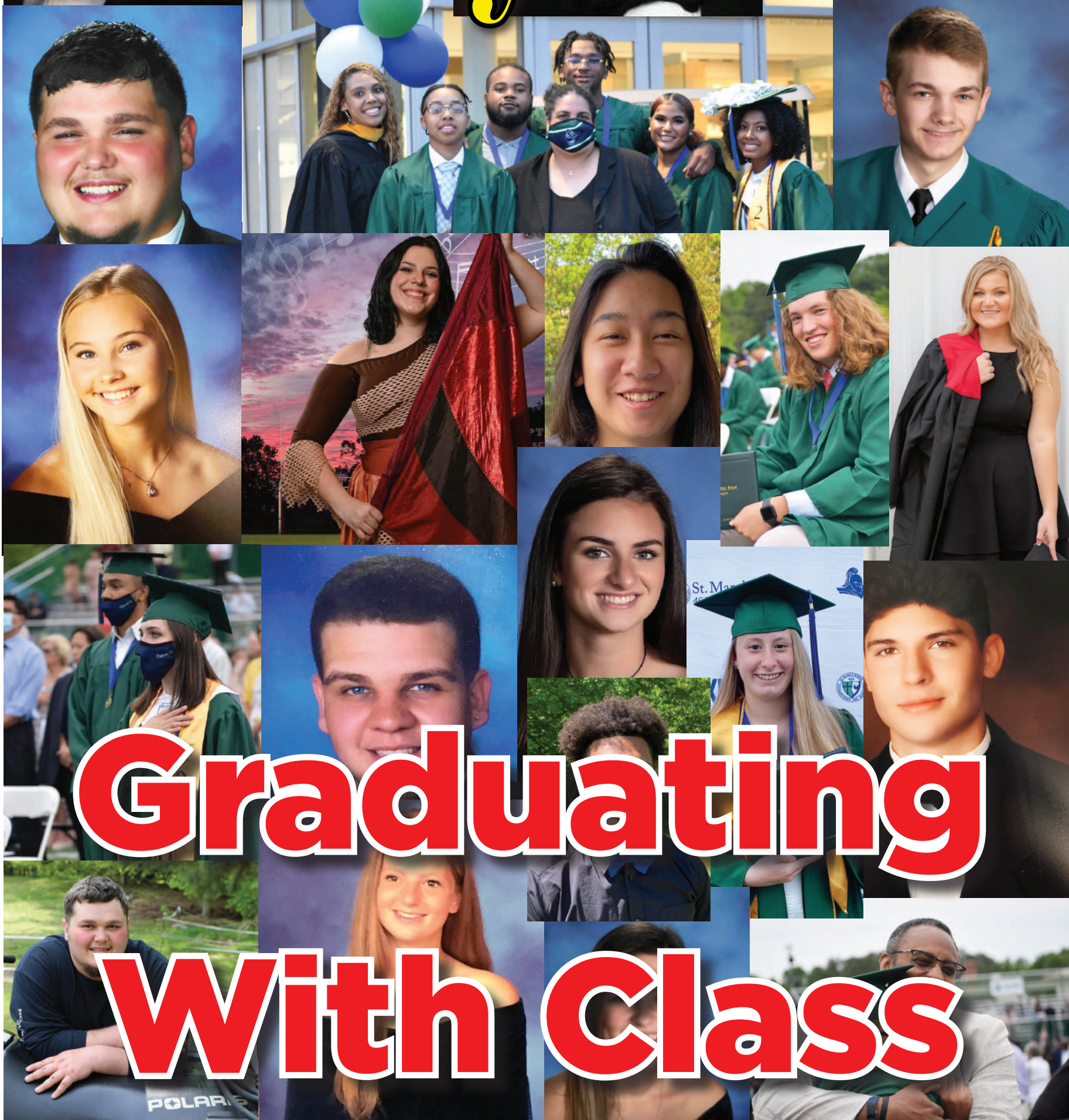


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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021

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CONTENTS

LOCAL 3

COPS & COURTS 10

GRADUATION 11

FEATURE 13

COMMUNITY 23

EDUCATION 25

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS 27

OBITS 28

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 30

FUN & GAMES 31



COVER 13
2021 Grads moving on



LOCAL 7
School Board finds money for employee pay arrangements



EDUCATION 24
Local firefighter makes CSM Hall of Fame

“IT HASN'T BEEN SITTING IN OUR BOOKS, IT HASN'T BEEN IN A HIDDEN ACCOUNT.”

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR KARIN BAILEY ON THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S \$7.4 MILLION FUND BALANCE

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 6/3	Fri 6/4	Sat 6/5	Sun 6/6
79° 63°F	79° 62°F	83° 64°F	85° 66°F
Scattered	Isolated	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Mon 6/7	Tue 6/8	Wed 6/9	Thu 6/10
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Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

Investigation of Teen's Death Goes to State's Attorney

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The criminal investigation into the actions of a Maryland State Trooper who shot and killed 16-year-old Peyton Ham in Leonardtown more than a month ago is now with the St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office for review, the local state police commander confirmed.

Lt. Krystle Rossignol confirmed that Trooper Joseph Azzari is currently on administrative duties after returning from a "set time" while on paid administrative leave in the aftermath of the shooting.

Rossignol said she could not reveal the nature of the duties to which Azzari, who has been with the agency for almost three years, has been assigned.

She also could not say when the criminal investigation into his shooting of Ham was transferred to the state's attorney's office for review, only that the parallel administrative investigation into Azzari's actions on April 13 by the Maryland State Police internal affairs unit could not be completed until the criminal investigation was concluded by the state's attorney's office.

Calls to the state's attorney's office for comment on the investigation's status went unanswered as of press time.

Ham was shot after he allegedly con-



fronted the trooper with a handgun, which later was revealed to be an airsoft pistol that closely resembled a real firearm.

Typically, airsoft replicas are equipped with a brightly colored tip at the muzzle to distinguish it from a real firearm.

In the aftermath of the shooting, the Maryland State Police released images of the knife recovered from the scene.

According to law officers, the trooper fired a second time at Ham, after the suspect had already been wounded,

because Ham had allegedly tried to get back up with the knife.

The knife was a small, folding-style pocket knife which appeared to have a blade length of approximately three inches.

The state police did not release an image of the actual airsoft pistol recovered from the scene though, instead they released a stock image of an airsoft pistol believed to be of the same model as the one Ham possessed that day as well as an image of an actual handgun, appar-

ently to show how realistic the replica could be.

Greg Shipley, state police media representative said, in an e-mail, that the image of the actual airsoft pistol recovered would not be released as it had blood on it.

It is unknown whether any video recordings of the shooting exist; state police do not wear body cameras – as St. Mary's County Sheriff's deputies do.

Witness statements and drone footage regarding the shooting suggest the law officer fired multiple rounds, perhaps the entire capacity of his service weapon, when he confronted the suspect April 13.

The drone footage available on-line showed that at least 15 evidence marker flags on the ground, possibly denoting expended shell casings, in three separate, distinct groups.

Also, a witness, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they heard at least 14 shots fired in the incident in three separate salvos that day.

The trooper's service weapon, a Glock 22, .40 caliber pistol, has a magazine capacity of 15 rounds.

Other neighborhood residents reported finding bullet holes in their residential property, across Hollywood Road, from where the shooting took place.

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**-Project Graduation and Richard D. Fritz,
St. Mary's County State's Attorney**

Last Year's Opioid Deaths Match All Time High

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The progress made in reducing the number of opioid-related deaths in St. Mary's County has apparently been erased with the latest data from the health department showing that 33 people died as a result of an opioid induced overdose in 2020.

This is the same number of deaths as the worst year so far of the opioid epidemic in St. Mary's, which was 2017.

Both health and law enforcement officials have said the COVID-19 pandemic would exacerbate overall drug use, and specifically opioids, and have recently reported a spike in opioid related overdoses.

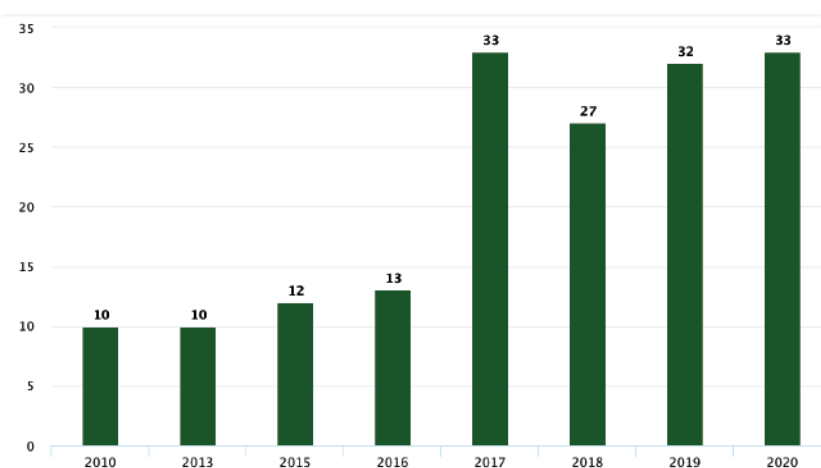
The opioid deaths have increased despite the rapid decrease in the number of opioid prescriptions approved in St. Mary's.

According to the data from the Maryland Prescription Drug Monitoring Program a there were more than 106,000 prescriptions of opioids doled out here in 2015, but that dropped to 77,917 such prescriptions in 2020.; there was a slight increase in 2020, though, over the prior year's number of 76,901 prescriptions filled.

Of those prescriptions filled in the past six years methadone and

Opioid-Related Deaths

The graph represents the number of opioid-related deaths by year. Data is for deaths that are unintentional (accidents) or undetermined. The total deaths are deaths occurring in St. Mary's county. Data is provided by the Maryland Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Data shown for the most recent year available is preliminary.



buprenorphine, both opioids used to treat opioid addiction, represent about 10 percent of the total volume of more than 532,000 from 2015 through 2020.

Along with heroin, a natural opiate, and other opioids, which are synthetic and often more powerful than the natural narcotic, both methadone and buprenorphine have been seized

in single arrests and larger narcotics operations from those who illegally possess them without a prescription.

The statistics show that - in St. Mary's - methadone prescriptions have decreased while buprenorphine scripts filled have increased.

There have been 14,508 prescriptions of methadone filled here in the past six years as opposed to 38, 494 of

buprenorphine.

One of the reasons for this appears to be the effects the former has over the latter; the addictive effect methadone has on a patient increases as the dose increases while buprenorphine has what is known as a "ceiling effect," meaning its addictive effect on a patient plateaus even if a user takes more of the medication.

This can reduce the risk of misuse as well as some side effects of addiction; one of the key ingredients in buprenorphine is naloxone, which is the drug currently used to counteract overdoses.

Shawn Davidson, county EMS Chief, said the spike in deaths was "sadly, no surprise."

"The safety nets that are there for folks when they can be social were gone during the worst part of a stress experience," Davidson told The County Times. "Literally everyone experienced unprecedented pressure due to the measures that were necessary to forestall the pandemic."

"In that environment, with fewer avenues for intervention and amplified problems, people who struggle with addiction are more likely to lean into their addiction."

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BOE Fully Funds Negotiated Agreements

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Board of Education approved a finalized school system budget for fiscal 2022 that fully funds the negotiated agreements with school employees last week.

Assistant Superintendent Tammy McCourt, for Finance made the announcement about the budget adjustments made by her department staff just one day after the Commissioners of St. Mary's County passed their operating budget, which fell just short of filling the request of \$114.8 million to fund school employee pay increases.

The commissioners allotted \$114.5 million, which increased the overall local contribution by \$4.9 million over the fiscal 2021 schools budget.

According to McCourt's figures, the school system has a \$7.4 million fund balance; the total operating budget, including state and federal revenue sources, totals \$237.5 million.

"The negotiated agreement includes step and pay scale adjustments of 1.75 percent for EASMC (Education Association of St. Mary's County)," McCourt told the school board at their May 26 meeting.

Contract school bus drivers also got an hourly rate increase commensurate with teachers, McCourt said, as well as an increase from 25 to 26.5 percent in fringe benefits.

The school board's leader said the fund balance was "identified savings" through the fiscal year that had not been fully known during the recent budget debates with the county commissioners, which contained significant acrimony.

"It hasn't been sitting in our books, it hasn't been in a hidden account," said Board Chair Karin Bailey.

"It's from money we had budgeted but did not use; it's like balancing your checkbook, this is what you have at the end of the month."

In the weeks before the county's budget was settled on a 3-to-2 vote Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith had warned that if the commissioners did not fund the entirety of their budget request, he would be forced to cut special programs such



School Board Chairman Karin Bailey

as STEM, or cut teacher positions. Some commissioners said his predictions were overstated, while two said the commissioners should use their revenues, which were predicted to be much higher than anticipated, to fully fund the original \$118 million request, which was later reduced to \$116 million.

McCourt said the system was able to balance their budget by reducing \$1.47 million, mostly through health care plan savings.

This allowed the school system to do away with plans to reduce its staffing by a planned two, full-time STEM teachers, McCourt said.

Smith said the \$7.4 million in fund balance would not be put into a "side account" but go towards system operations; it represented about three percent of the total budget.

The system plans to spend \$1.2 million on information technology upgrades, Smith said, as well as \$1.06 million on license renewals for digital textbook upgrades.

Additionally, Chopticon High School's cooling plant project, building modification plans and the purchase of an office building close to Moakley Street headquarters will take up \$2.95 million of that fund balance, Smith said.

The system's OPEB (other post employment benefits) account will also receive \$2 million in contributions.

The remaining \$272,000 will increase the fuel budget for school buses, Smith said.

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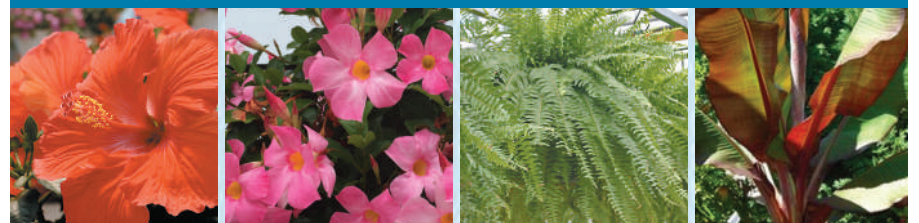


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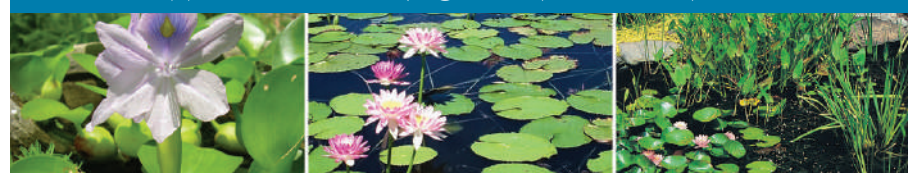
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Grinding Stretch of Route 235 Won't Be Repaved Until End of June

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Deeply grooved pavement for a significant segment of Route 235, starting just north of the intersection with Route 4 and running up almost into Hollywood, has been the constant companion of motorists for weeks now but there appears to be no progress on resurfacing it.

John Deatruck, head of the county's Department of Public Works and Transportation said the milling of the pavement was the state's doing.

"That's SHA (State Highway Administration)," Deatruck told The County Times. "They're repaving it."

Driving on milled pavement can be aggravating, from producing loud noise as well as increasing wear on tires, but Deatruck said it was necessary for successfully repaving roads.

"You have to mill the top off instead of just rolling new asphalt



down on top of it because the old layer gets dried and is brittle," Deatruck said. "Milling the pavement also helps crews find soft spots and it also gives the new asphalt something to grip onto."

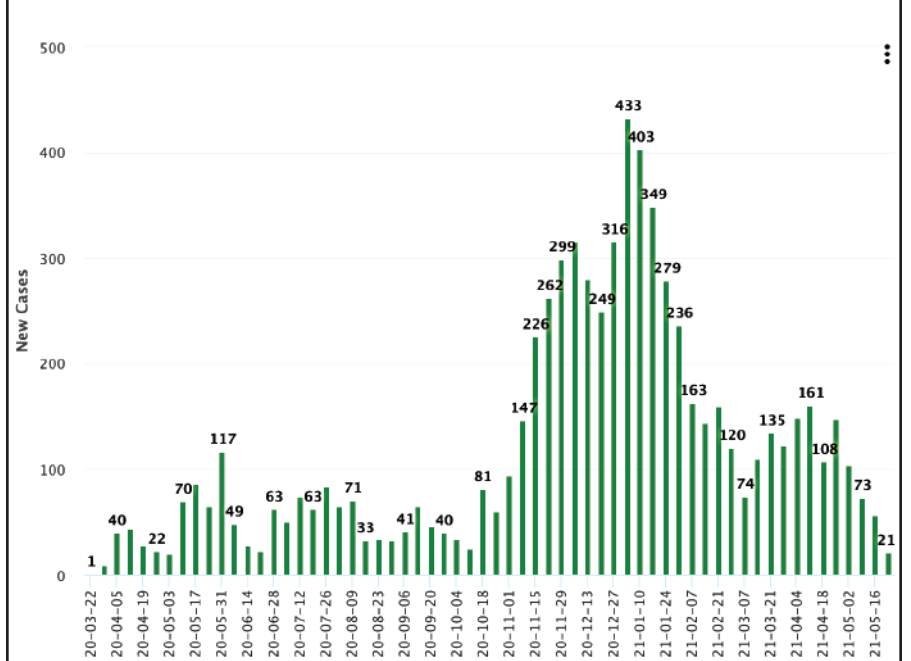
After speaking with SHA representatives, Deatruck said the project would not be completed for several more weeks.

"MD 235 paving will be completed by June 25, weather dependent," Deatruck said. "It'll be beautiful when it's done."

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New COVID Cases Plummet, But Deaths Continue

New Cases by Week



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As Gov. Larry Hogan has announced that 70 percent of the state has been vaccinated against COVID-19, St. Mary's County's health department reports that a little more than 50 percent of the county's entire population has also received the first dose of the vaccine.

The program seems to be having the desired effect; the number of new cases in the past two weeks has dropped sharply with just 57 new cases reported for the week of May 16, the health department's data shows.

Just seven days later, that number dropped even farther to 21 new cases.

Only a small percentage of the county's 17-years-old and younger population have been vaccinated - nine percent - but vaccines for the youngest in society have only been approved as of last month.

Almost 90 percent of those 65 and older in St. Mary's have been vaccinated at least once.

According to the latest figures from the health department just three percent of those 17 and younger have received their final dose - the Johnson and Johnson variety requires just one dose - while 45 percent of those in St. Mary's between the ages of 18 and 64 have received their final dose.

Just about 44 percent of the county's overall population has received their final dose, according to the health department.

Still the virus continues to claim lives as five more St. Mary's County residents have died from COVID-19 in the past week, according to the latest figures from the health department.

The total number of county residents who have died from the virus is 130.

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SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Youth Gun Violence Task Force Affects More Arrests

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Youth Gun Violence Task Force continued its enforcement efforts this week in removing illegal firearms and illicit drugs from the community.

On Thursday, May 27, 2021, task force members, Emergency Services Team and Sheriff's Office Narcotics detectives served a warrant on **Walead "Wade" Othman**, 53 of Lexington Park, at the Pax River Hotel. Othman was located along with several Buprenorphine packages, a schedule III controlled dangerous substance.



Walead Othman

On May 21, 2021, another search warrant was executed for Othman at the A&E Motel in Lexington Park. Othman was not present, but located in the room was a quantity of suspected heroin, suspected crack cocaine and manufacturing and packaging materials.

Othman was arrested on May 27, 2021 and charged with two counts of CDS Intent to Distribute, three counts of CDS Possession: Not Marijuana and CDS Manufacture CDS.

In addition, on May 27, 2021, Narcotics Division Detectives received information that **Clay Burris**, 23 of California, was in possession of a handgun in a backpack that he was wearing while driving a motorized scooter in the California and Lexington Park areas.



Clay Burris

Detectives located Burris on his scooter on Barefoot Drive in California and as he was stopped, Burris attempted to toss the backpack and was detained. A search of the backpack located a loaded Ruger SR9 9 mm handgun along with three vacuum sealed packages of marijuana. Burris was arrested and charged with Firearm/Drug Traffic Crime; CDS Distribution: Narcotic Marijuana; CDS Possession: Marijuana 10+ grams; Handgun in a Vehicle; Loaded

Handgun in a Vehicle; Handgun on Person and Loaded Handgun on Person.

On Friday, May 21, 2021, the Youth Gun Violence Task Force attempted to serve an arrest warrant on **De'Quan Savien Gantt Sr.**, age 20 of Lexington Park, for Malicious Destruction of Property. Task force personnel located Gantt at the Patuxent River Hotel in Lexington Park. When deputies attempted to place Gantt under arrest as he exited his vehicle and approached the hotel, Gantt assaulted a deputy and fled on foot through an adjacent shopping center. Prior to being apprehended, Gantt discarded an item into a hedgerow. A K-9 scan of the area resulted in the recovery of loaded Smith and Wesson .380 handgun. Gantt was arrested and charged with the following:

- *Second-Degree Assault on Law Enforcement Officer
- *Second-Degree Assault
- *Possession of a Firearm/Minor
- *Handgun on a Person
- *Loaded Handgun on a Person
- *Illegal Possession of Ammo
- *Illegal Possession of a Regulated Firearm
- *Handgun in a Vehicle
- *Loaded Handgun in a Vehicle
- *Resisting Arrest
- *CDS Possession: Not Marijuana
- *CDS Possession: Paraphernalia
- *Arrest Warrant for Malicious Destruction of Property

As the investigation into Gantt's firearm possession continued, the Youth Gun Violence Task Force and the St. Mary's Sheriff's Office Narcotics Division, assisted by the Emergency Services Team with support from Charles County's Emergency Services Team, executed a search and seizure warrant at a residence located on Flower Drive in Lexington Park. In addition to the recovery of evidence, **Durez Lindell Creek** was arrested and charged with the following:



Durez Lindell Creek

In addition to the recovery of evidence, **Durez Lindell Creek** was arrested and charged with the following:

- *Illegal Possession of Ammo
- *Two counts of CDS Possession: Cocaine and Oxycodone
- *CDS Possession: Paraphernalia

Editor's Note:

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

COMMISSIONERS OF LEONARDTOWN

The 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) will be available July 1, 2021 to Town residents and the public at the Town Hall office, 22670 Washington St. Leonardtown, MD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and at the Leonardtown Post Office, 22735 Washington Street and is also available online at <http://leonardtown.somd.com> under Town Government, Water Quality Reports.

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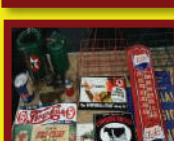
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We are so very proud of you!!
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Love you, Dad, Mom, and Trent

Starr Coleman



Class Of 2021



Can't believe high school is a done deal. Can't wait to see what the future holds for you at Virginia Tech. I want you to know how much I love you and how proud I am of you.

- Mom

Top Students Look Back at High School Years

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For more than a year St. Mary's County public school students have had to live and learn apart from their friends and teachers because of the COVID-19 pandemic; many have faltered in their studies and the school system is working to find ways to reclaim those lost learning opportunities that the virtual world – with all of its promise – failed to provide.

But many students persevered and even thrived.

Julia Stevenson, the 2021 valedictorian at Great Mills High School, traversed the virtual learning world this year while successfully completing six Advanced Placement (AP) courses and earning a 4.53 grade point average.

Like many other high-achieving students, she has not settled on a path in life but is not aiming low in her ambitions.

"I don't know what I really want to do but finance is something that I'm still interested in," Stevenson told The County Times, noting she plans on majoring in economics when she attends college at the University of Alabama in the fall.

She became enamored with the place when she helped her older sister move there to begin her college career, she said.

"I just wanted that big campus feel," Stevenson said. "I'm excited."

Still, Stevenson missed out on plenty due to COVID-19 when the system locked down and everyone had to stay home.

"I definitely missed out on some things in my junior year," she said. "Things like prom, my entire junior lacrosse season; I was really sad to miss that."

She took quite a few AP tests in her junior year as well, and though she passed them to get college credit she felt she might have performed better if she had not had to miss so much in-person learning time.

"Luckily I still passed," Stevenson said.

Being home so much had its advantages and drawbacks.

"It gave me a lot of time to be by myself," she said. "But it was tough just trying to find the motivation to keep up with the coursework."

"We only got 'P' for progress and 'N' for no progress, not the normal letter grades; it was hard to gauge things without that."

She had to take charge of her own schedule and manage her time well to keep up her grades.

"I think it's a skill that will serve me well in the future," Stevenson



Naggen Ohri

said. "It's easy to spend days dawdling around."

Her academic counterpart at Leonardtown High School, valedictorian Anthony Rematt, said he was normally a very driven student but the pandemic and the isolation away from school almost got the best of him.

With 16 AP courses to his credit and a 4.6 grade point average, he is looking to major in chemical engineering at Northwestern University next school year.

"Honestly the first three quarters [of his senior year] weren't so bad and I was able to keep up my GPA," Rematt said. "But in the last quarter I was so unmotivated; my teachers were really worried about me."

His grades seriously slipped, Rematt said, and he realized he had to work even harder to win back the ground he lost.

"I guess a reality check happened," Rematt said. "I just pushed my way through and got my grades back up."

Between his classes, involvement in clubs and work at two part-time jobs, he lost focus.

"I had a lot going on," Rematt said. "It made school seem almost optional."

He was worried he might lose the valedictorian title but he learned that such things shouldn't be the sole focus of a student.

"The title shouldn't make you feel smart," Rematt said. "You should know because of the hard work you do."

"Titles can be valuable but you shouldn't let yourself think they're the most important thing in the world."

The most important thing, Re-



Julia Stevenson

matt said, was: "To be happy in life; just enjoy life."

Julia Wright, the STEM salutatorian at Great Mills High School, is moving on to the University of California at Los Angeles in the fall to study mechanical engineering in hopes of creating more options for sustainable energy.

Though she is involved in a special program in the county school system, she said she wasn't able to come up with any quick and easy answers getting through her junior and senior years anymore than any other student.

Between her advanced course work and trying to get her college applications sent out - in hopes of getting a positive response in time - it was stressful in uncertain times.

"The intensity of all that was a pretty heavy burden," Wright said. "I'm proud of what I've accomplished because it wasn't easy at all."

"My success just came out of a lot of hard work."

The pandemic and the switching from virtual to hybrid learning didn't make her grades slip, she said, but it did help teach her the value of balance.

"I learned to give myself a little more credit than I usually do," Wright said. "We have to stick things out, but we've got to be gentle with ourselves sometimes, too, be careful of our mental health."

For Naggena Ohri, Leonard-

town High School's salutatorian, the isolation of the pandemic was very tough.

Naturally outgoing, she revelled in the social buzz of high school and all of the clubs and organizations she was involved in, she has also finished out her term as the Student Member of the St. Mary's County Board of Education.

Being apart from all of that as well as her friends, the math aficionado, who is working on a pre-med track at Duke University in the fall, had her hands full.

"Definitely time management and not being with my friends were big challenges for me," Ohri said. "I love being around people; I love socializing."

She still went about her classes, club meetings and school board meetings on Zoom and other online platforms, but the true social element was missing.

"It was truly not the same... being in an empty room in my house," Ohri said.

But the independence reinforced for her the need to take charge of her education.

"It definitely prepared me for college," Ohri said. "It told me when I had to buckle down and it also told me when I had to go with the flow."

"It put flexibility, and responsibility, in my hands."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



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Daniel Isaiah Garrison
Patricia Villapaz Gaydar
Ta'niya Arieale Goldring
Kareem Malik Gough
Alaysia Wynn Graham
Alyssa Marie Gray
Davi Alexander Green
Jayla Imani Green
Terrence Demetrius Green, Jr.
Donald Girard Gross, Jr.
Hannah Louise Gunn
Hector Yovahny Gutierrez
Savanna Daisy Hahn
Makenna Lachon Hall
Jenna Elizabeth Hamilton
Caleb Joseph Hamrick
Anna Olivia Hanson
Kameron Jeremiah Hargrove
Kareem Tyree Harris
Nyja Christina Harris
Victoria Tynse Alexandria Harris-Dove
Larry Darnell Harrod II
Alexis Renee Hartzell
William Brayden Hasegawa
Timothy Robert Hash
Tay Jean Anthony Hawkins
Tyara Louise Hawkins
Logan Michael Heitmeyer
Gregory Allen Henderson
Liliana Vega Hensley
Brooke Mariah Heubel
Mina Kiyomi Hicks
Finn Robert James Hildebrandt
Mi'kuan Emarvia Hill
Nicholas Michael Hill
Thomas Raymond Hill V
Georgia Anne Hiltz
Jennavie Brooke Hindle
Glendon Scott Hipp
Cameron Michael Hoffert
Emily Christine Holba Delorey
Amiriah Ayanna Michelle Holmes
Des'ree Mariah Holmes
Diontre Sebastian Holmes
Dylan Martin Hoschar
Kaitlyn Brooke Howard
Liliana Victoria Hubley
Camren Blake Huffman

Morgan Marie Huntt
Claire Wanda Ichniowski
Genesis Valencia Ingal
Thomas Roy Jamison
Mohammed Ahnaf Jawad
Arianna Mon'et Jenkins
Marque Antoni Jenkins
Aysia Nichole Johnson
Dalyanna Johnson
Jordyn Malek Johnson
Carson O'Neil Jones, Jr.
Javon Markese Jones
Jeremiah Keith Jones
Carlisa Daisha Jordan
Darius Kavon Jordan
Trevon Malik Jordan
Abby Raquel Joseph
Lofa Kamara
Aidan Cole Kelly
Karl Thomas Kent
Maurice Terrell Kent, Jr.
Amy Elisa Ketner
Tashauna Mia Key
Weston Carl Kilgore
Evelyn Jury Kim
Brittney Anne Delores King
Christopher Angel King
Alexis Christine Knezek
Kate Elizabeth Knezek
Lyndsay Rae Koehl
Victoria Anne Kreal
Sophia Renee Kreider
Samantha Michelle Labore
Matthew Arthur Lancaster
Samantha Mae Lang
Dylan Shane Latham
Shakia Amani Lawrence
Tamaree Zymir Lee
Paige Jeanetta Lettau
Regan Savannah Lillard
Jaquan Alexander Lindsay
Alicia Danielle Linn
Kaleb Robert Lolley
Desteni Kalese Long-Hughey
Ryan Lucas Lohr Lowe
Lochlann Murphy Ludwig
Kailyn Marie Luettgenau
Michael Jon Lux
Xavian Amauria Mack
Jenna Nicole Mackall
Destney Lucille Maddox
Jalen Da'Marcus Marable
Heidy Madai Martinez-Perez
Liam James Maupin
Joseph James McCarthy
Casey Maxine McClellan
Nathaniel Edward McDevitt
Kyle Robert McKay
Georgina Elizabeth Melendez
Ivan Alejandro Mendoza
Olivia Paige Mesmer
Devin Allen Miles
Isaiah Duane Miles

Graduating Class of 2021

Samaria Nicole Miles
Gabriel Pierce Bailey
Mimay
Kelder Lamonte Mitchell
Joshua Robert
Montgomery
Ra'Naisha Latrice
Montgomery
Hannah Elizabeth Morgan
Keyshawn Na Cori Morgan
Lydia Grace Morris
Devron Ny'Quez Murray
La'Shanti Ieasha Napper
Erica Lee Nelson
Ilyonna Lanea Nelson
Erika Leigh Nevis
Minh Hai Nguyen
Sybielle Selynn Nocillado
Imer Dario Norales
Caballero
Joseph Tyler Nunes
Jonquez Xavier Nunn
Joseph James Oakes
Riley Danielle Orcutt
Dominic Nathaniel Pahel
Josue David Paredes Mejia
Osman Geovany Paredes
Mejia
Eliora Diane Park
Rigel Alexander Parks
Riley Cayden Peacock
Junhua Peng
Quinton Jamaal Perry
Connor Andrew Barber
Phillips
Katia Lucero Polanco
Perez
Ebun-Oluwa Faith Popoola
Jeremiah Anthony Porter
Malik Antwann Price
Marcus Jamal Price
Jamie Irene Prinsen
Kaicee Dorlaine Proctor
Marquis Jay Proctor
Vinay Pundith
Donovan Alexander
Purdon

Zakiyah Imani Jali Purdy
Madison Brooke Pyles
Dominique Alyssa Quade
Jamie Lee Quade, Jr.
Kaiden Sebastian Quade
Marshayla Trenala Queen
Benjamin Willis Ragan
Sausan Maryam Rahman
Malin Brandon Rainey
Javaughn Oshay De-Andre
Ramsay
Tyree O'Dell Randolph
Ethan Daniel Ray
Cuyler Jackson Raymond
Jaeda Korryne Reeves
Ryan Blaza Reffner
Connor Christian Reilly
Sofia Mabel Reina
Jason Michael Reintzell, Jr.
Ashton Lyn Rice
Noah Christopher Ritter
Andera Jean Rivera
Joshua James Robbins
Aniah Kamille Roberts
Samara Lynna' Robinson
Janelle Marie Rodriguez
Gonzalez
Nicolas Luis Rodriguez
Sytaesha Lanaye Rogers
Shane Michael Rollins
Aaliyah Marie Roman
Axl Cunanan Ronquillo
Dean Clifford Rundquist
Khalil Antonio Sabella
Kelvin Salguero Coronado
Zaria Mekhi Santos
Jazlyn Makayla Saunders
Talon Thomas Dyson
Saunders
Arlea Lenee Saxon
Kyle Almaden Schisler
Jarrett Alan Schultz
Samuel Jerry Schwartz
Deasha Ann Scriber
Emma Renee Seanor
Steven Elie Seri
Jayla Juliana Shade

Destiny Yvette Shanklin
Alexander Thomas
Sheluga
Brianna Ma'Kayla Sherrell
David Juyong Shim
Tyler Lee Shorter
Zykeria Sharnae Shubrooks
Nunley
Samantha Leigh Sias
David James-Frances
Simmons
Donovan Mykal-Frances
Simmons
Kent Sipe
Kazmir Christina
Smallwood
Dashawn Raheem Smith
Destini Daytoya Smith
Ke'Shaun Myron Smith
Kobe Cazia Smith
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Sokoloff
Eden Kattera Somerville
Sandy Ken Son
Riley Elizabeth Stanford
Cameron Anthony Steede
Julia Lynn Stevenson
Tishauna Raeshelle
Stevenson
Alexander Louis Stewart
Alexius Jaquana Stewart
Jason Hunter Stone
Gabriel Mande Tayco
Selena Flores Tetteh
Alexus Nicole Thomas
Emalee Rose Thomas
Jayla CaRyn Thomas
Kayla Taylisha Thomas
Marquese Antonio Thomas
Rodneisha Elaine Thomas
Tariaue Tayler Thompson
Allison Marie Tippet
Gerchel Mae Paragas
Toledo
Hannah Elizabeth
Torgesen
Ashley Genelle Torres
Daniela Torres

Kenneth Tover-Calderon
George Frederick Travers II
Alvaro Russell Triana
Brenden Louis Trossbach
Isabel Trujillo Castro
Tajzhay Lynay Tuller
Emily Elizabeth Turner
Luis Johan Valenzuela Teo
Marissa Riley Vanberkom-
Koch
Wilfred Familiar Vergara
Danielle Leigh Wade
Tyler Montgomery Wade
Lilian Micheal Walker
Anthony Michael Walsh
Aryana Leigh Wheeler
Benjamin Lee White
Dorian Amir Williams
Nakira Laquette Williams
Ryan Jack Williams
Samuel Micheal Williams
Ziyanna La'Faye Williams
Cameron Deon Wilson
Scott Alexander
Winkleman
Tomas Darian Winston
Nicole Marie Wise
Camille Shema
Witherspoon
Christian Daniel Wolpert
Lily Hale Wood
Kevin Eugene Woodland
Jr.
Kevona Enice Woodland
Ty'Aliyah Elise Woodland
Julia Claire Bastos Wright
Eriona Nicole Yorkshire
Jalen Latrell Young
Jamea Azae Young
Trevon Joseph Young
Drew William Youngson
Eminy Zhang
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Kaitlyn Isabella Zhou
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St. Mary's Ryken

Graduating Class of 2021

Clayton Allen
Michael Anderson
Thomas Annulis
Rebecca Arnold
Cristian Aviles
Julia Baddour
Gavin Barford
Zoe Beardsley
Andrew Beckman
Connor Bell
Gregory Belvin
Julia Belvin
Karsyn Bennett
Colleen Bergmann
Jasmine Bohnhoff
Alecia Bonfont
Allison Boothe
Jamaree Bowman
Brent Bradford
Sandra Bradley
Blake Brinsfield
Rachel Broughton
Ariana Bubb
Matthew Buckler
Jestin Butler
Matthew Caldwell
Jasmine Marie Caniban
Laci Cardova
Sydney Chamberlain
Hannah Collier
William Coughlon
Layla Cozart-Amos
Katherine Craig
Ian Craven
Lindsay Daczkowski
Tucker Davila
Adanya Day
Madison Dean
Sophia Dean
Alexander Deese
Crescila Eva Deleon
James Devine
Patrick Devine
Reece Dickie
Gavin Dobson
Fei Du
Peyton Dziekiewicz
Imani Eubanks
Gianna Facchina
Natalie Fajerski
Dajah Farmer
Oluwatomisin Fatoki
Caitlin Flatley

Taylor-Rene Flemmings
Kylie Flerlage
Lila Flores
Gary Ford
Elissa Freeman
Nikia Friday
Naomi Fuller
Emily Gardiner
Luke Getson
Aliya Gimatdinova
Kayla Gormley
John Gott
Molly Guy
Erin Hall
John Hardman
Matthew Harrer
Jesse Harris
Michael Hayden
Mykayla Hayden
Robert Heisler
Emilie Hickey
Robert Hicks
Dwuane Holland
Jaeden Hosea
Jared Hutson
Chinwendu Ironi
Ann Irvin
Derrick Jacobs
Aaron Jasper
Tyriel Jefferson
Carsyn Jones
Shauna Kearney
Hoerim Kim
Katelyn Kovach
Karmen Krechman
Nikita Kuzminov
Meghan LeSage
Malaika Lewis
Ertan Li
Kuidong Li
Emily Litten
Yu Liu
Vladan Malavrazic
Jeremiah Martin
Nicholas Matthews
Jane Mattingly
Michael Mattingly
Caili McCarthy
Connor McGibbon
Lailah Merai
Blake Meyer
Brin Moore
Aidan Morris
Ashley Mudd
Katherine Murphy
Gianna Nazzaro
Joshua Nguyen
Jisu Noh

Trevor Nored
Daniel Nwadike
Tomilola Oladipo
Daniel Ollom
Brooklyn Paton
Anthony Pavan
Anthony Pensenstadler
Maelia Perham
Daniel Pesetsky
Drew Pettis
Hannah Phillips
Ava Pierpont
Trinity Plemons
Devin Posey
Leah Prince
Raquel Rawlins
Jaida Rhea
Tyler Richards
Thomas Roberts
Darlene Salvador
Rebecca Schindler
Peter Schumacher
Maria Schwartz
Sage Scott
Luke Seep
Dennis Sepede
Raychel Shields
Abigail Simmons
Daymone Simmons
Dayvone Simmons
Jailah Simpson
Megan Skane
Jack Smith
Rebecca Smith
Daphne Spencer
Matthew Sterbenz
Ethan Strain
Robyn Strauss
Anastasia Stump
Reagan Sutton
Caroline Tedford
Molly Thompson
Tyler Tran
Emily Trossbach
Macy Van Meter
Owen Vandergriff
Cameron Viator
Clara Watkins
Hannah Wetherald
Dezmond Williams
Banks Wills
Hannah Wilson
Christian Wirth
Charles Woolridge
Nicholas Worch
Hojung Yu



King's Christian Academy Graduating Class of 2021

Jeremiah Adeyemo
Alexis Allegra
Rhianna Billings
Janina Bond- Encourager

Rachel Bowidowicz
Robert Campbell
Faith Fitz
Abi Gallart

Thomas Hall
Emma Harris
Krista Hurst
Olivia Hutchens Rocha

Alexis Igtos
Liam Marshall
Guy Ngounou
Aimee Pentermann

Calvin Powell
Anderson Reed
Emma Smith
Ethan Tobler



Leonard Hall Academy Graduating Class of 2021

Kylan Ja'mon Davis
John Robert Hutchins

Angel Grace Lockhart
William Seamus McLaughlin

Wyatt Joseph Wadley

ST MARY'S
COLLEGE of MARYLAND



FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 2021
6 P.M. TOWNHOUSE GREEN

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!

Food vendors will be onsite. The Townhouse Green, on the St. Mary's College campus, opens at 4 p.m. The event is free of charge and open to the public.

A Johnson & Johnson vaccination clinic will also be on site for the general public from 6-9 p.m.

Walk-ups will be accepted but registration in advance is advised. After being vaccinated, the public will need to wait at least 15 minutes with the clinic before returning to the festival.

LIVESTREAM AND MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.SMCM.EDU/MULBERRY



HEADLINER:
THE NIGHTHAWKS

Mixing blues, R&B, honky-tonk country, doo-wop, gospel and rockabilly, The Nighthawks remain true to its initial mission of recreating rock and roll from the ever-exciting roots of American music after 50 years.

THE KELLY BELL BAND

Originally formed as the back-up band for rock and roll pioneer, Bo Diddley, the Kelly Bell Band has been touring the world ever since. Voted "Best Blues Band" in the Mid-Atlantic Region 12 years in a row.



THE JOSH RILEY BAND

Based out of Southern Maryland, The Josh Riley Band delivers a unique twist on the blues genre with a one-of-a-kind sound blending blues, jazz, go-go, and pop-rock.



Summer Sizzle FIRST FRIDAY

Friday JUNE 4th - Leonardtown, MD



DRUM CIRCLE: 6 - 7 P.M.
DRUM LINE: 7 - 8 P.M.
at the Arts Council

DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE

THE GREAT COVER-UP!

Donate as little as \$1 and be apart of the GREATEST COVER-UP of all time!

Monies collected go to benefit the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics.

First Friday in Leonardtown
June 4, 2021
4-8 p.m.

DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE

LE Torch Run will be held on July 10th in St. Mary's City, Maryland.

For more information visit us at www.firstsheriff.com

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THE GOOD EARTH NATURAL FOODS CO.
will be offering 10% off their brand new "Island Peach Smoothie"

TOUR THE OLD JAIL MUSEUM
10 A.M. - 7 P.M.

"SUMMERFEST" GALLERY
at North End Gallery
11 A.M. - 8 P.M.

SPECIALS THROUGHOUT THE MARKET

COMMUNITY CASH MOB

Live Local. Shop Local.

Join the Community Cash Mob to shop and support local businesses.
Leonardtown Square 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

LIVE MUSIC AND MCINTOSH RUN APPLE WINE RELEASE
at Port of Leonardtown Winery

FENWICK ST. USED BOOKS

NEW LOGO, NEW SHIRTS, AND NEW BOOKS
at Fenwick Street Used Books and Music

St. Mary's County Arts Council

Arts

ARTS COUNCIL GALLERY
11 A.M. - 8 P.M. Gift Shop

YE OLDE TOWNE CAFE

Blueberry Pancakes \$8.99
Fried Shrimp Basket \$12.99

*Some photos above were taken before Covid
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CONVERSATION & A CRUISE SERIES

@ St. Clement's Island Museum

A FUN PROGRAM FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Family Friendly Educational Cruises

St. Clement's Island Museum
June 12, July 17, August 14
9AM - 10AM

Call: 301-769-2222 to book
Info: [Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum)
Reservations Required

Honoring Vets During Military Appreciation Month



May is Military Appreciation Month and PAX Sound of Freedom and Quilts of Valor wish to say thank you to all active duty and retired military members and their families for their sacrifices in service to our country. At Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park, 9 military veterans were awarded Quilts of Valor for their service. Pictured (l to r) are: Daniel Norris (Marine - 8 years), Mark Phippen (Navy - 11 years), Mike Jones (Army - 21 years), Vaughn McCall (Air Force - 20 years), Patrick Wyman (Marine - 25 years), Nick Gravelle (Navy - 20 years), Robert Jones (Navy - 24 years), and Benjamin Young (Navy - 30 years). Seated is Walter DeMarr (Army - 2 years).



As a special honor, Karrie DeMarr and Kasey Mersch, great nieces of Walter DeMarr, honored their great uncle with a quilt they designed specifically for him. If you, a family member or friend served in the U.S. armed forces, you are entitled to receive a Quilt of Valor. The only stipulation is that quilts must be awarded in person to the service member. Please contact PAX Sound of Freedom group leader, Sylvia Lague, at (941) 705-0094.

Pet OF THE WEEK



MEET KEKO

“Great big tongue that licks my face
Has a crate, his very own space
Big brown eyes like moon pies
He’s my friend till the very end!”
- Abby Jenkins, ‘My Best Friend’.

Hi, my name is Keko! If you ask anyone at TCAS, they will enthusiastically say that I’m a GOOD LOOKING 6 year old Akita with an AMAZINGLY CHARMING PERSONALITY. I just want to sit by your side and give you my paw all day long. Could it be you need a pal to join you on your walk? I’m here for you! Want some company to curl up on the sofa to watch Netflix? I am always ready for a little snuggle time! Want to win me over? Give me a yummy treat and I’m YOUR BEST FRIEND FOREVER! Now I’m eagerly waiting to find MY NEW FAMILY with a GREAT BIG SMILE on MY LOVING FACE. So hurry and email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov to set up 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.

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>

TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER



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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) maintains a helpful webpage full of recommendations and guidance for safely utilizing public transit, rideshares and taxis, micro-mobility devices and personal vehicles.

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GUARANTEED RIDE HOME



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GRH provides a free ride home for registered commuters who ride in a carpool or vanpool, take transit, bike or walk to work at least twice a week. In the event of an unexpected emergency or unscheduled over- time, GRH will arrange for a free taxi ride, a free transit ride, or even a free rental car up to four times each year to get you home.

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LEGO Lighthouse Building Challenge Honors the Piney Point Lighthouse

Calling all LEGO enthusiasts! The St. Mary's County Museum Division is announcing a fun competition in honor of the oldest lighthouse on the Potomac River for Piney Point Lighthouse's 185th Anniversary. The challenge entails creating a version of any lighthouse utilizing LEGO bricks and bringing it to Piney Point Lighthouse Museum for display and contest judging.

The challenge has various age group categories, including ages 4-6, ages 7-11, ages 12-15 and ages 16 and up. The LEGO lighthouse creation should be no less than 12 inches (1 foot) tall and should not exceed 36 inches (3 feet) in height.

The winner of the contest in each age range will be selected on Sunday, August 8, 2021 during the final day of National Lighthouse Weekend. Lighthouses will be on public display at the museum until September 7, 2021.

"To really celebrate Piney Point Lighthouse's 185th anniversary, we thought this competition would be a fantastic way to get families and the community

involved," says Karen Stone, Manager of the St. Mary's County Museum Division. "What's even more fun is that everyone will be able to see their creations on display at the museum!"

Lighthouses should be brought to the main museum building at 44720 Lighthouse Road, Piney Point, MD 20674 between July 21, 2021 and July 30, 2021. Models can then be picked up between September 7, 2021 and September 12, 2021. Participation is free, and registration is required by calling 301-994-1471.

National Lighthouse Weekend will occur on Saturday, August 7, 2021 and Sunday, August 8, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. In celebration of the weekend and anniversary, admission to the museum is free for all visitors, although donations for the museum's mission of preservation and collection are welcome.

For more information about the contest, National Lighthouse Weekend or Piney Point Lighthouse Museum, please call 301-994-1471 or visit www.facebook.com/1836Light.

St. Clement's Island Heritage Day

Saturday • June 5 • 10 AM – 3 PM

Celebrate the history and heritage of St. Clement's Island



FREE FAMILY FUN

**LIGHTHOUSE
TOURS • KID'S FUN •
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES
• FREE WATER TAXI
RIDES • FREE MUSEUM
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For More Info
301-769-2222

[Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum)

St. Clement's Island
38370 Point Breeze Road
Coltons Point



CSM Alumnus Inducted into Navy Fire and Emergency Services Hall of Fame

College of Southern Maryland (CSM) alumnus retired Fire Chief George Kennett, of Avenue, was inducted into the United States Navy Fire and Emergency Services Hall of Fame this spring.

"I was honored and humbled," said Kennett, who retired from Naval Air Station/Naval District Washington Fire & Emergency Services in 2008, after more than 29 years of service. His last 12 years of work he served as the installation's fire chief and deputy fire chief for Naval District Washington.

Kennett was the 41st inductee to the hall of fame, which was created in 2003 to recognize significant and distinguished contributions to the Navy Fire and Emergency Services.

Kennett points to his education at CSM and beyond as critical to his success in the fire service, and he offered advice to others interested in entering the field.

"Education truly is the key to your successful career," he said. "Maintaining a good work ethic, clean personal record, and a 'can-do' mindset will also help you climb the ladder to success."

Kennett's association with CSM began in the 1970s, when he transferred from the University of Maryland, College Park, to study fire science at CSM,



From left, former CSM Hawk and Charles County Department of Emergency Services NR-EMT Steven Kennett poses with his father, CSM Alum and retired Navy Fire Chief George Kennett, who was recently inducted into the U.S. Navy Firefighter and Emergency Services Hall of Fame.

then called Charles County Community College. Kennett graduated in 1978 and began his career.

"The overall fire science curriculum boosted my knowledge and better prepared me for a career position in the fire service," Kennett said of his studies at CSM. "Being able to get my EMT while at CCCC was very helpful and was worth five credits at the time. I remained an EMT for 40 years."

Later in his career, Kennett continued his education, earning a bachelor's

degree from University of Maryland University College in 1988 and a master's degree from Florida Tech in 2001. His education gave him "a huge advantage" as he moved up the ranks, he said. "An associate degree provides a great springboard in most careers," he added, noting that he was one of the few chief fire officers in the Navy Fire Service with a master's degree.

During Kennett's award-winning career, he worked his way up through the ranks from firefighter starting in 1978 to fire chief, from 1996 to his retirement in 2008. During his career, which was all spent at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, he also 'dual-hatted' as the regional fire chief for Naval District Washington after leading his department through regionalization in 2005. He also held the positions of fire inspector/fire investigator, chief fire inspector and assistant chief of suppression during his rise to fire chief.

Kennett earned numerous awards throughout his career, including a Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, performance awards, Internationally Accredited Fire Officer and Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association Hall of Fame Inductee in 1999. Kennett tipped his hat to others around him who helped

him succeed at his work.

"Having great coworkers and employees during my career certainly made myself more successful and the Navy fire and emergency services are the best," he said.

Serving as firefighters and in emergency services is a Kennett family tradition.

"I actually followed in my dad and older brother's footsteps -- both were volunteer firefighters, while my brother was also a career firefighter/driver-operator at Patuxent River Naval Air Station for 25 years," Kennett said. "My dad had 54 years in volunteer fire/EMS and was a charter/life member of our local volunteer fire department and rescue squad. My mom had served in the fire department ladies auxiliary for some years.

"Now, my youngest son is a volunteer [with more than 10 years of service], as well as a career nationally registered EMT for Charles County Department of Emergency Services," he added. "My daughter is an RN, currently in a supervisory capacity. Therefore, we have three generations serving [our communities] in fire/EMS."

Press Release from CSM.

Volunteers Needed

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity? Consider Home-Delivered Meals!

The Home-Delivered Meals Program with the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services delivers well-balanced meals and a friendly visit to seniors who are homebound and cannot shop or cook for themselves.

Meals are delivered Monday -Friday, 11:15 a.m. -1:30 p.m.

No meals will be delivered on days that the Senior Activity Centers are closed.

Volunteers pick up meals at one of three Senior Activity Centers in St. Mary's County and deliver to homebound consumers.



Driver Qualifications and Requirements:

Valid Drivers License

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Implant Retained Dentures are a Life-Altering Improvement Over Removeable Dentures

By: Jeff Tomcsik

If you are stuck in removeable dentures, a removeable prosthesis like a bridge, or if you've been in need of a replacement option for missing teeth, you need to pay attention to this game changer in the dental industry. Embarrassing moments with removable dentures are a thing of the past with implant retained dentures. In fact, a lot of concerns and issues are a thing of the past with this truly life-like alternative to removables.

Implants have come a long way over the past several years. They are predictable and successful when placed by highly trained and educated professionals. The implants themselves are placed into the jawbone, creating an anchor for the prosthesis (denture, bridge or single tooth replacement). This anchor integrates with the natural bone in the jaw making the connection as permanent as a real, healthy tooth's root.

Because the implant mimics a

natural root, it allows for functionality like a real tooth. In fact chewing function with an implant retained, permanent denture maintains about 80% of original function over the removable's functionality of about 20%. It also creates bone stability, which means the jawbone will not atrophy (loss of bone) over time as with a traditional prosthesis or lack of teeth all together. This will help you keep a more youthful and healthy appearance for the rest of your life.

The fixed option also allows you to care for and clean the prosthetic teeth while in the mouth like you would with your original teeth. No more removing your denture and soaking it or brushing it outside of the mouth. It will not fall out during active events or while you eat. In fact, it won't fall out ever! This creates peace of mind as it avoids embarrassing situations. Only you and your dental team will ever know your teeth are not your originals.

Implant retained dentures are also quite economical over the life of the denture as well. If you've been suffering with ongoing dental problems, finding yourself in the dental chair year after year getting fillings, root canals and crowns, just to lead to bridges and eventually dentures, you could spend tens of thousands of dollars over time.

While a full arch (upper and/or lower teeth) fixed denture isn't cheap up front, it solves most of your dental problems for the rest of your life. You will never have another cavity, root canal, or crown again. Your periodontal condition has the opportunity to hit the reset switch. Your life becomes yours to enjoy again rather than worrying about pain, discomfort, or embarrassment all of the time.

Tidewater Dental has the most talented implant doctors in our service areas including a periodontist, Dr. David Peto, a prosthodontist, Dr. Bruce Finagin as well as Dr. Reza Nikpourfard, Dr.

Kolade Akinwande, and Dr. Todd Cooper, all three general dentists with extensive education and experience in placing and restoring implants.

With Tidewater Dental's team of Dental Professionals, you get the convenience of having all the professionals under one roof so that you can get your implants placed and final product fabricated without having to go to multiple offices to see multiple providers. Our doctors work collaboratively with each other to make sure you have a seamless experience with the most beautiful and functional result.

You can go up the road to the competition and pay \$5,000 to \$10,000 more for the same result, or you can come to the clear choice in implant retained dentures, Tidewater Dental. Contact any of our six locations to schedule a free consultation to see if you are a candidate for implant retained dentures.

Restore the Strength and Beauty of Your Smile!



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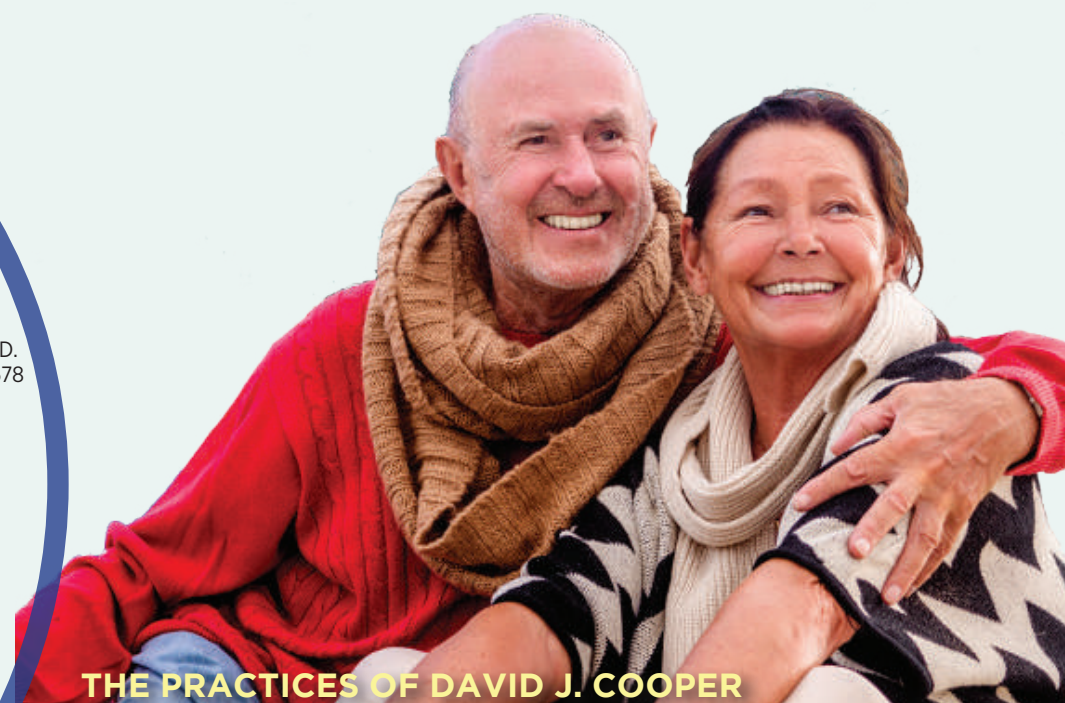
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Discuss Financial Goals With Your Family

June is Effective Communications Month. And it's a good idea to recognize the importance of good communications, because it plays a role in almost every aspect of living – including your finances. You'll want to clearly communicate your financial goals to your loved ones – and you'll want to hear theirs, too.

Let's look at some of the communications you might have with family members:

- **Your spouse** – You and your spouse may have different thoughts about a range of financial topics – how much to save, how much to spend, the level of debt with which you're comfortable and so on. Try to reach some type of consensus on these issues. However, in regard to investing, you don't necessarily have to act in unison all the time. You each may have different investment styles – one of you may be more aggressive, willing to take on more risk in exchange for potentially higher returns, while the other would rather invest with an eye toward mitigating risk, even it means accepting a lower return. Of course, there's nothing stopping each of you from pursuing your individual investment strategies in your own accounts – IRA, 401(k) and so on. Still, if you are going to work toward common goals – especially toward a shared vision of your retirement lifestyle – you each may want to compromise in your investment choices. And this accommodation is even more necessary in your joint accounts.

- **Your parents** – If you may someday be involved with your parents' financial plans – which is highly likely – you should know in advance what to expect. This may not be the easiest conversation to have,

but it's an important one. So, for example, ask your parents if they have a durable power of attorney, which allows them to designate someone to manage their financial affairs if they become physically or mentally incapacitated. You might also inquire if they have protected themselves against the potentially enormous costs of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay. If not, you might suggest that they contact a financial advisor, who can offer solutions. Once you begin communicating about these issues, you may well want to go further into your parents' estate plans to determine what other arrangements, if any, they have made. If it seems that their plans are not fully developed, you may want to encourage them to contact an attorney specializing in estate planning.

- **Your grown children** – Just as you talk to your parents about their estate plans, you'll want to discuss the same topic with your own grown children. Let them know who you have named as a durable power of attorney, what's in your last will and testament and whether you've established a living trust. If you're already working with a financial advisor and an estate planning professional, make sure your children know how to contact these individuals. Of course, you don't have to confine your communications to estate plans – if you want to help your children financially, such as loaning them money for a down payment on a home, let them know.

By talking with your loved ones about key financial matters, everyone benefits. So, keep those lines of communication open.

*Article was contributed by David McDonough
Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.
Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr Suite 302
Leonardtown MD, 20650
301 997 1707*

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



OUR MINDY GIRL

Mindy is getting slicker and slicker. I try to find new and innovative ways to slip her allergy pill and arthritis chew into her food each day. And each day I find the Apoquel allergy pill, and sometimes the arthritis chew spit out on the floor. I really hate resorting to the shove the pill down the throat while lifting her heading and rubbing her neck routine. That seems so traumatic; I would flip out if someone did that to me, especially someone you trust and love.

I have even tried wrapping the pill in cheese, peanut butter, and in the middle of leftover meat, but Mindy sniffs everything first with a raised eyebrow. Peanut butter Pill Pockets worked for a while, but then she got wise to that ruse as well. The last week or so, she has started to eat the pills mixed in with her food more which makes me wonder if she is noticing that her ears are feeling better and realizes it is the pills. It is really nice that she is not flapping her head around to try to take the itch out of her ears.

This past Sunday was Mindy's 5th adoption anniversary. The memories of her rail thin, timid self are so distant from the happy, hefty girl we have now. We were so upset when we went to get her at The Petco in Alexandria because a teenaged worker sat in the midst of the puppies kicking and pushing them away, especially Mindy who was trying to climb up in her lap and cuddle. My husband ended up telling the girl that if she didn't like her job then she should find a new one. Those poor puppies had already been through enough in their young lives. I have always wondered what caused the scar on Mindy's cheek, and what her first few months were like. We will never know what Mindy and her brother Mork went through, and we still regret not taking Mork home too. Two dogs just seemed like so much to handle when I was still recovering from surgery.

The first thing I did when we met Mindy was run towards her to see her temperament. She was happy and kissy, and still is. That's when I knew she would be perfect around all the grandkids. We also loved her sense of play. Mindy was hesitant leaving her brother and all her friends that first day, and I had to drag her in her harness across Petco's floor. She was happy and wagging her tail, so maybe that was playtime



for her too. She did that same thing when I took her to Pawtuxent Bed and Biscuit in Hollywood. Every time I would go to pick her up in the office, she would lay on her tummy and refuse to move, so I would have to slide her out the door. Mindy loved being with all those other dogs. Now, she prefers more quiet play and cuddle time when she is on play dates or sleepovers with her doggie friend Mo and her God Dog Parents, Paul and Gale. Come to think of it, she never wants to leave there either.

There are times when people come over to visit and Mindy tries to get in the car with them and leave, she must not feel like she is spoiled enough. She is such an adventurer and probably wants to know what new toys or foods are at their houses. The only time she is wary of getting in a car is, of course, for the dreaded vet visits. I swear she can tell the difference between a vet visit and a dump run. There are times I look at her eyes and think how much of a knowing, beautiful soul lies within. My mother always believed, and hoped, that when she died she would come back as a beloved pet. When my mother was dying, she wondered more and more if she would see all her pets in Heaven. I admit that I hope to see all my beloved pets in Heaven too besides my family and friends who have passed. But I am not going to worry about that now, I'm going to celebrate Mindy's adoption week and spoil her even more. The years go by way too quickly, so that means I've got to get a lot of spoiling time in. Going out to get some Frosty Paws now.

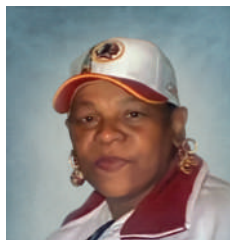
To each new day's adventure,
Shelby

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

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

In Remembrance

Joyce Paulette Whalen



Joyce Paulette Whalen, 66, of Fort Washington, MD formerly from Budd's Creek, MD passed away peacefully on May 24, 2021 in Clinton, MD. She was born on November

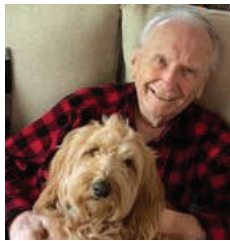
12, 1954 in Leonardtown, MD. Joyce was the loving daughter of the late Mary Jane Whalen and Thomas Paul Whalen. She is survived by her daughter Monica Yvette Whalen of Temple Hills, MD, and grandson Jaquan D. Whalen. Along with her siblings Eunice L. Whalen of La Plata, MD, Alvin S. Whalen of La Plata, MD, Priscilla A. Whalen of La Plata, MD, Caroline Kenley of Marlow Heights, MD, and Jimmy Young of Lexington Park, MD.

She graduated from Chopticon High School in 1973. Joyce was a Budget Analyst for the U.S. Department of Education for 36 years, retiring in February 2010. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Ladies Auxiliary # 301 in La Plata, MD.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory Leonardtown, MD.

Alexander Francis John

Kapczynski,



Alexander Francis John Kapczynski, Sr. 85 of California, MD (formerly of Fort Mill, SC) passed away on May 21, 2021 at his daughter's home surrounded

by his family.

He was born on February 3, 1936 in Bronx, New York to the late Francis Kapczynski and Alexandra (Czinik) Kapchen.

Alexander married Ernestina Lee "Tina" Ferrari shortly after graduating from high school. They celebrated 64 years together before her passing in April of this year. He studied engineering at the City College of New York. Upon graduation he was a God fearing, hardworking and family oriented man. Al worked on government contracts regarding aircraft and satellite technologies, for several years. In later years he sold computer software to high technology companies. He loved his family dearly and cherished spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. In his spare time he enjoyed watching TV, especially the Western series-Gunsmoke, bowling, golfing, and playing Pinochle.

He is survived by his children, Alex Kapczynski (Karen) of Hypoluxo, FL, Barbara Blades (Robert) of Lexington Park, MD, Michael Kapczynski of Charlotte, NC, Tinamarie Gallagher (Trace) of California, MD, and Robert Kapczynski (Lisa) of Ashburn, VA, his sister, Dorothy Trombecky of Savannah, GA, nineteen grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Ernestina, his siblings, Helen Vanis, Eleanor Mikals, Frances Mekalainas, and Mary Choinski.

At this time services are private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Lois Kessler Groome



Lois Kessler Groome, 96, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away, Saturday, May 22, 2021 at her home. She was born June 15, 1924 in Clifty, West Virginia to the late Andrew A.

Kessler and Chloe Caldwell Kessler.

An independent woman, Lois met William Burroughs Groome, ("Bill") while attending business college and enjoyed a loving marriage for 65 years before Bill's passing in 2010.

Lois is remembered by so many for her long career as secretary to the principal of Margaret Brent High School.

Dedicated to service to her community, Lois was an active member of the Mechanicsville Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, and was a lifelong member of All Faith Episcopal Church in Charlotte Hall where she served as treasurer for many years.

Lois was recognized for her talent as a quilter and also found joy in knitting and crocheting.

She is survived by her daughter Margaret Bilardello of Huntington, NY, five grandchildren: Robin Bilardello of Brooklyn, NY; Ann Bilardello of Los Angeles, CA; Nick Bilardello and wife Alessandra of Los Angeles, CA; and Tom Groome of Sacramento, CA; and one great-grandchild, Lilly of Brooklyn, NY.

In addition to her parents and husband, Lois was preceded in death by her sister Alice Katherine King, brother Hugh A. Kessler, and her son, William Richard Groome.

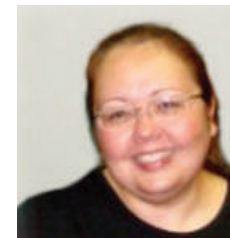
Burial will be held privately and a memorial service will be announced by All Faith Church at a later date.

Condolences may be sent to the family at PO Box 22, Mechanicsville, MD 20659. Expressions of love may be made through donations to All Faith Episcopal Church, PO Box 24, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622, and the Mechanicsville Fire Department, PO Box 37, and Rescue Squad, PO Box 15, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Ruth Janet Alberty



Ruth Janet Alberty, 67 of California, MD passed away on May 20, 2021 in Washington, D.C.

She was born on April 1, 1954 in Coamo, Puerto Rico to the late

Juan Justiniano Colon and Ruth Colon.

Janet (as she preferred to be called) married Jose Manuel Alberty-Galarza on October 22, 1971 in Carolina, Puerto Rico. She and her husband moved to St. Mary's County in 1985. God and Family was most important to her and the love she showed to everyone was the absolute personification of unconditional love. She and Jose were blessed to raise two children whom they loved dearly. She cherished her family and she gave the most wonderful hugs and kisses. In fact, people would often say that her hugs brought a sense of peace and calm. They could cure anything. She had a special bond with her grandchildren whom she would spend a lot of time with and shared a daily ritual of morning Face-Time calls. Janet was also known as a Prayer Warrior; she believed in the power of God to do anything, especially through prayer. She was a caring, loving woman with a terrific sense of humor. She was known to be a great encourager who would often tell anyone who was down and out, "You're gonna make it". She was also an amazing cook using her own recipes from scratch. Her specialty dishes were cubed steak smothered in onions with rice and red beans, Arroz Con Gandules, Arroz Con Pollo, and rum cake. Good luck trying to re-create her recipes, they could not be found in any recipe book, only from memory! She loved to go sight-seeing, especially to Annapolis where she enjoyed cruising around for the day. She was a member of Living Hope 1st United Pentecostal Church in Great Mills, MD where her husband and family attend to this day.

She is survived by her husband, Jose, her children, Jose Manuel Alberty, Jr., Nikki Alberty of Lexington Park, MD and Andrea Cristina Alberty-Colon of California, MD, her brother, Efrain Valentin of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and four grandchildren, Cristiano, Isabella, Ava, and Emerson Alberty. She was preceded in death by her parents.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Tupelo Children's Mansion (<https://mansionkids.org>).

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Cecil Daniel Pilkerton



Cecil Daniel Pilkerton 63 of Fayetteville North Carolina, formerly of Callaway, MD passed away May 23rd, 2021 at Cape Fear Hospital with



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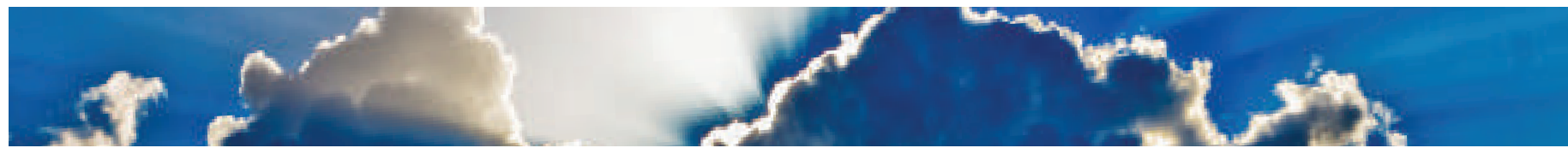
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his wife Patricia by his side. His death was due to complications associated with kidney failure which he battled valiantly for several years.

Cecil was the son of the late Daryl A Pilkerton and Esther Pilkerton of Avenue, MD. He was also preceded in death by his sister Ann Darlene Cooper (Larry) of Hollywood, MD, and his late wife Annette Pilkerton.

He is survived by his wife Patricia Pilkerton whom he married May 15th, 2018 in a Catholic union in Hawaii. His stepchildren Roland Mann (Lisa) of Mechanicsville, MD, Robert Mann (Kelly) of Mechanicsville, MD, John Mann (Monika) of Norway, Kevin Mann (Jessica) of Mechanicsville MD, Theresa Hanson (Eric) of Charlotte Hall, MD. He is also survived by siblings Daryl A Pilkerton JR. (Barbara) of Hollywood MD, Richard W Pilkerton (Connie) of Callaway, MD, Debbie Fedders (Roy) of Dameron, MD.

He had nine grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews as well as a large group of extended family and friends.

He was employed with DynCorp at Patuxent River Naval Base until Medically retired. His master mechanical ability, avid chef skills, and friendship will be missed by all that knew him. There will be a catholic memorial mass Thursday June 10th at 1 pm at Holy Angels Catholic Church in Avenue, MD. The gravesite service will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to a charity close to his heart which he and Pat volunteered; Operation Inasmuch, 531 Hillsboro Street Fayetteville, NC 28301 a nonprofit Christian operation helping the homeless.

Angie Marie Hicks



Angie Marie Hicks, 48 years young, passed away peacefully on May 22, 2021 amongst loved ones. She was born June 19, 1972 in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, the daughter of Donna and Ralph Edwards.

Angie was a devoted and loving mother, daughter, sister, girlfriend, and friend. She was a proud, supportive, and amazing mother. Angie was thoughtful, strong, and a beautiful young woman. She enjoyed being outdoors, gardening, crabbing, cooking and baking to keep family recipes alive, decorating cakes, and playing bunco. Angie loved music, going to concerts, and was Shinedown's biggest fan. She volunteered at the schools of her boys and kept up with children she helped mentor over the years. Angie impacted and inspired so many lives, especially those who love her.

She attended Stratford High School in Goose Creek, South Carolina. She was employed at BAE Systems.

Angie is survived by her children Cody Hicks of Greenville, North Carolina and Kyle (Kennedy) Hicks of Port Hueneme, California. She is also survived by her parents Donna Edwards of Ladson, South Carolina and Ralph Edwards of Shawano, Wisconsin; her siblings Mindy Edwards of Ladson,

South Carolina and Scott (Jeanine) Edwards of Summerville, South Carolina; her long-time partner Joseph "Scotty" Smith and his two children Sydney and Colin of Callaway, Maryland; Aunts and Uncles: Jim Kuenzi & Carrie Julka, Marilou & Jack (Godfather) Touchet, Mark & Christy Kuenzi, Mary (Godmother) & Tom Rechek, and Royce Edwards; a niece and nephews, a great niece and nephew, cousins, and friends.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents Royce and Helen Edwards of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin and Harrison and Dorothy Kuenzi of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Visitation and Service: Angie chose to have a private celebration of her life, which will be determined at a later date with family and friends.

A memorial has been set up in memory of Angie to assist with her final expenses. <https://gofund.me/63f35aa8>.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory Leonardtown, MD.

Frances Jacqueline "Jackie" Goldsborough Bond



Frances Jacqueline "Jackie" Goldsborough Bond, 87, of Leonardtown, MD formerly from Hollywood, MD passed away on May 19, 2021 at her home. She was

born on November 20, 1933 in Leonardtown, MD and was the daughter of the late Susan Combs Goldsborough and Jack Goldsborough. Jackie was the loving wife of the late John Douglas Bond whom she married on May 15, 1954 in Our Lady's Church at Medley's Neck Leonardtown, MD and preceded her in death on November 18, 1991. Jackie is survived by her children Doug Bond of Fredericksburg, VA, Susan (Bond) Dean (Dale) of Hollywood, MD, Kathy (Bond) Hayden (Hank) of Hollywood, MD, Tom Bond (Marian Mitchell) of Minnetonka, MN, Jack Bond of Hollywood, MD, and Duke Bond (Denise Cople) of Plano, TX. Along with her grandchildren Karen Mumford, Simon Dean, Robby Hayden, Julie Lowthert, Evalina Bond, John Walker Bond, Julia Bond, Emily bond, Jake Bond and Delila Bond. Great grandchildren Dylan Mumford, Breannea Dean, Jamie Dean, Ashley Hayden, Brooke Hayden, Chase Hayden and Eli Lowthert. Great-Great Grandchildren Jaxon Lowe and Bryson Tucker. She was preceded in death by her siblings Ann Combs Goldsborough and Frank Combs Goldsborough.

She was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1952. Jackie attended Immaculata College and Strayer Business School in Washington, DC. She was a Management Analyst for the Federal Government at Patuxent River Naval Air Station from 1956 to 1993; retiring after 37 years.

Jackie enjoyed dancing, especially square

dancing, and water aerobics. She was a member of St. John's Catholic Church in Hollywood, MD.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in St. John's Catholic Church Hollywood, MD; where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 AM with Father Raymond Schmidt officiating, and Deacon Ammon Ripple Con Celebrating. Interment will follow in St. Andrews Episcopal Cemetery California, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Doug Bond, Dale Dean, John (Hank) Hayden, Tom Bond, Jack Bond, and Duke Bond.

Contributions may be made to St. Mary's Hospice, Leonardtown Vol. Rescue Squad, Hollywood Vol. Rescue Squad, and Friends of Cedar Lane Apartments.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory Leonardtown, MD.

Louis Sidney Russell "Buttons"



Louis Russell, 73, of Mechanicsville passed away on Thursday February 25, 2021.

A graveside service will be held on June 11th at 1:30 p.m at the Queen of Peace Cemetery at 38888 Doctor Johnson Rd. In Mechanicsville

Joseph William Goldsborough



Joseph William Goldsborough, "Bill", 36 of Leonardtown, MD formerly passed away on May 27, 2021 in Cheverly, MD. He was born on July 16, 1984 in Leonardtown, MD and

was the loving son of Margaret Ann Wood

Goldsborough and Joseph Abell Goldsborough of Leonardtown, MD. Along with his siblings Mary Margaret Abell of Lexington Park, MD, Linda Baird (Bernie) of Avenue, MD, Eugene Goldsborough (Kelli) of Mechanicsville, MD, Arnold Goldsborough (Olivia) of Mechanicsville, MD.

He was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident. Bill graduated from Leonardtown High School in May of 2003. He worked as an Auto Mechanic for Mr. Ed's Tire in Leonardtown, MD.

Bill was a one-of-a-kind spirit and everyone who knew him, knew that. He could walk into a room and light it up with his contagious smile. Every day he would ride to Abell's Wharf after work to simply enjoy the country life. He loved spending time with his family and friends and nobody was a stranger to him, Bill was known for his love of his animals and was cherished by his "Athena" and beloved "Buttercup". He enjoyed working on antique tractors and anything associated with them. He always went out of his way to make sure others were ok and was admired for many of his actions. He was the best son, brother, uncle and friend that anyone could ask for. He was the pure definition of a "big hearted" man!

The family will receive friends on Thursday, June 3, 2021 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM with prayers recited at 7:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 AM in Our Lady's Church at Medley Neck in Leonardtown, MD with Father John Nguyen officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Jackson Goldsborough, Francis Russell, Jamie Russell, Dave Woodburn, Stevie Hill, and Wally Cusick. Honorary Pallbearers Bernie Baird, Marty Goldsborough, Archie Abell, Shirley Edwards, Kasie Goldsborough, Kyra Goldsborough, Thomas Pilkerton, James Connelly, John Connelly, and Andy Wood.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory Leonardtown, MD.



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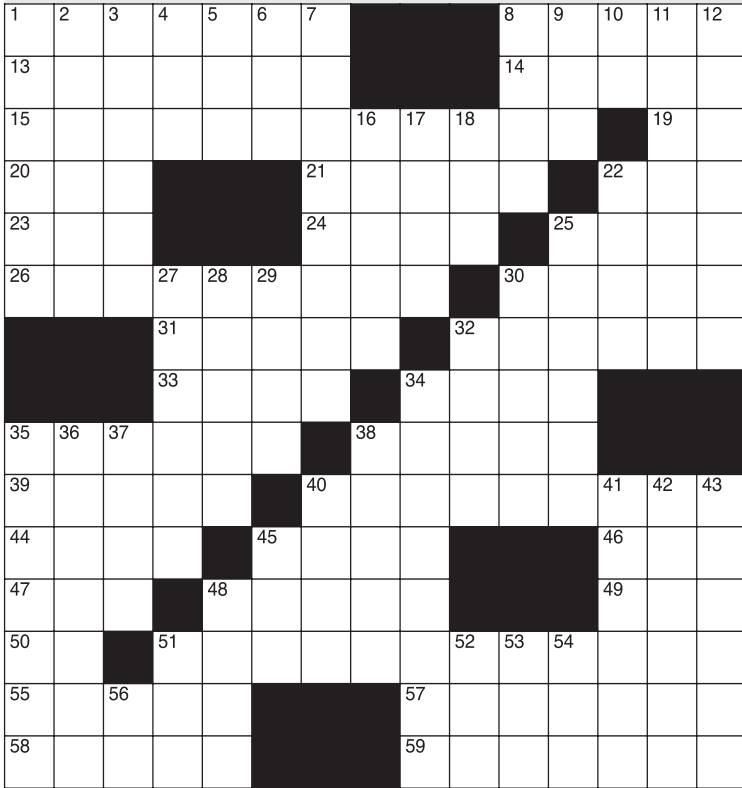
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

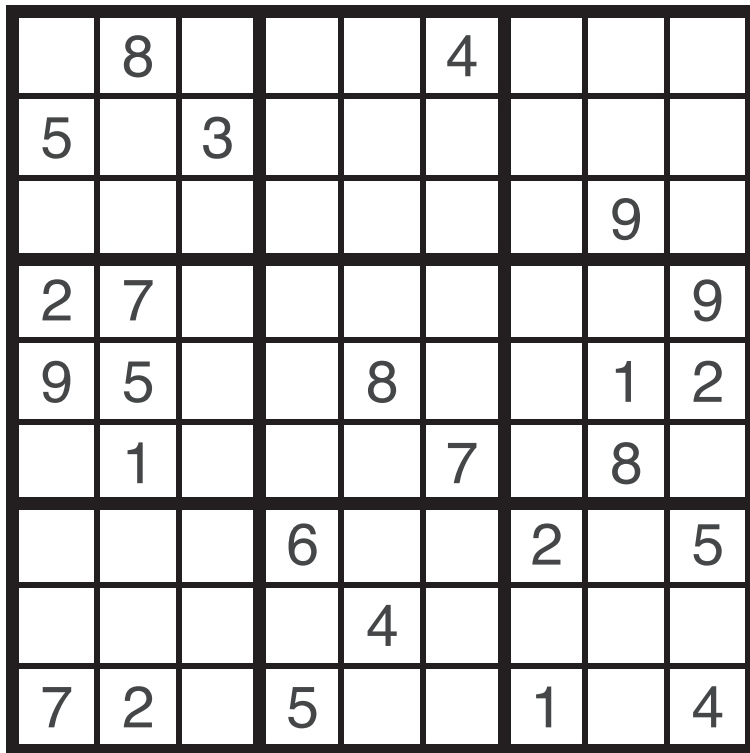
- 1. Most courageous
- 8. Insurance giant
- 13. Small trace left behind
- 14. In a way, signals
- 15. The same letter or sound at the beginning
- 19. The Great Lakes State
- 20. Engage in a contest
- 21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
- 22. Manpower
- 23. Undivided
- 24. Strong, magnetic metal
- 25. People of Tanzania
- 26. Sorts
- 30. Cop car accessory
- 31. Trade
- 32. Sullen and ill-tempered
- 33. Distinctive practices
- 34. Motor vehicles
- 35. Electrodes
- 38. Polish river
- 39. Human feet
- 40. Make very hot
- 44. Toppin and

- Kenobi are two
- 45. Blackbird
- 46. One point west of due south
- 47. Large beer
- 48. Third stomachs
- 49. Rare Korean family name
- 50. Hectoliter
- 51. Aquatic invertebrate
- 55. Where we live
- 57. Poked holes in
- 58. Partner to ways
- 59. ___ Ann

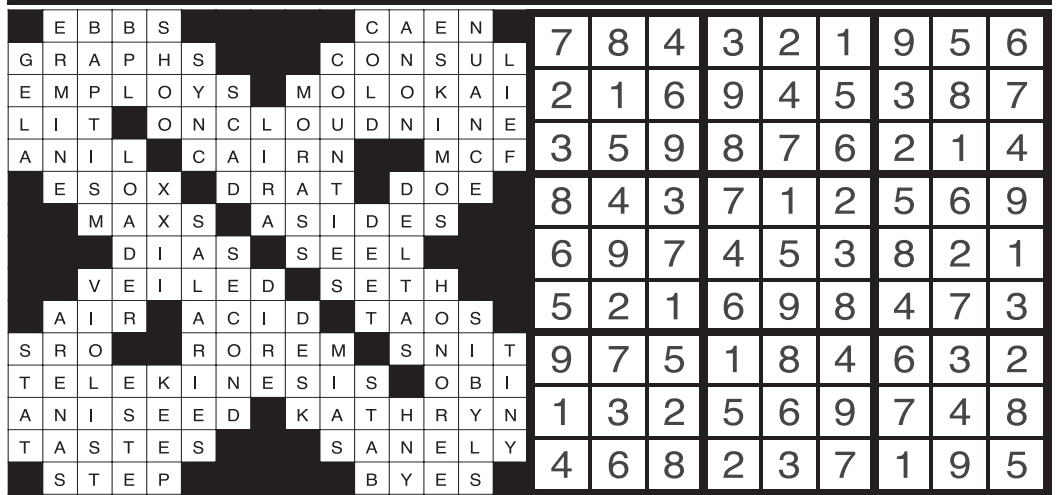
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Expressions of approval
- 2. Replace the interior of
- 3. Not awake
- 4. Roman numeral 7
- 5. Sun up in New York
- 6. Institute legal proceedings against
- 7. Bugs homeowners don't want
- 8. Maltese-Italian composer
- 9. Very long period of time
- 10. Touchdown
- 11. Agents of downfall
- 12. Complacently or inately foolish
- 16. Argentina capital

- Buenos ___
- 17. County in New Mexico
- 18. An electrically charged atom
- 22. New Zealand conifer
- 25. Type of brandy
- 27. Comments to the audience
- 28. Tears down
- 29. Gifts for the poor
- 30. More painful
- 32. Good friend
- 34. Lying in the same plane
- 35. Line in a polygon
- 36. Clouds of gas and dust
- 37. Norse god
- 38. Health care pro
- 40. Close tightly
- 41. One's holdings
- 42. Became less intense
- 43. Wilco frontman
- 45. Woman (French)
- 48. Expresses delight
- 51. TV channel (abbr.)
- 52. Beverage
- 53. Unit of work or energy
- 54. Cleaning accessory
- 56. Dorm worker



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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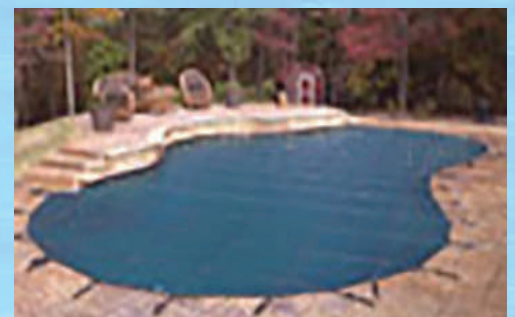
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