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CLASH OVER SPILLS**

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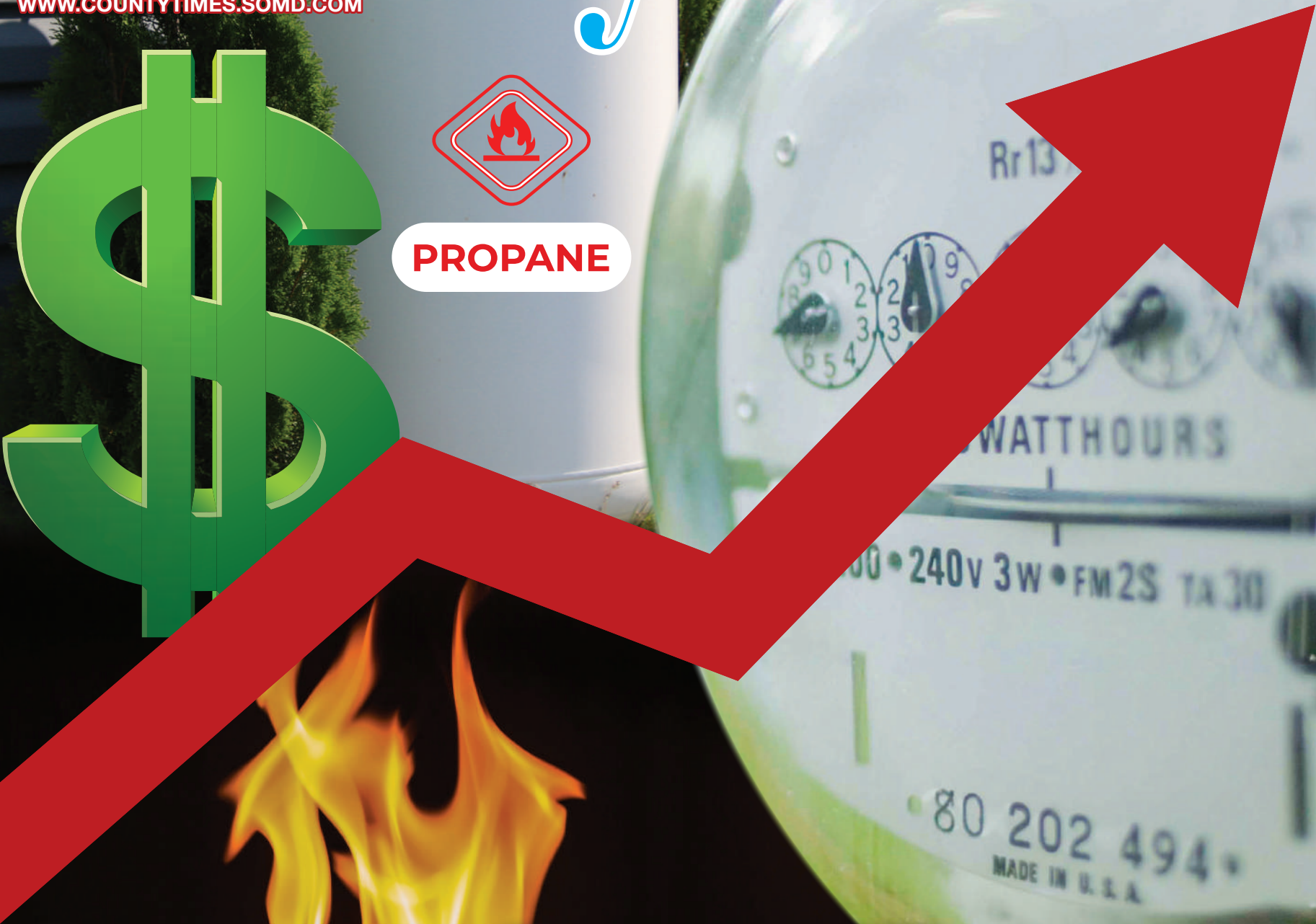
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**“YOU’RE DISRUPTING PEOPLE’S LIVES; YOU’RE PUTTING THEM IN THE HOSPITAL.”**

POTOMAC RIVER KEEPER DEAN NAUJOKS ON METCOM SEWAGE SPILLS.

WEEKLY FORECAST

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<b>Mon 3/7</b> 72°   50°F  PM Showers	<b>Tue 3/8</b> 57°   39°F  AM Showers	<b>Wed 3/9</b> 57°   43°F  Partly Cloudy	<b>Thu 3/10</b> 61°   45°F  Partly Cloudy






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# River Keeper, MetCom Clash Over Sewage Spills

*St. George Island Pump Station spills 25,000 Gallons of Sewage*

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Dean Naujoks, the Potomac River Keeper, a public advocate who keeps track of the health of the river and its watershed, openly challenged the leadership of the Metropolitan Commission last week to apologize for one sewage spill in particular that allowed contaminants to flow from the St. George Island pump station into the Potomac River.

That spill took place between Oct. 28 and Oct. 29 of last year, releasing 25,000 gallons of sewage that affected the health of local oysters, Naujoks alleged.

About 20 people fell ill after eating oysters tainted by that spill, Naujoks claimed.

Naujoks claimed that, after searching through MetCom announcements and data from the Maryland Department of the Environment, that there have been 35 sewage spills between January 2017 and December of 2020.

Many of the spills have cost MetCom in fines, Naujoks' claims stated, while others had not.

Those that had not received any fines amounted to 1.77 million gallons of sewage overflow over 15 separate incidents, Naujoks claimed.

"We do river patrols... and look for sources of pollution," Naujoks said of the River Keeper's mission, which encompassed 14,000 square miles of the river.

The number of people who fell ill after allegedly consuming contaminated oysters harvested here made national news, Naujoks said.

"This was a big story," he said. "Maryland Department of the Environment really dropped the ball on this."

Naujoks claimed MDE did not issue a closure of oyster harvesting fast enough to forestall the alleged seafood contaminations.

"Unfortunately, this is not the first time and it won't be the last," Naujoks said of the spill. "This is a chronic problem."

He said sea level rise was a continuing concern and questioned MetCom about what it was doing to meet the threat of flooding in such areas as St. George Island.

"The thing that really bothers me the



A portion of Naujoks' presentation

most is that MetCom never really apologized to the owners of Shore Thing Shellfish or Nomini Bay Oysters," Naujoks said, noting the oyster harvesters named in national news stories about consumers who got sick.

Shore Thing Shellfish LLC operates in St. Mary's out of St. George Creek, Nomini operates in Virginia.

Naujoks said MetCom should apologize also to the people who allegedly got sick by eating the oysters.

"This is your sewerage, it's your responsibility," Naujoks said, adding that he would track MetCom's progress in the coming years in improving sewerage collections systems.

The chair of the MetCom Board of Directors Joseph Russell thanked Naujoks for his presentation but did not offer an apology.

"We will take all of the things you just brought us into consideration," Russell said. "We are county citizens and we take the job we all do very seriously."

Naujoks continued his challenge.

"Mr. Chairman that was not an apology," Naujoks said.

"No, I will not [apologize] at this point," Russell said. "This is a meeting where we take input."

"To apologize is beyond what this meeting is [meant] to do."

- MDE failed to Issue closure
- Collection System Failure
- People got sick!
- Damaged reputation two family business in MD & VA
- Not the first time, won't be the last
- St Mary's County well protection



Naujoks said one of the men who joined him to seek an apology for the spill had driven more than two hours to attend the meeting.

"We will offer no apology today," Russell said. "We will take into account everything that has been presented."

Naujoks continued to protest for an apology before being told he was disrupting the meeting.

One of the MetCom board members eventually asked staff to call the St. Mary's

Sheriff's Office as Naujoks refused to leave without receiving an apology on behalf of those he claimed to represent.

"You're really putting Shore Things out of business by your repeated sewerage violations," Naujoks said. "A simple apology would go a long way."

"You're disrupting people's lives; you're putting them in the hospital."

The MetCom board voted to end the meeting shortly thereafter.

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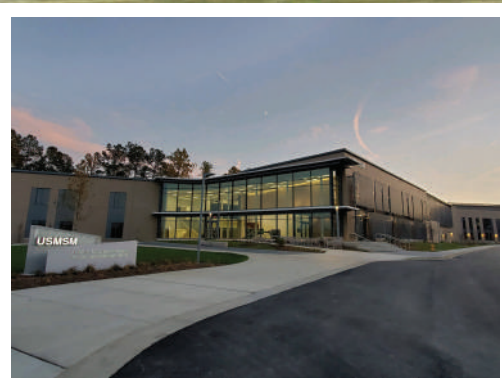
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# Sterling Announces State's Attorney Run

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Jaymi Sterling, former Deputy State's Attorney for St. Mary's County who resigned two years ago, has said she is officially running for the post held by her former boss, State's Attorney Richard Fritz.

Sterling resigned from her post after a fast rise in the office after claiming she had witnessed questionable practices regarding spending of public dollars; Fritz said he initially demoted Sterling from her post because she had exceeded her authority regarding an internal personnel conflict between office employees.

In the interim Sterling, who is Gov. Larry Hogan's daughter, has been working as a prosecutor for the Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office.

Speculation had been building these past few months that Sterling would pursue an opposing political campaign to challenge Fritz, who has spent more than 20 years in the job.

Fritz has officially filed, while Sterling has not.

In her campaign announcement,

Sterling said she would work to "return integrity to the office" and focus on curbing rising crime.

"As a prosecutor, I never shied away from taking on tough cases," Sterling said. "Throughout my career, I prosecuted some of the worst criminals in St. Mary's, Anne Arundel, and Frederick counties.

"As state's attorney, I will prioritize efforts to fight violent crime, corruption, drug dealing, drunk driving, domestic violence, sex offenders, and repeat offenders."

She said she would target dealers of synthetic opioids for prosecution.

"We cannot jail our way out of the opioid epidemic; enough is enough," Sterling said. "I am dedicated to cracking down on drug dealers who peddle this poison."

Sterling said community members had told her they were concerned there was a lack of transparency in the local criminal justice system and about "prosecutions not being evenly pursued."

"I believe community trust is a cornerstone of an effective state's attorney's office," Sterling said in her statement. "As a first step to



Jaymi Sterling

regaining the community's confidence in an independent, non-partial state's attorney's office, I will not be accepting any campaign

donations from criminal defense lawyers, criminal defense law firms, or their family members."

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# Commissioners Approve Funding to Design Sports Complex

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The idea of building a state-funded sports complex has been on the mind of elected officials here since 2019 but now the county seems ready to take the next step in making it a reality.

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved spending \$150,000 in state grant money from a bond measure to design the sports complex, which they hope will be an attraction to bring even more tourist dollars, particularly from visiting sports teams participating in tournaments, locally.

Through a study commissioned by the Maryland Stadium Authority, the group found that St. Mary's could be an ideal place for just such a facility.

The project currently has a billet in the county's capital construction improvement plan (CIP).

The money from the state does not commit the county to move ahead in building the facility,

however.

"I look at this sports complex much the same way I look at the YMCA — parks and recreation and facilities for people to play," said Commissioner John O'Connor. "So if one happens, the other one happens."

"Hopefully it will move forward."

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the grant agreement funding.

According to the CIP, the sports complex would include nine sports fields for play and be located somewhere in the California area on county owned property.

Four of those playing fields would have synthetic turf, while the remaining five would feature Bermuda-style grass, the CIP notation reads.

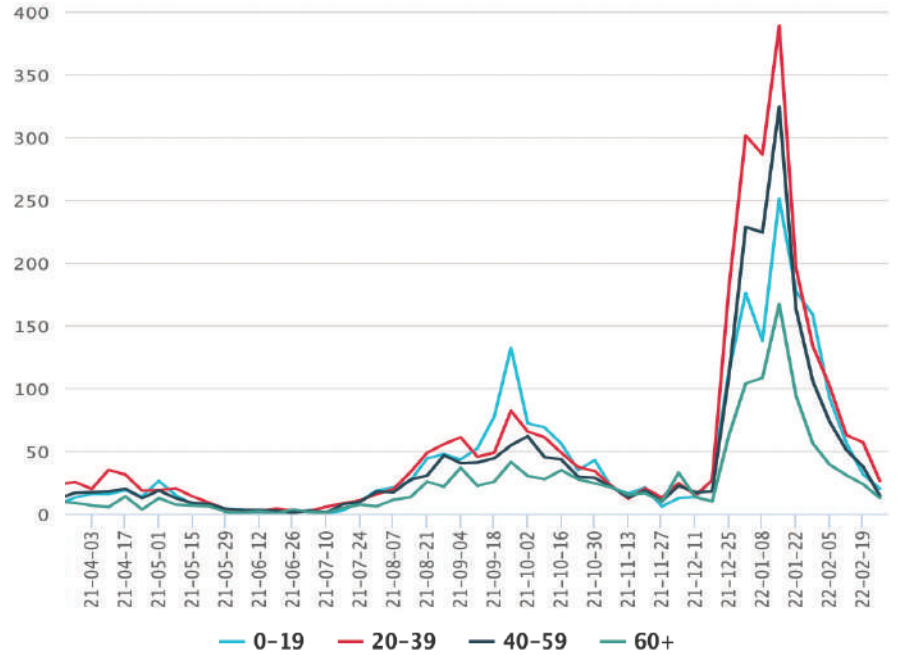
The entire complex would cost approximately \$7.4 million, according to CIP documents.

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# COVID Cases Plummeting in St. Mary's

New Case Rate per 100,000 by Age (Includes Lab Positive PCR & Antigen Tests)

Updated weekly



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

County Health Officer Dr. Mee-na Brewster said this week that the county health department is shifting its focus to recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic after two years of feverishly responding to the disease.

"Today, I'm able to share some encouraging news," Brewster said to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County while still wearing a face mask indoors. "Our local metrics show we are recovering briskly from the recent Omicron surge."

"I expect the cases to continue to drop in the next couple of weeks."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recently released new guidelines for communities to judge the level of danger they face from the continued spread of COVID-19 variants, she said.

Under the old guidelines, St. Mary's County would still be considered in a "red zone" due to its high level of transmission of the virus' Omicron variant.

The new guidelines now put St. Mary's in a "green zone" after taking into account the new case rate, new COVID hospitalizations and average percent hospital beds occupied with COVID patients for a seven-day period.

"Now all of a sudden, we're [in the] green," she said.

Brewster recounted the last two years of the county's response to the pandemic.

"This month marks two years since we first experienced our first case of COVID-19," Brewster said. "We've diagnosed more

than 23,000 local COVID infections and we've seen over 200 of our residents pass related to COVID-19."

The total number of county residents who died from COVID-19 is 205, according to the health department.

"All of our hearts are really there for those families who've lost loved ones," Brewster said.

"These two years we've seen our community come together in a rather unique St. Mary's County kind of way"

Brewster said the strong partnerships the health department enjoyed with county government, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital and others shaped the way the county faced the pandemic and added to its recovery.

"It's been an exceptionally dynamic pandemic," Brewster said.

So far, the county has reached about 64 percent of its residency having been given a full primary course of vaccines, either one shot of the Johnson and Johnson inoculant or two of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

About half of that number, Brewster said, had received a booster shot, which turned out to be perhaps the only way of staying off the Omicron variant — or its effects — which turned out to be far more contagious than prior variants.

The data also shows that fewer than 20 people under the age of 60 died from the virus during the last two years here; the vast majority were over the age of 60 and unvaccinated, Brewster said.

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# Commissioners Hold Hearing on Police Reform Measures



David Deaderick called on commissioners to appoint nine members to the Police Accountability Board instead of only five.

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County must soon stand up a Police Accountability Board (PAB) and Administrative Charging Committee (ACC) to comply with police reform legislation that passed the Maryland General Assembly last year.

The two boards have proven controversial to law enforcement; Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron expressed opposition to them because they diminished his constitutionally protected powers of operating his office and disciplining deputies.

Others in the community supported their institution as necessary to ensure accountability and transparency in the police disciplinary process.

Scott Ostrow, who is running for the District 4 county commissioners seat, said the commissioners should choose carefully who sits on the PAB.

"It is extremely important what the minimum requirements are going to be," Ostrow said at a public hearing March 1. "It would be a disservice to our law enforcement officers if we do not make sure the people on this board have at least a minimal understanding [of police work]."

"That were not allowing just anyone who fills out an application to serve on this board."

The PAB would meet quarterly with law enforcement leaders to review agency activities as well as any complaints filed against them by the public and review the outcome of disciplinary actions.

The ACC would review the investigations of officers by their own agency and recommend disciplinary actions against that officer if appropriate.

The ACC would also, among other mandates, review the evidence in an in-

vestigation involving a law enforcement officer.

Lawrence Ludwig supported establishing both PAB and ACC

"Having a board like this lends some credibility in the eyes of the public," Ludwig said, but admonished the commissioners to do a better job in choosing board members based on the diversity of the entire community.

Ludwig recalled the all-white, all-Republican composition of the recent county re-districting committee as an example.

"That will measure the credibility of these two boards," Ludwig continued.

Austin Schultz, a sheriff's deputy and local president of the Fraternal Order of Police lodge, said law was being implemented in a "hurried and piecemeal manner leaving a lot of questions and little guidance for agencies, particularly sheriff's offices and municipalities."

For example, he said the law does not address qualifications of board chairs or training for members; the sheriff should also have input and contribute to the development of the boards.

David Deaderick said a state trooper who changed a flat tire for him at 3a.m. recently made him appreciate law enforcement's commitment to the public.

But the mistakes they made could likewise not be overlooked.

"Their authority and weaponry put citizens at risk, thus the need for accountability," Deaderick said. He also urged the commissioners "not to be tempted to stack this board with a majority of retired officers."

The current resolution under consideration by the commissioners would have the PAB membership at five; Deaderick advised nine.

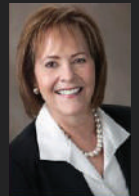
"Six of the nine should be civilians, including the chair," Deaderick said.

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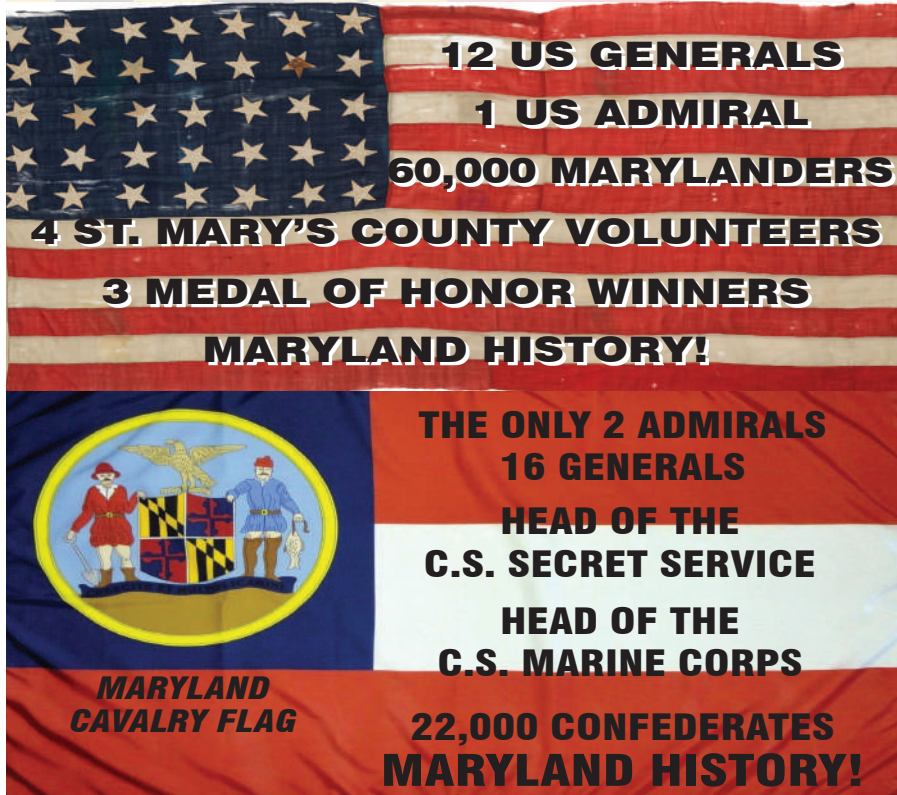
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# Commissioners Briefed on Great Mills YMCA Project



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Just two weeks after the Commissioners of St. Mary's County voted unanimously to continue efforts to build a community center in Lexington Park in cooperation with the YMCA of the Chesapeake, officials with the organization returned to brief elected leaders on next steps.

On Feb. 15 the commissioners voted to site the new YMCA on Great Mills Road, adjacent to an already existing publicly owned and operated swimming pool.

Brian Rigby, design engineer who works with the YMCA of the Chesapeake, told commissioners their current concept plan has the option of a swimming pool already built into YMCA facility, which would have two swimming pools in close proximity.

Robbie Gill, CEO of the YMCA of the Chesapeake, has told commissioners in past briefings that YMCA facilities are almost always built with their own indoor pools.

The first-floor plan of the YMCA building would include activity space for children, bathroom facilities, multipurpose rooms, a kitchen, lobby and common areas as well as the pool area to include locker rooms for men and women.

The first floor would also contain room for a spacious gym.

The basic floor plan was flexible to allow for a pod later post construction.

"We're not changing the scheme because even if we're not including the pool on day [No.] 1, we may want to in the future," Rigby said at the March 1 meeting. "The

flow of these buildings is meant to expand over time."

The pool and its support systems would take up about 7,500 square feet of space at the YMCA facility, according to Rigby.

Rigby showed commissioners an artist's rendering of what the facility might look like when finally completed; he called it "highly visible" and "contemporary."

"It is a place for all," Rigby said of the policy of the YMCA that the facility be all-inclusive.

The facility would cost about \$17.6 million without a pool, according to consultant estimates, and \$20.9 million with a pool.

Commissioners have expressed their desire for community buy-in to the project to include local fundraising support for the project.

Estimates suggest that the community could support as much as \$5 million in donations for the project.

The facility would be 51,504 square feet in size with the pool and 43,777 square feet without; the estimated cost of the building would be \$265 per square foot.

YMCA officials estimated that if the commissioners chose to move ahead with the project it could be completed between nine to 12 months hence with a total of two years to be fully ready to be occupied.

Commissioner President James "Randy" Guy said the more details the community knew about the project, the more they would come to support it financially.

"We hope there are members of the community who will come out and support this," Guy said.

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# NAS Patuxent River Transitioned Back to Health Protection Condition Bravo

NAS Patuxent River transitioned from Health Protection Condition (HPCON) Bravo Plus to HPCON Bravo as of 7 a.m. March 1, 2022. NAS Patuxent River joins other installations within Naval District Washington to shift back to HPCON Bravo as a result of falling COVID cases. Face masks are still required until further notice.

HPCONs are protocols for public health emergencies, such as a pandemic. Commanders review and update these HPCONs based on risk levels within a local community and in cooperation with local, state or host nation guidance. Military leaders and public health personnel use them to guide actions taken in response to a health threat. NDW changed the HPCON as a result of decreasing COVID-19 transmission in the National Capital Region. In addition to NAS Patuxent River, NDW installations transitioning to HPCON Bravo include Naval Support Activities Annapolis, South Potomac and Washington.

"We've seen a fall in cases over the last few weeks leading us and other Navy installations in the region to take the measure to move back in to HPCON Bravo," said Capt. John Brabazon NAS Patuxent River commanding officer. "While COVID remains a concern to the safety of personnel, I'm encouraged by this trend of fewer cases and the efforts of our personnel and residents to vaccinate and adhere to other safety protocols leading to this HPCON shift."

HPCON Bravo implementation will vary at each installation in the region, however, per-

sonnel across all NDW installations should continue to adhere to physical distancing protocols and wear face coverings. Personnel should continue to avoid unnecessary contact and stay home when sick. Unvaccinated personnel are still required to wear masks in all DoD spaces, and vaccinated personnel are advised to wear masks when in group settings. NAS Patuxent River personnel are instructed to keep their spaces at 50 percent capacity and continue to adhere to safety protocols such as frequent hand washing and social distancing.

Personnel who receive a positive COVID diagnosis, regardless of vaccination status, should stay at home for five days; if exhibiting no symptoms or symptoms resolve after five days personnel can return to work but must continue to wear a mask for an additional five days in accordance with current federal guidelines. Unvaccinated personnel exposed to a person with COVID should wear a mask for ten days and test on day five, regardless of whether they exhibit symptoms.

The Trusted Traveler Program remains in effect at NAS Patuxent River, and Gate 3 will remain open. Gate sentries will continue to check ID's using the "no-touch" method.

For more information on Pax River's MWR programs, visit <https://www.navymwrpaxriver.com/covid-19-update>. For more information on NAS Patuxent River, follow on social media at [www.facebook.com/NAS-PaxRiver](http://www.facebook.com/NAS-PaxRiver) and <https://twitter.com/NASPaxRiverPAO>.

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# CSM Moves to Mask Optional March 8



The College of Southern (CSM) will lift the indoor mask requirement on all campuses and implement a Mask Optional policy March 8. This move is in line with guidance recently issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Governor Hogan, and state and county health departments. The lifting of indoor mask requirements at the county, state and national levels follows significant declines in COVID-19 health metrics.

CSM's practice since the beginning of the pandemic has been to closely follow CDC, state, and local health guidance. It has also been the college's practice to make changes to its COVID-19 related policies at semester or term breaks. With these factors in mind, CSM's Mask Optional policy is as follows:

The Mask Optional policy begins at the end of the first spring term Tuesday, March 8.

Masks should be worn by anyone who has recently tested positive\*, has symptoms of COVID-19 or has recently been exposed to someone with the virus.

Masks may continue to be required in some off-campus instructional locations like health care facilities and other specialized instructional sites.

It is recommended that individuals who are not fully vaccinated

continue wearing a mask while indoors.

It is recommended that individuals who are immunocompromised or high risk for severe disease continue wearing a mask while indoors.

Masks will be optional in classrooms, meeting rooms, offices, conference spaces, and at athletic events.

These updated protocols are subject to change as conditions warrant. If COVID-19 health metrics severely worsen in our local community mask requirements may need to be readopted.

Maintaining a safe learning and working environment is part of our college community's social contract. The lifting of the indoor mask requirement is possible in large part due to the success of the college's vaccination requirement. While the positivity rate, case rate, hospitalizations and other health metrics continue to improve, it is important for the CSM community to remain vigilant. Layered prevention strategies – such as COVID-19 vaccinations, screening testing, physical distancing and wearing masks – can help keep the COVID-19 infection rate low.

\*For additional information, visit <https://www.csmd.edu/ready/covid-19/index.html>

*Press Release from CSM*



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Love Forever, The Dogs

## Cherry Blossom Festival Returns to Lexington Manor Park



The Department of Recreation and Parks is pleased to announce the annual Cherry Blossom Festival Saturday, March 26, 2022, from noon - 4 p.m. at the Lexington Manor Passive Park (LMPP) at 21675 South Coral Drive in Lexington Park.

The event will have food trucks, arts and crafts, nature walks, community garden information, fitness challenges, information booths, skateboarding demos, Maryland Day games, face painting, fun runs, disc golf lessons, live music, give-a-ways and much more. There are no fees for the event. There will be several food trucks and commercial vendors

on-site with items for purchase.

All are invited to attend and enjoy this free family fun day in the newly opened facility. Parking for the event will be available at Lancaster Park 21550 Willows Drive in Lexington Park.

The LMPP includes an Arts Park, a disc golf course, and an Interpretive Center. Recent improvements include new trails, roadways, and areas for nonmotorized transit.

For more information, contact [Christina.bishop@stmarysmd.com](mailto:Christina.bishop@stmarysmd.com) or visit our webpage at [www.stmarysmd.com/docs/lexington-manorpassivepark.pdf](http://www.stmarysmd.com/docs/lexington-manorpassivepark.pdf)

## Historic St. Mary's City to Open for the Spring

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) is happy to announce its plans to open their great outdoors (and indoors) to the public for the 2022 season on Tuesday, March 15. The outdoor living history museum will then be open Tuesday—Saturday, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Tickets may be purchased on the day of arrival at either the Shop at Farthing's Ordinary or the Visitor Center. Paths walking through the reconstructed areas are included in the admission cost. The museum is located in St. Mary's County, Maryland, and offers visitors an opportunity to learn of

Maryland's diverse history, visit reconstructed buildings on their original locations, and learn of the connections between the past and the present, all while walking through roughly two-miles of scenic and serene paths.

General admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, students are \$6, and children 5 and younger are free. Discounted admission is available through the IMLS program, Museums For All. To view all museums associated with the program, or to find out more information about Museums For All, visit [Museums4All.org](http://Museums4All.org)



# Moll Dyer Day in Leonardtown



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### TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER



# PAX Sound of Freedom Presented Six Quilts



Quilts of Valor were presented to six recipients at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park on Feb. 19 by PAX Sound of Freedom. Shown, left to right: Andrew Hefner (Marines - 21 years), Matthew Marxer (Navy - 7 years), Lorenzo Quichocho (Navy - 22 years), Kellen Smith (Active Duty Navy - 17 years), Michael L'Heureux (Marines - 28 years), and Tom Thomas (Navy - 10 years).

# Daylight Saving Time Begins March 13

Department of Emergency Services Reminder to Check Batteries

Time will spring forward one hour. Daylight saving time officially begins at 2 a.m., Sunday, March 13, 2022.

You lose an hour of sleep, but make sure to turn the clock ahead — spring forward — before heading to bed Saturday night to avoid the panic of a late rise. Don't forget to change the clock on your stove, microwave and in your car. Also, change and or check your batteries in smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and emergency radios. Be sure to remind your friends, family, and neighbors to do the same.

For information on Emergency Preparedness from the Department of Emergency Services, visit <https://www.stmarysmd.com/es/prepared/>.

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# Food Testing Reimbursement Criteria Expanded

Includes value-added processed food products

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a Division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, has announced expanded criteria for SMADC's food testing reimbursement funding.

Launched in the fall of 2021, SMADC's Reimbursement Funding Initiative underwrites the cost of certified laboratory testing services to verify safety and stability parameters that may be required by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) for 'retail' sales of certain farm-produced cottage foods. Eligible reimbursement criteria is now expanded to include value-added processed foods such as pickles, dehydrated foods, further processed honey, etc.

"The cost of lab services in combination with regulatory upgrades for on-farm kitchen compliance or commercial kitchen rental fees often inhibit farmers from exploring the production of processed food products that can add-value to their farm-grown fruits and vegetables," commented Susan McQuilkin, SMADC Marketing Executive. "We hope the lab test reimbursement initiative will help to alleviate the cost burden and incentivize more farmers to consider value-added food production."

SMADC will reimburse the cost of certified laboratory tests and process review validation up to \$250 for one recipe for up to 10 farmers/producers, on a first come first served basis as funds are available. Reimbursement funding is available to farmers/producers actively farming in one of the five Southern Maryland counties (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's).

Lab test reimbursements for cottage food recipes are limited to cer-



tain 'moist quick breads' (banana, pumpkin, zucchini, etc.), and icings, glazes and frosting recipes that are not on the MDH 'allowable' Cottage Foods list as they may be considered potentially hazardous. Maryland Department of Health is encouraging cottage food producers to test their recipes if they believe their moist bread or frosting recipes should be considered non-potentially hazardous. Recipes with a verified water activity (aw) result of 0.85 or below and/or a pH of 4.6 or below are considered non-potentially hazardous and allowable under cottage food sales.

To review eligibility criteria and apply for SMADC food testing reimbursement funding, visit the 'News' page at [smadc.com](http://smadc.com).

For more information about Maryland Cottage Food Business Guidelines, testing requirements, Processing and Selling Value Added Food Products in Maryland, licensing and other resources visit Facility and Process Review on the MDH Office of Food Protection website: <https://health.maryland.gov/>

Press Release from SMADC

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# ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

## More Arrests in Lexington Park Murder

### Escape-

On February 22, 2022, Cpl. Pontorno responded to the 40000 block of Henry Lane in Charlotte Hall, for the reported Escape. Investigation determined **David William Hower II**, age 23 of Lexington Park, (a detainee from the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center) escaped the treatment facility via an exit door at the establishment. Hower was quickly located and he became uncooperative and would not follow instructions. Hower was arrested and charged with Escape and Resist/Interfere with Arrest.



David William Hower II

### Assault-

On February 23, 2022, Dep. Tasciotti responded to the 46000 block of Saltmarsh Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Investigation determined **Erica Salazar Ramiscal**, age 24 of Lexington Park, assaulted the victim by striking the victim in the head, causing visible injury. Ramiscal was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Erica Salazar Ramiscal

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person pictured in a theft investigation. On Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022 at 3:19 pm, the suspect loaded a cart with merchandise at the California Target store. The suspect was then joined by a white male wearing a black face mask, black hoody and black pants, with tattoos on his hands. Both suspects then passed all points of sale with the cart when they were confronted by loss prevention staff. The

suspects fled and were last seen leaving in a white Nissan.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspects or this incident is asked to call Deputy David Katulich at 301-475-4200, ext. 8175 or email david.katulich@stmarysmd.com. Case # 2952-22

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

### Wanted Person- Pierre Rasheed Chase

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of Pierre Rasheed Chase, age 30 of no fixed address. Chase is wanted on various warrants for theft and violations of a protective order. Chase is a black male, 5'11" and weighs 180 pounds with black hair and brown eyes.



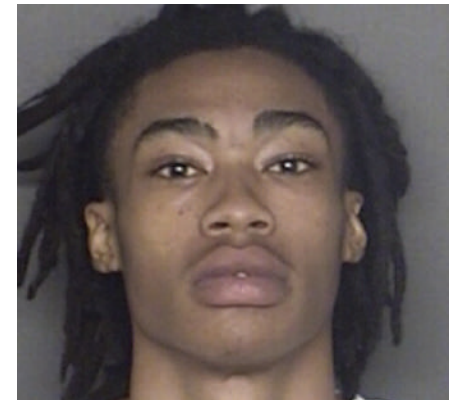
Pierre Rasheed Chase

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Pierre Rasheed Chase is asked to contact Detective Elizabeth O'Connor at (301) 475-4200 extension 78075 or by email at Elizabeth.OConnor@stmarysmd.com. For immediate assistance contact the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office at (301) 475-8008.

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



Thomas Evans



Jevontez Davis

Additional arrests were made on February 26 in the fatal shooting that occurred in Lexington Park on January 12. Jevontez Deqwon Davis, 21 of Mechanicsville, and Thomas Darnell Evans, 23 of Lexington Park, have been arrested and charged with the following:

- Murder First Degree
- Murder Second Degree
- Reckless Endangerment
- Numerous Handgun Charges and Assault Charges

Davis and Evans remain incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown on a no-bond status.

Keion Steven James Brook and Latres Javontae Cockerham, both 23 and from California, were the first arrested and charged in the murder of Joseph James Oakes, 19,


of Lexington Park.

Preliminary investigation determined the victims, which included a 17-year-old who was shot in the leg, were traveling in a vehicle in the area of Pegg Road and Watt Drive in Lexington Park when they were shot. The victims' vehicle continued onto Westbury Boulevard and ultimately came to a rest after striking the median.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Taylore Nauman at (301) 475-4200 extension 78109.

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

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### Editor's Note:

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



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# State Lawmakers Debate Game-Changing Climate Bill

## Business Groups Strongly Oppose Initiative

By Dick Myers  
Editor  
Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

It is not unusual that environmental groups and business organizations wind up on opposite sides of an issue. But a bill now being considered in the Maryland General Assembly has created an unusually wide fissure.

It's nicknamed "The Climate Act," but officially Senate Bill 528 is called "The Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022."

The bill's synopsis says: "Requiring the state to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions through the use of various measures, including the alteration of statewide greenhouse gas emissions goals, the establishment of a net-zero statewide greenhouse gas emissions goal, the development of certain energy efficiency and electrification requirements for certain buildings, and requiring electric companies to increase their annual incremental gross energy savings through certain programs and services; etc."

The bill would put the state at the head of the class in fighting Global Warming, setting goals even stricter than those advocated by the Biden Administration and the Paris Agreement.

The bill is sponsored by Prince George's County Sen. Paul Pinsky and has 27 cosponsors including Senator Michael Jackson (D: District 27), who represents the northern part of Calvert County.

The bill is the darling of state environmental groups, who are strongly pushing for it. One is the Bay's largest advocacy group, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, which in testimony on the bill touted its own green building headquarters in Annapolis.

Another environmental group, Maryland Climate Action, said, "We must set bold climate goals, and have a plan to meet them!"

The Maryland Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Office issued a call to action.

It said, "Senate Bill 528 (is) a proposal that will drive up the cost of energy and phase out the use of existing energy sources."

The missive went on to say: "This dangerous and burdensome legislation includes:

- Setting an unachievable State greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goal of 60 percent reduction by 2030 and ultimately reaching net-zero emissions by 2045

That's an increase in the current 2030 goal by 20 percent and a net-zero reduction five years ahead of the current schedule

- SB 528 requires the adoption of new building standards for the total phase out of the use of fossil fuels in water and

space heating by 2030 for the construction of new buildings

- Mandates a 40 percent GHG reduction goal for all commercial buildings by 2035 and net zero emissions by 2040

- Owners of commercial buildings are required to measure and report GHG emission to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) beginning in 2025.

The state chamber concludes: "SB 528 mandates the total phase-out of energy sources such as propane, heating oil and natural gas for residential and commercial buildings by 2040. These types of energy policies have drastic cost implications for Maryland businesses and consumers and saddle our state with a competitive economic disadvantage to others in the region.

"Instead of creating new and additional burdens for Marylanders, politicians in Annapolis should focus on finding ways to ensure our state achieves its existing and attainable GHG goals – not moving the target and driving up the costs of energy further."

Theresa Kuhns, vice president of Government Affairs for the Southern Maryland Association of REALTORS® supplied the following testimony on the bill by their state association:

"Maryland REALTORS® are committed to advocating for Maryland private property owners' rights and acknowledge there is a need to balance climate mitigation with the growing challenge of affordable housing. We are concerned that SB 528 will impact housing costs of some multi-family housing as well as new construction. Maryland is currently estimated to have a housing undersupply of over 80,000 units which includes both for sale and residential rental property. Moreover, according to the 'Maryland Housing Needs Assessment and 10-Year Strategic Plan (Needs Assessment),' Maryland will be adding 178,000 new households between 2020 and 2030. The needs assessment also estimates that in 2030 more than half of all new households in Maryland will qualify as low-income. As the requirements for new additional units expand to meet the eventual net-zero requirements, the cost impacts on new residential housing are unclear. While costs today would certainly impact affordability, it is unclear how technology will change in the next 15 years. It is also unclear what sources of energy will provide the electric generation that will be needed for housing and transportation. In addition to residential impacts, HB 528 will impact 17,000 Maryland commercial buildings which have struggled during the global pandemic. Commercial lending volume decreased approximately 60 percent in 2020, and it is important to note, lender losses in the commercial sector exceeded



Senator Jack Bailey (R: District 29, Calvert/St. Mary's)

those of the 2008 financial crisis. National economists also predict short-term price declines for retail, office, and hotel properties of 4-7 percent. The unknown of the commercial recovery from Covid must be considered particularly as it is affected by retrofit requirements. The upfront costs to construct a net-zero commercial building can be up to 15 percent more than conventional construction. A combination of increased construction costs and decreased lending availability will pose challenges to many projects including adaptive reuse of existing structures, which remains an important component of smart growth. While Maryland can continue to be a leader in Climate Change legislation, advancing net-zero requirements for buildings by 2045 will make this job more costly and impact both residential and commercial property affordability. For these reasons, the REALTORS® recommend an unfavorable report."

Sen. Jack Bailey (R-Dist.29) said the 15 Republican senators in Annapolis were actively trying to either stop the bill or amend it.

"We want to at least make it more palatable and not cost our constituents so much," Bailey told The County Times.

There was one bill in the Senate but there were several such bills of a similar nature in the House, Bailey said.

"It seeks to mandate the complete phase out of energy sources such as oil, natural gas and propane in residential homes and commercial buildings by 2040," Bailey said of SB 528. "It also prohibits any board of education from entering into a new contract with a school bus provider that's not electric."

That restriction would take effect by 2024, Bailey said, and school systems would have to act now to bring in any new buses before the deadline that still ran on fossil fuels.

The bill would also instill strict caps on greenhouse gas emissions that would take effect five years earlier than current legislation demands.

"These new regulations negatively affect all small businesses by increasing electricity costs in the short term and increasing surcharges on small businesses on an ongoing basis," Bailey said. "With the recent 27 percent increase from

SMECO our cost of living is already very high.

"This will make it more difficult for everyone especially young families who are just starting out."

Frank Taylor, president of Taylor Gas Co. Inc., which serves customers throughout Southern Maryland, said the legislation under consideration puts a stark division between his company — and other family-owned businesses that provide energy — and those seeking the bill's passage.

"It seems like we're singled out as the villains in this play," Taylor said. "To generate electricity, it takes fossil fuels.

"If we're all electric (an eventual goal of the bill) and the grid goes down or we're subject to a cyberattack we're left in the dark without any options."

Taylor said the bill was ill conceived and essentially made an attempt to put energy providers like Taylor Gas out of business in just a few years.

"I don't think they're thinking it through," Taylor said. "We're an integral part of the community, we want to have a clean Earth just like everybody else.

"But with this bill, if you're not electric you're being singled out."

Taylor was also critical of the accelerated time frame the bill pushed for conversion away from all fossil fuels in Maryland.

"It would be like turning a battleship around in a bathtub," Taylor said.

The fiscal note on the bill prepared by the Department of Legislative Services concedes significant impact of the bill on the state's small businesses. It says: "Although a reliable estimate of the bill's impact on small business cannot be made at this time, the impact to small business is meaningful."

It goes on to list some of the effects: "Businesses involved in the provision, institution and maintenance of fossil-fueled water and space heating equipment are significantly affected by the bills changes to MBPS (Maryland Building Performance Standards) for new buildings. These provisions also affect companies that sell fuel for this type of equipment, such as heating and propane companies. Other small businesses, such as those contracting new buildings or renovating existing buildings, incur additional costs to comply with the bill's energy efficiency and solar energy provisions."

Kuhns, who is among a cadre of representatives of business organizations working against the bill, said she is expecting amendments to the bill soon. It is expected to be debated on the Senate floor on Friday, March 4.

*dickmyers@countytimes.net*  
*and guyleonard@countytimes.net*



## College Professor Receives Independent Artist Award

Jennifer Cognard-Black, St. Mary's College professor of English and 2020 recipient of the Robert Foster Cherry Award for Great Teaching, is a 2022 recipient of an Independent Artist Award presented by the Maryland State Arts Council. Cognard-Black will receive a \$2,000 regional grant to recognize promise in fiction writing. This is her second Maryland State Arts Council Award; she received her first in 2013.

Cognard-Black says of this award, "While the Individual Artist Awards honor past writing – in this case, two of my short stories – what I appreciate most is how these awards support artists as they move toward their creative futures. For me, that's a novel I'm writing fictionalizing part of the life of the novelist Edith Wharton against the backdrop of World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, and

the Photo-Secessionist movement. To know that members of MSAC find promise in my current work helps give me energy towards its completion."

One of her award-winning short stories is included in the forthcoming issue of SlackWater, an occasional journal published by St. Mary's College of Maryland, featuring the work of faculty, students and members of the Southern Maryland community.

This year's 69 awardees were chosen from a pool of nearly 300 applicants through a public panel process. With this year's awards focused on the literary arts, the 2022 awardees represent a wide range of artistic talents - ranging from poets to playwrights, novelists to essayists - from all across the state.

*Press Release from St. Mary's College of Maryland*

## Registration Opens for Chesapeake Writers' Conference at St. Mary's College



Registration is currently taking place for the 11th Annual Chesapeake Writers' Conference held on St. Mary's College of Maryland's campus, Sunday, June 19 – Saturday, June 25. Workshop tuition is \$800. There is also a course credit option for an additional fee; optional meal and housing packages are also available. For more information, visit [go.smcm.edu/chesapeake](http://go.smcm.edu/chesapeake).

The Chesapeake Writers' Conference hosts writers at all levels of experience for a rich week of lectures, craft talks, readings, and panel discussions, as well as daily workshops in fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, translation, and screenwriting. Workshops are led by a variety of writers at the top of their field, such as Angela Pelster, winner of the Great Lakes Colleges Association "New Writer Award in Nonfiction"; Patricia Henley, a finalist for the National Book Award; and Elizabeth Arnold, a Whiting Writer's Award winner.

### College Students

Course credit is available for college students enrolled in a degree program. College students wishing to pursue the course credit option should check the appropriate box in the application. The two-credit course has a prerequisite of a 200-level writing course or permission from the instructor. St. Mary's College students will need to sign up for the course during summer enrollment. There are also a limited number of scholarships available for SMCM students. Check out the website for more information, or write to the conference staff at [\[writersconference@smcm.edu\]\(mailto:writersconference@smcm.edu\).](mailto:chesapeake-</a></p>
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### Teachers

The teachers' seminar meets daily to discuss ways of connecting one's own writing practices with their pedagogy, as well as to share and learn innovative ways of implementing writing and literature in the classroom. Teachers participate in the activities of the larger conference, but also develop a strong community of educators. The seminar will offer two graduate credits from St. Mary's College of Maryland, which can be used toward fulfilling continuing professional development requirements in Maryland and elsewhere.

### High School Students

A workshop designed for high school-aged youth (grades 9-12) explores poetry, fiction, personal narrative, and playwriting. Students read and write in traditional forms such as sonnets, villanelles, short stories, memoirs, and plays, as well as read and use less traditional forms and techniques, from prose poems and automatic writing to cut-ups, magical realism and first-person journalism. There is also a focus on scriptwriting for television, movies, and graphic novels.

St. Mary's College of Maryland, the National Public Honors College, is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education through 2024-2025. St. Mary's College is ranked one of the best public liberal arts schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Approximately 1,600 students attend the college, nestled on the St. Mary's River in Southern Maryland.

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of the

National Wild Turkey Federation

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# CSM's Nonprofit Institute Staff Become Licensed Consultants

The staff of the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Nonprofit Institute (NPI) have become Standards for Excellence Licensed Consultants after completing an intensive five-day virtual training seminar aimed at strengthening nonprofit governance practices. CSM NPI consultants Cara Fogarty and Michelle Sullivan, and Outreach Specialist Amy Davis were part of a 32-member class hailing from various regions of the country who completed the Standards for Excellence Institute® training to become the 2021 Class of Licensed Consultants.

"It was truly an honor to be a part of the Standards for Excellence Fall 2021 Licensed Consultant training class," said Fogarty. "I learned so much and filled in knowledge gaps. The speakers and my classmates were inspiring and the topics we covered were robust and varied. I'm excited to bring my enhanced knowledge to nonprofits in Southern Maryland -- they are the immediate beneficiaries of this training -- and to students in our prospective nonprofit workforce development program."

The Standards for Excellence Institute®, a national initiative designed to help nonprofit organizations operate more ethically and accountably, promotes the highest standards of ethics, effectiveness, and accountability in nonprofit governance, management, and operations, to help all nonprofit organizations meet high benchmarks and build public trust.

The Nonprofit Institute serves as Southern Maryland's premier source of nonprofit professional development and capacity-building for the diverse array of nonprofits serving the Southern Maryland region. The Institute is part of the Division of Continuing Education and Workforce Development at the College of Southern Maryland.

NPI's programs include:

- Monthly Executive Director Network Meetings bring leadership together to meet and discuss operational concerns and share lessons learned.
- Monthly Nonprofit Community Calls foster collaboration, information sharing, and support.
- Affinity Groups provide for networking and sharing of ideas centered on volunteer coordination, fundraising, and marketing/public relations/communications.

- Professional development classes cover key areas of nonprofit leadership/management, strategic planning, fundraising, marketing/communications, governance, and operations.
- An annual conference with a keynote speaker and breakout sessions encourage learning, sharing, and networking.
- Regular communications via a resource-rich monthly e-newsletter
- Operational advice and insight in areas of fundraising, leadership/management, marketing/communications, governance, and operations.
- Connections and referrals to grant writers, attorneys, accountants, and insurance professionals, some of whom offer services to nonprofits on a pro bono basis or for a reduced rate.

Fogarty joined the Nonprofit Institute in the fall of 2016. Prior to that, she spent nearly a decade working for a nonprofit organization in St. Mary's County. In this capacity, she served on the Nonprofit Institute Advisory Council for St. Mary's County and the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce Tourism and Hospitality Advisory Committee.

Before working in the nonprofit arena, Fogarty was a journalist in both commercial and public radio. After working as a news reporter in Columbus, Ohio, and upstate New York, she joined the now-defunct Mutual Broadcasting System/NBC Radio Network in Arlington, Va., where she produced national newscasts. She later joined NPR in Washington, D.C. serving as the supervising online editor for NPR.org in the early days of the web. She is also an adjunct faculty member at CSM teaching writing and communication courses. She serves on the Charles County Economic Development Department Advisory Board's Business Outreach Committee. During the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, she served on the Charles County COVID-19 Recovery Task Force and on the Maryland Governor's Nonprofit Working Group which made recommendations to Governor Hogan's COVID-19 response plan, "Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery."

Sullivan joined the Nonprofit Institute in the fall of 2016 where she serves as a resource for nonprofits as they navigate the ever-increasingly complex landscape



of the nonprofit sector.

Sullivan is the executive director of All Ages Read Together (AART), a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating children in need with free preschool programs in their communities in Loudoun and Fairfax counties in Virginia. AART has more than 100 children enrolled in 12 programs, including an expansion of two new programs in Alexandria, Va.

Sullivan's previous experience included executive director for Access Hope as well as director in the department of public policy at the United Cerebral Palsy's national office, and she also served in the Office of Public Liaison in the White House.

Davis joined the Nonprofit Institute in the spring of 2021 as an outreach specialist. Active with many local organizations, Davis' nonprofit background includes

financial management, budget development, grant writing, and strategic planning.

She serves as the vice-chair of the St. Mary's County Museum Division Board of Trustees, the co-chair of the St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission, and treasurer for the Southern Maryland chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association. Davis is also on the board of directors for the Small Museum Association. She most recently served as the executive director of the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum in Lexington Park, Maryland.

Nonprofit Institute staff are available for consultation at [nonprofit@csmd.edu](mailto:nonprofit@csmd.edu) or by phone at 301-934-7544.

*Press Release from CSM.*



## A View From The BLEACHERS



# FRACTURES

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

A baserunner takes his lead off first. The pitcher toes the rubber, nods to the catcher – fastball, outside corner. Just before delivering the pitch, he glances at the runner out of the corner of his eye. And again. And again. Hands dangle between the runner's outstretched legs and his twitchy fingers gently scrape the dirt. The pitcher fires the heater toward home plate. The batter, a lefty, was guessing curve but quickly adjusted to the fastball that caught too much of the plate. The ball cracks off the bat's barrel and a well-struck one-hopper rips through the infield between the shortstop and second base.

The calm before the pitcher's delivery is now fabulous chaos. The centerfielder charges the ball violently, intent on keeping the baserunner at second. The shortstop scurries onto the outfield grass to receive a cut-off throw. The second and third basemen man their bags should a play materialize. The left fielder, on his horse, hustles to back up the centerfielder. The pitcher, with no time to lament the failed pitch, moves behind third in the event of an errant throw.

There is great relevancy in that baseball play. It contains order and concurrency of execution without a word spoken. In that moment, how the game's preceding drama played out for team or individual doesn't matter. Every player responds to the challenge presented by the batted ball. Retrieve it, get it back to the infield. Hold the batter to a single and the baserunner to second base. And just in case things go awry, backup is positioned to mitigate the damage. They are teammates, united by a singular goal that is performed individually but can only be accomplished collectively.

I have thought about that hypothetical play on the diamond often over the last few years. Of late, it has become an inescapable image during early morning drives. The "play" is the drumbeat of everyday life. The players are numerous. To name a few, they are: convenience store managers who made your coffee and provided gas for vehicles, teachers readying for another day educating our youth, HVAC specialists and plumbers traveling to a jobsite or critical repair, Amazon

drivers dutifully meeting the two-day deadline, civil servants headed to the base, the road crew rebuilding critical infrastructure, and law enforcement and medical personal remaining at the ready.

The intersections of these teammates range from rare to frequent. Some names are familiar; others are completely unknown. That said, it is fascinating how this "team" quietly works together every day. It seems, no matter the depth of acquaintance, there is a collective assumption of a commitment to role and to personal duty – an understanding that the "we" needs the "me" and vice versa.

That all these things – the baseball play and the intricacies of daily life – happen without notice is remarkable. During execution, there is little attention paid to political affiliation or vaccine status. Race, religion and gender identity prejudices can be transcended. When that "ball" is smacked through the infield, does the white, Republican pitcher care that an African American Democrat is in centerfield and a fully vaccinated homosexual is playing shortstop? Maybe he does before and after the game. But in that moment of need, with runners racing around the bags and the game on the line, I think not. If he does, hate has compromised his heart; his is a soul lost.

And yet, absent crisis, foolish human failings often compromise pursuit of shared interests. Whatever the root of our differences, the consequences of those fractures just increased in severity. Petty political fights, complaints about our government, wild accusations about certain ideologies ruining the country and internet rage based on targeted lies and false-realities – it seems so trivial now. Russia just changed everything. The peace America and her allies have stridently maintained again requires transcendent unity. A perilous ball has been put into play. European basepaths are chaotic for the first time in nearly 80 years. The situation demands an immediate, coordinated and steadfast defense. Come on world...field it clean, hit the cut-off man, stifle the advance - for each of us, for all of us, for Ukraine.

Send comments to [Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com](mailto:Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com)

## Midwinter Waterfowl Survey Released



Photo by Stephen Badger, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

In early January, aerial survey teams of pilots and biologists from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) made visual estimates of the ducks, geese and swans along most of the state's Chesapeake Bay, Potomac River, and Atlantic Ocean coastal shorelines. This year, the teams counted about 563,800 waterfowl, lower than the 627,000 birds observed in 2020, and below the most recent five-year average of 718,600 birds. The 2021 Mid-Winter Survey was not flown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Winter distribution of waterfowl is influenced by many factors," Maryland DNR Wildlife and Heritage Director Paul Peditto said. "Global weather patterns, food availability, habitat quality, prevalence of ice, and the population status of each species all play a role in how many birds we count and where we count them."

Overall, dabbling ducks increased in number this year compared to 2020, as did pintails and

green-winged teal, which likely reflected the mild fall temperatures. Likewise, generally mild winter weather likely led to fewer diving ducks being observed than in the 2020 survey.

Hunter reports suggest that late arriving winter weather moved more scaup, canvasbacks, and red-heads into the Chesapeake Bay region after the survey was completed. Biologists counted more Canada geese – 361,100 – than the 2020 survey, which counted 327,200. DNR considers this a hopeful sign that flyway wide harvest restrictions for Atlantic Population (AP) geese are working.

The Midwinter Waterfowl Survey has been conducted annually since the early 1960s, and covers most of the tidal shorelines and near-shore waterfowl habitat in Maryland. These numbers are not population estimates, but offer an annual "snapshot" view of how waterfowl use of important near-shore habitats changes over time.

Press Release from MD DNR.

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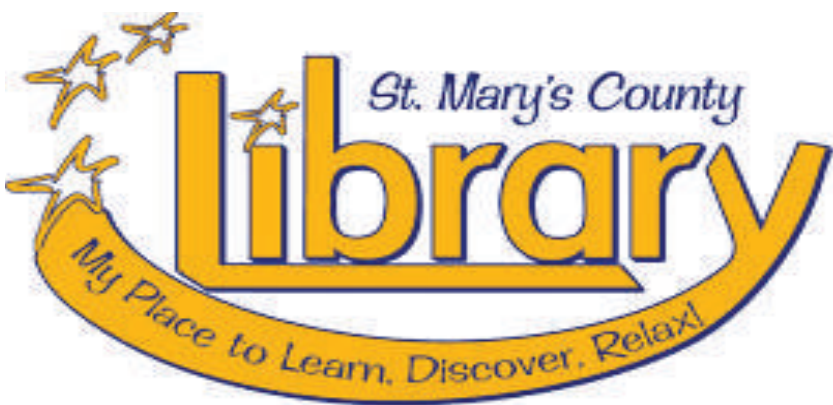
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# Port of Leonardtown Wine Wins Governor's Cup



The Port of Leonardtown Winery was officially presented with the 2021 Maryland Governor's Cup by the Maryland Wine Association for their award-winning 2019 Chambourcin Reserve during a celebration held March 1. The celebration also served as the kickoff for Maryland Wine Month. -Town of Leonardtown



## Irish Genealogy at Lexington Park Library

Interested in researching your Irish roots or simply curious about your Irish ancestry? Join us in exploring the Irish institutions and resources to utilize when researching Irish genealogy on Monday, March 14 from 6- 7 p.m. at the Lexington Park Library in the Computer Lab. Irish Genealogy will focus on how to research one's Irish roots and ancestry by concentrating on Irish resources. Often times, when we are researching our family history, we run into difficulty once we arrive at the point in which our ancestor arrived in America. For this session, we will look at various Irish resources, such as the National Library of Ireland, the National Archives, and others, that offer genealogical services and house records that may be of interest. We welcome anyone who is enthusiastic in their Irish ancestry, whether they are looking to continue their

research or simply curious on where to begin. Register to attend on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

## Virtual Romance Book Club

Each month we will discuss a different romance novel. All books will be available in both eBook and audiobook format on Hoopla. March's title is *The Hating Game* by Sally Thorne to be discussed on Wednesday, March 16 from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Register to receive the zoom link on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

## Who's Nesting in My Backyard?

Join Barb Whipkey, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited in Lexington Park and LaPlata, as she shares information about the birds who may be nesting in our yards on Thursday, March 17 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Barb will give tips on helping to create successful nesting



habitats and feeding tips for these birds. She will also put some of those old wives' tales that we have all been taught to rest. Register to receive the link to the Zoom meeting on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

## Trivia Mondays

Register with an email address on [www.stmalib.org/calendar](http://www.stmalib.org/calendar) to receive the link to a trivia game and test your knowledge! The game is multiple

choice questions and speed matters! Registration for each week ends at 5 p.m. on Mondays. After 5 p.m., registrants will be emailed a link to that week's trivia. You will have until Thursday at 5 p.m. to complete the game, then you'll receive an email with the full results. Trivia uses Kahoot, accessible through any internet browser, no account needed.





# PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

# News

## Navy's Atlantic Test Ranges Prepares to Test New MQ-25 Stingray Ground Control Station

By Bob Kaper, Sr. Technical Writer  
Atlantic Ranges and Targets

The Navy's Atlantic Test Ranges (ATR) at NAS Patuxent River is scheduled to receive a ground control station (GCS) for testing with the MQ-25 Stingray early next year.

Besides ATR, several other Pax River locations will house the new GCS, known as the MD-5D, according to Chris Hardman, ATR project facilitator. They are the MQ-25 hangar, the System Test and Integration Laboratory (STIL) and two mobile test transportable (TT) units. ATR is also installing supporting equipment for the GCSs, including mission control room workstations, video routing, voice communications interfaces and test networks.

There are three variants of the MD-5 for different types of installations, Hardman said. "The MD-5C is installed on ships, the MD-5D at shore facilities, and the MD-5E in mobile units. An easy way to remember them is the MD-5C goes to sea, MD-5D is on dirt, and the MD-5E is embarkable."

The first MD-5D GCS at Pax has already been installed in the STIL as a software testbed, he said. "It will not be used for flight. All versions of software will first be tested at the STIL before being promoted."

The TT units with MD-5E's will be transported to MidAmerica Airport in Mascoutah, Illinois. ATR is also beefing up a mobile instrumented telemetry system (MITS) with its Real-time Telemetry Processing System (RTPS) for the

upcoming testing at MidAmerica.

"The MITS will interface with the mobile TTs that will control the aircraft during the testing," he said.

A Boeing-owned version of the MQ-25, the T1, has been undergoing flight tests at MidAmerica with a Boeing controller since September 2019. Although the aircraft and controller in the current flight tests belong to Boeing, the MQ-25 Integrated Test Team (ITT), ATR, and the Navy "had a lot to do with the planning and buildup for the flight," Hardman said.

"The ITT was at MidAmerica, and our RTPS was receiving a lot of the aircraft data and video after the flight for processing here at ATR," he said. "We've been working hard to install equipment at MidAmerica that networks the data and video back to ATR in real time. The ITT is now able to monitor flights at MidAmerica or remotely here at ATR."

MD-5D controllers are more complex than the name indicates, and their composition varies. The GCS for ATR is set-up to provide control from two different rooms, A and B, and each room includes two cockpits, known as air vehicle operator (AVO) workstations. The MD-5D in the MQ-25 hangar will incorporate a similar configuration in rooms C and D, each with two AVO consoles. Each TT will have an MD-5E with just two AVO workstations.

The operators at ATR and the MQ-25 hangar GCSs communicate with the aircraft and local facilities involved in

a test via signals sent through buried fiber-optic lines to radio-frequency shelters installed on pad sites. The ATR pad site is at the foot of tower B, one of the two tall antenna towers across the street from B2118. The hangar's shelter and pad site is under construction.

ATR's shelter broadcasts the signals it receives through four VHF/UHF voice radio antennas and four omnidirectional command and control (C2) data antennas on the tower.

"Pilots at the workstations communicate through the voice antennas with local facilities involved with the test such as ground support and air traffic control," Hardman said. "The data antennas are used to control the air vehicle while it is within line of sight."

When the aircraft is beyond line of sight, two mobile user objective system antennas transmit the control signals via satellite.

The hangar pad site under construction has a more extensive antenna array. A tower at the site supports two voice antennas and four omnidirectional C2 antennas to control the aircraft.

"There are multiple frequencies needed for voice on each flight, and multiple C2s may be needed for multiple air vehicles and back-up frequencies," he said.

A more powerful command data link (CDL) directional antenna controls the unmanned air vehicle (UAV) at greater distances. "The CDL has a higher gain and can process and follow the UAV's position," he said. "That means we don't

need to slave the CDL to a separate tracking radar. It can slave to itself."

A wideband satellite terminal antenna at the hangar site interfaces with both commercial and military networks. And two telemetry acquisition system antennas acquire signals for an ATR real-time telemetry processing system also located at the hangar site.

The first three Navy aircraft to be tested at MidAmerica will be engineering development models (EDM) 1, 2 and 3. One of the TTs will control the first EDM flight at MidAmerica with the second TT serving as backup. The second TT will then be transported to NAWCAD Lakehurst for further MQ-25 testing there.

A second series of three different MQ-25 system demonstration test article (SDTA) aircraft will follow the EDMs in 2023. SDTA work will involve cyber, electromagnetic effects, climate chamber, mission systems, mission scenario development and operational testing.

"Construction design is underway on an MQ-25 hangar at Point Mugu, and another hangar is being repurposed in Norfolk for the fleet," Hardman said. "They're being funded over the next few years with construction to follow. This is all to prepare the fleet for the future of naval UAVs."

Initial operational capability of the first four Stingrays in the carrier air wing is set for 2025. The aircraft will be integrated into the wing alongside the E-2 and C-2 squadrons





# Wanderings

of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



## THE LOST WILD WEST WEEKEND BINGE

Well, I never thought I would be a TV series binge watcher, other than the Hallmark Movies & Mysteries mystery series' weekend marathons. But somehow, my husband and I have gone down the rabbit hole with the series Yellowstone. I had been hearing about it for quite some time but knew I could not possibly watch a western series. Not that I won't spend a few hours here or there watching all the old western TV series, or old western movies with my husband. I had seen these t-shirts pop up for sale by an entrepreneur in our neighborhood Facebook group saying, "Don't let me go Beth Dutton on you" along with Yellowstone Dutton Ranch koozies which sparked my curiosity too.

Two weeks ago, it was a Saturday afternoon after a few family members had left for the day from helping my husband with wood-splitting and stacking, when I was trying to find a show my husband would like and that we might be able to watch together. I channel-surfed and saw that Yellowstone was on and I thought well, after all, Kevin Costner was in it, I could deal with that. I did not know at that time it was a 3 day marathon. That was about 4 pm I think when we entered Yellowstone world. So much to my surprise, it was suddenly 12:30 am and we had watched most of season 2 and season 3. We were hooked, as the Paramount Network knew we would be with this free weekend of Yellowstone to entice you into buying Paramount Plus streaming service.

Sunday went much the same. I went to church, came home, we had my husband's daughter and her boyfriend here for just a bit to see if they could figure out how we could add an app or stream this series on our TV which didn't seem to pan out. After they left, we went back to the marathon, and off we went down the Yellowstone Trail again. Monday was much the same, all the way through to the prequel series 1883 early Tuesday morning.

I kind of felt like my brain and heart had been burnt to a crisp after the three day marathon. There are so many things that make you gasp or shock you during each episode. I started to wonder does this family ever get a break or have any happy

memories together. No one ever seems to get in trouble for all the people they kill. My husband keeps reminding me it is only a TV show. People are always getting shot or dying some horrible death if they get in the way of the series family, The Dutton's. Then, they disappear forever by getting "taken to the train station" which is actually a cliff in the middle of nowhere right over the Wyoming border where the Dutton family dumps the bodies. If anyone has had romantic illusions about the life of a cowboy or running a ranch out west, this series should stop that feeling cold. I also learned that there are a million more ways to cuss or use a cussword in a sentence than I ever thought possible. My husband started channeling Beth Dutton's attitude about 4 am Sunday morning and has been possessed of it ever since. If you have watched the show you will understand.

By Tuesday evening, we were desperate to see season 1, so I decided to upgrade my Peacock TV app on my phone from free to the \$4.99 a month deal. Within minutes we were starting season 1 and its 9 episodes, and by Tuesday night after we got home from our church's pancake supper, we headed back down the dark hole into the episodes of season 2 we missed. After tonight's Ash Wednesday service, we should be able to catch up to where we starting watching season 2 on that fateful Saturday afternoon. The problem is that I have this awful feeling we are going to want to rewatch the rest of seasons 2 through 4 again now that we have all the background behind us. This could become a never ending loop until season 5 starts. No premier date has been set yet.

We should probably give this show up during Lent because of its addictive nature. I realize we are already in the Lenten season, so maybe we can wrap it up by tonight, and not get into too much trouble. Though we have been toying with an idea of making a sign near our gully in the front yard for fun that says, "Wyoming Train Station - No dumping Allowed".

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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

## TRUE OR FALSE - PROBATE

Contributing Writer:  
Lynda J. Striegel

I have often heard from clients that they have a Will so their loved ones will not have to go through probate. True or false? False. When you die, if you are holding property in your sole name, that property must go through the probate process to be distributed to your loved ones. It doesn't matter whether you die intestate (without a Will) or with a Will.

What does holding property in my sole name mean? For real estate like your house or for cars and trucks, for example, the title to the property is in your name alone. If you hold any property this way and you die, then the property has to go through the probate process to be distributed to your loved ones.

The probate process in Maryland takes between 8-12 months. Why so long? One reason is that under the process, creditors are allowed 6 months to come in and claim against an estate. Another reason is pure chaos. When a person dies and a probate proceeding is required, the personal representative or executor has to find all of the person's property in order to report on it to the Register of Wills. Since many people are not at all organized about what they own, the personal representative has to reconstruct the estate before they report on it. One of the filings is called an "Inventory". This is a listing of all the property held by the deceased when they die. If the deceased has not been an organized person it can take a long time to figure out what they owned when they died.

For example, if the deceased has not left a detailed list of investments they have, often the only way to know for sure what the deceased owns when they die is to wait for the mail for at least 3 to 6 months for quarterly or semi-annual reports on dividends or interest. Keep in mind that all filings made during the probate process are publicly available.

What does the probate process require? It is a process where filings are made detailing the assets and liabilities of the estate, the expenses of the estate and the monies left over to be distributed to the beneficiaries of the estate.

There is administrative probate, which is where the executor of the estate makes filings with the Register of Wills, or judicial probate, where the filings are made with the Orphan's Court. If a beneficiary challenges the Will or any filings made by the personal representative, the matter goes to judicial probate where the Orphan's Court judges decide on the challenge. Without challenges, most probates are administrative. To find out what filings are necessary in a probate proceeding, go to the Register of Wills website.

Some clients say that the personal representative has no liability for making filings in a probate proceeding. False. The personal representative is a fiduciary—that means they are under a duty to settle and distribute the estate in accordance with the terms of the Will and the law. Fiduciaries cannot act in their own self-interest. They must make sure investments are reasonable and monitored and they must make full and accurate reports to the Register of Wills or Orphan's Court.

Most people faced with the duties of a personal representative consult an attorney and ask them for help to prepare the reports for filing. This costs money in legal fees, but gives the personal representative some comfort that they are correctly performing their duties.

What about "registering" your Will with the Register of Wills. Clients have said that

their Will is not effective because it has not been "registered" with the Register of Wills. False. A Will doesn't have to be filed with the Register of Wills or the Orphan's Court to be effective. If you think you will lose your Will, then paying a small fee to the Register of Wills office to keep your original on file is a convenience to you. Otherwise, the effectiveness of a Will depends on whether it is properly executed, not whether it is filed somewhere. You can keep your Will in a safe place. But, the original Will is necessary to open the probate proceeding so make sure your loved ones can find it.

Some clients have said "I don't need a Will because everything will go to my spouse when I die." False. If you die without a Will and you have a spouse and children, then the estate (property held in your sole name) will go 50-50 to the spouse and the children. The only way your estate will go solely to your spouse when you die is if you have said so in your Will.

If all of your property is held in joint name with your spouse and you die then your spouse will take sole ownership of the property. And, there will be no probate because you have not held any property in sole name when you die. So, with a married couple, it is not unusual for one spouse to die and leave everything to the other spouse and have no probate. However, when the surviving spouse dies holding all the property in their sole name there will be probate.

If your Will says your personal representative doesn't have to file a bond, that means no bond is required. False. Even if the Will says no bond, the Register of Wills requires a nominal bond be filed, usually costing the estate \$100.

The only clear alternative to probate is a Living Trust. True. With a Living Trust, all property of the deceased has been placed into the name of that person's trust so that when they die there is no property held in sole name, so no probate. The person creating and funding the trust is called the Grantor and the Grantor may also be the Trustee. When the Grantor/Trustee dies, a successor trustee is appointed under the trust to take over. Having a Living Trust is the only way to avoid probate. But, the Living Trust provides other benefits. First, it is private, transfers to beneficiaries are immediate (no waiting 8-12 months) and there are no legal fees upon such transfers. With a Living Trust all property is accounted for when creating the trust so there is no chaos trying to figure out what a person owns when he or she dies—it's all set forth in the trust.

The Living Trust also offers protection is a Trustee is incapacitated. In that event, the successor trustee simply uses all the assets in the trust for the benefit of the incapacitated person without having to do more. Can there be probate even if a person has a Living Trust? Yes, if the person has forgotten to place property into the name of the trust, that property must go through probate. However, a different form of will, called a "pour over" will is used in the probate process. This will states that the Living Trust is the guiding principal for the disposition of assets.

The probate process needs to be understood by anyone considering whether or not to create a will or a living trust.

Join us for our free seminar on Wednesday August 15th at 11am our offices at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to save your spot. See you there.



# St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

## Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1658  
 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 1080  
 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 3101

Visit [www.stmarysmd.com/aging](http://www.stmarysmd.com/aging) for the most up-to date information

### Department of Aging & Human Services Seeking Team Members

Do you want to work with an amazing team supporting the St. Mary's County community? Consider joining the Department of Aging & Human Services!

Open positions include:

- Caseworker
- Fiscal Specialist
- Fitness Instructor
- Food Transporter
- Program Coordinator - Home-Delivered Meals
- Program Coordinator - Home and Community-Based Services

For more information, or to apply, visit [www.stmarysmd.com/hro/vacancies/](http://www.stmarysmd.com/hro/vacancies/).

### Chair Yoga

We are excited to announce that in-person Chair Yoga has returned to Northern Senior Activity Center, Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m., led by Paty Massón! Chair Yoga is a type of yoga that has been modified to allow participants to safely perform all of the required exercises. This class uses modified yoga positions which incorporate a chair either prominently for a "seated" experience OR as an aid for ease and stability. This class is open on a drop-in basis with an attendance maximum. A \$35 fitness card purchase gives you 10 fitness classes with the card punched each class as you participate.

### Nutrition Presentation & Counseling with Donna Taggart

Donna Taggart, Certified Diabetes Educator and Registered Dietician, will be at the Garvey Senior Activity Center to help answer your healthy eating questions. The topic on March 7 at 11 a.m. is The Benefits of Tea (bring your favorite teacup). There is no cost to attend; however, advance sign up is required. Register for the presentation by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 1075.

### Nimble Hands, Stable Feet with Judi Lyons

Did you know that half of our body's bones are in the hands and feet? And that they are among the first body parts to experience diminished function, strength, agility, and stability as we age? Do cranky fingers and hands make it difficult to fasten buttons or grip a jar lid firmly? Are you steady on your feet when you place them on the floor first thing each morning? Have you lost feeling or sensation in your hands and/or feet? In this workshop, Judi will show you a simple, but effective, daily routine designed to relieve stiffness and regain function, stability, strength, flexibility, and sensation in the body parts we rely on most, our amazing hands, and feet. Join Judi on Thursday, March 10, at 1:30 p.m., at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. Cost for the class is \$15 per person. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075, to make reservations.

### Agatha Christie Video

Loffler Senior Activity Center will present Inside the Mind of Agatha Christie on Thursday, March 10, at 10 a.m. This author ranks as one of the most successful writers of all time. Combining rare access to Christie's family and her personal archive, the show gives viewers a never-before-seen look into the late crime writer's fascinating life story. Agatha Christie's England: Retraces the celebrated English writer's footsteps across the England. With access to both her family and those who lived with her and knew her best. Register to see this video by leaving a message on our reservation line: 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. Seating is limited to 16. (90 min.) Free

### Card Making Class

Join us in the Art Studio at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Thursday, March 10, at 2 p.m. to make one-of-a-kind cards for your

family and friends. This is a great way to interact with others while making cards for holidays, birthdays and more. Everything is included for you to make your cards. You will be given the opportunity to use rubber & clear stamps, die cutting and embossing machines, cardstock, embellishments, and punches. The cost for the class is \$5 to attend and \$1 per card. Payments are due at the time of registration or within a weeks' time of sign up. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075, to make reservations, beginning February 20.

### Grief Support Group

Everyone has experienced grief in some way. It can be very difficult to go through, especially on your own. Join our free grief support group at Northern Senior Activity Center on March 10 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. This group, led by Mechanicsville-based grief counselor Melinda Ruppert, LCPC, is great place to connect with a network of people who are experiencing similar struggles. As her website explains... Melinda works with individuals, couples, and families, around aspects of grief and transition. Her approach is one of companioning, walking alongside someone experiencing grief; not treating them like they have a disorder that needs to be resolved or fixed. To request a reservation, please leave a message on the reservation request line at 301-475-4200, ext. 3115, and your call will be returned. Space is limited.

### Nutrition Presentations by Donna Taggart

Donna will present The Benefits of Tea at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Monday, March 14, at 10 a.m. Bring your favorite teacup and enjoy some samples while learning about this beloved drink. Registration is required- please sign up by leaving a message on our reservation line: 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. ADDITIONAL-

LY- Donna will be offering free personal nutritional counseling at 11 a.m. on the days she is here if you make an appointment with her by text message or calling 240-538-6539.

### "Financial Concerns" Presented by Hope and Healing

As we age life's events can often become overwhelming, both mentally as well as physically. Especially during this time it's even more important to take care of your mental wellness. We have collaborated with Hope & Healing Psychotherapy, LLC to bring you a special series at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. Each month we will hear a presentation on a new topic. On March 15, at 12:30 p.m., the topic will be "Financial Concerns". Advance sign up and a suggested donation of \$5 is requested. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075, to register.

### March Health Watch Presentation

IBS, Oh What a Plight! will be the topic of the next Health Watch Presentation at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, March 16, at 10 a.m. When it comes to irritable bowel syndrome, there are so many symptoms with too many solutions. For example: dietary fiber may lessen constipation in people with IBS, but it may not help with lowering pain; fiber helps keep stool soft so it moves smoothly through the colon and The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics recommends consuming 20 to 35 grams of fiber a day for adults- yet fiber may cause gas and trigger symptoms in some people with IBS. Increasing fiber intake by 2 to 3 grams per day may help reduce the risk of increased gas and bloating. WHAT?!?! We really need to talk about this with Health Watch Coordinator Mary Tennyson. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1660, to sign up for this talk. Limited seating available. Free



# St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

## Friday, Mar. 4

### IHM Seafood Dinners

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church,

22375 Three Notch Rd  
Lexington Park  
4p.m. to 7p.m.

Baked or Fried Rockfish, or Steamed or Fried Shrimp, or fried oyster meals

Comes with hush puppies and 2 sides:

Fries, green beans, Mac & cheese, applesauce, or rice.

Order online at [seafood.ihmrcc.org](http://seafood.ihmrcc.org)

### Reggie Rice's "FOOL OF ILLUSIONS"

Great Mills High School  
21130 Great Mills Road  
Lexington Park  
7p.m. to 8:30p.m.

Strap in as Reggie will take the audience on a 90-minute theatrical ride with mind-blowing magic, hilarious comedy, and spectacular illusions that will have everyone on the edge of your seat bursting into laughter.

Trust us, you won't want to miss the always entertaining foolishness of Reggie Rice's FOOL OF ILLUSIONS!

Doors Open: 6:15 pm

Show Starts: 7:00 pm

Adults: \$12 Advance & \$15 Door

Kids: \$7 Advance & \$10 Door

ALL GMHS \$5 with A 2.0 GPA

Tickets are available at [www.FOOLOFILLUSIONS.com/show](http://www.FOOLOFILLUSIONS.com/show)

3 years & under are FREE!

## Saturday, Mar. 5

61st Annual Spring Dinner by Hollywood Vol. Fire Department  
Hollywood Volunteer Fire Dept.

24801 Three Notch Rd.

Hollywood

1p.m. to 5p.m.

\$28 per dinner. Carry Out Only, No Pre-sales.

Contact Elaine Quade for information, 301-373-2695

Menu: Stuffed Ham, Fried Oysters, Parsley Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Beets, Chicken Salad, and a Roll.

Stuffed Ham by the pound \$14  
Chicken Salad by the pound \$8  
Bake Table

Masks recommended but not required

## Mon, Mar. 7

### Civil War Presentation

Leonardtown Library  
Meeting room 2  
Leonardtown  
6:30p.m. to 7:30p.m.

Jonathan Beasley a local historian with an extensive Civil War collection will be our guest speaker doing a presentation for the Southern Maryland Artifact Recovery Team and the group would like to extend the invite to the public.

## Wednesday, Mar. 9

### 7th District VFD Auxiliary Kevin's Corner Kafe Fundraiser

Kevins Corner Kafe  
24509 Point Lookout Rd.  
Leonardtown  
11a.m. to 8:30p.m.

The Auxiliary will receive a percentage from meals selected from menu being 4 Piece Chicken Dinner, Fries & Cole Slaw \$10.99, Fisherman Platter \$13.25, Shrimp Basket Steamed or Fried \$14.99, 12 pc Fried Chicken, 24 Crab Balls and 2 Family Sides \$45.99, 12 pc.

Chicken 2lbs. Steamed Shrimp and 2 Family Sides \$45.99 and all Kids Meals.

Stop by and enjoy some delicious and meet the great crew at Kevin's.

Thanks in advance for your support! Stay Safe and Make sure you have working Smoke Alarms! March 13

CARRY-OUT CHICKEN DINNER

11:30 TIL.....

\$14 A DINNER

K.C. HALL, RIDGE, MD 20680

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WANT TO CALL AHEAD--301-872-4641

## Ongoing

### Companions and Buddies for Singles

This is a group of singles seniors ages 50 and up, We Meet on Mondays at the Leonardtown Library 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

We have half hour of socializing and some of us play cards, games, socialize etc .

After meeting we out go to eat.

We plan dine outs, pot lucks, trips , movies, picnics, dinner theaters.

Please call Christine Olson for more information 301-997-4160

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County Times

2022

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County Times





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](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net) after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

## In Remembrance

### Ida Catherine (Gray) Dishinger



Ida Catherine (Gray) Dishinger, 76, of Kaufman, Texas passed away January 12, 2022, surrounded by her loving family. Ida was born September 21, 1945 and was the daughter of the late Albert Joseph Gray, Sr. and Ida Elizabeth "Bessie" (Hill) Gray of Chaptico, Maryland. Ida graduated from Margaret Brent High School in 1963. On November 30, 1963, Ida married the love of her life William "Bill" H. Dishinger, Jr. at Our Lady of the Wayside Church in Chaptico. Ida and Bill made Texas their

home after his retirement from the Navy. Ida was a Healthcare Bookkeeper for many years before her retirement. In her free time Ida liked gambling, shopping, and sitting in her rocking chair on her front porch with her dog Babygirl. Ida enjoyed going to church, and she especially loved spending time with her beloved family. Ida is survived by her children Barbi Hynson (Elton, Jr.) of Alvarado, Texas, Debbie Ridlehuber (Bob) of Waco, Texas, and William "Billy" H. Dishinger, III, of Alvarado, Texas. Also 8 Grandchildren, 12 Great-Grandchildren and 3 Great-Great Grandchildren with another one due in May. She is survived by her siblings: Marian Murdock (Gail), Barbara Ferguson, Pat Gray (Betty Ann), Rita Murphy (Jack), Judy Frank (Charlie), Michael Gray (Debbie), Elaine Joy (John), Glenda Mast (Wayne) and Maureen Abell (Timmy), as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, cousins and friends. Ida is predeceased by her husband William "Bill" H. Dishinger, Jr. on April 6, 1994, and also her parents. Rosary Prayers were held on January 17, 2022, and a Mass of Christian burial was celebrated January 18, 2022, at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Kaufman, Texas.

Interment was beside her husband in Kaufman City Veterans Cemetery.

Richard "Dick" Furman Hutson, Jr., 83, of Avenue, MD formerly from Lanham, MD passed away on February 23, 2022, in Washington, DC. He was born on September 22, 1938, in Washington, DC and was the son of the late May Plass Hutson and Richard Furman Hutson. Dick was the loving husband of Nancy Jeanne Hutson whom he married in 1965 in Riverdale, MD. Dick is survived by his two sons Richard Michael Hutson (Sharyn), and Richard Furman Hutson, Jr both of Avenue, MD, three grandchildren, Jennah Latham (Frankie), Jared Hutson, and Julie Hutson, and two Great-Grandchildren, Easten and Lexie Latham. He is also survived by his siblings Mary Petrone of Lanham, MD, June Duvall of Brevard, NC, and Nicki Hutson of Manchester, England, and Lyndia Hutson of Manchester, England.

He graduated from Bladensburg H.S. in 1956. Dick served in the United State Army from November 1, 1963, to November 6, 1967. He moved to St. Mary's County, MD in 1966. He retired from Public Works at the Patuxent Naval Air Station as a Heavy-Duty Mechanic and was a member of the American Legion Post 221 in Avenue, MD.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in Holy Angels Catholic Church Avenue, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 with Father Stephen Wyble officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens Leonardtown, MD.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the St. Clements Hundred P.O. Box 71 Colton's Point, MD 20626.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.mgfh.com](http://www.mgfh.com).

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

### Debra Ann Pruitt



Debra Ann Pruitt, also known to her family as Debbie Lou, formerly of Lusby passed away peacefully in

her sleep at Solomons Nursing Center in Solomons on February 23rd, at the age of 69. She was born on July 16, 1952, in Leonardtown to the late Ella Mae (Bridgett) Kernozek and Kenneth Pruitt. In 2003 when her mother remarried, she became the stepdaughter of William Kernozek of Lusby with whom she resided for 10 years until she became a resident of the Solomons Nursing Center in 2013.

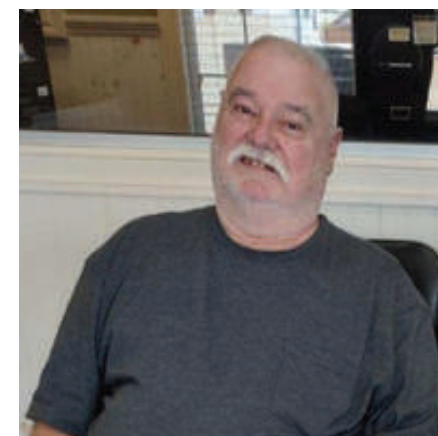
She graduated Thomas Stone high school in 1973 and worked at a department store in Leonardtown prior to her debilitating illness. She enjoyed babysitting for her family and was a very kind and caring person. She loved to be with her family and enjoyed taking photos of any family event. She was an avid Elvis fan and enjoyed collecting Disney memorabilia. She loved entering arts and crafts in the Calvert County fair and was proud of any ribbon received.

During her later years at the Nursing Center, she was the number one bowler and accumulated boxes of trophies making her very happy. She also excelled at Bingo and Keno. Her favorite time at the Center was the weekly outings with her best friend/sister Connie, her friend Barbara, and her brother Billy. She is survived by her sister Connie Putt of Lothian and brothers William Pruitt of LaPlata and Kelvin Pruitt of Warwick, Rhode Island, and stepfather William Kernozek of Lusby. She was preceded in her death by her brother Harry Selby Pruitt.

Condolences to the family can be made at [www.mgfh.com](http://www.mgfh.com).

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

### Harold Stephen Brukart



Harold Stephen Brukart, 68, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 4, 2021 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD. He was born on November 17, 1952 to the late Harold Arthur Brukart and Marie May (Gayon), in Miami, FL.

He moved to Maryland at age thirteen (13), where he would meet the love of his life, Kathryn Loretta



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301-472-4400

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR TWO GENERATIONS

[www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com)





Smith. They were married for forty-five (45) wonderful years and welcomed one son, Chris.

Harold loved welding, so much so, he made a career out of it. He worked for many years at Brandywine Heavy Truck and Equipment. They became an extended family and he enjoyed working on the heavy equipment and trucks. He also worked for Regal Construction Co., W & W Fabrication, and Alvenex. He enjoyed camping, muscle cars, and watching Star Trek with his faithful dog, Heidi. He was a loving husband and father, with a heart of gold. He will be greatly missed by all that knew who generous spirit.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kathryn Loretta (Smith) Brukart of Hollywood, MD; son, Christopher Stephen Brukart of Hollywood, MD; siblings, Sherrie Gayon "Barney" of Welcome, MD; Susie Welch "Marty" of Saint Augustine, FL; Tami Faunce "JR" of Saint Augustine, FL; Denise Guy "Ricky" of Mechanicsville, MD and his many nieces, nephews and extended family members. He was preceded in death by both of his parents, Harold Brukart and Marie May Long "Gayon"; his sister, Millie Ann Roundes of Menominee, MI and step-father, Thomas R. Long and three devoted dogs, Candy, Dusty and Buttons.

Services will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### *Charlene Mae Danenfelsler-Burton*



Charlene Mae Danenfelsler-Burton, 57, of Tall Timbers, MD, passed away peacefully at her home on January 31, 2022. She was born August 28, 1964, in Portsmouth, VA, to Norma G. Miller and the late Frederick C. Danenfelsler.

She attended Father Andrew White School, graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1982, and followed with studies at St. Mary's

College. Her education continued in the U.S. Army with training as a radiology technician. After being honorably discharged from the Army as a Specialist 4, Charlene worked as a radiology technician at St. Mary's Hospital. With specialization in mammography, she was a favorite of patients.

Charlene was very proud of her only son, Christian. She embraced and loved him with all her heart. She was very proud of his accomplishments, most recently including the completion of a masters in engineering. She was elated when Christian married Teresa, and over the moon when she learned that they were expecting her first grandchild.

Charlene hosted overnight visits with family children, setting up camp in her living room and enchanting them with the "treat basket" and pantry filled with their favorite goodies! She led the Math Superstars program in Christian's elementary school. Her talents with children persisted, as she most recently delighted her great niece and nephew with gifts. Later, her tiny dogs became her children. Mindy Sue, a bichon, and Bootzie, Mindy Sue's daughter, predeceased Charlene. She is survived by Ms. Mazy, a frisky three-month-old yorkie pup.

Charlene instantly made friends with everyone she met. Her friendliness and great sense of humor engaged people quickly. She had kind words for everyone she encountered, making them feel treasured. She appreciated kindness from others, thanking people for even the smallest of gestures. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends and texting them in between visits. If Charlene loved you, you were well loved!

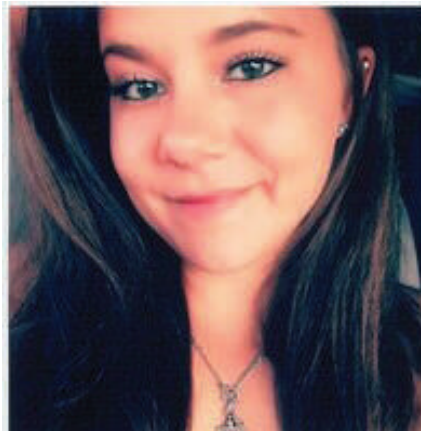
Charlene will be remembered for singing like Patsy Cline! In family talent shows, at local joints, or at home, karaoke was a favorite pastime. Charlene was on the swim team in her youth, swimming the butterfly stroke well. She lifeguarded and did landscaping in her teen years. Charlene was a great cook and hosted fun family parties. She enjoyed evenings at home with Wayne, watching movies and having carry-out meals, especially from Chief's in Piney Point. She also liked having beautiful flower gardens in her yard.

Charlene was preceded in death by her beloved grandmother, Ella Mae Flaherty; father, Frederick Danenfelsler; step-father, Arnold Miller; and uncle, Jean Danenfelsler. She leaves behind her loving son, Christian Burton; daughter-in-law, Teresa Paz; and her first grandchild, Gohan Alastor (born 9 days after she passed). She is also survived by her mother, Norma Miller; life partner, Wayne Johnson; sister, Gail Year-

ick; brother-in-law, John Yearick; nephew, Kyle Yearick; niece, Christen Yearick; niece-in-law, Morgan Yearick; great niece, Molly Yearick; great nephew, Connor Yearick; uncle, William Flaherty (Mary Rose); aunt, Karen Bowen, half-brothers, Fred Danenfelsler and Jean Danenfelsler; step-sister, Dawn Miller; step-brother, Wayne Miller; and many cousins and friends.

Services for Charlene will be held on March 10, 2022, at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Church in Leonardtown, MD, with Visitation at 9:00 and Mass of Christian Burial, celebrated with Fr. Scott Woods at 10:00. The Rite of Committal and Interment at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery on Newtowne Neck Road in Leonardtown will follow immediately after the Mass. Pall bearers include Chris Burton, Colin Eckroade, Mark Flaherty, Billy Johnson, Nate Vozzak, and Kyle Yearick. Honorary pall bearers include William Flaherty; Burrell Rogers; John Yearick, and the littlest pall bearer, almost two-year old Connor Yearick. Arrangements are being handled by Brinsfield Funeral Home in Leonardtown, MD.

### *Amber Mae Vittatoo*



Amber Mae Vittatoo, 32, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on February 5, 2022 at Calvert Memorial Hospital, Prince Frederick, MD.

She was born on October 26, 1989 in Leonardtown, MD to George Clarke of Great Mills, MD and Vickie Krape Hutchinson of PA.

Amber was born and raised in St. Mary's County, MD. She married Curtis Lee Vittatoo on February 14, 2012 in Leonardtown, MD. Family was very important to her. She was a terrific mother and she adored spending time with her children more than anything else. She had a special relationship with her father and they often went out for breakfast to their favorite restaurant. She was a fantastic cook and she enjoyed making her specialty dish-spaghetti and she made the best sandwiches. She was an avid Cowboy's fan and never missed cheering them on when they

played. In her free time she enjoyed playing video games, reading, going for a ride, or a walk in the park.

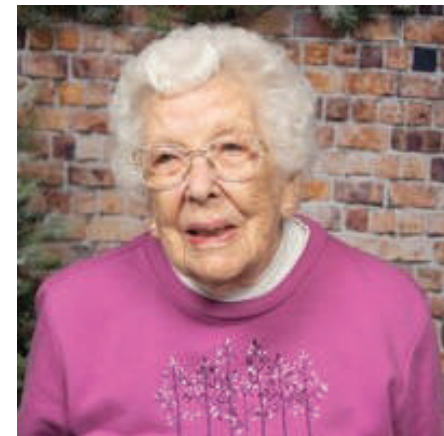
Amber is survived by her husband, Curtis, her mother, Vickie, her father, George, her mother and father-in-law, Barbara and Donald Tinsley of Lexington Park, MD, her children, Michael Vittatoo of Lexington Park, MD, Nicholas Boorman of Sweetwater, TN, and her step-son, Dallas Vittatoo of Pheonix, AZ, her siblings, George Clarke (Becky) of Hanover, PA, and James Clarke (Kelly) of Mt. Carmel, PA, her grandmother, Ethel Poates of Laurel, MD, and her lifelong best friend, Heather Hare of Mechanicsville, MD.

Services will be private.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### *Hattie Anita Pratt Dunbar*



Hattie Anita Pratt Dunbar, 102, of Scotland, MD passed away peacefully on February 22, 2022 at her home.

She was born on November 23, 1919 in Ridge, MD to the late George William Pratt and Hattie Elizabeth Naumann Pratt.

She is survived by her daughter, Marie Annette Dunbar of Libby, MT; her siblings: Agnes Lorraine "Jimmie" Simms, of Culver City Ca. Colonel Robert Henry "Bob" Pratt US Army (Ret) of Deltaville, VA, and Mary Thelma "Snooky" Raley (James) of Ridge, Md; Salinda Mae Carroll of Ridge, Md, her Sister-in-law Audrey C Pratt of Ridge, Md. Grandchildren: Kenneth Duane Tilton (Shannon) of Bell, FL, Robert Bradley Tilton (Debra) of Ridge, Md and Nick Steven Moles (Oksana) of Spokane, WA; her great grandchildren: Antoinette, Blaine, Robbie, Dalton, Katlynn, Dustin, Paul, Jason, and 8 great-great grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, extended family, friends, and caring neighbors. In addition to her parents, she is also preceded in death by her husband, Francis Leon Dunbar; her siblings: Alice Adelaide Trossbach,



*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

George William Pratt, Jr., Steven Mark Pratt, Edwin Louis Pratt, and James Irving "Tinks" Pratt, and her grandson, Eric Dunbar Tilton.

Family will receive friends on March 3, 2022 from 4- 7 p.m., with American Legion prayers recited at 5:00 p.m., followed by Family prayers at St. Mary's Chapel, 12960 Point Lookout Road, Ridge, MD 20680. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated by Reverend John Ball on March 4, 2022 at St. Mary's Chapel, 12960 Point Lookout Road at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Mary's City, MD 20686.

Repass at Ridge Vol. Fire Hall, following interment.

Serving as pallbearers will be: Blaine Tilton, Robbie Tilton, Dustin Tilton, Paul Tilton, Ron Simms, and Francis Raley.

Honorary pallbearers will be nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 628, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and St. Mary's Chapel, P.O. Box 207, St. Mary's City, MD 20686.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

## Gary Howard Brown



Gary Howard Brown, 53 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on February 19, 2022 at his home with his loving family at his side.

He was born on February 4, 1969 in Keokuk, IA to the late Charles Howard and Nancy Ann Evans Brown.

Gary is a 1987 graduate of Central Lee High School in Donaldson, IA. After high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served his country until his Honorable Discharge in March 1997 as an Aviation Electricians Mate. During his service he earned the Good Conduct Medal (2), Kuwait Liberation Medal (K), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (2), Battle "E" Ribbon, Southwest Asia Service Medal and the Na-

tional Defense Service Medal. On April 17, 1999, he married the love of his life, Tracilyn Miller Brown in Fort Madison, IA. Together they celebrated over 22 wonderful years of marriage. He was employed as a dedicated Aviation Quality Assurance Inspector for Lockheed Martin at NAWC-AD, Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Gary was a devoted a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. He was the life of the party and had a terrific sense of humor. He loved his 1965 Ford Mustang, which was his prized baby. He also loved his cat, Tori Ann.

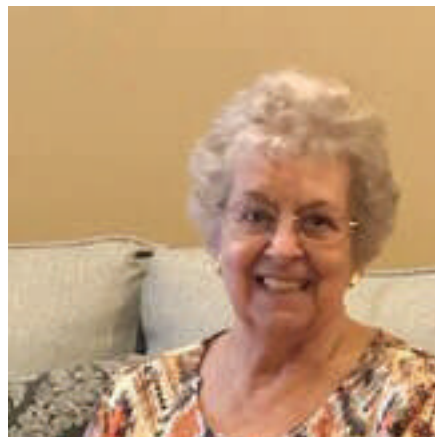
In addition to his beloved wife, he is also survived by his children, Hannah Rich (Harry) of Winchester, VA, Chantele Caron (David) of Hollywood, MD, Anneliese Sonon of Mechanicsville, MD, Elizabeth Martin of Ft. Madison, IA and Amber Rye (Tim) of Lusby, MD; his grandchildren: Haven Madden, Aislin Caron, Kira Rich, Zoey Rich, Maeve Martin, Alaric Martin; Tim Rye, Jr.; and one more due in April. In addition to his parents, he is also preceded in death by his brother, James Charles Brown.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mechanicville Volunteer Rescue Squad, Post Office Box 15, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

## Jean Mildred Locantore



Jean Mildred Locantore, 85, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on February 19, 2022 at Saint Mary's Hospital with her family by her side.

She was born on October 24, 1936 to Marvin "Buzz" Harrison Fenno and Mildred Beatrice Fenno Wines in Washington DC.

Jean was a dedicated wife, mom, grandma and great grandma to her beloved husband of 65 years Ferdinand, "Fred" Locantore. Her daughters Peggy Wrightson (deceased), Linda Macpherson and husband Bruce, her son Michael Locantore and wife Anita. Grandchildren Jason Wrightson (deceased), Bradley

Macpherson, Allan and his wife Rachel Locantore. Amber and her husband Sheldon Johnson, Nicole and her husband Robert Wagner and Vinny Scali. Her great grandchildren Taylor Locantore, Gracie and Landon Johnson, and Brooke Wagner.

She loved her time spent with homemakers and red hatters club, cruising, cooking and knitting. She loved life and sharing it with all her family and friends.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

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

## John J. Sharp, III



John J. Sharp, III, age 91, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away February 9, 2022. He was born on January 5, 1931 to John Joseph Sharp, Jr. and Catherine Brindle in Philadelphia, PA.

John married Avis Geraldine Sharp "Jerry" and together they spent 63 years of marriage and raised one (1) son, John Clifton.

He served his country proud in the U.S. Navy, retiring after 20 years. He then went on working for civil service for a few years before finally retiring.

He is survived by his wife Avis Geraldine Sharp; his son John Clifton; his two sisters Bonnie Bradford and her husband Richard Bradford and Fran Cargill; his granddaughter Angie Higgs and her husband Billy Higgs; his great granddaughter Hailley and great grandsons Matthew, Danny, Corbin and Tyler.

The family would like to thank his wonderful neighbors and friends for their help and compassion during these difficult times.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

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

## Kevin Dean Brunet



Kevin Dean Brunet, 62, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away on January 22, 2022.

Kevin was born on July 10, 1959 to Emile and Jean Brunet in Southington Connecticut. He became a machinist for amtrac and was also in the Navy, serving from 1978 – 1983.

In 1979, he met his wife of 42 years, Barbara, and they wed in 1979, going on to have one child, Christina Farrell.

Kevin spent his time golfing, camping and watching the Red Skins.

He is survived by daughter Christina Farrell and husband Bill Farrell of Lancaster, VA, and his grandchildren Brookelynn, Destiny, Alanah and Dixie Farrell and his many nieces and nephews. Kevin was predeceased by his parents Emile and Jean Brunet, and brother Steve Brunet and sister Dawn Brunet.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

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

Charlotte Hall, MD.

## Rebecca Susan Lanhardt



Rebecca Susan Lanhardt age 70 of Petersburg, WV passed away on February 23, 2022 in Gainesville, VA after over a decade long battle with cancer. Her family and beloved dog were by her side. The daughter of Roswell and Betty (Shanholtz)



Alt, she was born on February 27, 1951 in Petersburg, WV. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her youngest son Tyler Spencer Lanhardt (1984-1987) and her brother Randall Heber Alt.

Rebecca was raised in Petersburg, WV. She attended Petersburg Elementary School and graduated from Petersburg High School where she was a member of the class of 1969. After high school she continued her education at Potomac State College and West Virginia University where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in Home Economics. Over the summer of 1971 while working at the original Phillips Crab House in Ocean City, MD she met her future husband and father of her children Wayne Lanhardt. They were married in 1974 and went on to raise their family in Mechanicsville, Maryland.

Rebecca will forever be remembered for her love of helping others. Throughout her life she devoted countless hours to enriching the lives of those around her. Her faith in God and Jesus Christ was forever present in all that she did. Her children and grandchildren were the greatest beneficiaries of her loving heart. She spent countless hours volunteering, baking, writing cards and was always a beacon of hope for those she helped along the way.

Surviving to continue her legacy are her two sons; Shane Edward (Katy) Lanhardt of Gainesville, VA and Seth Roswell (Jennifer) Lanhardt of Williamsport, MD. Her four grandchildren Joseph Tyler Lanhardt, Samuel James Lanhardt, Lincoln Wayne Lanhardt, and Roslynn Susan Lanhardt. Throughout life her passion was helping others and she particularly loved helping fellow West Virginians. The family will be starting a foundation in her name to continue her life's great work. The foundation will be focused on enriching lives of those in need in Grant County and helping with cancer research. In lieu of flowers the family is asking for donations to be made to the Rebecca Susan Alt Lanhardt Foundation. Checks can be mailed to First United Bank P.O. Box 557 Oakland, MD 21550 \*Attn Julie Harvey

Family and friends will unite for visitation from 2:00pm – 4:00pm and 6:00pm – 8:00pm on Monday, February 28, 2022 at Schaffer Funeral Home in Petersburg, WV. Funeral services will be held at Grove Street United Methodist Church at 11:00am on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Friends and family from the Maryland area will be welcomed at the Brinsfield funeral home in Charlotte Hall MD from 10:00am-11:30am on Thursday March 3rd. Burial service will be a private ceremony at Mt Zion United Methodist church in Mechanicsville MD.

### Kevin Daniel Clarke



Kevin Daniel Clarke, 68, of Glen Burnie, MD, formerly of St. Inigoes, MD, passed away on February 17, 2022 in Glen Burnie, MD. Born on May 1, 1953 in Leonardtown, MD, he was the son of Elizabeth Ann Stone Clarke of St. Inigoes, MD and the late Thomas Bennett Clarke, Jr. Kevin is survived by his siblings Constance A. Garner (Danny) of La Plata, MD, John A. Clarke (Helena) of Park Hall, MD, Thomas Franklin Clarke (Kim) of St. Inigoes, MD, and Carol M. Bryant (Vincent) of Waldorf, MD.

Kevin was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from Great Mills High School in 1971. He was passionate about music and art, and enjoyed telling silly jokes and giggling about them. Kevin also loved telling stories and had a soft heart.

The family will receive friends on Friday, March 4, 2022 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM in St. Michael's Church, Ridge, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30 AM with Father Peter Giovannoni officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will Joseph Jackson, Thomas Lynch, Paul Lynch, James Mayor, George Lancaster, and Patrick Woodburn.

Contributions may be made to NAMI of Southern Maryland, P.O. Box 49104, Baltimore, MD 21297 (via phone, 1-888-999-6264) or St. Michael's Church, P.O. Box 429, Ridge, MD 20680.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.mgfh.com](http://www.mgfh.com).

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

### Richard "Dick" Furman Hutson, Jr.

Richard "Dick" Furman Hutson, Jr., 83, of Avenue, MD formerly from Lanham, MD passed away on February 23, 2022, in Washington, DC. He was born on September 22,



1938, in Washington, DC and was the son of the late May Plass Hutson and Richard Furman Hutson. Dick was the loving husband of Nancy Jeanne Hutson whom he married in 1965 in Riverdale, MD. Dick is survived by his two sons Richard Michael Hutson (Sharyn), and Richard Furman Hutson, Jr both of Avenue, MD, three grandchildren, Jennah Latham (Frankie), Jared Hutson, and Julie Hutson, and two Great-Grandchildren, Easten and Lexie Latham. He is also survived by his siblings Mary Petrone of Lanham, MD, June Duvall of Brevard, NC, and Nicki Hutson of Manchester, England, and Lyndia Hutson of Manchester, England.

He graduated from Bladensburg H.S. in 1956. Dick served in the United States Army from November 1, 1963, to November 6, 1967. He moved to St. Mary's County, MD in 1966. He retired from the Department of Public Works at the Patuxent Naval Air Station as a Heavy-Duty Mechanic Supervisor and was a member of the American Legion Post 221 in Avenue, MD.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in Holy Angels Catholic Church Avenue, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 AM with Father Stephen Wyble officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Jared Michael Hutson, Frankie Latham, Samuel Wesley Smith III, Andrew Snell, James Ernest "Jamie" Woodall, Jr. and Michael (Mikie) Woodall.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the St. Clements Hundred P.O. Box 71 Colton's Point, MD 20626.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.mgfh.com](http://www.mgfh.com).

Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home and Crema-

tion Services, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

### Joan Barbara Eckardt



Joan Barbara Eckardt, formerly of Town Creek, passed away at St. Mary's Nursing Center in Leonardtown, on February 19, 2022, at the age of ninety.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Arthur Joseph Eckardt, who passed away in December of 2011.

She had a passion for gardening and belonged to the Town Creek Garden Club for many years. She spent many hours working in her yard, with her flower beds and azalea's. She also belonged to the Crafter's Guild of St. Mary's at Old Cecil's Mill for 35 years. There, she enjoyed making crafts with local children.

After her husband's death, she moved from her home in Town Creek, to Cedar Lane Apartments in Leonardtown, where she lived for 10 years. She enjoyed card making classes, corn hole, and bingo. She loved watching basketball and bowling on TV.

She is survived by her four children, Fred Eckardt of Leonardtown; Margaret Hammett (Anthony) of Coltons Point; Jon Eckardt (Cheri) of Redgate; and Sue Sanders (Glenn) of Hughesville.

She is also survived by her brother Paul Singer, of Westfield, Massachusetts; four grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Pallbearers are Glenn Sanders, Christopher Sanders, Dan Edelbaum, Jeff Wimmer, Zachary Wimmer, and Nathan Wimmer.

The family will receive friends for visitation on Monday, March 7th at Holy Face Church in Great Mills, from 10:00AM to 11:00AM. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM, interment will follow in the Church cemetery.

REMEMBRANCES  
IN PRINT & ONLINE

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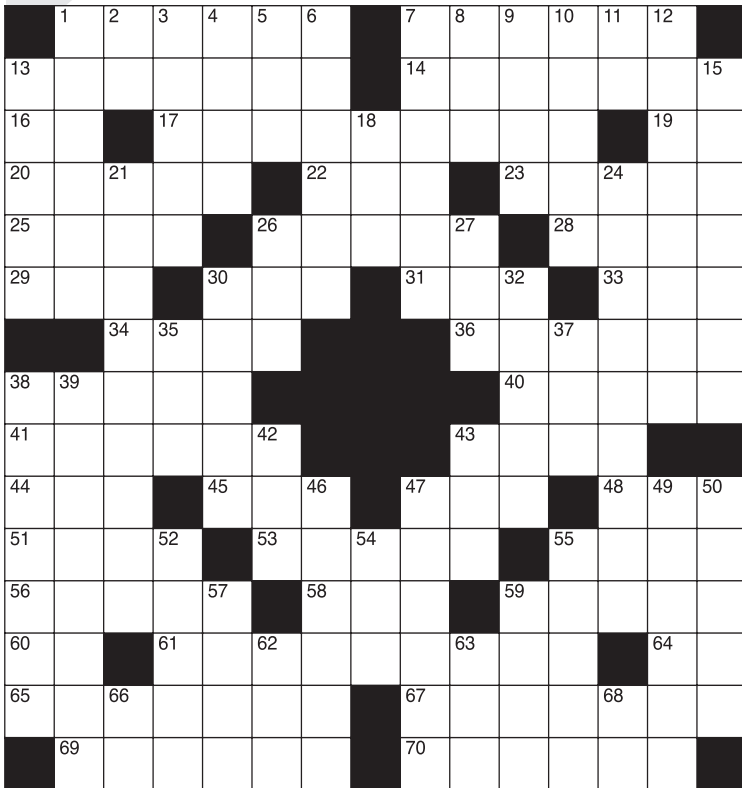


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# GAMES & PUZZLES



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Neckwear
- 7. Fish parts
- 13. Cooking
- 14. Quality
- 16. Rural delivery
- 17. Popular superhero
- 19. Partner to Pa
- 20. Shivering fits
- 22. Wrath
- 23. Linguistics pioneer
- 25. Large integers
- 26. A way to prepare food
- 28. Group of badgers
- 29. Peyton's little brother
- 30. Rock out
- 31. Danish krone
- 33. Take from with force
- 34. Baroque musical instrument
- 36. Zodiac sign
- 38. Hebrew alphabet letter
- 40. Independent member of a clone
- 41. Type of garment
- 43. Satisfy
- 44. One point south of due east
- 45. A way to wipe out
- 47. Moved quickly on

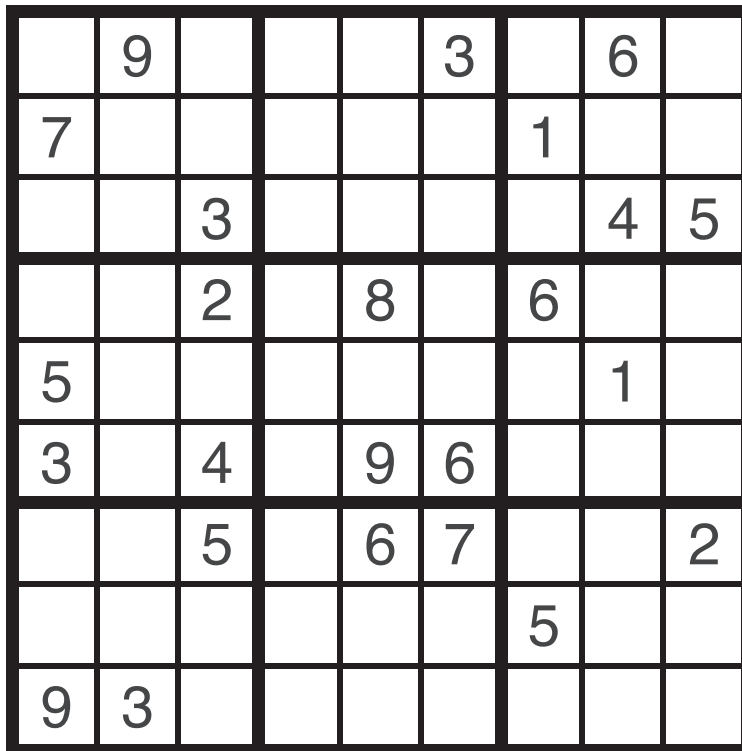
foot

- 48. Bar bill
- 51. An idiot
- 53. Performed with the voice silent
- 55. Body fluids
- 56. Rhythmic patterns
- 58. "\_\_\_ my i's"
- 59. Type of wrap
- 60. It shows who you are
- 61. Carousel
- 64. Type of college degree
- 65. Molding
- 67. Closes again
- 69. Verses
- 70. Surface

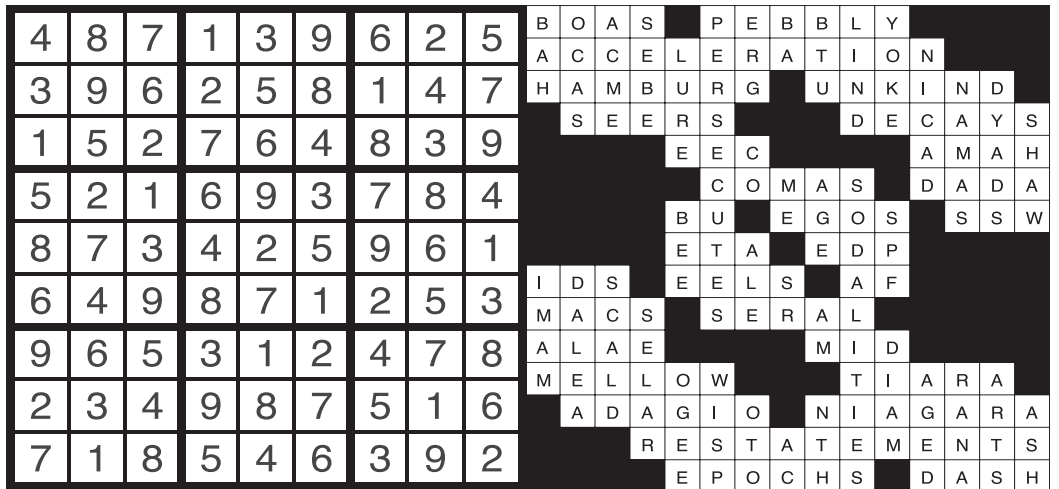
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Short, thick stick
- 2. Rhode Island
- 3. Animals of the horse family
- 4. Very important persons
- 5. Folk singer Di Franco
- 6. Boredom
- 7. Long speech
- 8. Footballer Newton
- 9. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 10. Linear accelerator
- 11. One quintillion bytes
- 12. Smallest interval in Western music
- 13. Box

- 15. Cheese dish
- 18. Make a mistake
- 21. Done by all people or things
- 24. Circumference
- 26. Chum
- 27. Electrocardiogram
- 30. Sandwich chain Jimmy \_\_\_
- 32. Showed old movie
- 35. Important event on Wall St.
- 37. Where wrestlers work
- 38. Free from contamination
- 39. Eastern Canada coastal region
- 42. Slang for gun
- 43. High schoolers' test
- 46. Fathers
- 47. Call it a career
- 49. Productive
- 50. Musical groups
- 52. Yellowish-brown
- 54. Lowest point of a ridge
- 55. Beloved late sportscaster Craig
- 57. Fill up
- 59. Cardinal number that's the sum of 5 and 1
- 62. Frost
- 63. Jewel
- 66. Atomic #45
- 68. Top lawyer



**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**



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

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