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THURSDAY, APRIL 23 2020

# County Times

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# 100 Things

## We Miss Most





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Things St Mary's and Calvert Residents Miss Most



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The Greene Turtle is set to take up residence at the vacant Cheeseburger in Paradise in California



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# Home, & Garden Ideas p.13-22

**"WE'RE HOLDING OUR OWN. WE HAVEN'T RUN OUT OF ANYTHING FOR ANYONE."**

ST. MARY'S DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR STEVE WALKER ON THE CONSTANT SEARCH FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

## WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 4/23 65°   54°F 	Fri 4/24 65°   46°F 	Sat 4/25 60°   51°F 	Sun 4/26 65°   44°F 
Mon 4/27 61°   43°F 	Tue 4/28 62°   51°F 	Wed 4/29 66°   51°F 	Thu 4/30 67°   48°F 

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# St. Mary's COVID-19 Case Rates Dropping

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County's chief health officer, told county leaders Apr. 21 that there is good news in the fight against COVID-19 locally.

"We are seeing new cases," Brewster told the Commissioners of St. Mary's County April 21. "The rate in new cases is going down from what it was a few weeks ago."

Calvert County Health Officer Dr. Laurence Polsky said he was reluctant to say the same thing about his county quite yet. He said he was hopeful that county residents maintained their social distancing over Easter, but if they didn't, this was the week that a spike would occur.

Brewster said social distancing practices and the growing use of face masks or coverings among the general populace in St. Mary's County were providing dividends in reducing the scourge of the pandemic here.

So far 130 people have tested positive for COVID-19 here, according to the latest information from the local health department, with four having died from the disease. Calvert has reported two deaths.

There have been 900 negative tests for the disease with 22 hospitalizations with 31 people having recovered and been released from isolation.

Brewster warned the more favorable infection rates, residents should not let down their guard.

"It's important for people to stay at home as much as possible," Brewster said, adding that she believed health professionals would still have to monitor for the disease even if cases dwindled.

"We're expecting we'll be dealing with this for many months to come," Brewster said. "It calls for us to expand our own testing strategy."

Brewster said health professionals believed they would not have to face such heavy increases in COVID-19 cases as they had once thought, but she said preparations such as medical tents at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital for patient overflow were still important.

"We are still preparing for greater [patient] de-

mand," Brewster said. "The tents are a last resort; we hope we will not have to use them."

Brewster hailed the arrival of 500,000 new COVID-19 testing kits into Maryland from South Korea, from a deal brokered by Gov. Larry Hogan and the state's First Lady Yumi Hogan and hoped more of those kits found their way here.

Testing was still focused on people who exhibited symptoms, Brewster said, though she said people who had the virus but showed no symptoms were her greatest concern as they were most at risk of transmitting the coronavirus.

"We don't have the testing supply to do asymptomatic testing," Brewster lamented.

The commissioners held a virtual public hearing to allocate \$3 million from the fiscal 2019 fund that same day balance not applied already to the fiscal 2021 proposed operating budget to the COVID-19 response efforts.

County finance chief Jeanett Cudmore said the commissioners had already allocated \$850,000 from county reserves on April 7.

She said the county has already spent \$450,000 on the response, to include stocks of personal protective equipment (PPE).

The commissioners voted to move the money into the budget for COVID-19 response.

Steve Walker, director of the county's Department of Emergency Management, said the county was still seeking personal protection equipment (PPE) wherever they could get it; though the county had enough for its first responders to use.

"We're holding our own," Walker said. "We haven't run out of anything for anyone."

The county has purchased three heating units that can be used to sterilize PPE, Walker said.

Finding strategies to be able to continue to reuse the PPE available, he said, was critical as it was scarce.

"It's challenging to get," said Walker. "It's a constant battle."

Editor Dick Myers contributed to this story.

# Chesapeake Beach Lowers Property Tax Rate

## Council Approves Fourth Straight Reduction

By Dick Myers  
Editor

For the fourth year in a row, Chesapeake Beach residents will be seeing a property tax rate reduction. After the decision to adopt the budget for the next fiscal year (FY 2021) that begins July 1 and set the tax rate, Mayor Pat Mahoney said it was probably the first time in the town's history there had been four straight tax rate reductions. All have occurred on his watch.

The new rate established at the April 16 town meeting will be .3393 of assessed \$100 valuation. The current rate is .3309. The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners two weeks ago established the rate differential next fiscal year for town residents, the same as the current year.

The differential that both Chesapeake Beach and North Beach pay is \$.336. That would peg the rate town residents pay to the county at \$.596 per assessed \$100.

The differential is a recognition that the towns provide services to their residents that the county provides to those living outside the town.

The approved Chesapeake Beach budget for the next fiscal year will be \$6.2 million. The current budget, with some adjustments since the beginning of the fiscal year, is \$5.8 million, according to Town Administrator Holly Wahl.

The council deferred until their May meeting the adoption of the water and sewer budget, but Wahl said there are no proposed fee increases except for some changes for new development.

The April 16 meeting was once again held virtually with the participants connected via Zoom. All the town council attended virtually as did many of the town staff.

Mahoney said he had recently talked to Sen. Mike Miller about a grant for the town. He said of the changed times, "Your town and state representatives are still working and providing services for you."

He praised the town staff for making adjustments; many are working from home to maintain social distancing. And he praised town citizens for doing the same distancing and taking the other necessary precautions for their safety.

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# Calvert Board Helps Restock Food Pantries

## Funding Provided for Food Bank Purchases

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Calvert County's robust network for feeding the needy is a model for rural counties in Maryland. Under the leadership of the non-profit End Hunger in Calvert County, multiple food pantries throughout the county have been able to meet the significant need. As it has done to many aspects of life, the coronavirus pandemic has been a game changer.

Many of those food pantries operate out of churches. According to Calvert County Director of Community Resources Jennifer Moreland, "With contributions going down due to church closures and lack of supply at Maryland Food Bank, pantries are unable to meet the growing demand."

End Hunger gets its food from the Maryland Food Bank in Baltimore, stores it at its warehouse in the Calvert Industrial Park, and distributes to the local food pantries. But End Hunger now has also been taxed by helping the school system supplement the free and reduced meals for children stuck at home who normally would get them at school.

Moreland told the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) at their April 21 meeting, "The Maryland Food Bank estimates over the next 90 days, Calvert County will require an additional 463,702 pounds at an approximate cost of \$360,000. This estimate is based on FY20 purchases for Calvert County pantries and growth in demand due to COVID-19."

Moreland said the Maryland Food Bank has encouraged the counties "to develop food distribution plans to meet the anticipated demand."

"We should be grateful we have a unified food distribution system," Moreland said, praising End Hunger. But right now money locally and at the Baltimore food bank is what is in short supply. That money buys food.

Moreland said her department has applied for grants for shelf-stable meals and End Hunger in Calvert County has initiated online fundraising campaigns, "but the results of those efforts won't be realized for another four to six weeks at least."

She said, "The next five weeks are a critical time for our residents, and \$140,000 would ensure adequate supply at our food pantries during that time. As additional funds become available, Department of Community Resources will work with local partner agencies and businesses to shore up the difference needed for the remaining seven weeks."

The BOCC quickly agreed to fund the \$140,000 request. Commissioner Mike Hart, noting the need and the uncertainty of the coronavirus, said, "We may be doing this again."

"It's heart breaking. There are people showing up who have never (done so) in their life," Hart added.

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# Schools To Remain Closed Into May

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

State Superintendent Karen Salmon has ordered that all Maryland public schools remain closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic until May 15, extending the closure past the former deadline of Apr. 24.

Salmon stopped short of announcing the closure of schools for the remainder of the school year at an Apr. 17 press conference with Gov. Larry Hogan in Annapolis.

“With regards to the remainder of the school year and the summer we will use this time to examine every option and continue to develop a plan for long term recovery,” Salmon said.

Salmon reiterated that school systems across the state had been advancing their plans to provide on-line and distance learning services for students during the classroom shutdown and the state Department of Education was continuing to monitor and assess the effectiveness of each jurisdiction’s plans.

Of particular concern were the school systems’ abilities to provide education for special needs students, those with disabilities and to ensure there was accountability for achievement.

Salmon said the state agency was continuing to aid local schools with getting computers and internet connectivity to bolster their distance learning plans.

“We are hopeful that the additional \$207 million in funding from the federal CARES Act, 90 percent of which will go

to local school systems, will help address gaps in the availability of these resources,” Salmon said.

The state superintendent said local jurisdictions were planning special, enhanced summer school programs to make up for lost academic time as well as shortages in technology resources for students.

All of the time away from school had disrupted the pace of academic life and there was concern about what arrangements were available for high school students to graduate.

Salmon said school systems wanted high school seniors to graduate with their diplomas and to have their achievements recognized.

“It’s created much anxiety across our school communities, especially our high school students,” Salmon said, adding that superintendents were finding “creative alternatives to ensure our high school students get what they deserve.”

In a recorded telephone message to all parents of St. Mary’s County public school students, Superintendent J. Scott Smith said the moving timeline presented by the state apparatus was frustrating and that both students, parents and school staff were all feeling increased anxiety and stress.

“This announcement most immediately impacts our seniors as they were scheduled to conclude their instructional year on May

17,” Smith said in the message. “Our high school staff will work with each senior to help them successfully navigate this last month in St. Mary’s County Public Schools.”

Smith announced that the state board of education had waived all state assessment requirements for the Class of 2020 as well as research projects required for graduation, service learning requirements and work based experience hours.

“All other graduation requirements remain unchanged,” Smith said.

He added that almost 90 percent of students had been able to successfully log on to the system’s on-line learning platforms – Imagine and Edgenuity – and the system has mailed approximately 2,000

paper lesson packets to students without internet access.

This will give all students learning content to take them through the fourth marking period, Smith said.

If schools are able to open in mid-May that will give educators five weeks of face-to-face instruction with students, he said, but if they have to open in the fall then the first month to month-and-a-half will likely be dedicated to review of this year’s fourth quarter.

“I think we can catch kids up but it’s going to make for a packed 2021 school year,” said Smith. “We’ll be putting five quarters of instruction into four quarters of time.”

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*



George Washington Carver Elementary School in St. Mary's County

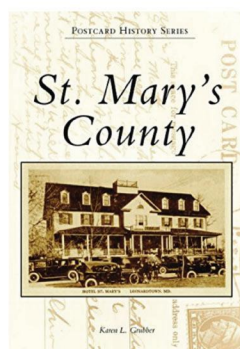
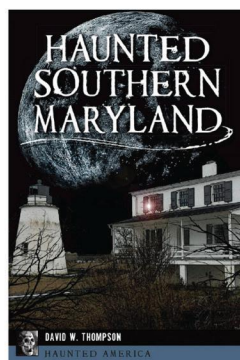
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# Jerry Manley: 'He Loved People'

## Calvert's First Casualty Remembered

By Dick Myers  
Editor

"He loved people and he loved to have fun and laugh, and you could put him in any situation with anybody and he would have just such a good time and there was always laughter." That's how Jerry Manley's wife of 33 years Valerie Sue Manley described her husband.

The public is being barraged every day with the COVID-19 numbers that seem to be increasing dramatically with each daily release. Jerry Manley was Calvert County's first coronavirus casualty, dying March 31 at CalvertHealth Medical Center. His life proves that his death was more than a number. His smile puts a face on the number and the ongoing pandemic tragedy.

For more than two weeks Manley was the only county casualty, but in the last few days the county has added Valerie Sue Manley could have been one of those casualties. They likely contracted the coronavirus at the same time and she too tested positive. She has been told by the health department that she is cleared but she still needs to be retested.

They had gone on a cruise together and then attended Jerry's mother's funeral. She had died of respiratory complications in a nursing home before the nation's first cases at the Seattle nursing home were reported. They were at several other large gatherings. Or it could have been at the grocery store. There is no way now of knowing.

Gerard Paul "Jerry" Manley of Huntingtown was 58. According to his obituary he had lived in the country for 18 years and previously lived in Bowie and Cheverly. Mrs. Manley had some business dealings in Calvert. She said, "I would drive down to Calvert County and it was just beautiful and peaceful, and the people were so kind, and we just thought it was a good move. They had great schools."

Her neighbors have really come through in her time of need. She said, "The people that live in Queensbury are just incredibly loving and giving friends that became family and they have been unbelievably giving and loving and making sure that we've been cared for at a time that it's hard to physically be there. They have made sure that we've been taken care of and other families down here in Calvert County have also."

They have four children, two boys and two girls, who all attended county public schools. She said, "I'm collecting all the memories that anybody has shared on Facebook and on the memory wall and I'm creating a scrapbook for the kids because just the outpouring of love has been unreal and so incredibly comforting and I want them, when they're missing their dad, to be



Jerry Manley

able to open up this scrapbook to see all the people that he touched and all the wonderful things that he did."

They met at the Capital Centre in Landover when she was a hostess and he was a security guard. "It was his sense of humor that everybody keeps talking about, but he always made people laugh and that's fine. That's what drew me to him in the first place. We were always able to laugh."

A short time after they married Jerry joined the Prince George's County Sheriff's Department and then later went over to the P.G. County Police Department, where he retired as a sergeant after 33 years in police service.

His wife said, "If anybody needed anything, it didn't matter how small or they just mentioned they needed something, he would work tirelessly to make sure that he helped out in any way that he could."

That also translated into volunteering with many community activities. His obituary mentions "Emmanuel Baptist Church, the Mickey Steele Foundation, the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge and Children's National Medical Center Foundations."

The obituary and his wife also lovingly talk about some of his other loves – "sports, golf, the beach, and of course Bud Light."

Mrs. Manley said he never drank at home but loved to share his favorite brew with others. "And if you didn't drink Bud Light, he was just disgusted by what you were drinking," she said.

As one who has lost the love of her life to the dreaded coronavirus and lived through a positive test herself, Mrs. Manley has some advice for the community – there are still so many unknowns to be considered before everything is opened up again.

"We're just getting mixed information, and everybody just needs to be careful and not take this lightly. It's really close to home to us. I just hope

other people are careful."

Their four children all came home. Mrs. Manley explained, "He was cremated and brought home to us. It was very sweet that police did an escort and brought him home to us and our neighbors all came out and there were people lined up from Edgewater all the way to here."

There will be a Celebration of Jerry's Life at a later date.

To view a You Tube video of

Jerry Manley's funeral procession and a tribute to his life go to: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SckrC1cmrQs&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2qyltkw8uRnJLbZ\\_jZ5N0hkh6CO5HSzqEWk1ItGONQ-IZvySBPcNA6ZYkA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SckrC1cmrQs&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2qyltkw8uRnJLbZ_jZ5N0hkh6CO5HSzqEWk1ItGONQ-IZvySBPcNA6ZYkA)

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Jerry and Veronica Sue Manley in a family photo taken at their daughter's wedding in Ireland.

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# Calvert Plans for Income Tax Shortfall

*Coronavirus Impact: \$2 million*



Commissioner Mike Hart

By Dick Myers  
Editor

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is taking to public hearing next month a Staff Recommended \$322 million budget that includes a property tax rate reduction from \$0.937 to \$0.932 per assessed \$100 valuation.

The decision to present the budget at the May 19 public hearing comes despite Director of Budget and Finance Tim Hayden's prediction of a \$2 million reduction in income tax revenue due to

the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Hayden is basing his prediction on state revenue estimates.

The reason the BOCC is able to proceed with the same proposal despite the trying and unpredictable fiscal times is because the original staff budget had a built-in surplus of \$4.2 million. The original idea was to use that "temporary surplus" to fund some of the more than \$9 million in requests that had been cut.

Now that is out the window. After making up for that lost income tax revenue, lower investment revenue and lower recordation tax estimates, that temporary surplus has dwindled to \$500,000.

Some of the budget items left on the cutting room floor are:

- Veterinarian for animal shelter
- Eight career EMS staff
- Board of Education request in addition to funding formula (for six kindergarten teachers and three guidance counselors)
- College of Southern Maryland budget has been flat for three years.

Commissioner Mike Hart, a strong animal advocate, argued passionately for the restoration of the full-time veterinarian. Hart said the veterinarian should have been in the original budget for the new animal shelter. "It's incred-

ibly inhumane not to have a vet there," he said.

Currently, according to Director of Public Safety Jacqueline Vaughn, the shelter has a contract vet come in several days a week and for emergencies. Commissioner Tim Hutchins argued that the animals in the shelter did have care available.

Vaughn said the full-time veterinarian could eventually pay for itself by providing additional services, such as rabies and spay/neuter clinics.

Hart's motion to restore the funding failed on a 2-3 vote, with Commissioner Kelly McConkey supporting him.

In the end Hutchins motion prevailed for all of items left unfunded to be revisited in six months, or perhaps sooner, to see how the pandemic's financial hit ultimately plays out

In addition to the animal shelter veterinarian, a request by the chief judge for four additional court security personnel was left unfunded.

According to Hayden, some of the other highlights of the Staff Recommended Budget are:

- Fully funding Other Post-Employment Benefits -- \$7.3 million (Retiree health care for county government and Board of Education)

- \$10.8 million for Capital Projects (Changed from \$10.6 but offset within an operating budget -- zero general fund impact)

- A step increase (i.e., salary increase) for county employees, plus a 1.42 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA)

- \$6.2 million is provided to fund the road paving program.

So, what happens if things go worse than predicted. Hayden said items in the budget that could be targeted include:

- The rest of that temporary surplus -- \$500,000

- Paving -- \$2 million of the \$6.2 million total

- Land preservation transfer -- \$1 million of the more than \$4 million

- Safety camera money -- \$300,000

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## Mayor, Two Town Council Seats To Be Decided May 5 Election



Leonardtown Mayor Dan Burris



Appeals Board Member Doug Isleib

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The next Leonardtown elections are set for May 5 and three town residents, including one incumbent, are seeking to fill two council seats.

The mayor's seat, currently held by Mayor Dan Burris is also open but as of Apr. 21, the filing deadline for candidacy, only he had filed to run for the office.

Council member Jay Mattingly, who works for the county's Department of Emergency Management as a training director, is seeking reelection while council member Hayden Hammett did not file to retain his office.



Council member Jay Mattingly

Burris, who is seeking third term, wants to continue the work of revitalizing the town, particularly by implementing the downtown strategic plan and

seeing the construction of the Tudor Hall Farm development.

He also wanted to see completion of the wharf project to include a high-end restaurant there, Burris said.

"That's a lot right there," the mayor said. "There are a lot of things I'd like to follow through on."

Burris owns and operates Olde Town Insurance in Leonardtown.

Mattingly is also seeking a third term on the council and touted the council's work over the years to improve the town, recently the improvements to the wastewater treatment plant and the pier and dock addition to the town wharf.

Now, Mattingly said he wanted to see the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant to increase its capacity for anticipated residential growth.

"I definitely want to see that go through," Mattingly said. "And I want to protect our waterfront."

Doug Isleib, a member of the town's appeals board, filed for one of the council seats as did Nick Colvin, who works at

the county's Department of Land Use and Growth Management.

The two top vote recipients will win the two available seats.

Isleib, a retired defense contractor and Marine Corps helicopter pilot, said he wants to help see Leonardtown grow its business base and see more amenities for town residents.

"There's such an opportunity for the town to continue to grow," Isleib said.

He said he wants to support the businesses already in town and help bring in new ones; he also wants to see more connectivity between neighborhoods with pedestrian friendly streets and bike paths.

Nick Colvin, born and raised in Leonardtown, ran unsuccessfully for town council two years ago but is trying again.

He also wants to see positive business and residential growth in Leonardtown but said the key is how the town advertises its many events and amenities.

"A big part of that is promotion," Colvin said. "And I want to continue to promote the healthy balance between growth and maintaining that rural, historic charm of being a small town."

"I want to be part of the local government and serve the people of Leonardtown; it's been a passion of mine."

The town is making applications for absentee ballots available as part of its plan to continue social distancing practices under the COVID-19 crisis, Burris said.

Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the town government by Apr. 28.

Residents will still be able to vote at the town hall, Burris said, but will likely be asked to come in the front door and leave through the back; voting starts at noon and ends at 7p.m., May 5.

Staff will be there to disinfect voting stations as they are used, the mayor said.

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)



Nick Colvin

## Hogan: Maryland Gets 500K COVID Test Kits from South Korea

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Gov. Larry Hogan announced April 20 that, with the help of his wife Yumi Hogan, Maryland has just received half-a-million coronavirus test kits from the Republic of South Korea after weeks of negotiations that were held confidentially.

Hogan made his announcement at an Annapolis press conference and said the vast supply of test kits was brought into BWI Airport this past weekend by a Korean Airlines Boeing 777; the test kits will be distributed throughout the state and to various labs therein.

Rapidly increasing the level of testing ability for COVID-19 was one of four main requirements laid out by Hogan last week to reopen the state.

The others were to increase the levels of personal protection gear available to health workers and first responders, increase the number of hospital beds to deal with any surge in the infection and vastly increase the number of health investigators who are keeping track of the infected and anyone who may have been exposed to them.

Having a greater testing capacity means finding more infected people so they can be isolated, Hogan said, thus allowing for the eventual slowing of the virus' spread.

If this can be accomplished, he said, the sooner Maryland can be reopened, and its economy restarted.

"Over the weekend we've taken an exponential, game changing step forward," Hogan said. "The lack of testing remains the most serious obstacle to reopening our state."

The test kits come from a vendor

called LabGenomics from South Korea, Hogan said, and his wife, who is Korean, joined him in a call last month with that nation's ambassador to the United States, Lee Soo-hyuck, to help to cement the deal.

Hogan said his wife was the "champion" of making the call for help a successful one.

The effort was called Operation Enduring Friendship.

The kits cost about \$9 million, Hogan said.

"It seemed like a pretty worthwhile investment," Hogan said. "We're still searching for more." So far about 71,000 tests have been completed in Maryland, Hogan said, with 40,000 new test kits brought in last week.

St. Mary's Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster hailed the arrival of the new test kits.

"We are thrilled by this wonderful news and excited to get more test kits for St. Mary's County residents," Brewster said in a statement. "Our health department is looking forward to implementing new strategies that will make these available to our residents and improve our ability as a community to stop COVID-19."

Hogan spoke about the Korean people's appreciation for the sacrifice made by American troops to keep South Korea free from communist aggression during the Korean War 70 years ago; Maryland was thankful for the aid given it by the South Korean people, he said.

"After Operation Enduring Friendship the State of Maryland owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to the people of South Korea," Hogan said.

[guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)

## Greene Turtle Coming to Wildewood



Contractors have been working on refurbishing the vacant Cheeseburger in Paradise restaurant to make way for a Greene Turtle franchise, county development officials said.





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# Deputies Make Arrests in Armed Robberies

On April 14, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 21800 block of FDR Boulevard in Lexington Park, for the reported robbery. Investigation determined the two victims were seated in a vehicle when two suspects, known to the victims, entered the backseat of the vehicle. Shortly after entering the vehicle, one suspect displayed a handgun and demanded money from the victims. The suspects obtained money and stole personal property from the victims before fleeing the area on foot.

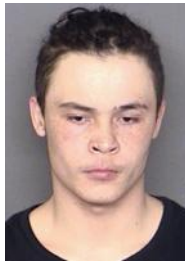
One suspect, a male age 16 of Leonardtown, was located hours after the incident and was arrested. Gavon Phillip Jones, age 18 of Lexington Park, was located on April 16, 2020, and arrested. Both suspects were transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center and charged with the following:

- Armed Robbery
- Robbery
- Assault First Degree
- Assault Second Degree
- Theft
- Handgun Use/Crime of Violence
- The juvenile suspect in this incident

was charged as an adult and has been released from the detention center on pre-trial supervision. Due to a recent change in Maryland law the name and photograph of the juvenile will not be released until the court makes a finding at the waiver hearing to determine the jurisdiction of this case. Jones remains incarcerated at the detention center on a no bond status.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Corporal Skyler LeFave at (301) 475-4200 extension 71983 or by email at Skyler.LeFave@st-marysmd.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.



Gavin Jones

# Suspect Sought in Buehler's Liquors Robbery



The Calvert County Sheriff's Office is seeking the public's assistance to help identify the burglary suspect shown in the attached pictures.

Investigation revealed the subject entered Buehler's Liquor located at 4915 Saint Leonard Road, Saint Leonard, MD at approximately 11:20 p.m. on April 19th, 2020 through a side window. The suspect proceeded to take numerous pint-sized bottles of Burnett's vodka and a pack of Maverick menthol cigarettes.

The suspect is described as a white male with an approximate age of late teens to late 20's, with medium-length

dark hair. He was seen wearing a light-colored hoodie with white writing on the front, along with light-colored tennis shoes with reflective material on the back. The backpack is black with white piping, white side pockets, and a white logo/symbol on the front.

If you are able to identify this individual or have information pertaining to this crime, please contact Deputy Gough at (410) 535-2800, email Ryan.Gough@calvertcountymd.gov or use the 'Submit a Tip' feature on our new mobile app. Please refer to case number 20-20428.

## ST. MARY'S SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME REPORT

**Trespassing-** On April 7, 2020, Cpl. Tirpak responded to the 21700 block of South Coral Drive in Lexington Park, for a premise check. Oliver Henry Woods Jr., age 59 of no fixed address, was located on the property. Woods had been ordered off

the property several hours earlier by law enforcement. Woods became belligerent and refused to leave the property. Woods was arrested and charged with Trespass: Private Property. CASE# 21312-20 On April 10, 2020, Dep. Haas responded to the same location for the reported trespassing. Woods was located on the property and arrested. Woods was charged with Trespass: Private Property.

**Violation of Protective Order-** On April 8, 2020, Dep. Hill responded to the 46400 block of Franklin Road in Lexington Park, for the reported protective order violation. Investigation determined Valerie Michele Thomas, age 44 of Great Mills, violated a valid court order by contacting the victim which is prohibited by the order. Thomas was arrested and charged with Violation of Protective Order.



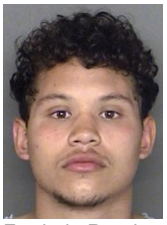
Oliver Woods

**Arson/Threat-** On April 10, 2020, Dep. Hersh responded to the 42200 block of Ridge Road in Mechanicsville, for the reported threat of arson. Investigation determined Michael Andre Artayet, age 58 of Mechanicsville, made threats to the victims to burn down the victims' residence during a disagreement over food. Artayet was arrested and charged with Arson/Threat.

**Burglary-** On April 11, 2020, Dep. Myers responded to the 21200 block of Lexwood Court in Lexington Park, for the reported burglary. Investigation determined Frederic Drew Brooks, age 23 of Lexington Park, forced entry into the victim's residence by kicking the door, damaging the door lock. Once inside the residence Brooks threatened to kill the occupants, and was reportedly armed with a machete. Brooks ultimately left the residence and was located shortly after the incident. Brooks was arrested and charged with Burglary 3rd and 4th Degree, Assault 1st and 2nd Degree, Reckless Endangerment, and Malicious Destruction of Property.



Michael Artayet



Frederic Brooks

## MARYLAND STATE POLICE CALVERT CRIME REPORT

April 21, 2020

**Warrant Service -** On 4/18/2020, Senior Trooper McCombs responded to the Calvert County Detention Center to make contact with Paul Leroy Chew, who had an active warrant (FTA-Driving While Suspended) through the Maryland State Police, Prince Frederick Barrack. Chew was located and served the warrant without incident.

**DUI/CDS Arrest/Firearm Violation/Disabled Vehicle -** On 04/18/2020, Trooper Moorman and Trooper First Class Rucker responded to the area of Route 4 and Cove Point Road, Lusby, for a disabled vehicle. Once on scene probable cause search was conducted due to the smell of burnt marijuana and alcohol emitting from the vehicle. CDS-Marijuana was located in the vehicle as well as a loaded Glock 23 handgun. The driver was identified as William Albert Hairston Jr. Hairston was subsequently placed under arrest for DUI, CDS marijuana, and weapon violation. Hairston was transported to the Maryland State Police, Prince

Frederick Barrack for processing prior to being incarcerated at the Calvert County Detention Center. All CDS were packaged and processed at the Maryland State Police, Prince Frederick Barrack.

**Motor Vehicle Accident / Possession of Heroin -** On 04/20/2020, Trooper First Class Palumbo responded to the area of Route 4 and Patuxent Point Parkway, Solomons, for the report of a single motor vehicle accident. Upon arriving on scene, Trooper First Class Palumbo made contact with the passenger, Antoine Dominique Brooks, 31, who sustained no apparent injuries due to the collision. Trooper First Class Palumbo observed CDS paraphernalia in plain sight and a probable cause search of the vehicle resulted in two syringes of suspected heroin as well as other paraphernalia. Brooks was issued criminal citations and released from the scene. Due to the injuries sustained by the driver, charges are pending at this time.

Press Release from MSP Barrack U – Prince Frederick



# What We Miss Most

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

For weeks now much of Southern Maryland, along with the rest of the state, has been shut down with residents staying home, either alone or with their families, waiting for the day when the COVID-19 disease has reduced enough that things return to normal.

Businesses, especially restaurants, small scale retailers and entertainment venues, have all suffered from the severe lack of patronage and are struggling to stay open.

Families are dealing with teaching their children at home using either on-line courses from the public school systems or through private instruction or home schooling.

Basic interactions once taken for granted have given way to social distancing and isolation, from casual conversations with strangers to family members separated by the pandemic.

The County Times asked residents of both St. Mary's and Calvert counties what they missed most from their normal lives because of the COVID-19 crisis.

Many wanted to rejoin extended family; others just wanted to get back to work.

Others missed their faith organizations, some chafed under the many restrictions placed on them by government officials.

Ted Verdict wrote about what he missed most: "Honestly - spreading my [money] to local businesses to meet my needs and theirs; It hurts to watch friends' businesses shuttered/reduced hours/much reduced services being available."

He also wanted the services of a barber. "And I do need a haircut also," Verdict said.

Daniele Kennedy missed watching youth sports and her children on the field, she wrote.

"[I miss] watching my kids and their teams from the sidelines," Kennedy wrote.

One of the first casualties of the COVID-19-induced shutdown was the closure of county owned sports fields; Gov. Larry Hogan's orders restricting gatherings of people to no more than 10 people effectively made team sports illegal for the time being.

This restriction made Sondra Jean Ragard think on what she missed most, one of the simplest activities in which one could engage.

"[I miss] hanging out with friends," Ragard wrote.

Pam Mackowiak narrowed down what she missed most to just two things.

"Friends and shopping," she said.

In Calvert County, James Rollins wrote about how the pandemic had disrupted decades old traditions he had enjoyed.

"[I miss] taking our daily walk on the boardwalk at North Beach," Rollins said. "Almost daily for 20 years.

"Walking in the street or on the sidewalk is not the same."

Maria Ciancio regretted the closure

of the movie theatres in Calvert County, which provided her with time with friends.

"One of my first things I miss the most is [date night] with Jason Riggleman at Flagship Cinemas [in] Calvert Village," she wrote. "Second getting my girl time with grandma at Fashion Nails."

Sara Hyrcza Lloyd just wanted to see her husband who was still in the hospital after suffering serious medical problems.

"[I miss] being with my husband in the hospital after his [two] strokes on [March 21,] she wrote. "It's been 30 days since I've seen him!"

Church families have been using live streaming with on-line platforms such as Facebook to hold virtual services, some with much technical success.

But some local church leaders lament the lack of close fellowship that has so defined their faith life over many years together as a called-out assembly of believers.

Leonard Kohl, a member of the St. Mary's County's Alcohol Beverage Board, said he missed going to mass the most.

Tim Tullos, a youth pastor at Patuxent Baptist Church in Great Mills, said church just wasn't the same without the real social element.

"I miss normal church activity," Tullos said. "Assembling together to worship with each other and exhorting one another.

"It's hard as I try to maintain a spirit of worship in my home watching preaching, it's not the same as being able to meet and worship together as a church."

Ceandra Scott, a local freelance photographer, missed just being able to hug the members of her church.

The COVID-19 shutdown has also affected places like Knowledge Boxing Gym in Lexington Park.

It's owner, operator and lead trainer Daryl Hinmon said having to stop boxing training took away positive experiences from young people.

"First and foremost, we greatly miss being able to teach and influence the lives of the young people at Knowledge Boxing on a daily basis," Hinmon wrote. "Additionally, the Washington DC Golden Gloves tournament is held from Feb-April every year.

"We had three boxers in the finals when the tournament was postponed due to COVID."

Many in Maryland have been critical of the governor's edicts restricting business operations and even how people choose to congregate and where.

Over the weekend protestors took to the streets in Annapolis, often driving in vehicles, pressing for the lifting of those restrictions, arguing that families could no longer afford to be out of work.

Debby Mayhew Johnson summed up what she missed the most in just two words.

"My freedom," she wrote.

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# 100 Things We Miss Most

1. Visiting Family
2. Dining Out
3. Shopping Locally
4. Walks On The Beach
5. Attending Church
6. Going to the Gym
7. Getting A Haircut
8. Movie Theaters
9. Youth Sports
10. Freedom



## Commissioners Pressed for St. Mary's School, COVID-19 Funding at Public Hearing

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The few callers who gave public testimony at a virtual fiscal 2021 operating budget public hearing in Leonardtown April 21 mostly said the Commissioners of St. Mary's County should fully fund the request from the school board for millions more to satisfy compensation agreements between unions and the school system.

Of the six separate public hearings held Tuesday night, the only call-in comments came for the overall budget proposal of \$259 million, the single largest expenditure of which was for the board of education at \$106.9 million for the local portion.

That number is \$3 million over last year's budgeted amount from the county.

Hearings on the property tax rate (recommended to stay at .8478 per \$100 of assessed value), the advertising fee for the land use department, activity fee and Wicomico Shores Golf Course fee increases and rescue tax increase for the 7th District Volunteer Rescue Squad in Avenue all had no callers.

Commissioners warned, however, that since the COVID-19 crisis and the subsequent shutdown of businesses and the loss of income tax revenue in a short period of time, much work was in the future to ensure the county could cover its expenses.

Earlier that day Jeanett Cudmore, county

finance officer, advised that the revenue projections drop from 4.5 percent growth to just 3.5 percent growth over the last fiscal year.

"Now is not the time to shorten education funding," said Merrie Beth Nauman, chair of the Chesapeake Charter School Alliance, who said balancing the schools finances had become more difficult because the commissioners had not fully funded the \$7.5 million increase the school board had requested. "On the verge of a recession that is one investment worth making."

William Hall, president of the local NAACP chapter, said minorities had been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 virus and wanted assistance made available to that community.

"We want to make sure we're doing everything we can to make sure testing is available to minorities in the area," Hall said. "We want to make sure PPE (personal protective equipment) is available to those who don't have access as well."

"Small businesses are impacted by this, but there were a lot of minority businesses that missed on the grants and loans from the state, they need your support at this moment."

The commissioners have scheduled two more budget work sessions for May 5 and May 12 with tax rates to be set and budget adopted on May 19.

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## How to Serve Calvert's Unserved?

### What to Do with Internet Dead Spots

By Dick Myers  
Editor

One of the concerns in Calvert County about the roll out of online learning in the wake of the novel coronavirus was the reality that there were internet access dead spots, particularly in rural areas. Before the crisis started, Calvert County government had begun to work with the county's cable provider, Comcast, to "Serve the Underserved."

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) received a progress update on the initiative at their April 21 meeting from Deputy County Administrator Wilson Parran and Director of Communications Linda Vassallo.

The report showed that some progress has been made but reaching all the estimated 462 unserved homes was at least several years away.

According to the update, the county's franchise agreement with Comcast calls for at least a density of 15 homes per mile for service to be required. It also extends the length of a standard cost-free drop from 125 feet to 300 feet and also provides a clear formula for the extension when minimum density is not met. It can be prohibitively expensive for a homeowner to have the line extended without the minimum density.

Those almost 500 homes are in 20 communities. The report showed that Comcast has agreed to provide service to four of those communities with 62 homes. Those in Lancaster Hills and King's Ridge in St. Leonard, Twin Oak Road in Huntingtown and Yellow Bank Road in Dunkirk have been connected and Camp Conoy Road in Lusby will be done once easement issues are resolved.

State pilot grants have been awarded to connect 28 homes on Sixes Road in Prince Frederick and seven homes on Fig Point Road, also in Prince Frederick. Total cost of those two pilot projects is \$127,895 with the state kicking in half, Comcast \$40,200, and the county the rest.

The next major project is contingent on state funding for which the grant period won't open until later this year. That will be for 151 homes in Barstow and carries a price tag of \$1.6 million, with the cost share between the county, state, and Comcast still to be determined. The BOCC urged staff to continue to work on that project and determine how much Comcast is willing to pay.

But the Barstow project wouldn't be complete, assuming state funding, until early 2022.

That still leaves a number of homes unserved and no clear path to resolving the funding issue to get the work done. The BOCC was given the following options:

- Community agreement
- Special tax district
- State grant with match
- Federal grant (i.e. USDA)
- Use of franchise fee (\$1.2 million yearly, currently going into the general fund).
- Public/private partnership – state/county/Comcast
- Agriculture programs

Parran and Vassallo also presented the BOCC with the option of setting up a task force, but the board bypassed that suggestion in favor of staff continuing to work with Comcast to come up with solutions.

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)

## Calvert Public Works Director Retires

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Calvert County Director of Public Works P. Rai Sharma reportedly has retired. Although the retirement has not been officially announced by the county, Sharma's name has disappeared from the department's website and his deputy, Danielle Conrow is now listed as acting director and her picture is posted. She represented the department at the commissioners' April 21 meeting.

Sharma's story was told by The County Times on March 12. He immigrated from India in 1973 with just the clothes on his back and an engineering degree and before the year was out he had secured a job in Wicomico County, where he would stay until 2008, first as project engineer and then for 21 years as their director of public works.

He came to Calvert in 2010, first as director of engineering and since 2015 as department director.

His success in America was built on hard work. His first job in America required him to be at work early and before long he was working a second job.

At 76 years of age, during the interview he

hinted at retirement. At the time he said he still came into work at 7 a.m., first stopping at the landfills or inspecting road projects.

He said, "This department is going to be there. It was there before I came here. It will be there after I leave. But I think it's a matter of how somebody does their job. I believe I have done well. I have the respect of my leaders, my citizens, and my coworkers. I always believe in teamwork. Without my team under me, I won't be here. My team who makes me shine. Yes. I guide them. I have been guiding them and I will continue to guide them."

He added, "I don't know of a leader who is successful unless the team behind him is successful too. I support my staff. I stand for them and I've always got their back. I tell them, you know, as long as you work within the ordinances and the rules and regulations, I will have your back. Do not worry about it. But if you do something wrong, out of those rules, regulations, or ordinances, don't expect my help at all. I won't be there. The chips may fall wherever they may fall, but if you follow the rules, regulations, policies, I will be right there."

[dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)

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# 3 Ways To Use Your Lawn To Improve Curb Appeal



Houses are shrinking, selling faster and getting smarter upgrades according to industry statistics.

Returns on home improvement projects vary. In its annual Cost vs. Value Report, Remodeling magazine notes the projects that yield the best returns on investment in a given year. But a host of factors ultimately combine to determine if homeowners' investments in home improvement projects will provide the returns they were hoping for.

Though there's no way of guaranteeing a home improvement project will yield a great return, real estate professionals often cite improving curb appeal as an excellent way to attract prospective buyers and potentially get the asking price or more when selling the home.

Improving curb appeal makes even more sense in today's real estate market, when many people do their own searching via real estate websites such as Trulia or Zillow. When using such sites, buyers will likely be less inclined to click on a listing if exterior photos of the property are not eye-catching.

Various projects, including tending to lawns and gardens, can improve curb appeal. An added benefit to focusing on landscaping to improve curb appeal is it promotes spending time outdoors in spring and summer. In addition, many lawn- and garden-related home improvement projects need not require professional expertise.

## 1. Maintain a lush green lawn.

Lawns that fall into disrepair may not give buyers a correct impression about how homeowners maintained their homes. Lawns with multiple dead spots and grass that appears more brown than green may lead many buyers to assume that the home's interior was equally ill-cared for. Maintaining lush green lawns is not as difficult as it may seem. Applying fertilizer and aerating at the appropriate times of year (this varies by region) can promote strong roots and healthy soil, making it easier for grass to survive harsh conditions like drought. When wa-

tering in summer, do so in early morning or evening so as little water is lost to evaporation as possible.

## 2. Address brown patch.

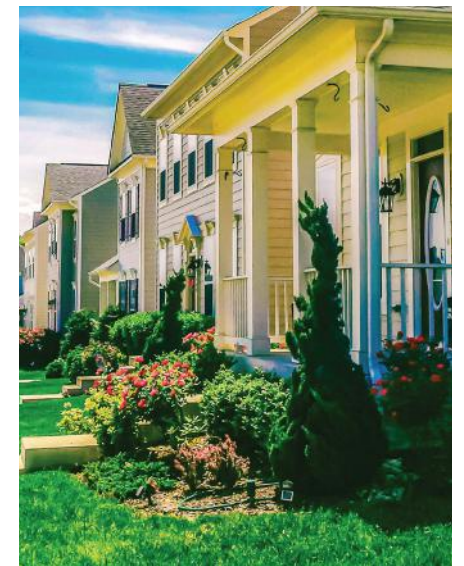
Even well-maintained lawns can fall victims to brown spots. According to the lawn care professionals at TruGreen, lawns in regions with hot temperatures and high humidity can be infected with brown patch, a common lawn disease that is caused by fungus, which can produce circular areas of brown, dead grass surrounded by narrow, dark rings. Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences notes that removing dew that collects on grass leaves each morning, which can be accomplished by mowing or dragging a water hose across affected areas, can be an effective way to reduce brown patch. Homeowners without much lawn care experience can consult professional landscapers to address the issue. But those looking to sell their properties should note that buyers often walk the grounds of homes they are considering buying. So addressing any issues on the lawn should be a priority for sellers.

## 3. Confine dogs to certain areas.

Dog owners may want to let their pets roam free in their yards. But homeowners about to put their properties up for sale may want to confine their four-legged

friends to certain areas. That's because dog urine can be high in nitrogen. Nitrogen itself is not harmful to lawns, but in high concentrations it can contribute to yellow or brown spots. Also, highly acidic dog urine may even adversely affect pH levels in the soil.

Curb appeal can go a long way toward helping homeowners sell their homes, and a lush lawn can be used to catch the eye of prospective buyers.



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# Preparing Garden Beds For Spring And Beyond



Begin preparing garden bed soil early for new plants.

Gardening enthusiasts may have been thinking about their landscape plans throughout the winter, eager to once again get their hands dirty with soil. Whether a home gardener is making preparations for edible crops or beautiful flowers, he or she must take time to make the soil amenable to planting. To establish hearty, durable plants, gardeners can

focus on three main areas: addressing soil composition, cultivating and adding nutrients.

#### Soil composition

Many gardeners prefer growing a variety of plants in their gardens. Such an approach requires taking inventory of the type of soil in one's garden and making the necessary modifications so that the types of

vegetables, herbs, shrubs, or flowers that will be planted can grow in strongly. In fact, according to the plant company Proven Winners, the most important step to developing good roots is preparing the soil.

Take a sample of the soil and examine it to see what is present. If the soil is too full of clay, too sandy, too dense, or too loose, that can lead to problems where plants cannot grow in strong. Work with a garden center to add the right soil amendments to make a rich soil. This may include organic compost or manure, which will also add nutrients to the soil.

#### Cultivation

Cultivating the soil can involve different steps. Removal of weeds, errant rocks, roots, and other items will help prepare the soil. Mother Earth News suggests working on garden soil when the soil is damp but never wet; otherwise, garden soil can become messy and clumpy. Use a digging fork or shovel to lightly turn the soil when it's mostly dry. Gentle tillings also can open up the soil to incorporate the nutritional amendments and relieve compaction that likely occurred from freezing temps and snow pressure. Tilling also helps with drainage and oxygen delivery to roots. The DIY Network suggests turning over soil at a depth of 12 inches to work the soil —

about the length of a shovel spade. However, the resource Earth Easy says that existing garden beds have a complex soil ecosystem and simply top-dressing with compost or manure can be enough preparation for planting. Gardeners can experiment with the methods that work best for their gardens.

#### Nutrition

Testing the pH and the levels of certain nutrients in the soil, namely nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, will give gardeners an idea of other soil additions that may be needed. Soils with a pH below 6.2 often can benefit from the addition of lime several weeks before planting. Soil tests will determine just how much fertilizer to add to the soil. Complete fertilizers will have equal amounts of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. Individual fertilizers can amend the soil with only these nutritional elements that are needed.

Top-dressing empty beds with a layer of mulch or compost can prevent weed growth and preserve moisture until it is time to plant. If existing shrubs or plants are in garden beds, use more care so as not to disturb roots or dig too deeply.

Preparing garden beds takes some effort initially, but can be well worth the work when plants flourish throughout the growing season.

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# Transform Bathrooms With Technology



Technology is infiltrating every room of the house. Many new home buyers are millennials, and this tech-savvy demographic covets technological innovations.

A recent survey by Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate indicates 77 percent of Generation X and Y home buyers want their homes equipped with the tech capabilities they have grown accustomed to. Many of these involve smart innovations, including those that can transform one of the most private rooms in the house — the bathroom.

Automated home theater rooms and Wi-Fi-enabled home security systems have become the norm, but what tech improvements are available to make the powder room more in touch with today's digital lifestyle? According to the home improvement resource The Spruce, bathrooms have the most potential of any rooms to be improved with technology. The following are just some of the bathroom gadgets and gizmos no one should resist before giving a try.

- Automatic faucets: Infrared sensors have been helping keep public restrooms more hygienic for years. The same technology can be used in home bathrooms to curtail water waste and keep faucets and sinks from becoming infested with germs. In addition, faucets with built-in timers can be programmed to set tasks for brushing teeth or washing your face.

- Musical shower: Instead of having to blast the volume on the portable speaker you use in the bathroom, a wireless speaker is built

into some showerheads. This enables those who like to sing in the shower or listen to podcasts while washing up to enjoy this luxury effortlessly.

- Smarter weight management: Bathroom scales have gone high-tech as well, with various options enabling users to measure weight, BMI and body fat percentage before sending the data wirelessly to a phone, tablet or computer. This can put you in greater control of fitness goals.

- High-tech toilets: Borrowing ideas from bidets and trends around the world, modern toilets do not require hands or paper. These toilets have temperature-controlled water, spritzing wands and air dryers to clean and sanitize. Self-cleaning toilets help busy professionals save time and are ideal for those who always want their bowls as clean as possible. And if you desire extra comfort, toilet seat warmers are available, while LED lights can make nighttime restroom visits easier.

- Soaking tubs: As fast as stand-alone showers were introduced to the modern bathroom, tubless designs have been replaced with streamlined soaking tubs. Tubs come with different features, including chromatherapy, which employs colored lights to enhance mood. Air baths are controlled electronically and provide different levels of sensation for those who are skipping the hot tub.

Round out these innovations with automated lights, chilled medicine cabinets and aromatherapy, and your bathroom will indeed become a technological spa.

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# Container Gardening Tips

Gardening is beneficial in various ways. The AARP states that some of the health perks associated with gardening include improved mood, increased vitamin D levels (which benefits bones and immune system) and reduced risk of dementia. In addition, if gardening efforts include growing herbs, fruits and vegetables, it can be a cost-effective way to eat healthy.

For gardeners without sufficient space or for those with mobility issues, container gardening can be an ideal way to grow everything from flowers to vegetables. Better Homes & Gardens says most plants are not fussy about the containers in which they grow so long as some of their basic needs are met. This means watering correctly for the type of plant, and ensuring sufficient drainage.

The following are some other ways container gardening efforts can prove successful.

- Watch water. Planet Natural Research Center says plants with thin leaves typically need ample water, and plants with thick leaves need less. Use this as a guideline to gauge water needs.

- Size correctly. Plants should be sized to the container. Consider dwarf varieties of certain plants if your containers are small.

- Choose the right soil. Fill containers with a commercial potting soil rather than soil from the garden. Garden soil can dry into a solid mass, while commercial mixtures have amendments like peat moss, vermiculite, compost, and other ingredients to help with soil texture and moisture retention.

- Mix it up. When planting containers of flowers and other greenery, Good Housekeeping says to include “a thriller, a spiller and a filler” as a good rule of thumb. The thriller is the focal point, the spiller a trailing plant, and a filler has smaller leaves or flowers to add bulk and color.

- Poke holes. Drainage holes are essential so that soil will not become waterlogged. Holes don’t need to be large, but there should be enough of them so that excess water can drain out readily.

- Select the right container material. Container materials may be affected by gardeners’ budgets, personal taste and other factors. For those who live in hot climates, selecting a light-colored container can help prevent further soil heat absorption.

Container gardening is a healthy and enjoyable activity that can pay dividends in various ways.



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# Stay safe around power lines

With the return of spring, many people are excited to head outdoors and get started on some projects around the house and yard. It's important to stay safe and be aware of overhead power lines. Look up.

- Never climb power poles or transmission towers.
- Never climb trees near power lines.
- Keep equipment away from overhead lines when carrying ladders, pool skimmers, and pruning tools.
- If you are doing work close to power lines—such as trimming trees, working on your roof, or doing exterior renovations—keep yourself, your ladder and anything you are handling a safe distance from the power line.

In addition to overhead lines, SMECO has many underground electric lines. Call **Miss Utility at 811** before you dig.

- Contact SMECO to disconnect power if you are doing work that requires close contact with overhead lines attached to your home.

- Use a licensed electrician for all electrical work.
- Plant trees away from power lines.

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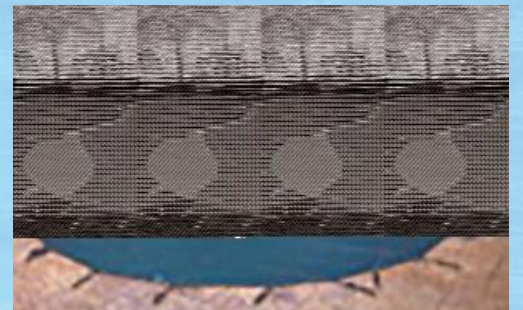


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## In Remembrance

### Carolyn R. Bradley



Carolyn R. Bradley, 87, of Solomons, MD and formerly of Forest Heights, MD, passed away on April 15, 2020 at the Asbury Health Care Center.

Born October 4, 1932 in Morristown, TN, she was the daughter of the late Ralph P. Ring and Thelma (King) Ring.

Carolyn graduated from Laurenceburg High School in 1950. She married William E. Bradley on December 26, 1952 in Clarksville, IN. She was a Nurse at DC Village for ten years, retiring in 1977. She moved to Calvert County from Oxon Hill, MD in 1994.

Carolyn is survived by her sons, Pat Bradley (Fanjuni) of Alexandria, VA, Dave Bradley (Colleen) of St. Leonard, MD and Bobby Bradley (Carol) of White Hall, MD; five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; and brother, Ralph P. Ring, Jr. of Peoria, IL. She was preceded in death by her husband, William E. Bradley on June 28, 1985.

Services are private. Serving as pallbearers will be Pat Bradley, Dave Bradley and Bobby Bradley.

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

### Phyllis H. Combs



Phyllis H. Combs, 88, of Prince Frederick, Maryland passed away at her home in Prince Frederick on April 20, 2020 with her loving family at her side. Phyllis was born in Prince Frederick, MD on December 25, 1931 to the late Allan H. and Carrie Wood Hutchins of Prince Frederick, Md.

In addition to her parents, Phyllis was predeceased by her first husband of 35 years, John H. Miller, her second husband Ronny Combs and her two sisters, Eloise H. Sapp and Geraldine H. Lankford.

Phyllis is survived by her sons, John

H. Miller ( Dawn), Donald A. Miller, (Tracy), Jay K. Miller, Melissa) and Robert F. Miller. Grandmother of eight, Great Grandmother of 17, she is also survived by six Great Great Grandchildren.

Phyllis was employed at A and P Food Store for 33 years until her retirement. She was a loving Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Great Great Grandmother. She enjoyed camping, flea markets, shopping, reading and sewing. She was loved by her family and will truly be missed.

There was a private family graveside service on Wednesday April 22, 2020 in Asbury Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Calvert Hospice., P.O. Box 838 Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Carolyn Anne Maserick Hammett



Carolyn Anne Maserick Hammett passed away peacefully in her sleep on April 18th, 2020 at the age of 88.

Born in Washington D.C. and raised in Silver Spring, Maryland. Carolyn was the older of the two children of the late Albert Maserick and Frances Harrington Maserick. She was predeceased by her brother Peter Maserick of State College, PA.

Carolyn was an avid artist focusing mostly on oil painting, however later she would move on to acrylics and mixed media. She submitted many of her pieces to competitions where her materials would be judged favorably and even deemed trendsetting. After graduating from high school, she attended Trinity University in Washington D.C. Carolyn was very active with her circle of friends whom she referred to as the "group."

Through the "group" she met her soon to be husband Francis Xavier Hammett. Carolyn was a valued employee and cook/ server with the original Hot Shoppes of Washington D.C. It is there that she learned and fostered her incredible talent for serving many people delightful food on a budget. It was a skill she would continue to utilize with her large family and even to the hot food kitchens for the homeless in Washington D.C. and later during her retire-

ment, the homeless in Florida.

Carolyn was an analytical chemist for the U.S. Department of the interior and years later for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Carolyn resided in the shadow of the newly established Holy Family Parish in Hillcrest Heights, Maryland. After a break from the federal government, She resided in Hillcrest Heights to raise her growing family. She returned to her government work in 1979. Carolyn was a founding member of the Forestville pregnancy aid center, a group that would later become the Maryland Crisis pregnancy centers and eventually the Gabriel Project. Carolyn entered into semi retirement in 1986.

After about 10 years of snow birding, in 1996, Carolyn fully retired to St. Petersburg, Florida where she and her good groom Francis Xavier would entertain family and friends from the Washington D.C. Area as well as care for her aging mother who also resided in Florida. In St. Petersburg, both Carolyn and her good groom "Frank," as daily communicants, were very active members of Holy Cross Parish including extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, Healing ministries, and homeless outreach.

Carolyn acted as President of her

Homeowner's association for several years and worked tirelessly to meet the needs of her residents and neighbors. Her work would earn her the title of "Madam President." Carolyn and Frank were also involved in the youth ministry at the Cathedral of St. Jude in St. Petersburg. Later, they would become regular members of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Seminole, Florida

Carolyn was also predeceased by her son Albert Frances Hammett (Sandy) and her daughter Martha Madeline Hammett Welsh. She is survived by her husband Francis Xavier Hammett and her children Thomas, (Laurie, deceased) Carolyn Hammett (Rasha,) David (Rosa,) Janet Kleponis (Joseph,) Mark (Christy,) and Joan Giavasis (Nicholas.)

Carolyn is also survived by her grandchildren Casey, Danny, Jason, Denise, Jennifer, Francesca, Megan, Joseph, Nicholas, Veronica, Benjamin, Beatrice, Julia, and Francis Xavier. Carolyn was also absolutely delighted by her 4 great grandchildren.

Carolyn had incredible sense of humor that some might have characterized as dark and dry, but still she could get a laugh. She had an incredible smile to match. She was a feeder of many in-



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# In Remembrance

cluding the neighborhood friends who would show up to the Hammett house for dinner or even a late night after-dinner snack or meal. She had the famous greeting of "You look hungry!"

Carolyn was an avid decorator and flower arranger for Holy Family Church in Hillcrest Heights. She was a fervent member of the Catholic Charismatic renewal meeting weekly at Catholic University in Washington D.C. and seasonally throughout the U.S. Carolyn was known for her deep effervescent faith. She was one to know any intercessor or prayer for whatever need might occur. She shared her faith with her children and all of those around her. Carolyn's faith was contagious!

Carolyn will be deeply missed and her legacy will live on through so many as well as her many efforts and endeavors.

Interment will be in Our Lady Star of the Sea Church Cemetery, 14340 Sedwick Ave. Solomons, MD 20688.

Memorial contributions may be made to Little Sisters of the Poor, Jeanne Jugan Residence, 4200 Harewood Road, NE, Washington, DC 20017-1554.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Mary Lou Blasko



Mary Lou Blasko, 91, of Leonardtown, Maryland passed away on April 18, 2020 in Leonardtown, Maryland. She was born on November 6, 1928 in Washington DC to the late Clinton R. and Hattie M. Mattingly. In addition to her parents, Mary is also preceded in death

by her husband Robert Michael Blasko and her brother Raymond Mattingly. Mary and Robert were married in June of 1954. Shortly after their marriage, the couple moved to Calvert County where they began to attend St. John Vianney Catholic Church in the 1960's. Mary remained a member until her health wouldn't allow her to attend anymore. Robert passed away on September 11, 1970. Mary retired from Calvert County Board of Education, where she was a School Bus Aide. Mary loved her pets, over the years she cared for many dogs, cats, birds and even fish. Mary also loved going out to dinner and crab cakes were her all time favorite thing to eat along with Milky Ways coming in a close second. She is survived by her children, Michael Clinton Blasko, Sharon Ann Hall, and Timothy Robert Blask and his wife Nor. Grandmother of Joanna M. Newingham and her husband James, Joseph B. Hall, and his wife Chelsea Amanda Marie Walters and her husband Jamie, Noah, Hannah and Luke Wichrowski. She is also survived by two great grandchildren Skylar and Madyson Newingham.

A private family service will be held on Thursday April 23, 2020, at the Rausch Funeral Home. Interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to either the Alzheimer's Association, National Capital Area Chapter, 8180 Greensboro Drive, Suite 400. McLean, VA 22102; Link: <https://alz.org/nca> or to St. Mary's Nursing Center, 21585 Peabody Street, Leonardtown, MD 20650; 301-475-8000; Link: <https://www.smnci.org/>

## Warren Joseph Smith, Jr.

Warren Joseph Smith, Jr., 82, of Harwood passed away April 17, 2020 at his home. He was born August 6, 1937 in Upper Marlboro to Warren Joseph Sr. and Margaret Louise (Payne) Smith. Warren was raised in Prince



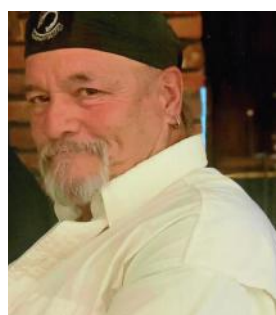
George's and Anne Arundel County. He married Doris June on October 18, 1959 and they lived in Upper Marlboro before settling in Harwood, where they have lived for 41 years. Warren was employed as a truck driver and farmer. He worked for Patuxent Materials, Inc., Southern Maryland Paving & Sealing, and Giant Food, retiring in 1994. Warren thoroughly enjoyed fixing antique tractors, collecting cars, and spending time with his friends.

Warren is survived by his loving wife of 60 years Doris June Smith of Harwood, son Joseph Russell Smith of Edinburg, VA, stepdaughter Brenda Atkins of Brandywine, 6 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother Clyde Smith and sisters Marie Hennessey and Ruth Ann Holler, as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by a brother Francis Eugene "Jughead" Smith.

Interment will be in Cedar Hill Cemetery-Suitland, 4111 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suitland, MD 20746.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Michael Joseph Colesanti



Michael Joseph Colesanti, 63, of Huntingtown passed away April 15, 2020. He was born April 16, 1956 in Washington, D.C. to Frank and Cecilia (Collins) Colesanti. Michael was employed as a union electrician with Local Union 26.

Michael is survived by his long-time companion Linda Parish, parents Frank and Cecilia Colesanti, brothers Nicholas Colesanti and Frank "Chip" Colesanti Jr., and sister Donna Colesanti.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Camille Elaine Vaughan Frazier

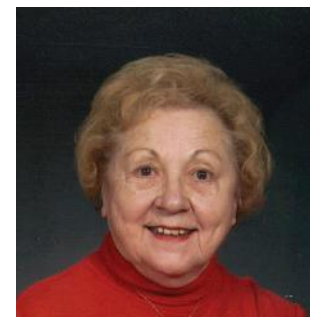


Camille Elaine Vaughan Frazier, 86, of Lothian passed away April 13, 2020 at her home surrounded by family. She was born June 12, 1933 in Richmond, VA to Clarence Lee and Burnelle Ceddella Lee Vaughan. Camille married Basil Jackson Frazier on June 30, 1965. Camille graduated from Morgan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Education and later completed numerous graduate courses. She was employed as a private and public-school educator and music teacher, retiring from Little People's Paradise School in 1997. Camille was a member of the Secret Pals Club and had a host of friends.

Camille was preceded in death by her husband Basil on August 10, 1977. She is survived by her daughter Cheryl Frazier Collins and husband Kevin of Lothian, grandchildren Kendall and Alexandra Collins and sister Jeanine Vaughan Scott of Palm Coast, FL. She is also survived by nephews John Scott and wife Lenette and Jerome Scott and husband Troy Hatt, nieces Stephanie Sams and husband Joseph, Claren Scott and Lenora Smith, friends Tina Gaddie, Elaine Gales, and Carol Woolfork, her dog Riley, and numerous other relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

## Maria Marciniak



Maria Marciniak, age 93, of Chesapeake Beach, MD passed away on April, 12, 2020 at Country Home Assisted Living in Harwood, Maryland. She was born December 6, 1926 in Kingston, PA to Alex and Anna (Bichkoviak) Relick. She was married to Edward J. Marciniak on September 11, 1948 and they lived in Warrington, PA until moving to Fort Washington, MD in 1971 where Ed worked as a real estate

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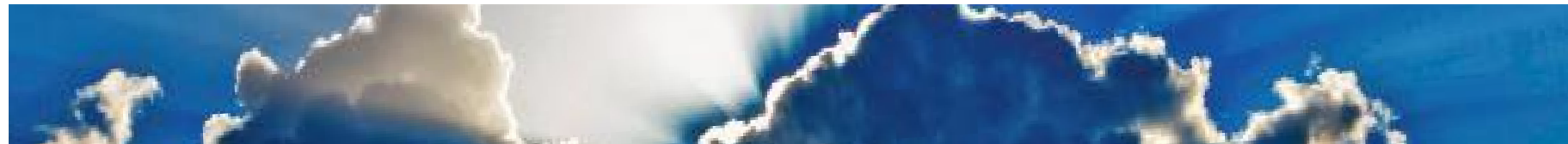
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broker. They then moved to Chesapeake Beach, MD in 2004. Ed and Maria were devout Catholics and were members of Saint Anthony's Catholic Church in Chesapeake Beach, MD. Maria was a very caring person and devoted her life to raising her children. In her leisure time she enjoyed playing bingo and word search. Her favorite story was about the time she caught 250 crabs in one afternoon in Solomon's Island, MD. She is survived by three sons: Edward J. Marciniak and his wife Maureen, Mark J. Marciniak and John E. Marciniak and his wife Linda. She is also survived by seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a brother Michael Relick.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in West River and interment will take place in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Mary Louise Sweeney



When Theodore and Hazel Walsh brought Mary Louise Sweeney into this world on October 18, 1944, they had no idea that she would turn into the amazing person that she did, touching so many lives along her years on this earth. She lived her life with determination and passion. She was successful at everything she put her mind to up until her last days when she peacefully passed surrounded by family and holding Kelly's hand on April 11, 2020.

She was known by Mom to Dena, Gay and Kelly. Grammy to Christopher, Randy, Sydney, Heather, Junior, Jesse, Josh, Shanna and Skylar. She was Mary Lou to everyone else who loved her.

Mary Lou was selfless in her raising of her three children as a single mother. She never allowed her children to go without, even if it meant she had to go without. She regularly worked two or three jobs to keep ahead.

When her children were grown, she did what we all wish we could do; she quit her financial analyst job and followed her dreams. Mary Lou had always wanted to be a doctor and was accepted to Howard University in Washington, DC where she graduated as a Physician's Assistant with national honors. She made her dreams come true

when she worked making lives better in multiple avenues of medicine including OB/GYN, Emergency Medicine and Family Practice.

Although only half of her life was dedicated to medicine, she saved numerous lives and she always knew how to make things better. Mary Lou was happiest when sitting on the beach, eating chocolate and drinking Diet Pepsi.

Mary Lou's mind was taken from us long before her body so in lieu of flowers, the family requests you visit your elderly relatives and chat with them before they can't remember and don't wait until their gone. If a donation is in your favor, please consider the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research.

A celebration of life will occur at a later time. We ask all of our friends and family to take a moment to reflect on Mary Lou's life;

Memorial contributions may be made to Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation, PO Box 220, New York, NY 10150; Link: <https://www.alzinfo.org/>

Funeral arrangements were made by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Danny Ralph Watson



Danny Ralph Watson, age 63 Of Hudson Florida passed away on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020 in his home on the water surrounded by his family.

Born at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station Hospital on October 28, 1956, Danny was the loving son of Mary Rose and Ralph Watson. Danny was raised on St. Georges Island, Maryland where he grew up and was close friends with the Evans and Swann children and Ray Poole. He graduated from Great Mills high school. Danny worked on the water crabbing, fishing, and boating. After his service with the Seafarers Union, Danny moved to the Florida Keys and met the love of his life, Carolyn Zukowski. The two married in Marathon, Florida on December 4th, 1981. They had four children together. Later, Danny worked in bridge construction in the Florida Keys and also completed major work on the Sunshine Skyway Bridge.

Danny loved being on the water and his boat. He took many crabbing trips with his family and taught all his children and grandchildren how to fish. Danny was a kind, gentle, and loving soul. In 2017 Danny and Carolyn moved

to their dream retirement home in Hudson, Florida on the canal of the Gulf of Mexico where they enjoyed sitting in sun, spending time working around the house, sitting by the pool and by the canal on the dock, boat rides, fishing/crabbing, and spending time with their children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Carolyn Watson, children Stanley, Kimberly, Elizabeth, and Sarah, his son-in-law Justin, his grandchildren, Nicolaus, Michael, Kaleigh, Justin, Dominic, Colton, Annabelle, and Wyatt, his father, Ralph Watson, his siblings Sueanne Burroughs, Bonnie, Kathy, Tammy, and Jimmy Watson, and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. His mother, Mary Rose Watson, brother Michael Watson, and nephew Bruce Burroughs precede him in death.

Danny was cremated at the National Cremation & Burial Society in Hudson, FL and a service will be held when all of his family can come together in the future.

Danny was a good man, a loyal husband, and a loving father, Grand Daddy, son and brother. He is loved by many and will be forever missed by his family and friends. 10/28/1956 - 4/12/2020  
Gone Fishin'

### Marilyn Christine Ely



Marilyn Christine Ely, 92, of Lexington Park, MD passed away quietly on April 14, 2020. She was born on June 22, 1927 in West Bridgewater, MA and

was the daughter of the late Raymond and Annie Porter. She married Robert Ely on January 5, 1946 who predeceased her on May 15, 1989.

Marilyn is survived by her three children; Robert Ely of Elkton, MD; Sandra Shea (Ely) of Lexington Park, MD; Pamela Ross (Ely) of Lake Geneva, WI. One child, Raymond Ely of Lacey, WA, died on December 24, 2010. Marilyn is also survived by her two sisters, Frances Mackiewicz (Porter) of Sellersville, PA and Natalie Glenn (Porter) of Jamerson, PA and 13 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and 7 great-great grandchildren.

Marilyn had a deep commitment to her community. She worked at the Hospital in South Weymouth, MA and volunteered at the Baptist Church in Whitman, MA. When her late sister, Arlene Fabiani (Porter) died at a young age, she provided a home for her husband Al, and their three children; Elaine Smith, Barbara Botello, and Ronald Fabiani in Whitman, MA.

In her later years, Marilyn liked to stay busy and involved with her family. Her favorite hobbies included knitting, crochet, and plastic canvas. She always remembered to send cards and call all of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren on their birthdays.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Victor "Butch" John Dennis Bukewicz  
Victor "Butch" John Dennis Bukewicz, III, 69 of Valley Lee, MD passed away on April 2, 2020 at his home with his wife by his side.

He was born on November 19, 1950 in Wilkes-Barre, PA to the late Victor John Bukewicz and Eleanor Groski Bukewicz.

Butch was employed as an electrician for Singleton Electric in Washington, D.C. He married Sandra M. Rothberg on January 30, 2007 in Key West, FL. They spent 22 wonderful years together. He and his wife enjoyed touring wineries and traveling to Key West, Savan-



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## In Remembrance

nah, and Charleston. He was known by family and friends as the grill master and his cooking specialty was shrimp wonton. In his spare time he enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, playing darts, and especially loved keeping his yard in top shape and creating beautiful flower gardens. His truly amazing sense of humor and storytelling will be missed by all who knew him.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his step-children, Petrina Cicconi-Guinan and Salvatore Cicconi (Michelle) of Horseheads, NY; his brother, Peter Bukewicz (Edie) of Queens, NY; his niece, Jessie Bukewicz (Charlton Hutton) of Brooklyn, NY, his niece, Christie Breto (Mike) of Levittown, NY and his nephew, Peter Bukewicz, Jr. of Queens, NY; grandchildren, Lia and Isabella Cicconi of Horseheads, NY. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son-in-law, Christopher Guinan.

Services are private.

A special thank you to Van and Deana Osburn for all of their help and support the last few months.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to ACTS, P.O. Box 54, Bushwood, MD 20618 and Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

### Shirley Mae Dorsey



Shirley Mae Dorsey, 65, of Mechanicsville, MD departed this life on Sunday, April 12, 2020, at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD.

She was born May 24, 1954 in Mechanicsville, MD. She was the loving daughter of the late William Braxton and Clara (Woodland) Braxton.

Shirley married the love her life and best friend, Joseph Raymond Dorsey, Sr. on September 30, 1972. Together they have celebrated over 47 years of marriage and raised three (3) kind, and caring children.

A woman of God, Shirley believed in the love and grace of our Lord. A beautiful soul, with a heart of an angel, she cherished her family above all. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother she counted her blessings daily.

Shirley worked as an Executive Assistant for FINRA until her retirement in 2012. Upon her retirement, she began working as an administrative assistant at

Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory before she officially retired from working outside her home in 2019. Never one to completely sit back and enjoy retirement, Shirley still ran her MyEcon.Inc. business from home with her husband.

Although she was a busy woman, Shirley always took time to enjoy life. She loved to read and cherished her books. She could be found working on a puzzle, just to unwind. She was also a talented designer for businesses and she used her artistic talents to make crafts. She will leave behind many beautiful works of art for her family and friends.

Shirley may be gone, but she will never be forgotten. Her beautiful soul may have left her earthly body, but now she is in the heavenly skies soaring above and smiling down upon her family and friends. Shirley's presence will be felt for years, her memories a lifetime, her impact for eternity.

She is survived by her husband, Joseph Raymond Dorsey, Sr.; three (3) loving children, Stephanie Ann Dorsey of Lexington Park, MD, Stacey Rochelle Dorsey of West Roxbury, MA, and Joseph Raymond Dorsey, Jr. of Mechanicsville, MD; three (3) grandchildren, Javone Young, Malcolm Queen, Sr., and Tevin Dorsey; and one (1) great-grandchild, Malcolm Queen Jr. She is also survived her six (6) siblings, Milton Braxton, William Braxton, Francis Braxton, Edith Braxton, Mary Holton and Barbara Holton. She was preceded in death by her parents, and siblings, Bernard Braxton, Faye Braxton and James Braxton.

At this time all services will be private. The family will plan a Life Celebration for Shirley later in the year.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the ICU and Emergency Departments at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, 25500 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650 or a donation directly to the family.

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

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

### Sandra Justine Paul



Sandra Justine Paul, 71, of Great Mills, MD (formerly of Glasgow, KY) passed away April 15, 2020 at her home with her loving husband and son at her side.

She was born on September 14, 1948 in Glasgow, KY to the late Herbert Junior Merideth and Betty Jean Vibbert Merideth.

On August 7, 1970 Sandra married her beloved husband, Darrell Frederick Paul Sr. in Glasgow, KY, and together they celebrated over 49 wonderful years of marriage. In 1971 she graduated from Campbellsville University with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education; in 1975 she earned a Master's degree in Secondary Education from Western Kentucky University. She spent over 32 years as a dedicated and caring teacher in Bullitt County, Kentucky, and earned the commission of Kentucky Colonel, the highest title of honor bestowed by the Governor of Kentucky, in recognition of her noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to her community, state, and nation. She was an avid reader who particularly enjoyed mysteries and murders, and an excellent cook known her meatballs, lasagna, and cheesy tuna casserole. She was a proficient shopper who enjoyed buying things for her family, especially her grandson, who was the light of her life. She was family-oriented and enjoyed hosting family dinners, and moved to St. Mary's County 10 years ago so she could be close to her son and grandchildren.

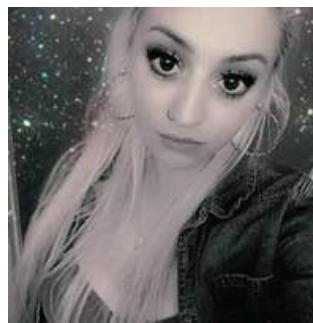
In addition to her husband, Sandra is also survived by her son, Darrell F. Paul, Jr (Kristen) of Lexington Park, MD, her brother, Steve Merideth (Wanda) of Hopkinsville, KY, her grandson, Noah Matthew Paul of Lexington Park, MD and her extended family and friends. In addition to her parents, she is also preceded in death by her brothers, Gary Merideth and Danny Merideth and her beloved grandson, William Edward Paul.

All Services will be private.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com). In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, 28 West 44th Street, Suite 609, New York, NY 10036.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Christina Marie Maier



Christina Marie Maier, 30 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away from injuries sustained in an automobile accident on March 19, 2020.

She was born on September 14, 1989 in Washington, D.C. to Timothy Paul Cundiff of Mechanicsville, MD and Michelle Carpenter of Valley Lee, MD.

A former student of Leonardtown High School, Christina worked as a manager at Locksmith Connections and enjoyed her job. She made many friends during her time there.

Christina was a free-spirited, fun-loving and amazing woman. She loved her children, her family and friends. If the sun was shining, she loved to spend time outdoors. Music was her escape and she loved to dance. Spending time with her children brought her great joy and she was so happy to be a mother.

She is survived by her parents Timothy Cundiff of Mechanicsville, MD and Michelle Carpenter of Valley Lee, MD; three children, Aaralynne Leigh, Aaden Lee and Alayna. She is also survived by her siblings, Megan Lynne Cundiff of Great Mills, MD, Austin James Cundiff of Mechanicsville, MD and Avery Benjamin Cundiff of Mechanicsville, MD and many extended family member and friends.

All services are private at this time. Christina's family will be planning a Life Celebration later this year.

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

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

### Michael Payon Reed



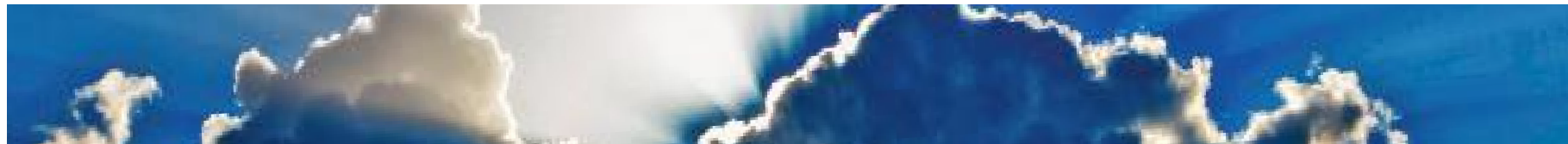
Michael Payon Reed, 50 of Callaway, MD passed away on April 13, 2020 at his residence.

He was born on April 8, 1970 in Thailand. His parents are (late) David M. Reed and Vicki (Anderson) Reed, of Georgetown, TX.

Michael graduated from James W. Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax, VA in 1988. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in computer information technology and was employed by Bowhead Science and Technology at Patuxent River Naval Air Station for the past ten years.

Michael was always athletic and enjoyed coaching and supporting his son Aidan's love of sports, including football and soccer. He loved taking Aidan on trips and seeking out new adventures. Michael enjoyed hiking, kayaking, camping, and spending time with family and friends. He was kind and a





friend to everyone he met.

Michael is survived by his mother; his son, Aidan Reed of California, MD; his sister, Amy Reed Van Vleet (Richard), of Round Rock, TX, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father.

Services will be private.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

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

### **Sandra Sue "Sister Sister"**

#### **Bridgett**



Sandra Sue "Sister Sister" Bridgett, 60, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on April 11, 2020 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD.

Born on September 3, 1959 in Washington, DC, she was the daughter of the late Patricia Ann Dodson and William Harold Blackwell.

She married the love of her life, Everett Wayne Bridgett on February 14, 1992 and together they spent 25 wonderful years together and raised two beautiful daughters.

Sandra worked for Safeway as a Maintenance Manager until her retirement in 2013. She was an active member of Victory Baptist Church, where she enjoyed attending services. Sandra was most fond of life's simplest treasures. She loved to spend time with her sisters and playing with her grandchildren. She never turned down the opportunity to browse through a yard sale, play a game of bingo, or try and win big on a scratch off.

In addition to her loving husband, Sandra is survived by her two daughters, Donna Marie Pendry and Shelly Bridgett; her sisters: Donna Mendez, Caroline Atchison, and Kim Grenier; and six (6) grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, as well as her siblings: Patricia Crampton, Cheryl Rakowski and Tammy Shabani.

All services will be private.

### **John Stephen "Stevie"**

#### **Lacey**

John Stephen "Stevie" Lacey, 86, of Avenue, MD passed away on April 18, 2020 in Mechanicsville, MD. He was born on January 13, 1934 in Old Trapp Lane in Avenue, MD, and was the



loving son of the late Anna Gertrude Quade Lacey and George Albert Lacey. Stevie was the loving husband of the late Estelle Louise Lacey whom he married on October 16, 1954 in Sacred Heart Catholic Church Bushwood, MD, and who preceded him in death on February 6, 2019. They were married for 64 loving years. Stevie is survived by his children Donald "Wayne" Lacey (Jackie) of Mechanicsville, MD, son in law Frankie Vallandingham of Avenue, MD, 5 grandchildren Chris Nelson (Kristi), Cindy Williams (JF), Lynn Jenkins (Mike), Jonathan Lacey (Brittnee), and Shannon Lacey (Bobby). As well as 12 great grandchildren Tiffani O'Sullivan (Zach), DJ Williams (Brooke), Destiny Russell, Emily Nelson, Anthony Russell, Jonathan "Junior" Lacey, Jace Williams, Owen Lacey, K J Rhodes, RJ Harbold, Kinsli French, Louise "LuLu" Lacey and 2 great great grandchildren McKenna and Charlotte O'Sullivan. Siblings Francis "Frankie" Lacey (Barbara Jean) of Avenue, MD, brother in law Clyde Farrell (Jeryle) of Avenue, MD, Sister in laws Agnes "Cookie" Hayden of Leonardtown, MD, Barbara Lacey, and Nephew Mike Lacey of Avenue, MD. He was preceded in death by his daughter Patricia Ann Vallandingham and siblings Joseph Lacey, Thomas "Tommy" Lacey, William Lacey, Robert "Bobby" Lacey, Jim Ed Lacey, George "Dinks" Lacey, Lorriane Hall, Elizabeth "Puddin'" Huseman, Eleanor "Nutsy" Russell, and Helen Seymour.

Stevie was a highly admired member of the Seventh District community. Stevie was well known as a jack of all trades, from owning his own business, Lacey's Plumbing and Heating, to painting and repairing statues, crabbing, cooking, or fixing anything for anyone in need. Anyone who knew Stevie had only great things to say about him and his devoted heart. Stevie had several grand, great grand, and even great great grandchildren that he loved with all his heart, and to all his family, he was always Pop or Pop Lacey. As a devoted family man, he enjoyed having all the family over for gatherings and dinner every chance he could. The food prepared by him and his wife Louise was nothing short of delicious, especially their famous stuffed ham. In addition to helping family and friends, Stevie was a devoted catholic. He regularly assisted Holy Angels Catholic Church with community dinners, plumbing repairs, cut-

ting grass and so much more.

This man was a blessing to all he encountered and truly admired by all. You will be forever loved and truly missed, but we know you are holding your wife in your arms once again and are at peace. Continue to watch over us all, Pop Lacey.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time. A Memorial Mass will be held at a later date.

Contributions may be made to the Seventh Dist. Vol. Rescue Squad P.O. Box 7 Avenue, MD 20609 and Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD.

### **Maryann Reibsome**



Maryann Reibsome, 74 of Lexington Park, MD, passed away at her home, April 17, 2020. Born July 28, 1945 in Danville, PA. She was the daughter of the late Helen Coates and Louis Bramley. Maryann is survived by her son: Stephen Reibsome (Denise), of Leonardtown, MD, daughter Barbara Reibsome King of Lusby, MD. She is also survived by her brother, George Bramley of PA; grandchildren, Daniel King (Hollie) of Park Hall, MD, Stephanie King of St. Helena Island, SC, Amber Reibsome of Granger, IN, Amanda Shields of Leonardtown, MD, and two great-grandchildren, Erik Schramm of Leonardtown, MD and Drew Marie King of Park Hall, MD.

Maryann grew up on farm in Danville, PA. She loved the farm and had many fond memories there with her brother.

Maryann married right after high school and moved to St. Mary's County in the early 1960's as a young Navy wife where she started her family.

Many St. Mary's County residents remember Maryann from her years at the First National Bank of St. Mary's and as a long time Real Estate Agent with Waring Associates. Maryann was a member of the St. Mary's County Chapter of the American Cancer Society during the 1980's. She organized and participated in many fundraisers including the Daffodils for Cancer campaigns.

Maryann loved Irish Setters and homed several over the years. She loved animals in general and rescued numerous cats and dogs over her lifetime.

Maryann loved to work in her yard

and took a lot of pride in planting many trees, shrubs, vegetables and flowers. Her hands were always full of scrapes and cuts from all the hours she worked in her yard. It gave her much joy.

She received scholarships to attend Trinity Washington Catholic College in Washington, DC where she obtained her Bachelors degree in her late 40's while she continued to work full time. After earning her Bachelors degree, Maryann worked for over 25 years as a Contract Specialist at a local Government Contractor, Veda.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time.

Contributions may be made to St. Mary's County Animal Welfare League.

### **Martha Ann Fischer**



Martha Ann Fischer, "Grammy", 80, of Hollywood, MD passed away on April 17, 2020 in Leonardtown, MD. Born on July 6, 1939 in Compton, MD, she was the loving daughter of the late Hilda Marie Watts and William Jennings Mattingly. Martha was the loving wife of the late John L. Fischer, whom she married on July 12, 1959 in St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Compton, MD and who preceded her in death on January 15, 2005. Martha is survived by her children, Joan Marie Collette (Jay) of Hollywood, MD, John Marc Fischer (Lisa) of Indian Head, MD, Joy Michelle Myers (Mike) of Hollywood, MD, and Michael James Fischer (Becky) of Leonardtown, MD, and 10 grandchildren; Emily Lamoreau (Brian), John Michael Fisher (Jessica), Garry Fischer, Bailey Jobe (Chris), Taylor Myers, McKenna Fischer, Madison Fischer, Eric Fischer, Bronson Fischer, and Harleigh Fischer. As well as her 7 great grandchildren McKayla Butler, Dylan Butler, Ethan Butler, Logan Jobe, Lincoln Jobe, Jack Lamoreau and Emma Grace Fischer. Siblings; William Jennings Mattingly of Warrenton, VA, Allen Mattingly (Sharon) of Leonardtown, MD, Sharon Connelly (Johnny) of Leonardtown, MD, Brenda Garber (George) of Elizabeth, PA, Linda Pistachio (Sal) of Mechanicsville, MD, Dennis Mattingly (Debbie) of Leonardtown, MD, Gloria Turbyne (Jeff) of Hollywood, MD, Debra Majkut (Dan) of Virginia Beach, VA, Roy Mattingly of Leonardtown, MD, John Mattingly of Solomon's, MD, Theresa Mayor (James) of Hollywood, MD, Anna



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## In Remembrance

Braithwaite of Montgomery, AL, Mary Carol Gisoldi (Joe) of Hollywood, MD, Leona Butler (Mike) of Leonardtown, MD. She was preceded in death by her siblings Joseph Dale Mattingly, Shirley Marie Nickerson, Norman Kenneth Mattingly and Joan Elizabeth Lehman.

She was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident. Martha graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1957.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time.

Contributions may be made to St. Francis Xavier Church; 21370 Newtown Neck Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or to the Manor House Restoration Fund; 21370 Newtown Neck Road Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

### Janet Evans Standish



Janet Evans Standish, 70 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on Friday April 17. Born on April 28, 1949 in Leonardtown, MD, she was the daughter of George Aloysius Evans and Bertha Estelle Adams. Janet is survived by her husband Earnest Standish Jr. and her son David and was preceded in death by her son Steven.

Janet lived her entire life in St. Mary County growing up on a farm with her brothers Charles and Johnny and her sister Jean. In 1969, she married Ernie and earlier this year, they celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.

Janet was passionate about caring for children. She spent 20 years as a home daycare provider where she nurtured countless babies and toddlers. As a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 2632 in California, MD, she was a Past President and Secretary and often organized children's parties for Easter, Halloween, and Christmas.

In 1997, Janet began working as a contractor at Naval Air Station Patuxent River. She retired last September after supporting the F/18 Program as an administrative assistant for 22 years. She loved being in the work force and supporting the mission of the Navy by helping the pilots and engineers.

In her spare time, Janet enjoyed gardening and crafting. She helped organize reunions for Chopticon High School's second graduating class, the

Class of 1967. She earned the name "Hacker Mom" when she wrote her own HTML to create a website for the class.

As a tradition, she made a mean Southern Maryland stuffed ham that family and friends looked forward to every year as well as homemade buck-eye candies at Christmas. During the summer, she enjoyed picking steamed crabs with family and friends.

Her family wants to express their deepest thanks to the nurses and doctors at MedStar St. Mary's and Southern Maryland Hospitals who tried to save her life after contracting both COVID-19 and the Flu at the same time. Your bravery and sacrifice are inspiring.

All funeral services will be private at this time. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to either Susan G. Komen in the fight to end breast cancer ([komen.org](http://komen.org)) or sending a check to Helpful Hooves Equine Therapy, 38520 Ah Ha Lane, Avenue, MD 20609. Helpful Hooves is 501(c)(3) dedicated to people with disabilities.

### Mary Alice Knott



Mary Alice Knott passed away on April 13, 2020 in Hollywood, MD.

Alice was born on August 18, 1933 in Washington, DC to Mary Rosalie Johnson Norris and Frederick Abell Norris, Jr. She was predeceased in death by her husband, James Francis Knott, Sr; her parents Mary Rosalie and Frederick Norris; her sister, Jean M. Matthews and a special companion, James Unkle.

Alice is survived by her children, James F. "Jimmy" Knott, Jr., Rosedale Yannayon (John), and Joseph F. "Joe" Knott (Tammy), all of Hollywood, MD; her grandchildren, John G. Yannayon (Sara) of Conway, SC, Bryan F. Yannayon of Abell, MD, Mallory J. Knott Gase (Chris) of Mechanicsville, MD and Jeremy F. Knott of Washington, DC and great grandchild, Jolie M. Gase of Mechanicsville, MD. She is also survived by her siblings, Joseph F. "Freddie" Norris (Diane), and James William "Billy" Norris (Gail) of Hollywood, MD and Janice A. Abell (Bobbie) of Leonardtown, MD.

During the 1930s, Alice spent several childhood years in Washington, DC before moving with her parents and siblings to Hollywood, MD to live and work on a family farm located on

Steer Horn Neck Road and Ingleside Road. Alice graduated from St. John's School in Hollywood, MD and Great Mills High School in Great Mills, MD. After high school, she went to work for the C & P Telephone Company in Leonardtown, MD where she worked as a telephone operator. She also helped her parents run the family general store, Norris' Store, located on Sotterley Road in Hollywood, MD. While working at the store one evening, Alice met James "Francis" Knott, Sr.

Alice married James "Francis" Knott, Sr. on September 18, 1956 at St. John's Church in Hollywood, Maryland. They moved to and lived for over 25 years at Rosedale Farm in Hollywood, MD (now Greenwell State Park). Francis was the manager of the farm and later became the first superintendent of Greenwell State Park. Alice and Francis had three children, Jimmy, Rosedale, and Joe.

While raising children, and working with her husband on the farm, Alice worked several different jobs and made friends with many of her co-workers. Some of those jobs were with WT Grant Store and Larry Millison Development in Lexington Park, MD; St. Mary's Nursing Center in Leonardtown, MD; McKay's Food Business Office in Hollywood, MD, and American Greeting Cards. Alice was a past member of the Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary and Associate Member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

Throughout these years, Alice, Francis and her family enjoyed many family gatherings at holidays and special occasions, as well as water activities such as boating, fishing, and crabbing on the Patuxent River. After their children were grown, Alice and Francis built their new waterfront home by the Patuxent River in Hollywood, MD. Starting in 1982, grandchildren (John Yannayon, Bryan Yannayon, Mallory J. Knott Gase and Jeremy Knott) blessed their lives.

After 34 wonderful years together, Alice was predeceased in death by her husband, James "Francis" Knott, Sr. on

September 1, 1991. Alice moved to a new home on Half Pine Point Road that was being built at the time of her husband's death. Alice continued to work for McKay's Food Business Office and engaged in activities such as line dancing and bingo.

She met Jimmy Unkle in the mid-1990s and he became her special companion. They shared approximately 20 years together and enjoyed many trips together. The most memorable trips were on the boat cruising the inter-coastal waterways from Maryland to Florida and staying in Florida during the winter months. Alice was predeceased in death by Mr. Unkle in 2013.

Alice enjoyed going on other trips, especially with her sister, Jean, to Branson, MO, and to Daytona Beach for the NASCAR races which included her brother, Billy and son, Jimmy too. They spent many fun hours together reminiscing childhood memories and creating new ones. She especially enjoyed a trip to South Dakota and Yellowstone National Park with her daughter and son-in-law, Rosedale and John. Trips to South Carolina to visit her grandson and his wife, John & Sara Yannayon were also very memorable.

In 2016, Alice moved to the Senior Apartments in Lexington Park, MD where she continued to be active with line dancing, bingo, adult coloring, senior activities and going on trips. She was an avid fan of NASCAR and Jimmy Johnson, #48. Alice was a kind and giving person and will be missed by all who loved her.

All Funeral Services will be Private.

Please consider donating to one of the below organizations; Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650, Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad P.O. Box 299 Leonardtown, MD 20650, Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 7 Hollywood, MD 20636 and Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad P.O. Box 79 Hollywood, MD 20636.

To Place A Memorial,  
Please Call  
301-373-4125  
or send an email to  
[info@somdpublishing.net](mailto:info@somdpublishing.net)





# Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



## “Godzilla on the rampage”



I have apples. I have apples and I so want to make two apple pies. The problem is of course that I will eat them, and my husband will yell at me for making them and forcing him to eat them. Believe me, I don't have to force him. And you know what happened with “the cookie thing”, so I am trying to be careful. I did really well up to a certain point on not snacking and trying to eat the fruits and nuts instead of leftover Easter candy and anything else I have found in the back of the pantry stores. But reality has hit. I cannot breathe, and now I will have to bring out all the “next size up / keep them just in case jeans” again. Darn it, 'cause they are all nice and neat in vacuum-sealed Space Bags.

Reality also hit again when I was quick mopping the kitchen floor. I accidentally knocked the scale we keep hidden under the pantry – we keep it there just as a warning. I thought well, I may as well pull it all the way out and check my weight. So far, my weight was staying steady until I had some bad RA flares and had to up my Prednisone dosage pretty high for a few days off and on. By day two of Prednisone overload I felt like the statue of Godzilla eating the gnomes in one of my fairy gardens. It was ugly. I was starting on the chocolate for baking. So, the scale showed an amount I really had a hard time believing. Then I realized that I must have whacked that stupid, bleeping scale around a little to hard. Maybe a few extra whacks for good measure. That was it – it was off calibration. Sounds like a rainy day fixer upper project to me. I'll get to it right after I have a little snack to keep my spirits up.

Another reality check has been my daily appearance, and the lack of worry about any make-up or dressier clothes. I mean why? Oh yes, I am sure my husband would like to see something other than my chalk-painted, wood-stained, picture framer's razored-up work shirts (we use the bottom of our

shirts to clean off the oil on the mat cutter razors). You should see our jeans from wiping the tiny glass shards off of the glass edges after we cut. In that regard, I have started putting my make-up on (most days) and blow-drying my hair. A few days ago, we went tooling around in the '65 convertible Mustang, and he said, “Is that what you are wearing?” I replied, “Hey, I am wearing my dress sweatshirt”. And I was, it was my Cryer's Back Road Inn Mardi Gras sweatshirt. Who were we going to see anyway? Also, I was wondering if I should worry that my husband said he almost picked up a box of hair dye the other day? I will keep you informed.

I need to live in old work shirts, half the time I am cleaning walls over and over again. Mindy's ear infection has cleared-up, but for a bit afterward she was still scratching at her ear which in turn took off a bit of the tip of her left ear. Every time she would whip her head around, there would be specks of blood everywhere. It was like living in a Stephen King horror film for a week or so there. Blood spatter everywhere up to 5 feet high!!! The vet gave her anti-itch pills after her antibiotics drops were done, and her ear seems to have calmed down. The tip was still bad for a while, so I finally started putting Liquid Bandage on it so it could heal. That has done the trick, though I keep finding spatter spots I have missed. The bottom half of all our walls are REALLY clean now, and the walls are now two-toned. Scrubbing the top half of the walls will be another rainy day project just like re-calibrating that stupid scale.

Well, I am worn-out now, thinking about all this rainy day work ahead, so I am going to just rest a bit and have a little snack. Oh, and before I do that, I might as well turn on the oven for those apple pies.

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



# Letters TO THE Editor

## The Monster COVID19

To the Editor:

First, information on COVID19 or Coronavirus changes by the minute. I have been collecting information from newspapers, magazines, TV, and the Internet since we were attacked by the most contagious virus in history.

It has swept through 185 countries. President Trump has declared a National Emergency in every state for the first time in history.

In my strong opinion, this initially united foes. Currently, the partisan food fighting has resumed. The wise say you will have plenty of time after the virus has stemmed to fight. I say, right now we need all hands on deck to fight the virus and reopen our economy!

Stop! Alert! The world has been invaded by an Invisible Monster, COVID19. 185 countries have

been attacked. Recently, more than 40,000 have been killed, while about one half million have it. What are the symptoms? We have tests that determine if you are positive or negative. Some symptoms include a fever, sore throat, headache, muscle aches, loss of taste and smell, blueish lips or face, a dry cough, and difficulty breathing. Hopkinsmedicine.org has a self-check. It will tell you your risk and if you need to seek medical attention. For most, the symptoms are so mild the individual can stay home. We have tests that tell if you are positive or negative. Abbott has a rapid response test that will help with our next phase of this tragedy, which is reopening our economy.

This test can determine if you are positive in 5 minutes. It is determined by saliva, not a swab of your throat.

It is more comfortable and safer for the person giving the test.

What is the vaccine, preventative measures, and cure? We should have an experimental vaccine by this summer. According to Dr. Debora Birx, Coro-

navirus Response Coordinator, current lowering of new cases was caused by the American public's self-distancing, or staying at least six feet away from another person. Other preventives include washing hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds. We should stay home and only go out for groceries, medications, or medical assistance. There is as of now no proven cure.

There are anecdotal accounts that hydroxychloroquine has been successful. The Governor of South Dakota, Kristi Noem, announced that 100,000 are being given the medication which is state directed. Previously, it was successful with malaria, and can be prescribed off label for COVID19. Next, if someone has had COVID19 and is cured, one has antibodies that fight the disease in their blood plasma. If given to someone who has the virus, the antibodies can destroy it. This is current, and under rapid development.

Thankfully, the number of new cases is going down. Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and Dr. Deborah Birx have guided us through this tragedy. Triumph is on the horizon.

The president, vice president, and governors have been instrumental in organizing this battle. The medical researchers have worked at a pace which heretofore has never been done. There are countless other heroes that span from American industry to the public sector. We must never forget that it is we Americans who followed the guidelines and stemmed the tide of hideous COVID19.

Last, we as a nation must now decide how to start the best economy in human history up again. May God Bless America!

Marilyn Crosby,  
Lexington Park, MD

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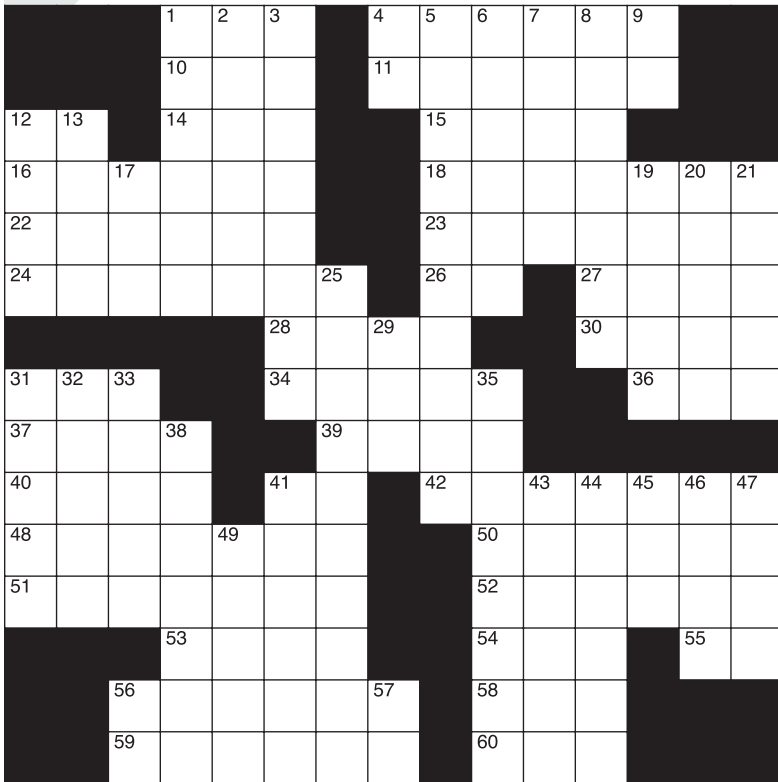
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# GAMES & PUZZLES

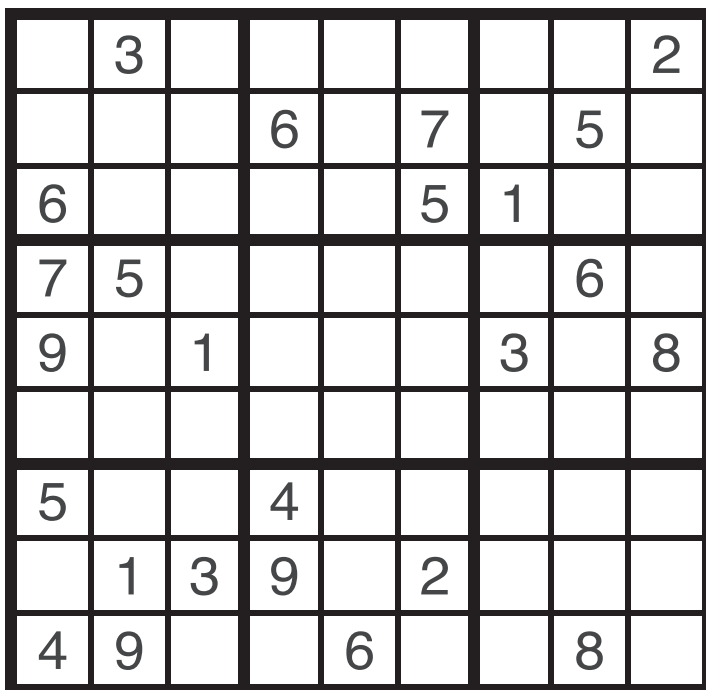


**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Revolutions per minute
4. Hymns
10. Brew
11. Did not acknowledge
12. Atomic #77
14. Partly digested food
15. Not one
16. Lesotho capital
18. Copyreading
22. Living organism that feeds on organic matter
23. One's biological father
24. An aggregate of molecules
26. Equally
27. Khoikhoi people
28. Jump in figure skating
30. Lantern
31. TV network
34. Georges \_\_\_\_, French philosopher
36. Sharp, shrill bark
37. Albanian monetary units
39. Launched Apollo
40. One who graduated
41. Exist
42. Passed by
48. Very unpleasant smell
50. Graduates
51. Seedless raisin
52. Self-protection
53. Clue
54. Life-savers
55. Ingest too much
56. Misrepresented
58. Small Eurasian deer
59. Most mocking
60. Soviet Socialist Republic

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Flower cluster
2. A form
3. Inner organ regions
4. Local law enforcement
5. A citizen of Senegal
6. Positively charged electrodes
7. Connects granules
8. Business practice
9. The Mount Rushmore State
12. Leader
13. Hindu queen
17. Proofreading mark
19. European country
20. Greek mythological nymph
21. Grandfather
25. Clears
29. Amount of time
31. Mollusks
32. German municipality
33. Body part
35. City of Angels hoopsters
38. Suffocate
41. Pleasing to the eye
43. Poplar trees (Spanish)
44. Ship officer
45. Individual investment account (abbr.)
46. Prefix meaning within
47. Ceased to live
49. Day by day
56. Not color
57. Condition of withdrawal (abbr.)



Level: Intermediate

**LAST WEEKS ANSWERS**



3	7	1	5	4	2	6	8	9
4	5	9	6	7	8	2	3	1
6	2	8	9	1	3	7	4	5
2	1	7	4	3	9	8	5	6
8	3	5	1	6	7	9	2	4
9	4	6	8	2	5	1	7	3
5	9	3	7	8	6	4	1	2
7	6	4	2	5	1	3	9	8
1	8	2	3	9	4	5	6	7

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# LIGHTS OUT

## WEEK 3

Last week, I asked the question, “What do you think about this man called Jesus?” This week, I want to challenge you with a second question, “Why do we need to repent?” After Jesus’ death, His apostles declared to the public, “**Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.**” (Acts 3:19) Why would they do that? Why would anyone need to repent and what does it even mean in practical sense? Let me try to explain.

One of my classes in high school was basic typing. One day, the class was scheduled to take an important test that would determine a large part of our final grades. I have no idea what got into me this particular day, but, in the middle of the test, I turned off the classroom lights! The fallout was immediate. After a brief moment of silence, the room exploded into chaos. The expression on my teacher, Mr. Fenkil’s, face was one of complete bewilderment. His eyes met mine and his voice was eerily calm as he said, “Come with me.” Flashbacks to the last time I was force-marched to the principal’s office filled my mind. I knew I was doomed.

To my surprise, once out the door, the wrath of Mr. Fenkil was nowhere to be seen. Instead, he instructed me, “Come and help me carry some workbooks.” While I was picking up the box of workbooks, he looked me straight in the eye and whispered, forcefully, “Robert, do not do that stunt again.” I returned to the class not saying a word. I knew that I deserved punishment, but had, instead, received grace. Just like that, the incident was over. I had been warned, had escaped the judgement, and could move on with peace of mind and a clean slate.

Looking back, I now realize that what I thought was funny, the Lord saw as rebellion and sin. Can you think of things you have done that, at the time, you thought were funny, but now you know were wrong? There is a way to have all your sins forgiven. Jesus is called “Savior” because He is the only way that our sin-- past, present, and future--can be forgiven. Repentance through Jesus is the way to escape judgement, put the past behind us, and begin anew with the peace of mind that having a clean slate brings. Mark 1:15 says, “**...the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe in the gospel.**”

In case you are wondering, I did pass my typing test! My friends wanted to know what Mr. Fenkil had said to me out in the hall. I did not tell them, but, even as a young teen, I understood what had happened. Just as Jesus does, Mr. Fenkil had offered me grace instead of the punishment I deserved.

Perhaps while you are at home, you might want to take a moment, repent, get right with God, and start fresh. Remember that even when you deserve punishment, Jesus is waiting to give you grace!

If you desire a fresh start and the peace of mind that comes with it, the scriptures below will guide you to a relationship with Jesus Christ.

- **Everyone needs salvation** (Romans 3:23)
- **Jesus died for our sins** (Romans 5:8)
- **Salvation is a gift** (Romans 6:23)
- **We are saved by grace** (Romans 11:6)
- **Salvation comes through faith** (Romans 4:5)
- **God saves all who call upon Him** (Romans 10:13)

Until Next Week, may the Lord bless you.

**Pastor, Rob Myers, The Mission**



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