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**County Times**

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020

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Classrooms?**

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### ON THE COVER

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith, along with employees like Jackie Snyder, an instructional resource teacher, are planning on reopening classrooms in the fall.



### LOCAL 6

Planning Commission approves church, warehouse projects.



### COMMUNITY 12

Tech Port, FIT partner on flying lessons.

**“I DON’T HAVE \$18,000 TO GET INTERNET ACCESS... WE REALLY DO NEED TO INVEST IN THE HOTSPOTS FOR THE STUDENTS SO THEY CAN DO THEIR WORK.”**

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER RITA WEAVER ON GETTING STUDENTS CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET IN RURAL AREAS.

### WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 6/18 76°   65°F  Thunderstorms	Fri 6/19 82°   67°F  Scattered	Sat 6/20 85°   70°F  AM Thunderstorms	Sun 6/21 87°   71°F  Mostly Sunny
Thu 6/18 76°   65°F  Thunderstorms	Fri 6/19 82°   67°F  Scattered	Sat 6/20 85°   70°F  AM Thunderstorms	Sun 6/21 87°   71°F  Mostly Sunny





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 For staff listing and emails, see page 39

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# Commissioners Give \$400,000 for Student Computers

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County agreed to provide an extra \$400,000 to buy more laptop computers for students at their June 16 joint meeting with the Board of Education after Schools Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith said the school system continued to press forward to the goal of one computer for every student.

In the past months with schools closed due to COVID-19 and students accessing on-line course work, about 90 percent were able to do so successfully with either a computer or other on-line capable device such as a smart phone.

But Smith said this week that the schools were moving to a newer, more advanced on-line learning system – Schoology – that would allow much more direct instruction over the internet between student and teacher.

It also required a fully capable computer rather than a device or smartphone to be used properly, he said.

"Any money you may find [given to schools] and any money we may find we are going to spend on computers," Smith told commissioners.

Smith has estimated it would cost \$8 million to give each of the roughly 18,000 students in St. Mary's a computer; that amount would also fund the purchase of 1,500 Wi-Fi hotspots to be used by students without their own internet connection.

The issue of spending on computers for students rose again as commissioners received a briefing on the "middle mile" project that involves spending about \$3.1 million in taxpayer funds to have Atlan-

tic Broadband lay more broadband cable down 15 county roads where internet service is either intermittent or non-existent.

This project would still require more cable be laid in a "final mile" to complete actual internet connection to a home.

Commissioner John O'Connor, calling in from a remote location, said the money allocated to the middle mile should always have gone to buying more laptops.

"St. Mary's County is covered by 4G... the middle mile is corporate welfare," O'Connor said.

Bob Kelly, director of the Department of Information Technology, said wireless internet service such as 4G was not as reliable as that offered by a physical cable connection.

"4G is affected by saturation [of signal] and distance from the tower," Kelly said. "With cable your bringing the equivalent connectivity you would have being next to the tower to your home."

School Board Member Rita Weaver said providing Wi-Fi hotspots was a more affordable option for some residents.

"You can run those lines... down the roads all day long, but unless you get it down to the person's house it's not going to work," Weaver said. "I was quoted \$18,000 to get it from Route 235 down to my house."

"I don't have \$18,000 to get internet access... we really do need to invest in the hotspots for the students so they can do their work."

The commissioners also gave final approval to the schools fiscal 2021 budget of \$231 million, a number roughly split between county and state funding with a small portion of federal dollars.

# Ribbon Virtually Cut for FDR Extension



The Commissioners of St. Mary's County recognized the opening of the roadway extension of FDR Boulevard, from Monterey Lane (Private) to the roundabout at the intersection of Kinnegad Drive/Castletown Way (Private) with a virtual Ribbon Cutting Tuesday, June 9, 2020. The extension and connection of the FDR Boulevard roadway allows traffic to flow between Maryland Route 4 - St. Andrews Church Road and Maryland Route 237

- Chancellors Run Road.

A video presentation of the virtual Ribbon Cutting can be viewed on the St. Mary's County Government YouTube channel.

Citizens with questions about the roadway extension of FDR Boulevard can contact the Department of Public Works and Transportation at 301-475-4200 ext. 3525.

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

The county's allocation was \$109 million this year, \$3 million more than last year's budget; Smith said he was grateful that the commissioners continued to fund the schools at increasing levels each year.

Commissioner Todd Morgan said that the money allocated to the schools back in May, \$58,000 for cleaning supplies and protective equipment, was part of a broader range of decisions the commissioners had to make about what to spend the federal CARES Act funding - \$19.8 million - on.

Half of that money went to the health department, \$3 million to the middle mile

project, \$2 million to a small business relief program, \$2 million for payroll with rest going to the Metropolitan Commission and other expenditures.

Morgan said it was proof that the county was not shorting the school system.

"We have to look at the big county and not just what the Board of Education wants, or the sheriff wants..." Morgan said.

It was here in the meeting that Morgan made the motion to spend \$400,000 from the commissioners' reserve on more student computers.

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

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---

Grocery Auction

We are in discussions to schedule some Grocery  
Auctions in the area. More details to be  
announced soon.

## Sheriff's Office Investigating Lexington Park, California Shootings

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Two separate shootings, one in Lexington Park and another in California, left three men wounded with at least one still in the hospital.

Capt. Edward Willenborg, commander of the sheriff's office Criminal Investigation Division, said the Lexington Park shooting took place at about 10a.m. at the Xtreme Kleen Car Wash on Great Mills Road June 14.

Two men, one 21 and the other 31 were both shot by an as yet unknown assailant while other witnesses looked on.

"No one has been arrested," Willenborg told The County Times. "We hope in the next few days there will be a break in the case."

There are many witnesses to the case who police believe could provide more information.

"We know there are people who we have not interviewed who were present at the scene," Willenborg said. "We're asking them to come forward."

The shooting in Wildewood occurred

on Sugar Maple Court two days prior on June 12.

Sheriff's deputies found the victim at about 8:30p.m. after having been shot in the abdomen, police reports stated.

The victim was a 19-year-old male from Mechanicsville and was transported out of the area by helicopter to a nearby trauma center for treatment.

No arrests have been made in the Wildewood shooting, Willenborg said, but detectives are continuing to probe leads.

"We have people of interest we're speaking with," said Willenborg.

Both shootings were designed to target specific individuals.

"Neither were random acts," he said.

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at (301) 475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

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

## Furniture Store Construction Underway in Lexington Park

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The old Raley's Home Furnishing's store on Great Mills Road has sat vacant and gutted for more than a year since closing down, but regional furniture vendor Regency Furniture, which had purchased the property, has recently begun revitalizing the property.

According to Bill Hunt, director of the Department of Land Use and Growth Management, the building permit shows the store will be an Ashley's Furniture, which is a sister brand of Regency Furniture.

The recent construction there, Hunt said, had brought on "kind of dramatic changes" to the building and the neighborhood's appearance.

Regency Furniture applied for a building permit in early 2018, Hunt said, and was issued the permit in November of that same year.

Since then concerns among residents and leaders began to mount as the dilapidated building was both an eyesore and a beacon for loitering and trespassing.

Eventually the new owner had a fence put up around the property to prevent squatting in the building's interior.

Hunt said there was no time requirement for Regency Furniture to finish the project per the building permit.

"It took a long time for this project to get up



The redevelopment of the old Raley's Home Furnishings is underway.

off the dime and I'm glad to see it's looking good," said Commissioner Todd Morgan. "I hope they'll continue to plow along."

Last year at the State of the County luncheon in Lexington Park, Morgan was critical of the new owner as not being open with officials about when they would begin redevelopment of the aging property.

He praised Regency Furniture with keeping their commitment.

"It further shows my and the county's commitment to the redevelopment of the Great Mills Road corridor and Lexington Park," Morgan said. "It'll be another great addition to the corridor."

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# Brewster: COVID Hospitalization Rate Steady

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Widespread testing at long-term and assisted living facilities and elsewhere continues in St. Mary's to detect who is infected with the novel coronavirus, Dr. Meena Brewster, the county's health officer told the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

As a result, the number of positive COVID-19 cases continues to rise but the severity of the pandemic overall, is seemingly reducing as the number of hospitalizations and intensive care admissions to MedStar St. Mary's Hospital has remained steady.

"We have not seen a rise in the use of hospital or ICU (intensive care unit) beds in the past several weeks," Brewster said at the June 16 meeting in Leonardtown. "We've had 10 cases or less per day in hospitals due to COVID-19."

She warned that her staff have found that the virus has spread both by people being in contact with those they know who have had coronavirus, while others who contract it do not know where they were first infected.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt said in viewing the daily updates on COVID-19 infection posted on-line by the county health department, it was easy to assume that the virus spread

was getting worse.

Brewster explained that the testing that first took place back in March was for people exhibiting symptoms who tended to be much more ill; those tested now were "mildly symptomatic, asymptomatic or never developed symptoms at all."

The latest figures show there are 587 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in St. Mary's with 41 deaths.

There have been 101 hospitalizations, but 308 people have recovered and been released from isolation.

Nearly half of all the cases in the county have come from the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home where 201 residents are reported to have been infected with the disease, along with 85 staff members.

In a later interview, Brewster said a large number of the recorded cases of COVID-19 at the veterans home have recovered, about 60 of the 201 cases.

Out of the 85 staff found to have the disease, she said, 65 have recovered.

Brewster said, despite some growing discontent about having to wear them, face masks or cloth coverings were proving to be effective in fighting the spread of the virus.

"These cloth face masks or coverings are protecting people," Brewster said.

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

# Feed St. Mary's Food Bank Receives State Allocation Award

Feed St. Mary's, the local food bank for St. Mary's County, has received an allocation award from the Maryland Food Bank to assist in the local battle against food insecurity. According to Feed St. Mary's Board President, Dr. Linda Lymas, the grant is designed to provide food resources and increase access to food as a part of the State of Maryland's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant, in excess of \$20,000, allows Feed St. Mary's to increase the amount of food coming into St. Mary's County and being distributed by local food pantries and soup kitchens through the summer months.

The grant permits Feed St. Mary's to supplement immediate orders for food placed by local pantries and soup kitchens, and to store additional food for future distribution. The allocation not only provides short-term relief, it also ensures that local entities will be able to set aside some of their own funding for use in the

future. The non-profit is extremely pleased to be able to offer such enormous support to local pantries and soup kitchens.

Feed St. Mary's Food Bank, located in Lexington Park, is an integral part of a partnership between the Maryland Food Bank and the grassroots organizations that provide food directly to those in need. Feed St. Mary's warehouse operations began in March 2020. While the pandemic has slowed Feed St. Mary's growth plans within the community, the food bank continues to work with partner pantries to bring food into the county so that it can be distributed to those with immediate needs for supplemental food.

If you would like to learn more about how you or your organization can partner with Feed St. Mary's in ending hunger in St. Mary's County, please visit the website: [feedstmarys.org](http://feedstmarys.org), email: [feedstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:feedstmarys@gmail.com) or call (240) 237-8197.

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# Planners Approve Church, Warehouse

By Dick Myers  
Editor

The St. Mary's County Planning Commission has unanimously approved concept site plans for new facilities for an existing church and a wholesale HVAC supply company. The approvals at the commission's June 15 meeting were for a 20,475-square-foot Redeeming Grace Baptist Church next to King's Christian Academy in Callaway, and a relocation of R.E. Michel Company to a new 14,000-square-foot facility on Airport View Drive in Hollywood in the St. Mary's Industrial Park.

Redeeming Grace Baptist Church, according to their website, was founded in 2009 as an offshoot of Leonardtown Baptist Church (LBC) and began meeting at King's Christian Academy. Their website says, "Due to the growth and stability of the campus the members of LBC voted unanimously in early 2014 to plant the campus as an autonomous church. As a result of much prayer and continued favor from the Lord the Callaway Campus was launched as Redeeming Grace Baptist Church on January 1, 2015.

"Both Leonardtown Baptist Church and Redeeming Grace Baptist Church continue to have a strong

fellowship and exist as a local network of distinct churches working together for the Great Commission. It is our desire to reach Southern Maryland with the gospel and to plant new churches.

"Redeeming Grace Baptist Church works in glad cooperation with the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention."

The new church will have its entrance off the entrance road to King's Christian Academy. It will have paved parking in the front and extra gravel parking in the rear to accommodate anticipated growth.

R.E. Michel Company is currently located at 43950 Airport View Drive. Their new facility will be on 2.78 acres at 43970 Airport View Drive.

The developer's representatives told the planners that an additional 5,000-square-foot expansion is planned in the future and parking is being created now to allow for the expansion. It would be for warehouse space, not offices, the planners were told.

According to their website, "The R.E. Michel Company was founded in Baltimore, Maryland in 1935 as a supplier to the home heating oil burner industry. Still family owned and operated, we have grown to be

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Planning Commission Chairman

Howard Thompson and member Joe St. Clair attended the meeting in the governmental center conference room along with county staff. The rest of the commission members participated by video conference call.

There was no public comment at either of the public hearings for the two concept site plan requests.

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



Artist's rendering of new Redeeming Grace Baptist Church.



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## County Man Pleads Guilty to Theft of More Than \$409,000 in Government Benefits

Victor Demattia, age 64, of Mechanicsville, Maryland, pleaded guilty June 16 to theft of government property, for stealing more than \$400,000 in Civil Service Retirement benefits and Social Security benefits.

The guilty plea was announced by United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Robert K. Hur; Special Agent in Charge Michael McGill of the Social Security Administration - Office of Inspector General; and Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Thomas W. South of the Office of Personnel Management - Office of Inspector General.

According to Demattia's plea agreement, from February 2009 through June 2018, Demattia stole monthly Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) pension payments and Social Security Retirement Insurance Benefit (RIB) payments intended for his mother after her death, resulting in a loss to the United States Government of \$409,421.

Specifically, at the time of his mother's death, she was receiving CSRS pension payments from OPM and RIB payments from SSA by direct deposit to a joint account held by Demattia and his mother. When his mother died, Demattia did not notify SSA or OPM of her death, and as a result, SSA and OPM continued to make monthly deposits into the joint bank account. Demattia admitted that he withdrew the CSRS and RIB funds each month, typically by checks he endorsed, payable to himself or to his now-defunct medical transport business, Patriot Medical Transport.

## Commissioners Recognize 2020 Census Benchmark for St. Mary's County

The Commissioners recognized St. Mary's County 2020 Census response rates with a proclamation during their business meeting, Tuesday, June 16, 2020. Commissioner President Randy Guy stated, "St. Mary's County has reached an important milestone in meeting and exceeding the 2010 final response rate with more than four months before the end of the 2020 census self-response phase." He went on to encourage all St. Mary's County citizens to complete their census forms "...it's very important to the county."

An accurate Census count is essential for providing information that will impact St. Mary's County for the next decade. Data from the Census determines the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. They are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts and determines federal funding allocations.

"St. Mary's County has been actively contributing to 2020 Census awareness and participation activities since late last fall.

On March 5, 2019, during an interview conducted by agents of the SSA Office of Inspector General and OPM Office of Inspector General, Demattia admitted that he spent his mother's RIB and CSRS payments after her death. He stated that he knew he was not entitled to the money, but spent the fund to cover expenses for his failing business such as payroll, fuel, receivables, and other operating expenses, as well as on personal expenses through debit card purchases after the closure of his business.

In total, Demattia stole \$369,018 from OPM and \$40,403 from SSA after his mother's death. As part of his plea agreement, Demattia will be required to forfeit and to pay a money judgment in the amount of \$409,421.

Demattia faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison for theft of government property. Actual sentences for federal crimes are typically less than the maximum penalties. As part of his plea agreement, the government has agreed to recommend a sentence of no more than 18 months in federal prison. U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte has scheduled sentencing for September 24, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

United States Attorney Robert K. Hur praised the SSA Office of Inspector General and OPM Office of Inspector General for their work in the investigation. Mr. Hur thanked Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Davio, who is prosecuting the case.

We recognize the importance of counting every person in St. Mary's County and it is exciting to see our efforts are paying off," said Bill Hunt, Director of Land Use and Growth Management and chairman of the St. Mary's County Complete Count Census Committee.

Regional Census representatives also congratulated the county for the success, "The U.S. Census Bureau would like to extend our congratulations to the people of St. Mary's County for their high response rate," said Fernando Armstrong, Regional Director for the Philadelphia Region of the U.S. Census Bureau. "Your response matters and will help your community get the accurate count it needs to secure federal funding for critical public services and political representation."

For information about participating in the 2020 Census, please visit the St. Mary's County Government Census webpage.

## St. Mary's Library Announces Phase 1 Reopening

### *Summer Reading Program to be Virtual*

The St. Mary's County Library is pleased to announce Phase 1 Reopening plans. The book drops at all three Library locations (Charlotte Hall, Leonardtown, and Lexington Park) will be opened to receive checked out materials on Wednesday, June 17. All three locations will start curbside pickup of reserved materials on Monday, June 22.

Please note that the Leonardtown Library has moved to the new building located at 23630 Hayden Farm Lane in Leonardtown, next to Walter Francis Duke Elementary School. The old building located on Hollywood Road is no longer a Library and will not be accepting book returns or offering any Library services. We hope to celebrate the opening of the new Leonardtown Library on a future date.

#### **Book drops**

All currently checked out items have had the checkout period extended until August 1. Book drops at all three Library locations will be opened on Wednesday, June 17. However, there is no rush to return your items before August 1. Please feel free to keep your items until August 1 if you would like to. All returned items will be quarantined for three days and will not be checked in immediately. Once you have returned an item, please wait at least three days before making sure it has been cleared from your account.

#### **Curbside**

Beginning June 22, curbside pickup hours of operation will be Monday through Thursday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 12 noon to 5 p.m. There will be no Sunday hours for this first phase of opening. Customers may reserve materials online through the Library website at this time, and will be able to call the Library to place holds beginning June 22. Customers will be notified via email (or the preferred contact method set in the customer's Library account) when their items are ready to be picked up. Once notified that holds are available for pickup, customers will use our online scheduler to schedule a time to pick them up. Instructions for using the online scheduler will be available on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). Customers are also welcome to call the Library to check on holds and schedule a time to pick up items if they do not have the ability to use the online scheduler.

Pickup at new Leonardtown Library will be at the drive-through window on the side of the building. Please park in designated spots at Charlotte Hall Library and Lexington Park Library for curbside service.

Please wear a mask and do not leave your vehicle when you come to pick up your items. Library staff will be wearing personal protective equipment and practicing social distancing during curbside transactions. We prefer to place your items in vehicle trunks or through windows at which no one is seated. Please do not return items to staff. Use the book drops to return all items.

Customers are encouraged to check their accounts to see what items are on hold online in your account. If you still want your requested items, we will notify you when they come in and are ready for pick up.

However, if you no longer want items that are on hold, please either remove the holds or call the Library to receive assistance.

#### **Phone and Chat Service**

St. Mary's County Library staff will be available via phone and online chat starting on Monday, June 22. Hours of operation will be Monday through Thursday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 12 noon to 5 p.m. There will be no Sunday hours for this first phase of opening. Staff will be able to assist with information requests such as account questions, suggesting titles, homework and research help, online resources and downloadable content help, and logging summer reading challenges. Instructions on how to use the chat service will be available on the Library website, [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org).

#### **Summer Reading**

The Summer Reading program, designed for all ages from babies to adults, will begin on Monday, June 8. Find the challenges and more information about the Summer Reading program on [www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org). Summer Reading will be on the Beanstack platform used the past several years. The Beanstack app is available on both Android and iOS, or can be used via <https://stmalib.beanstack.com/>. If you do not have access to Beanstack, you can call 301-475-2846 starting on June 22 to report your completed challenges. By completing your first challenge, you will receive a glow-in-the-dark t-shirt with the 2020 theme "Imagine Your Story." T-shirts will be picked up curbside and the process for scheduling a pickup time will be similar to picking up materials. Earn tickets to enter into prize drawings of your choice by completing challenges.

All programming and events will be virtual this summer. Please check out our website ([www.stmalib.org](http://www.stmalib.org)) or follow us on Facebook (@StMarysLibrary) to find many fun programs and events for all ages.

#### **Safety First**

We are not accepting in-person payment of any long-term fines (materials currently being returned will not have fines). Fines may be paid online (log into your Library account), by check (Made out to St. Mary's County Library, include the Library card number on the check, and mail to 23260 Hayden Farm Lane, Leonardtown 20650), or via credit card over the phone.

The Friends of the St. Mary's County Library and the Library are not able to accept physical donations (books, DVDs, audiobooks, etc.) at this time.

All Library materials, once returned, will be quarantined for 72 hours to ensure that any potential for contamination is removed, following best practices recommended by the State Library Resource Center. We regret that this practice may slow your receiving holds, but we are concerned for the safety of all in this challenging time.

After the state and county loosen some guidelines on physical distancing and "safer at home," we will eventually open our buildings for in-person visits.

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



# McKay's Announces Return to Normal Hours

Charlotte Hall, Leonardtown: 7 am till 10 pm Everyday

Hollywood: 7 am till 9 pm

In addition, new Senior exclusive shopping hours will be Tuesday and Thursdays from 8 am till 10 am.



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# SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME REPORT

**Child Abuse-** On May 20, 2020, Dep. Luffey responded to the 21700 block of North Essex Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported child abuse. Investigation determined one victim had been injured from a dog bite and no medical treatment was sought for the victim. Another victim had a visible bruises to the face and other areas on the victim's body, which the victim reported was from being kicked by Angela Renee Fowler, age 29 of Lexington Park. Another victim was discovered to have bruising on the face as well. Angela Fowler was ar-



William Fowler



Angela Fowler

rested and charged with three counts of Child Abuse 2nd Degree and three counts of Neglect of Minor. William Dennis Fowler, age 36 of Lexington Park, was charged with three counts of Neglect of Minor.

## Mechanicsville Man Arrested for Handgun in a Vehicle

On June 6 Deputy Raley responded to the 43700 block of Wildewood Parkway in California, for the reported weapons violation. The witness advised he was forced out of a vehicle and the vehicle operator then discharged a firearm in the area. A short time later Deputy Budd located a vehicle traveling north bound on Route 235, being operated by a male with facial hair, matching the description of the vehicle and suspect provided by the witness. Dep. Budd conducted a vehicle stop and identified



Chad Bowen

the operator to be Chad William Bowen, age 26 of Mechanicsville. Located on the vehicle's floorboard was a loaded firearm. Bowen is prohibited from possessing a firearm and ammunition due to a previous conviction.

Bowen was arrested and charged with the following:

- Handgun in Vehicle
- Loaded Handgun in Vehicle
- Possession of Regulated Firearm by Prohibited Person
- Possession of Ammunition by Prohibited Person
- Handgun on Person
- Loaded Handgun on Person
- Reckless Endangerment

Bowen was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown and has since been released on pre-trial supervision.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Dep. Benjamin Raley at (301) 475-4200 extension 78076 or by email at Benjamin.Raley@stmarysmd.com.

**Unlawful Taking/CDS:** On June 4, Deputy Nicholas Hill responded to Nissan of Lexington Park for the report of a theft. Aaron Jacob Windsor, 24 of no fixed address, used a Ford F150 and did not bring it back as agreed.

Later located on Great Mills Road and stopped by Deputy Michael Graves, a search of the vehicle located two glass smoking devices with suspected crack cocaine residue and one hypodermic needle with suspected heroin residue. Once Windsor was in custody, he began yelling and screaming obscenities. Windsor was transported to the SMC Detention and Rehabilitation Center and charged with Unlawful Taking of Motor Vehicle, CDS: Possession of Paraphernalia, CDS Pos-



Aaron Windsor

session: Heroin, CDS Possession: Cocaine and Disorderly Conduct.

**CDS:** On June 4, 2020, Deputy Benjamin Luffey and several other units responded to the 45800 block of Chancellor's Run Court for the report of a disturbance. Tykane Shiheim Briscoe, 24 of Lexington Park, was observed stumbling around the parking lot, banging on doors and destroying flower beds. Briscoe was determined to be intoxicated and refused orders to return to an apartment. As Briscoe was placed under arrest, a search of his person located two baggies of Controlled Dangerous Substance. Briscoe was charged with two counts of CDS Possession: Cocaine, Disturbing the Peace/Disorderly Conduct and Intoxicated Public Disturbance



Tykane Briscoe

**Assault:** On June 8, 2020, Deputy Blake Haas responded to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center for the report of an assault. Deputy Haas was advised that Quinton Marquis Remied, 23 of Lexington Park, struck the victim with a closed fist in the face. The victim was knocked unconscious, struck the victim's head on the floor and began to bleed. Remied said the victim was an annoyance to him. Remied was charged with Second-Degree Assault.



Quinton Remied

*Editor's Note: The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated*

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## Legal Notice

### 2019 Consumer Confident Report (CCR)

#### Commissioners of Leonardtown

The 2019 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) will be available July 1st to Town residents, the public at the town office at 22670 Washington St. Leonardtown, MD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and at the Leonardtown Post Office, 22735 Washington Street. Also, available online at: <http://leonardtown.somd.com> under Town Government, Water Quality Reports.

# Recreation Programs Open with Modifications

The following programs will operate with appropriate modifications from their originally planned format for St. Mary's County residents only. However, the golf course and museum taxi rides are open for anyone to enjoy.

Due to certain restrictions and COVID-19 guidelines, maximum allowable participants will be lowered and planned activities will be modified to accommodate social distancing and proper sanitization to lessen the risk for disease transmission.

**Summer Fun Camps:** Limited capacity will be available for registration at Hollywood, Carver & Margaret Brent Recreation Centers, Monday-Thursday from 8:00am-3:00pm for a 6-week summer camp program from July 6 – August 13. Those currently registered for these locations will be accepted into a lottery to determine placement. Detailed instructions and information has been emailed to those currently registered. Once current enrolled participants are placed in camps on Friday, June 19, any additional openings will be made available to the public for registration the following week. Information will be made available at [www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/camps](http://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/camps).

**Outdoor Youth Camps:** Consideration for outdoor camps the week of June 29 are no longer being planned. With the updated restrictions, indoor summer camps will begin the week of July 6.

**Outdoor Sports Camps:** Sports camps are scheduled to begin June 29. Online registration is currently open for field hockey, multi-sports, baseball, tennis, soccer, lacrosse and softball options.

**Great Mills Swimming Pool:** The pool dome is scheduled to be removed on Monday, June 22. Additional preparations will take place and tentative opening for the pool will be Saturday, June 27. Specific details for times designated for lap swimming

and open swim will be made available by Tuesday, June 23. Designated times will be established for limited activities to include lap swim, aqua exercise and open swim. Reservations will be required during these designated times with limited capacity. Reservation details will be forthcoming with all information available at [www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/aquatics](http://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/aquatics).

## Outdoor Parks, Playgrounds & Beaches:

Affiliated Youth Sports leagues may resume sporting and other customary operation outdoors as of Friday, June 12 and for indoor participation beginning Friday, June 19. Please contact Sport Coordinator, Tyrone Harris at [tyrone.harris@stmarysmd.com](mailto:tyrone.harris@stmarysmd.com) to reserve a field at one of the county parks.

Outdoor parks and playgrounds are open to the public while adherence to social distancing guidelines is recommended.

Waterfront beaches at Elms, Myrtle Point and Snow Hill are open to St. Mary's County residents only with capacity restrictions. There is a fee for entry. Please visit [www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/parks](http://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/parks) for details.

**Wicomico Shores Golf Course:** The golf course is open for play with social distancing restrictions in place. The Riverview Restaurant is open for business. Details are available at [www.stmarysmd.com/docs/wicomicoshoresopen.pdf](http://www.stmarysmd.com/docs/wicomicoshoresopen.pdf)

**County Museums:** The Water Taxi that operates from the St. Clements Island Museum to St. Clements Island is open seven (7) days a week beginning Saturday, June 6, 2020. There is a \$7 fee for each person. The boat will leave the mainland pier at 10:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm and 1:00pm. The boat will leave the island pier at 12:15pm, 1:15pm, 2:15pm and 3:15pm. Capacity will be determined trip by trip by the captain in order to maintain physical distancing. All

other museum operations at both St. Clements Island and Piney Point Lighthouse are closed until further notice. For details about museums, visit [www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/museums](http://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/museums).

## Recreation Program Planning for Phase 2

The following programs will operate with some restrictions and modification from the original format for St. Mary's County residents only once the Maryland Roadmap to Recovery allows for indoor recreation programs to resume in Phase 2.

**St. Mary's Gymnastics Academy - USAG Team Practices:** The Junior Olympics and Xcel USAG team members will be able to participate in modified private lessons. Times, days and rotations will be modified to meet all guidelines as established by the USA Gymnastics governing body and local health department. Specific details will be addressed with these families in a separate communication. Recreational gymnastics classes remain closed until further notice.

**Adult Kickball League:** The summer adult league is scheduled to begin on Thursday, July 9 at Dorsey Park. Team registration is required and must be completed by July 2 for all interested teams. Teams can register online.

## Recreation Summer Program Cancellations

The following events and programs are cancelled for the Summer 2020 season following the Maryland Road to Recovery Plan. Many of these programs involve large gatherings, vulnerable populations and access to public school facilities.

**Summer Fun Camps:** The first two weeks (June 22 – July 3) of Summer Fun Camps held at Margaret Brent, Hollywood & Carver Recreation Centers and Chancellor's Run Regional Park are cancelled.

**Therapeutic Recreation Camps:** Camp Inspire and New Ho-

rizons Summer Camps that operated in St. Mary's County Public Schools are cancelled.

**Summerstock Theater:** The annual theater production has been cancelled and instead is going virtual! This year's Summerstock show will be an online revue of songs from Olde Broadway. **Auditions are currently being accepted.** Please visit [www.stmarysmd.com/docs/summerstockaudition.pdf](http://www.stmarysmd.com/docs/summerstockaudition.pdf) for all the details.

**Event & Indoor Programs:** The following events are cancelled and recurring programs are closed until further notice.

Track & Field Meet  
Girls & Boys Basketball Camps  
Girls Volleyball Camp  
Family Open Skates at Leonard Hall

Recreational Gymnastics Classes  
Indoor Facility Rentals  
Youth & Adult Leisure Classes  
Therapeutic, Health, Wellness & Fitness Classes

## Refunds

Any programs or rentals that have been canceled due to COVID-19 will result in a direct refund. If you have specific questions related to your refund, please contact us at [webtrac@stmarysmd.com](mailto:webtrac@stmarysmd.com).

*Press Release from St. Mary's County Recreation and Parks*



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# St. Mary's Transit System Resumes Regular Services

St. Mary's Transit System has resumed regular bus service Monday through Friday, extending some routes to 9 p.m.

All riders are required to wear a face cover before boarding buses. There is a nine-passenger limit on each bus, additional riders should wait for the next bus or call the STS dispatch number for assistance, 301-475-4200 ext. 1120 or 1121 To minimize operator contact, passenger must place fare or ticket in the fare box or show their monthly pass or daily pass while boarding the bus.

For the health and safety of all, St. Mary's Transit System (STS) will continue daily wipe-down of buses and paratransit vehicles; and disinfecting areas with high passenger touchpoints. St. Mary's Transit System service fixed routes guidelines and continued routes:

## Monday through Friday STS will resume the following routes:

Rt. 1 – California Route – Northbound and Southbound 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Rt. 2 – Charlotte Hall Route – Northbound and Southbound 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Rt. 3 - Great Mills Route – Northbound and Southbound 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Rt. 4 - County Span -Northbound and Southbound every even hour 6 a.m. to 5/7 p.m.

Rt. 5 - Calvert Connection-every odd hour from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Rt. 7 - Southern Route- every

hour, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Monday through Saturday STS will resume the following routes:

Rt. 6 - Northern Route – Every odd hour 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Rt. 7 - Southern Route- Saturday only every odd hour, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Rt. 11 -Great Mills/California Route- Every hour, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Rt. 12 -Leonardtown Route Northbound/Southbound - every hour, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Rt. 14 -County Span Route Northbound/Southbound every even hour, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Sunday STS will resume the following routes:

Rt. 11 - Great Mills/California Route – 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Rt. 12 - Leonardtown Route – 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Mobility** - ADA and SSTAP paratransit service will continue to book and provide medical trips such as dialysis, chemotherapy, hospitals, clinics, mental health facilities, as well as trips to pharmacies and grocery stores.

Riders needing assistance with trip planning can contact the STS Transit Information Center from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at 301-475-4200 ext. 1120 or 1121. For additional information and to view bus schedules, please visit our website at <https://www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/sts-transit/>.

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

# Learning by Flying: Partnership Provides Hands-On Experiences



Photos courtesy of Florida Institute of Technology.

Through a unique partnership between Florida Institute of Technology and TechPort, students are getting hands-on experience by flying actual airplanes. Dr. Bob Schaller, director of Florida Institute of Technology Southern Maryland Center, came to Tommy Luginbill, TechPort director, with an interesting idea, "What if we taught a real hands-on class with an airplane?" The two agreed that it would be a great idea to host and run the FTE 5702 Airplane Stability and Control Flight Test Engineering Course at the TechPort facility, so they could utilize the airplane hangar.

With this course, students would be able to "examine techniques to evaluate airplane stability and control flight testing." Dr. Brian Kish, program chair of Flight Test Engineering, and David Callender, pilot and Certified Flight Instructor (CFI), taught this class to a group of 7 NAVAIR Flight Test Engineers during the week of June 8, 2020. With this combination of classroom work and experiential learning, these students will gain great experience and collaboration to build on their existing skills.

This is a unique arrangement that has never been done before at TechPort. Luginbill was thrilled to see this relationship between TechPort and Florida Tech produce great opportunities for students. "Collaboration with Florida Tech and their stability flight engineering lab is

the perfect use of TechPort's airplane hangar and a prime example of multiorganization collaboration," Luginbill stated.

Additionally, Dr. Schaller was thrilled of this local collaboration going on in the Southern Maryland community. "The partnership between Florida Tech Southern Maryland and TechPort UMD enabled a vital course to be delivered to NAVAIR flight test engineers that would not have been possible under current facility access restrictions," he began. "The unique arrangement of running flight test labs out of a hangar made the experience that much more meaningful." This partnership is a perfect example of how shared resources benefit numerous parties.

TechPort, operated under contract by the University of Maryland, is a technological incubator that offers many services, such as developmental space and a general machine shop, but TechPort is also a creative workspace. TechPort provides the ability to connect with people in the community to make a difference. TechPort is becoming a community hotspot, where visionaries can collaborate, and new interesting ideas can thrive and grow.

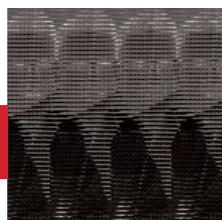
To stay up to date about our innovative projects, visit our website, [www.techportsmd.org](http://www.techportsmd.org), or follow our social media at @TechPortUMD.

By Alexandra Walker, [alexkathlynn@gmail.com](mailto:alexkathlynn@gmail.com) for TechPort.

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# Retired School Personnel Honor Community Service

## St. Mary's County Resident Garners Annual Award

Each year the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association awards a Community Service award to a member whose volunteer activities benefit the community. Dr. Linda Lymas, a St. Mary's County chapter member received the award with recognition for her efforts on behalf of the county's people in need.

Approximately 10,000 people in St. Mary's County rely on food pantries, soup kitchens, and their programs in order to survive. As coordinator of *Feed St. Mary's Food Bank*, Linda encourages and motivates hundreds of volunteers who know they are helping people in need and are grateful for the opportunity to serve others.

To address food insecurities in St. Mary's County, Dr. Linda Lymas has been instrumental in the establishment of *Feed St. Mary's Food Bank* – the first ever food bank in St. Mary's County. She negotiated a 5-year rent free agreement for a 3,000 square foot store front. Grant money enabled the purchase of a commercial walk-in freezer and refrigerator which allows the organization to accept large donations. Dr. Lymas continues to promote the food bank to service organizations, churches, school groups, businesses and individuals soliciting donations for food and money. In addition to the establishment of the food bank she coordinates the activities of the local food pantries to ensure that people have access to food.

Each year the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association awards a Community Service award to a member whose volunteer activities benefit the community. We are so proud of Dr. Linda Lymas, a SMCPSRA member who received the award with recognition for her efforts on behalf of the our county's people in need.

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Dr. Linda Lymas

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*Press Release from St. Mary's County chapter of Maryland Retired School Personnel Association,*

# Organizers of the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Cancel 2020 Event

The Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival, one of the Mid-Atlantic's signature, award-winning jazz events, which has provided visitors with lots of jazz music, seafood, stunning waterside views and a variety of activities for jazz enthusiasts in both Leonardtown and St. Clement's Island Museum in Colton's Point, MD for the last 20 years, has been canceled.

After considering the guidance of local, state and national leaders, as well as medical professionals and the St. Mary's County Health Department, the organizers of the festival are sad to announce the cancellation of the 2020 event, set to occur July 10-12, 2020. With such uncertainty surrounding the length of the current pandemic, as well as having the best interest and safety of our guests, visitors, community and local partners in mind, organizers believe this is the best course of action and are excited to look forward to the 2021 event, which will take place July 9 - 11, 2021.

The Festival weekend usually includes

a free Friday concert celebration and Sunday jazz brunches and activities in downtown Historic Leonardtown in addition to the Saturday "Main Event" at St. Clement's Island Museum, where visitors are encouraged to relax waterside on the scenic museum lawn and enjoy national jazz artists, lots of delicious local seafood and gorgeous views of the Potomac and St. Clement's Island.

Karen Stone, Manager for the St. Mary's County Museum, references the disappointment over having to cancel an event that has run continuously for 20 years. "Unfortunately, due to current world events and our desire to keep our festival-goers safe, we've made the difficult decision to cancel this year's 21st annual festival for the first time ever. We're incredibly sad, as we had a ton of new and fun things planned for you this year. But we decided to focus on 2021 festival, which will occur July 9 through 11 of 2021, where we will bring back the event bigger and better than ever," said Stone.

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# COVID-19

<b>As of June 17</b>	<b>Positive Cases</b>	<b>Deaths</b>
<b>St. Mary's</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>41</b>

Information provided by St. Mary's and Calvert Health Departments  
6-17-2020

## New Virtual Art Gallery Seeks Submissions

### Inaugural Exhibition: 'Quarantine Dreams'

A new on-line gallery, Gallery-V, is seeking artists for its first exhibition, "Quarantine Dreams."

St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation is developing the virtual art gallery, as part of its ongoing efforts to open opportunities to create public art and to bring art into the community. "We see it as adding an art gallery to our already online Lex Park ArtsPark space," said Viki Volk, president of St. Mary's CDC.

Gallery-V is accepting submissions through June 26, 2020 for its "Quarantine Dreams" show. Anyone with art created during the COVID quarantine may submit now through June 26, 2020. Submissions may be uploaded here, where terms of entry are also included.

Selected works will appear in the exhibit, and the juror will make cash awards. There will be \$400 in prize money to be awarded to artists in the exhibit. Submitting work does not guarantee acceptance.

The juried show will open for viewing August 1, 2020, via the St. Mary's County Community Development's website and the Lex Park ArtsPark Facebook Page. Awards will be announced at that time.

John Paradiso is the juror for "Quarantine Dreams," and is currently the resident artist-curator at Portico Gallery and Studios in Brentwood, MD, part of the Gateway Arts District in Prince George's County.

"Quarantine Dreams," is sponsored by St. Mary's County Arts Council, a partner with St. Mary's CDC on other Lex Park ArtsPark events and numerous Lexington Park public art installations including two murals — Lexington Park, Live! and Artist Rainbow — and an Art Alley of Wings Across Lexington Park.

"During the current pandemic artists have been left without galleries, without our working artist community, and often without inspiration," the CDC Arts Director Roz Racanello explained. "I was prompted to put a virtual show together because so many of us, trying to shelter in place and take care of ourselves and our families, are also using this time to create new work. This new online opportunity invites all who have been creating work to show it off. Or maybe we're not creating work and this could be an inspiration."

*Press Release from St. Mary's County Community Development Corporation*

## Solomons Dragon Boat Festival Cancelled

### But Dragon Quest is Coming

Hear ye! Hear ye! There's an elusive invader wreaking havoc in our realm of Southern Maryland and throughout the modern world. And now, it has even caused our Solomons Dragon to literally fall to pieces, curtailing his annual August appearance and eliminating the entire Southern Maryland Community Resources' (SMCR) Solomons Dragon Boat Festival this year! But we shall not be conquered this easily!

Announcing SMCR DRAGON QUEST 2020! All brave lords and ladies of the realm, and citizens of their respective fiefdoms, are called to step forward and join SMCR DRAGON QUEST 2020! Do you have what it takes to help us locate the pieces of our dragon from the far reaches of the realm, put him back together, and slay the elusive invader?

The QUEST takes place on August 15, but preparations are already underway. Cedar Point Federal Credit Union, has led the way on this quest by anteing up a healthy sum for the cause, thereby claiming the title, Ruler of the Realm. Others are encouraged to ante up as additional sponsors in order to ensure a successful quest. Various levels of sponsorship are offered: Nobles, Knights, Defenders, and Merchants of the Realm.

Artisans of the Realm desiring to peddle their wares or foodstuffs are encouraged to join us as well.

Citizens of the Realm are those who choose to participate in the Quest itself, and all are en-

couraged to do so, vying for prizes in the process! Participation will require personal chariots (vehicles) with each rider donning personal helmets (masks). Each chariot team is asked to register its riders and will be assigned a starting time between 9 AM and noon. Each chariot will be taxed \$25 per rider, age 16 and above, to join the QUEST. Those under 16 ride FREE! Each chariot team is encouraged to raise a minimum of \$100 through personal fundraising efforts, but of course much higher goals are encouraged to better benefit SMCR of the Realm (and for your team to qualify for much greater prizes)! Sir Somdcr.org stands ready to offer its services to assist each chariot team in raising these funds!

Just as the Annual Solomons Dragon Boat Festival has in the past, SMCR DRAGON QUEST 2020 serves to provide merriment for the people of the realm, while also raising greatly needed funds for Southern Maryland Community Resources (SMCR), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that helps to bridge the gap for individuals with developmental differences. This year's merriment will abide by the ever-changing mandates of the realm regarding social distancing as we seek to locate the pieces of our dragon, reassemble him, and help slay this elusive invader.

Visit us at [www.somdcr.org](http://www.somdcr.org) to sponsor, register to participate in, or simply sign up to be kept abreast of SMCR DRAGON QUEST 2020 developments. "For SMCR and our Dragon!"

*Press Release from SMCR.*

## SMADC Announces Farmer Pandemic Mini-Grants

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, is pleased to announce a dedicated Pandemic Relief round of the Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program.

Due to the pandemic virus, COVID-19, affecting all aspects of life, and certain agriculture/farm businesses severely, the SMADC board has committed a round of the Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grants specifically for pandemic relief. SMADC will begin accepting Mini-Grant applications on July 1, 2020. The Pandemic Relief Mini-Grant cycle will close on July 22, 2020, with awards announced by August 2020.

This mini-grant round is designed to support established farms that have been financially adversely affected by the onset of the pandemic and are at risk for being unable to pay bills and maintain an adequate standard of living and care for their farm operations, and/or those who have financial needs concerning pivoting their business models to effectively serve their customers safely and to implement state-recommended COVID-19 safety protocols and social distancing guidelines.

To address the current need and where possible minimize financial burden, the grant parameters (for this mini-grant cycle only) include extensive changes and restrictions. Matching funds will not be required, and al-

lowable expenses incurred since April 1, 2020 on will be considered. A total of \$27,000 of funding is available. Applicants may request up to \$2,000 per application. However, it is anticipated that the number of applicants may exceed the amount of funding available, therefore grant applications will be ranked and awards may be less than the requested amount.

Applicants may apply for grant funds for equipment that help farm businesses transition to an online or alternative sales strategy and other projects that maintain or expand sales during the COVID-19 pandemic, including on-farm upgrades to meet state COVID-19 standards for safety and social distancing, on-farm upgrades to enhance food safety per compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) produce safety rule, and marketing and promotion of current farm operation. Additionally, grant funds may be used for the purchase of foundation livestock, purchase of plant stock, veterinary bills, livestock feed, seeds, fertilizer, and equipment parts for farm machinery repair.

For complete details of the SMADC Southern Maryland Farmer Pandemic Relief Mini-Grant Program, including criteria, guidelines, and access to the online application form, visit 'Farmer Resources' to find the 'Mini-Grants' page at [www.SMADC.com](http://www.SMADC.com).

*Press Release from SMADC.*

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# Wild Turtles Are on the Move

Help Them Cross the Road, Keep them Wild

Wild turtles are currently heading to their breeding and nesting sites. During this time of year, wild turtles can often be seen crossing roads and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources urges drivers to be cautious and give turtles a “brake.”

Common turtles found on the road include eastern box turtles, snapping turtles, painted turtles and red-eared sliders.

If you need to help a turtle cross the road, check for traffic and move the turtle in the direction it was traveling, until it is safely out of vehicle lanes. Do not move the turtle to the side it started from or far away from where it is found. Turtles have specific territories and moving them too far away can cause more harm than good. Some species, such as snapping turtles, lay their eggs on land, so moving a pregnant female to water can impact her ability to lay eggs.

Handling turtles should be done with caution. Particular care should be taken with snapping turtles, which can inflict a serious bite. The animal should only be picked up gently using two hands, with your thumbs on the top of the turtle’s shell and other fingers supporting the underside of the shell. Handle the turtle only as long as needed to get it to safety.

While it may be tempting to take a wild turtle home, it is important for both the well-being of wildlife and people to keep wildlife wild. Like

all animals in the wild, turtles can carry diseases and parasites; conversely they can live a long time and often need specialized care. In addition, several of Maryland’s turtle species are declining in the wild.

To protect turtles, the law prohibits the removal of some species from the wild. It is also illegal to possess any turtle under four-inches in length. Reptiles that have been bred in captivity, or which are not native to Maryland, may not be released into the wild. Only individual animals that were taken from the wild may be released back into the wild, and only if:

They have not been held in captivity with any other reptile or amphibian;

They have not been in captivity for more than 30 days; or

Written authorization is given by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

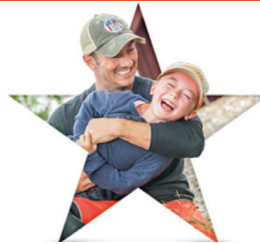
People who are interested in keeping a turtle as a pet can obtain more information from the Mid-Atlantic Turtle and Tortoise Society, which provides opportunities to adopt turtles and tortoises that cannot be released into the wild.

The rules and regulations surrounding the taking and keeping of turtles and other reptiles are designed to protect native wild populations and to prevent the spread of disease. More information about permits for captive reptiles and conditions for release into the wild, as well as species lists, is available online.

*Press Release from MD DNR.*



Photo by Janet Kerr



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### DIY DAD



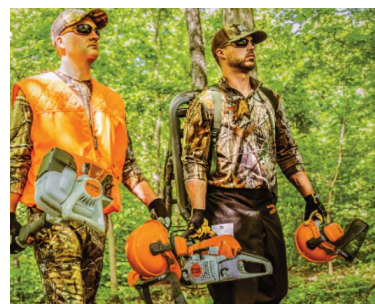
It seems like there are a million projects for Dad to tackle. And he's got the skill and the will to take them all on. But does he have the right tools? With a Father's Day gift from STIHL, you'll be giving your DIY dad a gift he'll love.

### FARMER DAD

For the Farmer, the work is never really done. When your dad comes home from the field or ranch, he still expects to pick up a tool that's as hardworking and reliable as he is. Our great line of equipment is perfect for the dad that never quits.



### HUNTER DAD



Your dad doesn't do spring, summer fall or winter. He's more of a deer or duck season kind of dad. STIHL loves the outdoors too, which is why we've got a great selection of tools, accessories, and apparel to outfit your outdoor dad.

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# 100 Years, 100 Birthdays



Mr. Augustus Raymond Herbert of Oakville, MD. He celebrated his 100th birthday on June 13. Photo courtesy of Ceandra Scott.

## Museum Stores Unveil 'Adopt an Egg'

*Supports New Osprey Exhibit*



**Osprey Egg Replica**



**Crow Egg Replica**

The public is invited to support the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum's new Osprey Exhibit through the "Adopt an Egg" program. Set to open this summer, the exhibit is part of several new permanent displays going into Piney Point Lighthouse Museum.

April Havens, site manager of Piney Point Lighthouse Museum, is putting the finishing touches on plans for these new exhibits at the museum. "Osprey are such an integral part of our Potomac River watershed, returning each spring to a nest within sight of the museum's newly renovated exhibit space. We have a large picture window on the second floor that provides the perfect viewing spot as the monogamous osprey reunite with their mate, repair their nest and begin courtship. The new exhibit will teach visitors about the many unique habits of our seasonal fish hawk residents," revealed Havens.

Part of the exhibit will include museum-quality osprey egg replicas and other bird eggs for comparison. Karen Stone, manager of the St. Mary's County Museum Division, said, "We are asking sponsors to "Adopt an Egg" for display and a second egg for hands-on learning programs. With the temporary closure of the museums in March, many of our events, donation and fundraising opportunities have been lost and we thought this would

be a novel, fun way to support future exhibits and programs."

Museum Stores Manager Jayne Walsh, developed the new online Museum Store, where interested sponsors can find more information about the program: "The replica eggs and other items needed will be available online for adoption by patrons. We will recognize all the "Adopters" with an adoption certificate and a sponsor plaque on display in the museum itself. This is a super fun opportunity for families to affordably fund a bit of the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum displays - so get online and pick your egg to adopt!"

To find out how you can take part in this program, please visit <http://FriendsMuseumStore.Square.Site>.

The Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums raise funds in order to support historical interpretation, education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the Museum Division of St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks. The Friends organization is a 501(c) 3 organization sponsoring events, assisting with acquisitions and supporting efforts to broaden the understanding of our culture and community's heritage.

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



**Goose (Canada) Egg Replica**



**Robin (American) Egg Replica**

## Pet OF THE WEEK

### MEET SKITTLES



The smallest feline is a Masterpiece.  
-Leonardo da Vinci

Hello, my name is Skittles and folks tell me that I have the MOST ALLURING EYES! They just seem to draw you in. I'm a kitty that thrives on attention, loves to chase the laser, and I want to be YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND! You see, I'm only about ONE YEAR OLD and I came in with other cats, so now I'm hoping to find a wonderful new family. Best of all, DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE ALL CAT AND KITTEN ADOPTION FEES ARE JUST \$25. So email TCAS ASAP to make an appointment to come meet me and you can BE MY MIRACLE! PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life

And remember if there is room in the heart, there is room in the house.

Email the wonderful gang at [animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov) to schedule an appointment to meet me! To see more of my amazing friends available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD. TCAS is located at 6707 Animal Shelter Road, Hughesville, MD.

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# Smith: Classrooms Likely to Reopen in the Fall

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith said this week that he expects students to return to their normal class schedules at county schools this fall, though there will be many new rules to follow to prevent an outbreak and spread of COVID-19.

The potentially deadly virus led to all schools being shut down by State Superintendent Dr. Karen Salmon back in March and remained closed until the end of the academic year.

Smith said he has not received word from Salmon about whether schools will reopen in the fall but that is what he and his staff are planning on.

The first day of school for students according to the 2020-2021 system calendar is Aug. 31.

"I believe schools will reopen in a somewhat traditional manner in the fall," Smith told The County Times. "But there will be guidelines that will have to be adhered to such as social distancing, hand sanitizing and repeated use of soap and water hand washing.

"And there will be instances where facemasks will be required when we can't officially social distance."

A full return to school by students would require approval by the state to put them back on buses, Smith said, and that meant at least 40 to 60 students per bus for the plan to be economical enough to work.

"Someone's going to have to determine how many people can be on buses under these circumstances," Smith said, noting that buses were the most time students were cramped into the closest quarters with the greatest risk of coronavirus infection."

But county government has already reopened its STS bus public transit system to full operation, Smith said, and he expects buses will be expected to do the same in the fall.

"We're watching all of that right now, to see how it works out and to find the lessons learned," Smith said.

The local medical data, at least for now, supports the idea of bringing students back to a traditional classroom environment, Smith said.



In close consultation with the county health officer Dr. Meena Brewster, Smith said hospitalizations for the novel coronavirus continue to remain stable in St. Mary's.

"If we continue these trends the expectation from the community is that schools open traditionally," Smith said. "We have to plan for that.

"When are we going to re-open? That's been my conversation with every parent I've spoken to."

Still, the possibility exists that COVID-19 could have a resurgence and schools could either remain closed or the system would have to stagger re-admission of students, which means a certain amount would be allowed to return to class on one day and another portion the next.

It would be a difficult logistical exercise and would require the system to return to on-line distance learning.

That is the backup plan the system will have ready for the beginning of the school year, Smith said.

During the recent school shutdown, St. Mary's schools relied on two on-line platforms, Edgenuity and Schoology, to provide distance learning.

In the coming year, the system will make the full transition to the more advanced Schoology platform, which can provide real-time learning, and many other features, between teachers and students.

Edgenuity, to which 90 percent of the roughly 18,000 students could log on to with either a computer, tablet or other device such as an iPhone, will only be used as a fallback should the new system develop insurmountable problems.

The reason, Smith said, for the rapid and drastic transition, was that Edgenuity did not provide the highest level of instruction for students; it essentially provided lessons that teachers would later check, but no one-on-one, real time contact.

"Edgenuity was asynchronous," Smith said. "We saw all kinds of crazy access times for kids logging on to do their lessons.

"That's all we were able to deliver and it's the least effective way to deliver instruction."

Smith said direct contact with an instructor was best, followed by a blend of on-line and direct teacher/student contact.

On-line learning that could be accomplished in real-time was the third best option, which Schoology could provide.

"Schoology is beautifully constructed for direct instruction," Smith said. "Schoology will be our learning management system for grades K-12."

COVID-19 was responsible in part for the rapid standing up of the Schoology program which the system had purchased and did not intend to roll-out until the 2022 school year.

The need for immediate distance



learning changed all of that, Smith said.

"We went from a plan to introduce Schoology in 18 months to four months," said the superintendent.

But for Schoology to work, Smith said, every student must have a fully functional computer of their own; he wants to ensure that the school system can provide one but that would cost an estimated \$8 million.

"We haven't ever been close to a 1 to 1 [ratio of one computer for every student]," Smith said. "For Schoology to work every kid needs a computer... not just a device."

Smith said he has plans to purchase a certain number of laptop computers for students in the coming months but those might only come by September; the system is hoping to get all the CARES Act federal money it can get to buy more computers but so far has only received \$58,000 in funds for cleaning and personal protection gear.

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County have already spent just over

\$3 million to provide for "middle mile" internet cable to be laid down 15 county roads where there is no connectivity but that will not connect any homes until another section of cable is laid.

Smith said \$8 million would purchase not only enough computers but 1,500 Wi-Fi hotspots that would allow homes without connectivity to have it.

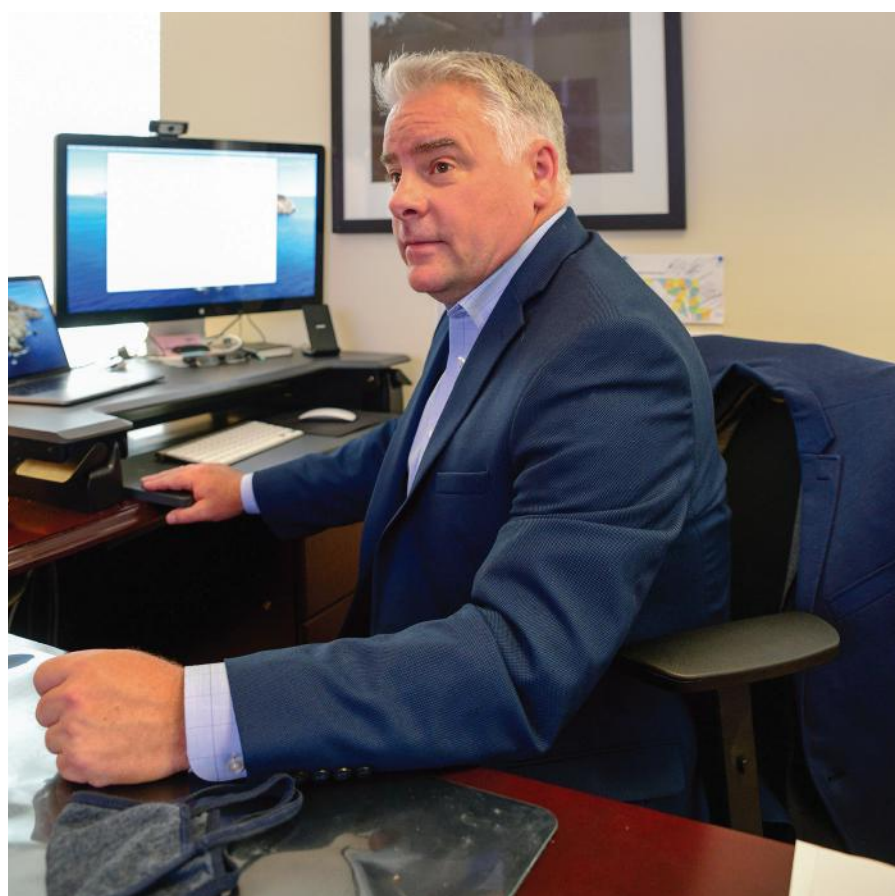
Smith said he would continue to press local leaders for funding for more computers; any additional money the school system could get would go towards purchasing computers.

Getting students back to class went to the very essence of a school system, Smith said.

"There is an absolute core value that as a school system we have to teach kids," Smith said of plans to reopen in the fall. "I'm an optimist.

"Leaders have to operate out of hope, not fear."

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*



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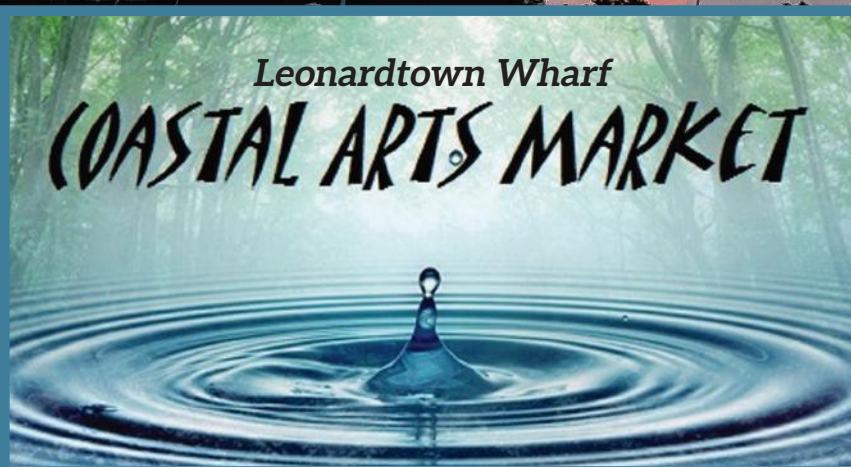
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# PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

# News

## U.S. Naval Test Pilot School Graduates Class 157



The U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) held a graduation ceremony for Class 157 at USNTPS' hangar June 5, 2020. Thirty-four students successfully completed an intense 11-month course of instruction for designation as Engineering Developmental Test Pilots, Test Flight Officers, and Test Engineers.

Rear Adm. John S. Lemmon, Commander of Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division and Assistant Commander for Research and Engineering at Naval Air Systems Command, delivered the keynote address. The Class 107 graduate is former Chief Test Pilot and Commanding Officer of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 20.

Lemmon, Col. Richard Marigliano, Commander of Naval Test Wing Atlantic, and Lt. Col. Rory Feely, Commanding Officer of USNTPS, presented diplomas and offered congratulations to the new "Testers." Graduates included members of the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force; students from Australia, Finland, Italy, and the United Kingdom; and civil service engineers from the Departments of the Army and Navy.

Lt. Cmdr. Dal Nwokora of the Royal Navy received the Outstanding Developmental Phase II Award, which recognizes the student who produced the best final report. The award is symbolic of the longstanding and mutually supportive relationship between the Empire Test Pilots' School in the United Kingdom and USNTPS.

Marine Corps Maj. Daniel Jewett received the Commander Willie McCool Outstanding Student Award, which recognizes the top performing student in the categories of academics, flight performance, and technical report writing. The namesake award commemorates U.S. Navy Commander William C. McCool, a USNTPS alumnus tragically lost in the space shuttle Columbia accident.

Marine Corps Maj. Tristan Gerritsen received the Syd Sherby Leadership Award. Recognizing the student who displays exemplary leadership, the award is named after U.S. Navy Capt. Sydney Sherby who established the test pilot training division in 1945, now the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School. Twenty-three students completed the requirements for the engineering test pilot

course. The new test pilots are:

Lt. Neil Amey, Royal Australian Navy

Lt. William Harris Bishop, U.S. Navy  
Capt. Bradley Russell Campbell, U.S. Army

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael T. Carroll, U.S. Army

Lt. Lance Gregory Eckenroth, U.S. Navy

Lt. Kyle B. Fishburn, U.S. Navy  
Lt. Dustin Archer Flaum, U.S. Navy

Capt. Thomas Glade Fowler, U.S. Army

Maj. Tristan Ming Gerritsen, U.S. Marine Corps

Maj. Dale J. Hargis, U.S. Air Force  
Capt. Giovanni Viggiano, Italian Air Force

Lt. Sean Aaron Johnson, U.S. Navy  
Maj. Michael Bruce Jones, U.S. Marine Corps

Capt. Jordan Gregory Kahrs, U.S. Marine Corps

Lt. Derek J. Lee, U.S. Navy  
Lt. Kevin P. Lovell, U.S. Navy

Maj. Jason N. Noll, U.S. Marine Corps

Lt. Cmdr. Dal A. Nwokora, Royal Navy

Lt. John Michel Paquette, U.S. Navy

Lt. William T. Peabody, U.S. Navy

Lt. Andrew W. Quiel, U.S. Navy

Lt. Erik David Storm, U.S. Navy

Lt. Andrew David Weatherholt, U.S. Navy

Five students completed the engineering test flight officer course. They are:

Lt. Daniel A. Guerra, U.S. Navy

Maj. Daniel Lawrence Jewett, U.S. Marine Corps

Lt. Brian Patrick Moore, U.S. Navy

Lt. Robert D. Rountree, U.S. Navy

Lt. Chase Evan Winsor, U.S. Navy

Six students fulfilled the requirements for the test project engineer course. They are:

Mr. Brian T. Fujizawa, Department of the Army

Mr. Andrew William Gibson, Department of the Army

1st Lt. Lauri Lehtonen, Finnish Air Force

Mr. Paul Sierpinski, NAWCAD

1st Lt. Giorgio Vastarella, Italian Air Force

Mr. Anthony J. Vila, NAWCAD

# CSM Ceremony Celebrates Nursing Graduates

## Themes: Resiliency, Compassion and Battling COVID-19



The Spring 2020 College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) 58 nursing candidates for graduation crossed their final hurdle of an unforgettable life season June 5 when they attended their nursing recognition and pinning ceremony. Like most of their final months together this semester – they gathered in a virtual environment – this time to share the time-honored tradition that included speeches, showing off their decorated caps and the pinning.

The evening ceremony was held in Zoom and was the last in a remarkable series of changes the cohort faced as they pivoted to learn about, and respond to, the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the graduates are among the 20 percent of CSM's 270 nursing students who have also been volunteering since April as Clinical Externs or for the Maryland Medical Reserve Corps to support acute care staffing needs across the state in the fight against the virus.

Resiliency during the pandemic and compassionate service were common themes during the event. Mistress of Ceremonies Health Sciences Division Chair Dr. Laura Polk began the ceremony sitting before a Zoom background that displayed items from the Florence Nightingale Museum in London, England.

"It feels like March 15 was five years ago," she laughed to acknowledge when students went home to begin remote learning.

### 2020 – The Year of the Nurse

"Who knew that when 2020 was named the 'Year of the Nurse' in honor of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth, that the nursing profession would so unexpectedly be brought to the forefront through a global pandemic," Polk continued. "And who could have ever predicted that as a result, your nursing program would end in such an unusual way."

Polk shared with the attendees that she studied resilience as it was the focus of her doctoral work; and she even developed a tool to measure resilience.

"I can tell you honestly, that I've never known a group of people who better exemplify this trait," Polk shared. "The fortitude you have displayed over the past two and a half months has been absolutely extraordinary. Your flexibility, grit, and single-minded purposefulness will serve you well as you enter an extraordinary profession during this historic time."

"But so will the grace you've shown each other," she continued. "The experience of lifting each other up through your struggles to balance school, work, home, unemploy-

ment, personal illness, family illness, and even family loss will empower you in your role as a nurse. You are entering nursing at a time when Florence Nightingale's basic principles are more important than ever, and you will make your mark on the profession through the challenges of this pandemic. But based on your resilience the past several months I have no doubt that CSM has prepared you well, and that you will excel in your new role."

CSM Nursing Pin: 'A Symbol of Commitment'

The nursing pin is a treasured symbol CSM Nursing Professor Jeanne Hill told the graduates and their families during the ceremony. She explained how the modern pinning ceremony dates to the 1860s, when Florence Nightingale was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in recognition for her tireless service to the injured during the Crimean War. To share the honor, Nightingale in turn presented a medal of excellence to her brightest graduates and by 1916, the practice of pinning new graduates was standard throughout the United States.

"It was decades ago when CSM's first pin was designed by the first RN class to ever graduate from the college in 1979," continued Hill, who added that the current pin was custom designed by her and her classmates when she graduated from CSM in 2001.

"Our CSM Nursing Pin is a symbol of this commitment of honor and courage to those we care for," Hill said. "As you go forth into the world of nursing, wear your pin with pride."

### 'This Honor Comes with Some Work'

CSM nursing alumna and registered nurse Amber Hutchins served as keynote speaker.

"For the 18th straight year, nursing has been rated as the number one most ethical and honest profession in America. Eighty-five percent of polled Americans felt that our ethical standards are 'high or very high,'" she said to highlight that "nursing ranked higher than physicians, dentists and pharmacists.

"What does that say to you?" she asked. "What it says to me, as a registered nurse, is that I have the ability to engage and escort people through very difficult times in their lives. But this honor comes with some work. We have to continue to work together to maintain that respect from the community and from our peers."

Hutchins then reflected on what the COVID-19 pandemic has meant to this class.

"What do nurses do when everyone is mandated to be hunkered down at home for fear of this new reality? They get up, put on

their scrubs, comfortable nursing shoes and get to work – just like every other day," she said. "Were we scared? Yes. We still are. Scared for the health of these patients, with an ever-present internal dialogue of 'Am I going to get sick? Will I take this home to my loved ones?'"

Hutchins pointed out how nurses found ways to employ other avenues of care to help during the pandemic.

"[We were] scraping at every resource to ensure patients had what they needed," she added, including use of telemedicine, phone calls, care management, social work, navigating community resources and perhaps most importantly ... community education. "Because that is what nurses do. They are compassionate, impactful, resourceful and innovative. And you...all of you... are now part of that community." (Read Amber Hutchins full speech here.)

### 'The World Needs a Nurse'

"The world we are entering is not the same world as when we began our journey, the world needs nurses even more," student speaker Shari Templeman told her classmates. Templeman, 33, of Waldorf, was also the 2020 Spring Commencement recipient of the CSM Health Sciences Division "Achievement in Nursing" award.

"The world is facing new diseases and viruses; it needs skill and care," she continued. "The world needs a nurse. The world is angry and hurt; it needs compassion and empathy. The world needs a nurse. The world is exposing disparities that exist even today; it needs advocacy. The world needs a nurse. The world needs you."

Templeman worked as a stay-at-home mom for nine years before she realized she wanted to become a nurse. She describes her last two years at CSM as "incredible".

"I knew the nursing program was going to be difficult but CSM had a great reputation and my friends who went through the nursing program had nothing but great things to say about it," she shared. "My first semester in nursing school was such a welcoming experience. And today, I would tell you that my classmates are some of the most hard working and compassionate and resilient people I have ever met. We have been through so much together. The flexibility that everyone displayed through this pandemic was amazing. We were met with nothing but compassion and grace."

CSM moved to remote operations before the Charles County Public Schools moved to virtual learning and Templeman explained that her studies were made harder when the

statewide stay-at-home mandate was enacted because she suddenly had to share her 'quiet time' with her children and husband.

"I was used to online learning because I am also taking classes at Frostburg State University to get my bachelor's in nursing," she shared. "But, it was incredibly difficult to juggle adding six more hours of nursing classes in Zoom, and help my children (ages 10 and 7) with their Zoom [classes]," she explained. "Plus, my husband was teleworking. It was definitely a time for extending grace to everyone. Our instructors were amazing."

### 'I Never Gave, or Took Any Excuses'

CSM Clinical Simulation Coordinator Linda Goodman wrapped up the ceremony by sharing a mandate, and gratitude, using a quote from the book *Unlocking the Secret of Success* written in 2018 by Ayush Sharma.

"He says 'take responsibility for your life and you will take control of your life,'" she shared, adding, "accept the challenge required to get you where you want to be. Successful people don't make excuses or blame others, they just focus on what they can do and what they have."

She said that Florence Nightingale once said, "I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took any excuses."

### Congratulations Graduates

The following are the names of the CSM students who graduated with associate degrees in nursing June 5, 2020: Dorothy Almony, Sarah Archer, Brooke Baggerly, Shanielle L. Bundy, Melissa A. Cavin, Camille N. Chambers, Karley J. Corpe, Sarah R. Crane, Roselyn Custodio, Gabrielle M. Deen, Blair C. Dowdell, Tanisha Dudley, Heather N. Edelen, Trisha Enesperos, Melinda F. Farrell, Kimberley V. Gonsalves, Kathryn Goss, Alyssa Gray, Adrian Guerrero-Villarreal, Kariana Hernandez, Cari Hopson, Darnel Hortelano, Carla N. Jackson, Victoria Janiszewski, Stephanie Jenkins Whipple, Jenae M. Jones, Sierra Jones, Tilaxmi Kafle, Amanda L. Leonard, Tabitha M. Long, Brianna Maloney, Danielle McCarthy, Emma B. Miller, Sabrina Myers, Emma Norris, Abena Boatemaa Okyere Acheampong, Veronica G. Olsen, Anna Nicole L. Pagala, Lauren A. Parker, Katlyn Permenter, Grace E. Prelog, Taylor M. Richards, Lori N. Rushworth, Silvia Sarnecki, Chelsea Sauer, Kristen Schoch, Elizabeth Soehl, Shari L. Templeman, Tina Thomson, India Vereen, Kristine E. Vermillion, Kelley Violette, Adam Warner, Lauren Welch, Amber N. Wenger, Shannon Windsor, Monique N. Wiseman and Kaleigh Summer Wood.

Press Release from CSM.

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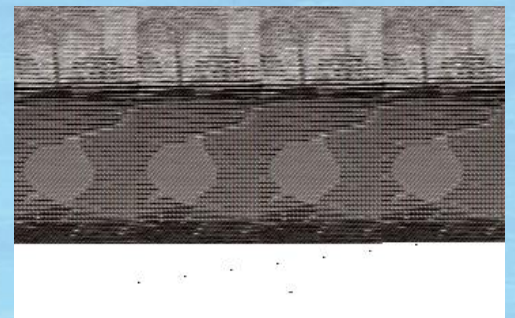
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# Head Start Program Moving to Greenview Knolls Elementary

By Bri Corley  
Contributing Writer

The St. Mary's County Board of Education passed a motion to move forward on June 10 with the purchase of two relocatable classrooms that will be the new home of the Head Start Program at Greenview Knolls Elementary School. This comes as a result of the Head Start Program removing their location at Green Holly Elementary in order to make room for other state mandated programs. The two locations at Benjamin Banneker Elementary and Greenview Knolls will now be the only locations for the whole program, requiring more space.

The contract for the relocatable trailers will be with Modular Genius Inc. and be valued at \$282,094 with an additional construction contingency of \$20,000. The relocatable classrooms will be composed of two classroom units and bathrooms accessible from the vestibule. Units measure out to be 64-feet by 27-feet each. It would be attached to an existing modular complex with stairs and an accessible ramp. The classrooms are expected to be delivered and set up in August of this year.

The Board of Education also highlighted the success of their virtual commencement ceremonies along with the ending of the school year at last Wednesday's meeting.

The agenda for the meeting cov-

ered virtual commencement, procedures for locker and classroom cleanout, nonresident student tuition, replacement parts for an underground fuel storage tank and wastewater treatment plant at local schools, mental health resources, and May financial reports.

Board Member Mary Washington opened the meeting with discussions of how the schools have adjusted to the pandemic and how she is proud of the students, parents, and faculty for being able to end the school year successfully in an unruly time.

"Covid-19 came up. We were going full force and we had to turn around and do something completely different," said Washington. "It's something we've never done before and the school system rose to the occasion and did very well."

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith echoed this sentiment. "I can't say enough to the way administrators, support staff, maintenance, operations, logistics, safety and security, IT, all of them are coming together to put together a plan and it all has to be done remotely, through Zoom... every challenge presents an opportunity and that's an opportunity to get it right and an opportunity to get it wrong and I am very pleased that we have gotten it right much more than we have gotten it wrong."

# SMECO Awards Scholarships

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) has awarded four scholarships to high school seniors for 2020 to students who live in the Cooperative's service area. Scholarships are based on the applicants' scholastic achievement, financial need, and school and community involvement. SMECO has awarded scholarships to 112 students in the 28 years since beginning the program in 1993. Each of the following students will receive a \$1,500 college scholarship: Aaliah Amosu, Chloe Harsha, Jordan Homan, and Alyssa Mazzone.

Aaliah Amosu, graduate of St. Charles High School in Charles County, plans to attend George Washington University to pursue a career in computer engineering. She took third place in Robotics and Intelligent Machines in the Fairfax County Regional Science Fair in 2018. She is a member of the Girl Scouts, Vex Robotics team, Math Team, and Academic Quiz Bowl team. Amosu received Principal's Honors and a Scholar Athlete award, served as Executive Secretary in the Student Government Association (SGA),

and played field hockey. Hayley Ressler, a teacher at St. Charles, said, "Aaliah is a wonderfully bright, friendly, and ambitious young woman who always strives to do her absolute best." Amosu is the child of Adenike and Olasunkanmi Amosu of Waldorf, Maryland.

Chloe Harsha, is a graduate of Leonardtown High School (LHS) in St. Mary's County. Harsha plans to study animation and visual arts at St. Mary's College of Maryland. An accomplished artist and musician, Harsha enjoys working in the theater with the LHS ROSE Players and has volunteered hundreds of hours over the years in community theater productions at the Newtowne Players and Historic Sotterley. She has served as sound designer, scenic artist and paint manager, and played in leading, supporting and ensemble roles. Harsha also served as the president of the new National Art Honor Society chapter at LHS. Harsha is the child of Laura Underwood of California, Maryland.

Jordan Homan, graduate of La Plata High School (LPHS) in Charles County,

# Pre-K/Head Start Online Applications Now Open

Due to COVID-19 and the school closures, it has not been possible for parents and guardians to visit schools to apply for Pre-Kindergarten or Head Start early childhood programs. St. Mary's County Public Schools announces that beginning June 15 an online application process for Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start were opened to determine eligibility for school year 2020-2021.

This online process uses Cognito Forms that allows parents and guardians to complete the application and upload critical documents. Any family who is not able to access the online application can contact the Department of Supplemental School Programs at [HeadStartPreK@smcps.org](mailto:HeadStartPreK@smcps.org) or 301-475-5511, ext. 32136 and a paper packet will be mailed to them with a self-addressed, stamped return envelope included. The application will also be available in Spanish.

The goal of the Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start program is to provide initial learning experiences to help children develop basic skills and concepts necessary for successful school performance. This process is not first come first serve. The placement process for Pre-Kindergarten will follow regulations in accordance with COMAR (13A08.01.02) and for Head Start will follow Health and Human Services (1302.12).

In order to apply, parents need to provide the required documents. A child must be three-years-old or four-years-old on or before September 1, 2020. Children will be admitted to the program based on income eligibility first. If vacancies remain, those will be filled using locally determined at-risk criteria and served in rank order. A limited number of Pre-Kindergarten 3 spaces are available in several Title I schools.

Required documentation includes the common application, birth certificate, proof

of residency, proof of income, the child's immunization record, any court papers regarding custody of the minor child, and the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) photo identification. The application will be available on June 15, 2020, on the St. Mary's County Public Schools website at [www.smcps.org](http://www.smcps.org).

Proof of income must be provided in order for a child's application to be processed. Proof of income documentation includes a 2019 W-2 form or copies of the LAST 3 consecutive pay stubs. Families must also disclose any supplemental income such as:

- temporary cash assistance
- child support
- SSA/SSI

Documentation, which indicates the current physical address of the child, will be accepted as proof of residence. Proof of residence will include, but is not limited to:

- Mortgage/deed/rental agreement with 911 address assignment.

- Current utility bill with parent(s)/legal guardian(s) name, and the 911 address of residence and service address (post office box is not acceptable – and wireless telephone bills are not acceptable).

- Patuxent River Naval Base housing form NOW-NATC-1110-1/15, Assignment to Public Quarters; which identifies bona fide residence in St. Mary's County.

To locate your home school zone, please visit the school system website at [www.smcps.org](http://www.smcps.org) and go to: Offices, Transportation, Bus Stop, and School Locator. The name of the child's home school will be required on the application.

Throughout the summer, parents of eligible children will be notified of their placement in a Pre-Kindergarten or Head Start early childhood program.

*Press Release from SMCPSS.*

activities include Cougars Elite competitive cheerleading, junior varsity basketball, and the theater's musical productions. She has been the Varsity Cheerleading Captain for two years and was named All American Cheerleader in 2016 and 2019. She received Minds in Motion Academic Athlete awards, as well as awards for Academic Excellence in AP Computer Science and Photography. Mazzone has participated in numerous community service activities and fund-raisers including Relay for Life, Christmas in April, Karsyn's Carnival, March of Dimes, Friendship Dances, and Wobble Before You Gobble 5K runs. She also won the Miss Maryland Teen USA Humanitarian Service Award in 2018. Mazzone is the child of Brian and Darlene Mazzone of Lusby, Maryland.

SMECO provides scholarships to local students who excel in their endeavors and who show promise in their chosen field of study.

*Press Release from SMECO.*

# Quade Two for Two in Limited Late Model Action

## *Pilkerton Captures Career First in RUSH Crates*

Defending track champion Derick Quade drove to his second win of the season in last Friday nights 25-lap Limited Late Model feature at Potomac Speedway. The win for Quade, aboard his trusty Black Diamond no.74, would be his career 21st at the venerable Southern Maryland oval.

Tyler Emory and Kurt Zimmerman brought the field to green with Emory launching into the lead as the field exited turn two. As Emory lead, 9th starting Derick Quade sliced through the field and was in second by the 4th lap. Emory appeared to have the car to beat until he got bottled up behind a lapped car on the 23rd lap allowing Quade to zoom by for the eventual win. «I guess luck was on our side here again tonight.» Quade stated in victory lane. «We tried some different things with the car during qualifying but we went in the wrong direction, but the crew got this car right for the feature and we were able to come out on top.» Emory settled for second with Brandon Long, Sam Archer and Billy Tucker completing the top-five.

Second year Crate pilot Jeremy Pilkerton broke through for his first career win in the 20-lap RUSH Crate Late Model main. Pilkerton vaulted into the lead on the first lap and would have to repel the repeated charges from eventual runner-up Dale Hollidge to secure the win in his Rocket no.8. “Ever since I was a kid I’ve dreamed of winning a Late Model race here and I can’t believe I finally got one.” Said Pilkerton. “I can’t thank my mom and dad and all the people who support this team enough, it’s been a great night.” Joey Love took third with Mike Raleigh and Chuck Bowie rounding out the top-five.

In support class action Deuce Wright came out on top for his first win of the season in the 16-lap Street Stock feature, Colin Long took his first win of 2020 in another wild 15-

lap Hobby Stock feature and Ryan Quade took his first of the season in the 15-lap U-Car feature after apparent winner Dominic King did not survive the tech line.

### Limited Late Model feature finish

1. Derick Quade 2. Tyler Emory 3. Brandon Long 4. Sam Archer 5. Billy Tucker 6. Brad Rigdon 7. Rusty Harmon 8. Chris Pangle 9. Todd Plummer 10. Kurt Zimmerman 11. Darrell Dow 12. Danny Garrett 13. Wayne Bryant (DNS)

### RUSH Crate Late Model feature finish

1. Jeremy Pilkerton 2. Dale Hollidge 3. Joey Love 4. Mike Raleigh 5. Chuck Bowie 6. Donnie Tepper 7. Megan Mann 8. Timmy Booth 9. Bill Coda 10. James Sparks 11. Jonathan Raley (DNS)

### Hobby Stock feature finish

1. Colin Long 2. Matt Randall 3. Buddy Dunagan 4. Hilton Pickeral 5. Wyatt Hanson 6. Robbie Kramer 7. Trent Clemmons 8. Dave Adams 9. Stevie Gingery 10. Blake Jacobs 11. Jeremy Fowler 12. Charlie O’Reilly 13. James Rainey 14. Erik Hanson 15. Troy Kassiris 16. Mason Hanson (DQ) DNS- Mikey Latham, John Burch, Brian Maxey

### Strictly Stock feature finish

1. Greg Mattingly 2. Nabil Guffey 3. Stephen Suite 4. Cody Stamp 5. Daniel Knoble 6. John Hardesty 7. Johnny Hardesty 8. Justin Hatcher 9. Jimmy Suite 10. Travis Dye 11. Casey Sheckles

### Street Stock feature finish

1. Deuce Wright 2. Dylan Rutherford 3. PJ Hatcher 4. Dalton Tankersley 5. Hank Stonestreet

### U Car feature finish

1. Ryan Quade 2. Kristy Whitehouse 3. Faith Lacey 4. Dale Simpson 5. Joey Suite 6. Mackenzie Smith 7. Stephanie Homberg 8. Justin Knight 9. Brian Johnson 10. Dominic King (DQ)

By Doug Watson for Potomac Speedway

# St. Mary’s College Hires New Athletic Director



**WELCOME**  
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS & RECREATION  
**CRYSTAL GIBSON**



St. Mary’s College of Maryland is proud to announce Crystal Gibson to the position of Director of Athletics and Recreation effective June 30, following the retirement of longtime director Scott Devine.

In her position, Gibson will be responsible for providing leadership and direction to ensure success in the athletics and recreation program while supporting the mission, goals and objectives of the College.

Gibson spent the past three years supporting 23 NCAA varsity teams and 600 student-athletes at Division III Susquehanna University, serving as associate director of athletics (2017-2019) and interim director of athletics (2019-20).

In addition to those roles, she was the senior woman administrator, compliance coordinator, and gameday management supervisor.

The Randallstown, Maryland, native is no stranger to Seahawk athletics, having served six years as head women’s basketball coach and senior woman administrator from 2011 to 2017.

“Crystal brings back to the National Public Honors College a wealth of knowledge, experience, and leadership,” said St. Mary’s College of Maryland Provost Mike Wick. “She will provide critical and informed leadership as the

College and athletics and recreation look to improve and strengthen all student experiences on campus.”

Gibson will lead Seahawk athletics as it transitions from the Capital Athletic Conference to the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC), beginning the 2021-22 academic year. Joining the NEAC will allow St. Mary’s College student-athletes to continue to compete for conference championships and automatic bids into the NCAA Tournament, while expanding the geographic footprint of the St. Mary’s College athletics program.

“I am extremely excited to return to St. Mary’s College of Maryland and grateful to have the opportunity to continue to push the mission of creating an incredibly inclusive, competitive and growth-oriented environment for Seahawk athletics,” Gibson said. “I look forward to working with the entire St. Mary’s College community in support of the St. Mary’s Way and providing a holistic collegiate experience to help all students develop and thrive.”

Gibson graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and earned her Master of Business Administration from Lebanon Valley in 2019.

Press Release from SMCM.

# Signing National Letter of Intent

Great Mills H.S. graduate Siobhan Milham signs a National Letter of Intent on her family’s dining room table to play lacrosse at Newberry College, a small Division II school in Newberry, SC.



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# DNR Service Centers Begin Opening by Appointment

## Safety Protocols Allow Access at Most Locations

Maryland Department of Natural Resources will begin offering appointments at select licensing and registration centers in a phased reopening of in-person services for customers.

Appointments will be available starting June 15 at the following locations (unless otherwise noted):

Bel Air – 501 W. MacPhail Road #2

Centreville, 120 Broadway Ave.

Cumberland – 13300 Winchester Road (open Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Essex – 1338 Eastern Blvd. A (open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays)

Frederick – 1601A Bowmans Farm Road

Salisbury – 251 Tilghman Road #2

Solomons – 14175 Solomons Island Road S., opens June 12

Additional locations and start dates will be posted on the department's website as they become available.

Customers will be able to schedule appointments online at the link for each service center location or by calling the center for assistance.

Only customers with appointments will be allowed entry. Unless accompanying a customer who needs assistance, we request that additional family or friends wait outside.

Customers are required to wear

face masks for entry, and should arrive 5 to 10 minutes early for their appointments to allow for security protocols to be followed. Staff at the entrances will conduct brief screenings, which may include a temperature check and survey questions.

This reopening is following guidelines of the Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery which includes a Safer at Home public health advisory. Marylanders, particularly older and more vulnerable Marylanders, are strongly advised to continue staying home as much as possible.

The online COMPASS portal provides 24/7 self service access to recreational licenses, permits, and stamps; off-road vehicle registrations; magazine subscriptions; and donation options in support of your favorite Maryland Department of Natural Resources programs.

Additionally, the department can process transactions by mail at the Annapolis, Bel Air, Centreville, Salisbury, Solomons, and Frederick service centers.

Governor Hogan has granted a grace period for certain licenses, permits, registrations, and other authorizations that have expired or would otherwise be renewable during the state of emergency (since March 5, 2020). The grace period will last 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency.

*Press Release from MD DNR.*



Maryland Department of Natural Resources Solomons Service Center

# Spring Hunters Harvest Record Wild Turkeys

Maryland hunters reported harvesting 4,303 wild turkeys during the 2020 regular spring and junior hunt turkey seasons, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced. This year's harvest surpassed the previous high of 4,175, set in 2017, and was 8% higher than the 2019 harvest of 4,002 turkeys.

"This year's harvest suggests that many hunters took advantage of abundant turkey populations in much of the state," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said.

The percentage of juvenile turkeys or "jakes" reported in the harvest (24%) was at its highest level since the 2012 spring season. This supports other survey data showing that the summer of 2019 was an excellent year for turkey production and boosted populations significantly.

Turkey numbers have also grown

and expanded in many areas where they have not traditionally been abundant. Record-high harvests were reported in nine counties – Baltimore, Caroline, Cecil, Charles, Frederick, Kent, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's.

The St. Mary's harvest was 226 compared to last year's 188. The harvest in Calvert was 82 compared to 6 last year.

Washington County reported the highest harvest this year with 439 turkeys, followed by Garrett County with 387 and Charles County with 369.

Youth hunters kicked off the spring turkey season statewide on April 11 with the Junior Turkey Hunt. An additional junior hunting opportunity occurred on April 12 in select counties. In total, junior hunters harvested 248 wild turkeys, a 22% increase from last year's junior hunt weekend.

*Press Release by MD DNR*



Photo by Stephen Badger

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# In Remembrance

## Sally Ann Gravelle



Sally Ann Gravelle, 71, passed away peacefully June 11, 2020 surrounded by loved ones at the Hospice House of St. Mary's. Sally was born October 26, 1948 in Houlton, Maine to Harold and Dorothy McCluskey.

Sally had a deep love for her family, bluegrass music, backyard BBQs, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. In her early years, Sally enjoyed time with her family on their farm, helping with dairy cows (even riding one to grade school occasionally) and raising hundreds of chickens for her 4H project. In her teenage years, she fell in love with playing guitar and singing folk music, winning many local and regional competitions. In June 1967, Sally married her best friend and love, Nicholas Gravelle. They were married for 53 wonderful years. In support of the Navy, Sally and Nick lived in many states and countries where they raised their family. Upon settling in Maryland, Sally led the professional bluegrass band "Sally Ann and Shady Mile" recording 2 albums and singing for thousands at festivals and venues across the country.

Sally, also known as "Grammie" to her grandchildren will forever be known for her unconditional love, positive outlook, and incredible baked goods and sweet treats. Sally enjoyed spoiling her loved ones with baking and excellent cooking through the years.

Sally is survived by her husband Nicholas; their four sons and their wives Aaron and Marion Gravelle of Ranson, WV; Corey and Elyse Gravelle of McKinney, Texas; Shawn and Kelli Gravelle of Manchester, MD; and Ryan and Sarah Gravelle of California, MD; 17 grandchildren, Brandon, Jordan, Andrew, Jacob, Aaron, Miranda, Ethan, Saydee, Levi, Jorja, Lexi, Bronson, Nicholas, Hannah, Jacob, Gracie, and EmmaLou; plus 6 great grandchildren and her many nephews and nieces. Sally loved all of her family and made a positive impact in each of their lives.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Sally to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650.

## William "Bill" Earl Hester, Jr.



William "Bill" Earl Hester, Jr. 54, of Great Mills, MD formerly from Fal-mouth, VA passed away on June 10, 2020 at his home. He was born on March 4, 1966 in Portsmouth, VA, and he was the son of Dorothy Skok of Great Mills, MD and the late William E. Hester, Sr. Bill is survived by his siblings Donna Walker of GA, Lisa Moss of TN, Roger Hester of Lexington Park, MD, and Christopher Hester of Leonardtown, MD. As well as nephews and nieces, David Roberts, Boston Hester, Brock Hester. Brandon Hester, Zachery Blair, Justin Blair, Mary Moss and Ashley Summer. Along with his beloved dogs, Roxy and Bo Bo.

He was preceded in death by his brother Ricky Hester. He received his GED. Bill enjoyed fishing, hunting, and making knives.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time.

## Mary Kathy Downs



Mary Kathy Downs, "Sissy", 61, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on June 9, 2020 at her residence. She was born on May 7, 1959 in Leonardtown, MD and was the daughter of the late Mary Emma Downs and Preston Joseph Downs.

Sissy is survived by her children April Gray of Lexington Park, MD and Ashley Gray of California, MD, grandchildren, Kayla Baird, Kasey Phipps, Leland Payne, Jayden Payne, Aubree Phipps, and

Michael Gray. Siblings Ronald Downs (Sharon) of Mechanicsville, MD, Albert Lee Downs (Faye) of Mechanicsville, MD, Preston Downs (Joyce) of Mechanicsville, MD, Diane Derrick (Ronnie), of Westminster, SC, Emma Raley (Wayne) of Mechanicsville, MD, Jerry Downs (Katina) of Mechanicsville, MD, and Herman Downs (Cyndi), of Mechanicsville, MD.

She was a lifelong St. Mary's County, Maryland resident and graduated Chop-ticon High School in 1976. Sissy worked for B & B Imaging from 1987 until 1994, then Merkle Mailing from 1994 until 2003, she then went to work for St. Mary's Hospital from 2003 until 2014.

Sissy loved her family, and spending time with her grandchildren, and her best friend Vivian. She enjoyed picking and eating crabs, canning and playing cards (pitch and pass the trash). Sissy also enjoyed playing horseshoes which she did for many years, she also played in many tournaments.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time.

Serving as pallbearers will be Brandon Long, Jason Derrick, Korey Downs, Robert Derrick, Kyle Downs, and Michael Raley.

Contributions can be made to the Me-

chanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad, PO Box 15, Mechanicsville, MD 20659 or to Hospice of St. Mary's, PO Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

## Matthew "Matt" Edward Davis



Matthew "Matt" Edward Davis, age 22, of Hollywood, MD, passed away on June 8, 2020 in Baltimore, MD.

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## In Remembrance

He was born in Calvert County, MD on September 12, 1997 to Steven M. Davis and Catherine M. Davis.

Matt attended Leonardtown High School from 2011-2014. He was employed as a cook for Holy Frijoles Restaurant. He was talented at every endeavor that he attempted including becoming a musician, skateboarding, and cooking. Matt was a drummer, guitarist, and a member of three different bands: Luci, The GBC, and Warriors of Radness. His favorite music genre to perform was Punk and Progressive Rock. He was also an excellent skateboarder and would often be found showing off his talent at Leonardtown Square, MD. He was a fantastic cook and was known for gourmet hot dogs and Mexican foods. Matt was a people person who never met a stranger and found joy in caring for others. He had a special love for animals and would often care for neighborhood cats. His loving, caring nature will be remembered by all who knew him.

Matt is survived by his parents, Steven M. Davis of Hollywood, MD and Catherine M. Davis of Hollywood, MD; siblings, Nicholas N. Farrington and wife Lindsay of Sherwood, AR, Keirra M. Keenan and husband Josh of Jay, ME, and Kaitlin E. Davis and fiancé Kyle Ainsley of Jay, ME.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Baltimore Humane Society: <https://bmorehumane.org/donate/>

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Eileen Carole Moser



Eileen Carole Moser, 82, of Locust Dale, VA departed this life on Sunday, June 7, 2020 at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Charlotte Hall, MD.

Eileen was born April 6, 1938 in Camden, NJ. She was the loving daughter of the late Edward Byron Haden and Rita (Mottet) Haden.

A veteran of the United States Navy, Eileen was discharged honorably in February, 1964. Eileen felt great pride in her service to our country and was a true patriot until her passing. She was an educated woman, graduating from the Uni-

versity of Pennsylvania in 1959. She eagerly shared her wisdom and knowledge with her students, working for seventeen years as a teacher in the Norfolk Public Schools. Following retirement, Eileen moved to Madison County, VA, where she built her log cabin, completing the interior and finishing touches on her own.

Eileen was a devoted mother, grandmother and true friend, and to know her was a blessing. She loved astronomy and mathematics, so much so that she built her own telescope, grinding the lenses herself. An artistic woman, Eileen enjoyed her hobbies of woodworking, creating beautiful landscape paintings, and playing the piano. Eileen was a faithful servant and an energetic member of Madison Presbyterian Church, where she made many dear friends and where she worshipped, studied, and served.

With the heart of a teacher, the soul of a sailor and love of a mother, Eileen will be truly missed. Her life was full of adventures, happiness, helpfulness, and a whole lot of love. As you look up into the night sky and see the stars shining, know that Eileen is smiling down upon you with a twinkle in her eye.

She is survived by her daughter, Ann Louise Brown, her son-in-law, Phil Brown, and three grandchildren, Rebecca, Haden, and Amber, all of Prince Frederick, MD. Eileen was preceded in death by her parents.

At this time 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 & Crematory, P.A., Charlotte Hall, MD.

### Welford Bowen Bowling

Welford Bowen Bowling, 84, of Charlotte Hall, MD departed this life on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at his home with his family by his side.

Welford was born on November 25, 1935 in Dentsville, MD to the late Robert P. Bowling, Jr. and Catherine S. Bowling.

Welford enlisted in the United States Air Force in June of 1954. He was proud of his service to his country before his honorable discharge in June, 1962. Welford met and married Shirley Aycoth in 1958. After Shirley's passing, Welford met Mary Demianowicz and they were married for 36 years. Welford supported his family as a principle in the public school's system of Charles County and he also worked and managed various LK Farrell Realty Offices.

He was a caring husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who loved his family above all else. Spending time together brought him great joy. He enjoyed golfing and spending the day on the greens with his friends. He loved spending time on the water, fishing and crabbing. He also spent many afternoons and weekends at the race track, drag racing with his sons.

A man with a heart of gold, great sense

of humor and laugh that was contagious. If you had the honor to meet him, you would never forget him. Whether you knew him as Welford, Pogie, Dad, Grandpa or Great-Grandpa you knew you were special. He left his family with many wonderful memories. He will be missed by many, but none as much as his family.

Along with his wife Mary, he is survived by his children, Anthony and Susie Bowling, Ronald and Donna Bowling, Corey and Tammy Bowling and Debra and Tony Belk, two (2) grandchildren Jeremy Bowling, Jonathan Bowling and three (3) great-grandchildren Taylor Bowling, Garrett Bowling, Colton Bowling. Welford is also survived by his sibling Robert Bowling. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Jim Bowling and sisters Norma Lee Bowling and Marinette Bowling, Helen Sullivan and also Grandson Joshua Bowling.

At this time all arrangements are private. The family will be holding a Memorial Service at a later date.

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

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

### Geraldine "Gerry" Beatrice Jenness



Geraldine "Gerry" Beatrice Jenness, 94, of Mechanicsville, MD departed this life on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at Calvert County Nursing Center.

She was born on January 14, 1926 in Washington, DC, Maryland to the late Delbert Bryan Haynes and Ella (Blandford) Haynes.

Gerry met and fell head over heels for Peter B. Jenness. Together they made a wonderful couple and shared many years of wedded bliss before his passing in 1970. Gerry never married again, as she felt she'd found her one true love in Peter.

Gerry was a wonderful woman who always had a bright smile, a strong will and caring heart. She adored her family above all. Although she was never a mother, she had many nieces and nephews she loved

as if they were her own "children". Gerry always made sure they all knew how much she loved them.

A natural born caregiver, Gerry would do anything out of the kindness of her heart. She once helped a young couple who'd just had a baby and broke down on the side of the road. She drove them out of her way to get a battery and then back to finally help install it. She never asked for compensation, just a thank you and she went on her way. There are many stories of her unwavering willingness to help others. She was a caretaker for many people who just needed a little extra hand.

She was a sassy woman with a backbone of steel. She never asked for help herself, choosing to handle everything independently. She prided herself on being a woman of strength and confidence. She could fix her car, mow her own grass and snuggle babies, whatever the day called for. Family was everything to Gerry and if you knew her, you were family.

A great woman has made her way to heaven. She will be missed by many, but none as much as her family. Gerry is happy, healthy and soaring in heaven with Peter. She has a Miller High Life in one hand and Peter's in the other, smiling down upon her family.

Gerry is survived by her brother, Robert D. Haynes of Clinton, MD; four (4) sisters-in-law, Maxine Haynes, Jeanie Haynes, Joan Haynes and Dorothy Haynes; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and siblings, Jacqueline Huffman, James Haynes, Paul Haynes, and Charles "Jerome" Haynes.

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

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

### Scott Michael "Catfish" Collier



Scott Michael "Catfish" Collier, 46, passed away June 8, 2020 surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on April 23, 1974 in Leonardtown, MD to Thomas and Marilyn Collier.

Scott went to St. John's grade school



and St. Mary's Ryken high school in 1992. He graduated from Virginia Tech University in 1996 with a Bachelor's degree in Math and went on to study theology at the Franciscan Catholic University in Steubenville. Through the university he went aboard to study, travelling throughout Europe. He then joined a French monastery and became "Brother Romuald." During that time, he lived in France and Illinois. Scott left the monastery life to live the rest of his life in his beloved Colorado. He loved the mountains and open air. Scott made many wonderful friends and has impacted many lives. He has been many things to many people. A loving Son, Brother, Uncle, Godfather, matchmaker and great mentor too many. He was a caring, loving, and strong spiritual man. To quote a dear friend of Scott's, "Scott, a self-described redneck from Saint Mary's County, a Catholic monk who once made sandals and rang the bells at Chartres, a mathematician and a philosopher, a very, very trusted friend, and yes, for a time, guardian angel."

Scott is survived by his parents, Thomas and Marilyn Collier, brother, Sean Collier (Jennifer), nephew/godson, Michael Collier, niece, Rebeca Collier; nephew, Anthony Collier; goddaughter, Nevaeh Infante; and godson, Gabriel Ichnowski.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, June 18, 2020 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., with prayers recited at 7:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by Reverend Raymond Schmidt and con-celebrated by Reverend Michael O'Loughlin on Friday June 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at St. John Francis Catholic Regis Church, 43927 St. John's Road, Hollywood, MD 20636. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Preservation Fund, 1535 Logan St., Denver, CO 80203; [www.denver-cathedral.org](http://www.denver-cathedral.org).

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Everett Scully Clark



Everett Scully Clark, 93 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away peacefully on June 7, 2020 at his home.

Everett was born on May 16, 1927 in Bakersfield, CA to the late Paul Graham Clark and Maude Rosalie (Ordway) Clark.

Everett married his loving wife, Mary Ann Clark on December 28, 1945 in Rockville, MD. They spent 75 years together before her passing in October of 2019. He was employed as a salesman for Washington Concrete Company for over 20 years. Upon retirement he opened his own business in construction-Clark Remodeling which he operated from 1978 until 2012. He loved gardening and kept his yard in tip top shape. Everett and his wife enjoyed travelling to Maine to visit friends and road trips to Dover to play the slots and visit the beach. He and his wife enjoyed eating Maryland hard crabs any chance they had. In his spare time he enjoyed a game of Pitch and golf. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor and his kind nature.

He is survived by his children, Judy Lynn Clark of Mechanicsville, MD, Nancy Ellen Clark (Mount) of Sterling, VA, Phyllis Jean Clark (Michael Cox) of Edinburg, VA, and Joan Marie Clark (Fraber) of Winchester, VA; 12 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, his son, Kurt Donald Clark, and his siblings, George Clark, Lester Keyes, Rosalie Powers, and Lewis Clark.

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

Arrangements made by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Sharon Theresa (Duchnowski) Ickes



Sharon Theresa (Duchnowski) Ickes, 81 of California, MD passed away peacefully on June 7, 2020.

Sharon was born on August 27, 1938 in Patchogue, NY to the late Francis J Duchnowski and Elizabeth I Lovett.

Sharon was an Assistant Office Manager for the St. Mary's County Office of Assessments for the State of Maryland for over 20 years. She was a member of

'Assets' that provided educational information for all Maryland clerical staff of assessment offices. She married her loving husband James J. Ickes, Sr. on October 21, 1957 in Elkton, MD. They met in West Hampton, NY and spent 57 years together before his passing in March of 2015. Sharon and James raised two sons, James J. Ickes, Jr. and Troy K. Ickes. She and her family enjoyed the outdoors and took many camping trips especially in the Catskills. They also enjoyed spending time at their condominium at Massanutten. Sharon had a vibrant, outgoing personality. She loved hosting parties, dressing up, dancing, and socializing with friends and family. She was a member of the woman's over 40-softball league and was a member of the Patuxent River mixed bowling league. She was a fabulous cook and best known for her cheesecake. She was honored to be a member of the NCO Wives Club of America where she received and provided support to other women in her military community. She loved her family and cherished spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is survived by her sons, James J. Ickes, Jr. (Lynette) of Great Mills, MD and Troy K. Ickes (Andrew) of Sunderland, MD; her brother, Dennis J. Duchnowski (Jane) of Huntersville, NC; four grandchildren, Keith J. Ickes (Tiffany), James J. Ickes III (Ashley), Sharon L. Ickes, and Christopher L. Ickes (Sarah, fiancé) and nine great grandchildren. Sharon also leaves behind a host of in-laws, nieces, nephews and many wonderful fiends. Her parents and her husband preceded her in death.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, August 15, 2020 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. with a prayer service officiated by Father Marco Schad at 1:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A graveside service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD and St. Jude Chil-

dren's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38148.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### John Joseph Toner



John Joseph Toner, 61 of Great Mills, MD passed away on June 3, 2020 at Med-Star St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

John was born on December 17, 1958 in Philadelphia, PA to the late William Toner and Isabella Shirley (Quilty) Toner.

John married the love of his life, Cheryl Ann Callahan, on December 21, 1983 in Philadelphia, PA. Together they bowled, gambled, traveled, and enjoyed spending time with friends. They were blessed to raise two beautiful children, Chloe Elizabeth Toner and Kyle Matthew Toner. John was employed by the Federal Government as an Electrical Engineer for 42 years. Over the years, he developed the first Navy Infrared Search and Track System for the F-14 Tomcat. John flew as a flight specialist on the P-3 Orion testing various electro-optic and magnetic sensors. He was also responsible for the development of the Targeting Sight System on the AH-1 Cobra. John's biggest talent was his management ability that shone through during his career as a branch head within the Avionics Engineering Department. John mentored countless



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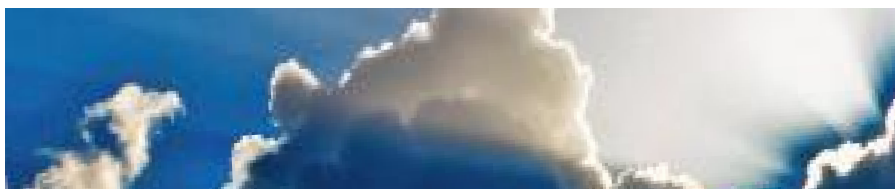
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number of junior personnel within the department. He made many long lasting professional and personal friends with employers, sponsors, customers, and co-workers. John and his family were members of Holy Face Catholic Church in Great Mills, MD. He was committed to helping others, especially the youth in his community, through his association with the Boy Scouts, Special Olympics, and Black Belt Academy. He and his son loved being part of Boy Scout Troop 561 and all of the adventures that came along with it. One of his favorite scout trips was taking the troop to the annual Halloween Haunt at Kings Dominion. He was honored to be the Head Coach of the Southern Maryland Special Olympics soccer team which was picked to represent the U.S. at the 2011 World Summer Games in Athens, Greece where they took home the gold medal in their division! While living in Philadelphia he earned his Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. After moving to Maryland, both of his children began studying Tae Kwon Do at Black Belt Academy and John once again got involved, earning his 2nd Dan as a participant while being a mentor to students in the class. John and his son enjoyed spending Tuesday nights bowling on the league at NAS Patuxent River. In addition to Tae Kwon Do and bowling, he was an avid runner who completed both the Philadelphia and Marine Corps Marathons. He and his family were huge Eagles and Hokies fans and enjoyed cheering them on every chance they had. He was a craft beer connoisseur. John and Cheryl visited breweries and attended craft beer festivals in the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia areas. John will be remembered by all that had the honor of meeting him for his kind, gentle, and selfless nature.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl; children, Chloe Elizabeth and Kyle Matthew of Great Mills, MD; and his siblings, Joseph Toner (Kim) of Sewell, NJ and William Toner (Patti) of Logan Township, NJ. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Special Olympics, Attn: Web Gifts, 1133 19th Street NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20036, 3604.

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

### **Edna Rowena Bolt Barnes**

Edna Rowena Bolt Barnes was called home to be with the Lord at the age of 93 on June 8, 2020. She was born March 6, 1927 in Jarboesville, Maryland to George Henry "Temp" Toney and Elizabeth J. Garner, who both preceded her in death. She grew up in St. Mary's County where she had the love of a large community of family and friends. Edna would later marry Joseph Bolt, of Park Hall, Maryland. She had four children who preceded her in death, Edna, James (Jimmy),



Joseph (Elwood), and William and four surviving daughters, Beverly, Betty, Yvonne, and Stephanie. Edna remained happily married to Joe until his death.

Edna was a saved, sanctified, praying woman, and she loved the Lord. She was a member and Mother of Park Hall True Holiness Church for over fifty years. She loved her church family! Her service was as long as her membership. She was one of God's servants. A Foster Parent, Day Care Provider, Senior Choir member, Missionary, Helping Hands, Willing Workers, and Deaconess. Edna was employed with the Office on Aging for many years. She will be missed.

Edna was very sociable and enjoyed her time at the Chancellor's Run Senior Center. That is where she met and married Jerome Barnes, who preceded her in death. They enjoyed a lovely life together until Jerome's passing. Anyone who knew Edna understood the best gift of all was a new hat. Oh how she loved her hats! Edna was a little height challenged, so when she sat down most of the time her feet would not reach the floor. When she thought there was a hat for her, her feet would swing as she sat in anticipation. Edna loved chicken and seafood. Her daughters were always making runs to pick up those favorite foods for her enjoyment.

Edna has 10 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by 1 grandchild. She loved to talk about them all.

Edna was also preceded in death by her three sisters, Elizabeth Chase, Lillian Mason, and Hilda Jenkins. She leaves to mourn her daughters Beverly Bolt-King (Eric), Betty Nelson (James), Yvonne Bowman, Stephanie Young, her sister Helen Smith (Joe), and a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Memorial Contributions can be made to Park Hall True Holiness Church, 47690 Park Hall Rd., Park Hall, MD 20667.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.



## Letters TO THE Editor

### The Holy Bible In Schools

#### To the Editor

I'd like to see the Bible placed where the Bible used to be, upon the top of the teacher's desk for every child to see.

I'd like to hear the teacher say, as my teacher used to do: "Before we work or play dear ones, I want to read to you".

I'd like to see the teacher stand before the class again and lift with reverent care the Book that makes God's purpose plain.

And ere the youngsters went to work, I'd like to hear her voice repeat those words of truth and faith that makes one's soul rejoice.

I'd like to see her face light up at each resplendent word, and watch the children's souls shine out at the

message that they heard.

I'd like to see the sweet content fill that dear room, each nook, and know that joy had come to each when teacher read the Book.

Yes, I'd like to see the Bible placed where the Bible used to be, I'd like to hear it read aloud in the classroom of the free.

I want my children to know God's matchless gift of love. The Book of books is wisdom's gate to that bright home above. ANON

Extracted from The Faith and Victory 1969 - Ye have heard the joyful sound, Jesus Saves, Jesus Saves and Jesus keeps forever

*Chester Seaborn  
Mechanicsville, MD*

### We Will Miss Them

#### To the Editor:

Thank you, Dave Spigler for the wonderful tribute tom the Four Sisters of Solomons (6/11/20). You caught their spirit as well and their stories. Their work in the school, and lately more in the community, have been appreciated. We have loved

them for 86 years. I just want everyone to know that their leaving was not their or the parish's decision. It was the pastor's. We will miss them.

*Friends of the Sisters of Divine  
Providence,  
Solomons, MD*

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# Community

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.

## Tuesday, June 23

### Backyard Composting Webinar 6 p.m.

Learn how to turn food and waste into valuable resources for your garden that's free! Compost improves soil health and water retention and provides nutrients for plants. Backyard composting is beneficial because it reduces the amount of materials that are put in landfills. Please register at <https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/>

## Thursday, June 25

### Bake Along with Us 6:30 p.m.

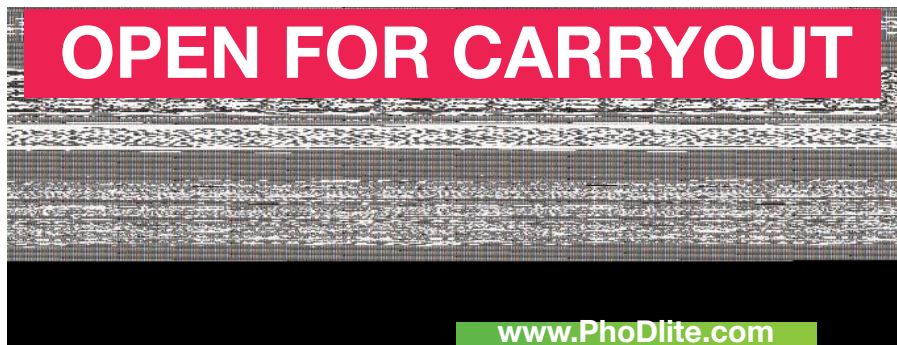
Join St. Mary's County Library online for a bake-along and make fudge with other chocolate lovers. We'll be making Chocolate-

Marshmallow-Walnut Fudge with Sea Salt and chatting about cooking and our favorite recipes! Register at <https://stmalib.libnet.info/event/4353809> to receive the meeting link.

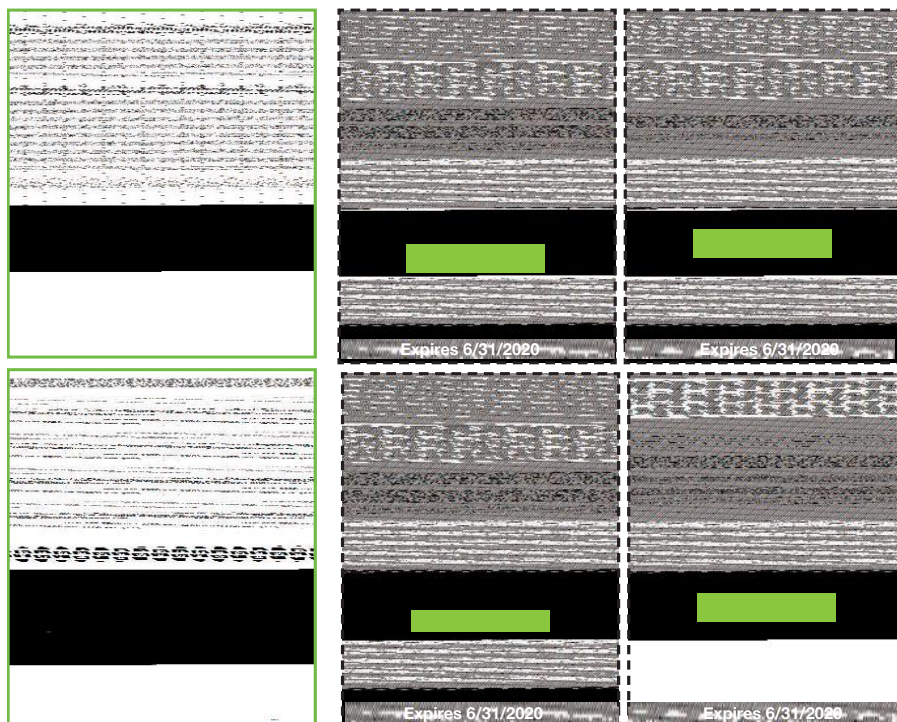
## Ongoing

### St. Mary's Library Summer Reading 2020

Summer Reading for ages 0-99 is virtual this year! Download the Beanstack app or visit [stmalib.beanstack.org](https://stmalib.beanstack.org) to participate. Complete activities to earn badges and entries into our end-of-summer grand prize drawings! If you're unable to use Beanstack, you can download a list of activities on our website and, starting June 22, call us at 301-475-2846 to report your progress.



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# Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



## Forging Into the Future



It was so nice this past Saturday to be at Boondoggie Farm Vintage Farm and Flea Market in Bryantown. Kenna Pope, the owner of the beautiful old home and farmland is a talented creator and maker herself. Her booth was beautiful with all her jams and Old Bay pickles, honey, and lavender. It was so nice to be at a show with my vintage pieces and artwork – almost felt like normal again even with masks. And it was an absolutely beautiful day, so set-up and break down were not bad at all. I didn't realize how much I missed doing shows.

I figured doing the Boondoggie show would be a good warm-up for the art show at Annmarie Gardens Artsfest in September. I used to do lots of craft and art shows each season when my sons were young. Those boys knew how to load and unload perfectly. Everything had a special spot in the old Mom Mobile. I sure loved those years of mini-vans. And my sons knew the routine: if we sold, we ate. My youngest son Ryan was a born salesman during those years. I think I need him to start going with me again. He did stop by on Saturday and bought a few things to support our local artists and crafters.

Back in the old craft show years my sons never got to eat at our dining room table. I used to hand paint on up to 400 glass ornaments at a time, before lots of people started painting them too.. My mother, who was not interested in craft shows, came to one I was in at The Oyster Festival at the fairgrounds. She was so surprised when I had a long line of customers for the ornaments, and she was really happy when I gave her \$125 and a full tank of gas afterwards. All of a sudden she started buying me mass quantities of glass ornaments and bringing them down.

I am trying to think of some new crafts to make – don't know if I could hand paint that many ornaments anymore. Right now, the dining room table is filled with almost finished little paintings, grapevine wreaths, fiber art ribbons, dried roses, and my

dried sage waiting to be created. And of course, every other available space has some sort of project that either is in the works or will be soon.

It's fun to go back and forth between traditional paintings and the fun of crafting. The crafting family, and artwork family, down here are pretty close-knit. They are wonderful groups of people to be involved with. I have missed so many years because of health issues, but now I am just going to try to do as much as I can and enjoy every minute. I have been on a mission to finish those unfinished paintings and projects the last three months. Got another one finished yesterday.

Maybe all this contemplating is because I turn 59 on Monday; young to some, and old to others. I have so much I want to get done before I turn 60. I want to be happily successful in painting, writing, and life, oh and debt-free would be a dream come true as well. Well, we can dream can't we?

On this drizzly, cool morning when I am writing, I glance around and think there is so much to accomplish, so much to complete. Will I get all the paintings and stories in my head out onto canvas and paper? I hope so, maybe 59 will be my magic number. No one knows their expiration date, which makes life the most exciting game of chance there is. Life insurance companies and Social Security have long made odds on our lives with the wait versus receive scenario. We hope we can wait for SS and get the max benefits by 70, but then do you want to hedge your bet by taking less for a longer number of years? Let me get off that subject.

So on to today's projects and thinking what I can make or do for my husband's birthday on the 18th. It has been a lovely morning to ponder the present and the future, now it's back to the dining room table for me.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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



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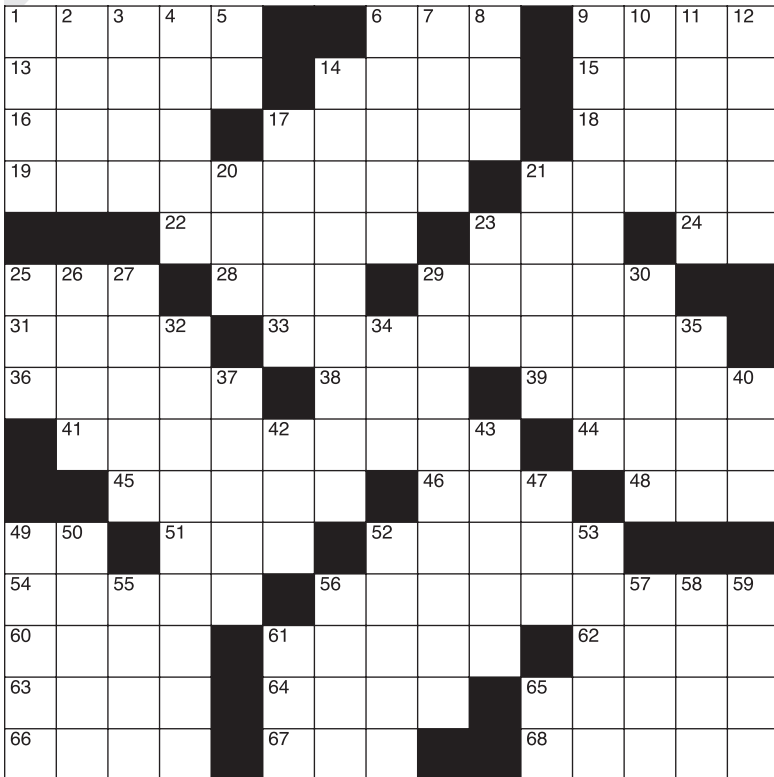
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# GAMES & PUZZLES

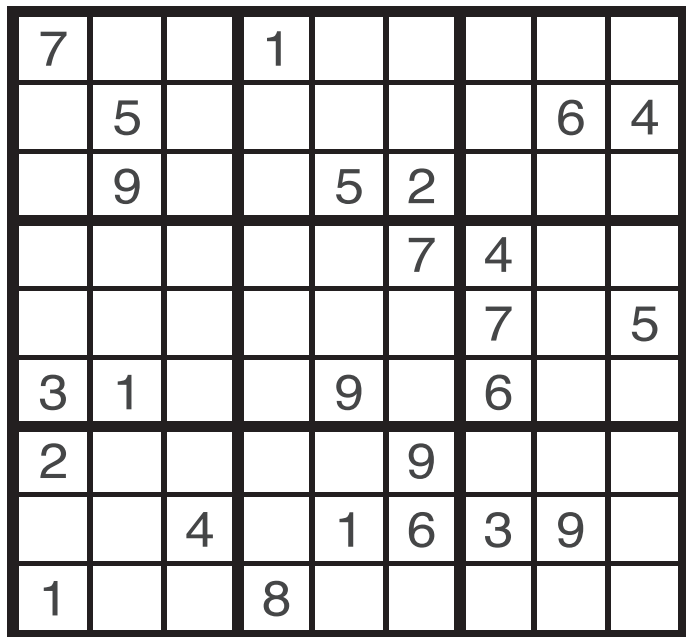


**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. American composer
- 6. Very fast aircraft
- 9. Workplaces
- 13. A mount on a surface
- 14. Small freshwater fish
- 15. Double-reed instrument
- 16. Canadian flyers
- 17. Famed astronomer
- 18. Smooth, shiny fabric
- 19. Profited
- 21. Conspiracy
- 22. Infections
- 23. Chum
- 24. Secondary school (abbr.)
- 25. Resistance unit
- 28. Sound unit
- 29. Ancient city of Egypt
- 31. Crease
- 33. Polished
- 36. For goodness \_\_!
- 38. College basketball tournament
- 39. Scorches
- 41. Describe precisely
- 44. Thick piece of something
- 45. Frocks

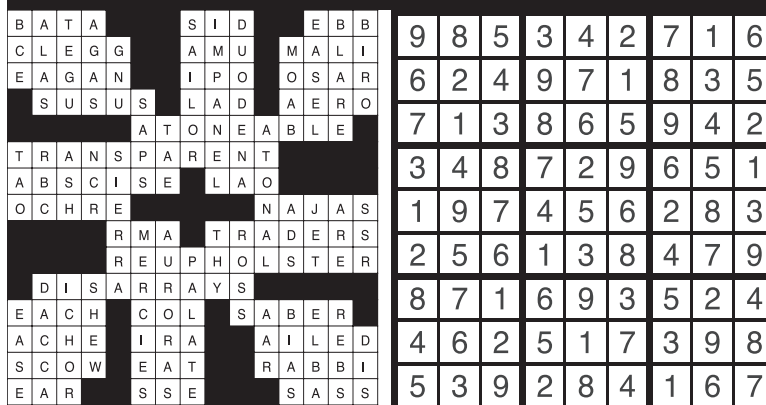
- 46. Indicates near
- 48. Senior enlisted US Army member
- 49. A note added to a letter
- 51. A nose or snout
- 52. Clumsy
- 54. Satisfied to the fullest
- 56. Display of strong feeling
- 60. Popular awards show
- 61. Cuisine style
- 62. Expresses pleasure
- 63. Monetary unit of the Maldives
- 64. Utah city
- 65. Fight
- 66. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 67. Body part
- 68. Suspiciously reluctant

- 7. Horse mackerel
- 8. Pearl Jam's debut album
- 9. Confines
- 10. First month of Jewish ecclesiastical year
- 11. Famed Idaho politician
- 12. Prevents from seeing
- 14. Indicate time
- 17. Male parents
- 20. Tab on a key ring
- 21. The Great Dog constellation: \_\_ Major
- 23. Frying necessity
- 25. Former CIA
- 26. The leader
- 27. Produces
- 29. London soccer club
- 30. Closes
- 32. Region in the western Pacific Ocean
- 34. Not present
- 35. Small drink of whiskey
- 37. Begat
- 40. Helps little firms
- 42. Pointed end of a pen
- 43. Fencing swords
- 47. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 49. Hymn
- 50. Philippine island
- 52. Flemish names of Ypres
- 53. A way to inform
- 55. Small lake
- 56. Linear unit
- 57. Central Japanese city
- 58. Partially burn
- 59. Sports award
- 61. Part of your foot
- 65. Atomic #21



Level: Intermediate

**LAST WEEKS ANSWERS**



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



**County Times**

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