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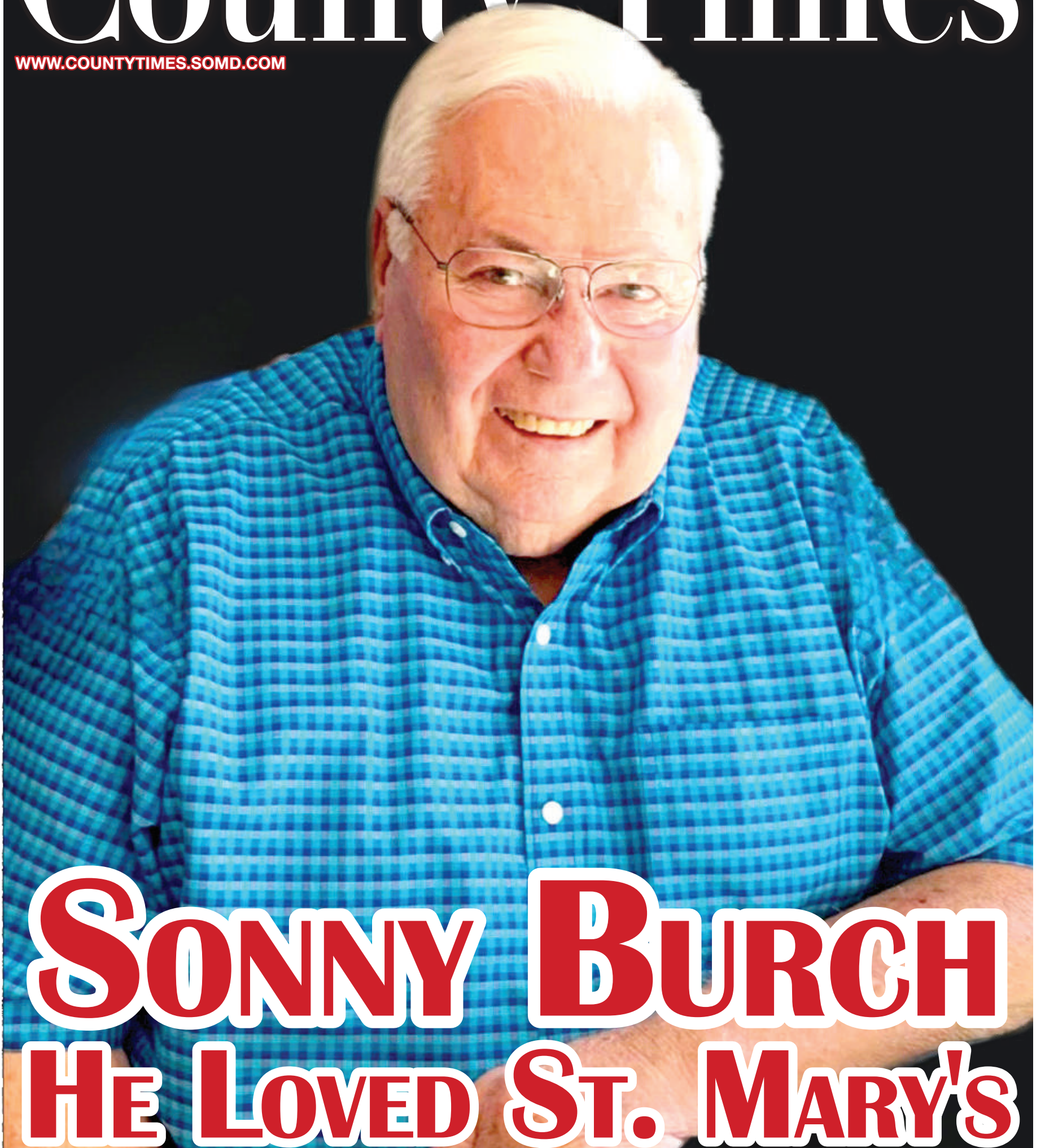
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ON CANNIBIS FACILITY**

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St. Mary's County Times

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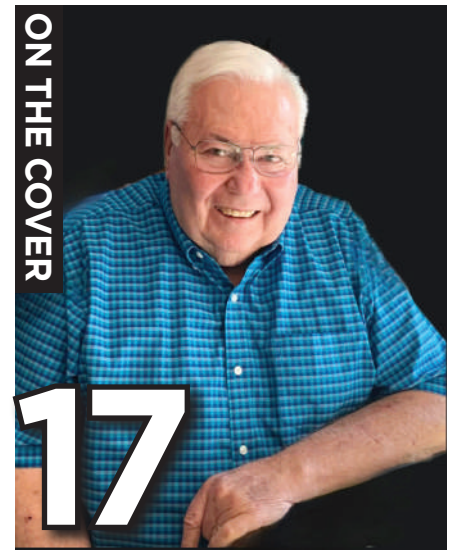
COMMISSIONER MIKE HEWITT ON PROVIDING MORE SECURITY TO PREVENT GANG VIOLENCE AT COUNTY EVENTS



LOCAL 5
YMCA community center agreement approved.



COMMUNITY 13
Lighthouse weekend approaches



ON THE COVER

17

St. Mary's County businessman, and civic icon Sonny Burch passes

WEEKLY FORECAST

Provided by www.accuweather.com

THU 7/28		90° / 77°	A t-storm around in the p.m.	MON 8/1		83° / 73°	Mostly cloudy with a t-storm
FRI 7/29		90° / 69°	Thunderstorms	TUE 8/2		89° / 76°	A p.m. t-storm in spots
SAT 7/30		84° / 70°	Cloudy and less humid	WED 8/3		88° / 76°	A t-storm around in the p.m.
SUN 7/31		85° / 73°	A thunderstorm	THU 8/4		92° / 79°	Hot and humid with some sun





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Citizens Speak Out Against Cannabis Facility Impacts

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Tuesday night's public hearing before the Commissioners of St. Mary's County was supposed to be about the recently proposed zoning ordinance that would regulate the placement and, to a certain degree the operations, of cannabis-related facilities such as growing operations, processing plants and medical dispensaries.

But citizens who live close to the newly constructed 50,000-square-foot cannabis growing warehouse on Abell Road in Avenue — built without a public hearing and before there was any ordinance even being considered to regulate such projects — used the time to criticize the alleged environmental and social impacts of the site.

The project was given an agricultural designation by land use and planning staff that allowed it to avoid such public scrutiny, causing a public outcry when it was revealed.

They also took issue with the commissioners taking months instead of weeks to approve an ordinance to cover any future cannabis operations.

"When I met here in February with the commissioners, they said they could handle this in six weeks," said Victoria Brown, an Avenue resident. "It's almost six months since you're going to vote on this."

"That's unacceptable."

Brown said the construction of the Abell Road facility, which puts an industrial-level operation in an environmentally sensitive, agricultural area near the watershed, had created great contention in the community.

"What's happened in our community has put relative against relative, neighbor against neighbor, friends against friends," Brown said. "It has destroyed so many friendships in our neighborhood of the 7th District which was such a peaceful, quiet place."

"You need to pass this zoning."

Brown said the commissioners must act to ensure such a development does not happen elsewhere in St. Mary's.

One of the key changes made earlier this spring to the draft ordinance was to ensure that a general site plan was required



of any of the three kinds of cannabis-related operations.

The ordinance as originally written kept all three uses as a conditional use, which required any cannabis-related plans to go before the county board of appeals to get a variance before being able to begin work.

This still did not necessarily include the planning commission in the development approval process.

The proposed amendment also keeps any new growing operation in the industrial, limited commercial industrial or high intensity mixed use zones of the county and out of the rural preservation district and town centers.

Setbacks of 500 feet are also required if it is situated near a school, residences, day-care facilities or substance abuse treatment facilities.

Outdoor growth is prohibited under the proposal.

The same requirements exist for cannabis processing facilities.

Dispensaries are allowed to operate in high intensity, medium intensity and low intensity mixed use zones as well as other similar zoning categories.

Operations in rural commercial limited zones and rural service center zones are also permitted.

Setbacks from schools, daycares and substance abuse treatment facilities of 500 feet are also required of dispensaries, according to the proposal.

Rose Guyther, who said she lived just 1,200 feet from the facility said its construction had put undue stress on the community.

"It just shouldn't be here," Guyther said. "I'm very concerned about the effects of this industry on my area once it's in operation."

"We just don't know what's going to happen...no one can tell me."

Anthony Dameron, "a direct neighbor" of the facility, came with a video presen-

tation that he alleged showed the environmental degradation the cannabis operation had caused in the community.

Dameron said his family owns land containing a creek directly across from the operation that has been negatively affected.

He presented images taken from an aerial drone that Dameron claimed provided evidence against the facility.

"All of this land [used by the facility] has been causing a great amount of runoff," Dameron said, calling the creek he and his family used to be able to kayak in years ago "a muddy cesspool" now because of the runoff of soil and sediment into the local waterway.

"It wasn't like that years ago," Dameron said. "It was not like that until thousands of tons of dirt were dumped next door."

Dameron said that there were more buildings planned for the site on Abell Road.

When he was told his time was up to speak, audience members spoke out loudly to commissioners to give him time to continue.

He said he and all of his neighbors were on wells served by ground water that could be impacted by the cannabis site's operations.

"What's going to be happening to our water wells?," Dameron asked. "What kind of chemicals are they going to dump in it?"

"How can this happen in a 1,000-foot critical [area] zone?"

He said the owner of the operation, a Wyoming-registered company called Blue Griz LLC had recently started operating in Maryland as early as last month.

Dameron presented documents showing Blue Griz LLC had started in Wyoming in 2021.

"It's evidence of an out-of-state company coming to a critical protected zone with no cares in the world for what we're doing, our health, our environment, our fisheries, our children," Dameron said.

Though Blue Griz LLC is registered in Wyoming, the address for the corporation is listed in Texas.

Gilbert Murphy, an adjacent property owner, asked commissioners if the plant was such a good investment for the county, why had the corporation taken pains to conceal the identities of investors?

"Do any of you know who the investors are?" Murphy asked. "Anyone?"

"I don't think anybody does."

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Hewitt Calls For Commissioner Action After Carnival Shooting

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Commissioner Mike Hewitt said he was working at one of the booths at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Carnival July 15, the night that a 16-year-old male was shot and killed and another wounded in an apparent gang brawl between at least two factions of young offenders.

Hewitt said he was stunned by what happened and said the commissioners must commit to take action to ensure the safety of county-sponsored events such as the county fair, the jazz and seafood festival and others.

“As commissioners it’s time for us to show our character and show leadership,” Hewitt said near the end of the July 28 business meeting. “We need to make people feel safe.”

That meant more police presence at county events, more lighting, surveillance cameras, Hewitt said.

“That’s so we can know people are seeing what’s going on,” Hewitt said. “And hopefully avoid these types of incidents.”

As the hour grew late the night of the shooting — about 10:30 p.m. to 11p.m. — police were very close to the incident as it unfolded, he said.

“One of them was 12 yards, that’s 35 or 36 feet away from where these people had gathered,” Hewitt said. “There was easily 100 people over there.”

The fight broke out, according to witnesses, in the parking lot between two groups of young males, many of whom were wearing hoodies and facemasks in the summer heat.

Hewitt called it “thug on thug” violence.

“It didn’t make sense to me that many people had congregated in that one spot when there were not that many cars there,” Hewitt said, noting that the carnival was close to shutting down for the night.

The shooting led the Hollywood firehouse to cancel the carnival for the remainder of the weekend and postpone the following week’s festivities to a date that has yet to be determined.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron said he would put more uniformed and plain-clothes deputies at county events, including the upcoming county fair, to dissuade any overt gang violence or activity at those venues.

Hewitt said the county and law en-



Mike Hewitt

forcement should learn more about the gang violence that broke out that night, which seems to be connected to the deadly violence that has plagued the Lexington Park community for the past two years.

“Something was premeditated with that whole group of people,” Hewitt said. “The stampede that ensued... the fear that was going on that night was totally unacceptable.

“Let’s get to the bottom of this and make people feel better.”

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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Board of Appeals Approves Charlotte Hall Royal Farms



By Guy Leonard
 Staff Writer

The county board of appeals unanimously overturned a decision by the planning commission back in March that rejected a concept site plan for a Royal Farm convenience store and fueling station at the intersection of Route 5 and Charlotte Hall Road.

In approving the project at their July 21 meeting, the board of appeals instituted several conditions on the project moving ahead, including improving traffic safety measures at a nearby pedestrian and biking trail.

This particular condition could only be approved with the consent of the county government, the appeals board stipulated.

The planning commission by a majority vote denied Three Notch Commercial's proposed concept site plan over concerns that the

project would increase vehicle trips and further complicate traffic flow at already dangerous intersections.

Three Notch Commercial is owned by ARLS Properties LLC of Baltimore, a property development company that has made significant purchases of land in the Charlotte Hall community, particularly the old farmers market on the north-bound side of Route 5, for redevelopment.

The concept plan calls for a 5,380 square Royal Farms and fuel canopy and a 2,365 square foot Starbucks with a drive-through, according to county planning documents.

The final site plan must be approved by Director of Land Use and Growth Management Bill Hunt.

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Commissioners Approve YMCA in Lexington Park

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A newly approved lease agreement between the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) of the Chesapeake and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County means the non-profit group will own and operate the new facility once constructed for the next 50 years, while the county will own the land upon which it is built.

The county will also provide the majority of the funding estimated to complete the project — \$16.1 million of \$22.1 million —, which will be built on property immediately adjacent to the county-owned public pool on Great Mills Road.

Neil Murphy, deputy county attorney, joined by YMCA of the Chesapeake CEO Robbie Gill, told commissioners that Gill's group would design and construct the facility.

The county will continue to own the adjacent pool but lease it to the YMCA as well, Murphy said.

The final design of the building is still subject to approval by the county and the YMCA is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the facility and as well as furnishings and equipment costs.

The agreement means the coun-



ty has to furnish \$981,000 towards the architecture and engineering of the project; \$400,000 immediately and the remainder by Sept. 1.

The YMCA is obligated to firm up the cost estimates of the final design in at most nine months, according to the agreement, and the process will halt if the costs go even one dollar over the mandated projection.

"Everything stops and we go back to the drawing table," Mur-

phy said.

The YMCA is responsible for engaging in a fundraising campaign to come up with at least \$4 million towards the project.

State and federal grants up to \$2 million would make up the remainder of the project's cost raised by the county and YMCA..

Commissioner Mike Hewitt, who has supported a YMCA project in the Lexington Park area since the beginning of the debate

more than two years ago, praised the deal.

A dedicated group of community activists have ardently pressed for a community center in the county's central urban area.

"This will get the building built and operate on this success the YMCA has been," Hewitt said. "Everybody I've talked to about the YMCA everywhere I've been has said great things about it."

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Commissioners Approve \$30 Million Bond Bid

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County authorized the sale of \$30 million of bonds at their July 26 meeting to finance the construction of numerous capital improvement project.

The debt incurred by the county in selling the bonds to raise the funds is to be amortized over the next 20 years.

The bonds will be sold in early August at a public sale, according to county government documents.

County projections show that the interest on the \$30 million in bonds will accumulate to \$14.6 million, with the average annual debt service — the amount to be paid back by the county — coming in at about \$2.2 million.

Some of the projects that the funds will pay for include re-

gional and safety improvements at \$5.6 million, a replacement for a salt storage facility at \$2.1 million and \$379,920 towards the sheriff's office District 3 office.

About \$2.9 million will go towards critical school building infrastructure repairs while \$4.3 million is going towards a heating, air conditioning and ventilation improvement project at Green Holly Elementary School.

A similar project at Dynard Elementary School will cost \$3.5 million, while a partial roof replacement at Great Mill High School will cost \$643,477.

The county will also construct more athletic turf fields at the cost of \$1.3 million and spend an additional \$1.9 million on recreation facility and park improvements.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Two Arrested in Months Old Shooting Investigation

Sheriff's office detectives have arrested two men alleged to have committed a shooting in Lexington Park in the spring.

On July 26, 2022, detectives from the Criminal Investigations Division arrested Darrick Monte Evans, age 43, and Demetrius Rashud Puifory, age 44, both of California and charged them with the following:

- Attempted First Degree Murder
- Attempted Second Degree Murder
- Armed Robbery
- Robbery
- Reckless Endangerment
- Multiple Handgun Offenses

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

The victim remains hospitalized in stable condition.

On April 28, 2022, at 4:57 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 46700 block of Marshall Boulevard in Lexington Park, for the reported shooting. Deputies arrived on scene and located the victim, Danicco Theodore Hall, age 21 of Lexington Park, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The victim was transported



Darrick Evans

Demetrius Puifory

by helicopter to an area trauma center in critical condition. Detectives and Crime Lab personnel from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division responded to the scene and continued the investigation.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Austin Schultz at (301) 475-4200 extension 71953 or by email at Austin.Schultz@stmarysmd.com.

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

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Sheriff: Importance of National Night Out Magnified by Rising Crime

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For years National Night Out has become a somewhat comfortable celebration of the partnership between law enforcement and neighborhoods that keeps communities safe.

The event started decades ago in communities that had been overrun by drugs and violent crime and law-abiding citizens who had had enough, turned on their street lights, came out of their doors and had neighborhood parties to take back the night.

The change in attitude helped stem and turn back the tide of crime.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron said this week that the National Night Out celebration should have resurgence of importance this year as violent crime, including lethal, gang related shootings, have continued to plague Lexington Park and have now spilled over into events such as the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department carnival.

“This year more than ever the symbolism of the community coming out at night is that the community is the one who owns the neighborhood,” Cameron said. “That they’re not go-



National Night Out in St. Mary's in 2021

Courtesy of St. Mary's Sheriff's Office

ing to be pushed out.”

More than physically making a claim on their own communities, coming out to participate in National Night Out it was a powerful statement on another level, Cameron said.

“Part of that is also the community’s condemnation of the violence,” the sheriff said. “It’s the community saying that enough is enough.”

Despite much of the violent crime being confined to the Lexington Park and Great Mills communities, Cameron said National Night Out was still

about the whole county and his deputies would be taking part in neighborhood events throughout St. Mary’s.

Other law officers such as Maryland State Police and even local FBI agents who had been working with the sheriff’s office to stem the violence, often involving young males.

“We’ll be out there as always but with a new effort and vigor,” Cameron said. “We’ll show these groups that it [violence] won’t be tolerated in our communities.”

guyleonard@countytimes.net

National Night Out Locations

1. Golden Beach -Long Point beach
2. Persimmon Hills
3. Grandview Haven
4. Country Lakes -ball field
5. Longview Beach -Viewriver Drive playground
6. St. Clements Shores 7. Hollywood Shores
8. Clark’s Rest
9. Leonard’s Grant
10. The Meadows at Town Run
11. Leonard’s Freehold
12. Newtowne Village –NO spray down senior citizens
13. Breton Bay
14. Leonardtown Farms
15. Wildewood (pool)
16. Birch Way in Wildewood
17. Woodland Acres (off rt 4)
18. Town Creek (pool)
19. Bay Ridge Estates
20. Patuxent Homes (Nicolet Park)
21. Spring Valley Apartments
22. St. Mary’s Landing Apartments
23. Lexington Village Apartments (at playground)
24. Meadow Lake (off Norris Rd.)
25. Heard’s Estates (cul de sac Frigate Place)
26. Westbury (clubhouse/pool)
27. Patuxent Cove (Admiral Lane)
28. Greenbrier
29. Cedar Cove (Spyglass)
30. Rosecroft Road –(NO spray down)

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CSM Associate Vice President Appointed to State Board

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan reappointed College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Ellen Flowers-Fields to the state's Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) – which serves as Maryland's economic engine for technology companies. Flowers-Field was first appointed to TEDCO in May 2021. Her July 2022 reappointment is for a term of four years.

TEDCO is an independent agency, established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1998, to facilitate the creation of businesses and support their growth in all regions of the state. TEDCO's role is to be Maryland's leading source of funding for early-stage, technology-based businesses; to provide other business assistance to entrepreneurs throughout the state; and to foster technology transfer and commercialization from the state's universities and federal labs.

"Having great confidence in your dedication to public service, it is my pleasure to reappoint you," the governor wrote to Flowers-Fields. "Thank you for making this strong personal and professional commitment to serve the best interests of our citizens. I know we will succeed in our goal to make a positive difference for all Marylanders, especially with your assistance and support."

As associate vice president of CSM's Continuing Education and Workforce Development, Flowers-Fields is responsible for the oversight of all areas of the non-credit economic and community development programming including the Center for Trades and Energy Training, Maryland



Ellen Flowers Fields

Center for Environmental Training, the Workforce Center, the SBDC, the Non-Profit Institute, the Transportation Center and adult basic education. She has more than 25 years of progressive professional experience in the field of workforce development and human capital management. Flowers-Fields recently published a blog as part of CSM's Cabinet Conversations series entitled: 'Retention and Upskilling of the Existing Labor Force,' and last month received the Maurice Erly Professional Development Award.

TEDCO is managed by a 19-member board of directors, 14 of whom are appointed by the governor, two appointed by the president of the Maryland Senate; and two appointed by the speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates - each to staggered four-year terms. Each member appointed by the governor is confirmed by the senate.

Learn more about TEDCO and how it serves Maryland's residents and businesses at www.tedcomd.com.

Press Release from CSM



Mechanicsville Man Sentenced to Eight Years For Receipt of Child Pornography

Gary Lee Peksa, a former federal employee, was sentenced today to eight years in prison for repeatedly connecting his cellphone to a wireless network at the Library of Congress and searching for, downloading, and viewing images and videos depicting the sexual abuse of young children.

The announcement was made by U.S. Attorney Matthew M. Graves, Wayne A. Jacobs, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Washington Field Office's Criminal Division, and J. Thomas Manger, Chief of the U.S. Capitol Police.

Peksa, 56, of Mechanicsville pleaded guilty in December 2021, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, to one count of receipt of child pornography. He was sentenced by the Honorable Richard J. Leon. Following his prison term, Peksa will be placed on 20 years of supervised release. He also will be required to pay \$47,000 in restitution to victims depicted in the child pornography he received and possessed. He also must register as a sex offender for at least 15 years.

According to court documents, Peksa was a sheet metal mechanic who worked for the Architect of the Capitol at the Library of Congress. On various dates, between Oct. 11, 2018 and July 29, 2019, he used his cellphone and the public wireless network at the Library of Congress to access websites that contained images and videos of child pornography. He did so in areas including a bathroom, his office, and a breakroom. Additionally, Peksa used his personal laptop, cellphone, and WiFi service to access similar materials at home.

Peksa's conduct came to light after the Library of Congress network security operations center notified investigators of web traffic on the Library of Congress public wireless network of browsing associated with child pornography and the sexual exploitation of children. In July 2019, Capitol Police seized Peksa's cellphone and laptop. The cellphone had 199 images that showed minor boys and girls exposing their genitals and/or engaging in sexual activ-

ity. The laptop had 215 files that depicted young girls being sexually abused and assaulted.

Peksa was arrested on Oct. 21, 2019.

This case was investigated by the FBI Washington Field Office's Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force and the U.S. Capitol Police. The task force is composed of FBI agents, along with other federal agents and detectives from northern Virginia and the District of Columbia. The task force is charged with investigating and bringing federal charges against individuals engaged in the exploitation of children and those engaged in human trafficking.

This case was brought as part of the Department of Justice's Project Safe Childhood initiative. In February 2006, the Attorney General created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorney's Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources

to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Graves, Special Agent in Charge Jacobs, and Chief Manger commended the work of those who investigated the case from the FBI's Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force and the U.S. Capitol Police. They also acknowledged the assistance provided by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. They expressed appreciation for the work of those who handled the case at the U.S. Attorney's Office, including former Paralegal Specialist Kenny Nguyen, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Amy E. Larson, who prosecuted the case.

*Press release from
U.S. Attorney's Office*



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Lexington Park Woman Wins \$25,000

Played favorite numbers for big win on 50-cent straight bet

A lucky Lexington Park woman who began playing Pick 5 a few months ago used some very special numbers to pave the way to an amazing \$25,000 payday.

The St. Mary's County resident enjoys the Pick 3/4/5 games and always plays them for four days in a row. Last week, she did just that at Canopy Liquors in Lexington Park and placed a Pick 5 50-cent straight bet with the numbers 21570. She then went on about her day and didn't check her tickets until the next morning, when she was getting ready for work.

"I woke up extra early for some reason and couldn't get back to sleep," said the federal government employee. "Something said to check my tickets, so I did."

The 60-year-old pulled up the winning numbers on her phone and began checking her tickets. When she looked over the Pick 5 ticket, she saw her numbers matching one by one in the exact order. The loyal player realized

she was holding a \$25,000-winning ticket.

"I started shaking," she said. "It just seemed so unreal."

The lucky lady couldn't believe her luck and has only shared the news with a good friend. That friend helped her figure out the process to claim the \$25,000 prize and to make an appointment. She claimed her prize at Lottery headquarters on Friday morning.

The ecstatic winner already has plans for her newfound wealth. She shared with Lottery officials that she plans to pay off a couple of credit card bills, pay down a loan, take a much-needed vacation and put the remainder in the bank.

The Lottery retailer that sold the winning ticket, Canopy Liquors, is located at 21636 Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, also wins. For selling the \$25,000-winning ticket, the St. Mary's County retailer will receive a \$250 bonus from the Lottery.

Notice of Sanitary Sewer Overflow



A sewer force main break has resulted in a sanitary sewer overflow in the area of 19880 Piney Point Road, Valley Lee.

The announcement of the overflow was made July 27.

Public contact of flood & standing waters in the area of the above address focusing on the ditch line from Hewitt Road to Wise Road should be avoided

for ten (10) days. There is no threat or contamination of the local drinking water supply.

For additional information, please contact the St. Mary's County Health Department at 301.475.4321 or the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission at 301.373.5305.

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Lighthouses Celebrated in During National Lighthouse Weekend



The Department of Recreation & Parks' Museum Division will celebrate some of St. Mary's County's most significant lighthouses during National Lighthouse Weekend Saturday, Aug. 6 and Sunday, Aug. 7, 2022, at Piney Point Lighthouse in Piney Point, and Blackistone Lighthouse on St. Clement's Island, near Colton's Point.

Tours will be available at both locations during the entire weekend. At Colton's Point, check out the St. Clement's Island Museum before taking a boat ride out to St. Clement's Island. Visitors can experience a free tour of Blackistone Lighthouse from the St. Clement's Hundred Blackistone Lighthouse volunteers. The lighthouse is a replica of the original lighthouse that stood near the same location on the island. Admission rates at St. Clement's Island Museum are \$3.00 for adults, \$1.50 for children (6-18), and \$2.00 for seniors and military, five and under are free. The St. Clement's Island Water Taxi is \$7.00 per person (all ages) for a boat ride, which includes museum admission.

At Piney Point, visitors can celebrate the oldest lighthouse

on the Potomac with tours of the Piney Point lighthouse tower, Keeper's Quarters, and Potomac River Maritime Exhibit featuring full-sized workboats, two floors of brand-new exhibits in the main museum building, and the museum grounds. While admission and tours are offered free of charge this weekend, donations are greatly appreciated to support the museum. Both museums will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The Museum Store at both locations will also be open during operating hours.

National Lighthouse Day, as designated by Congress Aug. 7, 1989, is the anniversary of the signing of the Aug. 7, 1789, Congressional Act "for the establishment and support of lighthouses, beacons, buoys and public piers" and the date of the first commissioned Federal lighthouse.

For more information about these events, please call 301-769-2222 for St. Clement's Island Museum (or visit Facebook.com/SCIMuseum) or call 301-994-1471 for Piney Point Lighthouse Museum (or visit Facebook.com/1836Light).

Summer Quidditch Camp



Hop on your broomstick; Quidditch Camp is coming to St. Mary's County! Join players from the Philadelphia Freedom Quidditch Club to learn and play the game of Quidditch, a mixed-gender, full-contact sport worldwide. Initially inspired by the game in the Harry Potter series, Quidditch has grown since the inaugural match in 2005 to be a sport played by thousands of players in over 40 countries.

Quidditch Camp runs Aug. 1-4, 2022, and is available for players ages 6-14 at 23145 Leonard Hall Dr, Leonardtown.

Visit <http://ow.ly/QmnX50K-lpoU> to register online. Contact us with questions at 301-475-4200 ext. 1800 or webtrac@stmarysmd.com.

For more information see our news release here: <http://ow.ly/PacC50K1pqC>



WILLIAM "BILL" AND DOROTHY "DOT" GUY OF AVENUE, MD ARE CELEBRATING THEIR DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE!

After dating through high school, the couple married on July 28, 1962 at Our Lady of the Wayside Church in Chaptico, MD. They were blessed with three children, Howie (Cindy), Mike, and Ginger. Their family tree continues to grow with their four grandchildren, Billy (Lauren), Danielle (Sean), Samantha, and Madison; and three great-grandchildren, Trevor, Autumn, and Marcella.

In 1992, the St. Mary's County natives opened a family owned and operated business, Guy Auto Parts. Eventually, entrusting the business to their son in 2008. Bill and Dot take so much pleasure and joy in their family, friends and community.

We pray that Bill and Dot continue to be blessed with many more years of love, laughter and good health together.

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Daughters If The American Revolution Announces Awards

The Major William Thomas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is proud to present 35 Youth Citizenship Awards (formerly the Good Citizenship Awards) to students who demonstrated qualities of Honesty (high principles, trustworthiness, loyalty, truthfulness, punctuality, moral strength and stability, cleanliness in mind and body), Service (cooperation, meritorious behavior bringing honor to school or community, kindness, unselfishness, true Americanism – individual responsibility to Home, to Country, to God), Courage (mental and physical, determination to overcome obstacles), Leadership (personality, originality, ability to lead and hold others, good sportsmanship – responsibility), Patriotism (fundamental Americanism).

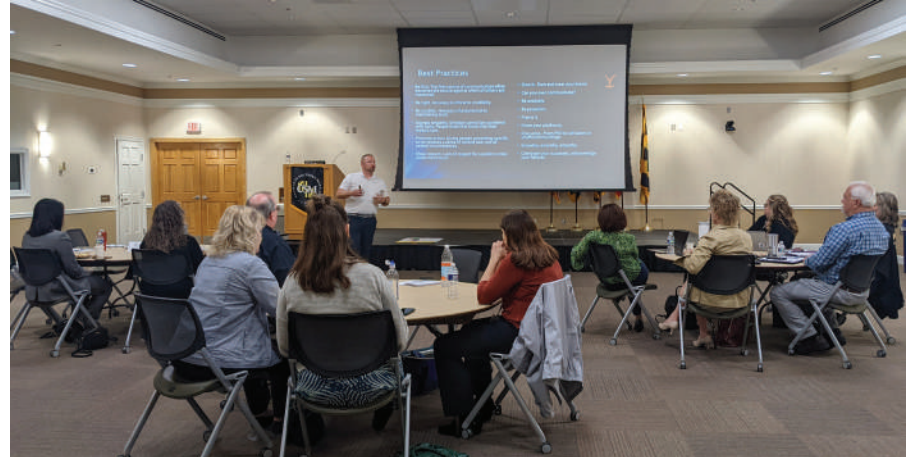
We are proud to present one JROTC Medals to students who demonstrated the above qualities along with adherence to military discipline, leadership ability and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of JROTC training.

The recipients of the JROTC awards were no award given this year, Chopticon High School; Cadet Breanna Shewbert, Platoon Commander, last year, and Public Affairs Officer, this year, Great Mills High School; and no award given, Leonard Hall Junior Naval Academy.

The students who exhibited the five qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism which are necessary to receive the Youth Citizenship Medal are: Emelio Huerta Sanchez, Benjamin Banneker Elementary School; Hailey Mae Lumpkins, Capt. Walter Francis Duke Elementary; Maya Brelage, Chesapeake

Public Charter School; Olivia Berkut, Chopticon High School; Bo Hunt (Academy of Health), Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center; Liberty Colatruglio, Dynard Elementary School; Teresa Le, Evergreen Elementary School; Richard Anderson, Father Andrew White; James Roland Young, Esperanza Middle School; Jalaya Renee Ford, George Washington Carver Elementary School; Cooper Brotherton, Great Mills High School; Sara Breton, Green Holly Elementary School; Issabella Eastman, Greenview Knolls Elementary School; Jada Simms, Hollywood Elementary School; Noah Tobler, The Kings Christian Academy; Clara Campbell, Leonardtown Elementary School; Leric Denise Scriber, Leonardtown High School; Charlotte Reese Bryan, Leonardtown Middle School; Graham Garner, Lettie Marshall Dent Elementary School; Michelle Mejia Escamilla, Lexington Park Elementary School; Lauren Sebring, Little Flower School; Molly Maguire, Margaret Brent Middle School; No Award Given, Mechanicsville Elementary School; Macey Bowles, Mother Catherine Academy; Emma Paige Kever, Oakville Elementary School; Jaylynn Rodocker, Park Hall Elementary School; Benjamin Stroh, Piney Point Elementary School; Safia Yen-Kohl, Ridge Elementary School; Lindsey Jahn, Spring Ridge Middle School; Jarrison Tharp, St. John's School; John "Jay" Collins, St. Mary's Ryken High School; Ethan Nepini, St. Michael's School; Scarlett Faidley, Town Creek Elementary School; Jordyn Willingham, White Marsh Elementary School.

CSM Hosts Crisis Response Planning



Caption: Charles County Public Schools Director of Safety and Security Jason Stoddard discusses best practices and crisis communication strategies at the College of Southern Maryland during a recent meeting with regional public information officers and public safety officials.

What kind of emergencies might impact our region? How would regional institutions work together to address a crisis? How would citizens be kept up to date with vital information during a disaster?

Those questions and more were on the table when representatives from the College of Southern Maryland (CSM), Charles County Government, Charles County Sheriff's Office, Charles County Public Schools (CCPS), the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center and the St. Mary's County Government gathered at CSM last month to prepare and coordinate for crises that might impact the region.

"It just takes looking at the news to see why this training and this meeting are needed," said CSM Vice President of Operations and Planning Dr. Bill Comey in his welcoming remarks. "Being able to immediately spring into action to manage a crisis is so important."

The training was led by CCPS Director of Safety and Security Jason Stoddard who is a nationally recognized expert on crisis management. In leading the team discussions, he drew upon on his experience as a lieutenant with the Charles County Sheriff's Office and his education in organizational leadership, criminal justice, and public administration to teach organizations around the country about crisis management.

Stoddard walked attendees, who included public safety personnel and public information officials from participating entities, through best practices for leadership during a crisis, including setting up an Incident Command System and Crisis Communication Plan.

"The whole point of today is to get to know each other better and build our relationships because those foundations are what will make us successful when we are faced with a crisis – whether we're handling the crisis together or reaching out to support each other's agencies," he said.

Attendees discussed emergencies that have already affected our region, such as the powerful 2002 F4 tornado that devastated La Plata and the COVID pandemic, and

what lessons could be learned from both in terms of the way each institution handled the emergent issues.

The group also broke into smaller teams to discuss the strengths that their organizations can, and do draw from when addressing a crisis, and discussed ways they might work together to share resources during an emergency – as each organization uses different methods of reaching their audiences, residents and media. They also have different employee skill sets to offer and a variety of physical resources, such as cameras and drones, that can be made available and shared when needed. Some such agreements, such as CSM's La Plata campus serving as a reunification site for CCPS in the case of an emergency, are already in place.

The groups also discovered that they face similar challenges and discussed how they might share resources and best practices for addressing them. One example mentioned was the difficulty of battling online misinformation, and CSM and CCPS both shared that it is particularly difficult to respond to social media controversies while also protecting the privacy of students and their education records.

"While the pandemic gave us lots of practice in handling a crisis, it is always essential to be ready for the next thing that comes along," said Jennifer Harris, chief of media services for Charles County Government. "We are going to be the ones responding to whatever happens on the ground, and we need to practice putting out one message with many voices."

The safety of the College of Southern Maryland community during an emergency is predicated on advance planning – such as this training, as well as on building awareness about how the plans will be implemented. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors will be better prepared in an emergency if they know how the college will respond, where they can find information, and what they should do. Please visit CSM Ready for CSM's emergency preparedness information, and much more, at www.csmd.edu/ready/index.html.

Press Release from CSM

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facebook.com/CountyTimesCalvert
facebook.com/CountyTimesStMarys



SMAR® Help Sleep In Heavenly Peace Construct 500th Children's Bed



Many volunteers from the Southern Maryland Association of Realtors® (SMAR) recently assisted the St. Mary's County nonprofit branch of Sleep in Heavenly Peace with constructing their 500th children's bed.

On July 23rd, almost 40 SMAR members joined several volunteers at Sleep in Heavenly Peace to help with the sanding, staining, and construction of bed frames that are set to be delivered to local children in the coming weeks.

"Knowing there is a space that is yours in this world, even if it's only your bed, can bring you a sense of security and belonging," SMAR Community Relations Committee Member Melinda Brown said. "I was so happy to see our Realtor® community put in a little elbow grease to help create space for these kids... We work hard every day helping families secure their home, so this is an extension of what we all love doing."

The St. Mary's County Chapter is one of over 250 chapters in the United States and Canada. Led by Gary and Debbie Faller, their shop is located at 21797 North Coral Drive in Lexington Park. Along with volunteers, they build beds for kids ages 3 to 17 who do not have a bed of their own in St. Mary's County and southern Calvert County.

While national statistics suggest that as many as two to three percent of children sleep without the benefits of a bed, SHP believes that all children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads.

They are incredibly grateful for the generosity of 84 corporate/nonprofit donors, 298 individual donors, and 704 volunteers in Southern Maryland who have made this dream a reality by assisting since their chapter's inception

in January 2020 by building 515 beds - 503 of which have been delivered to 242 families. This equates to \$128,750 reinvested in our counties.

"The Southern Maryland Association of Realtors® members regularly donate their time, money and energy to the communities in which they live and work," SMAR 2021-2022 President Gregg Kantak said. "SMAR could not be more proud to assist SHP in achieving this milestone, and their members will undoubtedly be there for the 1000th bed soon!"

Each twin bed is delivered with a new mattress and new twin bedding - including a pillow, pillowcase, twin sheets (flat and fitted), and blanket or comforter. Very little lumber goes to waste - all usable scrap wood is donated to Calvert Marine Museum for their children's boat building project.

SHP's goal is to not only provide beds to children in need but to bring awareness to child bedlessness in "our town" through their days of service, building, and delivering beds. The more awareness they can provide the community through their continued efforts and community partners, the more support they can gather to continue to fulfill their mission.

"I was very humbled by the stories of children not having beds to sleep in located right in this county," Kelly Raley, SMAR's Operations Director and staff liaison to SMAR's Community Relations Committee said. "It made volunteering that much more rewarding, to know that the little bit of time I spent would mean that a local child would eventually have an actual bed to sleep in. It was so worth the few hours that we spent there with friends and coworkers and it's something that I'll definitely do again!"

Tips Provided for Extreme Heat Preparedness

With prolonged high temperatures in our area, the Department of Emergency Services urges citizens to take precautions:

- Young children and infants are particularly vulnerable to heat-related illness and death, as their bodies are less able to adapt to heat than are adults.
- Older adults, particularly those with preexisting diseases, who take certain medications, are living alone or with limited mobility who are exposed to extreme heat can experience multiple adverse effects.
- People with chronic medical conditions are more likely to have a serious health problem

during a heat wave than healthy people.

- Pregnant women are also at higher risk. Extreme heat events have been associated with adverse birth outcomes such as low birth weight, pre-term birth and infant mortality, as well as congenital cataracts.
- Additionally, animals should be brought inside during extreme weather conditions and never be left in cars.

Visit [weather.gov/safety/heat](https://www.weather.gov/safety/heat) to learn more about extreme heat safety measures.

For information on emergency preparedness, visit <https://www.stmarysmd.com/es/beprepared/>.

Lutheran Minister Ordained



Rev. Nathan Wong, shown with his wife Kaitlyn and son Samuel, was ordained by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) at a ceremony July 10 at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church in Lusby, where he becomes their new pastor. Photo by Joan Hoerning for Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

Collision in California Under Investigation

On Sunday, July 24, 2022 at 4:41 pm, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office deputies and emergency rescue personnel responded to the 44000 block of St. Andrew's Church Road in California for the report of a motor vehicle crash involving three vehicles. Upon arrival, it was determined that one of the drivers sustained incapacitating injuries. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene to continue the investigation.

Preliminary investigation determined that a 2017 blue Honda Accord was being operated by **Kelly Myung Han**, age 51 of Centerville, VA. Han failed to yield the right of way when making a left turn from a private driveway onto St. Andrew's Church Road. When making the left turn, the Honda Accord was struck by a silver 2002 Honda Civic, operated by Mario Casarez Balbuena, age 54 of Silver Spring, which was traveling north on St.

Andrew's Church Road.

After the first impact, the Honda Accord was pushed into the southbound lanes and was then struck a second time by a 2016 Lexus IS300, operated by a driver whose identity is not being released because of participation in a confidential state program.

Han, the operator of the Honda Accord, was flown to an area hospital with incapacitating injuries and is currently in critical condition. Balbuena, the operator of the Honda Civic, was transported by ambulance to an area hospital and was treated for minor injuries. The driver of the Lexus was also treated for minor injuries at an area hospital.

The investigation continues at this time. Anyone who witnessed the crash and has not already provided a statement to police is asked to contact Cpl. Vincent Pontorno at 301-475-4200, ext. 72337 or email vincent.pontorno@stmarysmd.com.

On View Arrests: Trespassing

On July 22, 2022, Dep. Deinert responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, for the reported disturbance. Upon arrival contact was made with **Jessica Lynn Gibson**, age 35 of no fixed address. Gibson was creating a disturbance and banging on the windows of the establishment. Gibson was issued a notice not trespass, and refused to leave the business. Gibson was arrested and charged with Trespass: Private Property.



Jessica Lynn Gibson

Assault

On July 22, 2022, Cpl. McClure responded to the 49700 block of Military Lane in Great Mills, for the reported disturbance. Investigation determined **Terence Lydell Chase**, age 37 of Great Mills, assaulted the victim by striking the victim in the face and strangling the victim. The victim had visible injuries to the face and strangulation marks were also present on the victim's neck. Chase was arrested and charged with Assault



Terence Lydell Chase

1st and 2nd Degree.

Assault

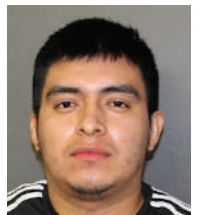
On July 24, 2022, Dep. Jerew responded to the 21300 block of Fox Glove Court in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Investigation determined **Hunter Snow White**, age 18 of Lexington Park, assaulted two victims by striking the victims in the face. Both victims displayed visible signs of injury and White was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Hunter Snow White

Robbery/Theft

On July 25, 2022, Dep. Morgan responded to the 46500 block of Corporate Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported disturbance. Investigation determined **Carlos Humberto Coroy Ruiz**, age 26 of Prince Frederick, attempted to remove the victim from a vehicle. Ruiz then stole the victim's cell phone and subsequently discarded the phone into the Patuxent River. Ruiz was arrested and charged with Robbery, Theft, and Malicious Destruction of Property.



Carlos Humberto Coroy Ruiz

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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Burch, Pillar of St. Mary's; Passes Away



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

F. Elliot "Sonny" Burch, owner of Burch Oil and ardent supporter of numerous causes and service organizations in St. Mary's County died last week.

He was 88.

Burch was one of the most influential citizens in St. Mary's County for decades; his business activities ranged from selling and distributing fuel oil throughout Southern Maryland as well as operating numerous convenience stores and gas stations.

He was a partner in many real estate and development ventures, particularly in the northern portion of the county, which helped shape its character both commercially and residentially.

Those who knew him spoke of a man who genuinely cared deeply about his county and his fellow man.

"He always put the interests of others ahead of himself," said John Parlett, a long-time friend and business partner of Burch's. "I was always impressed with his deep connection to people.

"He was a genuinely good person."

In business, Burch was "cautious and fair," Parlett said, in that for deals to be sustainable and successful, they had to benefit all the parties involved.

Burch made it an imperative to become involved in community

efforts and projects of all sorts, Parlett said, with an eye to making the county a better place.

"You didn't have to ask him to help," Parlett said. "He'd already volunteered."

"It was just in his nature; he was a salt-of-the-earth kind of guy."

Sherry Norris, Burch's daughter, said her father cherished the most basic things in life.

"He lived his life not just for his family but for his county," Norris told The County Times. "He loved St. Mary's County."

Burch lived on a farm in Mechanicsville.

"He loved working on his farm," Norris said. "And he loved to just mow the grass."

In his youth, Burch was an avid baseball player, Norris said, and loved to fish just as much.

He had purchased and used many boats in his life, she said, and often hosted representatives from major oil companies from Shell, Amoco and Gulf on fishing trips.

For the past few years, Burch was not active in the daily operations of the family business, but his children and relatives who ran it continued to consult him on major decisions, Norris said.

Far from an ivory tower owner, Burch cared about his employees, too, Norris said, of which there were many over the decades of the family business operating.

Burch would go around to his various holdings each year at the holiday season and wish all of his employees a Merry Christmas, Norris said.

Of all the people Burch befriended over the years, his daughter said, he always worked to keep in touch with them.

He tried to never forget anyone, she said.

"He was really good at staying in touch with old friends," Norris said. "He'd call them up and have lunch with them."

"His friends were really important to him; he was a people person."

Johnny Wood, former state delegate and a life-long friend of Burch's, said his life and Burch's paralleled each other in many ways.

"We grew up together," Wood said. "We went to Charlotte Hall Military Academy."

"We got to be good friends, he and his whole family."

They both served in the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department together as well, Wood said.

"Sonny was the best man at our [Wood and his wife Barbara's] wedding," Wood said. "That was 60 some years ago."

The kind of man Burch was meant that he, and his efforts and influence, would be deeply missed in the wider community.

"He was always volunteering... he wanted to be involved as far as the community was concerned," Wood said. "People like that you really miss."

"When I needed help with something, he was there and vice versa."

Wood said his friend learned his business sense and methods from his family's traditions.

"It wasn't a one-way street," Wood said of Burch's insistence that business deals were mutually beneficial. "He was taught that way; his father was like that."

Burch supported some of the most prominent service and benevolent organizations in the county.

These included the Lions Club, Cedar Lane Senior Living Center, Christmas in April, St Mary's Hospital Board and Foundation, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department, the Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte Hall Military Academy Board of Trustees and the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance.

County Commissioner Todd Morgan honored Burch's memory during the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County July 26.

"He was an icon in this community," Morgan said. "He did so much for this community philanthropically."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION *News*

Pax Firefighters Build Skills for Firefighting at Sea

By Patrick Gordon
NAS Patuxent River PAO

“Every Sailor a Damage Controlman,” goes the adage for seagoing personnel, referring to every Sailor’s responsibility in responding to emergencies aboard ship. Firefighters at NAS Patuxent River took that to heart when they completed shipboard firefighting training July 13-16, despite being a stationed on a shore-based air installation.

“After hearing of the events taking place in San Diego with the USS Bonhomme Richard, Patuxent River Fire and Emergency Services wanted to ensure our personnel are at a state of readiness if an incident similar to that event ever took place on our facility,” said Fire Capt. James Barnes, Naval District Washington Fire Department - NAS Patuxent River. “Our firefighters pride ourselves at always staying at a high state of readiness and will do what it takes to ensure we continue to be ready for any emergency that may take place at Patuxent River, Webster Field, or to our surrounding mutual aid partners.”

To accomplish this, 25 firefighters from NAS Patuxent River attended shipboard firefighting training at the Seafarers of Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship (SHLSS) in Piney Point, Maryland, a vocational school dedicated to preparing students for successful careers as U.S. Merchant Mariners. The Pax River firefighters built upon a close working relationship with the staff that runs the Joseph Sacco Firefighting and Safety Training School at SHLSS, which specializes in maritime shipboard firefighting tactics.

“Our crews attend structural fire simulations, aircraft fire simulations throughout the year but we rarely have an opportunity to train with live fire in a shipboard setting,” said Barnes. “The Joseph Sacco Firefighting and Safety Training School specializes in such training. Before the live fire scenario, crews were briefed on best practices, what to expect and what situations they can expect on a large vessel should a major incident take place. Training included

Shipboard Firefighting Tactics, Rescue Considerations while conducting Shipboard Firefighting and also best practices to conserve and protect property.”

It may seem overly cautious for firefighters on an air station to undertake specialized shipboard firefighting training, but NAS Patuxent River’s operations are not only limited to the air and ground.

“We have a number of assets at Pax that are waterborne,” said Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic Brandon Higdon, NAS Patuxent River Port Operations Leading Chief Petty Officer. “In addition to our Port Ops small craft and those of our mission partners, we also regularly work with barges on the Patuxent River. As anyone who has been to sea can tell you, there is no such thing as ‘too prepared’ when considering safety aboard a ship.”

The firefighters took these operations into effect while planning realistic training scenarios specific to Pax River. The crews focused on a ship fire that could

take place at the West Basin Marina off of Dock D. The preparation for this scenario was unique as crews would be utilizing close to 1,100 feet of various size firefighting hose as well as multiple firefighting appliances. To accomplish that, they deployed a hose load called a “leader-line,” allowing them to reach and extend the hose line over great distances to such a fire.

“We usually like to prepare for the worst case scenario and work our way back from there,” added Barnes. “If we do that, we’ll be ready for anything, and now that specialized training is complete, I’m confident that our crews can attack any and all situations regarding a major maritime Incident at Patuxent River or Webster Field. Thanks to our working with our mutual aid partners and making connections we’ve been able to participate in this specialized training which allows our crew to be in the best possible state of readiness to protect our fellow Pax Pros.”



CSM Hosts Nurse Pinning Ceremony

The College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) 69 nursing candidates for Spring 2022 graduation celebrated their achievements at the La Plata campus by attending their recognition and pinning ceremony – a time-honored event that has CSM faculty welcoming their students as peers and colleagues in the field of nursing.

Annette Ragland, professor of nursing, served as the mistress of ceremonies for the event and welcomed attendees to the celebration of students' courage and hard work.

"This event provides an opportunity for us, your faculty, to recognize you and welcome you as our peers and colleagues in nursing," she said. "Thank you to those in attendance for helping us to recognize the efforts of these individuals in this celebration of their accomplishments."

Before the students were called to the stage, Chair of Nursing Dr. Sara Cano explained the significance of the pin each nurse would receive. She said that the modern pinning ceremony dates to the 1860s, when Florence Nightingale was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in recognition for her tireless service to the injured during the Crimean War. To share the honor, Nightingale in turn presented a medal of excellence to her brightest graduates and by 1916, the practice of pinning new graduates was standard throughout the United States.

Students received their pins from faculty pinners Morag Dahlstrom, Linda Hamel, Dawn Leukhardt, Catherine McKown, Rose Miller, and Deborah Rutledge. Professor Lynn Kennedy presented the candidates.

"Nursing is an Obligation"

The featured speaker for the event was Brenda Henson, a retired veteran who served with the Army and Air Force for 25 years and now works at the John Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore. She led the students in a reflection on the Winston Churchill quote, "success is not final, failure is not fatal, it is the courage to continue that counts," recounting times when she has succeeded and failed throughout her career.

She also encouraged the students to care for one another as they progressed in their careers.

"Nursing is an obligation, not just to yourself but to your team, your coworkers, your family, your patients," she said. "Look to your left and look to your right. These are the people who are counting on you, and these are the people



you will be working with. If you see a nurse struggling, check on your partners, and make sure they're ok."

"If you are a good person, you will be a good nurse"

Student Kiara West was elected by her classmates to speak on behalf of the graduates.

"Graduating from nursing school is not easy, especially not while juggling the pandemic, jobs, kids, families, and all the other responsibilities we had during this process," West said. "We have worked extremely hard to get here and I want each and every one of you to bask in this moment because we truly deserve it."

West kept the audience laughing throughout her speech, offering humorous observations on their nursing school journey and comparing their progression to characters on the television show *SpongeBob SquarePants*.

"As we become new nurses, we will become *SpongeBob SquarePants*," she explained. "We will not run away from new challenges because we are confident in ourselves, and we will adopt a positive mindset that will push us through any obstacle that comes our way."

West ended her speech on a somber note: speaking through tears, she dedicated her speech to her Nana, who passed away the previous week. She shared that her Nana instilled in her the importance of kindness, generosity, and being a good person, and taught her that how she treats people is the most important thing about her.

"I'm going to extend the same advice to you: you might not be the smartest nurse in the room, or the lead in skills, but ultimately, if you are a good person, you will be a good nurse," she said. "Nurses are the most trusted profession because we care about people, and we will do everything in our power to help them."

"This is your moment."

Closing remarks were provided by Jeanne Hill, associate professor of nursing, who said that it was fitting that the students chose "courage" as the theme for their event.

"One of the most important lessons I can give you is to always do what is best for your patient. Whatever it is that is going to have the best outcome for your patient, have the courage to do it. Have the courage to fight for it. There will be times where you will feel defeated or beaten, I promise you that, but I also promise you, that every time, it will be worth it," she said.

"This is your moment," she continued. "The one that you have fought hard for these past few years. Every patient you encounter will become a lesson. Embrace those moments, learn from each patient. Take the lessons you learn and give them to your next patient. Do it with pride, confidence, and skill. Most of all...do it with your heart."

Students who proudly received their pins were:

MacKenzie Kathleen Barefoot, Theresa Benton, Savannah Michelle Blackwel, Julia Marie Bowie, Erika Thomas Bruce, Alexis

Nicole Campbell, Daniel Carter, Arthur Montezuma Carvalho, Jia Choi, Franz Charmaine B. Delk, Kailee Louise Covey, Alyssa Dorsey, Aniya Monae Dudley, Celine Martita Fisher, Kiera Ford, Da'Shonna Alexis Forrester, Whitney Lauren Freed, Cassandra Garren, Taylor Lynn Gascon, Karen Lynnette Goff, NaShay Destiny Green, Jenna Marie Guido, Kelsey Allyson Hanks, Kami M. Hardin, Jessica K. Hayden, Kaitlin M. Hudson, Kathryn Ann Humphreys, Meg Elizabeth Jacko, Chelsea Marie James, Stephanie Renee Josiah, Lesley G. Keller, Alexis R. Klumpyan, Brittany Nicole Latham, Princess Estephanie S. Leyson, Tiffany N. Lyon, Chandler Maldonado, Louie Dave Dionisio Manalad, Ashley Manning, Brianna Alexis Mingo, Leeann K. Murillo, Kaylin S. Navarrete, Sarah Nicole Noble, Shaunte Lorraine Parran, Christian Pavlik, Jamie L Peabody, Jessica Nicole Penn, Laura Page Phillips, Megan N. Picard, Lisa Marie Schwalenberg, Melissa Joyce Shipman, Andrew L. Sien, Savannah Ashlyn Simmons, Emiliann Carmela Simpson, Janna-Beth Willaum Smith, Sarah E. Steele, Natalie Marie Sulhoff, Alexis Nichole Tiede, Karla Lou Lucero Ugalino, Natosha Nicole Vallandingham, Amber N. Vaughn, Hannah Elizabeth Walker, MaryGrace Weeks, Kiara West, Shellayne Denise Whalen, Gabrielle Michel White, Michelle Widle, Myka Angelica Asuma Wilkins, Tara A. Wilson, and Breanna M. Windsor.

Press Release from CSM.

CSM Foundation Welcomes New Board Members

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Foundation announces that Mary Hannah, Janna Jackson, Michael Meisel and James Norris, Jr. have joined the board as its newest directors.

"The CSM Foundation is very excited to have these four impressive individuals join our board," said CSM Foundation Executive Director Chelsea Clute. "They each bring a unique skill set and will help to strengthen our ties in the community."

Mary Hannah is the manager of Population Health Management at the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center (CRMC), where she manages initiatives including Wheels to Wellness and the Diabetes Education Program. She is also the author of the 2004 book "A Walk in the Woods with Poppy" and has received the Health Care Champion of the Year award from CRMC and the Grace E. Brown Nurse Educator Award from the Maryland Nurses Association.

"CSM is special to me because I am an alumna CSM I attribute the college for building my foundation in nursing," Hannah shared. "I still have many fond memories from being on campus and special bonds with nursing colleagues

that went to CSM. Without my strong foundation, I do not feel I would have been as successful in my career and future advancement in education."

Michael Meisel is a resident of Leonardtown and the vice president of finance and chief financial officer of MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center and MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, where he has oversight of all financial operations, patient access and registration, and supply chain functions for the hospitals. He began his healthcare career with the University of Maryland Medical System and has more than 10 years of experience in not-for-profit healthcare, specifically in regional acute care delivery systems.

"I have a deep appreciation for the value of community colleges, having started my collegiate pursuit at Harford Community College in 2005," said Meisel. "I believe there should be a symbiotic relationship that exists between community colleges and the surrounding employer base, and so I look forward to serving on the CSM Foundation board to help advance the priorities of the college and aid students in their efforts to achieve their academic goals and

career potential after graduation."

He earned his bachelor's in Business Administration from Towson University and his MBA from Loyola University Maryland. He serves as a board member on several organizations, including Totally Linking Care in Maryland, Inc., and is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Janna Jackson lives in Prince Frederick and is the manager of local government affairs for Constellation Energy in Maryland and Pennsylvania. In that role, she develops and maintains strategic partnership relationships with local, state and federal stakeholders. She previously held a number of roles at Constellation's Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant.

"I am excited to be a part of the Foundation as it continues to identify and enhance learning opportunities while supporting success for not only all CSM students, but also in the communities we serve," said Jackson.

Jackson earned bachelor's degrees from Excelsior College and the University of Maryland Baltimore County. She also serves as a board member for the Calvert County School Foundation and the Calvert County Chamber of

Commerce.

James Norris has more than 25 years of strategic management, government contracting, and business development experience, and currently holds the position of vice president of business development for Sabre Systems, where he has worked since 2005. He has been recognized for a leadership style that promotes teamwork, accountability, trust and a commitment to results.

Norris, of Hollywood, received his bachelor's in Business Administration from Towson University and his master's in Management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

"As a prior student of CSM and now having a daughter enrolled at CSM, I truly understand and appreciate the importance CSM is to our Southern Maryland region," Norris said. "It is my honor to be a member of the CSM Foundation Board and I look forward to working with the rest of the members to ensure the vision of the CSM Foundation, "transform the lives of CSM students and enrich our community," becomes a reality."

Press Release from CSM

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

Film Viewing & Discussion: Paper Tigers

This in-person event on Saturday, July 30 from 1 - 3:30 p.m. at Lexington Park Library will raise awareness about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma-informed care within the school system and community. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the long-lasting effects of ACEs and how to prevent and mitigate the impacts of childhood trauma. This event is co-sponsored by the St. Mary's County Health Department, Healthy St. Mary's Partnership, St. Mary's County Early Childhood Advisory Council, and St. Mary's County Library. Snacks will be provided. Please Register on www.stmalib.org.

Diane Macklin, Storyteller

Diane Macklin is a master storyteller of traditional & modern tales, blending music & audience participation into captivating stories. Two sessions: Friday, August 5 from 10 - 11 a.m. outdoors on the grounds of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church (27108 Mt Zion Church Rd, Mechanicsville, MD 20659) and Friday, August 5 from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. at Lexington Park Library.

Register each member of your group (adults & children) for either event on www.stmalib.org.

At Mt. Zion United Methodist Church there are wooden benches available, or you may bring chairs or a blanket to sit on. Be sure to wear your sunblock! In case of bad weather, this event will move to Leonardtown Library, indoors. Please register with an email address to get updates in case of a weather-related change. Summer Performing Arts events are supported in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council, and matching funds from the Friends of St. Mary's County Library.

Anime Club

Do you like anime or manga? Join us for this month's anime club meeting on Saturday, August 6 from 12 - 2 p.m. at Leonardtown Library. We will watch the first episode of three different shows, then have a brief discussion after. Refreshments will be provided. This month's shows: ALDNOAH.ZERO, Dr. Stone, and Trigun. Ages 16-99. Register on www.stmalib.org.



The Lit Kit

Have you ever heard of Book of the Month? What about OwlCrate? The Lit Kit is just like those boxes - except it's FREE! The Lit Kit is a free customized box for teens ages 14-17 filled with 3-4 goodies AND up to 2 YA library books that we'll choose for you (please note: the library books must be returned). Registration begins on the 1st of the month and will close on the 8th of the month, or when registration reaches the maximum amount of registrations. On the 10th of the month, The Lit Kit will be available to be picked up at the Library location of your choosing. This can be picked up inside of the branch, or via curbside appointment. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Circus Science with Gregory May: Summer Performer

Professional knucklehead and silly scientist Gregory May teaches the scientific principles behind circus skills like juggling, globe walking, lasso spinning, and other incredible tricks. Saturday, August 13 from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. at Leonardtown Library. Laugh and be amazed while exploring Newton's laws, gyroscopic motion, and the center of gravity. Please member each member of your group (adults & children). Summer Performing Arts events are supported in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council, and matching funds from the Friends of St. Mary's County Library. Register on www.stmalib.org.

CSM Students Honored at Award Reception

Students recognized for academic achievements in their fields of study during College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) 39th Annual Academic Excellence Awards Reception included a retired Air Force dentist who discovered a passion for sculpture; a member of the CSM Hawks baseball team who is headed for a career as a social studies teacher; a student who helped lead CSM's robotics team to its ranking as the best community college robotics team in the country; and a professional photographer who had returned to school to study cybersecurity.

These achievers were joined by a room full of other exceptional CSM students who gathered at the spring event held at the Prince Frederick Campus to be honored by faculty and staff for excelling in their degree programs.

"This reception is a wonderful reminder that what we are here for is you and your achievement, and tonight we get to celebrate it," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy in her opening remarks.

Provost and Vice President of Learning Dr. Rodney Redmond also welcomed students to the reception and reminded them to take a moment to reflect on their path to excellence.

"Tonight is a chance to recognize the battles you fought and the hurdles you overcame," said Redmond. "Take a moment to thank your family, friends, faculty, and staff; hopefully they have helped you reach goals, celebrate milestones, and offered a shoulder to cry on when you needed it."

Melanie Osterhouse, professor of biology and the recipient of the 2019 Faculty Excellence award, gave the keynote address to students. She spoke about times throughout her life when she would doubt herself, and her mother would tell her, "Prioritize, and suck it up!"

"You too have persevered, because look at where you are now – at an award ceremony in your honor," Osterhouse said. "I want you to celebrate your accomplishment with someone who has helped you to get this far."

Before the student awards got underway, the recipient of the 2022 Faculty Excellence Award was announced as Professor of Philosophy Dr. Richard Bilsker. The award is bestowed upon a full-time professor by members of CSM faculty.

Along with teaching, Bilsker also serves as the director of CSM's Honors Curriculum and is also the college's coordinator for history, philosophy and political science. He serves as chair of



Retired Air Force Dentist Dr. Baseemah S. Najeeullah receives Academic Excellence in Art award from CSM Pottery Instructor Alice Yutzy.

the Grade Review Committee and the Tenure Committee, as well as a member of the Academic Standards Committee. He has been active on numerous hiring committees and other ad hoc committees. Read full story Peers Recognize CSM Professor Dr. Richard Bilsker With Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award.

Faculty members from the school of liberal arts, the school of professional and technical studies, and the school of science and health then presented their awards to students who have excelled in their chosen field of study. Many faculty members talked about the pandemic and how students were forced to adapt to virtual lectures, office hours, and projects. Some faculty members were meeting the students they mentored in person for the first time.

Presenters also discussed students' future plans, with many having already received job offers in their fields or acceptance to universities for the next step in their education.

"Every year we think we have hit the peak of student achievement, and every year it gets exceeded," said Associate Dean for Liberal Arts Dr. Stephen Johnson in presenting the awards.

A full list of award winners is below.

School of Liberal Arts

Distinguished Honors in History:

Joana Eliza Beatriz Gonzales

Outstanding Art Student of the Year:

Baseemah S. Najeeullah

Outstanding Achievement in Teacher Education:

Blake DiPietro and Morgan Krauel

Outstanding Achievement in Early Childhood Development:

Charlana Edmonds

Outstanding Achievement in the Social Sciences:

McKynzee Tippett

Distinguished Honors in Music:

Braxton Lewis

John Lamiman Writing Award:

Olivia Kapinos

Distinguished Honors in Communication:

Jayla Wilson and Danielle Barber

Wayne Karlin Award for Creative Writing:

Taylor America

Wayne Karlin Award for Creative Writing:

Lilin Holley

School of Professional and Technical Studies

George Flynn Memorial Accounting Award:

Mark Gifford

Outstanding Business Administration Student:

Matthew Tyler Jarma and Nathaniel J. Mudd

Outstanding Business Management Student:

Melissa M. Weaver

Outstanding Information Services Technology Student:

Todd Hill

Outstanding Computer Science Student:

Nicholas Gallegos

Outstanding Information Systems Student:

Mary Jenkins

Outstanding Cybersecurity Student:

Faith Holt and Tasneem Luto

Ed Shauf Award for Outstanding Criminal Justice Student:

Shelby Snyder

Outstanding Homeland Security Student:

Collin Felix

Outstanding Construction Management Student:

Thomas Robert Carruth

Outstanding Mathematics Student:

Michael Vincent Chiong

Outstanding Progress in Mathematics:

Branden Milam

Outstanding Progress in Mathematics:

Gineffra Boutureira Cauza

Outstanding Engineering Student:

Aryan Kakadia

Outstanding Engineering Technology Student:

Steven Jones

School of Science and Health

Academic Achievement in Nursing:

Hannah Walker

Achievement in Nursing:

Kami Hardin

Outstanding Physical Therapist Assistant Graduate:

Ryleigh Wilson

Outstanding Medical Laboratory Technology Graduate:

Carly Fessel

Outstanding Health Information Management Graduate:

Lauren Faucette

Outstanding Achievement in Biology:

Asharia Matthews

Outstanding Achievement in First Year of Chemistry:

Laura Jacobs

Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry:

Connor Keech

Outstanding Physics Student:

Nathan Daetwyler

Press Release from CSM.

Here for You



It's time for storytime.

It's time to meet old friends and make new ones.

Visit your public library to reconnect.

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Dragon Boat Festival Returns to Solomons



Southern Maryland Community Resources (SMCR) is excited to announce the 6th Annual Solomons Island Dragon Boat Festival, presented by Cedar Point Federal Credit Union on Saturday, August 13 on the Patuxent River along the Solomons Island Riverwalk.

The Solomons Dragon Boat Festival is a fun filled event of friendly competition and team building while raising funds for much needed programs for SMCR, Inc. Race day is packed with teams of all sorts from Southern Maryland and beyond. A variety of entertainment, food trucks, artisan vendors and kid-friendly activities will round out the event. This free day of fun begins with the Dragon Boat Races on the Patuxent River and includes three areas in-keeping with ancient tradition: Team Village, Vendor Village & Dragon's Nest Children's area. Visit www.SolomonsDragonBoatFestival.com for details.

Dragon boat racing has become one of the fastest growing team water sports events! Dragon boat teams consist of 16 paddlers, a drummer and a trained steer person. SMCR partners with 22 Dragons to provide the boats and instructors, and they visit us each year all the way from Montreal. Teams can be local businesses or special interest groups looking for some fun and to help raise funds for an excellent cause. This year, SMCR will have team fundraiser pages on their website to assist teams in raising funds for the cause.

Spectators are welcome! Race Day is 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, August 13. Practice sessions occur from 5-7 p.m. throughout the week leading up to the races and are open to the public to view from the Solomons Riverwalk. They also host a Dotting of the Eye Ceremony on Friday, August 12 at 6 p.m. outside Our Lady Star of the Sea on Solomons Island, during which the public can help paint the dragons' eyes to awake the sleeping beasts!

SMCR Inc. creates opportunities for people with disabilities, providing social, recreational, and educational programs for the entire community, with an emphasis on accessibility for those with developmental differences. For more about SMCR, Inc. and the work we do, check our website at www.somdcr.org.

For more details on becoming a sponsor or floating a team for the Solomons Island Dragon Boat Festival, visit www.SolomonsDragonBoatFestival.com or reach out to info@somdcr.org.

Join the cause. Live the adventure. Float your boat. Become part of the most exciting event coming to Solomons in 2022. As they say in the Dragon Boating community, "Paddles Up!"

All proceeds from this event will support SMCR, Inc. a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, with the mission of "Creating opportunities for people with disabilities in Southern Maryland."

Press Release from SMCR

Pet OF THE WEEK MEET DOTTIE



Be the reason
Someone smiles today!

Hi, my name is Dottie. My loving TCAS pals say I'm the kitten that you look at and can't help but SMILE! I'm an ADORABLE, SOCIAL GIRL and I just want to enhance your life. I'm only 3 MONTHS OLD, I've lived with other animals, and I will be YOUR CONSTANT COMPANION! Take me home and make me part of YOUR FAMILY and I will spread the SMILES far and wide. I'm waiting anxiously to start MY NEW LIFE with YOU so please email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP. BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS you are literally saving a life.

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

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Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



NOTES TO SELF



One of those notes to self as I get older: make sure your glasses or reading glasses are on when trying to take your medicines in the morning...and the lights. Once in awhile I need to take Alavert, the sublingual allergy medicine, along with my blood pressure and arthritis meds. A few mornings ago, while still in the darkened pre-dawn, I didn't turn on the kitchen light plus I had left my glasses in the bedroom. I scooped up what I thought was my allergy medicine which is supposed to dissolve in your mouth, when I inadvertently picked up my Hydroxychloroquine and started to let that dissolve. It didn't take too long to start dissolving for me to realize that this did not taste like Alavert (it really should have only taken seconds for me to notice, but in my groggy state I just thought the Alavert was unusually bitter). It took hours for my taste buds to recover, and what is worse is that my lovely morning cup of Scottish Breakfast tea tasted awful.

A second note to self is to not think you have a loose (not attached) white hair that is sitting in the tips of your eyelashes annoying the heck out of you when in fact once those aforementioned reading glasses get put on, you find out that you have an inch long white hair coming out of your eyebrows. This was truly horrifying to me, especially since we had just returned from our 5 day trip to the Outer Banks, and there were also five teenagers (two of which were grand-kids) with good, young eyes staying with us. One of them, if not all, must have seen this long white hair and not said anything. More likely, they were not paying attention to us anyway. This is why I have made my husband and my sons promise to make sure a hairstylist or someone takes care of all this if I am ever at a point where I cannot do so. I always wondered why my sweet, gentle grandmother didn't pluck the hairs on her chin, even as a child. Now I understand, she probably had eyes like mine and couldn't see them.

Even with my 3.5 reading glasses, I have trouble telling 8's and B's apart, S's and 5's, and the dreaded n's and m's, especially when they are hand-

written. I do have even higher powered reading glasses in, 4, 5, 6, and 7 for when I was painting miniatures, but now keep the power readers out in front of the computer and in my workshop instead of with my painting supplies. I definitely can't walk in any of them though because I feel like I am on a ship in rocking waves.

Yesterday was a prime example of trouble seeing handwritten notes when the Breezeline technician came out and I had to keep asking him what he wrote for the new password: the D looked like a zero, so I had to write Delta above it. His 1's looked like 7s to me. I wrote out eight above his 8, yes, it was embarrassing. I kept apologizing, even though I know he was trying to be patient. I'm still not sure all that he did because I don't understand the new technologies with pods and smart boxes, etc. or the wording, I just want the darn TV's and Wi-Fi to work and the "smart" boxes to be smarter than me, which obviously they are, and to just do what they are supposed to do. Even when everything is explained to me, I still don't understand because the terms are new technology that they assume I know. Again, basically, I want to: turn on the TV and it works, stays on, and I get all the channels I need, turn on my phone, and things just automatically open up quickly and without buffering, and same for the computer. Is it too late to use antennas and rabbit ears, or tinfoil hats?

Okay, it's time for another morning break to open up and read all the mail that has come in during the last few days, and there are probably a few I didn't open yet from being on vacation. Who knows what my eyes might see and what I may possibly sign up and agree to? And then I am going to do a quick walk-through of the house to see what needs dusting and cleaning...thank goodness I saved those old eyeglasses from 20 something years ago with a power of one because the house always looks perfectly clean when I wear them.

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

The Barns of St Mary's

Travel anywhere in St Mary's County and you'll come across large, old barns – many if not most of them being tobacco barns – sitting in fields and in various states of repair. When observed closely, each provides a window in the history of the County and vary in style through the ages.

While the earliest barns built of the first settlers have long since vanished, they are believed to have been quite large – about 40 x 40 feet based on the space a planter would need to produce four hogsheads of tobacco each summer.



Gable Roofed Barn

came into vogue. Longer and taller than their predecessors, there is nothing to hamper the movement of carts within them. Tobacco also seems to cure better in them, and there is less spoilage or "house-burn" during long rainy spells. According to many old-timers, gable roof barns are probably the best for curing tobacco. Travel anywhere in the County and you are likely to see a gable roof barn sitting



An Old Post Barn

The oldest barns known to have survived are old "post barns". Built of hand-sawn timber (often walnut) and hand-hewn boards of white pine. They were called "pole" barns as the vertical timbers were planted directly and deeply in the ground. All joints were mortised or dovetailed and held together with large wooden pegs. The pegs were dried out over a fire and then fitted tightly into holes. When the natural amount of moisture returned to the pegs causing them to swell, they couldn't be removed.



Gambrel Roofed barn

majestically in a field.

In the 1930's, the popularity of gable roof barns gave way to "gambrel roof barns". They are longer, wider and taller than the gable barn with some measuring over 100 feet in length. They became popular due to their large capacity but have several disadvantages over their predecessors.

For one, it is difficult and costly to hang tobacco leaves on the top-tiers of these barns – often suffocatingly hot and tiring. For another, due to their height and the comparative weakness of the broken-line rafters, they are not nearly as strong. Many of these barns were destroyed in the hurricanes although the old post and gable barns were unharmed. Because of these faults new gable roof barns are again being built.

Why are so few of the tobacco barns painted? Painting the rough weatherboarding is very costly and as the boards will last longer than the average lifetime, why bother?

You can learn more about tobacco farming at the St Mary's County Historical Society. www.stmaryshistory.org



Long and Short Style Barn

"Long and short" barns were built in the 19th century and had a dual use: tobacco and housing livestock. The open, shed side of the barn always faced South so the livestock can benefit from the sun during winter months. Long and short barns are exceptionally strong and were built when labor was both cheap and plentiful.

Around the turn of century (the last century, that is), "gable roof barns"

FINANCIAL FOCUS

AVOID THESE ESTATE- PLANNING MISTAKES

When many people hear the words “estate planning,” they assume it’s just for the wealthy. But that’s not the case because everyone can benefit from an estate plan. And when you’re creating one, you’ll want to avoid some common mistakes.

Before we look at those mistakes, let’s go over what estate planning is designed to accomplish. Essentially, an estate plan allows you to pass on your assets in the way you desire. But it can also specify other actions, such as naming someone to care for your minor children if you were no longer around. In creating an estate plan, several key documents are involved, including a will, a trust, a financial power of attorney and a medical power of attorney or a health care directive.

Now, let’s consider a few estate-planning mistakes:

- **Not communicating your plans.**

You’ll need to inform your family about whom you’ve chosen as executor – the individual who will administer your estate – and whom you’ve named as the trustee – the person who will manage your trust’s assets. (You can also choose a trust company to handle this duty.) And to help avoid unpleasant surprises when your estate is being settled, consider letting your children or other close relatives know who will be receiving what.

- **Not reviewing your plans periodically**

Once you create your estate plans, don’t forget about them. Over time, your personal situation may change – you may experience a remarriage or bring in new children. Your interests may change, too – perhaps you’ll become deeply involved in supporting a favorite chari-

table organization. Given these and other potential changes, you’ll want to review your estate plans once in a while to see if they need to be modified.

- **Not updating beneficiary designations**

Every so often, you may want to review the beneficiary designations on your life insurance policies, investment accounts and retirement assets. As mentioned, changes in your life, such as remarriage and the addition of new children, may affect your beneficiaries. Beneficiary designations are powerful and can even supersede your will, so you’ll want to update them as needed. Also, if you have a 529 education savings plan, you’ll want to name a successor owner – someone who can take over your 529 if you were to pass away.

- **Not re-registering assets placed in a trust**

A living trust offers you many potential benefits, such as the ability to bypass the time-consuming and highly public process of probate when it’s time to settle your estate. However, just establishing the trust, by itself, may be insufficient – you likely also need to re-register assets, such as your investments, so they are officially owned by the trust, not by you. This is essential for the trust to work as you intended.

Here’s one other mistake – not getting the help you need. Estate planning can be complex, so you’ll want to work with an attorney, and possibly with your financial advisor and tax professional, too.

By avoiding key mistakes and working with a qualified team of professionals, you can create and maintain an estate plan that will help you leave the legacy you desire.

*Article was contributed by David McDonough
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.
Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr Suite 302
Leonardtown MD, 20650
301 997 1707*



Letters to the Editor

Thanks from Museum

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museum - the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is supporting the museums and historic sites under the care of the St. Mary's County Museum Division – I am writing to express our gratitude to the many organizations and individuals who helped give our visitors and attendees a great three-day weekend for the 22nd Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival held on July 8-10, despite the weather difficulties that made it necessary to cancel the Saturday "Main Event" day when most of the wonderful musical acts were set to perform at St. Clement's Island Museum. As many may remember, the night of Friday, July 8 brought intense summer storms that continued through into the Saturday morning hours dropping many inches of rain on the region at and around St. Clement's Island Museum in Colton's Point, a mostly low-lying area along the Potomac River in St. Mary's County's 7th District. What ensued on Saturday morning was flooding on most of the access roads, as well as the event site, parking areas and vendor sites which made the ability to host the event unfeasible due to hazardous and unsafe conditions, as well as a continued National Weather Service flash flood warning for the rest of the day. Many of our staff, and some early-arriving vendors, became stuck and had to be helped out - another peril we wanted to keep our visitors from experiencing. It was an incredibly difficult decision to make, as this was the first time in the festival's 22 year history that this event was cancelled. Many months and man hours of preparation had been undertaken by our Board, the Museum Division staff, Jazz Fest planning committee and volunteers, as well as by our partners and vendors, to make the 22nd year the best event yet. Though the event is usually rain or shine (and temperatures hovering near 100 degrees is normally our biggest challenge), we historically have not offered refunds, which is typical of most outdoor festivals around the country. We knew that this was an abnormal situation and wanted to make it right, so we worked hard that day to put together a refund offer for all ticket holders to the cancelled Saturday main event ticket. Despite the difficulties with the cancellation, we were able to pivot and regroup quickly to make the best out of a challenging situation that day with the amazing cooperation of many individuals and businesses in Leonardtown, especially our friends at the Inn at Leonardtown, the downtown hotel which was sold out and where many of our out of town attendees stayed the weekend. They graciously agreed to host a free meet and greet with the national and regional jazz artists who were meant to play that day, and allowed some of the vendors from Saturday to set up in the lobby. Special thanks to Bonnie and her remarkable hotel staff for taking care of our visitors for all three days and showing them true St. Mary's County and Leonardtown hospitality.

Brudergarten Beer Garden at Shepherd's Old Field Market, as well as the Jamaican Grill and DJ Rhonda Leggz, worked with us to start the Afterparty at Bru earlier than planned for our patrons, who turned out in large numbers for the Saturday night party. Thanks to the staff at Bru who worked incredibly hard all night long to serve the festival patrons.

The events of Friday, July 8 and Sunday, July 10, including the opening reception at the Inn at Leonardtown, the free concert on the Square featuring the world class Eric Byrd Trio, the All White Attire Summer Soiree at The Rex, as well as music at restaurants and businesses around Leonardtown, all went well, and the days were sunny and beautiful.

We'd like to thank the businesses of town, especially the staff at The Rex, for making much of that happen. Further thanks to Port of Leonardtown Winery, Quality Street Kitchen and Catering, Captain Phil Langley & Fish the Bay Charters, Town of Leonardtown, St. Mary's County Arts Council, Visit St. Mary's MD, Members of the St. Mary's County Museum Division Board of Trustees, St. Mary's County Department of Recreation & Parks, Bailey's Catering, Maryland Office of Tourism, The Good Earth Natural Foods, Leonardtown Cigars and the Leonardtown Business Association for constant help during all events and activities that weekend. We'd also like to express our appreciation to our many vendors and sponsors for their constant support over the years. We are looking forward hosting an amazing 23rd Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival here in St. Mary's County on July 7-9, 2023, so we hope you'll mark your calendars and stay tuned for information soon regarding the event.

*Dale Springer, President, Board of Directors
The Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Lighthouse Museum
Coltons Point, MD*

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.

Friday, July 29

Summerstock's "Children of Eden"

Great Mills High School
21130 Great Mills Road
Great Mills
7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

This year, Recreation and Parks is presenting their 40th Summerstock musical, "Children of Eden" by Stephen Schwartz and John Caird. The whole family will enjoy this uplifting musical that retells these stories from the first chapters of Genesis: Creation, Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, and Noah and the Flood. Performances are July 29-31, Fridays at 7, Saturdays at 1 and 7, and Sundays at 3. Tickets on sale July 1st at www.stmarysm.com/recreate/summerstock. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Saturday, July 30

Southern Maryland Boat Club's "Bash on the Bay"

Leonardtown Wharf
Leonardtown
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Two days of vintage race boats and racing exhibitions await you at Leonardtown Wharf. Vintage race boats will blast over the Southern Maryland waters, bringing a bit of history back to the waterways. Bring your appetite and stop by the local food stand for some refreshments. Find branded shirts, tumblers, frisbees, and programs at the SMBC Merchandise tent. You may want to

bring a chair as there are no bleachers at the Wharf. The Pits will be open to the public during the lunch break at no charge.

For the safety of our drivers, the Bash on the Bay is dependent on weather conditions. Any type of schedule change will be posted on our Facebook page.

Bash on the Bay at Piney Point Landing

9 AM—Noon: Vintage Race Boat Morning Heats
Noon -1 PM: Lunch Break, Pits open to public
1—4 PM: Vintage Race Boat Afternoon Heats

Bike & Botanic

Three Notch Trail
John V. Baggett Park
26929 Three Notch Road
9:30 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Any bike-riding fans out there??

Whether you're an avid cyclist or just like to get out for some exercise, everyone's welcome to join in on this leisurely-paced ride.

The trail is 10.6 mi one way so we can play it by ear depending on majority preference once we begin riding: either cycle half-way or do the full 21.2 miles.

More info about the trail: www.alltrails.com/.../maryland/three-notch-trail-9

OPTIONAL: After the ride, we'll head to Botanic Café, located inside of Shepherd's Old Field Market in Leonardtown, and enjoy a vegan-

friendly lunch. (My favorite is the Vegetable Muffaletta Sandwich—the best!!)

**If you want to join us for lunch only, that's great too! We'll aim to be there by 1:00p, but I'll update the event discussion depending on how long the ride takes.

Botanic Café menu: www.botanic.cafe/

Please be sure to follow the Facebook event post for updates: fb.me/e/25F06suGY

Sunday, July 31

Leonardtown Wildcats Football and Cheer skills camp

Dorsey Park
24275 Hollywood Road
Hollywood
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The Leonardtown Wildcats Football and Cheer program will be holding Summer skills camps every Sunday from 6pm to 8pm June 5th through July 31st. This is open to all age 4- 14 and all skill levels. There is no cost, no sign ups, and no membership required. Dorsey park in Hollywood Maryland by the football fields. Each child just needs sneakers and water. no equipment needed. for more info please see our webpage www.leonardtownwildcats.org/ or find us on Facebook.

Thursday, Aug 4

American Legion Post 221 Meeting

21690 Colton Point Rd.
Avenue
8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

American Legion Post 221 invites all active duty personnel and veterans to join us for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00pm. Visit our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Post-221-105239187962458/ or e-mail us at alpost221@aol.com. Call 301*848*9458 for more information. Tell them you saw the announcement on the SoMD Internet Calendar.

Saturday, Aug 6

Farmers Feeding St. Mary's

U-Haul Parking Lot
46041 Signature Lane
Lexington Park
9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

From local farmers to your plate! The first annual Farmers Feeding St. Mary's Program will offer farm fresh produce free to the community. At each event, attending families will be given a box filled with fresh produce, such as corn, tomatoes, squash, and more!

Produce available on the day of each event may vary. Family units will be limited to one box of produce per event.

Food distribution will continue until indicated event end time or until produce runs out.

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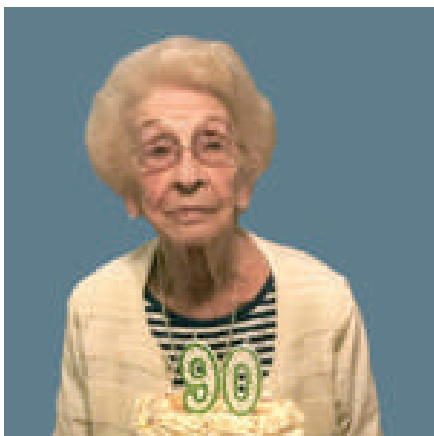
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The County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to guyleonard@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

In Remembrance

Mary "Regina" Tehsman



Mary "Regina" Tehsman, 93, of California, MD, formerly of Rehoboth Beach, DE, passed away on July 21, 2022 in Solomons, MD. Born on September 3, 1928 in Baltimore City, MD, she was the daughter of the late Mary Regina Gipe and the late Milton Albert Gipe. Regina was the loving wife of the late Carl Louis Tehsman, whom she married on April 3, 1948 in Aberdeen, MD, and who preceded her in death on July 26, 1994. Regina is survived by her children Deborah A. Smith and son-in-law Bill of Mechanicsville,

MD and Diane M. Tehsman of Great Mills, MD, her granddaughters Melissa M. LaCombe and her husband, Scott LaCombe of Rockville, MD, and Kelsey C. Smith of Springfield, VA, her great grandson Jacob LaCombe of Rockville, MD, as well as her nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her siblings Albert "Bud" Gipe, and Ethel Woolley.

Regina's husband was in the Army, so they were stationed at many military bases throughout the United States, as well as stationed in Germany. As a family living in Europe, they had the opportunity to travel to many countries such as Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Regina graduated from Old Post Road High School in 1944, and was a homemaker. Regina grew up on the water, so she loved crabbing and eating crabs with her family. As she got older, she had a wonderful sense of humor. One of her favorite expressions was "Be good, but if you can't be good, then be safe. I don't want to see your name in the paper." In later years, she loved Bethany and Rehoboth Beach, DE. She enjoyed swim-

ming with her family and friends, and was always an active member of each church she was affiliated with. Regina enjoyed reading, especially books by the author Danielle Steel. She loved playing cards such as Bridge, Pitch, and especially playing Rummy with her granddaughters. Regina was a three-time cancer survivor.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, August 12, 2022 at 11:00 AM in Trinity Lutheran Church, Lexington Park, MD with Pastor Matthew Borrasso officiating. Interment will be held at a later date in Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Cheltenham, MD.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her memory to Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park, MD or to Hospice of St. Mary's in Callaway, MD.

Olga Hutchins Russell



Olga Hutchins Russell, 81 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on July 20, 2022 in her home. She was surrounded by her five children and her husband of 58 years when she died.

Olga was born on January 24, 1941 in Washington, DC to the late Edward I. Hutchins and Lorraine (Langlois) Hutchins.

Olga graduated from Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart in 1958. She graduated from Charles County Community College.

Olga's parents had a surgical supply business in Bethesda and to get away, spent weekends and vacations in Southern Maryland. That provided an opportunity for Olga to meet a young engineering college graduate William P. Russell (Bill) while water skiing. The rest is history.

Olga married her loving husband, Bill on May 9, 1964 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Bethesda, MD, moved to Southern Maryland and has lived in St. Mary's County ever since. Bill and Olga have lived in their current home since 1973. Together, Bill and Olga raised five children

and have fifteen grandchildren.

Olga loved to garden and became a Master Gardener. She started a business called "Olga's Herbs" where she grew and sold herbs, dried flower arrangements and wreaths. She also taught classes on herbs, dried flower arranging and wreath making. Many of her arrangements are displayed in her home. Olga created beauty wherever she was: her home, Our Lady's Church, her children's homes and often her grandchildren's homes.

Faith, family and concern for others were the most important parts of Olga's life.

Faith: Olga was a member of Our Lady's Church in Medley's Neck since 1973. She was active in the church community. She attended weekly and daily mass and became a eucharistic minister and often visited the sick and infirmed. For many years, Olga beautifully decorated Our Lady's Church at Easter and Christmas.

Family: Olga and Bill had five children, raised them with a strong work ethic and always reinforced values and integrity. Olga was also all about family teamwork - family dinners, family meetings, family chores and family vacations. She loved to celebrate any special event with the family and would always come, no matter how far. Olga loved to entertain and she taught her children to prepare and host a party, always be considerate of others and send a thank you.

Concern for others. Olga was always aware of others and gravitated to those in need through her natural sensitivity and empathy. She could easily "read" the room and determine who needed an ear or a friend. Olga was often making a wreath or a "tussy-mussy" for someone who needed a boost. She loved to visit the sick and bring them a beautiful flower arrangement or Thanksgiving dinner. She often sent her children, grand children, nieces and nephews care packages or gifts to celebrate important milestones, like graduations, moving, marriages and new babies.

Olga is survived by her loving husband, William P. Russell, her children, Paula M. Fleckenstein (Mike) of Oak Hill, VA, William M. Russell (Kim) of Stafford, VA; Mark E. Russell (Cynthia) of Leesburg, VA; Megan R. Dake (Michael) of Dumfries, VA; and Brittaney N. Anderson (Mark) of Charlottesville, VA; her siblings, Edward I. Hutchins Jr. (Barbara) of Weston, CT and her sister Leslie H. Bupp (Scott) of Bel Air, MD; her 15 grandchildren: Katarina Fleckenstein, Christina



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Fleckenstein, Caitlin (Daniel) Masakayan, Madeleine Russell, Will Russell, Alexis Russell, Danielle Russell, Katherine Russell, Sarah Dake, Margaret Dake, Thomas Dake, Emma Anderson, Sophie Anderson, Sawyer Anderson and Lily Anderson and one great-grandchild coming soon to Caitlin and Daniel. Olga was preceded in death by parents.

Interment will be held on August 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady's Catholic Church Cemetery, 41410 Medley's Neck Road, Leonardtown, MD.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 (<https://www.medstar-health.org/locations/hospice-of-st-marys>) and Our Lady's Catholic Church, 41348 Medley's Neck Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650 (<https://ourladychurch.org/>).

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Sharita Kenyatta "Rita" Tanner



Sharita Kenyatta "Rita" Tanner, 41, of Great Mills, MD passed away unexpectedly at her home on July 21, 2022. She was born on September 16, 1980 to Brenda (Butler) Mackall and Walter Brown, Sr.

Rita is a 1998 graduate of Great Mills High School, where she met her best friend of love of her life for over 25 years, Joseph "Joey" Tanner, Sr. On October 21, 2002, they married in Leonardtown, Maryland and have celebrated over 19 wonderful years of marriage. She was employed as a Financial Analyst for the Department of Defense at the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, MD.

She was an avid couponer and loved her "freebies." She was affectionately known as the "Coupon Queen." She was famous amongst her family and friends for her bar-

tending skills; always having everyone try a new drink that she had whipped up. Her laugh was contagious and she would light up a room with it. She was a devoted and loving wife and mother. Her children were her greatest blessings and were always most important to her. She enjoyed spending as much time as possible with her family; especially weekend trips as a family. She enjoyed doing whatever made her children happy. Seeing them happy made her happy.

In addition to her mother, Brenda Mackall and step-father, Louis Mackall, of Port Republic, MD and her beloved husband, Joseph M. "Joey" Tanner, Sr. of Great Mills, MD, she is also survived by her children, Kourtney J. Tanner and Joseph M. Tanner, Jr., both of Great Mills, MD. She is also survived by her grandmother, Violette Brooks of Prince Frederick, MD; her brothers, Walter Brown (April) and Michael Mackall of St. Mary's County, MD; aunts: Cheryl Harvey (John), Diann Harvey, Wanda Mae Brown and Maryann Brown; uncles: Floyd Stewart, Raymond Hicks, Darvin Brooks, John Brown, and William Brown; her in-laws, William and Becky Tanner; sister-in-law, Stacey Tanner; 15 nieces and nephews; special friend, Tawanda Clayton; and many extended family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Lafayette and Mary Brown; uncle Henry Hawkins, cousin, Ebony Hawkins, and brother-in-law, William Tanner, Jr.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, July 28, 2022, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., with a Celebration of Life Service celebrated by Russell Slade at 7:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will be private.

In lieu flowers, the family requests donations be made to Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.O. Box 279, Leonardtown, MD 20650 to help defray funeral expenses.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Joseph Aloysius Hayden, Jr.

Joseph Aloysius Hayden, Jr., 71, of Montross, VA (formerly of Hollywood, MD) passed away on July 18, 2022 at his home.

He was born on June 25, 1951



in Leonardtown, MD to the late Joseph Aloysius Hayden, Sr. and Ann Juanita Abell Hayden.

Joe was born and raised in Hollywood, MD. He is a graduate of St. John's Catholic School in Hollywood, MD and attended Chop-ticon High School. He was employed his entire career as a hard-working and skilled plumber. Even in retirement he continued to work, helping friends, neighbors and anyone who needed work done. He had a strong work ethic and enjoyed keeping busy. His hobbies included playing cards with his siblings, especially pitch and poker and watching football. He would often call his son and harass him about the Washington Redskins. He also enjoyed listening to his favorite bands, AC/DC and Guns and Roses. He loved stuffed ham, crabs, and garden ripe tomatoes. He enjoyed spending time with his family and his best friend, Harley, his German Shepherd.

He is survived by his children, Tania Marie Dawson of Hollywood, MD, Brian Hayden of Hollywood, MD, and Joey Hayden of Lake Elsinore, CA; his brothers: Jimmy Hayden of California, MD, John Roger "Hank" Hayden (Kathy) of Hollywood, MD, Daniel "Danny" Hayden of Hollywood, MD and Charles Kenneth

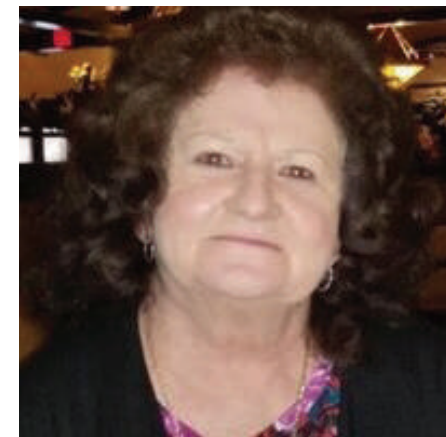
"Chuck" Hayden (Carolyn) of Hollywood, MD; his grandchildren: Lake Dawson, Chase Dawson and Addison Pitcher; his long time companion, Christine Gatton; and many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. In addition to his parents, he is also preceded in death by his son, Shawn Hayden and his brother, William Francis "Billy" Hayden.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be made to Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.O. Box 279, Leonardtown, MD 20650 to help defray funeral expenses.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Janice Gail Farrell



Janice Gail Farrell, 69, of Charlotte Hall, MD, passed away on July 16, 2022, at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD. Gail was born on November 18, 1952, in Prince Georges County, to James Martin Buckler and Erma Jane (Raley) Buckler.

In 1970, she married George Archie Farrell, having celebrated 46 years of marriage before his passing in 2016. Together they had two children, Brenda Lee Lacey of Charlotte Hall and George (Geor-

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In Remembrance

gie) Robert Farrell.

Gail worked for T.E. Wood Farms as a Secretary for 23 years. Her favorite thing to do was spend time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Every Wednesday, she enjoyed shopping at thrift stores with her sister, Ruth. Previously, she enjoyed playing Bingo with her husband at the local ADF. Gail also enjoyed going to the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge to listen to bands, eat, and laugh with her family and friends.

She is predeceased by her parents, beloved husband, son, and her sisters, Janet Marie Bean and Donna Lorraine Buckler. She is survived by her daughter, Brenda Lee Lacey (Dale); her sisters, Ruth Ann Shotwell and Connie Lee Pilkerton; four grandchildren, Brittney Lacey, Dale Lacey Jr, Martin Farrell, and Christine Quade; and five great-grandchildren.

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

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

Francis Elliott "Sonny" Burch, Jr.



Francis Elliott "Sonny" Burch, Jr., 88, of Mechanicsville, MD, peacefully passed away on July 22, 2022, at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Sonny was born on February 4, 1934, to Elliott and Elizabeth Burch in Leonardtown, MD. After graduating from Charlotte Hall Military Academy in 1952, he pursued a degree in business at Western Maryland College. Upon leaving college, he worked with his father at Burch Oil and continued for 68 years.

He married Rita, also known as "Peach", in March of 1974. Together, they raised a blended family.

Sonny was passionate about helping others and was involved in many organizations that sup-

ported the community and families of St. Mary's County. Some of these included; the Lions Club, Cedar Lane Senior Living Center, Christmas in April, St Mary's Hospital Board and Foundation, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department, Chamber of Commerce, Charlotte Hall Military Academy Board of Trustees, the Navy Alliance, and many more.

In addition to his wife, Rita Burch, and his parents Elliott and Elizabeth, he is also preceded in death by his brother Donald B. Burch; and his grandson Andrew Blake.

He is survived by his children Debbie Smith (Skip) of Sherborn, MA, Sheri Norris (BJ) California, MD, Elizabeth Barthelme (Bryan) Mechanicsville, MD, Kelli Mattingly (Todd), Avenue, MD; Becki Burch Adkins (Jeff) Mechanicsville, MD; Elliott Burch III (Wendy) of Mechanicsville, MD; his step-children, Terri Buckler (Willie), Mechanicsville, MD, Chris Hill (Heather); his grandchildren, Christina Killeen, David Blake, Lauren Norris, Dillon Norris, Bryan Michael Barthelme II, Christopher Barthelme, Lexi Vanness, Hunter Mattingly, Brooke Adkins, Gavin Burch, Bryan Buckler, Blake Buckler, CJ Hill, Jason Hill; and 9 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Cedar Lane Senior Living Center or Hospice of St. Mary's.

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

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

Don Otis Norman



Don Otis Norman, 88, of St. Inigo, MD, passed away on July 16, 2022, at his home with his loving family.

He was born on June 7, 1934, in Levy, AK, to the late Don O Norman and Eunice Stanley Norman.

Don joined the U.S. Navy in 1952 and served his country until his honorable discharge in 1956.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology and was employed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as a skilled and dedicated cartographer until his retirement. In 1990 he married his beloved wife, Norma Norman, whom he met at work. Together they celebrated over 25 wonderful years together before her passing in 2016.

He was an avid fan of the Washington Nationals baseball team. He played softball for many years, until most recently when he began to be unsteady on his feet. He and his wife enjoyed going to the Northern Senior Center and participating in many activities. He also enjoyed gardening and fishing. He attended Grace & Peace Presbyterian Church in California, MD, for many years with his family.

He is survived by his step-daughters, Cari Morrison (Matt) of St. Inigo, MD, and Denise Markward (Kirk) of Bowie, MD; his sisters, Patsy Rollow (Jimmy) of Clinton, TN, and Kathy Fleming (Rod) of Clinton, TN; his grandchildren: Joshua Morrison, Lillian Morrison, Nathaniel Morrison, John Morrison, Isaac Morrison, Joseph Morrison, Kirk Markward II and David Markward; and extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents and his wife.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 6 at 3:00 pm at Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church, 22646 Benswood Road, California, Maryland 20619.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Scott Michael Raley



Scott Michael Raley, 47, after losing his battle with brain cancer, died peacefully on July 16, 2022 at Hospice House of St. Mary's, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on April 27, 1975 in Leonardtown, MD to Donogh

Philip Raley and Debra Vallandingham Raley of Ridge, MD.

During his senior year at Great Mills High School, Scott began his career as a mechanical drafter/architect with Moran Industries. Upon leaving Moran Industries in 1995, Scott was hired as a Senior Technical Specialist with MIL Corporation supporting the NAVAIR E-Business Office. From 2000 until 2003, Scott worked as a Computer Specialist with Sierra Management and Technologies and Titan Systems. In 2003, Scott became an entrepreneur and, together with his wife Karin, launched Innovative Technical Consulting, LLC, a woman-owned small business. The consulting company was presented with the Emerging Business Award from the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce. From 2009 to 2014, Scott worked in Systems Engineering/Lead Architect positions supporting various Navy programs such as BAMS, UCAS, Presidential Helo, NextGen Jammer, and Homeland Security DOORS database. Presently, Scott was employed at NAWCAD as a Senior Systems Engineer where he worked on multiple high visibility projects utilizing Model Based Systems Engineering principles. In addition to these accomplishments, Scott was honored to speak at the IBM Innovate Forum in 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2013. In 2011, Scott was also honored with the Technology Innovation Award from Department of Homeland Security.

On September 7, 2002, Scott married the love of his life, Karin Ann Raley, at St. John's Francis Regis Catholic Church in Hollywood, MD. Together they celebrated over 19 wonderful years. Scott was a dedicated husband, father and son. His impact among his family, friends and community will be greatly missed. His family was his pride and joy and he loved spending time with them. Scott loved spending time on the water – boating, jet skiing, kayaking, crabbing and exploring. He enjoyed cheering on the Dallas Cowboys and Washington Capitals.

Scott is survived by his loving wife, Karin Raley; children, Jocelyn N Raley and Bryce M Raley; his parents Don and Debra Raley of Ridge, MD; his sister, Tara Brabenec (Paul) of Chesapeake, VA; his brother, Justin Raley (Tammy) of Hughesville, MD; his grandmothers Margaret (Peggy) Raley of Charlotte Hall, MD and Margaret (Peggy) Vallandingham of Ridge, MD; his in-laws, James and Pam Howe of Leonardtown, MD;

his sister-in-law, Donna Brennan (Eric) of Leonardtown, MD; and 2 nieces and 2 nephews. He is preceded in death by his grandfathers Stanley 'Q-ball' Raley and Samuel Vallandingham.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend Peter Giovanoni on Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's Church. Interment will be private.

Serving as pallbearers are Justin Raley, Dale Vallandingham, Daniel Boling, Kenderick Saunders, Z Jenkins and Ralph Moran. Honorary pallbearers will be his children, Jocelyn and Bryce Raley.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 79, Hollywood, MD 20636 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.

Peter Alden Griffin, Sr.



Peter Alden Griffin, Sr., 80 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on July 18, 2022 at his residence.

He was born on November 24, 1941, in Washington, D.C. to the late Peter Atwell Griffin and Edna May Robinson.

Peter was a great businessman and worked as a Flooring Specialist for 40 years and had multiple businesses in the tri-county area. He married Mary Martha Guy on July 29th, 1961, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. They were 12 days short of 61 years married. Together they have 5 children, 17 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren. Peter was a family man and enjoyed every moment spent with family. He was an outdoorsman and loved fishing, hunting and horse racing. His love of Christ was evident as he would share the gospel with anyone who would listen. Peter will surely be missed.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Martha Griffin; his chil-

dren, Pete "Petie" Griffin, Jr. (Tabatha) of Bushwood, MD, Gwendolyn "Gwen" Tennyson (Ronnie) of Chaptico, MD, Cynthia Pogue (Todd Epley) of Mechanicsville, MD, Marybeth Drury (Joe) of Leonardtown, MD, and Charity Rash (Mark) of Leonardtown, MD; 17 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his three siblings, Robbie Pierce, Norma Jean Gibson, and Joy Farrell.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or the Alzheimer's Association of Maryland, 10665 Stanhaven Place, Suite 205D, White Plains, MD 20695.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Richard "Ernie" Ernest Quade



Richard "Ernie" Ernest Quade, 71, of Tulsa, OK, passed away on June 24, 2022, at St. John's Hospital in Tulsa, OK.

He was born at St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD July 6, 1950, to George Bernard Quade Sr. and Helen Louise Quade of Valley Lee, MD.

He attended grade school at Little Flower and Great Mills High School.

He was married to Jodie Quade, and they spent 40 wonderful years together.

He enjoyed fishing, boating, music, car racing, dancing, and cooking. Especially his "pot of chili." He was a carpenter and "jack of all trades." He enjoyed the company of family and friends and had many stories talking about the younger days.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sister Barbara Ann Sparks, brother William Leonard Quade, and brother Joseph Carroll

Quade.

He is survived by his wife, children, siblings James Knott, George Quade, Gene Quade, Louise Haverkamp, Shirley Stone, and Mary Lou Wimberly of St. Mary's County, John Quade and Rosalie Roderick of Granbury, TX, as well many nieces, nephews, cousins, and good friends.

James Edward "Jim" Weber



James Edward "Jim" Weber Capt., U.S.M.C., 91, of Bushwood, MD, formerly of Daytona Beach, FL, passed away on July 24, 2022 in La Plata, MD. Born on September 24, 1930 in Cambridge, NY, he was the son of the late Mary C. Speanburg Weber and the late Joseph P. Weber. Jim is survived by his children J.P. Weber (Ginny) of Helen, MD, Jack Weber (Tammy) of Leonardtown, MD, Betty Ann

Weber (Paul) of Loveville, MD, and Jerry Weber (Stephanie) of Mechanicsville, MD, his brother John C. Weber, eight grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his siblings George E. Weber, Robert B. Weber, Eugene E. Weber, Paul D. Weber, Betty E. Weber and Harold E. Weber.

Jim served in the United States Marine Corp for 21 years, from September 7, 1948 to November 30, 1969, retiring in 1969. He worked at the Harry Lundenberg School of Seamanship as a Trainee, WASP as a Private Investigator, and St. Mary's County Government as Chief of Permits and Inspections Division.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. Where a funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM in the funeral chapel with Deacon Joe Lloyd officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be John Weber, Jr., Michael Weber, Christopher Goldsborough, Dallas Hill, Gene Hill, and Glen Shotwell. Honorary pallbearers will be the United States Marine Corp.

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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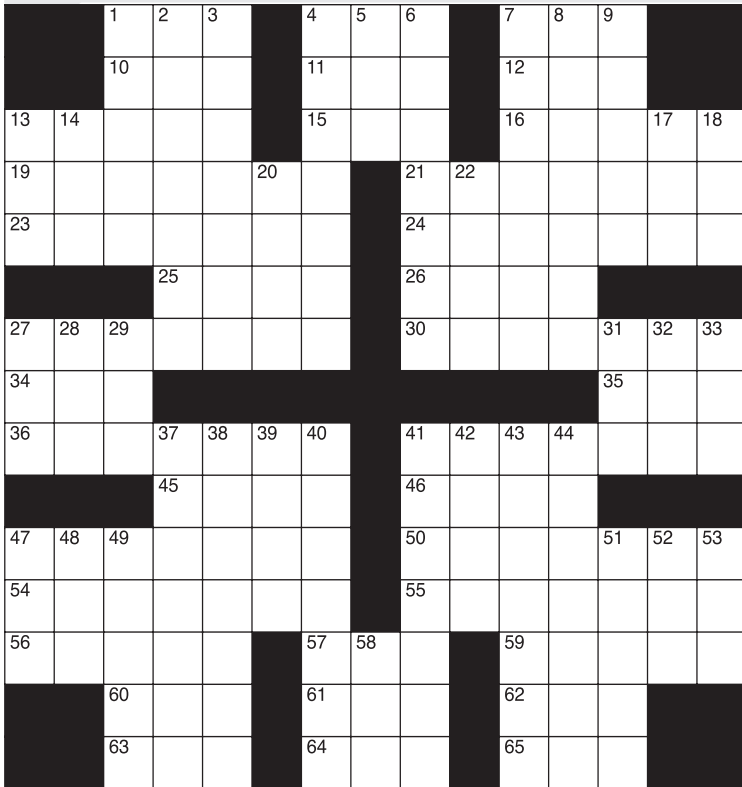
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

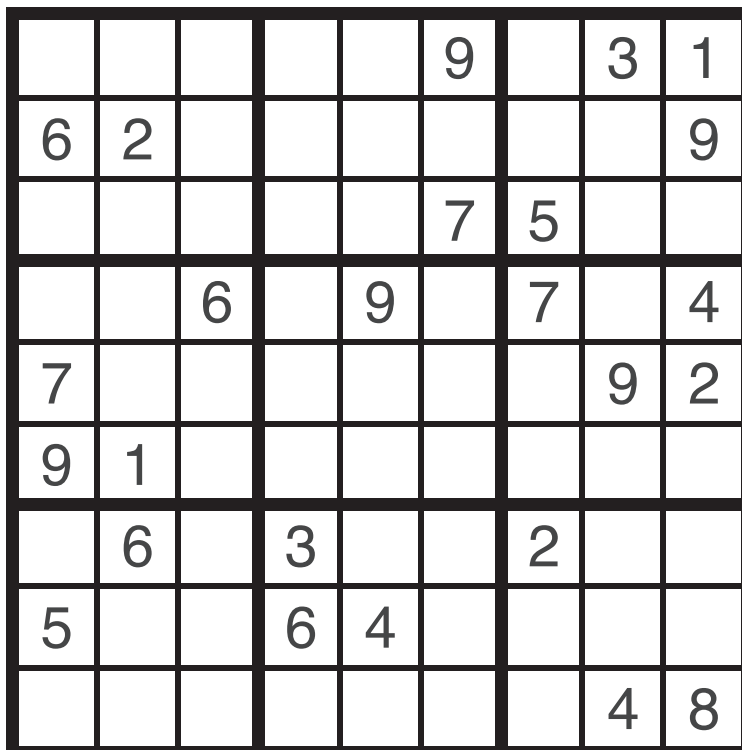
- 1. America's WW2 President
- 4. Move earth
- 7. Insecticide
- 10. Naturally occurring solid material
- 11. State of fuss
- 12. Bhutanese wine
- 13. Greek island
- 15. Taxi
- 16. Tanzanian ethnic group
- 19. Metrical foot
- 21. Boasted
- 23. Eel-like vertebrate
- 24. Small freshwater lakes
- 25. Morally base
- 26. Not odd
- 27. Where you live
- 30. Fixed in place
- 34. A very large body of water
- 35. Moved quickly
- 36. Winged horse
- 41. Small waterfall
- 45. Hoopster Gasol
- 46. One who mimics
- 47. Tropical plant
- 50. Used of walls
- 54. A citizen of Iran
- 55. Christian hermit

- 56. She marries the groom
- 57. American patriotic society
- 59. Wine grape
- 60. School of Buddhism
- 61. A team's best pitcher
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Time zone
- 64. Part of a company name
- 65. Type of bulb

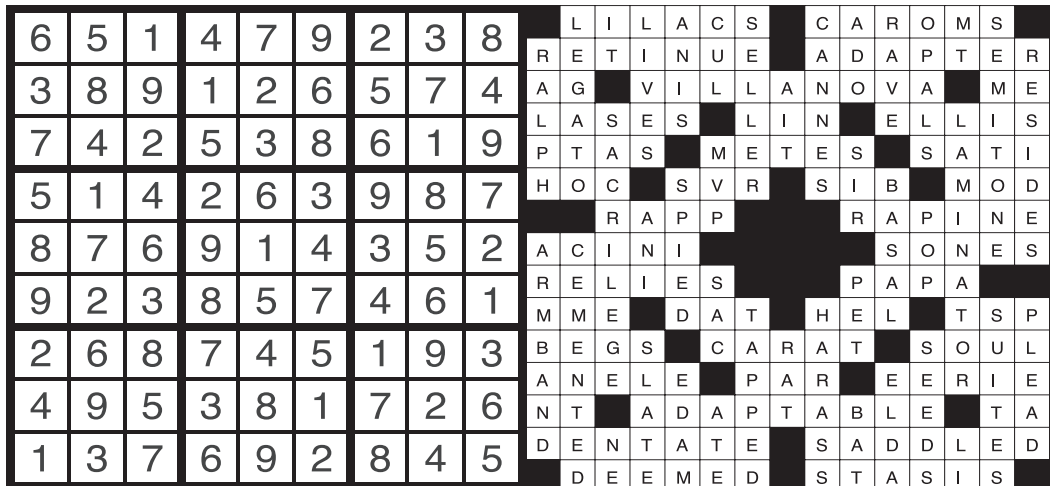
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Marine protozoan
- 2. You use it for your eyes
- 3. Set aside for a later time
- 4. Metrical foot
- 5. Famed journalist Tarbell
- 6. Consumes quickly
- 7. Rewards in a civil suit
- 8. Kamodo are some
- 9. Ballroom dance
- 13. Chum
- 14. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 17. A room to relax
- 18. Commercials
- 20. Six (Spanish)
- 22. Wild party

- 27. Small European viper
- 28. Baseballer Gordon
- 29. Eccentric person
- 31. A way to save for your future
- 32. Young boy
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Changed
- 38. Prominent
- 39. Genus of seabirds
- 40. Event regarded as wrong
- 41. Skipped in a lively way
- 42. Multi-function radar (abbr.)
- 43. A country in W. Africa
- 44. Burn a corpse
- 47. Women's __ movement
- 48. NHL great Bobby
- 49. Coarse, green material
- 51. Treated with calcium oxide
- 52. When you hope to get there
- 53. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 58. What thespians do



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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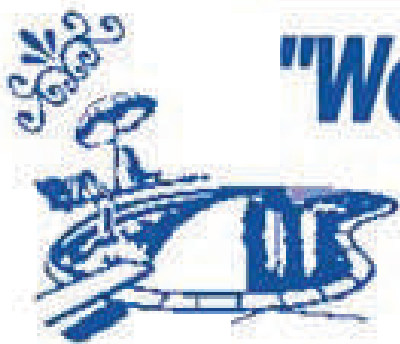


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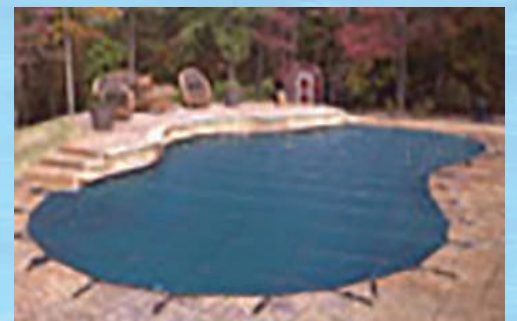


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