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LEADERS FOCUS ON SCHOOL SECURITY PG. 15

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CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS	3	LETTERS	25
COPS AND COURTS	14	CALENDAR	26
SCHOOL SECURITY	15	OBITUARIES	27
EDUCATION	19	BUSINESS	
SPORTS	23	DIRECTORY	30
WRITERS	24	FUN & GAMES	31

“WITH THESE SECURITY SYSTEMS, IT’S THE HUMAN ELEMENT THAT CAN DEFEAT THEM.”

SHERIFF TIMOTHY K. CAMERON ON SCHOOL SECURITY.



LOCAL 7
\$245 million school budget approved



FEATURE 15
After Uvalde tragedy, school security again is top priority



St. Mary's celebrates Flag Day

ON THE COVER

11

WEEKLY FORECAST

Provided by www.accuweather.com

THU 6/16		87° /75°	Some sun returning, a t-storm	MON 6/20		83° /70°	Times of clouds clouds and sun
FRI 6/17		94° /67°	A t-storm around in the p.m.	TUE 6/21		90° /75°	Hot; an afternoon t-storm
SAT 6/18		80° /60°	Cooler with plenty of sun	WED 6/22		94° /75°	Warmer with a thunderstorm
SUN 6/19		82° /58°	Partial sunshine	THU 6/23		90° /72°	Some sun with a thunderstorm





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Great Mills Road Gets A Sweeping



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Taylor Smith, who has been the executive director of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) of Lexington Park for about a year, realizes that many people who live in the community may not know what the CDC is or its mission.

The community cleanup of Great Mills Road over the weekend was designed to help change that, she said.

"I really wanted to get the community together around something that was bigger than themselves," Smith told The County Times. "And I thought why not take on the perceptions of Lexington Park and Great Mills Road."

Those perceptions have long included age, decay, neglect and lingering crime but about 100 volunteers, working with sponsors from the business community, wanted to begin turning those perceptions around with the cleaning up of Great Mills Road.

"It was more than picking up trash," Smith said. "It was weeding and mowing down overgrown grass."

The June 11th event was able to collect about a dozen bags full of trash and other refuse in just three hours of work, Smith said, which

was the time allotted.

The project, which got assistance from 21 different community sponsors, she said, including Ridgell Lawn Care, John's Lawn Care, Showtime Deli, St. Inie's Coffee House and Uncle D's Grill, had volunteers working from Gate 2 at Patuxent River Naval Air Station to the opposite end of Great Mills Road at its intersection with Route 5.

T&T Sweeping and Port-o-Let Services provided the street sweeping.

"It was the entire 3.3 miles up and back," Smith said. "There were quite a few unique items that had been hiding in the weeds for some time."

Bicycle tires were among the larger items of trash collected, she said.

"It was quite the endeavor," Smith said. "To my knowledge my organization has never had an event quite like this."

"It was more than picking up litter, it was about real beautification."

Smith said the CDC wanted the community to be able to reach out to the organization with their ideas to make the neighborhood better.

"We're making sure the community knows we're here for them," Smith said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Thomas F. McKay

Change We Need

Restoring our Conservative Values



Our nation is at a crossroads. The Make America Great Again agenda made us realize how many on the left are opposed to the concept of America being the great leader of the free world. It made us realize how hard we would have to fight going forward, and the struggle we would face from within.

But for us, the fight is not optional, we are determined to restore American values, restore religious values, restore family values, and restore the American dream for those willing to work hard and respect all fellow Americans and our great country.

The struggle starts right here, in our own community, in our own St. Mary's County. Our institutions, our local government should be the model for others to follow. Transparency, openness, and honesty is the foundation we should be built on, the principals we never compromise. The citizens should always know their voices are heard, their opinions valued, their freedoms non-negotiable, their access unlimited, and that their government is working in the open for them.

None of our processes in local government should ever be established, intentionally or unintentionally, to limit or even avoid public knowledge and public input.

Education for all our citizens should be our top priority. Access to our educational institutions by parents should be a model for others to follow. Our institutions should be measured by the products we produce, the achievements that are made, and the achievements that we fail to make.

Public Safety must be available to everyone, no matter where you live, your race, your income level,

your job, your age. The American dream will not be fulfilled unless every American can seek that dream in a safe and wholesome environment. Drugs, crime, and gangs, have no place in St. Mary's County. We must be a model for America in rooting out the evil, while demonstrating care and compassion for law abiding citizens every day.

Fundamental to restoring our conservative values is to restore a culture of controlling and reducing spending, reducing debt, and making St. Mary's a place where you can afford a home, afford the taxes, and receive excellent services for your hard-earned tax dollars.

My opponent raised income taxes by 5.5%, he has increased spending over the past two years by 22 percent. Has your paycheck gone up 22 percent? He has increased your debt service to \$160 million.

We can keep tax rates low by lowering our debt, spending on what is working, eliminating waste, and restoring our economy for small businesses. The policy of tax and spend must stop if we are going to be successful in the years ahead.

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By Authority Elizabeth D. Johnson, Treasurer

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Movie Theater Alcohol License Approved



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The owners and operators of the R/C Theaters cineplex in California now have a conditional license to sell beer, wine and liquor after the county Alcohol Beverage Board approved their request unanimously at their June 9 business meeting.

Scott Cohen, CEO of the R/C Theaters corporation, told beverage board members that they wanted the license to add another “amenity” to the services already available at the 12-screen theater complex “to match the expectations of customers.”

This license would allow the R/C Theater to compete with the Loews Cinema 6 in Lexington Park which has had a Class B restaurant license for several years.

The license R/C Theaters was granted allows on-site sales only.

David Campbell, the manager of the theater, said all staff would be trained with regards to all liquor laws including those who would not be certified to serve alcohol.

“They’ll be part of our team to keep an eye on things,” Campbell said. “We will require an ID for all

purchases, period.

“They’ll be limited to one drink, per ID, per transaction.”

Staff there also would not serve anyone showing signs of intoxication, Campbell noted, as well as head off anyone attempting to take the beverage with them upon leaving.

Marie Goldsmith, a Leonardtown resident, said the approval process before the beverage board would have been improved had they advertised the hearing for the theater’s application as a zoning case would have been.

“Many people didn’t know about this,” she said, asking if the board could restrict the time of day after which the theater staff might be allowed to serve alcohol.

Board Chair David Willenborg said that, under the restaurant-style license, they board could not.

“We could not do that without due cause,” Willenborg said. “Without any sort of problems, we can’t restrict this license.”

The board also considered a list of 20 residents who supported the application for the license.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



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Speakers Support LGBTQ School Staff, Teachers

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In late May a California resident and mother of two young children in the St. Mary's County school system charged that they were being sexualized by LGBTQ and transgender influences in the classroom.

Last week members of the LGBTQ community countered Elena Brewer's accusations of May 25, calling them "hateful" and filled with "misinformation."

"As a proud gay, non-binary teacher in [St. Mary's County public schools] I saw that message of discrimination and hate as an opportunity to teach a lesson," said Andrew Murray.

To students, Murray said: "I won't sugar coat it, you will hear messages that villainize the love you feel."

Murray, an arts instructor with the county school system, said Brewer's comments were based on misinformation and lack of historical knowledge, though he did not say what those alleged failings on her part were.

"Freedom is too enormous to be slipped under a closet door," he said. "Hope will never be silent."

Paul Quade, president of Leonardtown-based PFLAG, said he was a proud graduate "and an even prouder teacher of our public school system" and had suffered abuse and bigotry while growing up.

"I was called 'faggot' among other things, physically threatened and told to commit suicide by my peers in this county," Quade said. "It was death by a thousand cuts."

He said he came to consider and



even attempted suicide as a result of such bullying, which he claimed was enabled by the inaction of adults who could have stopped it.

Quade noted, though that the community had changed for the better, in that he recently received an LGBTQ Pride month proclamation from the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and had found people of like mind who supported him.

"Things can get better if we make them better," Quade said.

School board member Jim Davis said he did not make a judgement about whether Brewer's comments were right or wrong, but he said he did not believe her comments were based in hatred of the LGBTQ community.

"Everybody has the right to sound off to the school board," Davis said. "I didn't find it [Brewer's comments] hateful."

"I respect people's opinions on all kinds of issues."

Davis said Brewer expressed that she did not want her children "indoctrinated with these progressive ideas."

"We should leave politics out of it and focus on civics, math, history and STEM," Davis continued.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Re-Elect **Richard FRITZ** State's Attorney

Proven Integrity

Every four years, for the past twenty-four years, the voters of St. Mary's County have spoken on and weighed the integrity of State's Attorney Richard D. Fritz. Six times they have elected Richard Fritz to be their chief law enforcement officer.

In the past twenty-four years, under the leadership of Richard Fritz, no less than seven Judges, one Domestic Master, and one State's Attorney for another county have come directly from or through the Office of the State's Attorney.

Every leadership role was elected based on personal integrity, and the integrity of the offices from which they came from were judged by legal bar associations, nominating committees, governors, and the voters. Each one of them pointed out that they worked under the leadership of Richard D. Fritz, as State's Attorney.

On July 19th Vote for Proven Experience

Re-Elect Richard D. Fritz State's Attorney

Your Vote Counts In The Republican Primary On July 19th

By Authority: Dena Womack, Treasurer, Bi-Partisan Committee for the Re-Election of Richard Fritz for State's Attorney

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Myriad School Vacancies Need to be Filled

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith renewed his call last week for applications for numerous types of employment positions within the St. Mary's County Public School system that are still vacant.

"It's not just teachers," Smith said. "We've got lots of opportunity for people."

The school system is in need of building service workers, bus drivers and bus attendants, counselors, accountants, food service workers, maintenance staff, paraeducators, registered nurses, safety assistants, school psychologists, social workers and secretaries, according to a presentation Smith gave at the June 8 school board meeting.

There are also vacancies for elementary, middle and high school teachers as well as positions in special education.

As Smith was speaking the system was interviewing 10 appli-

cants virtually for special education positions, Smith said.

"We're hopeful we might be able to offer 10 contracts by the end of the day," Smith said, such was the need to fill the vacancies.

The search for new employees continues as the school system is set to close out the current academic year; the last day for students was June 15 while the last day for teachers is June 17.

Seniors in all three of the county public high schools have graduated last week.

The board approved the contracts of 10 new certified teachers at their meeting this week, though one of the 10 was to be certified upon completion of a teacher preparation program, school system documents showed.

Documents showed that, as of July 1, two teachers currently employed at the Chesapeake Charter School, both certified, would be leaving the employ of the school system.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Tornado Confirmed in Mechanicsville

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The National Weather Service (NWS) has confirmed that a tornado touched down in a section of Mechanicsville June 8 that cut a swath approximately 75 feet wide for a length of a little more than three miles.

The tornado, given the lowest designation of EF-0 by the NWS, reached a maximum speed of 85 miles per hour.

It lasted just five minutes according to a June 10 report by the NWS just two days after the weather event occurred.

"A severe thunderstorm spawned a brief, spin-up tornado between 8:42 and 8:47p.m..." the report stated. "The origins of this severe thunderstorm was the result of cell merger of two separate thunderstorms that approached St. Mary's County; one crossing eastwards over the Potomac River near Quantico, Va., towards Charles County...and the other one crossing northeast over the Potomac [River] from near Colonial Beach, Va."

That confluence of weather events occurred between La Plata and Dentsville, NWS reported and then moved to Mechanicsville where the tornado formed.

Meteorologists say that the tornado touched down about 200 yards southwest of the intersection of Route 5 and Three Notch Road, uprooting about 12 trees and snapping tree trunks.

One tree reportedly fell on the roof of residence but the occupant was unharmed; NWS said trees were felled in all directions causing "localized but prolific" damage.

The tornado inflicted similar damage three miles away when it reached the area of 40900 block of Delabrooke Road, NWS reported; the residents in this area received prior warning and reported seeing large pieces of hail the size of a half-dollar coin.

Radar reports showed that the rotation of tornado may have reached 1,400 feet above ground level.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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Commissioners Approve Schools Budget



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved a public school budget for fiscal 2023 totaling \$255 million that is comprised of state, local and federal funds; both school system and county leaders said that the budget process this year was marked with cooperation whereas in years past it could dip into acrimony.

The county's portion of the school budget was \$121.5 million, or \$6.4 million more than last year's appropriation.

Jeanett Cudmore, county finance officer, said the schools appropriation made up roughly 45 percent of the county's operating budget.

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith expressed gratitude for the commissioners' decision to continue funding the system above the state mandated requirement.

"Thank you for fully funding the request from back in March amid great uncertainty," Smith said. "It's a very good day to be in St. Mary's County."

Commissioner Todd Morgan,

who has served almost 12 years in the post, has, in the past, been highly critical of school budgets that he argued put funding into programs over personnel.

In one instance, Morgan famously stated that one schools budget had "more smoke and mirrors than Harry Potter."

"In the past 12 years... there has been some animosity," Morgan said. "But I think between us [the current school board and superintendent] we found a way forward to serve the needs of the children and the tax payers.

"The relationship has gotten better over the years."

Morgan said the relationship in neighboring Calvert County was far worse.

There the commissioners have openly argued with school board policy dealing with anything from COVID-19 policy to the amount of time parents have to speak at board meetings.

"They don't even talk to each other," Morgan said. "There's such disdain between the two groups. "It's pathetic."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Re-Elect **Richard FRITZ** State's Attorney

Proven Experience

As State's Attorney, Richard Fritz has indicted, prosecuted and jailed more than 1,000 drug dealers. He has prosecuted some of the most violent criminals known to the people of St. Mary's County and has obtained many life sentences against them to keep them off the streets.

As chief law enforcement officer of St. Mary's County, State's Attorney Richard Fritz for the past 24 years has been the chief legal advisor to the Grand Jury and all law enforcement agencies in St Mary's County.

State's Attorney Richard D. Fritz has gained the knowledge and legal experience necessary to lead an office of twelve highly knowledgeable and experienced attorneys, after having served as Assistant State's Attorney under State's Attorney George R. Sparling and C. Clarke Raley, as Assistant Public Defender under John F. Slade III, and as Deputy State's Attorney under Walter B. Dorsey.

State's Attorney Richard Fritz believes that our local attorneys, who know the citizens of St. Mary's County, should not be replaced by Baltimore and Annapolis attorneys who know nothing of the citizens in our county.

On July 19th Vote for Proven Experience

Re-Elect Richard D. Fritz State's Attorney

Your Vote Counts In The Republican Primary On July 19th

By Authority: Dena Womack, Treasurer, Bi-Partisan Committee for the Re-Election of Richard Fritz for State's Attorney



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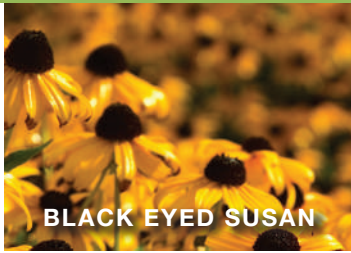
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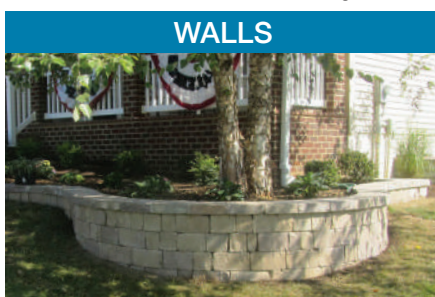
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COVID-19 Test to Treat Services Offered

Starting June 21, 2022, the St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) main office in Leonardtown will offer COVID-19 Test to Treat (T2T) services, by appointment only. T2T services include on-site rapid testing for COVID-19 and treatment consultation with a medical provider. If a patient tests positive and treatments are appropriate for them – they can immediately receive free oral antiviral medication, filled onsite. Eligibility for treatment is assessed individually, based on evaluation from the medical provider, length of symptoms, underlying health conditions, and other factors.

For more information on COVID-19 treatment or to make an appointment for SMCHD T2T services, please visit smchd.org/covid-19-treatment. For assistance making an appointment over the phone, call (301) 475-4330 and ask for the COVID-19 Community Hotline. Testing and treatment is also available through local health-care providers and participating

pharmacies.

“If you have symptoms of COVID-19 illness, get tested. Those with a positive test who are eligible for treatment based on age and risk factors can receive medication to take by mouth to help prevent severe COVID-19 illness,” said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. “Oral antiviral medication can work if started within the first 5 days of symptoms, and is only available by prescription. Making both testing and treatment available at the same place will help us improve access to treatment and reduce severe illness in our community.”

This program is part of the federal T2T initiative which offers thousands of locations nationwide, including pharmacy-based clinics, federally-funded health centers, long-term care facilities, and community-based sites.

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

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Presented by:  St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation

Held on This Past Saturday, June 11 from 9 AM - 12 PM



Before



After



THANK YOU! Over 100 volunteers & community partners stepped up on this past Saturday to create positive change in Lexington Park. Not only did volunteers collect dozens of bags of litter, we beautified the sidewalks, pulled weeds, cut grass, & celebrated the power of coming together. I appreciate your enthusiasm, positivity, and hard work. We did it!

– Taylor Smith, Executive Director

Thank you to our core sponsors who made it all possible!



Maryland Deadline for State Income Taxes Extended July 15

Peter Franchot reminds Marylanders that they have one month remaining to file and pay their state individual income taxes for tax year 2021.

In January, Comptroller Franchot extended the individual income tax filing and payment due date by three months to Friday, July 15, 2022. He also pushed back the deadline for first and second quarter individual estimated tax payments for tax year 2022 to July 15, 2022. These extensions do not apply to pass-through entities or corporate estimated tax filers.

“These extensions have given thousands of Marylanders the extra time they need to file and to pay their taxes as the pandemic continues to leave its mark on family budgets,” Comptroller Franchot said. “Our staff has already processed nearly 2.9 million returns and, in most cases, have sent much-needed refunds to taxpayers within days.”

Since the tax season started on January 24, the Comptroller’s Office has issued nearly \$2.21 billion in refunds to more than two million taxpayers. Last year, the Comptroller’s Office processed nearly 3.3 million returns and disbursed \$3.2 billion in refunds.

This is the third consecutive year Comptroller Franchot has extended filing and payment deadlines for state individual income taxes to July 15, each time to assist taxpayers facing financial difficulties due to the pandemic.

In 2021, the agency detected and blocked more than 11,000 fraudulent tax returns and withheld \$20.5 million in fraudulent refunds. Since the start of the current tax filing season, the Comptroller’s Office has intercepted and blocked 3,101 fraudulent returns worth \$6.7 million.

Comptroller Franchot urges Marylanders to file and pay electronically, as it’s the most secure and efficient way to submit a tax return. Most Marylanders who file electronically receive their state refunds in less than three business days. Marylanders can electronically file their state tax returns through the state’s free iFile system, which can be accessed at www.marylandtaxes.gov.

The agency urges filers to consult our blocked tax preparers list prior to turning over any personal identifiable information to a third party.

Free state tax assistance is available through the Comptroller’s 12 taxpayer service offices, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In-person and virtual appointments must be scheduled in advance at <https://marylandtaxes.gov/locations.php>. For more information on any tax-related matter, call 1-800-MD-TAXES (1-800-638-2937) or 410-260-7980 in Central Maryland from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or email taxhelp@marylandtaxes.gov.

Fatal Crash in Lexington Park Under Investigation

The St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office is investigating a collision in Lexington Park that killed a 15-year-old passenger.

The County Times has learned that the deceased was a freshman at Leonardtown High School, according to sources with close knowledge of the incident.

On Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at 6:09 pm, St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office deputies responded to the intersection of Route 235/Three Notch Road and Hermanville Road in Lexington Park after an on-duty deputy witnessed a motor vehicle collision there.

The St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene to continue to the investigation. Preliminary investigation determined that a 2012 Ford Fusion, operated by Nathan Allen, age 20 of Lexington Park, was traveling southbound on Three Notch

Road when the Ford Fusion collided with a 2016 Jeep Cherokee, operated by Ernest Hall, age 89 of St. Mary’s City.

Allen, the operator of the Ford Fusion, was flown to an area hospital for treatment and is expected to survive. A 15-year-old passenger in the vehicle was flown out to Washington Hospital Center for incapacitating injuries. Robert Proctor Jr., age 15 of Great Mills, was later declared deceased at the hospital.

A 20-year-old passenger in the Ford Fusion and Hall, the driver of the Jeep Cherokee, were both transported by ambulance for treatment.

At this time, excessive speed was identified as a contributing factor in the collision.

Anyone who witnessed the events leading up to the collision is asked to contact DFC Shawn Shelko at 301-475-4200, ext. 78147 or email shawn.shelko@stmarysmd.com.

Flag Day in St. Mary's



**TIM ★★
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MedStar St. Mary's Hospital Names New President

Mimi Novello, MD, MBA, FACEP has joined MedStar St. Mary's Hospital as its president and chief medical officer. With a strong record of dedication to patient safety and an eye toward innovation, Dr. Novello took the helm of MedStar St. Mary's in late January upon the retirement of Christine R. Wray, FACHE.

Dr. Novello comes to Leonardtown after a successful and diverse 22-year career at MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center in Baltimore. She served there in numerous leadership positions, most recently as Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer from 2017 to 2021.

During her tenure at MedStar Franklin Square, Dr. Novello oversaw quality, safety and risk management, clinical process improvement, programmatic growth, physician strategic development, Graduate Medical Education and Continuing Medical Education, and medical staff relations for MedStar Franklin Square. As the Chief Medical Information Officer, she managed the implementation of applications including MedConnect, MedStar Health's electronic health record. Dr. Novello is also board certified in emergency medicine and was an attending physician in the hospital's Emergency Department.

"Health care is such an exciting, challenging field. No two days are identical, and the ability to positively impact someone's life is what drew me to this path," said Dr. Novello. "Throughout my career, I have sought opportunities to expand my knowledge and capacity to help others. It's been an honor to join MedStar St. Mary's Hospital and see firsthand the many ways in which our team members consistently make a difference through quality, safe patient care."

A graduate of Georgetown University and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri, Dr. Novello is a native of Bethesda with familial roots in Southern Maryland; her beloved grandmother was born and raised in Hughesville, where Dr. Novello often came to visit. After completing her internship at Rhode Island Hospital and her residency at the Medical College of Pennsylvania, she felt a pull to return to Maryland. While working in Baltimore, she became a member of the American College of Emergency



Dr Mimi Novello

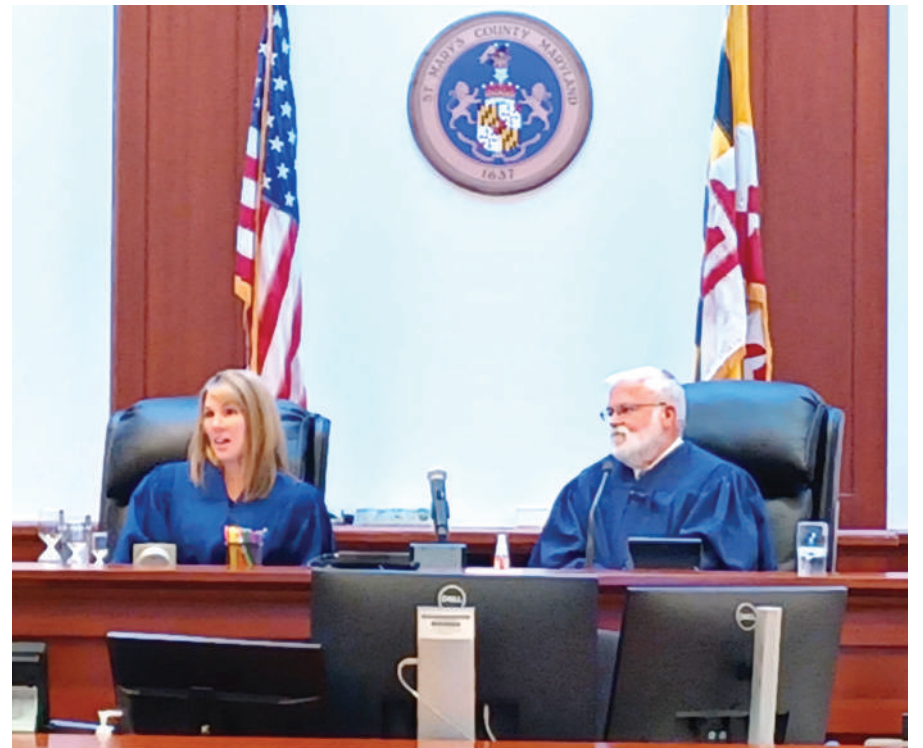
Physicians, the American College of Physician Executives, and the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Dr. Novello currently serves as co-chair of the MedStar Health Capacity and Throughput Task Force, as well as the Catholic Charities of Central Maryland Board of Directors. She has recently joined the American Hospital Association Region Three Policy Board as a physician representative and is a member of the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance and board, Chesapeake Potomac Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors, and Chesapeake Potomac Home Health Alliance.

Dr. Novello has been involved in numerous committees, previously serving as a member of Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP) Clinical Advisory Group, the Maryland State Telemedicine Clinical Advisory Group task force, the MedStar corporate informatics governance and workgroup committees, co-chair of MedStar Franklin Square's Informatics Governance Committee and Meaningful Use Committee, and MedStar Franklin Square physician chair of MedStar Health's High Reliability Organization Implementation Program.

"Since arriving at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, the expertise and dedication of the team have truly impressed me," said Dr. Novello. "This is clearly a group of people who care deeply about their patients, our hospital, and the county. I look forward to working closely with them and the St. Mary's community as we grow and partner together in good health."

Lorenzini Becomes a Judge



Judge Amy Lorenzini takes her place next to Judge Michael Stamm after being sworn in June 10th

Schoolhouse Open Houses Set for Juneteenth Weekend

The St. Mary's County Museum Division, in partnership with the Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC), will be offering free special Open Houses for visitors and the community at the Drayden African American Schoolhouse in Drayden, during Juneteenth Weekend, Saturday, June 18, 2022; Sunday, June 19, 2022; and Monday, June 20, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

The Drayden African American Schoolhouse is one of the nation's best-preserved one-room African American schoolhouses. Its story represents a significant part of St. Mary's County's African American history. Visitors are invited to learn more about the restored schoolhouse, its rich history and its importance to education in St. Mary's County. Hear the real stories about how African American students learned in this school until the mid-20th century.

"The Division is pleased to open the Drayden African American Schoolhouse during Juneteenth Weekend for our community to learn more about this important piece of our county's African American history," says Karen Stone, Manager of the St. Mary's County Museum Division. "We further appreciate the continuing support of the volunteers who



staff it for us, most of whom are members of the UCAC."

The St. Mary's County Museum Division also offers special programs for school, bus and other tour groups who would like to schedule a visit to the Drayden School site. Individual visitors who would like to see the schoolhouse during times outside open house hours can contact the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park at 301-994-1471 to arrange a visit.

For more information about the Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open Houses, programs, admission prices and more, visit the Drayden African American Schoolhouse Facebook page at Facebook.com/Drayden-School or call 301-994-1471.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Museum Division

St. Mary's County Crab Festival



Ten candidates participated in crab picking contest.



Tommy McKay and Fracis Eagan



Commissioner Eric Colvin digging in.




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

Man Convicted in Domestic Violence Case

Calvert County State's Attorney Robert Harvey announces that on June 9 Brandon L. Young, 35, of Lexington Park, was convicted of second-degree assault in a case of domestic violence.

Young was sentenced by Judge Michelle R. Saunders of the District Court of Maryland to 10 years incarceration, suspended down to two years in the Maryland Division of Corrections. Upon release, Young will be on three years of supervised probation and disqualified from possessing a firearm.

Police were called to the Holiday Inn in Solomons for the report of a domestic assault. Investigation revealed that Young had struck the



Brandon Young

victim three times in the face causing visible signs of injury.

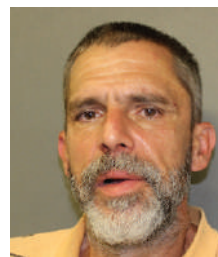
Harvey wishes to commend Assistant State's Attorney Gina Fioravanti, her entire

Domestic Violence team, and the Maryland State Police for their handling of this sensitive and difficult case. As a result of this conviction, Young is facing a violation of probation in St. Mary's County.

Press Release from Calvert County State's Attorney

Drug Arrest

On May 23, 2022, deputies responded to the 25300 block of Pt. Lookout Road in Leonardtown, for the reported check the welfare. Upon arrival, an individual matching the description of the welfare check fled from deputies. A vehicle the individual was in prior to fleeing on foot, was located displaying tags that returned to another vehicle. The vehicle was stored at which time three suspected CDS smoking devices were located and one had residue (suspected cocaine). A short time later, the individual was located and provided deputies with a false name; ultimately the individual was identified as **Bruce Doremus Tlucka Jr.**, age 49 of no fixed address. Tlucka had outstanding warrants for his arrest and was also charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana, CDS: Possession-Paraphernalia, Fraud/Person to Avoid Prosecution, and False Statement to Peace Officer.



Bruce Tlucka

was a suspected cocaine, and suspected heroin. A digital scale with powder residue was located on the passenger seat. Barnes was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana, CDS: Possession With Intent to Distribute, and CDS: Possession-Paraphernalia.

Violate Protective Order

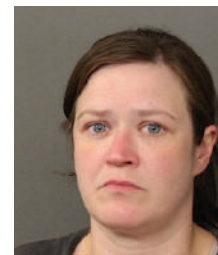
On June 7, 2022, Dep. Jerew responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, for the reported protective order violation. Investigation determined **James Michael Hammons**, age 27 of Lusby, was at the victim's residence and outside the victim's residence in violation of a valid court order. Hammons was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order.



James Hammons

Assault/Reckless Endangerment

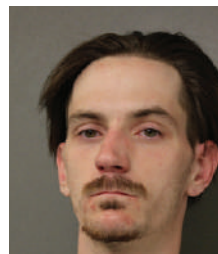
On June 9, 2022, Cpl. Pontorno responded to the 28700 block of Lockes Hill Road in Mechanicsville, for the reported assault involving a sledgehammer. The victim and witness advised **Beth Suzanne Gannon**, age 36 of Mechanicsville, became upset with the victim and chased the victim with a sledgehammer, and attempted to strike the victim with the sledgehammer. Gannon threw the sledgehammer at the victim and attempted to pick up a rake but was stopped by the witness. Gannon was arrested and charged with Assault 1st Degree and Reckless Endangerment.



Beth Gannon

Drug Arrest

On June 5, 2022, DFC. Westphal conducted a traffic stop in the 45000 block of West Westbury Drive in Lexington Park and made contact with the operator, **Jesse Erin Kuntz**, age 27 of Lusby. Located in the driver's side floorboard was a bag containing a locket which had a white powder substance inside (suspected heroin). In the same bag as the locket, was a straw containing powder residue. Kuntz was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and CDS: Paraphernalia.



Jesse Kuntz

Drug Arrest

On June 6, 2022, Dep. Marsch responded to the 21200 block of Willows Road in Lexington Park, for the reported individual unconscious in a vehicle. Upon arrival, numerous buprenorphine strips were observed in the individual's lap. The individual woke up and was identified as **William Lamont Barnes**, age 39 of Lexington Park. Also located in the center console of the vehicle



William Barnes

Violation of Protective Order

On June 9, 2022, Dep. Morgan responded to the 21900 block of Rosewood Terrace in Lexington Park, for the reported disturbance. The victim advised **Jonathon Jacob Resnick**, age 48 of Lexington Park, yelled and argued with the victim in violation of a valid court order. Dep. Morgan confirmed there is an active court order prohibiting Resnick from contacting the victim. Resnick was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order.



Jonathon Resnick

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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Leaders To Review School Security



Sheriff Timothy Cameron awards Deputy Blaine Gaskill for his response to the 2018 Great Mills High School shooting.

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In the aftermath of the Uvalde, Texas school shooting massacre that killed 19 students and two teachers, law enforcement and school system leaders in St. Mary's County say they are reviewing the state of school security to ensure that such a tragedy does not happen here.

St. Mary's has already experienced the horror of a school shooting at Great Mills High School in March of 2018 when a student shot and killed Jaelynn Willey while wounding another.

"The focus again is on school security," said Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron. "We know what happened [in Uvalde]; the unthinkable.

"We know what didn't happen and that was immediate response and engagement with the shooter."

The most recent reports show that police waited from 40 minutes to an hour to breach Robb Elementary School in Uvalde and kill the shooter; this directly contradicts the established doctrine of immediately seeking to stop the shooter, even if it means initially ignoring those who are already wounded.

The recent massacre has led Cameron to reinstitute a program that has off duty deputies suiting up and checking on schools.

Called the Overwatch Program, it was initially funded by a grant awarded to the Board of Education which paid deputies to patrol elementary schools on their days off in four-to-eight-hour blocks in full uniform and gear.

That grant funding has since ceased, Cameron said, but he has found another funding source to continue the program.

"We're just using budgeted overtime money now," Cameron said.

The initial program brought in two deputies to patrol elementary schools, one assigned to the northern portion of the county and one to the southern portion.

"We've increased that number now, it could be up to four deputies," Cameron said.

Cameron said he reinstated the Overwatch Program after the Uvalde massacre.

"We're going to pursue grant funding for that for the next school year," Cameron said.

The sheriff's office still has the Adopt a School program, which has deputies volunteer to go to schools and ensure they are secure as well, Cameron said.

These deputies usually have ties with the school, having a child of their own attending or knowing a family with a child there.

Perhaps the most critical aspect of having deputies continually check on schools is to ensure that seemingly simple security procedures are followed, such as keeping doors to the school closed and locked.

The latest reports from Uvalde show that a teacher had left a door open at the school with a rock to hold it open, but once she saw the shooter's truck crash into a nearby ditch, she kicked the rock away and slammed the door shut.

Reports show that the teacher believed the door would automatically lock; it did not.



Members of the Sheriff's tactical team training for active shooter response.

Though reports of what actually happened in Uvalde continually shift, it is believed that this is how the shooter was able to easily gain access to the school.

"That's why it's so important that these deputies walk these schools and check these doors," Cameron said. "With these security systems, it's the human element that can defeat them."

In the aftermath of the Great Mills High School shooting the state and county invested heavily in hardening access points to schools against gunfire and installed surveillance systems that allow school staff to monitor movements in the school in real time.

The sheriff's office continues to employ school resource officers—commonly known as SROs—at all high schools.

An SRO — Cpl. Blain Gaskill — responded to the shooting at Great Mills High School within seconds to stop the shooter.

Cameron said deputies are trained to enter a school and engage a threat in, ideally, a four-person unit that covered all directions.

However, if only one deputy arrives on scene they are instructed to go in and eliminate the threat immediately.

This is drilled into law enforcement cadets at the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy and reinforced through continued training and policy doctrine, Cameron said.

"We tell them you don't wait for that," Cameron said. "You go in."

This response has been the stan-

dard for more than 20 years and became such due to the Columbine High School shooting in 1999 that saw more than 1,000 law officers surround the school and wait to enter while homicides were being committed, Cameron said.

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith said upgrades to school security are continuing with a new software system that will be added to the internal surveillance systems of school buildings next year.

Internal school surveillance can be accessed from a central computer hub to view what was happening in any school building, Smith said, but the new software would allow for the identification and tracking of an individual in the building as they move through it.

This would confer a significant tactical advantage to law enforcement in finding any intruder in a school, Smith said.

All of the ground windows in schools are now furnished with a force resistant laminate, Smith said, that while not strictly bullet proof, cannot be immediately shot out even by an assault-style rifle.

Security staff are also employed to conduct their own security checks in school buildings throughout the day, Smith said, including perimeter checks and checks on access points.

"We continue to enhance all of this," Smith told The County Times. "Safety has to always come first.

"If students don't feel safe, that impedes their learning."

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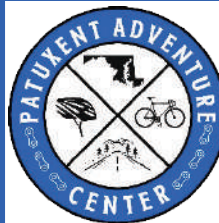
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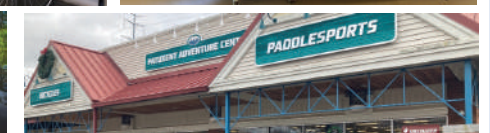
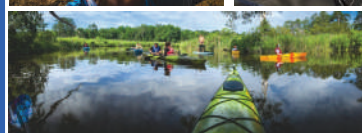
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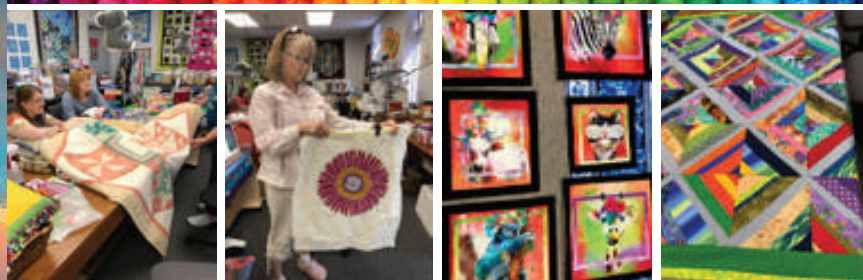



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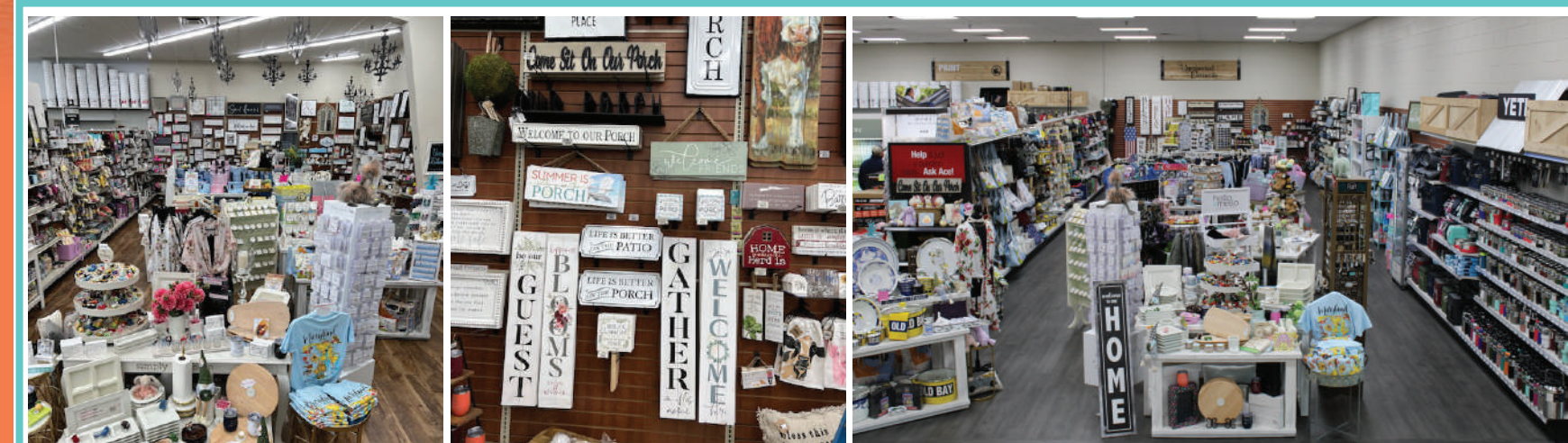
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Kay Daugherty Arts Educator Award Announced



Photo in graphic -Nicole McCumbee

Through shining peer recommendations and a Review Committee from St. Mary's County Arts Council, Nicole McCumbee from Margaret Brent Middle School (MBMS) has been chosen to receive the 2022 Kay Daugherty Arts Educator Award! Along with this special recognition, McCumbee will also receive \$500 in appreciation of her dedication and above-and-beyond contributions as an arts educator in our community.

Nicole is currently working in her 15th year as the Director of Bands at Margaret Brent Middle School and is in her 17th year of teaching for St. Mary's Public Schools (SMCPS). She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix.

McCumbee also serves as the Unified Arts Department Chairperson at MBMS and has been the SMCPS All-County Middle School Band event manager since 2015. Within her own program she directs ensembles for students from grades 6th, 7th, and 8th and also directs the Festival Band which is a competition group by audition process.

During an extremely challenging period of time, both for students and instructors, Nicole received the "Excellence in Online Teaching", a testament to her creativity and ability to adapt and provide quality instruction in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part of McCumbee's long-held philosophy of teaching has been

"to help each student develop a passion and love for music. I work to include all students, regardless of economic status, race, and playing ability, to feel as if my room is a safe haven where they can be themselves and not be judged."

Nicole's instructional goals include the concepts of instilling values of teamwork, discipline, respect, responsibility and dedication in her students in the hopes that they will take what they learned and apply these teachings to all aspects of their lives as they mature into young adults.

As part of the Kay Daugherty Award nomination process, letters of reference have been received and include a number of fabulous reviews for McCumbee!

"Nicole directs the band program at Margaret Brent Middle School, providing multiple performance opportunities for students throughout the school year. She takes time before and after school to make sure her students are confident and prepared for each performance," said Dr. Ashland M. Murphy, band director colleague in SMCPS.

These awards are granted in memory and recognition of Kay Daugherty (1921-2006) who was well-known for her love of art in a wide variety of different forms. In 2018, an award was created in Kay's honor and in recognition of outstanding arts educators currently teaching in the St. Mary's County, Maryland public school system.

Submitted by St. Mary's County Arts Council (www.st-marysartscouncil.com)

FINANCIAL FOCUS CRYPTO: INVESTMENT OR SPECULATION?

With cryptocurrencies so much in the news, you might be wondering if you should invest in them. But "invest" may not be the right word – because, in many ways, cryptocurrencies, or "crypto" for short, are more speculation than investment.

But what's really the difference between a speculator and an investor? Probably the main factor is the differing views of time. A true investor is in it for the long term, building a portfolio that, over many years, can eventually provide the financial resources to achieve important goals, such as a comfortable retirement. But speculators want to see results, in the form of big gains, right now – and they're often willing to take big risks to achieve these outcomes.

There's also the difference in knowledge. Investors know that they're buying shares of stock in a company that manufactures products or provides services. But many speculators in cryptocurrency don't fully comprehend what they're buying – because crypto just isn't that easy to understand. Cryptocurrency is a digital asset, and cryptocurrency transactions only exist as digital entries on a blockchain, with the "block" essentially being just a collection of information, or digital ledgers. But even knowing this doesn't necessarily provide a clear picture to many of those entering the crypto world.

In addition to time and understanding, two other elements help define cryptocurrency's speculative nature:

• Volatility

Cryptocurrencies are subject to truly astonishing price swings, with big gains followed by enormous losses – sometimes within a matter of hours. What's behind this type of volatility? Actually, several

factors are involved. For one thing, the price of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies depends heavily on supply and demand – and the demand can skyrocket when media outlets and crypto "celebrities" tout a particular offering. Furthermore, speculators will bet on crypto prices moving up or down, and these bets can trigger a rush on buying and selling, again leading to the rapid price movements. And many purchasers of crypto, especially young people, want to see big profits quickly, so when they lose large amounts, which is common, they often simply quit the market, contributing to the volatility.

• Lack of regulation

When you invest in the traditional financial markets, your transactions are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the firms with which you invest are typically overseen by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Other agencies are also involved in regulating various investments. These regulating bodies work to ensure the basic fairness of the financial markets and to prevent and investigate fraud. But cryptocurrency exchanges are essentially unregulated, and this lack of oversight has contributed to the growth of "scam" exchanges, crypto market manipulation, excessive trading fees and other predatory practices. This "Wild West" scenario should be of concern to anyone putting money in crypto.

The cryptocurrency market is still relatively new, and it's certainly possible that, in the future, crypto can become more of an investment and less of a speculation. In fact, Congress is actively considering ways to regulate the cryptocurrency market. But for now, caveat emptor – "let the buyer beware."

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones. Member SIPC.

Past performance of the markets is not a guarantee of how they will perform in the future. Investors should understand the risks involved in owning investments, including interest rate risk, credit risk and market risk. The value of investments fluctuates, and investors can lose some or all of their principal. Article was contributed by David McDonough Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.

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Franciscan University, Chesterton Schools Networks Form Alliance

The Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH, and Chesterton Schools Network, the sponsoring organization for fifty Chesterton Academies around the world including the Chesterton Academy of St Mary's, have entered into an historic partnership which will allow Chesterton Academy students to enroll concurrently at Franciscan University and receive full college credit in select courses.

Under the program which starts in September 2022, juniors and seniors enrolled at the Chesterton Academy of St Mary's will be eligible to enroll in this program and earn in up to twelve college credit-hours at Franciscan University. Junior and senior high school students who want to get a head start on college will benefit greatly.

There is a nominal charge for each enrolled student per course. Students will cover the material in the Chesterton Academy's Theology and Philosophy classes.

When an enrolled student passes a course, he or she will receive an official Franciscan University transcript.

"This partnership will be of great benefit to both the University and the

Chesterton Schools Network," said Dale Ahlquist, President of the Chesterton Society in Minnesota. "There is great excitement all around."

Andrew Pudysz, Headmaster of Chesterton Academy of St Mary's, concurs. "I am very excited about this partnership with my alma mater, Franciscan University. Our students who want to take advantage of this program will receive the best of both worlds – outstanding instruction by our faculty here and academic recognition from one of the leading Catholic universities in the country."

In time, the program will be expanded to offer a total thirty-six credit hours in a variety of subject areas. "When fully implemented," added Headmaster Pudysz, "a student could complete their freshman year of college by the time they are graduated from Chesterton Academy of St Mary's."

For more information about Chesterton Academy of St Mary's, please visit www.chestertonstmarys.org or email info@chestertonstmarys.org.

Press Release from Chesterton Academy of St. Mary's

AeroPark Will Host 2022 Student UAS Competition

The Student UAS Competition (SUAS) has a long history in St. Mary's County. Since 2002, the SUAS Competition has operated at Webster Outlying Field. The Department of Economic Development is pleased to announce the 2022 SUAS is moving to the AeroPark Innovation District. The move to the new location is a cooperative effort between AUVSI and tenants of AeroPark, including the St. Mary's County Regional Airport (2W6), University of Maryland Unmanned Aircraft Systems Test Site, University System of Maryland at Southern Maryland, AirTec and S. Hunt Aero.

The Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) Student Uncrewed Aerial Systems Competition fosters interest in Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), stimulates inter-

est in UAS technologies and careers, and engages students in a challenging UAS mission. The competition requires students to design, integrate, report on, and demonstrate a UAS capable of autonomous flight and navigation, remote sensing via onboard payload sensors, and execute specific tasks.

The 2022 competition currently has 1000+ contestants, volunteers and coaches registered to attend, with flight missions scheduled at 2W6 for June 15-18. For more information on the 2022 Student UAS Competition, visit <https://www.auvsi-suas.org/>

For information on the AeroPark Innovation District, contact Kellie S. Hinkle, Deputy Director, 240-925-7178 or kellie.hinkle@stmarysmd.com.

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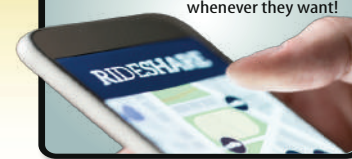


Ridesharing services enable commuters to find other individuals who share similar commute routes and work hours. Ridesharing promotes alternative ways for commuters to get to work. Ridesharing benefits include:

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- Fuel Cost Savings
- Wear & Tear on Roads & Vehicles
- Reducing Traffic Congestion
- HOV Lane Access
- Overall Expense Saving by Minimized Driving
- Reduced Pollution & Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Try the CarpoolNow App and connect with commuters just like you, going your way. It's free, and it saves you money on every commute! Download the CarpoolNow app and join thousands who rideshare whenever they want!



301-274-1922 • www.tccsmd.org



GUARANTEED RIDE HOME



"WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED" in SOUTHERN MARYLAND

GRH provides a free ride home for registered commuters who ride in a carpool or vanpool, take transit, bike or walk to work at least twice a week. In the event of an unexpected emergency or unscheduled over-time, GRH will arrange for a free taxi ride, a free transit ride, or even a free rental car up to four times each year to get you home.

301-274-1922 • www.tccsmd.org

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library



Library Closed for Juneteenth

Lexington Park Library will be closed on Sunday, June 19 and all three locations will be closed on Monday, June 20 in observance of Juneteenth. All locations will be open regular business hours on Tuesday, June 21.

Mr Jon Concerts

Join musician Mr. Jon and his puppet friend George the Monkey for a high-energy family concert, and come ready to DANCE! Please register each member of your group (adults and children).

Leonardtown Library on Friday, June 24 from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Sensory Friendly at Leonardtown Library on Friday, June 24 from 2 – 3 p.m.

Mt. Zion United Methodist on Saturday, June 25 from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Lexington Park Library on Saturday, June 25 from 2 – 3 p.m.

The Irish Civil War

Interested in learning about Irish History? Join us in discussing the Irish Civil War, a conflict that lasted less than a year from 1922-23 on Monday, June 27 from 6 – 7 p.m. at the Leonardtown Library. A hundred years ago in 1922 Ireland erupted in a civil war that was waged between two opposing groups: the pro-treaty Provisional Government and the anti-treaty Irish Republican Army (IRA), over the Anglo-Irish Treaty following the Irish War of Independence (1919-21). If you are interested in Irish History, please join us in both recognizing this centennial and in learning about one of the most important events in modern Irish History. This program will discuss and elaborate on why the Irish Civil War occurred, what events led up to it, the outcome of the War, and the cultural significance that still exists today presently in Ireland. The expected runtime is an hour, including both a pre-

sentation and a time for questions and answers. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Archaeological Discovery of the 1660s : Jesuit Chapel and Priests' House at Newton

Dr. James Gibb will discuss the archaeological findings of the Jesuit and Priests' House at Newton virtually on Monday, June 27 from 7 – 8 p.m. As part of the 350th-anniversary commemoration of its founding, the Parish of St. Francis Xavier in Newtown, St. Mary's County commissioned an archaeological search for the original chapel. We found it, as well as evidence of a previously unsuspected house for the Jesuit fathers and lay brothers. The chapel contrasts with that found at St. Mary's City and reconstructed by the Historic St. Mary's City Commission. The differences reveal aspects of religious intolerance and Catholic resistance in the County during the late 17th and early 18th centuries. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Using the 1950 Census: Finding Our Ancestors and Telling Their Stories

Access to the 1950 census was released on April 1, 2022. Join librarian, Elizabeth, as she breaks down the 1950 census, as well as previous census records, as a source for your genealogy research at Leonardtown Library on Tuesday, June 28 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. What were your parents or grandparents up to 72 years ago? Learn how to find them on the newly released 1950 census. As Elizabeth explored the census, she began to piece together a fascinating story of her great grand aunt. Maybe you can find stories for your ancestors hidden in the 1950 census. This is an in-person program at the Leonardtown Library. All skill levels welcome. Register on www.stmalib.org

Tackle Box Fishing Report



Captain Bernie Shea on his charter boat "Sheadi-Lady" 301-673-3382 is finding lovely stripers in the Patuxent River.

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

Spot are in the Potomac River around St. George Island and Stewart's Pier. Bloodworms are in scarce supply, but the Fishbites prepared bait is working just fine according to multiple fishermen who found big spot in about 20 feet off Stewarts Pier, Ragged Point, and the Island.

Spot are in the Patuxent creeks and in Kingston Hollow and Hawk's Nest near the mouth of Cuckold's Creek. The spot attracted stripers and porpoise to feed on them this week. The porpoise were reported feeding from Green Holly to the mouth of Town Creek last weekend. The big predators will drive the massive schools of spot up the river and bottom fishermen should find them all the way up to Sheridan Point by the time you read this. The Patuxent spot are smaller than the big boys in the Potomac, but bigger fish will arrive soon.

White perch are biting in Cuckold's creeks for both bait fishermen and lure casters. The other usual locations in both Patuxent

and Potomac rivers should have plenty of perch now.

Speckled sea trout are working their way into our area. Big trout have been taken by skilled light tackle fishermen in the salt islands in the Honga River all the way to Kedges Straights. The specks will take cast lures in the shallows. Specks have also shown up in the mouth of St. Jerome's Creek along with schoolie rockfish. The trout on this side of the bay are much smaller, but the big boys are further south in the Rappahannock and its tributaries. They are on the way. The puppy drum are coming too. We should have plenty of slot reds this year.

Cobia season opens June 15. They are here now, according to catch and release chummers and chunkers who reported this week. The minimum size in 40 inches, one per day per person. The problem is the new regulation that only allows only two fish per boat on any given day, UGH!

We await the arrival of blue fish. Crabs have blossomed everywhere.

Fresh water fishing is excellent.

Southern Maryland

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YOUR ONLINE COMMUNITY FOR CHARLES, CALVERT, & ST. MARY'S COUNTIES

Legal Ads

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CASE NO.: 2021-CP-40-04005

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND

U-HAUL CO. OF AZ, et al.,
Plaintiffs

vs.

JERRY WHITE, et al.
Defendants

NOTICE OF LEGAL ACTION

To: Defendant, Ashley Wheeler

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO Jamal "Cabbagestalk" Dixon, 2607 Ferguson Court, Waldorf, MD you have been sued in the Court of Common Pleas for Richland County, South Carolina in cause number 20212CP4004005. NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT was filed August 10, 2021, for the purpose of instituting a Declaratory Judgment action against Defendants as a result of an auto accident. All persons having a defense are required to file a response herein within the time prescribed by law. Notice is hereby given that if an answer is not filed within the time prescribed by law a judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. For a full copy of the complaint you may contact the attorney named herein.

Unless an appearance is made by you, a Default Judgment will be taken on July 18, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. by the Law Office of R. Edward Henderson, P.O. Box 1764, Florence, SC 29503; Michael Parker, Parker LLP (Pro Hac Vice) 1200 Summit Ave, Suite 200, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 (Pro Hac Vice) attorney for Plaintiffs herein.

Notice is hereby given that the following vessel has apparently been abandoned for 180 days on the property of Christian Theodore Fitzgerald 240-320-7450.

The vessel is described as MD 8453 BEBYQA15FMA797 27' Bayliner application for the title will be made in accordance with Section 8-722 of the annotated code of Maryland, Natural Resources Article if this vessel is not claimed and removed for the above property within 30 days of this notice.

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN

The 2021 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) will be available July 1, 2022 to Town residents and the public at the Town Hall office, 22670 Washington St. Leonardtown, MD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and at the Leonardtown Post Office, 22735 Washington Street and is also available online at <http://leonardtown.somd.com> under Town Government, Water Quality Reports.

Island Heritage Day Offers Free Family Fun



Get acquainted with St. Clement's Island during Heritage Day, June 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Clement's Island Museum and on St. Clements Island State Park.

Learn about the island's past through activities regarding the history, culture, heritage and ecology tied to the island.

There will be tons of fun, free activities and programs on beautiful St. Clement's Island, including a day of history, wildlife and art, and all can participate in activities like games, lighthouse tours, traditional music and much more. Free water taxi rides will be out to the island for all visitors attending the festivities. St. Clement's Island Museum will also be open and free to all during the day.

Discover St. Clement's Island State Park and its history as the site of Maryland's first colonial landing in 1634. Enjoy the scenic and natural beauty of the island, Potomac River and waterfowl with a walk along the beach. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the pavilion or any of the tables dotting the island shore. The reconstructed Blackstone Lighthouse will be open and available for tours.

There will be an interpreter por-

traying Dr. Thomas Gerard, the first owner of St. Clement's Island, who will offer insight into colonial living. He will talk about "pieces of eight" as a form of currency. As a fun challenge for the day, children who visit the presenters and participate in all activities will get a replica coin like Dr. Gerard's. Coins are available while supplies last.

Music group Some Assembly will play traditional music from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. They will perform from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and again from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m.

Learn navigation techniques used by sailors before the advent of GPS with the Patuxent River Sail & Power Squadron.

The Museum Store at St. Clement's Island Museum will be open with an array of unique items and gifts, including local art, apparel, books, jewelry, children's items, toys and more.

To learn more about St. Clement's Island Heritage Day, visit www.Facebook.com/SCIMuseum or call 301-769-2222.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Museum Division

Can't Find Us On The News Stand?

Find Us Online @

www.countytimes.net



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

facebook.com/CountyTimesCalvert
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CountyTimes



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges Program Office Changes Command

The Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges program office (PMA-205) welcomed new leadership during a change of command ceremony June 10 at Patuxent River.

Capt. Lisa “Peppy” Sullivan turned over leadership to Capt. Kevin “Tripper” McGee at a ceremony with more than 200 family, friends and colleagues at the Air Test and Evaluation Squadron One (VX-1) hangar.

Presiding official, Marci Spiotta, acting Program Executive Officer for Aviation Common Systems and Commercial Services (PEO(CS)), credited Sullivan’s leadership style, focus on her people, and her commitment to readiness and delivery of capabilities to the warfighter as keys to PMA-205 mission accomplishment.

“It is my honor to be here today to celebrate your dedication, focus and commitment as an expert leader,” said Spiotta. “The programs within the PMA-205 portfolio directly support the warfighter, from highly technical training systems to training ranges that prepare our warfighters for the high end fight.”

Spiotta said that Sullivan left an indelible mark on the PEO as a successful, collaborative leader in charge of a myriad of programs operating under heavy Congressional oversight, while navigating the complexities of COVID and the hybrid work environment – all of which she scaled with ease.

Spiotta was among the many female leaders from the fleet and Patuxent River who participated in the event. Capt. Jill Cesari served as retirement speaker and sideboys included Capt. Anna Boyd, Capt. Margaret Wilson, Capt. Marilisa Gibellato and Lt. Cmdr. Bridget Torem.

“This speaks volumes of the progress society and Navy has made in equality and diversity; but make no mistake, these ladies represent the best of the best regardless of gender,” said Sullivan.

As program manager, Sullivan successfully led a diverse and inclusive team supporting the acquisition and life cycle support of

training systems, simulators and training ranges recapitalization and improvement. She oversaw the space transformation pilot, a program that set the path for future remote work and flexible office spaces, and served as a model to the rest of NAVAIR during the COVID-19 pandemic. “At the beginning of my tour I challenged each one of you to stop thinking of training as an enabler and start thinking of it as lethality,” Sullivan said to the PMA-205 workforce. “I have always insisted that training equals lethality and over the last three years we have achieved our mission, with urgency, to get better training to the fleet faster.”

Under Sullivan’s leadership, PMA-205 acquired and installed an additional total of 500 square nautical miles of instrumented Undersea Warfare Training Range (USWTR) in littoral waters in the Atlantic Ocean and awarded multiple recapitalization and construction contracts for the training ranges. Her team also led the Tactical Combat Training System Increment II program into low rate initial production.

Sullivan oversaw the installation of the new Normobaric Hypoxia Trainer as well as the mask on breathing device trainer, both aimed at reducing potential physiological episodes — a top safety priority for the Navy. She also spearheaded the expansion of the Navy’s live virtual constructive and distributed mission training and was at the forefront of many high fidelity linked training events, delivering hundreds of training systems to the fleet during her three-year tenure.

Sullivan will retire after more than 26 years of dedicated service to the Navy.

McGee, a Duke University graduate, brings a wealth of experience to the job with a career that spans more than 24 years of Navy service. McGee participated in the U.S. Naval States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) Cooperative Program and graduated from the Air Force Institute of Technology with a master’s degree in aeronautical engineering. After completing



Capt. Lisa “Peppy” Sullivan turned over leadership of the Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges program office (PMA-205) to Capt. Kevin “Tripper” McGee at a ceremony with more than 200 family, friends and colleagues at Patuxent River’s Air Test and Evaluation Squadron One (VX-1) hangar on June 10. Marci Spiotta, acting Program Executive Officer, Aviation Common Systems and Commercial Services, presided over the ceremony. From left: Sullivan, Spiotta and McGee.

USNTPS, he was assigned to Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 31, where he led F/A-18E/F and EA-18G software and weapons test programs and was selected as the 2008 VX-31 Test Pilot of the Year.

McGee was then assigned to the VFA-41 Black Aces, where he served as an operational department head and deployed supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. He subsequently transferred to the F-35 Joint Program Office (JPO) where he served as the pilot training integrated product team lead and the joint technical data lead, supporting the initial standup of F-35 pilot training at multiple locations.

In 2014, he returned to China Lake, California to serve as the military deputy at the F/A-18 and EA-18G Advanced Weapons Laboratory, where he led developmental flight test efforts. In 2016, McGee transitioned to a program management role as the T-45 integrated product team lead at the Naval Undergraduate Flight Training Systems program office. His team

was recognized with consecutive NAVAIR Commander’s Awards for outstanding acquisition performance and fleet responsiveness while mitigating T-45 physiological episodes.

In 2018, McGee returned to the F-35 JPO to serve as the deputy program manager of the F-35 Maintenance Systems Program Management Office, where he led a team delivering maintenance management capabilities to three U.S. services, seven partner nations, and four foreign military sales customers.

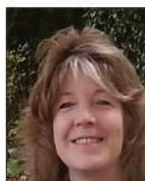
Prior to assuming command of PMA-205, McGee served as the director of the Air Systems Group of the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division..

“PMA-205 is a program office with a warfighter capability, affordability and availability focus,” said McGee. “I am both proud and excited to join such a talented and diverse team and look forward to achieving our mission with determination and resolve.”

Wanderings

of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



A BLUE DOG NIGHT

Hard to believe half the year is gone and it is already time for the start of birthday week for my husband and I, well, actually it is not an “every single day go someplace different” birthday week like it was quite a few years ago. His birthday starts it off on Saturday with a nice party scheduled for the day at his daughter’s home on the water. I just ordered the tray of Chaptico Market fried chicken for pick-up that day, but I am sure there will be lots of other food as well. Sounds like Saturday’s weather will be nicer than it has been so far this week, which means the cornhole boards, and probably the fishing rods will be out too. I am a shade girl, so I will observe everything and watch all the kids playing in the pool. As crazy as this first half of the year has been for us, I am glad my husband will have a fun day to just relax and be with family and friends.

My birthday next Wednesday will be quieter, I usually like a dinner out with my husband, my two sons, and my youngest son’s two little boys. Dinner and dessert I mean. This birthday is the “born in ’61 and will be 61 birthday”...maybe I should play the 4 digit lottery number that day.

Last week we took Robert’s son Bobby and his wife Stefanie out for his son’s birthday. We thought he wanted to have a seafood dinner out on the water somewhere, but he said to meet them at The Blue Dog Saloon and Restaurant in Port Tobacco, not far from where they live. I have been wanting to go there for so long and was very excited to try it. I had read about the spooky history of the blue dog and Rose Hill Manor a few years ago in a Wiki article copied here:

“Charles County’s “Blue Dog” legend is taught in local schools and has been told in the county for more than 100 years. By most accounts, the spirit of a large blue dog protects the treasure of his murdered master, which is supposed to be buried somewhere along Rose Hill Road outside Port Tobacco. Charles Stuart was the owner of the Rose Hill property containing the fabled rock where Blue Dog and his master were killed. He has said that the first written account of the Blue Dog legend dates back to 1897, when Olivia Floyd, a noted Confederate spy and owner of Rose Hill, told the Port Tobacco Times that she had seen the ghost of the Blue Dog. The legend says that Charles Thomas Sims, a soldier, and his dog were killed on February 8 in the 18th century on Rose Hill Road while returning from a Port Tobacco tavern. This was following the Ameri-



can Revolutionary War. Henry Hanos of Port Tobacco purportedly killed Sims and his dog for Sims’ gold and a deed to an estate. Hanos buried the gold and deed under a holly tree along Rose Hill Road. When Hanos returned to recover the treasure, he was scared away by the ghost of Blue Dog. Hanos fell ill and died suddenly. To this day, Blue Dog reportedly continues to watch over his slain master’s treasure.”

We met Bobby and Stefanie in the outside courtyard of The Blue Dog Restaurant, which was lovely, I felt like I was in the courtyard of an old castle. The building itself has been there for many years before the Owner and Executive Chef Gary Fick along with his family opened the restaurant. Outside, we enjoyed Oysters Rockefeller, raw oysters, crab dip, and drinks all before our entrees came out which ranged from huge crab cakes, to blackened scallops, and a tender prime rib which I ordered. Of course, we had to have dessert and I was thrilled they had my favorite, Crème Brulee. We lingered over dessert and drinks, enjoying Bobby’s birthday and the beautiful evening. As I went inside to ask Mr. Fick about the legend I found that our favorite waiter Ricardo, we knew from another restaurant, was busy as always keeping patrons happy.

Mr. Fick keeps the legend of the Blue Dog and his master very much alive. He had a beautiful painting done by a friend in the main dining room, and also showed us a piece of the rock mentioned in the legend that was accidentally hit with a tractor (he is shown holding it in the photo). Well, you know I love anything to do with history and ghosts, so it was very hard for my husband to get me to leave. I have a feeling we will be back to The Blue Dog Restaurant soon...and maybe I can have my husband take me to where the legend began.....

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



The Way We Were...

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

Why We Wave

Prior to moving to St. Mary’s County in 2081, my wife and I had the pleasure of living in many places, from New York City to Las Vegas, from Singapore to Oregon. However, until moving here, never have we encountered an abundance of friendly waves as we have in St Mary’s County.

We were puzzled at first. Is there something going on we don’t know about? Are we expected to wave back? What if we don’t? Is there a waving protocol? After all, we are Northerners whose hand-flapping is ordinarily restricted to friends and relatives as they drive off at the end of some sort of festivity.



We soon learned that waving is a country thing—one which puts meat on the bone of the word community — and particularly among communities south of the Mason-Dixon Line. While I am assured wavers can be found in small towns all over the US of A, surely they are surely most abundant here in St Mary’s County.

We quickly made the transition from gaze-avoiding city types to make-eye-contact-and-wave countians. Soon we were tinged with guilt if, fiddling with smartphone or such, we didn’t return a friendly wave. Likewise, our ire was piqued when some newly recently come-downer went by, hands in pockets with barely a glance.

However, now that we were firmly in the waving camp, we began to speculate about waving protocols. As we strolled through our neighborhood, for example, encountering motorists and pedestrians, who initiates the waves? Walker or drivers? In a group, does everyone wave or just one person? What if

the passer-by doesn’t wave back – is there a way to rescind your wave?

As we delved further into the subject, things got even more complicated.

Is the other person waves first, should your return wave match theirs in amplitude and style? How should a pedestrian match the casual “two-finger wave” of a passing motorist? If you’re driving, do you wave to folks going in the same direction? Aside from a quick glance in your mirror, you can’t see them. If you’re the pedestrian, what is your obligation in these circumstances?

What about various “wave-embellishments”? Smiles as you wave? Head-nods? Turning to wave? Thumbs up waves? Are these reserved for people you know? Or, are they intended to convey your state of mind or emotional well-being?

There comes a point in every come-downer’s where you stop over thinking these things and just wave.

Waving is a small gesture, to be sure, but one that is neither empty nor wasted. A friendly wave to friends, acquaintances, and strangers is deeply ingrained in Southern and small town culture. Waving conveys awareness of and respect for people around you. It forces you to come out of yourself for just a moment; it says, “I acknowledge you.” As someone told to us, “waving to a stranger means that although we may not know each other, waving says that we share the important things – community, respect, decency.”

Don’t think about it. Just wave.



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

St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Fri, Jun 17, 2022

MulberryMusic Festival @SMCM

Townhouse Green
St. Mary's City
6p.m. to 10p.m.

Jazz, featuring Joseph Brotherton, the Kelly Bell Band, Carly Harvey, and headlined by Sharón Clark. The event is free of charge and open to the public. It will be simultaneously livestreamed on the College's website at www.smcm.edu/mulberry. In addition to performing, Harvey, a St. Mary's College alumna, will reprise her role as mistress of ceremonies.

The Mulberry Music Festival is the vision of President Tuajuanda C. Jordan and is held every year on the eve of Juneteenth. Originally created in 2019, that festival featured a gospel theme and chart-topping recording artist Jason Nelson.

"I strongly believe in bringing people together through the universal language of music. This year's Mulberry Music festival, with a focus on jazz—a true American art form created by African Americans and characterized by harmony, syncopated rhythms, and improvisation—is sure to do just that," said Tuajuanda C. Jordan, president of St. Mary's College.

Those in attendance are invited to bring lawn chairs, blankets and food to help enjoy the event. Food vendors will be onsite. The Townhouse Green opens at 4 p.m. the day of the event.

Sat, Jun 18, 2022

Indoor Yard Sale

Mechanicsville Volunteer
Rescue Squad

28120 Old Flora Corner Road
7a.m. to 11a.m.

Indoor Yard Sale 7am to 11am
Rent Tables \$15.00 call Sue 301-884-4108 or Text 240-298-0865

Drayden African

American Schoolhouse
Open for Juneteenth

Drayden African
American Schoolhouse
18287 Cherryfield Rd,
Drayden

11a.m. to 2p.m.

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

More info: www.facebook.com/events/947955385930639

Mon, Jun 20, 2022

ELKs Texas

Holdem Tournament

St Mary's County Elks Lodge
45779 Fire Department Lane
California, MD 20619
7p.m.

Buy-in: \$35.00

Blinds will start at 25-50 and progress every 20 minutes

Please enter through the side of the building

For any question or additional details contact

James Dean
240-577-0828
jdeanjunior@gmail.com

Thu, Jun 23, 2022

Summer Bird Feeding

Loffler Senior Activity Center
21905 Chancellors Run Rd
Great Mills
9a.m. to 10a.m.

Barb Whipkey, avid birdwatcher, and owner of Wild Birds Unlimited of Lexington Park will be at the Loffler Senior Activity Center for a presentation on summer bird feeding needs. She will include tips for dealing with mess free feeding options, dealing with pesky squirrels and what to do when you are going on vacation. As we all know, birds don't take summer vacations and they'll be at your feeders whether you are home or not! Advance registration is required for this program. Seating is limited.

Fri, Jun 24, 2022

Open Mic

Christ Church Parish Hall
37497 Zach Fowler Road
Chaptico

7p.m. to 10p.m.

Acoustic musicians of all skill levels are warmly welcomed to perform their favorite tunes, beginning promptly at 7:30pm. Sign up to perform by contacting Michael Smith smtmdmike@gmail.com. The admission is \$7; performers are admitted free of charge. Visit www.smtmd.org for directions and more information.

Sat, Jun 25, 2022

St. Clement's Island Heritage Day

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

Celebrate the history and heritage of St. Clement's Island with tons of fun and FREE activities and programs for the whole family out on beautiful St. Clement's Island. Experience a day of histo-

ry, wildlife and art, and take part in activities that include, games, lighthouse tours, traditional music and much more. Lots of related vendors will be on hand. Visitors will be able to take free water taxi rides out to the island for all the festivities.

Discover St. Clement's Island State Park and its history as the site of Maryland's first colonial landing in 1634. Enjoy the scenic and natural beauty of the island, Potomac River and waterfowl with a walk along the beach. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the pavilion or any of the tables dotting the island shore. The reconstructed Blackstone Lighthouse will be open and available for tours.

Event is FREE; water taxi rides are FREE. Call 301-769-2222 for more information.

INFO: www.facebook.com/events/622409152282598/

Pet OF THE WEEK MEET CASPER



This is Guinea

Be a great day!

Hi everybody, my name is Casper, the Friendly Guinea Pig! My TCAS pals say that I enjoy hanging out in my hut, but once I hear the door open, I'm all about coming out to see YOU. I'm just one of many AMAZING guinea pigs available at this time, and I'd really like to find a LOVING HOME. Wouldn't you want to wake up to my SWEET LOVING FACE face everyday? If you are looking for a LOW MAINTENANCE, TOTALLY ENTERTAINING pet then email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov with your contact info to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP! BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

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

TRI-COUNTY
ANIMAL
SHELTER

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

Edna Mae Boothe



Edna Mae Boothe was a woman with a quick wit, sense of humor and full of sarcasm. In spite of that, she was a caring, loving, mom, sister, grandmother and friend. She left this world too early on June 8, 2022 at the age of 67.

Edna was born to Vivian and Walter Barnes (both deceased) on August 7, 1954. She was part of the St. Mary's Academy Class of 1973. She was blessed with two wonderful sons, Kenny (Michele) Boothe and Ricky (Krisy) Boothe (deceased). She adored her two beautiful grandchildren, Lexi and Abby. She is survived by her loving husband, Neal Adams, whom she married on March 28, 2015. Her surviving siblings include Ruth (Jack) Whallon, Louis Barnes, twin-sister Ellen (David) Holcomb, Susan "Susie" Barnes, and David (Karen) Barnes. Previously departed siblings include, Walter Barnes Jr., Nancy Long and Timothy Barnes.

Edna was a former volunteer for Ridge Drum and Bugle Corp, Ridge

Volunteer Rescue Squad, Hospice of St Mary's and often played Echo Taps for military funerals. She belonged to Girl Scouts of America and the Red Hat Lady's Society.

Edna worked as a Customer Service Representative for 30 years and retired in 2011. After retirement she would spend her days drinking coffee, listening to wind chimes, watching birds feed, putting puzzles together, reading books, taking pictures and collecting more of her crazy socks. She loved the holidays and making costumes to dress up in for events. She enjoyed traveling, but especially adored and loved spending time with family and friends.

LOVE YOU MORE/303

The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on June 16, 2022, in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. Where a Prayer Service will be held at 7:00 PM in the Funeral Home Chapel with Shawn Holcomb officiating at 7pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 260 Leonardtown, MD 20650 and Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad P.O. Box 299 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Mary Virginia Faunce



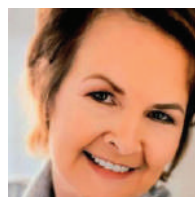
Mary Virginia Faunce, 97, of Avenue, MD, passed away on June 8, 2022 in Leonardtown, MD. Born on November 6, 1924, in Bushwood, MD, she was the daughter of the late Agnes Arnold and the late Parran Graves. Mary was the loving wife of the late Robert "Bobby" Faunce, who preceded her in death in 2016. She is survived by her children Desales Canter of Daytona Beach, FL, Neils Canter of FL, Dale Faunce (Cheryl) of Clements, MD, Joseph Faunce (Donna) of Leonardtown, MD, and Venita Sullivan (Earl) of KY, her siblings William Graves of VA, and Margaret Greenway of Waldorf, MD, as well as nine grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Mary was preceded in death by her children Debbie Buckler, Ricky Canter, and Donald Canter, and her siblings Mullie Graves and Gloria Graves.

A memorial mass will be held at a later date.

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

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

Deborah "Marlene" Norris



Deborah "Marlene" Norris, 57, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on June 7, 2022 in Leonardtown, MD. Born on May 19, 1965, she was the daughter of Marjorie Elizabeth Quade and the late John Michael Klear, as well as her stepfather, Bobby Quade. Marlene was the loving wife of Jay Bowles, whom she married on March 10, 2017 in Leonardtown, MD. She is survived by her children Lindsey Norris of Leonardtown, MD and Brennan Norris of Leonardtown, MD, as well as her siblings Mike Klear and Robby Quade, both of Leonardtown, MD.

Marlene was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident, and graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1983. She was self-employed as a hairdresser/cosmetologist at Marlene's hair salon for over 35 years. Marlene was a member of the Leonardtown Fire Department Auxiliary and the Leonardtown Rescue Squad Auxiliary.

The family will receive friends on Friday, June 17, 2022 from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in Our Lady's Church

at Medley's Neck, Leonardtown, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 AM with Father David Beaubien as celebrant and Father John Nguyen as con-celebrant. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Brennan Norris, Paul Klear, Mike Klear, Trevor Guy, Tyler Guy, and Robby Quade.

Contributions may be made to the Leonardtown Fire Department Auxiliary, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

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

James Walter Norris Sr.



James Walter Norris Sr. "Chally" passed away on June 6, 2022, at his home in Leonardtown. He is predeceased by his wife Elizabeth Lucille Williams "Betty", whom he married on April 24, 1964. He is also predeceased by his parents Woodrow Wilson and Agnes Teresa Norris, his in-laws James Clark and Ellen Dora Williams, and his brother Robert Lee Norris. James is survived by his sons James Walter "Wally" (Jackie) and Joseph Allen "Joey" (Nancy), three grandchildren Jake, Madison, and Lucas Norris. Chally is also survived by his siblings Margaret Ann Pruitt, Mary Elizabeth "Libby" Bean (John), and Woodrow Wilson (Woody) Norris Jr. (Jill), his in-laws Jimmy (Tina), Ellen Ball, Janice Hammett (Wayne), Gary (Cathy), Jenny Williams, Susan Redmond (Johnny), Joseph (Rebecca), Mary Garner (Boots), Jack (June), Jackie Mays (Mike), Patricia Howes (Randy), Ronnie (Kathy), and Karen Bailey (John), as well as countless nephews, nieces, and many cousins throughout the county.

Chally was retired from his work as a carpenter. He was a hardworking man and loved working with his hands. He made cedar furniture, bird houses, and was always tinkering with the project for the day. When not working he enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and spending time with his family.

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



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Mary Ann Bean



Mary Ann Bean, 74, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away at her home on June 6, 2022 surrounded by her loving family. Mary

Ann was born on August 27, 1947 in Leonardtown, MD to the late Raymond Hammett Stone and Mary Catherine Stone (Hill).

Mary Ann was the first of six children and grew up on Little Snow Hill Farm in Park Hall, MD. She was part of the last graduating class of St. Michael's High School in 1965. Shortly after graduation, she met who would be the love of her life, Paul Bean, of California, MD. The two got married on April 8, 1967 at St. Michael's Church, and spent the next 55 years together raising a family and creating so many memories together.

Mary Ann was a stay-at-home mother while her three boys were in school and worked endlessly in her garden, flower beds, and family farms to ensure all three knew the value of hard work and family; values that will be forever engrained in all three. Once the boys were out of the house, she worked at the Circuit Court in Leonardtown, MD and retired in 2005 with 15 years of service. She also volunteered countless hours at numerous organizations throughout her life including Birthright/Care Net Pregnancy Center, Helping Hands Food Pantry, Vacation Bible School, and the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office.

Along with her parents, Mary Ann was preceded in death by her brother Raymond M. Stone of St. Mary's City, MD and her in-laws John and Elizabeth Bean of California, MD. She is survived by her husband Paul, her sons Tony (Karen) of Waldorf, MD, Steve (Linda) of Mechanicsville, MD, Tommy (Shelly) of Clements, MD, 8 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, siblings Ernie (Kathy) Stone of Marion, IN, Joyce Bean of St. Mary's City, MD, Teresa Wood of St. Inigoes, MD, Betty Lynn (Tom) Klug of Park Hall, MD, John (Dee) Stone of Park Hall, MD, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made on Mary Ann's behalf to CareNet Pregnancy Center of Southern MD, 25484 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650, Helping Hands Food Pantry P.O. Box 1658, Leonardtown, MD 20650, and Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 527, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements provided by the

Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home and Cremation Services, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

Joseph Benjamin "Joe" Bowles



Joseph Benjamin "Joe" Bowles, 75, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, June 6, 2022. Born on

February 28, 1947 in Leonardtown, MD, he was the son of the late Joseph Raymond Bowles and Mary Helen Hill. He is also preceded in death by John and Marie Bowles who raised him, his three sons; Johnny, Ricky, and Patrick, and his great-grandson, Levi. He is survived by his loving wife, Margaret, his son Mike Bowles (Barbara Kay), two daughters; Michelle Trossbach (Paul) and Joanne Brooks (Jason), his sister, Patsy Beavan, along with several half siblings, his grandchildren; Kayla Bowles, Kyle Bowles, Charlie Trossbach, Peter Trossbach, Andy Trossbach (April), Becky Lacey, Tiffinay Brooks, Devin Brooks, and Summer Brooks, and his great-grandchildren; Jaxon, Donald, Gauge, Kyle, and Ryan.

He met his wife, Margaret, at a dance in Leonardtown, MD with a group of friends. They were married on January 14, 1967, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, recently celebrating 55 years together.

Joe was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, taking to the water at a young age. He was a hard-working man, known as one of the legendary county waterman spending his life fishing, crabbing, and oystering our beautiful Maryland waterways. He was honored by the Waterman's Association as Waterman of the Year on October 8, 2006 at the Blessing of the Fleet.

Joe was a devoted husband and father; his family was his greatest joy. He loved being surrounded by his family and friends. He always had a smile on his face, keeping everyone around him laughing, and was a friend to everyone he met. When he wasn't on the water, he enjoyed hunting deer/turkey and listening to the oldies. As a man of faith, he attended Saturday vigil mass at St. John's Catholic Church without fail. He will be dearly missed by those who called him Dad, Pop, "Stingray", "Crab Daddy", or friend.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Seventh District Fire Department, Seventh District Rescue Squad or St. John's Catholic Church.

Robert "Bob" Hood MSgt, U.S.

Air Force, 83, of Great Mills, MD, formerly of Philadelphia, PA, passed away on June 3, 2022, in Avenue, MD. Born on May 10, 1939 in Philadelphia, PA, Bob was the son of the late Lendra Hornig and Raymond Hood. Bob was the loving husband of Nives Elvira Hood whom he married on December 3, 1960 in Pordenone, Italy. Bob is survived by his children Cynthia Hood of Avenue, MD, Patrick Hood (Kimberli) of Cobb Island, MD, his siblings Carl Hood and Edward Hood, both of Philadelphia, PA, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brothers Raymond Hood, Jr. and James Hood.

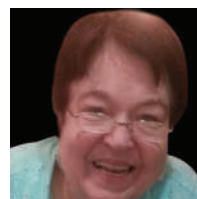
Bob graduated from Thomas More High School in 1957, and served in the United States Air Force for 26 years, from August 1958 to October 1984, retiring in 1984. During this time, he was stationed at Incirlik Air Force Base Turkey, Lajes AFB Portugal, Aviano AFB, Ncirlik AFB, Kincaeloe AFB, and Pease AFB. While serving in the Air Force he earned the Air Force Commendation Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon with One Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with Five Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Bob moved to St. Mary's County, MD in June 1988, and worked in Logistics for Honeywell for ten years, retiring in 1999. Bob was a member of the Knights of Columbus and St. Thomas More H.S. He attended Potomac Speedway for over 35 years and was a race car driver (Race Car 69) at Dorsey Speedway.

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

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

Karin Ursula Frenzen



Karin Ursula Frenzen, 85, of Lexington Park, MD, formerly of Hamburg, West Germany, passed away in Washington, D.C. on June

3, 2022. Born on October 17, 1936 in Hamburg, West Germany, she was the daughter of the late Hermann Landahl and Gerda Schmidt. Karin was the loving wife of the late Alfons Hermann Johann Frenzen, whom she married on June 10, 1966 in Hamburg-Barmbek/Uhlenhorst, Germany, and who preceded her in death on January 20, 2009. Karin is

survived by her children Susanne Beeskau (Michael) of Green Cove Spring, FL and Markus Frenzen (Tushima) of Lexington Park, MD, grandchildren Jackie Meadows of Jacksonville, FL, Markus Frenzen, Jr. of Jacksonville, FL, Jordan Frenzen of Lexington Park, MD, and Brianna Frenzen of Lexington Park, MD, as well as one great granddaughter Emilee Michele Meadows of Green Cove Spring, FL.

Karin moved from Hamburg, West Germany to St. Mary's County, MD on June 20, 1969. She was a homemaker for 56 years.

A funeral service will be held at a later date.

Helen Virginia Oliver



Helen Virginia Oliver, 89, of Bushwood, MD passed away at her home on June 8, 2022 with her loving family at her side.

She was born on November 5, 1932 in Washington, D.C. to the late George Henry Welty and Lottie May Adams Welty.

On July 18, 1952 she married her beloved husband, James Matthew Oliver, Sr. at Holy Angels Catholic Church in Avenue, MD. Together they celebrated over 54 wonderful years of marriage before his passing in 2005. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and sister who enjoyed making her family a priority. She helped her husband take care of the books for St. Margaret's Island for over 34 years while he was the caretaker of the Island. Her hobbies including all things water, especially boating and crabbing. She loved to walk along the water's shoreline and collect shark teeth and colored glass. She raised beautiful flower and rose gardens. She enjoyed listening to country music and listened to the top 20 countdown every Sunday. She loved to watch the birds, and looked forward to the Martin's arriving every year in March.

She is survived by her children: Christine Keller (Ronald) of Butternut, WI, James Oliver Jr. (Cathy) of Bushwood, MD and Matthew Oliver (Lisa) of Bushwood, MD; her sister, Joan Lacey of Bushwood, MD; her grandchildren: William Oliver (Kimberly), Patrick Pilkerton (Samantha), Steven Oliver (Lydia) and Kaitlyn Sonntag; her great grandchildren: Hailey May Pilkerton, Kirsten Oliver, Ava Oliver, Lucas Oliver, Bennett Oliver, Aiden Pilkerton and another one on the way; and many extended family and friends. In addition to her parents and husband she is also preceded in

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

death by her daughter, Brenda May Pilkerton and her sisters, Evelyn Owens, Thelma Mattingly and Lorraine Lacey.

Serving as pallbearers will be Jimmy Oliver, Matt Oliver, Kaitlyn Sonntag, Ron Keller, William Oliver, and Steven Oliver. Honorary pallbearers will be Patrick Pilkerton, Lucas Oliver, Kirsten Oliver, Ava Oliver, and Bennett Oliver.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 7, Avenue, MD 20609 and Hospice House of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Michael "Mike" James Lally Jr



Michael "Mike" James Lally Jr was born to Charlotte (Haran Lally) Smith in Westford, Massachusetts on November 19, 1965. He

would later become the protective big brother to Keith, Tammy, and Brian. Mike was born into a large, Irish-Catholic family, surrounded by grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins which is where his devotion to family began. Mike's family moved to Fort Washington, Maryland in 1979, and he was a Marylander until his passing, residing in Calvert County.

As a youngster, Mike was an all-star baseball player which was gradually replaced by a Sunday devotion to golf as he got older. He spent Sunday mornings on the golf course and looked forward to annual trips to "Myrtle" with the boys.

He had a strong passion for cooking and could whip up a fantastic meal, taking over the most recent family holidays with gatherings at his home. His holiday family meals, witty jokes, and admirable laugh are instilled in our hearts forever.

Mike had a brilliant mind and creative nature; he could have excelled in any profession. However, he fell in love with carpentry as a teenager under the mentorship of his stepfather, and by twenty-eight years old he started his own custom home building business. For the past fifteen years Mike was the superintendent for Built Rite Homes in Calvert County, Maryland. He was well known and loyal to all in the construction trade and real estate market.

Mike's love and pride for his family was unmatched. His daughter, Mariel, brought him the absolute greatest joy in life. Mike was indeed a selfless, greathearted, and brotherly man to all, and better yet - the best father, son, brother, grandfather, and friend by far. He will be missed immensely and loved forever.

Mike is preceded in death by his (ex) wife Marie Lally, brother Keith Lally, grandparents Arthur & Florence Olsen, John & Genevieve Haran, Uncle Steve Haran, Aunt Ann & Uncle Claude Wright, Uncle John Haran Jr. Aunt Rene & Uncle Raymond Linwin.

Mike is survived by his daughter Mariel Lally, mother Charlotte Smith, father Michael Lally Sr, stepfather Watson Smith, sister Tammy Lally, brother Brian Smith, his partner Regina Bates, her daughters, Diana (Dean) Warner and Dana (Andrew) Woodford, and his grandchildren Shayne Warner, Savannah Warner, Zachary Woodford, Nathan Woodford, and Chase Woodford.

Mike is also survived by his soon-to-be son-in-law Rob Lapp, his nephew Brandon (Janice) Lally, great-niece's Serena & Harper

Lally, great-nephew Keith Lally, niece Kayla Lally, uncle's Frank Haran, Dennis Haran, Thomas Haran & Sandy Haran, Rosie O'Neil, godmother Catherine Carroll, Tom & Donna Lally, and many many cousins.

Memorial Gathering will be on Friday, June 17, 2022, starting at 11:00 AM and the Memorial Mass services will be at 12:00 AM at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. There will be a lunch to follow mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Calvert Golf Academy

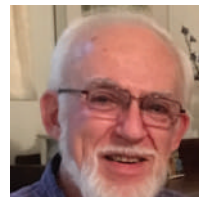
6215 Scaggs Rd Owings MD 20736

<https://calvertgolfacademy.com>

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

All arrangements were made by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A. in Charlotte Hall, MD.

Edward Ronald Obniski



Edward Ronald Obniski, 80, of California, MD passed away on June 5, 2022 at his home with his loving family at his side.

He was born on July 4, 1941 in Shamokin, PA to the late Edward Walter Obniski and Helen Shingara Obniski.

Ron is a 1959 graduate of Shamokin High School. The day after graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and proudly served his country until his Honorable Discharge in 1963 as an Electronic Countermeasures Repairman. In 1965, he began his career with the Department of Defense. He worked for over 38 dedicated years before his retirement as a Range Operations Coordinator in 2000. Wanting to continue serving the community, he became a Paraeducator for Leonardtown High School in 2003 and mentored students until 2013. On May 15, 1965, Ron married his beloved wife, Sarah Obniski at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Washington, D.C. Together they celebrated over 57 wonderful years of marriage sharing a love of the water, travel, reading, and practicing their faith.

In addition to his beloved wife, he is also survived by his children: Therese Garcia (Dennis) of Pataskala, OH, Rev. Jeffrey Obniski of Washington, D.C., and Rebecca Obniski-Supik (William) of Baltimore, MD; his grandchildren, Kateri LaMere (Captain Zachary LaMere) of

Melbourne, FL and Andrew Garcia of Columbus, OH; and extended family and friends. In addition to his parents, he is also preceded in death by his sister, Elaine Obniski.

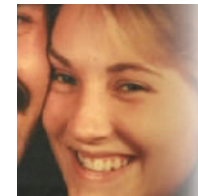
Family will receive friends for Ron's Life Celebration on Saturday, June 11, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church, 43950 St. Johns Road, Hollywood, MD 20636. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend Jeffrey Obniski at 11:00 a.m. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary's County Special Olympics, P.O. Box 921, Hollywood, MD 20636.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Alice Grace Wheeler



Alice Grace Wheeler was born on September 14, 1961 in Michigan and passed away on May 27, 2022 in Washington, D.C.

Known as "Ellie", she traveled the country as a member of a military family with her mother Joyce, father Dean and sisters Carla, Debbie and Pam. She met her husband John Wayne Wheeler in high school and later had 2 children; Amber and Tiffany and gained a bonus daughter, Aryana.

Ellie enjoyed spending time with her family, visiting various states in the country before moving to Florida in 1992, where she enjoyed the warm beaches for many years before moving back to Maryland.

Ellie was preceded in death by her husband John Wayne Wheeler, father Dean Lattman and Sister Carla Lattman.

Survived by daughters and their husbands, Aryana and Timothy Treweek, Amber and Kevin Sandberg, Tiffany Wheeler and Qeshawn James; Grandchildren: Angel, Aryana, Qeshawn, Jr., John, Abigail, Amina, Alora, Breena, Rhea and Hunter; Mother, Joyce Lattman; Sisters, Pamela Anderson and Deborah Bloom and many nieces and nephews.

Celebration of life to follow shortly.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.



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Letters to the Editor

Electric Vehicles: Bringing About a Better World

To the Editor:

As I read a recent letter denigrating the onrushing electric vehicle evolution, I ask you to consider a few possibilities. Several of us were working on gardening at St John's Church here in Hollywood, close to the nearby Rt 235 traffic light. At each change of the light the roar from all the vehicles was loud enough that we generally waited until the traffic cleared so we could carry on our conversations.

Later I imagined I could be in my backyard and not hear the trucks, motorcycles and muscle cars a half mile from that same Rt 235. Imagine all those noises going away. Imagine fewer fire engines and ambulances coming to put out garage fires and treating injuries caused by spilled fuel.

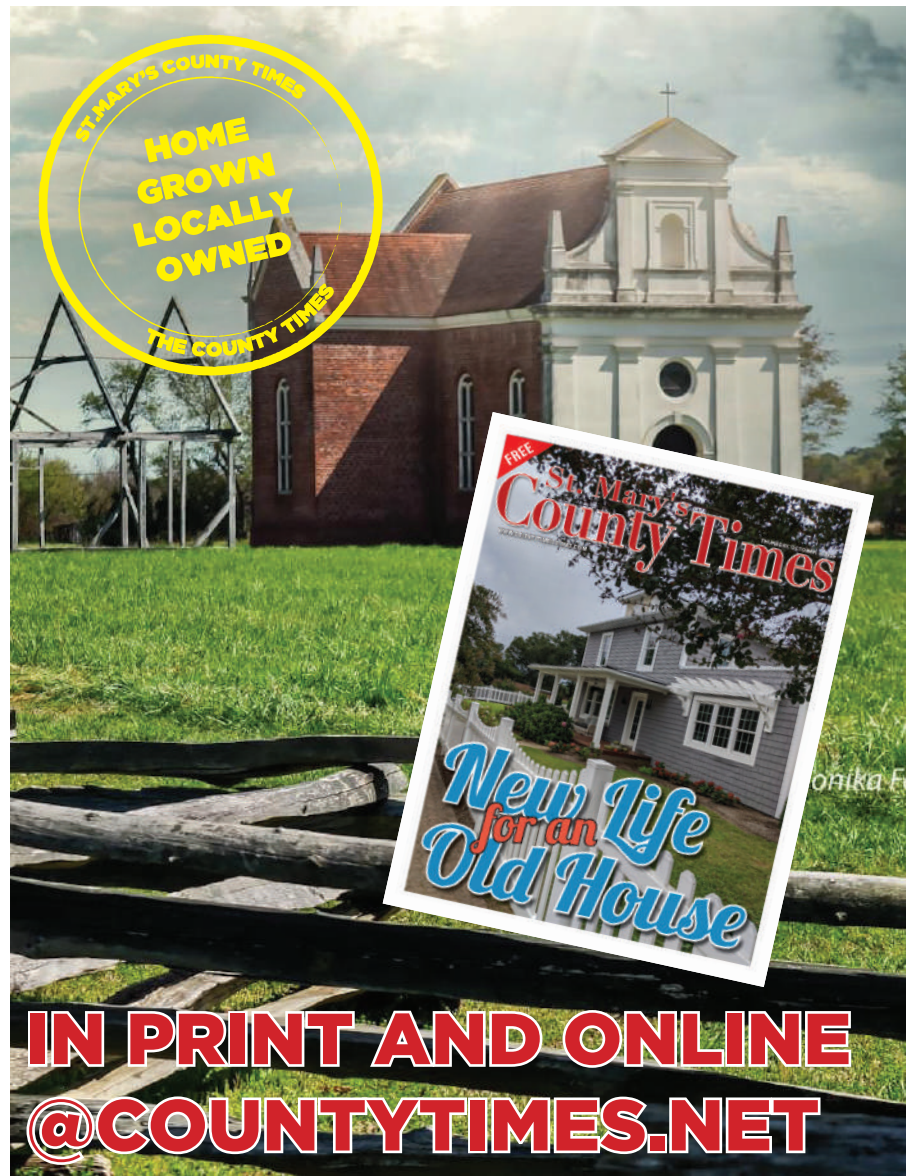
Otherwise, imagine the pollution of those many vehicles and lawnmowers not being dissipated by the wind.

I understand that much of the time the wind is not blowing and the sun is not shining, so we will likely always need multiple options to power our grid, hopefully using fossil fuels at a much-reduced level.

I also understand we will not likely give up our many necessities and conveniences, but we can use technology to mitigate their effects. Unlike gas and oil, I also am waiting for the first war over solar panels. Maybe changing over to electric vehicles will never bring about a perfect world, but it can be a better world.

Mike Thompson
Hollywood, Maryland

If you would like to submit a Letter to the Editor include your name & town of residence.
Email: DickMyers@countytimes.net



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Authority: Friends of Jaymi Sterling; Treasurer Alison Weaver

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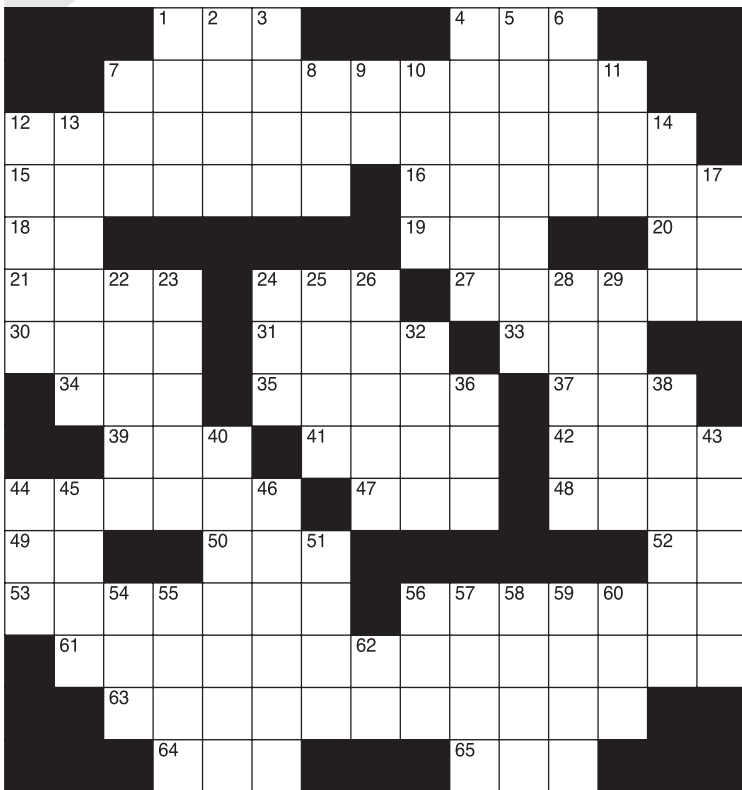
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

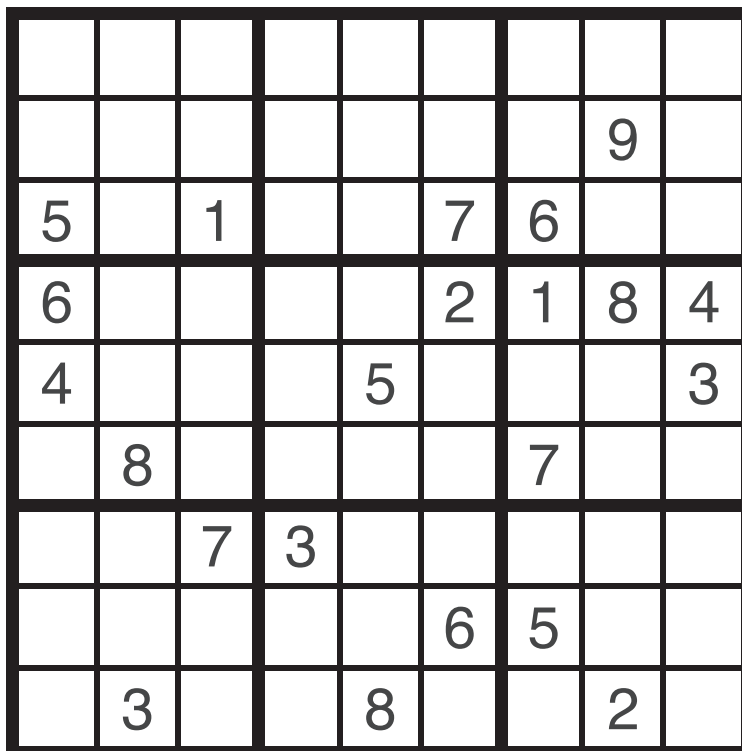
- 1. Moved quickly
- 4. Ocean temperature
- 7. Scholarly book series
- 12. Irregular
- 15. Hairstyle
- 16. Indigestion fixer
- 18. Special therapy
- 19. Mock
- 20. Partner to Pa
- 21. Strays
- 24. Swedish currency (abbr.)
- 27. Desired
- 30. Soap product
- 31. Traditional fishing boat
- 33. No (Scottish)
- 34. Spy organization
- 35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 37. Married woman
- 39. Blood relation
- 41. German river
- 42. Genus of clams
- 44. Parts of a movie
- 47. Residue
- 48. Ethnic group

- of Laos and Thailand
- 49. Atomic #77
- 50. Where wrestlers work
- 52. Northeast
- 53. Type of lettuce
- 56. Abstain
- 61. Communication between two
- 63. One who administers medicine
- 64. Sun up in New York
- 65. Having eight

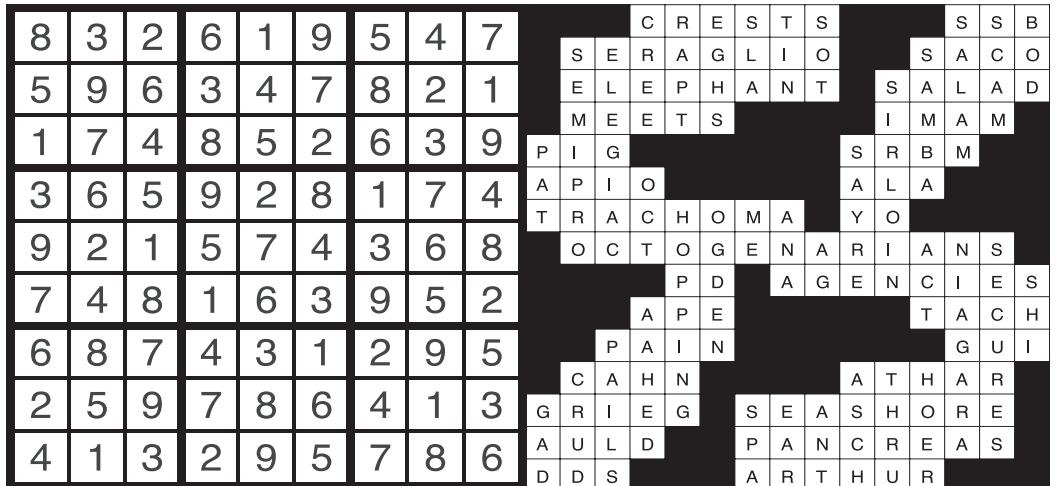
CLUES DOWN

- 1. He played "Milton"
- 2. Elsa's sister
- 3. Digital wallet
- 4. About backbone
- 5. Type of weapon
- 6. __ Turner, rock singer
- 7. Microgram
- 8. Hair product
- 9. Health care pro
- 10. Holy fire
- 11. Military ID (abbr.)
- 12. __ the ante
- 13. Containing nitrogen
- 14. Green citrus fruit
- 17. Male parent
- 22. Bring up

- 23. Murdered
- 24. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 25. Supreme ruler
- 26. Social media hand gesture
- 28. Semitic Sun god
- 29. Land
- 32. Database management system
- 36. Similar
- 38. Nice to look at
- 40. Covered with mud
- 43. Simple dry fruit
- 44. Title of respect
- 45. Type of footwear
- 46. Most lucid
- 51. Exam
- 54. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
- 55. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 56. Small Eurasian deer
- 57. "Within"
- 58. Insures bank's depositors
- 59. A pause for relaxation
- 60. Social insect
- 62. Expresses acidity



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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