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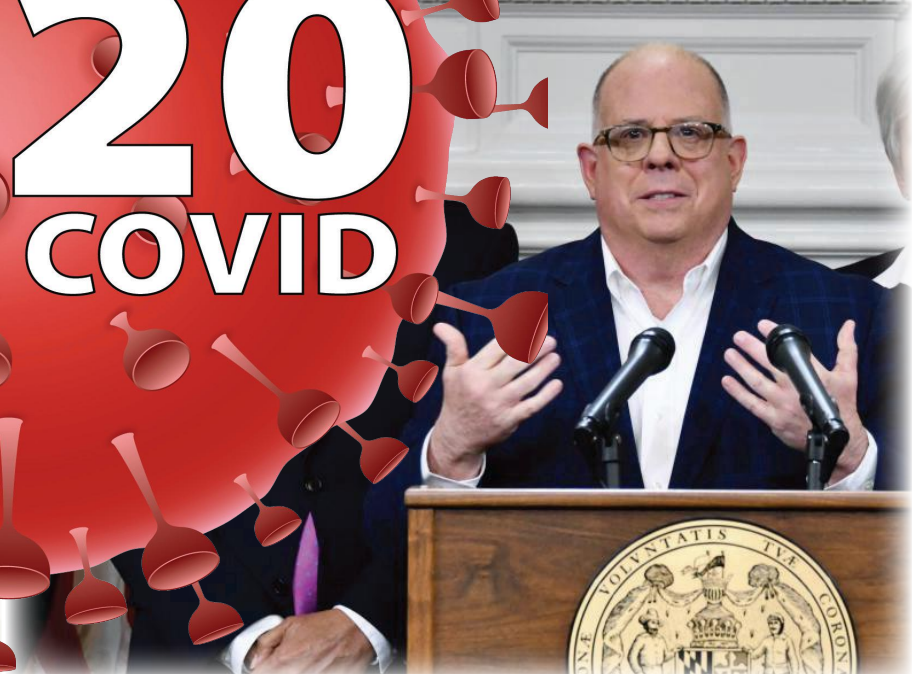
# St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2020

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**2020**  
Year of COVID





# CONTENTS

LOCAL 3

COPS & COURTS 11

COMMUNITY 12

FEATURE 16

EDUCATION 19

CALENDAR 22

LETTER TO THE EDITOR 23

PAX RIVER 25

OBITUARIES 26

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS 29

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 30

FUN & GAMES 31



**FEATURE 16**  
COVID-19 Turned 2020 Upside Down



**LOCAL 4**  
Deputy wounded, assailant shot in Lexington Park theft call.



**EDUCATION 19**  
CSM helps feed the needy


**“IT’S A GREAT START; WE JUST NEED MORE VACCINE.”**  
DR. MEENA BREWSTER, COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER, ON MASS VACCINATIONS BEGINNING.


## WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 12/17	Fri 12/18	Sat 12/19	Sun 12/20
41°   30°F	43°   29°F	46°   34°F	49°   34°F
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	PM Showers
Mon 12/21	Tue 12/22	Wed 12/23	Thu 12/24
52°   38°F	53°   33°F	50°   38°F	55°   36°F
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	PM Showers

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# COVID-19

<p><b>Positive Cases</b></p> <p><i>As of December 30</i></p> <p><b>St. Mary's 3,538</b></p>	<p><b>Deaths</b></p> <p><b>80</b></p>
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Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department



# Hundreds In St. Mary's Get Moderna Vaccine



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

The county's chief health officer said vaccinations of front-line health workers, first responders and the most vulnerable elderly populations in long-term care facilities were receiving their first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine this week.

There were 319 vaccinations performed at the clinic at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Dec. 29, said Dr. Meena Brewster, health department director, which was in addition to the 430 already vaccinated in St. Mary's in the few days prior.

The health department was keeping vaccination data and making it available to the public through their website, Brewster said, but the data could be delayed by as much as a day.

This meant that actual vaccination numbers could be higher.

"We anticipate by the end of the week we'll be well past 1,000," Brewster told The County Times on Wednesday. "It's a great start; we just need more vaccine."

The numbers the health department collated included those vaccinated at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, at long-term care facilities vaccinated by pharmacy partners, and at Patuxent River Naval Air Station.

Brewster said the local health department's supply of vaccine would likely be completely used by the end of this week, given that several hundred front-line workers and first responders had already been scheduled for further inoculation.

"It's a lot of partners at the table working, but when they do good things happen," Brewster said. "We're fortunate we work well

together."

Vaccines were still slow in coming to other high risk groups, though.

Sharon Murphy, director of the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, where there is an active outbreak, said vaccines were not set to arrive until Jan. 13.

"We have so many residents and staff that they [the Maryland Department of Health] is still coming up with a plan for us," Murphy said.

The first phase of vaccinations has been divided into three distinct parts, Brewster said with phase 1A going for perhaps another two weeks.

Phase 1B will include residents who are 75 years old and up, which represents about 6,000 people here, she said, as well as educators, child care workers and farm workers, according to recommendations made by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

The state was still receiving recommendations on vaccine recipients from county health officers, Brewster said, as it continued to formulate its plans for Phase 1B.

"That represents a large number of people," Brewster said. "We could be in Phase 1B for quite a few weeks."

Phase 1C recipients could be closer to the general population but mostly those with medical conditions that would put them at serious risk if they contracted the novel coronavirus as well as critical infrastructure workers such as those in public utilities.

Those in age group of 65 to 74 years old would also likely be included.

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

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# Sheriff: Deputy Wounded In Knife Fight, Shoots Assailant

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

When two sheriff's deputies responded to a theft and trespassing call at a store in Millison Plaza Dec. 29, they soon became embroiled in a fight for their lives, according to Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron.

Cameron explained that when the two deputies confronted the suspect, who had been given a notice not to trespass at the Big Lots store before, he started to walk away from the police.

When they tried to apprehend him, Cameron said, the suspect attacked.

The sheriff's office identified the deputies as Dfc. Carl Ball and Deputy Dylan Glenn; the suspect was identified at John Sherman Greenwell, 41.

"He [Greenwell] pulled a knife from underneath his jacket, where it was hidden," Cameron said. "He didn't threaten with it, he stabbed immediately."

Ball was wounded in the hand, Cameron said, while Glenn, who was a trainee, immediately began to grapple with the assailant.

The fight went to the ground, said Cameron, and the suspect was ready to attack again.

"He [Greenwell] was preparing to stab him [Glenn] while they were grappling," Cameron said.



Big Lots in Lexington Park

It was then that the injured deputy fired his service weapon and wounded the suspect, Cameron said.

Greenwell was shot in the right arm, sheriff's reports stated.

Greenwell remained in stable condition after receiving medical treatment, while Ball was also treated for the wounds he sustained, which were not life-threatening.

Both were transported to area trauma centers via helicopter, the

sheriff's office reported.

"We're going to do a methodical investigation," Cameron said of both the suspects actions and those of the deputies this week, which will include footage from their body cameras as well as store surveillance.

He credited the deputies' quick thinking and reliance on what they were taught in prevailing.

"It was a very violent confrontation," Cameron said. "If not for their



John Greenwell

training and their split-second reactions, they're lucky to be alive."

Ball has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home, the sheriff's office stated. He has been placed on administrative leave in accordance with agency policy. Greenwell was expected to be discharged from the hospital to sheriff's office custody Dec. 30.

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

**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**

**FROM**

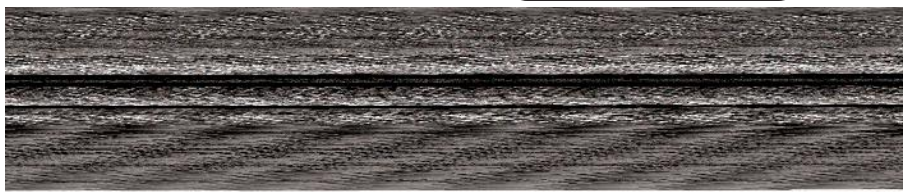
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# SMECO Reduces Energy Rates



For the second time this year, Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) received approval for a decrease in the power supply rates that most members pay for their electric service. SMECO submitted a filing to the Maryland Public Service Commission to reduce its base energy charges for residential members as of December 1, 2020.

than it was five years ago. "This is the second rate reduction this year for our residential members," Cox said. "The summer energy rates that went into effect in May had been reduced by 11 percent." She added, "In addition to our rate reduction, most of our residential members had very low energy bills recently because of the mild weather, and lower bills are always good news."

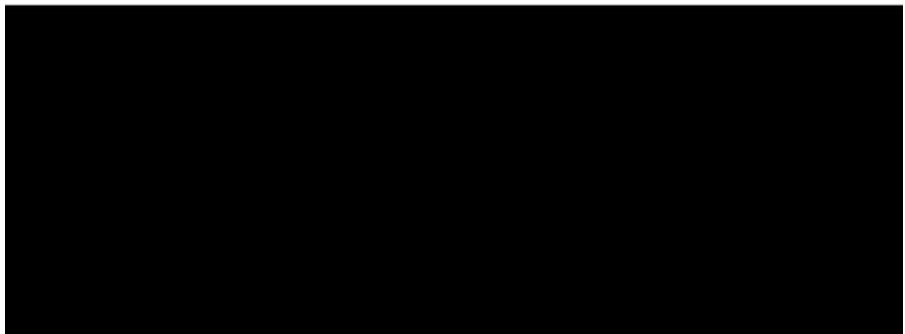
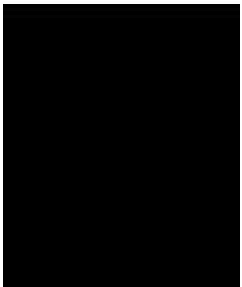
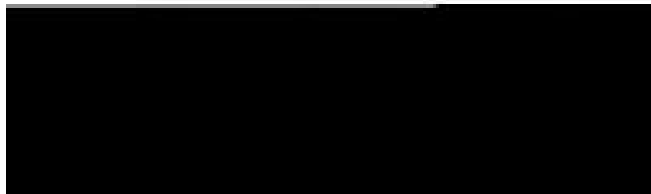
"This rate reduction will benefit many of our members who have been adversely affected by the economic impact of COVID-19," said Sonja Cox, SMECO president and CEO. "Our winter rates will be 6.56 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), and with summer rates at 6.11 cents per kWh, our residential base rate will be the lowest it has been since 2005."

SMECO's Standard Offer Service (SOS) rate is made up of the energy charge and the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). SMECO's base residential energy charges for summer will be reduced from 6.21 cents per kWh to 6.11 cents per kWh. Summer energy charges appear on bills rendered May through September. Base residential winter energy charges will be reduced from 6.74 cents per kWh to 6.56 cents per kWh.

In December, the bill for a residential member with 1,200 kWh of monthly energy use will be \$10 less than last December and \$20 less

*Press Release from SMECO.*

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## Men Arrested in Lexington Park Shooting



Tyriell Gantt



Terry Kent

On December 28, 2020, at approximately 12:16 a.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 21600 block of North Essex Drive in Lexington Park for the reported shots fired. Investigation determined two victims were seated in a vehicle, when another vehicle approached and fired multiple shots at the victim's vehicle. One victim was struck in the upper back, and later transported via helicopter to an area trauma center for treatment and remains in stable condition. The second victim was not injured in the incident.

During the course of the investigation two suspects were identified: Tyriel Levar Gantt, age 24, and Terry Lee Kent Jr., age 30, both of California. Kent was located at the scene and detained. Gantt was located during a vehicle stop and taken into custody. Gantt and Kent were transported to the St. Mary's

County Detention and Rehabilitation Center and charged with the following:

Assault First Degree (two counts)  
Assault Second Degree (two counts)

Gantt and Kent remain incarcerated at the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center on a no-bond status.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Trevor Teague at (301) 475-4200 extension 78128 or by email at Trevor.Teague@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.

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*The people of  
St. Mary's County  
wish to express our deepest gratitude  
to the staff of the  
SMC Health Department  
for their tireless,  
and often thankless,  
efforts to protect the  
health and safety of our community.*

*Here's to a healthy and  
Happy New Year to you all!*



# Miller Resigns from State Senate

By Dick Myers  
Editor

Senate President Emeritus Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. of Calvert County has announced his resignation from his Senate seat. He made the announcement in a letter to Senate President Bill Ferguson. It said:

"For more than a half century, it has been my privilege to serve the people of Maryland. During my 45 years in the Senate of Maryland, I served with so many Senators of integrity and commitment - men and women from all over the State who dedicated themselves to making our State a better place on behalf of our citizens. It is now with tremendous sadness that I must write to you today to inform you that my service will end, effective today. My heart and my mind remain strong, but my body has grown too weak to meet the demands of another legislative session.

As a student of history; in leaving the Senate in a time of national discord, I am reminded of some of the thoughts I shared with the Senate over the years. In another time of conflict and national reckoning, John F. Kennedy said, "In a time of domestic crisis, people of goodwill and generosity should be able to unite regardless of party or politics."

"It seems that a unity of purpose cannot be found in our Nation's Capital or in many places across our country and that in most instances, true compromise has become the enemy of elected officials. That lack of



Sen. Mike Miller at this year's Juneteenth celebration in Prince Frederick.

unity, inability to compromise, and belief that each political party can walk alone has a tremendous price - it leaves our citizenry cynical and angry and shakes their confidence in their government.

"During my tenure in the Senate of Maryland and my time serving as President, it was the greatest honor of my life in large part because I have seen the Senate rise above partisan and other differences time and time again. I have seen the Senate come together and unite to get the work of the people of Maryland done. Most of my remarks on opening day concluded with the call to the Senate of "let's get to work" because I knew that we could and would do so together.

"We did not always agree - even with members of our own party - but we disagreed with dignity and congeniality and that is what made me so proud to be a part

of the Senate of Maryland. I have full faith that spirit continues in the current leadership and that it will remain a part of the fabric of the Senate.

"My priorities as an elected official began with my childhood growing up in southern Prince George's County, the oldest of 10 children. Our parents instilled in us a strong work ethic and a deep commitment to our community. My father ran a small business, and he taught us the power of hard work. He never let us forget that his customers were also our friends and neighbors, who often needed a helping hand. My mother was a teacher, and she taught us the importance of being a lifelong learner. She pushed me to pursue my education in the Prince George's County public schools, at the University of Maryland, College Park, and then the University of Maryland School of Law. She encouraged me to seek public office, and I might not have done so but for her.

"I have always believed in the power of education to change people's lives and to grow our state's economy, which is why I was a relentless advocate for investments in public education during my tenure as President of the Maryland Senate. The monumental changes we made in the Bridge to Excellence program pushed \$3.3 billion more into our classrooms and helped to make Maryland's schools the best in the nation. Now, the state is once again prepared to take our schools to new heights, with increased tools for parents, children, and teachers, and tackling some of the decades long inequities that sadly still exist in our school system today. I was proud to vote for the Blueprint for Maryland's Future because education is the great equalizer. Those who share my belief in the power of education must continue to fight for these kinds of critical investments in our schools.

"It was indeed an honor to represent the residents of the 27th legislative district for 50 years, and I hope their lives are better and their neighborhoods are stronger as a result of my service. While I was elected to represent a district, over the years, I counseled my colleagues that they were not elected as local officials, but they were State Senators who must see past jurisdictional boundaries, to understand the needs of the state and even if not popular, they should be prepared to support what is needed for the state as a whole. It is the difference between being a statesperson and a politician.

"I would be remiss now if I did not also thank my greatest loves, my wife Patti Miller and my family. Patti and my children sacrificed countless hours of my absence as I was in Annapolis during Session or attending other events in the interim. Patti is the backbone of our family and has supported me in too many ways to name over the years. Our children and grandchildren will certainly be the greatest legacy that Patti and I can leave to this world.

"As I leave the Senate and public service, there are many things that could be said but none better than the words of George Washington when he resigned his commission in our Maryland State House in 1783, and told the Continental Congress:

"I consider it an indispensable duty to close this last solemn act of my Official life, by commending the Interests of our dearest Country to the protection of Almighty God, and those who have the superintendance of them, to his holy keeping. Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theatre of Action, and bidding an affectionate farewell to this August body, under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my Commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life."

"I must now retire from the august body of the Senate of Maryland and take my leave of public life. I bid an affectionate farewell to you all and it is my greatest hope that our Almighty God bless and protect you, your families, our Nation, and our State. I pray that future generations in the Maryland General Assembly will continue to come together in the spirit of public service and unity to once again get to work on behalf of the citizens of the great State of Maryland."

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners issued the following statement: "Senator Mike Miller is a first-rate legislator, a man of the highest integrity and a true gentleman. His accomplishments on behalf of District 27 and all Marylanders over the past five decades are incalculable. The enduring effects of his distinguished service and tremendous leadership will be felt for many decades to come. It has been a privilege to work with him in service to the people of Calvert County. Our thoughts and good wishes are with Senator Miller and his family."

Gov. Larry Hogan issued the following statement: "On behalf of a grateful state, I want to thank my good friend Senate President Emeritus Mike Miller for 50 incredible years of service to the people of Maryland.

"Over the weekend, I spoke to President Miller as he prepared to make this difficult announcement. It was a deeply personal and heartfelt conversation, as ours have always been. I have known Mike since I was a kid, and it has been one of my greatest privileges as governor to serve alongside him.

"He will go down in our state's history as a lion of the Senate.

"The First Lady and I ask all Marylanders to join us in praying for Mike and his family."

U.S. Sen. Chris Van Hollen said, "Mike Miller is a student of Maryland history and his departure from its Senate marks the end of an era. Governors have come and gone, but Senator Miller, with unmatched political acumen, has steered Maryland on a progressive course and toward a more perfect union.

"Senator Miller has dedicated his life to serving Marylanders and set the gold standard for true leadership in the State Senate. I was proud to serve with him. He is a dear friend and his mentorship and wisdom remain invaluable to me. As he continues his battle with cancer, he knows that Katherine and I are in his corner every step of the way."

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20ct	30ct	40ct
Serves 8-10	Serves 12-15	Serves 15-20

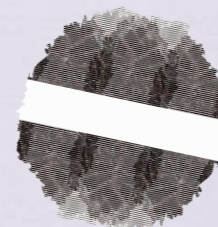
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# Notice of Public Hearings

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County will conduct Public Hearings Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021, to obtain citizens' views and input. These hearings will take place in the Chesapeake Building located at 41770 Baldrige Street in Leonardtown, MD.

**Hearing 1.** Disposition of Surplus County-Owned Real Property. To consider the disposition of county-owned surplus real property, with a street address of 22695 Old Rolling Road, California, MD, and further described as Lot 500-2, John Stanton Pierce Property & Feicht Subdivision, containing 2.06 acres, more or less, formerly known as Lot 2, John S. Pierce Property, and Lots 500-1A and 500-1B, Feicht Subdivision. The Public Hearing will begin

at 9:10 a.m.

**Hearing 2.** To solicit and receive comments on the consideration of a resolution to transfer to The Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., a nonprofit corporation in St. Mary's County, real property no longer needed for a public purpose, containing 0.08967 acres of land located in Lexington Park, and described as an alleyway as part of the Commissioner's right-of-way's known as "South Coral Place" and "Tulagi Place," and having an appraised value of \$10,000. Issues to be considered at the public hearing include 1) compatibility of the proposed use with the neighborhood; 2) financial issues, including the ability of the proposed transferee to construct, renovate, maintain, and

operate a facility on the property; 3) the historical significance of the property; and 4) unique characteristics of any structure on the property. The Public Hearing will begin at 9:20 a.m.

**Hearing 3.** To consider the legislative proposal stating that the Commissioners of St. Mary's County are the Authority Having Jurisdiction for the purposes of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Billing. The Public Hearing will begin at 6 p.m.

Due to social distancing guidelines, these Public Hearings are not open to the public. However, it is possible to view them on SMCG Channel 95 or the St. Mary's County Government YouTube channel or to listen to the public hearing by

calling 301-579-7236; access code: 963443#.

**In lieu of appearance, comments may be submitted via:**

a) Written Comments via email: [csmc@stmarysmd.com](mailto:csmc@stmarysmd.com)

b) Mail: P.O. Box 653 Leonardtown, MD 20650

c) Call 301-475-4200 x 1234 to speak via telephone during the public hearing

d) Submit a three-minute video clip to [publicmtgs@stmarysmd.com](mailto:publicmtgs@stmarysmd.com) no later than 5 p.m. Jan. 12, 2021.

The Commissioners will consider all submissions at the Public Hearings and/or seven days following the Public Hearing. For additional information, please contact, Sharon Ferris at [Sharon.Ferris@stmarysmd.com](mailto:Sharon.Ferris@stmarysmd.com).

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# ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

## Burglary Suspect

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the person pictured in a residential burglary investigation. On Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020 between 6:30 and 9:51 pm, a man unlawfully entered a home at the 23600 block of Mallard Glen Way in California by removing the front door lock. The following evening, this image was taken on the front porch of a nearby home from the burglary.



Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to contact Deputy Matthew Beyer at 301-475-4200, ext. 78005 or email [matthew.beyer@stmarysmd.com](mailto:matthew.beyer@stmarysmd.com). Case # 78947-20

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact St. Mary's County 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.

## Handgun Offenses:

On Dec. 19, 2020, Deputy Michael Ryczyn observed a suspicious vehicle at 46359 Columbus Drive in Lexington Park. Upon contact, a prescription drug bottle was observed in the center console that belonged to no one in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle was conducted and a loaded .38 special revolver was located under the driver's seat and a short-barrel rifle was located under a blanket in the back seat. **Antonio Jaloni Staten**, 20 of Bowie, and **Misae Tyjuan Walker**, 20 of Capitol Heights, were both charged with Handgun in Vehicle, Loaded Handgun in Vehicle, CDS Possession Paraphernalia, Remove Label from Prescription and CDS Possession: Not Marijuana. Staten was also charged with Possession of a Firearm by a Minor.



Antonio Jaloni Staten



Misae Tyjuan Walker

## Trespassing:

On Dec. 19, 2020, Deputy Benjamin Raley responded to the Pawn It store in Lexington Park for the complaint of trespassing in St. Mary's Square. Deputy Raley contacted **Craig Andrew Kennedy**, 56 of Lexington Park, who had previously been served a No Trespass order at St. Mary's Square. Kennedy was issued a criminal citation for trespass on private property and was also served a warrant for Failure to Appear and was transported to the county detention center.



Craig Andrew Kennedy

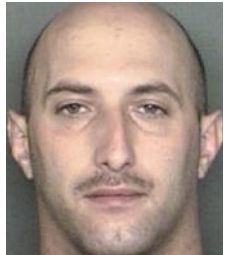


Ashley Ann Lopiccicolo-Yeager

On Dec. 22, 2020, Deputy

Wilhelmi responded to the 46900 block of Pembroke Street in Park Hall for the report of an assault. The victim advised that **Ashley Ann Lopiccicolo Yeager**, 37 of Park Hall, spit on and slapped the victim's face leaving visible sign of injury. Lopiccicolo Yeager was arrested and charged with Second-Degree Assault. Case

**Protective Order Violation:** On Dec. 21, 2020, Deputy Christopher Palmer responded to the District 4 Station on Great Mills Road in Lexington Park for the report of a Violation of Protective Order. The victim advised that **Luke Edward Culbert**, 28 of Great Mills, began and continued to text the victim in violation of a protective order. Culbert was charged with Violation of Protective Order.



Luke Edward Culbert

## Editor's Note:

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

*Season's Greetings*

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# Deer Firearm Season Reopens Jan. 8



The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces the January firearm deer hunting season opens Jan. 8, 2021, in Deer Management Region B, which includes all of the state except the westernmost counties. Hunters with a valid hunting license may use firearms to harvest sika and white-tailed deer during this season.

The season is open Jan. 8-9 in all of Region B. The season is open Sunday, Jan. 10 on private and designated public lands in Cecil and St. Mary's counties, and on private lands only in Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Washington (Zone 1), and Worcester counties. Shooting hours end at 10:30 a.m. in Kent and Montgomery counties. "The January season offers deer hunters one last chance to fill their firearms season bag limit," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "The typically strong antlerless harvest during this late season contributes significantly to managing the deer population in Region B."

Hunters are reminded that during the designated firearm seasons they may now use rifles and handguns that employ straight-walled cartridges in all counties. Rifles and handguns that use bottleneck cartridges remain limited to those counties that permitted them previously. If using a straight-walled cartridge rifle, hunters should indicate they used a rifle, not a shotgun, when registering their harvest with the state's automated check-in system. More information on this change, along with season bag limits and other deer hunting regulations,

are available in the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

During firearms season, Maryland requires deer hunters and their companions to wear daylight fluorescent orange or daylight fluorescent pink in one of the following manners: a cap of solid fluorescent daylight orange or pink, a vest or jacket containing back and front panels of at least 250 square inches of fluorescent daylight orange or pink, or an outer garment of camouflage daylight fluorescent orange or pink worn above the waist and containing at least 50 percent daylight fluorescent color.

Hunters are additionally reminded to use precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, which includes keeping six feet away from anyone who does not reside with you, and wearing a facial covering when social distancing isn't possible.

Hunters should carefully inspect all tree-stands and always wear a full-body safety harness while in the stand and while climbing in or out. The department strongly recommends using a sliding knot, commonly known as a prusik knot, attached to a line that is secured above the stand that allows the hunter to be safely tethered to the tree as soon as they leave the ground.

Maryland hunters are encouraged to donate any extra deer they may harvest. Hunters are reminded that they may claim a tax credit of up to \$50 for each legally harvested deer that is processed and donated to a nonprofit food sharing program. The maximum credit in any one tax year is \$200 per hunter. The approved form to claim this credit is available online.

## Legal Notices

### Commissioners of Leonardtown Notice of Public Hearing

The Leonardtown Mayor and Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. in the Town Office located at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD. The purpose of the hearing is to present for public review and comment Ordinance No. 204 repealing and reenacting Chapter 60 of the Code of the Town of Leonardtown – Critical Area Regulations.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend or to submit written comments by 4:00 p.m. on January 11, 2021 to the Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Special accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities upon request.

By Authority:  
Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

### Commissioners of Leonardtown Notice of Public Hearing

The Leonardtown Mayor and Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the Town Office located at 22670 Washington Street, Leonardtown, MD. The purpose of the hearing is to present for public review and comment Ordinance No. 205 Sale of Surplus Property and Acquisition of Real Property for a Public Purpose.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend or to submit written comments by 4:00 p.m. on January 11, 2021 to the Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Special accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities upon request.

By Authority:  
Laschelle E. McKay, Town Administrator

IN THE MATTER OF A'MYA ARLESIA YOUNG  
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO A'MYA ARLESIA CELMONS-YOUNG  
BY AND THROUGH THEIR MOTHER/FATHER/GUARDIAN  
CIERRA LADALE CLEMONS

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-20-684  
Notice (Minor)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name of a minor from A'MYA ARLESIA YOUNG to A'MYA ARLESIA CELMONS-YOUNG. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: Personal choice.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 02/05/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

IN THE MATTER OF CHELSEA NICHOLE EVANS  
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO CHELSEA NICHOLE AQUININGOC GORMAN EVANS  
In the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland

Case No.: C-18-FM-20-731  
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 CHELSEA NICHOLE EVANS to CHELSEA NICHOLE AQUININGOC GORMAN EVANS. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: I would like to add my maiden name and my mother's maiden name to carry my heritage.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 02/06/2021. 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

**If you would like to place a  
LEGAL NOTICE contact**

*AlDaileyCountytimes@gmail.com*



# \$154 Million Available to Help Marylanders With Bills

Governor Larry Hogan today announced that more than \$154 million is available in energy assistance funds to help cover heating, electric, and gas utility bills, representing an approximately 40% increase from last year. More than \$110 million was distributed in Fiscal Year 2020.

“Too many Marylanders have faced undue financial hardships during this unprecedented crisis, including the inability to pay their utility bills,” said Governor Hogan. “We will continue to maximize our resources to help as many Marylanders as possible.”

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP), Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP), and Electric and Gas Retirement Assistance Programs are allocated through the Maryland Department of Human Services’ Office of Home Energy Programs, which helps low-income households keep energy costs affordable and prevents loss of home energy service.

Maryland Energy Assistance Program

The MEAP provides financial assistance with home heating bills, natural gas arrearage assistance, crisis assistance, and furnace repair or replacement. Payments are made to the fuel supplier and utility company on the customer’s behalf. MEAP is funded by the federal block grant for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. During Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021, block grant funding is being supplemented by federal CARES Act funds allocated in anticipation of economic hardship related to COVID-19.

Marylanders can learn more about applying for energy assistance on the Office of Home Energy

Programs website and submit an application here.

Applications can be submitted any time during the year, but Marylanders can only receive benefits once each year and must reapply each fiscal year.

Electric Universal Service Program

The EUSP provides bill payment assistance and arrearage assistance for electric customers. Customers who receive EUSP funds are placed on a budget billing plan with their utility company spread out year annual utility bills into even monthly payments to avoid spikes caused by seasonal fluctuations in energy use.

There are several ways for Marylanders to apply for EUSP assistance, including the office’s website.

Electric and Gas Retirement Assistance Programs

Benefits are also available to help pay past due balances on electric and gas utility accounts. Eligible customers receive assistance for a portion of their current electric bills and/or forgiveness of up to \$2,000 toward their past due bill. Customers must have a past due bill of \$300 or greater to be eligible, and may only receive an arrearage grant once every seven years, with certain exceptions.

Marylanders can apply for arrearage retirement assistance also through the office’s website, local drop boxes, by mail, telephone, or in person. Learn more about how to apply here.

The new federal COVID-19 relief funding bill allows funding from the Emergency Rental Assistance program to be used for utility costs. More details will be released in the coming weeks.

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<p><b>PRINCE FREDERICK</b>                  700 PRINCE FREDERICK BLVD.                  PRINCE FREDERICK • MD 20678                  410-414-8333</p>	<p><b>SOLOMONS ISLAND</b>                  14532 SOLOMONS ISLAND RD.                  SOLOMONS • MD 20688                  410-394-6690</p>	

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# COVID-19 Dominated Life



By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

In the first few months of 2020 the novel coronavirus had yet to officially hit the shores of the United States and St. Mary's residents were busy getting on with a new year they hoped would be better than the last one.

Little did we know.

## January

Here, things seemed normal in January and economically the county's fortunes seemed to be healthy with residential and commercial property assessments rising.

It was a bit of a surprise to officials.

"Be ready," Commissioner President James "Randy" Guy said Jan. 7 to other local elected leaders. "My property assessment went up 8.8 percent.

"It may be a good revenue source for us but, that's a big increase."

Revenues would worry all elected leaders just months later when the state was nearly completely shut down, including many businesses and thousands put out of work.

In a harbinger of things to come that year, County Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster warned county residents of an impending difficult flu season.

"It's never too late to get the flu shot," Brewster said. "It's still a pretty tough season; it's projecting to be similar to last season which was one of the worst flu seasons in decades."

Commissioners also wrangled over pay increases to certain department heads at the beginning of the year, especially since, in 2019, commissioners had failed to give pay parity for St. Mary's sheriff's deputies to match their counterparts in Calvert and Charles counties.

"Our department heads make six figures, some of these adjustments are close to \$10,000," Commissioner John O'Connor said Jan. 16. "The decision was made last year not to do this.

"When you say you don't have enough information to make a decision [on deputies' pay] and we start passing out pay increases, retroactively I might add, it kind of sends the wrong message through county government."

Deputy Jason Smith stood at the podium in silence at that evening's public forum before the commissioners for one minute to drive home the point of needed raises to keep deputies from leaving the agency.

"That minute goes by much faster in

the silence that it does when you're on the side of the road fighting for your life waiting for your backup to arrive," Smith told commissioners. "Every time we lose a deputy to Charles County, Calvert County... that minute gets longer and longer."

"That minute lasts a lifetime."

The commissioners would later approve greater pay for deputies in March.

Legislators were still pondering how to pay for the Kirwan Commission recommendations, which called for \$4 billion in new spending on K-12 education statewide in a massive bid to improving learning opportunities.

The legislation's fate would be broadly questioned as the year went on due to COVID-19 shutdowns slashing revenues.

Immediate impacts were offset by tax windfalls.

But by 2023, the forward funding will run out and both counties and the state will have to begin paying the additional \$3 billion to make Kirwan recommendations a reality.

"That's when the bill comes due," Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist. 29A) said, who questioned whether Kirwan's recommendations, with their high price tag, was the answer to improving education.

"Is Kirwan really the fix for education?" Morgan asked. "Maryland's per pupil funding is already \$3,600 over the national average."

The family of Jaelynn Willey, a Great Mills High School student shot dead in school in March 2018 by a male student she had had a relationship with, sued the county school system for negligence, alleging they knew their daughter was in danger but did not take action to stop her killing.

"Prior to this subject incident... Great Mills High School knew that Austin Rollins... was likely to commit an act of deadly violence against Jaelynn Willey," the lawsuit reads. "In fact, less than 24 hours before the subject incident, a threat of mass violence at the school had been made.

"Moreover, one month before this incident, another threat of mass violence at the school had been made."

The family has since expanded the suit to include the county sheriff's office and even the school resource officer who responded in seconds to the shooting; the county school system has denied culpability in the incident.

## February

In February, as the national political scene shifted more towards restricting gun rights, local, grass roots organizers here pressed local leaders to declare St. Mary's a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment sanctuary as a bulwark against further assaults on gun ownership.

"I think it's important, after watching what's going on in Annapolis, that we take that initiative," O'Connor said at the Feb. 11 business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Local gun rights advocates have been speaking privately for months about encouraging local elected leaders to make the move, which would mirror the more than 90 counties in Virginia that have already done so.

Where gun rights once appeared secure in Virginia, which had been strongly Republican for the last generation, a shift in power towards the Democrats there in the state government had emboldened Gov. Ralph Northam to back a bevy of gun control laws, including an assault weapons ban that includes a prohibition on owning high capacity ammunition magazines.

The rapid shift in power in Richmond ignited the Second Amendment sanctuary movement just as quickly.

In the Maryland General Assembly, a new bill threatened to tighten restrictions on so-called assault weapons even further, imposing strict costs for their registration if the new law is passed.

Many such weapons were banned from further sale in 2013 the legislature.

John Mountjoy, a local gun rights advocate, said he and others started the sanctuary movement after the dramatic changes in Virginia; the climate in Annapolis towards their point of view had also chilled further.

"We're being blatantly ignored," Mountjoy said. "The current incumbents... they will not listen to us."

Within weeks the commissioners would approve the measure, with the support of both State's Attorney Richard Fritz and Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron.

## March

By the early spring, officials and residents began to fear the spread of COVID-19 as it breached its origins in Wuhan, China and marched across the globe.

In St. Mary's, health officials began to prepare a response to COVID-19 as they still tried to separate fact from fiction about the deadly disease for which

there was, at the time, no vaccine and no immunity.

"We don't need to panic," said Steve Walker, director of the Department of Emergency Services after consulting with health specialists Feb. 28. "There's no need to walk around with face masks on all day."

Much would change in the coming weeks and months; in March local officials still held out hope that St. Mary's could avoid an outbreak.

Initially, health officials had warned that only health workers or those exhibiting flu like symptoms should wear face masks, but county residents had already begun to quickly buy up stocks of them.

"Not only are we out of them, we can't even order new ones," a local pharmacy worker said in late February of the run on facemasks.

Once facemasks at pharmacies ran out, buyers turned to hardware stores.

"We're out of most of them," said a sales associate at a Leonardtown hardware store. "They are backordered until April."

Rather than facemasks, said county health officer Dr. Meena Brewster, the U.S. Center for Disease Control advises using standard infection avoidance practices such as washing hands and avoiding the ill.

"Most often, spread of respiratory viruses from person-to-person happens among close contacts," said Brewster. "CDC recommends everyday preventive actions to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, such as avoiding people who are sick, avoiding touching your eyes or nose, washing your hands, and covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue. "Facemasks should be used by people with symptoms such as fever, cough, runny nose, or sneezing, to help prevent the spread of the disease to others."

By March 23 Gov. Larry Hogan began a spate of closures, including schools and what he called non-essential businesses, that would last for months until the pandemic would begin to abate in Maryland, leading to cautious re-openings in late summer.

The closures of so many businesses, many of them restaurants and bars and other places of amusement among large crowds, put many out of work immediately.

"We are not issuing a shelter in place order or forcing people to stay home," Hogan said in late March. "We are telling Marylanders to follow all of the directives



# Local Headlines In 2020



we've issued and to obey state law... unless you have an essential reason to leave your house then you should stay in your homes."

The governor said the state had to fight the pandemic as well as severe strain on the economy.

"We're facing a huge battle against potential tremendous economic harm," Hogan said. "Both of these battles will take all of us at the federal, state and local levels and the private sector rising up and working together."

The governor would order the use of state "rainy day" funds in the hundreds of millions throughout the pandemic to help support closed businesses and prevent job loss.

But Hogan's orders were hard to take for many local businesses.

Jeff Lewis, the owner and operator of The Front Porch restaurant on Washington Street in Leonardtown, said he'd had to rethink his entire business model just to try and keep his business operational.

"I make money on parties and I can't book any right now," Lewis told The County Times. "March is really where I start to make money."

"I feel like I'm back to square one when I took over here seven years ago."

With only two phone lines, he's had to adapt to taking carryout and delivery orders through e-mail, Lewis said, which meant that customers used to 15-minute waits for food would have to wait longer. "It's been an insane week of adaptation," Lewis said. "I can't employ as many people since I don't have as much business."

Loans available from the state, which the governor eventually ordered had to be forgiven, and from the federal government proved difficult to come by despite hopes to the contrary.

## April

As residents here began to get infected by April, all eyes turned to the doctors and nurses at MedStar St. Mary's to take care of the sick.

Susan Bricker, an intensive care nurse at MedStar, said the stress of caring for such sick people was intense.

"When they come to us, they are short of breath and anxious," Bricker said. "They are looking to us desperately for help."

"There's anxiety in the staff as well, but the level of care doesn't change."

Talking to patients, trying to reassure them, is difficult when wearing full pro-

TECTIVE gear, Bricker said, but they still try to give as much emotional support as possible.

"Even if it's just to hold their hand," Bricker said.

The nurses and doctors have to support each other as well, she said.

"We try to talk about our feelings," Bricker said. "We get a lot of support from the community, that helps keep us going."

She praised the continual donation of medical supplies and protective gear from private citizens.

"And the food, the food is endless," Bricker said. "And we try to find humor when we can."

If there is anything good to come from the COVID-19 pandemic, Bricker believes the nurses and doctors have found it.

"Morale is very high in the ICU," she said. "I think we're in a good place; this crisis has brought us closer together."

## May

By May, as the pandemic dragged on and health metrics began to stabilize, Dr. Karen Salmon, state school superintendent announced that she was closing schools for the rest of the 2019 to 2020 school year.

It was another blow to efforts across the state to return to some sort of normalcy.

The St. Mary's public school system had to switch to on-line learning and would continue to use that platform even as they were able to bring some students back in staggered cohorts during the early fall, but the Thanksgiving surge in the virus forced children back into virtual settings.

The pandemic had one positive aspect: It forced the school system to find ways to finally get a dedicated electronic device to every student.

"We have 9,000 machines ready for distribution," said Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith in mid-August "And we have 8,000 more coming in."

"If they don't have access to a computer, they're being provided a laptop," Smith said, noting that parents were given a survey to fill out describing their child's needs for connectivity.

This week, school staff were busy distributing laptops to middle school students, Smith said, and by the week of Dec. 1 all students should have a school-issued laptop from which to work.

"This is one-to-one," Smith said of the much sought-after goal of getting every student connected to the school system

on-line. "That's the expectation... that we'll be one-to-one forever."

Here in St. Mary's political life continued as Leonardtown held its regular town council and mayoral elections, although social distancing and sanitation rules were in full effect for those coming into the town hall to vote.

Mayor Dan Burris and Town Council Member Jay Mattingly both won reelection to town government after ballots were tallied from the May 5 elections; Nick Colvin, a planner at the county's Department of Land Use and Growth Management, won his bid to get a seat on the council as its newest member.

The election took place under special conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic with town staff sanitizing voting stations each time they were used inside the town hall and the number of voters allowed in at a time was kept to four.

Considering the fears about the novel coronavirus, the election brought out voters, McKay said.

"It was a good turnout for what was going on," McKay said. "There was a steady stream of people all day, it never really stopped."

By the middle of spring businesses continued to chafe under the governor's restrictions on businesses reopening, particularly restaurants who said carryout and delivery orders weren't enough to keep their operations going.

Seabreeze Restaurant believed they could at least reopen outdoor dining to customers but were shutdown by local authorities as the state was only in Phase 1 of Hogan's recovery plan.

At a forum of restaurant and bar owners held at Seabreeze Restaurant the evening of May 19, they still wanted to find a way to open sooner rather than later.

Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist.29A) and County Commissioner Mike Hewitt spoke to them to encourage them to put pressure on the governor's office and on his COVID-19 task force to amend the first phase of the plan to give restaurants more latitude beyond providing for carryout and delivery.

Owners said back in May they could not continue much longer

"We've heard about maybe being able to reopen by Sept. 1," said Betty Ann Quade, co-owner of Seabreeze at the meeting of about 30 people. "We can't wait until September, we won't make it to September."

Hewitt said small businesses were be-

ing treated unfairly under the recovery plan as large retailers had largely been exempt from the closure order as they had been deemed essential, though they did have to limit customers in their stores and encourage social distancing.

"I will tell you, if they show up [law enforcement,] we could all be cited, we're more than 10 people," Hewitt said. "On the other hand, there's civil disobedience."

Hewitt would continue to question the treatment of small businesses versus large retailers throughout the year.

But COVID-19 wasn't the only problem to sweep the land.

## June

By June, as the summer temperatures rose, so did frustration and anger nationwide over alleged police brutality, focused by the asphyxiation death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police.

It led to rioting, protests, looting and urban destruction all across the country.

Here in St. Mary's, where even protesters of police brutality said it was not a problem here, the community was spared rioting.

But protests were common, drawing thousands of people to several events.

A June 5 protest in Leonardtown was massive but peaceful.

The approximately 1,500 demonstrators, according to sheriff's office estimates rallied at 7 p.m. and marched down Hollywood Road towards the intersection with Route 5 in a massive procession, necessitating traffic routes being blocked by local law enforcement.

The gathering was a diverse mix of races, creeds and ages.

Despite warnings from the health department about exposure to coronavirus, there was virtually no social distancing during the rally or the march.

Weston Kilgore, 17, said rallying and marching for a good cause was worth the risk.

"I think injustice and police brutality have gone on too long," Kilgore told The County Times. "Everyone was there for the same reason."

"Everyone decided this was more important to speak up against all the bad things that are going on rather than stay safe from coronavirus."

But he disagreed with some of his friends that all police were bad.

"I have a hard time agreeing with that," Kilgore said. "There are a lot of cops out there, it's impossible for all cops to be





bad.”

President of the St. Mary's County branch of the NAACP William “BJ” Hall said coming out to the protest was not only a matter of supporting the Black Lives Matter movement but also acknowledging racial inequality within St. Mary's county.

“There's so many different things we need to address here,” said Hall. “We need to understand that so many African Americans are facing housing issues, healthcare access issues, education issues like the technology gap we were impacted by once (the coronavirus) hit and everyone had to go to remote learning. There are tons of ways we are impacted by racial inequality and I just want to make sure that we all have the same access to opportunity.”

### July

In July the Town of Leonardtown pursued the idea of buying a paddle boat to boost tourism and the profile of the town and enthusiasm ran high among certain officials and business owners but that would drain away eventually and the town would pass in a split vote to purchase the vessel, at 111-feet long and named The Black Eyed Susan.

After nearly three-quarters of a century the caretakers and operators of the St. Mary's County Fair sadly announced they had to cancel the event this year.

“After months of monitoring the COVID requirements for physical distancing, the limitations on the number of people in a social gathering, and most importantly, the significant risks to the safety and health of our community, we determined it would be best to cancel this year's County Fair,” the statement from the fair's board of directors said. “This decision was very difficult to make.

“A huge percentage of our volunteers are in the at-risk category,” Chairman of the Fair Board John Richards said. “It just didn't make sense to do it.

“It would have jeopardized the safety of too many people.”

Mike Alderson, president of the 7th District Optimist Club, had announced June 30 that the organization had cancelled the Blessing of the Fleet, which has taken place every year for more than 50 years in Colton's Point to commemorate the once-great fishing fleets of Southern Maryland.

The event is also the largest fundraising time for the local Optimists, as they provide scholarships and activities for county youth.

“It's due to the requirements from the Maryland Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture regarding outdoor festivals,” in the time of COVID-19, Alderson said.

### August

After a year of disease, protests and fear, nature struck again, this time in the form of Tropical Storm Isaias and St.

Mary's took the brunt of the storm for Maryland, suffering tremendous flooding and bridges washed away still awaiting either replacement or repair.

On Aug. 4 the storm hit.

Two tornadoes were confirmed to have touched down in St. Mary's as well, one in Ridge and the other in Piney Point.

The Ridge tornado had peak winds of about 80 miles per hour, according to the National Weather Service, and touched down for one minute between 6:27 a.m. and 6:28 a.m. that Tuesday. It had a path just under a mile and was 75 yards in width.

The Piney Point tornado hit from 6:30 a.m. to 6:43 a.m. along a 7.3-mile path and was 100 yards wide with 100 mile per hour peak winds.

That tornado travelled to the outskirts of Leonardtown where it eventually subsided, county officials said.

“The major damage was to the roadways,” Emergency Services Director Steve Walker said. “It was a lot more water than we anticipated.”

The storm would have been much worse, he said, had the winds been higher for a longer period.

“We didn't have long sustained gusts,” Walker said. “We thought we'd get quite a lot more wind damage.”

### September

By the fall, many began to grow worried about the shape the presidential election would take still others were confused about where and how to vote since many familiar polling places had been consolidated and yet thousands more planned to vote by mail-in ballots.

Del. Brian Crosby argued that having just one early voting site at the Hollywood fire house was voter suppression.

“According to the most recent census data, 35 percent of registered voters in St. Mary's County reside in District 29B,” Crosby wrote in his missive dated Sept. 13. “The district is also home to the highest concentration of both low-income voters and voters of color in the county.”

The Hollywood fire house, Crosby said, was nine miles away from the most densely populated section of his district.

“For many voters, this distance may not seem insurmountable, but for the poor, the elderly, and those otherwise dependent on public transportation, polling place inaccessibility could be a major reason why many voters are unlikely to cast a ballot this year,” Crosby continued. “The lack of easy access to voting for such populations – especially with the new and confusing electoral process – is blatant voter suppression.”

St. Mary's was required by law to have just one early voting station and it would be well used including in the General Election in November.

### October

As the autumn progressed upheaval found its way into the State's Attorney's Office, with the Deputy State's Attorney and daughter of Gov. Larry Hogan Jaymi Sterling, having resigned on Sept. 30 alleging financial and personnel irregularities.

State's Attorney Richard Fritz and Sterling, as well as another employee who had resigned snapped back and forth over working conditions there and Fritz responding that he had demoted Sterling because she had overstepped her authority in dealing with a dispute between two employees, one of them the employee who had also resigned.

The county investigated the allegations and took no action against Fritz or his office, though it came to light that he and several of his staff members went to Ocean City for in-house training during the summer of the pandemic even after two state-wide conferences for which he had already scheduled hotel space were cancelled.

It cost more than \$11,000 to send seven staff members, including Fritz, to Ocean City for what the county's chief law enforcement officer called “in-house training.” Each year the Maryland State Bar Association and the Maryland State's Attorney's Association hold conferences and both were set to take place in Ocean City between the dates of June 9 and June 17.

Both events were cancelled in April due to concerns over COVID-19.

When asked if he had considered cancelling the trip to the Eastern Shore Fritz said: “Why?”

He defended his decision, saying that at the time the courthouse was closed due to COVID-19 and that the time was advantageous to engage in training of his staff, attorneys and investigators.

“It [the money] would've been expended if the two conferences had been held,” Fritz said, declining to go into specific details about the kind of training offered at the meeting.

“We were training, that should be sufficient,” Fritz said. “I think it's sufficient to say we were training in the law.

“The money was all authorized, we went there for training and that's what we did.”

### November

Election Day came and went, but voter turnout was strong and steady the entire day as it had been for the early voting days leading up to it.

Wendy Adkins, the local director of the Board of Elections, said voter turnout was strong at about 60 percent between early voting, Election Day, and mail-in ballots.

The most current number of county residents who voted is 44,851, Adkins said, but she expected that number to increase as more absentee ballots are mailed in and canvassed.

As of Nov. 3 the elections board had received 13,150 absentee ballots with more on the way, Adkins said.

There are 73,851 registered voters in St. Mary's County and with all the ballots combined voter turnout came to 79.4 percent.

Though lines were long at the seven polling places around the county, the process had no major problems, said Adkins.

The question over who won the presidential race Donald Trump or Joe Biden would go on for weeks but county residents would still begin preparing for Thanksgiving celebrations, which would bring about another surge in COVID-19 cases across the state, but there was hope on the horizon.

### December

As 2020 was coming to a close health officials, and nearly everyone else, were eagerly awaiting the arrival of the first vaccine shipments, about 150,000 doses provided by pharmaceutical giants Pfizer and Moderna, whose development was boosted by the Trump administration's Operation Warp Speed and \$2 billion in government funded research.

Doctors viewed the rapidly developed vaccines as a technological breakthrough using what is known as messenger RNA.

The vaccine uses a fat molecule, Brewster said, to act as a kind of “Trojan Horse” to introduce a messenger RNA (mRNA) to the body that “teaches” the body's cells to produce the virus' spike protein, which triggers the immune response.

“So, then that body learns how to recognize and eventually how to fight that special protein,” Brewster said. “So when the real coronavirus is introduced to the body... the body already knows how to fight that protein and starts responding to the virus.

“We are viewing this as a medical breakthrough in technology; it has the potential to be some of the safest vaccines we have available.”

Vaccine clinics began Christmas week, first for front-line workers and those public officials who volunteered to be “vaccine champions,” with mass vaccinations taking place Christmas weekend and into the following week at Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department for hundreds of first responders.

COVID-19 had made its mark on St. Mary's though, as 3,509 people had tested positive for the disease over nine months, with active outbreaks at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Chesapeake Shores and St. Mary's Nursing Center.

The disease would claim a total of 80 county residents, regardless of the jurisdiction where they died, as of Dec. 29.

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



# CSM Hosts Mobile Hawk Feeder Event

## Delivered Food to Students

College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) Student Life team hosted its seventh, and final drive-thru food distribution event of the year for CSM students Dec. 8. More than 770 pounds of food were passed out to students who expressed a need and pre-registered to come to the Regional Hughesville Campus.

The contactless "Mobile Hawk Feeder" events have been going on since spring – rotating between the college's campuses in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties – resulting in 8,735 pounds of food being delivered in 2020. In two cases, deliveries were made to CSM students living in Calvert County who did not have transportation.

"It is hard to believe that when we started these drive-thru events, we were all standing outside in t-shirts," shared Student Life Coordinator Erika Abell. "Now, nine months later, we're standing outside bundled up in our warmest coats, it's almost Winter Break, and so many of our students are still struggling. This pandemic has been so hard, on so many."

Forbes Magazine contributing writer Afdhel Aziz recently reported that one in three college students experiences food insecurity. "According to a survey of 43,000 college students at 66 schools, 36 percent of students on U.S. college campuses are considered "food insecure," meaning they do not get enough to eat," he wrote. "Especially in the age of COVID, where many students from underprivileged backgrounds can't work the college jobs they need to qualify for SNAP benefits, this problem is greatly exacerbated."

In his story, Aziz interviewed Founder and CEO of Swipe Out Hunger Rachel Sumekh who challenged readers who may be skeptical of national statistics.

"The reality is that every day, thirty million American children rely on their schools for their breakfast and lunch," Sumekh said. "Our Kindergarten-12th grade system knows this and thus we have the National School Breakfast and Lunch program. If we truly want to create pathways out of poverty, we need these meals to continue through to our community colleges and four-year schools."

Since 2017, CSM has offered food provided through Hawk Feeders at each of CSM's four campuses. Hawk

Feeders help address the short-term basic food needs any student may be experiencing. Built by a CSM faculty member Bill Luyster, the Hawk Feeders are stocked through individual donations by faculty, staff and students as well as through food drives, under the adage, "Give what you can, take what you need."

"I am so proud of our Student Life team, our CSM Student Government Association and CSM's community partners, who all pitched in to mobilize and create these many, many care packages," Abell continued. "The partners who have joined us to help us meet the basic needs of our students are our heroes."

Joining in support have been the First Baptist Church of Waldorf, LifePoint Church of Waldorf's Pastor Michael and Angela Rogalski; Pastor John Lewis with the Servants of Christ Church; New Life Church and the Charles County Department of Social Services, who all donated food. In addition, the CSM Foundation supported the effort through funding from its "Help a Hawk" emergency fund.

"It is an honor to partner with CSM," said Michael Rogalski. "It is our goal at LifePoint to be a church not just in the community, but FOR the community. We are thankful for the opportunity to make an impact together with CSM."

"We heard about the food program at CSM from one of our members, [CSM Human Resources Generalist] Nikki Bradburn," shared First Baptist Church of Waldorf Pastor Randy Stacks, whose three sons have attended CSM. "I always challenge our church to look for ways to connect and serve others. Not only within the walls of our church, but everywhere we go."

Maryland Sen. Arthur Ellis and his wife Rosalind joined the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Student Life team to help distribute 725 pounds of food in one day at the sixth Mobile Hawk Feeder event held at the La Plata Campus Nov. 19.

"[This is] A harsh truth but necessary response to action," the senator later tweeted. "The holiday season is an especially difficult time for many, let alone college students. We appreciate CSM's efforts to provide this kind of relief."

*Press Release from CSM*



The CSM Student Life team hosted its seventh drive-thru food distribution event of the year for CSM students in December.

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**KEYNOTE ADDRESS** by Dr. Crystal Marie Fleming, professor of sociology and Africana studies at SUNY Stony Brook. She is an author and expert on global racism and white supremacy.

REGISTER FOR THE EVENT IN ADVANCE ON ZOOM AT:  
[WWW.SMCM.EDU/MLK](http://WWW.SMCM.EDU/MLK).

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## College Initiates Special Education Minor

*St. Mary's Adds MAT Certificate Program*



This spring 2021, St. Mary's College will begin offering a special education minor in the educational studies program. With the special education minor, students will be eligible to apply to the SMCM Master of Arts in Teaching program with certification in elementary/middle school special education (grades 1-8).

According to Katherine Koch, associate professor/associate director of teacher education, "Students will gain a solid foundation in special education theory and practice with a special education minor. Our students work closely with local K-12 schools to gain hands-on, practical experience."

The minor in special education includes six courses that offer a basic foundation in the field of special education. These courses are also required for the MAT program with certification in special education, starting with the July 2021 cohort. This minor is recommended for students who are interested in pursuing

careers related to special education, such as counseling, school psychology, and speech/language pathology, but do not necessarily plan to teach in K-12 settings. Commonly paired majors include history, psychology, and sociology.

Students completing the 10-month MAT program, which runs July-May, receive a degree that is recognized in all 50 states. In addition to the special education certification, MAT certifications are offered in elementary with early childhood, elementary (grades 1-6); secondary (in history, English, math, social studies, biology, chemistry, physics, theater: grades 7-12); and PreK-12 (art or music) or a foreign language (French, Spanish, or Chinese).

The special education minor and new MAT special education certification were approved by St. Mary's College in 2019, and recently approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission and Maryland State Department of Education.

*Press Release from SMCM.*



SEASON'S GREETINGS

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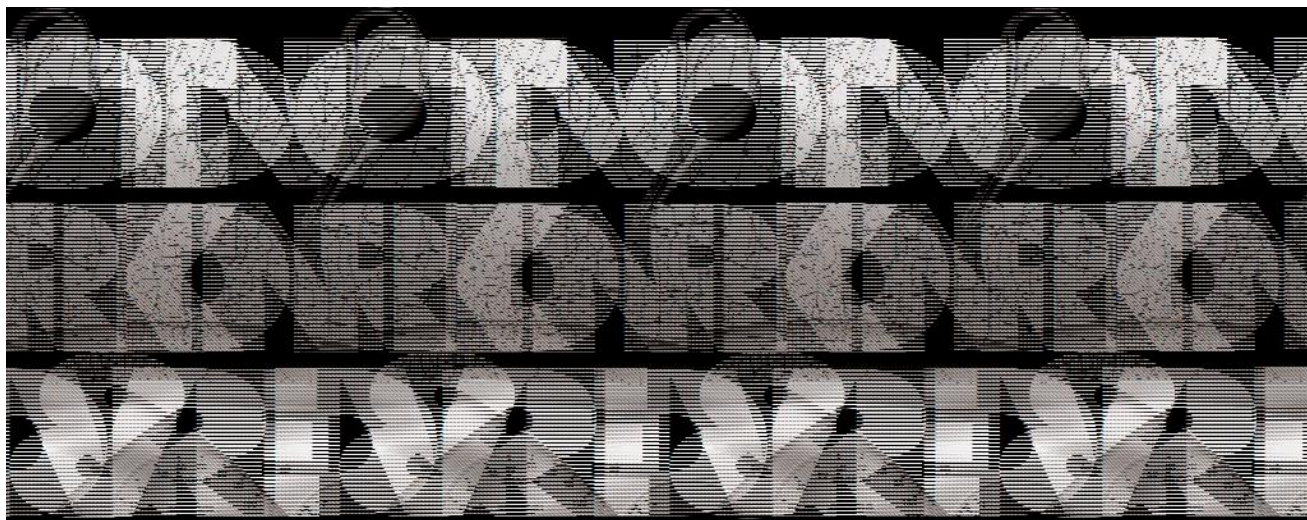


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# Professor Named One of the Top 10 Scientific Images of 2020

By Michael Bruckler

A research photograph taken by Professor of Biology Karen Crawford has been selected by Nature as one of the top 10 scientific images of 2020.

According to Nature, “2020 has been a year like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic pushed science to the forefront and dominated lives. But the year also produced fresh images unrelated to the virus. From wafer-thin solar cells to gene-edited squid, here are the striking shots from science that caught the eye of Nature’s news and art team.”

The photograph was taken during summer 2019 while Crawford was a Whitman Fellow on a team at Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. She was first author of a milestone study reported in the July 30, 2020, issue of Current Biology.

The team at MBL, led by MBL Senior



Scientist Joshua Rosenthal and Crawford, achieved the first gene knockout in a cephalopod using the squid *Doryteuthis pealeii*, an exceptionally important research organism in biology for nearly a century.

The team used CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing to knock out a pigmentation gene in squid embryos, which eliminated pigmentation in the eye and in skin cells (chromatophores) with high efficiency.

The ability to knock out a gene to test its function is an important step in developing cephalopods as genetically tractable organisms for biological research, augmenting the handful of species that currently dominate genetic studies, such as fruit flies, zebrafish, and mice.

It is also a necessary step toward having the capacity to knock in genes that facilitate research, such as genes that encode fluorescent proteins that can be imaged to track neural activity or other dynamic processes.

The MBL Cephalopod Program’s next goal is to transfer the new knock-

out technology to a smaller cephalopod species, *Euprymna berryi* (the hummingbird bobtail squid), which is relatively easy to culture to make genetic strains.

The Nature feature on “best science images of the year” is available online:

[https://www.nature.com/immersive/d41586-020-03436-5/index.html?utm\\_source=Nature+Briefing&utm\\_campaign=ad624b02ae-briefing-dy-20201214&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c9dfd39373-ad-624b02ae-44341669](https://www.nature.com/immersive/d41586-020-03436-5/index.html?utm_source=Nature+Briefing&utm_campaign=ad624b02ae-briefing-dy-20201214&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c9dfd39373-ad-624b02ae-44341669)

According to Crawford, “Ironically, while the editors chose to call the image Invisible Ink because the embryos are more transparent, the black ink in cephalopods is actually melanin based and therefore quite visible within the central ink sac (black dot) of each embryo.”

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# Letters to the Editor

## Thanks to St. Mary's Hospice

I'd like to express my sincerest appreciation to St. Mary's County Hospice for their nine months of attentive, loving care to ease the suffering of my wife, Theresa Knight, and for their support to family throughout. In particular, I'd like to thank her nurses: Jaime, Missy and Stephanie and her home health aides: Karen, Beverly, and Jessica with a special thanks

to Rosalind.

Also thanks to Sharon for her caregiving during our many necessary trips.

Finally my appreciation to Johnny Knight for his daily assistance. It was a God-send to us both that won't be forgotten.

Thank you all.

*George Knight*

# Pet OF THE WEEK



## MEET WHISPER

Cats are smarter than dogs. You can't get eight cats to pull a sled through the snow!

Hi there, my name is Whisper. My buddies here at TCAS think it doesn't come any cuter than me. Once you start looking at my SWEET FACE you will not be able to stop! I'm an ADORING, HANDSOME 3 year old boy looking for my LOVING FOREVER FAMILY. I would really just like to spend time chilling with you as your PERFECT couch buddy. Hurry over to that email at [animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov) to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP!! BE MY MIRACLE and PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

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

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/tri-county-animal-shelter>

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# St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

## Thursday, December 31

New Years Eve

## Friday, January 1

Happy New Year!

### Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID19. Beth Israel Synagogue will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7 PM. Check our website calendar ([bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html](http://bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html)) for event details.

## Tuesday, January 5

### 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](mailto:admin@ccsmd.com).

## Wednesday, January 6

### 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)

### DAV Assistance Program

St. Mary's Square ReStore; 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Veterans - do you have a service-connected disability? Did you receive an injury while on active duty and are now filing for disability through the Veterans Administration (VA)? The Disabled American Veterans organization is here to assist you with those VA forms at no cost to you. These men and women (who are disabled veterans) are volunteers who ensure you are placing the proper information in the proper blocks and advise you on common mistakes that are made on these VA forms. Their spaces are toward the rear of the building on the left side. Stop by and see if we can be of assistance to you. No appointment necessary.

### CSM College Trades Information Session

Virtual; 6 p.m.

Students are invited to learn about the trades and see what the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) has to offer in Construction Trades Core Skills, Electrical, HVAC, and more. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about our programs and hear from industry professionals about apprenticeship and employment opportunities. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free.

<https://www.csm.edu/calendar/admissions/trades-information-session.html>

## Thursday, January 7

### CSM Cloud Computing Information Session

Virtual; 6 p.m.

High school students and their parents are invited to learn about the unique opportunity to dual enroll in a class that may lead to an industry certification for an entry-level position for cloud computing.

RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. <https://www.csm.edu/calendar/student-life/Cloud-Computing-Info-Session>

### CSM Transfer Thursday

Virtual; 11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. [csm.edu/transferthursdays](https://www.csm.edu/transferthursdays)

## Ongoing

### 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](http://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 MedStar 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](http://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.



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# News

## Navy Awards Next Generation Jammer Low Band Contract

The U.S. Navy awarded a \$496 million Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) contract to L3Harris Technologies on Dec. 18 to further the Next Generation Jammer Low Band (NGJ-LB) capability.

The contract supports the final design efforts and manufacturing of eight operational prototype pods and four test pods that will be used for various levels of testing and fleet employment to include airworthiness, functionality, and integration with and carriage on the EA-18G Growler host aircraft.

The contract award announcement from Airborne Electronic Attack (AEA) Program Office (PMA-234), the managing office for product acquisition, comes directly on the heels of NGJ-LB entering the EMD acquisition phase, often referred to as Milestone B (MS B).

"I'm proud of the hard work and determination of the Navy and industry

team," said James Geurts, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition. "The teams work to reduce development risk, inform technology realities, and speed capabilities to the fleet was impressive. The efforts by all those involved enabled the Navy to move forward in a rapid manner to bring this new critical capability to bear for our warfighters, saving years in operational development."

Geurts signed the MS B Acquisition Decision Memorandum Dec. 8, signifying his satisfaction with NGJ-LB's proposed cost, schedule and performance intentions.

The program embarked on a Demonstration of Existing Technologies in late 2018, which informed technical maturity of capabilities. Originally the program was approved as a Middle Tier Acquisition Program due to the need for speed to fleet, but changes in policy

mandated that the Navy rapidly move the program to a Major Defense Acquisition Program.

"The program did a great job of overcoming all the obstacles that this transition laid in front of them," said Geurts. "Really a herculean effort that I'm honestly proud to have been part of."

"NGJ-LB is the next step in the evolution of Airborne Electronic Attack that is needed to meet current and emerging electronic warfare gaps," said Rear Adm. Shane Gahagan, Program Executive Officer, Tactical Aircraft Programs. "The increased jamming capability that NGJ-LB brings to the warfighter is critical to sustaining the future missions of the Navy and other services."

NGJ-LB is an external jamming pod that will address advanced and emerging threats using the latest digital, software-based array technologies and will provide enhanced AEA capabilities

to disrupt, deny and degrade enemy air defense and ground communication systems.

"Our AEA arsenal continues to expand with the NGJ-LB capability," said Capt. Michael Orr, PMA-234 program manager. "With the NGJ-LB EMD contract award, we continue our focus on delivering the warfighter an unsurpassed capability."

NGJ-LB is part of a larger NGJ weapon system that will augment, and ultimately replace the legacy ALQ-99 Tactical Jamming System pods in the low frequency spectrum currently used on the Growler. The weapons system is a joint program initiative with Australia.

You can learn more about PMA-234 and the NGJ weapon system at <https://www.navair.navy.mil/organization/PMA-234>

Story by Cindy Mattingly, PMA-234 Communications



The Next Gen Jammer affixed to an F 18.



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

## In Remembrance

### Henry Stephen Shupe



Henry Stephen Shupe, 80 of Lexington Park, MD went to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, December 18, 2020 in Leonardtown, MD.

Henry attended Catholic school his early years and later earned his GED. During his early years, he worked at the Sunny South grocery store in which his parents owned. Later, Henry was employed as a meat cutter/butcher at the A&P grocery store and in the evenings, he attended ICS Home Study Training and received his certificate in TV Technology and Repair. He then went on to purchase Earl's TV and became self-employed as a television and VCR technician.

Henry was a member of the Lexington Park United Methodist Church where he attended services regularly and served on the choir. He served as a volunteer at the Church of the Ascension Episcopal Church for HOPE for fifteen years. He loved to read his Bible, go to church, watch the 700 Club Ministries, watching the Washington Redskins football games, spend time with family and playing his guitar and keyboard. He was a supporter of the Trinity Broadcast Network and faithfully sent in a donate each month.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents, Dorothy Eileen and Wallace Clifford Shupe, siblings, Blaine Clifford Shupe, Leroy Thomas Shupe, Dorothy Eileen Shupe, his son Earl R. Shupe and stepson, Wilbur Clifton Moats.

Henry leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 32 years Iva M. Shupe, his children Henry W. Shupe (Rose), James C. Shupe (Sandy), Edward W. Shupe, Stephen L. Shupe (Tina), Mark T. Shupe, Jennifer A. Shupe, Williams P. Shupe (Renee), stepchildren Stephanie M. Moats, LaShawn T. Toyoda (Shingo), grandchildren Shelly A. Michener, Elizabeth Shupe, Kevin Shupe, Garrett Shupe, Katie, Henry and Avery Shupe, Dylan, Brett and Carson Shupe, Kaylee Shupe, Logan

and Mason Shupe and step grandchildren Tiera Baxter (Shante), Melissa Young, Nanami Toyoda, great grandchildren Jordan and Justin Michener and step great grandchildren Cadyn and Caylani Baxter and former wives Barbara Fallin (Tommy) and Joan Marshall.

Burial services were provided by Brinsfield Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD.

The Family wishes to express our sincere appreciation for all the acts of kindness during this time of grieving.

### Louis Giampiccolo



On December 23, 2020, Louis Giampiccolo (Lou), loving husband and father of 4 children and 2 grandchildren joined the angels at the age of 88.

Louis was born on June 25, 1932 in the Bronx, New York. In his youth, he fought in the Amateur Golden Gloves Boxing Competition and ran on his high school track team. On a particular evening Lou met his wife Carmina Fratarelli at a dance and he knew the moment he saw her from across the room that she was the one for him. Carmina was a scholar, beautiful and brilliant and they were married on January 21, 1956 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Astoria, New York. They were the 1st generation of Italian Americans in our family born in New York, USA. They raised four children together, Carmine Francis Giampiccolo,

Francesca Louise Giampiccolo, Christina Marie Lynn and Lisa Victoria Abell. At last, Louis and Carmina are together once again and dancing in each other's arms.

Louis was a veteran of the United States Navy from December 14, 1953 to September 11, 1955 and served his country as a Shipboard Electronics Technician. Lou enjoyed spending social time with friends and family, sharing experiences and stories of his accomplished career as a Civil Servant. He was an outgoing personality, loved a witty joke and would easily find common ground with everyone he met. Lou was best known for his love of his wife, family and his passion for Naval Aviation and technology. The many sacrifices Lou made during his NAVAIR career as a Program Manager will always be remembered, valued, appreciated by his grateful family.

Louis was preceded in death by his loving and devoted wife Carmina (Min) who died on April 11, 1990, his father, Carmelo Giampiccolo, and his mother, Jennie Giampiccolo. He is survived by his loving children, Carmine Giampiccolo (wife Sara), Francesca Giampiccolo, Christina Lynn (husband Michael), Lisa Abell and two grandchildren Vincent and Samuel Abell who will all miss him dearly.

A private service with immediate family will be held. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's County, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

### Rose Marie Abell

Rose Marie Abell passed away surrounded by her family at her residence in Leonardtown, MD on December 22, 2020 at the age of 76.

Rose was born on July 22, 1944 in Baltimore, MD to the late Sarah Perry Adams and George Thomas Adams.

She married James "Porky" Abell on October 13, 1973 at Sacred Heart Church in La Plata, MD. Together



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## In Loving Memory of Pauline F. Briscoe

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Twin Sister. Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure.

You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Three years still seem surreal, until we all meet again.

Gone but never ever forgotten.

Rest In Heavenly Peace.

Love you Forever,  
Your Family







they celebrated almost 25 wonderful years of marriage, until his passing on July 12, 1998.

Rose spent 25 years as owner and operator of a school bus driving company for the Catholic schools in St. Mary's County.

She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She spent many years making clothes, blankets and other treasures for her family and friends. She was known for her sharp scrabble skills and rarely lost any of the many games she played. During family gatherings you could always find her at the pitch table. She was an avid cook and passed down some of her favorite recipes to her children and grandchildren. Her favorite ways to relax were reading a good book, doing crossword puzzles, playing solitaire on the computer, or sitting at the kitchen table with a cup of coffee.

She will be remembered for her wise guidance, quick wit and her passion for family. There was never a time you couldn't come to her for advice or an ear to listen. Family was her number one priority and she never let anything get in the way of being there for them.

Rose is survived by her children: Ronald Vause (Terri), Karen Vause (Wesley), Michael Abell and David Abell. Sister: Theresa Moran. Grandchildren; Daniel Thomas, Heather Garner, Amanda Kline, Holli Wathen, Crystal Rogers and Emily Griffith and nine great-grandchildren. Throughout her life she had several great friends but will be treasured by Liz Woodburn, Tommy Cook and Mary Wathen.

She is also preceded in death by her son; Edward Vause, her siblings; Elizabeth Quade, Linda Pilkerton, and Thomas Adams as well as her first husband; Ronald Vause, Sr.

Memorial contributions can be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.mgfh.com](http://www.mgfh.com). Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory Leonardtown, MD.

### Ralph Foderetti

Ralph Foderetti, 59, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on December 11, 2020 at his house with his beloved wife, Robin, at his bedside. Ralph was



born in Ashtabula, OH on March 17, 1961. He was the son of Joseph and Olympia Foderetti (Mariotti). Ralph moved to Maryland in the 1990s. He was a construction worker who owned and operated his own business. Ralph enjoyed his Harley, his tractor, and bon-fires. He is preceded in death by both his parents. He is survived by his wife Robin Foderetti.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

### Orlan Cowan



Orlan Cowan, 87, of Leonardtown, MD (formerly of Perry Hall, MD) passed away December 25, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He was born July 1, 1933 in Rouzer-ville, PA to the late Earl O. Cowan and Anna Catherine Spessard Cowan. He was raised in Smithsburg, MD.

In 1953 Orlan enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served his country until his Honorable Discharge in 1955 as an Airman. During his service he earned the National Defense Service Ribbon.

He was a graduate of Towson State Teachers College in 1957, earned a Master of Education degree from Loyola College in 1962, and a Doctor of Education from Nova University in 1980. He was employed by the Baltimore County Board of Education for 28 years starting as a fifth-grade teacher, then a specialist in Reading education. He retired in 1985 as a Supervisor of Elementary Education. He worked as a Reading Consultant for educational publishers and part time as a florist. Returning to

his love of working with children, he worked for 9 years as a classroom teacher at Our Lady Queen of Peace School, Middle River, MD.

In 1973 while teaching part time at Johns Hopkins University McCoy College, he and his family began acting as a Host Family for International Graduate students and continued for 18 years. The friendships that they created last to this day and spawned travels to both Spain and Germany.

He was an avid reader, enjoyed watching science fiction, and had an extensive coin and stamp collection. He enjoyed gardening, tinkering in his shed, and making beautiful floral arrangements. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He was a member of Baltimore County Retired School Personnel Association, Knights of Columbus Council 7914, American Legion Post 221 and St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church.

Orlan is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia Catherine Lastowski Cowan, his children: Christopher Orlan Cowan, Catherine Marie Schwartz (her spouse Richard), Sean Patrick Cowan (his spouse Abigail); his sisters, Shirley King, and Patricia Willard, his 7 grandchildren; his extended family and friends. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his brothers Melvin "Pete", Gene, and Ronald Cowan.

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

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

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. John F. R. Catholic Church, ACTS of St. Marys County, or a charity of your choice.

### Dolores (De) Ruth Parks Lewis

Dolores (De) Ruth Parks Lewis, 89, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on 12/14/2020 at the MedStar St.



Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD.

She was born on July 13, 1931 in Cambridge, MD to the late Sherman Parks and Ruth Bean Parks. She moved to Lexington Park when she was a teenager and later attended and received an AA Degree from the St. Mary's Female Seminary Jr. College, in St. Mary's City, Maryland, (St. Mary's College). Dolores worked at the Patuxent Naval Air Station in the shipping and receiving department for 25 years until her retirement in September 1986. In December 1950 she married William S. Lewis, Jr. and they lived a few years in Lexington Park, MD and then moved to Hollywood, MD and lived there for 15 years until she moved back to Lexington Park and resided there until she passed away.

Dolores, known as De for family and friends, was the Matriarch of the family. She was a wonderful wife, a loving mother and grandmother and a beloved friend. She was also an exceptional artist, quick witted, had a great sense of humor, and yet mild mannered. She was a fantastic cook and produced many favorite recipes. She loved baking cookies with her grandchildren. She initiated most family gatherings such as cookouts, playing cards or scrabble, to name a few. She loved to travel and would map out wonderful vacations for the family to experience. She was a Christmas over-decorator that was appreciated by all. She enjoyed crabbing and visited many sites around St. Mary's County

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## In Remembrance

in the pursuit of the ideal crabbing spot. Later in life she enjoyed listening to music, attending luncheons with the Red Hat ladies, and visiting the Loffler Senior Citizen Center with her friends where she played cards, Samba and Canasta. She loved life and looked forward to everyday.

Dolores is survived by her children: William Lewis of Park Hall, MD; Ann Sturgell of Camarillo, CA; Mariah Reid of Newburg, MD; Mark Lewis (Sheryl) of Palm Coast, FL; and Sara Lewis (Bob Adcock) of Mechanicsville; eight grandchildren: Bill Lewis, Rob Lewis, Britney King, Matthew Cody, Sam Clements, DeAnna Clements, Brandon Lewis and Bryan Reid; and six grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, William S. Lewis, Jr. and her brother, Matthew Parks.

Due to the COVID Pandemic and the difficulty of travel at this time, a memorial service celebrating her life, will be held at a later date.

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

Arrangements have been made at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., Leonardtown, MD.

### James Harvey Hilbert



James Harvey Hilbert, 87, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away peacefully on December 19, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Jim was one of four (4) children born to his late parents, Harry Hilbert and Evelyn (Hiskey) Hilbert in Emmaus, PA.

Jim was a proud member of the United States Air Force. His pride for his country served him well his enlistment. He was honorably discharged in 1972.

He married his beloved wife, Antoinetta Hilbert in 1955, together they started a family of their own and spent

over fifty-three (53) wonderful years of marriage. Jim lost the love of his life in July, 2008. He has spent these past years, talking about and missing her. His children are taking solace in the fact that they've reunited in heaven.

Jim was a man of multifaceted talents, he enjoyed writing and weaving elaborate tales. He fed his imagination also with books. He was always ready to play a game of pool or shuffle a deck of cards knowing luck and skill were on his side. He was a golfer and bowler. He loved to spend time with his friends on the greens or at the bowling alley.

He was a fan of target shooting with an eagle eye. Above all Jim, loved his family. His children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren brought him great joy. We could spend hours watching the kids play on the floor and listen to their laughter as they played silly games.

A great man has left his earthly home, but has been reunited in God's glorious heaven during the most joyous time of the year. His legacy will be of strength, kindness and humanity. If you knew him you were blessed and hold your memories close until you meet again.

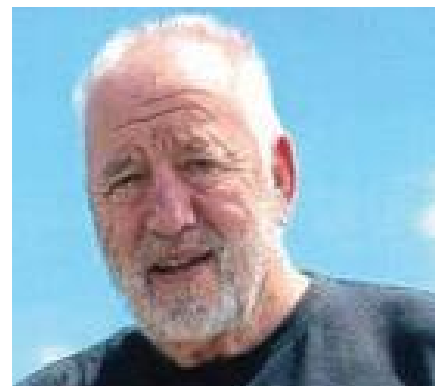
Jim is survived by his three (3) sons, Andrea "Andy" Hilbert of Mechanicsville, MD, and Clint Hilbert of Mebane, NC; three (3) grandchildren and two (2) great-grandchildren and one sister, Dorothy Frassetto of FL and brother, Joseph Hilbert of Schnecksville, PA. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife and son, Antonio Hilbert and sister, Mary Ann Bradshaw.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory.

### Larry "Price" Franklin

Price



Larry "Price" Franklin Price, 72, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, DC.

He was born on October 5, 1948, in Covington, KY, to Richard Price and Audrey (Richardson) Price. He was one of three (3) boys in his loving family.

Larry married his beautiful bride, Linda Christine (Teresi) Price on February 23, 1984. Together they celebrated over thirty-six (36) years of marriage. Their love combined two families making life a little crazy but fun.

He proudly joined the United States Air Force in 1971 serving his country honorably. He was a proud American and took great pride in his country. Upon his release he worked as a Plumbing and Housing Inspector for the Federal Government. He was a dedicated employee and enjoyed his position up until his retirement in 2010.

An avid outdoorsman, Larry found great peace in God's glorious canopy of blue skies and nature. He spent many mornings sitting in a blind or stand listening to the animals wake from their slumber in the hopes of bringing home a trophy. When the seasons changed and the weather warmed, Larry enjoyed a day on the water either crabbing or sitting with a fishing pole waiting for the fish to bite. He instilled his love for being outdoors with his children and then grandchildren. He took pride in being able to teach his grandchildren how to shoot a gun. He loved camping and sitting beside a campfire reminiscing and making memories.

Larry and Linda traveled together and made lasting memories with their adventures. Family meant everything to him and his greatest moments in life were spent surrounded by his loved ones. He was a grill master and enjoyed summer cookouts with the kids running around and driving him crazy.

Whether you knew him as Larry, Price, Dad, or Pop you knew a wonderful man with a heart of gold. He was greatly loved and will be missed by many family and friends.

Larry is survived by his wife, Linda Christine Price of Mechanicsville, MD; children, Joshua Franklin Price of Leonardtown, MD, Heather Jane Lambert, of Belmont, NC, Amy Elizabeth Maier of Gastonia, NC, Rebecca Marie Price of Gastonia, NC, Regina Lynn Buckler and Kristine Renee Ferrall of Mechanicsville, MD; seventeen (17) grandchildren and five (5) great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Michael Price of Columbus, OH. He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard Price and Audrey Price, brother, Stephen Earl Price and son, John Michael Reinburg.

In lieu of flowers, the family would request donations be made in Larry's name to the American Cancer Society, <https://www.cancer.org/involved/donate/memorial-giving.html>.

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

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

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# Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



## NEW YEAR, NEW PROJECTS

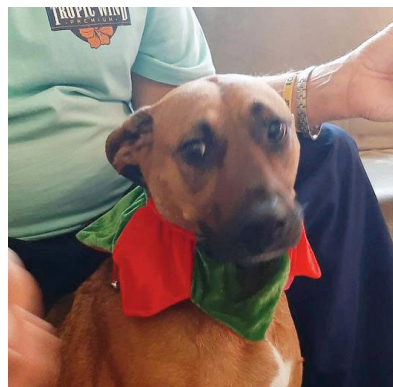
Ah, sweet 2021, at last I've found thee, and how I have longed for you to arrive. Woops, I need to stop reading cozy mysteries with an operatic theme. The basis for my sentence came from the operetta, Naughty Marietta, by Victor Herbert and a song in the operetta called "Ah, sweet mystery of life" (which many of you will remember from Young Frankenstein), interestingly also known as The Dream Melody – a perfect way to describe 2020, since most of us wish it were a bad dream.

I hope everyone had the best Christmas they could possibly have. It was nice to receive, and give, so many locally sourced presents. Gift givers really tried to help our local businesses this year. On our neighborhood Facebook page, lots of us created, sold, and purchased hand-crafted gifts from each other. It was a wonderful thing to see everything from Hot Cocoa bombs, edible painted cookie kits, to crafts, and to those selling Mary Kay to Scentsy being purchased. I made most of my Christmas money from hand painting my "Have a Crabby Christmas" and "Oyster waiting for present" ornaments. Of course, there was also a lot of online buying this year with people not wanting to go out in crowds very much.

January is the time when we start to see the question being asked on morning news shows, Facebook, and in magazines about your goals for the New Year. I wonder if it will be the same mix of losing weight, and controlling clutter, finances, etc. or will this year's goals be about spending more in-person time with loved ones once the pandemic has ceased its destruction. I see more tightly held hugs in the future and a continuance, I hope, of family togetherness activities that were begun during the pandemic. We can only hope.

My husband and I are used to togetherness. Swimming pool season is normally completely done in November (lots of people keep their pools open as long as possible) and doesn't re-start until April. Sooooo, we have lots of togetherness through the winter. This is why it is important that we both have lots of projects in the house and in our respective man garage and she shed. Sometimes we work together on projects which is especially nice, and this year we may have a lot of them, my husband picked up a ton of wood pallets.

This year's project is our bed-



room. It has not been changed in 25-30 years. My husband and I have only been married for 19 years, so you can see it is time. We were going to start it in 2005, after we recarpeted the main floor, bought living room furniture, and painted. Things changed course that November when my husband had a massive heart attack and thankfully came through as the fighter he is. After that, it always seemed some other room needed fixing first, or there was a recession, or other health issues to contend with. But he says, this year is it, completely redoing the bedroom is his winter project. My husband is in the patching and painting phase now, and after that it should move quickly to new vinyl wood flooring (if I can ever decide which one I want) and the new bedroom set (which, thankfully we both agreed on a few years ago).

As to other goals, like eating healthy, I think I have hit upon the perfect food: Grandma's Pizza from Old Line Restaurant and Pub in Charlotte Hall. I mean, I love the name, since there is nothing better in the world than being called Grandma, and Grandma's pizza is covered in Extra virgin olive oil, pesto, basil and fresh mozzarella and you can add sliced tomato and chicken if you really want to go wild. There you have it, the perfect food along with a nice local place with friendly people – throw in a Kentucky Mule and I am in Heaven. In fact, I think a Grandma's Pizza and a Mule may be the perfect way to start 2021, along with a toast for health, prosperity, and hopefully back to normalcy at some point in this New Year. I wish that for you, and all of us. Here's a hello from Mindy and also to a happy 2021!

To each new year's adventure, Shelby

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

# Time for New Year's Financial Resolutions

Many of us probably felt that 2020 lasted a very long time. But now that 2021 is upon us, we can make a fresh start – and one way to do that is to make some New Year's resolutions. Of course, you can make these resolutions for all parts of your life – physical, emotional, intellectual – but have you ever considered some financial resolutions?

Here are a few such resolutions to consider:

### Don't overreact to events.

When the coronavirus pandemic hit in mid-February, the financial markets took a big hit. Many people, convinced that we were in for a prolonged slump, decided to take a "time out" and headed to the investment sidelines. But it didn't take long for the markets to rally, rewarding those patient investors who stayed the course. Nothing is a certainty in the investment world, but the events of 2020 followed a familiar historical pattern: major crisis followed by market drop followed by strong recovery. The lesson for investors? Don't overreact to today's news – because tomorrow may look quite different.

### Be prepared.

At the beginning of 2020, nobody was anticipating a worldwide pandemic and its terrible consequences, both to individuals' health and to their economic well-being. None of us can foretell the future, either, but we can be prepared, and one way to do so is by building an emergency fund. Ideally, such a fund should be kept in liquid, low-risk vehicles and contain at least six months' worth of living expenses.

### Focus on moves you can control.

In response to pandemic-related economic pressures, some employers cut their matching contributions to 401(k) plans in 2020. Will some future event cause another such re-

duction? No one knows – and even if it happens, there's probably nothing you can do about it. Instead of worrying about things you can't control, focus on those you can. When it comes to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, put in as much as you can afford this year, and if your salary goes up, increase your contribution.

### Recognize your ability to build savings.

During the pandemic, the personal savings rate shot up, hitting a record of 33% in April, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. It fell over the next several months, but still remained about twice as high as the rate of the past few years. Of course, much of this surge in Americans' proclivity to save money was due to our lack of options for spending it, as the coronavirus caused either complete or partial shutdowns in physical retail establishments, as well as dining and entertainment venues. But if you did manage to boost your own personal savings when your spending was constrained, is it possible to remain a good saver when restrictions are lifted? Probably. And the greater your savings, the greater your financial freedoms – including the freedom to invest and freedom from excessive debt. When we reach a post-pandemic world, see if you can continue saving more than you did in previous years – and use your savings wisely.

These aren't the only financial resolutions you can make – but following them may help you develop habits that could benefit you in 2021 and beyond.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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*David McDonough*  
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.  
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## Ron Bailey

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[ronbailey2012@gmail.com](mailto:ronbailey2012@gmail.com)

RonBailey Photo

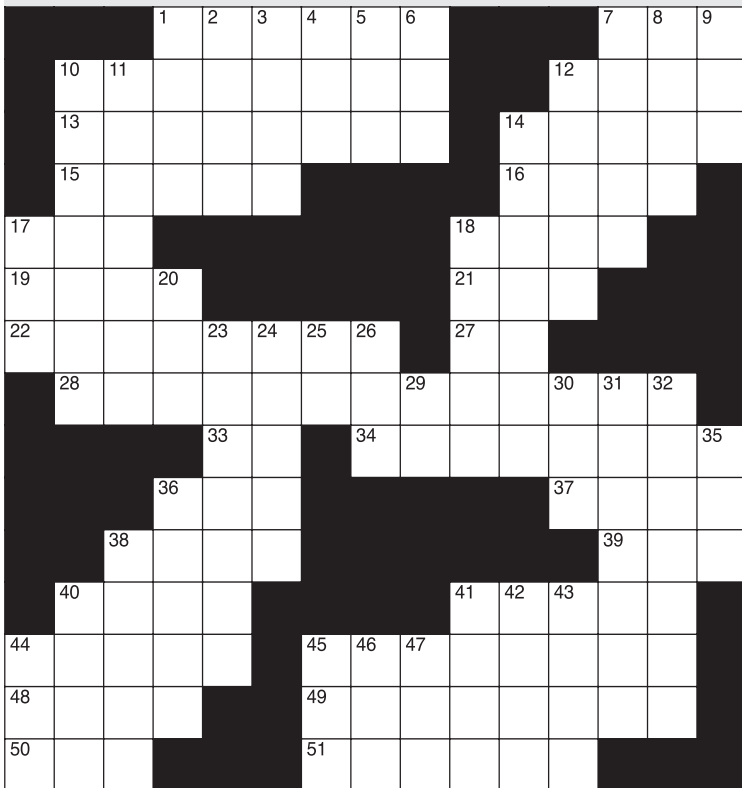
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# GAMES & PUZZLES



**CLUES ACROSS**

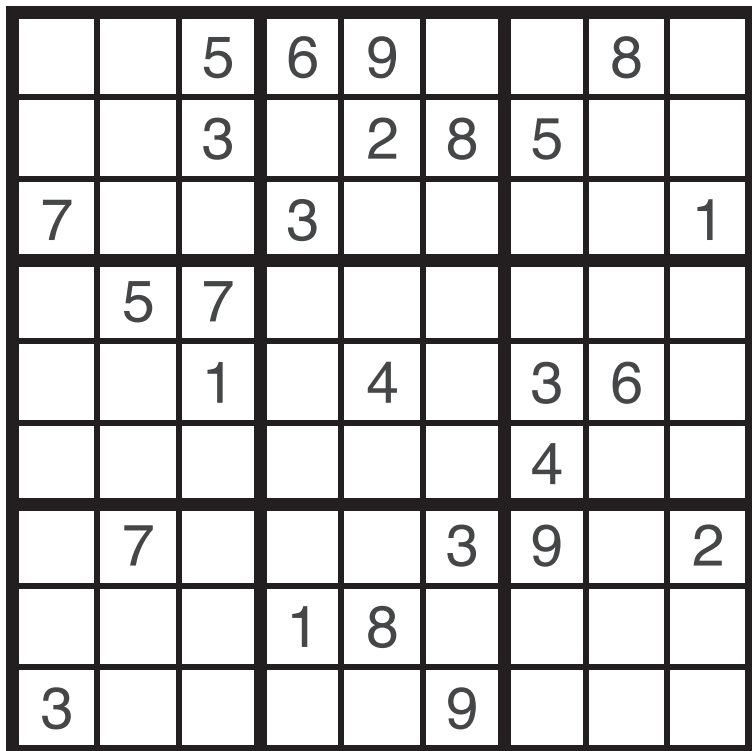
- 1. Crow species
- 4. Partner to flow
- 7. Male offspring
- 8. Sedate
- 10. Orange beverage
- 12. Pair of small hand drums
- 13. 12th month of Jewish civil year
- 14. Former Pirates star Jason
- 16. Computer company
- 17. Made angry
- 19. Beverage container
- 20. Charlize Theron film “\_\_ Flux”
- 21. Localities
- 25. Consume
- 26. Don't know when yet
- 27. Bed style
- 29. Make a low, continuous sound
- 30. Wrath
- 31. Pollinates flowers
- 32. Association
- 39. Prejudice
- 41. Unhealthy

- 42. Hasidic religious leader
- 43. Distinctive philosophy
- 44. Short-term memory
- 45. In a good way
- 46. Emperors of Ethiopia
- 48. Imaginary line
- 49. Of barium
- 50. One's sense of self-esteem
- 51. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 52. Monetary unit

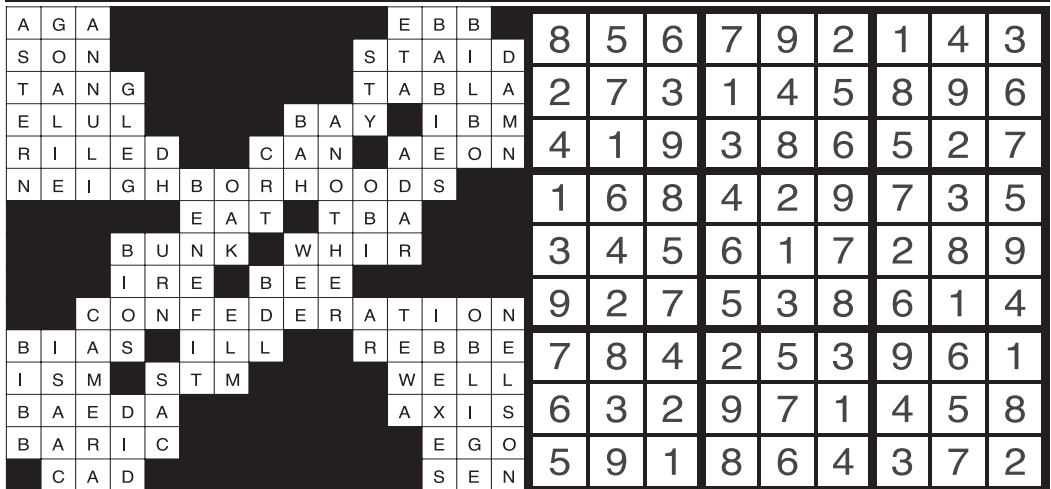
**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Rear of (nautical)
- 2. He minds the net
- 3. Ring-shaped objects
- 4. When you hope to get there
- 5. Young children
- 6. Beloved hobbit
- 8. Pigpen
- 9. Wish harm upon
- 11. Quick-eyed (Scottish)
- 14. Scrooge's

- phrase “\_\_ Humbug”
- 15. One more
- 18. A ballplayer who only hits
- 19. Once vital TV part
- 20. Sixth month of Jewish civil year
- 22. Advantage
- 23. Type of tree
- 24. Luke's mentor \_\_-Wan
- 27. Life stories
- 28. Vase
- 29. Tiny
- 31. Package (abbr.)
- 32. A photog's tool
- 33. Wood
- 34. One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- 35. Pueblo people of New Mexico
- 36. Wild goats
- 37. A way to comply
- 38. Horatio \_\_, British admiral
- 39. Actress Leslie
- 40. Sir \_\_ Newton
- 44. Pouch
- 47. Have already done



**LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**



**Publisher** Thomas McKay  
**Associate Publisher** Eric McKay  
**General Manager** Al Dailey [aldailey@countytimes.net](mailto:aldailey@countytimes.net)  
**Advertising** Jen Stotler [jen@countytimes.net](mailto:jen@countytimes.net)  
 Tim Flaherty [timflaherty@countytimes.net](mailto:timflaherty@countytimes.net)  
**Editor** Dick Myers [dickmyers@countytimes.net](mailto:dickmyers@countytimes.net)  
**Staff Writer** Guy Leonard [guyleonard@countytimes.net](mailto:guyleonard@countytimes.net)  
**Graphic Designer/Layout Artist** Jim Lucke [jimlucke@countytimes.net](mailto:jimlucke@countytimes.net)  
**Contributing Writers** Laura Joyce, Ron Guy, Shelby Opperman, Dave Spigler

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