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# St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2019

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# Rescued!

# CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS 3  
 COPS & COURTS 8  
 COMMUNITY 11  
 FEATURE 15  
 EDUCATION 18  
 SPORTS 22  
 FUN & GAMES 23  
 OBITUARIES 24  
 SENIOR CALENDAR 27  
 LIBRARY CALENDAR 27  
 COMMUNITY CALENDAR 28  
 BUSINESS DIRECTORY 30  
 CLASSIFIEDS 31

## ON THE COVER 3

Amanda Eller, a Mechanicsville native, was rescued after being lost in a Maui forest for 17 days. Javier Cantellops, pictured, was one of her rescuers.



## LOCAL 5

The replica Maryland Dove currently anchored at Historic St. Mary's City will be replaced with a new, more historically accurate rendition; construction begins June 1 on the Eastern Shore



## COMMUNITY 11

St. Mary's County salutes the fallen on Memorial Day

## FEATURE 15

Seniors have one last hurrah at Project Graduation

**“IT’S OUR WAY OF SAYING:  
 ‘WELCOME TO ADULTHOOD.’”**

COUNTY PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
 KELSEY BUSH ON PROJECT GRADUATION

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Mon 6/3	Tue 6/4	Wed 6/5	Thu 6/6
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# St. Mary's Native In Good Spirits After Jungle Rescue



Amanda Eller, center, with family and friends. Photo credit: Sarah Haynes

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Family and friends of a St. Mary's woman rescued last week from a jungle ravine in Hawaii after a 17-day ordeal are overwhelmed with joy and relief to see her alive and doing remarkably well considering her fight to survive.

Amanda Eller, a former St. Mary's resident who moved to Hawaii four years ago to become a yoga instructor and physical therapist went missing May 8 while on a hike in the Makawao Forest Reserve and triggered a search by hundreds of volunteers that never let up.

"Everyone's ecstatic she made it home alive," said Jessica Eller, Amanda's sister-in-law. "And she's doing very well."

A helicopter search crew found her in a ravine late last week and flew her to safety; Amanda had fallen down the ravine and had lost her shoes during the ordeal.

"She's still recovering," Jessica Eller said, adding that she had spoken with Amanda via the Internet the day after her rescue. "We just talked about how happy we were to see her face again."

Jessica Eller said her sister-in-law had suffered through a terrible trial, but prevailed.

"It doesn't sound like fun, that's for sure," Jessica Eller said. "It's a story of survival."

Jessica Eller believed that once Amanda had recovered, she might make a trip home to St. Mary's County.

"I'm sure when she's feeling up to it she will come back to Maryland to say 'hi' and thank everyone," Jessica Eller said.

Two weeks ago, just days after Amanda's disappearance, hundreds of supporters gathered at the Leonardtown Wharf to encourage the searchers to continue their efforts; a GoFundMe page dedicated to keeping the search going raised more than \$70,000 to help buy supplies for hikers, tracker dogs and helicopters to continually fly over Maui.

Amanda and her family answered questions at a press conference May 28 in Maui; she described the ordeal as a spiritual experience but one that left her near the brink of total despair.

She described maintaining a hopeful spirit for the first 14 days but her hope started to fade at that point; she described seeing search helicopters passing overhead and trying to wave them down but

they kept going.

"You lose hope," Amanda, 35, said at the televised press conference. "How am I going to stay warm, how am I going to stay alive?"

She said she slept many different places, including a boar's den, to stay warm each night.



Location where Amanda was found and rescued. Photo credit: Javier Cantellops

She knew that could be dangerous, but she said she never felt truly alone during her crisis.

"It was an opportunity to overcome fear of everything," Amanda said. "I chose life. I was guided."

She also said the continued media coverage of her disappearance helped fuel the search for her.

"Without this, I could've been dropped off," Amanda said. "They could've just forgotten about me, another missing person no big deal."

This week Amanda was able to attend a celebration in her honor in Hawaii; seated in a wheelchair she expressed her gratitude to her many friends who refused to give up on her.

"I'm just a girl who got lost in the woods," Amanda said in the video recording of the party. "And you guys showed a big heart... I mean this is true Aloha."

Just after her rescue, speaking in a video made from her hospital bed, Amanda said she had just experienced the greatest ordeal in her life.

"The last 17 days have been the toughest of my entire life," said Amanda.

Amanda Eller is a Mechanicsville native and a graduate of Chopticon High School.

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## Construction of New Dove Begins Next Month

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The current Maryland Dove moored at Historic St. Mary's City, a replica of one of two ships which sailed from England and arrived here in 1634, is aging and not especially accurate in a historical sense.

Ship builders on the Eastern Shore, with the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, are about to change that.

On June 1 the construction of the new Maryland Dove begins with the laying of the vessel's keel at the maritime museum located in St. Michaels.

William Gates, captain of the vessel anchored in local waters, said the new ship will be sleeker, lighter and more maneuverable than its current iteration; more like the actual Dove that would have accompanied the Ark on its voyage to the New World in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

What's more, the current Dove has serious structural integrity issues.

"The vessel is at 41 years old now," Gates told The County Times. "And... we've been discovering issues with rot in some of the chambers."

For some time now, going back more than 10 years, repair crews have had to deal with rot in the stem and stern posts of the vessel and have found cracks in the keel.

The current ship has undergone several refits, with old wood being replaced but problems persist.

"We're safe at least for the [Chesapeake] bay," Gates said. "We're talking about the backbone of the ship."

The current Dove is 42 tons but the new replica will be somewhat lighter, Gates said, and have only two masts.

The current Dove has three, he said.

The Ark, which carried the colonists to St. Clements Island and then to the mainland was 400 tons, a vastly larger ship.

The Dove was to be used as a utility vessel for the colonists to explore inland waterways and make short trips.

"It was like the family SUV," Gates said.



The Maryland Dove

The new ship will be "more like what we believe the Dove to have been," Gates said. "We still have only scant evidence."

The new ship will be both more historically accurate, he said, but compliant with Coast Guard safety rules, it will also have diesel engines to allow it to run without wind.

This will make the ship much more available for educational tours to different parts of the state and able to take on passengers for fund raising.

The old vessel should still be seaworthy enough to last another two-to-three years, Gates said, at least long enough until they can take delivery of the new Dove in 2021.

The new vessel is expected to cost \$5 million in taxpayer funds.

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## Man Indicted For Murder in Crash That Killed Woman



Machiavelli Tyzhae Savoy

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

A Lexington Park man was indicted last week for second-degree murder, stemming from a March 3 crash he was alleged to have caused while eluding police in a high-speed chase.

Machiavelli Tyzhae Savoy, 21, faces additional charges of negligent manslaughter, criminally negligent manslaughter and manslaughter in the death of Carol Jean Anderson, 87, of Leonardtown.

Anderson succumbed to her injuries March 9.

On the day of the crash law enforcement officers located Savoy, operating a vehicle in the area of Midway Drive in Lexington Park. Savoy was wanted on numerous outstanding warrants, including illegally possessing and transporting a handgun. Officers attempted to take Savoy into custody, however Savoy refused to stop and a pursuit ensued, police reports stated. During the pursuit, Savoy lost control of the vehicle he was operating while negotiating a curve on Pegg Road. Savoy's vehicle crossed the centerline of the roadway, and was struck by Anderson's vehicle.

Both vehicles caught fire and both drivers had to be extracted; Anderson suffered burns to her left side.

Both Savoy and Anderson sustained serious injuries from the crash; sources close to the investigation said Savoy was not initially expected to live due to the severe injuries he suffered.

Police found that Savoy was in possession of a handgun once he had been pulled from the wreckage.

Last month a Circuit Court judge ordered that Savoy be taken to a state-run hospital for examination to determine if he was competent to stand trial.

"Defendants attorney states defendant has a traumatic brain injury," court records state. "The defendant having been given the opportunity to be heard, the court finds good cause to believe that the defendant may be incompetent to stand trial... as indicated by defense counsel."

A competency hearing has been set for Friday in Circuit Court in Leonardtown, court records show.

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# J2 Defense Brings Realism to Firearms Training

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

J2 Defense, a newly opened gun shop in Prince Frederick, is the only federally licensed storefront gun dealer in Calvert County, but they offer much more than firearms sales.

They have the ability to bring firearms training to civilians that was available almost exclusively to law enforcement and military personnel.

"We are a full service FFL dealer," said Jennifer Cromwell, a former Army medic and law enforcement officer in Virginia, and one of the partners operating J2 Defense. "And we offer state of the art training on the MILO system and UTM ranges.

"All of our experience combined is more than 100 years."

The training cadre at J2 includes an NRA instructor, a former Prince George's County police officer, and a U.S. Army Green Beret among several other highly qualified instructors, Cromwell said.

Former St. Mary's County Commissioner Dan Morris is also a partner; he served in the Prince George's department and is a Vietnam Veteran.

But what sets J2 Defense apart is the training spaces they have; the MILO system essentially uses computer-generated scenarios shown on a projector screen using live actors that can be programmed to respond to the actions, or inactions, of the trainee.

Trainees use life-like handguns and long guns that emit infrared "shots" that register as hits or misses on the screen.

The computer then tallies the performance of the individual "shooter" through various tactical scenarios the

likes of which a law enforcement officer or soldier might have to confront; the scenarios include hostage rescue, dealing with a charging, knife wielding aggressor or stopping school and church massacres by one or more gunmen armed with pistols all the way up to automatic rifles.

The scenarios instill not only marksmanship skills but also proper tactics and discernment between hostile targets and innocent civilians.

The MILO system even allows the trainee to use verbal de-escalation techniques to avoid shooting altogether.

John Mountjoy, a key partner and trainer, said this is often the most desirable outcome.

"This is about good citizens being able to defend themselves," Mountjoy told The County Times.

The MILO simulator also allows trainees to practice qualifying for a Maryland concealed carry permit through a pre-programmed course of fire; in another room at the training facility, things get even more intense.

In the second room trainees can use real firearms that shoot UTM munitions, downloaded from real ammunition but still launching a projectile that requires those being shot at to wear protective gear, that allow them to experience an even more realistic combative experience.

The opposing force inside the training room fires what are called "battlefield blanks" that create a level of noise close to that of real rounds being discharged.

The trainee feels a level of stress approaching that of real rounds being fired at them; they must find a way to deal with threats and solve tactical problems.

Trainees at J2 can also receive instruction in other weapons, including how to deal with knives, sticks and other melee weapons.

Cromwell said the response from members of the com-



Jennifer Cromwell, partner at J2 Defense, runs through an active shooter scenario on the MILO system

munity and even law enforcement officers who have taken part in the simulations has been strong.

"You feel like you're right in the middle of things," she said. "There are over 900 scenarios on the system."

Mountjoy said average citizens with little to no firearms training who went through the simulations began to realize how difficult and stressful the situations confronting law officers could be.

"When they go through it a lot of them say: 'I didn't have time to make a decision,'" Mountjoy said. "I say to them: 'Well now you know what a police officer goes through.'"

But it isn't all life and death scenarios; there are plenty of programs where teams of trainees can shoot down hordes of zombies or even clay pigeons and balloons.

It helps keep the mood light and instill the idea that shooting can be a fun, family activity.

"We have shooting games for kids to play," Mountjoy said. "And we're all about teaching gun safety."

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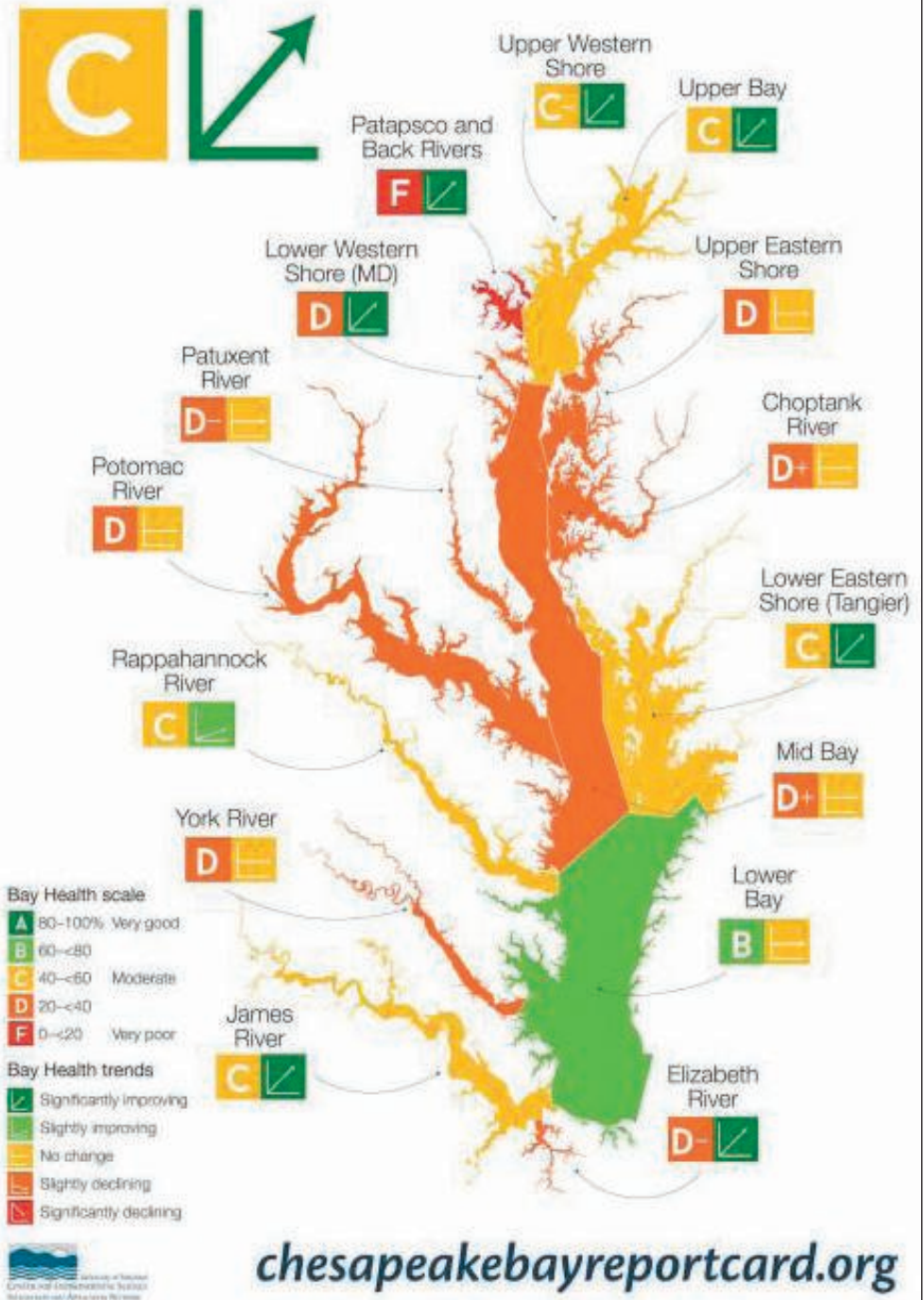


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## Bay Health Falters From Heavy Rainfall

2018 Bay health is moderate overall



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The University of Maryland’s Center for Environmental Science says the health of the Chesapeake Bay continues to gradually improve but had a set back this past year due to extremely heavy amounts of rainfall.

According to the latest report, the Baltimore area received 72 inches of rainfall, or approximately 175 percent of its normal amount.

“While 2018 was a difficult year for Chesapeake [Bay] health due to high rainfall, we are seeing trends that the bay is still significantly improving over time,” said Bill Dennison, vice president for Science Application at the university’s environmental center. “This is encouraging because the bay is showing resilience to climate change.”

The bay’s health received a grade of 46 percent, or a “C” average, with other indicators of health such as water clarity, the abundance of underwater grass and dissolved oxygen in the water declining in 2018.

The heavy rains, the report stated, caused

a great deal of nutrient runoff from soils surrounding the waterways.

These nutrients, such as nitrogen, fed the growth of algae blooms in the bay, which can be toxic to marine life, including crabs, oysters and fish.

Despite the recent decline in bay health, scientists are optimistic, saying that the overall health status of the bay has either improved or remained steady in certain areas since 2014.

“The bay is in fact showing resilience in the face of climate change and extreme weather events, underlining that the restoration efforts must remain vigilant to continue these hard-won efforts,” said Peter Goodwin, the environmental center’s president in a prepared statement.

To help improve the overall health of the bay, scientists say individuals can reduce their use of fertilizers, carpooling to replace individual commuting or using public transportation.

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## Chaptico Homicide Under Investigation



On May 26, 2019, at approximately 11:20 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 35800 block of Bay Drive in Chaptico, for the reported stabbing. Responding officers located the victim, later identified as Michael Ross Bethea, age 47 of Washington, D.C. suffering from a stab wound. Lifesaving measures were attempted by responding officers and emergency personnel, however Bethea was pronounced deceased on the scene. Detectives from the Criminal Investigations Division responded to the scene and continued the investigation.

Capt. Edward Willenborg, commander of the Criminal Investigations Division of the sheriff's office, said law officers have a suspect in the case but no one has been charged.

"There probably will be an arrest," Willenborg said. "But the suspect was also hospitalized."

As of Wednesday morning the sus-

pect in the case was still in the hospital, Willenborg said.

Preliminary investigation determined the victim was involved in a family dispute, and was subsequently stabbed outside the residence. The circumstances surrounding the incident are still under investigation. Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Skyler LeFave at (301) 475-4200 extension \*1983 or by email at Skyler.LeFave@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.

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

## DUI Checkpoint Leads to Arrests



Saturday, May 25, 2019, at 10:45 p.m., Troopers from the Maryland State Police, Leonardtown Barrack assisted by the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office conducted a Sobriety Checkpoint on southbound Maryland Route 235 (Three Notch Road) at First Colony Boulevard, California,

The Southern Maryland chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) were also on location to represent victims of DUI collisions.

The checkpoint was completed at 12:22 a.m. During this operation, a to-

tal of 573 vehicles passed through the checkpoint. Eight vehicles were directed to the side of the road for further testing, resulting in three individuals being arrested for driving under the influence. One individual was arrested for possession of a controlled dangerous substance - not marijuana, one individual arrested for possession of marijuana in an amount of more than 10 grams and one individual was issued a civil citation for possession of marijuana in an amount less than 10 grams.

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FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO BRIDGET EILEEN HALL

In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-FM-19-000417  
Notice (Adult) (DOM REL 61)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which he/she seeks to change his/her name from Bridget Hall Johnson to Bridget Eileen Hall. The petitioner is seeking a name change because:  
Divorce.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 4th day of July, 2019. The objection must be supported by an affidavit and served upon the Petitioner in accordance with Maryland Rule 1-321. Failure to file an objection or affidavit within the time allowed may result in a judgment by default or the granting of the relief sought.

Debra J. Burch,  
Clerk of Court for  
St. Mary's County Maryland

May 30, 2019 \_\_\_\_\_



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

**Disorderly Conduct-** On May 10, 2019, Cpl. Handy responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills road in Lexington Park for the reported disturbance. The victim advised two individuals were in the area banging on the business windows and harassing customers for money. Upon arrival, **Justin Antoine Parker, 29** of Great Mills, was observed on scene creating a disturbance. Parker was told multiple times to vacate the area, however he continued to scream and cause a disturbance. Parker was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct. CASE# 27341-19



**Drug Arrest/DUI-** On May 11, 2019, Dep. Wimberly responded to the 39800 block of Big Chestnut Road in Clements for the reported suspicious vehicle. Upon arrival contact was made with the vehicle operator **David Patrick Nickerson, 18** of Leonardtown. Located in Nickerson's vehicle was a grinder with marijuana residue, suspected Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) wax, and a CDS smoking device. Nickerson displayed signs of impairment was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and



made with the victim who advised **Matthew Joseph Hatcher, 33** of Mechanicsville, assaulted her and then barricaded the hotel room door not allowing her to leave. Hatcher also broke the victim's cellphone. Rycyzyn observed the furniture in the room moved to barricade the door, and the victim's broken phone. Hatcher was arrested and charged with False Imprisonment, Assault 2nd Degree, and

Attempting to Drive While Impaired by Controlled Dangerous Substances. CASE# 27533-19

**Assault/False Imprisonment-** On May 11, 2019, Dep. Rycyzyn responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, for the reported barricade. Contact was



Malicious Destruction of Property. CASE# 27368-19

**Home Invasion/Burglary-** On May 12, 2019, Dep. Fenwick responded to the 45900 block of Great Mills Court in Lexington Park, for the reported disturbance. Investigation determined **Keith Sebastian Brown, 29** of Lexington Park, shattered the victim's window, and damaged window blinds trying to force his way into the residence. Brown ultimately pushed the victim out of the way and entered the residence through the front door, and began to actively assault the second victim. Brown punched and strangled the second victim, and was on scene assaulting the victim when officers arrived. Brown was arrested and charged with Home Invasion, Burglary 3rd Degree, two counts of Assault 2nd Degree, and Malicious Destruction of Property. CASE# 27688-19



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# St. Mary's Remembers the Fallen



Color Guards from the American Legion, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and Sons of Confederate Veterans salute the fallen on Memorial Day



Skip Disharoon, Commander of the Ridge American Legion Post, lays a wreath for fallen veterans on Memorial Day

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## St. Mary's County Arts Council Offers Scholarships to High School Seniors

The St. Mary's County Arts Council will present a \$1,000 award to four graduating seniors in St. Mary's County. The Arts Council has established these awards to recognize, encourage, and support individuals who demonstrate excellence and a high level of interest in any of the following categories: Visual, Performing (vocals, instrumental, or dance), or Theater Arts.

To be eligible for this award, a candidate must be a resident of St. Mary's County, be a currently enrolled senior

in a St. Mary's County public or private high school, or a senior in a home-schooled setting.

A completed application must be filed with the St. Mary's County Arts Council no later than Friday June 14, 2019 at 4 PM. Applications and requirements may be found at [www.stmarysartscouncil.com](http://www.stmarysartscouncil.com)

Questions regarding the application or the application process should be directed to Nell Elder at 240-309-4061 or [info@smcart.org](mailto:info@smcart.org)

## Nuclear Power Plant Sirens to be Tested

There will be a full-cycle test of the alert and notification sirens throughout St. Mary's, Calvert and Dorchester counties on Monday, June 3 at noon.

This includes a three-minute activation of all sirens within the 10-mile area around Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant. All citizens are asked to remember the scheduled testing and relay the information to friends, family and neighbors.

The testing is conducted to check siren operation and increase public awareness of the alert and notification siren

system. If the sirens sound at any other time, residents should tune to one of the local radio stations for information and instructions.

Knowing what to do before, during and after an emergency is a critical part of being prepared and may make all the difference, when seconds count.

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## SMECO Seeks Authorization for Public EV Charging Equipment

Co-op proposes to install charging stations at local governmental facilities

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) has submitted a filing with the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) requesting authorization to install up to 60 electric vehicle charging stations throughout the cooperative's service area over a five-year pilot period.

SMECO plans to work with state, municipal, and local government entities to determine the locations for public electric vehicle (EV) chargers, which

will include Level 2 chargers and Direct Current Fast Chargers. According to SMECO, the cooperative has already received great interest in EV charging stations from local governments seeking to provide stations for public use. The cooperative plans to develop an application and a method of determining the most suitable locations for the chargers. An important consideration is the existing infrastructure already in place. SMECO anticipates starting the pilot in 2020.

## State Troopers Looking for Job Candidates

The Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack will be holding a recruiting job fair on Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 10 am to 2 pm. The event will be held at the Leonardtown Barrack, 23200 Leonard Hall Drive, Leonardtown, MD 20650. You will be able to speak with the local barrack recruiters, learn about

career opportunities within the Maryland State Police and complete an initial application. Anyone interested in a career in law enforcement is urged to come out and talk to our recruiters. Anyone with questions can contact the Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack at 301-475-8955.



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# Is Your Dental Office Safe?

Untreated waterlines in the dental office can affect your health.

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 chair-side 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 operator 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 Sterisil'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 EPA's recommendation of less than 500 colony forming units (CFU) per milliliter (ml).

Sterisil'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.

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# Patuxent River Native Serves Half A World Away

Airman Bradley Morgan, a native of Patuxent River, wanted to serve in the military as his father and grandfather did before him. He thought it was his duty to serve. He joined the Navy also to travel and see the world.

Now, two years later and half a world away, Morgan serves aboard one of the Navy's most advanced amphibious ships at Fleet Activities Sasebo, patrolling one of the world's busiest maritime regions as part of U.S. 7th Fleet.

"It's great that I've been able to meet people from all over the country and all over the world, from different cultures and backgrounds," said Morgan.

Morgan, a 2016 graduate of Chopticon High School, is an aviation support equipment technician aboard the forward-deployed amphibious assault ship USS Wasp in Sasebo, Japan.

"I'm in charge of over one thousand pieces of equipment that support all the aircraft on the ship during fight operations," said Morgan.

Morgan credits some success in the Navy to lessons learned in Patuxent River.

"My father and grandfather taught me that if you want anything in life you have to work hard for it, nothing is handed to you," said Morgan.

U.S. 7th Fleet spans more than 124 million square kilometers, stretching from the International Date Line to the India/Pakistan border; and from the Kuril Islands in the North to the Antarctic in the South. U.S. 7th Fleet's area of operations encompasses 36 maritime countries and 50 percent of the world's population with between 50-70 U.S. ships and submarines, 140 aircraft, and

approximately 20,000 sailors.

"Being deployed here is awesome, just to experience other countries is an opportunity not a lot of people get to do," said Morgan.

With more than 50 percent of the world's shipping tonnage and a third of the world's crude oil passing through the region, the United States has historic and enduring interests in this part of the world. The Navy's presence in Sasebo is part of that long-standing commitment.

"The Navy is forward-deployed to provide security and strengthen relationships in a free and open Indo-Pacific. It's not just the ships and aircraft that have shown up to prevent conflict and promote peace," said Vice Adm. Phil Sawyer, commander, U.S. 7th Fleet. "It is, and will continue to be our people who define the role our Navy plays around the world. People who've made a choice, and have the will and strength of character to make a difference."

Wasp, one of the Navy's most advanced amphibious ships, is designed to deliver Marines and their equipment where they are needed to support a variety of missions ranging from amphibious assaults to humanitarian relief efforts.

Sailors' jobs are highly varied aboard USS Wasp. More than 1,000 men and women make up the ship's crew, which keeps all parts of the ship running smoothly, from handling weapons to maintaining the engines. An additional 1,200 Marines can be embarked. USS Wasp is capable of transporting Marines and landing them where they are needed using helicopters, vertical take-off and landing aircraft and other water-



Photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer Gary Ward

to-shore landing craft.

These ships support missions from sea to shore, special operations and other warfare missions. They also serve as secondary aviation platforms. Because of their inherent capabilities, these ships have been and will continue to be called upon to support humanitarian and other contingency missions on short notice, according to Navy officials.

Serving in the Navy means Morgan is part of a world that is taking on new importance in America's focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

A key element of the Navy the nation needs is tied to the fact that America is a maritime nation, and that the nation's prosperity is tied to the ability to operate freely on the world's oceans. More than 70 percent of the Earth's surface is covered by water; 80 percent of the world's population lives close to a coast; and 90 percent of all global trade by volume travels by sea.

"Our priorities center on people, capabilities and processes, and will be

achieved by our focus on speed, value, results and partnerships," said Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer. "Readiness, lethality and modernization are the requirements driving these priorities."

There are many ways for sailors to earn a distinction in their command, community, and career. Morgan is most proud of being selected for Blue Jacket of the Quarter from his department for the quality of work he has provided.

"I was selected for Blue Jacket of the Quarter which was my biggest accomplishment so far," said Morgan.

As a member of one of the U.S. Navy's most relied upon assets, Morgan and other sailors know they are part of a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes, contributing to the Navy the nation needs.

"I feel like I'm a part of a greater cause," said Morgan. "It means that people back home can have freedoms to do what they want to do. It's a great honor to be able to serve for my country."

*By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Robert Zahn, Navy Office of Community Outreach*

## Pet OF THE WEEK

### MEET BABY KITTY

Hi there, my name is Baby Kitty and I'm a solid gent, weighing in at about 15 pounds of AMERICAN MADE, GRADE A, ORGANIC, GLUTEN FREE, FREE RANGE feline! I'm 10 years young which is a good age if you want to be past all the kitten shenanigans and just get a CALM, RELAXED cat! I've gotten along with the other CATS in my house, I'm pals with DOGS, and I even like KIDS (babies included). I'm every cat owner's DEAREST WISH. I may be initially nervous of new people, but once I get to know you all I want is to LOVE YOU. It's time to give TCAS a call and BE MY MIRACLE! When you adopt from TCAS you are literally saving a life.

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**TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

# Project Graduation Moving Into Its 35th Year



Seniors from St. Mary's Ryken High School and King's Christian Academy enjoy one last night with the classmates at Project Graduation at the Patuxent River NAS drill hall; away from alcohol and drugs.

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The staff from across county agencies, volunteers and service groups who sponsor Project Graduation say that in the past 34 years there has not been one high school graduate arrested for drugs or alcohol charges since the project's inception.

They are aiming for the same success rate this year; the program brings in high school graduates from across the county to the Patuxent River Naval Air Station's drill hall for a night of fun games and activities and fellowship with their classmates.

Each high school graduating class gets a night of its own at the drill hall; all they have to do is sign up for the program and get their parent's permission.

It's all about showing them the good and keeping them from the bad, namely drugs and alcohol, said the program's coordinator Kelsey Bush.

Before 1984, when the program first started, there had been some high profile fatal car crashes and injuries, Bush said, all involving alcohol.

The State's Attorney's Office, in cooperation with other groups, wanted to find a way to put a stop to that.

It apparently worked, Bush told The County Times. "There haven't been any instances of that kind during graduation week," Bush said, knocking on the wooden



conference table before him. "It's that carrot that kids look forward to for graduation.

"Part of that is it's the last time together as a class."

Best of all, the graduates who attend do so at no cost to them.

The money is raised entirely by the State's Attorney's Office.

Bush said the model in St. Mary's County is unique as elsewhere students often have to pay.

"Students here get this all for free," Bush said.

It takes as much as \$83,000 a year to fund all four nights of Project Graduation, Bush said.

The activities available to attendees include sports available at the drill hall, bowling, swimming and outside trailers provided by an amusements vendor for on-line video gaming and the other acts as a mobile escape room.

Sheriff's deputies, Maryland State Troopers and agents from other law enforcement groups join in as chaperones; members of the 7th District Optimist Club provide food through the night and breakfast in the morning.

Bush remembers when the project first got started; his brother wanted to attend and had to ask his parents for permission; they were concerned when they got a letter from the State's Attorney's Office informing them of the program.

They were unsure of just what their eldest son was going to attend.

"He had to convince them to let him go," Bush said of his brother, a member of the first class to attend Project Graduation. "It was unprecedented; it was a change in mindset."

Two of the people who were among the original guiding forces behind Project Graduation, former Assistant State's Attorney Joe Mattingly, Jr. and Florence Ballengee, operations manager for then-State's Attorney Walter Dorsey, said the idea came from efforts to achieve the same results in Maine.

"There had been so many fatalities on graduation night in Maine," Ballengee said of the impetus to start the program there. "He [Dorsey] said 'I want to do that here.'"

"Make it happen."

Ballengee and Mattingly, who was working in District Court at the time on drunk driving cases, set to work.

But they didn't just plan a huge graduation party for seniors free of drugs and alcohol, they instituted an educational program complete with speakers, both law enforcement and those who had to deal with the conse-



quences of drunk and drugged driving, talking to students about the importance of avoiding alcohol.

"We considered that most important," Ballengee said.

Both Ballengee and Mattingly said they believed there was, and is still today, a certain level of permissiveness regarding giving alcohol to minors, particularly upon graduation from high school.

"Their parents generation was such that alcohol was such a part of their socialization," Ballengee said of St. Mary's circa 1984.

Mattingly could see a rising problem in the court system involving young people and alcohol.

"We saw more young people coming into court with drug problems, with alcohol problems," said Mattingly.

The educational program leading up to the first Project Graduation took a gentle, but provocative, approach to showing young people the dangers of alcohol and driving.

"He didn't hammer it," Ballengee said. "If you try to hammer things home to kids they won't listen. We showed them pictures of wrecked cars."

The speakers included people convicted of driving under the influence as well as defendants who had killed someone else due to their own drunk driving.

All their work, organization and reaching out to students, especially through law enforcement officers about the consequences of drunk driving, paid off.

School system and contract bus drivers volunteered to shuttle seniors on base, police officers volunteered to act as chaperones and the Optimist Clubs, whose motto is "Friends of Youth" catered the event.

"If it weren't for the Optimist Clubs, it never would have gotten off the ground," Mattingly said.

Mattingly also volunteered to drive a bus on base, he said.

He even works as a substitute bus driver today, he said.

More than a few parents told him in the early days of Project Graduation that they were relieved to know there graduates were in good hands.

"They would say to me: 'They're coming home late, but we can go to sleep tonight knowing they'll be OK,'" Mattingly said.

Looking back on the longevity of their success involving Project Graduation, both Ballengee and Mattingly have a real sense of accomplishment, they said.

"It's some of the best work we've done," said Mattingly.

Each class of the public high schools brings in between 400 to 450 graduates Bush said, while St. Mary's Ryken and King's Christian Academy share a night with about 190 graduates between the two private schools.

Bush said the energy level volunteers exhibit each year, for four successive days, is what helps send the message about all the fun to be had at Project Graduation for the coming senior class.

"It's become part of our culture," Bush said. "It's withstood the test of time."

"It's our way of saying: 'Welcome to adulthood.'"

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# First Friday

In Downtown Leonardtown

## JUNE 7 • 5PM-8PM

### Check out the First Friday Specials

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL**  
22660 WASHINGTON ST.  
240-309-4061

The audience participation Drum Circle featuring the SoMar Drummers will be from 8-9 PM, bring your own percussion instruments or use ours! All skill levels and ages are welcome to attend, stay the whole time or just for a portion of it. This is a free event open to all. (note-no Art Share Series this month due as most of our staff members will be attending the MD Arts Summit event, Art Share will continue in July).



**NORTH END GALLERY**  
41652 FENWICK ST.  
301-475-3130

Beautiful Swimmer @ NEG June 2019

North End Gallery joins the fun at Leonardtown's First Friday Crab Fest with its new exhibit entitled "Beautiful Swimmer" aka the Chesapeake Blue Crab. Local member artists created art that reflects not only blue crabs but our Chesapeake region's diversity. The results are a new collection of oil & acrylic paintings, watercolors, photography, fused glass, claywork, woodwork, and jewelry that are uniquely Chesapeake influenced. This exhibit runs June 4-30, 2019.



The First Friday Reception is June 7 from 5-8 pm. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited to meet the artists and learn more about their work. All visitors to North End Gallery are invited to submit their names for the monthly art prize.

**THE GOOD EARTH**  
41675 PARK AVE  
301-475-1630

This month, instead of featuring a smoothie, The Good Earth will offer a Vegan Crab(less) Dip! This delicious treat is made with jackfruit and features the locally owned T-Rev's Original Chesapeake Bay Mix! This healthy spin on a Southern Maryland classic will be available for purchase in our grab and go cooler for \$6.99!



The creator of this awesome seafood seasoning, Trevor, is local to the county and will be at the Shepherds Old Field Market for June First Friday!

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Karen Janowsky will be signing copies of books The Persistence of Memory Trilogy from 5-7PM on Friday, June 7th.



The Persistence of Memory Trilogy- Karen Janowsky has loved superheroes and ancient mythology since the first time she saw the Super Friends on television in 1970's. Because flying an invisible jet was never a viable career option, and because running around in a cape, swimsuit, and bright red boots is not socially acceptable for adults, she teaches yoga and writing at the College of Southern Maryland. Her stories and poems have been featured in several anthologies and literary magazines since 1991. She received her master's degree in English from Florida State University.

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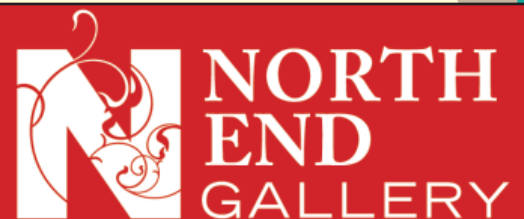
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 Jasmine Elizabeth Berry  
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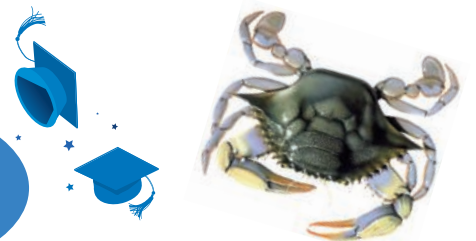
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 Gabriel Nathaniel Bailey  
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 Olivya KayLaun Ballard  
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 Matthew Jerrell Bankston  
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 Troyele Michelle Barnes  
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 Lance Edward Bird  
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 Jasmine Kristina Blackstone  
 Kennedy Elizabeth Blackwell  
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 Ruth Nohemy Bolanos Ceron  
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 Ranita Annie Bolden  
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 Marquis Stone Branson  
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 Darrian Brent Britto

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 Qwanisha Octavia Butler  
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 Darius Nathaniel Byrd  
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 Evan Jacob Ray  
 Sean Patrick Reilly  
 Joseph Donovan Reppel  
 Tahera Monique Rhamdeow  
 Cameron Da'Shaun Rhodes  
 Christian Ke-Shon Rhodes  
 Mia Laurel Rhoton  
 Madysen Grace Richardson  
 Brianna Renee Ridgell  
 Da'Nayja Emani Riley  
 Sarah Grace Roberts  
 Dasani Ceone Robinson  
 Jacelle Arianna Robinson  
 Siara Janisse Rodriguez Gonzalez  
 Sharize Marie Roper  
 Brett Patrick Rothman  
 Mea Quianna Rothwell  
 Shadana Arie Rothwell  
 Trevon Devonte Rouse  
 Azaria Jade Rubio  
 Alison Marie Russell  
 Colin Elliott Russell  
 Elizabeth Maria Sanders  
 Dartanyen Rodell Saunders  
 Justin Craig Schmitt  
 Elayna Jane Schotter  
 Sloane Emerson Schwartz  
 Caroline Emily Schwartzenburg  
 Whitney Sally Scriber  
 Connor James Shaffer  
 Ashley Marie Shea  
 Anthony Thomas Shorter  
 Maya Elizabeth Sidorovich  
 Alonzo Simmons III  
 Emma Katherine Simpson  
 Kyle Everett Simpson  
 Antonise Shynae Smith  
 Destiny Amber Smith

Josiah Owen Smith  
 Morgan Tayler Snedaker  
 Emma Montgomery Soehl  
 Faith Ann Sollberger  
 Jadon Bernard Somerville  
 Malik Allen Somerville  
 Tommy Ken Son  
 Tyliek Anthony Spence  
 Hannah Sara Marie Spencer  
 Isabella Maria Stephens  
 Davon Na'Trell Stewart  
 Shyrion Tenee Stewart  
 Clinton Stonewall IV  
 Jordan Philip Swann  
 Jillian Marie Tawney  
 Nico Jerome Nathaniel Taylor  
 Christopher Winfield Thomas, Jr.  
 Roshiaa Armani Thomas  
 Tiana Jenai Thomas  
 Merci Symora Thompson  
 Clifford John Paragas Toledo  
 Michael Emery Tomor  
 Jada Marie Toombs  
 Justin Erik Torgesen  
 Jacy Brice Torres Ponce  
 Victoria Lauren Trevino  
 Amanda Trujillo Castro  
 Shatoya Rosetta Tyler  
 Robert Anthony Umana  
 Daniel Aaron Uncangco  
 Erik Francis Van Brunt  
 Cameron Theodore Vickers  
 John Richard Voorhaar  
 Christian Dimitri Wagner  
 Cole Robert Roy Wahrenbrock III  
 Katrina Marie Walcutt  
 Faith Elizabeth Warren  
 Jordon Matthew Wathen  
 Tamia Ta Jae Waul  
 Makyia Dawn Weasenforth  
 Brian Walter Weers  
 Jathaniel Doniel Whitaker  
 Alana Marie White  
 Phyllis Ann White  
 Sean Patrick White  
 Cameron Allan Willey  
 Kaleb Michael Williams  
 La-Tiona Nakee Williams  
 Ta'Shonda Katina Williams  
 Teshara Nicole Williams  
 Malia Ayanna Wills  
 Cheyenne Marie Wisor  
 Bradley Robert Wohlfarth  
 Emmanuel Ralph Wordsworth  
 Quentin Lee Yokley  
 Nytassijah Dupree Young  
 Tyasiha Shiera Young  
 Nicholas Ryan Zhou

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# A View From The BLEACHERS Expiration Date

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

In mid-October 2012, a piece titled "Consolation Prize" appeared in this column. That dusty old "View" lamented painful season-ending Game 5 ALDS and NLDS playoff losses, on the same awful day, by the Baltimore Orioles and Washington Nationals.

The agony of the defeats was offset by a strong, pre-loaded tonic of hope for the once hopeless. In 2012, baseball in Washington D.C. and Baltimore emerged from absolute and seemingly never-ending darkness. Prior to that magical summer, the Nationals hadn't had a single winning season since arriving in the nation's capital in 2005 and the Orioles, lost in the post-Cal Ripken Jr. desert of suffering, hadn't won more than 79 games since 1997. More importantly, with talented cores and the in-season call-ups of young phenoms Bryce Harper and Manny Machado, 2012 felt like the cusp of a winning era for the Nats and O's, one that would include regular postseason appearances and maybe even a beltway World Series.

That promising future was the "Consolation Prize" for losing on that October night in 2012. Fast-forward seven years and the sunny forecast proved to be fool's gold, a vicious tease of a euphoric state never realized. Yes, the teams combined for six playoff appearances between 2012 and 2016, but neither ever advanced to the World Series. In Monopoly terms, it was not quite like going to jail, but area baseball fans passed Go without collecting \$200 (in other words, no league pennants, no World Series championships...thanks for trying).

Now the hope of October 2012 - that feeling that we were on to something big, that future summers would be a blast and the falls would be victorious champagne showers - is gone. In its place is the depressing spring of 2019. Much has changed in seven years. Machado plays for the San Diego Padres and Harper is in Philly. There are still some familiar faces on both teams, but not nearly enough. As of this writing, the Orioles have the worst record in baseball and the Nationals, who have the MLB's worst bullpen and regularly display fundamentals befitting the Bad News Bears, are well below .500 and in fourth in the NL East. The teams have won just 38 games combined, which is just a few more than several division leaders. Both teams just...stink. The boys of summer have been slayed by an abominable spring. Worst yet, with the Orioles' glaring talent void and the Nats' fatal flaws, it would be exceedingly difficult for even the most brazen optimist to find hope for improvement anytime soon.

Where for art thou, 2012? Gone to the ether. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. There were signs this was coming - aging stars like Ryan Zimmerman, jet-tisoned free agents like Nick Markakis and the predictable departures of Harper and Machado - but it feels like the wheels fell off in a flash. Contention now seems years away for either club. The only lame consolation prize from this abysmal situation is higher draft picks and cheap tickets at half-filled (if that) stadiums.

There might be another: To embrace this wild ride and the precious impermanence of any moment. So when the Nats' bullpen blows another win or the O's give up more homers to the Yankees, pause to enjoy your favorite meal. Watch Crash Davis's b.s.-defying, conviction-fueled, waste-no-time "I believe" speech from "Bull Durham". Pour a beer and watch the ascending bubbles cascade northward to form an inviting, foamy head. Hug your kids. Pet your dog. Kiss your spouse. Read, and re-read this quote from Hunter S. Thompson: "Let us toast to animal pleasures, to escapism, to unemployment insurance and library cards, to absinthe and good-hearted landlords, to music and warm bodies and contraceptives, and to the 'good life', whatever it is and wherever it happens to be." Enjoy your work family. Listen to Baz Luhrmann's "Sunscreen". Appreciate the passive or not-so-passive "help" and judgment from your mother-in-law. Do it all with greater feeling and with the knowledge that nothing lasts for long - not pleasure, not pain, not life itself, and certainly not winning (or losing) baseball. Everything has an expiration date.

Send comments to [RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com](mailto:RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com)

## Lathroum Breaks Through for Potomac Late Model Win Bowie and Arnold Take Crate/E-Mod Victories



Jamie Lathroum drove to his first win of the season in last Sunday night's 35-lap Late Model feature at Potomac Speedway. The win for Lathroum, worth \$2500, came aboard his Sommey and Ruth Ann Lacey owned Rocket no.45 and would mark his first track win since the 2017 season.

Lathroum clearly had the car to beat as he shot from the pole to lead all 35-circuits to score his 15th career win with the Late Models and overall 63rd career feature win at Potomac. "I almost forgot how to get here it's seems so long since we last won here." Lathroum stated post race. "The track rubbered up and I knew if I held my line we'd be ok, and I'm happy to get everybody on this team a win." Dale Hollidge, Daryl Hills, Andy Anderson and Steven Axtell Jr. would round out the top-five.

Ben Bowie, like Lathroum in the Late Models, shot from the pole to lead wire to wire of the companion 20-lap RUSH Crate Late Model main. "I knew I had to get to the front first if we had a chance to win." Said Bowie after his 8th career division feature win. "I'm glad the race ended when it did, because the brake pedal went to the floor driving to victory lane." Current point leader Darren Alvey was second with Logan Roberson, Dale Hollidge and Levi Crowl completing the top-five.

After scoring a win at Virginia Motor Speedway the night prior, Chris Arnold took top honors in the 20-lap Mid-Atlantic Modified headliner. Arnold took the lead from Cody Oliver on the 11th lap and went on to score his 4th career Potomac feature win. "I started my racing career here at Potomac and it's great to be back in victory lane." Arnold said in his post race interview. "I just want to thank all the fans that came out tonight, I hope we put on a good show." Cody Oliver, Josh Hughes, Brad Kling and Joey Polevoy would trail at the finish.

In support class action Mike Grady Jr. made his first start of the season a good one as he would score his first career Potomac win in the 16-lap Street Stock feature and 15 year old rookie Justin Knight drove to his 2nd win of the season in the 15-lap U-Car event.

### Late Model feature finish

1. Jamie Lathroum 2. Dale Hollidge 3. Daryl Hills 4. Andy Anderson 5. Steven Axtell Jr. 6. David Dill 7. Brandon Long 8. James Snead 9. Brent Bordeaux 10. Paul Cursey

### RUSH Crate Late Model feature finish

1. Ben Bowie 2. Darren Alvey 3. Logan Roberson 4. Dale Hollidge 5. Levi Crowl 6. Brad Rigdon 7. Jeremy Pilkerton 8. Kyle Lear 9. Brandon Sturgis 10. Chuck Bowie 11. Austin Bussler 12. Harry Shipe III 13. Mike Raleigh 14. Mike Wharton 15. Donnie Tepper 16. Carl Vaughn 17. Timmy Booth 18. Mike Franklin 19. Megan Mann 20. Jonathan Raley 21. Trevor Collins 22. Joe Pete

### E-Mod feature finish

1. Chris Arnold 2. Cody Oliver 3. Josh Hughes 4. Brad Kling 5. Joey Polevoy 6. Justin Cullum 7. James Sparks 8. Cody Williams 9. Ray Kable 10. Rusty Pennington 11. Mike Corbin 12. Haley Kaiser 13. Jacob Whitt 14. David Green 15. Keith Reed 16. Kyle Lloyd 17. Jerry Foster 18. George Gutridge 19. Rick Hulson 20. Francis Jarrelle 21. Andy Bosley

### Street Stock feature finish

1. Mike Grady Jr. 2. Kyle Nelson 3. Craig Parrill 4. Dylan Rutherford 5. Matt Randall 6. Deuce Wright 7. Marty Hanbury 8. Buddy Dunagan 9. Kyle Randall 10. Ed Pope Jr.

### U-Car feature finish

1. Justin Knight 2. Ben Pirner 3. Allen Griffith Jr. 4. Cody Stamp 5. Tim Steele 6. Ryan Quade 7. Billy Smith 8. Joey Suite 9. Randy Wilkins 10. Owen Lacey 11. T Windsor 12. Mackenzie Smith 13. Larry Lamb 14. T Grinder 15. Stephen Suite 16. Dominic King 17. Steph Homberg

By Doug Watson for Potomac Speedway

# Fun & GAMES

## Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann  
Contributing Writer



### Distracted by Genealogy

I am in my downsizing mood again and trying to give away or sell as many things as possible. There are family photos I have from my aunt's and uncles' families that I need to disperse to their rightful



homes. In doing research on my wanderlustful paternal grandfather Warren Harley Lee (the one who was still married to my grandmother - his first wife from 1926, leaving her in 1930 with three sons under 4, while marrying several other wives up through the 1980s) I found that there could be money and properties in his name, though it could be his eldest (also wanderlustful) son's name as well. My uncle went by Harley though instead of Warren. I'll be sending all that paperwork to my cousin Laura, one of Uncle Harley's surviving daughters, in Arkansas for her to sort through. On a side note, why is Arkansas pronounced Arkansaw, while Kansas is pronounced like it is spelled? How can anyone learn our language?

Also included in Laura's package will be copies of all our grandfather's information I have been given by one of our Kentucky cousins, who literally wrote the book on the Coffey and Lee clans from Ireland and England and their progression through the United States with the Boones and the Lincolns. Very interesting reading. My Uncle Harley is the one who got me started on the family history when I was very young. And I am still fascinated with all the history from the last of the wealthy Lee's in England, who apparently lost any money the family hoped to have, and was also drawn and quartered to make things final, to the Coffey's who started out in Ireland with castles and titles, and ended up in a Hatfield vs. McCoy type feud over which brother held the original name rights to the town of Coffeyville, Kansas. The feud still goes on today, which is why we have two Coffey family books: known as the green book and the yellow book. The name Coffeyville, Kansas was named after Col. James A. Coffey according

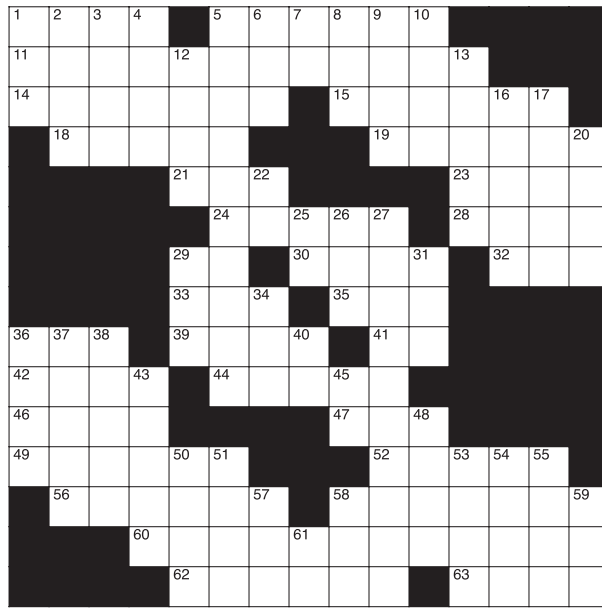
to the yellow book. Coffey helped establish Coffeyville in 1869. The green book version is that Asberry Coffey, a third cousin to Col. James A. Coffey, also made claim to the founding of Coffeyville. The yellow book States that "this is not true and is rather absurd." And so on...

One of the many places my grandfather Warren lived was Versailles, Kentucky. My first husband and I visited there in 1985 after my grandfather Warren died to see the property that was left to my father and his two brothers and attend the Coffey reunion. We were quickly corrected at the Versailles gas station that Versailles was not pronounced like the famous French landmark as *Versigh* but was pronounced just like it looked. Seems like there were a few places we visited in Kentucky like that.

We are supposed to go to Kentucky in a few weeks for the retirement of our former priest. The last time we were there was 8 years ago when we went for his installation as priest to the Episcopal church in Frankfurt. Time really does fly doesn't it? Last time we did make time to visit some of my relatives and got a nice tour of the town museum in Monticello, and that is Monticello with a "c" not a "ch" sound. I'm hoping to visit some Kentucky relatives again this trip, and in fact, our former priest and I found that we are related as well through a generation or so back grandmother. I have found that I am related to most all of Kentucky and half of VA, NC, TS, KS, and IN. Well, we might be related too...Hi Cousin!!!

To each new day's adventure,  
Shelby

Please send your comments or ideas to: [shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com](mailto:shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com) or find me on Facebook (with a message please)



#### CLUES ACROSS

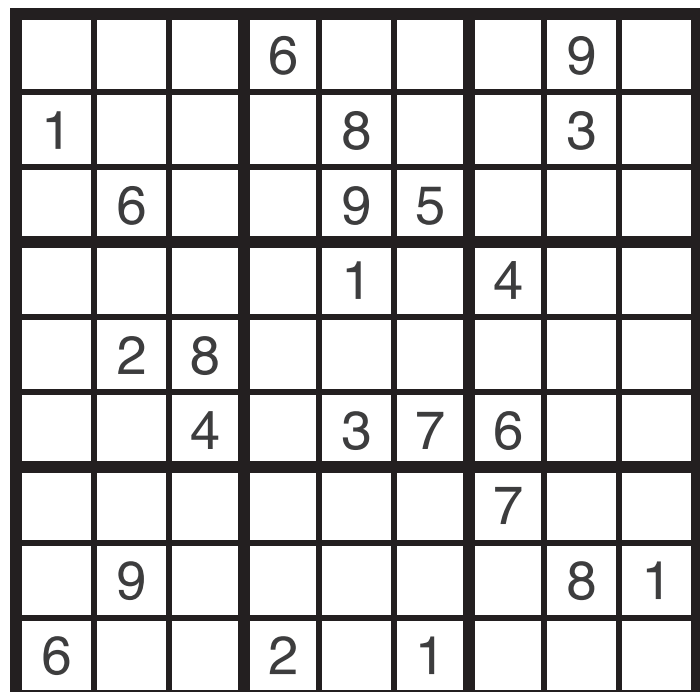
- 1. Partially burn
- 5. Mind
- 11. Those who build again
- 14. Small chapel
- 15. Hot fluids
- 18. Makes beer
- 19. It can be done
- 21. Take to court
- 23. Line the roof of
- 24. Middle Eastern peoples
- 28. Longtime film critic
- 29. University of Dayton
- 30. Coat with plaster
- 32. Wife
- 33. Famed NY opera house
- 35. Health insurance
- 36. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 39. Longtime London Europe Society chairman

- 41. Pa's partner
- 42. Lump of semiliquid substance
- 44. Grasslike plant
- 46. Large, wild ox
- 47. Make a mistake
- 49. A type of light
- 52. Books
- 56. Bothers
- 58. Two-colored
- 60. December 25
- 62. Save
- 63. Bangladeshi money

#### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Research exec (abbr.)
- 2. Famed jazz musician Alpert
- 3. Sixth month of the Jewish calendar
- 4. Network of nerves
- 5. Those who convince
- 6. Slick

- 7. Hello (slang)
- 8. Cost per mile
- 9. A type of honcho
- 10. Consequently
- 12. Couples say them aloud
- 13. Sharp slap
- 16. On a line at right angles
- 17. More guileful
- 20. Chipotle founder
- 22. Trauma center
- 25. Commercial
- 26. "\_\_\_ humbug!"
- 27. Relaxing period
- 29. Calls balls and strikes
- 31. Decorative scarf
- 34. Korean family name
- 36. Antagonizes
- 37. Buenos Aires capital La \_\_\_
- 38. Exhibit grief
- 40. Gadolinium
- 43. Half-tamed horse (slang)
- 45. American conglomerate
- 48. Cape near Lisbon
- 50. Quantum physics pioneer
- 51. Medieval England circuit court
- 53. To the highest degree
- 54. Spanish city
- 55. Saturate
- 57. Female sibling
- 58. British thermal unit
- 59. Scandinavian wool rug
- 61. Sports highlight show (abbr.)



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 29

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](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net) after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

## In Remembrance

### Robert Owen Siebenmark



Robert Owen Siebenmark, 79 of Scotland MD passed away May 25th, 2019 at his home surrounded by family.

Robert, known to all as Bob was born November 7th, 1939 in Peoria Illinois to the late

Robert and Esther Siebenmark.

Arriving in Southern Md in January 1974 to join his family who arrived in December 1973 and assigned to NAS PAX River Bob eventually retired in 1979 from the US Navy after 21 years of service as a Chief Engineer on the P-2V, P-3C and C121 Super Constellation where he served numerous detachments both overseas and stateside. After retirement Bob and his family stayed in Southern Maryland where he worked for Dyncorp at PAX River for another 20 years eventually retiring as the Group Supervisor.

During his retirement years Bob enjoyed his time puttering around on his John Deere tractor and taking care of the yard. An avid Washington Redskins and NASCAR fan, Bob was parked in his recliner never to miss a game or a race. He was a family man who enjoyed his children and grand children and time spent together making memories. Bob was truly blessed by God.

In addition to his parents, Robert and Esther, he was preceded in death by his younger sister Susie.

Bob is survived by his wife, companion and best friend of 57 years Claudia, his two children Bobby (Debbie) Siebenmark of Longs, SC and Wendy Lee-Mattingly (Mike) of Valley Lee, MD, 5 grand daughters Kristen Norton (Chris) of Dameron, MD; Kayla Siebenmark (Kevin) of California, MD; Shanon Lee (David) of Great Mills, MD; Holly Siebenmark (Jake) of California, MD and Robyn Lee of California, MD. Additionally, Bob is survived by his two sisters Carol Miller (Pete) of Tremont, Ill and Beth Long (Tom) of Columbus, In.

Bob will be cremated, and his family will be planning a celebration of his life in the next few months at his home with family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad or Hospice.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Doris Elizabeth Bean

Doris Elizabeth Bean, 70, of California, MD passed away at her home on May 23, 2019. She was born on March 1, 1949 in Leonardtown, MD and was the loving daughter of the late Mary Mildred Stone

Adams and Joseph Vernon Stone. Doris was the loving wife of John Louis Bean whom she married on May 16, 1970 in Leonardtown, MD. Doris is survived by her children John V. Bean (Jenny) of California, MD, Mary E. Purcell (Tommy) of Drayden, MD, 3 grandchildren Kayla Purcell, Sarah Bean and Hannah Purcell, siblings: Jimmy Stone (Dotty), Charles Stone (Bertie), Jean Nelson (George) and Linda Oliver (Jimmy). She was preceded in death by her siblings Jack Stone, Barbara Logan, Shirley Forsythe, and John Stone. She was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from Chopticon High School in 1967. Doris worked for the Department of Navy as a Competency Administrator for 30 years, retiring on September 30, 2006 at the age of 57.



Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. Leonardtown, MD.

### Robert L. Harned



Robert L. Harned (Bob), 70, of Confluence, PA passed away on May 22, 2019 in Mechanicsville, MD. Born on January 29, 1949 in Confluence, PA, he was the loving son of the late Eva Nicolo

Harned and Robert E. Harned. Bob leaves in loving memory Christine L. Waters. Bob is survived by his children Nancy Stewart (Steve) of Manassas, VA, Bryan Harned of Mechanicsville, MD, Steve Waters (Tara) of Mechanicsville, MD, and 3 grandchildren. Along with his siblings Shirley DeVore, and Gloria Johnson (Harry). He graduated from Turkeyfoot High School in 1966. Bob graduated from California State in 1970 with a Bachelors in Science in Education. He moved from California, Pa to St. Mary's County, MD. Bob was a teacher for the St. Mary's County Board of Education, and taught at Margaret Brent School. After 34 years of teaching, he retired in 2004.

In his early years of teaching, Bob was an instructor for the Maryland Safety Youth Hunter program. Bob was a member of the NRA, NWTF. He enjoyed Hunting, watching Steeler football, and attending Penn State football games. He was known as Pop-Pop to Collin Coyne, Caleb and Charlie Waters. He especially loved picking Caleb and Charlie up from pre-school and taking them to Dairy Queen for ice cream sundaes.

Contributions may be made to Hollywood Vol. Rescue Squad P.O. Box 79 Hollywood, MD 20636 and Mechanicsville Vol. Rescue Squad P.O. Box 15 Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

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

town, MD.

### Kristin Elizabeth Boswell



Kristin Elizabeth Boswell, age 30 of California, Maryland, died May 19, 2019 at her residence.

Kristin was a homemaker, a member of Patuxent Baptist Church on Chancellor's Run Road in St.

Mary's County, and a graduate of Lackey High School. She also worked at B&J Carryout in Accokeek, Maryland, Tribble's, and Ledo's Restaurant in Lexington Park, Maryland. She loved music, baking, cooking, and sewing. She enjoyed following the Red Sox baseball team and video games.

She was the daughter of Daniel Presnell and Tina Donaldson Wilson.

In addition to her father, she is also survived by her husband, Jason S. Boswell; her step-father, Wayne Wilson; her sons, Jacob M. Boswell and John S. Boswell; her daughter, Daphne J. Boswell; her grandmother, Cecelia Presnell; her step-grandmother, Dorothy Wilson; and her brother, Timothy Daniel Presnell.

Memorial contributions for her children's education fund.

### Frederick Anthony Tepel III



Frederick Anthony "Rick" Tepel III, 49 of Hollywood, Maryland, died tragically on May 18, 2019 after a private plane crashed into the ocean shortly after taking off from the island of Roatan

on the Honduran coast. He and his best friend Tony Dubler and two work colleagues were on their way to a fly fishing excursion in Guanaja.

Left to honor and remember Rick are Paula Gallant Tepel; his children Jackson and Carley; his sister Amy Tepel (husband Boko); his step-father Thomas Daugherty (wife Helen); his step-mother Jeanne M. Tepel; and numerous family members and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents Frederick Anthony "Fritz" Tepel, Jr. and Timmerman "Timmie" Daugherty and his grandparents Jack and Kay Daugherty.

Rick was born on April 28, 1970 in Baltimore, Maryland. Rick was a 1988 graduate of St. Mary's Ryken High School. He received his Bachelor's degree in American Studies from Drew University in Madison, NJ.

In the early stages of Rick's career, Tom and Katie Watts were influential in fostering his growth as a local business owner and leader in giving back to his community. Rick capitalized on his opportunity with J. Frank Raley Insurance by further developing his insurance career when the business grew and evolved into Raley, Watts & Associates (RWA), which was followed



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by a rebrand as Raley, Watts & O'Neill (RWO). His ambition for the growth of the company led to the acquisition of RWO by the Hilb Group in March of 2016. At the time of his death, Rick was serving as Regional Leader of the Mid-Atlantic for The Hilb Group and CEO of RWO.

In addition to serving on several insurance company agency councils, Rick was on the Board of Directors for MedStar St. Mary's Hospital as well as the Philanthropy Committee. Additionally, he donated his time to the Board of Trustees for Historic Sotterley and the Board of Trustees for the Cremona Foundation. He also served for 10 years on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern MD and is also a former member of the Foundation Board for the College of Southern Maryland.

Rick was completely dedicated to attending every one of his kids' hockey, lacrosse or soccer games; he didn't want to miss a moment of their lives. Most recently, Rick became immersed in playing pickleball with his friends whenever he could get his "crew" on the court. He enjoyed sharing his love of growing up in Southern Maryland and all that it has to offer with his children, family and close friends. He loved being at home playing sports with his kids, enjoying life on the water, reading and eating crabs whenever he could. Rick was passionate about live music and would travel far and wide to attend concerts of his favorite bands.

He will forever be remembered for his infectious laugh, his generosity, and his ability to be the life of any party. For all of these unique qualities, he was cherished by a far-reaching network of friends and family.

At his request, a service will not be held. A celebration of Rick's life will take place on June 22 at Sotterley Plantation; the family will receive friends and community members between 3:00 and 7:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to MedStar St. Mary's Hospital Philanthropy Scholarship Fund at <http://www.giving.medstarhealth.org/imotepel> or St. Mary's Youth Cultural Exchange c/o Cedar Point Federal Credit Union, 22745 Maple Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

### Barbara Jean Buckler



Barbara Jean Buckler, 73, of Leonardtown, MD departed this life on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at the Hospice House in Callaway, MD surrounded by her loving family.

Barbara was born January 18, 1946 in Leonardtown, MD. She was the loving daughter of the late Virginia Elizabeth (Farrell) Ryce and Everard Guy Ryce. She grew up in St. Mary's County along with her fourteen (14) siblings.

Barbara married the love her life, Richard Buckler, Sr., in 1965. Together they celebrated over 45 years of marriage until his passing on December 11, 2009.

Barbara was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend to all that she knew. She enjoyed her job as a school bus driver and retired in 2008. After she retired, Barbara enjoyed jigsaw puzzles, crocheting, Sudoku puzzles and spending

time with her family. Barbara was a wonderful woman who loved her family.

She is survived by her two loving children, Tracy Cusic and Richard Buckler, Jr.; six grandchildren, Richard Pilkerton, Dawn Buckler, Kayla Buckler, Kristina Clarke, Heather Cusic, and Dallas Buckler. She is also survived her seven great-grandchildren, Devin, Shane, Grace, Christopher, Sadie, Jayden, and Nyomi. Along with her parents, Barbara is preceded in death by her husband, Richard Buckler, Sr., her daughter Tammy Thompson and her grandchild, Derrick Buckler.

Family and friends are invited to Barbara's Life Celebration on Thursday, May 30, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. with a funeral service at 10:00 a.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. Interment will follow immediately at Trinity Memorial Gardens, 3221 Mattawoman Beantown Road, Waldorf, MD 20601.

Serving as pallbearers will be Dennis Johnson, Guy Clarke, Christopher Pinkney, Joseph Gant, Gary Butler and Jimmy Thompson.

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

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

### Joshua Ryan Hosier



Joshua Ryan Hosier, of Mechanicsville, MD departed this life on Thursday, May 23, 2019 after a courageous battle with respiratory failure.

He was born April 17, 1983 in Washington, D.C.

He is the son of the Edward Charles Hosier of Mechanicsville, MD and the late Victoria Lee (Myers) Hosier.

Josh was a caring father who loved his son, Drake. When he wasn't with his son, Josh could be found playing on his X-Box. Josh was a man who loved a good debate. He would do his best to convince you that you were wrong; after all he was "always right". He enjoyed rooting for his beloved Washington Redskins and could be found during every game proudly sporting the Burgundy and Gold.

Josh was an employee for the Local Union #10 working as an elevator mechanic. He enjoyed his job and the many friends and co-workers he was honored to work with over the years. Josh was a caring and kind man. He will be missed by many, but none as much as his family.

As a young man, Josh enjoyed spending time outdoors. He was an avid football and baseball player. He and his brother, Wayne, loved to spend an afternoon fishing. Josh was an adventurous and spirited man who was the life of the party when he would head to Ocean City, Maryland for a long weekend with his close friends. The stories of his antics will live on in our memories.

Along with his father, he is survived by his son, Drake Ryan Hosier of Great Mills, MD. He is also survived by his brother, Wayne Edward Hosier of Mechanicsville, MD; aunts, uncles and cousins. Josh was

preceded in death by his mother, Victoria Hosier.

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

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

### JoAnn Keller Koegel



JoAnn Keller Koegel, 91, of Valley Lee, MD passed away on May 23, 2019 at the Hospice House of St. Mary's with her family by her side.

JoAnn was born on November 24, 1927 in Corydon,

Indiana to the late Joseph L. Keller and Margaret Aileen Sheler Keller. Raised with her sister Susannah "Susie" Keller Markel, JoAnn moved to Virginia to attend finishing school, where she met the love of her life, Jack Koegel.

JoAnn married her loving husband, Jack, on September 30, 1949. They spent 61 years together before his passing on June 9, 2010. A thrifty homemaker who loved to cook, JoAnn spent several years using her cooking and social skills serving with Riverwind Receipts (Kate Meatyard), Tall Timbers Marina, Bob Taylor, and Laughing Pickle (Shana Schroeder) Caterers.

A very charismatic woman, JoAnn loved to socialize and was loved by many. She considered no one a stranger, and could easily determine a "friend of a friend" connection between her and her new friend within minutes of meeting. Her sassy personality and wit kept us laughing, waiting in anticipation for "what was to come next," and brightened our lives.

She was a member of various organizations: the 2nd District Fire Department Auxiliary, St. George's Episcopal Church Alter Guild, Women's Bowling League, Book Mobile, Ladies Bridge Group, and was a volunteer at Little Flower School.

A Memorial Service will be held on May 31, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., at St. George's Episcopal Church, 19167 Poplar Hill Lane, Valley Lee, MD 20692. Interment is private.

JoAnn is survived by her children, William "Bill" Koegel (Emori), of Fort Myers, FL, Julie Alberts (Gary), of Valley Lee, MD, and JoAnn "Jody" Koegel, of Valley Lee, MD. She leaves ten grandchildren: Stephanie Boyd, Gary Jason Alberts, Amy McLean, Jennifer Alberts, Heather Tennyson, Elizabeth Bourdeau, Kory Koegel, Megan Koegel, Mark Ledvinka, and Hannah Johnson as well as 20 great grandchildren in Maryland and Wisconsin. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Koegel, and her sister, Susie Markel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or St. George's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 30, Valley Lee, MD 20692.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

### Elizabeth Ann Knight Templeton



Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Knight Templeton, 90, of California, MD passed away on May 20, 2019 at Hospice House of St. Mary's in Callaway, MD.

Betty was born on December 25, 1928 in Ballston,

VA to the late Charles Carroll Knight and Josephine Rose Gregg Knight, then moved to Forestville, MD and graduated from Anacostia High School in Washington D.C. She was married to the late Nicholas Farbizio, Jr. and then the late Thomas S. Templeton.

Betty lived in this area for over 76 years and was a very active participant with her senior center in Southern Maryland. Betty enjoyed traveling, playing bridge and entering her paintings in art competitions. She enjoyed living on the water, boating, crabbing and waterskiing. Her family was her greatest pride and joy, and she enjoyed spending as much time as possible with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One of her favorite things to say was, "I am very blessed."

She is survived by her children, Kenneth Farbizio, James Farbizio, Gregg Farbizio and Terri Farbizio, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, her sisters Rosemary Ward, Jane Knight, and her nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her brother Carroll Knight.

A mass to celebrate her life will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Solomons, MD. The family requests that in lieu of sending flowers please make donations in support of Hospice House of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A. in Leonardtown, MD.

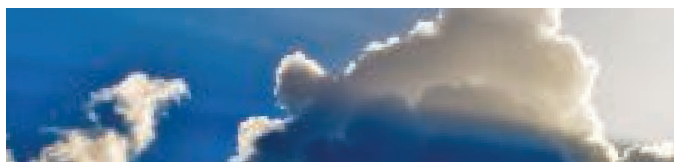
### Robert Joseph Blanchard



Robert Joseph Blanchard, "Bob", 87, of Drayden, MD formerly from Lexington Park, MD passed away on May 22, 2019 at his home. He was born on January 10, 1932 in New Orleans, LA and was the

son of the late Enola Boudreaux Blanchard and Theophile Blanchard. Bob is survived by his children Barbara A. Boettger (Roger) of Mansfield, TX, Gloria M. Roberts (Mike) of Drayden, MD 7 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and his sister Gloria B. Abadie (Billy) of New Orleans, LA. He was preceded in death by his sister Viola Mae Abadie.

Bob graduated from Redemptorist High School in 1950. He moved to St. Mary's County, MD in 1982. Bob was a Receiving Manager for Giant Open Air Markets. He served in the United States Navy from 1950 to 1970. While serving the United States



Navy served in the Korean and Vietnam War and earned the National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Quemoy), United Nations Service Medal and Good Conduct Fourth Award.

In addition, he was a member of the Fleet Reserve, and St. Mary's County Softball Hall of Fame. Bob enjoyed softball, crabbing, playing cards, watching baseball, and football (New Orleans Saints or Dallas Cowboys). He loved being with family and cooking crabs at family get togethers.

A Graveside Service will be held on Monday, June 17, 2019 at 10:15 AM in the Maryland Veterans Cemetery Cheltenham, MD. Pallbearers will be Keith Boettger, Robert Boettger, Brittany Bodnar, Billy Bodnar, Adam Bodnar and Mike Roberts. Honorary Pallbearers will be Blake Brady, Brice Bodnar, Riley Boettger, Trent Brady, Brylin Bodnar, Braden Chambers, Liam Boettger, Benjamin Boettger and Michaela Boettger.

### Nancy Irene Newell Quade



Nancy Irene Newell Quade, 86, of Oraville, MD died May 22nd, 2019 at her residence. Born December 31, 1932 in Lake Forest Illinois, she was the daughter of Blake Sylvester Newell and Frances Flora Marshall Newell. As a small child, her family relocated to Oraville, MD where they owned and operated the General Store and Post Office. Nancy graduated from Margaret Brent High School at age 16 in 1949. Nancy married the love of her life Martin Allen Quade on August 18, 1951 at

the Hollywood Methodist Church in Hollywood, Maryland.

Nancy was a devoted Wife, Mother and Homemaker. She was the phone receptionist for Martin Quade's carburetor rebuild business which was operated out of their home behind the Old Oraville Post Office. Nancy loved to work cross word puzzles. She enjoyed listening to blue grass or country music -- local or TV. She enjoyed the annual family outing when the leaves were changing in October each year on the drive to and from and along Skyline Drive, Virginia.

Predeceased by her parents Blake and Frances Newell and husband, Martin Allen Quade, she is survived by her eight children who all reside in Southern Maryland: Barbara Morgan (Wayne) of Oakville, Debbie Russell (Donald) of Oakville, Michael Allen Quade (Pam) of Prince Frederick, Jeffrey Guy Quade of Oraville, Wayne Anthony "Tony" Quade of Oraville, Laurie Askins (Joe) of Hollywood, Donna Bellflower of Mechanicsville and Gregory Martin Quade (Pam) also of Mechanicsville. Nancy is also survived by her youngest sister Nora June Newell of Paul Smiths N.Y. Her predeceased sisters were Joyce Newell Burch of Oakville, Joan Newell Long of Sandgates and Mae Gail Newell Martin of Upstate N.Y.; She is survived by 16 Grandchildren and 21 Great Grandchildren. Predeceased Grandchildren were Tony Kovacs and Eric Askins.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

## HOW TO HANDLE INHERITED IRAs

Do you have an IRA you expect to leave to your children or do you expect to receive an inherited IRA? How you handle the IRA you inherit is critical to saving on taxes. Mistakes are common when handling IRAs and one wrong move and the entire IRA will be taxed rather than tax-deferred.

An IRA provides you with a long-term tax shelter. The money you contribute to the IRA is invested in mutual funds and the earnings on the money, dividends, interest and capital gains grow tax-deferred. With traditional IRAs, your heirs will owe income taxes when they take money out of the account. With Roth IRAs, you have already paid taxes on the money you contribute so your heirs will not owe income taxes when they take money out of the account.

There are two ages that you need to keep in mind about IRAs—59 ½ and 70 ½. Anyone who holds an IRA and is under age 59 ½, has to pay a 10% penalty if they take the money out the IRA. And, anyone who is at and over age 70 ½ must take a "minimum required distribution" of assets in the IRA account and pay tax on the amount distributed.

The best strategy for you and your heirs is to leave the money in the IRA and allow it to grow tax-deferred. But, what happens when someone dies and leaves you an IRA account?

Our first example deals with spouses. Spouses have an advantage with IRA accounts. John and Mary Doe are married and John has a traditional IRA account that he leaves to Mary as his beneficiary when he dies. John dies and Mary inherits the IRA. What should she do? Mary can cash out the IRA and pay income tax. She can choose to put John's IRA in her own name, she can keep the IRA in John's name and then re-title the IRA into her own name when she is over 59 ½, or she can disclaim the IRA entirely.

- Mary needs the money from the IRA and is willing to pay the income tax to access it. Mary can cash out John's IRA.
- If Mary doesn't need to access the money and she wants to keep the assets tax deferred for as long as possible, Mary should put the assets into her own name. This makes sense especially if John was over 70 ½ and had already started to take the minimum required distribution. If Mary is under 70 ½ and rolls the IRA into another IRA in her sole name, she will not have to take the minimum required distributions that John was taking until she reaches age 70 ½.
- If Mary is under age 59 ½ and needs to access the money from John's IRA, Mary should transfer the assets into an inherited IRA. The inherited IRA account should be re-titled as follows: "John Doe IRA (deceased April 1, 2015) for the benefit of Mary Doe, beneficiary. Mary will still control the IRA assets but they will not be in her sole name. They will remain in John's name as an inherited IRA. Because of that, Mary can withdraw assets from the IRA without penalty even when she is under age 59 ½ (because John was older than 59 ½ and the IRA is still in John's name). However, to take maximum advantage of the age rules, when Mary reaches 59 ½, she should again re-title the IRA again, this time to put it into her own name so that she doesn't have

to take a minimum distribution until she reaches age 70 ½.

- Suppose Mary doesn't need to rely on the minimum distributions from John's IRA to pay her living expenses. She can roll John's IRA into an IRA in her own name and then roll her own IRA into a Roth IRA. In a traditional IRA, contributions are made before taxes and income taxes are paid when you take the money out. In a Roth IRA, taxes are paid before the money is placed into the Roth IRA and no taxes are paid when you take the money out. Why would Mary want to convert her IRA into a Roth IRA? Keep in mind that Mary will have to pay income taxes on the amount she converts from a traditional IRA into a Roth IRA. However, if Mary doesn't need the money and wants to leave it to her child, for example, a Roth IRA will grow tax-advantaged and will be payable to her child tax free.
- "Disclaim" or "disclaim" the IRA. This means that Mary (who is the primary beneficiary of John's IRA) declines to inherit John's IRA. Instead, she lets the IRA go to the secondary or contingent beneficiary named by John, in this example Mary's child, David Doe. If the IRA assets pass to David Doe, who is much younger, the years of tax-deferred growth will substantially increase. David Doe will still have to take a required minimum distribution from John's IRA, but since he is younger the assets in the IRA will be allowed to grow tax-deferred much longer.

What if you are a child inheriting an IRA from a parent? You do not have the choice of rolling the money into an IRA in your own name. That benefit is just for spouses.

David Doe's choices are to cash out the IRA or to create an inherited IRA. He can cash out the IRA, in which case he must pay income tax on the entire IRA account and he will lose the ability of an IRA to accumulate assets tax-deferred. Or, he can choose to re-title the account as an inherited IRA, as follows: "Mary Doe IRA (deceased April 1, 2015) for the benefit of David Doe, beneficiary." Every year, David will be required to make a minimum withdrawal, but can take more if he wants. Withdrawals are taxed, the rest accumulates tax-deferred.

A 401(k) can be inherited and re-titled as an inherited IRA. If a parent leaves his or her IRA or 401(k) to multiple children, each child must re-title his or her portion as an inherited IRA.

The moral of this story is that dealing with IRA, Roth IRA, 401(k) and other retirement accounts after a person dies is tricky and you need to educate yourself on your choices so that you make a decision that is wise for yourself and your loved ones. In this case especially, you should check with a financial advisor as soon as possible after a death to ensure you are following the correct procedures no matter what you choose.

Join us for a discussion of this and other matters on the third Wednesday of each month at 11am at our office at 8906 Bay Avenue in North beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your seat. I look forward to seeing you.

By Lyn Striegel

*A Tribute to the Loved One  
Whose Memory Lives  
On Forever in Your Heart*

Honor the memory of your cherished one by sharing the story of their life with friends, neighbors and associates here in the community.

For details and to place your notice of remembrance, call 301-373-4125 for assistance.



**REMEMBRANCES**  
IN PRINT & ONLINE

**County Times**  
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## 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](http://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

### Annapolis by Land and by Sea

Spend a day in Annapolis discovering the historic district on Friday, June 14! Take a 2-hour walking tour that starts at the State House and goes downhill to the harbor. Then, enjoy a 90-minute cruise and a box lunch on the Severn River aboard a climate-controlled yacht.

The \$80 registration fee includes motor coach transportation, guided walking tour, boat ride, lunch and driver tip. Pre-registration required. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71063, to register. Bus leaves from the Garvey Senior Activity Center.

### Mamma Mia at Toby's Dinner Theater

The Department of Aging & Human Services will host a trip to Toby's Dinner Theater on Wednesday, Aug. 7 to see Mamma Mia. Fall in love with this feel good story of a mother, a daughter, and three possible dads! This delightful musical features the timeless hits by ABBA and is sure to have you dancing in the isles. The cost of this trip is \$98 and covers ticket to the show, lunch buffet, transportation on a spacious motor coach, driver gratuity, and snacks for the return trip. The bus will depart from the Garvey Senior Activity Center at 8 a.m. and the Northern Senior Activity Center at 8:45 a.m. and will return at approximately 5:15 p.m. to Northern and 5:45 p.m. to Garvey. Payment is due at sign up to secure your spot for the trip. Please let staff know at sign up if you need any seating or special accommodations. For more information contact Rachel Mowatt

by phone at 301-475-4200, ext. 73103 or by email at [rachel.mowatt@stmarysmd.com](mailto:rachel.mowatt@stmarysmd.com).

### Third Level Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

If you have taken Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention for beginners and level 2, you are invited to take the third level at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Mondays and Thursdays, 11 a.m., June 3 - 24. The class will start out with a review of all the movements from Beginner (Commencement) through the end of Level 2 (Push the Mountain). There is no need to sign up if you are in the current (Level 2) class, but if it's been a while since you've taken that level or if you've taken it elsewhere, please call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658.

### Balancing Act at Loffler Senior Activity Center

Balancing Act, a program developed and taught by Dave Scheible, is a four session workshop series that is ideal for anyone who has balance challenges. Class will be on Tuesdays during June and will be held at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. The basic exercises in this class are designed to improve stability and balance. Cost is \$25 for all four sessions and is payable to Dave on the first day of class. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658 to sign up or stop by the reception desk to sign up.

### AARP Safe Driver Course

The Garvey Senior Activity Center will be having an AARP Safe Driver Course

on Tuesday, June 4, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Topics covered in this course include, but are not limited to: roundabouts, pavement markings, stop-sign compliance, red-light running, and safety issues such as speeding, seatbelt and turn-signal use. The cost is \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-members, payable to AARP. Members must show their membership card to get the member rate. Advance sign up is required. Lunch is available at the Center; cost is \$6 for those under the age of 60 and a donation for those ages 60 and above. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050, to register for the class. Make lunch reservations when registering.

### Kickboxing

Come join us at the Garvey Senior Activity Center for a new session of Kickboxing on Wednesday, June 5-July 17, at 8:30 a.m. Kickboxing tones muscles through punching and kicking using focus pads and target pads and mitts. Participants may notice an improvement in overall balance and flexibility. The aerobic moves of kickboxing have been shown to improve circulation and it offers a great stress relief. This specialized class is geared towards active men and women ages fifty and above and has great energy without the high impact exercises that are done during a mainstream kickboxing class. The instructor, Geno Rothback, is a registered nurse, a senior fitness instructor, and is a black belt in Taekwondo and certified Martial Fusion and Kickboxing instructor. Cost is \$35 payable to Geno Rothback. Payment required at time of reservation. Call 301-

475-4200, ext. 71050, to learn more.

### Father's Day Rock-n-Roll Fun

Come get your groove on for Father's Day at the Northern Senior Activity Center with a luncheon and live performance on Friday, June 14, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Start off a hearty lunch of sliced turkey with gravy, baked potato with sour cream, carrots, applesauce, whole wheat bread and turtle cheesecake for dessert. Entertainment will be provided by the very talented Jimi Simon. Jimi showcases music from rock and rolls greatest stars and he will have you dancing in the aisles. This event will also feature door prizes and a money raffle collected at the door. Suggested donation for a ticket is \$6. Lunch to start at 11:30 a.m., the room will open for seating at 11 a.m. To sign up and pay in advance for your ticket, please visit the front desk. For more information regarding this event, please call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

### Summer Bocce Ball Schedule Change

Loffler Senior Activity Center will be hosting a summer season of Bocce Ball on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. However, all senior activity centers will be closed on June 13 for staff training, so the starting date for Summer Bocce at Loffler will be June 27. If you would like to be a part of it, call 301-737-5670, ext. 1658 to sign up or get more information. There is no cost to participate.



### Master Gardener Class:

#### Summertime and the Living is Easy

Leonardtown Library will hold a Master Gardener class: Summertime and the Living is Easy on Tuesday, June 11 from 2 - 3 p.m. Summertime should be easy, and gardening should be enjoyable. Master Gardeners will help make it that way. They will discuss dealing with nuisance wildlife, good bugs and bad bugs, getting your gardens through dry spells, and winning the battle over weeds. Registration required.

#### Lawyer in the Library

Lexington Park Library will host Lawyer in the Library on Wednesday, June 12 from 12 - 2 p.m. The Lawyer in the Library project provides FREE civil legal services in your community! No appointments necessary. Attendees will be helped on

a first-come, first-served basis. Please bring all relevant documents with you.

### TV Trivia Night

Lexington Park Library will hold TV Trivia Night on Thursday, June 13 from 6 - 7 p.m. Come test your knowledge of popular TV shows at team trivia night. This month's theme is sci-fi/fantasy. Ages 18 and up. No registration required.

### Happy Father's Day!

Leonardtown Library will hold a Happy Father's Day event on Saturday, June 15 from 10 - 11 a.m. Calling all dads, daddies, and papas! Join us for a special event where we'll read books, sing songs, and make crafts all about the special dads in our lives. Mamas, grandmas, aunties, uncles, and any other family member you can think of are also invited to attend with their kiddos! Designed for ages 2-5 with their caregivers. Registration required.

### Tickets for The Longest Table on sale now!

Join the St. Mary's County Library on Friday, June 21 at 6 p.m. for a community conversation over a family-style meal from Mission BBQ. Tickets are

\$10 and available for sale through the St. Mary's County Library website, [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). The event will be held at the St. Mary's County Government Center, on the front lawn near Miedzinski Park (23145 Leonard Hall Dr, Leonardtown, MD 20650). During the meal, participants will discuss how to Choose Civility in their everyday interactions. In the event of rain, dinner will be held inside the Leonard Hall Recreation Center. Share a meal and conversation with someone you don't know, exchange stories about life in St. Mary's County, and discover both common ground and new ideas. The conversation starts when you come to the table!

### First Time Home Buyers Seminar

Leonardtown Library will hold First Time Home Buyers Seminar on Saturday, June 8 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Are you tired of renting? Come join Samara Dinnius, with The Benya Group at Keller Williams, and Trey Reed, with MVB Mortgage, as they discuss everything you need to ask yourself before looking for your dream home. They will be explaining the multiple programs and grants available for first time Maryland home buyers and the steps necessary to get your credit ready for the process. Registration required on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

# Community Calendar

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

## UPCOMING

### CSM Kids' & Teen College

Designed for students ages 6 to 17 to explore their interests or learn new skills on a college campus. Registration includes comprehensive courses from guitar lessons to SAT/ACT prep. Ongoing programs run weekly from June 17 through August 16. College of Southern Maryland, all campuses. [www.csmd.edu/programs-courses/non-credit/youth-family-programs/kids-and-teen-college/](http://www.csmd.edu/programs-courses/non-credit/youth-family-programs/kids-and-teen-college/), 301-539-4760.

### Dinner & A Cruise

An evening of cruising on the St. Clement's Island Water Taxi, cocktail reception at St. Clement's Island Museum and delicious dinner at local waterside Morris Point Restaurant. The June 2 cruise is sold out. Tickets are available for cruises on August 11 and October 13. \$55 person. Twenty (20) person limit. Info and reservations: 301-769-2222

## Friday, May 31

### Queen of Hearts

*Brass Rail Sports Bar, Great Mills*

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Ticket sales for our weekly Queen of Hearts drawing begin at 4:00 and end at 6:50. Ticket \$1. The drawing will take place at 7:00. 50/50 tickets available. Dinner can be purchased between 5-7 pm or until sold out. Proceeds go to the Archangel Scholarship Foundation in support of St. Michael's School.

### Married & Alone Movie

*AMC Lexington Theater, 21882 FDR Blvd., Lexington Park*

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Married & Alone on Friday and Intimacy Anorexia on Friday, June 7th from 7-9 pm. Seats are limited. RSVP to [thomasweaver65@gmail.com](mailto:thomasweaver65@gmail.com) or message Michele Weaver. \$7.64 per person per movie. You will purchase your ticket at the theater the night of movies. This is a non-profit event with Faith Bible Church. You will want to see both! No children allowed.

## Saturday, June 1

### Community Yard Sale

*Charlotte Hall Center parking lot*  
7:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Calvary Chapel Southern MD. Spaces available for a donation of \$10; just show up or call the church 301-645-0660. Rain date: June 8

### Annual Car Show

*Mother Catherine Academy, 38833 Chaptico Road*  
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Open to all makes and models of cars, trucks and motorcycles. Trophies for top 30 and 5 specialty trophies. \$20 day of show. DJ, 50/50 raffle and vendors. Mark Muir, 240-925-1438 or e-mail at [owen9156@gmail.com](mailto:owen9156@gmail.com). Rain Date June 2.

### Green Living Festival & Market

*Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, Dowell Rd., Solomons*  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

A hands-on festival of learning, playing, and engaging with people of all ages and backgrounds with an interest in sustainable, healthy lifestyles. Local foods and spirits, homegrown entertainment. Recycled art projects and activities. Presentations and demonstrations share ways that plants, air, water, soil and energy sustain our homes, our health, and our planet. Free. 410-326-4640. [www.annmariegarden.org](http://www.annmariegarden.org)

### St. Clement's Island Heritage Day

*Point Breeze Road, Coltons Point*  
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

A day of history, wildlife and art. Activities include, games, lighthouse tours, traditional music and much more. Programs for the whole family on beautiful St. Clement's Island. Free water taxi to the island for all the festivities. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the pavilion or any of the tables dotting the island shore. Vendors will be on hand. Free. 301-769-2222

### Watermelon One-Act Festival

*St. Mary's College, Montgomery Fine Arts Center, Bruce Davis Theater*  
10:00 AM

16 original one-act plays written and performed by local and out-of-state artists. Audience members vote for their favorite and help a play move on to finals. Adjudication sessions start at 10 AM, 1 PM, 4 PM, and 8 PM and run about 2-3 hours. Finals start at 2 PM on Sunday and include a meal and a small awards ceremony. Info: [www.watermeloninc.org/host-schedule.html](http://www.watermeloninc.org/host-schedule.html)

### Drayden African American Schoolhouse

*18287 Cherryfield Road, Drayden*  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

One of the nation's best-preserved one-room African American schoolhouses. Visit this renovated schoolhouse and learn about its rich history and importance in St. Mary's County.

### Golf Tournament

*Wicomico Shores Golf Course, Aviation Yacht Club Road, Mechanicsville*  
11:30 AM - 3:30 PM

The Forrest Career & Technology Center is seeking golfers to participate in its 6th Annual Golf Tournament to help defray costs of student participation in SkillsUSA competitions. Registration \$75. Also seeking tournament sponsors. Email Mary Thompson at [mkthompson@smcps.org](mailto:mkthompson@smcps.org) or Bonnie Skinner at [bjskinner@smcps.org](mailto:bjskinner@smcps.org).

### International TableTop Day

*High Tide Games, 22599 MacArthur Blvd, Ste 126, California*  
12:00 - 8:00 PM

A day of boardgaming, Game Demo's, Door Prizes, Game sales. Make new friends and learn a new favorite boardgame!

### Open House

*Companion Care Veterinary Hospital, 27685 Three Notch Rd. Mechanicsville*  
2:00 - 5:00 PM

Pets are welcomed at our Open House. Behind the scene tours! Meet the doctors and staff. Petting Zoo. Other fun activities. Gifts, Raffles and Prizes.

### Kane Brown Performs LIVE

*PNC Waterside Pavilion, Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons*  
4:30 - 10:30 PM

Brown is joined by "To a T" singer Ryan Hurd, opening on the main stage at 7:30 p.m. and local rising star Jackson Dean on the side stage at 5:00 p.m. Food and beverage vendors. The museum closes 3:00. 410-326-2042. [calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://calvertmarinemuseum.com)

### Leonardtwn Summer Music Festival

*Leonardtwn Square, 22670 Washington Street*  
6:00 P- 8:00 PM

Presents: The Lucky Few. Bring a blanket or chair to enjoy this FREE, family-friendly concert. Order a Picnic from participating restaurants. [www.leonardtwnmusicfest.com](http://www.leonardtwnmusicfest.com)

## Sunday, June 2

### Annual Poker Run

*Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department*

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Register at 10:00, Ride leaves at 11:00, Last stop Mechanicsville Moose with music, chicken dinner, prizes, raffle and auction item. \$25 person. Sponsoring Southern Maryland Vacations for Vets. Susan 301-399-0013 or email [info@somdvac4vets.org](mailto:info@somdvac4vets.org)

### Environmental Stewardship Event

*St. Mary's County Fairgrounds, 42455 Fairgrounds Road, Leonardtown*  
10:00 AM 1:00 PM

Rain barrel and composting workshops for residents.

Workshop on shoreline health for waterfront property owners. 10am—Backyard Composting. 11am—Rain Barrel Workshop. 12pm—Shoreline Management Workshop.

Nicole Basenback at [nicoleb@umd.edu](mailto:nicoleb@umd.edu) or 301-475-4484.

# Southern Maryland Online

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

**Cancer Survivors' Picnic**

MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, 25500 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown  
1:00 - 3:30 PM

Enjoy lunch, entertainment, and inspirational speakers on the hospital's front lawn. Free. Rain or shine. 301-475-6070

**Dee of St. Mary's Public Sail**

Calvert Marine Museum Dock, Solomons  
2:30 - 4:30 PM

Leaving from the museum dock. \$25 for ages 13 and up, \$15 ages 5-12. No children under 5 please. Pre-registration is required: visit [bit.ly/DeeOfStMarysCruises](http://bit.ly/DeeOfStMarysCruises) to register.

**Leonardtown Summer Music Festival**

Leonardtown Wharf  
5:00 - 7:00 PM  
The Church of the Nazarene Concert. Bring a blanket or chair to enjoy this free, family-friendly concert. [www.leonardtownmusicfest.com](http://www.leonardtownmusicfest.com)

**Monday, June 3**

**Bible Study on the Gospel of John**

Leonardtown Library  
5:00 - 6:30 PM  
All are invited, no reservation required. Read and comment on the Gospel of John reviewing Chapters 4 & 5 and reading Chapters 6 & 7. 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](http://CABSorg.WixSite.com/CABS)

**Elks Holdem Bounty Tournament**

St. Marys County Elks Lodge, 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. James Dean, 240-577-0828. Email: [jdeanjunior@yahoo.com](mailto:jdeanjunior@yahoo.com)

**Tuesday, June 4**

**Scouting Programs**

Various Locations  
Scouting BSA has programs for boys and girls from Kindergarten to 20 years of age and include: Cub Scouts. Scouting BSA. Sea Scouts. Venture Crews. Explorer Posts. Over 70 units in St. Mary's, Calvert and Charles County. There may be one close to you. Information: [bob.davidson@gmail.com](mailto:bob.davidson@gmail.com)

**Chick-fil-A LVRSA Fundraiser**

Chick-fil-A in California  
5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Please go to the [lvrs.org](http://lvrs.org) website to take a picture or print a copy of the flyer and show it to the cashier so we can get credit for your support.

**Yoga with Frannie**

Corbin Pavilion, Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons  
6:00 - 7:00 PM  
Outdoor Vinyasa-style class focuses on cultivating internal and external balance through stretching, strengthening and breath work. All experience levels. Tuesday nights, June 4 through August 27! Bring your yoga mat, water bottle and hand towel. \$10/class, cash or check. 410-326-2042. [calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://calvertmarinemuseum.com)

**Wednesday, June 5**

**Little Explorers: Bugs and Insects**

Historic St. Mary's City, 18751 Hogaboom Lane  
10:00 - 11:00 AM  
Meet at the Visitor Center. Designed for pre-school age children 3-5 years old and an accompanying adult. \$4 per child (\$3 Friends members); one accompanying adult free. Full-day admission included. 240-895-4990 or [info@HSMC-digshistory.org](mailto:info@HSMC-digshistory.org)

**Men's Grief Support Group**

Melinda Ruppert LCPC, 28095 Three Notch Rd., Suite 2C, Mechanicsville  
6:00 - 7:30 PM  
A grief support group for men who have lost a spouse. Meets four consecutive Wednesdays. \$30 per session. Reg-

istration required: [www.melindaruppertlcpc.com](http://www.melindaruppertlcpc.com) or call 240-298-2442 or email [melinda@melindaruppert.com](mailto:melinda@melindaruppert.com)

**The Saint Mary's County Camera Club Meeting**

Patuxent Naval Air Museum (the building behind the new museum), 22156 Three Notch Rd, Lexington Park  
7:00 - 9:00 PM  
Experiment with filter effects (star filters and items you may not have thought to shoot through before) and long exposure (creating ghosts, zoom/blur, and perhaps a bit of light painting). Bring your camera, tripod, and favorite lenses for hands-on fun. Visitors welcome. Questions? email at [smccc1998@gmail.com](mailto:smccc1998@gmail.com). Visit: [www.smccc.org](http://www.smccc.org).

**Thursday, June 6**

**Margaret Brent High School Alumni Association**

Riverview Restaurant, Wicomico Shores Club House  
11:00 AM  
Please note the new meeting place. All MBHS Alumni are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Virginia Pettit, 301-769-2765 or email [wvpettit@gmail.com](mailto:wvpettit@gmail.com)

**Jammin' with Jessie Dance Fitness**

Mechanicsville Vol. Fire Department Social Hall  
6:30 - 7:30 PM  
\$6 per person. Sponsored by the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary.

**Where the River Meets the Bay Lecture Series**

Harms Gallery, Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons  
7:00 PM  
A Shared History Since 1942: The Patuxent's Relationships with United States Armed Forces will be presented by CMM Curator of Maritime History Mark Wilkins. Free. 410-326-2042. [calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://calvertmarinemuseum.com)

**American Legion Post 221 Meeting**

21690 Colton Point Road, Avenue  
8:00 - 9:00 PM  
All active duty personnel and veterans join us for our monthly meeting. [www.alpost221.webs.com/](http://www.alpost221.webs.com/) or e-mail us at [alpost221@aol.com](mailto:alpost221@aol.com). Call (301) 884-4071

**Do you have something to add to our Community Calendar?**

Email your event to [timescalendar@countytimes.net](mailto:timescalendar@countytimes.net)



Letters TO THE Editor

**Get to Know your Local Candidates**

The data suggest that voting a straight party ticket is common in St. Mary's County. In 2014 and 2018, we elected an all Republican Board of County Commissioners. Counter to the expectations of many, our taxes are going up. This is a bitter pill for some, and for others, it is overdue and necessary.

I would like to suggest that we need to do our local homework. Applying national stereotypes of Republicans and Democrats to local candidates and voting accordingly may work against your priorities at home. Locally elected officials are charged with focusing on local issues. They do not vote on the hot-button issues

that dominate state and national politics. If we elect local leaders based on national issues and party affiliation, we may end up being surprised when local issues are decided.

Local elections demand a focus on local issues and on the candidates who best represent your vision for St. Mary's County. Voting a straight party ticket is quick and easy, but knowing candidates' views on specific local issues and voting accordingly is a much better predictor of exactly how much of your money will be spent and where.

Cindy Slattery  
California, Maryland

**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**

T	R	A	N	C	E	S			E	E	R	I	E				
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8	3	6	5	1	7	2	9	4
2	7	4	6	3	9	1	8	5
1	5	9	8	2	4	3	6	7

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