE OF THE OMICRON VARIANT OF COVID-19.

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>Thu 1/13</p> <p>49° 35°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Fri 1/14</p> <p>42° 21°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Sat 1/15</p> <p>28° 20°F</p> <p>Cloudy</p>	<p>Sun 1/16</p> <p>33° 26°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>
<p>Mon 1/17</p> <p>41° 28°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Tue 1/18</p> <p>41° 28°F</p> <p>Sunny</p>	<p>Wed 1/19</p> <p>44° 33°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Thu 1/20</p> <p>46° 29°F</p> <p>Cloudy</p>



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Commissioners Updated on Omicron

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The commissioners of St. Mary's County authorized using \$250,000 in taxpayer funds to purchase more home test kits so residents can self-diagnose for COVID-19 this week after mile-long lines at the Hollywood firehouse to get a kit the week prior snarled traffic and left many who came, whether registered or not, disappointed when supplies ran out.

County health officer Dr. Meena Brewster said the public notice issued for residents to pick up the kits had the times at 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. as supplies allowed, but stipulated many expected to get a kit regardless.

She and Dr. Stephen Michaels, chief medical officer at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, gave commissioners a lengthy briefing on the pandemic and the rise of the Omicron variant.

"This variant has become dominant in the U.S. landscape," Brewster said. "These are our highest levels of COVID infection we've seen since the beginning of the pandemic."

She continued by saying that, in St. Mary's, the community has seen "strikingly high levels" of infection and that "case rates have spiked to their highest rates in all age groups."

The vaccines against COVID-19, she said, are still necessary to protect residents, but their efficacy in preventing infection is weakening against Omicron.

"We are seeing more breakthrough infections, even more than what we saw with the Delta variant," Brewster said.

The Omicron variant is also more resistant to immunity from either prior infection or immunity through vaccination, than prior variants of the disease, she said.

Approximately 62 percent of residents fully vaccinated, according to county health data; Brewster said being fully vaccinated, especially boosted with an inoculant, helped prevent serious illness even if it did not guarantee against infection.

So far 184 St. Mary's residents have died from COVID-19, Brewster reported. "Covid fatalities are rising and we do

expect this to worsen as trends tend to lag behind rising case rates for several weeks," she said.

Michaels said the hospital has yet to reach a crisis level but its resources are strained.

"We've seen a dramatic increase in the hospitalization rate at MedStar St. Mary's due to COVID-19," Michaels said, with over 3,300 hospitalized this week in Maryland.

The state estimates that number would be 5,000 or more by early February, said Michaels.

"We are using every single bed, plus beds we don't have," he said, noting that as of Jan. 11 their surge volume was 130 patients locally and 350 patients in intensive care across the Med Star system with 1,000 COVID positive patients receiving care.

Despite staffing issues from COVID, MedStar St. Mary's is "still open for business as a full-service hospital," said Michaels.

The surge in demand for COVID test kits has also struck the hospital's operations hard, Michaels said, with more than double the volumes at the emergency department due in part to the scrambling for test kits.

Brewster said wearing masks, and the right kind was critical to stopping the spread of the viral surge.

"Better masking is key," she said. "Masks work, they especially work when more people wear them and when they use more effective mask options."

It was important to use either a medical-grade, multi ply surgical mask, KN 95 or N95 mask, with the last two being the best alternatives, Brewster said.

"What also is working is people getting boosted to prevent serious illness." "It's not just a simple cold, this is potentially a life-threatening illness."

Brewster said the health department's partnership with the county library system has led to nearly 40,000 KN95 or N95 masks being distributed to residents in 2022 so far.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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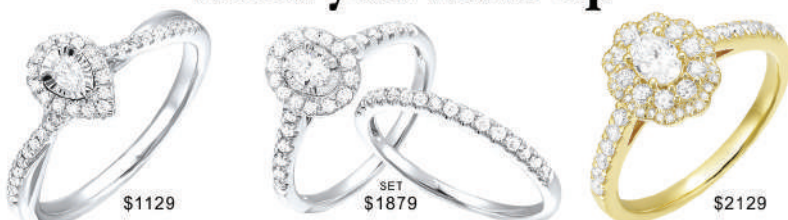


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Legislators Look to General Assembly Session



Del. Matt Morgan

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer and
Dick Myers
Editor

State-level elected leaders are looking at issues of tax reform and bringing home funding for local infrastructure improvement projects when they travel to Annapolis this week to take part in the latest session of the Maryland General Assembly.

Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist. 29 B) said he wants to put in legislation that would allow for military spouses who are licensed in the medical profession in other states to get temporary licensure here.

Crosby said the needs of the COVID-19 pandemic meant the legislation made sense.

“With this law they would be able to bring that license into Maryland and begin operating immediately,” Crosby said. “We need a labor force, especially to deal with the pandemic.

“We want to capture that.”

Crosby said this would be the top priority of his legislative contribution this year.

He also plans to introduce a bill that would initiate a bond program for the 11 military installations in Maryland, Patuxent River Naval Air Station among them, so they could take advantage of state funding to aid with projects that would benefit local infrastructure tied to their military operations.

Projects that would be eligible for this bond program, Crosby said, could include expansion of lanes at Gate 2 on the local base.

Crosby said the program could help programs that would benefit both the installation and the community without having to wait for military construction dollars to become available.

Crosby also wants to introduce a bill that would help those “struggling with food insecurity.”

He wants to find funding to help bring Farming for Hunger, which has operated in Calvert County, to St. Mary’s.

He also wants to find ways to help St. Mary’s Caring to continue search-



Del. Brian Crosby

ing for a new facility to continue feeding the needy.

Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist. 29A) wants to target and repeal a key portion of the state’s gasoline tax.

“I am concerned about the impact of rapidly increasing inflation on the citizens of Maryland,” Morgan said in a social media post. “A little-known fact is that as inflation increases, so does Maryland’s gas tax.

“Maryland’s gas tax is connected to the rise of CPI (consumer price index), and as CPI increases, so does the tax consumers pay at the pump. Inflation was 6.5% last quarter. With Marylanders already facing rapidly increased prices, I believe it’s time we stop the inevitable and automatic gas tax increase from happening by repealing the CPI portion of the law. I have drafted legislation to do just that.”

Del. Gerald “Jerry” Clark (R-Dist. 29C) has pre-filed HB 195 that authorizes the individual who’s employed by a county or municipality to perform marine contractor services. “This is the third session. I will have presented this bill. The first year was when we got cut short for COVID. Last year, it got caught up in a turf battle between the House and the Senate. We got it through the House last year, unanimously.”

Sen. Jack Bailey said the main obstacle last year was Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee Chairman Sen. Paul Pinsky of Prince George’s County.

The bill is aimed at saving jurisdictions money by being able to do the work in house.

Bailey (R: 29) has pre-filed a bill on sexual abuse of a minor. “We got that bill through both the House and the Senate last year but they were just a little different,” he explained. He’s hopeful or passage this year.

Bailey also has a bill this year on the Atlantic menhaden season harvest, “trying to stop the commercial reduction of the fishery that’s going on in Virginia.”

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Delegate Clark Will Not Seek Re-election

By Dick Myers Editor
Guy Leonard Staff Writer

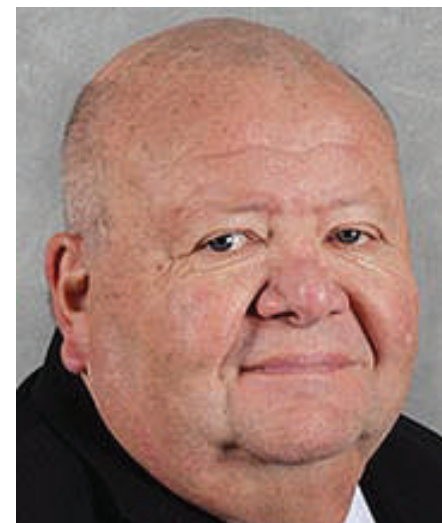
Delegate Jerry Clark (R: 29C) says he will not be seeking re-election.

Clark was appointed delegate on October 13, 2016, to take over Tony O’Donnell’s seat when he was appointed to the Maryland Public Service Commission. He was then elected in 2018. Before being delegate, Clark served from December 2002 to December 16, 2014, as Calvert County commissioner, including its president in 2012.

Clark made the announcement at a Jan. 11 joint meeting between the Calvert County legislative delegation and the Calvert County commissioners. He said, “I put in 20 years. It was a hard decision, but it’s time for young people to take over and move this county and this state the way they should be. I’ve had a great time. I’ve enjoyed working with everybody in the delegation, all my senators, all my fellow delegates and all the county commissioners. And it’s tough for me to do, but it’s time for me to move on.”

Clark’s district includes lower Calvert and a significant part of St. Mary’s. A legislative proposed redistricting plan would change the area in St. Mary’s the district includes. Three-term St. Mary’s County Commissioner Todd Morgan has indicated he may run for the seat. Morgan was a candidate for appointment to then seat when Clark was chosen.

“I’m strongly considering my



Del. Jerry Clark

candidacy in light of Del. Jerry Clark’s comments,” Morgan told The County Times in a Wednesday phone interview.

Morgan stopped short of committing fully to the race. For the last two terms as a St. Mary’s County commissioner, Morgan has run unopposed in both the Republican primary and in the general election.

Calvert Commissioner President Buddy Hance said, “Delegate Clark, we’re sorry to hear that, because you provided great service to this county, as you mentioned as a commissioner and then as a delegate. Personally, I’m sorry to see you go, because in Annapolis, as you gentlemen know, it takes a while to build up a reputation and to get things done.”

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Upcoming Pax River events: MAY 3 / AUG 23 / NOV 15

IN-PERSON

3PM-7PM

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Masks are required!

Bring plenty of resumes to share with recruiters.

Professional dress is required.

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Schools Budget Request Increased By \$20.7 Million

	FY 2022 Adopted Budget	FY 2023 Recommended Budget	\$ Change
Summary of Revenues			
Local	\$114,540,490	\$121,556,610	\$7,016,120
Local Fund Balance	-	6,270,100	6,270,100
SMCPS Fund Balance	7,493,990	-	(7,493,990)
SMCPS Fund Balance - CPCS	75,072	287,660	212,588
State	111,487,583	126,591,526	15,103,943
Federal	2,657,000	2,486,000	(171,000)
Other	1,254,839	1,070,800	(184,039)
Total Unrestricted Fund Revenues	\$237,508,974	\$258,262,696	\$20,753,722

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Board of Education is mulling a request for its fiscal 2023 operating budget that would total \$258.2 million split between federal, state and local funding; last year's approved fiscal 2022 budget was \$237.5 million.

The county funded portion of the school budget proposed is \$121.4 million or \$7 million more than the county fronted last year in taxpayer funds.

The school system is also requesting the county pay over \$6.2 million in local fund balance reserves to the overall education budget as the school system had depleted its fund balance of a little over \$7 million for the fiscal 2022 budget, according to documents available for the Jan. 13 public hearing on the spending to be held at 6 p.m. at the school board headquarters in Leonardtown on Moakley street.

The proposed budget would offer both step and cost of living increases for teachers per their negotiated four-year agreement as well as new positions, a rate increase for substitute teachers and

school bus drivers.

The plan calls for 11 new teachers as well as 33 more special education teachers with several top level and mid-level administrative positions.

The budget would increase the overall number of system employees from 1,995 to 2,063, or a net increase of about 68 new positions.

The \$6.2 million in local fund balance is proposed to be split between elementary level English language arts textbooks at \$2 million, a technology "refresh" to include SMART TVs for classrooms as well as new laptops for teachers and students at a cost of \$2.27 million.

The remaining \$2 million would be put towards other post employment benefits (OPEB) for employees, according to the latest budget documents.

The next budget hearing is set for Jan. 19, with the final school board vote on the budget set for Jan. 26.

The budget would then be sent to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County for debate.

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Town Council Supports Memory Care Home



the Town Square

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Leonardtown Town Council voted this week to use just under 11 acres of its critical area growth allocation towards the construction of a new memory care facility on a piece of land it annexed into the town limits just last year.

The new facility would be operated by the St. Mary's Nursing Center already in the heart of Leonardtown.

Though the town approved the use of critical area land — land protected by the state due to its proximity to rivers, streams or other wetlands and where development is strictly regulated — the project must still get a special exception from the town's appeals board before beginning construction.

The project would be situated on a 22-acre piece of land located adjacent to the intersection of Fenwick Street and St. Andrews Church Road and be nearly 32,000 square feet in size; the actual facility and land to be developed

would be only about two acres.

The town council voted unanimously to approve the allocation of land to the project.

If the project receives all of its approvals it would still have to be built out in phases as it would be hooked into the town's water and sewer system, which is currently slated for a capacity upgrade.

The facility is proposed to include 53 beds; the property upon which it would sit currently has several structures on it.

The town's planning documents show they are two dilapidated houses, a dilapidated building as well as a barn in similar condition; these are proposed to be demolished.

Most of the site, just over 14 acres, will remain forested and about five-and-a-half acres will remain in a conservation easement.

The building itself will have 32 units with about 15 staff members; 27 parking spaces would also be included.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



1. FRONT ELEVATION (FACING ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH ROAD)



2. SIDE ELEVATION

Plans for the expansion of the St. Mary's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Man Arrested For Attempted Murder After Standoff in Lexington Park

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In the space of about five hours between late night Jan. 7 and the early morning of Jan. 8, a Lexington Park man is alleged to have committed two separate knife attacks and a home invasion that have led to his being charged with two counts of attempted murder and numerous charges of assault.

Frederick Lee Weems, 42, remains incarcerated at the Leonardtown detention center on a no-bond status after he allegedly broke into the apartment of Shawte Coates on Great Mills Road, near the Canopy Liquor store, and stabbing the victim, Kevin Jerome Chase multiple times.

Chase was so badly wounded, police reports stated, that he had to be taken by helicopter to George Washington University Hospital for treatment.

According to police reports filed in county District Court, the Jan. 8 home invasion and stabbings were apparently precipitated by an incident just hours earlier in the same vicinity.

In the first incident, deputies were called to the scene and found Weems, his face exhibiting fresh blood on it, arguing with another subject.

Weems told deputies that he had been assaulted by the occupants of the apartment that he would later allegedly break into to commit the knife attack.

Police learned Weems had a bench warrant assigned to him and placed him under arrest; but he continued to say that Coates and Chase were the ones to first attack him and that Chase should be the one under arrest.

Police said they interviewed Coates, who said Weems had cut her earlier with a knife when he came to her residence; Coates said Weems had been charged in a case involving her daughter but those charges had been dismissed.



Frederick Weems

When Weems attacked her, she said, Chase, who was in her residence, intervened and stopped Weems' alleged assault.

Hours later, Weems allegedly broke down Coates' apartment door, entered with two knives and began stabbing and slashing at Chase, wounding him many times, according to police.

Chase had come out from the apartment's bedroom, court papers stated, to confront Weems, and was immediately set upon.

Witnesses said one of the apartment's other residents attempted to break up the melee but she slipped and fell to the floor due all of Chase's blood spilled.

Weems was eventually repulsed from the apartment and retreated to his own nearby apartment; police arrived there to find he had barricaded himself in the residence.

While police were interviewing witnesses, reports stated, Weems called one of the witnesses with his cell phone and made threatening text messages.

The sheriff's office tactical team made entry to Weems' apartment and extracted him and he was again placed under arrest.

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\$3.50 \$6.50 \$9.50

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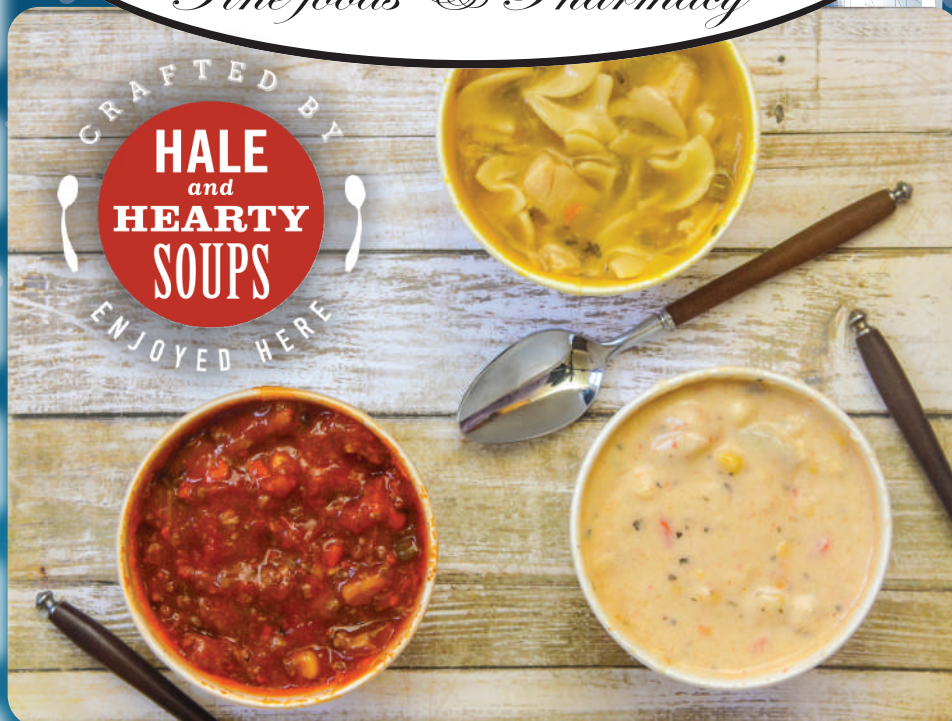
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Search Continues for Missing St. Mary's Man

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Ernest Sigmon, the Mechanicsville man who went missing while operating a boat on the Chesapeake Bay Dec. 29, has not yet been found.

Authorities say they are continuing their search.

"The search for Mr. Ernest Sigmon III is ongoing," said NRP spokesperson Lauren Moss. "The Maryland Natural Resources Police have been searching every single day since becoming aware of this incident.

"They have used every available resource to assist them with this search, such as sonar equipment, boat crews, and aircraft."

Searchers also investigated Sigmon's last known position, which appears to be off the shore of Calvert County.

His 25-foot center console boat was found trolling in the waters off of Dares Beach, the family's Facebook page stated, but he was not there and no blood was found on the boat, they said.

"Additionally, officers searched Mr. Sigmon's last known whereabouts as well as surrounding areas. Officers have also received tips, and acted upon them. We also encourage anyone who has any tips or helpful information to please contact our dispatch office immediately at 410-260-8888.

Ernie Sigmon Jr., the missing man's father, said the family has no intentions of giving up the search.

"Heck no, no way," the younger Sigmon said. "We're using every asset we can at this point.

"We still have family walking the shoreline looking for clothing and other items."

He said the family has now been authorized to search in the area of



Ernie Sigmon

Poplar Island in the western Chesapeake Bay.

Numerous Southern Maryland residents have also joined the search for Sigmon, either by boat, on foot along the shoreline or by airplane, trying to find any evidence of where he might be.

Sigmon, 44, is described as a white male, six-foot tall and weighing about 200 pounds.

He was last seen wearing a grey and black hat, black jacket and bright green deck shoes.

Sigmon took a photo of himself at 3 p.m. Dec. 29 and sent it to his family; it was about one hour before he went missing.

The family is encouraging anyone who is searching for Sigmon to report anything they find that might be significant to the Natural Resources Police.

"It's amazing the number of people willing to contribute all their resources to the search," Sigmon Jr. said. "We know it's expensive."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

County Seeks Public's Help to Alleviate Hospital Overload from COVID-19 Surge



The St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services is asking St. Mary's County residents to help alleviate the unprecedented strain that COVID-19 and its emerging variants have placed on the area's emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, front-line responders, and hospitals.

COVID-19 infections continue to spread rapidly throughout Maryland. Increased numbers of hospitalizations have led to longer patient wait times in the area's emergency departments (ED), as well as a shortage of available staffed beds in hospitals. Healthcare facilities are being required to triage (sort) patients as they arrive to ensure the sickest receive treatment first. In some cases, ED patients with non-life-threatening emergencies may wait for extended periods, some exceeding 24 hours. Consequently, calling 9-1-1 for an ambulance does not guarantee faster care in the ED. Because local hospitals may be full, ambulances may be required to take patients to other regions. This takes EMS units out of their communities for extended periods, making them less available for urgent 9-1-1 calls such as heart attacks and vehicle accidents.

In light of this unprecedented burden on EMS personnel, hospital staff, and our health system, the St. Mary's County Department

of Emergency Services is seeking the community's assistance in the following ways:

Avoid going to EDs for minor illnesses, such as coughs, colds, and low-grade fevers. Instead, seek non-emergency care from primary care physicians or urgent care centers.

Do not go to an ED just to obtain a COVID-19 test. Instead, go to an approved COVID-19 testing site: <https://smchd.org/covid-19-testing/> or use a home test kit.

Limit 9-1-1 EMS calls to possible life-threatening conditions.

Get vaccinated and/or receive the COVID-19 booster and encourage others to do the same.

Help limit COVID-19 transmission by socially distancing, washing hands regularly, and wearing a mask.

Limit exposure to others, especially if there has been close contact with someone known to have COVID-19 or there are COVID-19 symptoms.

By following these guidelines, the St. Mary's County community can help decrease COVID-19 transmission and, in so doing, decrease the number of infections, hospitalizations, and deaths. For more information about COVID-19 and related resources, visit <https://smchd.org/coronavirus/or> <https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/>



MedStar Moves to RED Level Visitor and Patient Support

Currently ALL MedStar Health hospitals and ambulatory locations are following the RED Level Visitor and Patient Support Persons Policy.

All MedStar Health hospitals and ambulatory care locations are following the RED Level Visitor and Patient Support Persons Policy.

When the tier is red the following visitor restrictions apply.

- General guidance for hospital and ambulatory locations
- **No Visitors Permitted at Hospitals.** Visitation exceptions for Persons Under Investigation (PUI) or COVID-19 positive patients must be approved by hospital Chief Medical Officer or Chief Nursing Officer (or their designee) in specific circumstances (see below). Visitation exceptions in specific circumstances (as indicated below) for non-PUI or non-COVID-19 positive patients are approved and do not require approval by the hospital Chief Medical Officer or Chief Nursing Officer (or their designee).
- **One Visitor Per Patient Permitted at Ambulatory Locations.**
- All patients are required to wear face masks, when clinically feasible and appropriate, throughout their hospitalization or ambulatory visit, including in patient rooms when others are present and while outside of patient rooms (e.g., ra-

diology, hallway, during transport to procedure, etc.) per the Med-Star Health Universal Masking Protocol.

- **Anyone approved by exception:**
- Must check in at the front desk and wear a face mask throughout the duration of their visit (gaiters and face masks with an exhalation valve are not permitted). They are expected to bring their own face mask. If they do not have one, a face mask will be provided.
- Will be screened for a history of COVID-19 and for COVID-19-like symptoms.
- A visitor with a history of COVID-19 may be permitted if asymptomatic or symptoms have improved:
- 10 days after positive COVID-19 test collection date if visitor did not require hospitalization.
- 20 days after positive COVID-19 test collection date if visitor required hospitalization.
- Must follow proper infection prevention practices, including masking, hand hygiene, physical distancing, and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) if applicable.



- Visitor vaccination status does not impact these requirements or this policy in any way.
- Anyone approved by exception must don PPE provided by the hospitals—procedure mask, isolation gown, goggles or face shield (eye protection), and gloves; and must not be ill or show symptoms of illness.
- Visitors switching off (as permitted by approved exceptions) must transition outside the facility. Visitors and/or visitors switching off are not permitted to wait in common areas, including lobbies, vestibules, waiting areas, hallways, chapels, cafeteria, food court, bank, and/or any other area within the care location.
- End of life means death is anticipated within hours to days. Visi-

- tation may repeat if the end-of-life period extends after the first end-of-life visit. End-of-life visitors may be anyone identified by the patient or patient's surrogate to include children under the age of 18, who will be accompanied and supervised by an adult.
- In hospitals, no visitors under the age of 18 are permitted, unless they are approved by exception as parents of a pediatric patient or are visiting a patient at the end of life and are accompanied by an adult.
- Patients may receive religious services from their clergy of choice at any reasonable time if services can be provided without disruption to care. Clergy are not counted as a patient's visitor.
- Hospitals will continue to restrict entrances during the pandemic.

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ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Identity Needed for Assault Suspect

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person pictured in an assault investigation. On Sunday, Dec. 26, 2021 at 11:30 am, the suspect entered the Lexington Park Stop N Shop to buy a pack of cigarettes. The suspect then walked behind the counter, threatened to shoot the victim and then spit on the victim.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call Cpl. Milton Pesante at 301-475-4200, ext. 8053 or email milton.pesante@stmarysmd.com. Case # 65950-21

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact the St. Mary's County Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are



Assault Suspect

eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

Fatal Mechanicsville Crash Under Investigation

On Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022 at approximately 8:43 pm, patrol deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a serious motor vehicle collision on Baptist Church Road in the area of Hidden Acres Court in Mechanicsville. A 2011 Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck was located off of the roadway in the woods. The operator, William Spencer Hill, age 50 of Mechanicsville, was extracted from the vehicle with CPR in progress. Hill was later pronounced deceased by EMS personnel.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene. Initial investigation determined the vehicle was traveling northbound on Baptist Church Road when the vehicle ran off the roadway after coming around a bend in the road. Upon leaving the roadway, the vehicle struck several trees and



overturned.

At this time, speed appears to be a contributing factor. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or any events leading up to the collision is asked to call Corporal Brandon Foor #235 at 301-475-4200 ext. 2265 or email brandon.foor@stmarysmd.com.

Theft Suspects Sought

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the two men pictured in a motor vehicle theft investigation. On Monday, Jan. 10, 2022 at 9:56 am at the Leonardtown Fastop, suspect #1 stole the victim's 2006 Cadillac CTS when the victim went into the store. Suspect #2 drove the silver Ram pickup that both suspects arrived in. The stolen Cadillac and the Ram truck were last seen going north on Point Lookout Road.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspects or this incident is asked to call Deputy Travis Wimberly at 301-475-4200, ext. 8086 or email travis.wimberly@stmarysmd.com. Case # 1308-22

Citizens may remain anonymous



Theft Suspect

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

Editor's Note:
The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated.

Philip H. Dorsey III
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Call for Nominations: Women's History Month Symposium 2022

Nominations are open for the 2022 Woman of the Year and Tomorrow's Woman Awards.

We want to hear about the extraordinary women in our community who inspire you! The St. Mary's County Commission for Women is now accepting nominations for Woman of the Year and Tomorrow's Woman. The awards recognize women who have made significant contributions to the local region through their volunteer service. Nominees will be recognized at the Women's History Month Symposium Thursday, Mar. 24, 2022, in the Chesapeake Building, located at 41770 Baldrige Street, Leonardtown.

The Woman of the Year award recipient will be a woman who

displays leadership, commitment and provides outstanding volunteer service to individuals or non-profit organizations in the community. Previous nominees have included volunteers from local churches, libraries, senior activity centers, hospitals, animal shelters, the NAACP and volunteer rescue squads.

Tomorrow's Woman celebrates young women who are already making a difference in St. Mary's County. The award recipient will be a current high school student in grades 9-12 who has made a remarkable impact to the community through voluntary advocacy, leadership or service. We encourage individuals, families, charities, educators, civic, community,

and religious organizations to recognize the next generation's work by nominating a deserving candidate.

To be eligible, nominations in both categories must recognize women who currently reside in St. Mary's County and have made a positive impact on the local community through volunteer work. Completed nomination forms must be submitted by Monday, Feb. 21, 2022.

Nomination forms are available at <https://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/WomensHistoryMonth/Event/>. You may also request a nomination form by emailing commissionforwomen@stmarysmd.com or calling 301-475-4200, ext. 1680. The Commission requests

nominating organizations or individuals purchase a reservation for their nominee.

Nominating an exceptional woman is a great way to honor her hard work and effort in front of her family, friends and community. Please share this invitation and help recognize the talented women in St. Mary's County.

The St. Mary's County Commission for Women is a volunteer-run committee appointed by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County. Our mission is to celebrate and support the County's women through outreach, advocacy and service, to secure an equitable community for all.

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Ag Commission Seeks New Board Members

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, is seeking interested individuals to fill voting member positions.

SMADC's purpose is to support farms and the future of agriculture in Southern Maryland. We are committed to expanding and promoting a viable and profitable agricultural farming community in Southern Maryland. While the primary programmatic focus is on the five southern Maryland counties of Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's, many SMADC initiatives reach statewide.

SMADC Board members represent a broad spectrum of the region's agricultural and business community comprising, farmers, agribusiness, equine industry, county government and economic development, land planning and zoning officials, chambers of



commerce, tourism, the College of Southern Maryland, and the state departments of Agriculture, Business and Economic Development, elected state and local officials, and University of Maryland Extension.

Currently, there are 4 voting Board member positions open:

One Charles County Farmer – 4-year term

Two At-Large positions – 2-year term, representing various indus-

tries and areas of expertise (business sector, economic development, finance, legal, regulatory etc.)

One Regional Farm Bureau Representative – 1-year term

The expectation for Board members is that, as earnest stewards of the Commission, they express a duty of care and good faith to equitably represent Southern Maryland's agricultural community and advocate for SMADC's programs and goals by providing expertise and insight, and by proactively adopting sound fiduciary practices to ensure the Commission has adequate resources to advance its mission. "Our board members have a unique opportunity to influence beneficial outcomes for Southern Maryland's farmers simply by spreading the news about SMADC's programs and what we are trying to accomplish for agriculture in the region," commented Shelby Watson-Hampton, SMADC Director.

The Commission typically meets from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., on the first Thursday of every month. Meetings are virtual or by conference call until further notice.

Interested individuals are invited to submit a letter of introduction with all pertinent contact information and a brief summary of their background, areas of expertise and relationship to the agricultural community. A recommendation letter from a current board member is suggested.

Letters of introduction are due by January 28, 2022, to: Rachel Norris at rnorris@smadc.com. Candidates will be reviewed by the SMADC Board and new members announced by February 28, 2022. New members are expected to attend the March meeting.

To learn more about SMADC's mission and programs and view the current Commission member roster and staff, visit www.smadc.com, or call (240) 528-8850.

Press Release from SMADC.

P. Senior Living Guide

Coming Jan. 28

County Times
St. Mary's County • Calvert County



Nine Quilts of Valor Presented in Lexington Park



Local veterans were honored with Quilts of Valor by PAX Sound of Freedom at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park on Nov. 20. Shown (left to right): Kevin King (Navy - 23 years), Isaac Gunzolla (Navy - 20 years), Jim Priddy - (Air Force - 21 years), Bob Kelly ((Navy - 5 years), Christine Kelly (Navy - 5 years), Skip Schneider (Navy - 30 years), Brian Magkasi (Air Force - 19 years), Joe Miles (Army - 4 years), and Gary Lewis (Navy - 22 years).



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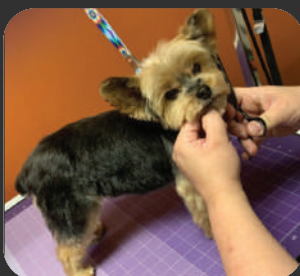
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Racing Is In Young Parlett's Blood



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Rowan Parlett, 11, a 6th grader at Margaret Brent Middle School in Mechanicsville, loves a lot of what other young boys his age do.

He enjoys spending time with friends, playing video games and even playing sports — he's a member of an indoor lacrosse club — but his real passion is speed.

Since he was 7 years old, Rowan has been drag racing all over the region and now he is the Professional Drag Racing Association's (PDRA) top Jr. Dragster World Champion for the racing season of 2021.

It was also Rowan's first year as a professional drag racer, earning a Rookie of the Year Award as well.

Rowan's father, Matt Parlett, said his son has exhibited keen racing instincts that have helped put the youngster on top in his competitive field.

Matt said his son is the latest generation in a family that has held fast to the racing traditions and roots in Southern Maryland; he said Rowan's great, great grandfather raced in the bootleg days in old St. Mary's County and successive generations have found joy behind the wheel and in the fast lane.

"I really like it," Rowan said of his chosen sport. "I love to go as hard and as fast as I can."

Right now, that means going from zero to 75 miles an hour in just 8.9 seconds.

"I love to push myself and do the best I possibly can."

Rowan has been racing in one form or another for most of his life.

He said he started go-kart racing when he was just 5 years old and soon graduated to the drag

racing track.

Rowan even has a nickname given his seemingly uncanny consistency on the track at "beating the Christmas tree," or taking off in his dragster at exactly the same time as the red light descends into the green.

"I'm so good at beating the tree that they say that I'm like a robot," Rowan "The Robot" said.

His father explained that Rowan's change over to the professional ranks was something of a risky one.

"At that level you have to qualify," Rowan's father said. "If we don't qualify, we don't get to race."

Rowan takes part in what is known as bracketed drag racing competitions, which a certain time handicap for racers whose cars are perhaps not as fast as others' drag cars.

"If it's just based on time to finish, then the person who can put the most money into their car wins," Matt Parlett said.

There are two different types of racing, Matt Parlett said. "Think of bracket racing like two kids in a foot race, only one of the kids is faster than the other.

To make it a fair race the slower kid will get a head start. How much of a head start is decided by your "Dial In" or what you estimate is the amount of time it takes to get to the finish line. The idea is that if each driver launches off the line perfectly and runs exactly what their dial in says, then they will arrive at the finish line at the exact same time and tie.

"But nobody is perfect, and a driver's reaction time as well as their prediction of what their car will run will always vary some," Matt Parlett continued.

At this point, bracket racing can



get complicated, Rowan's father said.

"You can reach the finish line first and sometimes still lose, if you went faster than your dial in. It wouldn't be fair for someone to say they need a two-second head start when they really only needed one, so to keep it fair, if you run faster than your dial in you "break out" and will lose the round.

"The driver has to watch the 'Christmas Tree' come down and react to the light the exact same, within thousandths of a second. If he launches too early, he goes red and loses. Too late, and your opponent beats you. The dial in on the car has to be accurate within hundredths of a second, too. Run a thousandth of a second too fast and you lose, too slow and your opponent beats you. It is a game of precision and consistency where driver and car need to be tuned to compliment each other and then execute to perfection to win."

Rowan's father said his son has the ability to see time in a slowed-down manner and this allows him

to consistently hit the gas at the exact same time every time.

Rowan said when he moved from racing at 50 miles an hour to 75 miles an hour, he really could not feel the difference.

Rowan said he wants to continue drag racing professionally as his true calling in life, but if he can't do that he wants to work for his father's company, Computech — which is a racing company — as a mechanical engineer building and working on engines and other products.

Rowan said he's already in an accelerated math program — which he enjoys — and would continue studies all the way into college to get an engineering degree.

Rowan's father said the family is behind the 11-year-old in pursuing his dream.

"We are priming him to be a professional driver," Matt said.

You can follow Rowan "The Robot" Parlett's racing career at @RowansRacing on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Calvert Marine Museum's Megalodon Getting A Makeover



While a visit to the dentist for humans is not necessarily newsworthy, it is quite the opposite for our massive megalodon on exhibit.

After 25 years of wowing visitors in the Paleontology Gallery, the megalodon jaws are about to receive new implants...aka teeth. Visitors will be able to see the oral surgery in progress as our team of highly trained CMM staff or in this case "dentists" carefully remove the old teeth and replace with a new improved set in the prep lab.

What's wrong with the old teeth you ask? Thankfully, it's not because

of the lack of flossing or brushing, but rather an improved understanding of the shark's dental anatomy due to the discovery of new associated dentitions. When the exhibit was originally created, the model was based on an enlarged version of the living great white shark. Paleontologists now recognize that great white sharks and megalodon are more distantly related.

So, who says going to the dentist won't be fun and exciting? Check back on our social media sites for updates and information about this historic exhibit update!

St. Mary's Ryken Students Recognized by College Board for Academic Honors

Congratulations to Ashlynn Dziekiewicz, Cora Bessette, Elise Cecil, Jordan Campbell, Katherine Wise, Lena Martinez and Sofia Sherman who have been selected as College Board National Recognition Program awardees. Students earned this distinction based on their remarkable academic achievements and outstanding performance on the PSAT and/or AP exams.

These academic honors can be included on college and scholarship applications and connect students with universities across the country, helping them meaningfully connect to colleges and stand out during the admissions process.

"We are extremely proud of our students who earned this recognition," said Mr. Brad Chamberlain, St. Mary's Ryken Dean of Academics. "Their achievements in their classrooms and on College Board assessments are to be celebrated."



Students who may be eligible have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have excelled on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP Exams; and are African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latinx, Indigenous, and/or attend school in a rural area or small town.



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.

Archaeology at the Skinner Plantation: Prince Frederick, Maryland 1720s-1750s

Dr. James Gibb will describe the archaeological search for, and discovery of, the Skinner Plantation in Prince Frederick, MD, and who might have occupied the site during the 1720s-1750s virtually on Monday, January 24 from 7 – 8 p.m. We cannot be confident of who occupied this plantation site attributed to James Skinner, and much of the site has been lost to erosion, but excavations revealed a small, trash-filled pit, a large pit,

and a corral. The artifacts indicate occupation during the second quarter of the 18th century, and bone refuse reveals an interesting diet not entirely in accord with expectations. This illustrated presentation offers a rare look into a poorly documented era in the European settlement of Maryland, as well as illuminating recent activities that have damaged both the local ecosystem and our mutual heritage. Register on www.stmalib.org, you will receive a Zoom invitation link via email the day before the event.

Zoom Storytime

It's storytime, online! Join your children's librarians virtually for fun & learning as we read stories, sing and dance together, and play games. Zoom Storytime is designed with ages 2-6 in mind, but kids of all ages (and their grownup caregivers) are welcome! Register once



on www.stmalib.org with your email address to receive a Zoom link each Monday morning. Storytimes are 10am on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 2:30pm on Wednesdays, January 18- February 24.

A Conversation with Alan Bradley

Alan Bradley will be joining us from across the pond on Saturday, January 29 from 2 – 3 p.m.! Fans of all ages are invited to our discussion of the many interesting things we read about in the Flavia de Luce novels. The Flavia de Luce cozy mystery series is about a precocious adolescent amateur detective with a passion for poison as she investigates murders in 1950's England.

Maryland Workforce Exchange Workshops

St. Mary's, Calvert, and Charles Coun-

ties are collaborating on a joint partnership with the Maryland Department of Labor. Join us for monthly virtual classes relating to employment and training.

Resumes and Cover Letters

Wednesday, January 19 from 9 – 11 a.m. Offered by the Maryland Department of Labor, American Job Center, this is an interactive workshop for resume and cover letter writing help. Looking for a job, or a better job? Don't miss this free class. Registration closes the Monday before the event.

Professional Interview Skills

Wednesday, January 19 from 1 – 3 p.m. Hone your interview skills with the Maryland Department of Labor, American Job Center! This is an interactive workshop with mock interviews and advice for in-person as well as virtual meetings. Registration closes the Monday prior to the event.

St. Mary's Ryken's 2021 Archdiocese of Washington Teachers of the Year



Draksler Teacher of the Year Veteran

Mrs. Kelly Draksler, our 2021 ADW Veteran Teacher of the Year, is the chairperson of the SMR History department. As a dedicated history teacher, Mrs. Draksler utilizes her passion to instill a love of learning in her students. Her creativity in teaching methods helps to encourage an appreciation for history and deepens their understanding of rigorous subject matter. Mrs. Draksler is a consummate professional educator, a meticulous planner, a smart department chair, and an honest communicator. Dean of Academics, Brad Chamberlain, remarks "she genuinely cares about the students in her classes, both as students of history and as young men and women who are new to SMR and all the challenges of high school. She is truly a most important person in the process of helping our new students understand how high school works and how to be successful in that structure."

Maura Schmeiser (Class of 2024) noted the lasting impact of Mrs. Draksler: "She was my freshman history teacher and she made my love in history grow through her teaching. She demonstrates what it means to teach at a Xaverian and Catholic school through her kindness and ability to excite her students about learning history." Megan Luther (Class of 2023) also noted Mrs. Draksler's long lasting impact: "She has taught me so much about persevering through the challenges of high school. She is always there for her students."

Mrs. Draksler holds a Master's degree in Secondary Social Studies Education from Towson University.

"We are blessed to have her as

a faculty member and Department Chairperson at SMR and she is most deserving of this award," said Principal Catherine Bowes.

Mr. Loewe is a Physical Education Teacher and Director of Facilities Rentals and Intramural Sports. About Mr. Loewe's many contributions to SMR, Coach Jon Lombardo, our Athletic Director, shared, "I have been surrounded by coaches, educators and teams for a long time and the common denominator amongst the great ones who make the most impact is the willingness to embrace 'leadership as a contact sport.' This is Brian Loewe in a nutshell." School Counseling Chairperson Mrs. Christine Jaffurs shared, "Brian is an incredible problem solver and thinks of every possible scenario. I admire his work ethic and passion for his work as well as his compassion for our students." Gina Jaffurs (Class of 2022) shared her admiration for Coach Loewe, "He is kind, and a hard worker. He is a great motivator and always wants the best for me and all of the students."

"Coach Loewe is positive and energetic. He is omni-present, making sure that our health and Wellness Center and campus venues are ready for both those in our immediate community and those in the greater Southern Maryland Community," said Principal Catherine Bowes. "He has forged relationships with groups like Special Olympics to make sure they have what they need to feel welcome on our campus. Relationships like these further enhance our SMR community. Coach Loewe greets and stewards visiting athletic teams in way that honors them and assures they have what they need. Mr. Loewe has a special warmth



Brian Loewe Novice Teacher

and care for young people and he volunteers his time to make sure that those he looks out for are thriving in the classroom and at play. Mr. Loewe is a true Knight and servant-leader. His kindness and positive energy make SMR a stronger community."

Mr. Brian Loewe holds a bach-

elor's degree in Sports Management and Recreation from the University of Maryland Baltimore County. He uses his wealth of experience in recreation and community building to manage SMR facilities rentals and intramural sports.

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Seahawks Pick Up Win Against Lancaster Bible College



By: Tommy Rinder '21

The St. Mary's College of Maryland women's basketball team (5-6) defeated in-conference rival Lancaster Bible College (6-7) this afternoon (Jan. 11). This is the Seahawks' fourth conference game of the 2021-22 season and third home game. The final score was 54-48 in favor of the Seahawks. St. Mary's College of Maryland improved to 3-1 in United East Conference play.

How It Happened

St. Mary's College struggled to find their footing coming out of the gate, trailing by as much as 10 in the first quarter. Lancaster Bible College was able to build their lead using a flurry of three-pointers early in the contest. The Chargers also benefited from being extremely active on the offensive boards, corralling three during their run. The Seahawks were able to pick up the intensity and responded with strong defensive play, forcing the Chargers into numerous bad decisions and turnovers. Karon Williams served as the catalyst on offense for St. Mary's early on, scoring five points to close out the opening quarter of play. Lancaster Bible led after one, 16-11.

The Seahawks managed to carry momentum into the second quarter and outscored the Chargers 18-11. After a tough shooting performance to start the game, St. Mary's College shot 54.5% from the field and 50% from behind the arc in the second quarter of play. The run was fueled on the offensive end by Cassidy Kupchinskas, who finished the half with 10 points, and Karon Williams, who scored nine. Defensively, the Seahawks forced the Chargers to commit 16 turnovers. The Seahawks took a 29-27 lead in the halftime locker room.

The third quarter of action was a back and forth defensive affair, as both teams traded the lead several times. Stephanie Howell helped the Seahawks stay on track with a pair of key baskets and two offensive rebounds. The Seahawks were able to outscore the Chargers by one in

the quarter, taking a three point lead into the last period of play, 42-39.

St. Mary's College was able to keep Lancaster Bible at an arm's distance for a majority of the fourth quarter, leading by as much as eight with just under two minutes left in the game. The Chargers offense came to life in the final minutes, cutting the Seahawk lead to just three with 51 seconds left thanks to the strong play of Alaysha Iwais. Iwais finished with 11 points for Lancaster Bible College. Just when you thought Lancaster Bible was going to complete the comeback in the final minutes, Karon Williams came up big when it mattered most, drawing a foul and converting on a layup, giving the Seahawks a three point play opportunity. Williams converted the free-throw and iced the game for the Seahawks, who came up with the win, 54-48

Box Score

Karon Williams scored a team high 19 points, shooting 33.3% from the field. Williams also picked up five rebounds and went 6-7 from the free throw line.

Cassidy Kupchinskas followed her 29 point performance from this past weekend with a 15 point performance this afternoon. Kupchinskas added six rebounds and four assists to another stellar performance

Stephanie Howell came up big with a team high seven rebounds. Howell also recorded the lone block for the Seahawks.

Up Next

St. Mary's College Women's Basketball will continue United East Conference play this Friday and Saturday when they host Morrisville State University on January 14th and Wells College on January 15th. The Seahawks will host the Mustangs of Morrisville at 8pm and the Wells College Express at 4:00pm. Both games will be played in the Michael P. O'Brien Athletic and Recreation Center on the Campus of St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Maryland's Winter Turkey Season Opens January 20



Photo By Isaac Bonneville

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces the opening of the winter turkey season, which runs statewide from Jan. 20-22 for hunters who did not harvest a turkey during the 2021 fall season.

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

"Wild turkeys are abundant throughout most of the state," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "The winter season is a great option for hunters looking to get afield during a time of year when other sea-

sons are closed or winding down."

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

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

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

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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

NAVAIR Announces Rudowsky as New Deputy Commander

Vice Adm. Carl Chebi, commander, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), has announced the assignment of Tom Rudowsky as deputy commander, NAVAIR, effective mid-January.

Rudowsky will assume the deputy commander position currently being held by Acting Deputy Commander Jerry Short.

Rudowsky is currently the deputy program executive officer for Tactical Aircraft Programs (DPEO(T)), a position he has held since December 2019, where he is responsible for the executive leadership and oversight of all assigned programs. Before this assignment, he served as the director of the Sustainment Group for NAVAIR. He was responsible for the lifecycle sustainment for all naval aviation programs and platforms, overseeing an annual operating budget of approximately \$6.5 billion and oversight of approximately 15,000 civilian, military and contractor support personnel. Rudowsky also served as the deputy assistant commander, then assistant commander, for Logistics and Industrial Operations from November 2017 to October 2019. From August 2011 to November 2017, he served as the director of the Air Vehicle Engineering Department, Research and Engineering Group, and was the principal NAVAIR and Department of Navy spokesman/authority for air vehicle engineering matters and technology. Rudowsky received his appointment to the Senior Executive Service in January 2010 and was

named director of the Integrated Battlespace Simulation and Test Department at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland. At the time of his appointment, he had more than 21 years of federal service and had held numerous challenging assignments, spanning the full life cycle of system development, fielding and sustainment.

Rudowsky earned both a bachelor's and master's degree in aerospace engineering from Pennsylvania State University and is a graduate of the United States Naval Test Pilot School flight test engineering curriculum (class of 1999).

"Tom is a strategic leader, with the ability to drive positive change that will have a meaningful and lasting impact on fleet capabilities and readiness," Chebi said. "I am confident as deputy commander, Tom will be instrumental in accelerating culture change and motivating the behaviors necessary to become the fleet's most trusted provider of advanced warfighting capabilities and sustainment solutions. Please join me in congratulating Tom as he begins the transition to this key position in mid-January."

"I would also like to personally recognize and thank Mr. Jerry Short for his outstanding work as the acting deputy commander," Chebi said. "The success of any organization is based on the people in the organization—people who do their jobs exceptionally well—people like Jerry Short."



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County Times



The Way We Were...

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

Bootlegs and Bourbon

On August 12, 1915, the Beacon (precursor to today's Enterprise newspaper) carried the following poem:

May God bless the men of old St Mary's

And hoist their flag on high – Unfurl their banner to the breeze,

For the County – it's gone "dry".

That 553 majority – Show that nearly every mother's son

Did his very best To destroy that demon – Rum.

With this ditty, and a 553-vote majority, St Mary's joined Charles and Calvert Counties in prohibiting the production and consumption of alcohol (of the nine districts in St Mary's County, only Leonardtown and Chaptico voted to stay "wet"). It is said that the bells at St Aloysius Church in Leonardtown were rung loudly, heralding the outcome.

Curiously, when the entire nation went "dry" in 1919, local reaction to the Eighteenth Amendment was one of derision. St Mary's Countians regarded Federal law as an infringement on their liberty and rights.

But neither vote nor stroke of pen can replace a man's thirst for good whiskey—nor that of many a woman. Filling this need created opportunity and bootlegging was the predictable outcome. And, with its seclusion, abundant supply of fresh water, and proximity to Washington, DC, Virginia, Baltimore and the Eastern Shore, St Mary's County was the ideal location for a new industry: bootlegging.

Bootleggers were ingenious, hiding their stills and operations from the revenuers with creativity and luck. In his book Yesterday in Old St Mary's County, Robert Pogue tells an intriguing story of one Washington-bound bootlegger, chased by revenuers, running off the road into Zekiah Swamp. As his Cadillac sank into the mud, the pursuers searched for the bootlegger's body to no avail. When they gave up their search some two-

hours later, the same bootlegger waved to them as he passed by in another Cadillac bound for Washington.

Indeed, few bootleggers were caught and those that were received light sentences, often ninety-days or less. After 1919, arrests were done by Federal agents with the local sheriff taking no part in the activity.

With the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, bootlegging gradually decreased – although it is rumored that some small-scale stills may exist even to today.

As a side note, through migration in the 18th and 19th Centuries, St Mary's County gave birth to the Kentucky bourbon and rye industry. The most notable of this legacy is Old Grand-Dad bourbon. The image on each and every bottle for the last 140 years has been that of Basil Haden whose birth was registered in St Andrew's Parish in 1744. He emigrated to and died in Kentucky in 1804.



While the bootleggers and most of the whiskey industry have gone, distilleries have not disappeared entirely from St Mary's.



The Tobacco Barn Distillery on Hollywood Road continues the tradition of making fine whiskey, producing among other things a delightful Moll Dyer Cinnamon Whiskey—a favorite among some of the Historical Society's staff at Tudor Hall.

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

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



THE WONDERFUL THINGS OF LIFE

Sometimes it's nice to have a quiet, easy weekday morning. My husband and I had one of those wonderful mornings today. Instead of watching the news, he turned on The Andy Griffith Show, while I made a breakfast of scrambled eggs cooked in a skim of butter, just enough to give a light browning to the bottom of the eggs, and some hot out of the oven cornbread. I fix the cornbread for myself the way I had it as a child, slathered with butter and strawberry jam. I am still feeling the warm, happy glow of this morning. I'm hoping I can save the remaining cornbread for our leftover chili from last night, but with the pan still sitting on the stove there is no chance it will survive that long.

Whenever we have a morning of Andy Griffith and what everyone called his downhome wisdom, we reminisce about the simpler times of growing up. We always wish that children today have the benefit of responsibility, accountability, stern discipline, yet with unconditional love. Opie, and we, learned so much from Sheriff Andy Taylor. One of today's episodes about a spoiled-rotten new friend of Opie's taught Opie that holding your breath, having tantrums on the floor, and demanding an allowance because a parent should just give it to you because you are entitled to it without working, did not hold water with his dad, Sheriff Andy Taylor. And Sheriff Taylor also imparted wisdom to the parent of the spoiled child, so the father could finally see what his child was really like, and what others saw. Andy told the father, "There's a real fine woodshed out back". It took a minute for the father to get the gist of what Andy was telling him, and then the father said, with a glimmer and smile of understanding, "A real old-fashioned woodshed? as he led his son out the back door of the sheriff's office." Problem solved, and all in a half an hour.

My husband and I were laughing a bit after the show, saying if a re-make was made now of The Andy Griffith Show, directors and producers would be screaming that there must be more drama, gory murders with forensic scenes, more sex, and to make it real and relatable to today's audience the characters would have to cuss. Maybe I'm wrong, but I see what happens to favorite books when made into movies.

This may be a nice day to continue with reminiscing and sort through some more old photos I came across. Last week, while I was doing my seasonal game of switching the holiday



boxes under the steps, making sure Christmas is now in the back then all the Halloween & fall, with Easter at the front, I opened up a small plastic box from my teenage years on one of the shelves. There I found two of my favorite photos of my father and I at two of our favorite places, Louise F. Cosca Regional Park in Clinton, which everyone just called Clinton Park, and The Clearwater Nature Center, also within the park boundaries. I could spend hours in either place, and my father (always called Daddy by all of us) would spend his time either sitting out in his car in the parking lot reading, or once in awhile he would find a nice shady picnic bench to sit and read.

One photo is of my father from 1971 when I was 10, smiling his gentle smile as I snapped a photo of him sitting in his car at The Nature Center, and the other a few years later shows us in a sweet hug above the lake, where I look about 16 years old, just two years before his passing. What a treasure to find since he was not one for photos. I remember his quiet wisdom, and all the knowledge he had from his love of books. He never yelled, or scolded, only listened, and somehow gave you the answers and guidance you needed without you even realizing it. I suppose I lived my own Mayberry childhood, like a lot of us, but back in Clinton. Are those days gone forever? I feel like my sons had some, hopefully a lot of that same patience and guidance, from their dad, and what my father gave to me. I know I couldn't be prouder of what wonderful men they have turned out to be. My youngest son raises his two boys the way my father raised us, with lots of outdoor learning, fun, but tempered with rules of life. As Julie Andrews sings in The Sound of Music, "So somewhere in my youth or childhood, I must have done something good".

To each new day's adventure, Shelby Please send comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook

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

County Offices Closed Monday, Jan. 17

St. Mary's County Government, including the Northern, Garvey, and Loffler Senior Activity Centers, will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday. There will be no Home-Delivered Meals. For more information, please visit www.stmarysmd.com.

Play with Watercolors

T.L. Ford will be at the Garvey Senior Activity Center at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

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 cost for the class is \$20; payable in advance. To register, please call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075.

New Bible Study Forming

Loffler Senior Activity Center will begin hosting a new bible study class on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. beginning Jan. 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 dedi-

cated to prayer. All are welcome. Reservations are not required. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 1658.

Taking Care of Your Mental Health

As we age life's events can often become overwhelming, both physically and mentally. Especially during this time, it is important to take care of your mental wellness. The Garvey Senior Activity Center has collaborated with Hope & Healing Psychotherapy, LLC to bring you a Mental Health Series. Each month we will hear a presentation on a new topic. The topic on Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 12:30 p.m. will be Sandwich Generation. Advance sign up is required and a suggested donation of \$5 is requested in advance. To register, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075.

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 Jan. 18-Feb. 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, we ask that you sign up only if you are sure that you will be able to attend regularly. (In a change of policy, repeating students are now also required to call the reservation line and mention what level you have attended.) Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1660 and leave a message on our reservation line to sign up.

Hearing Screenings

Dr. Pinno, with Jacobs Audiology, will be at the Garvey Senior Activity Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 19. They will be here to answer any questions you may have about hearing loss as well as offering hearing screenings. Appointments are required. For more information, please call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075.

Project Linus 2022 Kick-Off Meeting

An exciting project day is scheduled at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Friday Jan. 21 beginning at 10 a.m. We will be working on 2-hour projects in the category of your choice: quilt, afghan or fleece blanket. For a list of supplies that you will need to bring, you can e-mail Sheila.graziano@stmarysmd.com or refer to the Jan/Feb edition of New Beginning where there is a complete rundown of each category. Fabrics and yarn are available at

the center for free if you want to come in advance of the meeting to look over selections. Come to the Jan. 21 meeting with all supplies gathered and ready to work (and play). Sewing machines are also available for your use, or you can bring your own. Projects should be taken home (and finished if needed), then brought to the February meeting (Feb. 18) for reveals and pictures. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1658 if you have questions or e-mail Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com. Reservations are required and can be made by leaving a message on our reservation line 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. If you cannot come to this meeting, your project can be made at home and brought to the center.

January Health Watch Presentation

Healthy Weight Management will be the topic of the day at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 10 a.m. The start of a new year is a great time to focus on your wellbeing! Let's talk about healthy ways to manage weight gain/loss and share tips with each other. Bring several copies of your favorite healthy recipe to share with the group and get even more ideas from Health Watch Coordinator Mary Tennyson. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1660 to sign up for this talk. Limited seating available.

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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 13

Educational Video Series: Ruth: Justice Ginsburg

Loffler Senior Activity Center
21905 Chancellors Run Rd
Great Mills
10a.m. to Noon

"Ruth: Justice Ginsburg in her Own Words"—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. Seating is limited to 16.

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser

Action Lounge and Billiards
25470 Point Lookout Road
Leonardtown
4p.m. to 8p.m.

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.

Saturday, Jan. 15

Free Grocery Giveaway
Living Word Community Church
39371 Harpers Corner RD
Mechanicsville
9a.m. to 9p.m.

After Christmas free grocery giveaway. First Come, First Serve until supplies run out. All are welcome!

Texas Hold'Em @ HVRS
Hollywood Vol. Rescue Squad
23469 Rescue Lane
Hollywood
7p.m. to 1a.m.

Texas Hold'Em at Hollywood Vol Rescue Squad. \$85.00 buy-in for \$20k in chips. Rounds are 20 minutes each. Doors open at 6 pm, tournament starts at 7pm. BYOB, food and sodas will be available for purchase.

See www.hvrs.org for more info. Chance for 50/50 included in your buy-in. Tables deal their own cards, dealers are not provided.

****PLEASE NOTE THIS EVENT IS AT THE RESCUE SQUAD, NOT THE FIRE HOUSE****

Sunday, Jan 16

Chess players group
Taphouse-1637

23418 Three Notch Road
California
11:30a.m. to 1:30p.m.

Chess players group is back for 2022. Starting 1/9/2022 and running most every Sunday, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Come out and enjoy friendly competition. All skill levels are welcome. This is not an organized club or sponsored chess event. Just a bunch of local chess players meeting to play chess on Sunday afternoons.

www.taphouse1637.com/

Surviving Divorce Workshop Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

22375 Three Notch Road
Lexington Park
6:30p.m. to 8p.m.

Surviving Divorce was created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. This group meets on Sunday evenings for 12 weeks beginning January 16, 2022, from 6:30 to 8:00pm. To register or for more information, please email at thewell@ihmrcc.org or call 240-298-4044. A suggested donation of \$25 to cover the cost of materials. All are Welcome!

Tue, Jan 18, 2022

Beginning Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Loffler Senior Activity Center
21905 Chancellors Run Rd,

Great Mills

11a.m. to Noon

Tuesdays & Thursdays Jan. 18-Feb. 10 (8 sessions)
11 a.m.

Beginner classes for Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention will meet on Mondays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. beginning January 18. 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. 1600, and leave a message on our reservation line to sign up.

Saturday, Jan. 22

Appraiser Fair at St. Clement's Island Museum

St. Clement's Island Museum
38370 Point Breeze Rd
Coltons Point
10a.m. to 3p.m

You may have a hidden treasure in your attic or garage and not even know it! Visit with expert appraisers as they determine the value of your prized possessions at St. Clement's Island Museum.

More Info: www.facebook.com/events/675927579973688

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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

Aaron Christopher Mattingly



Aaron Christopher Mattingly, 48, of Callaway, MD passed away January 4, 2022. He was born September 26, 1973 in Leonardtown, MD, to the late Aubrey F. Mattingly and Victoria "Vicky" Mattingly of Leonardtown, MD.

Aaron was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He attended elementary school at Father Andrew White and graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1991. His pas-

sion for hard work was something he learned working for his father in the family excavation business, Aubrey F. Mattingly Excavation. He continued his love for diesel mechanics working for Maryland Rock and Hugh Gardiner, Inc. and he later started his own business, A.C. Mattingly Mechanical Services and Trucking. Aaron was a man of many talents, which pushed him to open a second business, Dirt Works Excavation and Crane.

When he wasn't behind the joystick controls to his equipment, he always had a pile of junk he was trying to make into something bigger, better, and faster. Aaron enjoyed helping people solve complex problems while coordinating and pulling in resources from all over the county. Despite his passion for excavation and running his business, those that knew Aaron, will most likely miss his humorous antics and unequivocal word choices.

Aaron is survived by his mother; daughter, Sarah Ann "Sam" Mattingly; sister, Yvonne "Renee" Davey (Patrick); brother, Travis Mattingly (Mischelle); nephews, Dakota "Cody" Davey and Christopher Mattingly; and niece, Lauren Davey. He was preceded in death by his father,

Aubrey F. Mattingly.

All services are private. The family will announce Aaron's Memorial Life Celebration at a future date.

Serving as pallbearers will be Travis Mattingly, Dakota "Cody" Davey, Stephen "Steve" Long, William "Patrick" Russell, David Brown, Darryl Hills, Michael Hayden and Richard Hayden. Honorary pallbearer will be Patrick Davey.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Second District Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad through their website at <https://www.sdvfdrs.org/> or mail checks directly to P.O. Box 1, Valley, Lee, MD 20692.

Condolences may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

All arrangements have been made at Brinsfield Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD.

Janet Marie Bean



Janet Marie Bean, 61, of Hollywood, MD passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC. She was born on March 25, 1960 in Cheverly, MD to the late James Martin Buckler and Erma Jane (Raley) Buckler.

Marie was a wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She cherished every moment she got to spend with her grandson, Jace. She could watch hours of Cocomelon with Jace as long as he was cuddled up beside her on the chair. Marie was eagerly anticipating the arrival of a grandbaby. A loving woman, Marie was always there for all the children in the family. She was a shoulder to cry on, a much-needed hug or sounding board. She took pride in being so close with her family. She was an amazing cook and you never left her house hungry.

A nature lover, Marie was a talented gardener. Whether it was vegetables or flowers, the gardens were always bountiful. As she walked outdoors you would always see her beloved puppies, Maggie and Max trailing behind. They were her miniature best friends and she doted her

furry friends.

She was a wonderful woman who loved openly and cherished family above all else. Marie was adored and loved by her family and community. The legacy Marie leaves behind is found in the strength of character, bright eyes and smiles of her family. She will be missed by many, but not as much as her family.

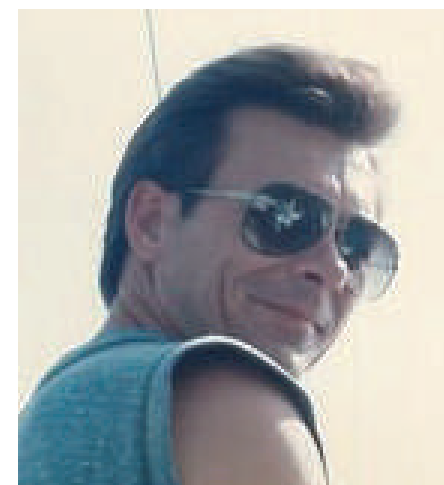
Marie is survived by her daughter, Allison Nicole Bean of Chaptico, MD; one (1) grandchild, Jace Reid Kolbe and one (1) on the way; three (3) sisters, Janice "Gail" Farrell of Charlotte Hall, MD, Ruth Ann Shottwell of Chaptico and Connie Lee Pilkerton of Callway, MD and husband, Joseph Leo Bean, Sr. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Erma Buckler and son, Joseph "JR" Leo Bean, Jr.

The family will receive friends for Marie's Life Celebration on Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. A funeral service will be held on Friday, January 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. officiated by Pastor Dennis Gilikin at Brinsfield Funeral Home. Interment will be immediately following at Charles Memorial Gardens, 26325 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

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

Ronnie Eugene Corbin



Ronnie Eugene Corbin, 72 of Hollywood, MD passed away on January 1, 2022, at home with his family by his side.

He was born on May 2, 1949, in Washington, DC to the late Charles Raymond Corbin (Buck) and Dorothy L. Haggemaker.

Ronnie was very dedicated to his family and career all his life. He was never a minute late... ever. He received many honorable awards at many of his jobs throughout the



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years. He was a big CB Radio enthusiast for many years. He also enjoyed boating with his wife in their early years living in St. Mary's County. He was always ready to help people, when needed, as the attached letter below shows. In recent years, he enjoyed watching his YouTube videos, cooking, and taking care of his yard. Ronnie was employed by Amentum at the Naval Base in Solomons Island, MD as a Military Equipment Mechanic until June 10, 2021. He married Carole Lombard on April 6, 1981, in Upper Marlboro, MD. They met in 1971. They enjoyed relaxing and spending time with each other. He proudly served in the US Navy from June of 1967 to June of 1973 as ABH3. While serving in the Military he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal.

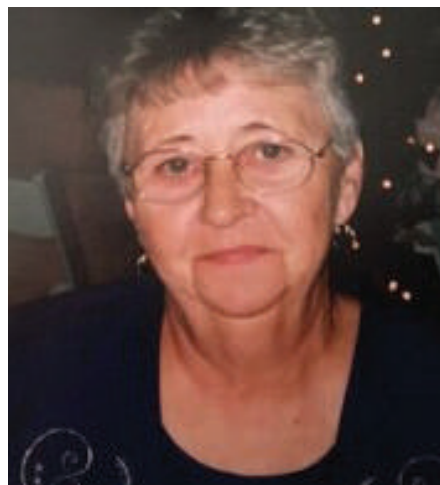
Ronnie is survived by his wife, Carole, his son, Rick Corbin of Hollywood, MD, and his siblings, Joyce Foks of OH. Charles Raymond Corbin (Henry) and Bonnie Flynn of DE. He was preceded in death by his siblings, George Robert Corbin (Bobby), Jean Frances Corbin (Sissy), and Thelma Hamilton (Peggy) and his granddaughter, Lily. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews, Donna Taylor, Vicky Prater, Karen Foks, Jerry Foks of OH, Charles Raymond (Henry) Corbin Jr. of MD, Michael, Christine Foks Corbin (Angel Girl) of GA, Clarice Ohle (Angel Girl) of NC, Randall Flynn Jr. of MD, Cole Hamilton of KY, Shannon HF Sutton of NC, and the late Lindsay Hamilton of OH

There will be a brief, private service, with honors at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery at a later date.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Elizabeth Louise Pugh



Elizabeth Louise Pugh, 80 of Great Mills, MD passed away peacefully

on January 7, 2022, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on January 17, 1941, in Valley Lee, MD to the late William Calvert and Grace Elizabeth Knott Bean.

In addition to her beloved husband, John Edward Pugh, Elizabeth is also survived by her children: William Davis (Orsi) of Lexington Park MD, Patricia Davis of Great Mills, MD and Renee Medlin (Greg) of Chicago, IL; her siblings, Mary Agnes Beining of Great Mills, MD, Joseph Bean (Judy) of Lottsburg, VA, Charles Bean (Mickey) of Lake City, FL, Margaret Street of Jacksonville, FL, Dorothy Troglin(Morris) of Conway, AK, Jean Brumley of Waxahachie, TX and Sue Wawrzynski (Leonard) of Lake City, FL and Janice Birch (Randy) of Champlain, VA; her grandchildren: Christina Davis, Bobby Davis, Brittany Miller, Alex Damato and Andre Davis; her great grandchildren: Autumn Davis, Marcel Davis and Nolan McAlister; and many extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by her parents.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, January 13, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A private family service will be celebrated by Pastor Paul McPherson at 12 p.m. The family invites everyone to watch the Live Stream of the service at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com. Interment will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Franklin Graham Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse, Post Office Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Robert Thomas Nashwick



Robert Thomas Nashwick, "Bob", 83, of Hollywood, MD, passed away

on January 5, 2022 in Hollywood, MD. Born on November 18, 1938 in Providence, RI, he was the son of the late Anna Moorehead Walls and the late Alex P. Nashwick. Robert was the loving husband of Angela E. Nashwick, whom he married on February 11, 1965 in Leonardtown, MD. He is survived by his son Robert John Nashwick (Robin) of Indianapolis, IN, his sisters Sharon Inkpen of Old Orchard Beach, ME and Sheila Hawkins of N. Waterboro, ME, as well as three grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Robert graduated from Great Mills High School in 1957, and went on to serve in the United States Air Force for 20 years, from 1957 to 1977, during which time he was stationed at Myrtle Beach Air Force Base, SC, Andrews Air Force Base, MD, Dover Air Force Base, DE, Weisbaden, Germany Air Force Base, and McGuire Air Force Base, NJ. He moved back to St. Mary's County, MD in 1977 from McGuire Air Force Base, NJ, and worked as a Senior Coordinator for Boeing in Patuxent River, MD for 12 years until his retirement in 1994.

Robert belonged to the U.S. Air Force Sergeant Association and AARP. He enjoyed taking care of the yard and vehicles, shopping, going out to eat, and listening to old country music.

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

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

James Oliver Neal

James Oliver Neal born February 8, 1944 to the late Joseph Benedict and Annie Neal.

James' education was at Banner High School, Loveville, MD from first grade to graduation in 1962. After graduating, James was



drafted into the United States Army in 1965, and served until his honorable discharge in 1971. He served in the Vietnam War and earned the National Defense Service Medal. Upon completion of his military service, James moved to Washington, D.C. to pursue a job as a waiter with the "oldest, historical restaurant in Washington, D.C." the Ebbitt Grill. He would mention the influential patrons that visited the restaurant and that he was privileged to serve.

The city life was never his true passion. Therefore, he decided to return to St. Mary's County where he could enjoy more outdoor living. He would ride his bicycle to work-out at the gym daily. He spent much of his time rebuilding cars, hiking, casinos, collecting antiques and art. While doing those fun activities, he managed to work multiple night hour jobs.

He also worked as a waiter with the old Willow restaurant in Leonardtown for many years. After that job he went on to work as a waiter at the "Lighthouse Restaurant" in Solomons Island.

He then decided that he wanted to explore another area of employment. He successfully acquired a position as a government contractor with DynCorp, PAX River. He really enjoyed that assignment, but due to his

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In Remembrance

illness, he had to resign in 2017.

James is survived by his loving family consisting of siblings Joseph "Len"; William (Sheila); George (Olivee); Larry; Sarah (Darrell); and Diane. Nieces: Steffanie, Linda, Ashley, Elizabeth, Kiya, and Ajalia. Nephews: Leonard, Joseph, Marcus, Jamar, Coleman, and Jordan. Preceded in death: brother-in-law, William "Moe"; nephew: Joseph "J.T."; niece: Nikki.

Our heartfelt appreciation to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home for their care and companionship.

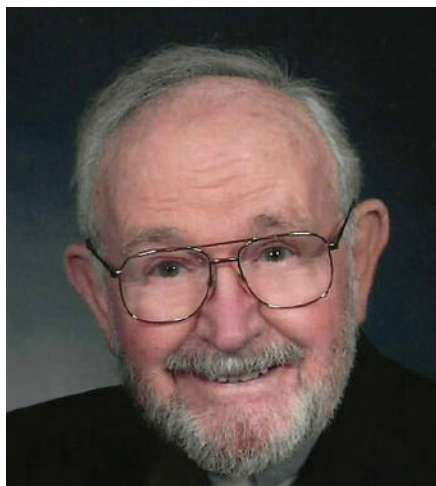
The family will receive friends on Saturday, January 15, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in Our Lady's Parish at Medley's Neck, Leonardtown, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM with Father John Nguyen officiating. Interment will be held on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 10:30 AM in the Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Cheltenham, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Joseph L. Neal, Larry A. Neal, Marcus Neal, George S. Neal, Darrell Carpenter, and Leonard E. Neal. Honorary pallbearers will be Jamar Wooten, Kevin Malachi, and Coleman Neal.

Contributions may be made to the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, 29449 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 or American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

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

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

Thomas Christopher Spalding



Thomas Christopher Spalding, Sr. passed away on Friday, December 31st, 2021. He was born March 13th, 1926 in Baltimore, Md to Leonard Calvert Spalding and Susie Belle Cameron Spalding. When he was 3 years old his mother died. His Aunt Josephine Spalding Goddard and Uncle Clarence Goddard brought

him into their home and raised him as their own.

Deacon Spalding was preceded in death by his parents Leonard and Susie Belle Spalding, his step mother Mabel Spalding, his Aunt Josephine Goddard and Uncle Clarence Goddard, his brothers James, Russell and Elmer Spalding, Clarence, Benjamin and Joseph Goddard and his sisters Mary Sue Bramall and Mary Agnes Abell. He is survived by his wife Rose Spalding, his nine children: Suzanne Alexander (Dan), Debbie Spalding (the late Michael Morton), Karen Spalding, Cathy Fenwick (Scott Cooley), Thomas Spalding Jr. (Tammy), Clara Stokel Spalding, Frederick Spalding, Patrick Spalding (Angel), Michael Spalding (Mary), John Andrew Spalding (Valerie), 18 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and his sister, Regina Goddard Abell.

Deacon Spalding entered the Navy during the closing days of WWII. Following his honorable discharge he hitch hiked home from San Diego, California to Medley's Neck in St. Mary's County, Md. He married Rose Lorraine Cowan, "the love of his life" on September 3rd, 1949 at Our Lady's Church in Medley's Neck. Using the GI Bill he apprenticed and became a Machinist and Tool/Dye maker for the U.S. Navy at Patuxent River Naval Test Center where he worked until his retirement.

Family being important, he frequently brought homesick young sailors to his farm for a hot cooked meal and to join in our family life. He was always looking out for anyone who needed a hand.

Being a civic minded man, he served as Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus 1470 and was very involved with his children as a Scout Leader and in the 4-H Club.

His faith was his center. He trained for and was ordained as a permanent Deacon of the Catholic Church. As a Deacon, he served his lifelong community of Our Lady's Church, Medley's Neck and in St. Mary's County wherever he was needed.

The family would like to share his favorite saying and the words that he lived by, "Life is what you make it."

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 299, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and Our Lady's Catholic Church, 41348 Medley's Neck Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Thelma J. Strickland



Thelma J. Strickland of Mechanicsville, MD peacefully went home to the Lord on the morning of December 31, 2021.

Born July 18, 1945, in Baltimore, MD to Joseph H. Jordan (deceased) and Mary E. Jordan (deceased).

Thelma was the fourth of Nine Children, Phyllis Hopewell (Jerome Hopewell (both deceased) Joan B. Jordan, Joseph M. Jordan, Jr. (deceased) Rose Waters, Tony Jordan (Darlene), Gregory Jordan (Deborah), Michael Jordan (Christine) and Bernadette Tyer (deceased).

Thelma was blessed to have 2 children James Todd Holt and Moneta Jo Strickland (deceased) and four Grandchildren, Kendall J. Holt, Karina A. Holt, Kai E. Holt and Korwen R. Holt. Along with her God Children Renae Barnes, Andrew Barnes, Andre Jordan, Jr. and a host of Nieces and Nephews.

A Strong desire for education and knowledge. Thelma's formative years she attended St. Joseph's Parochial school (Morganza, MD, Cardinal Gibbons, Ridge, MD). After graduating Cardinal Gibbons, she attended Georgetown Hospital School of Nursing where she received her Degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse. This was her first love helping those who needed care and attention, giving all in her care the chance at a better quality of life. Nursing may have been her life's calling; it wasn't her only desire. She enrolled at George Washington University where she earned her second degree in accounting. This degree would launch her to travels across the world. After receiving her degree Thelma, worked for the U.S. State Department, from there she would work for United States Agency of International Development as Accountant/Auditor. This would take her abroad to South America, Central America, Manila Philippines, Samoa and Australia. After retiring from the Government, she briefly resided in California. After returning to St Mary's, she decided

that two degrees and world traveling were not enough, she earned her third degree, an associate in Information Technology at age 62. Thelma returned to her first love nursing, where she was the night shift Nurse Supervisor at Cedar Lane Senior Community Living Center, where she retired in 2014.

Thelma had a host of friends, from childhood friends, girlfriends, work colleagues, church parishioners, or her teammates. She loved softball, you could almost always find her on a Saturday or Sunday playing softball, or on a Thursday or Friday evening, in a bowling league, or simply playing cards with family and friends.

Thelma loved her Family, always helping in any way she could, sending a card, a phone call or even the use of her vehicle or home. She was in constant communication with everyone, from family in Georgia, California, Nebraska or friends in the State of Washington or Maine and Massachusetts. Thelma stayed in close contact with her childhood friends who remained in St. Mary's. As much as she loved her Family and Friends Thelma was a devout and faithful Catholic Christian woman, rarely would you find her without a rosary or prayer card with her. Often after her overnight shift she would attend an early morning mass before going home. Thelma loved her faith, she was a member of the ladies Sodality and a Lector for St Joseph's Catholic Church, she considered this an honor and privilege to serve the congregation but more importantly her Lord.

Mom. I love you, honored to be your son, and to carry on your love and legacy to help and care for others, regardless of whom they are. You were a Strong God fearing, loving woman. To quote the late, Frank Sinatra, "You Did It Your WAY". I Love you more. James Todd Holt.

Thelma's visitation will be on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at Brinsfield Funeral Home, at 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650 starting at 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with her Prayer Service starting at 6:00 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be on Friday, January 14, 2022, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 29119 Point lookout Road, Morganza, MD 20660 with Interment immediately following at St. Mary's Queen of Peace Cemetery, 38888 Dr. Johnson Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Stephen "Steve" William Updegrave



The Reverend Doctor Stephen "Steve" William Updegrave, 73 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on January 3, 2022 at home with his daughter by his side.

He was born on July 15, 1948 in Philadelphia, PA to the late William James Updegrave, D.D.S. and Sarah Jane Wills Updegrave.

Stephen married Karen Marie Howe on June 12, 1971 in Philadelphia, PA. Steve often said that Karen was God's gift to him for putting up with him for 50 years. Karen was always there to support Steve, including in his calling as a minister. During their 50 years of marriage, they enjoyed philanthropy, church organizations and events, and traveling. Steve even rode a motorcycle across the country with Karen in tow. In his free time, Steve could be found reading books, boating, riding motorcycles, and most of all spending time with his family.

All who knew Steve know that he had a sense of humor like no other, including when he was at the pulpit. He had a place in his heart for those in need and gave generously to others. He proudly served in the U.S. Air Force from August 1966 to May 1973. He attended Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia, PA. He continued his education in earning his Bachelor Degree in Business from Mississippi State, his Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN, and his Doctorate Degree in Doctrine of Ministry in Evangelism at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, PA.

After graduating from Seminary in 1989, Steve served as the pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church in Hagerstown, MD from 1989-1997. He was called to Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park, MD in 1997 and resided with his family in St. Mary's County from 1997 to 2012, when he retired as Pastor Emeritus. Steve and Karen returned

to St. Mary's County in 2016. They were blessed to raise three children over the span of 39 years: Matthew, Rebecca, and Cody.

He is survived by his wife, Karen of Leonardtown, MD; his children, Matthew Updegrave (Dawn) of Navarre, FL, Rebecca Cline (Jason) of Leonardtown, MD and Cody Updegrave of Leonardtown, MD; his siblings, Susan Roderick of Mt. Dora, FL, Douglas Updegrave of Richmond, VA, and Ellen Parker of Philadelphia, PA; his grandchildren, Kaylee Updegrave of Birmingham, AL, Elizabeth Cline of Leonardtown, MD, and Joshua Cline of Leonardtown, MD. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Sarah "Sally" Helen Selbee.

The family will receive friends on Friday, January 14, 2022 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will follow at 3:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 46707 Shangri-La Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653 and will be livestreamed at trinitylutheranlp.org/livestream. Interment will be held on a date to be determined at Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Cheltenham, MD.

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

In lieu of flowers and in the spirit of caring service, please send checks to the Trinity Lutheran Church and indicate Food Pantry in the memo.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Tricia Lynn Drewello



Tricia Lynn Drewello, 50, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on December 30, 2021 at her home with her loving family by her side.

She was born on May 5, 1971 in Havre De Grace, MD to Wayne Henry Choroszej and Carolyn Elizabeth Barnhart Choroszej of Arnold, MD.

Tricia grew up in Arnold, MD and graduated from St. Mary's High School in Annapolis, MD and Anne Arundel Community College. On

April 3, 1993, Tricia married the love of her life, Christopher Scott Drewello at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD (after chasing him for 5 years). Together, they celebrated over 28 wonderful years of marriage.

In her life, Tricia held many roles including, daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, and volunteer. She poured her heart and soul into everything she did, and touched everyone she met with her grace, honesty, and style. When marrying Chris, she was thrust into the world of being a Navy spouse, but no matter what challenge she was presented with, she always rose above it. Through six deployments and nine moves across the country, she was the glue that held her family together. With her passion for volunteering, she became the president of both the VS-38 and Newport Officers' spouses clubs where she made an enormous impact on the lives of our Sailors and their families.

Being a mom to her three incredible children was Tricia's favorite and most important job. Wherever the Navy led them, Tricia always made each house feel like a home, every holiday magical, and everyone who walked through their door feel welcome. Her love and commitment to her children motivated her to become the PTA president of their elementary school in Tampa, FL. Her impeccable leadership and fundraising expertise enabled the school to complete two playground improvement projects during her tenure. When her children joined their high school theatre program, Tricia joined as well, becoming the "Theatre Mom" and helping the program through fundraising and garnering more community support.

Tricia always had a passion for the arts, but through her children's involvement in theatre, she developed a passion for sewing and creating costumes. This led her to help costume productions for Leonardtown High School, St. Mary's County Parks & Recreation Summerstock, and the Newtowne Players community theatre.

Tricia's other loves include drinking beer on the porch, listening to 1980's pop music, performing karaoke, and spoiling her golden retrievers (past and present) Kirby, Daisy, and Whisper.

Fairy tales do come true. Always and Forever.

In addition to her parents and beloved husband, she is also survived by her children: Emily Lynn Drewello of Arlington, VA, Brian Christopher Drewello of Crofton, MD and Lauren MacKenzie Drewello of New York, NY; her sister Kristen Leigh Choroszej Tripodi (Emidio) of Arnold, MD; and ex-

tended family and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made in Tricia's name to the Sarcoma Foundation of America, 9899 Main St #204, Damascus, MD 20872 or Hospice of St. Mary's, Post Office Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

Charles Bernard Farrell, Jr



Charles Bernard Farrell, Jr., 83, of LaPlata, MD, passed away on January 7, 2022 at his home. Born on June 26, 1938 in Leonardtown, MD, he was the son of the late Carrie Frances Farrell and the late Charles Bernard Farrell. Charles was the loving husband of the late June Farrell, who preceded him in death in February 2019. He is survived by his children Debra Harrell (Ronald) of Waldorf, MD and Kenneth Farrell of Prince Frederick, his siblings Marie Lamm and Melvin Farrell, as well as four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Charles was preceded in death by his son, Michael Farrell, and his siblings Gerty Hammett and Joe Farrell.

Charles was employed at the D&D Tire Company for 40+ years.

The family will receive friends on Monday, January 17, 2022 from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Bryantown, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 AM with Father Conley officiating. Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Bushwood, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Bobby Hammett, Jimmy Farrell, Jeff Farrell, Eric Proffitt, Chris Conklin, and Mike Lacey.

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

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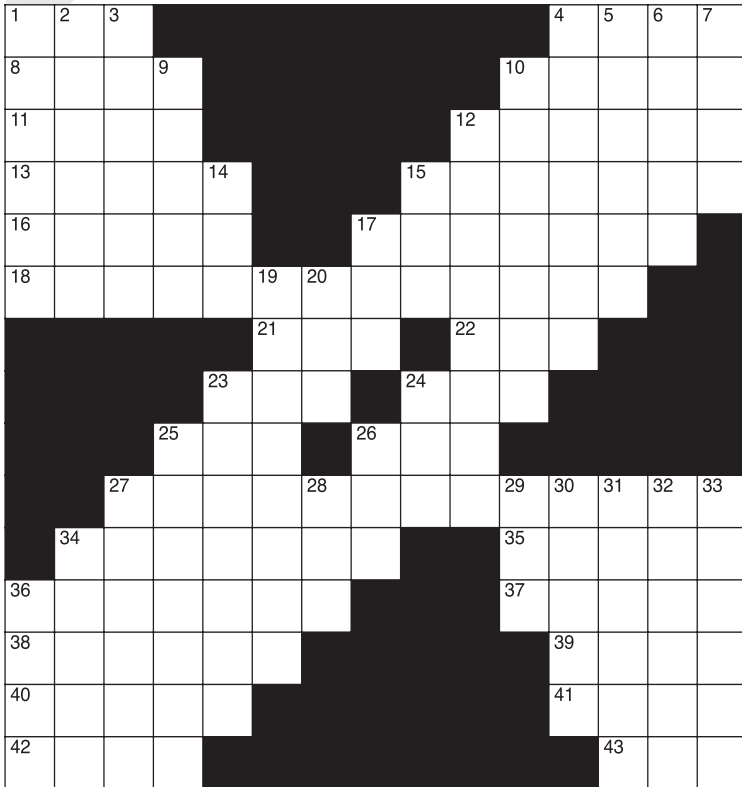


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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Adequate yearly progress (abbr.)
- 4. Silicon Valley's specialty
- 8. Gather a harvest
- 10. Famed mathematician
- 11. No (slang)
- 12. Students use one
- 13. Type of molecule
- 15. Play make-believe
- 16. Large barrel-like containers
- 17. Touching
- 18. Treats allergies
- 21. Calendar month
- 22. Single
- 23. Cease to live
- 24. Brew
- 25. What ghosts say
- 26. Geological

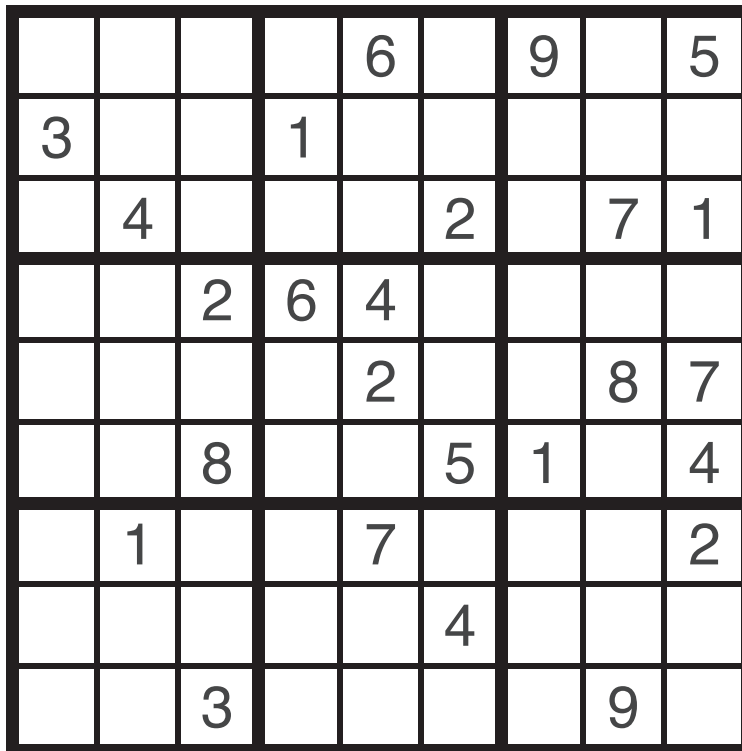
time

- 27. Focus
- 34. Discomfort
- 35. A citizen of Iran
- 36. Trip
- 37. Imitate
- 38. Makes happy
- 39. Double-reed instrument
- 40. Body parts
- 41. Transgressions
- 42. One-time emperor of Russia
- 43. Time zone

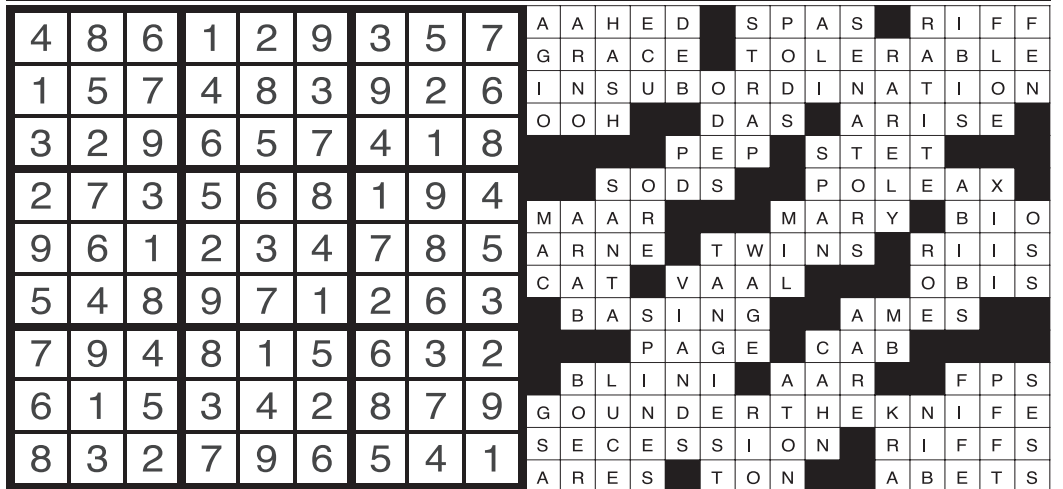
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Used in treating bruises
- 2. One who cultivates a small estate
- 3. One who supports the Pope
- 4. Annuity
- 5. Geological period
- 6. Grab onto tightly
- 7. Kept
- 9. Chinese city
- 10. The most direct route
- 12. Type of tooth

- 14. ___ kosh, near Lake Winnebago
- 15. Popular veggie
- 17. Supervises interstate commerce
- 19. Foolish behaviors
- 20. Witness
- 23. Gives
- 24. Expression of creative skill
- 25. A way to prop up
- 26. Midway between northeast and east
- 27. Winter melon
- 28. Supernatural power
- 29. Target
- 30. Threes
- 31. A type of poetic verse
- 32. They make some people cry
- 33. Kindest
- 34. Forman and Ventimiglia are two
- 36. A way to liquefy



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Publisher Thomas McKay
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