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# St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2019

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## A YEAR IN REVIEW

# 2019

**PART ONE**

**Top Teacher**

**Kids & Alcohol A Serious Problem**

**On Call in the 7th**

**Nurses Are The Backbone of Care**

**A St. Mary's Staycation**

**Leonardtwn Arson Under Investigation**

**Hemp: Next Cash Crop?**

**Community Center Sites Considered**

**Opioid Deaths Continue to Rise**

**St. Mary's Hidden Gem**

**Rescued!**

**Ridge's Fightin' Four**

**Leading Ryken's Transformation**

**St. Mary's Hidden Gem**

**St. Mary's Hidden Gem**



# CONTENTS

LOCAL NEWS 3  
 COPS & COURTS 10  
 COMMUNITY 11  
 EDUCATION 13  
 PAX RIVER 14  
 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 15  
 FEATURE 16  
 CONTRIBUTING WRITERS 23  
 FUN & GAMES 23  
 SPORTS 24  
 OBITUARIES 25  
 COMMUNITY CALENDAR 28  
 SENIOR CALENDAR 29  
 LIBRARY CALENDAR 29  
 BUSINESS DIRECTORY 30  
 CLASSIFIEDS 31

## ON THE COVER 16

2019 was a busy and tumultuous year for St. Mary's



## LOCAL 4

Leonardtwn honored a Charlotte Hall D-Day Veteran for his service



## COMMUNITY 11

Santa Claus visited St. Mary's County Airport



## PAX RIVER 14

Retiree plans much fishing after 50 years on the job.

**“I DON'T THINK YOU'LL SEE A DECLINE.”**  
 SHERIFF TIMOTHY K. CAMERON ON MOUNTING FATAL OPIOID OVERDOSES.

**WEEKLY FORECAST**

Thu 12/26 50°   37°F Partly Cloudy	Fri 12/27 52°   37°F Cloudy	Sat 12/28 53°   41°F Partly Cloudy	Sun 12/29 53°   39°F Showers
Mon 12/30 46°   33°F AM Showers	Tue 12/31 44°   30°F AM Showers	Wed 1/1 45°   35°F Mostly Sunny	Thu 1/2 46°   37°F Few Showers



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# Opioid Deaths Break 2018 Total

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The number of opioid related fatal overdoses through the end of November reached 32, initial law enforcement reports showed, which outpaces the fatalities from 2018 and is just one away from the all time high of 33 deaths in 2017.

County health officials have said that initial numbers of opioid related deaths can change; the final determination on whether a death resulted from an overdose comes from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore.

If the rate of opioid deaths continues, as in recent months, 2019 could be the most lethal year for overdoses in St. Mary's County yet.

According to the latest data compiled by both the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and the Leonardtown Barrack of the Maryland State Police there have been a total of 122 overdoses reported in St. Marys' so far this year.

In those cases, 63 people were saved from a fatal overdose by the application of Narcan, a drug that can counteract overdoses, according to law enforcement information.

Dr. Meena Brewster, county health officer, said the health department would

continue its fight to expand access to treatment for opioid addiction.

"We are continuing to deal with the opioid epidemic and, specifically, the rise in fentanyl with cocaine use over the past couple years," Brewster said in a prepared statement. "Data from the Maryland Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) through mid-December suggests 27 opioid-related fatalities had occurred in St. Mary's County where the manner of death was either accidental or undetermined (i.e., not suicide).

"Our response to the epidemic includes many partners and multiple areas of focus: prevention of drug use, early identification of drug use, connecting people to an expanding network of treatment and support services, and preventing fatal overdose. Addiction is a chronic and challenging illness, but recovery is possible, and treatment can be effective for many people."

The data is updated monthly on a sign in front of the state police barrack on Hollywood Road.

Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron agreed that fentanyl was the catalyst behind so many deaths.

"I don't think you'll see a decline [in opioid related deaths]," Cameron



Opioid Related Deaths Continue to Rise

told The County Times. "The difference is the prevalence of fentanyl in everything."

Law enforcement and health officials have also warned that cocaine has been laced, often surreptitiously, with fentanyl and other street drugs, endangering drug users who are not seeking to take opioids.

Cameron said the recent focus by State's Attorney Richard Fritz's office in seeking second-degree depraved heart murder indictments against purveyors of opioids whose clients die due to the drug, has been taxing on resources.

"If you look at the time on these cases it's immense," Cameron said. "There's very little time for conventional investigation, which involves working the

streets and getting informants."

Still, the seeking of murder indictments has given local dealers some pause Cameron said, though users can find desired narcotics by travelling to either Baltimore or Annapolis.

"I think it's necessary, I think it's appropriate," Cameron said of the depraved heart murder indictments.

A St. Mary's Grand Jury returned such an indictment last week against William Joseph Leo Brown, 41, of Lexington Park after a user he is alleged to have sold opioids to died in March.

The health department has also spread a warning from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) that counterfeit prescription pills from Mexico may also be laced with fentanyl.

The health department is continuing its efforts to train citizens in the use of Narcan; training classes are free and open to the public.

Free Narcan is distributed to those who have successfully completed a training class given by the health department.

Classes have been scheduled for January and February of next year at the health department's headquarters on Peabody Lane in Leonardtown.

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

## A TO Z

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# D-Day Vet Honored By Town, Home Church

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Stanley Buckler, 95, of Charlotte Hall, survived the D-Day landings as a sailor transporting troops and supplies to Utah beach in U.S. Navy landing craft 75 years ago.

Now he's recovering from a broken hip at the St. Mary's Nursing Center in Leonardtown, still a survivor, after suffering a fall recently.

Buckler took part in the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Veteran's Day Parade in Leonardtown, riding in a Veterans of Foreign Wars float with World War II and Vietnam War veterans.

On Monday, the town government and Buckler's church Mt. Zion Methodist Church, paid him dual honors as he recovered.

Mayor Dan Burris awarded Buckler a proclamation for his service during the war and for his helping the town honor those who have served and sacrificed for their country.

He was also honored with his church's men's group's "Christian Man of the Year" award.

He was in good spirits despite being hurt; he was surrounded by his family and friends during the ceremony.

"The hip's healing now," Buckler said. "I still can't walk.

"In the next couple of weeks, I hope to get out of here."

The LCT landing craft he was assigned to was about 100 feet long, 30 feet wide, could transport anything



World War II Veteran Stanley Buckler, center, was honored by the town for his service in the U.S. Navy on D-Day.

from ammunition to troops and tanks.

It was also slow, cramped and a big target. It carried a crew of 12 men and two officers.

On D-Day, the Day of Days, Buckler and his crew started to deliver troops from troop ships in the channel to the Normandy beach head.

Instead of landing on the beach, his craft let troops out while they were still hundreds of feet from shore from Utah Beach.

"We let them out in waist deep water," Buckler said. "The tide went in so fast and went out so fast."

They took enemy fire.

"We got hit one time," Buckler said, explaining that he and another man were in a machine gun turret on

the LCT when his fellow sailor was wounded, and he knocked unconscious.

He still has a small scar above his right eye from the impact of the enemy fire.

Buckler said he was helping to load ammunition when he and his comrade were hit.

Though he didn't take part in front-line combat like an infantryman, he and his crew could have easily been killed if they had been strafed by an enemy aircraft.

"One time we had 100 tons of ammo on the boat," Buckler said of their often-hazardous cargo. "We were always bringing something in."

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## Commission on Environment Offering First-Ever Stewardship Awards

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Commission on the Environment (COE) is looking for a few good businesses; businesses that are good stewards of the environment, that is.

The COE Sustainability Awards seeks to recognize businesses for their work to improve the environment but also students, non-profit groups and farms.

The COE is seeking groups who are willing to apply to be nominated for the award; the deadline for submission forms is Feb. 28 of 2020.

Steve Woodburn, a member of the commission, said the aim of the awards was to spread the message of environmentalism and its benefits to the community.

"We wanted to recognize them [good stewards of the environment] so more people would get involved," Woodburn said. "We thought it was something good and we're all on board."

Any business or organization based in St. Mary's County is eligible for consideration for the award, which have shown they have taken outstanding steps to improve the environment.

The work can include voluntary ini-



tiatives, projects or efforts that exceed requirements of law and must have been done in the prior year between January and December of 2019, according to information from COE.

The sort of projects and efforts that are acceptable criteria for the award include composting food scraps and yard waste, pollution prevention, encouraging use of alternate transportation, expansion of green space, energy and water conservation measures, tree planting, stream and waterway monitoring and restoration and pursuing green building standards.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

## Leonardtwn Arson Under Investigation



A fire at a Wheatley Avenue residence has been deemed arson.

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

A Sunday night fire at an apartment on Wheatley Apartment Way in Leonardtown has been ruled an arson, according to Maryland State Fire Marshal investigators.

Investigators reported that an unknown suspect or suspects intentionally set fire to the rear exterior of the home.

The fire was discovered by the home-

owner and caused an estimated \$500 worth in damages.

Volunteers with the Leonardtown fire company responded to the fire.

Anyone with any information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Southern Regional Office, at 443-550-6834 or 443-550-6820.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**16th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast**

**Keynote Address: Dr. Jason Johnson, professor and political analyst**

**JANUARY 20**

J. Frank Raley Great Room, Campus Center  
Breakfast: 6:30 A.M. (\$10 at the door)

Program: 8:00 A.M. (free)

Day of Service: 10:00 A.M. (free)

**Annual Reeves Lecture with Jeffrey Hammond**

**"The Snow Woman: Some Reflections on Masculinity, Morality, and Art"**

**FEBRUARY 12, 4:45 P.M.**

Daugherty-Palmer Commons

**An Evening to Honor the Legacy of Lucille Clifton**

**FEBRUARY 29, 7:00 P.M.**

Daugherty-Palmer Commons

**Presidential Lecture Series**

**Featuring Jay Williams**

**MARCH 26, 7:30 P.M.**

Auerbach Auditorium, St. Mary's Hall

**The Twain Lecture Series on American Humor & Culture**

**Featuring Janelle James**

**MARCH 28, 7:00 P.M.**

Michael P. O'Brien Athletics & Recreation Center Arena

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## Powerball Drawing Creates \$1 Million Winner in St. Mary's

Lady Luck and Powerball delivered a special gift of \$1 million to a lucky Maryland player in the Wednesday, Dec. 18 drawing.

The Maryland Lottery is looking for the lucky player who bought the \$1 million winning ticket at New Market Citgo, located at 29290 Three Notch Road in Charlotte Hall.

New Market Citgo will receive a \$2,500 bonus from the Lottery for selling the second-tier Powerball winner.

The winning numbers for the Dec. 18 drawing were 14, 18, 26, 39 and 68; the Powerball was 9. Lottery officials encourage the winner to sign the back of the ticket immediately and keep the ticket in a safe location. The winner has 182 days to claim the prize in person at Lottery headquarters, located at 1800 Washington Blvd. in Baltimore.

The Powerball jackpot rolls to an estimated annuity value of \$171 million for the Saturday, Dec. 21 drawing with an estimated cash option of \$116.2 million.

This is Maryland's fifth \$1 million Powerball win of 2019. A Clear Spring man bought a \$1 million winning ticket in the Feb. 20 drawing from Dual Highway BP in Hagerstown and a Newburg man bought a \$1 million winning ticket



in the March 9 drawing from Ole McDonnell's Country Store in Newburg.

Two still-unclaimed \$1 million winning tickets were sold at 7-Eleven #11534 in Crofton in the Nov. 13 drawing and at Rieve's Deli in Odenton in the Dec. 14 drawing. In 2018, Maryland had one \$1 million winner and in 2017 had two \$1 million winners.

Watch televised Powerball drawings at 11:22 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays on WBAL-TV. Winning numbers are available at mdlottery.com and on your smartphone by downloading the free MD Lottery app. Powerball is offered in 44 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Tickets cost \$2 each.

Odds of winning the jackpot are approximately 1 in 292 million. Overall odds of winning any prize are about 1 in 25.

*Maryland Lottery Press Release*

## What's Coming to St. Mary's



### 1. MINOR SUBDIVISION # 19-1100032, SHELLEY SUBDIVISION LOT 3 (Zoning Ordinance 10-02) (Subdivision Ordinance 10-01)

OWNER: Noe Antoine  
AGENT: Little Silences Rest, Inc.  
LOCATION: 22216 Pee Wee Lane  
TM-041 GRID-10 PAR-0234 ED-03  
TAX ID-034313 LAND USE: Rural Preservation  
ZONING: RPD  
ACREAGE: 15.53  
ACTION REQUESTED: Review of a 1-lot minor subdivision.

### 2. MINOR SUBDIVISION # 19-1100033, LAND OF ERNEST & MARCELLA WILLIAMS (Zoning Ordinance 10-02) (Subdivision Ordinance 10-01)

OWNER: Ernest C. Williams Jr & Marcella M. Williams  
AGENT: DH Steffens Co.  
LOCATION: 23325 Ernest Williams

Lane TM-030 GRID-18 PAR-0037  
ED-07 TAX ID-030924  
LAND USE: Rural Preservation  
ZONING: RPD  
ACREAGE: 40.602  
ACTION REQUESTED: Review of a 1 lot minor subdivision.

### 3. MINOR SUBDIVISION # 19-1100034, STAUFFER'S ADDITION TO HICKORY FARMS LOT 5 (Zoning Ordinance 10-02) (Subdivision Ordinance 10-01)

OWNER: Peter M. Watson Sr & Carole Mattingly  
AGENT: VARC, LLC.  
LOCATION: Krissy Way TM-057  
GRID-15 PAR-0283 ED-02 TAX ID-041677  
LAND USE: Rural Preservation  
ZONING: RPD  
ACREAGE: 7.82  
ACTION REQUESTED: Review of a 1-lot minor subdivision.

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# More Sites Considered for YMCA

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The exploratory committee searching for sites where a YMCA community center might be placed recently considered more sites to include the public pool in Great Mills as well as on Shangri La drive in Lexington Park at the library.

A piece of property at Nicolet Park is also under consideration for a YMCA.

The committee met last week and also heard presentations from representatives with the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) and from local entrepreneur Trisha Post, owner of the Willows Recreation Center, also in Lexington Park, as to how their facilities could fit in with plans for a community center.

CSM representatives spoke on the college's Southern Maryland Wellness and Aquatics Center.

The wellness center offers multiple sports and fitness areas inside its 19,000 square foot domain and has more than 25,000 visitors a year.

"We think a relationship and a partnership with the YMCA would be beneficial," said Ellen Flowers Fields, CSM vice president of continuing education and workforce development. "We can help support... the amenities that you may be planning.

"We are very open to your proposals."

Post said her recreation center also offers multiple sports venues in a new building as well as turf surfaces that can be laid down and taken up as needed.

There was much variety in activities there, she said.

"We've been open... now for two weeks," Post said.



"And we've had birthday parties and corporate events?"

Post signaled her interest in some sort of partnership with a YMCA, noting that membership was growing quickly at her facility.

She said she would not consider a YMCA a competitor.

"The question is would you have the capacity if you wanted to?" said commission member John K. Parlett. "It sounds like you're pretty full."

Commission members continued their research into the library, Nicolet Park and Great Mills pool sites with demographic studies presented at the Dec. 18 meeting in Leonardtown.

The first two sites have drawn the most interest as they are closest to population centers in Lexington Park and are also close to critical services such as the local fire and rescue squads.

The demographics were promulgated and paid for by Parlett, who runs his own development company, he said.

The charts showed the population each site served within a half-mile, one-mile and three-mile radius.

"Great Mills [pool] was the least walkable for the most amount of people," Parlett said.

There were just 517 people living inside a half-mile of the pool, according to his study, while there were more than 1,900 in the same radius for the Nicolet Park site.

"It's clearly a better location if walkability is an important factor," Parlett said. "Nicolet Park is a much better location."

The library location on Shangri La Drive has 2,434 people living within a half mile, Parlett's report stated.

Commission member Monika Lee believed the Great Mills site was a "positive location."

"I feel the pool is an anchor to facilities," Lee said.

The Great Mills site was eventually selected as a second option for a community center.

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

## Hogan Applauds Boost in Bay Funding

For the second year in a row, Governor Hogan has led a successful bipartisan effort to protect federal funding for Chesapeake Bay restoration. The U.S. Senate Dec. 19 gave final approval to a government funding bill that includes \$85 million for Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts, a 16 percent increase over last year. In Maryland, the Hogan administration has committed a historic \$5 billion for wide-ranging bay initiatives—more than any administration in state history.

"We successfully fought last year to restore federal funding for the Chesapeake Bay, and we are proud to have worked with our regional partners to protect critical bay funding once again this year," said Governor Hogan. "Maryland is fortunate to be home to countless natural assets, but for us, none is more important than the Chesapeake Bay, which is truly a national treasure. Our administration has committed an historic

\$5 billion toward wide-ranging bay initiatives, and as a result of our collective efforts, the bay is the cleanest it has been in recorded history."

Earlier this year, after the federal administration proposed cuts to Chesapeake Bay restoration, Governor Hogan called it a "total betrayal." As chairman of the Chesapeake Executive Council, Governor Hogan led a bipartisan coalition of Chesapeake Bay watershed leaders—including Governor John Carney of Delaware, Governor Tom Wolf of Pennsylvania, Governor Ralph Northam of Virginia, Governor Jim Justice of West Virginia, and Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington, DC—urging Congress to approve \$85 million in the final funding measure that goes to the president's desk.

Governor Hogan also wrote directly to congressional leaders, pushing them to boost federal funding for the Chesapeake Bay Program: "I ask that Congress heed

our call to action and preserve and increase the federal commitment to restoring this national treasure."

"This timely boost in funding will help all of the states and the EPA prevent more pollution and monitor the pace of our progress upstream and downstream," said Maryland Department of the Environment Secretary Ben Grumbles. "The Chesapeake Bay Commission and our Congressional Delegation should be commended for listening and responding to our call to action."

The Hogan administration has made record investments to conserve, enhance, and protect our natural environment, including fully funding Program Open Space for the first time in more than a decade and fully funding the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund for the first time in state history.

*Press Release from Office of Governor Larry Hogan*

# Merry & Bright



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# Hoyer Invokes Larry Hogan, Sr. in Impeachment Remarks

Congressman Steny Hoyer (MD-05) spoke on the House Floor Dec. 18 in support of the two articles of impeachment against the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump. Below are his remarks as prepared for delivery:

"Madam Speaker, I've had the honor of serving in this House for over thirty-eight years. I've served during six presidencies. I've been here through moments of tremendous progress and terrible tragedy. I've seen periods of rank partisanship and patriotic bipartisanship. I've seen our two-party system work, and I've seen it break down.

"Never, in all my years serving in this great institution and the people of my district, did I ever expect to encounter such obvious wrongdoing by a President of the United States. Nor did I expect to witness such craven rationalization of presidential actions, which have put our national security at risk, undermined the integrity of our elections, and defied the Constitutional authority of the Congress to conduct oversight.

"We've heard from Republicans that this impeachment really has to do with policy differences or concerns about the President's temperament or that we simply dislike the President. They've alleged that Democrats have been itching to impeach him since he first took office. The facts say otherwise.

"Throughout the Trump presidency, Democrats have resisted pursuing impeachment even as we watched with dismay and disgust at a pattern of wrongdoing. That pattern included ordering federal agencies to lie to the public, firing the FBI Director for refusing to end an investigation of his campaign, siding with Vladimir Putin over our intelligence agencies, taking funding away from the military to put toward an ineffective border wall, and setting policies that have led to the separation of families and the caging of children. We have, to be sure, deep disagreements with the policies and actions taken by this president. But they are not reasons to pursue what Chairman Schiff has called, 'a wrenching process for the nation.'

"In fact, Democrats rejected that process emphatically in three specific votes. In December of 2017, Democrats overwhelmingly voted against pursuing articles of impeachment, including the Speaker and myself. We did so again in 2018, with over sixty percent of Democrats rejecting that path. Again, in July 2019, just days before the infamous July 25 telephone call, we did the same, with sixty percent of Democrats voting not to proceed.

"It was not until there was clear evidence that the President was abusing his power to serve his own interests – at the expense of our democracy, our national security, and the safeguarding of our elections from foreign interference – that we were compelled to consider articles of impeachment. Credible witnesses, many of whom were appointed to office by President Trump, have corroborated the details and timeline of his abuse of presidential power, which forms the basis of the first article of impeachment in



this resolution. I will not recount them here. They have been laid out fully in the articles before us and by colleagues in their remarks.

"What I will do is remind Americans that the House provided President Trump every opportunity to prove his innocence. Instead, he ignored Congressional subpoenas for documents and for testimony by White House officials and ordered his subordinates not to cooperate. This itself is unprecedented. When Presidents Nixon and Clinton were asked to hand over documents and allow officials to testify, ultimately both complied. Because it is the law. Such actions of the President can be taken as further evidence of his obstruction and abuse of power. It is itself impeachable conduct, the subject of the second article in this resolution.

"These two articles before us concern two very profound Constitutional issues about the abuse of power in our republic. First, whether it is acceptable for the President of the United States to solicit foreign interference in our elections, undermining our national security and the integrity of our democracy. And second, whether it is permissible for the president to obstruct Congress and act as if he is above the law and immune from Constitutional oversight.

"On December 4, the Judiciary Committee heard the testimony of Constitutional law experts who weighed in on these points. One of them, Professor Noah Feldman, cautioned: 'If we cannot impeach a president who abuses his office for personal advantage, we no longer live in a democracy. We live in a monarchy, or we live under a dictatorship.'

"The votes we are about to take concern the rule of law and our democracy itself. Let us not forget the words of the philosopher John Locke, so influential to the Founders of our republic. He warned: 'Wherever law ends, tyranny begins.'

"This impeachment asks whether we are still a republic of laws, as our Founders intended – or whether we will accept that one person can be above the law. In America, no one is above the law, but only as long as we hold every person accountable for breaking the law – even a president. Especially

a president.

"If the House does not act – if we wait and delay – we run the risk of allowing the President's misconduct to be repeated at the expense of the integrity of our elections, our national security, and our Constitutional system of separation of powers. Democrats did not choose impeachment. We did not wish for it. But President Trump's misconduct has forced our Constitutional republic to protect itself.

"These votes we are about to take – and the process that will follow in the Senate – are not only an assessment of the President's commitment to the Constitution or to his oath of office. It is, as well, a test of our own. Damning evidence of the President's high crimes has emerged. Nevertheless, Republican Members of this House and of the Senate have continued to defend a President whose actions and statements are indefensible.

"All of us feel a sense of loyalty to party. It's what makes our two-party system function. It's what helps hold presidents and majorities accountable. But party loyalty must have its limits. And as evidence of the President's impeachable offenses has mounted, it has become increasingly clear that the limits of partisanship have been reached and passed.

"Now, Democrats and Republicans together face a test before our constituents, our countrymen, and our Creator.

"The New York Times on October 18 summarized the question now posed to House and Senate Republicans: 'Compromise by compromise, Donald Trump has hammered away at what Republicans once saw as foundational virtues: decency, honesty, responsibility. ...Will they commit themselves and their party wholly to Mr. Trump, embracing even his most anti-democratic actions, or will they take the first step toward separating themselves from him and restoring confidence in the rule of law?'

"Madam Speaker, we have seen Republican courage throughout our history, from the Civil War to the Cold War. In 1950, Margaret Chase Smith, the Senator from Maine, spoke bravely against the cancer of McCarthyism in her party, leading six of her Republican

colleagues in a 'Declaration of Conscience' against their own leadership. 'We are Republicans,' they declared, 'but we are Americans first.'

"In 1974, one Congressman took the brave and principled step of becoming the first Republican on the Judiciary Committee to support impeaching President Nixon. He said to his colleagues and to the country: '...It isn't easy for me to align myself against the president to whom I gave my enthusiastic support... on whose side I've stood in many legislative battles, whose accomplishments in foreign and domestic affairs I've consistently applauded. But it's impossible for me to condone or ignore the long train of abuses to which he has subjected the presidency and the people of this country. The Constitution and my own oath of office demand that I bear true faith and allegiance to the principles of law and justice upon which this nation was founded. And I cannot in good conscience turn away from the evidence of evil that is to me so clear and compelling.'

"That Congressman's name was Larry Hogan Sr. He represented the Fifth District of Maryland, which I now represent. His son is presently the second-term Republican governor of our state. When Larry Hogan Sr. died in 2017, every obituary led with praise for his great act of political courage. Who among us, many years from now, will receive such praise as a man or woman of courage? Who will regret not having earned it?

"When Rep. Justin Amash left the Republican Party, he admonished his colleagues that: 'This president will only be in power for a short time, but excusing his behavior will forever tarnish your name.' Rep. Amash, of course, is the only Member of this House who has no allegiance to either party. He is supporting both articles of impeachment.

"We need not ask who will be the first to show courage by standing up to President Trump. The question we must now ask is: who will be the last to find it?

"The pages of our history are filled with Americans who had the courage to choose country over party or personality. But, as President Kennedy wrote: 'The stories of past courage ...can teach, they can offer hope, they can provide inspiration. But they cannot supply courage itself. For this each man must look into his own soul.'

"I urge my colleagues in the House and in the Senate: look into your soul. Summon the courage to vote for our Constitution and our democracy. To do less betrays our oath and that of our Founders, who pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. Let us neither turn away from the evidence, which is so clear, nor from our good conscience, which compels us to do what in our hearts we know to be right. Let us not allow the rule of law to end or for tyranny to find its foothold.

"With our votes today, we can 'bear true faith and allegiance' to the vision of our Founders. And we can show future generations what it truly means to be 'Americans first.'"



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# Holiday Party Platters



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45 Shrimp	90 Shrimp	135 Shrimp
Serves 10-15	Serves 15-20	Serves 20-25

## FRUIT & CHEESE COMBO



An Arrangement of Seasonal Fruits, Cheese: Cheddar, Colby Jack, Swiss, Pepper Jack and Yellow American. Also Includes Fruit Dip

12" Tray	16" Tray	18" Tray
Serves 10-15	Serves 20-25	Serves 30-35

## GARDEN DELIGHT



An Array of Crisp Vegetables Including Broccoli, Baby Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery Sticks, Mushrooms, Radishes, Cucumber, Grape Tomato & Green Pepper. Includes Onion or Ranch Dip

12" Tray	16" Tray	18" Tray
Serves 10-15	Serves 15-25	Serves 25-40

## FINGER SANDWICHES



A Tasteful Arrangement of Your Choice of Tuna, Chicken, Egg Salad, Roast Beef, Turkey or Ham. Served on Rolls

12" Tray	16" Tray	18" Tray
20ct	30ct	40ct
Serves 8-10	Serves 12-15	Serves 15-20

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Serves 5-7	Serves 15-20	Serves 30-40

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An Assortment of One Pound Each: Seafood Salad, Tuna Salad & Shrimp Salad. Arranged with Crackers & Melba Toast

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6 LB Platter  
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8 LB Platter  
Includes 6 1/2 lbs. of Ham & 1 1/2 lbs. of Stuffing

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# St. Mary's Man Killed in Crash Sheriff's Office Crime Report



On Monday, December 23, at approximately 11:26 hours, Troopers from the Maryland State Police La Plata Barrack responded for a report of a motor vehicle collision involving a single vehicle on Maryland Route 234 (Budds Creek Road) in the area of Jenkins Road in Charlotte Hall. Due to the circumstances, the Maryland State Police La Plata Barrack requested the Maryland State Police CRASH Team to assume the investigation.

A preliminary investigation conducted by Troopers from the La Plata Barrack and the MSP CRASH Team indicates a 2003 Buick Century operated by Walter Jerome Reed, 73, of Mechanicsville was traveling eastbound on Maryland Route 234 (Budds Creek Rd) in the area of Jenkins Road in Charlotte Hall. The Buick left the eastbound travel lane, crossed

the westbound travel lane and collided with a guardrail. The Buick continued traveling eastbound on the westbound shoulder. The Buick then traveled off the roadway and collided head-on with a tree. Reed was pronounced deceased on the scene by Charles County Emergency Medical Services personnel. Reed was transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for an autopsy.

Anyone who may have witnessed this crash is asked to contact Corporal J. Zimmerman of the MSP CRASH Team at (301) 392-1231.

The investigation is continuing and being investigated by Corporal J. Zimmerman of the Maryland State Police CRASH Team and Trooper A. Sabock of the Maryland State Police La Plata Barrack.

## Arrest Made in Drug Raid

In March of 2019, members of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Vice Narcotics Division began an investigation regarding **Jermaine Lynell Young, 37** of Great Mills, distributing con-



trolled dangerous substances (CDS). In May of 2019, a search and seizure warrant was executed at Young's residence in Great Mills. A quantity of cocaine was located within the residence to indicate an intent to distribute.

In collaboration with the St. Mary's County State's Attorney Richard D. Fritz, a Circuit Court indictment was obtained via the Grand Jury for the arrest of Young. On December 19, 2019, Young was arrested and charged with the following:

- CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana (Cocaine)
- CDS: Possession- With Intent to Distribute (Cocaine)

## Sheriff's Office Arrest

**Violate Protective Order-** On December 14 Sgt. Boyer and Dep. Graves served an interim protective order on **Davayus Alex Young, 23** of no fixed



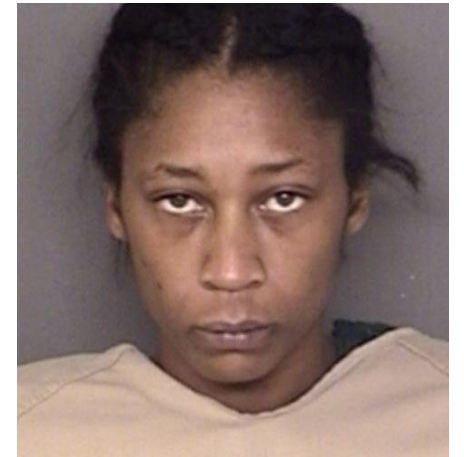
address. After being served the order, Young yelled a threatening statement to the victim which is a violation of the order. Young was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order.

**Drug Arrest-** On December 15 Dep. Graves arrested **Jonathan Gabriel Davis, 28** of Lexington Park on an outstanding warrant for CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana in the 21500 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park.



At the time he was taken into custody, Davis was found to have a suspected CDS smoking device (pen) with suspected residue (alprazolam) inside. Once at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center, Davis was found to be in possession of two suspected alprazolam pills. Davis was served the outstanding warrant and charged with CDS: Possession- Paraphernalia, CDS: Possession- Not Marijuana, and Possess Contraband at Place of Confinement.


**Disorderly Conduct/Fail to Obey Lawful Order-** On December 14 DFC. Beyer responded to the 45900 block of Great Mills Court in Lexington Park, for the reported trespassing. Upon arrival **Jovan Denise Fenwick, 26** of no



fixed address, was located sitting directly in front of the door. Fenwick refused to leave the area, and began yelling and creating a disturbance, to the point a neighbor came outside and advised Fenwick was disturbing her with the ongoing yelling. Fenwick was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct, Trespass-Private Property, and Fail to Obey Lawful Order.



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# Christmas at Flat Iron Farm

Photos by Weston Kilgore



## Santa Drops In To the Fly In Farmers Market



Santa Claus gets a ride to the terminal at the St. Mary's County Airport after arriving by helicopter Dec. 21.



Santa visited with kids and parents alike at the Fly In Farmers Market sponsored by Historic Sotterley Plantation.

# WENTWORTH NURSERY'S AFTER CHRISTMAS WINTER CLOSEOUT SALE

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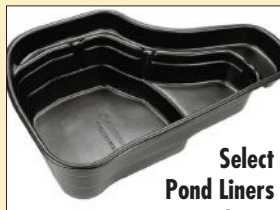
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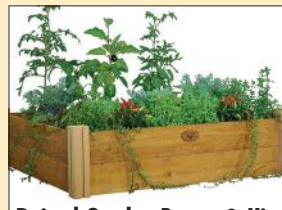
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# Fire Companies Face Off for Football



All the volunteers gathered at 7th District Park for friendly football competition

Members from Seventh District, Leonardtown, Mechanicsville and Hollywood traveled to 7th District Park on Sunday to play a few games of flag football. Each department was able to play one game against each other with Leonardtown and 7th District facing off in

the championship game. 7th District pulled off the win. Members enjoyed lunch that was cooked by the 7th District Auxiliary. Everyone had a blast and it was a great way to show the friendships and camaraderie between our departments.



Squaring off on the field

## Second Installment of Real Estate Tax Payments Due December 31



The St. Mary's County Treasurer's Office reminds residents the due date for the second semiannual real estate tax payment\* is quickly approaching. Payments must be made by Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019, and may be remitted by one of our convenient options:

Online at [www.stmarysmd.com/treasurer/Taxes/merchant.asp](http://www.stmarysmd.com/treasurer/Taxes/merchant.asp) using your name or tax account number

to locate account data.

United States Mail to St. Mary's County Treasurer, P.O. Box 642, Leonardtown, MD 20650. To avoid interest and penalty fees, ensure you have the envelope postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2019; the postmark on your envelope is the accepted payment date

Hand-delivered to our office at: 23150 Leonard Hall Drive, Leonardtown, MD.

Our holiday hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Treasurer's office will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26 as well as Jan. 1 and Jan. 2.

Please note there is no extension of the due date this year. All payments are due Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019, and the office is open regular hours for full service.

Review your tax account 24 hours a day through

the online tax lookup portal: [www.stmarysmd.com/treasurer/taxes](http://www.stmarysmd.com/treasurer/taxes)

\*To qualify for semiannual payments, your property must be designated as PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE with any assessment amount or as COMMERCIAL PROPERTY with any assessment less than \$9,000,000.

## New Year Brings Tobacco Free County Properties

All St. Mary's County owned, and leased buildings, properties, and vehicles will adopt a tobacco free policy effective January 1, 2020. This policy includes smoking, vaping and any and all other nicotine products.

A two-phase tobacco free resolution adopted by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County banned the use of tobacco products at parks and museums in September and encompasses county owned or leased buildings and properties beginning January 1st.

Additional details and resources regarding the tobacco free policy, including a link to free smoking cessation classes offered through the St. Mary's County Health Department, are available online: <https://www.stmarysmd.com/tobaccofree/>

*Press Release from  
St. Mary's County Government*

# SEASON'S GREETINGS

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# Forrest Center to Host Annual Tech Expo



**January 16 th  
5:30pm to 8pm**

## TECH expo

**Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center**

**Snow Date Thursday, January 23rd**

### Preparing Students to be Career Ready

The Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center (Forrest Center) will host its 20th annual Forrest Center Tech Expo on Thursday, January 16, 2020, 5:30-8 p.m., at the school site located at 24005 Point Lookout Road, directly across from the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds in Leonardtown, Maryland.

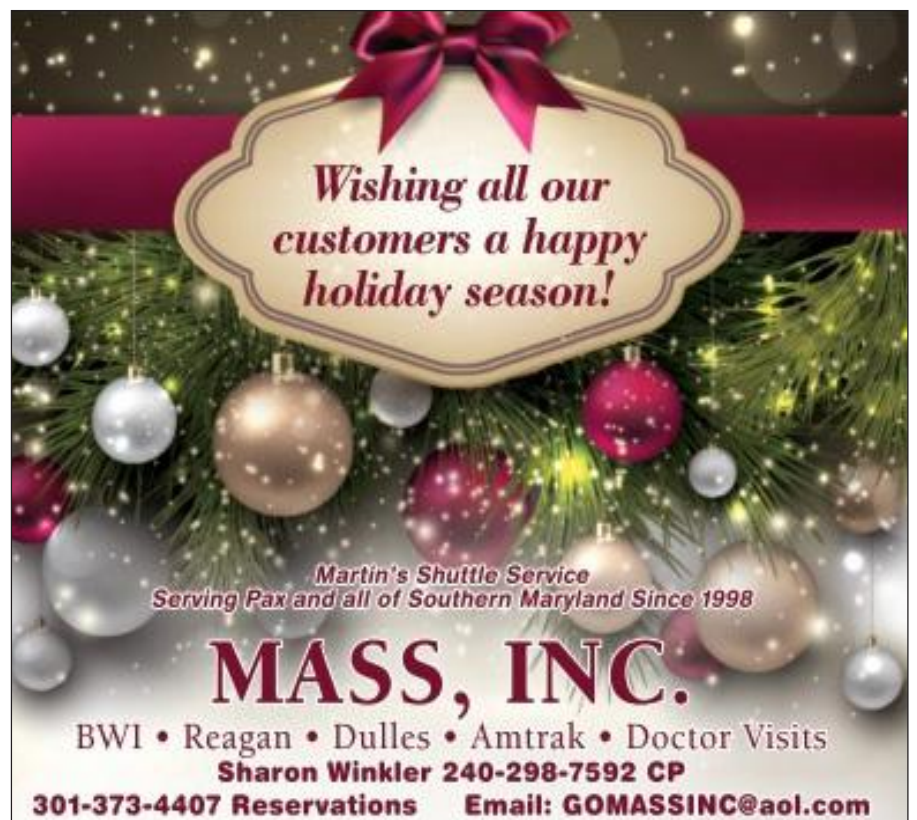
The purpose of the Forrest Center Tech Expo is to familiarize students and parents with Career and Technology Education (CTE) career options offered by the St. Mary's County Public Schools. This is an opportunity to meet the staff at the Forrest Center and to learn about the 23 completer programs (including the MIFRI Fire and Rescue/EMS program at an off campus location) and the five elective classes that are offered. Middle

school and high school counselors will be available to answer questions about career clusters and to assist students in planning their academic program.

For more details, contact the Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center at 301-475-0242. In the event of inclement weather, the alternate date for the Forrest Center Tech Expo will be Thursday, January 23, 2020 from 5:30-8:00.

The event may be recorded and presented on SMCPS Channel 96, the school system's educational cable channel, and the Internet.

*Press Release from Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center*



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## Pet OF THE WEEK

### MEET DUNKIN

**MY CAT CAME OUT OF NOWHERE AND BECAME MY EVERYTHING**  
**LIFE IS BETTER WITH A CAT**



Hi there, my name is Dunkin. I'm sure you've been admiring my AMAZING HOLIDAY ATTIRE! My wonderful fashion sense tells you a lot about me. I'm not really interested in chasing a ball or swatting a toy across the room. I'm much more interested in KEEPING THE COUCH CUSHION WARM ( next to YOU I hope!). I'm just a true fashion forward couch potato! My shelter resume will report that I've lived with other cats, dogs and children and that I'm about 6 years old. Start your New Year with a LOVING ADOPTION! Give my friends here at TCAS a call and you can BE MY NEW YEAR'S MIRACLE! When you choose to adopt from TCAS you are literally saving a life.

**PLEASE CHOOSE ME!** And, remember, if there is room in the heart, there is room in the house.

Come meet me and the wonderful gang at Tri-County Animal Shelter (6707 Animal Shelter Road, Hughesville) or call **301-932-1713** for more information. To see more of my amazing friends available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD.

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## PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

# News

### Walker Retires with Combined 50 Years Military, Civilian Service

When Wayne Walker, with the NAS Patuxent River Security Office, first came to work at Pax in 1978, Jimmy Carter was in the White House, a gallon of gas cost 63 cents, minimum wage was \$2.65 an hour, and Grease was the big hit movie of the year.

“When I first came here, I was an active-duty chief working in the [Command Duty Office] and after about two weeks, the CO looked at my record and saw that I’d been the assistant safety officer on USS Independence (CV 62),” Walker said. “He told me they needed help in the Safety Office, which was only a two-man office at the time, but a few weeks later they hired two fire inspectors also. We used to be in Building 310, next to the post office in front of the flying club; but it’s long gone now.”

Computers were not widely used yet and whenever NAVAIR, which was still located in Crystal City, Virginia, would phone the Safety Office with a data call, Walker would have to flip through decks of 3x5-inch index cards to find and tally the information they requested.

“IMD (Information Management Division) finally gave us a terminal and since I was an amateur radio operator and dabbled in electronics, I built an Altair 8800, the first desktop computer that just counted things,” he said. “Along with a person at IMD, I wrote the first programs in the Navy to be able to track injuries and mishaps; we also wrote one for hazardous materials. The Undersecretary of the Navy heard about them, came down to look at them, and adopted them for the Navy – and that was the beginning of the Navy’s mishap tracking program.”

Walker was also the installation’s first radiation



Wayne Walker doing what he plans to do more of after his Dec. 31 retirement.

safety officer and the first certified Motorcycle Safety Foundation instructor on base.

“That was a new program that came to be because a lot of Sailors were being killed on motorcycles,” he explained. “I taught it for three years, from 1979 to 1981, and it’s still a required course today.”

Throughout the years, the biggest changes Walker

remembers within the Safety Office are the computerization of programs that used to be pen and paper work, the advent of mobile phones which allowed easier communications from the field, and the fact that the office had once been staffed by 30 employees.

“We had so many people at one time, we could put them out in the field,” Walker noted, “but once they did the realignment and created competency codes, it changed our budget and our personnel. Today we have three people in the office.”

Beyond the fenceline, Walker recalls Route 235 as a nice, quiet two-lane road that was just beginning to be widened in the area from Wildewood to the air station.

“There was really no traffic and no stores yet on 235,” he said. “The biggest store we had was a Kmart in Millison Plaza. To do any other shopping, you had to travel to Waldorf. There were a lot of bars though, and they all had one-armed bandits for gambling.”

Except for four years spent as a safety officer in Naples, Italy, Walker has been at Pax River for more than 40 years, ever since his arrival in 1978. He retired from the Navy as a chief electrician’s mate in December 1981. He and his wife of 42 years, Shirley, made their home in the area. They have two children Christy and Tony, a grandson Will, and twin granddaughters Autumn and Morgan – all who live in St. Mary’s County.

With 50 years of combined military and civilian service with the U. S. Navy, Walker has finally decided to spend his days bass fishing and wood working. On Dec. 19, the Safety Department is holding a retirement lunch for Walker to wish him well in the next chapter of his life. His official retirement date is Dec. 31.

Fair winds and following seas, Wayne. Relax and enjoy yourself; you’ve earned it.

*Donna Cipolloni  
NAS Patuxent River Public Affairs*

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# Join in the Fight Against Cancer

## To the Editor

The American Cancer Society (ACS) and RELAY FOR LIFE of St. Mary's County celebrates the many survivors of cancer who live amongst us in this community, remembers those we have lost because of cancer, and fights back with those who are currently battling cancer.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their support during 2019. Together with St. Mary's College of Maryland, we raised over \$100,000.00. Most recently, we hosted BARK FOR LIFE which was a wonderful event which raised awareness of the impact our canine family members make on a cancer patient's recovery as well as when cancer strikes our pets.

Cancer affects everyone. Let's change that. Cancer is treatable and beatable. Together, we can attack cancer from every angle and create a world with more birthdays. Get involved.

We will be officially kicking-off 2020's RELAY FOR LIFE on January 14 at 6 p.m. at the Forrest Tech Center in Leonardtown (across the street from the County Fairgrounds). We are "Focusing on a Cure in 2020!!!" We need your assistance and support. To get involved, please contact our ACS Partner, Jermell Stills (Jermell.Stills@cancer.org) or local Co-Event Leads, Joanne Goldwater (jagoldwater@gmail.com) or Tom Cavanagh (stcavanagh@yahoo.com). We invite everyone to join us for our annual RELAY FOR LIFE event on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at the County Fairgrounds. Bring your family, friends, colleagues to this family-friendly event. Our annual SURVIVORS RECEPTION starts at 1:30 PM. The RELAY FOR LIFE event starts at 4 PM and ends at Midnight. If you just learned that you have cancer, trust the information and research on the ACS website: www.cancer.org. If you are fighting cancer or you are a caregiver, use the resources that are available: free lodging near hospitals in DC and at the Hope Lodge in Baltimore; the "Look Good Feel Good" program and Cancer Survivors Support Group at St. Mary's Hospital; free rides to treatment; smoking cessation programs at the St. Mary's County Health Department; and the 24/7 Cancer Helpline at 800-227-2345.

*Jermell Stills, ACS Partner  
Joanne Goldwater & Tom Cavanagh,  
Relay For Life Co-Leads*

# Hollywood Traffic Circle

## To the Editor

I found it very interesting that in your recent article "County Considering Traffic Circle in Hollywood," county officials are considering putting a roundabout at the intersection of Old Three Notch Road and Route 245, Sotterly Rd. It also said the officials recognize this intersection has some serious safety issues, two specifically mentioned, "one of the most dangerous" and "unsafe geometric alignment."

What made it really interesting is that this intersection hasn't changed in the 35 years I have lived here and has a history of safety issues that were extensively discussed for months after the plan for the Hollywood Commercial Center was introduced with the main entrance located near that intersection. These issues were exhaustively debated and ultimately the planning commission's disapproved the project as proposed, but the appeals board overturned that decision.

Based upon the reported reconsideration of the safety concerns the county commissioners must have had an epiphany since during all the testimony, a law suit, and extensive media coverage, where the obvious safety concerns were thorough-

ly vetted, these same officials, save one who was not a Commissioner at the time, never said a word or did anything to prevent the planned disaster that is ultimately going to happen if changes are not made.

Another change between now and then is, now they are going to have the taxpayers foot the bill for a safer roadway and entrance rather than the developer. The thing the taxpayers/voters need to remember is there were several viable alternatives available to the planners and the developer to avoid the disaster that is waiting to happen. I am glad an alternative is now being considered since some alternative is clearly, and always has been, the right thing to do but as a taxpayer/voter I resent paying for something that should be paid for by those who plan on profiting from the development.

According to the article the State Highway Administration has jurisdiction over Route 245 and they remain silent about the safety concerns as they were during the ongoing debate over the planned development. It makes me wonder what was going on behind the scene.

I attended just about all the discussions as this project worked its way through the process, which included disapproval by the planning commission

and the approval by the appeals board, and not one person ever spoke in favor of the location of the main entrance as proposed, except the developers, the property owners and their lawyer. Many citizens argued against the proposal testifying about the safety concerns, that were historically accurate, and in some instances included personal experiences.

Where were the State officials, county commissioners and planners when all this dragged on publicly for months? Their heads were either in the sand, or perhaps someplace else, but these safety concerns were clearly no secret to anyone who was awake! This is another example of our elected officials watching over our safety and our tax money! If they should claim their ears were clogged or their hands were somehow tied they need to at least get rid of all the members on the appeals board since they sat there and ignored the facts as presented. The then county attorney stated publicly that, "citizen concern is reason enough to deny the application."

Taxpayers/voters take note, elections will be coming and give you the opportunity to express your opinion!

*David A. Ryan  
Hollywood, MD*

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# St. Mary's Saw Loss and Prog



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Special Olympian Kegan Zimmerman

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

St. Mary's County continued to grow and prosper in 2019 as the population increased and opportunities to work with defense related projects at Patuxent River Naval Air Station and the associated civilian technology offshoots increased.

But problems with increasing homelessness, rising costs of living and the continuing opioid epidemic, which resulted in ever rising counts of fatal overdoses, still bedeviled the community at levels from high to low.

Divisions in the community were strained as well, particularly over how the local public space would be used to engage in freedom of expression.

This pit community groups against each other as well as county elected leaders at the Maryland Attorney General's Office.

But there were many successes in beginning the long-awaited local projects in higher education and expansion of the county airport from a decades-old white elephant to a mecca for high technology research and aviation maintenance continued to improve the economic development prospects for St. Mary's.

## January

The year kicked off with the first baby born at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown the morning of New Year's Day.

**John "Jack" Yates Howson V, was born at 7:55 a.m. Jan. 1 to Rachel and John "Jay" Howson IV.**

Rachel wasn't due until Jan. 3, but woke up around 5 a.m. feeling uncomfortable, and shortly thereafter her water broke. The couple had been out late at a New Year's Eve party and Jay admits he had only had a few hours of sleep when Rachel's labor started. Since labor with their first child – 2-year-old sister Zelena – had lasted for 36 hours, the couple was surprised their second baby was coming so quickly.

"I was determined not to have him in the car," Rachel said. "The birth was totally natural, but not because we planned it that way."

Rachel and Jay didn't have to wait long to meet the newest addition to their family. Jack was born just two hours and 37 minutes after Rachel's labor pains started.

Rachel, a stay-at-home mom, and Jay, a physicist

at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, didn't know they were having a boy and were equally surprised to be welcoming him on New Year's Day.

"I noticed when we signed in that ours was the first name under 2019," said Jay in a statement released by MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

Jack was the only baby born at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital on Jan. 1.

**By January officials from the University System of Maryland signaled their final commitment to engage in taking over the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center and transforming it into a hub for technological research and innovation in the areas of autonomous and unmanned systems.**

Later in the year, crews would finally begin clearing and grading land near the former higher education center to make way for the much-anticipated "third building" which would house the research and development center.

Dr. Williams Caret, Chancellor of the University System of Maryland (USM), told community stakeholders in the year's first week, that when his organization takes over the reins at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center the transformation would be a harbinger of innovation and prosperity.

The aim, Caret said, speaking at SMHEC Jan. 4, was to diversify the local economy and provide a place where local defense industry talent could find a home rather than looking to other communities for the next challenge.

"This will become our third regional center," Caret said, adding that such centers were far more than places for academic study, they were centers for entrepreneurship.

He said the other centers USM currently runs are responsible for between 300 and 400 inventions a year created by students that result in about 50 patents a year.

What's more those same students are encouraged in starting businesses that apply these innovations to the marketplace.

"A lot of exciting things are related to technology transfer," Caret said to a full conference room at SMHEC. "A lot of this is being done by students themselves."

The new research hub at SMHEC would also help serve the needs of the defense related work force already in the region by providing skilled employees and new technologies related to cyber security and data analytics, among other in-demand skills.

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# Controversy, Progress in 2019

Dr. Darryll Pines, head of the USM A. James Clark School of Engineering, said the third building could become a center for technological revolution.

"It's to develop skills for people in the region to go out and change the world," Pines said. "That's how I see the vision for this building."

Pines estimated that the unmanned and autonomous technology base represented a \$2.5 billion market in Maryland with more than 2,000 jobs.

St. Mary's County, being among the oldest in the country and the Mother County of Maryland, **also progressed in coming to terms with parts of its history that marked it with infamy.**

In January Historic Sotterley Mansion in Hollywood announced that it had been recognized by UNESCO, an arm of the United Nations, as a destination of the Middle Passage slave trade that lasted for centuries between Africa and the New World.

"It's remembering the people who were lost in horrible conditions and those who survived," said Nancy Easterling, executive director at Sotterley, adding that the new designation offered a "healing component" to their educational programs on the lives of slaves at the plantation.

"It shows our dedication to show an honest representation of history," Easterling said. "It shows we're going to tell these stories, we're going to be inclusive."

Part of the requirements to receive the designation from UNESCO as a Site of Memory was to have primary documentation to prove slaves were directly transported here and that there were educational programs to tell the stories of captive Africans.

Unlike some sites that were Middle Passage destinations, Sotterley had both, according to Jeanne Pirtle, Education Director at Sotterley.

"We're honored and excited about it," Pirtle said of the UNESCO designation. "This is another rung in our mission growth."

With all of the prosperity that the military and defense industry brought to the community, some in service to their nation had to go without pay while forces in the nation's capital battled over a government shutdown.

**U.S. Coast Guard personnel went without paychecks due to the partial government shutdown** and that included the more than 40 personnel stationed at the outpost in St. Inigoes.

Local parents who had their sons and daughters serving in the Coast Guard gathered donations of food and other items to support the families of those

serving through the shutdown.

Kathy and John Brigham had two sons in the Coast Guard and though they are not stationed in St. Inigoes they helped to organize donations.

"We're going down there to see what's going on," Kathy Brigham told The County Times. "Most of them live paycheck to paycheck.

"They're all enlisted, and they don't make a lot of money."

She said members of the Southern Maryland Coast Guard Moms, a group organized through social media dropped off food donations at the St. Inigoes station.

"The main thing I'm concerned about now is morale," John Brigham said during the shutdown. "These families are stressing."

## February

Stress over getting key community projects going was relieved in one instance in 2019.

**After years of delays local leaders joined federal officials and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs came together in Charlotte Hall to break ground on a new community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC) for area veterans.**

A CBOC at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home had been in use for years but was not purpose-built and found wanting.

The new facility would be located on Route 5 and be 17,000 square feet in size.

Veterans seeking advanced care often have to travel to Washington, D.C. for treatment.

The new CBOC is designed to solve that problem. "There's little convenience in driving to Washington, D.C. from Southern Maryland," said Michael Heimall, director at the Washington, D.C. Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Heimall said the new CBOC should be finished and open by spring of 2020 while a new satellite CBOC for Lexington Park should begin operations by this summer.

"This represents our commitment to you [veterans], those who have borne the battle," Heimall said.

County Commissioner Todd Morgan, who also chairs the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland, said the new CBOC couldn't be finished soon enough.

"Everyone knows the hardships we've gone through... to get this done," Morgan said. "I expect everybody back in spring of 2020 to cut the ribbon."



An artist's rendition of a new agricultural facility in Charlotte Hall



Harris Radios got repairs and upgrades this year



Leaders break ground on the new CBOC in Charlotte Hall



Leonardtown's popular new pizza joint The Slice House opened this year

**NAACP President Looks For Community Solutions**

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**Report Highlights Health Care Gaps**

**Remembering Jaelynn**





County school bus drivers protested for better pay



A derelict ship was finally removed from the Patuxent



Amanda Eller, Mechanicsville native, was rescued after 17 days in a Hawaii forest

### March

By March the community found itself once again dealing with the loss of its members both from the prior year and in the present.

**Family of Jaelynn Wiley, killed by a fellow student with whom she had a prior relationship in March of 2018 at Great Mills High School,** as well as school staff, students and the community at large honored her memory.

Melissa Willey, Jaelynn's mother, said a year after the tragedy the community still supported her and her family.

"Usually once a week we get a dinner," Melissa told The County Times. "The support we've gotten has been amazing."

"I keep getting texts and cards from people with their support."

Still, the sense of loss is still there.

"There are good days and not so good days," Willey said. "If you've lost someone, you go through different phases."

"She was a sweet girl, she deserves to be memorialized."

What Melissa remembers most about her daughter was her sociability, especially with her younger siblings and children in general.

"Jaelynn was very sweet and kind," Melissa remembered. "She loved her two cats, she loved to knit, she loved to color – the adult coloring books – and she loved to swim."

"She loved the beach."

Being the second of nine children, Jaelynn had a close bond with her brothers and sisters; she was always engaged with her family, her mother said.

"I had to remind her sometimes that she was the kid and I was the mother," Melissa said. "She was very nurturing."

Cpl. Blaine Gaskill, the school resources officer who responded in seconds to stop the shooter that day as he was taking his own life, remains at Great Mills High School.

"He was offered another school but he wanted to stay there," said Cpl. Julie Yingling, sheriff's office public information officer. "He takes ownership of that school and those students."

One year after Jaelynn's death; the county is still trying to heal after a gunman took her life.

"We're still here trying to recover and heal," said Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron, who oversaw a massive police and emergency response to Great Mills High School on March 20 of last year. "I've said it since and after that day, none of us are the same."

"Once it happens to you [an active shooter at a school] you become the focus of the world," Cameron said.

**Early in March a police chase involving a suspect wanted on multiple warrants resulted in a horrific crash that took the life of an elderly woman and an eventual second-degree murder indictment for the suspect, Machiavelli Tyzhae Savoy.**

The victim was 87-year-old Carol Jean Anderson.

On the day of the crash law enforcement officers located Savoy, 20 of Lexington Park, operat-

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

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

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

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

### April

Wreckage, and the cleaning up of it, both in human lives and in the environment was another aspect of life in St. Mary's in 2019.

**The county's health department opened up harm reduction centers in both Lexington Park and Leonardtown, designed to deal with those suffering from opioid addiction.**

The center offers testing for HIV and Hepatitis C and referrals for treatment, according to health department information.

It also distributes naloxone, also known as Narcan, which is a medication that, once administered, can counteract potentially deadly overdoses. The facility also offers training in how to administer Narcan properly.

The new facility also allows opioid and intravenous drug users to drop off used and possibly contaminated syringes; if used again such syringes can contribute to the spread of diseases such as HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and Hepatitis C.

The Harm Reduction Program also distributes new, clean syringes to intravenous drug users at specific times throughout the week.

While a controversial practice, health officials have said it helps reduce the spread of infectious diseases and gives addicts a change to seek treatment for their addictions.

**After months of polluting local waters, marine heavy lift crews finally removed a derelict boat once used to teach cadets at the Naval Academy from the Patuxent River.**

The craft sank in shallow water last August and began to leak pollutants such as fuel oil and lubricants; emergency response personnel at Patuxent River Naval Air Station constructed a floating boom around the 108-foot craft to contain the spill.

Petty Officer Seth Johnson, U.S. Coast Guard spokesman, said the final tally of pollutants removed from the ship and the surrounding areas was 2,200 gallons of diesel fuel and 20 gallons of lubricants.

Johnson told The County Times the plan to remove the derelict craft was authorized March 1 and





the assets to accomplish the task arrived on scene March 21.

By March 27 a massive crane had hoisted the craft onto a barge and the vessel shipped out the evening of March 28.

The Miller Environmental Group worked to clean up the pollutants, he said, while Domjon Marine Services removed the vessel.

The vessel was to be destroyed at a ship breaking facility in Newark, N.J., Johnson said.

The entire effort to clean up after and remove the vessel could cost up to \$1.4 million.

"That's the estimated cost ceiling," Johnson said.

The effort comprised multiple government agencies including the Maryland environment and natural resources departments, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, NOAA, FAA, the U.S. Navy and the Coast Guard.

The two owners of the boat have been charged with abandoning it and face their day in court this summer. Ronald Phillip Ferry, of Virginia and Jared David Kaplan Russell, of Takoma Park could each face up to six months in jail or a \$1,000 fine if convicted of the single charge.

Their cases are now before the St. Mary's County Circuit Court awaiting adjudication.

### May

**In May, many friends and relatives of Amanda Eller, a fitness instructor who had grown up in Mechanicsville but moved to Hawaii to pursue her career, feared she was lost while hiking in the Makawao Forest in Maui, Hawaii.**

"She grew up in Mechanicsville and went to Chopticon High School," said Theresa Schlotterbeck, a long-time friend. "After completing her physical therapy training she wanted to travel, she wanted to see the world.

"She found an opportunity in Hawaii and she made it her home."

Eller went missing May 8; her white Toyota RAV-4 sport utility vehicle was discovered in the parking lot of the Kahakapao trail, which she frequently hiked, according to those who knew her.

She was not reported missing to police until May 9.

Her personal belongings, including her cell phone and wallet, were found in her vehicle, with her keys placed under the driver side tire.

Her family feared the worst and initially offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to her rescue; a Go Fund Me page also raised tens of thousands of dollars to fund the efforts of rescuers who braved the forest in an attempt to find her.

After 17 days of surviving in the wild with multiple injuries, Eller was finally spotted and rescued.

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

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

they kept going.

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

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

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

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

"I was guided."

### June

**By midyear St. Mary's would be faced with perhaps its greatest controversy, the Drag Queen Story Hour, that brought together transvestite men, children as young as 3 years old and their parents, for a story hour at the Lexington Park Library.**

The books read to children focused on alternate lifestyles and were not traditional children's stories; critics and protestors at the event decried it as an attempt to sexualize children.

It was discovered that a local library employee had written a blog post for the American Library Association that advocated library employees inculcate pro-LGBTQ messages during story hours in a clandestine manner.

In the post the local library employee advocates ways to "sneakily fit stuff in current programs."

"So you're not doing Drag Queen Storytime (yet), but you're probably doing Regular Old Storytime, right?" part of the post reads. "Try to 'sneak' inclusive messages into your current programs.

"For instance, if you're reading a book about a Mama bear and a Papa bear, maybe when you read it you just change it to be about [two] Papa bears!"

Library Director Michael Blackwell said what the employee advocated was not library policy.

"That's not happening here at St. Mary's County libraries," Blackwell said. "It does not reflect what is going on at our library.

"We don't change genders in texts; we want to respect authors and what they wrote."

The blog post from 2017 on the ALA site has led to changes in policy as to what library employees can post, Blackwell said.

"The policy has been changed so that any articles published need to be reviewed by the administration and have a disclaimer attached to them."

The disclaimer was to ensure the reader understood that posts were opinions and did not reflect the values or policies of the system, Blackwell said.

Commissioner Eric Colvin, who spoke out against the Drag Queen Story Hour days before it occurred, said the blog post disturbed him.

"It's always unacceptable for any hidden agenda to be promoted during a children's story hour," Colvin said.

The controversy over the Drag Queen Story Hour, and how elected officials responded to it, would reverberate throughout the year.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



A drone from the local UAS test site delivered an organ for transplant in Baltimore



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Participants in Drag Queen Story Hour





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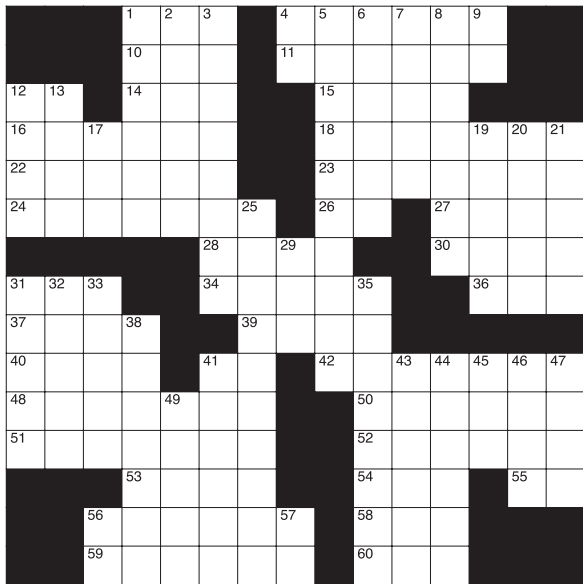
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# Fun GAMES



**CLUES ACROSS**

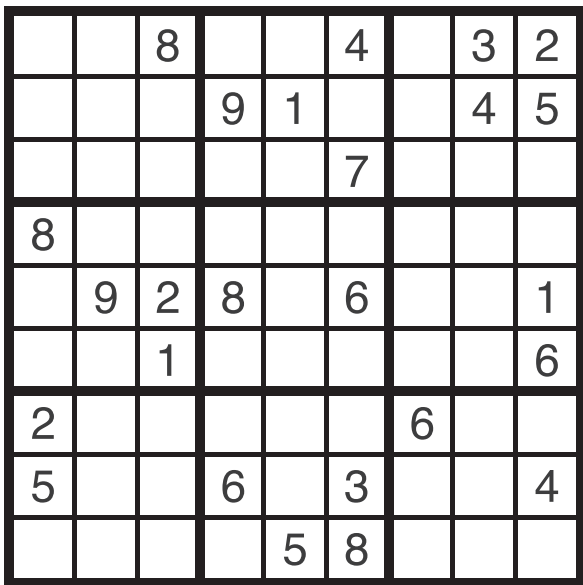
- 1. Hair care product
- 4. Looped
- 10. It's present in all living cells
- 11. Choose
- 12. South Dakota
- 14. Cash machine
- 15. Of the pia mater
- 16. Ancient Egyptian documents
- 18. Layers at the back of the eyeballs
- 22. Not perceived
- 23. Look over

- 24. Improve a tire
- 26. Time zone
- 27. Main branch of Islam
- 28. Bark of the mulberry tree
- 30. Sea eagles
- 31. Records heart muscle activity (abbr.)
- 34. Famed Hollywood producer
- 36. Yuck!
- 37. Reject outright and bluntly
- 39. \_\_\_ 500, car race
- 40. Small heap or pile

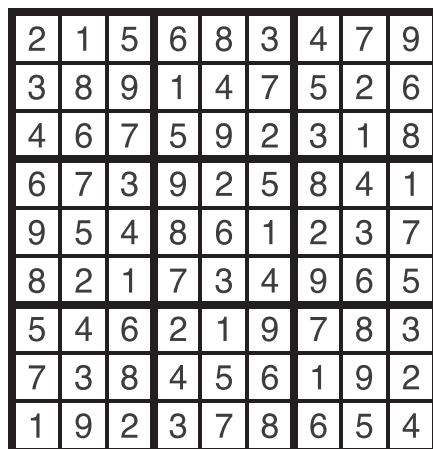
- 41. Type of degree (abbr.)
- 42. Contagious skin disease
- 48. Erases from a surface
- 50. In an enthusiastic way
- 51. Begin again
- 52. Intricately produced pattern
- 53. It flows NW to the Seine
- 54. Be obliged to repay
- 55. Southeast
- 56. Slip in
- 58. Leisure time activity
- 59. Breastbones
- 60. Sun up in New York

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. More cloudy
- 2. Main course
- 3. Protect with plastic
- 4. Equally
- 5. Rebukes
- 6. Friend to a salesman
- 7. Warms up
- 8. Overshadow
- 9. Interior lineman in football
- 12. San Antonio hoopster
- 13. Comedian Cook
- 17. Time zone
- 19. First PM of India
- 20. Performing perfectly
- 21. A way to hide
- 25. Former NBA commissioner
- 29. Peter's last name
- 31. Outlying suburb of London
- 32. Used to cut steak
- 33. Deep inlets
- 35. Type of tree
- 38. Done openly and unashamedly
- 41. Indigenous person of N. Africa
- 43. Confessed openly
- 44. A way to separate with an instrument
- 45. Influential journalist
- 46. Manning and Roth are two
- 47. One who cares for horses in India
- 49. Something to believe in
- 56. Form of "to be"
- 57. Atomic #73

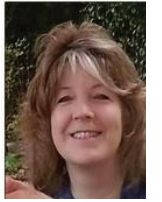


**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**



## Wanderings *of an* Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann  
Contributing Writer



# "Simple Joys"

Christmas Eve. Almost done here at the Oppermann house for Christmas. My husband and I are starting to make quite a team on creating and personalizing some Christmas items. He is really starting to enjoy working with wood – we may have another artisan in the house soon. I enjoy it when we work on projects together, he has always had a good eye for things,



and I value his opinion on my artwork or writing. Not to say I always agree, but that's okay. It sure would be boring if we agreed on everything.

I still have lots of little last minute decorating I want to do even at this late date – I always feel like there should be more Christmas up, especially with all the grandkids. You can't even see all the walls and shelves going downstairs for all the Christmas stockings – I love it. I still have three more stockings to put up. This year I have three trees up and have used nearly every ornament we have. The main tree in the living room is now finished and called the memory tree. We had friends stay the night with us Sunday night, and it was really nice when our friends asked about some of the ornaments and we stood around the tree remembering and explaining where many of the ornaments came from. That was a simple joy that made me so happy.

This morning I personalized all the grandkids ornaments, hoping they will continue the tradition for their own kids and grandkids someday. That was also a heartwarming time of simple joy, more like a meditation. Later when I bake cookies I will add that extra special pinch of love to the batter which I hope will bring some magic to the batch.

All that I have left to do is some quick grocery shopping for all my cookie supplies – almost made it to the store last night, but after finishing our Christmas shopping we decided we were wiped out, and that was even after an emergency evening Wawa coffee. So, immediately after I leave this computer, I better get showered up, woken up, and out the door.

Tonight, At Christ Episcopal Church, Chaptico I hope we will bring joy to our fellow parishioners and guests when we in the choir start singing carols at 8:30 before the Christmas Eve service begins at 9. Our choir director/organist comes from Virginia to whip us into singing shape. He has made us into a pretty awesome choir – we even have some professional singers and a professional opera singer with us now. The old 1736 church will shine brightly in all the beautiful greenery created by our Altar Guild and church members. Our priest, Father Chris Jubinski has also thoughtfully asked us all to bring in our family Nativity Creches to sit under the stained glass windows along with the candles and greenery. It will be beautiful tonight.

Well, I better get going, still lots to do. But I want to thank you all for your readership and friendship through these last 11 years, and hopefully for quite a few more. I wish for everyone this Christmas a peaceful day of love and happiness. May one simple thing during the festivities bring you joy: the laughter of a child, the muss of your hair by an older sibling or cousin, the ability to accept and cherish our own and each member of our family's beliefs, idiosyncrasies, and virtues, because one day you will miss the rolling eyes and the debates, and most of all the warm feeling that spreads from the smile on your face to the halo of love around your heart. This is your family, your shelter, your haven, your heritage. Give freely of your life stories and the recipes made with love over generations. Not everything can be found or felt on a screen in the hand, the present is precious.

Merry Christmas, Love Shelby  
Please send your comments or ideas to:  
shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com  
or find me on Facebook



# *A View From The* **BLEACHERS**

## **A Toast to George Harrison**

By Ronald N. Guy Jr  
Contributing Writer.

In 1970, shortly after the start of another long-ago decade, former Beatle George Harrison released his solo album "All Things Must Pass." The title undoubtedly references the end of The Beatles just months earlier, but in classic, unassuming Harrison style, it conveys neither bitterness nor excessive optimism; rather, "All Things Must Pass" is a matter-of-fact statement of the obvious — time moves on, people evolve, situations change, doors close and others open. The passage of all things isn't good or bad; it just is.

Now, at another transition between decades, Harrison's art is worth revisiting. The changes in Harrison's life during the 1960s are difficult to imagine, much less understand. Perhaps that familiarity with upheaval is why he confronted his post-Beatles life with an album carrying such a nonchalant summation. Ah, but such thinking would further underestimate the most underrated Beatle; more likely, he had a deep understanding of time, life and change.

Considering the last decade in sports, Harrison's prediction of fluidity held — mostly but not entirely, at least for now. When 2010 arrived, the NBA was a very different place. Kobe Bryant, now long retired, was on the verge of winning his final championship with the Lakers. The Golden State Warriors were bottom feeders and offered no indication that they would win three championships by the decade's end. LeBron James, the best player on the planet, hadn't yet won a championship 10 years ago; he has three now.

Talking baseball, the Cubs won the World Series in 2016, the team's first since 1908. 1908! Keeping it local, the Orioles started and ended the decade among MLB's worst but did manage a few 90-ish win seasons and playoff berths between the swoons. As for the Nats circa 2010, Stephen Strasburg was still months from his debut, Bryce Harper was about to be drafted, Anthony Rendon was a sophomore at Rice University and Juan Soto was...11 years old. Insane. From 69 wins in 2010, through much playoff heartache and eventually to a World Series championship in 2019, it was an epic decades for Nats nation.

The NFL you ask? Okay, fine. Tom Brady and Drew Brees, two 40-somethings, are still slinging it. Lamar Jackson was 12 in 2010; he's the NFL MVP now. Comparing Baltimore and Washington football, the Ravens were 12-4 and "Skins" 6-10 in 2010. Those Ravens were coached by John Harbaugh; he's still Baltimore's coach. Washington has had three head coaches in the decade and will soon have a fourth. So, in other words, nothing much has changed in a decade — Baltimore is a flagship NFL franchise and Washington remains astoundingly incompetent. Bah humbug.

After that channeling of Ebenezer Scrooge, let's end on a bright note: hockey. In 2010, the Caps won the franchise's first Presidents' Trophy — one of three in the decade — but, true to form, lost in the first round of the playoffs to the Canadians. It was just the latest entry in a multi-decade, seemingly never-ending, playoff horror film. More excruciating playoff losses followed. Then 2018 happened. The Caps won the Stanley Cup (never gets old typing that).

Who could have written that script? And as a ball sits perched in Times Square waiting to introduce a new year and a new decade, who could write the next? George Harrison already did, at least in abstract.

The title track of Harrison's classic album includes these lyrics: "Sunrise doesn't last all morning... sunset doesn't last all evening; darkness only stays the nighttime... in the morning it will fade away." Harrison, at least in song, predicted and found comfort in the permanence of impermanence. What awaits on the journey to 2030? Wins and losses, joys and sorrows or, as The Dude might say, "strikes and gutters" — all vague references to change and the unknown. The specifics? Stay tuned. Harrison's tip is to embrace it and know, good or bad, that all things must pass. Not could. Not might. Must. But his words are unmistakably hopeful, a feeling that permeates every New Year's. A toast then: to George Harrison, timeless advice, this moment, good fortune and quick sunrises to end any darkness. Happy New Year!

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

## **12 FINANCIAL PLANNING TIPS FOR 2020**



This is for all you procrastinators out there. You know who you are. It's never too early or too late to start a financial plan. Every year I prepare a list of financial planning tips. In hopes of inspiring you to start a financial plan, here are 12 tips for your 2020 financial plan:

1. **Stash the cash.** The first step is to stash enough cash to give you breathing room if something terrible happens like an illness or job loss. At least 6 months and probably a year's worth of income will do it.
2. **Pay Yourself First.** If you own a small business, get yourself on the books too. It's tempting to pay everyone else before you, but by doing that you cheat yourself. Be kinder to you.
3. **No Credit Cards Allowed.** Think about it—twenty percent interest on your purchases? This is a terrible drag on your finances. Pay off those credit cards with a plan. Then, keep one for emergencies but otherwise buy with cash.
4. **Max Out the 401(k).** If your employer has a 401(k) and you do not participate, shame on you. Especially if the employer will match your contributions—that's free money to you.
5. **Get It All in One Place.** If you can't see it, you can't manage it. Get all your investment accounts under one roof with one statement a month.
6. **Allocate, allocate, allocate.** This goes without saying, but unless you allocate your assets across cash, stocks and bonds, you will not succeed as an investor. I always recommend investors consult a professional to allocate their assets—interview the professionals until you find one that responds most to your concerns.
7. **Let It Ride.** Compound interest is your friend. The more you can reinvest your interest or dividends, the better.
8. **NO News is Good News.** Following the business news to figure out how to make a plan is just foolish. The news cycle is not your investment guide. Turn off the 24-hour business

"news" and focus on making a plan to last over time.

9. **Savings Alone is Not Enough.** You've got to make investments to earn money on your money. Just keeping it in the mattress will not help defeat inflation. With interest rates rising, you now have a better chance of earning money on your investments.
10. **Social Security.** It's not enough to live on, but it is a safety net for you. Check out the benefits to which you are entitled and keep in mind that there are limitations under age 66 to the amounts you can earn if you receive social security.
11. **Beneficiaries.** You need to check on what beneficiaries you have designated for your accounts, retirement plans, insurance policies, etc. Make sure it isn't the ex-spouse or deceased parents. The latest dated beneficiary designation counts so keep these up to date.
12. **Required Docs.** You know I'm going to advise you to get your estate plan in order as a major part of your financial plan. You need a Will or a Living Trust, a Power of Attorney and a Living Will. Without these documents, you have no power to help your loved ones in a medical emergency and the courts will decide the distribution of your assets.

I hope you try these tips and have fun doing so. Let me know how you are doing on your 2020 plan and HAPPY NEW YEAR.

I have the honor of being associated with PROJECT ECHO, the Calvert County homeless shelter in Prince Frederick. The shelter folks do a great job for homeless men, women and children in our community. Please help them by going to [www.projectecho.net](http://www.projectecho.net). Our office will take donations for the shelter from M-Thursday.

As always, every month on the third Wednesday, we offer a free seminar on estate planning at 11am in our office at 8906 Bay Avenue in North beach. Call Pam at 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

Lyn Striegel



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

## Phillip Malcolm Swider



Phillip Malcolm Swider, 58, of Mechanicsville, Maryland passed away peacefully on December 9, 2019 at his home.

Born on June 14, 1961, he was the son of Paul Swider of Hughesville, MD and Patricia Evans-Swider of Independence, Missouri.

Phil was a Master Electrician most of his life. He had a twenty-two-year career at the Capitol Power Plant as a high voltage electrician in the CPP High Voltage Electric shop. He was promoted to the High Voltage Electric shop supervisor in 2014. He loved his job and the people he worked with. He enjoyed spending time with his coworkers as he recently watched the Nationals become World Champions with a few of them. Phil had an amazing work ethic, that showed in all his projects and his life. He took great pride in his home and yard as well.

As much as Phil loved to work, he also enjoyed his time off. His most prized possessions were his '89 Mustang and his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He liked his toys fast and loud. He also enjoyed listening to heavy metal music and watching scary movies. Phil loved to watch baseball, he even taught his youngest grandson his first word, "ball". He was so proud of that. He will be greatly missed by many but none more than his family. He cherished the time he spent with them. Phil was the best, most loving son, Dad and Pop-Pop. He was a true friend and always there when you needed him.

Phillip is survived by his parents, his daughters, Toni L. Swider of Severn, MD, Manda L. Swider of Mechanicsville, step-daughter, Tina L. Standa of Lusby, MD and his four beloved grandchildren, Brendon, Corey, Kalina, and Riland. He is preceded in death by his brother, Mark Swider and his second wife Catherine Standa.

A Memorial Service will be held on December 30, 2019 at 1:00pm at the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge, 27636 Mechanicsville Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

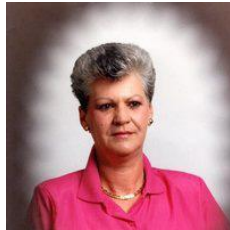
Condolences to the family may be made at [www.brinsfieldfuneral.com](http://www.brinsfieldfuneral.com)

All arrangements being made at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

## Mary Josephine Farrell

Mary Josephine Farrell, 79, of Brandywine, MD passed away on December 17, 2019.

Born on December 30, 1939 in Leonardtown, MD she was the daughter of the late Martin G. Gray and the late Josephine Quade Gray. She married



her beloved husband, Marvin on May 28th, 1960 and together they raised 4 children. They shared 58 years of marriage until Marvin's passing in 2018. Mary was a homemaker who helped Marvin on the family farm, working in the tobacco fields alongside him and harvesting vegetables from the huge garden they lovingly always raised. She also loved playing bingo, attending card parties, traveling and never missed an opportunity to gamble at the casino. Her world revolved around her family and she cherished spending time with her loved ones. Mary was also a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Baden Volunteer Fire Department.

Mary is survived by her children, Robert Farrell and wife Cheryl, Cynthia Marinaro and husband Domenic, Sandra Windsor and husband Jeff, and Marvin Farrell and wife Rhonda. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and her brother, William Gray.

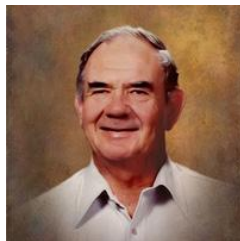
She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Marvin, her brothers, Lawrence, Leonard, Joseph and Elmer Gray; her sisters, Margaret DeMarr, Lucy Gray, Maude Combs and Pearl Crutchfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Baden Volunteer Fire Department or Hospice of Chesapeake.

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

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

## Eugene George Seger



Eugene George Seger, 90, of Charlotte Hall, MD passed away on December 19, 2019 at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

Gene was born on February 11, 1929 to the late Guy Reuben Seger and the late Gertrude Adams Seger in Westwood, MD. He received his Bachelor's degree and enlisted in the US Army, proudly serving from 1951 to 1953. He met and married his wife, Peggy and began their family with the arrival of their son, John Charles Seger. They were married until Peggy's passing in 1984.

Gene was a hardworking man who liked to stay busy. After his honorable discharge from the military, he worked as a Postal Carrier for the Brandywine Post Office and also farmed a piece of land in Baden. He devoted many hours of service to the community as a mem-

ber of the Baden Volunteer Fire Department where he made many lifelong friends.

Gene is survived by his son, John, his grandson, John Charles Seger, Jr., his brother, Timothy Seger of South Carolina and many nieces, nephews and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and his siblings, Marvin Seger, Mary Winterwerp and Anna Baden.

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

All arrangements made at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

## Catherine Rosalie Somerville



Catherine Rosalie Somerville, 84 of Lexington Park, MD passed away on December 16, 2019 at Chesapeake Shores in Great Mills, MD.

She was born on September 10, 1935 in Maddox, MD to the late Benjamin Nelson and Rosalie Short Nelson.

Catherine was a lifelong resident of

St. Mary's County. She was employed for her entire career as a housekeeper and was meticulous about her work. She enjoyed cooking and made many delicious meals. She loved to spend time with her family and friends.

Catherine is survived by her children Thomas Christopher Somerville, Tammy Marie Somerville, and Victoria Somerville Bean, of Lexington Park, MD; her siblings: Charles Nelson (Mary) of Lexington Park, MD, Bernard Nelson (Annie) of Mechanicsville, MD, and Martha Nelson of Baltimore, MD; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family. In addition to her parents, she is also preceded in death by her husband, Albert Thomas Somerville and her siblings: Francis Nelson, Theresa Holt, James Nelson, Ignatius Nelson, Joseph Nelson, Thomas Nelson, Clarence Nelson, Paul Nelson, and Ernest Somerville.

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

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

## Stephanie C. Raynor

Stephanie C. Raynor, age 71, of Great Mills, MD passed away on Decem-

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ber 14, 2019, at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD with her daughter Sandra by her side.

She was born February 12, 1948 in Columbus, Oh on February 12, 1948 to the late Charles Warth and Starr Cutler Warth.

On September 1, 1979, Stephanie married her beloved husband, William John Raynor in California. Together they celebrated over 32 wonderful years of marriage before his passing in September 2011. She was a talented interior decorator with a classic touch. She was a beautiful seamstress and made many of her own clothes. She and her husband liked to build things, such as the fence around their yard and the shed. Her hobbies included gardening, bowling, golf, dancing and shopping. She enjoyed spending time with her daughter and her grandchildren, especially Jace.

Stephanie is survived by her children: Sandra Martinez (Sam) of Lexington Park, MD, Carey David-Lockhart of Fayetteville, NC, Brad Lockhart (Lisa) of Orange, AL, and DeeJay Lockhart of 29 Palms, CA; 15 grandchildren, five

great grandchildren; her sister, Kimberly Green (Jim) of Fountain Valley, CA; and many extended family and friends. In addition to her parents and husband she is also preceded in death by her daughter, Virginia Lockhart.

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.

### Dorothy Mae Flanary



Dorothy Mae Flanary (nee Trouble), aged 93, of Lexington Park, MD, died December 12, 2019, at her home peacefully in her sleep.

Dorothy was born in Pisgah, MD on October 4, 1926, to the late Dewey Carpenter and Beatrice Rogers.

She married her beloved husband, Jim on February 22, 1944 in La Plata, Maryland. Dorothy celebrated over 54 years together with Jim before his passing. She loved her husband and continued to move forward her life and working for

over 20 years in sales at Bernie's Pawn Shop. Dorothy's favorite hangout was the Loffler Center. She was a life member in a few organizations the American Legion Post 225, the NARFE, the local FOP Lodge #7 and the Red Hats Society Club. She enjoyed listening to Country Musicians at the Landings in Charlotte Hall on Sunday's, going to Pat's Seafood on Monday's; eating at Burger King on Tuesdays; playing cards at Loffler Polish Poker followed by a trip to IHOP afterwards; visiting Betty Russell's; going to Chiefs on Friday night and then going to Sea Breeze Restaurant on Saturday. Dorothy enjoyed live Bluegrass Music and Harley Davidson Motorcycles. She was a lady that loved to stay busy but still had time to be with her family. When she came into a room people would say here comes "Trouble" which became her nickname. She pays a special thanks to Danny Hammett a family friend and next door neighbor who made sure her grass was cut, would always bring her a donut every Sunday morning and he kept an eye out on her.

Dorothy is survived by her children Jo Ann Barclift (Curt); Robert Flanary (Ann); Debra Ford; grandson Jacob Flanary; great grandson Tyler Hildreth and special nephew Walter Rison. She is preceded in death by her husband Jim,

her sons Brian Keith Flanary, and Kevin Thomas Flanary, her sister Lillian Rison, her brother George Carpenter and a grandson Tony Flanary.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Mafalda Antoinette Fusco



Mafalda Antoinette Fusco, "Tony", 100 of Charlotte Hall, MD formerly from Greenbelt, MD passed away on December 19, 2019 in Charlotte

Hall, MD. She was born on February 5, 1919 in Youngstown, OH and was the daughter of the late Magdalena Pappa and Tony Castello along with her adoptive parents John and Antoinette Dilullo. She was the loving wife of Anthony Joseph Fusco who she married on January 1, 1939 in Washington, DC and whom preceded her in death on December 4, 2003. Tony is survived by her children Michael Fusco (Judy) of Hollywood, MD, Anthony Fusco, Jr. of Callinham, TX, and Carmella Dent of Martinsburg,

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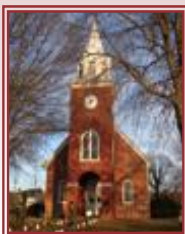
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WV. She was preceded in death by her sons John Fusco and Paul Fusco. Tony was a loving mother and housewife.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 2, 2019 from 10:00 Am to 11:00 Am in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD. Where a Funeral Service will be held in the Funeral Home Chapel at 11:00 Am with Deacon Bill Kyte officiating. Interment will follow in Maryland Veterans Cemetery Cheltenham, MD

**Francis Aloysius Butler**



Francis Aloysius Butler, "Wish", 77, of Great Mills, MD formerly from Bushwood, MD passed away one December 17, 2019 in Callaway, MD.

He was born May 7, 1942 in Washington, D.C. He was the loving son of the late Grace Helen Bowman-Butler and Arthur Aloysius Butler. "Wish" was the loving husband of Virginia Ann Butler. He survived by his children Grace Helen of Lexington Park, MD, Marshall Delgado of Bushwood, MD, and 3 grandchildren. As well as his siblings; Arthur Jerome Butler, Ann Elizabeth Butler, and Constance Delores Butler. He was preceded in death by his siblings; James Walter Butler and Clarence Joseph Butler.

"Wish" was a lifelong resident from St. Mary's County. He graduated from Banneker High School. "Wish" was a truck driver for Universal Fuel for 20 years, retiring in 2010.

**Francis Paul Bonds, Jr.**

Francis Paul Bonds, Jr., 51 of Great Mills, MD, entered into eternal rest on December 20, 2019. Family and friends will unite on Saturday, December 28, 2019 for visitation at 9 am until Mass of Christian Burial at 11 am at St. Peter Claver Church, 16922 Saint Peter Claver



**Virgil Arthur Dickens**

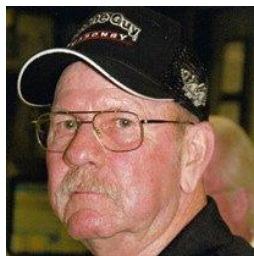


Road, St. Inigoes, MD 20684. Interment to follow at Holy Face Church cemetery, 20408 Point Lookout Road, Great Mills, MD 20634.

Virgil Arthur Dickens, 77 of Great Mills, MD, peacefully entered into eternal rest on December 15, 2019. Family and friends

will unite on Saturday, December 28, 2019 for visitation at 10 am until time of service at 11 am at St. Mark UAME Church, 45685 Happyland Rd, Valley Lee, MD 20692. Interment to follow in the church cemetery.

**Linwood "Pop" Richard Bennett**



Linwood "Pop" Richard Bennett, age 72 of Mechanicsville, Maryland, died December 22, 2019 at his residence with his lov-

ing family at his side.

Pop was a self-employed painter for 35 years at El/Bees Painting. He enjoyed going to Potomac Speedway to watch his grandson, Dale, race. He enjoyed going to Ocean City, Maryland with his family and playing with his great grandson and best little buddy, Mason. Pop played an active role at Dale Hollidge Racing - always there and ready to lend a hand.

He was the son of Richard Bennett

and Lucille Lakip (Romolu). In addition to his father, he was also predeceased by his two brothers, Timothy and Ronald Bennett.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary Lee Bennett; his mother, Lucille; his daughter, Denise Hollidge (Ronald); his sister, Susan Simpson (James); his grandson, Dale Hollidge (Taylor); and his great grandson, Mason Hollidge.

Visitation on Friday, December 27, 2019 from 5-8PM with Funeral Service at 7PM at Raymond Funeral Service Chapel, 5635 Washington Avenue, La Plata, Maryland 20646.

Memorial contributions in Linwood's name are asked to Hospice of St. Mary's, PO Box 625, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650.

**Francis DeSales (Moley) Nelson**



After spending his last Thanksgiving Day with his family, Francis DeSales (Moley) Nelson departed us peacefully

in his home early Saturday morning on November 30, 2019, after suffering a long illness. Francis was born September 27, 1938 in Clements, Maryland to the late Benjamin Nelson and Rosalie (Short) Nelson. Francis was educated in St. Mary's County Schools and was a life-long member and servant in the St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

On April 26, 1968, Francis married his beloved wife Marion Cecilia Thompson; they remained married for 51 years until his death through which they were blessed raising eight children. Francis was devoted husband, the "Rock" of the family, and was kind with "a heart of gold."

He had a work career that spanned for over forty-seven years, over 25 year in construction work as supervisor and

a foreman. He was one of the hardest workers that you would ever meet and never wasted anytime getting a job done. Along with taking care of his family, Francis also enjoyed gardening and farming, he was one of the best at growing a variety of crops in his gardens. He was also a jack of all trades. If there was something broke or needed fixing, Francis (Moley) could fix it. He did not let anything "outdo" or defeat him when it came to be repaired, Francis had patients. His patience was truly a virtue, you would never see him upset or angry with anyone or anything that he had encountered with. He was truly a pillar in his community and be missed by so many.

Francis also was preceded in death by his son, Francis Thompson (Ruby) his brothers: Ernest Armstrong (Emily) Paul, Joseph, Thomas (Marie), James, Clarence (Antoinette), and sister Mary (Theresa).

Francis leaves to cherish his memories, his loving and affectionate wife, Marion; sons:

James Thompson (Elsie), Michael Thompson of Oakville, MD, Ray Nelson (Laticia) of Waldorf, MD; and Cecil Nelson (Stacey) of Lusby, MD; daughters: Bernadette and Charlotte Thompson of Oakville, MD, and Fontella Thompson (James) of Waldorf, MD, his siblings: Charles (Liz) of Lexington Park, MD and Bernard (Annie) of Mechanicsville, MD, Martha and Catherine Somerville (Buster) and Martha Nelson of Baltimore, MD. Twenty grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and a host of aunts and uncles; nieces and nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Condolences to the family may be made at <http://www.briscoe-tonicfuneralhome.com>. Arrangements were made by the Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home.



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# 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.

## Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019

### Winter Wildlife

Calvert Marine Museum  
14200 Solomons Island Road  
Solomons  
11a.m. to 3p.m.

Discover the animals that make the wintry waters of the Chesapeake their home. Create pine cone bird feeders at 11 a.m., 12 p.m., and 2 p.m. Find fun facts in our aquarium and walk through a jellyfish maze. FREE with museum admission.

## Friday, Dec. 27, 2019

### Winter Industry

J.C. Lore & Sons Oyster House  
14430 Solomons Island Road S  
Solomons  
11a.m. 3p.m.

Learn about what winter work used to be like on the Chesapeake Bay. Discover the secrets of harvesting oysters and take a guided tour of the Lore Oyster House. FREE to the public. Programming will take place at the Lore Oyster House off-site exhibit, located 1/4 mile south of the Calvert Marine Museum.

## Sunday, Dec. 29, 2019

### Sunday Worship & Holy Communion

St. Mary's Chapel  
Point Lookout Road  
Ridge  
8a.m. to 9a.m.

Intimate Service of Holy Communion in a lovely historic chapel. All are welcome to participate. For more information: [www.trinitysmcmd.com](http://www.trinitysmcmd.com) Office phone: 301-862-4597

### Sunday Worship & Holy Communion

Trinity Episcopal Church  
47444 Trinity Church Road  
St. Mary's City  
10:30a.m. to noon

Service of Holy Communion. All are welcome to participate. Coffee Hour following service, For more information: [www.trinitysmcmd.com](http://www.trinitysmcmd.com) Office phone: 301-862-4597

## Monday, Dec. 30, 2019

### Elks Holdem Bounty Tournament

St. Marys County Elks Lodge  
45779 Fire Department Lane  
Lexington Park  
7p.m. to 11p.m.

\$25 Buy in = 6,000 chips. \$5 add-on = 1,500 chips and raffle drawing. Earn a BOUNTY chip worth \$5 dollars for every person that you bust out of the tournament. This tournament is part of our leaderboard challenge. Earn 1 point for every person knocked out before you. Food and Beverage are available for purchase. Questions: James Dean 240-577-0828 Email: [jdeanjunior@yahoo.com](mailto:jdeanjunior@yahoo.com)

## Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019

### Non-Alcoholic New Year's Eve Ball

Immaculate Conception Church  
28297 Old Village Road  
Mechanicsville  
6:30 p.m. to 12:30a.m.

The dance will include dinner (from 6:30 to 7:30), 50/50 Raffle and Music by DJ Mean Gene Dress to Impress. Tickets are \$20.00 a person. Limited tickets available, so call early. Tickets available at door, if not sold out. Come and welcome in 2020 and have a fun evening at the same time. Tickets: Tim Steelman, [tcsworkplace@gmail.com](mailto:tcsworkplace@gmail.com). Information: call John and Rose Krznarich 301 884-5526 (please leave a message).

### New Year's Eve Bingo Mother Catherine Academy

Mother Catherine Academy  
38833 Chaptico Road  
Mechanicsville  
6:30p.m. to 10:30p.m.

Guaranteed \$2,020 jackpot. Two parts sunrise sunset for \$1,010. Continue for cover all \$1,010. Everyone will receive a fleece blanket and \$10 coupon you can use for bingo, food or pull tabs any returning visit. Reservations are being taken. \$20 admission will reserve your seat. Call MCA if any questions 301-884-3165

## Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020

### American Legion Post 221 Meeting

21690 Colton Point Rd  
Avenue  
8p.m. 9p.m.

American Legion Post 221 invites all active duty personnel and veterans to join us for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00pm. Visit our website at [www.alpost221.webs.com/](http://www.alpost221.webs.com/) or e-mail us at [alpost221@aol.com](mailto:alpost221@aol.com). Call (301) 884-4071 for more information.

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## St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services Programs and Activities

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

Visit [www.stmarysmd.com/aging](http://www.stmarysmd.com/aging) for the most up-to date information

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

### Holiday Closings

The Department of Aging & Human Services will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 26, in observance of Christmas and on Wednesday, Jan. 1 and Thursday, Jan. 2, in observance of the New Year. Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals will not be served. Please call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050, or visit [www.stmarysmd.com/aging](http://www.stmarysmd.com/aging) for more information.

### Drums Alive

Using rhythm as the source of inspiration to discover a new group fitness experience Drums Alive® combines the benefits of a traditional physical fitness program with the brain affected benefits of music and rhythm. Drums Alive® is a program that fosters a healthy balance physically, mentally, emotionally and socially! Drums Alive® stimulates people whether they are young or old, healthy or ill. When we drum and dance, we are having FUN! This in return releases endorphins and releases negative feelings. The rhythmical patterns of the drum increase synchronization of brain wave activity which in turn provides feelings of euphoria and improved mental awareness. Drums Alive Golden Beats® is specially designed for the senior population. Kathy Creswell, Program Specialist at Garvey Senior Activity Center, is the instructor for this new program and will demonstrate different levels of participation that best meet the class's physical needs. You do not

need any prior experience in drumming or music! Come join us at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m. from Jan. 8-Feb. 12. This class is FREE, but space is limited so make sure to sign up quickly. Class participants can sign up at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 3. Attendance at all classes is mandatory. For more information or to sign up, call 301-475-4200, ext. 71050.

### Work Out Room Overview

Ready to get a jump on your 2020 fitness goals? Personal trainer Dave Scheible will be at the Northern Senior Activity Center on Monday, Jan. 6, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. and will guide you on how to use the exercise equipment available in our work out room. The cost of this training session is \$5 to learn each piece of equipment to maximize your results. Best of all, ongoing use of the room is free for members age 50+. Space is limited and advance signup is required. To sign up and pay for this training session in advance, please visit the front desk. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103.

### Diabetes Self-Management Program

Living with diabetes is a full-time job. The Diabetes Self-Management classes gives attendees tools need to take control of their disease. Topics covered include nutrition, stress management, medication management and many more! This class

will be held at the Garvey Senior Activity Center on Mondays at 1:30 p.m., Jan. 6-Feb. 24. Space in the class is limited. Register by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71050. There is no fee to attend; however, attendance at all six sessions is highly recommended.

### What's in Your Fridge?

Registered Dietitian Donna Taggart, RD/LD/CDE will be at the Northern Senior Activity Center on Monday, Jan. 6 from 1-2 p.m. to give a presentation called "What's in Your Fridge." This class will guide you into better eating practices for your 2020 health goals. Space is limited. To sign up for this presentation in advance, please visit the signup table or call 301-475-4200, ext. 73103. Also, ask about scheduling a free, individualized nutrition counseling session.

### Educational Video Series

In January, the EVS (Educational Video Series) at the Loffler Senior Activity Center will present a Hallmark Hall of Fame movie that is based on a true story: Front of the Class tells the story of Brad, who, as a young child, started making funny noises - all the time. Only he and his supportive mother realized that he could not control it. He was teased, misunderstood, and punished for disrupting class. By the time he was diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome, Brad had learned to hate school. When an understanding school princi-

pal offered encouragement, he decided to become a teacher. Now he has to find a school where someone with Tourettes can teach in front of a class. After 24 schools turn him down, he discovers one that will finally give him a chance. This movie will be shown on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m. (Free- 97 minutes) Register to see this movie by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk to sign up. (Seating is limited to 16.)

### Assess Your Mental Health at Loffler

There is a new Health Watch Coordinator at the Loffler Senior Activity Center: Meet Mary Tennyson on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 10 a.m. when she will be on hand to discuss ways you can assess your mental well-being. To sign up call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk. Free.

### Learn the quick and easy way to fill out the census form!

Another decade begins- which means it's time for the census! There will be a presentation at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on how to fill out the newest census forms on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 9 a.m. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 71658, or stop by the reception desk for more information or to sign up.

# ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

### Spend an Hour with a Job Coach

Leonardtown Library will host Spend an Hour with a Job Coach on Monday, January 13 from 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Southern Maryland JobSource job coaches will be available to meet with job seekers on-on-one for an hour long appointment. If you would like assistance with writing your resume conducting a job search polishing your interview skills or career change advice call the Leonardtown library at 301-475-2846 to schedule an appointment. Appointments will be available on the hour from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

### New Storytime Schedule at St. Mary's County Library!

Storytime is back at the St. Mary's County Library starting on Monday, January 13. Check [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org) for the full schedule, including new storytimes such as evening Pajama Storytimes, Saturday Sensory-friendly storytimes, and many new days and times to choose from. Starting with the January storytime session, day-time weekly storytimes will be seating-limited based on a first come, first served basis.

### College Scholarships and Financial Aid Opportunities for Maryland Residents

Leonardtown Library will host College Scholarships and Financial Aid Opportunities for Maryland Residents on Wednesday, January 15 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Join Marsha Wilcox Assistant Director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance St. Mary's College of Maryland as she explains the importance of filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The discussion will focus on the aid opportunities the FAFSA gives college students and the importance of meeting the state of Maryland deadlines. The various Maryland scholarships available to MD residents will be discussed in detail as well.

### Cricut for Beginners

The Charlotte Hall Library will hold Cricut for Beginners on Thursday, January 16 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Learn how to use the new St. Mary's County Library Cricut machine. This home die-cutting machine can be used for cutting paper felt vinyl fabric craft foam and other products such as fondant. Presenter will demonstrate how a design is created on the computer and sent to the Cricut machine for cutting. Attendees will create a small project to take home with them. Registration required.

### Mini Monet

The Lexington Park Library will hold Mini Monet on Friday, January 17 from 10 - 11 a.m. Join us on

an art adventure! We will explore the world of art through various forms. Please expect and prepare for messy activities. Baby-toddler. Registration required and opens on January 3.

### Snow Much Fun!

The Charlotte Hall Library will hold Snow Much Fun! on Saturday, January 18 from 2- 3 p.m. Enjoy the magic of winter with snow themed crafts and activities! Recommended for children ages lower through upper elementary. Registration is required and opens on January 4.

### Library Holiday Hours

All three locations of the St. Mary's County Library will close early at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31 and will remain closed on Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day. All three Library locations will be open for regular business hours on Thursday, January 2.

### Glow in the Park for Teens and Tweens

The Lexington Park Library will hold two sessions of "Glow in the Park" on Thursday, January 9. The first session will be from 5-6 p.m. for teens 13-18, and the second hour 6-7 p.m. for tweens 8-12.

It's dark outside so get your glow on! Come in to make GLOW IN THE DARK SLIME and play glow in the dark games. All materials provided no experience needed and no registration required.



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The St. Mary's County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of St. Mary's County. The St. Mary's County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The St. Mary's County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

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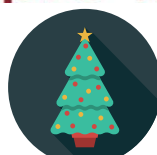
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