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ON THE COVER

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Reggie Rice, of Hollywood, dazzles fans with his comedy and illusion shows.



Kegan Zimmerman is training for the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi in March.

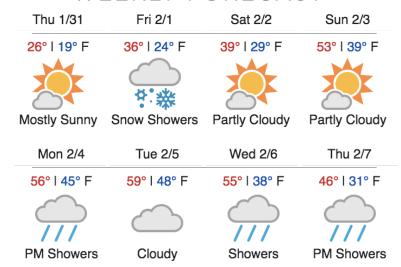


COMMUNITY 11 St. Mary's Chamber of Commerce signs onto statewide small business initiative



SPORTS 18 Haussler signs pro soccer contract

WEEKLY FORECAST







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Culvert Replacement To Shutdown Airport Road



The county is planning on closing Airport Road in early spring to replace a drainage culvert.

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The county will have to shut down Airport Road, which leads to the county airport and the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center, to replace a drainage culvert that runs under the road near the entrance to the Wildewood Shopping Center.

John Deatrick, county public work's chief, said the culvert was in such poor condition that replacement was necessary.

Commissioners howled at the traffic problems that

would result from the closure, especially since a right hand turn off of Route 235 has been prohibited there for months due to ongoing work at the intersection.

"Holy smokes," said Commissioner Mike Hewitt upon hearing the news. "That intersection has been fouled up for so long.

"How does SHA [State Highway Administration] let people get away with that stuff?"

Commissioner Todd Morgan said: "SHA's managing it"

"I understand that, it's just unacceptable... all the time it's taken to do that," Hewitt continued.

Deatrick said the plan was to start the work as soon as possible so the inconvenience would be limited to the time the state was still working on the intersection.

"That's so we don't inconvenience the people again," Deatrick said, adding he was still waiting on the state to let the county proceed.

"We've been ready to do it now for four months," the public works director said.

The culvert runs across and under the width of Airport Road immediately after an entrance into the shopping center, Deatrick said, which means the entire road will have to be shutdown to complete the work.

The only other way to get to the airport, higher education center or numerous other office building there will be through the Wildewood community itself.

Deatrick said it was another reason to get the connection between Airport Road and Lawrence Hayden Road built to allow for another alternate route.

"If we thought the screaming over Harris Teeter [and the traffic problems on St. Andrews Church Road] were bad, that's going to be a chirp [compared to the Airport Road closure,]" said Morgan.

In a later interview, Deatrick said the culvert replacement could take only one week or perhaps a week-and-a-half; they were only waiting on the state to approve the county's plan to manage the traffic flow around the project.

Deatrick said he wanted to start the project by March; the cost would be under \$1 million.

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Mechanicsville Rescue Tax Increase Going to Public Hearing

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Increases in everyday operational costs, the need for more room at the rescue squad station and the need for better apparatus are all reasons leadership at the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad are requesting a rescue tax rate increase

If approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, the current tax rate of .014 per \$100 of assessed value would increase to .020 for every \$100 in property assessed.

Jimmy Breeden, president of the rescue squad, said the average cost increase to property owners in Mechanicsville and areas for which is was responsible would be \$16.17.

Jeanett Cudmore, the county's chief financial officer, said her office came up with an estimate that was slightly lower regarding the financial impact, about \$14.15.

Commissioner John O'Connor said the calculations for the tax increase's impact would have to be done again, since property values in the northern section of the county were just reassessed upwards.

"So, these numbers are wrong," O'Connor said, adding that the tax rate increase might have to be lowered to insure property owners weren't exposed to a "double whammy."

Cudmore and Breeden agreed that



Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad

new numbers could be used.

Breeden said the past five years the rescue squad has been able to cope with rising costs through fundraising and donations.

But even those funds have been in decline.

In 2014 the rescue squad donations totaled \$110,621 but last year they dropped to \$99,329 or about 10 percent.

Their expenses have also increased with \$293,940 in expenditures in 2016 jumping to just over \$500,000 in 2017 due to down payments on two new ambulances.

By last year expenses finished out at \$397,977, according to rescue squad figures.

The aging building also needs extensive renovations, Breeden said.

"Ambulances are expensive and we need to do something to our building to house our new members," Breeden said. "Our membership is growing."

The commissioners voted unanimously to approve a public hearing for the tax rate increase.

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Miedzinksi Honored for Lifelong Commitment to Leonardtown Fire Company

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Ever since he was 16 years old, Jim Miedzinski, 86, would help out on fire calls with the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department (LVFD) even though he couldn't officially join because he was too young.

He's never walked away from the fire company that is almost like a second home to him in 70 years.

His company honored him recently for his service for the past seven decades; Miedzinski isn't sure but he believes he may be the longest serving active member in the county fire service.

He doesn't fight active fires any more, but he always comes on scene in an auxiliary vehicle to support those on the fire ground and he takes pride in helping maintain Company 1 fire station.

"I still do what I can down there," Miedzinski told The County Times. "I'll run water out to them and quite a few other things.

'I drove [fire apparatus] for about 40 years and I took myself off at 70."

Whatever he did at the firehouse, it was out of a sense

"I just did it because it was just the right thing to do," said Miedzinski

His immediate and extended family have also served

and continue to serve at the Leonardtown fire house.

'We've got about 400 years in the fire service between us all bottled up," Miedzinski estimated.

Things are much different these days as opposed to when he was answering regular fire calls; there are fewer people available to make calls during the day.

"People can't get away from their jobs like they used to," Miedzinski said. "Sometimes they can't get out [on emergency calls] because they can't get off work.

Most of the volunteers answering calls during the day are younger than Miedzinski, he said, but are all about usual retirement age or more.

"It's most the older guys running day time calls," he told The County Times. "In another 10 years they'll have to go to a partial paid system.

"It's a bad situation. It's a young man's game."

He remembers many others who have served in the fire service around the county for almost as long as him, but many have passed away, he said.

"I consider myself very lucky... to be able to get around as well as I do," Miedzinski said. "I'm still in good shape just by luck.

"As long as I feel I can do something to help, I will,"



Jim Miedzinski

guyleonard@countytimes.net

State Board Suspends Calvert Physician

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The Maryland Board of Physicians has suspended the medical license of Dr. Immirne M. Ouwinga, a Dunkirk-based physician, for numerous charges including marijuana use, storage of alcohol in her office and accepting such from patients as gifts.

Ouwinga was even accused of striking a colleague of hers in the face, according to the complaint against her, when she reviewed text messages on his cell phone transmitted to a family member of Ouwinga's about staging an intervention regarding her continued alcohol use.

The same person Ouwinga was alleged to have struck also said she admitted to him that she had an inappropriate relationship with another of her patients, the complaint reads.

"Individual 'B' also noted that one morning when he arrived at the office, he found the respondent asleep on an examination bed and noticed two 'alcoholic bottles' sitting on a nearby table," the complaint reads. "Individual 'B' stated that [Ouwinga] explained to him that she had been working on completing charts the previous night.'

After board members observed Ouwinga and her office practice in Dunkirk



Dr. Immirne Ouwinga

late last year, they referred her to a specialist for psychiatric/addiction evaluation, the case documents stated; the evaluator found that Ouwinga's "personal and professional judgement was impaired" and that she "poses a risk to her patients in the practice of medicine at this time.'

Ouwinga's license to practice was summarily suspended and she was scheduled to attend a hearing on her suspension Wednesday.

Ouwinga has the option to contest the outcome of the hearing, according to case documents.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Cardin Amendment Spurs End to Government Shutdown



Less than 24 hours after U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.) led on Jan 25 a bipartisan group of 17 Senators in an hour-long colloquy about reopening government by supporting a short-term Continuing Resolution (CR), President Trump and Senate leadership endorsed such a plan for good faith negotiations on border security after the government reopened.

Last night, we brought a large, bipartisan group of senators together who all agreed that too many critical functions of our government have been disrupted, and too many workers and their families – employees and contractors – have been hurt by this needless shutdown. Today, we are on our way to quickly reopening the federal government.

"I was proud to work with Democratic and Republican colleagues to find a path forward. I applaud each member's willingness to work together to find a

lasting compromise that will return stability and productivity to the operations of our government. We have all pledged to engage in good faith negotiations on border security, once the government reopens," Senator Cardin said.

With passage of this CR, federal workers and contractors who have been working through tremendous hardship, can finally reclaim their lives and get back to their work on behalf of the American people. I thank all of those who worked without pay for their dedication and for those who were needlessly locked out of their jobs on furlough, we hope you will come back to your job with the knowledge that the American people now have a better understanding of the critical role you play in our communities and across the country.'

Identical in effect to the bipartisan amendment Senator Cardin and colleagues introduced Thursday, the measure that passed by the Senate Friday includes a Continuing Resolution through February 15, contains no new funding for a border wall, and guarantees back pay for federal workers. Passage allowed an immediate end to the government shutdown, ensuring that federal agencies will reopen and federal employees will be paid, while reducing the pressure on the border security negotiations.

Press Release from Office of U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin (D: MD)

Special Olympian Preparing for Abu Dhabi Games

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Kegan Zimmerman, 31, is training and raising money simultaneously to be able to represent St. Mary's County, his state and his nation at the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi in March.

Specializing in cycling, Zimmerman won the gold medals in the statewide competition in Frederick in 2017, getting the top honors for the 5K and 10K races.

The opening ceremonies will be on March 14, his birthday.

"How cool is that?" he said.

But there was a time very early in his life, at just the age of 2, when his parents weren't sure how many birthdays he would have left.

"One morning when he woke up and he was just limp," said his mother Mia Zimmerman of Callaway. "He started having seizures, sometimes they lasted for two hours."

Coming from a Marine Corps family, military doctors examined Kegan and found that he had a brain abnormality; they said there was little they could do.

"They said 'if the seizures don't kill him the medications will," Mia said.

They endured another nine years of seizures and hospital visits until a doctor gave them hope by undertaking the surgery that gave Keegan a more normal life.

The doctor removed three pieces of his

brain and he could finally begin to learn to speak; he'd been virtually mute.

"He's gone from taking 31 pills a day to taking just three," Mia said.

She couldn't be happier about her son's achievement in Special Olympics.

"It's huge, we're so proud of him," she said. "I've always known he's had a purpose.

"He's a voice for those who can't speak."

Kegan has been involved with Special
Olympics since 2007 where he started out
with bowling and went on to other sports but

with bowling and went on to other sports but found his favorite in cycling.

Special Olympics also trained him to be an ambassador for the organization and those it

represents by teaching him public speaking. "When I first started, I was so nervous," Kegan said. "Now, I'm a natural."

Right now he's busy training and raising money to make the trip, he's already surpassed his goal of \$5,000 to get to the competition, according to his website.

He'll be just one of four competitors from Maryland; there will be about 200 athletes from the United States and 7,000 from 180 countries in 26 sports.

Kegan says he's doing this for more than just the experience of going abroad.

"I have to get the gold medal," Kegan said. "I can't let them down."

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Kegan Zimmerman

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House Minority Caucus Announces Session Priorities

The leadership of the Maryland House Minority Caucus held a press conference in the Lowe House Office Building on Jan. 25 to announce the caucus' priorities for this legislative session. Minority Leader Delegate Nic Kipke, Minority Whip Delegate Kathy Szeliga, Assistant Minority Leader Delegate Matt Morgan, and Chief Deputy Whip Delegate Jason Buckel highlighted four pieces of legislation: The Murder and Repeat Violent Offender Registry Act; The Special Police Officers Act; The One Person One Vote Act; and The Commonsense Tax Cut Act. These proposals smartly and aggressively address public safety, voting rights, and the pocketbook issues that all Maryland families grapple with on a daily basis.

In addition to announcing the legislation, Minority Leader Kipke strongly conveyed the overall mission of the House Minority Caucus and its collective objectives this session.

"Our caucus represents nearly two million Marylanders – people who have a voice and sent us to Annapolis to be just that," said Minority Leader Kipke. "Our members represent districts from Western Maryland to the Lower Eastern Shore and nearly everywhere inbetween. This diverse group of citizens voted us into office because they want

to see problems solved. Our objective is simple – get good things done for the people of Maryland. These proposals are a first step in the right direction."

Murder and Repeat Violent Offender Registry Act of 2019

The Murder and Repeat Violent Offender Registry Act of 2019 establishes a searchable public registry modeled after Maryland's Sex Offender Registry. It requires those convicted of murder to register for a period of 10 years following the completion of their sentence. In addition, those individuals who have a prior conviction for a violent crime and receive a subsequent conviction for a second violent crime, will be required to register for the 10-year period. Under Maryland law, violent crimes include but are not limited to murder, kidnapping, armed robbery, and carjacking. A number of states across the nation have expanded crime registries to include violent crimes. This list of states includes Virginia, Illinois, and, most recently, Ohio.

"Maryland is a great place to live, but like many states, violent crime is a major problem, and more needs to be done to safeguard our communities," said Delegate Kipke. "The most important role of any government is to keep its citizens safe, and taking information that is al-



Southern Maryland Delegation member Delegate Matt Morgan (R: 29A)

ready public and making it easier to find is a measure that will make our neighborhoods safer. There is a clear problem with sentencing in our state, a clear lack of transparency, and this limited public registry for the most violent criminals amongst us is the right thing to do for all Marylanders"

Commonsense Tax Cut Act of 2019

The Commonsense Tax Cut Act of 2019 will lower the Maryland income tax rate by a quarter percentage point – saving middle class Marylanders hundreds of millions of dollars every year in taxes while also making our state more competitive economically.

"While many Annapolis legislators and lobbyists are talking about raising taxes, we are fighting for Maryland families to keep more of their hard earned money," said Minority Whip Kathy Szeliga. "Governor Hogan has made great strides over the past five years controlling spending, lowering taxes, and making Maryland more affordable, but we want to go even further. Too many Maryland families are struggling, and too many businesses will not consider locating here because of the high cost of living. Maryland is stronger than it has ever been and its future potential is unlimited but only if all people can afford to live here'

Special Police Officers Act of 2019

The Special Police Officers Act of 2019 will expand an already-existing law to give local jurisdictions another tool to keep our schools safe. The bill allows government bodies, such as a school system or a sheriff's department, to collaboratively establish a Special Police Officer program within their jurisdiction. Rather than mandating a one-size-fits-all program, this enabling legislation gives local government much more flexibility in requesting special police officers for school safety. This allows each local government to tailor a program to their individual needs.

"The school shooting at Great Mills High School set our community back on our heels," said Assistant Minority Leader Delegate Morgan. "We cannot account for every threat, in every situation, but we also realize that the status quo is not good enough. Finding a substantive solution to increase school safety has and will continue to be one of our top priorities and concerns. Solving the tragedy of school shootings is complex, but having more men and women on school grounds who are trained to keep our children safe is definitely part of the answer."

One Person One Vote Act of 2019

The One Person One Vote Act of 2019 is a constitutional amendment requiring single-member state legislative districts. This legislation will give citizens more direct representation and will give every citizen an equal voice in the Maryland legislature. On a national level, 40 states already have single-member districts. This bill puts the power back into the hands of the citizens and gives them a more direct relationship with their representatives.

'Maryland is one of the most gerrymandered states in the country," said Chief Deputy Whip Jason Buckel. "We do not have free or fair elections here we have a fraudulent and rigged system designed to benefit the party in power. That needs to end, and the Governor, along with our caucus, is working to do just that. We must also bring an end to multi-member legislative districts because it serves the same unethical purpose as gerrymandering. Creating multi-member districts is an institutional form of voter suppression. Politicians should never pick their voters, and this is one more way they do just that in Maryland."

> Press Release from House Minority Caucus



Commissioners Approve Resolution Opposing Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Exploration Activities

At their January 29, 2019 meeting, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved a Resolution opposing offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration activities. The resolution further opposes the use of seismic air gun blasting and covers an area off the Atlantic Coast, specifically at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay.

The action follows an August 16, 2017 Governor Larry Hogan's notification to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management of Maryland's opposition to the opening of the Mid-Atlantic outer Continental Shelf (OCS) lease area for oil and gas exploration and development activities. This includes part of the 2019-2024, 5-year OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Commissioner President Randy Guy and Commissioner Eric Colvin (District 1) were briefed by members of Oceana at the 2019 Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) conference. Oceana is an international organization focused solely on oceans. The group is dedicated to achieving measurable change by conducting specific, science-based policy



campaigns. Oceana has worked to pass similar resolutions with over 240 east coast counties and municipalities, including Annapolis, Berlin, Montgomery County and Ocean City.

"Our main concern is potential impacts offshore drilling may have on our waterfront and our watermen," said Commissioner President Randy Guy. "Offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which would harm the character of Maryland's coastline."

Copies of the Resolution are being forwarded to Governor Hogan, Congressman Steny Hoyer, House and Senate Delegations to the 116th Congress, the President of the Maryland Senate and Maryland House Speaker.

Tony Jones to Depart from St. Mary's County Government



Tony Jones

Tony Jones, Communications Director for St. Mary's County Government, has resigned his position effective March 1, 2019. He has accepted a position with Loudoun County, Virginia Government. He will stand up a new communications department, serving Loudoun's Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure.

Jones has been with St. Mary's County since September 2011, initially being hired Public Information Officer. He was promoted to Communications Director on July 1, 2018.

"Tony's departure is a sad day for St. Mary's County Government," said Commissioner President Randy Guy. "He has been instrumental in improving our communications outreach, upgrades in the look and feel of St. Mary's County Government TV 95 and use of video and social media. I and the commissioners accept his resignation with regret but, nonetheless, wish him the very best in his future endeavors."

"I am extremely thankful to St. Mary's County Government for the opportunity to serve the citizens of the county," said Jones. "Everyone from the commissioners, to the county administrator, department heads and staff have been a pleasure to work with. I will cherish the memories of my time here and wish everyone the best."

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State Police Arrest Man On Child Neglect, Drug Charges

Maryland State Police arrested a St. Mary's County man on Sunday after he was found passed out in a truck with drugs while his 2-year-old son was in the vehicle with him.

Brandon Michael Gohl, 35, of Hol-



lywood, Md. charged with possession of drugs with intent to distribute and child neglect. He was taken to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center. where

he is waiting to appear before a court commissioner.

Shortly after 6 p.m. on Sunday, a trooper from the Leonardtown Barrack responded on a report of a child welfare check. According to investigators, the mother of the suspect's son contacted police after her son video chatted her apparently upset and crying while inside of Gohl's truck.

The mother told troopers that the child was unable to provide any information on their location. A phone ping was conducted on Gohl's phone, which revealed the phone was in the area of Forest Park Road in Lexington Park, Md. Several police units responded to the area and began to actively search for the truck.

A trooper located the vehicle and observed two males passed out inside of it. The trooper then saw the child, who was in the back seat of the truck screaming and crying, and immediately removed him from the vehicle. Gohl was arrested at the scene.

A search of the vehicle revealed 23 capsules containing suspected heroin, U.S. currency and several bags containing suspected marijuana, totaling 889 grams. Investigators also located a suspected drug /price ledger. The other male passenger in the truck, Zackery Taylor Ricker, 23, was charged with possession of marijuana. He was issued a civil citation and released at the scene.

The child was examined by EMS personnel and returned safely to his mother. The investigation is ongoing.

Sheriff's Office Crime Report

On January 26, 2019, deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the Walmart store located on Miramar Way in California, Maryland for the reported assault. Investigation determined the 19-year-old victim was inside the men's restroom, when he observed a cellphone being held over the bathroom stall, pointed in his direction. The victim confronted the suspect, later identified as **Aloysius Marcus Albritton**, age 39 of Virginia Beach, Virginia.



Albritton fled the restroom; the victim pursued Albritton and attempted to detain him for law enforcement. Albritton assaulted the victim, and fled the store on foot, but was quickly apprehended by responding deputies. Albritton provided deputies with false names and information in attempt to conceal his identity. Ultimately, Albritton was identified and arrested; Albritton was charged with the following crimes:

- Private Place- Prurient Intent
- Peeping Tom
- Fraud-Personal Identity-Avoid Prosecution
- Assault Second Degree

Albritton is currently incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no bond status.

Narcotics Arrest in Lexington Park

In January of 2019, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Vice Narcotics Division began an investigation on **DeAndre Terille Taylor**, (aka "DT")



age 29 of Bushwood, for the distribu-

tion of controlled dangerous substances. During the course of the investigation, a Search and Seizure Warrant was obtained for an apartment in Lexington Park

On January 25, 2019, members of the Vice Narcotics Division, along with Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Team, Vice Narcotics Support Team, and Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit, executed the Search and Seizure Warrant. Taylor was located at the apartment and found to be in possession of suspected heroin, crack cocaine, Buprenorphine, Naloxone (Suboxone), and a digital scale.

Taylor was arrested and charged with CDS Possession-Not Marijuana and incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no bond status.

Additional charges are pending review with States Attorney Richard D. Fritz.

Wanted for Escape- Michael Norfolk

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of Michael **Ryan Norfolk**, age 30 from



Lexington Park. Norfolk has an active warrant for his arrest for Escape Second Degree for failing to report to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center, to serve his sentence as court ordered. Norfolk was originally sentenced for the charge of Burglary Fourth Degree. Norfolk is 6'2" in height, and weighs 222 pounds; he has brown eyes and black hair.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Michael Norfolk is asked to contact Detective Trevor Teague at (301) 475-4200 extension *8128 or by email at Trevor.Teague@stmarysmd. com. Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at (301) 475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

For official news and information, follow the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Twitter @firstsheriff.

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Citizens are Asked to Check on the **Elderly, Vulnerable Friend or Neighbors**



It's important to keep warm to stay as healthy as possible during the cold winter months. If you have an elderly or vulnerable friend or neighbor, look out for them to make sure they are safe, warm and well.

Winter is an especially important time to keep an eye on seniors to make sure they are living as safely as possible. In addition to cold weather, ice and snow, the winter season can bring health problems and injury to senior citizens. That's why it's important for relatives and friends to check in with their older adult family members, friends and neighbors. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

Falls are a concern for seniors. Putting road salt, cat litter or sand on sidewalks, steps and driveways will make these areas as slip-free as possible. Seniors should also wear boots with nonskid soles to make a fall less likely to occur. Older adults. especially those with heart disease or high blood pressure should leave snow shoveling to others.

- Cold temperatures make senior citizens susceptible to hypothermia, a dangerous drop in body temperature. Older adults tend to produce less body heat than younger people and it's hard for them to tell when the temperature is too low. Learn the warning signs of this weather related illness and how to prevent it.
- If going outdoors is necessary, dress in layers to stay warm. Wearing two or three thin layers of loose-fitting clothing is warmer than a single layer of thick clothing. It's a good idea to check on elderly loved ones regularly or, if you live out of town, make arrangements for neighbors to check in and provide their number to call in an emergency.

Visit prepare.stmarysmd.com, https:// www.ready.gov/winter-weatherfor more information on preparedness.

\$279,900

Warming Centers Available to the Public



With extreme cold temperatures forecasted for the next few days, several places will be available for residents to go and stay warm.

St. Mary's County Government has established warming centers during regular hours at the following locations for residents, who need to take refuge in a warm place:

Garvey Senior Activity Center 41780 Baldridge Street, Leonardtown 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

Loffler Senior Activity Center 21905 Chancellor's Run Road, Great

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

Northern Senior Activity Center 29655 Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.* Charlotte Hall Library

37600 New Market Rd, Charlotte Hall 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.* Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.* Friday - Saturday

Leonardtown Library

23250 Hollywood Rd., Leonardtown 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.* Monday - Thursday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.* Sundays

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.* Friday - Saturday Lexington Park Library

21677 FDR Blvd. Lexington Park

9 a.m. - 8 p.m.* Monday - Thursday9 a.m. – 5 p.m.* Friday - Saturday

*Times listed above are normal business hours and may change

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I HAVE SOLD **MANY HOMES IN YOUR AREA RECENTLY AND** IN THE LAST 20 Years!

Carbon Monoxide Safety During Cold Weather

The coldest air of the season will arrive this week with bitter cold and wind chills which could plunge to below zero. The St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services reminds citizens of the importance of having a Carbon Monoxide Detector.

Fuel-powered devices can provide wonderful benefits to families when used properly. But they also underscore an important necessity in the home: the need for a carbon monoxide alarm. Carbon monoxide poisoning can result from faulty furnaces or other heating appliances, portable generators, water heaters, clothes dryers, or cars left running in garages. At its worst, carbon monoxide can cause severe side effects or even death. Carbon Monoxide is a gas you cannot see, taste or smell.

Install Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Make sure your home has a carbon monoxide alarm. If you don't have one, go out and get one.
- As with smoke alarms, make sure you have a carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas and keep them at least 15 feet away from fuelburning appliances.
- You won't know you have a carbon monoxide leak without a working

alarm. So test alarms regularly and replace them every five to seven years depending on the manufacturer's label.

Understand How Carbon Monoxide Can Be Harmful

- Don't use a grill, generator or camping stove inside your home, garage or near a window.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it.
- Don't leave a car, SUV or motorcycle engine running inside a garage, even if the doors are open.
- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home.
- On the outside of your home, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris

Leave the House If the Alarm Sounds

- If the alarm goes off, immediately move outdoors. Account for everyone inside your home.
- Call 911 or the fire department. Remain outside until emergency personnel arrive to assist you.

Visit prepare.stmarysmd.com, for more information on preparedness.

Maryland Chamber Announces Federation

New Membership Model Embraces Small Business



Dr. Richard Fleming, president/CEO of St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce, is pictured with Christine Ross, president & CEO of Maryland Chamber of Commerce at the press conference. Photo courtesy of Maryland Chamber of Commerce.

Declaring that small businesses are the driving force of job creation in Maryland, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce today introduced a new membership model designed to organize thousands of businesses as a unified force, while also forging close collaboration with the dozens of local chambers of commerce throughout the state.

Under the terms of the Maryland Chamber Federation, any business with 10 or fewer full-time employees that is a current paid member of a participating local chamber will receive free Federation membership with the Maryland Chamber.

Federation partners will gain increased influence in the state legislature through direct input and participation in the Maryland Chamber's legislative activities. They will also receive proactive General Assembly representation aggregating chamber "clout" to oppose initiatives harmful to business and supportive of job growth. In addition, members will gain access to all Maryland Chamber communication on state issues through legislative briefings, grassroots business action updates, e-newsletters, calls to action during the legislative session and more.

In making the announcement at the kickoff of the Maryland Chamber's annual "Meet the State" event in Annapolis, Christine Ross, president & CEO, Maryland Chamber, said: "Not only are small businesses a key constituency of our grassroots advocacy efforts, Maryland's overall success in the national and global marketplace is directly tied to the state's ability to foster a climate that is competitive and favorable to small business."

Intended to both serve and empower small businesses (a sector that makes up almost 92 percent of Maryland's registered companies), the Maryland Chamber Federation is based on a partnership with local chamber members, one intended to ensure the voice of small business is amplified with minimal investment and maximum impact. Already, 14 local chambers of commerce have signed partnership agreements enabling them – and their small business members – to participate.

The following local chambers of commerce have joined the Maryland Chamber Federation:

- Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce
- Baltimore City Chamber of Commerce
- Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce

- · Calvert County Chamber of Commerce
- · Carroll County Chamber of Commerce
- Central Maryland Chamber of Commerce
- Dorchester Chamber of Commerce
- Frederick County Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce
- Harford County Chamber of Commerce
- · Howard County Chamber of Commerce
- Rockville Chamber of Commerce
- Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce
- St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce

"The Howard County Chamber is constantly seeking ways in which we can add value for our members, especially those with 10 employees or less, as they are often the ones operating on shoestring budgets," said Leonardo McClarty, president & CEO, Howard County Chamber of Commerce, one of the first to embrace the new model. "The Maryland Chamber Federation agreement allows us to continue to add value for them by enhancing our small business voice at no additional cost."

About the Maryland Chamber of Commerce: Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is a non-partisan, business advocacy organization that works in the legislative, regulatory, and civic arenas as a catalyst for positive change in Maryland. Members gain access to high-level signature events, focused strategy sessions, and dynamic leadership, as well as a seat at the table for think-tank discussions with industry leaders and other influencers. Learn more

Press Release from MD Chamber of Commerce

Leadership Class Experiences Healthcare

On January 17, 2019, the Leadership Southern Maryland (LSM) Class of 2019 participated in the fifth of nine educational sessions for the 2018-19 LSM Executive Program - Healthcare. Sponsored by The Chesapeake-Potomac Healthcare Alliance, this one-day event began with a panel discussion on healthcare challenges in Southern Maryland. The discussion featured presentations by representatives from Calvert Health System, University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center, and MedStar St. Mary's Hospital. The morning also included speakers from Walden Behavioral Health and Health Partners, Inc.

Following a tour of Health Partners' Waldorf facility, the class boarded a bus and headed to Recovery Centers of America Maryland Center for Addiction Treatment. There they learned how the center goes about its mission "to save one million lives, one neighborhood at a time." After a behind-the-scenes tour at the treatment facility, the Class of 2019 traveled to Sagepoint Senior Living Services for an up-close look at the services they offer to seniors. While at Sagepoint, the class was given the unique opportunity to participate in a dementia exercise that demonstrated the challenges faced by those coping with memory loss and sensory issues.

The healthcare session also included

presentations by Charlotte Hall Veterans' Home Executive Director, Sharon Murphy and Melwood Veteran Services Ourtreach Program Manager, Travis Rahill. Both speakers shed light on some of the programs and services available to veterans in the region. A panel discussion on public and community health issues capped off the day and featured the health officers from Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties. The opioid epidemic, infectious diseases, and the role health departments play in educating the public were just some of the topics covered by the panel.

Leadership Southern Maryland is a nine-month tuition-based program that educates and inspires a diverse group of current and emerging leaders creating opportunities for collaborations and partnerships impacting the community needs of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties ensuring a cross-section of the region including diversity of geographic location, profession, ethnicity and gender. Applications for the Class of 2020 are being accepted through April 1, 2019.

For more information, please contact Denise Foster, Executive Director, Leadership Southern Maryland, 301-862-7663, via email denise@leadershipsomd.org or visit www.leadershipsomd.org

Press Release from LSM



Members of the Class of 2019 gear up for an exercise at Sagepoint Senior Living Services to gain a better sense of the challenges faced by seniors with dementia.

Contributions for SMECO's Members Helping Members Program Exceeds \$100,000 a Year



Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) introduced the Members Helping Members program in December 2010 and as of January 2019, more than 2,300 SMECO members contribute to the program, raising more than \$100,000 a year to help their neighbors who are struggling to pay their electric

Members Helping Members is an easy and convenient way to give aid to those who need help. Members of the cooperative who enroll in the program are

simply billed an additional \$1, \$5, or \$10 each month on their SMECO electric bill and those contributions may be tax deductible. This program is voluntary, and members can choose to cancel their participation at any time.

Each month, the accumulated donations are sent to the Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, which will administer the funds to those members who seek aid and meet the qualifications. Only SMECO members who meet the eligibility requirements will receive assistance to pay their electric utility bill.

SMECO members who are interested in enrolling in the program can call 1-888-440-3311, visit the website at www.smeco.coop/mhm, or sign up in person at one of the customer service counters at a SMECO location. Anyone who would like to make a larger donation to Members Helping Members may send a check to Members Helping Members at P.O. Box 1937, Hughesville, MD

SMECO members who sign up by February 15, 2019, will receive a thankyou gift based on their level of giving.

"Despite relatively good economic conditions, we continue to see many hardship situations that demonstrate the critical importance of this fund," said Austin J. Slater, Jr., SMECO president and CEO. "SMECO remains dedicated to offering programs that help strengthen and sustain our community. Giving \$1, \$5, or \$10 a month to help a neighbor

who is struggling is one thing many of us can do.'

SMECO members who need assistance with paying their electric bill can contact the Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee for information on eligibility requirements and an application for assistance.

Other programs are also available to help eligible members with their electric bills. These programs include the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and the Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP). To determine eligibility, customer-members requesting assistance should contact their local Office of Home Energy Programs.

Donate Pieces of Local History During Community Day at St. Clement's Island Museum

an exhibit at a museum? The St. Clem-

Have you ever wanted to contribute to MD, is hosting a Community Day on Friday, February 8, 2019 from 10 a.m. to ent's Island Museum in Colton's Point, 4 p.m. The event encourages the public





to get involved with the planning of new exhibits by sharing historic documents, photos and other significant objects related to St. Clement's Island and the Colton's Point area from the 20th century and earlier. Museum staff will be on hand to scan photos and documents, or photograph objects and people, with the permission of the owner, for potential new exhibits or collections. Staff will also be available to receive items from members of the public who wish to make a donation to the museum's collection.

The museum seeks information and items from and about local boat builders: information about the Golden Hotel, the Shirley K Hotel, the Hotel on St. Clement's Island and the Blackistone Island Canning Company; photos of the island and the Blackistone Lighthouse; information about living on St. Clement's Island and/or living in Colton's Point; any photos of steamboats at Colton's Point landing: and more.

At the recently held Appraiser Fair on January 26, featuring six appraisers, over 160 attendees brought items ranging from artwork to farm implements. Some items of note were a one-of-a-kind set of World War II documents, a collection of cigarette tins from the 1890's and a child's toy sword from the 1860's. The day also marked the opening of two new exhibits at the museum. Artist Nichole Stewart's exhibit, Portrait of St. Mary's, and Chopticon High School student, Josh Guy's exhibit, "Businesses People Used and Loved in St. Mary's County" are set to run until March 31, 2019.

For more information regarding Community Day, or if you have something not listed which relates to St. Clement's Island or Colton's Point, please call the Museum at 301-769-2222 to schedule an appointment.

For hours of operation, programs, admission prices and more, visit the St. Mary's County Museum Division's Facebook pages at www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum facebook.com/1836Light or on Twitter at @StClemIsMuseum or @ PineyPtLHMuseum.

CSM Pinning Ceremony Celebrates 38 Nursing Graduates



During the College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) nursing recognition ceremony Jan. 17, as part of the college's 20th Winter Commencement, 38 associate degree nursing candidates received their nursing pins.

"The nursing pin is a treasured symbol from your school," CSM Nursing Professor Annette Ragland told the graduates and their families during the ceremony. "Let this pin be a constant reminder of your desire and commitment to serve others. It is a medal of honor and it is also a badge of courage.'

Ragland went on to tell the audience how the modern pinning ceremony dates back to the 1860s, when Florence Nightingale was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in recognition for her tireless service to the injured during the Crimean War. According to Healthcare Marketplace, "to share the honor, [Nightingale] in turn presented a medal of excellence to her brightest graduates and by 1916, the practice of pinning new graduates was standard throughout the

"It was decades ago when the first pin

was designed by the first RN class to ever graduate from the college in 1979," continued Ragland, who added that the current pin was custom designed by the college's nursing faculty and students to reflect the first graduating class of CSM in 2001. "This pin connects you with every nurse who has come before you."

Guest speaker and retired CSM Nursing Professor Janice Bonham spoke emotionally and fondly of her time at CSM and welcomed her "fellow nurses" to their profession. "Soon you will say, 'I am a registered nurse.'" Bonham said. "Five little words that mean so much."

Representing the nursing class as student speaker, Kitomila Turner recalled the hours, days, weeks and months of studying, testing, failing and succeeding. But she received thunderous laughs and applause when she reminded her fellow classmates that the most important lesson they all learned over the last two years was, "Wash Your Hands!"

"When anyone asks me where I went to school," she boasted, "I will proudly say, 'the College of Southern Maryland.

Rachel Turner, 21, of Waldorf, was awarded the CSM Health Sciences Division Achievement in Nursing Award, presented to the graduate who demonstrates academic achievement, clinical competence, community service and leadership potential. The day was especially sweet for Turner, who learned two days before ceremony that she would begin her career as a registered nurse at Washington Hospital Center's in the stroke unit Feb. 25.

Marilaan van der Merwe, 25, of Leonardtown, was awarded the CSM Health Sciences Division Academic Achievement, given to the graduate with the highest grade point average in the class. van der Merwe – a South African citizen

who came to the United States in 2012 as an au pair - entered CSM's Nursing Program in spring 2017. During the evenings' cap and gown ceremony, van der Merwe and walked across the stage at the top of her class with the words "Not All Angels Have Wings – Some Have Stethoscopes" embossed on her graduation cap.

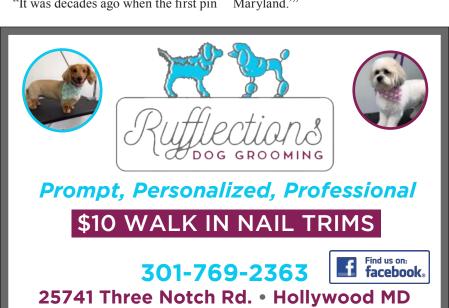
The following are the names of the CSM students who graduated with associate degrees in nursing Jan. 17.

St. Mary's County

Jacqueline Austin Lenita Balsbough Jocelyn Carter Dara DeCola Allison Deese Stephen Dickinson Jennifer Nagy Frances O'Hara Stephanie Pankiewicz Rebecca Schramm Zachary Teston Ashley Thompson Marilaan Van Der Merwe Katrina Wagaman Meghan Williams

Calvert County

Lauren Belskie Elizabeth Duncan Angie Haddock Savannah Keifline Kaitlyn Lane Lisa Malecki Lindsay McKenzie Kimberleigh Nicholas Kathryn Oresik Jenna Ware Karlee Young





Rice's Journey To Fame Goes



By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Reggie Rice is a local celebrity who has been amazing his audiences for the past 15 years with his illusion and comedy shows.

His shows mean big fun for his audiences, but they are the product of tremendous effort.

It's been a long road filled with intense study, practice and investment in props, equipment and learning new illusions to ever improve his act.

When anyone asks him how he got into what most people consider magic – he refers to it as illusion since he doesn't believe in magic – he recounts a tale of following what he loves to do.

"I do career days and they ask how I do tricks, I say patience and a lot of hard work," Rice, 36, told The County Times.

After years of getting his act together, which now employees 10 other people in Rice's shows, the illusionist is now able to do what he loves full time.

"Not for one minute do I take it for granted," said Rice. "I don't believe in magic, but I do believe in the wonder it creates."

Rice can remember as a child always wanting to perform for others and be funny; he says he was often the class clown.

This was long before his interest in illusion changed his ife

He remembers being in a production at Ridge Elementary School in which he played the cyclopean Purple People Eater and his costume's eye fell out; he just picked it up and kept on performing to the amusement of the crowd.

"That's when I saw how fun it was to make people laugh," Rice said.

He said his family life kept him sharp comedically.

"At home I was the least funny," Rice said. "It made me work that much harder."

By 2003, Rice was working at the Hyper Space Fun Center in Hollywood, which was a center for young people to gather for birthday celebrations and fun times in general; Rice worked there, immersed in a world of laser tag and rock-climbing walls.

It was one of the best times in his life.

"It was a magical place," Rice recounted fondly.

His affinity for superheroes, especially Superman and his soon to be budding talent in magic made him a popular entertainer at birthday parties while he donned his cape; Rice relished entertaining kids and adding to the fun atmosphere.

One fateful day at Hyper Space, Rice became so enamored with illusion and magic tricks that he decided it would be his life's pursuit.

"I got into magic when a guy (Frank Price) came from Birthday University," Rice said. "He would teach people how to throw parties, the whole psychology of it.

"It was like a duck to water."

Magic tricks were a big part of making for a successful birthday party; Rice learned just one of them and when he started showing his budding talent his popularity increased.

"I started getting requested for birthday parties," Rice said.

The Super Magic Man, Rice's first persona, was born; it was time for him to grow; now he's know as the Fool of Illusions.

He started learning everything he could, which led him to the International Brotherhood of Magicians; he met one of its members, Giovanni Laverra, at an entertainment exposition and was amazed at what the elder illusionist could

Through Smoke and Mirrors

do

He also learned he could make a more than decent living if he were successful.

"I said, 'I can do this as a career,'" Rice said. "That's when I decided that this is my career path."

His first convention in Cleveland with the magicians's brotherhood opened his eyes to a wider world and the best illusionists in the world.

"The rest is history," Rice said. "I met some of the best magicians on the planet."

Rice, a long-time county resident, soon found himself in Las Vegas at a magicians school run by Jeff McBride, a top magician, to begin perfecting his trade.

After receiving training, he came back to St. Marys' County for his first show.

Rice admits that it was well received if not well executed; he still is treated to people's recordings of the show at Great Mills High School in 2005 who love him for it.

"The magic was bad," Rice said laughingly. "I just appreciate them."

Far from being a diamond in the rough, his first show "was a piece of coal."

But he didn't give up; he continued to persevere, learn and improve his sleight of hand.

Now he's in demand around the region for his shows, including fundraisers for local parochial schools and community organizations.

He also loves to perform for sick kids at Children's Hospital in Washington, D.C. and spread a little joy to those who really need it most.

It's also the place where he has met two First Ladies, first Michelle Obama and lately Melania Trump, who come to visit the same children.

Rice says he essentially performs as an opening act for hem.

"It's my favorite show," Rice said.

Aside from two First Ladies, Rice has met celebrities such as Siegfried and Roy.

His work also takes him outside the Continental U.S. to venues like St. Croix in the Caribbean to help raise funds for youth opportunities.

He's even returned to his local alma mater to perform for students in the aftermath of the March 20 shooting at Great Mills High School in which two students lost their lives

He is also planning another event to benefit St. John's School in Hollywood on Feb. 22 and on March 16 for Great Mills High School students with a percentage of the proceeds to go towards funding mental health for students.

Rice continues to work on his act and is proud of one illusion that he created himself that continues to make audiences gape, the washer and dryer.

Rice said the inspiration comes from his time living at his family's home and wishing that the clothes in the washer would just magically make their way into the dryer.

Now he has found a way to do just that with himself in his act.

About half of the props in his shows are ones he has built himself, he said, and he continues to search for new ways to innovate.

"I have not yet mastered it," Rice said of his craft. "I'm just trying to get better and better than I was the day before.

Reggie believes he is blessed to be able to do what he is doing now; pursuing his dream and making it his living.

"In that regard I feel I've been successful," Rice said. "I believe that success is doing what you want to do when you want to do it."

guyleonard@countytimes.net





PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION



NAWCAD Leadership Honors Civilians for Decades of Service



Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division civilian employees alongside Vice Commander, Capt. Craig Lee, pictured together after being recognized for length of service during an awards ceremony at Patuxent River, Md. Jan. 24

Employees from Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division's research, engineering, test and evaluation departments were presented Length of Service Awards in Patuxent River, Maryland.

The awards signifying 25 to 50 years of service were presented by Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division's (NAWCAD) Vice Commander, Capt. Craig Lee.

"The individuals honored today took on, and continue to tackle, some of naval aviation's greatest challenges in an everchanging world," said Capt. Lee. "It is because of these people that we can adjust, respond and continue to overcome the challenges of today and tomorrow."

Twenty-five year awardees: Dane Bright, Gary King Jr., Randall Gross,

Roland Baringer, Ronald Wilber, Michael Hair, Robert Dudley III, Alexander Reimann, Anthony Page, Elizabeth Knoblauch, James Ruocco, Gary Chappie, Brent Sweredoski, Scot Miller, Stephanie Nobles, Bryan Henderson, Kenneth Cooper, Rick Courtney, Christopher Mattei, Collin Stark Tatusko, Gregory Williams, Michael McGlinchey, Fabrizio Donis and Ray Price.

Thirty year awardees: Greg Godfrey, Beth Anne Miller, Christopher Balish, Dan Prasadarao, David Meiser, Ronald Barry Walden, Timothy Andryszak, Marlin Buehler, Diane Hoyns, Eric Hille, Jose Rivera, Steve Stopa, William Hardman, Herman Skaggs, Istvan Der, Luis Fortuno, Mohammed Alam, Ted Ersek, Thomas Kreppel, Thomas Pacobit, Christine Stanley, Daniel Ferko, Gregory McGuire, Ronald Stamper, Crystal Lord, Mark Donovan, Norbert Torres, Ruth Lacey, Scott Hoffman, Colin Burns, Gregory Oliver, James Tomasic, Robert Sowa, Stephen Bachner, Vincent Meyer, Cornelia Fuchs, James Elele, Joseph Koffley, Renee Vanerp, Alan Parker, Clyde Simmerman and William Hardman.

Thirty-five year awardees: Richard Mattson, Gary Evans, James McDermott Jr., Janet Gill, John Quartuccio Jr., Lisa Coluzzi, Lisa Maenza, Paul Duprey, Thomas Carroll, William Brown, Gary Carpenter, Gregory Silvernagel, Luanne Raley, Joseph Piland Jr., Richard Ryan, William Schork, Dagmara Lizlovs, Donald Howd Jr., Steven Fa-

gan, Thomas Kaelblein, David Wheeler, Edward Copeland, Joel Republica, John Andujar, Stanley Zugay Jr., Jeffrey Samilton, Stephen Barrett, Frank Cisneros, Kevin Holland, Lester Smith Jr., Paul Powell, Charles Thomason, Christopher Stevens, Harold White III, Harry Black, Michael Thompson, Richard Gorman, Brian Keating, Mark Long, Mark Smedley, Ronald Demes and Michael Sakach.

Forty year awardees: Paul Ragard, Kevin Birney, Francis Chamberlain III, Roger Kaplan, Gary Giovagnoli, Susan Horn, Joseph Johnson, Kenneth Kline, Chris Grable and John Devalle.

Forty-five year awardees: Stephen Thomas and Michael Dell.

Fifty year awardee: William Grimes.

Most Awarded Bluegrass Band Makes Annual Local Appearance!

Jay Armsworthy and the Sons of the American Legion Post 238 in Hughesville on Sunday, Feb. 10 will feature the second performance in the Bluegrass series. The most requested Bluegrass band to ever perform in the series, Russell Moore & IIIrd Tyme Out, returns for another year. The show starts at 2:00 pm.

The International Bluegrass Music Association's (IBMA) most awarded Male Vocalist of the Year (five-time career). Russell Moore, is truly at the top of his game. Fronting one of the most popular bands in bluegrass history; Russell Moore & IIIrd Tyme Out are also one of the genres most awarded and influential groups in modern day bluegrass, having set an industry standard for over 27 years. Joined by four unequivocally talented musicians with Wayne Benson on mandolin Keith McKinnon on banjo, Jerry Cole on bass, and Nathan Aldridge on fiddle, this band continues to bring fresh music to the ears, while staying true to the tradition that has made them an industry favorite for a quarter century. They have recorded 18 albums including Timeless Hits From The Past Bluegrassed, released exclusively in Cracker Barrel Old Country Store,

and among Billboard's Top 5 Selling Albums of 2013. They reached a new career milestone with their latest selfproduced album, It's About Tyme, which has been the fastest charting album in the band's history, making its debut on the National Bluegrass Survey's Top 15 Albums at #2 climbing to #1 the next month where it remained for an unprecedented SIX consecutive months! As journalist Jon Weisberger recently stated, "...it's more than just longevity that gets Russell Moore's name out front. The man is, to put it simply, one of the finest singers you'll ever hear, and he makes it seem positively effortless

The doors open at Noon at the American Legion with food available for sale by the Sons of the American Legion. The show starts at 2:00 pm and tickets are available at the door for \$20.00 per person, under the age of 12 admitted free with a paid adult. Although not required, non-perishable food donations will be collected for the Helping Hands Food Pantry of Southern Maryland. For more information on the show, please call 301-737-3004 or visit the website at www.americanlegionbluegass.com.



Russell Moore



LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS SERVING ST. MARY'S COUNTY



ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY & ONLINE AT COUNTYTIMES.NET

Input Sought on White-tailed Deer Management

Four Public Comment Meetings Scheduled



The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is seeking public comment on the state's management of white-tailed deer. The input will be used to help revise the state's deer management plan for the next 15 years, establishing long-term goals, and identifying specific objectives and strategies for achieving them.

Through Feb. 28, the public can provide comments online. The department is also accepting feedback by phone at 410-260-8540; by fax at 410-260-8596; or in writing to: Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service, 580 Taylor Avenue, E-1, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401. "We look forward to hearing from all citizens interested in one of Maryland's most important wildlife species – the white-tailed deer," Wildlife and Heritage Ser-

vice Director Paul Peditto said. "Public input is vital to crafting a well-rounded plan that includes all opinions about deer and how they should be managed."

A brief summary of the current status of white-tailed deer management will be presented at four public meetings, which include:

Southern Region
Feb. 12 at 7 p.m.
College of Southern Maryland
La Plata Campus
Room 113
Business and Industry Building
8730 Mitchell Road
La Plata, Maryland 20646

Press Release from MD DNR

Haussler Signs Pro Soccer Contract



St. Mary's College of Maryland's Zack Haussler, Class of 2018, has signed a contract to play professional soccer for the Harrisburg Heat. Haussler made the squad after impressing coaches at camp and is on the 2018-19 roster. The Heat compete in the Eastern Division of the Major Arena Soccer League (MASL).

"I'm incredibly proud of Zack and his accomplishment," said St. Mary's head men's soccer coach, Alun Oliver '04. "He was a massive part of our program for four years and became one of the best goal-keepers in program history. I wish him all the best with his professional career."

Haussler, a native of Woodbine, Maryland, left his mark as one of the best goal-keepers in St. Mary's men's soccer history. The 6-0 goalkeeper recorded 292 saves, 36 wins, and an 80% save percentage during his four-year career.

Haussler credits much of his success on the field to the SMCM men's soccer program and Coach Oliver. "The SMCM men's soccer program and Coach Oliver were essential to my development as a goalkeeper," stated Haussler. "My growth as a player is a direct result of the quality of each and every one of my teammates as well as my coaching staff. Every training session I was surrounded by players who were not only extremely talented, but who would work harder than anyone I had played with before. In order to keep up with those guys I had to be at my best every day."

Thanks to the SMCM men's soccer culture, Haussler racked up a plethora of honors during his Seahawk career. He was a four-time member of the CAC All-Academic Team, a seven-time CAC Defensive Player of the Week, Second Team

All-CAC selection (2016), First Team All-CAC Selection (2017), and was named to the Scholar All-Region Team.

"Coach Oliver as well as the rest of the coaching staff, inspired all of his players to push themselves to become better athletes on and off the field," Haussler said. "The team became a family under Coach Oliver and teammates became brothers. It was this cohesion that led to my ability to grow as a player and ultimately to my opportunity to play soccer at the next level. I am truly grateful for the impact that St. Mary's, Coach Oliver, and my teammates have had on my life."

Haussler is the fourth member of the men's soccer program to sign a professional contract. Jessie Roberts '93 played a preseason game with the Arizona Sandsharks and was traded to the Carolina Vipers in the Continental Indoor Soccer League.

He played one year with the Vipers. Ryan Olsen '02 played two seasons (2002 and 2003) with the Northern Virginia Royals of the United Soccer League (USL) Second Division, notching six goals and four assists in 21 games played. Nicholas Tait '17 played one season with the Baltimore Blast of the MASL Eastern Division.

"I am looking forward to experiencing my first season in the MASL with the Harrisburg Heat and to continue learning the game of soccer," Haussler explained. "The goal of my professional career is to reach my full potential as a goalkeeper and play at the highest possible level."

The Harrisburg Heat were founded in the 2012-13 season and compete at the Harrisburg Farm Complex in the Large Arena.

Press Release from SMCM

Super Bowl Trivia

New England Patriots vs. Los Angeles Rams

February 3rd, 2019 • Atlanta, Georgia • Kick-Off 6:30PM

The odds - New England is favored by 2.5 points. The Rams tied with New Orleans for having the best record in the NFL. The over-under - the predetermined prediction of total points scored in a game - is 58.

Halftime entertainment - Maroon 5, Travis Scott and Big Boi are performing.

Musical interlude - Most of the early halftime performers were marching bands and musical salutes. It wasn't until 1991, when New Kids on the Block performed, that pop acts began to play on a regular basis. Also: Super Bowl halftime performers are not paid. Exposure is the soughtafter prize

Tickets - One online seller was averaging \$4,863 per seat. That's down \$1,000 from a year ago at the same time.

National Anthem - Gladys Knight will sing the National Anthem. The over-under proposition bet on how long it will take her to sing the anthem is 1 minute, 47 seconds.

Coin toss - The pregame coin toss has landed on tails 27 times and heads 25 times. (New England is 3-7 in tosses.) Super Bowl winners have won the toss 24 of 52 times.

Get out your wallet - On Jan. 22, StubHub had an eBay listing for a pair of tickets going for \$99,202.50. So if your budget is \$100,000, you're in luck.

Ad-ing it up - Variety says a 30-second commercial spot is going for \$5.1 million to \$5.3 million. That works out to \$170,000 to \$176,666 per second.

Amazing to think the first Super Bowl brought in \$40,000 per 30 seconds of ad time.

Big viewership - The 2018 game averaged 103.4 million viewers, down from the previous year when it had an average viewership of 111.3 million people.

> Lots of angles - CBS is planning on using 115 cameras at Super Bowl LIII. Last year, NBC had 106 cameras at the game.

It was 15 years ago - It was halftime of Super Bowl XXXVIII in 2004 when cameras caught Janet Jackson's infamous breast-baring "wardrobe malfunction" during a performance with Justin Timberlake.

The jerseys - The Rams are the designated home team and will wear "throwback blue jerseys." Yes, Los Angeles is about 2,220 miles from the site of the game, about twice as far as Boston is from Atlanta. But it's an alternated designation. SBNation says designated away teams have won 31 of 52 Super Bowls, with the Patriots going 3-2 when wearing road unis. Also: the only team to wear throwback uniforms in the big game was the San Francisco 49ers in 1995. They won, beating the San Diego Chargers.

Chilling out - Choose the color of liquid (usually Gatorade) that the winning coach will be doused with after the game: Lime/green/yellow (+225), orange (+300), blue (+375), red (+400), clear/water (+400), purple (+1,000).

The teams' Super Bowl history - Patriots: New England is 5-5 in Super Bowls, with none of the games in Atlanta. This is their fourth game in five years and third consecutive. Rams: They lost as the St. Louis Rams in 2002 and won in 2000. In 1980, the Los Angeles Rams lost. Their only win came in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.





Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On, Needlessly

To the Editor:

Well, this it, our final call. No longer any need to see your lawyer for those pesky legal documents, i.e., Will, Power of Attorney et al. No need to preplan your funeral and ensure progeny are provided for. And forget that credit card debt, man, just let it go. Reportedly, in just 12 short years (if not before) you will surely meet your own demise at the same time everyone else is meeting theirs. So claims the Hill's young newbie, the energetic, photogenic, and self-anointed prophetess so fully in touch with her troubling leftist/Socialist imagination and intent.

Young lady, you are deceived and promoting fallacious nonsense. Somehow, you've become the authority on end times events in warning of Global Warming/Climate Change's soon destruction of planet Earth, thus killing us all. Your dire message is absolute foolishness via fake news media's hyped scare tactics borne of some supposedly smart man's opine. And your forecast correlates with increased efforts at driving Americans away from faith in God Almighty.

The I AM, giver and sustainer of all life, also ably manages the Heavens, ensuring planet distances remain within original specs as timing and speed of evolving and spinning bodies are perfectly balanced, while gravitational pull is ever exact, even as water levels reach so high, yet, are restricted no higher. Nevertheless, the current craze of Mother Earth worship is nothing new, as men also once worshipped the Sun, Ezekiel 8:16. This concerted hyped-up frenzy reveals further efforts at dismissing biblical creation, preferring man-made religion and worship of the created, serving but to elevate mankind as supreme authority as opposed to his Creator.

Earth will continue spinning on its axis, evolving around the Sun even as the Moon and Stars retain their place in nighttime brilliance. One day, known but to God, impending extreme heat envelopes the land. And your opportunity at getting facts right should be Holy Bible based, i.e., Malachi 4:1 and II Peter 3:10-11, not speculative and agenda driven. The most elementary assurance of just who controls weather is clearly demonstrated at Matthew 8:23-27. Search the Word yourself for numerous other references thereto and be not fearful. Trust affords rest.

Fact is, dear lady, the very hairs of one's head are numbered as are one's own total days of living. Man cannot even assure himself of living as little as 12 minutes out as each heartbeat is in accordance with God's will and purpose and we know not how, or when, it will ultimately end.

We know climate changes, just not via man's labors nor resultant of his God supplied natural resource usage of oil and gas, or cow flatulence. All weather is an act of God, whether within his perfect will or his permissive will. Either way, it's his call. You might even note your own homeowner's policy to see what the insurance carrier discloses regarding such.

Presently, there ate two overriding factors permeating this entire country; lunacy and hate. And this once God fearing, Christ honoring society is become sick with its continuous dividing of our people, haves from have nots, the races, the colors, faith or no, etc. And it's wrecking the once uniting of all our peoples under our venerable US Flag. So, madam, awake to reality, focus on that which is within man's reach, i.e., civility, growth, national security, economy, health-care etc. All doable. Down with the leftist/Socialist ideology of Alahandria Ocrazio Courts-Ex. And up with an enlightened and learned AOC, as one capable of remarkable political feats derived of historical American values and a knowledge of the Holy...

Chester M. Seaborn, Jr. Mechanicsville, MD

Wanderings Aimless Mind by Shelby Oppermann Contribute Weiter

Retail Knowledge

I love working retail, you get to meet such interesting folks and learn something new everyday as they say. This past weekend I worked at what some of us that work there just call the "barn" across from the Sunoco in Hughesville which really is one of the fascinating old tobacco warehouses. The retail name is Hughesville Village Market and there are a few of us intrepid souls who work there in the boiling heat of summer and the bone-chilling cold of winter. It must be a deep-seated love for all that is old. We had a thermometer in there for awhile that showed how it is usually quite a few degrees warmer inside than outside in the summer and quite a few degrees colder inside than outside in the winter. We actually go outside to get cooler in the summer, and outside to get warmer in the winter.

We also have very brave and intrepid customers who also will brave the weather to get great deals on vintage and antique items. Our fuzzy mufflers off to you folks. One of the days a gentleman came in with really neat stories of what it was like to buy and sell tobacco there. Some I can't repeat about the buying and selling process. It was neat to look up and around the old warehouse while the man told of different places inside where sometimes tobacco was hung. I could visualize the tobacco laying on the tables, and hear the echoes of the auctioneers voices calling out dollar amounts, and the distant voices of all the farmers catching up on all the local news of Southern Maryland. The man continued on with his extensive knowledge of different ways to gather tobacco, and problems that were encountered with price fluctuations to how the weather affected the crop. You could tell by listening how important farming was in his life.

** And just as a side note if you come up there, in the back corner of the warehouse there is a display of items from those heady days when tobacco helped fuel the local economy.

This week, at Keeping It Local in Morganza, when our farm fresh egg man, Harry Dalton, came in with a few new cartons of eggs, we started chatting as well. I asked him if the hens had any problems laying eggs in this cold weather. He replied that they didn't lay as many as normal. Mr. Dalton went on to say that it was funny I should ask that because he said that the hens are great barometers of the weather. Apparently, he can look outside his window in the summer and be able to tell if it is over 90 degrees by the way the hens hold their wings. If their wings are lifted up high and away from their bodies then you can be sure it is over 90. And in really cold weather, if the hens have their wings clamped tight up against their bodies then you know to bundle up good. As a suburban girl I would never have known that.

I loved hearing some of his weather folklore anecdotes. One interesting saying was from an old weather proverb: "Mare's tails and mackerel scales, make lofty ships to carry low sails". Turns out that altocumulus clouds resembled mackerel scales, and wispy cirrus clouds resembled mare's tales to sailors and farmers of old. Seeing the scales and tales meant a change in the weather was coming. I found two more fun sayings when I looked up the proverb from Mr. Dalton; "Mackerel sky, not twenty-four hours dry" and "Clear moon, frost soon". I think I need to start getting the Old Farmer's Almanac again – always enjoyed reading that.

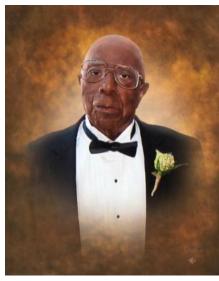
Well, let me get outside and check these clouds out today – I bet I can think up some of my own sayings like, "Below zero, don't be a hero!"

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

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

In Remembrance

Joseph Jackson Holly



Joseph Jackson Holly, 100 years old of Leonardtown, MD, known to many as Daddy, Pop, Pop Pop, Mr. Jack and Mr. Holly to his family and friends, passed away peacefully in his sleep after a brief illness on Wednesday, January 23, 2019. Jack was born on June 29, 1918 to the late William Jackson and Annie Plowden Holly in Redgate, Maryland. He was educated at Red Gate School.

On November 19, 1939, Jack married the love of his life, Elizabeth Brooks Holly at Our Lady's Catholic Church in Medley's Neck, Maryland. They were married for 75 blessed years before Elizabeth passed away in 2015. From this union, they had nine children, Charles (Jerry-deceased), Joseph (Joe), William, James (Richard), Thomas (deceased), Charles (Charlie), John (Johnny), Anna and Baby Girl Holly (deceased).

Jack worked for many years on a farm owned by Victor and Billy Brubacher in Medley's Neck, MD. When Jack left the farm life, he went on to work at St. Mary's Ice and Fuel in Leonardtown, MD for over 40 years. Upon retirement, Jack had more time to really enjoy the outdoors. Early in retirement, he spent quality time in his garden, growing beautiful vegetables and sharing them with the family. He maintained and groomed his flowerbeds and lawn. He even continued driving until his mid 90's. Later in life, he was not able to do the things that he once enjoyed, so he started watching his favorite TV shows, Family Feud with Steve Harvey, Judge Judy, Western Movies, Baltimore Orioles and the Washington Nationals.

Jack was a dedicated and faithful member of Our Lady's Church in Medley's Neck, Maryland. He has served the Lord, his entire life at Our Lady's and was baptized and married at this church. He prayed the "Rosary" faithfully and was able to attend this past Christmas Mass.

On April 17, 2008, Jack and other family members were invited to participate at the Papal Mass at the Nationals Stadium in Washington, DC. Jack was a

"Gift Bearer" and was able to walk and meet Pope Benedict XVI face to face. He said "God Bless You" and presented him with a set of blessed Rosary beads from Rome.

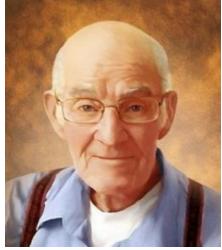
On June 15, 2014, Jack and Elizabeth and other family members were participants of the Jubilarian Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. They celebrated 75 years of marriage with His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl and were Gift Bearers at the Mass.

Jack leaves to cherish his memories, his loving sons, Joseph, Charles, William Sr. (Alice), Richard (Rosalee), John Sr. (Cynthia), one loving daughter Anna (Robert), and daughter-in-law Mary Ola Brooks. He has 13 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 12 great great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of cousins and friends.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents William and Annie Holly, his wife, Elizabeth Holly, two sons Charles A. Brooks and Thomas E. Holly, daughterin-law Cecilia "Pete" Holly, grandson Jevon Holly and daughter, Baby Girl Holly.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 31, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in Our Lady's Church at Medley's Neck Leonardtown, MD where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM with Father John Nguyen officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Robert Ignatius "Bunky" Ferguson



Robert Ignatius "Bunky" Ferguson, 85, of Hollywood, MD passed away on January 25, 2019 in Lexington Park, MD, following a lengthy illness. He was born on March 28, 1933 in Hollywood, MD to the late Myrtle Madeline and Robert Ditman Ferguson. He is survived by his son Robert Ignatius Tippett (Marlene), granddaughter April Marie Roberts and great grandson Sterling Dean Roberts. As well as his sister Clara Rosetta Joy and Catherine Elizabeth Suite, 2 nieces, 2 nephews, several great and great great nieces and neph-

ews. Bunky was predeceased by his brother James F. Ferguson, Sr. and sister Agnes Maria Higgs. Bunky faced many challenges throughout his lifetime. He was born in the year St. Mary's County, MD suffered one of the most devastating hurricanes in its history. He was an avid gardener, he loved his watermelons and tomatoes. Bunky was an accomplished small engine repairman. It was said "There wasn't a weed trimmer or lawn mower he couldn't fix". Bunky used to boast about only burning hickory in his wood stove. However, hickory is a hardwood that burns so hot that old timers used to say 'it would burn the insides out of a cast iron woodstove over time. We learned this lesson the hard way when he was lying in bed one winter night, his stove glowing red, when a fleck of hot iron burst from the stove and landed on the floor. He went out and bought a new wood stove the next day. He was a caretaker at the Briscoe-Thompson Farm in Hollywood, MD for many years.

When former St. Mary's County, MD commissioner Rodney Thompson began an auction business, Bunky was the late auctioneer's right hand man, assisting him throughout that venture. One was rarely far from the other.

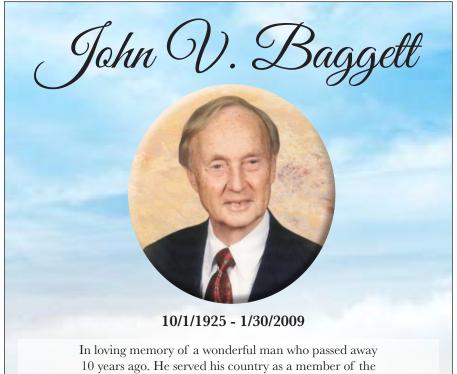
AEC(AW) Paul Thomas Cronk



AEC(AW) Paul Thomas Cronk, USN (Ret.), 56, of Lexington Park, MD passed away suddenly January 20, 2019 at his home.

He was born on July 9, 1962 in Quantico, VA to the late Robert Ray Cronk and Carole Mildred Kaas Cronk.

On January 20, 1981, Paul enlisted in the United States Navy and proudly served his country for 20 years until his retirement in May 2001 as an Electronic



In loving memory of a wonderful man who passed away 10 years ago. He served his country as a member of the U. S. Navy during World War II. He loved life, people and had a strong faith in God. In 1969 he came to St. Mary's County with a vision to create a Department of Recreation and Parks, and became its first director. He leaves a legacy of parks, sports programs, camps, recreation centers, Summerstock Theatre and much more for all ages to enjoy now and in the future. In reitrement he remained active in the Rotary Club of Lexington Park, the Literacy Council of Southern Maryland, and SMAWL. He received the Thousand Points of Light award from the United Way of St. Mary's. In 2002, the park in Laurel Grove was renamed in his honor in recognition of his dedication to enhancing the lives of the citizens of St. Mary's County.

Your loving wife, Marilyn



Chief. During his service he earned numerous awards and medals. He was employed as a dedicated Program Manager with Hexagon (formerly Intergraph Government Solutions) for the past 17 years. On December 29, 1990 he married his beloved wife, Monique Cronk in Biscoe, NC. Together they have celebrated over 28 wonderful years of marriage and raised three strong, and intelligent sons.

Paul was loved by many and never met a stranger whether at the golf course or gym. He spread his admiration of Elvis and music with his "P. Funk Studios" persona. As a member of the Duffer's Golf Club, Paul played at courses all over and his comedic timing made him a favored partner.

In addition to his beloved wife, he is also survived by his children: Dylan Alexander Cronk of Nashville, TN, Tanner Allman Cronk of Lexington Park, MD and Jackson Atticus Cronk of Lexington Park, MD; his siblings: Robert Cronk of Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, David Cronk of Panama City, FL, Anne Brunson of Canton, MS and James Cronk of Northampton, MA.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association, 217 E Redwood St, 11th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 and the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, National Processing Center, P.O. Box 1245, Albert Lea, MN 56007-9976. Condolences to the family may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Sarah Rodriguez



Sarah Rodriguez, 68, of Lexington Park, MD passed away Thursday, January 3, 2019 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

She was born on February 24, 1950

in Queens, New York to the late Sarah Roque.

Sarah was devoted to her family as a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She was married to her beloved husband, Jose Alberto Rodriguez for over 50 wonderful years before his passing in July 2018. She also enjoyed cooking. She was an avid reader and loved going to the movies. She was fluent in both Spanish and English.

She is survived by her children George Roque, Schenetady, NY, Josse Rodriguez (Jose), Honolulu, HI; Sarah Rodriquez, Middleton, NY; Julio Rodriguez, Lexington Park, MD; Juana Reffner (Todd), Lexington Park, MD; Maria Rodriguez, Great Mills, MD; and seven grandchildren and one great grandchild. In addition to her parents she is also preceded in death by her daughter Carmen Rodriguez and sister, Maria Roque.

All services will be private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Victoria "Tori" Lee Hosier



Victoria "Tori" Lee Hosier, 61 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on November 27, 2018 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, MD. Victoria was born on March 9, 1957 to the late Harry Amos and the late Myrtle Virginia Bruffy Myers in Washington, DC. Tori enjoyed doing crafts, candles and soap making. She was homemaker and domestic goddess.

In addition to her parents, Victoria was predeceased by her brothers, Harry and Bobby Myers. She is survived by her loving husband, Edward Charles Hosier; her sons, Wayne Hosier (Amanda) and Joshua Hosier, all of Mechanicsville, MD; her brother Wayne Myers "Randy" of Traphill, NC; her sisters, Shirley McIntosh (Mac) of Supply, NC, Dorothy Carr (Dennis) and Debra Myers, all of Mechanicsville, MD and three grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to: Hospice of St. Mary's, P. O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or Jr Diabetes at: https://www.jdrf.org/donate/

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Mildred Theodora Mason



Mildred Theodora Mason, 87 of Leonardtown, MD, entered into eternal rest on January 23, 2019. Mildred was the daughter of the late James Carter and Bertha Yorkshire. Mildred was born on April 12, 1931 in Bushwood, MD and was raised with five sisters; Mary Maddox, Marie Jones, Martha Herbert, Louise Davis, Susie Day and three brothers; George Carter, James Carter, and John Carter. In 2001, Mildred became a faithful and devoted member and church Mother at Vineyard Deliverance Evangelistic Church, Loveville Road, Mechanicsville, MD. Her son, G. Marvin Carter, is the Pastor. Mildred graduated from Benjamin Banneker School

After Mildred graduated she moved on to assist children with their reading skills at Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School. On September 1, 1956, Mildred married the love of her life, the late George Arthur Mason (Dolue) at Holy Angels Catholic Church. George adored Mildred. They had a magnificent relationship! Their faithfulness to one another will always be cherished and their legacy of love and devotion shall be passed down to current and future generations. After uniting with the love of her life, she became a full-time housewife. Mildred remained a proud housewife until her youngest child graduated high school. Mildred then worked as a domestic house-keeper, caring for a local family for a few years. From there, Mildred went on to become a Dietary Aid at Cedar Lane Senior Living Community where she retired after 13 years. Mildred enjoyed the company of her family and friends.

Mildred had a lively sense of humor, always causing laughter with her jokes and a smile to light up the room. Even during her last days she would say things in order to make her family laugh. She was very protective of her family to include her grand and greatgrandchildren. She always enjoyed looking after them. She enjoyed cooking them breakfast in the mornings and making her famous biscuits. Mildred was always kind, caring, and always putting others first.

Mildred was preceded in death by her husband, George Mason; parents, James Carter and Bertha Yorkshire; sisters, Mary Maddox, Marie Jones, Martha Herbert, Louise Davis and Susie Day;





The County Times

brothers, George Carter, James Carter and John Carter. Mildred is survived by her six loving daughters, Beverly McClary (William) of Bushwood, MD, Sharon Ingram (Charles) of Lexington Park, MD, Alfredia Baker (Austin) of Bushwood, MD, Mildred "Anita" Young (James) of Waldorf, MD, Wanda Mason (Charles) of Hollywood, MD, Barbara Mason (Larry) of Lexington Park, MD; three loving sons, Pastor G. Marvin Carter (Judy) of Hughesville, MD, James "Lydell" Mason (Rhonda) of Bushwood, MD and Kim Mason (Kimberly) of Avenue, MD; two godsons, John Maddox and Calvin Butler; special friends, Virginia Brown, Barbara Neale and Wallace Marby, twenty-one grandchildren, thirty-three great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Family and friends will unite on Friday, February 1, 2019 for visitation at 9:00 am until time of service at 11:00 am at Gospel Tabernacle of Prayer Church, 24516 Budds Creek Road, Clements, MD 20624. Interment to follow at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Cemetery, Bushwood, MD.

Joseph "Howard" Lacey



Joseph "Howard" Lacey, 88 of Avenue, MD, passed away at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital on January 25, 2019 with his loving family at his side as they have been for some time. He was born on December 1, 1930 in Oakley, MD and married the love of his life, Dorothy Marie Bowles on October 30, 1954 at Sacred Heart Church. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy of 63 years of marriage. They were companions and a sign of "true love" for their children to cherish. He was the loving son of Walter Lacey and Minnie Lacey. He is survived by his sisters, Shirley Knott of Chaptico, Dorothy Trossbach (Philip) of Avenue, brothers, Ed Lacey (Ida) and Joe Lacey (Gertrude) both of Avenue. He is also survived by his four children, Catherine Hayden of (Mechanicsville), Linda Reinmuth (Dale) of Mechanicsville, Donna Goddard (Sam) of Dameron, and Patty Burch of Bushwood. He is survived by 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sisters, Margaret Hill, Louise Mattingly, Ann Cheseldine and Theresa Thompson, brothers, John G. Lacey and Andrew Lacey. Joseph worked for the State

Highway in Highway Maintenance and then as a Mechanic along with farming. He worked 30 years until his retirement.

He loved his four girls and did everything he could possibly do for them. He was loved dearly by his girls and grandchildren and will be greatly missed by all who were blessed to have known him. He enjoyed family gatherings.

He also enjoyed gardening, hunting and mechanic work. His favorite hobby and past time was fishing. Time spent on the water was like heaven to him. He was of the Catholic faith and it meant the world to him. Sacred Heart was his Church home.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 31, 2019 from 5:00 PM to 8 PM and prayers at 7 PM in the Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, Feb. 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM. at Sacred Heart Church in Bushwood, MD with Father Samuel Plummer officiating. Interment will follow in the Church cemetery. Pallbearers will be his grandsons, Rick Murphy, Joe Jackson Jr., Steve Murphy, Sammy Goddard Jr., Allan Goddard and Cody Burch. Honorary Pallbearer will be his granddaughter, Lacey Burch.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or Seventh District Vol. Rescue Squad, P. O. Box 7, Avenue, MD 20609. Guest Book

William Leonard "Billy" Farr



William Leonard "Billy" Farr of Great Mills, MD passed away on Sunday, January 27, 2019, surrounded by his loving family, at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown.

Billy (or Buster as he was named by his 3-year-old "big" sister who couldn't pronounce brother), was born on July 2, 1951, to the late William L. Farr, Sr. and Julia Cecelia Guy Farr in Leonardtown,

Billy attended the original St. Joseph's School and graduated from what is now Mother Catherine Academy. He was a 1970 graduate of Chopticon High School and was a member of the Maryland National Guard, from which he was honorably discharged on June 17, 1976. He was a Master Meat Cutter for the original A&P Grocery chain that was later called "Super Fresh". He was employed by The A&P for 32 years, retiring on January 26, 2002.

He is survived by his son, William

L. Farr, III (Sarah) of Hollywood, his stepsons, Michael Adams of Mechanicsville, MD, and Tony Adams (Tricia) of Bryan's Road, MD. He was a loving, doting and hands-on grandfather to William L. "Leo" Farr, IV, Ty Christian Farr, Tallie Ann Farr, and Corbin Gooslin of Hollywood; Mikayla and Jordan Adams of Mechanicsville, and Franki and Lincoln Adams of Bryan's Road. Billy is also survived by his siblings, Sara "Sally" Mattingly of Loveville, Julie Mattingly (Roger) of Leonardtown, John Farr (Meg) of Dumfries, VA, and Jerry (Sharon) Farr of Hollywood. Billy was predeceased by his beloved brother, Warren David (Karen) Farr of Loveville.

Although all of his brothers and sisters were die-hard Washington Redskins fans, Billy just had to be a Dallas Cowboy football fan which made for many Sundays of high spirited football watching. He enjoyed watching NAS-CAR, fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, and golfing. Of the many hundreds of cars, trucks, campers, motorcycles, lawn mowers, tractors, and boats that he had owned over the years, there probably was never one that looked the same once they were owned by Billy. He very much enjoyed "tinkering", taking them apart and putting them back together, and always make sure that not a speck of dust or dirt was on or in his vehicles.

Other than the 7 years he lived in Tampa, Florida, Billy was a devoted member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Morganza, MD, where he was baptized, made his First Penance and First Communion, was Confirmed, and faithfully served as an altar boy.

The family will receive friends on Friday evening, February 1, 2019 from 5:00PM to 8:00 PM with prayers recited at 7:00 PM A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 10:00 Am in St. Joseph Catholic Church Morganza, MD with Father Drew Royals officiating. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Catholic Cemetery Helen, MD. Pallbearers will be John A. Mattingly, Jr, Michael Adams,

Tony Adams, Christopher Farr, Ryan Farr, Todd Farr, George Higgs, and Timothy Corley.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation at plmonaryfibrosis.org or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Pamela "Pam" Sue Lowe



Pamela "Pam" Sue Lowe, age 60, passed away peacefully on January 26th, in St. Mary's County, MD. She was born on January 3, 1959 to Gervis and Sue Zeigler. Pam lived a long and full life with her husband and two children. Working in hotels for over twenty years, Pam touched the lives of many people from all different places and had a knack for business that made her invaluable to her work. She enjoyed crocheting and quiet nights at home with family. She is preceded in death by her parents and husband, and survived in death by her two children, Beverly and Carol, her brother Skip, and numerous cousins. Friends, family, and others whose lives she touched are invited to a celebration of her life at the Elks Lodge at 45779 Fire Dept Ln, California, MD 20619 from 11am to 4pm on February 2, 2019 to reminisce and remember. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Pam's honor to either St. Jude's or Shriner's Children's Hospital.



Lynda J. Striegel **WILLS • PROBATE ADMINISTRATION**

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Free Estate Classes Third Wednesday of the Month at 11am at 8906 Bay Avenue North Beach, MD 20714

301-855-2246 • www.legalstriegel.com

Community <u>Calendar</u>

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

ONGOING

"She Loves Me"

Three Notch Theatre, 21744 South Coral Drive, Lexington Park

February 1 -17

Thu., Fri., Sat. at 8:00 PM. Sun. 3:30 PM

Presented by the Newtown Players. Considered by many to be the most charming musical ever written, a warm romantic comedy with an endearing innocence and a touch of old-world elegance. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors, students and military; \$13 age 12 and under. Purchase online at www.newtowneplayers. org, or call 301-737-5447.

UPCOMING

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department

Announce three separate events in 2019. The Spring Craft Show. Vendor Sunday, April 14. spots Contact the Chairavailable. Craftshow@HVFD7.com. man, The Independent Consultants Vendor Show. Sunday, August 4. Registration applications are now being accepted. Contact the Chair-Vendorshow@HVFD7.com. man. The Fall Craft Show. November 24. Registration is full. Info, Chair-Craftshow@HVFD7.com. man Events will be held at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department located at 24801 Three Notch Rd., Hollywood, MD. The proceeds will benefit the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

Friday, February 1

First Friday

Downtown Leonardtown 5:00 – 8:00 PM

Visit participating merchants for First Friday specials.

St. Mary's Arts Council

22660 Washington St., Leonardtown 5:30 – 8:00 PM

Presentation by Sheila Klotz about her career and travels at 5:30. Audience participation Drum Circle and the SoMar Drummers from 7-8:00. Info: 240-309-

4061. www.stmarysartscouncil.com.

North End Gallery

41652 Fenwick St., Leonardtown 5:00 -8:00 PM

Annual Invitational Show opening reception featuring regional artists reflecting today's art trends. Show runs through February 24. Info: 301-475-3130. www.northendgallery.org.

Queen of Hearts Drawing

Brass Rail Sports Bar, Great Mills 7:00 PM

Ticket sales, \$1 each, begin at 4:00 PM. Drawing at 7:00 PM. 50/50 raffle each week. Jackpot begins at \$2,000+ and continues to grow each week until the Queen of Hearts is found.

Benefit the Archangel Scholarship Foundation Corporation in support of St. Michael's School, Ridge. Info/updates: Facebook page or: archangelfoundation.wordpress.com

Texas Hold'em Tournament

VFW Post 2632, 23282 Three Notch Rd. California

7:00 PM

\$50 Buy in (\$40 Prize Pool + \$10 Charity). \$10 Add-On (extra \$1000 and 50/50 entry). Sign in 6:20-6:45; Early Bird Bonus. Pre-registration encouraged; not required. Public welcome. Must be 18 or older to play. Brian, e-mail: poker@yfw2632.com. 240-925-4000

"Dark Ages" Dinner

Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education, Piney Point

The Greater Southern Maryland Chapter (GSMC) of the Naval Academy Alumni Association invites all Naval Academy Alumni and their guests. Email, Richard.L.Snyder@saic.com; or phone, 301-475-0124 or 240-298-2279

Saturday, February 2

Indoor Yard Sale

Mt Zion Church Preschool, Mechanicsville

7:00 AM – Noon

Benefit the Scholarship Fund at Mt. Zion UMC Preschool. Tables \$35; two \$55. Vendors welcome. 301-884-5455,

mtzionpreschool.com, or email mtzpreschool@gmail.com

Valentine Maker's Market

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center

13470 Dowell Rd., Solomons 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

From jewelry to leather goods, the market has thoughtful and unique gifts for all the special people in your life! Admission is free! 410-326-4640. www. annmariegarden.org

Youth Baseball Spring Registration

Chancellor's Run Park, Mechanicsville VFD, Leonardtown VFD

10:00 AM – Noon

Register to play in St. Mary's County Youth Baseball or T-Ball this Spring. Online registration available. T-Ball: tshq.bluesombrero.com/Default. aspx?tabid=2372510. Baseball: smbrl. siplay.com

Elks Texas Hold'em Tournament

St Mary's County Elks Lodge, Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park 6:00 PM

\$80 Buy in = 12,000 chips. Food and drink for purchase. Cash games start when there are enough interested players. Questions: James Dean 240-577-0828. Email: jdeanjunior@yahoo.com

Country Music's Taylor Phillips, Sam Grow & Amber DeLaCruz

5 South Event Center, 21030 Point Lookout Road, Callaway 7:00 PM

Ask questions and hear stories with acoustic selections and full band jam sessions! Ages 12 and up! A standing event. Seating available with a Lounge ticket! Questions? Call 240-538-1984 or email john@5southeventcenter.com

Sunday, February 3

Super Bowl LIII Wing Platter

MVFD, 28165 Hills Club Road, Mechanicvsille

2:00 - 5:00 PM

Wing Options—Plain, Buffalo or Old Bay. Sauces—Ranch or Blue Cheese. ½ Platter (25pc) \$25. Full Platter (50pc) \$40. Pick up 2-5:00. Contact Cindy to

place order 301-997-5722.

Monday, February 4

CABS

Garvey Senior Center, Leonardtown 6:00 PM

Companions and Buddies for Singles is an adult social group of friends. Meets every Monday except Holidays. Dues \$15/year; no dues first four visits. 240-794-8033

CABSorg.WixSite.com/CABS

Elks Hold'em Bounty Tournament

St Mary's County Elks Lodge, 45779 Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park 7:00 – 11:00 PM

\$25 Buy-in = 4,000 chips. \$5 add-on =1,000 chips and raffle drawing. Food and drink for purchase. James Dean 240-577-0828. Email: jdeanjunior@yahoo.com

Tuesday, February 5

Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) Conference

So. Md. Higher Education Center, 44219 Airport Rd, California 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

What happens when a GPS signal is unavailable? Dr. Christopher Ekstrom, deputy oceanographer and navigator of the Navy, will address issues and approaches to providing PNT solutions in a GPS-denied environment. Info, register: www.paxpartnership.org. Questions? Jen Brown, jennifer.brown@paxpartnership.org, 301-866-1739 x318.

Thursday, February 7

American Legion Post 221 Meeting 21690 Colton Point Road, Avenue 8:00 - 9:00 PM

All active duty personnel and veterans are invited to join our monthly meeting. Visit www.alpost221.webs.com/ or e-mail alpost221@aol.com. Call (01-884-4071 for more information.

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St. Mary's Department of Aging

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1658 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 1050 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 3101

Visit www.stmarysmd.com/aging for the most up-to date information

Brought to you by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County: James R. Guy, President; Michael L. Hewitt; Tom Jarboe; Todd B. Morgan; John E. O'Connor; and the Department of Aging & Human Services

Amazing Cane Classes

Ready to try something new and different at the Loffler Senior Activity Center? Then meet Bonnie Hollyer, lover of dance, creative arts and people. She has a plan for combining all these to show you a good time! First, bring in a plain old cane to transform into your own unique creation. Then learn some dance moves using your newly styled stick. This funfilled, unique class combines creativity and fitness. Set to upbeat music that will make your toes tap, it is suitable for any age or ability and can be done seated or standing. Cost-bring in a plain old canethat's IT! Three sessions: Tuesdays Feb. 5, 19 and 26 at 11 a.m. Sign up by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk by Feb. 1.

Valentine's Day Luncheon with Bruce Thomas

On Tuesday, Feb. 5, at 12 p.m. guest vocalist Bruce Thomas will be at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. Bruce is a diverse performer who can effortlessly move through the musical categories of inspirational, swing, jazz, pop, and R&B. Please join us for his energetic and interactive performance while dining. Make sure to put on your best red outfit for the event! The special meal for the day will be orange juice, 5-spice chicken, parslied new potatoes, zucchini & tomatoes, whole wheat dinner roll, peaches and a special Valentine's Day

dessert. A donation toward the cost of your meal is appreciated if you are 60 years of age or older. For those under 60 the cost of your meal will be \$6.To make reservations call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

Educational Video Series

George Washington Carver: An Uncommon Way will be showing at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. Despite being born into slavery and having to live through poor health, poverty, and prejudice, Carver emerged as a great scientist and inventor, and is known, not only for his discoveries, but for changing the myth that one race was inferior to another based on intellect. There are 16 seats available, reserve yours by calling 301-737-5670, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk. 60 min. Free

Canvas Art: Valentine's Day Theme

Looking for a personalized gift or a unique decoration for Valentine's Day? Come join us at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. as we create a simple, but unique, piece of canvas art. We will supply all the materials and provide the instruction. No experience needed! Cost for the class is \$5 for each piece and payment is due at the time of sign up. Space is limited and fills quickly. To learn more, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

Cigar Box Clock Class

It's time to get crafty, and make a clock at the Northern Senior Activity Center! Repurpose a wooden cigar box to make your very own, custom cigar box clock. This class is on Tuesday, Feb. 12, from 1-3:30 p.m. and is led by artist and crafter, Barbara Ferrante. She will guide you as you not only assemble your clock, but inspire you to decorate the clock with paint, paper, shells, and other adornments that reflect your personal style. If you have an item you would like attach to your clock, bring it with you to class. The cost is \$20 and covers all materials. Space is limited and payment is due at the time of signup. To sign up and pay for this craft in advance, please visit the front desk. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

Special Guest Presentation by Carol McCabe Booker

In 1942, Alice Allison Dunnigan, a sharecropper's daughter from Kentucky, made her way to the nation's capital and a career in journalism that eventually led her to the White House. With "Alone Atop the Hill", Carol McCabe Booker has condensed Dunnigan's 1974 self-published autobiography to appeal to a general audience and has added scholarly annotations that provide historical context. Dunnigan's dynamic story reveals her importance to the fields of journalism, women's history, and the

civil rights movement and creates a compelling portrait of a groundbreaking American. Come join Carol McCabe Booker at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 10:30 a.m. as she presents this dynamic story. To sign up for this presentation, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

Healthwatch Presentation

Cardiovascular Health will be presented by Linda Weintraub on Thursday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m. at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. Do you know the symptoms of heart disease and what you can do to cut down on your chances of developing it? If you do have it, what are some things you can do to help yourself and what are some of the most effective treatments? Volunteer, Linda Weintraub will open up this discussion with you during this free presentation! Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk to sign up.

Contract Bridge, Anyone?

We have some room for Contract Bridge players at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. Play takes place on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Senior Lounge. Questions can be directed to 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, but reservations are not required. Just stop in!

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Art on Your Own Terms

Lexington Park Library will hold Art on Your Own Terms on Monday, February 4 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Dark, winter months got you feeling down? Come brighten your day with a little "art therapy," and use creativity as your outlet for stress! Experiment with a variety of art supplies, and make a project to take home. Materials provided. Ages 18 and up. No registration required.

National Issues Forum: What Should We Do About the Opioid Epidemic?

Leonardtown Library will hold a special National Issues Forum to discuss the question: What should we do about the opioid epidemic? on Wednesday, February 13 from 6 – 8 p.m. National Issues Forums (NIF) is a nonpartisan, nationwide network of locally sponsored public forums for the consideration of public policy issues. It is rooted in the simple notion that people need to come together to reason and talk — to deliberate

about common problems. This National Issues Forum will present three options relating to the question: What Should We Do About the Opioid Epidemic? for deliberation. Each option is based on differing views about what we hold most valuable. Each represents a general direction and suggests a number of actions that can be carried out by different people or groups. Check out a copy of the guidebook from the Library in advance, and come ready to discuss! This is a Choose Civility Southern Maryland event.

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Publishing Options for Writers and Illustrators

Leonardtown Library will host Publishing Options for Writers and Illustrators on Tuesday, February 12 from 2 – 3:30 p.m. Christina Allen, local author, illustrator, and winner of five national book awards, will share her experiences with the different publishing options for writers and illustrators. She will speak about the process of self-publishing, publishing with traditional book publishers, and starting her own microbook publishing house, Corn Crib Publishing. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Magnets: Stick with It!

Lexington Park Library will hold Magnets: Stick with It! on Tuesday, February 12 from 4:30 - 5:30

p.m. What makes magnets stick? Explore the science of magnetism with cool hands-on activities perfect for preschoolers. Designed with ages 3-6 in mind. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Kindness Rocks

Charlotte Hall Library will hold Kindness Rocks on Wednesday, February 13 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Come paint your very own Kindness Rocks and spread some joy! All supplies provided. Free, all ages, registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Mini Monet

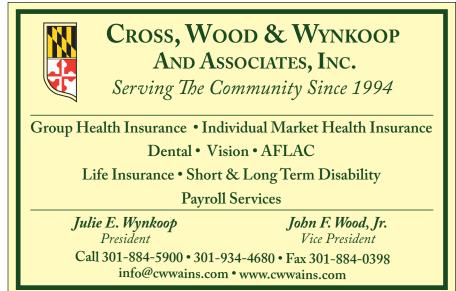
Lexington Park Library will hold Mini Monet on Friday, February 15 from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Join us on an art adventure! We will explore the world of art through various forms. Please expect and prepare for messy activities. Ages 6 months - 4 years old. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

Dem Bones, Skeleton Science

Leonardtown Library will hold Dem Bones: Skeleton Science on Friday, February 15 from 3 – 4 p.m. Learn all about the bones in your body, their names, how they fit together and why we need them. Part storytime. Part STEM program. All fun! Designed with ages 4-6 in mind. Registration required on www.stmalib.org.

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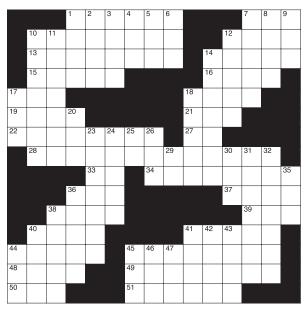
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Holds candles
- 7. In possession of
- 10. Rodents
- 12. Type of cofactor (Brit. sp.)
- 13. Hard candy on a
- stick 14. Animal of the
- weasel family
- 15. Things that should not be overlooked
- 16. "Silence" author
- 17. Dried, split lentils
- 18. People native to Ghana
- 19. Barros and Gasteyer are two

21. British thermal

- unit
- 22. Large oblong hall
- 27. Ethnic group in
- 28. Holiday decoration
- 33. Milliliter
- 34. Open
- 36. Health physics concept (abbr.)
- 37. Tantric meditation
- 38. Where golf games
- begin
- 39. Birth swine
- 40. Rip
- 41. Remove
- 44. Puts together in time
- 45. Rotary engines
- 48. Skeletal structure

- 49. Member of a labor organization 50. Japanese classical theater
- 51. Undergarments

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "Snake Tales" cartoonist
- 2. Religious group
- 3. Singer Redding
- 4. and tuck
- 5. Head honcho
- 6. Second sight
- 7. Composer
- 8. About aviation
- 9. Senior officer
- 10. Forecasts weather
- 11. Seasoned
- Hungarian soup 12. Town in Hesse,
- Germany 14. Thought to derive from meteorites
- 17. Hit lightly
- 18. Seemingly bottomless chasm
- 20. Title of respect
- 23. Warms up
- 24. Man and Wight are two
- 25. Type of scan 26. Atomic mass
- unit

- 29. Article
- 30. Incriminate
- 31. Passes by
- 32. Most nerveinducing
- 35. David Alan Grier sitcom
- 36. Achieve
- 38. Freshwater fish
- 40. Beginner
- 41. Dark brown or
- black
- 42. A newlywed wears
- 43. DiFranco and
- Vardanyan are two 44. Diego, Francisco,
- Anselmo 45. Ancient Egyptian
- King 46. Old name (abbr.)
- 47. Brazilian city (slang)

LAST WEEK'S PH771 F SOLUTIONS

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Cheesy Word Find

Find the words hidden in the puzzle.

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To be considered for publication, articles and letters to the editor submitted must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number. Submissions must be delivered by 4 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication to ensure placement for that week. After that deadline, the St. Mary's County Times will make every attempt possible to publish late content, but cannot guarantee so. Letters may be condensed/edited for clarity, although care is taken to preserve the core of the writer's argument. Copyright in material submitted to the newspaper and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the St. Mary's County Times and its licensees may freely reproduce it in print, electronic or other forms. We are unable to acknowledge receipt of letters. The St. Mary's County Times cannot guarantee that every letter or photo(s) submitted will be published, due to time or space constraints.





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