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WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 5/2 Fri 5/3 Sat 5/4 Sun 5/5 86° I 66° F 71° I 57° F 85° | 65° F 76° | 61° F Mostly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Thunderstorms Scattered **Thunderstorms** Mon 5/6 Tue 5/7 Wed 5/8 Thu 5/9 76° | 58° F 73° | 60° F 72° | 60° F Sunny Partly Cloudy PM Showers PM Showers





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Local UAS Techs Pilot Kidney Transplant Drone

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The technologists and scientists at the University System of Maryland's UAS Test Site in California can add another accomplishment to a growing list of accolades; this month their team successfully piloted a drone that delivered a live-saving donor organ.

Matt Scassero, head of operations at the test site, said the flight took place April 19 in the early morning hours in downtown Baltimore.

"We flew a kidney from the vicinity of the Living Legacy Foundation [an organ transplant group] to the University of Maryland Medical Center Shock Trauma Unit," Scassero told The County Times.

Scassero said his team assembled the drone that made the 10-minute, 2.8-mile flight from specially sourced components that were known for their reliability.

"There was no commercial drone available that could do what we needed it to do," Scassero said. "So we constructed a drone we knew we could rely on."

The test flight, planned weeks in advance and carefully tested the day of the transplant before carrying the kidney, has led to much greater attention to the work underway at the UAS test site.

"We're getting calls from all over the world," Scassero said. "It's been big for us.

"It was a good research opportunity; everything lined up."

Several years ago the UAS test site gained notoriety for testing a rescue drone that could find those in distress in local waters and at sea.



The UAS Test Site drone used to transport the kidney safely in Baltimore

cargo container that carried not only the vital organ but had sensors that could help guide the drone to its intended target.

The UAS team was on station in Baltimore to operated the drone.

"We had two or three guys on each end," Scassero explained about the stakes involved in the operation. "We're going to stay involved in running the test program for that."

The recipient was a 44-year old woman, Scassero said, who was released earlier this week after a successful operation.

She had been waiting eight years for a kidney transplant, he said.

The news of the drone flight made it to the county commissioners' dais this week with Commissioner Eric Colvin praising the breakthrough.

It also represented technological progress that was independent of the county's longtime economic mainstay, military research.

"And this is groundbreaking work that's not related to the Navy," Colvin said.





Local News **The County Times** Thursday, May 2, 2019

Hewitt Turns Away From Tax Increases

Staff Writer

County Commissioner Mike Hewitt, a well-known budget conservative who joined other commissioners this year in pushing for tax increases, has withdrawn his support for them.

He made his announcement Tuesday at the regular meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

He said that with the threat of the Kirwan Commission legislation being passed in Annapolis, which calls for massive spending increases to the tune of \$4.4 billion over the next decade, the fear of heavy impacts trickling down to St. Mary's was part of the rationalization for increasing both property and income taxes.

Commissioners were also keen to raise taxes to fund negotiated agreements with school system personnel and bring up pay parity for county employees commensurate with surrounding jurisdictions.

But since learning that the state has yet to find a

funding mechanism for Kirwan and that the county has healthy fiscal surpluses as well as the Sheriff's Office set to return \$5 million to the county in salaries for vacant positions, Hewitt relented.

"We thought Kirwan was coming," Hewitt said. "I cannot give a tax increase to those with these surpluses.

Commissioner President James "Randy" Guy seemed to balk at talk that tax increases were not needed, saying that Kirwan might not affect the county this year, but it soon would.

"It's going to impact us the next couple of years," Guy said. "We'll have to see."

Guy said the commissioners had two more budget work sessions to consider the budget, which is now \$259 million for operating expenses with a 7.5 percent increase in revenues over the prior year, on May 7 and again on May 14.

"By the 21st [of May] we have to say 'Here it is,'"

The proposed budget represents a 7.5 percent increase over last year's budget; the commissioners are proposing increasing the property tax rate to .9078 per every \$100 of assessed value, generating an additional \$7.9 million.

The proposed income tax increase would raise the rate to 3.2 percent, generating an additional \$3.2 million in fiscal Hewitt



2020 and rising to \$6.4 million in fiscal 2021.

Hewitt's change of position on taxes comes after the April 23 budget hearing at Leonardtown High School; it was there that many residents railed against the proposed tax increases and demanded commissioners rein in their spending.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

MetCom Tightening Water Termination Policy

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

As the board of commissioners for the Metropolitan Commission (MetCom), the county's water and sewer provider for much of the Lexington Park Development District, considered last week adjusting fees for reconnecting water and sewer service after scofflaw bills had been paid, the agency's top official said the utility was going to be more strict in the future about terminating

George Erichsen, MetCom's executive director, revealed that the utility had a long held policy that allowed customers who were behind in their payments during the holiday season to continue receiving service through to the new year.

Those days were now over, he said.

'We had an informal policy that during Thanksgiving or Christmas time if you were delinquent, we didn't turn off the water," Erichsen said. "Well, we've decided we'll turn off the water whenever.

"You had a situation where you would get an entire November bill, an entire December bill and then in January you would be in here [trying to get bills reduced by the MetCom board.]

The informal practice proved to be too cumbersome and Erichsen decided to end it, he told the MetCom board.

"We've decided that whenever water needs to be turned off, we turn it off," Erichsen said. "It's not too sympathetic at Christmas but if you want to have a good Christmas you need to pay your bill."

MetCom had a high number of disconnections in February, according to Patty Stiegman, chief financial officer for the utility, totaling some 700 customers that did not pay their bills on time.

We are way down from that know," Stiegman told the MetCom commissioners. "We're down to just a couple of hundred."

MetCom's rates for water and sewer continue to rise, utility officials say, but at a rate slower than recent years; about 22,000 customers support MetCom's operations.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

German Performance Artist Has American Debut

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Henry Thedens, a German dance instructor and performance artist relies on many themes for his shows that he puts on all over Europe and in his home city of Hamburg but the one central inspiration for him is the famed actress and style icon Marlene Dietrich.

He'll be impersonating her tonight at a performance at Olde Breton Inn in Leonardtown.

He's being hosted by Ellynne Brice Davis and her husband and school board member Jim Davis.

Their chance meeting in Venice Italy over a plate of French fries in a Chinese restaurant two years ago while the Davis' were on vacation gave Ellynne the inspiration to bring him here.

"You never know who you'll sit next to," she told The County

As a lioness with the Leonardtown Lion's Club, she was able to convince Thedens, whose stage name is Ginger, to come to St. Mary's County and put on his show to benefit Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy in Charles County.

Camp Merrick provides services for disabled children, including impaired vision and hearing and diabetes.

Thedens, who is gay, will dress as Dietrich during his performance.

"She's a diva and an American hero as well," Thedens said. "She's also similar to my personality.

"I couldn't do Miss Piggy on the Muppet Show; I do her life."

Dietrich was famous for her show work in cabarets and on

screen; she gained fame additionally for leaving Germany before the outbreak of World War II in opposition to the Nazi regime.

Thedens said his show deals with Dietrich's impact on history both in show business and on the international stage

Dietrich remained in America despite much cajoling by the Nazi regime to bring her back.

"She decided to stay because she didn't agree with Hitler," Thedens said. "She made a fortune.'

"She helped Jews, artists, homosexuals leave Germany, all the people the Nazis didn't like."

Thedens said Dietrich used her stardom wealth and influence to run her own underground network before the war broke out.

Today, Dietrich's influence can still be felt in show business and in fashion, he said, though her name might not be instantly recognizable.

"She still inspires people," Thedens said. "She's a diva, an icon in the world of beauty and

Ellynne said the May 2 performance is a departure from the standard fundraiser for a Lion's Club charity, but she believes it will generate more interest that

"It doesn't match a children's camp, but it's getting people to pay attention," Ellynne said. "We're hoping they'll know where Nanjemoy is now.

"We convinced him dens] Camp Merrick is a worthy



Henry Thedens



Thedens as Marlene Dietrich

Thursday, May 2, 2019 The County Times Local News 5

Leonardtown High Graduate Makes It To NFL As Free Agent

Leonardtown High School graduate Jamie Gillan may not have been selected in the 2019 NFL Draft, but he'll get a chance to show what he's capable of at the next level. The 6-1, 207 pound punter signed a free-agent contract with the Cleveland Browns in April, ensuring the Scotland native will continue his quest to play in the National Football League after leaving a lasting impression with the Browns during a private pre-draft workout.

"The impact he made from the punter position is truly amazing," UAPB head coach Cedric Thomas said. "He's not only a player from a leadership standpoint, as Jamie was the first one on the field and the last one in the weight room. He is a football player who helped lay the foundation of what we are building for our program. He will always be welcomed here at UAPB, and we know he will perform well."

Gillan was a highly sought-after specialist and will begin his career with the Browns. In his college career, Gillan, handled kickoff, punt, field goal and extra point duties for the Golden Lions.

The general manager of the Cleveland Browns, John Michael Dorsey, also hails from Leonardtown.

"I would like to thank those who paved



Jamie Gillan on the football field

the way for me as I start my next chapter," said Gillan, who was the punter and kicker for UAPB football from 2015-18. "The coaching staff, the players, the fans, the community, (former Head) Coach Monte Coleman, (current Head) Coach Cedric Thomas, Jack Ray and especially Special Teams Coach Thomas

Sheffield for all that they have done to get me ready for this opportunity."

In 2018, Gillan led the SWAC with an average of 42.9 yards per punt to rank 13th in FCS football with a net average of 37.5 yards. A total of 19 punts traveled more than 50 yards, and 27 of his punts were down inside the opponents'

20-yard line. Gillan also had 31 touchbacks, which ranked 16th nationally and allowed only 17.4 yards per return.

University of Arkansas Pine Bluff Press Releases

Commissioners Allow Dock Moratorium to Sunset

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

A six-month moratorium on the use of commercial docks by aquaculture farms to off load their oysters for market died Tuesday after the Commissioners of St. Mary's County found that it was essentially unenforceable.

The commissioners imposed the moratorium late last year after numerous complaints from property owners that their coastline views of local waters were tarnished by the presence of water column leases of farmed oysters.

They also complained that the water column leases took away their ability to use recreational waters they had enjoyed for generations.

The moratorium was designed to restrict the free flow of aquaculture oysters on county commercial docks and push the state to come up with a more balanced solution between business and private property rights.

The issue was not solved in the state legislature this year and more oyster leases are expected to come to St. Mary's with the Maryland Department of Natural Resource's (DNR) approval.

William Hunt, chief of county land use and growth management, told commissioners Tuesday that the state had told the county they would provide information on the number of new leases coming to county waters but that information had yet to materialize as promised.

"The lack of response from DNR is disturbing but this has run its course," said Commissioner Eric Colvin. "This is an issue we essentially do not have control over." On land the county's zoning code holds sway, but DNR controls the waters 50 feet from the shoreline.

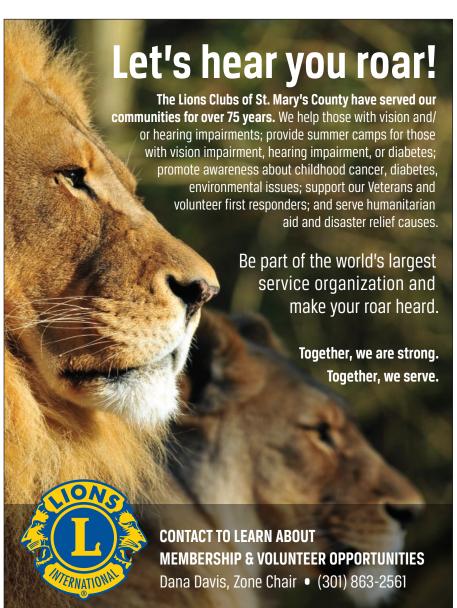
Commissioner Mike Hewitt said it was ineffective to have a land use employee watch local docks to fine aquaculture businesses for using them under the moratorium.

"I think it's a waste of time to continue with the moratorium," Hewitt said. "You [Hunt] have enough to do."

The discussion on the moratorium centered on whether to send it to another public hearing to gather input on a possible extension; only Commissioner President James "Randy" Guy believed it should go to public hearing.

Commissioner John O'Connor said the moratorium suffered from the beginning because the concept of a commercial dock was not properly defined in the language.

"No one's enforcing this," O'Connor said. "They're just unloading on the private docks down in Piney Point."



Park and Ride May Find Final Home in Hollywood

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

What started out as a temporary solution for the Airport Road Park and Ridge bus service may turn into a permanent fix, regional transportation officials say, now that motorists are parking at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

"We have an agreement signed by the Maryland Transit Authority and the fire house for a six- month pilot program," said George Clark, regional transportation coordinator for the Tri County Council of Southern Maryland. "We'll see how it goes.

"But it looks like it's going to work out."

The decision to move the Airport Road Park and Ride came last month when the time came to begin moving the track of Airport Road to make way for improvements at the county's local airport.

Officials were unsure where they could locate the Park and Ride, which was already overflowing its allotted number of parking spaces into the terminal's parking but settled on the parking lot at the Hollywood fire house.

He said other owners of shopping centers or other businesses with large parking lots rejected the offer outright, while the movie theater management at Lexington Exchange charged too much per parking space.

The state pays \$15 per space for a Park and Ride, which means in a year the Hollywood fire company would receive an additional \$21,000 in payments.

Bill Mattingly, president of the Hollywood volun-



The Hollywood Volunteer Fire Company could become a permanent Park and Ride location.

teers, said the arrangement could become permanent "as long as it works for both sides."

If all goes well, Clark told The County Times, the six-month pilot program could make the Hollywood location the permanent Park and Ride site.

If that occurs, he said, some of the lines in the parking lot will be repainted yellow from their original

white to signify which spaces are for Park and Ride customers.

Clark said 100 customers use the Park and Ride each day, taking a commuter bus to work.





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Sheriff's Office Mourns Loss of Dfc. Jason Bush

It is with overwhelming grief and sadness that the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office announces the loss of Deputy First Class Jason Bush.

Deputy Bush passed away on Monday, April 29, 2019, after a courageous and hard-fought battle against cancer. He was just 34 years old.

Jason was a native of Prince George's County and a graduate of York College of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. After graduation, Jason went to work with Prince George's County government as a civilian investigator, investigating workplace harassment claims. Jason had built a solid reputation in his career but always wanted to be a police officer.

Jason was hired by the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Aug. 10, 2015 and then attended the Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy, Class 42 and graduated on June 3, 2016 distinguishing himself amongst his peers. Once he graduated from the academy he enthusiastically worked in the Patrol Division, working diligently each day serving the public. Jason served as a Patrol Officer from his graduation on June 3, 2016 until his death on April 29, 2019.

Capt. David Yingling, Commander of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division, said, "When I first met Jason he distinguished himself with his kind spirit and his commitment to others. He was a peacemaker on the road and patiently treating everyone he contacted with tremendous respect. Jason's grace under pressure and dignity were such an inspiration to those he

served with."

On March 9, 2019, Jason was awarded with the Sheriff's Office Gold Medal of Valor – the agency's highest award – which was later presented to him at his home by Sheriff Tim Cameron and Capt. Yingling in the presence of Jason's Patrol Squad.

Despite receiving a formidable cancer diagnosis, Deputy Jason Bush showed exemplary strength in the face of pain, great dignity despite suffering and demonstrated a continued selfless desire to contribute to the Sheriff's Office mission. Deputy Bush remained positive, devoting time to his family, close friends and his Sheriff's Office family – especially his squad. Despite being ill while receiving treatment, Deputy Bush asked to work light duty in the quartermasters office, putting the welfare of his colleagues and the agency ahead of his own.

Sheriff Tim Cameron said, "This is a terribly sad time for the men and women of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office who worked alongside Deputy Bush and called him a colleague and a friend. However, we can all be extraordinarily proud of Jason for the courage that he displayed in fighting his cancer. Jason's calm courage in the storm of cancer is an inspiration for us all, as is his commitment, bravery and determination."

Deputy Bush is survived by his parents Richard and Vicki Bush of Ridge and the men and women of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. The Bush family requests privacy at this time.









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DOS EQUIS

ASSORTED VARIETIES

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12PK BOTTLES

MODELO

ASSORTED VARIETIES

\$9.48

6PK BOTTLES

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Crime Report

Burglary/Resisting Arrest- On April 15, 2019, Dep. Schell responded to the 40000 block of Holt Road in Mechanicsville, for the reported disturbance. Megan Lee Maxwell, age 38



of Clements, was escorted off the property and told not to return. Maxwell later returned to the residence and entered home the through window.

Dep. Schell located Maxell inside the residence and informed her she was under arrest. Maxwell began actively resisting arrest, and tried to kick an officer on the scene. Maxwell was taken into custody and charged with Burglary 4th Degree, Trespass Private Property, Resist Arrest, and Fail to Obey Lawful Order. CASE# 21981-19

Violation of Protective Order- On April 15, 2019, Dep. Graves responded to the 22700 block of Duke Street in Leonardtown, for the reported violation of protective order. Investigation determined Renee Peltz Dennison,

age 41 of Leonardtown, violated a court order by sending messages in attempt to contact protected parties in the court order. Dennison was arrested



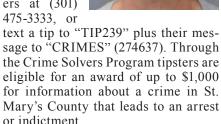
and charged with Violate Protective Order. CASE# 22116-19

Wanted-Donald Edward Rankin

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of Donald Edward Rankin, age 63 of Lexington Park. Rankin has an active arrest warrant for two counts of sexual abuse of a minor. Rankin is 6'1" in height, weighs 190 pounds, and has gray hair and blue eyes.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Donald Edward Rankin is asked to call Detective Trevor Teague at (301) 475-4200 exten-

sion *8128 or by email Trevor. Teague@ stmarysmd. Citizens mav remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at (301)



Wanted-Joseph William Medley Ш

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of Joseph William Medley III, age 35 of Leonardtown. Medley is currently wanted for the charge of escape second degree for violating conditions of his pretrial release. Medley's original

charges were theft obstructing and hinder-Meding. is 5'6" ley height, in weighs 190 pounds and has brown eves and black hair.



Anvone

with information on the whereabouts of Joseph William Medley III is asked to contact Detective Brian Fennessey at (301) 475-4200 extension *8103, or by email at Brian.Fennessey@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.

State Police, Sheriff's SWAT Team Make Burglary Arrests After Barricade

On Friday, April 26, 2019 at approximately 3:07 p.m., Troopers from the Maryland State Police and Deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 45000 block of Military Lane, Great Mills, MD for a reported burglary in progress. A witness observed the suspects enter a residence and the homeowner confirmed no one had permission to be inside. Upon police arrival, there was evidence of a burglary and it was believed the suspects were still inside. After numerous requests for the suspects to exit the residence, one of the suspects complied and exited. The suspect was arrested and identified as Divante Quintil Kyler (27) of California, MD. Kyler was found to have two open Bench Warrants through the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (Child Support Non-compliance and Failure to Appear-Driving While Suspended). Kyler was not cooperative with police on scene and he wouldn't provide information about additional suspects.

A search of the victim's residence was completed utilizing the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Team and K-9. The search did not reveal any additional suspects: however, there was evidence an additional suspect had been present in the residence. Police on scene located a hole in the drywall that connected to an adjoining townhome. Troopers and Deputies maintained a perimeter on the area and contact was made with the occupants of the adjoining townhome. During their contact with the occupants, a strong odor of marijuana was detected coming from the townhome.

The occupants of the townhome were not cooperative.

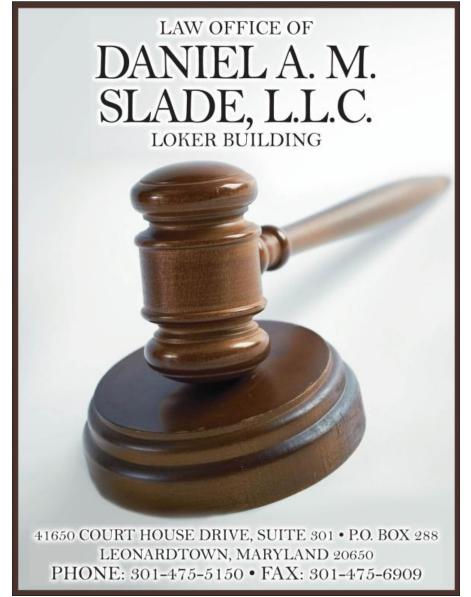
During the investigation the second burglary suspect was seen in the adjoining townhome. The suspect was placed under arrest and identified as Timothy Patrick Hogan (27) of Great Mills, MD. Hogan was found to have an active arrest warrant for Sexual Abuse of a Minor through the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office.

The two occupants of the adjoining townhome were arrested for harboring a fugitive and hindering. Those suspects are identified as Jalonte Dalquan Ford (20) of Great Mills, MD and Jajuan Dalshawn Ford (23) of Great Mills, MD.

Detectives with the Maryland State Police Criminal Enforcement Division responded to further investigate. A search of the Ford residence revealed marijuana, drug paraphernalia, a handgun magazine, handgun ammunition and a starter pistol.

All the suspects were transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center for processing. Hogan was charged with two counts each of 1st and 2nd Degree Burglary, Malicious Destruction of Property and Theft \$100 to \$1,500. Kyler was charged with 1st Degree Burglary, Malicious Destruction of Property and Theft \$100 to \$1,500. Jalonte Ford and Jajuan Ford were charged with Harboring a Fugitive and Hindering. Additional charges are pending.

> Press Release from Maryland State Police



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The next time you go to your dentist's office, before you let them spray water in your mouth, ask them how, and where their water lines are treated.

The Problem: The flexible lines that go from the water pipes in your dental office to the delivery system at the chairside are made of materials that are the perfect environment for the growth of biofilm. Biofilm is made up of bacteria colonies that adhere to the inner walls of the dental hosing. When not properly treated, these water lines and valves become coated with bacteria that grows exponentially at room temperature and contaminates the water that is used to irrigate and rinse your mouth. This water can be unsafe!

City water, often considered to be safe for consumption, reaches the dental office in potable form. Dental offices, aware of the need for added water quality and safety may even have a water treatment system at the source where the water enters the building. While this proactive measure helps reduce risk, what most dentists don't realize is that the water that sits in the lines for long periods of time, such as over a weekend, will still grow this dangerous bacterium.

The Risk: Microbacterium Abscessus, a bacterium with a distant relation to the ones that cause tuberculosis and leprosy, can cause infections in patients when contaminated water supplies are used to irrigate the mouth. A simple google search of "dental practice, water, illness" will result in many articles about lawsuits and unfortunate outcomes to patients including children in Georgia, New Jersey, Virginia, and California.

The Solution: It is not enough to treat the water lines in a dental office as the bacterium can still grow after the fact. Each dental operatory must be treated at the instrumentation that is used on the patients to ensure safety. One such

company at the forefront of treating water effectively, above and beyond the EPA, CDC and ADA minimum standard of water quality compliance is Sterisil, Inc. Using Stersil's latest and best products a dental office can achieve results of < 11 CFU/ml HPC water purity. These are virtually the lowest levels achievable today, and they are well beyond the EPAs recommendation of less than 500 colony forming units (CFU) per milliliter (ml).

Stersil's solution is a combination of treating the water at entry to the practice and at the dental chair where the instrumentation connects to the flexible water hosing. This takes virtually all risk out of the water supply, ensuring safe water while treating the patient.

Proof: It is your dental office's obligation to ensure all measures are being taken to assure your safety while in the care of your dental provider. Dentists are to follow guidelines on safety, sanitation,

standard of care and product quality. It is your right to know what your dentist is doing to assure your safety. Don't be afraid to ask your dentist how they treat the water in the office. Ask them where it is treated (at the chair and/or at the utility hook-up). Ask them if they test their water for consumable quality and how often. They should be able to supply test results.

Tidewater Dental a leading provider of dental care in southern Maryland has made it their mission to ensure the safety of their patients through the use of quality equipment, systems, services and procedures that put the patient first. Yes, it costs more. Yes, it may take more time. But, patient safety and experience are paramount to ensuring our patients leave our offices healthy and happy. For this reason, Tidewater Dental has partnered with Sterisil, Inc. to provide the purest and safest water possible at all of our locations.



1st Annual Leonardtown Summer Music Festival Coming Soon

The Commissioners of Leonardtown and the Leonardtown Business Association in partnership with the St. Mary's Arts Council and James LePore Productions are proud to announce the 1st Annual Leonardtown Summer Music Festival. This exciting new Festival combines the Leonardtown Summer Concert Series and the Downtown Tunes Concert Series into one amazing festival featuring great artists like Six Gun South, The Ryan Forrester Band, Latrice Carr, Wesley Spangler, Robbie Boothe and more!

The Festival kicks off with the U.S. Navy Band Country Current performing in Leonardtown Square on Saturday, May 18, 2019 in honor of Armed Forces Day and will run through Saturday, September 7, 2019 when the Festival concludes with Bushwoodstock III, a scholarship benefit fundraiser, at Leonardown Wharf that also commemorates the 50th Anniversary of Woodstock.

Thanks to generous Sponsors that include Marrick Homes, Quality Built Homes, and Leonardtown Chevrolet, Buick and GMC, the majority of the music festival concerts are offered FREE to the public. The festival offers something for everyone from family-friendly events to more adult oriented evenings. New this year, attendees are able to Order

a Picnic from participating restaurants in Town (Social Coffeehouse & Speakeasy, Big Larry's Eatery, Jessie's Kitchen, Smokey Joe's on the Town, Shepherds Old Field Market and Port of Leonardtown Winery) offering a variety of options from light refreshments to a full meal and a beer crawler or bottle of wine, and parents can also drop their children off to be entertained with kid-friendly art projects while they enjoy a date-night at a concert on the Square through the Drop N' Dine Program - available by reservation only for select concerts through participating businesses in Town (the St. Mary's Arts Council, the Leonardtown Arts Center, Wine & Design's Art Buzz Kids, and the Yellowline Art

Signature concerts include the Funkzilla Band performing at the Annual Leonardtown Beach Party on the Square, a popular, end-of-summer blowout party featuring strolling performers, pony rides, a firetruck hosedown, free



kayak rides, Zumba and yoga demos, 40 tons of sand in the middle of Town and more, on Saturday, August 3rd from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (the entire event is from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.), and the Jazz Era Concert/Kickoff Party for the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Weekend Celebration. This special event is a FREE, jazz era concert/party in historic Leonardtown with the Chesapeake Swingband performing from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in Leonardtown Square. The evening will be a celebration of jazz throughout the 20's (jazz age), the 30's-40s (swing era), and the 50's-90's (modern and Latin jazz). There will be a special Roaring 20's dance performance from Ballet Caliente during the evening and a classic antique car show featuring classic cars from the 20's – the 50's courtesy of St. Mary's Rod & Classic Car Club. Attendees are encouraged to come in their choice of period costume from the 20's, 30's, 40's or 50's. There will be raffles and prizes awarded for best costumes. More fun and surprises are being planned for the festival.

The Maryland State Arts Council will be filming during the Jazz Era event on July 12th for inclusion in an Arts & Entertainment film to be screened on Maryland Arts Day. Be sure to come in costume and be there early!

For more information and to view the full concert schedule, please visit: www. LeonardtownMusicFest.com.

Leadership Class Presents Community Projects & Graduates



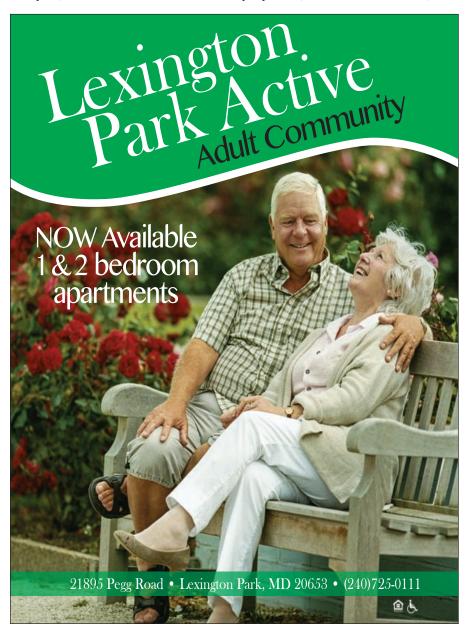
Leadership Southern Maryland

Regional Collaboration for Today's Leaders and Tomorrow's Vision

On May 2, 2019, the Leadership Southern Maryland (LSM) Class of 2019 presents the results of their community projects, completed in partnership with local nonprofit organizations. After their presentations, the Class of 2019 will graduate as the 11th class of LSM. The community projects are as follows:

- a corporate development plan for The Arc Southern Maryland;
- a project implementation plan for Healthy Calvert....Naturally! for Calvert Nature Society:
- Calvert Nature Society;
 a marketing plan for The Lobby
 Coffee Bar & Cafe for End Hunger
 in Calvert County;
- a marketing plan for expansion into St. Mary's County for Girls on the Run Southern Maryland;

- a program plan for an Emerging Leaders Program for Leadership Southern Maryland;
- a phased implementation plan for increased family interaction for Pax River Naval Air Museum Association;
- a board development plan for St. Mary's Animal Welfare League
- The presentation of projects will be at the College of Southern Maryland, Prince Frederick Campus (Building B), 115 J.W. Williams Road on Thursday, May 2. Presentations at 1:15 p.m.; followed immediately by graduation ceremony at 3:30 p.m.



Press Release from LSM

Christmas in April



Christmas in April volunteers work to install a new handicapped accesible ramp at a home in Loveville April 27



Esperanza M.S. presented "Elf, Jr." April 25-27. Since it was a play about Christmas presented in April the directors felt a donation from the proceeds to Christmas in April was appropriate. The check was presented during the play.



Long-time Christmas in April volunteer Jan Barnes (center) was honored at the post-work party at St. Mary's County Fairgrounds. Presenting the citation were Christmas in April President Howard Thompson and Executive Director Darene Kleinsorgen.

Black Diamond Disaster



Pax River NAS CO Capt. Christopher Cox prepares to lay a ceremonial wreath commemorating the loss of the Black Diamond which collided with another ship in the Potomac River in 1865 during the search for presidential assassin John Wilkes Booth

Spring Fling Classic Car Show









Hundres of classic cars lined the Leonardtown Square on April 28



ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY & ONLINE AT COUNTYTIMES.NET



Coalition Fighting For Sober Youth



By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Since 2012 a group of local government officials, law enforcement, healthcare professionals and business owners have been quietly combating the problem of underage drinking and binge drinking in St. Mary's County; a problem that statistics show continues to grow among young people.

The Community Alcohol Coalition is preparing to release a report detailing underage drinking and binge drinking, which are often intertwined, as well as its negative impacts.

It's a part of their overall mission to reach out to the public, especially parents, to raise awareness of the problem and remain vigilant, otherwise their children could fall to its consequences.

Maryellen Kraese, prevention and outreach coordinator for the St. Mary's County Health Department and a partner with the coalition, said when it comes to the problem in question St. Mary's is outpacing the entire state.

"We noted that almost 20 percent of St. Mary's County youth 15 years old and under took their first drink other than a few sips before the age of 13," Kraese told The County Times. "That's compared to 17 percent of their peers statewide."

Moreover 33 percent of county high school students who took part in a youth risk behavior survey back in 2016 stated they had taken a drink in the 30 days prior to being asked the question.

That's well above the state average of 25 percent of high school students surveyed, Kraese said.

Just this past year health officials took another survey of county youth in which 81 percent of those surveyed between the ages of 18 and 20 had engaged in drinking within a 30-day period of being asked the question.

"These statistics should be alarming," Kraese said. "We're above the state averages."

Statistics from 2016, which came from a sample of 3,000 St. Mary's County high school students, showed that 18 percent of those surveyed had engaged in binge drinking, which is defined as about five or more large drinks - 8 ounces - or so much that the one drinking becomes ill.

The state average from respondents on the youth risk behavior survey was 13 percent.

"It's when you're drinking too much, too fast," Kraese said.

The numbers of young adults 18 to 20 years old, but still under the legal age, are even more staggering.

Of the young adults surveyed by the health department in 2018, 51 percent reported engaging in binge drinking.

While law enforcement and the St. Mary's County Alcohol Beverage Board work to curb illegal liquor sales and punish establishments which sell alcohol to minors, much of the alcohol consumed by the underaged comes from another source.

According to a similar risk survey from 2015, 65 percent of high school students surveyed in St. Mary's County obtained alcohol from their homes without the permission of their parents.

"If it were more current data I think the number would be higher," Kraese said. "It shows how prevalent this is

"Parents need to know this is happening."

The CAC knows that even with their outreach efforts detailing the dangers of binge drinking, they know there are some young people who will still engage in the dubious practice.

Of all the promotional material they hand out, one piece is a picture of a common, disposable party cup with a green marker so they can mark off how much they are drinking.

Such cups come with physical gradations going up its length which are exact liquid measurements.

"It's so they can at least try to keep track of what they're drinking," she said.

At a time when fatal overdoses due to opioid abuse capture the fear and interest of most parents, it becomes easier to disregard alcohol as a serious danger, she said.

"The younger they start drinking, the higher the risk for alcohol and substance abuse problems later," Kraese said. "Misuse leads to abuse.

"People assume because it's legal, it's safe; alcohol is still the No. 1 drug of choice across the board."

It's becoming more common to see alcohol play a part in opioid overdoses, Kraese said, as users are consuming both simultaneously.

"They're both depressants," Kraese said, explaining both can contribute to the shutting down of the body's respiratory system. "Alcohol and opioids are a deadly combination." The CAC's surveying is not restricted to youth but to law enforcement as well.

Their latest findings state that 42 percent of sheriff's deputies surveyed and 32 percent of locally assigned state troopers believe underage drinking is either very or extremely prevalent in St. Mary's.

The same 2018 survey showed that 54 percent of sheriff's deputies and 60 percent of state troopers here had made a service call for underage or excessive young adult drinking.

The CAC is also pushing for legislation at the state level that would bring back civil citations for underage drinking, allowing them to levy fines for homeowners who allow underage drinking on their property; even if they are unaware of it.

"It's easier to cite someone for providing alcohol than it is to pursue a criminal citation," Kraese said. "Next year we're probably going to pursue this."

Sgt. Steve Myers, the sheriff's office alcohol enforcement coordinator who also sits on the CAC board, said the CAC had its own methods of assisting law enforcement of its compliance checks on local alcohol retailers.

"The CAC hired a business to use buyers who are of age but who appear young to try to buy alcohol to see if businesses are asking for ID's," Myers said. "If they do, they get a green card, if they don't they get a red card."

These cards have no legal ramifications for the store owner but they do show that someone other than law enforcement is watching who sells to minors and who upholds the law, Myers said.

"It means nothing to the law enforcement side but it couples well with my own compliance checks," said Myers.

In 2018, 98.5 percent of alcohol retailers in the county complied with asking for ID to stymie underage sales, according to sheriff's office data; the success rate with the CAC's covert checks is nearly as high with 96.5 percent earning a green card, Myers said.

"We've educated the retailers quite well," Myers said. "The CAC is an awesome group of people.

"You have people... from different walks of life trying to combat underage drinking."

guyle on ard @county times.net

Free Federal Employees Benefits Expo! Don't Miss the Opportunity!

This 4th annual event is offered to all active and retired Federal employees at no cost and provides pertinent information on many benefits that affect and are available to Federal employees.

Often it is hard to reach someone at these large organizations to answer your questions and can be very frustrating. This event offers professionals with free on-the-spot advice and answers to your questions about their product. They will have free information, pamphlets and giveaways available.

Some of the vendors include:

- Government representatives from: Thrift Savings – TSP.gov & Social Security - SSA.gov
- Health Organizations: Blue Cross/ Blue Shield (BCBS); GEHA; Aetna Inc.; Metlife
- National Active & Retired Federal Emp (NARFE): St. Mary's County Emergency Services & Dept of Aging & Human Services
- MTA Commuter Bus Services. Freedom Therapy, Freedom Hearing, and Medstar Nutrition!

Northern Senior Activ-Where?



ity Center - Charlotte Hall, MD (From 12-4pm). Hourly door prizes will be awarded, hearing & blood pressure screenings, and light refreshments will be available.

Early bird special seminar from Social Security specific to Federal Employees - 11-12 prior to the Expo.

If you would like additional information about this event, please con-Geneva Leon 301-884-5112 geneva0john7@aol.com or check out our website: www.narfe.org/site/ chapter969



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Stock Up On Gardening Essentials



Gardening devotees year after year. While Baby Boomers may spend more on gardening than any other demographic, even millennials are getting on the gardening bandwagon.

When it comes to outfitting a gardening shed, gardeners will not want to be without certain tools and gear.

- Digging Shovel: A roundedblade digging shovel is needed to plant shrubs and trees as well as to excavate areas in a landscape.
- Rake: A rake can be used to clear the ground, remove thatch and leaves from a lawn

and level soil in a garden bed.

- Hand Tools: Hand tools, such as a hand fork and trowel, are essential for small digging jobs, especially when working with flower pots or containers.
- Edging Spade: This flat-blade shovel is handy to have around because of its versatility. Edging spades can slice turf, edge gardens and cut through roots.
- Pruners: Sharpened pruners can cut through stems and branches effortlessly.
- Hose: Choose a high-quality hose that is lightweight and durable, as hoses will always be necessary.

Did You Know?



Using reclaimed timber when building or renovating a home benefits the environment in various ways. According to GreenBusinessWatch.org. building and renovating with reclaimed timber helps to preserve forests by greatly reducing the need to cut down trees. In addition, when using reclaimed timber to build or renovate a home, contractors and homeowners tend to use locally sourced reclaimed wood, reducing the need to transport wood from afar to complete the projects. That reduced reliance on transportation reduces fuel consumption and air pollution. Processing reclaimed timber is often less taxing on the environment than processing virgin wood. However, reclaimed timber

may provide more than just environmental benefits. Virgin timber typically comes from commercially grown trees that are not always afforded enough time to reach full maturity. Timber that is reclaimed from old buildings and vessels may very well have reached full maturity before it was cut down to use as building material. Reclaimed timber that grew to full maturity is likely stronger than virgin wood taken from commercially grown trees that were not given enough time to mature. Reclaimed timber also may prove more durable than virgin wood because the former has already dried out after years of contracting and expanding, making it less likely to warp and split than virgin wood that has yet to endure such exposure.



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3 Ways To Use Your Lawn To Improve Curb Appeal



Returns on home improvement projects vary. In its annual Cost vs. Value Report, Remodeling magazine notes the projects that yield the best returns on investment in a given year. But a host of factors, including the type of market (buyers' or sellers') and the region where the home is being sold, ultimately combine to determine if homeowners' investments in home improvement projects will provide the returns they were hoping for.

Though there's no wav guaranteeing а home project improvement will vield a great return, real professionals estate often cite improving curb appeal as an excellent way to attract prospective buyers and potentially get the asking price or more when selling the home. Improving curb appeal makes even more sense in today's real estate market, when many people do their own searching via real estate websites such as Trulia or Zillow. When using such sites, buyers will likely be less inclined to click on a listing if exterior photos of the property are not eye-catching.

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

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

roots and healthy soil, making it easier for grass to survive harsh conditions like drought. When watering in summer, do so in early morning or evening so as little water is lost to evaporation as possible.

- 2.Address brown patch. Even well-maintained lawns can fall victims to brown spots. According to the lawn care professionals at TruGreen, lawns in regions with hot temperatures and high humidity can be infected with brown patch, a common lawn disease that is caused by fungus, which can produce circular areas of brown, dead grass surrounded by narrow, dark rings. State's College of Agricultural Sciences notes that removing dew that collects on grass leaves each morning, which can be accomplished by mowing or dragging a water hose across affected areas, can be an effective way to reduce brown patch. Homeowners without much lawn care experience can consult professional landscapers to address the issue. But those looking to sell their properties should note that buyers often walk the grounds of homes they are considering buying. So addressing any issues on the lawn should be a priority for sellers
- 3. Confine dogs to certain areas. Dog owners may want to let their pets roam free in their yards. But homeowners about to put their properties up for sale may want to confine their four-legged friends to certain areas. That's because dog urine can be high in nitrogen. Nitrogen itself is not harmful to lawns, but in high concentrations it can contribute to yellow or brown spots. Also, highly acidic dog urine may even adversely affect pH levels in the soil.

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

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Surviving A Home Renovation

Whether one is doing a large renovation or a small remodel, life may be turned upside down during the project. Furniture may be moved out of the room, walls may be demolished, water or electricity may be turned off, and appliances may be missing

or not hooked up. Home improvements often drum up dust and disarray. Such projects can try the patience of any homeowner, and things may get worse before they get better.

Even though remodeling can be





taxing, the end result is often worth it. Here's how to look forward to the silver lining and come out unscathed.

Discuss the project before it starts. All family members should be in agreement before the first hammer is swung. Decide on as many details as you can ahead of time and have a firm plan in place. Establish back-up choices for tiles or color schemes in case the items you want are out of stock. Trying to make decisions under duress may result in bad choices.

Do one project at a time. It's tempting to want to improve as much as possible at once to maximize motivation and renovation materials. However, having no place in which to escape the mess can elevate stress levels. Do not think renovating about kitchens and bathrooms all at once, or

you will not have any working fixtures for tasks like washing up.

Have everything in place. Before demolition even begins, have building materials bought and stored, contractors and subcontractors lined up, and see what you can do to minimize the time workers need to spend in your home.



Eexpect delays. In a world where things move at lightning renovations not gotten the memo. Home projects take lots of time and will likely take longer if you are doing the work yourself in your free time. Build lots of extra time into the project so you are not disappointed when delays happen - even when you've done your best to avoid them.

escape Construction environments can be messy, loud, smelly, and a host of other unsavory adjectives. The chaos that ensues when life is turned upside down can be overwhelming, particularly for the person who spends the most time in the home while work is being done. Build escape moments into the plan and make sure everyone else at home is on board. During the real grind of the project, a night or two at a hotel may be a welcome respite.



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Potential Indicators Of Roof Trouble

With regard to home repairs, homeowners may be able to delay some projects until the weather permits or they find room in their budgets. But other areas, including the roof, may demand immediate action.

Few homeowners give the roofs of their homes much thought until a problem arises. But learning to recognize potential indicators of roof trouble can help homeowners prevent potentially drastic situations down the road.

- Light: Homeowners with attics in their homes can inspect the ceilings inside the attic for signs of holes or leaks. Light peering through the top of the house indicates a hole or leak, as does stains or streaks on the ceiling.
- Worn shingles: Shingles should lie flat against the roof, so any that appear to be buckling or turning up are damaged and in need of repair. A single damaged shingle does not require a full roof replacement, but inspect all the shingles nonetheless. Another indicator of shingle problems can be found when cleaning



downspouts or gutters. If the gutters and downspouts contain lots of shingle granules, the roof may soon need to be replaced.

 Moss: Moss on a rooftop may give a home character, but that added character is costly. Shady areas of a roof can be susceptible to the growth of moss and fungi because moisture can be trapped in such areas. If possible, remove moss or fungi from a roof with a stiff brush or hire a professional to do the job instead. Moss may come back even after brushing it off, so homeowners should keep an eye on areas of their roofs that get little sunlight. In addition, trapped moisture can be very harmful to a roof, so it may be wise to exercise caution and have roofs with mold or fungi growths inspected.

Age: Another indicator of roof trouble may be the age of the roof. Even if there are no visible signs of damage, homeowners whose roofs have some years under their belt may want to consider replacing them. Asphalt shingle roofs typically have life expectancies of 20 to 25 years, while roofs installed over existing layers of shingles may need to be replaced after 20 years.

Recognizing minor roof damage before it escalates into a larger problem can save homeowners substantial amounts of money.



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The Benefits Of Water Features In Garden Landscapes



Many homeowners aspire to make their homes appear as beautiful and welcoming as possible. Exterior renovations may be high on homeowners' to-do lists, and landscaping is oftentimes a key component of those projects.

When planning gardens, homeowners may benefit by considering more than just flowers and shrubs while giving thought to other elements that can breathe vitality into their landscape designs. Water features can do just that, as such features provide more than just visual appeal.

- Aesthetic appeal: Water elements stand out against the greenery and foliage and can be used to create focal points around the garden or yard. A single fountain can draw the eye, while a trickling stream or waterfall can deliver water to various spots in the landscape.
- Soothing sound: Rain drops on a rooftop or waves lapping on a shoreline elicit feelings of harmony and relaxation. Water features can bring that gentle sound close to home, further enhancing the ambiance.
- Brings texture: Water has its own unique and fluid texture that can provide stark contrast to blades of grass or the hard lines of architectural elements, such as pergolas or retaining walls. A pond or fountain can soften lines.
- Enhance the natural ecosystem: Water features can

attract wildlife to a property. Birds may visit to take a quick sip, and dragonflies are sure to dart and hover over the shimmering ripples. Inviting natural wildlife to the yard can add hours of entertainment by enjoying the animals and insects

- Remedy problem areas: Rather than fighting with the landscape, homeowners can adapt it. An area of the yard prone to soggy conditions or flooding can be transformed into a pond or waterfall to work with natural surroundings.
- Foster a passion: Many people turn to water features so they can explore the hobby of nurturing an outdoor aquarium. Koi ponds are relatively easy to install and maintain, and the vibrant fish add visual appeal.
- Add a personal touch: Water features are as unique as the homeowners who create To set landscaping them. from apart neighbors homes, homeowners can add fountains, ponds or flowing elements to properties. Decorative water features also can be melded with pools and spas to help these manmade recreational areas seem like they were carved right out of the natural landscape.

Water features can take landscapes to the next level with sounds, texture, movement, and beauty.



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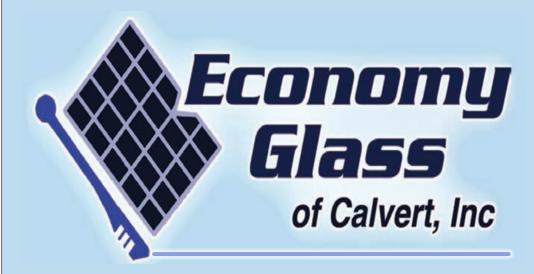




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A View From The BLEACHERS FOCUSED

The NFL Draft process is exhaustive. It appears to start as each season concludes and officially begins, in earnest, with the NFL Combine in early March. In reality, the genesis of draft day for teams can trace back years, sometimes to when a prospect was learning to drive and attending proms. For players, the trail can be even longer, back to a childhood dream and dusty backyards in neighborhoods nationwide.

NFL teams actually draft a fraction of the total prospects evaluated – each team is just one of 32 franchises. A far slimmer margin of kids harboring NFL aspirations, those who daydream through math class about what plays to run at recess, make it all the way to the league.

With that backdrop, it is no surprise that once a team is actually on the clock and finally calls out a name, executives in draft war rooms erupt with jubilant high fives and players, who have instantly fulfilled what is likely a life-long goal, are overcome with emotion.

It never gets old seeing kids celebrating their selections – the moment when dreams become reality. Awesome stuff. But the process is ridiculous. NFL Draft vernacular includes things like arm length, "base" strength, upper body "punch", hand size, speed, shuttle and cone drills, bench presses and squats, vertical and broad jumps, fast twitch, mean streak and closing speed. Then there's the psychological stuff – Wonderlic tests and interviews with questions that range from intentionally inflammatory to the completely unfair (and irrelevant).

But of more recent vintage is a fixation on "football players" and determining whether a young man "loves the game" (or, I suppose, just plays it because he can). More directly, teams want to know if a prospect has an unhealthy obsession with football and will forsake nearly all other things in life for it. If a kid has another interest – like Washington draftee Bryce Love (who wants to be a doctor) or Chargers draftee Jerry Tillery (a well-traveled young man living well beyond the football bubble) – NFL executives have commitment suspicions.

There might be something to it – greatness and a singular focus are frequently acquainted attributes. I watched a PBS documentary on Boston Red Sox legend Ted Williams recently. Dude was obsessed with hitting – studied it, cataloged information, filed and "boned" his own bats. Way ahead of his time...and one of the greatest hitters ever. Bruce Springsteen worked himself to exhaustion and laid waste to relationships, all in the (successful) pursuit of the best damn music he could create. Tiger Woods, fair to say, had an unhealthy, but historically successful, fascination with golf. Former Washington Hall of Fame coach Joe Gibbs notoriously slept at the team's facility throughout the season (and burned out after 12 years). Masters of one thing they all were; jacks of many things they likely were not.

I laud (I think) any NFL prospect with such laser focus on the game. These times are the attention deficit era, set up, with 24/7 connectivity, to distract and multitask. How any 22-year-old football player is supposed to be completely consumed with his craft escapes me. Last weekend's glorious weather had me struggling to focus on this piece.

Moreover, we Americans tend to be a restless lot. We are curious, adventurous and bold. Witness: Some of the best songs ever written are stories about youthful angst, daring exploration and challenges to social norms - Springsteen's "Born to Run", Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On", Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind", Sam Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come" and, one of recent vintage, Ed Sheeran's "Castle on the Hill", just to name a few. All football, all the time? In your early 20s? When we're born to run? What's going on indeed.

Nevertheless, many of the NFL's latest additions are incredibly focused and fully committed to football (within reason). They wouldn't have gotten this far otherwise. Are they myopic and otherwise ill-informed? Most probably are not. And good for them. Football is, well, just football. Developing well rounded, thoughtful and informed young men, who may soon achieve influential fame, is far more important. The NFL could stand to be more focused on that.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

The Tackle Box Fishing Report



John Emelenson landed this 40 inch, 26 pound rockfish near buoy 68 in the bay.

By Ken and Linda Lamb Contributing Writers

The trophy season continued into it's second week with big fish being caught everyday, but the action is slow with a lot of trolling producing only a few fish. The bite is the same in both the Potomac and the bay, Trollers are using tandems, parachutes, mojos, and umbrella rigs in a rainbow of colors, but the success seems to come to those who stick to it and put in the time ,regardless of lure or color. As the spawn winds down and the water warms, we may get a spurt of activ-We can only hope we have our lures in the water when the bite turns

Boaters traveling to the salt islands found plenty

of rockfish in the cuts, holes, and structures. The stripers are in the 14 to 28 inch category and have been carefully released. A 20 inch speckled trout was taken on a cast bucktail along with the hungry rockfish.

White perch and catfish are biting for bottom fishermen and shore casters. Some undersized rockfish have been caught off the beaches at Cedar Point and the mouth of the Patuxent. We can



James Ropczynsky trolled a tandem rig noth of the Gas Docks and landed this 47 inch, 49 pound rockfish.

keep two rockfish per day with a minimum of 19 inches in mid-May (16th).

We await the first croaker, spot, and bluefish of the year. The cool evenings when the temperatures drop into the 40's are not an incentive to the the summer migration.

Bass, bluegill, pickerel, and crappie are all active in ponds and St.Mary's Lake. The crappie love live minnows, and the bluegill will eat live crickets.

School Board Sees Sticker Shock Two Bids Come in Over Budget

By Dick Myers Editor

The St. Mary's County Board of Education has rejected two bids for major construction projects because they came in well over budget. The bids were for HVAC renovations and roof replacements at Hollywood and Park Hall elementary schools.

According to information provided to the board from Director of Design and Construction Larry Hartwick, "The apparent low bid for the base bid for the project at Hollywood Elementary School was \$6,929,000, 15 percent over the available construction funds of \$6,000,000. The apparent low bid for the most basic bid package for Park Hall Elementary School was \$6,696,000, six percent over the available construction funds of \$6,300,000."

Chief Strategic Officer Dr. Jeff Walker filled in for Hartwick at the April 24 board meeting at which the problem was presented. Walker said what was being suggested by staff hadn't been done by

the school system before.

Hartwick in his written report explained that state regulation "permits negotiations with all responsive bidders when funding does not permit an award and/or a delay in a resolicitation is not in the best interest of the school system or the state."

Hartwick said in discussions with the Maryland Public School Construction Program (PSCP), "they acknowledged that negotiated awards after unsatisfactory bidding is an acceptable procurement method with board rejection of the original bids and approval to enter into negotiations with all responsive bidders."

That is exactly what the school board did in unanimously voting to reject the two bids and enter into negotiations.

Hartwick reported, "Staff has identified a number of potential cost reductions that can be quickly incorporated into bidding documents in an attempt to reduce revised bid prices."

Walker in his Power Point presentation



to the board reported that J.A. Schiebel was the low bidder for both projects. He reported limited participation by roofing subcontractors as one of the reasons for the high Hollywood E.S. bid.

But the overall problem, Hartwick reported, was that school systems around the state are experiencing similar "bids in excess of budgets due to high demand and rising material and labor costs for construction."

He said four firms submitted bids for

Hollywood Elementary School. One firm did not submit a price for an add alternate and that bid was considered non-responsive. Two firms submitted bids for Park Hall Elementary School.

It is anticipated that a report on the negotiations will be submitted to the school board for their May 22 meeting.

dicjmyers@countytines.net



Thursday, May 2, 2019 The County Times Education 27

SMECO Honors Region's Outstanding Math, Science, and STEM Teachers



SMECO Outstanding Mathematics Teacher Award Recipients, St. Mary's County From left are Anna Rodriguez, Benjamin Banneker Elementary School; Diane Glasgow, Leonardtown High School; and Heather Howe. Spring Ridge Middle School.

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) worked with the school systems of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties to select and honor 22 educators with Outstanding Teacher awards for their leadership in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, and engineering.

Receiving awards this year were eight math teachers, nine science teachers, and five STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) teachers from schools in the three counties. The teachers were chosen for their outstanding performance in the areas of creativity, rapport with students, enthusiasm for teaching, professionalism, and innovative teaching methods. Each teacher received a plaque and a cash award at a dinner held in their honor. Over the past 28 years, SMECO has recognized almost 400 local math and science teachers.

"As educators, you know that STEM skills are becoming more and more coveted by businesses that hire students fresh out of school. And SMECO is no different. These students are vital for the continued success of our business because they bring those valuable mathematics, science, and technology skills to the workplace. You enable the next gen-



SMECO Outstanding Science Teacher Award Recipients, St. Mary's County From left are Cortney Watson, Leonardtown High School; David Holland, Leonardtown Middle School; and Joanne Clapp, Chesapeake Public Charter School.

eration of innovators," stated Austin J. Slater, Jr., SMECO president and CEO, when he welcomed the award winners.

Slater added, "Our gifted honorees understand that their job is about more than teaching mathematics, science and technology. It's about thinking creatively and making classroom experiences exciting for students. They identify ways to leap outside of the educational norms and create experiences that are unexpected, unique and ultimately more memorable. They teach skills that are important not only to employers and the economy, but also important to our future."

St. Mary's County

- Joanne Clapp, Chesapeake Public Charter School
- Diane Glasgow, Leonardtown High School
- David Holland, Leonardtown Middle School
- Heather Howe, Spring Ridge Middle School
- Anna Rodriguez, Benjamin Banneker Elementary School
- Cortney Watson, Leonardtown High School

Eagle Scouts Graduate STEM Academy

The St. Mary's County Public Schools STEM Academy in Maryland has something to brag about: 35% of the young men in the STEM Class of 2019 are Eagle Scouts!

Nationally, only 4-6% of members of the Boy Scouts of America earn the rank of Eagle Scout. Up until now, all of those Scouts have been young men, so when you look at the total number of young men in the United States only about 1.5% of them earn the rank of Eagle Scout. And yet, six out of seventeen young men in the STEM Class of 2019 are now part of that elite group.

According to the St. Mary's County Public Schools website, the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Academy at Great Mills High School is "a rigorous and unique program of study emphasizing the core areas of mathematics and science with an infusion of technology and engineering." Students take as many as twelve Advanced Placement courses during their high school career and complete an internship in a STEM field during the Summer before their senior year.

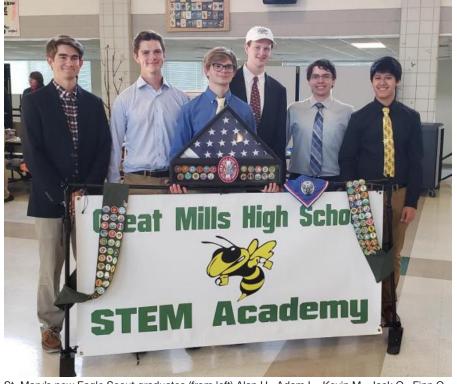
The Scouts represent four different

troops throughout St. Mary's County: Troop 303 in Valley Lee, Troop 793 in California, Troop 1785 in Mechanics-ville, and Troop 2819 in California. In addition to their school work, each of these Scouts completed at least twenty-one merit badges in subjects such as citizenship, first aid, cooking, camping and personal fitness. Some of the merit badges they earned were STEM related, with topics such as environmental science, mammal study, robotics, weather, and energy. They each also completed a leadership project to benefit their community.

If that were not enough, four of them participated in varsity sports during high school, including track, cross country, tennis, lacrosse, and soccer. Three are active in the National Honor Society. Two competed with robotics teams and one participated in several school plays.

Their future plans include degrees in paleontology, biology, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, aerospace engineering, and environmental planning.

The Scouter Digest Press Release



St. Mary's new Eagle Scout graduates (from left) Alan H., Adam L., Kevin M., Jack O., Finn O., and Jay L.



Sheriff's Office Pay Disparity

The following letter was sent to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County,:

The Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #7 for St. Mary's County is writing you this letter to address the issue of the pay disparity between our agency, the Maryland State Police, the Prince

George's County Police Department and the Charles County Sheriff's Office. In the coming years, the MSP, PGPD and CCSO are slated to receive significant raises, which will drastically increase the already established pay disparity of 4.5-6.25% that was discovered during the pay study of 2018. In comparison, the current

be implemented over several years and Kirwan passed but the funding sources were not identified. This created uncertainty regarding the need for the proposed tax increases.

As I listened to what was said at the Public Hearing and received through text messages, emails, phone calls and letters I received, it became evident that many people did not believe tax increases were warranted. Many voiced concerns over their ability to pay more taxes with an already 'high cost of living'. These are valid concerns and the message has been clear to this Commissioner.

Going forward I cannot support any tax increases until a clear picture of costs is determined. Our citizens need to know the reasons for these increases and if unfunded State mandates are the answer. Our teachers, deputies and County employees do need adequate compensation but asking citizens to pay more taxes does not make sense when County and BOE fund balances are high and the Sheriff's continues to return millions every year. The County and BOE will have a budget surplus again this year and the Sheriff is projected to return over 5 million dollars back to the County.

We must find ways to cut spending reasonably, budget revenues responsibility and correct the pay disparity of employees when compared to our neighbors. This isn't about being a Republican or a Democrat but about delivering the best possible services to our citizens for the lowest cost. Only by everyone working together can we solve our common challenges and continue to make St Mary's County better for all its citizens.

Michael Hewitt County Commissioner District 2, Hollywood/Leonardtown

It is the concern of the FOP Board, as well as the FOP's 200 members and their families, the majority of whom reside in St. Mary's County, that the pay disparity will negatively impact the SMCSO. Currently, the SMCSO for the first time in several years is on the cusp of being fully staffed. If our pay does not remain competitive with the surrounding jurisdictions, the FOP fears that the SMCSO we will lose exceptional officers to the higher paying agencies that surround us. This has been proven to be the case in past years with the loss of 26 Deputies and Correctional Officers (who transitioned to police) primarily due to salary. This is according to these employees' exit interviews. In essence, the SMCSO and the taxpayers of St. Mary's County will be responsible for paying to send new

2020 budget shows that the St. Mary's

County Sheriff's Office will only receive

a 4% raise over the next three years.

officers through the costly and vigorous training only to see them leave after realizing a nearby jurisdiction is paying more for the same requirements. In summary, the SMCSO will be unable to attract, recruit and retain officers if our pay is not competitive.

The FOP and its members understand the difficult job you, the Commissioners, have in effectively allocating money. It is our hope with the increase tax budget in 2020 that the pay for the men and woman of the SMCSO will reflect the hard work that they do, as well as the dedication they have to provide safety to the citizens of St. Mary's County.

> Sincerely, St. Mary's County Lodge #7 Fraternal Order of Police The FOP Board of Directors Michael Boyer, President

Dear Editor:

Given the proposal to increase property and income taxes, the current budget process being conducted by the County has caused concerns for many of our citizens. A recent Public Hearing brought out many who voiced their opinions. The public deserves an opportunity to express their views and elected officials need to listen. It is also important that public officials keep their constituencies informed of the complex issues we face so citizens can make informed decisions and wise recommendations This is how our democracy works best.

When the current proposal to raise taxes was voted upon, the General Assembly was still in session in Annapolis. During that session, the issues of minimum wage and increased spending on education (Kirwan) were hot topics. Rumors flowed these proposals would costs billions and tax increases were inevitable.

Locally, increased spending for the Sheriff's department, the Board of Education and compensation for County employees were presented. The request for additional funding was over \$14.6 million dollars and this surprised everyone. Recent financial reports had shown healthy fund balances and these tax increases did not make sense. What happened to cause this proposed tax hike?

A compensation study performed to determine reasons why County employee vacancy rates were high concluded teachers, deputies and county employees were underpaid in comparison to neighboring counties by up to 11.14%. The study also showed that vacancy rates are not declining and the labor market has grown tighter. Options were requested to address the issues.

Once the session ended in Annapolis, the minimum wage was raised but will

Dear Editor:

The Inaugural Southern Maryland Non-Profit Community 5k Program began April 27, 2019.

Four local Southern Maryland based non-profits (Bay Community Support Services, The Leatherneck 5K to benefit the Semper Fi Fund, Historic Sotterley and Patuxent Habitat for Humanity) have teamed up to create the first ever 5k Passport system. Run4ACause Southern Maryland Running Series has scheduled races every Saturday through May 18, 2019. The passport system promotes four great causes and encourages our community to come together, have fun, and support some very important causes! Everyone that registers for all four races will be entered into a drawing for a grand prize.

Patuxent Habitat for Humanity will be the last in the series of the Run4A-Cause program. Our Warior 5K Fun Run/Walk is being held on May 18, 2019 on Solomon's Island. Since our inaugaral race held in 2013 the Warrior Fun Run/Walk has raised over \$100,000.00 to help our local veterans with critical home repairs. With funding from grant money, individual and corporate donors,

sponsorships and the 5K race, Patuxent Habitat for Humanity has been able to provide critical home repairs to more than 40 veterans and their families in St. Mary's County & Calvert County. Our Veterans Critical Home Repair Program is designed to help local veterans with low to median low income by offfering critical home repairs and interior/exterior handicapped conversions. If you are a veteran or know of veteran that could benefit from this program please visit our website www.patuxenthabitat.org for more information. Sponsorship opportunities for our race are still available and information is listed on our website.

We encourage you to join us at the PHFH Warrior 5K Fun Run/Walk on May 18th on Solomons Island at 8:00 a.m. (for registration) or register early online at www.patuxenthabitat.org to help us support and celebrate our local veterans. Everyone deserves to age in place with dignity in their own home and community, especially our veterans!

> Sincerely, Laurie Walker Logistics Coordinator Patuxent Habitat for Humanity

Gavin DeGraw to Perform at Calvert Marine Museum



Multi-platinum selling singer, performer, and songwriter Gavin De-Graw will perform live at the Calvert Marine Museum's PNC Waterside Pavilion on Friday, August 2. DeGraw first broke through with the 2003 release of his debut album, Chariot, which sold over 1 million copies, earned platinum certification, and yielded three smash singles: I Don't Want To Be, Follow Through, and the titletrack, Chariot. Later albums in 2008 and 2011 gave fans hits such as In Love With A Girl, Not Over You, and Best I Ever Had. Since then, DeGraw has been consistently touring around the world. Tickets to this show are \$35-\$69 (additional fees apply) and will be available at www.calvertmarinemuseum. com, beginning May 14 for CMM members and May 17 for the general public. To become a member, individuals can visit the website or call Lisa Howard, CMM Membership Coordinator, at (410) 326-2042 ext. 16.

Proceeds from the Waterside Music

Series support the education and preservation efforts of the Calvert Marine Museum. This event would not be possible without the generous support of the community and many local businesses. Sponsors include: Prince Frederick Ford/Jeep/Dodge, PNC Bank, O'Brien Realty, Bozick Distributors, Inc., Tidewater Dental, Sunshines Catering, Roy Rogers, Equity Resources, Inc., Directmail.com, Holiday Inn Solomons, TitleMax, LLC, City Wide Mechanical, 98.3 STAR FM, Quick Connections, Bay Weekly, Southern Maryland Newspapers, Isaac's Restaurant, Papa John's Pizza, Comcast, Atlantic Broadband, Southern Maryland Blue Crabs, Results Health & Fitness Club, and Asbury-Solomons. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Vanessa Gill, CMM Director of Promotions, at 410-326-2042 ext. 18. Individualized packages are built, based on your needs.

Press Release from CMM

Inaugural Mulberry Music Festival Scheduled

St. Mary's College of Maryland presents the inaugural Mulberry Music Festival – Act 1, featuring chart-topping gospel recording artist Jason Nelson and a diverse lineup of local musicians, on Friday, June 14, 2019, from 6-9 p.m. on the College's Townhouse Green. The event is free of charge and open to the public.

"At St. Mary's College, we value our liberal arts foundation – the diversity of thought and expression, creativity, and respect for self and others. We teach students how to express themselves in order to add color and life to our world in a way that only each unique individual can. In this spirit of creativity, I initiated the Mulberry Music Festival – Act 1 in order to bring people together around the universal language that is music," said Tuajuanda C. Jordan, president of St. Mary's College. "The long-term goal of the festival is to feature a broad spectrum of diverse genres of music each year. Given all that is happening in the

world, featuring the uplifting nature of gospel music at the inaugural event seems appropriate."

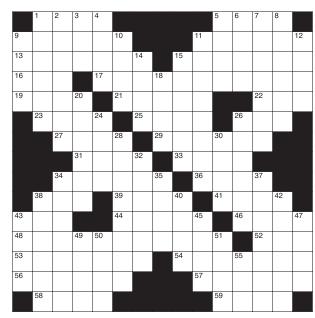
Nelson is one of the most recognized voices in gospel music, a Grammy-nominated songwriter and a Stellar Award-winner. His newest album "The Answer," released on May 18, 2018, includes the hit single "Forever."

Along with Nelson, there will be performances by the St. Peter Claver Gospel Choir, Dominion Apostolic Choral, SouthPoint Church, John Tillery and Living Sacrifice, Posse 4 Christ, Ministerio Amor en Cristo (Ministry of Love in Christ), and St. Luke's of Scotland Choir.

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

Press Release from SMCM.

FUEGAMES



CLUES ACROSS

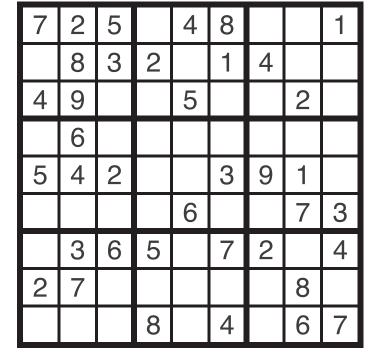
- 1. Type of fruit
- 5. Unit of time
- 9. Oil company
- 11. Benson's "partner"
- 13. Fictional mob boss Tony
- 15. Visual record
- 16. Small constellation
- 17. Popular family TV series
- 19. Tough outer layer
- 21. Cut
- 22. Vietnamese offensive
- 23. Horizontal mine passage
- 25. Greek war god
- 26. Have already done
- 27. Six (Spanish)
- 29. Remarks for the audience
- 31. Relaxing spots
- 33. Prevent from seeing
- 34. Disguised

- 36. Comedian Rogen
- 38. Afflict in mind or body
- 39. Sour
- 41. People native to N.
- Mexico
- 43. No seats available
- 44. Ned ___, composer
- 46. A fit of irritation
- 48. Ability to move objects
- mentally
- 52. Luke's mentor ___-Wan
- 53. Herbal medicine
- ingredient
- 54. Oscar-winning director
- Bigelow
- 56. Likes
- 57. In a sound way
- 58. Part of a staircase
- 59. Exemptions from play

CLUES DOWN

1. How will it play in ___?

- 2. Grows
- 3. Swiss river
- 4. Canadian flyers
- 5. Affirmative! (slang)
- 6. Root of taro plant
- 7. Large, long-legged
- rodents 8. Recycled
- 9. Pre-1917 emperor of
- Russia
- 10. Sometimes it's on you11. Contrary beliefs
- 12. Remain as is
- 14. Spicy stew ___ podrida
- 15. Play time
- 18. Italian monetary unit
- 20. Type of fuel
- 24. Portable conical tent
- 26. Yazoo and Mississippi
- are two
- 28. What people earn
- 30. Insect repellent
- 32. After first
- 34. Plays the viola
- 35. Not good
- 37. Esteemed guest
- 38. Where rockers ply their
- 40. Office furniture
- 42. Ancient Greek oracles
- 43. Quantitative fact
- 45. Missing soldiers
- 47. Minute
- 49. This (Spanish)
- 50. Maintain possession of
- 51. Knife
- 55. What to say on New Year's Day (abbr.)



SEE PAGE 35 FOR LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION



Ennis Takes Helm of HX-21



Cmdr. Christopher W. Gavin (left) and Lt. Col. John M. Ennis (right) shake hands after Ennis took lead of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (HX) 21 during a change of command ceremony April 11 at Patuxent River Naval Air Stat.

Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (HX) 21 welcomed its new commanding officer during a ceremony April 11 at Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

Col. Richard E. Marigliano, the newest commodore at Naval Test Wing Atlantic, presided over the change of

command where Cmdr. Christopher W. Gavin turned over leadership to Lt. Col. John M. Ennis

"I turned HX-21 over to Cmdr. Gavin almost two years ago," said Marigliano. "The Navy is better for your mission execution and deliverance of capability from this squadron."

Ennis, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) and MV-22B pilot, reported to HX-21 as chief test pilot July 2017 following a test career supporting CH-53K and V-22. His operational assignments include Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (HMM/VMM) 266, 3rdBattalion, 8thMarines (2ndDivision), Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron 22, and Marine Air Group 26.

"This command's greatest assets are not the aircraft we see here today," said Ennis. "They are the people. I am sincerely grateful for the state of excellence Cmdr. Gavin leaves HX-21."

Gavin, also a USNTPS graduate and MH-60 Seahawk pilot, assumed command of HX-21 August 2017 following a career supporting numerous H-60 flight test projects and time as senior rotary wing instructor at USNTPS. His fleet assignments include Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadrons 51 and 37. During Gavin's tenure at HX-21 he oversaw transition of VH-92A's developmental test from industry to government, and

led the platform to early execution of initial operational assessment and program Milestone C. He also transitioned CH-53K's entire test team to Patuxent River Naval Air Station from Florida.

"As I close this chapter in my career, the pages would be empty without the dedication of the men and women of this squadron," said Gavin. "Leading HX-21 was the greatest professional privilege of my life."

Gavin moves on to Program Executive Office for Air Anti-Submarine, Assault and Special Mission Programs.

HX-21 executes developmental test of Navy and Marine Corps rotary- and tiltrotor aircraft including major defense programs like V-22, UH-1Y, AH-1Z, CH-53K and MH-60.

NAWCAD supports the research, development, engineering, test and evaluation of all Navy and Marine Corps air vehicle systems and trainers. With facilities in Patuxent River, Maryland; Lakehurst, New Jersey; and Orlando, Florida, the command delivers high-quality, affordable products in support of military operating forces worldwide.



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

Frederick Westlake Garris



Frederick Westlake Garris, 67, of California, MD passed away on April 29th, 2019 at the Hospice House of St. Mary's surrounded by his loved ones.

Born on September 7, 1951 in Norfolk, VA, he was the son of Frederick B. and Madelyn B. Garris.

Fred attended Tidewater Community College and the College of William & Mary before he moved to St. Mary's County in the early 80s. He served many years as a waiter on Solomon's Island, volunteering and organizing concerts at the Calvert Marine Museum, as well as a jack of all trades helping many who needed plumbing and home repair assistance. Fred is best known for his friendly soul who loved music and making others laugh.

Fred is survived by his mother Madelyn Garris of California, MD, his daughter Amber Garris Richardson (Scott) of Virginia Beach, VA, sister Claudia McMillan (Kent) of Farmville, VA, brothers David Garris of Solomon's, MD and Jeff Garris of California, MD, his nephew Dan Garris of Annapolis, MD, 4 grandchildren: Brooke Morgan, Holly Morgan, Austin Richardson and Paige Richardson and his 2 great-grandsons: Jenesis and Jaiden Taylor. Fred was preceded in death by his father Frederick B. Garris.

A Memorial Service to celebrate and honor Fred will be held at Solomon's United Methodist Church on May 18th from 11am – 12pm.

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

SFC Phillip Wayne Turner

SFC Phillip "Phil" Wayne Turner, US Army (Ret.), 60, of Lexington Park, MD passed away suddenly on April 19, 2019 at his home.

He was born on January 12, 1959 in Springfield, TN to the late John Turner Jr. and Juanita Bell Wilson.

On June 9, 1977, Phillip enlisted in



the United States Army and proudly served his country for over 18 dedicated vears as an Electronic Warfare Intelligence Analyst until his retirement on June 30, 1995. During his military service he earned numerous Meritorious, Commendation, and National Defense awards and medals for his dedication to his country. He was employed by AME-WAS for 15 years as an Electronic Warfare SME and most recently employed by SRC as an Electronic Warfare Engineer. He was passionate about serving the government throughout his career with the military and as a government contractor for the rest of his career.

He was married over 29 years to Debra Lynne Turner, who was his beloved friend and shared many wonderful memories with him. He was reserved by nature and enjoyed spending his free time weight lifting, listening to jazz, and was an avid fan of all Star Trek series and movies. He cherished the time he spent with his grandson and the calming snuggles of his many fur babies.

He is survived by his daughter Valerie Lynn Baker (Garrett) and grandson Urijah Summit Shewalter of Huntington Beach, CA; his siblings: John Turner of Kaneohe, HI, Donnie Turner (Angela) of Indianapolis, IN, Betty Penn of Indianapolis IN, Jeweldean Scharklet of Gallatin, TN; James Turner (Dot) of Leesburg, VA, Vickie Osborne (Kennedy) of Conway, SC; and Robert Wilson (Linda) of Lebanon, TN, Stepfather Robert Wilson of Johnson City, TN, and many extended family and friends.

Phillip is also preceded in death by his brother, Charles Turner.

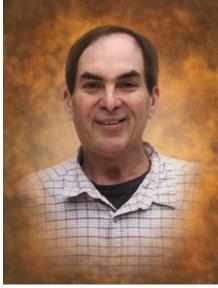
Family will receive friends on Friday, May 3, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., with a Celebration of Life Service at 2:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., and 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Memorial contributions may be made to Fisher House Foundation, Post Office Box 97229, Washington, D.C. 20077 and St. Jude Children's Hospital, Post Office Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38148.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Michael Alan McCurdy



Michael Alan McCurdy, "Mike" 60 of Leonardtown, MD formerly of San Jose, CA passed on April 24, 2019 in Washington, DC. Born on February 15, 1959 in Maysville, KY he was the son of the late Lois Ann Chambers and Charles McCurdy. Mike was the loving husband of Debra McCurdy whom he married on October 19, 1996 in Patuxent River, MD. He is survived by his children; Phillip McCurdy (Fiancée Jessica White) of Atlanta, GA, Christopher McCurdy (Erin Wilson) of Durham, NC, Kathryn Mc-Curdy of Leonardtown, MD and Staci Gaeschler of Virginia Beach, VA and 1 grandchild; as well as his siblings Megan Krcik, Alicia Hinton, Derek Mc-Curdy, Dana McCurdy, Michelle Doran and Stephanie Eaton.

Mike moved to St. Mary's County MD from Sigonella Italy in 1995. He graduated from Homestead High School in Cupertino, CA. in 1977. Mike also earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Information Systems from the University of Maryland in 2003.

Mike served in the United States Navy for 20 years, from August 10, 1977 to August 31, 1997. While serving in the Navy he earned the Navy Achievement Medal (2nd Award), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Good Conduct Medal (5th Award), Navy Expeditionary Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3rd Award), Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon (2nd Award). Navy Unit Commendation, NATO Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist, Naval Air Crewman, and the Navy Commendation Medal.

Mike enjoyed boating, fishing and coaching the St. Mary's Girls Lacrosse League. He especially loved spending time with family and friends and watch-

ing his daughter play lacrosse.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM in First Saints Community Church Leonardtown Campus where a Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 AM with Pastor Alan Hemming and Pastor John Wunderlich officiating. Interment will be private. Pallbearers will be; Phillip McCurdy, Ray Jordan, Don Dirkin and Chris McCurdy. Honorary Pallbearer is Bruce Bender.

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

James Robert Reese, Sr.



James Robert "Jimmie" Reese, Sr., 91, of Leonardtown, MD passed away on April 1, 2019 at St. Mary's Nursing Center.

James was born on September 25, 1927 in Washington, PA to the late Everett and Mildred Reese.

James was employed as a Salesman at Stidham Tire for over 30 years. He married the love of his life, Dorothy Jean Reese on March 25th 1952. They spent over 36 wonderful years together before her passing in 1988. James was a member of A F & A M Masonic Lodge #227 in Camp Springs, Md for over 50 years. He enjoyed fishing and Barbershop singing, but especially enjoyed spending time with his family.

James is survived by his loving companion, Katherine "Ruth" Hartnett and by his children, James Robert Reese, Jr. (Sandra), of Edgewater, MD, Paul Everett Reese (Cerrie), of Winter Springs, FL, and Margaret Anne Beck (Martin), of Monument, CO; grandchildren, Katie Mench, James Reese III, Nicholas Reese, Austin Reese, Meredeth Nielsen, Benjamin Nielsen, Julia Wilson, and Morgan Beck; great grandchildren, Alexander Mench, Caitlyn Reese, Camden, Carter, Cailynn and Colbie Reese, Xander and Haley Colon and Thomas Wilson III. In addition to his parents and wife, James was preceded in death by his sister, Bette Greer.

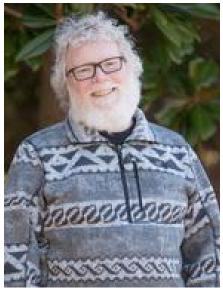


Services will be private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Dennis Patrick MacQuilliam



Dennis Patrick MacQuilliam, 58, of Hollywood, MD died on April 29, 2019, died from bladder cancer, surrounded by his family in their home overlooking Cuckold Creek.

He was born in Warrenton, VA-the youngest of six siblings, to the late John Joseph and Christine Lee MacQuilliam.

Dennis spent his younger years with his best friend, Kevin, riding his bicycles down dirt roads, through creek beds and woods of what has grown up to become the city of Manassas. He attended Stonewall Jackson High School in Virginia, moved to Georgia with his mother for his senior year and graduated from Henderson High School in Chamblee. After high school he spent 4 years honorably serving the U.S. in the Navy from 1981-1985 as a jet engine mechanic. He served aboard the supply ship, USS Sacramento, for a WESTPAC tour; and closed out his Navy years at Naval Air Station Meridian, MS.

Dennis started his post-navy career working for the telephone company, following in his parents' footsteps. He started out as a draftsman, then was on the cutting edge of fiber optics, and later digitizing the local telephone business using CAD. If you've ever been to Atlanta, the fiber optics bringing connectivity to your business or home were run under the city as part of a project Dennis oversaw. During his career with the Phone Company and eventually

Northrop Grumman, he balanced work, family and pursued his secondary education, getting his Associates, and then his Bachelors Degree from East Carolina University, finishing shortly after the birth of his daughter, Leah. Dennis returned to the world of the military when moving to Maryland and worked for 14 years for Northrop Grumman, which was a complete career change. He retired from Grumman in 2017 and started to work for a local company, JF Taylor, Inc. He would tell you over and over again that was his dream job-his last 2 years of work were the best in his lifetime. In that short time he learned to fly helicopters, cargo planes and fighter jets while working on and testing the simulators. To see his face light up when talking about the people he worked with and the greatness of the company was a testament to the impact they made on his life in just a short time.

In 1993, Dennis met his wife of 22 years, Heather MacQuilliam, while she was a student at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC. They married after she graduated, and began their family together in Greenville. They have 3 wonderful children together: Eric Owen, Bay Liam and Leah Rose. Dennis was the ultimate provider for his family-he helped coach the boys' soccer teams when they were younger, watched violin, guitar and piano recitals, went to swim meets, and supported Heather as she homeschooled all three children. He often said that he was learning how to be a good father to his children-God gifted him with common sense, discernment, and wisdom; and taught him to show unconditional love, humility and forgiveness on a level he had not experienced before. His children were his most frequent source of worry and his biggest source of pride. He was unfailing in his love and devotion to his family.

Dennis loved planning the next big trip. He had a keen sense of adventure and taught his children how to vacation well. Many exciting family outdoor vacations-several spent with Heather's extended family as well-were enjoyed over the years. From RVing across the country to 4-wheeling in Alaska, the trips were action packed and always memorable. Dennis brought humor into everything he did and rarely took anything too seriously. Everyone in the family can attest to his love of laughout-loud YouTube videos. He was a musician at heart-music must have literally run through his veins. He had many guitars over the years, and the wall of guitars he shared with his musically gifted children speaks volumes. For every situation, Dennis pulled a song lyric out of his head-most of which none of us had ever heard and we'd laugh when we realized he wasn't making it up. He could play any classic rock guitar riff by ear-never did learn to read musicbut that didn't stop him from rockin'

it out. He spent years with his wife Heather leading music in the Navigators at ECU and then at their church in NCalways bringing a little rock-and-roll to the worship music. Dennis was also a master, self-taught cabinet maker. A visit to his home would quickly demonstrate his gift of turning wood into beautiful, fine furniture. He was an avid handyman-there wasn't a job he couldn't handle around the house, whether it was building new rooms, plumbing, electrical, laying flooring, installing windows or roofing a barn. He lived life to the fullest-he enjoyed Big Hair radio, bicycling, bad jokes, sailing, banana pudding & chocolate cake, playing frisbee golf, kayaking, Jeeps, camping, taking naps, riding his Harley Davidson motorcycles (and proudly wearing his Harley t-shirt collection), mowing the lawn, Chick-Fil-A sweet tea, cleaning, shopping, lounging in a hammock, Mexican Coke & Mexican food, swimming, and decorating for the holidays.

In addition to his beloved wife, Heather, Dennis is also survived by their children: Eric, Bay and Leah; his siblings and their families: John & Jennifer MacQuilliam (Stacey & Matthew: Zoe, Cameron & Noah); Karen Richardson (Lauren); Mike & Debbie MacQuilliam (Jonathan & Leslie: Greyson & Emily; Maggi & Sean); Kevin MacQuilliam (Julie & Clayton; Micheal) and Colleen & Bill Shipp (Ehud & Cassie:Wyatt & Colton) and many aunts, uncles and cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents, John Joseph and Christine Lee MacQuilliam.

Family will receive friends on Monday, May 6, 2019 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., with a Celebration of Life Service led by Pastor Todd Crofford at 3:00 p.m. at Real Life Wesleyan Church, 27399 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville, MD. Interment will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and Real Life Wesleyan Church, 27399 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

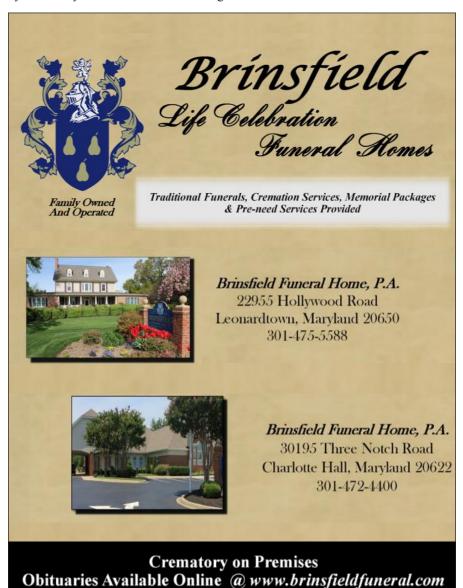
Dennis' bout with cancer was only a momentary struggle compared to the richness of his life. He would want you to know that his faith in God was his lifeline and drawing close to Jesus was all that really ever mattered. He worked diligently, vacuumed the house religiously, loved his family fiercely, and trusted God wholeheartedly right up until the moment he went to be with his Savior in peace.

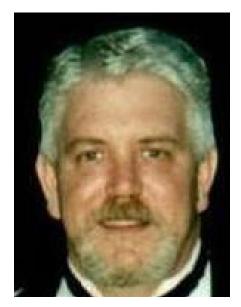
Condolences may be made to the family at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Stephen Ronald Szepesi II

Stephen Ronald Szepesi II, 58, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on April 26, 2019 at University of Maryland





Charles Regional Medical Center with his loving family at his side.

He was born on September 8, 1960 in Greenville, SC to the late Stephen Ronald and Lois Foulds Szepesi.

Stephen is a 1978 graduate of Suitland High School. On June 19, 1999, he married his beloved wife, Danielle Marie (Hetrich) Szepesi, at Mount Zion United Methodist Church in Mechanicsville, MD. Together they celebrated over 19 wonderful years of marriage. He was the President of Allied Equipment and Supply, a HVAC wholesaler that he built from the ground up. He dedicated over 30 years of expertise and quality workmanship in the HVAC industry.

His hobbies included wood working, in which he made intricate customized cutting boards; bird watching, especially Eagles and Ospreys on the water; and cheering on the Washington Nationals and Kansas City Chiefs. He was a delicious cook, harvested his own garden, was a grill master, and hosted many gatherings for his family and friends. He made many specialty dishes, including "Dad's Famous Pork Stuff," and his hot pepper relish. He made a cook book full of love for them, "Big Daddy's Recipes." He also enjoyed restoring classic cars and was the owner of a fully restored 1971 Pontiac. As an avid fisherman he liked to go out on the "Kelly D." However, his greatest love was for his family, especially his children and grandchildren. He loved to spend as much time as possible with them.

In addition to his beloved wife, Stephen is also survived by his beautiful daughters: Megan Bischko (Robert) of Sturgis, MI, Monica Szepesi of California, MD and Gabrielle Lawrence of Mechanicsville, MD; his sister, Sharon Szepesi of Arnold, MD; his precious grandchildren: Brooke Davis, Emma Bischko, Robert Bischko, Stephen Bischko, Lacie Szepesi; and many extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial Contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 and The Living Legacy Foundation, Attention: Ann Bromery, 1730 Twin Spring Road, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21227.

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

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

Dawn Laureen Mueller

Dawn Laureen Mueller, 53, of Charlotte Hall, MD departed this life on Wednesday, April 24, 2019.

She was born July 13, 1965 in Leonardtown, MD to Donald Mueller and the late Linda Darlene (Davis) Reno.

Dawn was a proud and loving mother to her two sons. She met the man she planned to marry Joseph Lumpkin and he stole her heart from his first "hello". She worked hard as a homemaker and devoted her time to her family. She looked forward to family reunions, when she would travel to Indiana. When Dawn had the chance to relax you would find her playing on her tablet or X-Box. She was an avid gamer. Dawn was an animal lover, especially her cat, Midnight. She had several birds also and loved doves.



Dawn is survived by sons, Matthew Dobson of Charlotte Hall, MD and Michael Mueller of Charlotte Hall, MD and fiancé, Joseph Lumpkin of Charlotte Hall, MD. She has one brother, Daryl Mueller of Alexandria, VA, and numerous nieces and nephews, Justin Mueller, Chris Mueller, Nathan Mueller, Violet Mueller, Jaxson Mueller, Dixie Mueller, Braxton Mueller and Sutton James Mueller. In addition to her mother, she is preceded in death by her step-sister, Lisa Reno.

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

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

CHURCH SERVICES DIRECTORY

St. Cecilia Church

47950 Mattapany Rd, PO Box 429 St. Mary's City, MD 20686 301-862-4600

Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm Saturday

Sunday: 8:00 am Weekday (M-F): 7:30 am

Confessions: 3-4 pm Saturday

www.stceciliaparish.com

GRACE CHAPEL

SERVICES 8 AM & 10:30 AM **BIBLE STUDY TUES 6:30 PM** YOUTH GROUP **TUES 6:30 PM**

39245 Chaptico Rd. • Mechanicsville, MD 20659 301-884-3504 • gracechapelsomd@gmail.com

gracechapelsomd.org

Leonardtown Church of the Nazarene

"BEING the Presence of Christ in Our Community"

Hollywood United Methodist Church 24422 Mervell Dean Rd • Hollywood, MD 20636

St. Anne's Church

Meeting at Dent Memorial Chapel

Charlotte Hall Road, Charlotte Hall

Sundays - 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist

Traditional Anglican Worship

"First Millennium Faith for a

Third Millennium World"

(301)934-6873

301-373-2500

Katie Paul, Pastor Sunday Worship 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. All of our services are traditional. Child care is provided. **Sunday Evening Youth Group** Christian Preschool and Kindergarten available

Christ Episcopal Church

King & Queen Parish founded 1692 25390 Maddox Road | Chaptico, MD 20621



All are Welcome



SERVICE TIMES Saturday 5PM **Sunday** 8:45AM & 10:45AM Wednesday Bible Study 7PM Youth Group Thursday 6PM

22730 Washington Street • Leonardtown, MD 20650 301-475-2538 • www.lcotn.com

To place an ad on this page contact Jen Stotler at 301-247-7611 or jen@countytimes.net

Wanderings Aimless Mind





"Yes, I will smile, dern it"

A few weeks back. I received a book in the mail from someone I didn't know. I had a friend over at the same time and we both wondered where it came from. It is called Smile Dern Ya Smile! A collection of humorous stories and anecdotes by KD (Kay D. Marshall) Graham of Philipsburg, Montana. An inscription on the title page simply says, "A gift for you" and is signed by the author. I don't know a KD Graham – this was a mystery, and I love a good mystery. I thought well, maybe it was a gift from one of the readers of this column, or from one of my church friends.

reading of the book and a little research. It is a very funny book. The author has included a lot of stories that her friends and family have given to her, and I am sure a lot of her own stories as well, but all with humor. Its kind of like Reader's Digest - you can't just stop after a few stories and then you



suddenly realize a half hour or so has slipped by. In the preface KD relates that she used these stories to brighten the days of her mother and her mother's many caregivers over the years. What a wonderful way for those in pain to find some relief in laughter or a smile. She writes, "Get ready to chuckle now and chuckle later, too!!! Or at least SMILE DERN YA SMILE! Then pass it on." So, I guess that is what I will do is pass it on. I think my son Ryan would like it. I know my brother Bobby in Utah

The research was fairly simple. I found posts from all over the country when Googling the book title and author that said they had received this book in the mail, didn't know who it was from, but were very grateful for receiving it. KD apparently sends these out at random across the country, I guess I was just lucky to be chosen.

Finally, the mystery had gotten to me, so I looked up a few key search words, with Google's help of course, and found Leemarie's Publishing in Philipsburg, Montana and made the call before I could change my mind. I didn't want to bother her but, dern it, curiosity won out. When K.D. answered, I found she had a kind, friendly voice just like I imagined she would. The type of person that could instantly calm frantic friends or make an ill relative feel at peace with any troubles.

I asked K.D. a few questions and found out that she has now sent out all of her Smile dern ya smile books, and that she did indeed pick people at random via a list to share her humor with people just in the United States. She said that the book took her 20 years to write. I can understand that since I have a few (quite a few) various staged writing projects always in the works myself. But she finished hers and chose to bring brightness and laughter to those she loves and loved, and to recipients she didn't even personally know. Now that is a good heart and a good soul. Once in awhile I do the McDonald's drive up line Pay IT Forward thing, but K.D.'s book is a labor of love that can stay with people a lot longer. Some may not even want to pass her book on/pay it forward and would rather keep it for those days when you are down. In fact, Ryan and Bobby may have to wait awhile to read my copy, since I think I need a little more laughing and smiling right now dern it!

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

NEGOTIATING TIPS

Everyone negotiates something everyday. From trying to get your child to turn out the lights to getting a raise, all of us are always negotiating. Do you have any plans in 2019 to ask for a raise, change jobs, buy a car or make a major purchase? Those tasks require negotiation. How do you negotiate to win? Here are six simple negotiating tips:

SPEAK UP. You can't get a raise by keeping silent. If you think your work deserves more money, it is up to you to make the case to your company. Whining is not an approach. Comparing yourself to others is not an approach.

BE PREPARED. Be a detective. Make sure you have done your homework. If you are buying a car, have you checked out what the make and model of car you want is worth? Fortunately, today, there are apps for that and many other things. No matter what the negotiation, you must completely understand the situation you are in. That means understanding not only your own position, but the position of the person you are negotiating with.

LISTEN. How many times have you completely failed to get what you want because you have ignored the needs of the other side? I have a client with a teenage son who tells me her son is always angry at her. Apparently, her son just wants to get her out of his life. However, son, this is difficult. Supsince she completely supports her pose, instead, she offers her son more independence the family car) if he performs some specific chores around the house. That sounds like a win-win negotiation for both of them. To get to that point, my client had to know that the lack of independence was the sore spot with her son. She learned that by listening.

BE WILLING TO WALK AWAY. No matter what the negotiation, before you start, you must know what your "break-even" point is. In other words, what is the worst you will accept before you walk away. Do you have a clear idea of what you will accept and what you will not accept? Is there something else that the seller might want to make up for the fact you do not have more money? What if you wrote letter to the seller telling them what good care you would take of the house even though you cannot increase your bid. Making that seller comfortable that you will take care of the house may make the difference in whether you are successful at buying it. If not, you must keep to your budget and walk away.

BE PATIENT. Sometimes, the only way to get what you want is simply to outlast the other party. Patience is a highly prized skill in negotiation—if you do not have it, get it. I recall negotiating with some Japanese bankers years ago. At that time, the Japanese were famous for agreeing with everything you said one day and refuting it the next. This had been going on for several weeks, with the late night calls to Japan wearing on all the parties, including me. No matter. I waited them out. I knew eventually they would agree to what we wanted and they did. I learned what was important to them—they learned what was important to me and, with time, we got there.

DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY. Negotiation is not a fist fight. calling, It is not and never should be personal. Name being a bully, etc. all are childish responses not worthy of you. Successful negotiators show respect for their counterparts—especially if they want to do business with them again. Personality issues are issues, having nothing to do with what you are trying to negotiate. Forget them and move on to important points that you can solve.

There are just some of the tips you can use to become a better negotiator. There are many "how to" books out there to assist you—all of them offer good insights and you can never get enough helpful suggestions on how to make your negotiations more successful. Here's to your successful negotiations in 2019!

Join me on Wednesday May 15th at 11am for a discussion of this and other matters, at my office at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot. See you there.

Lvn Striegel

Thursday, May 2, 2019 The County Times Calendars 35

St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 71658 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 71050 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 73101

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

Celebrating Centenarians Department of Aging & Human Services to Host First Annual Centenarian Luncheon

Do you know someone living in St. Mary's County who will be 100 years of age or older this year? We want to honor them!

The St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services is proud to host the first annual Centenarian Luncheon in St. Mary's County at the James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center, located at 24005 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown, Md., on Wednesday, May 22, at 11 a.m.

Friends, family, and caregivers are welcome to accompany our honorees to the first annual Centenarian Luncheon. Due to space constraints, each honoree is limited to a maximum of three guests. Indicate the number of participants when registering. Honorees must be 100 years of age or older as of December 31, 2019.

Space is limited and registration is required. Please contact Sarah Miller, Community Programs & Outreach Manager, at 301-475-4200, ext. 71073, or Sarah.Miller@stmarysmd.com to RSVP.

Additional LIFE Tour: Pax River Bird Walk

Join bird photographer Dean Newman for a morning of avian fun on Friday, May 17, as we view the Spring migration of birds passing through the Naval Air Station to breeding territories further north. At this time of the year, birds are at their most colorful stage and are easiest to see. This outing will have very little walking or physical exertion other than getting in and out of the van

multiple times. Bring binoculars as most birds are high in the trees and are difficult to fully appreciate with the naked eye. The tour concludes with lunch at the Rivers Edge restaurant on the base. Tour departs from Loffler Senior Activity Center at 7:30 a.m. and returns about 1 p.m. Advance registration and payment of \$22 is required. Register at any of the senior activity centers in the county. For more information call Alice Allen, Senior Center Operations Manager, at 301-475-4200, ext. 71063. Tour leaders are Bettie Broadhurst and Dean Newman

Enhance Fitness classes offered for FREE during the month of May

In honor of Older Americans Month, join us at a senior activity center near you for a well-rounded fitness class that incorporates aerobic, strength, balance, and flexibility components all in a one-hour workout. Enhance Fitness is being offered during the month of May at the Garvey, Loffler, and Northern Senior Activity Centers FREE of charge to all participants. Whether you already regularly participate in Enhance Fitness, or have been wanting to give it a try, here's your chance for free if you are 50 years

of age or older. For more information, call Alice Allen, Senior Center Operations Manager, at 301-475-4200, ext. 71063.

Contribute Your Life Experiences LifeBio 101: An 8-week Life Story Writing Group

This class will be offered at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Mondays & Fridays, beginning May 3 – May 31 (no class May 27), 1:30-2:30 p.m. This interactive class is designed to provide a structure to introduce the power of life stories and to kick start participants' efforts to capture memories, experiences, and values. Interesting exercises prime the pump of memories and lead to opportunities to listen and learn from each other's life journey. No prior writing experience is necessary. This program has been used across the county in various settings including libraries, senior centers, hospitals, cancer centers, senior living communities, and churches. Participants will need to bring a spiral bound notebook to class. There is no cost to attend; attendance for all class sessions is highly encouraged. Space is limited to 12 people. To register, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

R&B Line Dancing at Northern

The Northern Senior Activity Center will host R&B Line Dancing on Fridays starting May 3 from 1-2 p.m. Marie Bond and Catherine Bush will guide

you step-by-step as you learn some of today's trendiest line dances; including the Cupid Shuffle and the Wobble. Payment of \$12 for 6 classes/\$2 per class is made directly to instructors the day of class. To sign up for this 6 session class in advance, please visit the signup table or call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

Handmade Stepping Stones with Deb

Come join us at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Friday, May 3 at 10 a.m. for Deb's craft class as she shows you how to create beautiful stepping stones for your summer garden or to give as a Mother's Day gift. Create your personal design! The cost per person for the class is \$5. To register, call 301-475-4200, ext.71050.

Video Series at Loffler: The Last Outlaws: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid

Come to the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, May 8, at 10 a.m. to see this film by American Experience. Outlaw legends Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid captivated Americans in the 1890s with their exploits that included robbing banks and trains in the West, and then seemingly vanishing into thin air. Register to see this video by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk to sign up. Free. Seating is limited.

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY

St. Marv's City

The St. Mary's County Library will hold a special storytime at Historic St. Mary's City on Saturday, May 11 from 10 – 11 a.m. There will be stories, activities, songs, and more intended for children 1-5 with their adult caregivers. Storytime will be at the State House Bluff, feel free to bring a blanket to sit on. Siblings welcome; no registration required.

Master Gardener Series: Here Comes the Sun

Leonardtown Library will hold Here Comes the Sun, a class of the Master Gardener Series on Tuesday, May 14 from 2 - 3:30 p.m. The warm season is beginning. It is time to focus on your vegetable and flower container gardening, work on your garden beds, prune your perennials, and grow plants for our bees, butterflies, moths, and bats. Master Gar-

deners will answer questions and guide you through your gardening concerns.

Crafts and Conversations

Lexington Park Library will hold Crafts and Conversations on Saturday, May 18 from 2 – 4 p.m. If you have a craft project you're working on and would love some company, come to the library and join other crafters.

Common Thread

Lexington Park Library will hold Common Thread on Tuesday, May 14 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Whether you have been stitching for years, or you just want to learn, join fellow crafters who love all things fabric and fiber. Open to knitters, crocheters, quilters, embroiderers, cross-stitchers, and any other kind of needleworkers. Bring your current project, mingle with like-minded makers, and swap patterns, ideas, and tips. Basic supplies available, if needed. All skill levels welcome. No registration required.

Teen Night: The Great Library Race

Lexington Park Library will hold a special Teen Night: The Great Library Race on Thursday, May 16 from 5 - 5:30 p.m. See if your skills can get you to the finish line first! Open for teens and tweens ages 12 to 18.

Destress Yoga

Charlotte Hall Library will hold Destress Yoga (for teens) on Thursday, May 16 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. This yoga class is designed for teens. Explore ways to reduce stress, increase flexibility, build strength and improve balance in a welcoming environment. No experience necessary. Wear comfy clothes and bring a mat or towel. Ages 13-18. Registration required.

The Need to Know about GMOs

Leonardtown Library will hold The Need to Know about GMOs on Friday, May 3 from 1:30 – 3 p.m. Brooke Samuels of The Good Earth Natural Food Company will present about GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms). She will explain what GMOs are and why some call them "frankenfoods." Brooke will talk about the science and policies behind genetically modified organisms and how they play a role in our daily lives.

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.

UPCOMING

A Night on Broadway

The Newtowne Players present a fourth edition of "A Night on Broadway: Sight, Sound and Song." May 10-19, Friday-Saturday at 8:00, Sunday at 3:30. Three Notch Theatre, 21744 South Coral Drive, Lexington Park. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors, students and military; and \$13 age 12 and under. Purchase online: www.newtowneplayers.org, or call 301-737-5447.

Midshipmen Recognition Luncheon

The Greater Southern Maryland Chapter (GSMC) of the USNA Alumni Association annual Midshipmen Recognition Luncheon. Friday, 10 May, 1130-1300 at the River's Edge Club, NAS Patuxent River. No cost for Midshipmen. \$15 alumni, guests, family and friends advance reservation, or \$20 at the door. Reservations and prepay: www.navyalumni.org. RSVP by 6 May. Richard.L.Snyder@saic.com or 301-475-0124 (h) or 240-298-2279 (c).

Harrington Casino Trip

Sunday, July 14. \$45 person. Departs from 7th District Fire House at 8:00 AM with a stop in Charlotte Hall. Reservations/payment by June 30. 301-769-2016.

Audition Musical

Middle School students from Chesapeake Public Charter School will present the musical, "Audition" for the public during the first weekend of May. Under the direction of Ms. Dawn Weber and Ms. Diane Trautman, the students will share an entertaining story about the range of events and emotions that can occur when students audition for a school play. The show includes singing, dancing, and reasons to smile! The show will be held at Three Notch Theatre (21744 South Coral Drive, Lexington Park). Show dates and times are: May 3rd at 7:00 pm and May 4th at 3:00 pm Tickets: \$5.00

ONGOMING

Taco Tuesday

VFW Post 2632 California

5-7pm, 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month

Beef, Buffalo chicken or Black bean hard or soft. 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5, 5 for \$8. Taco salad \$5. With all the trimmings. Tostado with refried beans \$2. Nachos with cheese \$3 add beef \$1.

Thur.-Sun., May 2 - 5

Southern MD Spring Festival

42455 Fairgrounds Road, Leonardtown Thu.&Fri. 4:00-10:00 PM Sat. 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Sun. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Spring Festival with Amusements, entertainment, artists and crafters, indoor yard sale, animal display, silent auction, sand art, face painting, children's games, great food.

Thursday, May 2

An Evening with Marlene Dietrich

Olde Breton Inn, Leonardtown, MD 7:00 PM

Entertainer and musical actor GINGER (aka Henry Thedens) performs in his American debut as the DIVA for this one-night-only Dinner Show. Fundraiser for Lions Camp Merrick. \$75. Tickets, info: Ellynne Davis, LynnieBDavis@gmail.com

American Legion Post 221 Meeting

21690 Colton Point Road, Avenue 8:00 PM

All active duty personnel and veterans join for the monthly meeting. www.alpost221.webs.com or e-mail: alpost221@aol.com. 301-884-4071

Friday, May 3

First Friday in Leonardtown - Savor the Shops!

Downtown Leonardtown

5:00 - 8:00 PM

An exciting lineup of events including local jazz band Higher Standards in concert. Pets on leashes welcome. Art studios, shops, and restaurants have extended hours. Galleries host Opening Receptions for their new shows and exhibitions. "Taste, Sample, and Savor." Check the Leonardtown First Fridays Facebook page for details about musical events and one-night only Specials.

Watercolor Group

St. Mary's Parish Hall, St. Mary's City 10:00 AM - Noon

Watercolor artists gather on Fridays to paint, share ideas and techniques, and create new friendships. Bring your own supplies. Email: Marianna Nystrom: mhnystrom@live.com or Jeannine Finnacom: jfinnacom@hotmail.com

Art Share Series—Janice Walthour

St. Mary's Arts Council, Washington St., Leonardtown

5:30 - 6:30 PM

"Sharing My Story Through Rhyme, Reason, & Song." Reads from her poetry writings and those of others.

The Harlem Wizards Basketball

St. Mary's College Gym, 19050 Hill Commons Dr., St. Mary's City

6:30 PM

Local St. Mary's County principals, teachers and staff take on World Famous Harlem Wizards in a fun game of basketball. Tickets/info—KCAeagles.org or www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets/

Texas Hold'em Tournament

VFW Post 2632, 23282 Three Notch Rd., California 7:00 PM

No Limit Texas Holdem Tournament. \$50 Buyin (\$40 Prize Pool + \$10 Charity). Early Bird Bonus. Preregistration encouraged, not required. Public welcome. Must be 18 or older to play. Brian: Email: poker@vfw2632.com. Cell: 240-925-4000

Audience Participation Drum Circle

St. Mary's County Arts Council, Washington St., Leonardtown

8:00 - 9:00 PM

Bring your instrument or use ours. SoMar Drummers host an all-ages/skill level free event!

Saturday, May 4

Yard Sale

22621 Three Notch Road, California 7:00 AM - Noon

Just south of Sheetz, north of San Souci. Multi-Family yard/moving sale. Something for everyone: too much to list. If it can be moved or removed, it's for sale!!! No early birds please!

Church Yard Sale

Patuxent Presbyterian, 23421 Kingston Creek Road, California

7:00 AM - Noon

Huge indoor Yard Sale & Plant Sale! Amazing treasures of children's toys, clothes, books, electronics and household items. 301-863-2033 or Cindy Romano, romanocindy@yahoo.com. www.paxpres.com

Free Dentistry Day

Breton Bay Dentistry, Moakley Street, Suite 5, Leonardtown

8:00 AM - Noon

Residents in the Leonardtown area have the opportunity to receive free dental services. A choice of one free cleaning, filling or extraction will be provided per patient. First-come, first-served.. 301-475-2881. or www.FreeDentistryDay.org.

Free Document Shredding

The St. Andrew's Landfill

8:00 AM - Noon

Residents opportunity to shred confidential, private and important documents at no cost. Limit 3 standard bankers' boxes per person. St. Mary's Department of Public Works and Transportation 301-475-4200 ext.73550. www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/

Treasure and Bake Sale

Hughesville Baptist Church, 8505 Old Leonardtown Road, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The KnitWits of the Hughesville Baptist Church host their annual Spring event. Proceeds to the Growing for God Campaign. 301-274-3672 or 240-254-2765

May Day Festivities

Historic St. Mary's City 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Celebrate spring with Historic St. Mary's City! Take part in a Maypole Dance at 1:00. Play games, make a craft to take home. Performances by the premiere Foggy Bottom Morris Dancers at 12:30 and 2:00. \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$6 students, and free for ages 5 years and younger. 240-895-4990, 800-SMC-1634, or info@HSMCdigsHistory.org.

Solomons Maritime Festival

Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons

10:00 - 5:00 PM

Celebrate Southern Maryland traditions! Something for all the family! Museum admission required. 410-326-2042. www.calvertmarinemuseum.com

African American Schoolhouse Open House

Drayden African American Schoolhouse, 18287 Cherryfield Rd.

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

One of the nation's best-preserved one-room African American schoolhouses. Learn about the rich history and importance of this significant historic site. www. facebook.com/events/280237439354445/

Elks Hold'em Tournament

St. Mary's County Elks Lodge, 45779 Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park

6:00 - 11:00 PM

No Limit Texas Holdem Poker Tournament. \$80 Buy in = 12,000 chips. Food and beverage for purchase. James Dean, 240-577-0828. Email: jdeanjunior@yahoo.com

Patuxent Voices Concert

Christ Church, 25390 Maddox Road, Chaptico 7:30 P- 8:30 PM

Hear the women of Patuxent Voices in their spring

concert, "Can't Stop the Feeling!" Expressing joy, sorrow, worship, and love through glorious a cappella singing. All ages. Free. www.patuxentvoices.org

Reggie Rice Adults Magic of Laughter

5 Event South Center, 21030 Point Lookout Rd., Callaway 8:00 - 9:30 PM

Adults Only! A night of comedy with your local Neighborhood Fool!! Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with Magic and Comedy you won't forget!

Sunday, May 5

East Coast Drifters Car Show

Mechanicsville Moose Lodge, 27636 Mechanicsville Road 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All Cars/Trucks/Motorcycles are welcome. Top 60 and several other awards. First 100 receive dash plaques. \$20. gate. Larry, 301-266-9705 or Chuck, 301-751-5602 (rain date May 19) www.facebook.com/east-coast.drifters

Artisan Market

Summerseat Farm, 26655 Three Notch Rd, Mechanicsville

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Unique craft fair features all homemade, homegrown, handcrafted, vintage and baked goods. email: cajean47@hotmail.com. 240-298-6072.

www.summerseat.org or facebook

Craft Fair/ Flea Market/ Bazaar

Hobby Lobby Parking Lot, 45315 Alton Lane, California 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Held by Girl Scout Troop 6058 with local artists and vendors. www.facebook.com/events/323028981736058/

Seafood Dinner/Festival

Immaculate Conception Church Parish Center, 28297 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville

12:00 PM

Crab Balls, Spiced Shrimp, Ham, Fried Chicken, sides and dessert (for eat-in only). \$25 adults, Eat-in and Carry Out and Drive-Thru. \$8 ages 6 to 12 (Dinein only). Ages 5 and under eat free (Dine-in only). Credit/Debit cards accepted. Fantastic meal and festivities for the whole family. Proceeds benefit Immaculate Conception Church. Info/tickets: 301-884-3123, 240-538-6728, or 301-448-5237.

Firemen's Parade

Downtown Ridge 1:00 PM

Parade will travel along Route 5 from the Ridge Firehouse (13820 Point Lookout Road) south past the Carnival Grounds. Following the parade on the Carnival Grounds are games, food, and activities. Firemen's competitions and wrestling demos by CRAB Wrestling. Held by the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Monday, May 6

Bible Study

Leonardtown Library 5:00 - 7:00 PM

All are invited. Read and comment on the Gospel of John reviewing Chapters 2 & 3 and then reading Chapter 4 & 5. Mike Thompson, 301 373 8545.

CABS

Garvey Senior Center, Leonardtown 6:00 PM

Companions and Buddies for Singles adult social group of friends. Every Monday except Holidays. \$15/year; no dues first four visits. 240-794-8033. CABSorg. WixSite.com/CABS

Elks Holdem Bounty Tournament

St. Mary's County Elks Lodge, 45779 Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park

7:00 - 11:00 PM

No Limit Holdem Poker Tournament. \$25 Buy in = 6,000 chips. \$5 add-on = 1,500 chips and raffle drawing. Food and beverage for purchase. Questions: James Dean 240-577-0828. Email: jdeanjunior@yahoo.com

Tuesday, May 7

Sea Squirts - Terrific Turtles

Calvert Marine Museum

10:15 - 10:45 AM

Free drop-in program for ages 18 months to 3 years and their caregivers. Also on May 9 and 15. Space limited. 410-326-2042. www.calvertmarinemuseum.com

Wednesday, May 8

St. Mary's County Business Showcase

University System of Maryland, Bldg. 2, 44219 Airport Rd., California

1:30 - 6:00 PM

Sixty exhibitors showcase their products and services. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, May 9

Golf Tournament

Breton Bay Golf & Country Club, 21935 Society Hill Rd, Leonardtown

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Scramble-style tournament to benefit St. John's School. \$125 person. \$500 foursome. Food and beverages included. \$30 cheat packages (mulligans, throw and string). Sara McAloon: sara.mcaloon@yahoo.com, 717-491-4044.

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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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Contact 301-373-4215 for further information

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