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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022

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“MONEY IS SECONDARY TO WHAT WE’RE TALKING ABOUT.”
SHERIFF TIM CAMERON ON OPTIONS TO STOP PEOPLE JUMPING FROM THE THOMAS JOHNSON BRIDGE

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 2/3	Fri 2/4	Sat 2/5	Sun 2/6
57° 52°F	55° 26°F	33° 24°F	39° 30°F
Showers	Rain	Sunny	Sunny
Mon 2/7	Tue 2/8	Wed 2/9	Thu 2/10
45° 32°F	44° 30°F	48° 33°F	50° 34°F
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy

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State Studying Bridge for Suicide Prevention Measures

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The recent deaths of jumpers from the Thomas Johnson Bridge that connect Calvert and St. Mary's counties has prompted the State Highway Administration (SHA) to consider options that could prevent a person from ending their life from a bridge plunge.

"Our Office of Structures will perform a study to determine if there are additional viable countermeasures for the Thomas Johnson Bridge," said Tina Register, assistant director of public relations for SHA. "SHA's number one priority is safety along the state highway network and takes suicides and attempted suicides very seriously."

The state has already taken some steps in an effort to prevent suicidal jumps from the bridge but still fatalities have occurred in one of the most public places locally.

"In 2007, call boxes were installed on the Thomas Johnson Bridge to offer a direct link to the state's suicide hotline for those seeking help, and in 2008 cameras were installed to monitor activity on the bridge," Register said in a prepared statement.

There have been one suicide from the bridge so far this year and there was another in October of last year involving a Leonardtown High School student that struck the community deeply.

The recent spike in deaths has prompted a petition locally to install some kind of netting on the bridge to catch suicidal sub-

jects from completing a lethal fall.

The bridge is 140 feet tall at the height of its span.

That idea already has some support from elected leaders.

"No family should experience the loss of a loved one from suicide," said Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist.29B) "The simple act of installing nets could save a family from experiencing a tragedy."

The father of the high school student, Andrew Sukhram, who took his own life last year signed that petition along with Crosby.

"I'm signing this petition because we all can't just stand by hoping this tragedy won't happen again," David Sukhram said. "Unfortunately, we can't expect all our loved ones to recognize and get or accept the necessary help needed to prevent suicide."

"Yes, we need more and accessible mental health services and we also need medicine, family, love, support, fellowship, church, sports, community, self-care, all these things, but when they aren't enough and a person decides to take their life, a community is left with questions," the grieving father continued. "What if? What could we have done better? What could I have done better?"

Sukhram said that the cost of implementing netting would be worth the expense if it saved just one life.

St. Mary's Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron said the issue of suicide had to be discussed, like it or not.



"We need to talk more about it, so people know there's help," Cameron told The County Times. "Money is secondary to what we're talking about [saving lives.]"

Calvert Sheriff Mike Evans concurred. "Something to make it more difficult [to jump from the bridge] would probably help," Evans said. "I'm willing to try anything to keep people alive."

St. Mary's health officer, Dr. Meena Brewster, said suicide affected more than just the person who took their own life.

"Suicide is a serious public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and communities," Brewster said. "As the cause of suicide is complex and determined by multiple factors, the goal of suicide prevention is to reduce risk factors and enhance factors that promote resilience."

Netting at the bridge was a possible way

to prevent such occurrences, she said, but residents should be mindful of other ways to help prevent all suicides.

"Creating a protective environment is one important part of a comprehensive approach, and can be advanced by reducing access to lethal means among persons at risk of suicide," Brewster said. "This may include safer storage of firearms and medications in households, as well as implementing a Suicide Deterrent System at higher risk sites (such as netting on a bridge)."

"Reducing access to lethal means is important because many suicide attempts take place during an acute or short-term crisis."

The latest data from the state, from 2019, shows there were 13 suicides in St. Mary's and 11 in Calvert County.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



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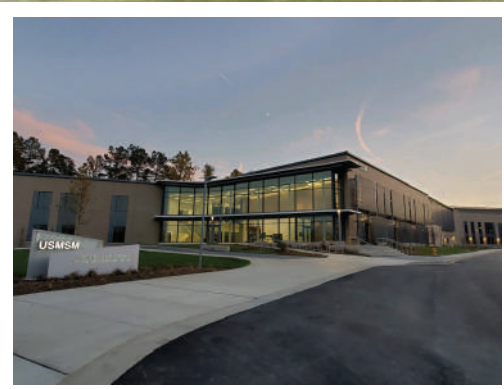
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EMS Billing: \$17 Million Still Unpaid

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

So far the county has collected close to \$450,000 in transport fees for ambulance services to support its hiring of dozens of contract emergency medical technicians (EMT) and paramedics since establishing the program last year.

But, said emergency services chief Steve Walker at this Tuesday's Commissioners of St. Mary's County meeting, the county still has millions of dollars — \$17 million — in outstanding transport bills.

Walker said after a certain point in time from the use of the ambulance service from one of the local volunteer rescue squads, the ambulance fees are waved.

"The negative of this is that if we don't collect within a certain time some of that gets written off, it expires," Walker said. "What's outstanding is a huge amount of money."

One part of the problem is the process through which the county has to go through to collect, Walker said, the other is the payer.

"It's soft billing, people just don't want to pay it," Walker said. "That's the truth of it."

Months ago, when the county made the move to EMS billing it was with the understanding that the vast majority of transports would be billed to the patient's insurance company.

No one would be denied service based on their ability, or inability, to pay.

The county has also struggled to come up with an efficient process to do the appropriate billing work to collect the money.

"Will we collect all of that? I doubt it," Walker said. "Will we collect some of it? We're working very hard to do that."

The county turned to hiring contract EMS and paramedics late last

year to stem the tide of non-or-slow daytime responses from volunteer rescue squads who lacked enough staffing during normal working hours.

As volunteers began to shrink away from the squads do to commitments or fear of COVID-19, demands for service only increased.

Commissioner Todd Morgan appeared deeply concerned by the revelation of \$17 million in outstanding bills yet to be paid to the county.

"In the beginning we were hoping to get at least 50 percent (\$8.5 million), but this makes things much more difficult," Morgan said.

Morgan continued that the lack of collections meant the emergency services department would perpetually return to the commissioner table to seek more funding to keep contract EMS services in play.

"The \$17 million really surprises me," said Commissioner Mike Hewitt. "I never thought it would be that high."

"I thought we were looking at \$2 million or \$3 million."

Shawn Davidson, the county's rescue chief, said much of the problem stemmed from the fact that the billing company the county used did not have a Medicaid number until Dec. 1 of last year, which made it possible to bill insurance companies.

But the county had been trying to collect earlier that fall.

"They couldn't bill any insurance companies," Davidson told commissioners. "You'll see those numbers shoot up in the near future."

Walker reported that the EMS system still needs more people, as about 70 percent of calls for service are now handled by paid staff.

That percentage increases to 85 percent of calls answered by paid staff for advanced life support, Walker continued.

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Commissioners Oppose Breakup of CSM



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A Charles County state senator has proposed a bill that would take the La Plata campus of the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) out of that institution and return it to its former status as the Community College of Charles County.

The College of Southern Maryland was formed from the Charles County Community College more than 20 years ago.

Both the Charles County Board of County Commissioners and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County oppose the plan.

Sen. Arthur Ellis is the sponsor of the bill and argues that Charles County has been unfairly treat-

ed by CSM over the past several years.

In statements on his website, Ellis said the college has shut down pool and aquatics programs in his home county as well as removed child care facilities it had previously made available.

He charges that the college has also removed science, engineering, technology and mathematics courses (STEM) and replaced 15-week courses with seven-week options; he further said the college has "abused diversity and inclusion officers" and been the subject of multiple lawsuits alleging racial discrimination against students.

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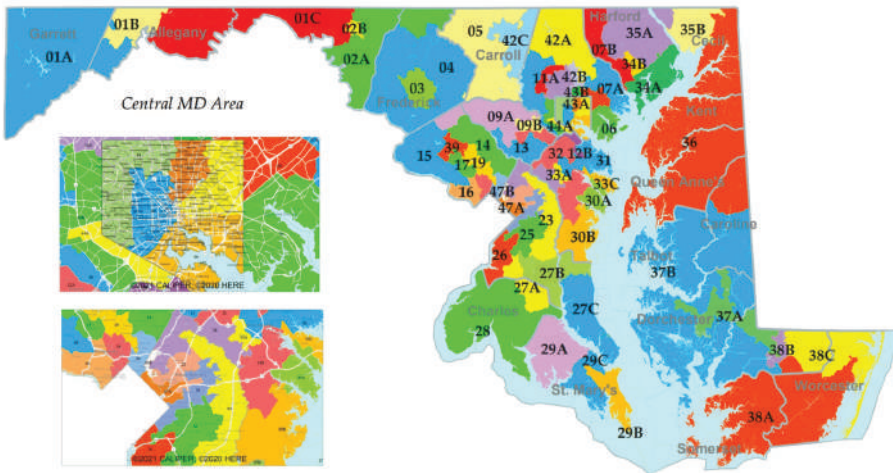
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Democrats Pass New Legislative Map



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer and
Dick Myers
Editor

Along party lines Democrats in the Maryland General Assembly have voted to approve a new redistricting map for senate and delegate districts.

The structure of the map has some minor changes, but Republican lawmakers are already predicting the map will bring legal action to overturn it.

“Bring on the lawsuit,” said St. Mary’s County Del. Matt Morgan in a social media post. “One man, one vote is a principle our democracy is built upon.”

“But unfortunately, the new state legislative map violates that principle and disenfranchises thousands of people across Maryland. That is unfair, and I hope the court strikes down this nonsense.”

Calvert County Delegate Mark Fisher (R: 27-C), in an impassioned speech on the House floor, said the approved map violated state law.

Pointing to a map of Calvert County showing District 27-B’s split between Calvert and Prince George’s, Fisher said, “Here’s District 27-B in Calvert County. And you have to cross the Patuxent River to get

to the rest of the yellow (color on the map) in Prince George’s County for District 27-B. There is no bridge on the Patuxent River in that district, not even close. In fact, in order for people in this part of Calvert County to get to the other side of the district in Prince Georges County, they have to drive between 35 and 40 minutes to get to a bridge to get to that district.”

He said it violates state code, which says, “due regard will be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions. This county, Calvert only has 92,000 people. There’s no reason we can’t have two full House member districts.”

Democrat Rachel Jones, who lives in Calvert, currently represents District 29-B.

The redistricting also continues to have a shared delegate in southern Calvert and middle St. Mary’s and also continues to share one senator (District 27) with Prince George’s and another with St. Mary’s. The two current senators are Michael Jackson, who lives in Prince George’s and Jack Bailey who lives in St. Mary’s.

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Planning Commission Approves Oakcrest PUD Expansion



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The Oakcrest Planned Unit Development (PUD) across from the Wildewood community in California is likely to get bigger in the near future.

At their Jan. 24 meeting the county Planning Commission unanimously approved a change to the PUD, which has been in existence since 1990, which would allow the building of an additional seven structures to include office, warehouse and other storage space.

Three such buildings are already under construction and representatives for St. John’s Properties, the owner and developer of the site have reported several tenants have already signed on to use the space already built.

The seven buildings proposed in the PUD change would encompass 311,880 square feet on roughly 58 acres.

The Oakcrest PUD is currently the home of the Aldi’s grocery store and R/C Theatres.

“Since my client acquired the property, there’s been a lot of development there,” said Attorney Christopher Longmore, representing St. John’s Properties. “The Aldi’s is almost done with its expansion because it’s been so successful.”

Andrew Roud, a regional partner for St. John’s Properties, said the tenants who are signed onto the currently under construction buildings are “most defense contractors.”

The project would be accessed by an extension of Oak View Drive, which is now the main access point for the grocery store and the movie theatre, as well as other driveway entrances, according to project renderings from the applicant.

The sidewalks that exist at the movie theatre and the grocery store and extend all the way to Route 235 would also be extended back into the proposed project site.

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RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1"

FRONT ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1"

Ives Honored with Ginsburg Lifetime Achievement Award

The St. Mary's County Commission for Women is pleased to honor Barbara Ives with the 2022 Ruth Bader Ginsberg Lifetime Achievement Award.

Ives, like Justice Ginsburg, moved through uncharted waters with tenacity and determination to demonstrate women have always set the standard of excellence while providing opportunities and an example for others to follow. After earning a Congressional appointment to the United States Naval Academy, in the first class to include women in service academy history, she graduated with honors and was commissioned as a Naval Officer. Ives served for over six years on active duty with a Meteorology and Oceanography specialty and then transitioned to the Naval Reserve, where she served 27 years attaining the rank of Captain. In addition, she continued her education and pursued a career in academia.



Barbara Ives

Her family transferred to Naval Air Station Patuxent River in 2001, and she began teaching at St. Mary's Ryken High School in Leonardtown. She earned numerous awards during her tenure there, including the National Honor Roll Outstanding American Teacher. In July 2008, Ives was selected as Dean of Academics for St. Mary's Ryken High School and quickly developed and implemented several innovative and highly effective academic and leadership programs.

Ives also founded and served as the Director of the Individual Augmentee Spouse Support Group (IASSG), an organization designed to support the spouses and families of Individual Augmentees (service members serving overseas fighting the Global War on Terror). She was awarded the Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Award for her achievements with this model program and was presented the Department of the Navy Meritorious Public Service Award for her support of over 450 spouses and their families.

In October 2015, Ives was selected as the Director of Strategic Partnerships for the College of Southern Maryland. In this position, she worked closely with Southern Maryland schools, business and defense industries, military and nonprofit organizations to establish or enhance relation-

ships to support the college.

In January 2018, Ives was selected as the Interim College of Southern Maryland Vice President and Dean at Prince Frederick campus, responsible for supervising college administration and overseeing college operations. Later that same year, Ives assumed a full-time role at GI Enterprises in educational consulting to support grant, educational management and leadership training needs. Ives provides education consulting services to the Southern Maryland region to include schools and the Navy.

Ives serves with numerous community organizations, but she most enjoys her work with the Lexington Park Rotary Club and Christmas in April.

"I have found my greatest joy comes from helping others and community service offers opportunities to do just that," she said.

Do you know an exceptional woman in St. Mary's County? The St. Mary's County Commission for Women is still accepting nominations for Tomorrow's Woman and the Woman of the Year. This is a wonderful way to recognize the amazing women in our community and a fantastic fundraiser for the Jane Hale Sypher Scholarship Fund. For more information, visit - <https://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/WomensHistoryMonth/Event/>.

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Archaeology at Historic St. Mary's City Unearths a Rare Caravaca Cross



Historic St. Mary's City archaeologists unearthed a Caravaca cross at the St. Mary's Fort site. (Archaeological remains of the 1634 fort were found in 2019.) The Caravaca cross, or cross of Caravaca, was found in southern Maryland in late October of 2021. Caravaca crosses are a rare find, especially on an English site such as St. Mary's Fort.

Crosses like the one found were made in Spain during the 17th century and were associated with the city of Caravaca. Caravaca has been a Catholic pilgrimage site for hundreds of years and was named the fifth Holy City in 1998, as the Cathedral there is said to house a piece of the true cross. Some believe that the crosses of Caravaca were often distributed to protect against outbreaks of disease (or

commemorate the end of disease outbreaks).

The particular cross at the St. Mary's Fort Site would have been hung from something, possibly a chain worn around the neck or part of a rosary.

The research department will continue studying various theories in order to understand what this discovery could mean. Since the first known wave of colonists in 1634 were mostly English with a few Irish, there is a question of how the Spanish cross might have arrived in early Maryland. It may have been in the possession of a Catholic English colonist or a Jesuit missionary, or it may have been traded from an indigenous person who acquired it from Spanish colonists in what is today the American south.

St. Mary's County Seeks Election Judges

The St. Mary's County Election Office is seeking Election Judges for the 2022 gubernatorial election. These paid positions will support the Primary Election, June 28, 2022, and the General Election, Nov. 8, 2022.

Election Judges are responsible for administering the actual voting procedures in each precinct. These individuals are the only contact the Board of Elections has with the general public during voting hours. Therefore, Election Judges must be reliable, courteous, present a neat appearance, be able to follow procedure, and above all else, possess good judgment.

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Robbery and Carjacking Arrest Made After Pursuit

On January 31, 2022, at approximately 10 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 45000 block of Worth Avenue in California for the reported motor vehicle theft. The victim advised she left her vehicle running while she went into a restaurant to purchase food. The victim returned to the parking lot and observed her 2015 Hyundai Elantra was stolen.

A short time later, deputies responded to the Walmart store located at 45485 Miramar Way in California for the reported robbery. Upon arrival a male victim advised his 1999 Honda Civic was stolen from in front of the store. Responding deputies observed the vehicle operating in the area and attempted to stop the vehicle. The operator of the vehicle refused to stop and deputies initiated a vehicle pursuit. During the pursuit, the operator discarded property out of the vehicle, which was later recovered and determined to have been stolen from Walmart. Stop sticks were deployed and the vehicle came to a stop at the Race-N-In in Mechanicsville. The operator of the vehicle, later determined to be Josiah Emmanuel Young, age 23 of White Plains, exited the vehicle and fled on foot. Young entered an occupied vehicle that was running in the parking lot and assaulted the victim inside the vehicle, in an attempt to steal the victim's car. Deputies were able to take Young into custody before he was able to flee in the victim's vehicle.

Further investigation determined that Young drove the initial stolen vehicle to Walmart and proceeded to the electronics section requesting to view an item. Young then jumped over the counter and began placing various items into a bag. Young then fled the store



Josiah Emmanuel Young

where he stole the second vehicle. After being taken into custody, Young was found to be in possession of suspected heroin.

Young was transported to the St. Mary's County Detention Center in Leonardtown, and charged with the following:

- Robbery
 - Carjacking
 - Assault Second Degree
 - Motor Vehicle Unlawful Taking
 - Theft
 - Malicious Destruction of Property
 - CDS: Possession-not Marijuana
- Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Deputy Austin Welch at (301) 475-4200 extension 78180 or by email at Austin.Welch@stmarysmd.com. Citizens may remain anonymous and contact Crime Solvers at (301) 475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637). Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

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ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Papa John's Robbery Under Investigation

On January 25, 2022, at approximately 9:40 p.m., a white male armed with a knife and wearing a mask entered the Papa John's Pizza, located in the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, and demanded money. During the robbery, an employee of the business sustained a laceration to the arm and was transported to an area hospital for treatment. The suspect fled the scene on foot. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit responded to the scene and searched the area with negative results.

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

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

Assault/Drug Arrest

On January 13, 2022, Dep. Edelen responded to the 45500 block of Knockeyon Lane in California, for the reported assault. Investigation determined **Kirk Vondel Swales**, age 39 of California, assaulted the victim by punching and hitting the victim in the face several times causing visible injury. A second individual on scene attempted to stop Swales from assaulting the victim at which time Swales then struck the second victim in the face. Swales was arrested and located in Swales' pants was a CDS smoking device containing burned residue. Swales was charged with Assault



Kirk Swales

2nd Degree and CDS: Possession Paraphernalia.

Violate Protective Order

On January 16, 2022, Dep. Shubrooks responded to the 22700 block of Three Notch Road in California, for the reported disturbance. Contact was made with the victim and **James Allen Michael Schaeffer**, age 38 of Sykesville. Investigation determined there is an active court order preventing Schaeffer from contacting the victim by any means. Schaeffer was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order.



James Schaeffer

Legal Notices

IN THE MATTER OF KEVIN EDWARD GRACE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO FINCH XAVIER GRACE

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-21-000915

Notice (Adult)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name from KEVIN EDWARD GRACE to FINCH XAVIER GRACE. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: Gender identity

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 02/26/2022. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

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Editor's Note:

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

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County Times
St. Mary's County - Calvert County



Little Flower Still Blossoms After More Than A Century

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Catholic education and St. Mary's County have been together hand in hand for centuries and perhaps the longest operating is Little Flower School in Callaway.

Operating since 1887 in one form or another, Little Flower continues the values of bonding Catholic doctrine and rigorous education from pre-kindergarten grades up through the 8th grade.

While course work and technology may change, some things at Little Flower do not.

"We were the first Catholic school in St. Mary's County," said Barbara Stirling, principal at Little Flower. "At the end of this year it will be 135 years."

The school, which operates in a prominent position just off Route 5 adjacent to its home church Holy Face, sits on land donated by the local Cecil family, Stirling said.

The building it currently operates was built in 1932, making it nearly a century old, Stirling said.

Stirling has been at the school for 28 years herself, starting as a teacher and moving up to the principal's post for the last five years.

She's seen and taught students who have grown up and sent their own children to receive instruction there, Stirling said, making Little Flower as much a family affair as a school.

Traditional blackboards have given way to iPads for students and electronic lesson boards in classrooms that allow for students to interact together on a project while in class as well as with the teacher at the same time.

Stirling said Catholic schools, which are always finding ways to get the most out of every dollar they get in tuition or in grant money, have had to continually upgrade their technology assets to be able to compete with public schools that are funded directly by taxpayer dollars.

"We've kept all our core values," Stirling said. "What changes is the method of delivery.

"The kids love it [the technology upgrades]."

The COVID-19 pandemic was one of the most challenging obstacles to providing instruction the school had ever faced, Stirling said, but the upgrades plus their ethos of continuing to work for children regardless of the conditions carried them through.

The school still abides by rigorous cleaning and sanitization protocols each day to prevent student infection; there are also separate entrances that groups of students use to access the building to cut down on intermingling of too many students.

"During COVID Catholic schools didn't skip a beat," Stirling said, with no small measure of pride in what teachers and students were



able to accomplish. "We kept kids engaged."

At the beginning of the pandemic, Stirling said they were warned to make lesson plans for virtual learning for two weeks and then again for three.

Almost two years later and having been long reopened to students, she continued to praise her school family's ability to adapt.

"We weren't going to let COVID stop us," Stirling said. "We've been very fortunate we haven't had nearly the number of cases as other schools."

"Our enrollment has been steady." As old as the school is, so is the culture that permeates its halls.

Under the watchful eye of the staff that traditional standard of behavior is strictly enforced to the point where disciplinary problems are few and far between, Stirling said.

It's one of the reasons parents seek out Catholic schools for their chil-

dren other than the academic rigor.

"There are rules we still follow," Stirling said. "The children are very well behaved and you can see that in the classroom."

"There's a level of respect students show and teachers show to them — it goes both ways."

Students wear red, white, and blue uniforms and have since 1994.

Before that, a Little Flower student could always be identified by a brown plaid and yellow uniform; it was often regarded by students who wore it as not always the most flattering.

"I had just come in as a teacher when they started the uniform change," Stirling said. "They [students and parents] wanted something fresh."

There are just 150 students attending Little Flower and that means that classrooms are typically small.

"Kids get the benefit of a little



more attention," Stirling said. "We keep pace [with testing standards] and usually surpassing those standards nationally and at the state level."

The extra time teachers have with students allows them to look for problems they may have in learning and give them extra instruction to bridge those knowledge and skills gaps.

It wouldn't be Catholic school if the students weren't involved in some sort of community service, which is an integral part of life at Little Flower.

The students are now making a collection drive for items to donate to the residents at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home for the remainder of Catholic Schools Week.

The items include toiletries for the veterans there as well as individually wrapped snacks, wireless headphones to use with television sets, rechargeable electric razors, slippers, sweatpants and outerwear and even Amazon gift cards.

Scholarship and service are at the heart of what goes on at Little Flower School.

"There's that legacy," Stirling said. "The students I taught, their kids are coming here."

"It's [the school] deeply rooted in St. Mary's County."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



A Special Pull-out Section

*First Annual Leonardtown Photo
Scavenger Hunt Winners*

Living in 
Leonardtown



Leonardtown in a Decade • Things to do in Leonardtown



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THE OLD JAIL MUSEUM & LEONARDTOWN VISITOR CENTER

Used from 1876 until 1945, visit the museum and learn more about how jails operated at that time, as well as Leonardtown's Underground Railroad history. The museum has a great museum store full of local and commemorative items and is the official Leonardtown Visitor Center, where you can find info about all the fun things to do in town.

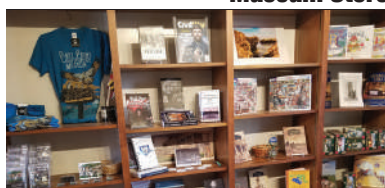
Hours are: Now until March 24: Daily, 12PM – 4PM
March 25 – Oct. 31: Daily, 10AM – 5PM

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Business



Adult: Sarah Pobst



Under 16: Ryder Pobst

Selfie

Friend



Adult: Michelle Ray



Under 16: Lila Haines

Leonardtown Photo Exhibit Opens Feb. 4

A Day in the Life of Small Town America Focus on Leonardtown, Maryland



In November of 2021, the Town of Leonardtown hosted a first ever Photo Scavenger Hunt Contest titled “A Day in the Life of Small Town America – Focus on Leonardtown, Maryland”. The four-day contest, sponsored by the Leonardtown Arts & Entertainment District and the County Times, invited photographers to help capture a day in the life of this vibrant Southern Maryland Town by taking images that illustrated the 15 chosen themes during one 24-hour day between the period of November 11th thru the 14th.

Participants were able to submit at least 1 photo in their chosen category, or submit entries in all 15 categories to be entered into a drawing for a grand prize. This exciting contest was open for all ages and all levels from novice to professional photographers alike. Leonardtown Town Administrator, Laschelle McKay, noted how the contest helped bring families together, “It was wonderful to see entire families participating together, and exploring downtown Leonardtown throughout the contest period.”

One adult and one under-16 winner were chosen in each category, and one adult and one under-16 grand prize winner were selected by drawing from the participants who submitted a photo in each category. The individual category winners received a gift card to a local business, and the grand prize winners received a fabulous Leonardtown gift basket (the adult gift basket was valued at over \$500 and the under-16 gift basket was valued at \$150).

The winning photographs shown in the Living in Leonardtown insert will be featured in a special exhibit at the St. Mary’s County Arts Council Gallery during February’s First Friday on February 4, 2022 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. It’s fitting that the theme for February’s First Friday is “Lovin’ Leonardtown” as the purpose of the Scavenger Hunt Contest was to create a collection/photo scrapbook of this vibrant Southern Maryland Town that illustrates the many reasons there are to love Leonardtown.

View the online photo scrapbook and watch for next year’s contest at: VisitLeonardtown-MD.com/PhotoContest.

Shepherd’s Old Field Market

22725 Duke Street, Leonardtown, MD 20650
Wednesday – Saturday: 10 – 7 & Sunday: 11 - 5



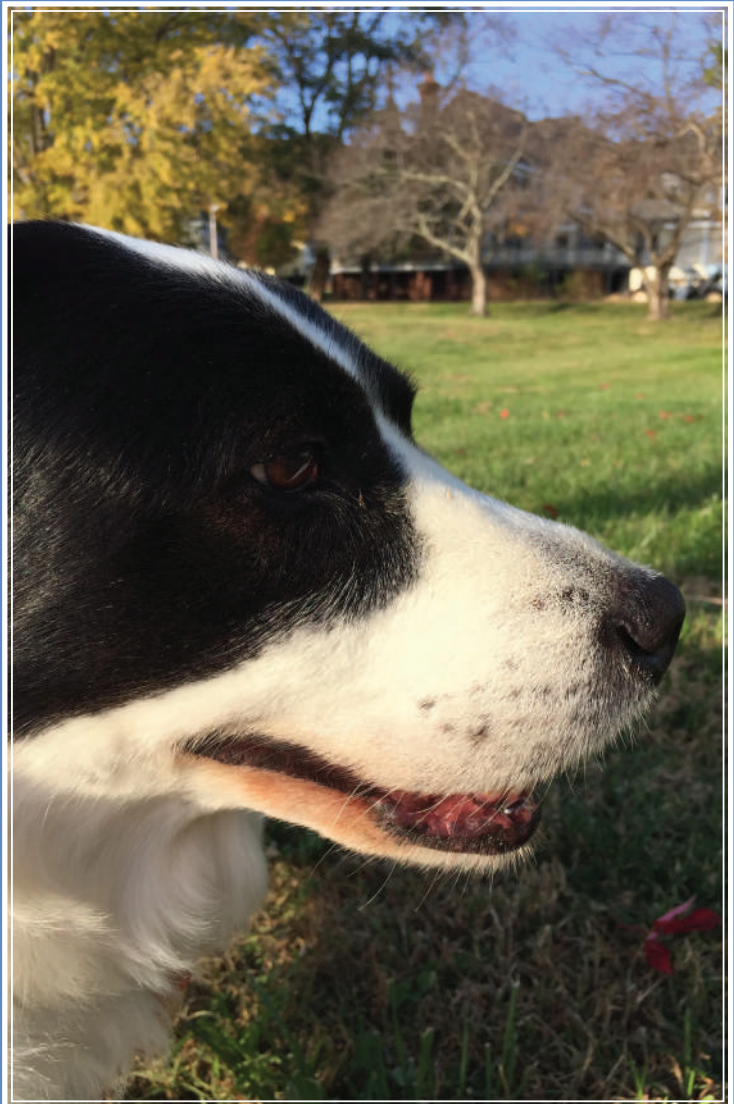
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Animals



Adult: Ed Fitzgerald

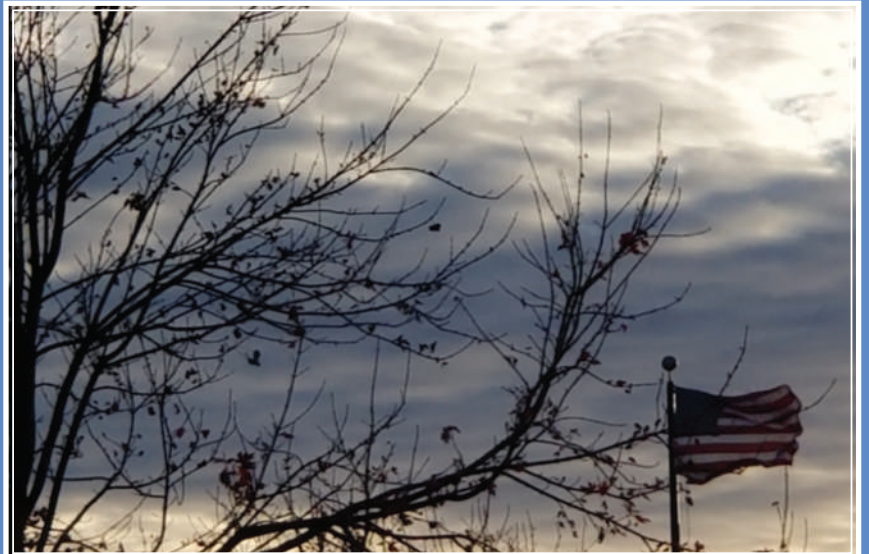


Under 16: Delaney Ray

Patriotism



Adult: Kelly Mahoney



Under 16: Sadie Grable

Things to Do in Leonardtown

Fine Dining, Shopping, Exciting Events & Activities, & More!

Brandy Blackstone
Public Relations &
Events Coordinator

If you haven't visited historic Leonardtown recently, there are so many new and exciting things happening that you'll definitely want to plan a visit soon. Leonardtown is known for its friendly, welcoming people, fine dining and one-of-a-kind experiences. Spend the day exploring the galleries and one-of-a-kind, specialty shops, sample award-winning wines, enjoy exciting performances, events and so much more! Leonardtown was recently named one of the 15 Best Small Towns in Maryland for a Weekend Escape! by VirginiaTravelTips.com. Read on to discover some exciting ways to take in all that Leonardtown has to offer.

Start your visit in this friendly, walkable Town at the Visitor Center and Old Jail Museum. Then explore historic Leonardtown Square and the surrounding streets where you can find original works of art around every corner and discover a wonderful collection of specialty shops, galleries, art studios, restaurants and more. Shop original works of art by talented local artists at the North End Gallery or the St. Mary's Arts Council Gallery & Gift Shop, or create your own work of art in instructor-led art studios like The Yellow Line, Board & Brush and Wine & Design.

Up for a little more exploration, why not park and enjoy a free ride on the Leonardtown Trolley (frequently offered during First Fridays and special events). Take in the sites around Leonardtown - why not grab a coffee from Antoinette's Garden or some hand-dipped chocolates from Heritage Chocolates, both located on Washington Street, for the ride, and check out the wonderful offerings that are just a short ride away like the Port of Leonardtown Winery, off Newtowne Neck Road, where you can sample their award-winning wine while listening to live music on their outdoor patio (a tent is provided for your warmth and comfort during the winter), take in a virtual golfing game at Above Par Golf & Entertainment, play a game of pool at Action Billiards & Lounge and so much more!

A trip to Leonardtown wouldn't be complete without a visit to Shepherd's Old Field (SOF) Market, a historic warehouse and hardware store rehabbed into an indoor marketplace and community

gathering space located on Duke Street behind the Leonardtown Fire House. SOF Market offers over 80 eclectic specialty shops where you can browse and shop a variety of unique home décor and gifts. Recent changes include the addition of Olde Towne Barbershop, The Salted Scoop ice cream shop, and the expansion of the Brudergarten Beer Garden, which now offers a one-of-a-kind outdoor area where guests can kick back and relax, play games and sample local craft beers. Other changes on the horizon include an expansion which will allow for the addition of more service-oriented businesses like a reflexologist and massage therapist, and new outdoor seating for the popular, organic coffee shop, Botanic Deli and Café.

When the chill is in the air, spaces like The Rex on Washington Street and Social Coffeehouse on Fenwick Street (moving soon to Washington St.) provide cozy, outdoor areas with heaters and fire pits - perfect for fun afternoon or evening gatherings with friends, and a great way to wind down after an exciting day of exploration.

When the cold weather thaws, be on the lookout for the return of exciting outdoor activities from canoe and kayak rentals from Pax Adventures, SUP classes from root, SUP & Fitness, cruises courtesy of Fish the Bay Charters, seaplane rides offered by Southern Maryland Seaplanes, a variety of outdoor fitness classes from yoga and spin to Zumba and dynamic performances and events like outdoor movies, concerts, parades and much more!

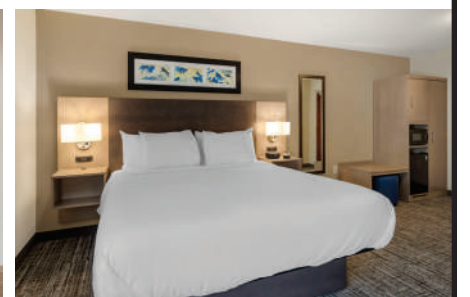
This is just a sample of the exciting adventures and creative experiences that await you in Leonardtown. There's a different, unique experience awaiting you on every visit. For those who are looking for an extended stay, a weekend getaway or to entertain visiting guests, Leonardtown has its own hotel - The Inn at Leonardtown. The Inn, a luxurious 40-room boutique hotel located on Park Avenue in the heart of Leonardtown, right off the Historic Town Square, is within walking distance of all the activity - alfresco dining, a picturesque Wharf, eclectic shops and galleries, gourmet coffee, handmade chocolates and confections, and the exciting attractions and events. Whether you're looking for an exciting or creative way to spend an afternoon or a relaxing weekend getaway, you're sure to find it here in Leonardtown!



To learn more about all there is to see in do in Leonardtown visit: VisitLeonardtownMD.com/Explore.



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History



Under 16:
Ashlynn Dziekiewicz



Adult: Brittany Mitchell

Family



Under 16: Asher Haines



Adult: Kelly Mahoney

Orange



Adult: Cathy Dziekiewicz



Under 16:
Ashlynn Dziekiewicz

Food



Under 16: Ryder Pobst



Adult: Michelle Ray



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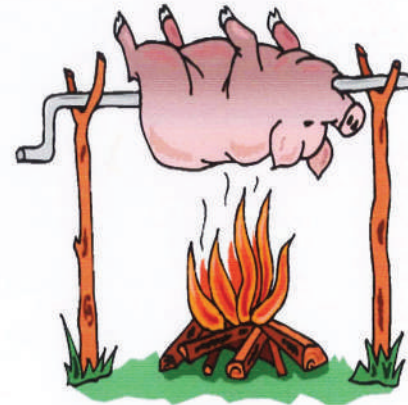
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Leonardtown: The Next Decade



Wharf Aerial photo: Credit Aram Nersesian, Panoplanning

By: Laschelle E. McKay
Town Administrator

Following the construction of the Route 5 bypass in the late 80's, Leonardtown struggled as a downtown. Businesses closed or relocated and activity plummeted. Thanks to the hard work of many people over the last couple of decades, Leonardtown is no longer a sleepy little town. According to the US Census Bureau data, Leonardtown was the fastest growing municipality (percentage-wise) in the state of Maryland from 2010-2020. The Town's population grew by 32%, followed by Centreville in 2nd place at 16.5%. Residents enjoy being able to walk to nearby shops and restaurants as well as the beautiful Leonardtown Wharf. With so few locations for public access to the waterfront, the Wharf has become a popular spot for special events, exercise, photo ops and casual down time.

With the imminent development of the long-awaited Tudor Hall Farm, today is a critical time for planning the Town's future. This 400-acre parcel adjacent to the existing downtown was once slated for the third State owned hotel and conference center, joining Rocky Gap and Cambridge. When that plan was aban-

doned by the state in the early 2000's, 240 acres of the parcel was turned over to the Town for recreational use through Program Open Space.

The Town worked with consultants from Mahan Rykiel and Arnett Muldrow in 2019-2020 to embark on a Downtown Strategic Plan. Many of these recommendations have been implemented to emphasize a sense of place and to utilize the historic Square more efficiently for everyday use. In 2022 the next phase of the Strategic Plan will focus on the waterfront and West Fenwick Street District, which encompasses Leonardtown Wharf and the 400-acre Tudor Hall Farm. The plan will look at public recreational uses for the 2 miles of waterfront along Breton Bay. The plan will also look at future uses throughout the 240 acres on Tudor Hall Farm, additional uses at Leonardtown Wharf and the connectivity to the existing downtown including a significant trail network. A presentation by the consultants regarding the Waterfront Plan will be held February 23, 2022 at 4 p.m. at Town Hall, 22670 Washington Street in Leonardtown. The presentation will be live-streamed and will be available on the YouTube Channel: Town of Leonardtown.



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Reflections



Adult: John Mitchell



Under 16: Lila Haines

Brick



Adult: Brittany Mitchell



Under 16: Addison Ray

Leisure



Adult: Christy Orthner



Under 16: Lila Haines

Water



Under 16: Addison Ray



Adult: Kelly Mahoney

Love



Adult: John Mitchell



Under 16: Abigail Aina

Sunset



Under 16:
Ashlynn Dziekiewicz



Adult: John Mitchell

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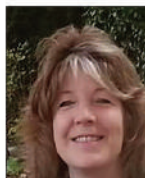
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Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



BOUNCING HERE AND THERE

This is one of those days where I can't get a consistent train of thought going... oh, I know, that's every week. I get upset about it sometimes, but then I read or listen to other columnists and comedians and realize their minds bounce back and forth with one thought leading to another too. Mind maze isn't such a bad thing, except when you are trying to explain something.

Is anyone else compiling all of their tax papers, or even more amazing, finished? There are more 1099s now for everything it seems, especially for trying to sell items that total \$600 or over through the main sale methods like PayPal, Venmo, and Square. I try hard to get everything copied, added up and ready for our tax appointment, but sometimes it just makes my brain explode; business taxes are not fun.

My husband just did his office pop in, and said, "Don't get me any more of that cheap shampoo." I looked up at him as he was smiling and brushing his fingers through his recently cut hair. "I replied with a smirk, "That isn't the shampoo's fault." He said, "I told the girl to cut a fingers width amount off, and man, she must have had some really tiny fingers!" He got it cut yesterday right before my doctor's appointment in Clinton but had to sit in the car for the 2 hours I was in the office. So afterwards when I had to make two stops in Waldorf, he quickly realized how short his hair was every time he got out of the car. He was freezing the rest of the day, poor thing. I mean that nicely, because we had a fun day yesterday, not like when we are sitting at home on dreary days, then "poor thing" may take on a sarcastic tone.

I can hear my husband in the living room with the TV on while listening to Leanne Morgan comedy videos on his phone. I, on the other hand, have calming nature instrumental music on to drown all that out, but my ears are straining to hear Leanne Morgan. If you have never seen her videos, please look them up, especially "Concerts with old people" where she is really referring to herself and her husband and the rest of us baby boomers. We saw her in concert a while back and she is the funniest comedian I have ever seen or heard.

Something I heard lately really surprised me. High schoolers will soon no longer have to use #2 pencils to fill out their college SATS. What? That was the last vestige of human handwriting left. The kids sure don't use cursive anymore, some kids can't even read it. They may learn it in elementary school, but quickly find that they have no use for it with schoolwork all being done on a keyboard. I shouldn't say much, because it is so much easier for me to type than to handwrite out my column in cursive first like I did for years. I still try, but within 15 - 20 minutes I lose com-



plete feeling in my right hand for a couple days. I still feel kids should keep the art of cursive in their hearts. And high schoolers should know the feeling of trying to perfectly fill those tiny oval answer slots with a nubby pencil, or one that keeps breaking with each sharpen. You can't chew on a keyboard like you can a pencil, and a keyboard doesn't have the distinctive graphite smell, or the eraser crumbles smell. The SATS were probably the only time since first grade that these kids have even held a pencil. Kids need to know the pain, the aggravation, the numbness. Just my opinion of course.

The neurosurgeon I saw yesterday was funny after he gave me options on the Spinal Stenosis, which is an unfortunate but extremely common occurrence at this age. He gave me the typical options: fusion of vertebrae, or try the epidural series with my normal pain management doctor, and then core strengthening PT. You can guess what I chose. And then he had to spoil the nice visit by adding slowly, "Well, you know that losing a little weight won't hurt either". But of course, he knows how to deal with patients, especially females, and made that suggestion with his head down just a bit with a hesitant half-smile on his face. I was wondering how many times he may have been whacked in the head with a purse. I tried to explain that I had lost 10 pounds, but then we were sent lots of food at Christmas and for Robert's shoulder surgery, and we just ordered Girl Scout cookies just to help her reach her goal, and he didn't really want me to make a tiny Girl Scout cry by telling her that I couldn't buy the 4 boxes of cookies. He gave me sort of a stern look as I poured all that out. I mean how could I go back on my solemn word to a Girl Scout, but I would if I had to - gotta be strong... oh, sorry, need to get off here, I think I hear the doorbell now.

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

A View From The BLEACHERS PROFESSORS



By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

A river runs this way; another runs that way. They converge at a magical peninsula to form a third, which meanders west and flows into one of the nation's most romanticized arteries. It reminds of bit of this place, our peninsula, where the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers empty, not too far apart, into the Chesapeake Bay.

Other than the confluence of waterways and geography, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with its massive buildings, sports stadiums and surrounding mountainous terrain, appears to have little in common with St. Mary's County, Maryland. But something happened in Pittsburgh, many decades ago, that applies broadly to the human experience, no matter where on this precious globe one resides.

Roberto Clemente and Terry Bradshaw were both born with rocket right arms and brought six combined championships to Pittsburgh - Clemente won two World Series with the Pirates and Bradshaw won four Super Bowls with the Steelers. Beyond that, and like the aforementioned peninsulas, they appeared wholly dissimilar. Clemente arrived in Pittsburgh in 1955, a full 15 years before Bradshaw. Clemente hailed from Puerto Rico; Bradshaw made his way to the steel town from Shreveport, Louisiana. Bradshaw was outspoken, flamboyant and white; Clemente, a Latino, was more reserved and rightfully suspicious of a country that was, suffice to say, very much struggling to reflect its touted creed of human equality.

Appearances can deceive. In addition to sharing powerful arms and championship mettle, both Clemente and Bradshaw struggled to adapt to life in professional sports and to a city that must have felt like a foreign land. Clemente's troubles were rooted in overt and subtle racism. Early in his career he experienced the shameful injustices of a segregated America. The press often shortened his first name from Roberto to the more Anglo-American sounding "Bob" and printed unflattering transcripts of interviews he would give in English (Clemente's first language was Spanish... I wonder how many media members who mocked him could speak a word of Spanish?).

Bradshaw was lost early in his career. He had an acrimonious relationship with head coach Chuck

Noll, was booed regularly by Steelers fans and, after four seasons, had thrown only 48 touchdown passes and an astonishing 81 interceptions. The former number-one overall pick in the 1970 looked like a complete bust, not someone who would one day have a bust in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. And even after his career took off, Bradshaw held a decades long grudge against the fans and Noll for the perceived mistreatment.

Pirates fans grew to adore Clemente for his play on the field; his impact off the diamond transcended Pittsburgh and baseball through his passionate commitment to humanitarian efforts, a calling that tragically cost him his life in a plane crash in December 1972 while transporting aid to Nicaragua. Clemente was just 38 years old.

While Pittsburgh and white America had to get over itself to finally appreciate Clemente, Bradshaw's catharsis came only after years of introspection and acceptance that his perceived slights were rooted in his own pride and immaturity. When Bradshaw finally unclenched his fist and returned to Pittsburgh in 2002 after a multi-decade absence, he found a city and coach waiting to embrace a long-estranged son.

There is much to absorb from these two stories. It's easy to imagine Clemente and Bradshaw, two great professors of life, standing at the front of a crowded lecture hall sharing timeless wisdom. Clemente would speak of the importance of inner strength, pride in oneself and a relentless determination to give more to the world than it returns, no matter how fundamentally it fails you. Bradshaw's lecture would focus inward - to understand ourselves, how our psychological wiring impacts relationships, the trappings of immaturity and hubris, and the burden of harboring grudges. From both, the lesson is this: It is never too late. People can change. The world can change. We are all, individually and collectively, a work in progress.

And with that, a distant bell sounds, students quietly exit the lecture hall, all with a mountain of notes and a lot to consider - perhaps during a quiet afternoon while watching water drift along on either side of their favorite peninsula.

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Should Inflation Affect Your Investment Moves?

As you know, inflation heated up in 2021, following years of pretty stable – and low – numbers. And now, early in 2022, we're still seeing elevated prices. As a consumer, you may need to adjust your activities somewhat, but as an investor, how should you respond to inflation?

First, it helps to know the causes of this recent inflationary spike. Essentially, it's a case of basic economics – strong demand for goods meeting inadequate supply, caused by material and labor shortages, along with shipping and delivery logjams. In other words, too many dollars chasing too few goods. Once the supply chain issues begin to ease and consumer spending moves from goods to services as the COVID-19 pandemic wanes, it's likely that inflation will moderate, but it may still stay above pre-pandemic levels throughout 2022.

Given this outlook, you may want to review your investment portfolio. First, consider stocks. Generally speaking, stocks can do well in inflationary periods because companies' revenues and earnings may increase along with inflation. But some sectors of the stock market typically do better than others during inflationary times. Companies that can pass along higher costs to consumers due to strong demand for their goods – such as firms that produce building materials or supply steel or other commodities to other businesses – can do well. Conversely, companies that sell nonessential goods and services, such as appliances, athletic apparel and entertainment, may struggle more when prices are rising.

Of course, it's still a good idea to own a variety of stocks from various industries because it can help reduce the impact of market volatility on any one sector. And to help counteract the effects of rising prices, you might also consider

investing in companies that have a long track record of paying and raising stock dividends. (Keep in mind, though, that these companies are not obligated to pay dividends and can reduce or discontinue them at any time.)

Apart from stocks, how can inflation affect other types of investments? Think about bonds. When you invest in a bond, you receive regular interest payments until the bond matures. But these payments stay the same, so, over time, rising inflation can eat into your bond's future income, which may also cause the price of your bond to drop – a concern if you decide to sell the bond before it matures. The impact of inflation is especially sharp on the price of longer-term bonds because of the cumulative loss of purchasing power.

However, Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS) can provide some protection against inflation. The face value, or principal amount, of each TIPS is \$1,000, but this principal is adjusted based on changes in the U.S. Consumer Price Index. So, during periods of inflation, your principal will increase, also increasing your interest payments. When inflation drops, though, your principal and interest payments will decrease, but you'll never receive less than the original principal value when the TIPS mature. Talk to your financial advisor to determine if TIPS may be appropriate for you.

Ultimately, inflation may indeed be something to consider when managing your investments. But other factors – especially your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term goals – should still be the driving force behind your investment decisions. A solid investment strategy can serve you well, regardless of whether prices move up or down.

Article was contributed by David McDonough

Financial Advisor at Edward Jones.

Office located at 41680 Miss Bessie Dr Suite 302

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301 997 1707

CSM Students Race to Identify Cells

Nation's First Ever 'Cell Bowl'

Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) students at the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) recently competed in the first ever "Cell Bowl," a competition that had students from across the country racing to identify different cells that they will encounter in their medical professions. CSM's nine-member team achieved rankings as high as second in the nation before ultimately finishing at third place in the Eastern region.

CSM's two-year MLT program prepares graduates to work as members of a diagnostic health care team, performing routine and automated procedures under the supervision of a medical technologist or pathologist. Tests that MLTs perform include complete blood counts, urinalysis, cross matching blood for transfusion, identifying pathogenic organisms, and chemical analysis of blood and other body fluids.

The Cell Bowl was organized by CSM MLT Program Coordinator Tiffany Gill, who runs a similar competition in her class each year. She challenges her students to race against their classmates to identify cells, with the winning team claiming ownership of a trophy for the week.

This year, Gill, who also produces the YouTube channel Medical Lab Lady Gill, worked with the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) to expand the contest to students nationwide.

"The CSM MLT students represented Maryland well," said Gill. "I am so proud of their enthusiasm and progress. It was also wonderful to have other health program students rally around them during the competition. I could hear other students stopping them in the hallway to wish them 'good-luck' and to 'keep up the great work!' Hopefully, those connections will extend out into the clinical world where the professions work together as a collaborative healthcare team."

Students in the contest used the quiz feature on the CellaVision CellaAtlas app, which challenges users to correctly identify 30 cells in one minute. Teams submitted their best score to the contest each week for seven weeks, with lab-oriented prizes awarded each week during the second half of the competition.

"Participating helped me refresh myself on material I learned last year. I'm currently doing my clinical rotations, so the Cell Bowl was a great way to revisit things I've learned while applying it in a simulated work environment," said CSM student Cameron Burgess of Accokeek, who will complete the program this spring.

A total of 71 programs from 33 states competed: 34 from the Eastern region, including three from Maryland, 30



CSM Medical Laboratory Technician students compete during the first ever national "Cell Bowl" – a competition that had students from across the country racing to identify different cells that they will encounter in their medical professions.

from the Midwest, and seven from the west, representing an almost even mix of four-year Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) programs and two-year MLT programs. Gill said that one thing that stood out in the contest was that there were not significant differences in scores between MLS and MLT students.

For the first four weeks, teams competed within their regions. The top two teams in each region then advanced to the playoffs, with the two final teams competing in week seven to be champions. The results were presented in a weekly YouTube video on Gill's channel that also included information about the field, such as special guests, tutorials, and information about accreditation.

Burgess was a valuable member of CSM's team, at one point scoring the second-best time in the country on the app, according to Gill.

"I'm a very competitive person, so naturally I wanted to play just to win," said Burgess. "I did my best, but each week there would be someone better. It motivated me to try more and more for a better score."

The overall winning team, Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College's MLT Program, received a trophy. Each team member received a certificate and Interactive Practice Exam Bundles. They will also be interviewed live on Gill's YouTube channel, written up in ASCP critical values publication, and featured in episode of the eLABorate Topics podcast.

Gill said that the contest was a fun way to raise awareness about a profession that is often overlooked by students who want to pursue a career in the health care field.

"We have been called the hidden profession in healthcare," Gill said. "I want to increase awareness about the importance of the medical laboratory and the type of individual who should look into the field, because we currently have a critical need for laboratorians."

Press Release from CSM

Youth, Veteran, and Military Waterfowl Hunting Day Set

Special Hunting Opportunity Offered Statewide



Photo by Larry Hindman, Maryland DNR

Maryland's youth hunters, veterans, and military personnel can experience the thrills of hunting the state's fields and wetlands during the winter special waterfowl hunting day on Feb. 5.

"This special hunt gives youth and veterans a final opportunity this season to get afield and participate in Maryland's waterfowl hunting traditions," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "Including both our youth hunters and our military personnel in this hunting day celebrates the future of wildlife conservation and the service our veterans have provided."

Those 16 years of age or younger and military veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) of any age and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than for training), may hunt ducks, geese, and coots on public and private land on Feb. 5. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an unarmed adult at least 21 years old or by eligible military personnel also participating in the hunt. All eligible hunters and adult mentors must possess Maryland hunting licenses or be exempt from hunting license requirements. Any adult participating in this hunt will need to

purchase both a Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp and a Federal Duck Stamp. Youth hunters, including those possessing an apprentice license, must purchase a Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp but do not need to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp if under 16 years of age.

The bag limits for the hunting days are the same as the regular seasons except:

Two black ducks may be taken;

One Canada goose may be taken when hunting within the Atlantic Population (AP) Canada Goose Hunting Zone; and

Five Canada geese may be taken when hunting within the Atlantic Flyway Resident Population (AFRP) Canada Goose Hunting Zone.

For information on public hunting lands and Wildlife Management Areas, please see pages 56-59 of the 2021-22 Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

Licenses, stamps, and permits may be purchased online, by phone at 855-855-3906, at a Natural Resources Service Center or at any one of the more than 250 Sport License Agents statewide.

Hunters with questions may contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Wildlife and Heritage Service at 410-260-8540.

Press Release from MD DNR.

Sponsors Needed to Support St. Mary's Little League



St. Mary's Little League (SMLL) is turning to the local community to help sponsor the spring baseball and softball season.

"This league is for every kid in our community and the opportunity to play baseball and softball for the youth of St. Mary's would not be possible without the support from our local businesses," said Stacy Hull, Sponsorship Coordinator for SMLL. "Sponsorships help us keep registration costs down so every family in our community can afford the opportunity to play baseball or softball."

Sponsorship offers many benefits to participants: advertising exposure, tax deductible business and/or personal expenses, and the satisfaction and goodwill that comes from helping the local community and St. Mary's youth.

"We've been sponsoring teams with St. Mary's Little League for several seasons," said Mike Granger, owner of St. Mary's Roofing and Home Improvement LLC. "We love being able to help provide the necessary equipment for the children in our community to play baseball and softball."

SMLL offers multiple sponsorship levels that provide opportunities for your organization's name or other general information to be displayed on our website, publicized at special events, and imprinted on teams' jerseys. Sponsors also receive a plaque at the end of the season thanking them for their support.

"We wouldn't be able to provide children with the best baseball and softball experience without support from our amazing community," said RJ Bean, President of SMLL. "There's no better way to support your local community than sponsoring a team with St. Mary's Little League."

For more information on sponsoring a team with SMLL, please contact Stacy Hull at

SMLL.SponsorshipCoordinator@gmail.com.

Established in 1969, SMLL is a 100% volunteer, non-profit organization focused on providing quality baseball and softball programs to every kid in St. Mary's County, Md.

Press Release from SMLL.

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Letters to the Editor

Glenn Youngkin

To the Editor:

I am very impressed with Glenn Youngkin who was recently elected the 74th Governor of Virginia. He exemplifies leadership and service.

He is the first Republican to win statewide office since 2009. Any state would be fortunate to have this first time politician. Exactly, who is this man? He comes across as a basket-ball playing suburban dad. Youngkin and his wife Suzanne have four children, John, Grant, Anna and Thomas. They reside in one of the wealthiest areas of Virginia.

Did he come from old money. At one time, when young, he worked as a dishwasher to help his family. He is a private equity executive who was the co-CEO of the Carlyle Group. He currently has a fortune of 400 million. As you can see he is industrious.

Youngkin has many worthwhile goals. Without naming all, several follow. Education won him the election. He ran on eliminating

Critical Race Theory (CRT). Right after his inauguration he signed an executive order banning teaching of it. What exactly is it? It is not new. Its meaning has evolved over time. I find the original definition somewhat difficult to understand. That one is, the examination of laws and policies in the light of how race influences them. I believe that one is taught in college. What is Youngkin's view? He sees CRT as divisive and it pits oppressor against the oppressed. This is the one he banned. His opponents say it is not in the curriculum as there are no textbooks about it. He says that it is woven throughout the curriculum. He is having an investigation of the curriculum for the last four years.

What does the Governor think education should be? He advocates a basic curriculum consisting of Reading, Science, Math, and History, where both sides are taught.

Other important objectives include raising teacher pay, removing politics from the classroom, keeping students in school five days a week, and lifting the mask mandate. I think most American conservatives and liberals would welcome his platform. He also wants to build safer communities, create jobs, and make government work for all voters no matter how they voted. Last, he wants to reduce taxes and increase funding for the police. Those are many but not all of his goals.

In Virginia you can only serve four years. After another four years you can run again. I think if Youngkin is as successful as a governor as he has proven to be in life thus far, he might be headed to the White House in the future. Yes, he really did impress me.

*Marilyn Crosby
Lexington Park*

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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Public/Private Partnerships – Win/Win

To the Editor:

Thinking ahead to the February 15th CIP budget work session, was remembering the tools my Reagan 'budget buddies' would use to save money while still delivering solid programs. Anyone remember "public/private partnerships" (PPP's)? Remember the advantages? Private sector expertise managing the job, using commercial contracts, saving time and reducing costs. Getting the private sector managing long-term operation and maintenance costs/risks. Letting successful professionals to run the operations like their own. Remember?

If we use this PPP approach, right now, we can save St. Mary's County about \$3 million over the next three years, and more than \$30 million over 50 years. How? By funding the Recreation/Community Center in FY22 from unallocated funds and by working with YMCA as a PPP (under our June 15, 2021 MOU) to get the Center built and operational in FY25 (vs. delaying construction until FY25).

To the question - "Do we need the Center?" Well, it's been in the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan since 2012, in the County's approved CIP budget since 2017 and is in the County's current Comprehensive Plan. A recent County-funded study documented as many as 10,000 county residents would use such a facility. And, from comments made during the December 14th Commissioners' meeting, citizens in North County are requesting one in their area, too. Evidently, the need identified 10 years ago is strong and growing!

How do we save \$3 million? Through the PPP, the YMCA supplies project management expertise on its nickel, saving nearly \$2.5 million in project management costs (about 15% of the \$15.8 million total project cost plus inflation). Couple this with savings from a seasoned private partner using proven designs and timely construction contracts, to cut about two years off the project, avoiding \$0.5 million dollars in inflation (2.5 percent on \$10.6 million in bonds and impact fees between now and FY25). That's just over \$3 million saved by working through a PPP and not waiting until FY25. It's a return on investment of nearly 20 percent in just three years.

How will we save the \$30 million, total? Per the PPP, the YMCA pays for facility and equipment costs throughout the facility's 75-year expected life. A low estimate of major maintenance costs is 25 percent of the \$16.38 million project cost every 25 years. That means we can expect a facility rehab bill for ~\$7.6 million after 25 years, and another for ~\$14.1 million at 50 years (assuming 2.5% inflation). We can expect another \$5.6 million will be needed for other equipment replacements. That plus the \$3 million above, totals \$30.3 million. And that's not counting the personnel and operations costs we avoid when the "Y", not the County, pays for developing programs, hiring and administering staff, paying utilities and cleaning the facility. This is a good deal.

Several times, the Commissioners have discussed investing available reserves in projects that, once completed, don't need ongoing funds, like our successful Middle/Last Mile Broadband project — another long-term public/private partnership. It shows that we citizens of St. Mary's County benefit when our Commissioners invest for the long term. Building the Community Center as a PPP project also fits that model. It provides improved services while preventing the accompanying cost increases in the operating budget. Wasn't "improving services while saving money" an election promise at one time?

We hope this will be the first of many PPP Community Centers, providing County-wide services and transformational programming at low cost, greatly enhancing our County's quality of life, while setting a new standard for cost-effective County government across Southern Maryland.

Respectfully,

*Troy E. Cowan
Lexington Park*

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, Feb 3

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.

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser

Action Lounge and Billiards
25470 Point Lookout Road
Leonardtown
4p.m. to 8p.m.

Please join us to take a chance to pick a card and find the needed Queen to win. Each Thursday there will be a chance to win the jackpot, which increases each week the Queen is not found. There is also a nightly 50/50 raffle. Thank you for your support to the LVRSA.

Friday, Feb 4

Craft Project: Painting and Decorating Shells

Loffler Senior Activity Center,
21905 Chancellors Run Rd
Great Mills
10a.m. to noon

Fridays, February 4 & 11

With Valentine's Day right around the corner, how about making unique little gifts for all the loves in your life? Better yet, make them using shells found on the local beaches of St. Mary's County! These lovely gems have countless possibilities, are easy and fun to do, and cost almost nothing. What have you got to lose? This class will be held two Fridays in a row to give you a chance to finish any shells that need time to dry before moving on to the next step. Sign up for this

craft date beginning January 20 at 8 a.m. by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 1660, and leave a message.

Saturday, Feb. 5

Register for Dolly and Me Tea Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department

Noon to 3p.m.

To be held on April 16, 2022 from 12PM -3PM. Contact LYNN BRADY 240-538-2503 for information and to register.

\$25 per ticket for Tea Time with your favorite Dolly. Finger sandwiches, scones, dessert and and tea. Activities to include decorating your own table for chance to win a prize. Vendors on site selling doll clothes. For additional fee: take picture with Easter Bunny, grab bags, raffle items.

MCW Pro Wrestling Celebfest & Live Event in Hollywood!

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department
24801 Three Notch Road
Hollywood
1p.m. to 10p.m.

MCWProWrestling.com—MCW Pro Wrestling hosts Hollywood Celebfest Convention and live pro wrestling action on Saturday, February 5 from 1-5 p.m. at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, 24801 Three Notch Road in Hollywood, MD.

Celebfest features WWE Hall of Famers Jimmy Hart, Lita, Lex Luger, Kevin Nash, and Bushwacker Luke; AEW's Adam Cole, Lio Rush, Thunder Rosa, and Sarena Deeb; ROH's Quinn McKay and Angelina Love; NWA's Velvet Sky; Taya Valkyrie, The Headbangers, Sabu, and more!

MCW then brings live action at 7 p.m. in Hollywood, MD featuring AEW's Adam Cole, MCW champion Ken Dixon, and more!

Saturday, Feb. 6

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Knights of Columbus Breakfast returns in the Parish Center, 43950 St. John's Road in Hollywood.

The usual fare of sausage,

scrambled eggs, hash browns and pancakes with toppings.

Carryouts available as well. Families are welcome. The cost is your donation.

Thursday, Feb 10

Black Patriots: Heroes of the Revolution

Loffler Senior Activity Center,
21905 Chancellors Run Rd
Great Mills
10a.m. to noon

From the initial sparks of revolution in Boston to the climactic Siege of Yorktown and beyond, hear the story of the war within the Revolutionary War through the eyes of some of the most sig-

nificant African American figures of our country's foundation, including Crispus Attucks, Peter Salem, Phillis Wheatley, and James Armistead Lafayette. Executive produced and narrated by NBA legend, best-selling author, and respected activist Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, this program features interviews with esteemed historians Erica Armstrong Dunbar and Graham Hodges, among others, to shed light on some unsung heroes who were integral to this country's independence. Register to see this video by leaving a message beginning at 8 a.m. on January 20 on our reservation line: 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. Seating is limited to 16.

Pet OF THE WEEK



MEET SHRIMPY

How beautiful it is to find someone Who asks for nothing but your company.

Hi, my name is Shrimpy. I'm a HANDSOME, ABSOLUTELY DARLING 1 YEAR OLD BOY and I'm SO HOPING for a NEW HOME soon! My loving TCAS pals report that I have EXCELLENT LITTER BOX SKILLS, I've previously lived with an infant, and, amazingly, I was best friends with a large dog! I'm TOTALLY FULL OF LOVE and once you get me in your arms, I'll melt like butter! I'm the SWEET BOY you've always been hoping for so email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP! BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

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

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

Robert William (Bobby)

Guy



Robert William (Bobby) Guy passed away peacefully at his home in Leonardtown MD., on January 24, 2022, surrounded by his family and friends after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born on February 25, 1953, in Washington, DC, to the late James E. Guy and the late Joan (Marsh) Guy of Hollywood, MD. Bobby leaves behind his loving and devoted wife, Kathy Morgan Guy. Bobby is survived by his son Jason A. Guy of Leonardtown MD., daughter Michelle

Guy of Mechanicsville MD., sibling Karen Thompson (Wayne) of Mechanicsville MD., 8 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, and his faithful and loyal companion, Scruffy. He was preceded in death by his sister Julie Ludke of Hollywood MD., his daughter Lauren Bishop of Hancock MD., and granddaughter Shelby Dulaney of Hancock MD. He is also survived by his brother/sister-in-laws Roy Morgan (Barbara deceased) of FL., Dennis Morgan (Sandy), Jean Nelson (Donnie), Steve Morgan (Cindy) of Mechanicsville MD., Gail White (Roger) of Abell MD., Glenn Morgan of Scotland MD., and Kevin Morgan (Lisa) of Chaptico MD.

Bobby attended Charlotte Hall Military Academy and Crossland High School. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1972 and honorably served his country until his discharge in 1973. Bobby returned home and started working with his father in the family business, Guy Construction of Oxon Hill MD. He became a master craftsman in all the trades from electrical, plumbing, mechanical, carpentry, to masonry. He took

those skills over his lifetime and held many positions from laborer, foreman, supervisor, and quality control officer. He was a member of the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge Chapter 495.

In 1986 he met his one and only true love Kathy Guy and they married in July 1988. In March 1989 their son Jason was born, and their family was complete. Bobby's heart was his family. He loved spending time with his children, grandkids, great grandkids. His love for them knew no bounds. He lived his life to ensure they would be protected and provided for always. The old cliché to know him was to love him, but truly that was Bobby. Bobby enjoyed being on his boat (Loose Cannon), fishing, crabbing, listening to music, and watching his family and friends have fun. He loved eating crabs, oysters, lobster, and drinking WAWA coffee. In his spare time, he played pitch, Bingo, playing online Poker on the weekends and spoiling his dog Scruffy with chocolate bars and ice cream.

Bobby wouldn't want you to be sad, just remember him, the good times, the moments you shared and hopefully it will bring a smile today and all the days that follow.

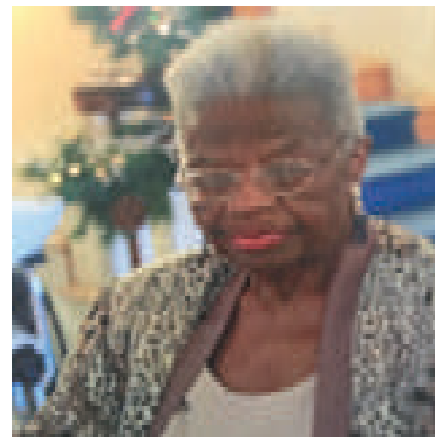
His favorite Bible verse was John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Contributions may be made to St. Mary's Hospice.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.mgfh.com.

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

Annie Pauline (Butler) Fitzgerald



Annie Pauline (Butler) Fitzgerald at age 100, peacefully transitioned from this life to her eternal rest, at her home in Washington, D.C. on January 21, 2022. She

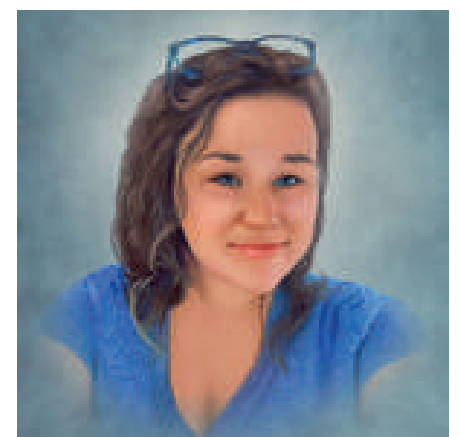
was born in Hollywood, Maryland on July 19, 1921, the daughter of James Albert and Cecelia Maria (Stevens) Butler. She was the fifth child and baptized at the St. John's Regis Catholic Parish. She was the last surviving sibling and was preceded in death by her sisters Hortense Davis, Gladys Butler, Priscilla Bailey, Cecelia Elizabeth Parker, Marie Barnes and her brothers, James, John, and Phillip Butler.

She attended the historic Phyllis Wheatley School in Sotterley, Maryland. As a teenager, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked as a waitress, domestic and a childcare provider. She took great pride in her work as a licensed cosmetologist and also as the proud owner and operator of her own taxicab, A.P. Fitzgerald Taxicab #1357. She was one of the first female chauffeurs permitted to service National Airport.

She married Major Graham in 1944 and had her one and only child, Jeff "Majors" Graham. She later remarried Thomas Fitzgerald and they were married until his death in 1972. She was admired by many for her strength and persistence and every person who met her, never forgot her. She lived a life of gratitude and expressed her appreciation for the kindness of others. She leaves to cherish her memory her devoted son Jeff Majors, one grandson, and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, loved ones and friends.

Viewing will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 2 p.m. and the funeral service at 3 p.m. at Horton's Funeral Home, 600 Kennedy Street, Washington, D.C. Interment private. Condolences and expressions of sympathy may be sent to 1458 Monroe Street NW, Washington, DC 20010.

Kacey Marie Clarke



Kacey Marie Clarke, 27, of Newburg, MD, formerly of Chaptico, MD, passed away on January 20, 2022 at her home in Newburg, MD. Born on October 5, 1994 in Bir-



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mingham, AL, she was the daughter of Karen and Michael Bruce and Gary and Shae Dailey. Kacey was the loving wife of Shane Clarke, whom she married on May 29, 2021 at her mom and stepdad's house in Coltons Point, MD.

She is survived by her pit bull puppy, Ace, her siblings Rachael Bruce of Coltons Point, MD, Mikey Bruce USMC, WA, Luke Bruce of Coltons Point, MD, and Hunter Dailey of Birmingham, AL, as well as many grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Kacey graduated from Chop-ticon High School in 2012. She loved her family, especially her siblings, her puppy, Ace, her husband, Shane, her mom, and her sister's best friend.

Condolences to the family can be made at www.mgfh.com.

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

Maurice Owen Toon



Maurice Owen Toon departed this life suddenly on Saturday, January 22, 2022. Maurice was born and raised in Lexington Park, MD to the late Patrick Henry and Mary Toon on May 10, 1956. He was a loving and devoted father to his only daughter, the late LaKieta Toon. Maurice was united in holy matrimony to Mae Batts on September 29, 2001. Although they were separated in miles, their family connection never wavered, and they remained very close.

Maurice was educated in the St. Mary's County School System. After completing high school, he enlisted in the Navy and served from July 1978 until he was medically discharged in January 1980. Maurice didn't talk much about the time he spent serving in the military, but he was a proud Navy man. After retiring from the military Maurice worked various jobs and finally retired from Cheltenham Youth Facility (Boy's Village).

Maurice accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at the

First Baptist Church in Forest Heights, MD. Although Maurice did not attend church on a regular basis, he did confess that he loved the Lord. Maurice was a devoted Washington Football Team (Redskins) fan. He loved his team. He also enjoyed watching Westerns and Wrestling. He loved his family. He spent many hours with his beloved brother, sisters, nieces, nephews, and cousin. Of all the people he touched, his most proud achievement in life was his daughter LaKieta who supported him with all her heart. They shared the love of cooking, and she was his rock. LaKieta watched over her father until her death in August of 2021. Maurice's heart was broken with her passing.

He was predeceased in death by his father, Patrick Henry Toon and mother Mary Elnedda George Toon; daughter, LaKieta Toon, uncles, William "Buddy" Lennon, and aunts Nellie Ruth Winston (Dabney Carr Winston), Shirley Jones (Landy Jones), Geraldine Lennon, Lillian McEachin, and Carrie Lewis; His brother, James W. Toon Sr., sister-in-law, Edna Pinkney-Toon, and brother-in-laws, Brice Hall and Mike Smith

He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife Mae Toon, two stepsons, Michael McIver and Andre Batts, one stepdaughter, Felica McIver, three sisters, Mary Larnice Hall, ReDahlia Marguerite Curtis, and Bonita Maria Smith; one brother Patrick Lionel Toon; one very special cousin, Willie Eugene Lennon and a special sister-in-law, Deborah Wilcox; four aunts, Betty Edwards Maxton; Jean Lennon, Sylvia Duncan and Sallie Lennon; five uncles, Herman Lennon (Thomasenia), James Leroy Lennon (Lucille), Shady Lennon, Thomas Lennon (Jennie) and John Lennon (Theresa); eight nieces, Debora Pinkney, Sabrina Holloway, Sonja Lynn Bray Taylor, Marian Deon Passalaqua (Brian), Renata Toon, Kendrea Jones (Stan), Jocelyn Toon and Daijah Toon; five nephews, Thomas Pinkney, James W. Toon, Jr., Lamar M. Curtis (Raquel), Alonzo Dent and Kyle Toon (Ahjanae), along with a host of other beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and other family members.

At this time services are pending.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Curtis Lester Jordan

Curtis Lester Jordan, 66, of Clements, MD died on Thursday, De-



ember 23, 2021 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD with his loving family at his side.

Born July 14, 1955 in Washington, D.C. to the late Dearl Jordan and Anna Marie Miller Jordan.

Curtis retired from Mirant after 37 years, he was a diligent worker and had made many friends throughout his career. He also had many hobbies and interests that include hunting, and the outdoors and was a gun enthusiast. He enjoyed model cars and airplanes, and he was also very knowledgeable about many things, especially History. Curtis also loved his miniature schnauzers Layla & Danica & Border Collie Sammy.

He is survived by his wife Judy Lynn Jordan and his two children: Maranda Stieringer-Smith (Donald) of New Castle, DE and Curtis L. Jordan Jr. of Clements, MD and his four grandchildren, Carley Smith, Abbey Smith, Mackenzie Jordan and Lena Ann Jordan. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Services are private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Gary Delano Hurley



Gary Delano Hurley, 87 of Valley Lee, MD passed away peacefully Tuesday evening, January 25, 2022 at home surrounded by his family.

Born in Cambridge, MD he was

the son of the late Christopher Leon Hurley and Lucy Wiley. As a child and young man, he would spend the summer months working on his grandparents farm in Dorchester County, MD. He would tell stories of his experiences on the farm with great fondness and pride throughout his entire life.

Gary was a graduate of Cambridge High School, Class of 1952, and was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean War. After his discharge from the military, Gary became a Maryland Natural Resources Policeman and continued to work for the Department of Natural Resources until his retirement in 1985. Gary spent countless hours on the St. Mary's River catching crabs and oysters in order to supplement the family income. When he wasn't on the water he could be found in the woods hunting deer which was a true passion of his. Gary was a genuinely kind man with a lighthearted sense of humor and an infectious laugh. He was hardworking and fiercely devoted to his family.

He was preceded in death by his brother Christopher Leon Hurley, Jr. and his sister Shirley Lewis and brother-in-law John Lewis.

He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Diane Hurley (Thompson) and his sons Michael Hurley of Annapolis, MD and Monsignor Steven Hurley of Wilmington, DE; sister JoAnn Potter and her husband Dr. William Potter of Palm Beach Garden, FL; brother and sister-in-law, Diane and Warren Newcomb and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by his son, Monsignor Steven Hurley at 12PM on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at St. George Catholic Church, 19199 St. George's Church Road, Valley Lee, MD 20692. There will be a visitation prior to the Mass beginning at 11am.

Interment will be private at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. George Catholic Church, 19199 St. George's Church Road, Valley Lee, MD 20692.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Kimberly Lynn Winkler

Kimberly Lynn Winkler, 32 of Leonardtown, MD passed away peacefully on January 21, 2022 at University of Maryland Charles Regional Hospital in LaPlata, MD.

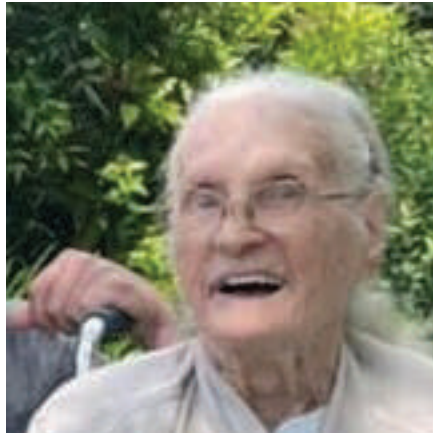
She was born on July 22, 1989 in

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



**Regina Jeannette
"Jeanne" (Tutak) Karr**



LaPlata, MD to J.C. Winkler and Tina Scopin Winkler of Leonardtown, MD.

Kimberly was a 2007 graduate of Great Mills High School. She worked at the Hollywood Adult Daycare for three years as an Aide. She was previously employed by MedStar St. Mary's Hospital as a Certified Nursing Assistant. She worked as an EMT for 2nd District Valley Lee Rescue Squad. Kimberly's family and fiancé meant everything to her but spending time with her son Carl was always special.

In addition to her beloved parents Kimberly is also survived by her son, Carl Metzger of Leonardtown, MD and her brothers, Kevin Winkler of Bryans Road, MD and Justin Winkler of Leonardtown, MD; her grandfather Dale Hayes; her fiancé, Will Metzger of Clinton, MD; her father-in-law to be, William "Pop" Metzger of Clinton, MD; her special friends Pat and John; and extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Carl and Shirley Scopin, her grandmother Nancy Hayes and her brother, Baby Boy Winkler.

Family will receive friends on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will be celebrated by Reverend Joe Orlando 1:00 p.m. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Cemetery in Mechanicsville, MD.

Serving as pallbearers will be Kevin Winkler, Justin Winkler, Brian Metzger, Wayne Waltman, Daniel Ollom, and Florencio Torres.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., P.O. Box 279, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Regina Jeannette "Jeanne" (Tutak) Karr, 100, previously of Luray, VA passed away peacefully at her daughter's home in St. Inigoes, MD on Sunday, January 23, 2022, with her daughter by her side. Jeanne was born May 7, 1921, in Creighton, PA.

She was the daughter of Polish immigrants who arrived in the United States in the early 1900s. Her late father, Lawrence Tutak was a coal miner and her late mother, Mary (Bobak) Tutak, was a homemaker who raised 12 children. Jeanne was preceded in death by her 11 siblings. She was proud of her Polish heritage and taught her children how to decorate their Easter eggs in a simplified version of Pyzanki art and shared Polish Christmas traditions with them as well.

During WW II she served as a telephone operator in Ohio. She met her husband, Verlin "Dan" Randall Karr after the war and married him on August 7, 1947, in Hallandale, FL. She was a military wife who moved with her husband to different stations, including Okinawa.

She enjoyed being outdoors and could be found working in her garden on nice days. She was a positive influence on many girls in her years working as a leader with the Camp Fire Girls youth organization. She learned to appreciate hiking and camping. She was often referred to as "Mom Nature" by the girls.

She was a proficient cook, seamstress, quilter and loved to knit. In her later years she could be found knitting Christmas stockings for family and friends of family.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her husband, one daughter (Susan Karr Pressman), her granddaughter, Tania Michele, and a great-granddaughter, Caitlyn. She is survived by her daughters, Tamiko denHartog (Clancy), Penny Shissler (Blaine, deceased)

of Mechanicsville, MD, and two sons Daniel Karr of Vermont and Leslie Karr (Rebecca) of Belgium; seven grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jeanne will be buried alongside her husband in Arlington National Cemetery, VA with a private graveside service. Arrangements are being made by Brinsfield Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD.

Stanley Arthur Newquist, Jr.



Stanley Arthur Newquist, Jr., 92, of Charlotte Hall, MD, passed away peacefully on January 10, 2022 at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in Charlotte Hall, MD. He was born on August 3, 1929 to the late Stanley Arthur Newquist, Sr. and Helen Constance (McNamara) Newquist.

After graduating high school, Stan would go on to serve his country. He would spend the next eight years making his country and family proud. He was a distinguished veteran of the Korean War and received many awards and commendations for his dedicated service. He was happily stationed in Hawaii during his final year of enlistment and spent every day after work perfecting his golf game. Stan would miss the beautiful weather but returned home to Maryland with an honorable discharge to live out his life as a proud American.

Stan met the love of his life, Patricia June Segar when he came home. He would promptly marry his beautiful bride. They were married for over 30 years before she passed in September, 1995.

He worked in the medical field as a Histologist and enjoyed being able to meet so many people throughout his career. Stan had a life of great opportunities and adventure and retired in 1991 to spend his time with family.

As a life member of the American Legion and VFW he made many friends. He enjoyed being able to sit back and discuss the weather, golf and family. Whether you knew

him as Dad, Stan, Swede, Poppy or friend you knew a great man who loved his family, God and country.

Stan is survived by seven children, Philip Bowling, Cartha Morgan, Patricia Wittington, George Bowling, Margaret Ledbetter, Stanley "Stan" Newquist, III, and Thomas Newquist, Sr.; and many grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and beloved wife, Patricia Newquist.

The family will have a Graveside Service with Military Honors on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 11:15 a.m. at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Hwy, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

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

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

Dale Lee Peck

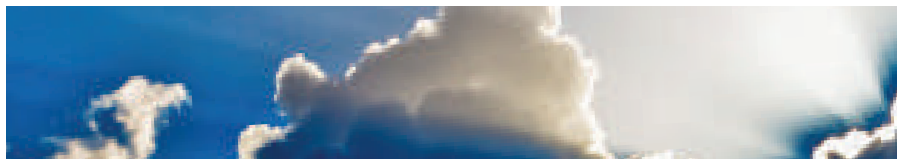


Dale Lee Peck, 67, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on January 15, 2022 at the MedStar St. Mary's.

Dale was born on May 31, 1954 to Robert Sidney Peck and Esther Louise Peck in Harrisburg, PA. After Dale graduated from Juniata High School in 1972, he joined the United States Air Force and served his country proud before being honorably discharged in 1992. When he returned home, he worked in many different trades before finding his career as a Transportation Specialist for the U.S. Government. He worked for over twenty-one (21) years before retiring in 2013.

In 1970, he reconnected with Loretta K. Peck at church, after having grown up as next-door neighbors. He married the girl-next-door. Dale and Loretta went on to have two (2) wonderful children, Christopher and Lavonda.

Dale was passionate about animals, especially cats. He nursed many abandoned kittens and never complained about his kids bringing home strays. They say you can judge a man by how he treats



animals and Dale was a gentle and caring man. He enjoyed watching NASCAR and could spend hours rooting on his favorite drivers. Dale's greatest joy came from his family. He was always happiest when he was surrounded by his kids, grandchildren and eventually great-grandchildren. The legacy Dale left for his family is filled with many wonderful stories of adventure and experiences, but the most wonderful thing is the love he shared with all those in his life.

Dale is survived by his wife, Loretta K. Peck of Mechanicsville, MD; his son Christopher A. Peck of Mechanicsville, MD; his daughter Lavonda K. Wilson and her husband James Wilson of Mechanicsville, MD; his brothers Donald L. Peck and his wife Anna Marie Peck of Mifflenton, PA, Robert S. Peck and his wife Lewese Peck of Shippensburg, PA, Marlin L. Peck and his wife Donna Peck of York, PA, and Terry G. Peck and his wife Stephanie Peck of Port Royal, PA; his sisters Dorothy A. Dowling and her husband Fred Dowling of Port Royal, PA, Adele L. Beaston of Concord, PA, and Esther L. Wert and her husband Terry Wert of Port Royal, PA; his five (5) grandchildren Katlyn L. Gagnon, Christian A. Peck, Brittany N. Ferguson, Matthew C. Simpson, and Leanna J. Wilson and his four (4) great-grandchildren, William P. Gagnon, Oliver Q. Ferguson, Landon C. Thomas and Layla J. Thomas.

He is preceded in death by both of his parents Robert Sidney Peck and Esther Louise Peck and his Brother-in-law Robert Beaston.

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

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

Raymond B. "Arby" Brown

Raymond B. "Arby" Brown, 70, of Great Mills, MD, passed away on January 4, 2022 in Leonardtown, MD. Born on September 5, 1951 in Maryland, Arby was the son of the late Mary B. Moore Brown and Abraham B. Brown, Jr.



Arby was the loving husband of Sandra Brown, whom he married in Leonardtown, MD. Arby is survived by his children Brian Brown of Great Mills, MD, John Bailey (Leslie) of Beaver Falls, PA, his siblings James Moore of North Beach, MD and Carol Corley of Ocean Isle, NC, as well as three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter Sharon Bailey, and his siblings John Moore, Margaret McMahan, and Grace Vallandingham.

Arby graduated from Great Mills High School. He served the United State Marine Corps from January 20, 1972, to January 19, 1976. While serving in the United State Marine Corp., he earned the National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal (1st Award and Second Good conduct Medal). He was honorably discharged at the rank of Corporal.

Arby worked as an Aircraft Inspector for DynCorp and Amentum. He enjoyed ham radio projects. Arby was a 911 Coordinator for St. Mary's County Emergency Operations Center and a past volunteer of the Lexington Park Vol. Fire Department, which is currently the Bay District Vol. Fire Dept.

The family will be having a Celebration of Life Ceremony on Saturday, April 9, 2022, at 1:00 PM in the Bay District Vol. Fire Department – Braddock Hall, 46900 S. Shangri La Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

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

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



REMEMBRANCES
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YOUR TAX REFUND AND FIVE SUGGESTIONS

Contributing Writer:
Lynda J. Striegel

You worked hard in 2021 and have now paid your taxes and are expecting a refund. Keep in mind that your refund money is not a gift from the government—it is your money. This article makes some suggestions on how you can use your tax refund money.

Some people purposely withhold too much money from their paychecks, knowing that they will receive a larger lump sum tax refund. A type of forced savings. But, why do that when the government provides you with no interest on your money? You would be better off to take the money in your paycheck and set some aside in an interest bearing investment. Even if the interest amounts are small, your money will be earning something. If you are receiving a huge tax refund, take a look at your W-4 form and adjust your federal income tax withholding.

What are the smartest ways of dealing with a tax refund? Making a plan for your refund money is always a good idea. Without a plan, that money can easily disappear into a cloud of buying whatever suits your fancy. You will be better off if you make a plan to handle the tax refund.

To get you started, here are five suggestions on how to use your tax refund:

1. Pay down your consumer debt.
2. Set up an emergency fund.
3. Protect your loved ones.
4. Invest in yourself.
5. Plan a vacation.

Pay Down Your Consumer Debt.

High-cost consumer debt is a killer. Times have been tough and many people have lived on their credit cards, racking up huge balances at very high cost borrowing rates. For many people, the amount of the debt is so large, it is intimidating. Don't be discouraged. Try to stop charging on the credit cards and use all excess funds, including your income tax refund, to pay down the debt. The smartest thing you can do is to pay off that consumer debt so that when you do use a credit card, you can afford to pay off the entire credit card bill within one month.

Create a Fund Just for Emergencies.

Many people live in fear of having an emergency because they have saved nothing to help them. In most cases, giving yourself some financial peace of mind is all that is required to make life much more enjoyable. By setting aside your tax refund money in an emergency fund, you will be able to weather the downturns like the loss

of a job, expensive car repairs, medical emergencies and other catastrophes. Generally, the amount you need to save for emergencies should represent at least six months of living expenses plus whatever it takes to make you feel secure. Setting up an emergency fund will take away that fear of the unknown and put you in the position of being able to cope with whatever happens.

Take Care of Your Loved Ones

The vast majority of people have done absolutely no estate planning. Everyone needs to have a Will or a Trust, a Power of Attorney that covers medical and financial needs, and a Living Will. Why? To protect your loved ones and yourself. Once you have organized your estate plan, you will feel a great burden has been lifted from your shoulders. Whether this relates to appointing guardians for your minor-aged children, designating someone to take care of you if you can't do that for yourself, or deciding how your assets will be divided on your death, taking steps to put your strategy into writing is well worth the effort. This year, make an effort to get yourself organized.

Invest in Yourself

If you have been putting off career or skills training because of the cost, it may be time to use your refund to help you start a new career. College courses, technology skills improvement, books to help you help yourself, all of these are part of a strategy to improve your skills and your job prospects. Or, consider joining a health club or purchasing a piece of exercise equipment to improve your own health. Taking steps to improve yourself will always pay dividends.

Have Fun-Take a Vacation

This is the fun part of using the refund and since the money you are receiving is money you have already earned, why not use it to take that vacation you have always planned? Yes, you can buy that big screen TV but over the long term you will probably benefit more from the memories you make on a great vacation.

Whatever you decide to do with your tax refund, take your time and make a plan of action for that refund money so that you can use it wisely to your advantage.

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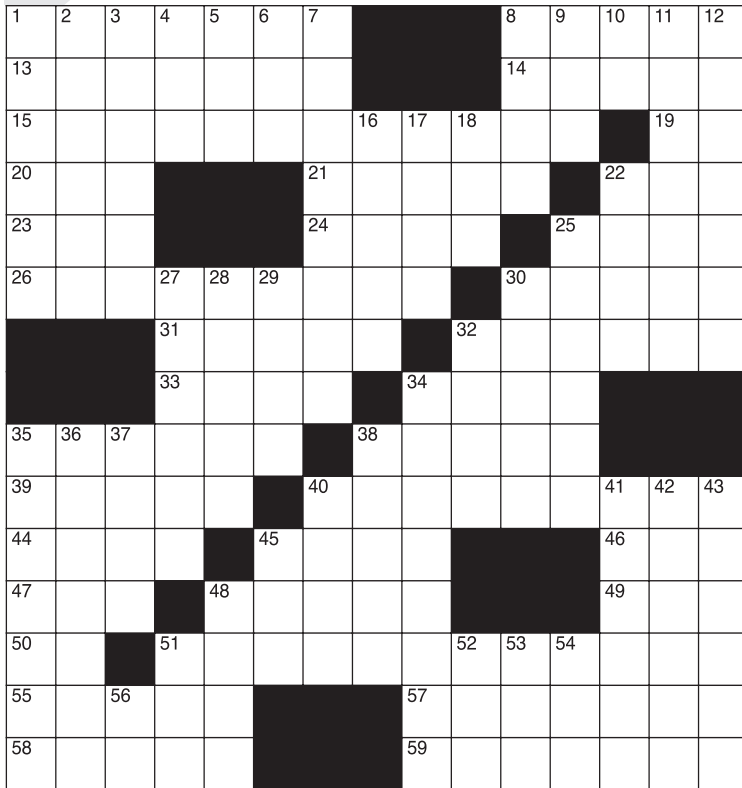
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CLUES ACROSS

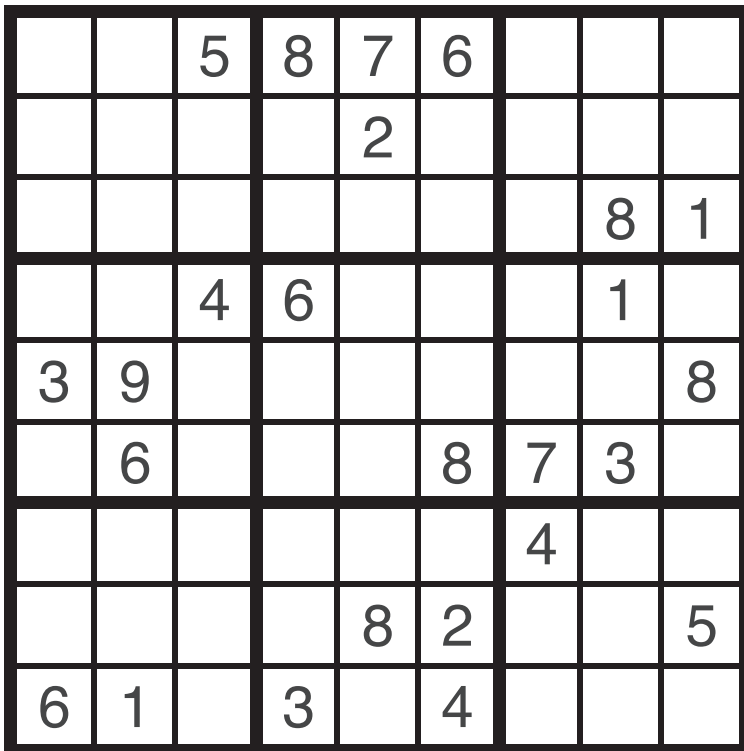
- 1. ___ de Mornay, actress
- 8. Surrenders
- 13. Omission
- 14. The white poplar
- 15. They become butterflies
- 19. Used to chop
- 20. Select
- 21. Volcanic craters
- 22. Consumer price index
- 23. Utilize
- 24. "True Blood" actress Paquin
- 25. Got up
- 26. Sank in
- 30. Retail
- 31. Giants
- 32. Most bald
- 33. Changes color
- 34. Unit of loudness
- 35. Undresses
- 38. Fathers
- 39. Learned skill
- 40. Remove qualification
- 44. Covered with frost
- 45. Speak up
- 46. Nowhere to be found

- 47. Part of surgery (abbr.)
- 48. Type of wrap
- 49. Church seating
- 50. Mathematical figure
- 51. College football conference
- 55. Turkish officer title
- 57. Organized body of knowledge
- 58. Smooth and glossy
- 59. Left

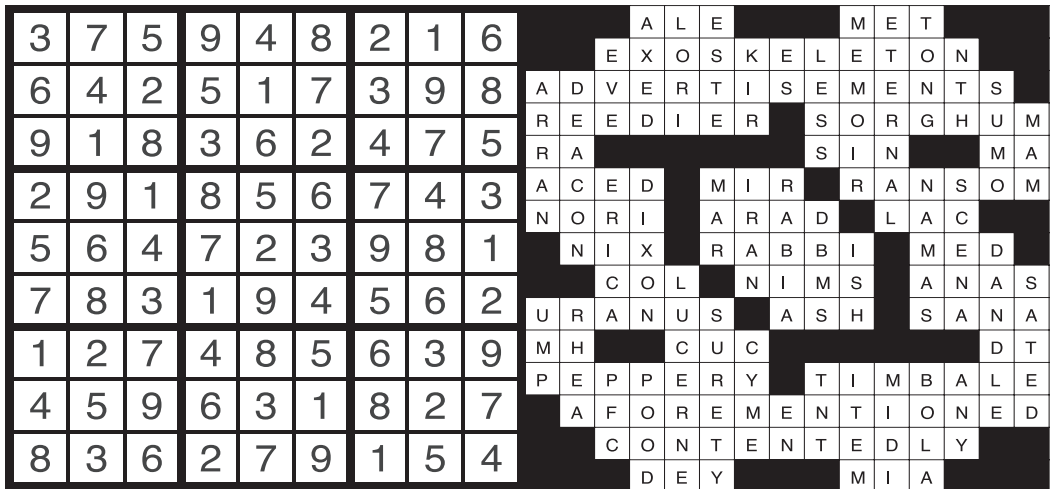
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Get back
- 2. Pass or go by
- 3. Having a sharp taste
- 4. Midway between east and southeast
- 5. Cairo Regional Airport
- 6. Peace officer
- 7. Brings to life
- 8. Automotive vehicles
- 9. One point south of due east
- 10. Football position
- 11. Goes by
- 12. Most attractive
- 16. Road divisions
- 17. Not the sea
- 18. Small, faint constellation

- 22. Cabbage
- 25. Least frequent
- 27. Change slightly
- 28. A country in NE Africa
- 29. Metric units of measure
- 30. More coherent
- 32. Make uninteresting
- 34. Nausea
- 35. Institution of Oceanography
- 36. Of little value
- 37. Hindu model of the ideal man
- 38. Biblical exclamation
- 40. You throw it at a board
- 41. Be about to happen
- 42. Brutal
- 43. Opened one's mouth widely
- 45. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
- 48. Saturate
- 51. The woman
- 52. Someone who is highly skilled
- 53. A way to launch an attack on
- 54. Where golfers begin
- 56. Atomic number 58



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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