

FREE

# St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2019

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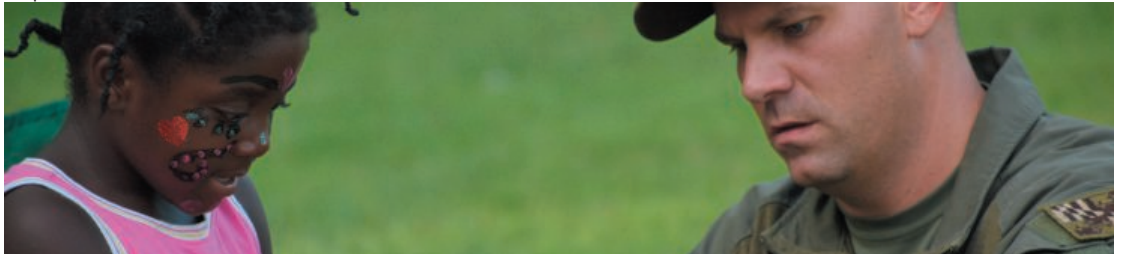
# Keeping North County Safe

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### WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 8/8	Fri 8/9	Sat 8/10	Sun 8/11
89°   69° F	88°   64° F	85°   65° F	84°   67° F
Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Mon 8/12	Tue 8/13	Wed 8/14	Thu 8/15
87°   68° F	87°   70° F	86°   69° F	86°   67° F
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# “Zip Trip” Showcases Leonardtown



Fox 5's Tucker Barnes interviews Heritage Chocolates owner Tara Neeley and Morgan Gray.

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Driving early morning rain last Friday did not stop Leonardtown residents or Fox 5 DC's Zip Trip team from coming out and raising the profile of St. Mary's sole municipality.

The Zip Trip team interviewed town residents and government officials as well as business owners to let the greater D.C., Maryland, and Virginia viewing audience see what a key piece of South-

water activities we had planned down at the wharf,” McKay said. “But we were able to soldier on and have a good showing.”

Jason Aul, executive director of Visit St. Mary's, the county's tourism group, said the visit by Fox 5 was beneficial to Leonardtown and the county despite the foul weather.

“The impact the visit had was amazing,” Aul told The County Times. “It was a free opportunity to be on one of the region's most watched programs.



Thomas F. McKay, President of McKay's Food Stores, talks to Fox 5's Zip Trip team about stuffed ham traditions in Leonardtown Aug. 2.

ern Maryland has to offer.

“It went very well, we got a lot of positive feedback,” said Town Administrator Laschelle McKay. “I've been involved with these events before and every time we always have an increase in people coming here to visit.

“But our local residents said they found out about things going on in town they were not previously aware of.”

McKay said new businesses in town, such as restaurants, would open soon.

“It helps raise awareness about our new activities in town,” McKay said of the Fox 5 visit.

“It's a shame the rain cancelled the

“The value the town will receive from the broadcast well be substantial.”

The reach of Fox 5's broadcast will run to key markets in not only Maryland but Virginia and D.C., Aul said.

“They have the viewership in the markets we want to reach,” said Aul. “We want to destroy the myths and misconceptions that St. Mary's County is isolated and inaccessible.

“With Fox 5 being here it shows we're just an hour away from Washington, D.C.”

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

**JULIUS CAESAR**  
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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# St. Mary's Has a Weekend Crime Wave

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office detectives are investigating multiple shootings that took place between the night of Aug. 2 and the morning of Aug. 3 as well as a stabbing, local police say.

Also, detectives are searching for a suspect in a California bank robbery that occurred the afternoon of Aug. 2.

"It was a very active weekend," said sheriff's office spokesperson Jason Babcock.

The bank robbery occurred at about 3:30 p.m. at the SunTrust Bank on First Colony Way, sheriff's reports stated.

The only description of the assailant is of an unknown male wearing a dark jacket or hooded sweatshirt who entered the bank, claimed to have a weapon and demanded money, police said.

The suspect was last seen fleeing towards the Target store on foot.

Crime Solvers is offering a

\$1,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest or indictment of the bank robbery suspect.

The first shooting occurred at almost 2 a.m. Saturday morning, with the two women, aged 37 and 26, suffering from gunshot wounds incurred at a large disturbance at the social hall at the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department. Both women received treatment on scene, police said, and were then transported to trauma centers for further care.

Later, at about 2:49 a.m. Saturday morning deputies responded to the IHOP restaurant in Lexington Park for the report of a stabbing; the victim, 27, was found just as a large crowd there began to disperse, sheriff's officials said. Just after the response to the stabbing, another victim, a 33-year-old male, was transported to MedStar St. Mary's Hospital by an acquaintance before being transferred to a trauma center.

Another 33-year-old male victim was found at Calvert



A sheriff's patrol vehicle stands guard outside Walmart over the weekend in reaction to the mass shooting in El Paso, Texas.

Memorial Hospital by Calvert sheriff's deputies and reported to St. Mary's deputies as being a shooting victim from the IHOP incident.

All the victims have been treated and

released from area trauma centers except for the victim that was transported to MedStar St. Mary's Hospital; he remains at an area trauma center in stable condition. Anyone with information on the assaults is asked

to contact Detective Trevor Teague at (301) 475-4200 extension \* 8128 or by email at Trevor.Teague@stmarysmd.com.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

## Retirement: Ready or not. Ready is better.



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Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs.  
Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings.  
Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.



Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs.  
Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.



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# St. Mary's National Night Out



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# Reward Rises High in Case of Slain Dogs

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Donations from the community have allowed Crime Solvers, a citizens, non-profit group that aids the sheriff's office in solving crimes, to increase to \$9,450 the reward for information in the case of two slain black Labrador Retrievers found in Mechanicsville last month.

The announcement of the increased reward available came shortly after a campaign asking for more donations to Crime Solvers.

The heads of the two dogs, both male and weighing approximately 80 pounds each, were found decapitated in a patch of tall grass on the side of Parlett Morgan Road July 14.

The heads were not with the corpses and are still missing.

The animals were taken to a local veterinarian for examination before transport to Virginia Polytechnical Institute for necropsies.

Those forensic examinations have been completed but sheriff's office detectives are keeping the results confidential.

The information that has come to the sheriff's office from the community includes notations of people who own dogs matching the description of those that died, said Cpl. Julie Yingling, sheriff's office spokesperson, but those animals have been found to be well and unharmed.

Yingling said the sheriff's office still wants the community's assistance in finding the owners of the dogs as well as the perpetrators of their deaths.

"We still have tips coming in from the community," Yingling said. "We're looking for anything to help identify these dogs."

"We're hoping to get the reward money over \$10,000 in the near future."

Investigators have yet to find any suspects in the case but are examining multiple scenarios as to how and why the dogs may have died.

"Every scenario is on the table," Yingling said.

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

# Victim Remembered For Her Love of Family, Perseverance



Friends and relatives of Moneta Jo Strickland remember her life's affect on them. Strickland was murdered on Three Notch Trail in 2013.

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### SCHEDULE OF GAMES

**"THE SEAHAWK CLASSIC"**  
Men's Soccer Tournament, on the grass field

**2:00 P.M.**

SMCM vs. Bridgewater College

**4:00 P.M.**

Salisbury University vs. Kean University

### ADDITIONAL GAMES

**6:00 P.M.**

SMCM field hockey vs. Eastern Mennonite University, on the artificial turf field

**7:00 P.M.**

SMCM women's soccer vs. Stevenson University, on the grass field



## Local Author Investigates the Paranormal of Southern Maryland

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

David W. Thompson is a St. Mary's County native and all his life he can remember hearing stories of ghosts, apparitions and hauntings of local sites.

He has authored three novels based on the paranormal – particularly the legend of Moll Dyer, the suspected witch from the county's founding in the 17<sup>th</sup> century – and a novella set in the dystopian future.

He's no stranger to dark and morbid themes; his new book Haunted Southern Maryland follows that same path.

But instead of being a fictional work, it chronicles local legends of hauntings and even entails interviews of local people who claim to have experienced these phenomena.

He catalogs spooky encounters from all over the tri-county area, but often

sticks close to home.

"I've broken it down into the tri-county area but, I have to admit it's pretty St. Mary's-centric," Thompson said.

He writes about hauntings at Maidstone Manor in Calvert County, a private residence, as well as Sotterley and Greenwell manors here in St. Mary's.

"There have been a whole lot of [reports] at Greenwell," Thompson said.

The hauntings at Point Lookout, once a Civil War detention center for Confederate prisoners, with thousands of deaths from miserable conditions are also catalogued.

Lesser known myths such as Cry Baby Bridge, located in either St. John's or Indian Bridge roads areas, tell the tale of a slave woman who had a child by a forced relationship with her master, who runs away and is hanged.

The baby was knocked away in the struggle, Thompson said, and fell into a



Local author David W. Thompson has written a book on hauntings in Southern Maryland.

creek where it died.

Legend says that some who have gone to the creek can hear the baby still

crying.

The other half of the legend says that a returning World War II veteran was driving on a back road in St. Mary's eager to see his wife and new child; the wife, just as impatient walks along the road with the baby but is struck by her husband's vehicle as he goes around a blind curve.

"It's pretty dark," Thompson says of the legends in his book. "But that's kind of my thing."

Thompson's works delve deep into suspense and horror.

"I enjoyed doing research and interviewing people who believed whole heartedly in what they saw or heard," Thompson said. "I definitely believe in ghosts, but how long they linger I don't know."

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

## New State Development Plan Unveiled To Be Called 'A Better Maryland'

The Hogan administration on Aug. 7 announced the filing of a new state development plan, A Better Maryland.

In 2017, Governor Larry Hogan signed Executive Order 01.01.2017.18, directing the Maryland Department of Planning

(Planning) to coordinate with local governments and other stakeholders to prepare a revised State Development Plan.

"This new state development plan was developed to coordinate the planning needs of state agencies and local governments while encouraging Maryland to grow responsibly," said Governor Hogan. "This inclusive bottom-up approach listens to the needs of our communities and puts planning authority in the hands of local government, where it belongs, while balancing economic development and environmental preservation."

The Executive Order established objectives for growing responsibly and protecting Maryland's resources to support existing communities, create quality places, coordinate state investment, and preserve natural, cultural, historical, and heritage resources.

A Better Maryland, which includes a digital resource center, can be found at [abetter.maryland.gov](http://abetter.maryland.gov). The website contains data, tools, and information sources intended to be a virtual library of state and local plans and related resources used to plan responsible growth and resource protection.

In addition to working closely with the public, local government, state agencies and other stakeholders, Planning closely coordinated with the Smart Growth Subcabinet, Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission, the Maryland Municipal League, and the Maryland Association of Counties during the development of A Better Maryland. Planning also coordinated with the Maryland Planning Commissioners Association and local Planning directors and staff throughout the process.

"It was only through local feedback



Hogan

and interaction that we collectively created this dynamic new state development plan," said Planning Secretary Rob McCord. "This approach to planning where we work closely with all of our state and local partners, ensures continued economic growth and helps meet local planning needs."

More than 85 meetings and listening sessions were held between fall 2017 and early 2019 to gather feedback in every Maryland county and Baltimore City. Several hundred comments were received and documented over the initial 18 months, which included two separate rounds of meetings and online surveys. This critical feedback formed the framework for the final plan.

"This new plan addresses the needs of each region of our state and is focused on increasing coordination between state agencies and local governments," said Special Secretary of Smart Growth Wendi Peters. "The plan supports responsible growth and infrastructure planning, revitalization of existing communities, and preservation of our natural and cultural resources."

Press Release

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# Warmer Winters Could Mean Longer Crab Seasons



Scientists from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science are predicting that warmer winters in the Chesapeake Bay will likely lead to longer and more productive seasons for Maryland's favorite summer crustacean, the blue crab.

Researchers examined data on increasing temperatures in the Chesapeake Bay and predictions for continued warming. They found that winters will be up to 50% shorter by 2100, and overwinter survival of the blue crab will increase by at least 20% compared to current conditions.

"Blue crabs are a climate change winner in the bay. As the bay gets warmer they will do better because they are a more tropical species," said study co-author and University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science Professor Tom Miller. "We always hear about

those species that are going to struggle or move. Blue crab are going to do better."

The blue crab is found along the Atlantic Coast from New England to Argentina. Maryland's blue crabs spend their winters dormant in the muddy sediment at the bottom of the Chesapeake Bay, emerging only when water temperatures near 50° F. In recent years, this dormancy period has been becoming shorter, and trends indicate it will become shorter still—and could potentially become nonexistent.

"Water temperatures are warming and the crabs are cold blooded so their metabolic rate is directly related to warmer temperature. Warmer water means they grow faster," said Hillary Lane Glandon, who conducted this research as a graduate student at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

and is now a post-doctoral research associate at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington.

Scientists predict that the shortening of winter combined with increases in average wintertime temperatures will cause a significant increase in juvenile blue crab winter survival so that the population behavior comes to resemble that currently observed in the Sounds of North Carolina and further south.

"In 100 years, we would expect winter for crabs in Solomons to look more like winter currently looks in southern North Carolina," said Glandon. "No winter for the crabs."

While this may sound great, don't stock up on your mallets and Old Bay yet.

Crabbing is prohibited December through March in the lower Chesapeake Bay, which has helped in maintaining

the population at sustainable levels. However, an increase in wintertime crab activity may encourage a lengthening of crabbing season similar to states such as North Carolina and Louisiana, where crabs are active year-round.

"People will be able to fish for them almost year-round. However, this challenges the traditional pattern in which waterman fish for striped bass in the spring and crabs in the summer and oysters in the winter—that traditional seasonal rotation of the harvest. It's a cultural challenge," said Miller.

Climate change not only signals warming temperatures but also increased variability in temperatures, further complicating wintertime management of the species. A particularly cold winter could devastate a year-round fishery.

*Continues on page 11*

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Continued from page 10

“If crabs start moving and feeding year-round, they represent an added predation pressures on the bay’s ecosystem, and we don’t know how the ecosystem will respond,” said Miller.

#### Predicting change

The researchers used computer-modeled projections of future temperature from the World Climate Research Programme’s Coupled Model Intercomparison Project to explore how changes in water temperature may impact the overwintering behavior and winter survival of blue crab in the Chesapeake Bay in the next 100 years.

In order to create a model that was directly relevant to the Chesapeake Bay near Solomons, Maryland, they were able to access a long-term (1938-2016) dataset of daily water and air temperature measurements collected right in their backyard in the Patuxent River. From the pier at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, water temperatures have been taken by hand at noon from 1938–2012 and by automatic instrumentation from 2012 to 2016. Average daily temperatures have increased 3.2°F since 1938.

“The data from right off our pier is a unique data set because it is so long. We couldn’t do this work without someone taking measurements every day off the pier. This highlights the value of long-term monitoring and efforts we make

to do that,” said paleoclimatologist Hali Kilbourne, who looks deep into the past to predict future climate changes. “This study is a good example of the pay-off for all the effort that goes into climate data.”

Humans burning fossil fuels have caused an increase in the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere since the 1800s. Due to the greenhouse effect, this increase has and will continue to cause an increase in atmospheric and ocean temperatures, which are projected to warm from current temperatures by 4.7-8.6°F by the year 2100 if greenhouse gas emissions continue unchecked.

“Our analysis of historical and future predicted temperatures indicates that water temperatures will continue to rise in the Chesapeake Bay through the year 2100. This increase in water temperature will occur equally in all seasons of the year, and will therefore effect blue crab wintertime behavior and survival,” said Glandon.

The study, “Winter is (not) coming: warming temperatures will affect the overwinter behavior and survival of blue crab,” was published in PLOS One by Hillary Lane Glandon, K. Halimeda Kilbourne, and Thomas J. Miller of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

Press Release from  
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory

## Tax-Free Week is August 11-17

### Maryland students can win scholarship

Comptroller Peter Franchot reminds Marylanders that Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week begins on Sunday, August 11, and runs through Saturday, August 17.

The comptroller once again is joining with the Maryland Retailers Association (MRA) to promote a social media contest in which two winners will receive \$2,500 and \$1,000 scholarships, respectively, to any Maryland university, college or trade school.

To enter the contest during Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week, Maryland college and trade school students simply need to:

- Take a fun photo or video while shopping.
- Write a catchy caption. (Be creative to catch the eye of the judges!)
- Post to Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and use the hashtag #shopmdtaxfree.

Shoppers can like or follow the official social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more information. MRA, which is providing the scholarships, will select the two entries that best reflect the spirit of Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week.

“Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week is a great opportunity for parents to get



deals on back-to-school clothes and for anyone to refresh a tired wardrobe,” Comptroller Franchot said. “And with the scholarship contest, two creative students have an opportunity to save on school costs simply by taking a fun photo or video while shopping, write a snappy caption and post it on the official social media pages.”

From August 11-17, any single qualifying article of clothing or footwear priced \$100 or less – regardless of how many items are purchased at the same time – will be exempt from the state’s six percent sales tax. The first \$40 of any backpack or bookbag purchase is also tax-free.

For more information on qualifying items, visit [marylandtaxes.gov](http://marylandtaxes.gov), email [taxhelp@comp.state.md.us](mailto:taxhelp@comp.state.md.us) or call 410-260-7980 (Central Maryland) or toll-free at 1-800-MD-TAXES.

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# Sheriff's Office Crime Report

**First-Degree Assault:** On July 29, 2019, Deputy Kyler Kilgore responded to the 45000 block of Patuxent Beach Road in California for the report of a disturbance. The victim advised that there was a verbal altercation with **John Keith Stewart, 45** of Callaway. Stewart



reached into the victim's vehicle and slapped the victim's face. Then Stewart intentionally struck the victim's car with his vehicle. Stewart then came up to the victim's car, slapped the window multiple times and kicked the driver's side door. Stewart then assaulted the victim again. Hand prints were observed on the driver window and the door was bent in with a shoe print on it. Another deputy who is an accident reconstructionist determined that Stewart struck the victim. Stewart was arrested, transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown and charged with First-Degree As-

sault, two counts of Second-Degree Assault and Malicious Destruction of Property, Value under \$1,000. Case # 43313-19

**False Report:** On July 27, 2019, DFC Gerard Muschette responded to the 46500 block of Dennis Point Way in Drayden for the report of a subject refusing to leave a residence. **Wayne Joseph Brooks, 27**



of Leonardtown, advised he was at a nearby bar and was visibly intoxicated. Brooks demanded that the victim was at the residence and demanded that the victim be arrested. Brooks later made complaints to the Sheriff's Office and Maryland State Police that he had been assaulted by the victim. Brooks was placed under arrest for making a false report and in doing so harassed the victim in violation of a protective order. Brooks was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Cen-

ter and was charged with False Report and Violation of a Protective Order. Case # 42803-19

On July 31, 2019, Brooks was also arrested on warrants for Violation of Protective Order, Malicious Destruction of Property and Harass; A Course of Conduct by Deputy James Fretwell. Case # 42924-19

**Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle:** On July 28, 2019, Deputy Warren Forinash responded to the area of Pegg Road and Chancellor's Run Road in Great Mills for a reported single-vehicle accident where the vehicle was located on the center median curb. **Laitesha Jonelle Jones, 27** of California,



did not have permission to be driving the vehicle and was found to be driving under the influence. Jones was charged with Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle, DUI and DWI. Case # 43109-19

## Two Great Mills Men Injured in Road Race



On Saturday, August 3, 2019, at approximately 8:20 p.m., members of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office Patrol Bureau and Crash Reconstruction Team responded to the area of MD Rt. 2-4 and Lancaster Drive in St. Leonard, MD, for a report of a motor vehicle collision involving a single vehicle. Upon arrival, units located a 2018 Alfa Romeo that was involved in a collision and subsequent rollover.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the Alfa Romeo and another vehicle were involved in a street race on southbound Rt. 2-4. The driver of the Alfa Romeo lost control of the vehicle, struck a guardrail and subsequently rolled several times coming to rest in the grass on the west side of Rt. 2-4.

The second vehicle involved in the race was struck by the debris from the Alfa Romeo and came to a controlled stop. The operator of the second vehicle remained on the scene and is cooperating with the investigation.

The driver of the Alfa Romeo was Donald J. Ladouceur, 53 of Great Mills, MD. A front seat passenger in the Alfa Romeo has been identified as Brooke Ladouceur, 38 of Great Mills, MD. Both occupants were transported by MSP Trooper 2 and Trooper 7 to University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center where they are listed in critical, but stable condition.

At this time speed and driver error appear to be the main contributing factors in the collision.

The collision is under investigation by Cpl. V. Bortchevsky, of Crash Reconstruction Team. Anyone with additional information is asked to contact Cpl. V. Bortchevsky, via e-mail [vlad.bortchevsky@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:vlad.bortchevsky@calvertcountymd.gov) or by calling the Calvert County Sheriff's Office at (410) 535-2800.

No charges have been filed in the case, according to sheriff's officials.

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## Margaret Brent High School Class of 1959



Members of Margaret Brent High School Class of 1959 gathering for a class reunion. Front row, left to right Mary Ann Wise Turner, Dorothy E. "Dot" Thompson, Elizabeth "Betty Jean" Lacey Cusic, Nancy Lee Hill Willis, Catherine "Kitty" Tennyson Bowling. Second Row Aloysius C. "Al" Guy, William L. "Lenny" Guy, Sidney M. "Sid" Wood Third Row Eugene B. "Genie-Buck" Morgan, Joseph A. "Joe" Hill, Joseph F. "Freddie" Nelson, Robert H. "Harry" Spence, Donald L. "Duck" Thompson.

Margaret Brent High School Class of 1959 celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> class reunion at the Riverview Restaurant in Mechanicsville on July 25. The Class of 1959 started out in 1955 with two separate groups of 55 to 60 classmates but due to the opening of Leonardtown High School and normal accretion, the class was reduced to one of the smallest classes to graduate from MBHS, 30 classmates.

To date nine have passed away and of the 21 remaining classmates, 12 were able to attend the reunion with a total of 21 in attendance.

The eight remaining classmates living in or out of Maryland had other commitments and could not attend.

Decorations included a MBHS 60<sup>th</sup> year reunion banner, a remembering friends picture board and year books belonging to Sidney Wood helped to bring back memories of the good old days.

Also, MBHS Class of 1959 placemats and class pictures were available and everyone got one to take home. A sheet cake decorated with the Margaret Brent colors was provided by Gene and Joan Morgan.

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# Migratory Game Bird Stamp Design Contest Now Open

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources invites artists to submit their original works for the 46th Annual Migratory Game Bird stamp design contest by Nov. 1. The winning entry will appear on the 2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird Stamp hunters purchase to hunt migratory game birds in Maryland.

New this year, the contest will be held in conjunction with the 49th Annual Waterfowl Festival in Easton, Nov. 8-10. The Waterfowl Festival will hold a "People's Choice Award," which will

let festival-goers cast their vote for their favorite entry. The department will officially judge the entries at noon on Nov. 10 to select the winner.

Each contestant may submit up to three entries for a fee of \$15 for one entry, \$20 for two entries, and \$30 for three entries. Proceeds help fund game bird and waterfowl research and projects.

All entries must be original works, neither copied nor duplicated from any previously published paintings, drawings, prints, or photographs. To enter,



"The Resting Place" by Gerald W. Putt, 2019-20 Migratory Game Bird Stamp Winner

contestants must mail their designs with required fees and forms by Nov. 1.

Complete contest rules and entry forms are found on the department's

website. *Press Release from MD DNR*

## Son of Cold War Spy Pilot Coming to Historic Sotterley Sept. 18



Francis Gary Powers

One of the most talked-about events of the Cold War was the downing of the American U-2 spy plane piloted by his father, Francis Gary Powers, over the Soviet Union on May 1, 1960. Along with author/historian Keith Dunnivant, he has written this new account of his father's life based on personal files that were previously unavailable. Almost sixty years after the event, this will be the definitive account of a famous Cold War incident, one proving that Francis Gary Powers acted honorably through a trying ordeal in service to his country.

Francis Gary Powers Jr. is the founder and chairman emeritus of The Cold War Museum, a 501(c)(3) charity in Vint Hill, Virginia, near Washington, DC. As chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee for the Cold War Theme



Francis Gary Powers

Study, he works with the National Park Service and leading Cold War experts to identify historic Cold War sites for commemorating, interpreting, and preservation. He served as a consultant to Steven Spielberg's Cold War thriller, *Bridge of Spies*. He lectures internationally and appears regularly on the History, Discovery, and A&E Channels.

FREE to the public. September 18th at 7 p.m. Seating is limited; make reservations online at [www.sotterley.org](http://www.sotterley.org) or call 301-373-2280.

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# Mechanicsville Volun



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Covering its own eponymous area, as well as Golden Beach, the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department has the largest first due area in the county and officers there say its often a challenge to respond to areas that are far flung from the stations in either Mechanicsville, Co. 2, or near Golden Beach at its Co. 22 station.

“Unfortunately, that’s true,” said John Montgomery, Co. 2 president of the vast area they must cover. “Getting to some of these areas, especially in traffic, is tough.”

Route 5, which runs through the entirety of their area of first response, often has heavy traffic, volunteers say and many of the roads throughout the expansive community are old, narrow and rural in nature.

The volunteers there have to apportion their resources between the two stations carefully with a full 10 vehicles ranging from fire engines, a rescue vehicle, brush fire trucks and a rescue power raft on stand-by at Co. 2.

They plan to move an older pumper truck, which holds thousands of gallons of water for fighting blazes, to the Golden Beach station by the end of the year; it will be only the second apparatus stationed there, along with a fire engine.

Like other fire companies in St. Mary’s, the volunteers must find ways to bear the cost of new, modern and expensive apparatus.

“It costs a lot of money to operate anymore,” Montgomery, a 45-year member of the Mechanicsville company who still runs calls, said. “We’re going to spend about \$860,000 on a new pumper tanker.”

In recent years, Co. 2 has been no stranger to big investments in their operations, namely their new fire house on Hills Club Road.

It cost \$8 million to build and places all of the key

operational aspects of the company on the first floor, which Montgomery and Fire Chief Mark Trowbridge say makes responding to calls is faster and safer.

The call to build the new facility met with some controversy in the community, but, the chief said, it has helped to increase the volunteer ranks with younger residents keen to work in newer surroundings.

“When we first put the gear racks in, they were just along the walls [of the gear room,]” Trowbridge said. “We’ve had to purchase three extra racks to hold gear and we’ll have to purchase more soon.”

Many of the new volunteers are young men, mostly high school-aged, Trowbridge said.

Montgomery said some have joined because their friends had volunteered and they wanted to keep those ties strong.

When the time came to tear down the old building – they left the social hall standing – they soon found that the 40-year old structure had not only outlived its usefulness but had become a liability.

Years of leaks and other problems were harbingers of much more dangerous conditions; as the building came down to make way for the new one the volunteers found that portions of the structure had deteriorated badly.

“We overstayed our time there,” Trowbridge, a paid Prince George’s County firefighter and 21-year Mechanicsville volunteer said. “We found beams that were rusting apart.”

Montgomery said some of the older members, including himself, were skeptical of the need for the new building.

But viewing the deterioration had changed his mind. “It was scary,” Montgomery said. “It was an eye opener.”

Whereas the old building was two stories and cramped, the new one has a second floor only for storage, Montgomery said, with all the critical functions



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# Volunteers Cover Vast Area



on the first floor, including gear, training rooms, apparatus, living quarters, administrative offices, a gym and kitchen facilities.

“That’s the one thing they told us was that they didn’t want to deal with the stairs anymore,” Montgomery said of firefighters concerns for a new facility.

The communities they serve, such as Country Lakes and Golden Beach, are aging, they said, which can bring its own challenges.

“It’s more risk of fire,” Trowbridge said of dealing with older homes. “And it means more medical calls.”

Montgomery said: “The people age with the homes.” Of the approximately 900 calls for service they answer each year, about 60 percent of them are medical calls, including motor vehicle accidents.

Fires, Montgomery said, account for the remaining 40 percent of calls.

Both officers said they still need volunteers, though they have seen an increase in participation the past few years.

Trowbridge estimated that there were 115 members in the volunteer company with perhaps 55 to 60 of them actively answering calls.

The addition of younger volunteers was encouraging, Montgomery said.

“Some of us are getting old,” he said.

Like all the other volunteer fire and rescue companies in St. Mary’s they, too, have had to deal with their fair share of medical calls for opioid overdoses.

In recent months, though, they have seen a slight reduction in those calls from the hectic days of 2017 and 2018.

“You could almost tell where everything had been dropped off,” Trowbridge said. “You’d get called to Mechanicsville for an overdose, then down to Hollywood and then to California.

“Some nights we’d get three to four overdose calls at a time.”

They speculated that the addition of fentanyl and carfentanyl, many times more potent than heroin, had warned off some addicts from using the illicit substances after so many others had died using it.

Though rural, Mechanicsville hosts high-profile venues such as Potomac Speedway and Maryland International Raceway, which can increase visitor traffic on rural road where illegal racing can sometimes take place.

“More traffic means more accidents,” Trowbridge said. “A good portion of the people who come here [St.

Mary’s] to work come through out first due area.”

Mechanicsville volunteers have even had to respond to traffic crashes involving Amish and Mennonite horse-drawn buggies.

The volunteers have come to have a close bond with those communities, Montgomery said, who find ways to

contact the company in an emergency.

“They won’t touch our stuff when we arrive,” he said of the Amish and Mennonites. “But if we ask them to roll hose to help us out they’ll jump right in.”

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

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# Beach Party in Leonardtown



Running of the Balls was part of the Annual Beach Party on the Square

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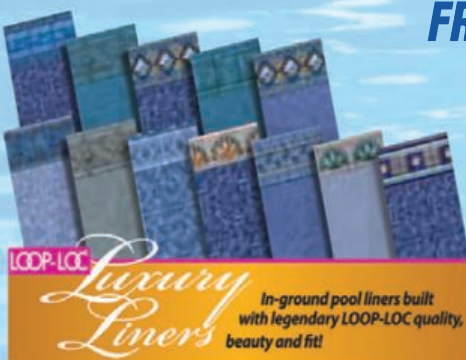
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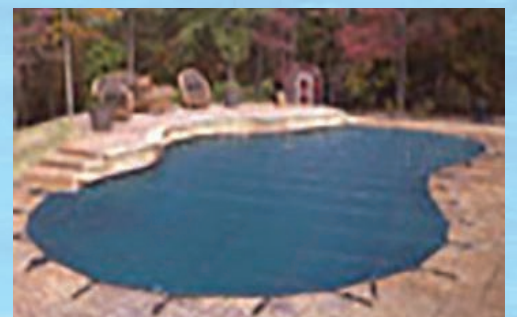


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## A Heartfelt Thank You From the Leonardtown Business Association



The Leonardtown Business Association would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to all those who attended First Responder First Friday on August 2nd. The town was already buzzing from the Fox 5 Zip Trip that morning and the excitement lasted throughout the evening. The town square was filled with First Responders from all over St. Mary's County, nearly every Fire Department & Rescue Squad was present with an apparatus and several auxiliaries attended with raffles & fundraisers. St. Mary's County & Maryland State Police also joined us in the event with Animal Control, Department of Emergency Services and more. The town square was filled with visitors strolling around and the kids sure did enjoy climbing in the fire trucks, police cars and ambulances. It truly was a wonderful evening to meet your local first responders, thank them

for their service and even find out how to become one yourself. The Josh Riley Band provided entertainment for the evening and Josh's dad a local first responder himself was in attendance to enjoy the evening.

We would also like to extend a thank you to the First Friday committee for organizing a fabulous event and to Jay Mattingly from Department of Emergency Services for helping us contact all the local departments and coordinate their participation.

Please join us for our next First Friday event on September 6th for our Art-Walk event. The First Friday events are hosted by the Leonardtown Business Association and sponsored by Quality Built Homes, Marrick Homes, Leonardtown Chevrolet, Buick and GMC and St. Mary's County Tourism.

## An Awkward Position for Catholics

### To the Editor

Practical things like politics are never all or nothing, except when we vote. Until then, some of us Catholics find ourselves in the awkward position, on one hand, of standing with Archbishop Gregory and many other religious leaders in taking our president to task for completely uncalled for and demeaning personal attacks on political opponents and their constituents.

On the other hand, we largely support the pro-life direction of his administration's policies. Take, for example, the proposal of new rules to interpret section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, so that health care providers who do not consider abortion or gender transition procedures to be appropriate medical care, and health plans that do not cover these procedures, not be at risk of being charged with sex discrimination.

There is plenty of room for respectful dialogue and disagreement on a host of other issues, including tariffs, immigration, gun control, and foreign affairs.

As we approach the elections, let's keep our focus on the issues, which divide us enough. We don't need a lack of charity in our national discourse to exacerbate these divisions.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend David W. Beaubien  
St. Aloysius Church  
Leonardtown*

## STARTING A LIFETIME FINANCIAL PLAN—YOUR MOTIVATION

In recent columns, I have talked about why women need to get a financial education and how many professional financial advisors aren't offering women what they want—a lifetime financial plan. If you are reading this, you're concerned about your financial education. You know somehow such an education is important to you. Why? Are you looking for financial protection, or is your goal to buy a house, a boat, or finance your child's college education?

Your answer matters. Focus on a short term goal, such as making a major purchase, probably won't be enough to give you the will or the stamina to engage in basic financial planning. While there is nothing magic about financial planning, it takes time to implement a strategy. If your motivation is to satisfy a short-term goal of making a major purchase, how patient will you be? If your motivation is to improve your financial health, then you'll have and get the stamina necessary to make a plan work for you. So, forget about the short-term goals.

Let's assume that what you want is self-sufficiency. What does self-sufficiency mean to you? Does it mean owning your own home, being able to retire and live at about the same level as if you were still working? What would make you most satisfied with your financial life? *Where is your comfort level?* Are you realistic enough to understand it is unlikely you will have as much money with the best and most perfectly executed financial plan as Bill Gates?

You need some ingredients here—the motivation list. Make a list of your motivators—what you really want to achieve from your lifetime of financial planning. Get pretty specific about what you want. Identify your comfort level. Of course, this will likely change over the years, but to start, figure out what your list is today and we'll use that list as something to work towards.

Here is an example of a motivations list prepared by Jane, aged 33:

I WANT A LIFETIME FINANCIAL PLAN BECAUSE:

- I don't want to have to worry about money all the time. I want to know I've done the best that can be done to minimize money worries so that I am not and do not become a burden to my family or loved ones. I want to know enough of the basics to be able to create a money strategy and to execute it.
- When I retire, I want to be independent. I don't want my husband/ children/family to have to care for me. I want to pay my

own way.

- I want to be able to help my loved ones financially—like paying for a college education for my children. I want my plan to help me do that.
- I want my plan to help me pay off my house so that when I am older, I won't have mortgage payments to worry about and I won't have to place any burden for my mortgage payments on someone else.

What do you see in Jane's list? Clearly, she's concerned about having and keeping money. It seems to Jane that money worries upset her—she fears lack of money. OK, that's fine as a motivator. But why? What's going on in Jane's life that causes such worry? What Jane needs to do is delve deeper into her list. Like the following:

- I worry about money all the time. About having enough to pay off my bills. They seem to come at me from nowhere and pile up. I lose sleep at night worrying about where I will find the money to pay all the bills.
- I cannot seem to control myself or this situation. I feel I am a burden on my loved ones, my family since they often loan me money—I know they can't afford it. Why can't I learn to control this thing with money?

Whoa! Jane's deeper list contains something important. **Control.** Jane's relationship with money is out of control. She feels she cannot control the relationship she has with money. Now we get to a real motivator for Jane.

Suppose she got control? Suppose she learned enough to manage her relationship with money? Feeling that control, exercising a newfound power over money and its relationship to her, now that's a true motivator for a lifetime of financial planning. Jane can do it and so can you.

See what I mean about the motivations list? Start with a list, then read and re-read it and try to get to a deeper list. Be cruelly honest with your feelings. Identify why you want a lifetime financial plan. Getting to the why is half the battle. Learning how to plan and executing the plan are easy compared to identifying why you want the plan.

Join me for a discussion of this and other matters on the third Wednesday of every month at our office at 11am at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Call 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

*Lyn Striegel*

# A View From The BLEACHERS Fan Section

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

Sports fans in the DMV – the well-known sports handle for the D.C., Maryland and Virginia region – are well acquainted with the legendary Sports Junkies. For over 20 years, the quartet of Eric “E.B.” Bickel, John “Cakes” Auville, John-Paul “J.P.” Flaim and Jason “Lurch”/“Bish” Bishop have been cutting through the commuter blues and offering a distraction from the daily grind with unique humor, goofy contests and sports analysis geared toward the average basement-dwelling, recliner-occupying fan.

The Junkies have bounced across radio stations and formats over the years, but their core business model remains unchanged. They poke fun at each other, rib staff members, scoff at D.C. sports buffoonery and generally behave like four buddies sharing cocktails at the local pub. It’s a simple formula that has turned the DMV’s Fab Four into a media institution.

I have always felt a kinship with The Junkies. We are of similar vintage – they are two years my elders. E.B., like me, is an unapologetic D.C. sports homer. The ‘Skins, Caps, Wizards, Nats and Terps are in our bones. Cakes attended Towson University, my alma mater. Bish grew up in Lanham where I scored my first job out of college supporting NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center. And their rise to stardom in the late 90s, coincided with the start of my career and need for a daily sports breather from the real world’s descending pressures.

So, there was nothing unique about The Junkies being on my radio while commuting to work last week. The show, however, was anything but routine.

Bish wasn’t in the studio. Coming out of a break, J.P. announced he would be calling in to address a personal situation; it was clear from his tone that it wasn’t good. Bish, feeling the need to clarify his situation given today’s social media rumor cesspool (another article for another day), cut to the chase. His mom is dying. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014 and her health has declined dramatically in the last month. Her time is short.

This hit close to home. My mother-in-law passed away in 2007 after a long battle with breast cancer. The powerful memoir she kept during her struggle is what inspired me to start this column and to do something positive with the written word. I have thought about Bish much in the days since and have contemplated the loss of my mother-in-law and, more recently, my grandfather. As Bish and his colleagues said, death is something we all have to deal with. But it...it just sucks.

I have this odd, recurring visual in my head. I’m playing a basketball game at my high school gym. In the stands is my fan section – a small group of mostly family members who have loved and supported me, unconditionally, my entire life. These are my cornerstones, my foundation, my most cherished humanoids.

When I picture the section now, there are empty seats. New members have been added – my wife, my kids – but the seats of those I’ve lost remain unoccupied. My interpretation: Even the subconscious understands irreplaceable love. Their death – and the loss of their love (at least in this life) – leaves an unfillable void in your heart.

Jason Bishop, as many of us have and will again, is preparing to lose a precious member of his fan section. His mom’s passing will leave him forever changed and with the challenge of forging a new normal. Part of that significant task, I think, is accomplished by being a member of someone else’s cherished fan section. In that way, you keep your loved one’s spirit alive by returning to the world the unconditional love their death subtracted from yours. There is comfort in knowing that, while death is inevitable, love can be perpetual.

But for anyone going through such a loss, the immediate challenge is much more basic – surviving the next hour, the next day, and eventually restarting and finding solace in your routine. For Bish, that’s the show, one that has provided a psychological escape for countless listeners for two decades. Here’s hoping it does the same for a struggling Junkie in his time of need.

Send comments to  
RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

## The Tackle Box Fishing Report



Jacob Tomasik with fine rockfish from the Patuxent

By Ken and Linda Lamb  
Contributing Writers

The excellent fishing continues.

The spanish mackerel are phenomenal in the lower bay on the Middle Grounds.

The ship’s channel has mackerel scattered from NO Point Light to Deale in little schools mixed with some 18 to 22 inch bluefish. Trollers with planers and small spoons are catching plenty. Good catches were made near the PR buoy this weekend.

Chasing the mackerel are bull redfish and cobia. Trollers and sight casters are

having mixed success. The best catch I have heard of was seven redfish when they came up on a big break last Friday.

The spot are biting most everywhere. White perch are big and eager in the creeks at daybreak on high tides.

Stripers are in the shallows hitting swimming plugs and top water lures and popping rigs at dusk and dawn. Trollers are finding rockfish in about 20 feet off the the Navy Rec Pier and in Kingston Hollow Bass, pickerel, crappie, and bluegill are eager in all frdsh water. Big bass were caught in St. Mary’s lake this week.

## Local Dancers Win Nationals



Elite Dance Company in Mechanicsville celebrates National Championship at Starpower competition. This is the tenth consecutive year they have won.

# Shakespeare Returns to the City



Cassius (Luke Rowe, behind) and Casca (Randy Tusing, left) make a case for eliminating Caesar to Brutus (Jeff Maher, right). Photo by Greg Rumpf.



Brutus (Jeff Maher) pleads for the release of a political prisoner on behalf of Mettalus Cimber (Angela Duff) as Cinna (Jackie Horn, far left) looks on. Caesar (Jonathan Berry) is unmoved. Photo by Greg Rumpf.

Shakespeare in the City has decided to tackle politics. Not to worry, this one doesn't include a twitterstorm or anything present day. This year's production is set squarely in the past. Staged outdoors, with a set tucked into the trees, and a serene water view beside it is a play that exposes the corruption of power in Rome in 44 B.C.

Julius Caesar is the seventh Shakespeare in the City production, a collaboration between Historic St. Mary's City and The Newtowne Players. The collaboration itself began as kismet, that thankfully has seen a better life than that of the doomed lovers in last year's tragedy, Romeo and Juliet. Two houses, both wanting to perform Shakespeare pieces. Historic St. Mary's City, as many of the plays written by Shakespeare would have inhabited the world of those who began the colony in 1634. The Newtowne Players was looking for a challenge, and a way to stretch their dramatic chops, so to speak. Together, they formed Shakespeare in the City, focused on performing live, outdoor theater each summer.

Typically, the pieces performed have been set in their time period, and this production is no different, something the cast must appreciate during the heat of summer. Wearing light-colored togas with stripes signifying importance, the costumes harken back to the days of gladiators.

As the play opens, Julius Caesar is returning home to Rome after winning the war against Pompey. The Roman republic is awash with excitement, wanting to

bestow honor upon Caesar and name him their ruler. This then sets the stage for one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies. The tale of ambition, greed, and power at its core is timeless, and this is where the conspiratorial plot to kill Caesar begins. Caius Cassius, played by Luke Rowe, plots a conspiracy to murder Caesar, enlisting the support of the well-respected Marcus Brutus who has doubts but is finally persuaded that Caesar's death is necessary for the good of the republic. Jeff Maher portrays Brutus with all his complexities. Friend, foe, husband, warrior, Maher lets you see the dark and light of the character, leaving the audience to wonder if he's looking towards the best for his country, or for himself. No such doubt exists with Luke Rowe's Cassius. Rowe plays Cassius as a snake charmer, hair slicked back with the grin of a Cheshire cat. As the triumphant Caesar, Jonathan Berry is self-assured, stately and commanding. Stepping on stage, he is indeed a man of power. The real standout, however, is Noah Busby as Antony. As he begins the famous monologue, "Friends, Romans, Countrymen, lend me your ears..." Busby's Anthony is filled with a booming voice that demands attention. Anthony sways the audience easily to his side while reflecting on Caesar's death. Finishing the speech, he says as an aside, "Now let it work. Mischief thou art afoot." Here, you know Anthony has taken over control of the crowd of Rome, and you have been swept along with it.

As for the assassination itself, parents of younger

children should be warned there are a few deaths that occur during the play (it is a tragedy, after all) but there is nothing gratuitous.

Director Aaron Meisinger wisely chooses not to overplay the scene but has the conspirators slowly encircle Caesar until they finally seal his fate. The aftermath of the death of Caesar makes way for the eventual downward spiraling of Rome. What Brutus and Cassius sought to protect may ultimately be lost due to their own machinations. If you are looking for a thought-provoking production on a gorgeous summer night, this is one not to be missed.

As this is outdoors, audiences have the benefit of either bringing picnic food or purchasing on-site. A limited menu will be available through the artisanal bakery, Enso Kitchen. No outside alcohol is allowed.

Julius Caesar will run August 9-10, and 15-17. All performances start at 7:30 p.m. American Sign Language (ASL) translations will be on Saturdays. Food, blankets, and lawn chairs are welcome on site. Pets are not allowed on-site during performances. Will call and day-of ticket sales will be available inside The Shop at Farthing's Ordinary, located at 47418 Old State House Road, St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686. Online tickets sales are available for purchase at [www.newtowneplayers.org](http://www.newtowneplayers.org) or by calling the theater at 301-737-5447.

By Sharol Buck  
NTP Staff Writer

## Retro Fest on the Potomac Brings All-Things Vintage New Event Coming to Piney Point Lighthouse Museum

The Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums presents a fun new event: Retro Fest on the Potomac, on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park.

Retro Fest on the Potomac represents all things vintage. Admire classic cars, browse for vintage treasures and step back in time to the nostalgic tunes of yesteryear. From the 40s to the 70s, whatever your decade the public is invited to get their "Rockabilly" on and support the mission of Piney Point Lighthouse and Historic Park.

This great new event will feature lots of fun, including: live Rockabilly Music performed by the local band "Country Memories;" vintage vendors selling nostalgic items from the 40s to the 70s; a special travel exhibit from the National Capital Radio and Television Museum in Bowie, MD; live demonstration by the "301 Derby Dames" flat track roller derby league from La Plata, MD; Hot Rod & Classic Cars on display from the St. Mary's Rod & Classic Car Club with a People's Choice Award; food trucks & beer wagon (no outside food or drink will be allowed into the event); and much more.

A limited number of tickets are on sale now. Tickets cost \$5 per person and include event admission as well

as access to all museum sites and exhibits at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum. Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite or by calling Piney Point Lighthouse Museum at 301-994-1471.

Sponsors of the event include the Sterling Insurance Agency. Special thanks to the following partners for their assistance with the event: The St. Mary's Rod & Classic Car Club, Country Memories, the National Capital Radio and Television Museum and the 301 Derby Dames. The fundraiser is hosted by the Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums.

The Friends is a 501 3(c) charitable organization whose mission is to raise funds in support of historical interpretation, education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the Museum Division of St. Mary's County. For more information, please visit [www.Facebook.com/FriendsSCI](http://www.Facebook.com/FriendsSCI)

The St. Mary's County Museum Division was established by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to collect, preserve, research and interpret the historic sites and artifacts which illustrate the natural and cultural histories of St. Mary's County and the Potomac River. With this as its charter, the Museum Division serves as



Piney Point Lighthouse

a resource, liaison and community advocate for all St. Mary's County public and private cultural assets. For more information regarding hours of operation, programs, events, admission prices and more, visit the St. Mary's County Museum Division's social media pages on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum) or [www.facebook.com/1836Light](http://www.facebook.com/1836Light), or on Twitter at @StClemIsMuseum or @PineyPtLHMuseum.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Government



## PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

# News

# Simodejka Award Winner Tackles Aviation Readiness Rates Through Data Integrity



Jeff Blackstock, winner of the 2019 Michael G. Simodejka Outstanding Sustainment/Logistics Manager of the Year award (center), is pictured with Pat Simodejka, wife of the late Michael Simodejka (left), and Tom Rudowsky.

Data integrity—internal consistency or lack of corruption—is foundational to naval aviation readiness. That’s according to Jeff Blackstock, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) Aviation Readiness and Maintenance Analysis Branch Analytics and Analysis Team lead. Blackstock was named the 2019 Michael G. Simodejka Outstanding Sustainment/Logistics Manager of the Year during an award ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst on July 31 for his contributions to naval aviation data integrity.

The Michael G. Simodejka Outstanding Sustainment/Logistics Manager and Team of the Year award honors the legacy of the first civilian director of Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division’s (NAWCAD) logistics competency and his efforts to establish logistics as a force in the command. It recognizes an individual and a team that substantively contributed to advancing life cycle logistics; applied modern technology and digital tools for sustainment, logistics and/or readiness; and enhanced the logistics profession.

The Navigation, Seamanship and Shiphandling Trainer Logistics Integrated Product Team was recognized for providing individual, team and multi-team navigation training worldwide, including upgrades to realistic virtual training simulations in support of maintaining peak seamanship proficiency.

Fleet data enables informed decision making at all levels, according to Blackstock. “The majority of the work we do here at NAVAIR is based on the data that

is extracted from our maintenance documents,” he explained. “We plan the reliability, maintenance program, cost for parts, and ultimately, the readiness of weapon systems based on what we have in our historical work orders. If the data you are analyzing is not consistent or of good quality, then the results of the analysis can be misleading.”

In support of the Naval Sustainment System Reliability Control Boards, a Navy readiness improvement initiative that prioritizes, resources and aligns work across naval aviation, Blackstock identified and resolved critical issues in an algorithm used by all type/model/series platforms to compile component priority lists. The lists indicate which systems and components most impact readiness and is used to inform stakeholder decision making.

Blackstock also played a key role in transforming how the fleet documents, collects and analyzes its readiness data in the Optimized Organizational Maintenance Activity (an automated management information system that assists organizational-level maintenance with the day-to-day management of assigned aircraft and equipment). The change is expected to yield a 15% improvement in readiness rates.

Blackstock is also credited with developing the Data Integrity Dashboards—a tool that highlights data documentation errors and aids in the training of squadron technicians on proper data entry—and its increased use across the fleet.

Sustainment Group Director and guest speaker, Tom Rudowsky, commended all 10 nominees on their accomplishments. “They exemplify the dedication and passion I see throughout the workforce,” he said. “Their efforts are taking logistics to the next level, enabling us to work more cohesively to deliver capabilities to the fleet. Today, we are recognizing the work that is critical to understanding how naval aviation operates. It’s the first step to readiness.”

Blackstock, who served as an aviation maintenance administrationman for 22 years in the Navy, said that his time with the fleet to ensure data integrity has given him a clearer understanding of fleet requirements and his responsibilities to them as a team lead.

“Squadron Sailors and Marines do not have the luxury of time when it comes to the mission,” he explained. “I’ve learned that we must field systems that ease their workloads and we must establish processes to correct issues that do not consume their time. I’ve also learned that new systems and requirements must be fully vetted by all stakeholders before they are introduced to the fleet so that issues can be corrected.”

Data integrity, Blackstock said, is ultimately about providing the weapon systems warfighters need to complete the mission and return home safely to their families. “Each of us,” he advised, “must keep in mind why we come to work every day.”



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

### Mary Josephine Payne



Mary Josephine Payne, 81, of Hollywood, MD formally from Clinton, MD passed away on July 27, 2019 at her home. She was born on December 25, 1937 in Washington,

DC and was the daughter of the late Dorothy Elizabeth Helton Murphy and Joseph Murphy. Mary is survived by her husband Ross Edward Payne, whom she married on June 6, 1963. Mary is survived by children Cindy Watson of Brandywine, MD, Brenda Eckenrode of Mechanicsville, MD, Ross Payne, III of Leonardtown, MD, Robert Cassell of Waldorf, MD, Michael Cassell of West, VA and 4 grandchildren. As well as her siblings Bill Tinsley, Bobby Tinsley, and Vincent DiGennaro. She was preceded in death by her sister Delores Swindle.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2019 at 11:00 AM in the Real Life Church Mechanicsville, MD with Pastor Chris Bryan officiating. Interment will be private.

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

### Thomas Joseph Buckler Jr.



Thomas Joseph Buckler Jr., 76, of Leonardtown MD died July 30, 2019 at his home.

Born November 2nd, 1942 in Washington DC he was the son of the late Thomas and

Margaret Buckler Sr.

Thomas was a Veteran of the United States Army and served in Vietnam. He then went on to become a Visual Information Specialist for the United States Government. Thomas was an involved member of the community. He was a member of the K of C and the American legion, he taught CCD and was a Eucharistic Minister at St. George's Catholic Church in Valley Lee, MD.

Thomas loved God and Country the most, his greatest passion was baseball. He was a longtime coach at McNamara Catholic High School as well as other organizations throughout his career such as St. Mary's Ryken and the Boys & Girls club.

Thomas is survived by his sisters, Jeanne Colfack (Eddie) of Leonardtown, MD and Cheryl Thompson (John) of Rockville, MD; and his niece and nephews, Christopher, Sean and Steven Colfack, Samuel and Michael Thompson, and Melinda Chavez.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Margaret Buckler Sr., his brother, Robert Buckler, and his nephew, Scott Buckler.

Memorial donations may be made to St. George's Youth Group, 19199 St. George's Church Rd, 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.

### Alfred Omega McClanahan, Jr.



Alfred Omega "Buck" McClanahan, Jr., 89, of Prince Frederick, MD passed away on Thursday, August 1, 2019, at his home, surrounded by his loving

family, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Most commonly referred to as "Buck", he was born on December 24, 1929 in Croom, Maryland to the late Alfred Omega McClanahan, Sr. and Nodi Rinker.

Buck proudly joined the United States Marine Corp in September, 1951 and served his country. He was honorably discharged in September, 1953. He spent the remainder of his career working as an Operator Engineer at International Union of Operating Engineers.

Buck met the love of his life, Dolores Mae (Davis) McClanahan and made her his bride on July 22, 1953. They raised their family in Fort Washington, Maryland, before retiring in Prince Frederick, MD. Buck and Dolores spent the last 66 years celebrating their love and devotion to each other.

His hobbies included telling jokes and stories from his past, crabbing, fishing, small business entrepreneurship's, riding tractors and most importantly, spending time with his beloved family. On any given holiday, Buck was surrounded by 40-50 family members and he often got a kick out of how many cars filled the driveway and smiles that filled their home. He prided himself on his family and the bond they all shared which was primarily evident during his last days, where he was surrounded by all of them. To be a McClanahan was such an honor and he made it very clear,

that your last name didn't have to be McClanahan to share the special bond of family. Every year, Buck looked forward to opening his home to everyone for the Annual McClanahan Reunion, where all were invited. He will be immensely missed, but his family finds peace and comfort remembering the full life he lived and his eternal life in Heaven.

Buck is survived by his wife, Dolores McClanahan of Prince Frederick, MD; and six children, Mark McClanahan (Susan) of Prince Frederick, MD, Sandra McClanahan Dargavel (Jim) of La Plata, MD, Randy McClanahan (Rhoda) of Hughesville, MD, Jack McClanahan (Connie) of La Plata, MD, Keith McClanahan of Prince Frederick, MD and James McClanahan (Diane) of Prince Frederick, MD; eighteen (18) grandchildren; twenty-nine (29) great-grandchildren and one (1) great-great grandchild. He is also survived by numerous sisters, Nina McClanahan (daughter-in-law), nieces, nephews and extended family. Buck was preceded in death by his parents and two sons, Scott McClanahan, Sr. and Timothy McClanahan.

The funeral service will be performed by Pastor James Swecker on Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home in Charlotte Hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, 90 Church Street, Prince Frederick, MD 20678 or Calvert Hospice, 238 Merrimac Court, Prince Frederick, MD 20678.

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

All arrangements have been made by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A.

### Jack Stanley Pippen



Jack Stanley Pippen of California, MD died on July 29, 2019 at the age of 88.

Born in Haskell, Texas on August 11, 1930, Jack was the son of the late Ora C. and Lonnie Pippen of Bridgeport, Texas. In November of 1953 Jack and Elizabeth Link were married and celebrated 66 wonderful years together.

Jack proudly served 9 years in the United States Navy and then 2 years in the Navy Reserves while attending Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. He received a Good Conduct medal, Navy Occupation Service medal and a National Defense Service medal.

Jack was with the Washington Gas

Light Company until 1992 when he retired with 30 years of service. He valued the many wonderful friends that shared his life. Jack was a lifetime member and a Melvin Jones recipient of the Lions Club. He was President of Southgate Lions, Camp Springs, MD, President of the Deland Lions in Florida, and was a current member of the Leonardtown, MD Lions. He was also a member of the BPOE Elks, St. Mary's, a past director with Melwood Horticultural, a Jaycee Senator and supported many other civic organizations.

Jack is survived by his wife Betty, his son Jack Pippen Jr., Debary, FL, his daughters Nita Collier, Mechanicsville, MD, Sandy Filer, Annapolis, MD, and Shari Robinson, Stevensville, MD, and his sister Betty Crymes of Arlington, TX. He leaves behind 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

All services will be private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Mary Lucille Sivak



Mary Lucille Sivak, passed away Monday, July 29, 2019 in Leonardtown, Maryland. Born October 18, 1933 in St. Mary's County, Maryland to the late Eugene Trossbach and Lil-

ian M. Trossbach.

Lucille was a devoted wife to her husband John Sivak whom she married July 19, 1952 in St. Michael's Church and spent 54 wonderful years with until his death in 2006. She was an avid reader, and loyal, depended upon member of the Knights of Columbus Bells. She could be found manning the carryout window at the monthly K of C chicken dinners. Lucille was the Title One aide at St. Michael's School until the program was discontinued.

Lucille is survived by her children; Marylou Garrison, Agnes Winans, Alan Sivak, and Bruce Sivak; her siblings; Phillip, Robbie, Danny, Richard, and Ida, 11 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, 3 siblings, her husband John and two of her children, Charlie and Rosie.

She will be greatly missed and warmly remembered by her family and community.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Michael's School, Post Office Box 259, Ridge, MD 20650.

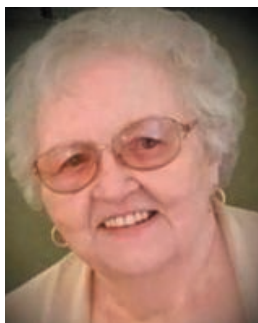
Condolences to the family may be



made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com).

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Gertrude Elaine (Settle) Oertly



Gertrude Elaine (Settle) Oertly, 80, of Compton, MD, passed away peacefully Saturday August 3, 2019, at the Hospice House of St. Mary's in

Callaway, MD.

Born December 31, 1938 in Cumberland, MD, she was the daughter of the late Robert Lee and Gertrude Jolley Settle.

Gertrude was an alumna of Fort Hill High School (Cumberland), Class of '57, and was a retired administrative assistant from the State of Maryland. She loved to quilt, read, and play with her rescue dog 'Bounce', but most of all loved time with her family.

Gertrude (Trudi) is survived by her

loving husband of 60 years, Charles F. Oertly; three daughters, Pamela O. Parrigan and husband Curtis of Washburn, TN, Laura O. Norwood and husband Alan of DE, and Sharon A. Richards and husband, Fred, of Adairville, KY; granddaughter Jessica Miller and husband Brian of Welcome, MD; great-grandson Bryce Miller; sister Betty McKenzie and husband, Galen of Cumberland, MD; and many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents, Gertrude was preceded in death by three brothers and five sisters.

The family will receive family and friends on Thursday, August 8th from 10 am – 11 am at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church 21370 Newtowne Neck Rd., Compton, MD. Funeral Mass will immediately follow with Fr. Rob Maro officiating.

Interment will follow at St. Ignatius Chapel Point Cemetery, 8855 Chapel Point Rd., Port Tobacco, MD 20677.

While flowers are welcome, donations in lieu of flowers are appreciated to the Hospice House of St. Mary's [www.hospiceofstmarys.org](http://www.hospiceofstmarys.org) or St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Newtowne Neck, MD for preservation of manor house [stfrancisxavierchurch.org](http://stfrancisxavierchurch.org)

Arrangements coordinated through Brinsfield Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com)

### Mary Reeder



Mary Reeder, 67, of California, MD passed away on Thursday, August 1, 2019, at Med-Star Washington Hospital Center.

Born November 16, 1951 in Leonardtown, MD to the late Alan Howard and Rita Florine Johnson Wible.

Mary was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. She retired from the Department of Defense after a long career as a budget analyst. She was a selfless, loving, and devoted mother and grandmother. She enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren. She spent her life providing her family with open ears and an open heart, sharing in every joy and hardship and providing comfort whenever needed. She enjoyed the simple things in life such as reading mystery novels, delicious desserts, and love stories on the Hallmark channel. She also looked forward to her monthly lunch dates with her friends. She was known for her terrific sense of humor and infectious laugh.

Mary is survived by her children: Jodie Lynn Hunt of Lexington Park, MD, Stacie Erin Park (Joon) of LaPlata, MD; and Corey Ryan Reeder (Bianca) of California MD; her siblings: Sandra Johnson (Fred) of Leonardtown, MD, Parran Wible (Donna) of Virginia Beach, VA, Susan Combs (John) of Leonardtown, MD, and Larry Wible (Trudy) of Leonardtown, MD; and her grandchildren: Greyson Park, Justin Park and Chloe Park, of LaPlata, MD. In addition to her parents, she is also preceded in death by her husband, Richard Joseph Reeder, her siblings, Gary Wible and Christine Wible, and her son-in-law, James "Jimmy" Hunt.

The family will receive friends for Mary's Life Celebration on Thursday, August 8, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m., with prayers recited at 7:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will be held Friday, August 9, 2019 by Pastor Neil Grobler at 11:00 a.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home. A Graveside Service will follow at Charles Memorial Gardens in Leonardtown, MD.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimers Association, 10665 Stanhaven Place, Suite 205D, White Plains, MD 20695.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### James Melton Miles



James Melton Miles, age 65, affectionately known as "Jingles", of Lexington Park, MD, was suddenly called to eternal rest on Monday, July


29, 2019 at his residence.

He was born on April 3, 1954 in Leonardtown, MD to the late James Walter and Carrie (Berry) Miles and was one of nine siblings.

James received his education from St. Mary's County Public Schools and graduated from Great Mills High School, Great Mills, MD, in 1973. Following graduation, James obtained a Federal Government position with the Department of Defense (DoD), aboard the Naval Air Station (NAS), Patuxent River, MD. He held the position as a Stock Clerk at the Commissary for 45 years of dedicated service. During his career, he made many friends and received numerous awards and recognitions, including Performance Awards, On the Spot Awards, Time-off Awards, Special Act or Service Awards, Individual Cash Awards and the 40 year Career Service Award, signed by The Secretary of the Navy.

James married the love of his life, Mary Patricia Miles on October 25, 1986 in Hollywood, MD. They spent 31 years together before her passing in 2017. He was a member of St. Cecilia's Catholic Church, a man of great faith, kind-hearted, full of life and a good friend to all who knew him. Some of his fondest memories were made making beautiful music, playing his saxophone. When he wasn't working or making music, he would be dancing, showing off his new steps. He was the star on the dance floor. "His dance moves would make you want to get up and cut-a-step, even if you did not have a dance partner". He loved to watch western movies and catch up with friends, but most of all he cherished spending time with his family.

James is survived by his wife's children, whom he loved dearly, Terry Clinton, of Lexington Park, MD Debbie Short (George), of Oxon Hill, MD, and Carolyn Jackson (Lee), of California, MD; siblings, Barbara Ann Jordon (Elmer), Howard Miles (Dana), Connie Diane Hewlett, Brenda Harper (Stanley), Tim Miles, Paula Greene (Ronald), Stevie Miles (Luchia), and Christopher Miles; his wife's seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He is also




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survived by six sisters-in-law; Agnes C. Fenwick, Arlene M. Carter (Robert), Brenda F. Butler (Darnell), Alma Elaine Somerville (Pernell), Phyllis M. Stevens (William deceased) and Catherine D. Bush (Thomas), five brothers-in-law; George E. Fenwick (Queenie deceased), Robert I. Fenwick, Sr. (Dorothy), Joseph N. Fenwick (Jackie), Philip L. Fenwick (Allison), Charles R. Fenwick (Glenda) and a special friend, Francis "Doc" Dyson. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by his wife's two sons, Wayne, Sr., Joseph Clinton and two sisters-in-law; Margaret L. Carroll and Mildred R. Fenwick.

Family will receive friends for James' Life Celebration on Monday, August 12, 2019. Viewing from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m., at St. Cecilia Catholic Church, 47950 Mattapan Road, St. Mary's City, MD 20686. Interment will follow at St. James Cemetery, St. James Church Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Joseph "Joe" Robert Bean



Joseph "Joe" Robert Bean, 39 of Great Mills, MD formerly of Valley Lee, MD, passed away on August 4, 2019 at his residence.

Born August 22, 1979

in Leonardtown, MD. He was the son of Diann Lynn Bean and Robert Ambrose Bean, Sr.

Joe is also survived by his siblings: Robert A. Bean, Jr. of California, MD, Stephen R. Bean of Honolulu, HI and Adam R. Bean of Valley Lee, MD and nephew Logan R. Bean of California, MD.

Joe was a lifelong St. Mary's County resident, he graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1997. He was a Captain with the Naval District Washington Fire Department, Company 13, Patuxent River MD where he was employed for 17 years.

Joe was co-founder and Carpenter at Shady Lane Construction, he belonged to the Second District Volunteer Fire Department since 1994.

The family will receive friends on Monday, August 12, 2019 from 5:00PM to 8:00PM with a Memorial Service at 7:00PM with John Lacey officiating in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, with a second visitation on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 from 8:30AM to 9:20AM in the Funeral

Home Chapel.

A graveside service will be held at 10:00AM in St. Georges Episcopal Cemetery, Valley Lee, MD.

Pallbearers will be: Robert A. Bean, Jr., Stephen R. Bean, Adam R. Bean and Logan R. Bean.

Memorial contributions may be made to: The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, 120 Wall Street 29th Floor New York, NY 10005 or please copy and past link to make a donation <https://afsp.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.personalCampaign&participantID=2000766>

### Susan Margaret Christian



Susan "Sue" Margaret Christian, 66 of Mechanicsville, MD formerly of Clearfield, PA passed away on August 3, 2019 at her residence.

She was the daughter of the late Thelma and Joseph Farrell. Sue was the loving wife of Anthony "Chris" Christian whom she married on May 26, 1979 in Clearfield, PA. She is also survived by her children: Jonathan David of Studio City, CA, Joseph Christian of Pasadena, CA, Sarah Christian of Albuquerque, NM and Andrew Christian of Mechanicsville, MD, siblings: David Farrell and Raymond Farrell both of Clearfield, PA and Diane Cathcart of Glen Richey, PA.

Sue graduated from Clearfield High School in 1970 and Duquesne University with a B.S. in Nursing in 1976. She served in the U.S. Navy at Balboa Naval Hospital from May 24, 1976 until April 29, 1979. Sue moved to St. Mary's County in July of 2009 from State College, PA. She enjoyed Organic gardening, sewing, quilting, crafts and writing and was Maryland Master Gardener.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, August 10, 2019 at 4:00PM in Grace Chapel Ministries, Helen, MD with Pastor Carl Snyder officiating. Interment will be private.

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

### William Philip Ferguson



William "Phil" Philip Ferguson, 77 of Hollywood, MD passed away on August 1, 2019 at his residence. Born May 1, 1942

in Hollywood, MD, he was the son of the late Mildred V. Gatton Ferguson and John I. Ferguson, Sr.

Phil was the loving husband of Catherine M. Ferguson whom he married on March 16, 1962 in St. John's Church, Hollywood, MD

He is also survived by his children: Phyllis (Kyle) Smith of Wagener, SC, Timothy Ferguson of Gastonia, NC, Bonnie (Bill) Haden of Cataula, GA, and Crissie (Billy) Hunawill of Richmond Hill, GA, siblings: Joseph M. Ferguson of Mechanicsville, MD, Edna B. Boyce of Hollywood, MD, Francis X. Ferguson of Avenue, MD, 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, Phil was preceded in death by his siblings: John I. Ferguson, James E. Ferguson and Patricia A. Parent.

Phil was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He was an Auto Mechanic, Phil enjoyed Ham & CB Radio, camping, friends, family and his fur babies. He was Mr. Fix It.

All Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to A.C.T.S. A Community that shares.

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

### Warren Alexander Beatty



Warren Alexander Beatty, 95, of Chaptico, MD passed away on July 31, 2019 in La Plata, MD. He was born on September 9, 1923 in Richmond, VA

and was the loving son of the late Louise Argent Beatty and Isaac Beatty.

Warren was the loving husband of the late Pearl Madeline Beatty whom he married on June 21, 1947 in Washington, DC and who preceded him in death on September 16, 2012. Warren is survived by his children Madeline L. Montgomery of Palm Coast, FL, Brenda J. Green (Timothy R.) of Clinton, MD, Antonio T. Beatty of Chaptico, MD, daughter in law Pamela M. Beatty, 6 grandchildren, and 13 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son Darnell C. Beatty, son in law Albert H. Montgomery, siblings Samuel Beatty, Eugene Beatty and Elayse Toumer.

Warren graduated from Armstrong high school in 1941 and Howard University. Warren served in the United States Army from February 27, 1943 to January 25, 1946. While serving in the Army during WWII, he earned the Pacific Theater Ribbon W/2 Bronze Battle Stars, Philippine Liberation Rib-

bon w/1 Bronze Battle Star, 4 Overseas Service Bars and Good conduct Medal. He moved from Camp Springs, MD to St. Mary's County, MD in 1988. Warren worked as a computer Operations Manager for a Washington, DC law firm.

Warren enjoyed the videography, and photography, gardening, carpentry work and music.

The family will receive friends on Friday, August 9, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD where a Funeral Service will be held at 10:00 AM in the Funeral Home Chapel with Deacon Joe Lloyd officiating.

Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery Bushwood, MD.

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

### Thelma Jane Russell



Thelma Jane Russell, 87 of Clements, MD passed away on July 30, 2019 at her residence. Born December 3, 1931 in Savannah, GA to the late

Tyna Viola Lynch Bacon and Hershel Virgil Bacon.

Thelma was the loving wife of the late John Albert Russell who passed away on June 10, 1971, they were married on November 17, 1951 in Washington, DC.

She is survived by her children: John Steven (Patsy) Russell of Clements, MD, Delores Angela (Mark) Fine of Silver Spring, MD, Robin Patrick (Margie) Russell of Clarksburg, MD and Sandra Maria (Glenn) Reisinger of Mechanicsville, MD, siblings: Shirley Little of FL and Jimma Little of FL, 9 grandchildren; Karen (Mark Hubbs) Reisinger, Kimberly (Alan) Harper, Jamieson (Stephanie) Russell, Daniel Russell, Victoria (Greg) Veintimilla and Melody Russell, 5 great-grandchildren: Samantha, Michael, and Benjamin Harper, Colton and Raelynn Russell, and Cullen Veintimilla, Thelma was preceded in death by 3 grandchildren: Christopher Fine, Patrick Reisinger and Matthew Fine and 3 siblings: Mildred Wayson, Robert Bacon, and Joseph Bacon.

Thelma graduated from Anna Burdick Vocational High School, she moved from Washington, DC to St. Mary's County in 1951. She belonged to the American Red Cross and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), she enjoyed Scrabble, card games with her grandchildren. Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's and/or the Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad.

# 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

### Great Mills High School Joint 50<sup>th</sup> year Reunion Classes 1969 and 1968

The multiple dates include Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, at Tall Timbers Marina meet and greet. Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at Bay District Volunteer Fire Department. The Social starts at 5:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m. The Cost for the evening is \$45 per person. Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Crab and Oyster Picnic at Elms Beach Pavilion. For class of '69, contact Randy Morris at 301-872-4266 or [morrisswr@starpower.net](mailto:morriswr@starpower.net) and Danny Dixon at 301-373-5948 or [danny20636@yahoo.com](mailto:danny20636@yahoo.com). For class of '68, contact Bill Little at [falconwittle@aim.com](mailto:falconwittle@aim.com). Make checks payable to Randy Morris or Danny Dixon and indicate Class of '68 or '69 on the check.

## Friday, August 9

### Park Place Toastmasters Club

*Church of the Ascension, 21641 Great Mills Road, Lexington Park, MD*  
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Come visit us to find out how we can help you develop your speaking, listening, and leadership skills in a non-threatening environment!

### Elks Texas Hold'em Tournament

*St. Mary's Elks Lodge, 45779 Fire Department Lane, Lexington Park*  
7:00 p.m.

\$60 Buy in will equal 7,000 chips. Food and Beverages will be available for purchase. For any questions, contact James Dean at 240-577-0828 or by email at [jdeanjunior@yahoo.com](mailto:jdeanjunior@yahoo.com).

### Shakespeare in the City: Julius Caesar

*Historic St. Mary's City, State House Lawn, 47418 Old State House Road, St. Mary's City, MD 20686*

7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) and The Newtowne Players present Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare. Come visit us for this unique theatrical experience on the State House lawn! One of the Bard's most famous tragedies, it tells the story of the Roman statesman. For more information, call 240-895-4990 or email [info@HSMCdighistory.org](mailto:info@HSMCdighistory.org). [www.newtowneplayers.org/shakespearetickets.html](http://www.newtowneplayers.org/shakespearetickets.html)

## Saturday, August 10

### MVFDA Yard Sale

*Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department*

7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Every 8-foot of space or table is \$10. We do accept MasterCard, VISA, and Discover! For more information or to purchase a spot, call 301-399-3187 or email [jmturner6207@gmail.com](mailto:jmturner6207@gmail.com).

### Southern MD Decorative Painters Paint-In

*Immaculate Conception Church 28297 Old Village Rd. Mechanicsville, MD 20659*

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

We will be painting a Laurie Speltz project "Love is in the Air", led by Weezie H. Guests are always welcome and should contact us for supply info if you'd like to paint on the date of your visit. Visit [www.smdpaint.org/Calendar.html](http://www.smdpaint.org/Calendar.html) to view the project. For any questions, contact Garnett Joy at 301-884-2825 or email [smdp.LearnToPaint@gmail.com](mailto:smdp.LearnToPaint@gmail.com).

### Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Poker Run

*Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home*

11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

We will have some great stops, tasty food, fantastic prizes, exciting raffles and you will also have the satisfaction of making a huge difference in the lives of some deserving Veterans. We will have an event page on Facebook soon so watch for updates including band info, stops, raffle prizes and sponsors. All vehicles are welcome.

### Fellowship at The Fair

*St. Mary's County Fairgrounds 42455 Fairgrounds Rd Leonardtown, MD 20650*

12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Free Gospel Concerts in Fellowship Hall. There will be outdoor games and activities for all ages. Free food and beverages, all day! There will also be pony rides on site and much more! \$10 donation/\$5 kids. Various vendors. Tickets on EventBrite.com.

## Sunday, August 11

### All You Can Eat 2<sup>nd</sup> District Breakfast

*2nd Dist. VFD&RS, 45245 Drayden Rd., Valley Lee, MD 20692*

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Adults are \$10; children 6 to 12 are \$5, and children 5 and under are free. The menu includes Scrambled Eggs, French toast, Hot Biscuits, etc.

### Brunch, Silent Auction & Antique Car Show (Forget Me Not)

*Olde Breton Inn, 21890 Society Hill Rd, Leonardtown, MD 20650*

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Care Blairs team will hold forget-Me-Not Brunch, Silent Auction and Antique Car Show for the Southern Maryland Walk to End Alzheimer's. The brunch will feature a silent auction, a 50/50 raffle, and antique car show. Trophy awards to the top 25 cars. All proceeds will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association. Brunch is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For advanced sales, contact Susan at 240-298-3122 or email [ALZBRUNCH@gmail.com](mailto:ALZBRUNCH@gmail.com). To register for the car show, contact Mark Muir at

240-925-1438.

## Monday, August 12

### Toastmasters Meeting Talk of the Town

*21677 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Blvd, Lexington Park, MD 20653*

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Talk of the Town Toastmasters is a Toastmasters International club open to anyone. If you want to improve your communication and leadership skills, pay us a visit and bring a friend! [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org). club9410.easy-speak.org

### Pax River Quilters Guild

*Good Samaritan Church 20850 Langley Road, Lexington Park MD20653*

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

New members and guests are welcome! This month we are having a live Auction Sale, Silent Auction and Appetizer Night. You can buy things for future projects and eat great appetizers at the same time! Please NO SEAFOOD due to member allergies. [www.paxriverquiltguild.com](http://www.paxriverquiltguild.com)

### Faith Race Vacation Bible School at Living Hope Church

*21650 Chancellors Run Road, Great Mills, MD 206634*

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. August 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>

Children will discover God gives them the power to run and win the race called life. As they have fun with a Pushcart Derby and building and racing cars, snacks and games, they will learn about five heroes of faith from the Faith Hall of Fame in Hebrews 11. Each day the children will learn how to use their faith and win the race just as these heroes did. For more information, call 301-862-9805 or email [children@livinghopemd.com](mailto:children@livinghopemd.com).

## Tuesday, August 13

### CSM Open House La Plata Campus

*College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus, Fine Arts Center (FA), Theater, 8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata.*

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Visitors can learn how to get started at CSM with less debt, meet faculty, learn about financial aid and scholarships, receive transfer information, talk to current CSM students and find out about athletics and other CSM clubs and organizations. Free! <https://www.csmd.edu/apply-register/credit/campus-open-house-tours/>.

## Wednesday, August 14

### Educational Video Series: Ocean Odyssey

*Loffler Senior Activity Center, 21905 Chancellors Run Rd, Great Mills, MD*

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Go on an undersea journey to remote

and magical places with Feodor Pitcairn, a pioneer in underwater HD cinematography, as he explores the marine ecosystems of the Galapagos Islands. The Islands include Raja Ampat in Indonesia, Hawaii, the Maldives, etc. There are 16 seats available, reserve yours by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71658 or stop by the reception desk.

### CRMC Foundation Seminar Series: Aging at Home

*Charles Regional Medical Center Nagula Conference Room*

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Visit us for a free seminar presented by a panel of experts from our medical staff. This seminar will cover the various aspects to consider when trying to stay at home well past 65 years of age. We will be going over advance directives, fall prevention and medicine safety. Refreshments will be served. Reserve your seat today by registering at [www.umms.org/charles](http://www.umms.org/charles) or by calling 301-609-4132.

### CSM Open House Leonardtown Campus

*College of Southern Maryland, Leonardtown Campus, Building A, Room 206, 22950 Hollywood Rd., Leonardtown*

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Visitors can learn how to get started at CSM with less debt, meet faculty, learn about financial aid and scholarships, receive transfer information, talk to current CSM students and find out about athletics and other CSM clubs and organizations. Free! <https://www.csmd.edu/apply-register/credit/campus-open-house-tours/>.

## Thursday, August 15

### Parent's Affected by Addiction

*Charles County Sheriff's Office, LaPlata, Maryland*

6:30 p.m.

Parent's Affected by Addiction is a support group for those who have a loved one with substance abuse. All are welcome! For more information, call 301-848-6449.

### CSM Open House Prince Frederick

*College of Southern Maryland, Prince Frederick Campus, Building B, Multipurpose Rooms 103-105, 115 J.W. Williams Road, Prince Frederick*

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Visitors can learn how to get started at CSM with less debt, meet faculty, learn about financial aid and scholarships, receive transfer information, talk to current CSM students and find out about athletics and other CSM clubs and organizations. Free! <https://www.csmd.edu/apply-register/credit/campus-open-house-tours/>.

## 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

### Walk Maryland

Wednesday, Oct. 2, has been declared by Governor Larry Hogan as Walk Maryland Day! In preparation for the 5K Walk that the Department of Aging & Human Services has planned that day, start tracking your time spent walking. You'll have an opportunity to win a great prize, raffled off monthly. Pick up a log sheet at any of the County's senior activity centers, keep track of your time walking, and turn in your log by the 5th of the following month to be entered into the monthly drawing. Raffle prizes will be drawn for those who participate in July, Aug., & Sept. Then, join us on the Three Notch Trail starting at Baggett Park in Laurel Grove for the finale, the 5K Walk, on Oct. 2. For more information, contact Alice at 301-475-4200, ext. 71063. Log sheets are also available on the Department of Aging & Human Services website - [www.stmarysmd.com/aging](http://www.stmarysmd.com/aging).

### Saturday Enhance Fitness

The Northern Senior Activity Center offers Enhance Fitness on select Saturdays. For the month of August, class will be held on 8/17 and 8/31 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. This evidence-based cardio and strength training class is a fun, energizing way to building muscle and improve your overall health. Try your first class for free. If interested in participating on

a regular basis, fitness cards are available at \$35 for 10 sessions at the front desk during normal business hours. For more information about this program, call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

### Luncheon with Suzette Pritchett

Come join us to hear special guest vocalist Suzette Pritchett perform at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesday, Aug. 14, at 12 p.m. Suzette has been singing professionally for 30 years and has a beautiful sultry voice. We are excited to have her back at the Garvey Senior Activity Center as requested! Space is limited and this performance will fill up fast! The menu for lunch is seafood salad on lettuce, pickled beets, corn, dinner roll, apple crisp with ice cream, orange juice/milk/coffee/tea. Cost for lunch is by donation for those ages 60 and above and \$6 for those under the age of 60. To make reservations, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

### Educational Video Series: Ocean Odyssey

Join us at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Aug. 14 at 10 a.m. for a 60-minute educational video featuring an exploration of marine ecosystems. This video is a Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History presentation. Seats are limited, so stop by the

reception desk during regular hours to sign up or call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658.

### Healthwatch: Resources for Older Adults

Join our volunteer Healthwatch Instructor on Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. as she discusses how to access local resources that will help in many different aspects of your life. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk to sign up.

### Ice Cream Social with Special Guest Performance

Need to cool off this summer? Come join us on Friday, Aug. 16, from 2:30 p.m.-4 p.m. as the Garvey Senior Activity Center will serve vanilla ice cream in a cup with a toppings bar provided by the Garvey Senior Activity Center Council, Inc. Musical entertainment will feature Paul Barber. Mr. Barber will sing and play keyboard to your favorite oldie but goodie summer favorites. Purchase your tickets in advance by close of business on Aug. 14 and get a special discounted rate of \$3 per ticket! Same-day tickets are available for \$5 per ticket. Tickets will be available starting Thursday, August 1. For more information, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

### Scarf It Up With Color!

Terry Tabor, a silk painting artist, will host a silk scarf dyeing class on Aug. 21 at the Loffler Senior Activity Center at 10 a.m. Cost is \$35 and includes all materials including 2 different size silk scarves. Payment is due to the instructor on the day of class. Reserve your seat by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk.

### Change of Dates for Beginner Tai Chi for Arthritis at Loffler

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention for Beginners classes at the Loffler Senior Activity Center will begin on Monday, Sept. 9. The classes will be held on Mondays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. through Monday, Oct. 7. In this class we will learn to do some core movements on each side in a graceful routine while applying basic Tai Chi principles. There is no fee for this class, but a commitment to attendance and practice is necessary for success. Pre-registration is required. Since space is limited for new participants, we ask that you sign up only if you are sure that you will be able to attend regularly. Students who have previously studied Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention in St. Mary's County are welcome to attend class and are not required to sign up. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk to sign up.



### TV Trivia Night

Lexington Park Library will hold a TV Trivia Night on Thursday, August 15 from 6 - 7 p.m. Come test your knowledge of popular TV shows at team trivia night. This month's theme is TV dramas. Ages 18 and up. No registration required.

### LEGO Block Party

Lexington Park Library will hold a LEGO Block Party on Friday, August 16 from 2 - 4 p.m. We supply the "bricks," you bring the imagination! Come and build something amazing with our thousands of LEGO and Duplo pieces. All ages are welcome!

### BINGO for Kids

The Charlotte Hall Library will host two sessions of BINGO for Kids on Tuesday, August 20. The first session will be held from 10 - 10:30 a.m. for ages 3 - 6, and the second session will be held from 10:45 - 11:15 a.m. for ages 7 - 12. Try your luck in our kid-friendly version of Bingo. Match letters, numbers, and symbols to win fun prizes! Registration required.

### How to Understand Your Credit Score

Lexington Park Library will hold 'How to Understand Your Credit Score' on Tuesday, August 20 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Credit scores don't just impact your financial world -- they actually affect much more in your life. It is possible to have your score evaluated by potential employers, landlords, utility companies, insurance companies and more. Having a good understanding of credit scores can help a person become a good manager of credit. The good news is that many resources are available online that provide valuable information. By the end of this class you should be able to request a credit report, read it, report or dispute any errors in your report, and improve your credit score. Registration required.

### Paws to Read

Lexington Park Library will hold Paws to Read on Friday, August 23 from 2 - 4 p.m. Register for a 15 minute session on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). For beginning readers, or any student who needs a confidence boost. Join "Pets on Wheels" to practice reading out loud to a therapy dog for 15 minute sessions. Registration opens 2 weeks before each program. Readers should bring a book, or arrive at least 20 minutes early for help to choose a book.

### Yoga at the Library

Lexington Park Library will hold Yoga at the Library on Saturday, August 24 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. A yoga basics class that is appropriate for all levels of experience. Participants connect with the inner-self and the power of the body's self-healing mechanism. Come and learn how to align the mind, body, and breath as you move your joints through the appropriate range of motion. A yoga practice develops the ability to stay calm during stressful situations as well as repatterning the body's programmed responses. This yoga basics class is offered in a relaxed learning environment. Open to all levels of interest and ability. Taught by evolve Yoga + Wellness. Please bring a yoga mat or a towel.

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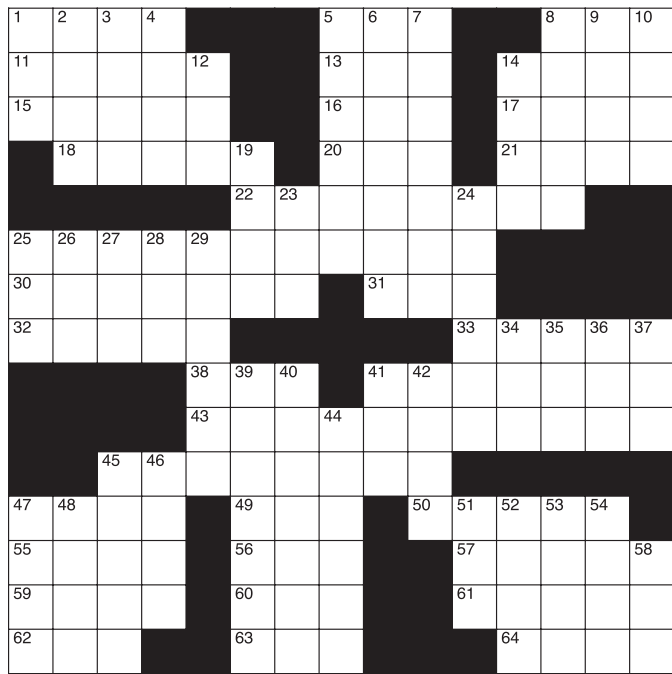
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# Fun & GAMES

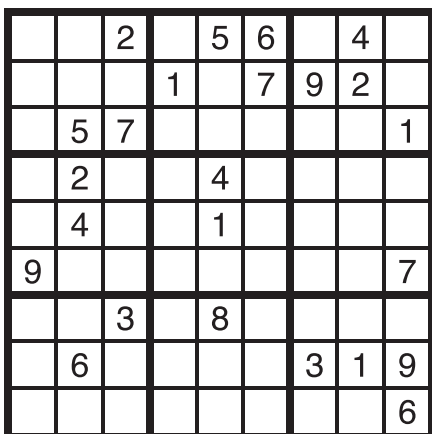


**CLUES DOWN**

1. Mountain Time
2. Int'l political organization (abbr.)
3. Olympic champion Lipinski
4. March
5. Less fresh
6. Reduced in size
7. Garden archway
8. Professional translators group (abbr.)
9. Type of pain
10. What to do for the cameras
12. Midway between south and southeast
14. Bangladeshi monetary unit
19. Satisfy
23. Flop
24. Nearsightedness
25. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
26. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
27. Midway between northeast and east
28. Swedish castle
29. War-ravaged Syrian city
34. American model Carol
35. Bitterly regret
36. Grand \_\_\_: superior grade wine
37. Of she
39. Clergymen
40. Ringwald and Shannon are two
41. Daze
42. Scores perfectly
44. More narcissistic
45. Fencing sword
46. Highest point
47. In addition
48. Hawaiian feast
51. Appropriate under the circumstances
52. Hillside
53. Metrical foot
54. Winemaking region
58. Someone

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Social reformer Lucretia
5. Engine additive
8. Where draft beer comes from
11. Skin lesions
13. Denoting one or more things
14. Beloved dish
15. Packaging allowances
16. Surrounds the earth
17. Expresses pleasure
18. "For goodness \_\_\_!"
20. Liquefied natural gas
21. Paul \_\_\_, Swiss painter
22. Benign tumors
25. In an early way
30. Covered with wood
31. Principle underlying the universe
32. Message
33. Become dry through heat
38. Printing speed measurement
41. One who does not succeed
43. Type of agent
45. Type of waste
47. Wings
49. Giants' signal caller
50. Polio vaccine developer
55. Congo native
56. Mortal is one type
57. Fishing vessel (Naut.)
59. Ethnic group of Thailand
60. Where golfers begin
61. Western Florida city
62. Belonging to us
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. Influential Israeli diplomat



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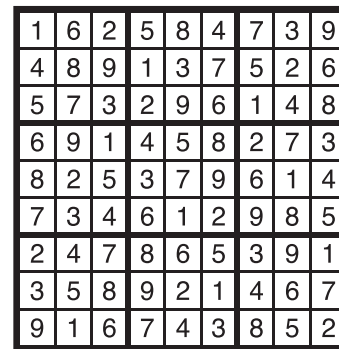
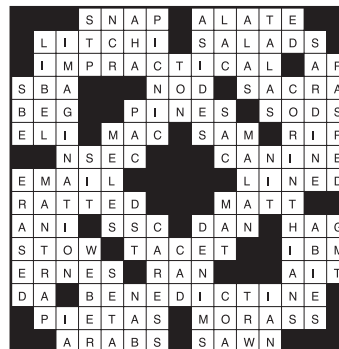
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