

FREE

St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020

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Early Vote, Long Wait

VOTERS' CHOICE ON SPORTS BETTING, PG. 15

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ON THE COVER 3

There was a surge of early voters in St. Mary's County the beginning of this week. Cover photo Ceandra Scott



LOCAL 5

Archaeologists work to tell the story of 300 year old slave artifacts



COMMUNITY 22

Air Force pilot featured on national news has local ties

“THE JESUITS’ STORIES ARE IN THE LIBRARIES, BUT THE SLAVES’ STORIES ARE IN THE SOIL FOR US TO READ.”

ARCHAEOLOGIST DR. JULIE SCHABLITSKY ON THE DISCOVERY AT NEWTOWN NECK

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 10/29 67° 49°F Rain Mon 11/2 52° 37°F Sunny	Fri 10/30 52° 37°F AM Showers Tue 11/3 57° 41°F Sunny	Sat 10/31 52° 43°F Partly Cloudy Wed 11/4 63° 42°F Sunny	Sun 11/1 62° 37°F Partly Cloudy Thu 11/5 65° 45°F Mostly Sunny
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County Times
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Long Lines for Early Voters at Hollywood VFD

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The 2016 Presidential Election brought out the strongest voter interest since the practice began in St. Mary's, that is until the 2020 election.

Preliminary numbers for the first three days of early voting here show even greater voter turnout.

Elections director Wendy Adkins told The County Times that on Oct. 26, 2,222 voters came to the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department to cast their ballots split between 1,143 Republicans and 737 Democrats with the remainder voting as

unaffiliated or another party.

The numbers grew on Tuesday with 2,462 voters coming out to cast their ballots, with 1,310 Republicans and 745 Democrats casting ballots.

Unaffiliated voters or those voting for other parties comprised the remainder, she said.

As of Wednesday midday, 1,031 registered voters had cast their ballots, Adkins reported.

Republicans continued to outpace Democrats at early voting with 530 to 307 with unaffiliated or other party voters rounding out the remainder.

The first day of early voting residents waited in long lines to cast their ballots, with reports of several hundred arriving at least an hour before the polls opened at 7a.m.

"It's been very busy, the wait [to vote] there is about an hour," Adkins said. "But we're moving steadily, and people are very pleased.

"We've had no complaints and everybody's in good spirits."

Adkins said that in 2016, about 13,000 voters cast their vote early over the six days it was available.

By comparison, in 2016 the first two days had 1,794 and 1,898 registered voters come to cast their

ballots.

Mail-in ballots are also proving popular, Adkins said, with 11,700 being returned of the 21,900 that had been sent out to residents.

Adkins said early voting's popularity might have been due to voters wanting to be able to cast their vote as quickly as possible.

"They just want to get it done," Adkins said.

Early voting will continue through Nov. 2, with the poll open from 7am to 8pm.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Sports Complex Could Cost More Than \$7.5M

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A proposed sports complex already on the county's capital construction schedule could cost millions and take about three years to become profitable here, according to a report promulgated by a consulting firm.

But, once established, the complex could generate an additional \$3.4 million in tax revenue, the study stated.

In November of last year, the county entered into an agreement with Maryland Stadium Authority to produce a marketing study on the possible benefits of a sports complex here.

The study found that a significant market demand exists here, and that demand could translate into expanded events and more sports tournaments.

County leaders have expressed interest in such a project as a way to attract more sports tourism dollars.

The study suggests a minimum of eight to 10 rectangular, multi-purpose fields to accommodate a wide range of sports to include soccer, rugby and lacrosse to play on turf fields with lighting.

Bleacher seating was also recommended for the complex, the report stated, as well as four other fields to be dedicated to softball or baseball.

No site has been chosen for the proposed complex, but the report suggests 36 acres as appropriate, to include parking.

The market demand would also support a field house, the report stated, at the complex which could support basketball and volleyball; the report suggested eight hardwood courts for basketball or 16 for volleyball.

Such a field house, which could also support having turf laid down over the courts, would need to be 100,000 to 135,000 square feet in size.

Such a facility could bring thousands of visitors to St. Mary's once it becomes established after about three years, the report states.

If tournament activity reached 56 events, divided roughly between indoor and outdoor attendee days, could generate 388,450 here over a year, the report stated.

The report stated that 95 percent of event activity would be new to the county; net new hotel room nights, key to capturing tourist dollars, would be 72,500 in the county.

This sports complex would support an estimated 630 new jobs, both full and part time, in St. Mary's.

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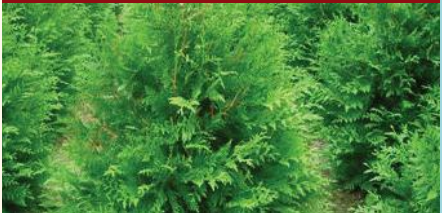
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Fenwick Remembered For His Dedication to Patients

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Dr. John Fenwick, a long-time family doctor who practiced medicine in St. Mary's for decades died recently at the age of 87.

He was remembered for his gentle nature and attention he paid to his patients when medicine was practiced differently in another era.

"He was a class person," said Dr. John Roache, a retired surgeon who lives in Mechanicsville said. "He cared about his patients."

Roache said Fenwick epitomized the type of physician operating in St. Mary's many years ago, in that the patient came first.

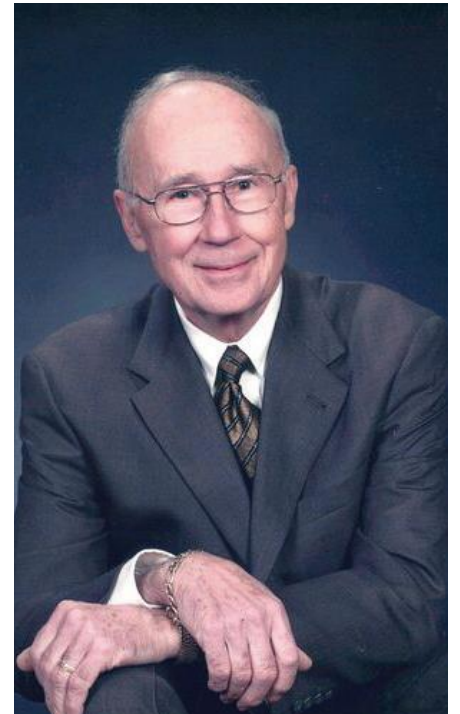
"Back in that era practicing medicine wasn't about making money, it was about taking care of the patients," Roache told The County Times. "John Fenwick was a perfect example of that."

On occasion, Roache said, he worked with Fenwick on caring for the same patient and witnessed his colleague's approach to medicine firsthand.

"The essence of medicine in that era was listening to the people, just sitting down and talking with them, so you could care for them," Roache said. "That's what gives people the confidence and the ability to be comfortable."

Fenwick was an expert at setting patients at ease, Roache said, and he was always willing to consult with other physicians readily to seek the best interests of patients.

"We always had a very good relationship," Roache said. "Whenever you would call him, he'd pick



Dr. John Fenwick


up."

Fenwick practiced medicine in a time when there was more time to spend with patients than the diagnostic-heavy medicine of today; it was a difference between the practice of medicine and the business of medicine, Roache said.

A former patient of Fenwick's was saddened to hear of his passing; she said it was his encouragement to seek testing that led to the finding and early treatment of her cancer.

"He was a wonderful doctor, very thorough," she said. "He always had a smile on his face; I was with him for a long time."

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Archaeologists Uncover Stories of the Enslaved in Newtown Neck

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A team of archeologists with the State Highway Administration (SHA) and St. Mary's College of Maryland have unearthed three separate areas in Newtowne Neck that they believe were the living space of slaves owned by the Jesuits there as far back as the early 1700s.

"We know they were slave quarters because of the artifacts we've found there," said Dr. Julie Schablitsky, chief archaeologist with SHA, who is working at the dig site around the manor house, located next to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

The church is one of the oldest Catholic establishments in the New World.

The dig was part of a project to support Maryland Rediscovery 400, part of the Southern Maryland Heritage Area's effort to learn more about life here centuries ago.

Maryland was founded in St. Mary's City in 1634.

"This is going to be one of the old-

est slave quarters found in the state," Schablitsky said Wednesday. "It may even go back to the late 1600s."

The Jesuits had long owned African slaves since first settling in Maryland and even sold some of them in the 1830s to two plantations in Louisiana to help finance what would become Georgetown University.

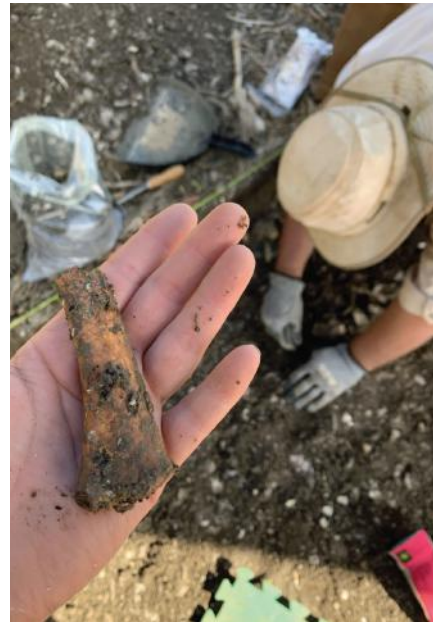
"It's one of the worst things you could do to a family," Schablitsky said.

The Rev. Dante Eubanks, a resident of Leonardtown, traces his family to this plantation.

"To be able to stand in the exact place where my ancestors lived and endured is a powerful experience," Eubanks said. "We need to remember these stories; they are important to our history and healing."

One of the slaves' living areas found close to the manor house, where the Jesuit missionaries lived, also had an additional mystery.

"What's rare about it is that it has a palisade," Schablitsky said. "It's a



Archaeological finds at a dig site in Newtown

mystery as to why it's there."

A palisade is a defensive earthwork.

So far the scientists have found fish bones, copious amounts of oys-

ter shells, stone and lead ware, shoe buckles, buttons and even a rosary, Schablitsky said.

The rougher nature of the items found prove the areas were used by slaves, she said.

How the history of the two groups is recorded could not be more different, Schablitsky said.

"The Jesuits' stories are in the libraries, the slaves' stories are in the soil for us to read," she said.

Archaeologists have been on this project since October 19 and will continue digging through this Friday, October 30, weather permitting. The artifacts will then be analyzed to learn more about the people who lived just beyond the manor house. All the findings will be incorporated into interpretive signs and materials associated with the Religious Freedom Byway and DNR visitor experience, web sites and public presentations, according to a press release from SHA.

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Hogan Authorizes Doubling State COVID-19 Aid



Governor Larry Hogan

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Gov. Larry Hogan announced Oct. 22 that he was authorizing the disbursement of an additional \$250 million from the state's "rainy day fund" to aid small businesses and other organizations that were struggling financially due to the novel coronavirus.

This money, which Hogan said doubled what the state had already provided for economic relief, would aid new programs as well as old ones.

Hogan said \$50 million from the new aid package would be used to continue funding the small business relief program.

"This will fully fund the entire backlog of small business applications already approved," Hogan said.

Another \$50 million will be set aside for restaurants to assist with buying equipment, such as heaters and tents, that will allow management to extend outdoor dining opportunities to customers through the fall and winter months.

The funds are also slated to provide assistance with purchas-

ing sanitation supplies, improving technology for improving carry out and delivery services and installing air filtration improvements in heating and air conditioning systems, Hogan said.

The funds will be distributed to each jurisdiction in the state, he said, for further dissemination to qualified small businesses and restaurants.

"All of this money must be dispersed immediately and no later than Dec. 31," Hogan said.

The package also included millions for entertainment venues and main street organizations across the state as well as tourist and county arts organizations.

The state is also investing an additional \$20 million in its COVID-19 layoff aversion fund.

Hogan chided law makers in Washington, D.C. for failing to come to a compromise on providing a new stimulus and recovery package for the nation.

"There is evidence that the national economic recovery is stalling," Hogan said. "Washington's failure is having a devastating effect."

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Proceeds to benefit Mechanicsville Rescue Squad Auxiliary
Online Bidding begins Nov. 5th; starts to close Nov. 10th @ 7 pm

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COVID-19

	Positive Cases	Deaths
As of October 28		
St. Mary's	1542	60

Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

County Concludes States Attoreny Office Probe

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

County Attorney David Weiskopf told The County Times this week that the county had concluded its investigation into questions over spending and personnel practices at the State's Attorney's Office but would not comment on conclusions from that investigation.

According to Weiskopf's comments, the county had also taken action regarding findings in its investigation, but he would not reveal the nature of those actions, either.

"Our inquiry is complete," Weiskopf said Monday. "Appropriate action has been taken."

"A lot of that [the investigation] has dealt with personnel issues so I don't know how much I can say."

Officials speaking on condition of anonymity said the investigation revealed that all county policies were followed.

Recent events at the State's Attorney's Office, headed by Richard Fritz, have led to increased scrutiny of operations there, starting with the sudden resignation of Jaymi Sterling in late September, claiming she had witnessed questionable financial and personnel practices there.



State's Attorney Richard Fritz

An attempt by Fritz to get permission from the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to take \$25,000 from the Project Graduation fund to give to an employee who he said was overworked drew scrutiny as well as revelations that Fritz and six other members of the office staff there went on a trip to Ocean City in June for in-service training after two professional conferences there had been cancelled in April.

The trip cost almost \$12,000 and even though the money had been authorized by the county finance

office, other elected officials speaking privately have said such a trip was not necessary for in-service training.

Fritz has said he has acted properly in his capacity as state's attorney, saying that Sterling exceeded her authority in handling a dispute between two employees – one who has since resigned and the employee he wanted to award the Project Graduation money – without consulting him first.

For that, he said, she was demoted, with her subsequently resigning from her position.

Fritz has claimed Sterling, who has since been hired as a prosecutor in Anne Arundel County, has political motivations to cause discord in his office, since he has decided to seek re-election.

He defended the decision to take the Ocean City trip as appropriate during the COVID-19 pandemic as a prime opportunity to train staff members on criminal law developments.

Fritz has declined to say exactly what training was offered during this trip or for how long training sessions lasted.

Barbara Rivera, an office manager at the state's attorney's office

who resigned claiming she was being forced out by Fritz and the employee with whom she had a dispute, was the first to reveal the trip to Ocean City.

"I maintained that I did absolutely nothing wrong and that it was appropriate for me to demote Jaymi Sterling, that she had exceeded her authority," Fritz said. "There was absolutely nothing wrong with my seeking a supplemental appropriation with regards to Project Graduation and that the trip to Ocean City was within my budget and that the county does not tell me what training my staff needs."

"I'm entirely satisfied they [the county] haven't told me anything different."

Fritz said he would open his own investigation into an alleged pay raise of \$32,000 Sterling received without his knowledge or approval after he had already approved a \$14,000 raise for her last year.

"Something stinks about that," Fritz said.

Weiskopf said that, to his knowledge, the investigation had not been referred to the Maryland Attorney General's Office nor the Maryland Prosecutor's Office.

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Residents and Local Officials Urged to Remain Vigilant and Report to Law Enforcement

Governor Larry Hogan today joined U.S. Attorney Robert K. Hur, FBI Baltimore Special Agent in Charge Jennifer C. Boone, Maryland State Police Superintendent Colonel Woodrow W. Jones III, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations' Baltimore field office John Eisert, and Inspector in Charge, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Washington Division Peter R. Rendina to update Marylanders on the security of the 2020 election and to encourage residents and county officials to report any efforts to intimidate or misinform voters.

Federal, state, and local partners are working in close collaboration to ensure all parties have the information and resources necessary to respond in a timely manner to any violations that may arise.

"Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy, and it is our shared responsibility to ensure Marylanders are able to cast their vote safely and securely," said Governor Hogan. "Over the last several weeks, we have been engaged in planning exercises with our federal partners to discuss potential issues and scenarios. We will continue to closely coordinate our efforts through Election Day. Marylanders can be confident in

the integrity of our electoral system."

"While the Maryland State Board of Elections is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the election, state and federal law enforcement are working together to address efforts to misinform or intimidate voters," said U.S. Attorney Hur. "The right to vote is one of the most important rights exercised by Americans. We will not tolerate threatening conduct that seeks to intimidate, harass, or dissuade Americans from exercising their right to vote. I urge all Marylanders to report to law enforcement any efforts to infringe on their right or another person's right to vote. If you see something, say something."

The FBI is the primary investigative agency responsible for malicious cyber activity against election infrastructure, malign foreign influence operations, and election-related crimes like voter fraud and voter suppression.

"The FBI recognizes that we are only as strong as our partnerships," said Special Agent Boone. "That is why, for months, we have been coordinating important election security conversations and exercises between federal, state, and local partners in Maryland to share information, bolster security, and iden-

tify and disrupt any threats."

The Maryland State Police stand ready to respond to any Election Day disruptions.

"We will continue to work with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to coordinate information about, and our response to, any public safety threats related to voting in Maryland," said Superintendent Jones. "Our goal is to ensure a safe opportunity for all to exercise this important American right."

Homeland Security Investigations leverages its cyber portfolio and broad investigative authority to prevent, disrupt, and counter cyber threats.

"Homeland Security Investigations is the largest and primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, protecting not just physical borders, but digital borders," said Special Agent Eisert. "We stand ready with our partners at the FBI, U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the State of Maryland to preserve the integrity of our election systems."

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service, as the federal law enforcement and security arm of the Postal Service, is responsible for defending the nation's

mail system from illegal or dangerous use.

"U.S. postal inspectors are working closely with our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners to actively identify attempts to compromise the mail system our nation depends upon during this critical time," said Inspector Rendina. "U.S. postal inspectors are committed to ensuring U.S. mail is a safe and secure method for voters to participate in America's elections."

While at this time there is no evidence of a compromise or disruption to election infrastructure that would enable adversaries to prevent voting, change vote counts, or disrupt the ability to tally votes in Maryland, state and federal partners continue to vigilantly monitor any threats to U.S. elections.

The U.S. government will defend democracy and maintain transparency with the American public about its efforts. An informed public is a resilient public. Marylanders should go to trusted sources for election information, such as the Maryland State Board of Elections website and other local election officials. Voters are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to their local officials, the FBI, or DHS.

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Saturday, November 21, 2020 @ 11:00 a.m.

The Commemorative is an immersive art experience that honors the story of resilience, persistence, and creative problem solving that defined the lives of the enslaved individuals that lived in St. Mary's City between 1750 and 1815. Constructed on the St. Mary's College of Maryland campus, the Commemorative provides visitors with the space to acknowledge and learn from the lives of those who once toiled there, while providing a place for reflection and introspection about the nature of slavery and its connections to modern society.

This virtual dedication will feature a keynote message by nationally-known writer Jelani Cobb. This artistic construction being erected near the Jamie L. Roberts Stadium features commissioned work by artists Norman Lee and Shane Allbritton of RE:Site and poet Quenton Baker.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL, MARYLAND
 IN RE GUARDIANSHIP OF BABY BOY B. a/k/a Owen Kai B.
 Adoption No.: C-02-FM-20-002813

The Motion to Proceed by Publication and the Affidavit having been read and considered, it is this 21st of October, 2020 hereby

ORDERED, by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, that the Petitioner may proceed by publication of notice as to the UNKNOWN biological father of Baby Boy B. a/k/a Owen Kai B., in a newspaper of general circulation in St. Mary's County, and also to appear on the Maryland Department of Human Resources website.

To: Unknown Father

You are hereby notified that a guardianship case has been filed in the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County, Adoption Clerk Case No. C-02-FM-20-002813. All persons who believe themselves to be the parents of a male child born on 04/07/2020 in Baltimore, Maryland to Mellissa Billings, DOB: 9/6/1990, and Unknown Father, DOB: unknown, shall file a written response. A copy of the show cause order may be obtained from the Circuit Court clerk's office at:

Anne Arundel County, Adoption Clerk
 8 Church Circle
 Annapolis, MD 21404
 410-222-1331

You must file a written response or objection to this action with the Circuit Court clerk's office identified above by November 28, 2020 or you will be considered to have agreed to the permanent loss of your parental rights to this child.

IN THE MATTER OF ANDREW JACOB WILLIAMS
 FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO ANDREW JACOB SMITH
 In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-FM-20-606
 Notice (Adult)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which he/she seeks to change his/her name of a minor from ANDREW JACOB WILLIAMS to ANDREW JACOB SMITH. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: It's my father's last name.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 12/05/2020. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served on the petitioner (Maryland Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may issue a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

IN THE MATTER OF BRIAN LAVAR BILLS
 FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO MARCUS ALEXANDER DRAKE
 In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-FM-20-538
 Notice (Adult)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which he/she seeks to change his/her name of a minor from BRIAN LAVAR BILLS to MARCUS ALEXANDER DRAKE. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: I have never liked my given name and I am now in a position to change it with minimal impact.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 12/05/2020. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served on the petitioner (Maryland Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may issue a default judgement or grant the name change.

Debra J. Burch,
 Clerk of Court for
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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

Troopers Arrest Armed Robbery Suspect

On Oct. 25 at approximately 11:06 p.m., Troopers from the Leonardtown Barrack responded to a 911 call for a robbery that just occurred at the Burchmart located at 25355 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown. Troopers made contact with the employee/victim who described the suspect as a white male wearing a gray sweatshirt. The suspect had entered the establishment, displayed a knife and demanded the employee open the register. The employee fled to the rear of the establishment and told another co-worker to call the police. Information was obtained of a possible suspect and location, which led Troopers to an address in Leonardtown. Once Troopers arrived, they observed the suspect in the yard attempting to burn evidence of the crime. Upon seeing the Troopers, the suspect attempted to run. Troopers were able to apprehend the suspect and place him under arrest. The suspect still had the knife in his possession. The suspect is identified as **John Thomas Heiston** W/M 37 of Lexington Park, STM, MD. Additionally, the suspect has an outstanding warrant through Calvert County for felony burglary. The suspect was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention Center and charged with armed robbery, robbery, assault, first degree and assault, second degree.

Shots Fired Under Investigation
On October 17, 2020, at approximately 4:19 a.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office were investigating reports of shots fired in the area of Pacific Drive, when deputies heard several additional shots fired in the area of Forest Run Drive and Cinnamon Way in Lexington Park. Officers responded to the area and located a vehicle and one residence on Cinnamon Drive that had sustained damage from being struck by projectiles. No injuries were reported from the incident.

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Crime Lab Technicians responded and processed the scene. Several shell casings were recovered from the area.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Deputy Courtney Edwards at (301) 475-4200 extension 78003 or by email at Courtney.Edwards@stmarysmd.com.

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

Deputies Seek Robbery Suspect Identity

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person pictured in a robbery investigation. On Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020 at 4:20 pm, the victim was in the parking lot of the Race-N-Inn store in Budds Creek to deliver crabs to a customer when the victim noticed the suspect exiting the victim's vehicle with cash and checks. A struggle ensued between the victim and the suspect over the money and the suspect punched the victim and pushed the victim to the ground. The suspect was last seen fleeing on a yellow motorcycle.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call Deputy Jessica Wilson at 301-475-4200, ext. 78138 or email Jessica.wilson@stmarysmd.com. Case # 62259-20


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.

Editor's Note:

The above arrests are not an indication of guilt or innocence as the cases have not been adjudicated.




Philip H. Dorsey III
Attorney at Law

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Video Series Highlights Nursery, Cut Flower Industries

According to the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission's latest video in the Farms in Focus Series, Southern Maryland's climate and long growing season aided by high tunnels and greenhouses provides almost optimal year-round conditions for the region's nursery and cut flowers industry.

SMADC's newest video in the 9-part series on Southern Maryland's diverse agricultural profile, reveals a thriving garden nursery and cut flower farming industry growing up to 80 plant and



flower varieties a season generating 750 million dollars annually with over

180 million dollars in value-added impact. The video expands on these statistics to explore the technology, skill and artistry involved in raising plants and flowers through the experience of three growers engaged in different cultivation, and business models – small and large.

Ray Greenstreet, owner of Greenstreet Gardens in Anne Arundel County, describes his expansive family business which includes retail garden centers, wholesale, horticulture and landscaping operations, as well as a state-of-the-art rooting station that 'roots' internationally sourced cuttings to ship as starter plants for growers in Maryland and beyond.

By contrast, many of Southern Maryland's flower farms are relatively small, nevertheless these growers are carving a competitive niche in the marketplace.

Priscilla Wentworth Leitch, of Anchored Roots Farm in St. Mary's, explains how she and another small farm are partnering to grow a combined floral inventory to supply area florists and meet the growing consumer demand for locally grown flowers for weddings and other special occasions.

The video also touches on the importance of plants and flowers in our daily lives, and particularly how the skillful arrangement of color and texture can enhance our pleasure and wellbeing. "I'm


a big believer in comfort," comments Bahiyyah Parks, of EcoBlossoms Farm. A cut flower farmer and garden designer located in urban Prince George's County, Bahiyyah chooses plants for her clients that not only thrive in Southern Maryland's climate and soils, but also bring beauty and "an expression of life and joy" to the environment and our communities.

Produced by SMADC, a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, the Farms in Focus 'Nursery and Cut Flowers' edition is available now to view on the SMADC YouTube channel. The video series, filmed by renowned agriculture videographers Edwin Remsberg Studios, illustrates Southern Maryland's key agricultural industries with a combination of educational information and promotional marketing to bridge the knowledge gap between consumers and their local farmers.

Visit SMADC.com to learn more and find farm resources and guides to Southern Maryland farms. Look for more videos to be released in November and December 2020 featuring Livestock, Forestry and Produce.

The "Farms in Focus" videos are made possible by a grant awarded to SMADC through the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF).

Press Release from SMADC.



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8x10	\$3.35	15x25	\$14.70	10x15	\$12.25	40x60	\$162.95
8x12	\$4.00	15x30	\$17.65	10x20	\$16.35		
8x15	\$5.00	16x20	\$12.55	12x12	\$11.80		
8x18	\$6.00	20x20	\$15.70	12x16	\$15.70		
8x20	\$6.70	20x30	\$23.50	12x20	\$19.60		
9x12	\$4.50	20x35	\$27.45	12x25	\$24.50		
10x12	\$5.00	20x40	\$31.35	15x20	\$24.50	8x10	\$9.35
10x15	\$6.25	24x36	\$33.85	15x25	\$30.65	16x20	\$35.80
10x16	\$6.70	25x45	\$42.25	16x20	\$26.15	10x12	\$14.00
10x20	\$7.85	30x40	\$45.05	20x20	\$34.70	10x20	\$23.35
12x12	\$6.00	30x60	\$67.60	20x25	\$39.15	12x12	\$16.80
12x14	\$7.00	40x50	\$68.45	20x30	\$47.00	12x16	\$22.40
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Sending a Message to the Russians:

Air Force Pilot with Local Ties Featured on Today Show

By Dave Spigler
Contributing Writer

During a recent NBC Today Show, longtime news reporter Richard Engel was invited to take a flight in an Air Force F-16, a highly sophisticated fighter aircraft. As Engel was soon to learn upon takeoff, he was to experience more than a quick 500 mile per hour “joy” ride across Germany and Poland to learn how versatile this deadly weapon system is when put through its paces. Once gaining a feel for the flight characteristics that makes this aircraft superior to many jets flown by any other country, the pilot caught up with a KC-10 “mother ship,” military slang for a tanker or refueler. It was necessary to take on an additional 1,000 gallons of fuel to execute the five-hour flight plan for the day’s mission.

Flying at nearly the speed of sound, the experienced fighter pilot with more than 17 years of flight time under his belt, flew his aircraft up to within feet of the tanker’s tail, “sticking it” on his first attempt to engage the extended boom. Within minutes, with their tanks topped up, they unhooked and commenced an afternoon of patrolling the nearby Russian border with other squadron mates and practiced their trade in the event their skills should be necessary when dealing with an advisory.

Engel was advised to “strap on and hold on” as the real show was about to begin!

The pilot chosen to fly Engel this day was Lieutenant Colonel Brett “Tick” Shilling, USAF, son of Chuck and Lori Shilling, longtime residents of Piney Point.

Lt. Col. Shilling grew up in Prince Georges County and excelled in all of his academic pursuits. By the second grade his special abilities were recognized, and he was placed in the “Talented and Gifted” Program in his school. He was known to concentrate on a project for hours on end. This program provided greater challenges with higher learning courses to complete. His parents noted he was taught by his dad to tie a dress tie when he was just three years old! As a youngster he exhibited special abilities to construct things and to take things apart to see how they worked.

Brett entered the Cub Scouts and received many top awards including the “Arrow of Light” and the “Pervuli Dei” religious emblem. He designed winning Pine Wood Derby cars



Lieutenant Colonel Brett “Tick” Shilling, USAF

after devoted hours to testing to make them perfect. At an early age, he revealed a strong inclination to become an engineer.

He joined the Boy Scouts and won all the top awards including earning Eagle Scout for his project for enhancing the understanding of the mysteries of the Sora bird known as the “rail bird.” His project consisted of trapping these birds and placing transmitters on them prior to releasing them to study and learn of their migratory habits.

He was accepted into Oxon Hill’s Science and Technology High School where he continued to perform well scholastically, earning a 4.83 GPA, the maximum GPA attainable due to many completed AP courses, National Honor Society, Outstanding Scholar Athlete, Varsity Letters in several sports, and many more individual achievement awards.

He graduated as Valedictorian of his class in 1999. He received more than \$316,000 in scholarships from the six prestigious colleges he applied to including Maryland, Ohio State, Georgia Tech, MIT Massachusetts, MIT Michigan, and the Air Force Academy. He chose the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

Brett graduated in 2003 earning an Aeronautical Engineering Degree with high honors and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and received orders to flight training. Once more he excelled in his new role as an aviator. He advanced from flying the T-38 to piloting the F-16 Viper. He garnered sox achievement

awards while undergoing F-16 Fighter training achieving the highest overall academic score for his command. He also won the prestigious “Top Gun” award for his exceptional performance as a fighter pilot!

Lieutenant Colonel Shilling previously served two tours of duty in Iraq and is currently assigned to a F-16 squadron at an Air Base in Spangdahlem, Germany where he lives with his wife and family. His squadron is tasked with watching the activities of the Russians from the air while flying patrols near their borders. Over the past several months, the Rus-

sian military has continually overflowed areas of the Baltic and Black Sea and once actually interfered with our ground forces on patrol in Syria. As one of the senior officers in his outfit, he trains younger pilots how to operate their planes should they become engaged with any of our foes. During many training “dogfights” he gained a reputation for his uncanny ability to “stick” on the backs of those pilots given the role as the adversary for no matter what tactic they took, they could not “shake” him! He earned the call sign “Tick” from his fellow squadron mates who described him as a “tick” for just like this pesky insect, he gets on your back and refuses to let go!

When his squadron commander was interviewed at the end of this news report, he was asked if the Russians were doing their maneuvers to send us a message? He responded by saying, “Yes and we are sending them a message by showing them what our abilities are as well!”

Chuck and Lori are very proud of their son. In fact, the year Brett graduated from the Air Force Academy, their younger son Daniel was inducted into the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Daniel had the distinction as the only Midshipman at the time to qualify and stand the sonar watch on the nuclear submarine USS Memphis SSN 691 while at sea during his summer cruise. As their dad says, “He had one son in the sky and one under the sea at the same time.”

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All Soul's Day Vigil Planned for Youth Memorial

By Dave Spigler
Contributing Writer

One of the lesser known unique memorials in St. Mary's County is the small Youth Memorial located in Great Mills on three-quarters of an acre just off Point Lookout Road. It is dedicated to the young people of the county whose lives have been cut short.

This serene site was created by Eddie and Agnes Tippett as a tribute to their son who was tragically lost at the age of 18. Over time their shrine grew as their compassion and sorrow was extended to other county families who suffered similar losses. Eventually, the memorial grew to include all youth who died too soon.

Since its dedication and blessing in 1986, the names of more than 200 beloved young people have been inscribed on the 14 monuments that are found at the site. The focal point of the memorial is the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes flanked by granite monuments with the names of these beloved children who resided in St. Mary's at the time of their passing.

The grotto base is covered with cobblestones. The statue of Our Lady of Lourdes originally stood



The team that recently renovated the memorial site and prepared it for use, shown (l-r), Dan Bronk, Matt Lamb, Vicky Spaulding, Chuck Shilling and Chris McGraw.

as a shrine of devotion on the St. Mary's Academy campus in Leonardtown for 82 years. After the school property was sold in 1984, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth donated the entire grotto to the Youth Memorial. It is said it was no less than a "miracle" that it was moved to its present location com-



pletely intact with no damages.

This memorial was conceived as a serene place for grieving families and friends to hold memorial ceremonies and as a place of remembrance.

There is a shelter with a granite altar and lectern. A bench is provided for those who wish to just sit

and reflect within the shadow of this wonderful respected symbol of love.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, a first ever outdoor evening All Soul's Day Prayer Vigil is planned for 7 p.m. All are invited to share this event with their families. Due to COVID-19, all attendees are asked to wear a mask and maintain a six-foot social distance from one another. Father Jerry, Pastor of Holy Face Parish, will lead participants in prayers for dearly departed loved ones and especially for the departed children.

All planning on attending are asked to bring a candle with a paper cup to catch the melted wax. Additional candles will be provided should visitors need one.

This memorial is supported through donations from families, friends, and local businesses. The monuments and grounds are maintained by Knights of Columbus volunteers of the Holy Face Council in Great Mills. For more information about this event or how to make a tax-deductible donation toward the upkeep of this special place, please call Grand Knight Chuck Shilling at 301 535-8339.

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Sports Betting, State Spending On The Ballot

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Maryland voters have the opportunity this election to decide to give the legislature more authority to spend tax dollars or not and to expand gambling to sports and event betting or not.

Support for the second question seems nearly universal while the first question on budgetary authority has voters divided on party lines.

Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist.29A) said Question 1 on the ballot had the potential to bring a dramatic shift in power and influence to a small group of legislators as to how large amounts of funding could be allocated and spent.

"This has everything to do with the legislature spending more of your tax dollars," Morgan said.

Under the current budgetary process, which has lasted for more than 100 years, Morgan said, the legislature can cut and reallocate funds within the governor's budget, but they cannot add any funding.

However, the governor retains the authority to choose not to spend what the legislature has reallocated, giving the governor an extra layer of authority that is unique in the nation.

Whatever the governor chooses not to spend, Morgan said, becomes "fenced off" and is placed in the state's fiscal reserves.

"This is the reason Maryland has such huge rainy day funds," Morgan said. "Under this law [the legislature] can cut, reallocate and spend.

"It would allow a small group within the legislature... to reallocated funds back to their own [constituencies.]"

Morgan said jurisdictions with more power could gain even more over their fellow counties.

"What's to stop them from cutting projects from St. Mary's or Wicomico [counties] and moving it to their own?" Morgan said. "This is a complete power play."

Morgan also bristled at the way in which the legislation that put the question on the ballot during the rapidly waning days of this year's General Assembly session.

"Not a single Republican voted for Question 1," Morgan said. "The Democrats announced the vote on this the night before Sine Die.

"They rammed it through on the COVID-19 shortened Sine Die Wednesday."

On Question 2, Morgan said many questions remain as to how sports gaming would be allowed to expand if voters approved the constitutional question.

"Just about every member of the legislature voted for Question 2," Morgan said. "The details of how that's going to work out, that has just not been defined into law yet.



"There were some from places like Western Maryland who were philosophically opposed to gambling, so they voted against it."

The current language in legislation states that the revenue from sports betting expansion should primarily be used for education spending but Morgan said: "All the money should be spent on education." But he warned that even with sports and event betting, the extra revenue would not be a panacea to the state's education funding problems.

"The state only collects about \$600 million in gambling revenue a year, and we spend about \$9 billion on K through 12 education," Morgan said. "Gambling doesn't even begin to pay that off."

Senator Thomas V. "Mike" Miller (D: Calvert, Charles, Prince George's) said there was an attempt in the State Senate this year to have race tracks be the sports betting venue to help out that industry, but the effort failed in the House, leaving the answer open-ended.

So, the decision to be made is whether it should be in licensed casinos, racetracks, or as some suggest, the state's two football stadiums, FedEx Field and M&T Bank Stadium. Or some combination of the options. Miller doesn't necessarily favor the football stadiums.

What Miller does insist on is a lock box, to earmark the sports betting revenue for education use.

Miller notes that now sports betting is done illegally online in Maryland. The key he said would be

for Maryland to legalize the sports betting in locations that the state could control and reap some financial gain for education.

Elected leaders acknowledge, though, that a positive vote on Question 2 would allow the state to recapture revenue that now goes to surrounding states such as West Virginia and Pennsylvania, who are reaping the benefits of sports betting.

"It's an adult activity and I don't have a problem with it," Morgan said.

Todd Eberly, a political science professor at St. Mary's College of Maryland, said Question 1 would represent a significant shift in budgetary power to the legislature, but their spending ability would still be limited.

"The most important thing that wouldn't change is the spending cap by the governor," Eberly said. "In no way could it result in greater spending overall.

"Maryland is the only state where the legislature does not have this authority."

The reality, Eberly said, was that the legislature already passes laws that mandate spending, in essence, achieving the goal to a greater extent that Question 2 seeks to codify into law.

"They already force the governor to spend money by law," Eberly said. "They have the power to pass mandatory spending."

About 80 percent of all state spending is mandated by the legis-

lature, Eberly said.

On Question 2, Eberly said the prospect of extra revenue by law carried little political risk for those legislators who favored it.

"Who wouldn't want free money?" Eberly said. "They [legislators] get to collect revenue without collecting a tax."

The constitutional question, as it is written, has very broad language that allows betting on events other than on sports, Eberly said.

"Little league, the Presidential Election, the Oscars," Eberly said. "Under the law, the definition events could be widely [interpreted]."

Eberly noted that while the revenue taken from sports betting could rightly be considered voluntary, there was the argument that for some bettors the activity was something they could ill-afford or were compelled to engage in because of gambling addiction.

"It's a moral question for some about whether the state should become more involved in gambling," Eberly said. "But the ship has sailed on that question."

About a decade ago, when the state saw it's first casinos being built, Eberly said, most could see that gambling was going to be expanded even more.

"They saw the hand writing on the wall," Eberly said. "I suspect this is why it [Question 2] would pass and pass easily."

Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist. 29B) said Question 1 would not go into effect immediately if voters approved it.

"It also gives the governor the line item veto and doesn't affect the next governor until the middle of their first term," Crosby said. "I don't see this being a big issue anywhere else; why would 49 other states do it this way?"

Tipping the authority towards the legislature more meant that Republicans in the General Assembly could have more influence on the budget in the future.

"Odds tell me the bulk of governors will be Democrats," Crosby said of the 2-to-1 advantage against the GOP in Maryland of registered voters. "It seems to me the GOP would want more of a say on what goes in the budget."

On Question 2, Crosby believed the implementing legislation would allow for on-line sports and event betting, but it was too early to say what exact form that bill would take.

Crosby said he supported the process for a sports betting license being open to all.

"Certainly we should have an opportunity for everybody to compete for a license," Crosby said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net
Editor Dick Myers contributed to this story

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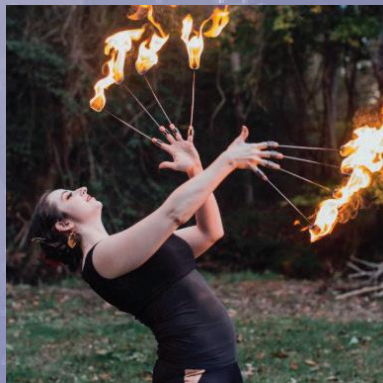
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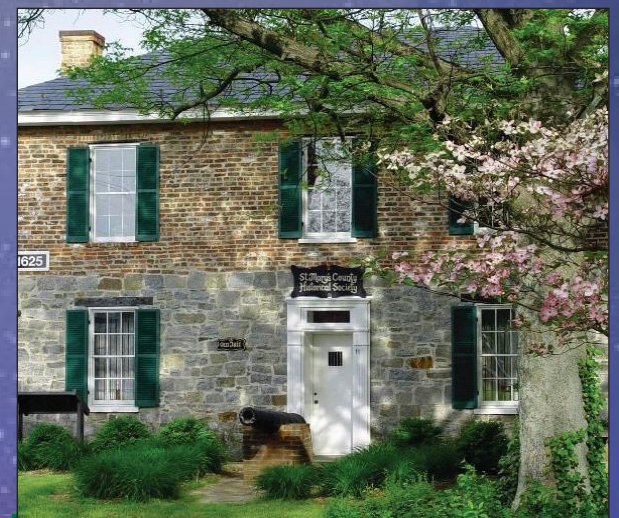
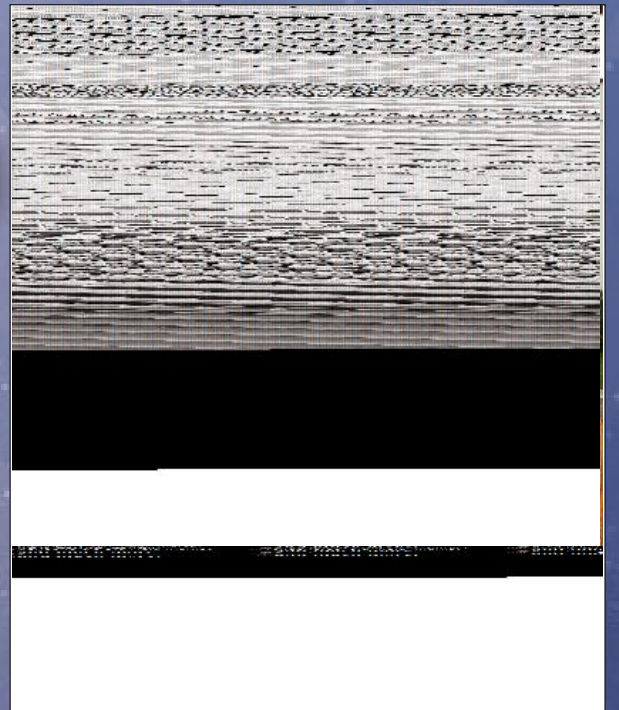
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Angels Gather for Breast Cancer Awareness



Karen Thomas, Ace's Angels (Breast Cancer Support Network of nearly 200 women) leads discussion before the walk sponsored by Total Woman Network! Photos by Ceandra Scott.



Cancer awareness festivities took place at Chancellor's Run park.



Family of Mrs. Agnus Queen. Photos by Ceandra Scott.

Solar Task Force Extended

Will Explore Zoning and Siting

The Commissioners have approved a request from the Director of Land Use and Growth Management for the Solar Task Force to continue meeting beyond the original six-month schedule. Director Bill Hunt told the Commissioners Oct. 20 that COVID-19 safety protocols precluded the task force from meeting regularly. More time is needed to complete the exploration of solar zoning and siting in the county.

A report delivered to the Commissioners during Director Hunt's brief gave general information on solar energy generation, state and local government roles in the solar project approval process, helpful in-state resources, and an overview

of how other Maryland counties have approached solar siting.

The Solar Task Force will continue meeting monthly and present their findings in a final report before the Commissioners in June 2021.

Commissioner decisions and related public documents are available on the county government website in BoardDocs. St. Mary's County Commissioner Meetings may be viewed live Tuesday mornings on SMCG Channel 95 or as a replay Friday nights at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are also available for on-demand viewing on the St. Mary's County Government YouTube Channel

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

Citizen Complaints May Remain Anonymous

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County have approved a resolution allowing for citizens who file formal complaints with county government departments to remain anonymous or to have their confidentiality protected under certain circumstances.

County Attorney David Weiskopf brought the resolution before the commissioners and explained that there are circumstances in which it is necessary to allow complainants to be unnamed. Previously, there was no county policy that afforded this protection.

The resolution states that St. Mary's County Government will accept anonymous and/or confidential

complaints on a case-by-case basis if there is an allegation of a violation of hazardous, dangerous, or potentially life-threatening situations or a bona fide fear of retaliation.

Commissioner decisions and related public documents are available on the county government website in BoardDocs. St. Mary's County Commissioner Meetings may be viewed live Tuesday mornings on SMCG Channel 95 or as a replay Friday nights at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are also available for on-demand viewing on the St. Mary's County Government YouTube Channel.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

Daylight Saving Time Ends – Reminder to Check Alarms

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020, at 2 a.m. Residents should turn clocks backward by one hour to 1 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, and when changing clocks, remember to change the batteries in household alarms too.

The Department of Emergency Services reminds everyone that the annual time change is the perfect opportunity to change batteries in

smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends citizens replace smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector batteries annually and test the alarms every month.

For more information on Emergency Preparedness visit prepare.stmarysmd.com

Public Schools Meal Distribution Changed

St. Mary's County Public Schools Department of Food and Nutrition Services announces changes in the schedule of curbside meal distribution beginning the month of November. Meals are available for students ages 18 years and younger. Meals can be picked up from any school site even if your student attends a different school.

Week of November 9 – Due to the Veterans' Day holiday, meals will be distributed on Monday, November 9 and Thursday, November 12 only. Monday's meal bag will include food for three days (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday). Thursday's meal bag will include food for two days (Thursday and Friday). The time for curbside meal distribution during this week is 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Beginning November 16 – Curbside meal distribution will continue at each school on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; however, the pickup times will change. The new time for curbside meal distribution will be as follows:

Elementary school curbside

meal pick-up will be: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Middle school curbside meal pick-up will be: 11 a.m. - 12 Noon

High school curbside meal pick-up will be: 12 Noon - 1 p.m.

These new curbside meal distribution times will continue until further notice.

Week of November 23 – Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, curbside meals will be distributed on Monday only. This meal bag will include five days of meals for breakfast, lunch, supper, and snack. All meal bags include milk and/or water. Meal distribution times for this day will be as noted above.

Flyers containing these schedule changes will be distributed in each meal bag prior to the week the schedule change is to begin.

More information can also be found on the SMCPS home page under Twitter. If you have any questions regarding the schedule change, please send them to www.foodservice@smcps.org

County Schools Celebrate National Red Ribbon Week

On October 23 through 31, 2020, St. Mary's County Public Schools in partnership with St. Mary's County Health Department will recognize the National Red Ribbon Week Campaign in all St. Mary's County Public Schools. This year an emphasis will be placed on the importance of drug misuse prevention through messaging delivered during school lunch distribution. Materials will be distributed along with school lunches

to students during scheduled lunch pick up times at their schools. The educational materials distributed will focus on the importance of understanding the risk associated with drug and substance misuse and encourage them to "Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug Free".

This partnership has traditionally recognized National Red Ribbon Week for many years with activities and learning opportunities in all schools.





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★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

Library Closed for Veterans Day

St. Mary's County Library will be closed Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day.

One-On-One with a Job Coach: The Resume/Cover Letter Workshop

Maryland Department of Labor job coaches will provide personalized help with learning the purpose of a resume, the types of resumes, creating a resume, and creating and editing a cover letter. One-on-one virtual sessions will occur in Google Meets on Monday, November 9. Participants will need a device and internet connection. Call the Library at 301-475-2846 to make your appointment.

Meet Maryland Author Casey Cep

Casey Cep, staff writer at The New Yorker, will join us virtually on Monday, November 9 at 7 p.m. to discuss her first book, "Furious Hours:

Murder, Fraud, and The Last Trial of Harper Lee," a true-crime story with a connection to the author of "To Kill a Mockingbird." Register at www.stmalib.org/calendar to receive the link to the virtual event.

Teen Craft Corner: Yarn, Yarn, Yarn

Follow our easy Instagram craft session that will add a new touch to your personal style! The video features an ombre Kool-Aid dip dye tassel wall hanging and premieres Monday, November 9 at 1 p.m. on Instagram: www.instagram.com/stmaryslibrary.

Watercolor with Jamie Naluai

In this virtual session, local artist Jamie Naluai will lead participants in creating a framed watercolor painting featuring leaves. Register at www.stmalib.org/calendar, then join us online on Tuesday, November 10 at 3:30 p.m.



Digital Content from the Library: eBooks, Audiobooks, Movies, and More!

Did you know that the Library offers digital books, audiobooks, music, movies, TV shows, and magazines for checkout? Learn how to use each of the services available to you with your Library card - OverDrive/Libby, hoopla digital, and RBDigital. We'll demonstrate all three services and answer any questions you may have! Register at www.stmalib.org/calendar and join us for this virtual session taking place Thursday, November 12 at 1 p.m.

Be an Unlikely Ally: Community Conversations on Race

Join the conversation! Our panel will be discussing equity consultant Nita Mosby Tyler's TED talk: "Want a More Just World? Be an Unlikely Ally." The TED talk will be shown during the session. Register at www.stmalib.org/calendar to receive the link to the virtual session taking place Thursday, November 12 at 7 p.m. TED Talks are influential videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, tech and creativity. The talks are posted online for free distribution under the slogan "ideas worth spreading" by TED Conferences LLC, an American media organization.

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Virtual Summer Youth Program Deemed a Success

The Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) recently concluded its 2020 Virtual Summer Youth Employment Program. The program provided participants with valuable training and necessary work experience for their continuous development towards building better professional and business acumen, occupational and leadership skills, critical thinking skills and improved decision-making abilities.

The program hosted a total of 83 youth -- 73 virtual training program participants and 10 virtual paid employment programs participants ranging in age from 16 to 24. The program focused on virtual training and employment for the youth so they could receive knowledge and work experience on a virtual platform. Participants were able to earn a multitude of certifications including but not limited to, Advanced Site Builder for WordPress, Learning Web Design with WordPress, Internship, and Intro to Mentorship.

Many of the youth participants gladly shared their eagerness to participate in next year's program and local business partners were impressed with the professional work ethics and skills of this year's summer youth participants.

"The TCCSMD 2020 Virtual Summer Youth Employment Program has been a gratifying and fulfilling experience," says Greg Holtz, TCCSMD Youth Programs Manager. "To witness the participation from the TCCSMD's staff and the youth participants demonstrates the importance of why we need to continue to work harder to find new ways to be creative and innovative— program success depends on it."

The 2020 Virtual Summer Youth Employment Program was organized by the TCCSMD Youth and Young Adult Services Team, in partnership with Affordable A-1 Printing, Chesapeake Beach Professional Seminar, Elite Homes and Estates LLC, SoMD Minority Chamber of Commerce, and TCCSMD to provide participants with essential skills, job readiness skills, and career exploration opportunities. Funding for the program was provided by Charles and Calvert County government s, and several state and federal grants.

To apply for next year's Summer Youth Program, email yayacenter@tccsmd.org or call 301-374-8199 schedule an appointment. To learn more about TCCSMD, visit <https://tccsmd.org/>.

Press Release from TCCSMD.



Letters TO THE Editor

Vote For Davis

Endorsement Reaction

To the Editor:

One of the most important contests in St. Mary's County has to be the election to the School Board.

Our children have been handicapped for approximately eight months by the pandemic, and they deserve to have someone represent them on the Board who will look out for their interests.

Jim Davis is someone whom I feel is that someone. His priority is to ensure that children are safe from the virus, but also that they are back safely in school. Children need to interact with other children, and virtual teaching is not acceptable.

Jim Davis is a big supporter of increasing the County Budget to have enough money to recruit teachers to fill vacancies, add additional counselors, increase salaries of teachers, and have more programs for students.

For these reasons I believe Jim Davis should be reelected for another term on the St. Mary's School Board.

He has served the Board well, and will continue to do so when reelected.

VOTE FOR JIM DAVIS.

*Barbara Brstilo
Piney Point, MD 20674*

To the Editor:

The County Times "endorsement" (October 22, 2020) of Chris Palombi for Congress is a huge embarrassment to journalism in general and to St. Mary's County's citizenry in particular.

We are brighter than you think. Why? It is easy to see that almost the whole page of the "endorsement" was really a blatant effort to deify Donald J. Trump as he limps badly toward election day. Meanwhile, he continues to care less about the prospect of 200,000 or so more COVID deaths by the end of the year (when he will hopefully stop spreading the virus and go peacefully over the horizon like all the presidents before him).

Palombi himself should be disappointed that you devoted only three sentences in meekly "endorsing" him. You gave Hoyer somewhat more space--mainly because you dearly wanted to blast him for being part of the Democratic leadership. The latter cares much more genuinely and deeply about the American people than does Trump, who cares only about himself.

Indeed, the great majority of your "endorsement" was filled with Kool-Aid references to Trump, whom you characterize as a kind of savior. In reality, his four years in office have made America a much weaker democracy and a laughingstock across the world. With his lack of decency, his egomania, and his authoritarian tendencies, the U.S. could well become a full-blown banana republic if he wins a second term.

Trump will likely carry the dubious mantle of being a colossal loser as a president: a corrupt huckster, a demagogue without shame, a sham populist who fooled the middle class and lavishly promoted corporate welfare while forgetting the poor. He has been, by far, the most incompetent executive in our history. In short, your "endorsement" is yet another prime example of how vapid, distorted journalism can actually serve to de-educate the public into blindly accepting "fake news." But now more of us know what Trump is really like, and many of us don't like him at all.

*Joseph L. DeVitis
Leonardtown, MD*

The Troubled Spirits

To the Editor:

Every year the Sotterley Plantation has a family friendly program of ghosts for Halloween, but there is a different story that rarely gets told about the real ghosts and haunting spirits at that old slave plantation.

To get the real experience then a person must go far into that property nearer to the waterfront where the African people suffered and toiled and died, because there is where the haunted spirits dwell. A haunting ghost rarely happens in a mansion house where the white masters had no real passion and never did a day's work in their entire life - no, those people would hardly ever rise from the dead, but many of the Africans were simple people who could not

comprehend why they were being hated, why they got whipped, why their women got raped, or even why they were killed or enslaved, which many people today still cannot understand, and those people are the kind who cannot rest in their grave - if any were even given a grave?

When I was younger, around 1973, I worked on the Sotterley farm in the back fields, so as a farmhand I found out about the troubled spirits which still haunt that property ever after, and yet that truth will never be a part of the family friendly Halloween event at that slavery plantation.

*James Cusick
Hollywood, MD.*

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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

No Flight Fatalities in Navy or Marine Corps Milestone

By Amy Robinson
Naval Safety Center Safety Promotions

For the first time in recorded naval aviation history, the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps closed out the previous fiscal year without a single aviation-related fatality in either service.

Even though U.S. naval aviation began in 1910, historical recordkeeping on mishaps — including aviation-related fatalities — did not begin until 1922, meaning this is the first time in nearly a century — and most likely the first time ever, that the services achieved this milestone.

“After 98 years of recorded aviation history, this unprecedented milestone serves as testimony to the Naval Aviation Enterprise’s tireless commitment toward fostering a safety culture of excellence,” said Rear Adm. F.R. “Lucky” Luchtman, Naval Safety Center (NAVSAFECEN) commander.

Capt. Scott Kramarik, NAVSAFECEN’s director of aviation safety programs, said there are a number of factors that contributed to the milestone — first, and foremost he attributes the success to the training and commitment of aviators

across the fleet.

“It’s a remarkable achievement that’s really the result of years of training, proficiency and adopting a good safety culture,” he said. “Without that, there’s no way we could’ve gotten here.”

In addition to training, Cmdr. Roger Leech, head of the aviation operations division at NAVSAFECEN, provided additional insight on the magnitude of collective actions and number of decisions made to reach such a milestone.

“Obviously it’s a fantastic achievement and something that has to be attributed to the combined efforts of thousands of individuals, and really, hundreds of thousands — or millions — of decisions that people make,” Leech said. “It’s a record that will continue only as long as everybody in aggregate continues to do the right thing.”

Second to the combined efforts across the fleet, Kramarik credits NAVSAFECEN for providing continuous support and assistance. Of note, he said he believes the center’s change in its approach to data collection, data dissemination, and safety assurance is starting to pay off, which may also have contributed

to the first year ever without a single aviation-related fatality in the Navy and Marine Corps.

“Process improvement and information sharing are essential to a healthy Safety Management System,” he said. “We’re really trying to help share the lessons learned and best practices that we’ve seen throughout the fleet with the other squadrons. I think that slowly, over time, our approach has also influenced the culture of safety in the squadrons.”

Kramarik also acknowledged that the 10% reduction in flying hours due to COVID-19 may have contributed to the milestone; however, that reduction did not eliminate the flight risk completely, since both services continued to perform approximately 90% of their missions.

As the fleet and NAVSAFECEN continue to focus on fiscal year 2021, Kramarik said he hopes the virtual and data-based services can also continue to reduce preventable mishaps; however, he’s also concerned about the restrictions that COVID-19 has put on NAVSAFECEN’s ability to provide in-person support by traveling to units across the fleet.

“This achievement is the next stepping stone and from here, we drive the mishap numbers even lower,” he said. “It would be great to have another fatality-free year and continue to eliminate the preventable mishaps, but I would say that for us to successfully do that would require us to be able to travel again to fulfill our safety assurance mission.”

Although NAVSAFECEN’s ability to provide in-person assessments and assistance this year will largely depend on a number of factors outside the center’s control, it will continue to provide as much support as possible.

And as NAVSAFECEN continues to provide support to the fleet, Luchtman, who is proud to recognize warfighters for last year’s significant achievement, urges the fleet not to let its guard down.

“We must remain laser-focused on the mission and approach all tasks with a ‘team’ over ‘me’ concept,” he said. “Safety is readiness, and we will continue to share lessons learned and best practices to support a safety culture of excellence across all warfare communities.”



An EA-18G Growler, assigned to the Cougars of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 139, flies over the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, Sept. 25.

A View From The BLEACHERS

Farewell, Beast



By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

30 October 2019: An ace pitched on guts and guile, a cagey veteran launched a home run off the foul pole, an unheralded mid-season acquisition closed out the game and Max Scherzer, Howie Kendrick, Daniel Hudson and the Washington Nationals won the World Series. It seems like yesterday in some respects, years ago in others. Either way, it is an heirloom from a different reality.

Every New Year's Eve, my family does a year in review (much to my children's chagrin). We talk about our trips, accomplishments, experiences and obstacles overcome. The tone and topics will be quite different this year. The list will include many things that didn't happen – vacations, school plays, band concerts and sporting events; those that did – wildfires, George Floyd's murder, nationwide protests and the local Isaias floods – will be difficult to revisit.

Certainly, nothing has been normal in the world of sports. The year has been marked by long pauses in play, bubble cities, abbreviated regular seasons, rescheduled games and weekly COVID outbreaks. Our World Champion Nats didn't get to take a final bow in front of a packed house at Nationals Park. With all the fits and starts, empty stadiums, cardboard cut-outs, injuries and opt-outs, the Nats' 2020 season, which was supposed to be their victory lap, doesn't feel like it happened at all.

Then COVID took another shot at D.C. sports. It was easy to miss amidst the chaos of life, election madness and a historically packed sports calendar – former Capitals goalie Braden Holtby signed a two-year, \$8.6M free agent deal with the Vancouver Canucks.

"Former Capitals goalie" - that was hard to type.

There are two sports photos gracing the walls in my man-loft. Together they capture the biggest single plays in D.C. pro sports history (or at least in my lifetime). The first is a painting of John Riggins's famous 4th down run in Super Bowl XVII. The second is Holtby's improbable...impossible before he did it...late third period save against Alex Tuch of the Vegas Golden Knights to preserve a one-goal lead and ultimately secure a Game 2 win in the Stanley Cup Finals. The

Caps, on the verge of being down 0-2 before Holtby's save, went on to win four consecutive games and hoist the franchise's first Stanley Cup.

I attended a Caps game several years ago and the give-away was a "Holtbeast" figurine, a Teen Wolf-ish version of Holtby. It was a goofy promo, but Holtby deserved the overdue plug. On a team where Alexander Ovechkin understandably dominates the headlines, Holtby, who quietly manned the pipes for the Caps for a decade, and did tireless charity work for the LGBTQ community, was an underappreciated star.

Now just over two years after winning the Stanley Cup, salary cap constraints and a talented understudy – G Ilya Samsonov – have ended Holtby's incredible run in Washington. Unfortunately, the curtain fell on Holtby's decorated Capitals career in a Toronto bubble, in front of no fans and with a team that had lost its way under now former head coach Todd Reirden. Holtby deserved so much more.

The last few months have been a humbling journey. There is so much that I assumed would remain static or predictable components of life's tempo – flawed pre-COVID thinking...suspect I'm in good company. I did not give Holtby's decade of steadiness, reliability, decency and character its due. Now he's Vancouver's prize.

One day, post-COVID (that world exists, right?), the Holtbeast will return to a standing ovation at Capital One Arena. The adulations won't come when or how they should have. But what else has happened on-plan with the naïve, no-globe-trotting-pathogen schedule spun in our minds these days?

When we emerge from this fog, I suspect that the present will be appreciated for its fragility and that the future will be assumed wrought with variables. If that means players like Holtby, and once routine events like attending hockey games with 20,000 "friends" are celebrated with a bit more enthusiasm, then something good will have been salvaged from this sordid chapter in history.

What will remain a sour memory is Holtby's departure - and the Holtbeast figurine offers little consolation.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

The Tackle Box Fishing Report



Byron Smith and his 26 inch rockfish from the Patuxent near the Benedict Bridge.



Bob Bradley and his 10 and one half inch perch.

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

The cold and wind of Fall came through on Sunday reminding us all that winter is coming. Our prime fish now will be the striped bass that we here in southern Maryland call rockfish.

The bay and rivers have plenty of rockfish for everyone, but they can play hide and seek on some days.

The Patuxent has had a good run of fish from Sheridan Point to St. Leonard's Creek for weeks, then the fish moved south to Gatton's Bar all the way to Hawk's nest. A troller ventured out on Sunday afternoon when wind and rain abated a bit and found plenty

of rock in about 25 feet in front of St. Leonard's Creek. There were good fish caught at Drum Point too on Sunday. Live liners are using up the last of the summer spot and doing very well off Second Beach and in Cedar Point Hollow. Live eels work like a charm, too.

The bay has rockfish from the Targets to Point No Point and at 72 and 72A.

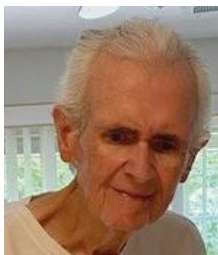
The Potomac has the fish on the Virginia side one day and the Maryland side the next. Good days has the fish hitting trolled lures from Herring Creek to St. George Island. There are some bigger fish in Cornfield Harbor. The annual breaking fish bonanza off Vero Beach should start soon.

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The County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to guyleonard@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

In Remembrance

Thomas Gene "Tom" Rance, Jr.



Thomas Gene "Tom" Rance, Jr., 70, of California, MD and formerly from Los Angeles, CA, Logansport, IN and Grand Haven, MI, passed away on

October 3, 2020 at Washington Hospital Center.

Born August 31, 1950 in Grandhaven, MI, he was the son of the late Thomas Gene Rance, Sr. and Betty (Allen) Rance Wrosch.

Tom worked in sales and services for a printing and bindery for many years and then worked in various sales positions throughout his career. He loved boating and all sports and volunteered at the Calvert Marine Museum.

Tom is survived by his wife, Fredda Rance; his brother, Richard Rance (Debby) of OK, Bruce Chase (Janice) of MA; and several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews. In addition to his parents, he

was preceded in death by his sister, Victoria Rance Cooper; and his stepfather, Leo Wrosch.

All arrangements are private.

Memorial contributions may be made to Make a Wish, Gift Processing, 1702 East Highland Avenue, Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85016 or the American Diabetes Association, Attn: Service Center, P.O. Box 7023, Merrified, VA 22116-7023 or a charity of one's choice.

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

Norman Alexander Pilkerton Jr,



Norman Alexander Pilkerton Jr, age 81 of Loveville, MD passed away on October 24, 2020 at St. Mary's Nursing Home in Leonardtown MD. Norman was born on

November 17, 1938 in Leonardtown, Maryland to the late Norman Alexander Pilkerton Sr. and Agnes Ruth

Pilkerton of Compton. Norman was the loving husband of the late Mary Blanche Pilkerton whom he married on May 14th, 1960 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Morganza, MD. They were married for 58 years.

Norman is survived by his brothers and sisters, Marion Mills, Marie Garner, Lawrence Pilkerton, Louise Jones, Kathleen Davis, Arthur Pilkerton, Edward Pilkerton, Eleanor Bailey and Rosemary Wallace.

He is also survived by his four children, Jeffrey Pilkerton (Sandy) of Loveville, Wayne Pilkerton (Jenny) of Clements, Allan Pilkerton (Nancy) of Mechanicsville and Wanda Jones (Mark) of California MD. As well as his 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Norman took great pride in each of his children and taught them the meaning of hard work and was very proud of that.

Norman graduated from Margaret Brent High School in 1956 and was Valedictorian of his class.

Norman loved music and enjoyed playing guitar with the band The Music Makers. Norman also had a love for tractors and farming. Norman worked several farms in Compton including Newtown Neck Farm and Bill Bailey's. He also enjoyed camping, watching TV and having a cold Budweiser.

Norman was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He worked for the St. Mary's County Sheriff's office as a 911 emergency dispatcher for 34 years retiring in 2001. During his 34 years, Norman could be heard broadcasting on Christmas Eve that Santa Claus had arrived in St. Mary's County. Norman enjoyed being a 911 dispatcher and had numerous stories about the calls he received. Norman also worked for St. Mary's County Public Schools as a school bus contractor for over 30 years. He also worked part-time for Towne Florist and Kenny's Flowers. Norman was a member of the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department for twelve years. When Norman was a teenager, he was a member of the only Medical Ambulance that serviced the entire county. He was also a life time member of the Blue Crabs camping group. He and Mary Blanche loved being members of the Blue Crabs and went on several camping trips over the years.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM in the Mattingley Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD where a Funeral Service will be held at 10:30 AM in the Funeral Chapel with Father Keith Woods officiating. Interment will follow at Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD. Pallbearers will be his grandsons; John Allan Pilkerton, Cody Pilkerton, David Pilkerton, Jeremy Pilkerton, Christopher Jones, Tyler Jones and Adam Ragan. Hon-

orary Pallbearers will be his granddaughters; Amanda Wood, Lexie Pilkerton and Samantha Ragan.

In lieu of flowers Memorial contributions can be made to Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650 or ACTS, P.O. Box 54, Bushwood, MD 20618.

Leary Jay Gatton



Leary Jay Gatton, 55, of Hollywood, MD died peacefully at home on October 23, 2020. He was born on April 12, 1965 in Washington, DC. The son of Virginia Mont-

gomery Gatton of Hollywood, MD and the late Jesse Gatton of Hollywood, MD. Jay was the loving husband of Teri Gatton, whom he married on May 18, 1998. Jay is survived by his daughter Jessica King (Kevin) of White Plains, MD, 2 grandchildren Allison and McKenzie King. Siblings Bobby Gatton, Jesse Gatton, Jimmy Gatton, and Ronnie Gatton all of St. Mary's County, MD. Cousins Steve Gatton (Chrissy), Alex Gatton, Jocelyn Gatton, Susie Clements (Danny), Jo Ann Gatton Demko (Vic) and Terry Gatton all of Hollywood, MD. He was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident.

Jay was a loving devoted husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend. He deeply enjoyed exploring the country with his wife Teri. Jay loved to make people laugh and would always lend a helping hand to others. He led a successful career owning and operating Gatton's Auto Service, where he loved restoring his classic cars. His other hobbies included car shows, biking, hiking, beach trips and being an avid Harley rider.

Jesus Vincent "JV" Ver Acuesa




Jesus Vincent "JV" Ver Acuesa, 50 of California, MD, formerly of San Diego, CA, passed away on October 19, 2020 at home.

Vinnie was born on September 6, 1970 in Quezon City, Philippines to Rosita Acuesa Ver of the Philippines.

Vinnie proudly served in the U.S. Navy as a Captain's Cook, from March 8, 1999 to his honorable discharge on December 26, 2006. Dur-



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ing his time in the Navy he traveled across globe, falling in love with the Mediterranean area. He married Michael on February 20, 2014 in New Jersey. He was a talented chef and made the most delicious Sinigang. He loved tending to his flower and vegetable gardens which he harvested all of his own produce for his recipes. Vinnie enjoyed shopping for designer clothing and all the latest tech gadgets. He enjoyed being outdoors whether it be along the shoreline or strolling through the Farmer's Market. He cherished spending time with his family and friends and his two dogs, Pollux and Romulus.

Vinnie is survived by his husband, Michael; his mother, Rosita Acuesa; his sister, Elnore Truscott, of San Diego, CA; his aunt, Ellen Acuesa, of San Diego, CA; his adopted parents, Norbert & Eloisa Acuesa, of San Diego, CA; and his uncle and aunt Bernie and Jeannette. He was preceded in death by his sister, Catherine Acuesa and uncle, Sonny.

Interment will be held at Miramar National Cemetery, CA, at a date to be determined.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Willis Rehberg Fleming



Willis Rehberg Fleming, son of Elizabeth Rehberg Fleming and William Fleming, brother of Phyllis Fleming Falcao and Miriam Fleming Johnson, died

on October 20, 2020 at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

Born in Aberdeen, South Dakota, Willis grew up in Ellendale, North Dakota before moving with family to the Washington, D.C. area, where he worked at the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission as a draftsman. He earned a BS in Music and taught at Faulkton High School in South Dakota. He served as a Navy Ensign in the Korean War and was Division Officer on the U.S.S. Cape Esperance, earning the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

His life was notable for his kindness, gratitude, and love of music, especially "big band" swing tunes.

He is survived by nieces Joan, Pat, Betty, Ronnie and Linda Falcao, Gloria Dodd, Carol Young, and Terri Bernaz, and nephews Larry, Bill, and Louis Johnson; 20 great-nieces and -nephews; and 25 great-great-nieces and -nephews. His memory is a blessing, and he will be sorely missed by

all who knew him.

A Mass of Christian Burial at St. Helena Catholic Church and burial in Ellendale, North Dakota will take place when circumstances permit.

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

Suzanne Henderson Hall



Suzanne Henderson Hall, 75, of Gulf Breeze, FL (formerly of Leonardtown, MD) passed away peacefully at hospice on October 17, 2020 after a short but

courageous battle with Stage 4 colon cancer.

She was born on September 10, 1945 in Washington, DC to the late Joseph Henderson and Suzanne (Smith) Henderson.

Suzanne ran her family's business, Southern Maryland Supply, in Leonardtown until it was sold in 1994. She continued working in the plumbing supply business until her retirement in Florida in 2009. After retirement, she loved to keep busy and enjoyed volunteering for several organizations including Panhandle Butterfly Home and Pensacola Humane Society. The love she had for God's creatures was evident in the way she rescued strays. She knew with a little love and caring all animals could make wonderful pets.

A beautiful, kind and loving woman, she was adored and loved by her family and friends. Her many friends and tenants from over the years tell stories of how Suzanne made a lasting impact on their lives by lending a helping hand or a caring ear during difficult times in their life.

The light of Suzanne's life were her three grandchildren. She loved teaching them about butterflies and taking them to the beach to hunt for the perfect seashell. Suzanne's last words were to tell each child individually how much she loved them.

If you knew Suzanne, you know a special woman has left us behind, but if you see a butterfly flutter past, know she is close by and her love is everlasting.

Suzanne is survived by her daughter, Jennifer Turney (Bryan) of Greenville, SC and three (3) grandchildren, Amelia Grace, Emmeline and Andrew. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 45 years, Hugh, brother, John Henderson and aunt, Dorothy Asbury.

The family will receive friends for Suzanne's Life Celebration on Friday, October 30, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. with a Funeral Service on 10:00 a.m., October 30, 2020, officiated by Rev. Greg Syler at Brinsfield

Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will be held immediately following at Christ Church, 3100 Broomes Island Road, Port Republic, MD 20676.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you make a donation to the Pensacola Humane Society <https://www.pensacolahumane.org/> or Covenant Hospice Care <https://www.choossecovenant.org/donate-now/>.

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

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

Dr. Patricia Ann Wilson



Dr. Patricia Ann Wilson, 87, passed on to her eternal rest in the early hours of Thursday, October 22, 2020.

She was born Patricia Ann Sullivan on June 11, 1933 in Annapolis, MD to RADM Dennis J. Sullivan, USN (Ret.) and Helen Desmond Gallagher.

As part of a Navy family, she grew up in many places, including Panama, but she most fondly remembered Coronado, CA as her home. She graduated from Coronado High School ('50) and went on to Trinity College, now Trinity Washington University, (BA '55) and Johns Hopkins University (Ph.D. '70).

Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Doctor of Philosophy, Teacher, Volunteer, and Friend, Dr Wilson served in many roles throughout her life. She met her husband, Dr. Christopher Wilson, Sr. while they were both doctoral students at Johns Hopkins, she in Chemistry and he in Physics. They married on August 30, 1969 and settled in St. Mary's County in 1971 after completing their degrees. Patricia spent nearly 30 years as a physics teacher at Great Mills High School. In addition to her teaching career, she dedicated great time and energy to family and charitable outreach. She was also an active member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary parish.

She is survived by her sons Mizell Wilson and Dr. Christopher Wilson, Jr. along with her eldest brother Dennis J. Sullivan, Jr. She has one granddaughter, Isadora Ann. She follows into the eternal life her husband, her parents, and her brothers, Vincent Sullivan and Michael Sullivan.

Arrangements are being handled through Brinsfield Funeral Home. In Lieu of Flowers, please make donations in Patricia's name to the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (www.sndden.org).

Funeral Mass is on Wednesday,

October 28th at 11am at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church with the Burial Procession to follow at noon. Viewing will proceed the Mass starting at 10am.

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

Mary Anne Hammett



Mary Anne Hammett, 89 of Valley Lee, MD passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, October 22, 2020 surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on March 21, 1931 in Leonardtown, MD to the late John Stephen Lynch Sr. and Rose Helena Aud.

Seventy years ago on January 26, 1950 she married her high school sweetheart (and "hunk" as she called him) Orem at St. George Catholic Church. They were in the process of building their present home when he was called to duty in Korea. He still remembers being on the roof and seeing her running down the field crying with his deployment papers in her hand. They wasted no time starting a family upon his return and their small home was continuously enlarged.

Mary Anne loved her family, friends and church. She spent her life giving to others. Known to her grandchildren as Pom, she made each feel as if he or she was her favorite.

Mary Anne delivered Meals on Wheels for over 45 years and was a member of the Valley Lee Homemakers Club which played Bingo with the residents of the St. Mary's Nursing Home for over 20 years. She attended daily Mass at St. George Catholic Church. Mary Anne was a gifted artist, an avid reader, a great cook, and an amazing gardener.

In her younger years she and Orem traveled throughout the United States (mainly to escape their growing brood) and later with them. She and her sisters traveled to Lourdes, France; Fatima, Portugal; Knock, Ireland and Bermuda, UK.

Mary Anne is survived by her husband, Alfred Orem Hammett Sr. of Valley Lee, MD; children: Deborah Olsen Ford (Dale) of California, MD; Alfred Orem "Rocky" Hammett Jr. of Valley Lee, MD; David Hammett (Lucy) of Valley Lee, MD; and Laura Hammett of Drayden, MD; siblings: Robert Lynch (Janice) of Valley Lee, MD; Margaret Bridgewater of Leonardtown, MD; Virginia Royston (Joe) of Valley Lee, MD; sister-in-law Dolores Lynch of Compton, MD; grandchildren: Tabitha Geary-Tate (Jason), Nathan Edinger (Casey), Brian Hammett, Crissy Herron (Justin), Chad

The County Times runs complimentary obituaries as submitted by funeral homes and readers. We run them in the order we receive them. Any submissions that come to gyleonard@countytimes.net after noon on Mondays may run in the following week's edition.

In Remembrance

Olsen (Emily), Ashley Hammett, Lauren Oliver (Nick), Brady Quigg, Colin Quigg and Mary-Beth Heindel (Zach); great-grandchildren: Michael Geary, Jonathan Geary, Christian Geary, Morgan Geary, Bella Geary, Ainsley Tate, McConnell Tate, Blake Edinger, Kobe Edinger, Sasha Edinger, Tori Edinger, Aiden Edinger, Eva Olsen, Benjamin Olsen, Kelley Hammett, Melanie Hammett, Brooke Hammett, Natalie Hammett, Bradley Harmon, Jenna-Dee Heindel, Bentley Heindel, Camden Oliver, Lily Hill, Madison Herron, Henley Herron, Scarlett Herron; and a grand-dog, Bailey who comforted her during her final illness.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her daughter, (Carol) Annette Quigg; her sister, Olive Belle Gagliano; brothers, John Stephen Lynch Jr. and Thomas Eugene Lynch; daughter-in-law, Linda Hammett, son-in-law, Rick Quigg; and grandson-in-law, Matthew Geary.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in memory of her daughter Annette Quigg may be mailed to the National Brain Tumor Society, 55 Chapel Street, Suite 200, Newton, MA 02458.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Dorene Ruth Friend

Dorene Ruth Friend, 83 of Lexington Park, MD, passed away on October 20, 2020 at her daughter's home with her loving family at her side.

Dorene was born on November 12, 1936 in California to the late Vernon Preston and Ruth Davey Preston.

She was employed at McKay's Food Store as a Sales Specialist for many years helping customers at the store. Dorene was an avid bowler and a member of the 600 club. She loved to live life to the fullest. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dorene is survived by her children: Lisa Ruth Krall (Daniel) of Lexington Park, MD, Denise Louise Dorman (Dave) of Oceanside, CA and Kim Friend of Paradise, CA; 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Carl Preston.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Stephen Michael Patterson



Stephen Michael Patterson, 55, of California, MD passed away on October 17, 2020 with his loving family at his side.

Stephen was born on July 17, 1965, at Washington Hospital Center to Charles Michael Patterson and Sarah Anne Turner Patterson of California, MD. Jesus called him home from the Hospice House of St. Mary's in Callaway, MD

Stephen was a 1989 graduate of the University of Maryland. He served as a Legislative Aide in the Maryland House of Delegates. He was very Patriotic and Political. He enjoyed Bible studies and listening to Ravi Zacharias and other theologians and pastors. Stephen sang and played guitar with his teacher Russ Miller.

He played Little League Baseball, High School Soccer and Track at Calvert Christian School. He enjoyed playing tennis and golf with his Dad and Grandad, Charles Patterson. He spent happy hours hunting and fishing with his Dad and maternal Pop, Bernard Turner. He loved family times with his Grandmother Betty Patterson's elegant meals and his Nana Evona Turner's family feasts.

During his teen years, his home was filled with his and his sister, Andrea Patterson Mikkola's friends. A highlight was his surprise sixteenth birthday with friends from Calvert and St. Mary's Counties, Bill Greene, Chris Staley, and others. He and his friends played guitar, a favorite was Jim Croce's "Time in A Bottle", Amazing Grace and other hymns and choruses.

Stephen was seriously injured in a car accident on September 27, 2001 near the entrance to the Thomas Johnson Bridge to Solomon's. Three Rescue Squads took him out of the car with the "jaws of life." He was transferred by helicopter to the Prince George's Shock Trauma Hospital. He suffered from his injuries both at home and at Taylor Farm Assisted Living for many years.

In November 2018, Stephen was attacked by a long-term illness. He valiantly fought the good fight with chemotherapy and weekly blood transfusions. Many awesome friends helped with his transportation and hospital visits. We appreciate all those who have visited and helped Stephen, especially the many health workers and caregivers.

In addition to his loving parents, Stephen is survived by his sister, Sarah Andrea Mikkola (David) of Collierville, TN; his nephew, Joshua Mikkola; his nieces: Sarah-Ashley

Mikkola and Rachel Mikkola; his aunt, Margaret Patterson Morris (Jerry) of Black Mountain, NC, his cousins, Jill and Jason Golden and Rachael Patterson; and many extended family and friends.

His family will receive friends for Stephen's Life Celebration on Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., with a Funeral Service at 4:00 p.m. celebrated by Reverend Adam Polk, at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. The service will be live streamed via the Brinsfield website bfh@brinsfieldfuneral.com, Interment will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Kings Christian Academy, 20738 Point Lookout Road, Callaway, MD 20620.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe?" John 11:25-26

John Francis Fenwick, M.D.



John Francis Fenwick, M.D. passed away at age 87 on Friday, October 16, 2020 at Hospice House of St. Mary's. He was born at Hanover Farm, Leonard-

town, MD; the middle of five (5) children of Cuthbert Ignatius and Hilda Martin Fenwick. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by two (2) brothers, Cuthbert I. Fenwick, Jr. and James Barron Fenwick.

He was a student at Our Lady's three-room schoolhouse in Medley's Neck; one of eight (8) classmates graduating in 1947.

After being class president for both his junior and senior years, he graduated from St. Mary's Academy co-ed high school in 1951. He was always late to school.

Attending Mt. St. Mary's College (now University), he pitched on the varsity baseball team. He graduated, cum-laude, with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1955.

His interest in science led him to being enrolled at St. Louis University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. He attained his Doctorate of Medicine degree in 1959. He then continued his studies for one (1) year as an intern at District of Columbia General Hospital.

On July 10, 1960, John joined the United States Navy at Pensacola, FL. He became a Naval Medical Corps

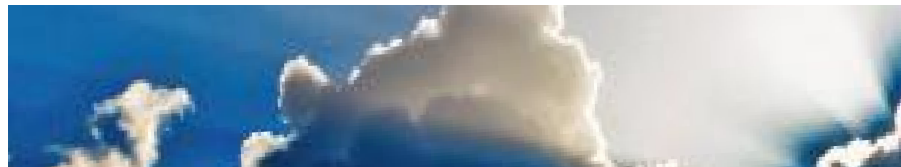
Flight Surgeon. While there, he learned to fly soloing a T34 aircraft. Now a full Lieutenant he received his choice of orders. He then became attached to Marine Attack Squadron 242, Marine Aircraft Group 14, Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, Atlantic, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina. He accompanied his squadron on all their deployments including the Cuban Crisis. All this time, he was still practicing medicine at airbase station hospital.

After military discharge, Dr. Fenwick returned to his native Southern Maryland. He was granted privileges at St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD and began his family physician practice of 46 years in early 1963. With only twelve (12) doctors on staff at the hospital at the time, Dr. John set many bones, delivered over 1,000 babies, continued to apply his skills as a flight surgeon providing flight physicals for pilots and made house calls until his retirement in early 2009. He set up and was the director of the first intensive care unit in St. Mary's County. During his time of practice, he was physician to the staff and students at St. Mary's College of Maryland Health Center and served as Assistant Medical Director of Hospice of St. Mary's for twelve (12) years. Dr. Fenwick was a caring and devoted doctor to the art of medicine, which he always enjoyed.

On July 9th, 1960, John married Elizabeth Lynn "Bee" Cowan at Holy Innocents Catholic Church in St. Louis, Missouri. They resided in Leonardtown, MD most of their 60 years of marriage. They became parents to 2 children; Dr. Lynn Mary Fenwick Buhler - D.V.M. (Tim) and John Kidd Fenwick (Susan - deceased). John was very proud of his 4 grandchildren and their achievements; Kristin Michele McDaniel (Chris), Erin Lynn Buhler, Ryan Kidd Fenwick (Kristin) and John Andrew Fenwick.

Dr. Fenwick is survived by his wife, 2 children and 4 grandchildren all of Leonardtown, MD; a sister Hilda E. (Dolly) Woodburn of Huntingtown, MD and his brother, Norbert Martin Fenwick (Teresa) of Reisterstown, MD.

John joined the Knights of Columbus at age 18 and remained active his entire life belonging to Knights of Columbus Council 1470, Leonardtown, MD. He was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Leonardtown. Dr. Fenwick had served as Chief of Staff and on the Hospital Foundation Board at St. Mary's Hospital. He was a devout Catholic with deep and abiding faith and served in many capacities over the years as a member of Our Lady's Church in Medley's Neck. He was always interested in local history and enjoyed the Historical Society of St. Mary's County. As a pilot he was a member of the Airplane Owners and



Pilots Association (A.O.P.A.).

Not only was Dr. Fenwick a dedicated physician, he had many and varied talents. He was an avid reader and liked to cook and bake. He enjoyed being on his boat, fishing, crabbing and oystering. He hunted quail, duck and geese. John liked to farm and he had a very productive vegetable garden. Also, he grew grapes and always had a cellar full of his homemade wine (mostly dinner wines). He was a woodworker, making furniture from wood he cut and cured himself. He could repair and install just about anything around the house – plumbing or electrical. As an accomplished pilot of his 4-seater Cessna airplane, he installed a F.A.A. approved runway at his “Nun’s Oak” farm. All animals were dear to him, especially dogs and horses. He liked going to the racetrack and at one time, along with his wife Bee, bred West German Trakehner horses, standing their 16-hand stallion, Magnet, at “Nun’s Oak” farm. John was also a very good dancer. He worked hard at being a good golfer, his very favorite pastime. John Francis Fenwick was truly a renaissance man with a very broad area of knowledge.

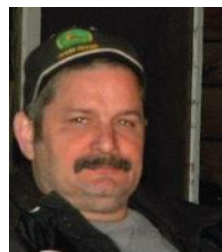
Dr. John was a gentle, soft spoken, humble and kind man. He was a loving husband, wonderful father and grandfather, a great doctor and a loyal and true friend. In many respects, he was a rare breed in today’s world.

Due to the pandemic, a very private funeral will be held at Our Lady’s Catholic Church, Leonardtown, MD. Celebrant will be Reverend John Nguyen and Deacon Ammon Ripple officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Marty Barley, Paul Gorman, John McFadden, Sonny Copsey, Jim Kenney, Tom Norris. Honorary Pallbearers will be Al Gough, Bob Greenwell, Bob Blakney, Oz Kurt, Tom Skundrich.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Our Lady’s Catholic Church, 41348 Medley’s Neck Rd., Leonardtown, MD 20650; Hospice House of St. Mary’s, PO Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650; Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, PO Box 299, Leonardtown, MD 20650, Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Michael “Mike” Wayne Bollen



Michael “Mike” Wayne Bollen, 57, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on October 15, 2020.

Born on July

19, 1963 in North Carolina, he was the son of the late Bobby Joseph Bollen and Pamela A. Bollen (Taylor).

After graduating high school, Mike went on to work as a Printer. He spent his time doing the things he loved most, which often included the outdoors. Mike could be found out on the water boating and fishing from dawn until dusk. Mike’s lawn was never out of place. He took great pride in his yard and was always caring for it to make sure that it was at its best. He never got tired of being out in nature and he loved to ride his ATVs and spend time with his dog, Brandy, who was like family to him and he loved dearly.

Mike is survived by his dog and best friend, Brandy Bollen, his brothers: Robert Bollen and Steven Bollen, his sister, Linda D’Antonio of Hughesville, MD and his close friends, Walter Leroy “Lee” Hands of Mechanicsville, MD, Charlie Morris and Theresa Morris.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Larry Bollen.

All services will be private.

Sandra Louise Harris



Sandra Louise Harris, 62, of Scotland, MD, passed away on October 15, 2020 at Doctor’s Community Hospital in Lanham, MD.

She was born in Washington State to the late

Charles Ake and Tomiko Okamoto Ake.

Sandra married her husband, Martin Charles Harris on November 28, 1979 in Frederick, MD and they have spent over 40 years happily married. She enjoyed playing bingo and trivia games. She was a great cook. She loved shopping at small business owned shops Traveling was something she enjoyed doing along with meeting new people. She especially loved spending time with her grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, October 30, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Michael’s Catholic Church, 16566 Three Notch Rd., Ridge, MD 20680.

Sandra is survived by her husband Martin and her daughters, Deana Lake of San Diego, CA and Jacqueline Harris of Scotland, MD; 4 grandchildren; and her brother Jimmy Ake. She is preceded in death by her parents and her sister Ruby Bradley.

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

FIVE REASONS NOT TO HAVE A WILL OR A TRUST

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

Hello to all of you procrastinators out there. Another year has almost passed and you have still not taken steps to protect yourself and your family with a will or a trust. Why not? Here are the five most common reasons:

1. I’m Never Going To Die:

Clearly, the first reason not to have a will or a trust is unrealistic. The saying is “nobody is getting out of this alive.” In spite of this, it is amazing how many people put off creating a will or a trust because they are afraid. They think planning for a will or a trust will cause them anxiety about their own death. The easy solution to this problem is to think about creating a will or a trust to protect the people you love. You do not have to face your own death to create a will or a trust, just focus on how you want to protect those you care about. Without a will or a trust, they are defenseless. And, young or old, almost all of us have loved ones we want to protect. Even if we are elderly and alone and do not have any loved ones, many of us want to create a legacy for the charities we care about. If we are young and have children, we are already involved in protecting them. Without a will or a trust, your children could very well end up in foster care when you die. Having children means taking steps to protect them. What good is funding their college education if you have not created a mechanism to distribute your property to them upon your death? How are you helping?

2. I Have No Estate:

How about the excuse that you have no estate to protect? Do you have a home? A car, a boat? A bank account? Personal property like furniture, jewelry? All of that becomes part of your estate. If you don’t make plans to distribute your property in a will or a trust, the state will decide for you.

3. Everything Is In Joint Name With My Spouse Or Child:

I have heard the excuse that everything is in joint name so there is no reason to have a will or a trust. And, it is the case that if property is titled in joint name with right of survivorship, upon the death of one person, the joint owner takes all the property. The excuse is common with spouses. The problem is, of course, spouses often travel together. There are no assurances that both spouses will not die together—if they do, then what? You’re back in the same position without a will or a trust—letting the state decide where your property will go. And, what if your property is titled as “tenants in common” not as joint tenants with right of survivorship? In that case, each of you owns 50% of the property so if one dies without a will, the property will not go automatically to the other but instead the state will decide where 50% of the property will go. By the way, please check the title to your property so you know how it is held.

Many people I talk to think that putting their child on the deed to their property solves their problem about not having a will or a trust. But, there are tax and other consequences of doing this. Let’s say you bought a house for \$50,000 and market value is now \$100,000. If you put your child on the deed now, that child “takes” their interest in the property at the value you paid for the

property, not at market value. That means, if the child sells the property when you die, the child will have to pay capital gains tax on the difference between \$50,000 and \$100,000. If the child takes the property when you die through a will or a trust, however, the child takes the property at market value and when they sell it for \$100,000, no tax is owed. And, there are other reasons not to put your child on your deed. Once you do so, you expose yourself to the child’s creditors. Those creditors may have claims on all the child’s property, including property formerly owned solely by you.

4. It’s Too Expensive:

Have you ever purchased a big screen TV? The average cost of a will is about the same as a big screen TV. Trusts are more expensive but do not require probate. Legal fees for making the probate filings can easily become far more costly than a trust. I know some people are using will forms provided online and a word of caution about those. First, the online services do not provide legal advice. It is one form fits all and if you do not fit into the form, too bad for you. After hundreds of years, certain common language has developed that is used in a will or a trust and expertise is required to use that language. You would not go to a plumber to perform surgery on you. Why trust something as important as your family to chance? Creating a will or a trust is your last act of love and affection for your family. What price can you put on that?

5. My Family Will Take Care Of Everything:

Whoa. The excuse that “my family will take care of everything” is simply not true. It is amazing how many families fight during the probate process, with or without a will. And, I am not talking about fights over huge estates. Otherwise normal families allow themselves to be torn apart arguing over property—without a will or a trust, the arguments can take on epic proportions. “Dad loved me best” and wanted me to have the gun collection, “Mom told me she wanted me to have the diamond ring”. Old wounds re-open, childhood memories come flooding back and family nightmares are common during the probate process. Some people think that the best approach is to leave everything to one child, counting on that child to distribute everything to his or her siblings. Keep in mind that if you leave all your property to one child, that child is under no obligation to share it with siblings even if you specifically put your intention in writing. Even if that child is attentive to your wishes, what if that child has a spouse who wants all the property for themselves? The only way to resolve the situation is to make clear that your property will go to all the children, not just one.

6. The bottom line is protect your loved ones. Make a will or a trust and do it now.

I offer no-charge seminars open to the public that discuss wills, trusts, powers of attorney, living wills and other estate planning topics at 11am on the third Wednesday of every month at my office at 8906 Bay Avenue in North Beach. Give us a call at 301-855-2246 to reserve your spot.

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Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



HAPPY "STRANGE" HALLOWEEN

What a strange sight this morning to see, and hear, a school bus stopping in the foggy morning light. The red, hazy glow from all the flashing lights was eerie. It used to be such a normal sound; hearing the gears shifting down as they reached the intersection at the bottom of the hill. I used to time my morning by the school busses each weekday: 6:30 a.m., time to get Mindy out the first time and get my tea kettle on. 7:20 a.m., time to get Mindy her breakfast, and get the Keurig turned on for my husband. When the bus went back by on the way out it was time for Mindy to go back outside. At the 8 a.m. plus time period it was time to get my husband's toast, his work orders, and then get myself ready for the day. In the afternoons, 3:05 p.m. meant it was time to get dinner thought of or started. Maybe now, I can get my days back on track. Lately, I have been scheduling my mornings by rooster crows, donkey brays, and the cow moos surrounding us – it's a little harder to pinpoint exact times, however.

Another strange sight will be the full moon on Halloween this Saturday. This year I will really be looking for werewolves. But even stranger will be that this will be the first year we haven't set up the Halloween Trails in our paths in the trees out front. We have gone back and forth on this, and who knows what we will feel like on Saturday morning. It has been a nice tradition for the kids in our large neighborhood. I always love seeing the kids come on hay-filled trailers pulled by trucks and tractors.

As of now, we will bring some of our creatures out in the driveway and set up a table with a cauldron of pre-filled Candy bags. It definitely won't be the same. And we won't be having our private family and friends party which usually lasted quite long into the night enjoying the warmth of the firepit and finishing off with S'mores and spirits. I, and friends from church, always enjoyed coming up with lots of great Halloween inspired recipes for the party and also for Halloween church refreshments – sometimes needing three long tables to hold all the food we made. I have folders and maga-



zines filled with Halloween appetizer and drink ideas. I know a few friends that will be missing the annual Halloween Jell-O shooter trays I would make. At some point, we will get through all this and be able to celebrate Halloween, and all holidays and family events again.

The way 2020 has gone so far, especially with the way my year started out, I am a bit nervous about having a nerve block procedure done on my neck next Tuesday in Annapolis, maybe it's because in the paperwork they refer to it as nerve destruction, and also because there are two pages about Living Will/Advance Directives included. The procedure takes just minutes so it will be fine I am sure. YET, it is 2020! I am however, looking forward to being knocked out since under full anesthesia is the only time I get any true sleep. I used to always wake up wanting pizza, not sure if that will still be true. Write me of any good Italian restaurants you know of in Annapolis just in case.

I'll be thinking of our grandkids and all kids this Halloween, hoping they can have a happy, scary, even though very strange, Halloween with their families or at safe events. I am sad that the kids have to miss out on so much in their young lives where even one year can make such a difference. So, I will leave you with a photo of a Halloween Trail/Pinterest recipe creation that we all enjoyed a few years ago in the knowledge that it also about sums up 2020. Hope your Halloween is fun and safe.

To each Years Halloween adventure, Shelby

Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook

St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Friday, October 30

Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID19. Beginning July 17, 2020, Beth Israel Synagogue will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7 PM. Check our website calendar (bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html) for event details.

Saturday, October 31

All Saints' Church Graveyard Tour

All Saints' Church; 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Free admission! Donations to the All Saints' Church Reconstruction Fund will be graciously accepted. Cookies and cider will be for sale. Guides will escort guests (in small or family groups) around the graveyard and point out various locations related to our history. Come meet the "greater congregation" and maybe even some of your family ancestors, not to mention those of friends and neighbors. Tours will last about 10 to 15 minutes. After the tour, people may enter the church to view the progress of the reconstruction. Come learn about the history of graveyards and churches, and why certain customs persist for so many years. Masks and Social Distancing required.

Sunday, November 1

Drive-Thru Breakfast

St. John's Church; 7:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Each meal includes scrambled eggs, hash browns, two sausages, two pieces of bacon, and

three pancakes. Napkins and utensils are available upon request. Cost \$5 per person, \$20 maximum per family. Proceeds to benefit St. John's School, Charitable Society, and CCD Program. Donations encouraged. We are taking preorders (number of meals and time of pick up). Please email Mike Thompson at mikeandbarbarat@gmail.com. To order on-site, simply drive up to St. John's School's main door, where you will order and pay. Then pull ahead to the corner door (between School and Msgr. Harris Center) for pick up. Walkups can order and pay at the Msgr. Harris Center doors.

Tuesday, November 3

Election Day Luncheon

Hollywood Firehouse; 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department will be selling lunches on Election Day. Preorders are encouraged by calling Elaine Quade at 301-373-2695 by October 27th. The Menu includes a Stuffed ham sandwich \$6.00, Chicken salad sandwich \$5.00, Chips \$1.00, Drinks \$1.00.

Tobacco Cessation Program

Online; 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

The Tobacco Cessation Program is

free and that takes place over the course of 8 weeks (weekly 1 hour sessions). Participants learn behavioral modifications, stress management, and other techniques to help them quit using tobacco products. Learn more or register at www.smchd.org/tobacco.

Grief Support Group

Calvary Chapel; 7 p.m.

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. The support group meets weekly. You are welcome to begin attending at any point. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. For more information call the church office and leave a message 301-645-0660 or email us at admin@ccsmd.com.

Wednesday, November 4

LVRSA Fundraiser

Leonardtown Ledos Pizza; 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary is hosting a fundraiser at the Ledos Restaurant in Leonardtown MD. Please call ahead at 301-475-9280 or come by for dine-in or carry-out for some delicious food and support our fundraiser. Please be sure to let your server/cashier know you are there to support the LVRSA fundraiser so we can get credit for your purchase. Thank you! Thank you again for all your help in getting the word out to our community!

CSM Literary Connections

Online; 1 pm. - 3 p.m.

CSM continues its Connections Literary Series this fall with a reading from CSM Professor Emeritus Wayne Karlin during a free and virtual event. In the webinar, Karlin will discuss *A Wolf by the Ears* - his recently released novel that tells the story of thousands of enslaved people from plantations across the Tidewater who rallied to the British side, turning against an American republic that had barred them from the promises of freedom and democracy during the War of 1812. Visit https://www.csmd.edu/calendar/community-events/2020-11-04_connections-wayne-karlin to register.

Wayback Wednesdays

We hope you're loving our weekly video series showing some of the stories that make St. Mary's County's history so unique and interesting. We thought this would be a fun way to bring our closed museums to you while we all keep our social distance. Join us every week for short videos featuring everything from the quirky to the fascinating - tune in! We have several episodes in the playlist! [Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum)

Ongoing

Stuffed Ham Sale

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department; Until Sold Out

Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Get your Thanksgiving ham for \$13 per pound. Only selling 200 pounds total, so place your order. Must pre-order by calling Elaine Quade at 301-373-2695. Pick up will be November 23 from 4-7 p.m. at the main entrance.

Health Department Drive-Thru Flu Vaccine Clinics

The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) is partnering with St. Mary's County Public Schools to offer free drive-thru flu vaccine clinics for children (ages 3 - 18 years) at the locations listed below. Children must be residents of St. Mary's County though they do not need to be enrolled in the public school system. Advance registration is required at www.marylandvax.org in order to ensure adequate vaccine supply:

Great Mills High School
Monday, October 26, 2020
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Leonardtown High School
Tuesday, October 27, 2020
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Chopticon High School
Wednesday, October 28, 2020
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Spring Ridge Middle School
Thursday, October 29, 2020
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

SMCHD is also partnering with Med-Star St. Mary's Hospital for additional drive-thru flu vaccine clinics for both children and adults as outlined below:

Medstar St. Mary's Hospital
Outpatient Pavilion in Leonardtown;
Saturday, October 17, 2020

East Run Center in Lexington Park: Friday, October 23, 2020
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Children ages 3 - 18 are free (funded through SMCHD)

Adults over the age of 18 are requested to provide a \$10 donation

Participants receiving vaccine are asked to please:

Follow directional signage
Stay in your vehicle - Clinic staff will come to you

Wear a cloth face covering or mask when interacting with clinic staff

Advanced registration is required at www.marylandvax.org.

COVID-19 Appointment-Free Testing

Lexington Park Office:
Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

46035 Signature Lane, Lexington Park (co-located with U-Haul Moving & Storage)

For assistance or accommodations, call ahead to (301) 862-1680

Leonardtown Office:
Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

21580 Peabody Street, Leonardtown
For assistance or accommodations, call ahead to (301) 475-4330

SMCHD COVID-19 Testing:

Walk up for testing, parking is available
Appointment-free

No doctor's order needed

Free of Charge (no out-of-pocket cost, co-payment, co-insurance, etc.)

Bring health insurance information and identification, if possible - Uninsured community members are welcome

St. Mary's College Theater presents "She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms"

Beginning on October 16, streaming on Vimeo: A three-episode, "She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms," directed by Visiting Associate Professor of Theater, Film and Media Studies Mark A. Rhoda, designed by Leah Mazur and David Smith, performed by an ensemble of 16 St. Mary's College of Maryland students. "She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms," designed specifically for online performance. In this comedy-drama laden with homicidal fairies, nasty ogres, evil succubi, and 90s pop culture, playwright Qui Nguyen offers a heart-pounding and heart-wrenching homage to the geek and warrior within us all. Each episode runs :30-:35 minutes. Total running time of the full show is :90 minutes. The performance is recorded on Zoom and streamed on Vimeo. Release times are as follows:

Friday, October 16: Episodes #1, #2, #3, streaming available 12:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Tuesday, October 20: Episodes #1, #2, #3, streaming available 12:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Friday, October 23: Episodes #1, #2, #3, streaming available 12:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Saturday, October 24: Entire play, streaming available 12:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Please direct any questions about the production or about accessing the performance on Vimeo to director Mark A. Rhoda at marhoda@smcm.edu.

Upcoming

CSM Winter Session

Registration for the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Winter Session opens Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 offering students the opportunity to take a full course in four weeks. The Winter Session begins Dec. 21, 2020. It is an opportunity for students to get ahead or explore an area of interest, catch up on general education courses, take care of prerequisites and/or earn credits for transfer. CSM's tuition/fee freeze remains in effect. During the Winter Session, IT Help, Online Learning (myLearning), 24/7 online tutoring and library services will be available with the exception of being closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31, and Jan. 1, 2021. Visit online to view available classes by course number or do an advanced search and select "2021 Winter Session" to view Winter Session course options. Please contact a CSM academic advisor for help with the registration process at <https://www.csmd.edu/student-services/advising/academic-advising/contact-info-and-hours/>.

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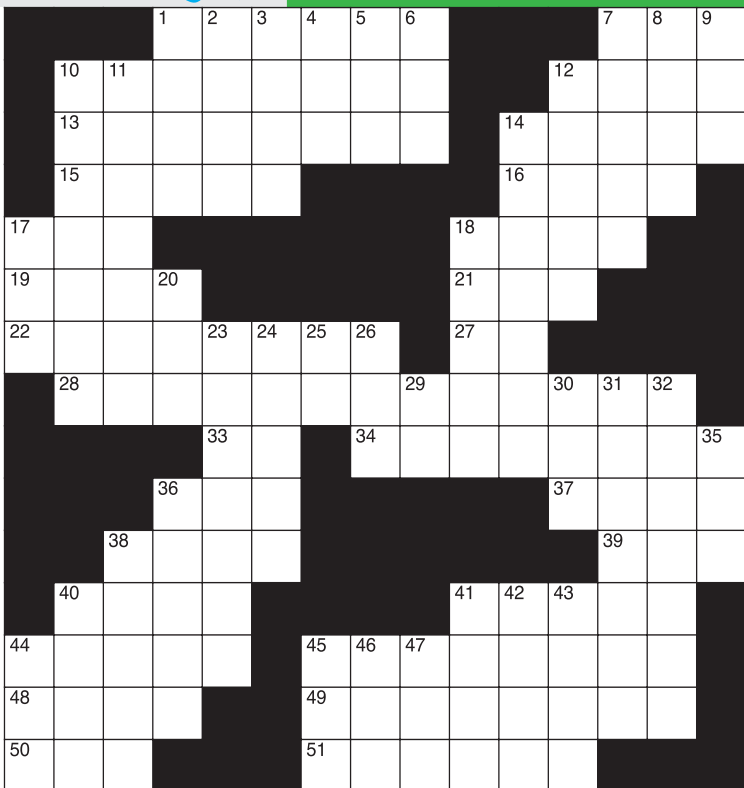
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of relic
- 7. Type of medical program (abbr.)
- 10. Outer defense of a castle
- 12. 1,000 calories (abbr.)
- 13. A way of using
- 14. Abounding with surf
- 15. Expressed violently
- 16. Shared a boundary with
- 17. Swedish krona
- 18. Thick piece of something
- 19. Wreaths
- 21. Animated program network (abbr.)
- 22. Regains possession of
- 27. Spielberg sci-fi film
- 28. 2-time Super Bowl winner
- 33. Ice hockey position (abbr.)
- 34. Circulatory system parts
- 36. Supervises flying
- 37. District in Peru

38. Impudence

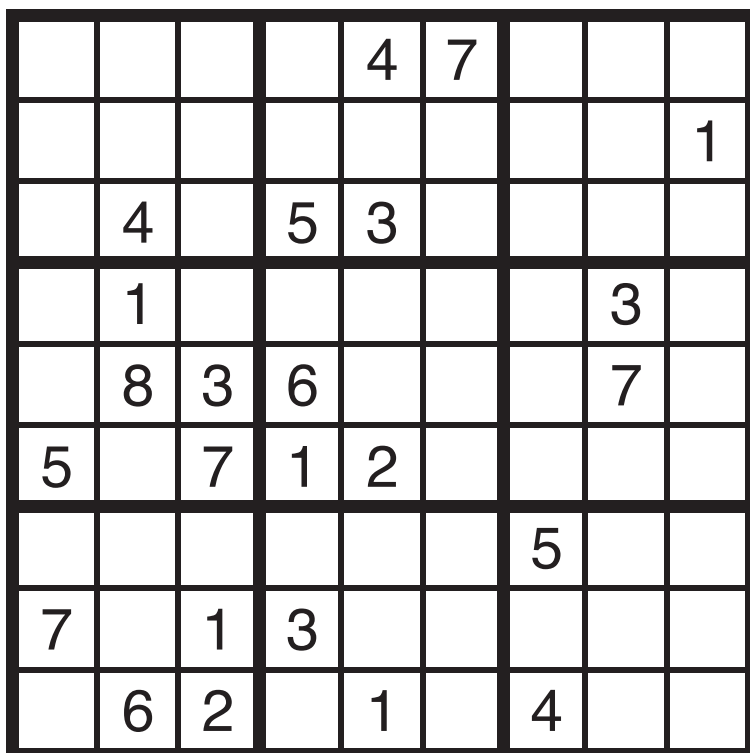
- 39. ___ willikers!
- 40. One point east of southeast
- 41. Papas' partners
- 44. Youngsters
- 45. Type of tree
- 48. A hazy or indistinct appearance
- 49. Poems with distinct pattern
- 50. Marketing term that denotes price
- 51. Fast drivers

CLUES DOWN

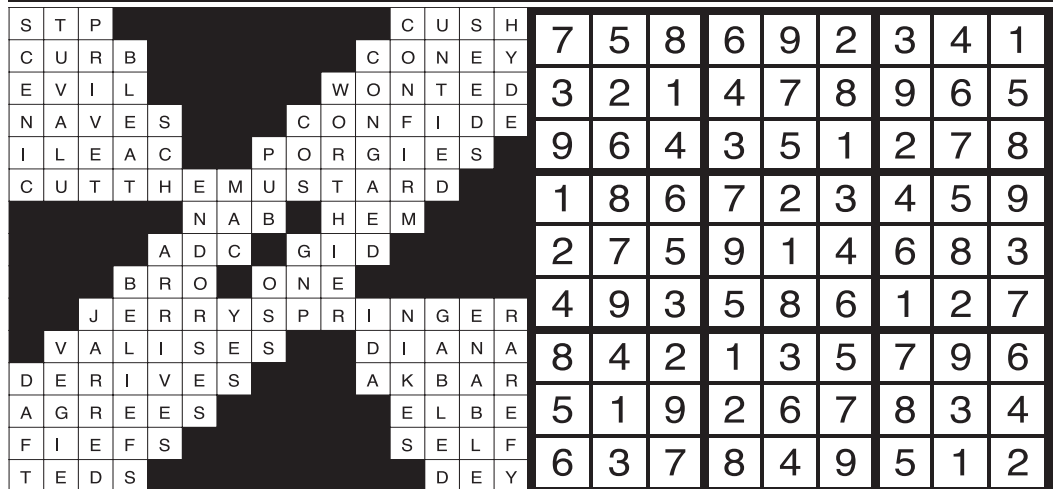
- 1. Grenade
- 2. Off-Broadway theater award
- 3. Small, immature herring
- 4. ___-fi (slang)
- 5. 007's creator
- 6. Liquefied natural gas
- 7. Cleanse thoroughly
- 8. Handle of a knife
- 9. Perform diligently
- 10. Drink pourer
- 11. Extreme greed
- 12. Southern Russia river
- 14. Type of cracker
- 17. Single Lens

Reflex

- 18. Barely sufficient
- 20. Slick
- 23. Reference books
- 24. Federally recognized native peoples
- 25. Manganese
- 26. Senior officer
- 29. Atomic #18 (abbr.)
- 30. Tax collector
- 31. World wonder ___ Falls
- 32. Origins
- 35. Car mechanics group
- 36. MMA fighter Urijah
- 38. Gland secretion
- 40. Gelatinous water creature
- 41. Good friend
- 42. Arab ruler
- 43. Capital of Belgian province Hainaut
- 44. English broadcaster
- 45. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 46. Affirmative
- 47. Trigonometric function (abbr.)



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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



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