

FREE

St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021

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**ROYAL FARMS
CHARLOTTE HALL
PLANS DELAYED**

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**SCHOOL BUS
DRIVER BONUSES
APPROVED**

Story Page 7

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS
IN ST. MARY'S**

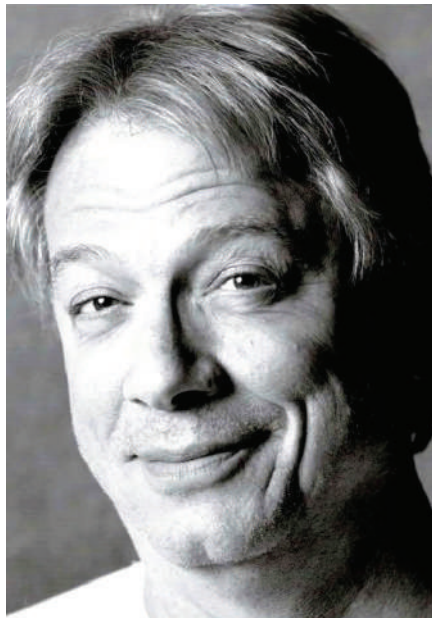
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Gone Too Soon



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CAHALL 17
Rescue squads mourn the loss of Chief Mike Cahall.



LOCAL 5
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COMMUNITY 15
Brian Ganz set to perform

“IT’S VERY EMBARRASSING. I’M SADDENED FOR ST. MARY’S COUNTY THAT IT’S COME TO THIS STAGE.”
COMMISSIONER TODD MORGAN ON THE RANCOR EXHIBITED AT THE NOV. 30 REDISTRICTING BOARD MEETING.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 12/2 65° 46°F Partly Cloudy	Fri 12/3 58° 41°F Sunny	Sat 12/4 56° 35°F Partly Cloudy	Sun 12/5 47° 41°F Partly Cloudy
Mon 12/6 52° 33°F Partly Cloudy	Tue 12/7 48° 40°F Mostly Cloudy	Wed 12/8 55° 41°F AM Showers	Thu 12/9 52° 36°F Mostly Cloudy

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Redistricting Board Devolves Into Shouting, Verbal Attacks

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Nov. 30 meeting of the county redistricting board tasked with redrawing commissioner election districts quickly turned to acrimony when the chair of the board told County Attorney David Weiskopf he was “out of order.”

Board Chair Richard Johnson, appointed by Commissioner President James “Randy” Guy began the meeting by saying the board used Roberts Rules of Order in its deliberations, to which Weiskopf responded from the audience that the board did not.

“Yes, we do, yes, we do,” Johnson said. “You’re out of order, OK.” “As your legal counsel, I’m advising you, you do not follow Roberts Rules,” Weiskopf shot back. “On the very first meeting we had we gave you the county’s rules of order... read what you believe is from the Robert’s Rules of Order.”

Weiskopf, clearly angered, asked Johnson to identify the document Johnson claimed Weiskopf had signed supposedly showing that county boards operated under Robert’s Rules.

The issue of how boards operated revolved around the ability of the chair to make motions, Robert’s Rules allow such actions while, traditionally, county board chairs, including those of the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County, have opted to control the agenda and leave the ability to make motions to remaining member.

This conflict would quickly come to a head later in the Nov. 30 meeting at the county government headquarters in Leonardtown.

Weiskopf told Johnson Robert’s Rules applied to Parliament and “since there are only five members here” Robert’s Rules for small boards applied, since Johnson was pressing the issue.

That meant, Weiskopf said, as a matter of practice that board chairs did not make motions.

“That’s for the rest of these four people to do,” Weiskopf said, leaving his seat before the board as Johnson was trying to make another point of order.

Johnson accused Weiskopf of trying to usurp the meeting from him, while Weiskopf said Johnson was making untrue statements.

Johnson then made a motion to approve the board’s meeting agenda for that night “as stated.”

Most of the agenda focused on making any final changes to the proposed redistricting map, which has come under fire from some residents who claim it divides com-

munities and drastically effects the 2nd Commissioner District, putting the current incumbent in District 4.

As Weiskopf and Johnson continued to argue, a member of the board attempted to make a motion and Johnson shut him down.

“No, you’re out of order,” Johnson said.

“You don’t know what you’re talking about,” Weiskopf said from his seat in the audience.

No one on the board made a second to allow Johnson’s motion to approve the agenda to go forward.

Member Matt Burgan made his own motion to approve the agenda, which passed unanimously.

The conflict lasted slightly beyond the first six minutes of the meeting.

But it reignited minutes later when Burgan tried to make a motion to have a five-minute recess; Johnson refused all requests.

“The chair has the floor,” Johnson said, repeatedly saying members were out of order. “The chair runs the meeting.

“Do you understand that? You apparently don’t.”

Weiskopf and board members continued to wrangle over Johnson’s review of the public hearings, which he said were “organized by the local Democrat Central Committee” and “had a low turnout.”

Johnson said, the voice of a few unsatisfied with the map presented to the public attempted to “disenfranchise” some “80,000” county residents who did not attend the public hearings because they found no issue with the proposed changes.

Those changes were taken to the public by a 3-to-2 vote from the redistricting committee.

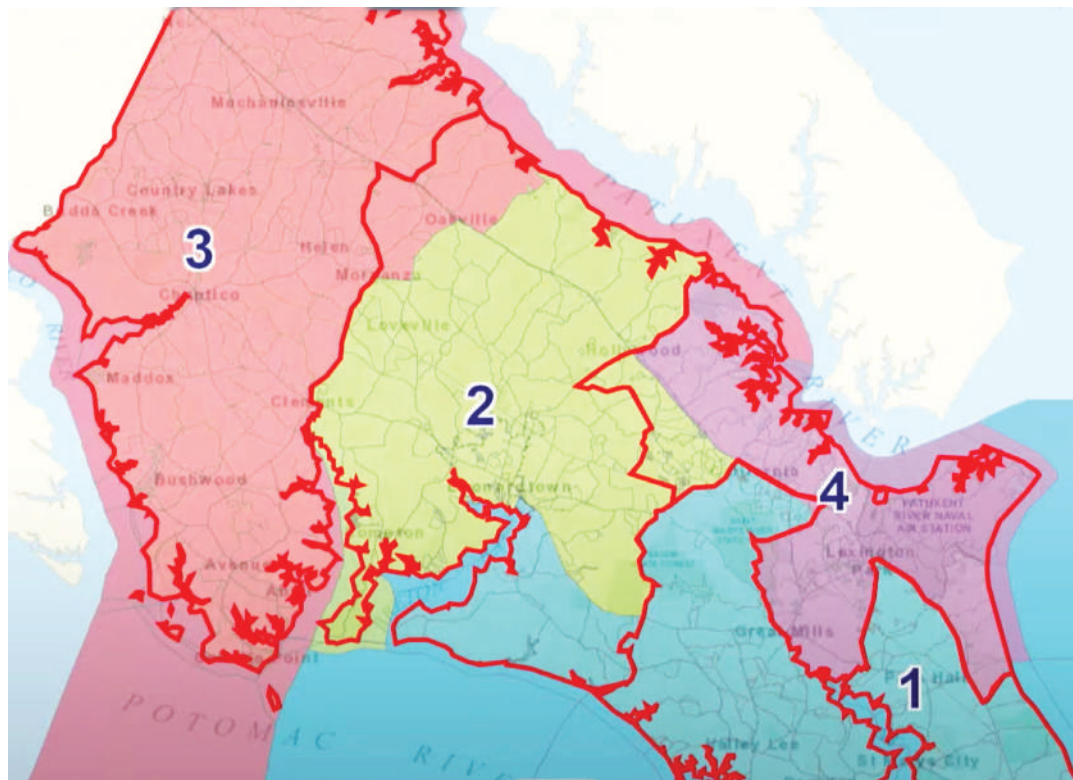
Weiskopf again confronted Johnson, shouting at him.

“Stop!” Weiskopf said. “You are completely out of order!”

“You cannot adjourn a meeting on your own; you’ve gone completely nuts!”

Johnson claimed the meeting was adjourned but Weiskopf fired back saying there was no vote to do so.

Adjourning the meeting then would likely have meant sending the proposed map unchanged to the Commissioners of St. Mary’s



The Nov. 30 version of the redistricting map proposed for St. Mary’s County.

County for final acceptance.

“You’ve lost your mind!” Weiskopf yelled, going on to say that Johnson had to consider the public’s comments on what changes might be made to the map.

“Otherwise, this was a total fiction!” Weiskopf yelled. “What you’re saying is you don’t care what people think!”

“You’ve been out of order since you sat there.”

Burgan pleaded with Johnson, saying he had tried to incorporate changes into the redistricting map taken from the public hearings but Johnson continued to say that he controlled the floor.

“Why do you think your vote counts more than the rest of these four?” Weiskopf asked angrily. “Why do you think that?”

Johnson said that three members of the board had voted for the map already.

“The preliminary map!” Weiskopf shouted. “What don’t you get about that?”

“You can’t be this thick! You really can’t!”

Assistant County Attorney John Houser told Johnson that the county code stipulated that the map initially voted on was for preliminary use only and that there was never a final vote on it.

“There is no way we have a final map at this time,” Houser said exuding calm. “There is no way.”

Johnson claimed that the initial vote counted and had to be rescinded if another vote was to be taken.

One member asked what even was the point of taking public input.

“The vote’s out there,” Johnson said. “Just because you don’t like

it, it’s still out there.”

Johnson accused Burgan of trying to “disenfranchise” the voters Johnson claimed had no problem with the proposed map.

“I’m not here to disenfranchise anyone,” Burgan said. “I’m here to follow the process.”

Burgan said his reworked map would help ensure no one would feel disenfranchised.

Dr. Patricia Richardson, board member, objected to board member vitriol to which the public and the board members had been exposed that night.

She said she had already proposed moving on to discuss the proposed redistricting map and that there was a second on the floor.

“We have a map,” Johnson said. “Not a new map.”

“A motion and a second sir!” Weiskopf shouted from the audience, pressing Johnson to take action on the motion.

Arguments continued until finally the board moved to discuss public concerns, one of the chief of which was the splitting of Great Mills and Lexington Park.

The map that was finally approved for further refinement at the Dec. 7 meeting took a portion of District 4 southbound on Route 235 around Airport View Drive and gave it to District 2, Burgan said in a later interview while keeping Lexington Park and Great Mills whole.

District 3 in the north also takes a portion of District 2 around Oakville; District 4 shrinks somewhat with its northern most boundary remaining the same as it is now under the last redistricting plan.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

PERFECT TIMING

Southern Maryland,

It is with great sorrow that I announce that my beloved twin brother, Robert, the pastor and founder of The Mission, passed away Saturday after a 30-day battle on a ventilator fighting COVID-19. My brother loved Southern Maryland. Next week, I will share his life story, but this week, I want to share a poem he wrote years ago that is helping me get through this great loss. Hope it helps all those who knew and loved him.

Perfect Timing

The tears we shed are for reasons, reasons that we at times don't understand. As time passes, we use those times to help others, we feel His peace.

Peace for the one who gives it also holds us up in times of trouble. His promises that are many.

We only can surrender to the Lord, knowing He is working in us the perfect work, a work that is not complete but has just started.

Hold your anxiety, dissolve it in the faith Christ has given you. Let your eyes look forward to His purpose, knowing day to day we walk and stumble.

Plant your feet down and walk staidly forward, not looking back but to the future, a future of growth, a future of peace and great joy, as you give all and strive for His perfect perfection.

May He sustain you in His perfect love, and may His glory fall upon you this day.

For you're valued much in the sight of our Lord; declare His name.

Victory is yours!

– Rob Myers

Services will be held Dec. 14th at Faith Bible Church
26325 Three Notch Rd, Mechanicsville, MD 20659
From 3-5 p.m.

His procession will start at 2:15 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home in Leonardtown, go south on Route 5, turn onto Great Mills Road, go past The Mission, continue to Route 235 and then head north to Faith Bible Church.

The Public Is Invited

God Bless- Rick Myers



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Planning Commission Holds Off Royal Farms Decision



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Plans to build a new Royal Farms convenience store and fueling station as well as an adjacent Starbucks coffee shop in Charlotte Hall were placed on hold this week after the county Planning Commission demanded more concessions from the developer.

The commission will take up the case for the proposed concept site plan at its next meeting next year on Jan. 31.

The decision to continue the case, after a more-than-two-hour meeting Nov. 29, was a unanimous one among all seven board members.

There were a host of conditions they placed on the applicant, Baltimore-based ARLS Properties LLC, including new architectural designs for the Starbucks, more crosswalks and sidewalks for the surrounding property, a charging station for electric cars and more traffic mitigation to extend the north-bound left turn lane into the property off of Route 5.

Talk of sidewalks along Route 5 leading to the proposed site, and crosswalks to connect them, were an early part of the discussion.

“Even though there’s not one there now, it makes sense while we’re looking at this project to consider that just for the safety of pedestrians going down [Route] 5,” said Planning Commission member Joseph Fazekas. “We all know the speeds going down there.

“When sidewalks come and go that leaves more problems for pedestrians.”

The Royal Farms convenience store is a proposed 5,380 square-

foot building and the fueling stations is even larger at 5,950 square complete with canopies over nine pumps, according to planning documents.

The Starbucks is proposed to be about half the size of the Royal Farms, or 2,365 square feet in size with a drive-through.

The project will be located at Oaks Road and Route 235 on a property owned and operated by the Wentworth family as a plant nursery and home goods store for decades.

Member Merl Evans was concerned that the architecture for the Starbucks was less than what he expected from other stores of its kind here.

Evans was referencing the renderings offered to the board by the applicant during the hearing.

“When I look at Royal Farms, I see... a traditional, well put together architecture,” Evans said. “With Starbucks not so much.”

Evans said the Royal Farms proposal appeared to be a more “finished” piece of architecture than the proposed Starbucks.

A representative for the applicant working on project designs said that Starbucks allowed for some variance in their store designs and the developer could consult with corporate representatives to come up with another design.

Fazekas said the design of the Starbucks under consideration bore resemblance to some dollar stores built that had siding that “did not hold up well” under weather conditions; he said he wanted to avoid such construction projects in the future.

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Man Charged In Double Homicide

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A Nanjemoy man is being held on a no-bond status in the St. Mary’s County detention center for allegedly murdering a woman, with whom he was romantically involved, and her 6-year-old daughter.

Police say they found the bodies of the two victims — Martina Lynn Patterson, 37, and Lyneasha Justice Greenwell, 6 — both of Lexington Park in shallow graves just off of South Shangri-La Drive covered in trash, partly from their own home on Rogers Drive.

Wayne Carroll Key, Jr, 43, has been charged with two counts each of first-degree and second-degree murder as well as assault charges in the deaths of the two victims.

Sheriff’s deputies first arrived at the victims’ residence Nov. 24 to take a report on Patterson and Greenwell, who at the time were considered missing persons.

While police were taking the report, Key contacted the person who had initially called police and told them that he had not seen or heard from either of the missing subjects since Nov. 16, when he had dropped off another child named Malaysia, shared commonly between Key and Patterson, at Patterson’s residence.

Greenwell was Patterson’s daugh-



Wayne Key

ter, though Key was not her father, police later confirmed.

Police soon learned Patterson had reported numerous criminal

allegations against Key in the recent past, including assault, burglary and harassment, and that the person who had initially reported Patterson and Greenwell missing told police that they had picked up Malaysia from a relative of the defendant’s the day before Thanksgiving, the same day the victims were reported missing.

Interviews conducted by police showed that Key had recently threatened to kill Patterson, while a police interview with a neighbor of Patterson’s revealed the neighbor had seen the defendant, Patterson, Malaysia and Lyneasha Greenwell together at the Rogers Drive address on the evening of Nov. 21.

That neighbor said they left the residence that evening while the rest remained at the residence.

Another neighbor said they saw the defendant pulling a trash can into the woods where the victims were discovered.

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School Bus Driver Bonuses Approved

Business Owner Appeals for Aid in Food Drive

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Mike Schwartz, owner of Mike's Bikes in Lexington Park, has held a holiday food drive for years to help the wider community in need, despite the fact that in recent years support for his drive has decreased as have the number of people willing to help distribute the food.

Schwartz has worked with local volunteers since 1983 to provide for the needy during the holiday season in the form of donated food baskets.

The baskets consist of a turkey, 10 pounds of potatoes and assorted canned goods to St. Mary's families.

With prices rising markedly, Schwartz is calling on the community to continue supporting Mike's Food Fund financially and with their in-person assistance.

"We have 1,000 baskets on order," Schwartz said. "Even with McKay's [Food Stores] giving them to us at cost, the price went way up.

"We desperately need donations to pay for them."

Schwartz's drive for food this holiday season can mean everything to a needy family, he said.

"You can make a difference,"

Schwartz said. "You can help make Christmas great for a needy family."

Aside from monetary donations to pay for the food — mostly for the turkeys — Schwartz said his program is asking for food donations as well as toys for needy families to complete the holiday season.

Schwartz said he and his volunteers, of whom he needs more to ensure the work is completed, plan to distribute the turkeys Dec. 13 and Dec. 14 at Great Mills High School starting at 3:30p.m.

As part of his holiday drive, Schwartz said he would also be giving away 50 used bicycles.

Schwartz started the food drive after his house was destroyed by fire and he lost all his possessions; the local Salvation Army stepped in to help him and he has held the food drive ever since as a way of giving back to the community that helped him

Monetary donations can be made via check to Mike's Food Fund, 21310 C, Great Mills Road 20653.

For more information on how to receive a basket, give a donation or to volunteer call 301-863-7887.

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SMCPS Current Efforts in FY22

Reallocation of ESSER II funds to support one-time retention payments to school bus drivers in FY22 and FY23

- FY22: \$5,000 per approved contracted route (\$2,500 in December/January and \$2,500 in June)
- FY23: \$5,000 per approved contracted route (\$2,500 in December and \$2,500 in June)

Increase in maintenance rate paid to contractors due to significant increases in costs of parts, materials and repair of existing school buses, as a result of the pandemic's impact on the supply-chain

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

To stave off the possibility of a school bus driver sick out like the ones in Calvert and Charles County, the St. Mary's County school board presented an amended budget to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County this week that takes money from certain departments and programs and increases pay in the form of bonuses to drivers and bus attendants.

The budget amendment, which totaled \$2.6 million in funds, got the approval of both the school board and the county commissioners during a joint meeting Nov. 30.

Superintendent Dr. J. Scott Smith briefed the two boards on his proposal to offer more incentives for bus drivers and bus attendants to stay with the system.

"We recognize we need to do something certainly to recognize our drivers and our contractors particularly because we have not had a sick out," Smith said. "They've done an amazing job.

"They've made sure that every single day that every single student is transported to and from school."

The system started the school year with a dearth of full-time bus drivers, Smith said, and many had to take on extra routes to ensure all students were transported properly.

Around the same time, many other groups of bus drivers in neighboring counties staged sick outs or protests that wreaked havoc with parent and school schedules.

The county school system employs a few bus drivers, instead relying on bus contractors to provide both vehicles and labor.

The current contracts give service vendors up to \$21 per driver per hour for pay, but the actual amount paid by the vendor to a driver is strictly a matter between the two, Smith said.

The school system has only limited oversight in what drivers are paid, he emphasized.

But the newly appropriated \$2.6 million will go towards \$2,500 retention bonuses for drivers, he said, which do not affect the contracts between vendors and the school system.

The payments will be for the current fiscal year as well as fiscal year 2023.

"We do expect, without exception, for the contractors to deliver \$2,500 to each of their drivers," Smith said.

These payments will take effect just before the holiday season, he said, noting that all contract bus drivers will receive a total of \$10,000 additionally over the next year-and-a-half.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Solomons Christmas Walk

Saturday, December 4th, 2021

Solomons Christmas Tree Lights: 5pm

Santa Parade with SVRS Fire Dept: 5pm

& Gospel Business Men Fellowship in America float

Solomons Decorated Boat Parade: Organized by

SIYC arrives at riverwalk at approx 7:15pm

Competition - Best decorated homes and businesses

Vote on photos published taken from 11/30 - 12/18 on the SBA

Facebook page. Winners announced 12/20!

Santa's Mailbox in Solomons Gazebo - 12/1 - 12/20

BHHS McNelis Group will publish letters on SBA Facebook page

and elsewhere. NOTE: If you do not want your child's letter to be

published please make a note on the letter!

Solomons Carolers & Dance Troop: Neighborhood caroling bringing Christmas cheer - meets at Tiki bar at 4pm ends at gazebo

Solomons Victorian Inn: Open house, meet & greet 5-9pm

Solomons Mission Center (SUMC): Outdoor Christmas

movie "The Star" at 6pm - Refreshments. Food pantry open,

Tues-Thurs 10am -1pm

Lotus Kitchen: Live Music, Hot drinks & cocktails 4pm -8pm

Calvert Marine Museum: Museum store open, live music, hot chocolate & cookies, crafts for kids, visit with Santa & the Otter.

Annmarie Garden in Lights: Outdoor holiday light show

Nov 26-Jan 1. The grounds are transformed into an outdoor

wonderland! Advance tickets required at annmariegarden.org

For more information on Christmas Walk check our

website: <http://www.solomonsmaryland.com>



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CHRISTMAS SHOP AT WENTWORTH

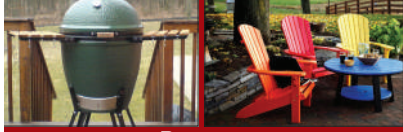


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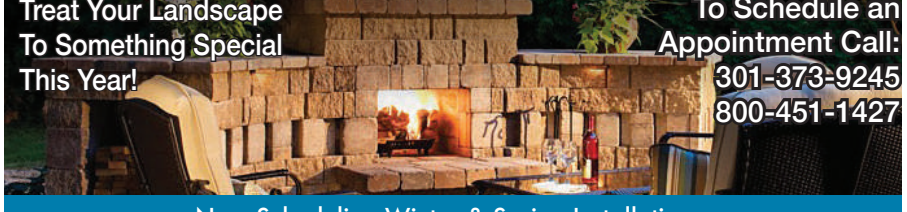
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Shellfish Harvesting for Part of St. Mary's Closed



Aerial view of St. George Island

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has issued an emergency order closing a portion of the Potomac River off St. Mary's County to shellfish harvesting following a report of a sewage overflow.

The order, issued Nov. 29, applies to about 180 acres of the Potomac River offshore from the St. George Island area of St. Mary's County. It became effective immediately to prevent the harvesting of oysters and other shellfish in the immediate future.

The St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission reported the spill to MDE today and MDE dispatched an inspector to the site. MDE issued the order after it was determined that sewage likely entered the Potomac River.

The Commission reported to MDE that an overflow at 16995 Piney Point Road began Nov. 24 and was stopped at 10:30 a.m. yesterday. The overflow entered ditches that drain to the Potomac River. MDE believes an estimated 2,500 gallons entered the river over the weekend and an estimated 11,000 gallons were vacuumed from ditches. There are no aquaculture leases in the emergency closure area. It was unknown whether any commercial harvesting occurred in the area in recent days, but regulations prohibit commercial harvesting on weekends.

Shellfish are filter feeders with the

ability to filter water and get food from microscopic organisms in the water. If the waters are polluted, this filtering process can concentrate disease-causing organisms associated with raw sewage and other sources, such as animal waste. Oysters and clams are often eaten raw or partially cooked and must come from waters that are not polluted. MDE monitors bacteriological water quality and conducts pollution source surveys to determine which areas are safe for the harvesting of shellfish. Information on shellfish harvesting areas is available on MDE's website.

MDE plans to sample water in the affected area beginning tomorrow and will remove the emergency closure when the science shows that oysters can be harvested and public health protected. Under regulations, the area could re-open for shellfish harvesting as soon as Monday, Dec. 20. The emergency order does not apply to fishing and crabbing.

MDE issued temporary emergency shellfish harvesting closures in January 2021 and November 13 (both in St. George Creek, the latter lifted November 20) due to sewage spills from the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission system in the St. George Island area. MDE will request a meeting with the Commission on the repeated system failures and plans to address the sewage spills.

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8 oz Cup 16 oz Cup 24 oz Cup
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Classic Chicken Noodle
 A simple soup loaded with chicken, carrots, celery, and egg noodles in our famous stock made from scratch.

New England Clam Chowder
 The flavorful combination of clams, pancetta, and potatoes with the special H&H touch of parsley and scallions.

Winter Vegetable With Dumplings
 This soup is made combining sweet winter root vegetables, a touch of tomato and hearty potato dumplings simmered together for a cold blustery winter's day.

Tuscan White Bean/Spinach
 Wholesome combination of the finest imported Italian cannelloni beans, spinach and vegetables.

Classic Beef Stew Soup
 Our version of a classic, hearty, American stew loaded with pieces of hearty vegetables and beef.

Chicken Pot Pie
 A soup version of this classic American dish; loaded with carrots, potatoes, green peas, chicken, and herbs.

Lobster Bisque
 Maine lobsters simmered in lobster stock with onions, potatoes, garlic, Spanish paprika and sweetened with a touch of Sherry

Portuguese Kale Soup
 Cannellini and red kidney beans simmered with pork sausage, tomatoes, kale and crushed red pepper.

Cream of Tomato w/Chicken/Orzo
 Sweet and creamy, this tomato soup is loaded with chicken, orzo, basil, and a hint of paprika and cayenne peppers.

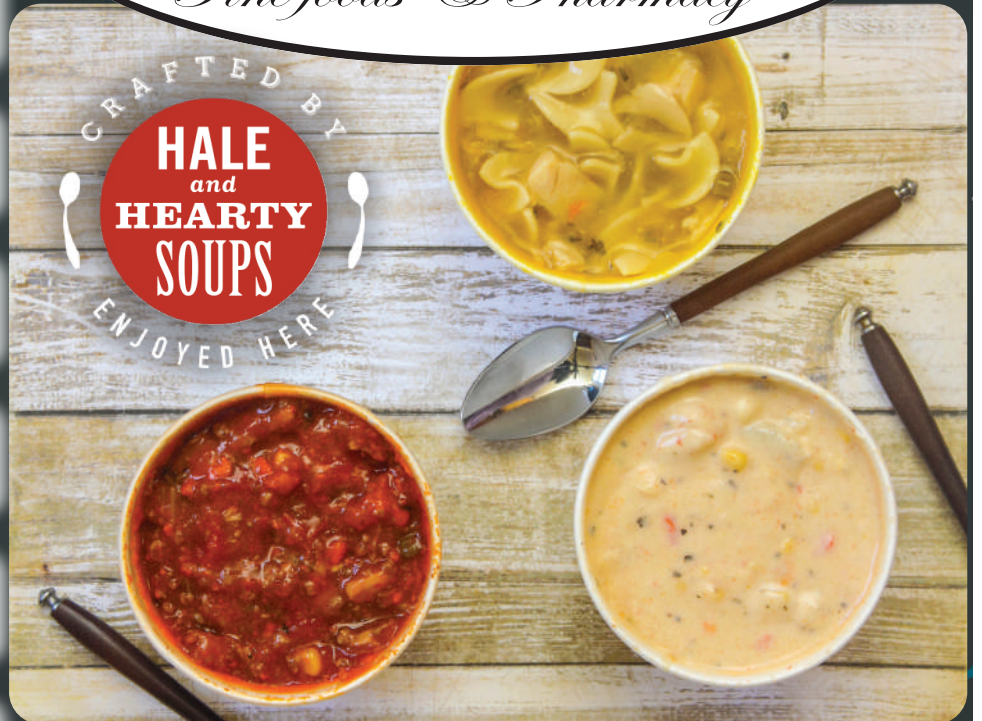
Turkey Chili
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Keep your family safe this holiday season



Here are a few simple tips to remember to keep safety in mind.

Use no more than three light sets on any one extension cord. Extension cords should be placed against the wall to **avoid tripping hazards**.

Never nail, tack, or stress wiring when hanging lights; keep plugs off the ground away from puddles and snow.

Don't use frayed or damaged electric cords, and never use electric lights on a metallic tree.

Turn off all holiday lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

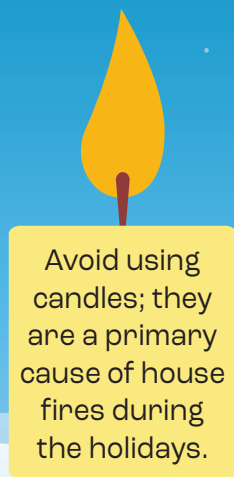
Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree.

In homes with small children and pets, take special care to **avoid sharp or breakable decorations**.

LIVE TREE: Make sure it always has an **adequate amount of water**, and keep it away from any **heat source**.

ARTIFICIAL TREE: Choose one that is tested and labeled as **fire resistant**. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should have the **Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label**.

Make sure the Christmas tree **does not block foot traffic on doorways**.



Avoid using candles; they are a primary cause of house fires during the holidays.

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ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Identity Needed for Counterfeit Money Suspects

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the two suspects pictured in a counterfeit money investigation. On Friday, Nov. 13, 2021 between 3:20-3:31 pm, the suspects purchased inexpensive items with three counterfeit \$100 bills at the California Walmart store and received genuine cash as change.



Suspect 1



Suspect 2

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call Cpl. Melissa Green at 301-475-4200, ext. 1996 or email melissa.green@st-marysmd.com. Case # 57795-21

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact the 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.

Wanted Individual- Callie Anne Whitney

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of **Callie Anne Whitney**, age 22 of Lexington Park. Whitney is wanted for escape for violating the terms and conditions of her release to a treatment facility in Anne Arundel County. Whitney is a black female, 5'6" and weighs 130 pounds with brown eyes and black hair.



Callie Anne Whitney

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Callie Anne Whitney is asked to contact Detective Trevor Teague at (301) 475-4200 extension 78128 or by email at Trevor.Teague@st-marysmd.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.

For official news and information, follow the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Twitter @firstsheriff.

Editor's Note:

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



LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS
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County Times

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Pianist Brian Ganz & Students Present Three Free Concerts

The second week of December will be a busy one for lovers of piano music in the St. Mary's College of Maryland community, with three free concerts. The music department will present students of Brian Ganz in their end of the semester recital of solo piano music on Tuesday, December 7 at 8 p.m. The recital will feature music of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt and others. On the following day, Wednesday, December 8 at 3 p.m., Ganz will offer his final PianoTalk of the semester. He will perform and discuss the beloved Pathétique Sonata of Beethoven and works by Debussy and Ravel. Finally, on the following day, Thursday, December 9 at 12 p.m., Ganz will join his students in a recital of collaborative works for multiple pianists and for voice and piano, including several movements of Gustav Holst's great orchestral work "The Planets" arranged for two pianos by the composer himself.



20 months but have had very little opportunity to perform live. That makes every piece, every phrase and even every note a little more meaningful, a little more special. For example, Holst's "The Planets" is one of my very favorite works for orchestra. I think the students feel the same, and we were thrilled to discover the version for two pianos and very eager to learn it together. And there will be much, much more!"

All three recitals will take place in Room 25 of Montgomery Hall on the College's campus. All concerts are free and open to the public. The public is requested to note the times of the three concerts carefully. For more information call (240) 895-4498 or visit <http://bit.ly/2YCPDKS>

Campus visitors must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and be able to present proof of vaccination upon request by College officials. If campus visitors are not vaccinated or cannot show proof of vaccination, they must present proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of arrival to campus. Face coverings must be worn indoors at all times.

"I'm very excited about this upcoming week of concerts," pianist Ganz said. "The students have worked hard over the past

Lexington Park Lions Fill Bags of Comfort



Lion Sal Raspa and wife Myra, Lion Amanda Adams, xxx (CCR), xxx(CCR), Lisa Sheehan (SMCCAC), xxx(CCR), Lion Tami Gary

On October 27, members of the Lexington Park Lions Club met with a purpose. Representatives of the Calvert Crisis Response and the St Mary's County Child Advocacy Center spoke with us about their respective operations and the population they serve and then worked with the Lions to fill "comfort bags" with a stuffed animal, a small comfort blanket, and a couple of fidget or sensory toys. The comfort bags will be used to de-escalate and poten-

tially lessen the trauma of the crisis event that a child has witnessed. The need is never-ending and Lions Clubs and other service organizations are invited to join in collaboration with the Lexington Park Lions in supporting our crisis responders and those they serve. Visit our website: <https://lexingtonparklionsclub.org> and our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-ParkLionsClub/> to learn more about this effort.



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Monday, November 22nd, 23rd and 24th

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Friday, November 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th

FINAL DAY is Wednesday, December 1st.

NO consignments will be accepted on December 2nd.

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Friday, December 3rd
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Cahall Heeded Call To Serve the Community

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The emergency services community is in mourning this week since the announcement of the sudden passing of Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Chief Mike Cahall.

Cahall died Nov. 18 in Thailand while on vacation, according to sources close to the rescue squad.

Cahall was deeply involved in the Lexington Park community on many levels beyond his service at the rescue squad to include being an ordained Episcopal deacon in his church and a member of the local theater troupe.

A memorial service is scheduled for him Dec. 3 at noon at the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department on Shangri-La Drive in Lexington Park.

"It was extremely shocking," said Commissioner John O'Conner this week of Cahall's death, calling him a "pillar of the community."

"It makes it 20 times worse when it's the season where families are supposed to be coming together," O'Connor continued at the meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County Nov. 30.

Cahall joined the Lexington Park rescue unit 15 years ago and rose quickly through the ranks to leadership positions, eventually becoming a paramedic and serving in the county's Advanced Life Support Unit.

David Klobnock, a former chief at the rescue squad, worked closely with Cahall over the years and helped train Cahall up in the organization.

"I was the training officer when he joined us," Klobnock said. "He ran calls with me during field training; Mike did well and he progressed."

"He had constantly been striving in an upward path."

Cahall worked as a data base manager for the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission but spent a great deal of time at the rescue squad



either running calls or involved with managing its operations. He was active during the entire 15 years he was with the organization.

"In a volunteer organization that says something," Klobnock said.

Cahall took part in an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) facing the then-all volunteer rescue squads about 10 years ago, Klobnock said.

Even then, Klobnock said, Cahall was deeply invested in finding ways to keep the volunteer rescue squads vibrant and viable even though they were continually struggling to find volunteers.

Ken Hicks, current president of the Lexington Park volunteers, said Cahall was recently active in trying to get volunteers to return to running calls.

Cahall, like many other leaders in the rescue community, knew that the squads desperately needed help during the day time hours and had worked with the county to get paid EMTs and paramedics to fill in the many gaps for service.

Though the situation has markedly improved for day-time response, Cahall still wanted to ensure the

long-term survival of what is still almost entirely a volunteer service.

"His big push was to get the volunteers back in the saddle," Hicks said of Cahall's recent efforts, with hopes that the county had finally turned a corner on the COVID-19 pandemic. "He was trying to reach out to people who had pretty much ghosted the place."

Hicks said that at the time of Cahall's efforts there were just about 34 active members running calls at the Lexington Park station out of approximately 330 members on their rolls.

"You're asking people to give 24 hours of their life every month but these were people giving more than their 24," Hicks said, adding that Cahall was one of those few volunteers willing to run calls.

"It's causing a turmoil here, with sorting out the leadership," Hicks told The County Times. "It's a really big loss for the county."

Klobnock said Cahall was focused on making wherever he was better somehow.

"He was active in working groups to improve not only the park [Lexington Park] but the county as a whole," he said. "It's always nice to have that refreshing face among us, of somebody from outside the county."

Cahall grew up in Beltsville and Annapolis but eventually moved to St. Mary's.

Cahall's dedication to the rescue squad and the Advanced Life Support Unit meant he used his experience in data base management to bring the squad up to date technologically, Klobnock said.

Specifically, Cahall worked hard to modernize the squad's own data bases as well as updating its phone system at the station in Lexington Park.

When it came to how to best serve the emergency health needs of the community, Klobnock said, Cahall was never shy about sharing his opinions.

"We didn't always see eye to

eye," Klobnock said. "But everybody got their two cents in."

"There were lively discussions about what we should do operationally."

Cahall's outgoing nature shown through on the stage as well, as he was active in many theatre productions.

According to Cahall's obituary: Cahall "was an active participant in the local arts in Southern Maryland, playing in a string quartet for many events and weddings, and performing regularly at the Three Notch Theatre in Lexington Park, MD. He served on the Board of the Newtowne Players, and was treasurer at the time of his death. Michael's stage performance credits include "Young Frankenstein", "Bye Bye Birdie", and "A Night on Broadway", and his pit performances included "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" and "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown", though many times he pulled double duty, both performing on stage and in the pit for several shows." Cahall was popular among the membership of the squad.

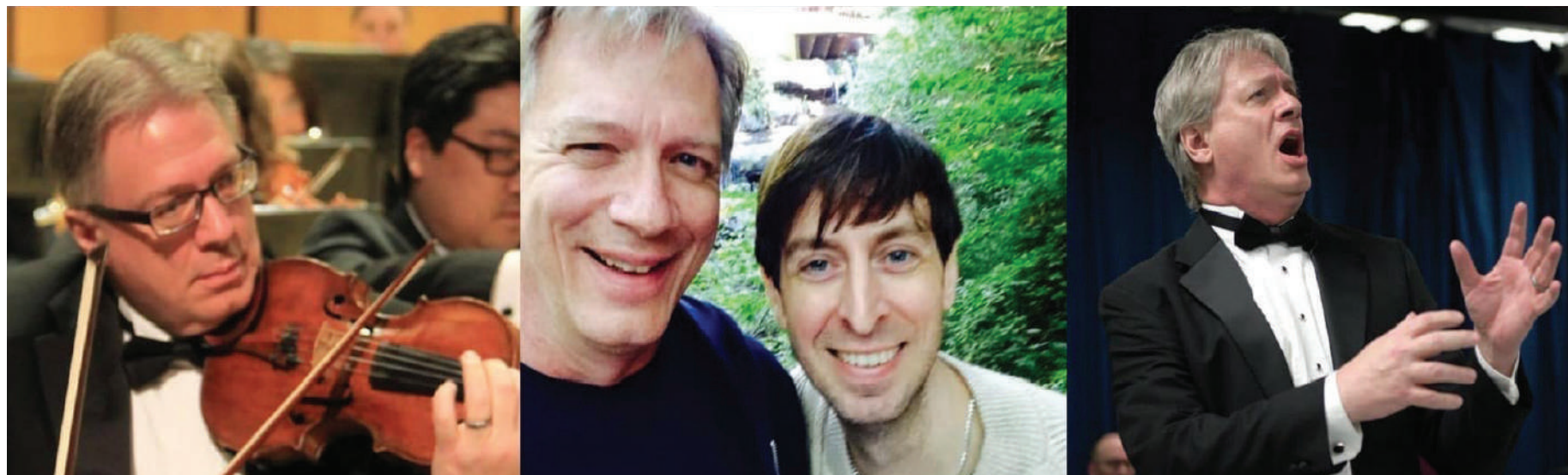
"He cared about the members of the squad," Klobnock said. "And more importantly he cared about the services we provide."

Leadership positions are only held by those who secure the votes of the members, Klobnock said, meaning they had to win the confidence of those they sought to lead first.

"What we do... every so often you get to make a difference in someone's life," Klobnock said. "I'm sure there are people out there who can attribute to Mike's actions in the field as to why they are still alive."

Cahall had a "vision and was striving to make the [emergency medicine] system better," Klobnock continued. "I know he will be missed."

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Chesapeake Public Charter School Lottery Now Open



Chesapeake Public Charter School (CPCS) online lottery application is now open.

All interested families must fill out applications online at cpsapplication.com during the open enrollment period. (This includes all families/siblings who were waitlisted in the 21/22 school year). For the 2022-2023 school year, the on-line application link became live at 10 a.m. on Dec. 1, and closes at 12 p.m. midnight on Dec. 31.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be three virtual Q&A sessions this year to be held on the following dates:

- Thursday, December 2, at 5-6 p.m. - Interested Kindergarten Families
- Monday, December 6, at 5-6 p.m. - Interested Middle School Families
- Thursday, December 9, at 5-6 p.m. - Interested 1st-5th Grade Families

A Zoom link and informational video/slides, which can be viewed prior to the Q&A sessions, will be available on the CPCS website <https://schools.smcps.org/cpcs/> on December 1, 2021. Zoom Q&A sessions will be recorded and posted to the CPCS website.

Families need to enter a valid email address and create a password to create a free account. The application also features a mobile friendly platform. This account will need to be monitored for

information regarding submission status, acceptance/waitlist notifications.

- All applications must be completed online. The order in which the application is submitted does not impact the selection process. It does not matter whether a family submits an application on the first day or the last day since the lottery is a random, computer-based drawing. The application is available in multiple languages.

- The official lottery will be run at the end of January 2022.

- Kindergarten families will be notified by email upon completion of the lottery of their acceptance or wait list status. All other families of students in grades 1-8 will receive an email of their waitlist status and will be offered seats as they become open through the summer months.

For more information, please contact the school's main office at 301-863-9585, extension 0.

Press Release from SMCPs.

CSM Foundation Announces New Board Directors



Natalie Cotton



Joanne Yakaitis

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Foundation announces that Natalie Cotton and Joanne Yakaitis have joined the Foundation's board as its newest directors.

The CSM Foundation, a nonprofit, 501(c)3 charitable organization established in 1970, helps increase access to higher education at CSM through scholarship funding and assures the excellence of that education by raising and managing funds for college projects and objectives – including workforce development in Southern Maryland. The CSM Foundation is comprised of a tri-county, all-volunteer board of directors.

"The CSM Foundation is so fortunate to have Natalie and Joanne join our board," said CSM Foundation Executive Director Chelsea Clute. "Both of these regional leaders have strong ties and deep commitments to our community and as alumnae of community colleges – they both know first-hand the value that CSM brings to our students. We are thrilled they are joining our efforts to make college affordable and accessible to all."

Cotton is the government affairs and community relations director for the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO), where she has worked for 19 years. She received her associate degree in Management Development from CSM, and her bachelor's in Business Administration from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is a 2011 graduate of Leadership Southern Maryland.

Cotton, a Charles County resident, has served in numerous volunteer roles in the community over the last decade, including as a board member and chair of the Charles County Chamber of Commerce; a board member for the Charles County Juvenile Drug Court Committee; a board member

for the Zonta Club of Charles County; and a board member for LifeStyles of Maryland, Inc.

"CSM is a pillar of Southern Maryland, and I am thrilled to partner with them in a new way," Cotton said. "I am eager to put my experience in building relationships, planning events, and serving our community to use to benefit my alma mater. Education is a passion of mine and I am excited to tell my CSM story."

Yakaitis is currently an executive at Fortune 500 firm Booz Allen Hamilton, where she serves as the lead of the Chief Growth Office Proposal Team and is responsible for leading the Contract Proposal Management team. She has previously worked at the Computer Science Corporation in Lanham, Md., Navigant International and GlaxoSmithKline, and co-owned a video production and multimedia company.

Yakaitis is a graduate of Northern Virginia Community College, where she received her associate degree in Speech Communications. She earned her bachelor's in Communications from George Mason University and her MBA from Eastern University. A Calvert County native, she previously served on the Board of Governors for the Calvert Marine Museum.

"As a proud community college graduate, I've always held community colleges near and dear," Yakaitis said. "CSM is a valuable source of innovation in our community and a place where everyone can pursue a lifelong journey of learning. I look forward to taking any opportunities I have to speak to others about the great leaders coming out of CSM."

For information about the CSM Foundation, visit <https://csmd.edu/foundation/>.

Press Release from CSM.

College Book Awards Recognize High School Seniors



Phi Beta Kappa's Zeta Chapter of Maryland at St. Mary's College of Maryland held its annual book awards virtually on Nov. 10, presenting book prizes to five county high school seniors in recognition of their outstanding academic record. (top row, 1 to r): Gili Freedman (assistant professor of psychology at SMCM and Zeta Chapter president), Laraine Glidden (distinguished professor emerita of psychology and human development at SMCM and Zeta

Chapter book award co-coordinator), Emily Bolton (Chopticon High School), Katie Gantz (interim dean of faculty and professor of French at SMCM), Morgan Behe (King's Christian Academy), Leric Scriber (Leonardtwn High School), Anjali Raheja (Great Mills High School), Colby Nelson (senior lecturer of English at SMCM and Zeta Chapter book award co-coordinator). Not pictured: Elise Cecil (St. Mary's Ryken).

Straight Talk on Straight Teeth

BY: JEFF TOMCSIK

Orthodontic braces and clear aligners such as Invisalign® are not just for straightening teeth and making your smile look better. In fact, a highly trained and skilled dentist will use orthodontic treatment to improve the function of the teeth which will result in a healthier, longer-lasting smile. While good looking teeth are attractive, the purpose of your teeth is to chew food. When teeth are misaligned, they can slowly damage opposing teeth during the chewing process. When they are in proper alignment, teeth break down the food they are chewing without damaging each other.

To help illustrate the point, think of a well working pair of scissors. When in good alignment the two blades come together and meet at a very precise point that makes them excellent at cutting paper. On the other hand, imagine one of the scissor blades had a slight bend or a ding in the metal. This imperfection would surely affect the scissor's ability to cut as well as when it was in perfect alignment. If the one blade is bent away from the other, there will be a gap between the points of contact that cause the cutting action. The result would likely be a fail-

ure to cut effectively or efficiently. If the bend in the one blade is toward the other, it would cause the blades to scrape each other, making cutting difficult. More importantly to note, the blades scraping each other slowly destroy the cutting surface of both blades.

These same principles can be applied to your teeth. In any area of the mouth where your opposing teeth do not meet when you perform a chewing motion (meaning there is a space between the top and opposing-bottom tooth in any area of your mouth when your jaw is closed), like the scissor in the first scenario, it is rendered ineffective in the chewing process. On the other hand, if there are any teeth that are colliding with their opposing teeth, they are likely causing trauma to each other and slowly wearing down the enamel surface and eventually the tooth structure. This will likely lead to greater risk of decay and eventually risk the tooth's overall vitality.

Many people who have ongoing problems with decay or pain despite their efforts to keep their teeth clean, might be suffering from malocclusion issues that are causing the ongoing dental prob-

lems. The good news is that orthodontics may be a solution to these problems, and a straighter, more beautiful smile is a bonus to the treatment, not the reason for the treatment.

If you're like most adults, the thought of braces is unnerving. Years in metal brackets and sharp wires is no-one's idea of a good time. If these thoughts are keeping you away from approaching your dentist about a straighter, more beautiful, better functioning, healthier smile, consider a clear aligner option such as Invisalign®. Invisalign® is a clear, removable retainer that may achieve the same results as traditional braces in less time.

The fact that aligners are removable means you can take them out whenever you eat. This makes eating more comfortable and cleaner as you will not have to worry about food particles being stuck in your braces. They also allow you to easily clean your teeth, where braces with wires make flossing and thorough brushing more difficult. The material used by Invisalign® is by far superior to all other aligners on the market. Not only is it the most invisible, it is also the fastest working material, meaning you will reach your

desired outcome in a fraction of the time to other safe orthodontic options.

Finally, with Invisalign® technology, your dentist can take a scan of your mouth and show you virtually what your results will look like, from the improved esthetics of your smile profile to the benefits of improving any occlusion issues that may be causing damage to your teeth.

The next time you go to your dentist, ask them if they are Invisalign® certified. Ask them if they can provide a virtual, digital smile makeover with the use of an iTero® scanner so that you can see your likely outcome. Also ask them if you have any occlusion issues during chewing and if orthodontics is right for you.

One of the biggest barriers to getting orthodontic treatment dentists hear the most is that it costs too much. Before you allow money to get between you and a healthy, beautiful smile, think about the amount of money you spent on your last car. That car will likely not be in your life ten years from now. The cost of braces or Invisalign® is a fraction of the cost of that car, and the results will last you a lifetime!

A Healthy, Happy Smile is in your future.



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CSM Faculty Recognized for Cybersecurity Partnerships

Innovative teaching methods and creating an atmosphere of excitement around a career in cybersecurity earned the College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) Cybersecurity faculty national recognition from the National Cyberwatch Center's Innovations in Cybersecurity Education program. CSM's faculty won Best Submission runner-up for their efforts to collaborate with government, industry and students to create a sustainable regional effort to strengthen cybersecurity workforce needs and broaden opportunities for students currently underrepresented in the cybersecurity workforce.

CSM Professor and Business Coordinator Dr. Mary Beth Klinger, Chair of Technology Christopher Estes, and Lakisha Ferebee, assistant professor and Cybersecurity Program coordinator, shared their collective work during a recent webcast entitled "The Importance of Community and Connectedness in Cybersecurity" via Zoom Oct. 21.

"This award is a well-deserved recognition of the important work being done at CSM to help students from all backgrounds to embark on a successful career in cybersecurity," said CSM Dean of the School of Professional and Technical Studies Bernice Brezina. "I'm proud that our faculty are recognized as leaders in educating future cybersecurity professionals, and I hope that their presentation serves as a guide for others in this field."

The presentation summarized how the college adapted its "Cybersecurity Workforce: Bridging the Gap" courses during the pandemic to keep cybersecurity students who are supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) engaged. It also highlighted ways that CSM is measuring success in creating a social and learning com-

munity through this grant project.

"We are constantly trying to innovate and try new things while still giving students an education that makes them competitive in the workforce," says Klinger. "Ultimately our end goal is to provide students with the joy of a cyber career."

That "joy" is an important part of the project, according to the CSM team, because if students feel engaged in their learning and with each other, it results in the student having a deeper commitment to the cybersecurity profession and creates a positive student-school-industry relationship. To help measure that sense of connectedness, CSM's cyber students completed a "project community scale" questionnaire at the start of their studies. This 20-question survey focused on students' feelings as they related to caring, support, community and desire to learn, and will be repeated as students exit the project.

"The program, along with the individuals involved, have changed my trajectory and increased my potential," said CSM student Delonta Monroe, of Owings, who plans to graduate with an associate degree in Cybersecurity next spring. "The activities I participated in funded by NFS grant gave me confidence, letting me know that I do belong in this field, and [I am gaining the] experience I needed."

The NSF grant aims to help CSM recruit, retain and graduate students who are currently underrepresented in the cybersecurity workforce, with the goal of growing the cybersecurity talent pipeline in Southern Maryland to meet demand for these professionals, creating a diverse, educated and skilled workforce for employers in government, industry and academia.

The country currently faces a

shortage of cybersecurity workers; cybersecurity jobs represent nearly 6% of all open jobs in the country, and for almost every two cybersecurity jobs in the United States, a third job goes unfilled because of a worker shortage, according to data compiled by Microsoft. Meanwhile, the field also lacks diversity in its workforce. Currently, 82.4% of the country's cybersecurity jobs are held by men and 80% are held by people who are white, Microsoft found.

CSM and all community colleges are seen as ideal places to solve both issues, Microsoft President and Vice Chair Brad Smith wrote in a post for the company's blog, as they are places where diverse students can quickly and affordably earn skills for use in their communities.

The grant also allows for professors to create opportunities for students to participate in team-building events, field trips, career exploration and other activities. However, the pandemic made some of those offerings immediately become virtual.

"We didn't get rid of the activities

we had planned for our participants, but instead we had to think very creatively and find ways to provide them with the same experiences, but in a safe way," says Ferebee. She noted that there were some benefits to virtual events, like being able to present high-profile speakers who otherwise would not have been able to travel to campus.

CSM began this NSF grant project in 2019, and the first group of students was accepted in fall 2020. The second cohort was accepted in fall 2021.

This is the final year of the NSF "Cybersecurity Workforce: Bridging the Gap" grant, but Klinger and her colleagues plan to analyze the feedback they are receiving to determine students' sense of 'connectedness' and community from being a part of this project. They are sharing results with the larger cybersecurity and academic community, and they hope to replicate the best practices that they adopted in this program for future CSM students.

Press Release from CSM.

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Pet OF THE WEEK

MEET TRAVIS



Sometimes, your pet picks you.
 -J. Wenzel

Hello, my name is Travis. My DREAM is that I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS! The TCAS elves say I'm a DREAM PIG to live with and I'd be PERFECT to put some HAPPY in your HOLIDAY! My simple routine is to eat my vegetables, come out to play, and enjoy snuggle time with you. So JINGLE YOUR BELLS and send that email to animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov 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



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION *News*

Two Naval Test Wing Atlantic Squadrons Secure Coveted Safety Award

The United States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) and Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (HX) 21 received a Safety "S" for earning the 2020 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Aviation Safety Award, Nov. 3.

Vice Adm. Carl Chebi, Commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, presented the awards during back-to-back ceremonies at the respective squadrons on Nov. 3.

The award and the safety "S" displayed on each of the squadron's aircraft recognizes the squadron for excellence in aviation safety by maintaining Class A mishap-free safety records throughout the fiscal year, and making contributions to the Naval Aviation Safety

Program. A Class A mishap is when a pilot or crew suffers death or disability, or property damage at least \$1 million.

Earning this award requires a culture of safety inclusive of everyone in the command. Safety leaders pointed to respect for the "no vote" – a policy that allows anyone to cancel a flight for any reason – as foundational to their safety record, along with engagement from every level.

"It takes dedicated, experienced individuals to make a safety program work," said Col. Richard Marigliano, Commodore of Naval Test Wing Atlantic. "At USNTPS, Lt. Cmdr. William Vey and Barbara Gordon; at HX-21, Lt. Trey Wheeler, and Doug Dickens, pro-

vide safety program leadership and focus, ensuring ground and flight test risk is appropriately mitigated. These two safety programs and the individuals that execute day-to-day safety functions ensure continued accomplishment of NTWL's mission supporting our nation's warfighters."

Maintaining the highest levels of safety is difficult in any environment, but particularly challenging in squadrons that routinely push aircraft beyond their limits in order to provide new fleet capabilities.

Naval Test Wing Atlantic, a component of Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), serves as fleet advocate supporting test and evaluation of

the Navy's principal aviation systems ranging from unmanned to rotary- and fixed-wing aircraft.

The Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division is the Navy's largest warfare center, employing more than 17,000 military, civilian and contract personnel. It operates test ranges, laboratories and aircraft in support of test, evaluation, research, development and sustainment of everything flown by the Navy and Marine Corps. Based in Patuxent River, Maryland, the command also has major sites in St. Inigoes, Maryland, Lakehurst, New Jersey, and Orlando, Florida.



The U.S. Naval Test Pilot School safety team, Barb Gordon and Lt. Cmdr. William Vey, are joined by the school's commanding officer, Cmdr. Jeremy DeBons, and Commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, Vice Adm. Carl Chebi, after presentation of the Chief of Naval Operations' Aviation Safety Award at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Nov. 23. (U.S. Navy Photo by Peter Fitzpatrick)

Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



LOVING, GUIDING HANDS

I hope this year's Thanksgiving Day was a day filled with the sounds of loved ones and laughter, smells of browned turkey, smoked or stuffed ham, and all the side dishes we all love. I also hope that the remembrances of those we love that have passed were happy, fun memories.

We had a wonderful 5 day 20th wedding anniversary trip to the beautiful Tides Inn in Irvington Virginia, and we came home with just enough time to get down to Thanksgiving preparations. We did have a lovely stay, and the hotel which was built in the 1940s still dazzles with southern hospitality. The Tides is situated on a peninsula down in The Northern Neck and is in the middle of multi-million dollar renovations – should be extra amazing when complete. The photo with the column is of us in front of their LOVE spot right after we arrived, still in our comfy, traveling clothes, looking a bit disheveled. Last Saturday they held their 8th wine/beer/oyster festival in and outside of the hotel, except for last year of course. It was so much fun, and we have been every year so far.

Upon our return, I got right into making my pie crusts and wrapping and chilling the cinnaminy (I know it is spelled cinnamon, but it just doesn't sound right) dough balls in the fridge. I know lots of bakers and cooks were pulling out their family recipes either from their mind or on a treasured, yet faded, holiday food-stained recipe card. I debated whether to add the family cheese biscuit recipe to the meal, or as my mother called them, "Hungarian cheese biscuits", but decided that good old traditional Crescent rolls in their pop'n fresh can would be enough. The cheese biscuit recipe may have been from my paternal grandmother, because it sure sounds more like a recipe from Kentucky than from Hungary, but who knows? I don't remember my Hungarian great-grandmother making cheese biscuits, only her baking powder biscuits made with cracklin' that she kept cooking on the back of the large gas cookstove in that tiny Jersey City 3rd floor walk-up.

I can hear my mother's voice telling me these tips when making cheese biscuits; to only buy the brick of Cracker Barrel Sharp Cheddar, the Washington Self-Rising Flour, only use the large holes of the grater making sure you coat each grated piece in your flour mixture while sifting with your hands so the cheese doesn't all stick together, and most importantly once you add the milk to the flour, Crisco, butter, and cheese mixture work it into a ball quickly with your hands so your biscuits will bake



up light and fluffy and not hard as a rock. She always reminded me about how the heat of my hands will activate the yeast too soon. We all probably hear those tips from loved ones passed on in the back of our minds all the time I imagine. I also see my mother's hands expertly blending the cheese biscuit and pie dough while I am mixing mine, it can be startling at times.

You may notice that I have skipped right over my maternal grandmother's cooking and only mention my great-grandmother and mother, and there is good reason for that which I probably have mentioned before. The extent of my grandmother's cooking that I can remember from my childhood until she passed when I was 8 was SpaghettiOs from a can and lumpy cream of wheat. I have no idea how my mother and two siblings survived their childhood in the late 20s through the early 40s, which is most likely why my mother was such an excellent cook and baker – it was from sheer necessity and survival.

Some old family recipes from my early childhood, from when we used to visit my great grandmother in Jersey City, never made it to my mother's Thanksgiving table and never have been on my "to cook" list, like vegetables creamed in any way, such as spinach, green beans, or peas. Can't do it and won't eat it ever again. I can only assume my mother felt the same way I did about creamed veggies as a child in New Jersey. I don't know if that was a budget, stomach-filling way my great grandmother used to stretch the food for her eight children, or if that was a Hungarian holdover recipe. But yet, I have loved creamed chipped beef or creamed tuna on toast ever since I was little.

Now that Thanksgiving is behind us, there are Christmas preparations and other tasks awaiting me. I am sure you have plenty of tasks awaiting you too; tasks with the voices of loved ones guiding your hands as if they were their own to keep the traditions and warmth of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and all holiday memories alive.

To each new day's adventure, Shelby
Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook



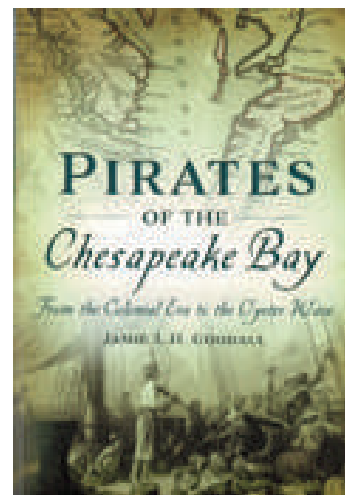
The Way We Were...

History and Stories of St Mary's County from long-ago to just yesterday

Reading St Mary's 2

In our last column we suggested several books available at the St Mary's County Historical Society bookstore (opened Wednesdays through Fridays at Tudor Hall until December 18th and always online at www.stmaryshistory.org – click on the Bookstore tab). Herewith are some additional goodies for Christmas gifts or to ask Santa to put under your tree.

Jamie Goodall, an historian with the U.S. Army, wrote an engaging tale, **Pirates of the Chesapeake Bay: From the Colonial Period to the Oyster**



Wars. Published in February 2020, Goodall tells the story of the golden age of piracy, including Confederate privateers and oyster pirates. She introduces infamous men like Edward "Blackbeard" Teach and "Black Sam" Bellamy, as well as lesser-known local figures like Gus Price and Berkeley Muse, whose tales of piracy are legendary from Baltimore harbor to the shores of Cape Charles.

Compiled from the pages of the Historical Society's own Chronicles of St Mary's, the Attempted Abduction of Abraham Lincoln is a concise reading of the people and events around the attempt to abduct and murder Abraham Lincoln. The subsequent flight of John Wilkes Booth and David Herold are told within its pages.

Even though we benefit

from their presence, most of us know little about the Menonites. Margaret Bange's Dawning of a New Community is the story of their arrival and settlement. It is history told in a folksy style from the inside.

The Historical Society offers two books about Point Lookout, Hell Comes to Southern Maryland by Bradley and Linda Gottfried and Point Lookout Prison Camp for Confederates by Edwin Beitzell. Both are honest retellings of this dark period of history.

Of course, with the rock that bears her name now lodged at Tudor Hall, a must-read for all Countians is Lynn Buonviri's Moll Dyer & Other Witch Tales of Southern Maryland. Painstakingly researched, this is the definitive work on Moll Dyer and her legacy. (Don't forget to visit the Moll Dyer Rock at Tudor Hall, by the way!)

Finally, though it isn't a book, **Kentucky Kindred**



Cookbook in CD format contains dozens of recipes from folks in Kentucky with close ties to St Mary's County. Good eats in digital format!

These books – and more – are available from the St Mary's County Historical Society. If you are a member, you get a 10% discount! So join and enjoy good reading all year!

If you would like to learn more about the people, places, and events that shaped St Mary's County, please visit our website – www.stmaryshistory.org

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Letters to the Editor

County Times


Mike's Food Fund

Greetings, Christmas time is here. It's time for what has become a great tradition in St Mary's County. Mike's Food Fund is doing the turkey drive again. Since 1983 we have provided turkey baskets consisting of 10 pounds of potato's, some canned goods and a Turkey to needy families in St Mary's County. We have 1,000 baskets on order. Even with McKay's giving us the turkeys at cost the overall price went way up. We desperately need donations to pay for them. Please send a check to Mike's Food Fund 21310 C Great Mills Road Lexington Park, MD 20653. You can make a difference. You can help make a Christmas great for a needy family. We need cash to pay for the birds. We also take food and toy donations. Mike's Bikes is also giving out 50 used bikes. We also need volunteers. To volunteer please be at Great Mills High School December 13-14 at 3:30pm

Thank you and Merry Christmas,

Mike Schwartz
Lexington Park, MD

If you would like to submit a Letter to the Editor include your name & town of residence.
Email: DickMyers@countytimes.net



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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 with the listing details by 12 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication.

Thursday Dec 2

American Legion Post 221 Meeting

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

American Legion Post 221 invites all active duty personnel and veterans to join us for our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00pm. Visit our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Post-221-105239187962458/ or e-mail us at alpost221@aol.com. Call 301*848*9458 for more information. Tell them you saw the announcement on the SoMD Internet Calendar.

Friday Dec 3

Old Jail Museum Extended Hours for Leonardtown First Fridays

The Old Jail Museum
Court House Rd.
Leonardtown
Noon to 7p.m.

The Old Jail Museum, a popular landmark in the heart of Leonardtown, will be open to the public during Leonardtown First Fridays. Come take a tour of this unique and fascinating historic site while enjoying Leonardtown First Friday that evening.

Numerous safety precautions will be enacted during the available hours, and staff will be on-hand to showcase the Old Jail and its interesting story.

This location also serves as the official Leonardtown Visitor Center. Information and literature about Leonardtown and area attractions, activities, dining, events and much more is available.

A museum store is on-site with local products, books, apparel, kids items and more for purchase.

Admission is FREE and open to all ages. Walk-ups only.

Info: fb.me/e/IS9OGNxu

Saturday Dec 4

So. Md. Farm & Country Christmas Auction

Westfield Farm Arena
26689 Laurel Grove Road
Mechanicsville
9a.m. to 3p.m.

A Southern Maryland Community Auction event focusing on locally-made Live Evergreen Wreaths, Centerpieces and Decorations; Handcrafted Quilts; New Indoor/Outdoor Furniture and Crafts; locally-grown Poinsettias and much more.

For more information and details go to:

farrellauctionservice.com/index.html

This is our 11th year hosting/conducting this community auction event. Many of the items are handcrafted from those within our Mennonite/Amish Community and other craftsman/producers. This event has been featured on the "Maryland Farm & Harvest" TV program; and the "Southern Maryland—This is Living" magazine.

Sunday, Dec. 5

Christmas Market

Homegrown Farme Market
South of Hermanville Road
Route 235
Noon to 4p.m.

We have a variety of guest craft vendors along with several of our regular vendors that will be setting up. Santa will be walking around and a section of the market will be set up for the kids to do crafts while parents shop.

Mass with Cardinal Wilton Gregory

St. Francis Xavier
Catholic Church
21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cardinal Wilton Gregory, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Washington, will celebrate Mass at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Immediately after the Mass, the Cardinal will bless the newly installed Memorial to the Unborn and Outdoor Stations of the Cross.

Wed, Dec 8

3D Cookie Cutter Workshop
Part 1 of 2
Leonardtown Library
Meeting Room 2
Leonardtown
6p.m. to 7p.m.

Part 1. FREE. Create a 3D Print cookie cutter. This is a beginner-level work-along, step by step tutorial creating line art to a 3D print (printed by the Library) using free software:

Inkscape: inkscape.org
Blender: www.blender.org
PrusaSlicer: www.prusa3d.com/prusaslicer/

Participants need a wifi capable laptop with these installed and basic computer-familiarity. RSVP Required: T@Cattail.Nu

You will need the above software installed on your laptop, a picture of your design on your computer (can be hand-drawn), and basic computer skills. You will need to attend both sessions

(8th and 9th). Register: www.meetup.com/cattail-nu-creative-events/events/282028041/

Saturday, December 11

2nd Annual Christmas In Laurel Grove

Mt. Zion United
Methodist Church
27108 Mt. Zion Church Road
Mechanicsville
3pm to 7pm

FREE admission and FUN for all. Honoring our Law Enforcement, Fire and Rescue and Healthcare Workers at a tree lighting ceremony and blessing at 5pm. FREE children's games and crafts, hayrides, crafters, live nativity and more. Take pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, food and drinks available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall. Special performances in our Historic Sanctuary by the Chop-ticon Peace Pipers, Community Hand Bell Choir, Mt. Calvary UMC Choir

and our Mt. Zion Carolers. St. Mary's County Health Dept. COVID-19 Regulations Followed.

Non parishable food items will be collected for the Hungry Team. Follow us at www.mtzionmech.org www.facebook.com/MtZionMech More information contact church office at 301-884-4132

Upcoming

Alcoholics Anonymous

Dec 31. - Jan.1
9 p.m.-6 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous is holding a New Years Alkathon. Continuous 12 step AA meetings, beginning at 9:00pm NYE until 6:00pm New Years Day evening.

First Saint's Church Hall at 25550 Point Lookout Rd Leonardtown, MD (next to Medstar St Mary's Hospital) If you have a problem or think you may have a problem with alcohol, you are invited to attend.

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

In Remembrance

Luvia Amalia Valencia Farrell



Luvia Amalia Valencia Farrell, "Lou," of Mechanicsville, Maryland, formerly of Camp Springs, Maryland, passed away peacefully on November 24, 2021, at her

residence. She was born October 16, 1936, in Cubulco, Guatemala, and was the daughter of the late Victoria Garcia and Jesus Valencia.

Luvia is survived by her children, Robert "Bobby" Farrell (Betsy) of Mechanicsville, Maryland, and Victoria Lynn Foutz (Steve) of Mullins, South Carolina; five grandchildren, Brittany Bowman, Michael Foutz (Tracey), Joseph Foutz, Robert "Drew" Farrell, and Emily Farrell; along with six great-grandchildren, Natalie, Camdyn, Autumn, Joseph Robert, Madison, and Serenity; siblings, Ed Valencia, Flor Garcia, Roberto Valencia, Gustavo Valencia, Maria "Chiqui" Garcia, and Blanca

Valencia; sister-in-law Agnes "Cookie" Hayden; brother-in-law Clyde Farrell (Jeryle); beloved nephew Mike Lacey; her caregiver (an angel in disguise) Sharon Woodburn, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband Robert "Bobby" Farrell; brother, Arnaldo Valencia; sister, Aura Valencia; brother-in-law Francis Farrell; brother-in-law Stevie Lacey; sister-in-law Louise Lacey; brother-in-law Elbert Hayden; beloved son-in-law Michael Foutz; and her parents-in-law, Robert and Estelle Farrell.

Luvia grew up in Cubulco, a very small town in Guatemala. As a child, Luvia helped her mother in their family store where they also prepared many meals for their customers. In 1952, at the age of 16, Luvia emigrated to the United States at the urging of her mother to make a better life for herself. Luvia was sponsored by and lived with a family friend, Virginia "Gigi" Skimmerhorn in Mount Vernon, Virginia, when she arrived in the United States. She started high school at George Washington High School in Alexandria, Virginia, and graduated in 1956. She was a member of

the Spanish Club and learned English fluently within a year of her arrival in the U.S.

After high school, Luvia obtained a job at Acacia Life Insurance Company at 51 Louisiana Avenue in Washington, D.C., as a photostat operator. Luvia quickly moved up in the accounting department at Acacia where she spent her days balancing ledgers and tracking insurance payments and payouts. Luvia would remain at Acacia for her entire career, retiring in 1994.

In 1958, Luvia met her Bob, who also worked at Acacia Life Insurance Company. They married in 1960 and enjoyed a beautiful, happy and joyful marriage of 60 years. Bobby and Lou traveled daily to Acacia together for the next 40 years. After their retirement, they moved to St. Mary's County to be closer to the extended family. You rarely saw one without the other. If Bobby was out at the store, you could rest assured Luvia was not far behind. If Bobby was cutting grass, Lou would be weeding or trimming outside with him. They were devoted to one another.

Luvia would tell you her most fulfilling "job" in life was that of wife, mother, and grandmother. She was known for her kindness and generosity. She was considered the neighborhood grandmother/mom, always welcoming new families to the neighborhood by sending over an apple cake or one of her other famous desserts or dishes or gifts for a new baby. She loved her daily walks with her special neighbor, Heidi Gagnon. The conversation never stopped from the time they left their driveways until they returned, sometimes an hour or more later.

She loved to entertain for holidays, family reunions, and never needed a reason to invite friends and family into her home. The table was always filled with delicious homemade food and oftentimes authentic Guatemalan favorites. There was no such thing as not having enough to eat when you sat at Lou's table. Her apple cake, salsa, macaroni salad, Manaw eggs, hot sauce, and tortillas were delicious and enjoyed by many through the years. You never left Luvia's kitchen hungry or empty-handed, oftentimes, loaded down with Tupperware dishes filled to the brim with leftovers. Luvia also loved to garden. She worked with Bob in their garden where they would always plant rows and rows of tomatoes and green beans for canning.

In the early years of their marriage, Luvia and Bob opened their doors to several of Luvia's relatives from Guatemala, helping them get their start after emigrating to the U.S. They would live with them at their home in Camp Springs, Maryland, and many would work at Acacia with them.

Luvia reminded us all of the Energizer Bunny. She kept going and going and going! She would say, I'm going to sit down for a minute and rest, and you could time her exactly to 60 seconds on the dot, when she would jump up and continue on with her cleaning or cooking. The only time you might catch her sitting for more than a few minutes was to watch General Hospital or her Spanish soap operas at night after Bob had gone to bed.

Luvia was a sweet and gentle woman. Her beautiful smile made everyone feel welcome. She made all those around her better with her example of unconditional love, kindness, and goodness. Her ability to give unwaveringly and never expecting anything in return made her one of a kind.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, December 2, 2021 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church Chaptico, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM with Father Chip Luckett officiating. Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Catholic Church Bushwood, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be: Brittany Bowman, Drew Farrell, Patrick Farrell, Michael Foutz, Mike Lacey, and Robert Valencia. Honorary pallbearers will be Ed Valencia, Maria Garcia, Clyde Farrell and Sharon Woodburn.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD and/or Mechanicsville Vol. Rescue Squad P.O. Box 15 Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

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

Raymond Leo Hood, Sr.



Raymond Leo Hood, Sr., "Ray", 87, of Leonardtown, MD, formerly of Philadelphia, PA, passed away on November 23, 2021 in Wash-

ington, DC. Born on December 23, 1933, he was the son of the late Lenora M. Hornig and the late Raymond J. Hood. Ray was the loving husband of Jeanne M. Hood, whom he married on February 6, 1954 in Philadelphia, PA. He is survived by his children Kathleen Stanton of Worcester, MA, Veronica Long of Buckeye, AZ, his brothers Robert Hood of Great Mills, MD, Carol Hood of Philadelphia, PA, Edward Hood of Philadelphia, PA, five grandchildren and 11 great



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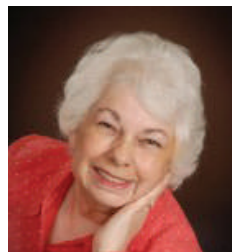
grandchildren. Ray was preceded in death by his sons Raymond L. Hood, Jr. and Kenneth Hood, as well as his brother James Hood.

Ray attended St. Thomas Moore High School and graduated in 1951. He then went on to graduate from LaSalle University in 1963 with a Bachelors in Electronic Physics. Ray served in the Air Force for four years, from 1951 to 1955, and was stationed at Kessler AFB, Mississippi and Reykjavik AFB, Iceland. Ray moved to St. Mary's County in 1983 from Fairbanks, Alaska and worked as an Electronics Engineer from Allied Signal Corp. for 30 years, retiring in May 1999. He was a member of Moose Lodge, and was called the "Bird Man of Cherry Cove", as he loved to care for and feed neighborhood birds.

The family will receive friends on Friday, December 10, 2021 at 11:00 AM in St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Leonardtown, MD, with Father David Beaubien officiating. Interment will be private. Serving as pallbearers will be Greg Long, Michael Stanton, Nicole Paulson, and Philip Long.

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

Louise Hancock



Louise Hancock "Gwen" 73 of Mechanicsville died on November 19th, 2021 at Washington Hospital Center.

Born January 21st, 1948 in

Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of Louise "Polly" Bohle and the late David G. Bogie Sr.

She graduated from Hatboro-Horsham High School in 1966. She is preceded in death by her husband of 40 years Joseph "Reggie" Hancock and brother David G. Bogie Jr. She was a proud Wife, Mother, Grandmother "Memom" and Great-Grandmother. They all made her smile and laugh at some of the things they would say or do.

She is survived by her 6 children. Son, Michael Post of Leonardtown, MD. Daughter, Tammy Kelly (Jon) of Leonardtown, MD. Daughter, Tina Diggle (Eddie) of Hollywood, MD. Daughter, Bobbie Jo Goldsborough (Donnie) of Mechanicsville, MD. Son, Scott Hancock of Mechanicsville, MD. Son, James Hancock (Jennilee) of Mechanicsville, MD. She is survived by her 3 step children Victoria "Vickey" Brooks, Joseph Thomas "Jay" Hancock and Christo-

pher "Chris" Wagner, all of McCook, Nebraska. She is survived by her 14 grandchildren. Joey, Jeffery, and Justin Anderson. McKenzie and Garrett Diggle. Donald, Sean, and Xander Goldsborough. Brittany, Samantha, and Joseph Hancock. Chloe, Hollie, and Abby Hancock. She is also survived by 1 great grandchild Ellie Mae Anderson.

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

Memorial contribution to the American Red Cross P.O. Box 37839, Boone, IA 50037-0839, or Mt. Zion United Methodist Church 27108 Mt. Zion Church Rd, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Eleanor Loretta "Iya"

Cullison



Eleanor Loretta "Iya" Cullison, 88, of Lexington Park, MD, formerly of Troy, NY, passed away on November 18, 2021 in Leonardtown, MD.

Born on January 13, 1933 in Troy, NY, she was the daughter of the late Eleanor Loretta Hogan and John Francis Hogan. Eleanor was the loving wife of the late Charles Thebaud Cullison, Jr., whom she married on August 21, 1950 in Holy Face Catholic Church, and who preceded her in death on November 2, 2002. Eleanor is survived by her children Bonnie Cullison (Marcia Masse) of Silver Spring, MD, Diane Coleman (Fred) of Mount Dora, FL, and Valerie Cullison (Shirley Miller) of Simpsonville, SC, three grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her siblings John F. Hogan, Jr. and Helene A. Hogan.

Eleanor moved from Troy, NY to St. Mary's County, MD in 1942. She graduated from St. Michael's School in 1950 and was a homemaker. Eleanor was a member of the Knights of Columbus Belles, and Ladies of Holy Face Church. She enjoyed playing card games, especially pitch, and bowling.

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

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231.

Michael Sheldon Cahall



Michael Sheldon Cahall, 62, of Lexington Park, MD, formerly of Annapolis, MD, passed away on November 18, 2021 in Koh Samui, Thailand.

He was born on Christmas Eve, 1958 to the late Richard Sewell Cahall and Mary Lorna Borsodi Cahall at the Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, MD. He grew up in Beltsville and Annapolis, and attended High Point Senior High School where he began his lifelong love affair with music, and graduated in 1978.

Michael attended the University of Maryland and the Peabody Conservatory of Music before completing his degree in music performance at West Virginia State University in 1983. Throughout his life, Michael would continue to pursue music, playing violin, viola, lap steel, guitar, and piano, as well as vocal performance. Pursuing his love of music led Michael to playing violin in the orchestra for the Young Victorian Theater Company, and, later, the Londontowne Symphony Orchestra. He eventually stepped out of the put to sing in the chorus for "Young Vic" in several of their productions.

After college Michael went into business for himself as an appliance repair technician. From there he networked his way into a job with the National Weather Service working in data management. After several years with NWS, Michael moved to work for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, becoming the director of the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program, coordinating fisheries data for the east coast of the United States. He held that position until his retirement in 2019.

In July of 2005, Michael joined the

Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad, holding many offices during his time there, including vice president, supply officer, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, deputy chief, and ALS deputy chief. At the time of his death, Michael was serving as chief of the department. He also served the St. Mary's Advanced Life Support Unit as president and was an active paramedic in the volunteer service in St. Mary's County. He was also in the first group of volunteer paramedics to help stand up the COVID19 vaccination clinics in partnership with the St. Mary's County Health Department.

Michael was an active participant in the local arts in Southern Maryland, playing in a string quartet for many events and weddings, and performing regularly at the Three Notch Theatre in Lexington Park, MD. He served on the Board of the Newtowne Players, and was treasurer at the time of his death. Michael's stage performance credits include "Young Frankenstein", "Bye Bye Birdie", and "A Night on Broadway", and his pit performances included "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" and "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown", though many times he pulled double duty, both performing on stage and in the pit for several shows.

A passionate technophile, Michael collected vintage turntables and sound systems. He loved tinkering with his Galaxy 500 convertible, which he called "Lucy" (she's big, loud, and red, just like Lucille Ball's famous character). Together with his husband, Michael also worked with the Dachshund Rescue of North America, fostering dozens of dogs and serving as forever home for many elderly, hard-to-place wiener dogs. Most recently, he fell in love with a blue Juliana pig named Hamlet and took in the needy Poppy Pig. He was also an avid and gifted sailor, having captained his Bristol sailboat "Too Tuna" to victory in the Good Old Boat Regatta.



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

In Remembrance

Part of Michael's drive to make the world a better place involved him discerning a call to the diaconate. He began that journey at the Church of the Ascension in Lexington Park, MD and followed that path through to ordination as a deacon of the Episcopal Church at the National Cathedral in November 2020 by the Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington. After his internship, where he served several parishes, Michael was assigned to All Faith Church in Mechanicsville, MD.

In 2005, Michael entered into a registered domestic partnership with Shawn Davidson, and they married legally at the Church of the Ascension in Lexington Park, MD on New Year's Eve, 2013. During their time together, they built a chosen family that included becoming legal custodians of Blair Phillips, now of Winchester, VA, and Marcus Whalen, of Lexington Park, MD, and expanded to include many other filiations over the years. Particularly special to Michael were the relationships he was able to build with Kimberly Moore of Lexington Park, MD and T. Grant Kelly of Sioux Falls, SD.

Michael loved to travel, enjoyed live music, and Broadway performances. He smiled a lot, worked hard, and loved fiercely. His passion for humanity led him into a life of service.

In addition to his children, husband and mother, Michael is survived by his sister, Lisa Cahall Swisher of Bend, OR, his brother R. Sean Cahall of San Diego, CA, his nephews Amadeus and Everest Swisher, both of Bend, OR, his in-laws, Kim and Patricia Davidson, and David and Shari Arends of Lexington Park, MD, Zachary and Megan Arends of Waldorf, MD, Tyler Arends of Fort Leonard Wood, MO, and Caleb Arends of Lexington Park, MD, as well as three grandchildren.

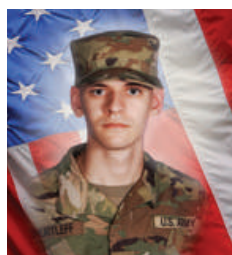
The family will receive friends on Friday, December 3, 2021 from 12:00-1:00 PM at the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department Hall, Lexington Park, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 1:00 PM with Right Reverend Mariann Budde officiating, and Reverend Greg Syler, Rector and Reverend Debbie Kirk, Rector co-officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Zoran Trahmod, Duane Cooper, Jeff Maher, Andrew Koch, Ralph Stotler, and Stacey Oosterink. Honorary pallbearers will be Officers and Members of Lexington Park VRS and Officers and Members of St. Mary's Advanced Life Support Unit.

Contributions may be made to the Lexington Park Vol. Rescue Squad (www.lpvrs.org), Londontowne Symphony Orchestra (www.lso-music.org), and Newtowne Players (www.newtowneplayers.org).

newtowneplayers.org).

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

James Rafael Shurtleff



James Rafael Shurtleff, "Shurt", 22, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on November 10, 2021 in El Paso, Texas. Born on November 19, 1998, he was the loving son of Elizabeth Shurtleff and James Shurtleff of Leonardtown, MD. He is survived by his sister, Elizabeth Melendez of Georgetown, TX.

James graduated from Chopticon High School in 2016, and served in the United States Army for two years. He was stationed in Fort Bliss, TX, and served in Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq and Syria. James enjoyed motorcycles and video games.

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

Erica Justine Cox



Erica Justine Cox, 28, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, November 25, 2021 at her home. She was born on February 13, 1993 in Clinton, MD. She was affectionally called "Tena" by her mom, Sherry Selinske.

Erica was a graduate of Chopticon High School and would go on to become a dental assistant. She loved her career and being able to meet so many people. Her joyful, spirited personality made her a valued employee and co-worker. She had a smile that would light up any room and her laugh was as open as her personality.

She was lucky and met her forever love when she was only thirteen (13) years old. She and Matty Brann would travel many roads and weather storms that only made their relationship stronger. Together they welcomed the light of Erica's life, her "Number 1", son, Kaysen Taylor. Erica was happiest when she had her son by her side. The bond between a mother and son is unbreakable and she will be with Kaysen forever as his guardian angel.

Erica made friends where ever she went. She cherished the relationship

she had with Matty and her family. Erica enjoyed being pampered and was always willing to spend the day getting her nails done. She could shop for hours, even when she didn't need anything. She enjoyed movies with friends. If her song came on, you could guarantee she would be up and dancing around. Her infectious energy would have everyone singing and dancing along.

A wonderful woman has been taken too soon. Please continue to share stories about Erica with her son and family, so that her spirit can continue to help guide them through this difficult journey. We are never given the answer as to why, but we can always make her life worthwhile as we make the world a better place in her honor.

Erica is survived by her son, Kaysen Taylor Brann; parents, Kevin M. Selinske, Sr. and Sherry Ann Selinske of Waldorf, MD; companion, Matthew Brann of Prince Frederick, MD; and siblings, Kevin "KJ" Michael Selinske, Jr. of Waldorf, MD, Melanie Williams of North Beach, MD and Nicholas Cox. She is also survived grandparents, Diane Middledorf (Kevin), Kathy Buntin (Allen), Lyman Cox, Sr. (Norma); aunts and uncles, Joey Akowskey (Winnie), Megan Dziedzic (Joey), Amanda Cox, Chris Cox and Kelly Cox; and many cousins and extended family members. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather, Clyde L. Smith (Smitty).

Services are pending at this time. Please check back for arrangement times.

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

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

Luther Howerton Wolfe



Luther Howerton Wolfe, 81, passed away at his home on November 24, 2021 surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Leonardtown, MD to John Michael and Emma Frances Wolfe on August 14, 1940.

Luther graduated from Margaret Brent High School in 1958 and immediately went to work on the family farm. Luther was passionate about farming, and was successful growing a variety of crops, including corn, soybeans and tobacco. One of his greatest pleasures was surveying his crops and monitoring their growth, and taking a few moments to let the dirt run through his fingers. He worked very hard to grow his farm, and was extremely proud of his home

and farm in Chaptico. He loved the beauty in the tall green corn, the fullness of the soybean fields, and tall, full tobacco plants. Luther loved his equipment, especially his tractors and combines. He took great pride in keeping them running well. Some of his greatest pleasures were restoring older model tractors and "piddling" with his other farm equipment. Luther's greatest love was his family. He and his wife Linda were married 54 years! He loved spending time with his children, their families, and his amazing grandchildren, Zachary, Karlie and Cassie, who affectionately called him "Gin".

Luther enjoyed taking advantage of the bounties of the local area. Whether it be crabs and oysters from the Wicomico River, or Southern Maryland Stuffed Ham, he was born and bred a "county boy". He never met a stranger, and enjoyed talking to everyone, and hearing their story. He seemed to meet people he knew everywhere he went!

Luther could fix anything, and this skill came in handy when equipment broke, sprayers stopped working, or grain trucks broke down. He was very smart, and loved Math and St. Mary's County history. He was wise beyond his years.

Over the years, Luther found himself in many predicaments which could have cost him his life, including being struck by lightning while water skiing, falling off a shed and shattering his pelvis, and having a barn collapse on him during a wind storm. He would get up from these incidents, shake it off (even if it took a hospital stay), and smile that famous grin. He also found himself facing multiple life threatening illnesses, including fighting leukemia, chronic asthma and skin cancer. Despite the toll these illnesses took on his health, Luther kept on fighting, and always had a positive attitude. His faith in God helped him through his pain and discomfort. He was a fighter, and fought to the end with dignity, strength and grace.

The family would like to thank several doctors and their staffs who were very important in supporting Luther's chronic illnesses over the years, including Dr. Gurdeep Chhabra and Dr. Kiran Mehta. In addition, they would like to thank the Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad. Its members always treated him and provided superb care, while calming and reassuring him on the trip to the hospital.

To know Luther is to know a strong and devoted Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle and Friend. He was a proud Christian, and enjoyed his church family. Due to his illnesses he had not been able to attend in person services recently, but we are comforted knowing he can now return so that we can celebrate his life. After



meeting him, you would immediately know that he was one of a kind. His loss has left a hole in the hearts of his family and close friends. But his family is comforted knowing that he has been welcomed into the Kingdom of Heaven, and reunited with many family members and friends.

Luther is survived by his loving wife, Linda; children: Julia (John) Steele of Chaptico; Laura (Michael, Jr.) Lizbinski of Leonardtown; Robert (Sherry) Wolfe of Chaptico; Grandchildren: Zachary, Karlie, Cassie; Best friend and second son, James "Allen" Lacey of Chaptico, sister, Virginia Pettit of Chaptico, nephews Mark Pettit and Todd Pettit of Chaptico, and many extended cousins and beloved friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be: Steve Austin, Tommy Austin, Malcolm Goode, Patrick Morgan, Mark Pettit, Todd Pettit. Honorary pallbearers will be Greg Austin, Richard Colliflower, Bobby Cooper, Joseph Johnson, James "Allen" Lacey, Raymond Norris.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, December 2, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. with prayers at 7:00 p.m., at First Saints Community Church, St. Paul's Campus, 25550 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, December 3, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at First Saints Church. Interment will follow at the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Seventh District Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 7, Avenue, MD 20609.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Services: Masks will be required.

Tyler Patrick Springer



Tyler Patrick Springer, 28 of Hollywood, MD passed away on November 19, 2021 at home.

He was born on March 19, 1993 in LaPlata, Maryland to Charity Ann (Tennison) O'Brien.

Tyler spent most of his life in St. Mary's and Charles County, MD. Employed as a Construction Foreman for Parson's Restoration in La Plata, MD., Tyler was career minded and a hard worker. Family was very important to him. His son was his life and what he worked so hard for. He was a loving father to his son, Lucas who he enjoyed caring for, playing and dancing with. Tyler and his brother Kasey had a very special bond only broth-

ers could have. His son Lucas and his brother Kasey were everything to him. They enjoyed doing everything together. The outdoors brought him much peace and happiness. He loved fishing, was an avid skateboarder, and a fantastic dancer, which came to no surprise as he has danced since he was a little boy.

He is survived by his parents, Michael and Charity O'Brien; Son, Lucas Tennison; Brother, Kasey O'Brien, Sister Carmen Adderty and her daughter, Sofia; Godfather, Brian Springer; Godmother and Aunt, Cathy "CaCa" Tennison; Uncle Cecil Tennison, Aunt Tammy (Eric) Saunders, Uncle Rich (Yumi) Ludke; Aunt Betty Jane (Barry) Myers; Grandparents, Alice and Ernie Tennison and Paul and Sheila Benoit; and many more family and close friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Lucas E. Tennison Trust Fund c/o Navy Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 3000, Merrifield, VA 22119-3000.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Marsha Ann Lanham



Marsha Ann Lanham, 73, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away with her husband by her side on November 5, 2021. Marsha was born on June

19, 1948 in Washington D.C. to the late John D. Spaight and Helen C. Spaight. Marsha was the youngest of 9 children.

She retired from St. Mary's Hospital as a courier. Marsha always had a smile on her face and was loved by everyone she met. She met her husband, John "Bobby", 57 years ago while working at Hecht's Cafeteria in Marlow Heights, MD and they have been inseparable ever since.

Marsha loved her Elvis Presley and collected many memorabilia over the years. She and her sister Bernadette were the hand dancing queens growing up and could show anyone up on the dance floor. Marsha loved her pets, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and life itself. She will be missed so much by her family and friends.

Marsha is survived by her husband John R. Lanham Jr.; her daughters Cathy D. Gayda of Columbia, MD, Christine C. Lanham of Mechanicsville, MD, Donna L. Forsyth of Avenue, MD, Venus A. Lanham of Mechanicsville, MD; her sons John R. Lanham III of Laurel, MD and Christopher D. Lanham of Alexandria, VA;

her sisters Vivian Moyle of Salisbury, MD, Billie Joan Simpson of Orlando, FL, Bernadette Warren of Mechanicsville, MD, Rosemary Riston of Crofton, MD; 15 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

All services will be private.

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

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

Michael Wayne "Mike" Beavan



Michael Wayne "Mike" Beavan, 71, of Chaptico, MD, passed away on November 27, 2021 in Leonardtown, MD. He was born on January 22, 1950 in Leonardtown, MD and was the

son of the late James Benjamin Beavan and Agnes Mary Hayden Beavan. Mike was the loving husband of Patricia Ann Bowles Beavan; they were married for 35 years. Mike is survived by his children Kimberly Wildoner (Ron) and Bonnie Beavan, three grandchildren Christopher W. Russell (Megan), of Leonardtown, MD, James T. Russell, III, (Amanda) of Pocomoke City, MD, and Jennifer Russell (Tim) of California, MD, six great grandchildren, siblings Anne Marie Beavan (Ralph) Colorado, James B. Beavan, Jr. (Shirley) of Compton, MD, Janet L. Beavan of Texas, Susan E. Guy (Raymond) of Clements, MD, Robert A. Beavan (Tina) of Thurmont, MD, George B. Beavan (Deborah) of Chaptico, MD, William H. Beavan (Kim) of Thurmont, MD, and Joseph A. Beavan (Alicia) of Chaptico, MD, his beloved sister-in-law Margaret Hill Beavan of Chaptico, MD and numerous nieces

and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brother John David Beavan. Mike was the third of ten children, and attended Ryken High School. He graduated in 1967 and attended St. Mary's College of Maryland while continuing to help his father and brother, David, on the farm. He later pursued work in commercial drywall/construction. Mike found his dream job when he began a career of service with the St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks. For many years he supervised the maintenance and grass cutting of the parks, as well as construction within park buildings, including the St. Clements Island Museum. Mike took a great deal of pride in the upkeep of the parks, and he also assisted in making our community parks handicap accessible. Mike was a huge supporter of the St. Mary's County Christmas In April, acting as House Foreman for many years. Often, when the one-day event was not sufficient to get the property complete, Mike would continue to return after the event to finish the job.

Michael loved to sing and was in a band in his early years. He enjoyed playing softball, walking on the farm, and working in his flower and vegetable gardens. Michael leaves behind a legacy of love of family, friendship shared with many, and a deep love for God and his community.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD, where a funeral service will be held at 10:30 AM in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Carl Snyder officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD.

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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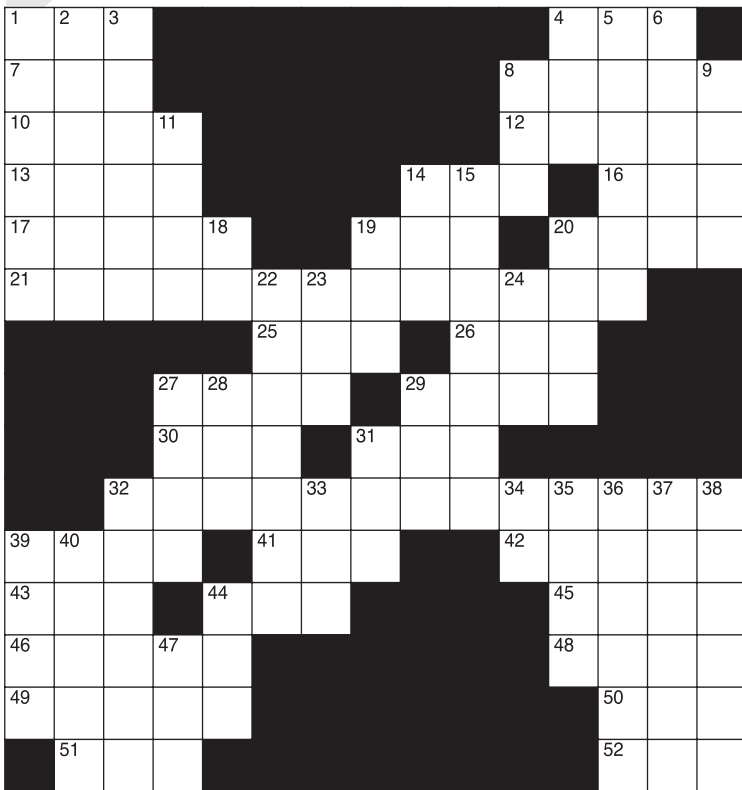
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If you are a self starter with a desire to help local businesses grow their customer base, contact
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

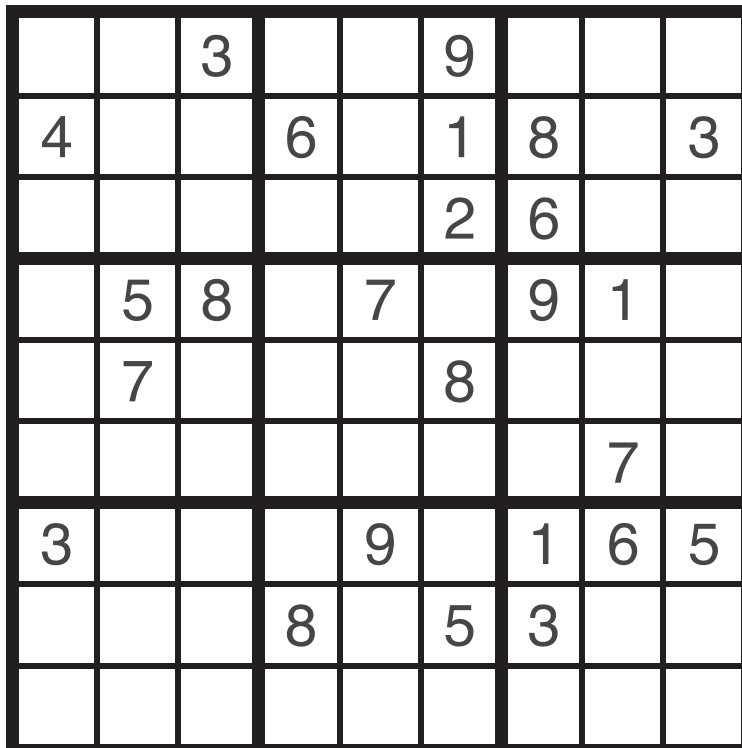
- 1. FDNY's union
- 4. Hideout
- 7. Trent Reznor's band
- 8. Old World tropics plants
- 10. Places to stay
- 12. Group of organisms from a common ancestor
- 13. TV character Goodman
- 14. Not around
- 16. Title of respect
- 17. Ceramic jars
- 19. British legal authority (abbr.)
- 20. A companion (archaic)
- 21. Where groups of people live
- 25. Indigenous person of NE Thailand
- 26. Red-brown sea bream
- 27. Ridge of jagged rock
- 29. Meat from a pig (French)
- 30. A way to save for the future
- 31. Opposite of bottom
- 32. A term of endearment

- 39. Weight used in China
- 41. You need it to hear
- 42. Frighten
- 43. Basics
- 44. Computer data collection (abbr.)
- 45. The best point of something
- 46. Jewelled headdress
- 48. Spoke
- 49. Mammary gland of female cattle
- 50. Midway between north and northeast
- 51. Defunct European economic group
- 52. Foul-mouthed Hollywood bear

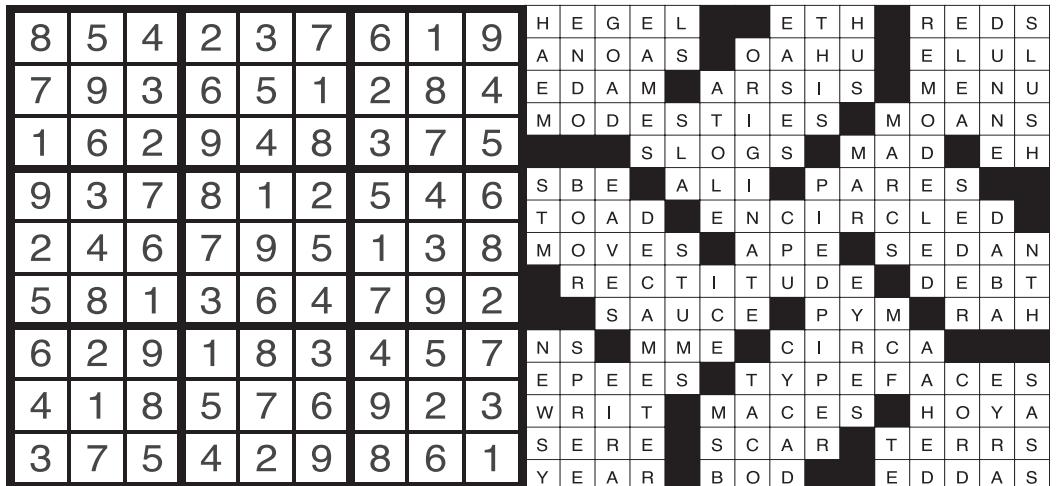
CLUES DOWN

- 1. In tune
- 2. Ending
- 3. Ring-shaped objects
- 4. Equal to 10 liters (abbr.)
- 5. Removes from record
- 6. The lowest point
- 8. Plant cultivated for its tubers
- 9. Dry or withered
- 11. Stony waste matter
- 14. Speedometer reading

- 15. Each of two or more forms of the same element
- 18. A baseball stat
- 19. Corporate PR exec (abbr.)
- 20. Insures bank's depositors
- 22. Made dim
- 23. Uncultured person
- 24. Paddle
- 27. Currency of Cambodia
- 28. Pitching stat
- 29. A place to put mail
- 31. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 32. 10 years
- 33. Resinous substance secreted by insects
- 34. Losses
- 35. S. American plants
- 36. Void of thought or knowledge
- 37. Stout-bodied moth
- 38. Transferred property
- 39. Russian pop act
- 40. Accept
- 44. A retrospective military analysis (abbr.)
- 47. A type of center



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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



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