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St. Mary's County Times

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

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TESTIFIES AGAINST
DAN SNYDER**

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**CHIPOTLE PLANNED
FOR CHARLOTTE HALL**

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FREEZES TUITION**

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STICKER SHOCK

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COMMISSIONER ERIC COLVIN ON THE RASH OF SUICIDES FROM THE GOV. THOMAS JOHNSON BRIDGE

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Thu 2/10	Fri 2/11	Sat 2/12	Sun 2/13
57° 35°F	58° 48°F	60° 34°F	36° 20°F
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Mon 2/14	Tue 2/15	Wed 2/16	Thu 2/17
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Commissioners Call For Anti-Suicide Measures on Solomons Bridge



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

After a second suicide in as many weeks by a jumper from the Gov. Thomas Johnson Bridge, local elected leaders are calling upon the state to come up with immediate options to stem the tide of deaths.

“These tragedies are occurring at a more frequent level and what we can do will remain to be seen,” said Commissioner Todd Morgan.

Morgan and other commissioners said they would include for discussion the suicide prevention measures at a virtual session with the commissioner boards from both Calvert and Charles counties Feb. 9 to discuss common issues.

“It’s a state bridge so we’ll have to look for some state support along the way,” Morgan continued.

Commissioner John O’Connor said commissioners receive notifications of critical incidents when they occur, such as the bridge jumper on Feb. 5.

“I had already been looking into what ways we could intervene,” O’Connor said. “When somebody has reached that point... getting public safety there in time is difficult.”

O’Connor said he “didn’t want to talk about it anymore” in discussions with the Maryland Department of Transportation about possible immediate remedies to the problem.

“There are safety devices throughout the United States — in New York, San Francisco — they have special nets... they tangle

you up.

“It’s something to give first responders time, something to give someone pause.”

O’Connor said he hoped talking openly about the local suicide problem would spur broader conversation about putting similar measures in at the new Middletown/Nice bridge that spans the Potomac River leading into Virginia.

“If you prevent something one place, then you displace it somewhere else,” O’Connor said. “We have to look at the bigger picture.”

Commissioner Eric Colvin said the very public nature of the recent suicides necessitated a public discussion.

“It’s good that we’re talking about this because it’s not easy for anyone,” Colvin said. “For anyone out there, if you’re experiencing feelings of hopelessness or depression talk to someone who can help.”

Colvin said the number for the National Suicide Hotline is 1-800-273-8255.

“Call them if you need to, there is no shame in making that call,” Colvin said. “It’s a good thing.”

The State Highway Administration, a subset of the transportation department has reported it is currently exploring anti-suicide options for the bridge.

A public petition has gained force in recent weeks calling for netting to be installed on the bridge to stop jumpers from committing the act of suicide.

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St. Mary's Woman Accuses Daniel Snyder of Sexual Misconduct

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

In her early 20's Tiffani Ann Johnston, a Chopticon High School graduate and St. Mary's native, was a cheerleader with the football team then known as the Washington Redskins.

She also held a job with the defense contractor Booz Allen Hamilton and had been approached by team leadership to become a member of their marketing department.

She told members of a congressional oversight committee last week that if there was a good reason to leave a job with an established and respected contractor to work for a professional sports team, it was this one.

In all, she spent eight years with the team in either capacity, but looking back she has regrets and trauma over what she claims were unwelcome sexual advances by owner Dan Snyder and other misconduct by senior staff there.

"Boy did I learn a lot," Johnston said to the committee in her opening testimony, noting what she learned was mostly offensive sexual terminology spoken openly during professional meetings.

Other indignities she suffered were to wear revealing clothing and submit to being thrown in the air by her manager to simulate a cheerleading stunt while wearing a skirt. Also, she was placed next to the team owner during a business dinner not to discuss professional topics but to allow him to place his hand on her thigh, Johnston testified.

"I learned that my job survival meant continuing the conversation with a co-worker later rather than calling out Dan Snyder right there," she said.

"Dan Snyder and the Washington Football Team [later named Commanders] need to be held accountable and the report needs to be released."

Johnston was one of many former employees of the football team, many of them women, who testified of a long-standing hostile workplace environment where sexual misconduct and harassment were the norm.

The National Football League commissioned an in-house study of those allegations but has yet to release that report.

Johnston, who still lives in St. Mary's County, spent a total of eight years with the organization.

Johnston said there was constant sexual harassment and unprofessional behavior at the organization for more than 20 years.

"It started with Dan Snyder and went down the line to Snyder's entire senior team," Johnston told members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, chaired by U.S. Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-New York- 12th) "It's not easy for me to tell of my experiences publicly; I basically block the experiences to keep from



Tiffani Johnston

feeling the trauma."

While the NFL's report on the workplace environment of the Washington team has not been released, the organization did make a statement in July of last year confirming many of the allegations leveled against the team and Snyder.

"Ownership and senior management paid little or no attention to these issues," the NFL's statement read. "In some instances, senior executives engaged in inappropriate conduct themselves, including use of demeaning language and public embarrassment.

"This set the tone for the organization and led to key executives believing that disrespectful behavior and more serious misconduct was acceptable in the workplace."

These problems were compounded by inadequate human resources staff and practices, the statement reads, and the absence of an effective system for reporting or addressing employee complaints.

There was also a widely reported fear of retaliation.

"When reports were made, they were generally not investigated and led to no meaningful discipline or other response," the NFL's statement continued. "Dan Snyder has acknowledged that, as the club's owner, he is responsible for the culture."

During questioning from Maloney, Johnston said that claims that all of the senior executives who were responsible for the misconduct had been removed were false; Snyder was still in charge.

"It all started from the top, with Dan Snyder," she said. "Everyday, on every single issue.

Every aspect of the team's operation was under Snyder's control, she said, including the marketing department in which she worked.

Snyder, Johnston claimed, heaped abuse on employees, males were berated when they did not perform as expected and the sexual harassment of women was constant.

"It was the culture he created, it was an abusive one," Johnston testified.

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Lexington Park Murder Suspect Arrested

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

St. Mary's detectives has arrested a Lexington Park man for stabbing to death a man who allegedly touched his girlfriend in a manner that angered him, court documents reveal.

Cherron Montril Waul, 44, has been charged with the first-degree murder of Jermell Delontae Jones, 33, as well as other counts of assault and robbery of the victim.

Jones was reported lying in a grassy area between Great Mills High School and Indian Bridge Apartments on Great Mills Road Feb. 3 at about 7:30 a.m. When sheriff's deputies arrived, they found his body and he was pronounced dead shortly thereafter.

Jones was found to have been stabbed multiple times as well as his throat slashed twice, according to court papers filed against Waul.

When the sheriff's office began its investigation, they found out through Jones' girlfriend that the defendant often spent time with the victim by having Jones over to his apartment.

Both men lived in at the Indian Bridge Apartments; Waul was known to the victim and the victim's girlfriend as "Champ."

Waul's girlfriend told police that when Jones had been in her apartment, which she shared with Waul, Jones had touched her buttocks.

This action angered Waul, she said, and was the apparent reason he allegedly sought to kill Jones.

Sheriff's investigators found surveillance footage from the apartment complex that showed Jones entering and leaving his apartment wearing certain clothing and other items that would positively identify him as the victim once his body was found.

The surveillance footage also



Cherron Montril Waul

showed two subjects, thought to be Jones and Waul, having a physical altercation in the early morning hours of Feb. 3 before Jones' body being found.

When Jones was found lying in the grass, he was not wearing shoes nor a trench coat he had been seen wearing in surveillance footage earlier that day.

A search warrant served on Waul's residence found numerous items that belonged to Jones including his wallet, distinctive key change lanyard, the victim's shoes and a dark colored jacket with holes in and a folding knife with possible blood evidence on it.

A third person in the residence at the time told deputies that Waul had gone out that evening and came back and admitted to stabbing the victim and leaving his body outside.

This same person said Waul had admitted to him that Waul had called the victim to meet him outside that night.

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Crosby Seeking Second Term in State House

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Del. Brian Crosby (D-Dist. 29B) wants another four years in the Maryland General Assembly.

"I just want to continue to build on the progress we've made in the last four years," Crosby told The County Times this week as to why he is seeking reelection.

Crosby said he sought to achieve three broad goals of improving education, particularly funding for local public schools, infrastructure and economic diversity.

Crosby said he believed he has been successful in working with his colleagues in accomplishing all three.

Crosby is the only Democrat in the St. Mary's County delegation to Annapolis.

He said the third building being constructed finally at the University System of Southern Maryland's campus on Airport Road is one of the key economic achievements during his tenure.

The third building will be a university supported hub of technology research and development focused on unmanned and autonomous systems.

The Blueprint for Maryland's Future, a massive upswing in schools funding, was another achievement Crosby held up.

For infrastructure, Crosby said the funding is in place to finally begin improvements to the intersection of Great Mills Road and Route 5 in Great Mills, which has become



Del. Brian Crosby

fraught with traffic backups.

The overall expansion of the St. Mary's County airport to an innovation hub as well as another positive development, Crosby helped support, he said.

"That's now part of my district," Crosby said. "It will augment [Patuxent River Naval Air Station] and help to create a secondary economy here in St. Mary's."

"I want to continue with the exact same objectives," Crosby said of his plans for the next four years.

He wants to focus on improving the intersection at Buck Hewitt Road and Route 235 to "make sure people don't get trapped at the WaWa" but also on getting federal funding for a new Thomas Johnson Bridge.

"It's fair and it's time for a new bridge," Crosby said. "I promised people a return on their investment and I still do."

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Limited Seasonal Perc Testing to Begin

Due to rising seasonal groundwater levels, the St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) will begin wet season perc testing on or about February 14, 2022. Perc testing was suspended in May 2021 due to declining groundwater levels.

Perc test applications received since May 2021 that were not able to be conducted will be scheduled first. While the water levels are currently high enough for testing, perc testing may not run continuously through the winter and spring should the water table recede, causing testing to be suspended. Testing will resume if water tables rebound to necessary ranges.

SMCHD's Environmental Health Division conducts soil evaluations for the construction of

residential and commercial septic systems. The application for a new construction perc test is available through the St. Mary's County Department of Land Use and Growth Management (LUGM) and requires a fee. The LUGM office is located in the Patuxent Building on the St. Mary's County Governmental Center campus in Leonardtown. The perc test application is also available for download on the LUGM Permits webpage: stmarysmd.com/lugm/Permits.

Community members can learn more about perc testing at: smchd.org/perc-testing. Question about perc testing may be directed to SMCHD's Environmental Health Division by phone to (301) 475-4321 or via email to smchd.env@maryland.gov.

Adverse Childhood Experiences Dashboard Launched



The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) has launched a new local data dashboard about adverse childhood experiences impacting community members. Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood, such as experiencing or witnessing violence, abuse, or neglect. A history of multiple ACEs has been linked to chronic health problems later in life, including mental illness and substance use, though protective factors such as youth mentoring may mitigate this risk.

The new ACEs dashboard will provide key data about the occurrence of ACEs in St. Mary's County, including data related to household substance use, sexual abuse, household men-

tal illness, incarcerated household members, parental separation or divorce, intimate partner violence, and emotional and/or physical abuse. The dashboard will also provide related community and provider resources.

"Two out of three adults in St. Mary's County report that their lives have been impacted by adverse childhood experiences," said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "We hope the new data dashboard will raise awareness of this public health issue and help our community work together to prevent ACEs and build resiliency."

To access the SMCHD ACEs Data Dashboard, please visit: smchd.org/aces-data. To learn more about ACEs, visit: smchd.org/aces

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Charlotte Hall Chipotle Under Consideration



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Plans to build a Chipotle Mexican Grill restaurant in Charlotte Hall have been submitted to the county's Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) as a prelude to its being considered by the planning commission for concept site plan approval.

The TEC is a group of government agencies, including the health, public works and land use departments, that ensure the prospective development meets certain development criteria before moving ahead through the approval process.

The proposed restaurant would be 2,325 square-feet in size, according to county planning documents, and would feature a drive-thru window.

The location of the restaurant

would be the same as that of a vacant motor lodge — The Charlotte Hall Motel — on Three Notch Road in Mechanicsville.

This is part of a large piece of property purchased by a Baltimore-based developer late last year that fronts much of the northbound side of that road in the area near the farmers' market.

The County Times reported on the sale of this commercial land first last year.

The entire project would be situated on a little more than five acres of land.

The owner of the property and the developer is Golden Beach Properties, LLC based in Reisterstown while the agent for the project is Bay Engineering, based in Annapolis.

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Leonardtwn Ace Hardware Donates \$10,000 to Hospice



Hospice of St. Mary's - Director, Kara Rawlings, and Board Chair, Jill Morris, picked up a generous check from Leonardtown Ace Hardware for \$10,000! Ben and Dana are huge advocates for their community and hosted this fundraiser during the month of December at their ACE stores on Charlotte Hall and Leonardtown.

Special Ambulance Service Proposed for Veterans Home



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

The county, in conjunction with the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home and the state, have come up with a plan to aid both entities with a special ambulance service agreement.

Steve Walker, county emergency services chief, told the Commissioners of St. Mary's County Feb. 1 that the plan would involve purchasing a new ambulance and stationing it at the veterans' home on a permanent basis.

This ambulance, however, would still respond to emergency or life-threatening calls for service in the community if they were in close proximity to the veterans' home, Walker said.

Should an emergency call for service arise back at the veterans' home, he continued, the ambulance would return to service there.

This ambulance staffing plan for the veterans' home is an attempt to solve a long-standing problem that has seen many calls for service for non-life-threatening situations for the Mechanicsville Vol-

unteer Rescue Squad come from the veterans' home.

This has concerned rescue squad leadership about their ability to answer other calls for life-threatening situations into the wider community.

Sen. Jack Bailey was able to have \$200,000 in state funds set aside for the proposal and the county proposes spending about \$288,000 to fully fund the purchase of the ambulance as well as four full time emergency medical personnel to staff the vehicle.

The commissioners unanimously approved the proposal, with Commissioner Eric Colvin saying that the county should pursue extra funding resources from the state to be able to continue the service.

County documents state that the funding of nearly \$500,000 would be sufficient for four months of operation.

Commissioner John O'Connor agreed.

"This is just step one," O'Connor said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Unpaid EMS Billing Total Corrected by County

Last week The County Times reported that the county had \$17 million in unpaid ambulance transportation fees that it likely would never be able to fully collect.

The initial figure was in error; the actual amount is \$1.058 million in uncollected ambulance transportation fees, the county is now reporting.

The erroneous figure was given by county emergency services department staff and never corrected during last week's meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt said during this week's meeting that the \$17 million figure was not correct.

Guy Leonard



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Russell Enters Race for District 2 Commissioner



Brandon Russell

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Leonardtown resident Brandon Russell, a Democrat, has filed to run for the District 2 county commissioner seat.

Marcus Drake, a Mechanicsville resident, is running for the same seat on the Republican ticket.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt, the District 2 incumbent, also a Republican, has yet to file for a third term as county commissioner as of press time.

Russell, 34, said he is a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County and works as the daily operations manager for Great Lakes Radiant, a heating equipment supplier, in Mechanicsville.

Russell said he wants to focus on the land use and development process.

"I'm a fan of development when it's necessary and under the right conditions," Russell said. "But I'm concerned about the county becoming overdeveloped."

Aside from more traffic, increased development can cause other problems, including flooding because of the changes done to the landscape, Russell said.

The commissioner board also needed to focus more on town center plans for communities as

well as the overall comprehensive plan for the county.

Russell said he is also running because of the importance of local government; it has perhaps the closest impact on residents.

"We need more involvement from constituents," Russell said, which would increase if the government operated more closely to the schedule of residents rather than the opposite.

He said the county should schedule meetings — such as public hearings — at times that make them more accessible to the public.

"Our government is not quite as accessible as it could be," Russell said. "People have lives during the day."

He said the county commissioner board has "done a decent or fair job" of promulgating the county's operating budget and the county is in a strong fiscal position.

However, he wanted to make sure the county was not "sitting on money that was not being utilized."

He said the county has raised substantial surpluses in recent years and they should be utilized.

"The money needs to be put to work," Russell said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Calvert, St. Mary's Respond to Another Solomons Bridge Suicide



Photo courtesy of Calvert Dive Team

At approximately 8a.m. Feb. 5 the Calvert Dive Team, Co. 12, was dispatched to the base of the Governor Thomas Johnson Bridge for the report of a subject in the water after jumping from the bridge.

Multiple companies and agencies responded, including US Coast Guard, Maryland Natural Resources Police, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Maryland State Police and volunteer rescue companies from Solomons, Prince Frederick and North Beach.

Trooper 7 from St Mary's airport arrived overhead and began a search over the river while smaller vessels began a surface search of the immediate area.

As the dive team was preparing their search, Trooper 7 locat-

ed a body on the surface near the Patuxent River Naval Air Station and St. Mary's boat crews arrived quickly, recovered the subject and brought them to the pier, attempting to resuscitate the subject, where they were loaded into a waiting ambulance and taken to an area hospital.

The person was later pronounced deceased and is the second person to jump from the bridge in as many weeks to end their lives.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached at 1-800-273-8255 or text HELLO to 741741, which is the Crisis Text Line. Both services are free and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All calls are confidential.

Press releases from Calvert Dive Team and 7th District Fire Department

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ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REPORT

Drug Arrest

On January 18, 2022, Dep. Graves conducted a vehicle stop in the 22100 block of Clipper Drive in Great Mills. The vehicle operator was identified as **James William Blackiston III**, age 28 of Lexington Park. Blackiston was taken into custody due to outstanding warrants for his arrest. At the time of his arrest, a cigarette box containing suspected, packaged cocaine was located. Blackiston was arrested and charged with CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and served the outstanding warrants.



James Blackiston III

Drug Arrest

On January 19, 2022, Detectives from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Vice/Narcotics Unit executed a search and seizure warrant on **Thomas Sebastion Gough Jr.**, age 22 of Lexington Park. Gough was located in the 21000 block of Lexwood Drive in Lexington Park, in a vehicle. Located on Gough's person were multiple bags of suspected cocaine. A

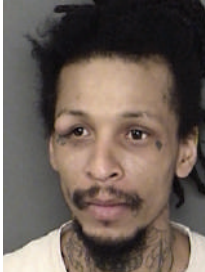


Thomas Gough Jr.

digital scale with suspected CDS residue was located in the vehicle. Gough was charged with CDS: Possession with Intent to Distribute, CDS: Possession-Not Marijuana and Narcotics: Production Equipment.

Reckless Endangerment/Illegal Possession of Firearms

On January 27, 2022, Dep. Matterna responded to the 46000 of East Sunrise Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported shots fired. Deputies were able to locate the residence where the shooting had come from and investigation determined **Lorne NMN Marshall**, age 31 of Lexington Park, had brought a backpack over to the residence containing two firearms. Marshall then fired several rounds from a handgun, with an inadequate backdrop and neighboring homes in close proximity. At the time, Marshall was also under the influence of alcohol. Marshall is also prohibited by law from possessing firearms. Marshall was arrested and charged with Reckless Endangerment, Illegal Possession of Ammunition, Regulated Firearm Illegal Possession, Firearm: Possession With Felony Conviction, Intoxicated: Endanger, and Intoxicated Public Disturbance.



Lorne Marshall

Wanted Individual: Gerald Issiah Wade Jr.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the whereabouts of Gerald Issiah Wade Jr., age 21 of Lexington Park, for Second-Degree Escape from the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown. Wade also has an active warrant for Failure to Appear: Rogue and Vagabond.



Gerald Wade Jr.

Wade is a black male with brown hair and brown eyes.

Anyone with information about Wade's whereabouts is asked to contact Detective Cpl. James Bare at 301-475-4200, ext. 8118 or at james.bare@stmarysmd.com.

Citizens may remain anonymous and contact the St. Mary's County Crime Solvers at 301-475-3333, or text a tip to "TIP239" plus their message to "CRIMES" (274637).

Through the Crime Solvers Program tipsters are eligible for an award of up to \$1,000 for information about a crime in St. Mary's County that leads to an arrest or indictment.

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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One-of-A-Kind Painting by Award-Winning Local Artist to be Raffled



The St. Clement's Island Museum welcomes a donation of an exceptional oil on canvas painting entitled "Water Taxi" by award-winning artist Nicole Stewart back in 2020 to raise funds for the museums operated by the St. Mary's County Museum Division.

Professionally framed and measuring 30" x 24," the oil painting on canvas, valued at over \$7,000, depicts the St. Clement's Island Water Taxi with Captain Jack Russell at the helm. This piece is an iconic representation of charter boating on the Potomac River in St. Mary's County, and Mrs. Stewart has generously offered the painting as a unique raffle item. Tickets are now available for purchase at St. Clement's Island Museum until the end of the First Landing Wine & Arts Festival event April 9, when the winner will be drawn.

"We are so grateful to Nicole for her generous donation," stated Karen Stone, Manager for the St. Mary's County Museum Division.

"This would be an incredible piece of St. Mary's County history to hang in a local business, office or home. Plus, all funds go to supporting local history right here in St. Mary's County."

Nicole Stewart has won numerous awards, including the prestigious Gilham Award (twice), for "best in show" in portraiture at The Art League at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Virginia.

Raffle tickets can be purchased daily, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., at St. Clement's Island Museum, or during the Appraiser Fair Jan. 22, Maryland Day March 25 or the First Landing Wine & Arts Festival April 9, for \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5 or 15 for \$10. The winner will be announced at the end of the First Landing Wine & Arts Festival.

St. Clement's Island Museum is located at 38370 Point Breeze Road, Colton's Point, MD 20626. Call 301-769-2222 or visit www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum for more information.

Leonardtwn Celebrates Moll Dyer Day!



Last year Leonardtown Mayor, Dan Burris, proclaimed February 26th as Moll Dyer Day in a touching ceremony that was held at Tudor Hall Manor, the new location of the famed rock that bears her now faded handprint.

Many know the legend of Moll Dyer, but it's not as widely known that Dyer was a real woman who lived just south of what is now Leonardtown in the late 1600's. She is believed to have been a healer who often aided the community. However when an epidemic of influenza arose during the winter of 1697, the Town inhabitants looked to lay blame and named her as its cause. Accused of witchcraft, Dyer was set upon by a mob fearful of the sickness. When they set fire to her small cabin, Dyer escaped into the surrounding woods on a bitterly cold night in February 1698. Her body was found days later by a young boy looking for lost livestock. She was found with one hand frozen to a large rock and the other outstretched to the sky. Legend has it that Moll put a curse on the land and on the rock. It's rumored that anyone who touches the rock may become dizzy or even fall ill. Prior to last year's dedication ceremony, the rock was moved from the Old Jail where it sat for almost 50 years to Tudor Hall Manor, the home of the St. Mary's County Historical Society, where the organization oversees the preservation of this important piece of Southern Maryland history. The Society has helped build a platform and protective covering to shelter the rock from the elements. Since its move, the rock has seen a steady flow of visitors who of-

ten leave trinkets and small gifts for Moll. Peter LaPorte, Executive Director for St. Mary's County Historical Society notes the significance of this event and why Moll's legend continues to resonate with us to this day, "The Moll Dyer Legend provides continued fascination within the County and beyond. The events leading up to Moll Dyer's demise holds a deeper message – one that is relevant to today. Moll Dyer did not cause the plague," continued LaPorte. "But as she lived afar and alone, behaved differently, she became the subject of hateful rumors and bullying. Moll Dyer didn't die from the plague in February 1698. Sadly, she died from irrational fear because she was different and vulnerable." The enduring message from Moll's legend is one of acceptance through understanding and simply to be kind to those who are different. For this reason, "Be Kind" has been chosen as the theme of this year's festivities.

Planned activities for the first ever Moll Dyer Day Celebration on Saturday, February 26, 2022, hosted by the St. Mary's County Historical Society, the Commissioners of Leonardtown, Visit St. Mary's, the St. Mary's County Museum Division and the Leonardtown Business Association, include an opening ceremony at the site of the Moll Dyer Rock at Tudor Hall Manor, a scavenger hunt for the entire family, paranormal investigations, a ghost walk, and special offers and activities provided by local Leonardtown businesses. To learn more about the event visit: VisitLeonardtwnMD.com/MollDyerDay or contact director@stmaryshistory.org.

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Commission for Women Announces Symposium Speaker

The St. Mary's County Commission for Women is pleased to announce the guest speaker for the 2022 Women's History Month Symposium – Laura Joyce.

Joyce is the Executive Director at the Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy, a position she has held for 20 years. She has worked in the nonprofit human services field for nearly 40 years and was a member of the Leadership Howard County Class of 1991. Before joining the Center, she served as the Executive Director for several other nonprofits in the human services and mental health fields.

She has worked extensively as a grant-writer, securing millions of dollars in new funding for services for marginalized populations. She worked as a co-author and ghost-writer of non-fiction self-help books throughout the 1990s. In her earlier work in the human services field, Joyce provided direct services to individuals with chronic psychiatric disabilities living in supported housing. She was one of the early staff members of the groundbreaking Montgomery County Crisis Intervention Team, a collaborative, on-site model for teams now found nationwide.

Joyce earned her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the University of Maryland. She was the only scholar in the Division of Arts and Humanities to be granted a Master's Degree with Distinction. In her years with the Center for Family Advocacy, Joyce has served several terms as the Family Violence Coordinating Council



chairperson for St. Mary's County. She was a founding member and long-time chairperson of the Multidisciplinary Case Review Team from its inception in 2010 until 2017. Joyce is a member of the Calvert and Charles County Family Violence Coordinating Councils and numerous other boards and committees. As an approved Peer Reviewer for the Office of Violence Against Women at the Federal Department of Justice, she has reviewed grants for the Maryland Victims of Crime grant program, the Survivors of Homicide grant program, and for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants program for the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Protection.

St. Mary's County Government will be responsive and accountable to the county's citizens; provide high quality, cost effective and efficient services; preserve the county's environment, heritage and rural character and foster opportunities for present and future generations.

Historic St. Mary's City hosts Bridal Show

Join Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) for their annual bridal show held at the (Reconstructed) State House of 1676 on Sunday, February 27 from 12-4 p.m. The address for the State House is 47418 Old State House Road, St. Mary's City, Maryland. Peruse a wide selection of quality wedding services - from photographers to florists to caterers, you will be able to speak with multiple ven-

dors to meet your every need from the engagement to the honeymoon.

There will be no charge to brides and friends who register by February 23. Contact Events@Digshistory.org, call 240-895-4991 or visit www.hsmcdigshistory.org/events/bridalshow/ to register.

Admission will be \$5 at the door (if not pre-registered).

Press Release from HSMC.

Donate Pieces of Local History to St. Clement's Island Museum

Have you ever wanted to contribute to an exhibit at a museum? The St. Clement's Island Museum in Colton's Point, MD, will be hosting a Community Day Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, from noon to 4 p.m. This occasion encourages the public to get involved with the planning of new exhibits by sharing historical documents, photos and other significant objects related to St. Clement's Island and the Colton's Point area from the 20th century and earlier.

The Museum is seeking information and items from and about local boat builders; information about the Golden Hotel, the Shirley K Hotel, the Hotel on St. Clement's Island and the Blackstone Island Canning Company; photos of the island and the Blackstone Lighthouse; Information about living on St. Clement's Island and/or living in Colton's Point; any photos of steamboats at Colton's Point landing; and more.

Museum staff will be available to scan photos and documents or photograph objects and people, with the owner's permission, for potential new exhibits or collections. If you do not



have any items that could be applicable but still wish to support the museums, the public is welcome to make monetary donations toward exhibits or other museum programs either in person or online at <https://friendsmuseumstore.square.site>.

For more information regarding Community Day, or if you have something not listed that relates to St. Clement's Island or Colton's Point, please call the Museum at 301-769-2222 to schedule an appointment. You can also visit us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/SCIMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SCIMuseum), on Twitter at [@StClemIs-Museum](https://twitter.com/StClemIs-Museum) or at [Museums.StMarysMD.com](https://www.museums.stmarysmd.com).

Pig Roast Fundraiser

At the Immaculate Conception Parish Center

Sunday, February 13th, 2022

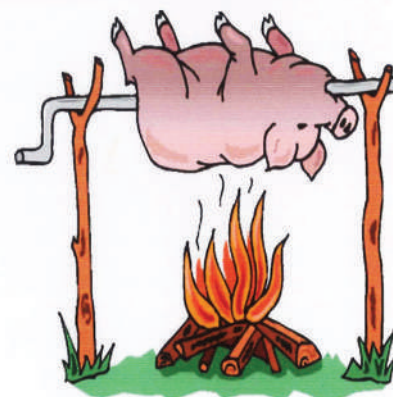
(Yes... Superbowl Sunday!)

from noon to 3 p.m.

Cost is \$20 per person

This will be a Carry-Out / Drive Thru Event!

Pickup Dinner before the Big Game!



Menu includes Roast Pig BBQ, Baked beans, and Cole slaw.

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Immaculate Conception Council 8159 and the I.C. Angels

Ten Veterans Recognized

Ten local veterans were recognized for their service to our country by PAX Sound of Freedom at its first 2022 presentation of Quilts of Valor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington Park on January 15. Pictured are (left to right): Nicole Watson (Navy, 9 years); Jason Watson (Navy, 22 years); Jason Stewart (Navy, 24 years); Patricia Stewart (Navy, 4 years); Judson Springer (Navy, 28 years); Stephen Kowalski (Navy, 13 years); Walter Kowalski (Air Force, 6 years); Vernon Benson (Marines, 4 years); Stephen Meizoso (Marines, 20 years); and Susan Brown (Air Force, 26 years).

At this presentation, PAX Sound of Freedom had the opportunity to recognize two husband and wife teams (Jason and Nicole Watson and Jason and Patricia Stewart) and two brothers [Stephen and Walter Kowalski and the third brother (William Kowalski from New Jersey) was unable to attend].

A dozen dedicated volunteers make all the quilts presented by PAX Sound of Freedom. Their expenses are funded through dona-



tions. The Quilts of Valor is a non-profit organization established and operated in accordance with section 501(c) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. If you would like to volunteer to help PAX Sound of Freedom with its quilts production and presentations, please contact the group leader at the number

listed below. Nationally 295,000 quilts have been awarded to date.

Supporting PAX Sound of Freedom and the veterans at many presentations are two members of Junior ROTC from Great Mills High School. Pictured are Austin Williams, a senior, and Breanna Shewbert, a junior.



If you, a family member or friend served in the U.S. armed forces, you are entitled to receive a Quilt of Valor. The only stipulation is that quilts must be awarded in person to the service member. Please contact PAX Sound of Freedom group leader, Sylvia Lague, at (941) 705-0094.



Library Closed for Presidents Day

All locations of the St. Mary's County Library will be closed on Monday, February 21 in observance of Presidents Day. All locations will be open for regular business hours on Tuesday, February 22.

Lead Like a Pro: Workshop for Youth Sports Coaches

Are you new to youth sports coaching and wondering how to get started? Or, are you an experienced youth sports coach looking for a fresh perspective? Youth sports coaches are leaders in our community and we want to give you some practical tools to unlock your leadership potential! Join coach and college sports administrator Matthew Raidbard PhD, author of the recently published book *Lead Like a Pro* on Tuesday, February 22 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. He'll talk to you about identifying your coaching goals, what different leadership styles are out there, and then how to choose leadership styles to meet your goals. You will receive an emailed Zoom link the day

before the program along with a worksheet attachment that will need to be printed out and cut apart for a workshop activity, or choose the option to pick up the worksheet already printed and cut apart at any of our three library branches. Register on www.stmalib.org.

Listening In: Echoes and Artifacts from Maryland's Mother County

Merideth Taylor, writer, photographer and author of *Listening In: Echoes and Artifacts from Maryland's Mother County* will give an informal talk about her work on February 24 at 4 pm via Zoom. An exhibit of her artwork will be on view in the Lexington Park Library Art Gallery from until February 28. Reviewers have called *Listening In* "a stunning portrayal of a remarkable landscape and culture fast disappearing," "a true treasure, especially for those from St. Mary's County," and "a must read." Washington Post writer Adrienne Higgins praised the book: "For more than 20 years, Merideth Taylor has been bearing witness to old, fading build-



ings in St. Mary's County, Md., where she lives. Most are small homes or farmsteads, empty and cloaked in a mantle of abandonment and decay. Contained in their flaking paint, sagging roofs and enveloping vines are the traces of lives that have been lived and the joys and sorrows of the people who once occupied them." This program includes a Q & A session. Register to receive the link to the Zoom meeting on www.stmalib.org.

Let It Out forum

It's been a couple of hard years for teens. Join St. Mary's County Library, St. Mary's NAACP #7025, and Community Mediation of St. Mary's on Friday, February 25 from 4 - 6 p.m. for a forum for teens to talk about the problems and issues you see in our community. Here's your chance to make your viewpoint heard and acknowledged by your peers. Register to receive the link to the Zoom meeting on www.stmalib.org.

Sharing My Story Through Rhyme, Reason and Song: Poetry Reading with Dr. Walthour

In celebration of Black History Month, join Dr. Janice Walthour for a poetry reading on Friday, February 25 from 7 - 8 p.m. Dr. Walthour is a long-time community activist, poet and motivational speaker. Dr. Walthour enjoys preparing and presenting thought provoking messages that inform and entertain the audience. She will share a variety of poetry to include original poems and the poetry of others. She uses the mediums of poetry and song to motivate and inspire student and community audiences. These presentations involve telling stories of her family, character sketches of friends, stories of African American history, cultural experiences, advocacy, and life's lessons in general. This event is in partnership with the St. Mary's County Branch NAACP #7025. Register to receive the link to the Zoom meeting on www.stmalib.org.

Leadership Group Announces Emerging Leaders Class



The Leadership Southern Maryland (LSM) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of 19 Southern Maryland professionals for its Emerging Leaders Program (LEAP) Class of 2022.

From St. Mary's County -

Laura Friess, BAA manager, SBIR/ STTR program office for Serco, NA

Katherine Grey, computer scientist for Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR)

Maya Hoagland, integrated product team lead (IPTL) for NAVAIR PMA 202

Christian Jarboe, video production manager for Stories Incorporated

Rachel Lytle, senior communication and marketing specialist for KBR

Daniel Palmieri, senior program analyst/ training specialist III for Naval Systems, Inc.

Lura Roach, strategic communications analyst for DCS Corporation

Joshua Tarr, associate attorney for Baldwin, Briscoe & Steinmetz, P.C.

Tiffany Young, associate attorney for Williams, McClernan & Stack

From Calvert County -

Megan Deaton, program manager for AIRtec, Inc.

Kristina McKeaver, engagement specialist for Precise Systems

Marie Parker, custodial supervisor for Calvert County Government

Donna Sisson, RN community educator/ supervisor for Calvert Health

From Anne Arundel County;

however, works in Calvert County -

Joelle Frank, recruitment assistant for Calvert County Government

George "Will" Hager, planner III for Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning

From Anne Arundel County; however, works in St. Mary's County -

Esha Bristol, project manager for The MIL Corporation

Leadership Southern Maryland's Emerging Leaders (LEAP) program provides educational programming opportunities to new or emerging leaders in our region. Through a series of six "experiences," young leaders will facilitate, foster, and refine their individual leadership understanding and abilities via structured course curriculum and a focus on self-discovery, teamwork, and networking. These sessions will conclude with a capstone project and closing retreat with graduation in June. Experts from across the region and state representing business, government, education, and the nonprofit community will serve as panelists and guest speakers.

Founded in 2008, LSM has successfully graduated over 400 regional leaders from its Executive Program. LSM is an independent, educational leadership development organization designed to broaden the knowledge base of public and private sector executives and emerging leaders. Leadership Southern Maryland is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Press Release from LSM

Local Auctioneer Wins State Bid Calling Championship

Mechanicsville, Maryland Auctioneer, Jason Farrell, was selected as the 2022 Maryland Auctioneering Bid Calling Champion during the Auctioneers Association of Maryland's 2022 Conference and Contest in Ocean City, Maryland on January 22, 2022. This year's conference and contest was also held in conjunction with the Mid Atlantic Bid Calling Championship where Jason placed 1st Runner-Up in that competition which included a field of 15 auctioneers from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia and West Virginia.



in which a winner is determined.

The two-day event also provided auctioneers the opportunity to discuss current trends in the Auction industry and to learn from industry experts in particular areas

When asked what was the most exciting part of his win, Jason notes it was the excitement he witnessed in his kid's eyes when he returned home - "they were looking at me like I'm as popular as Bluey or Elsa" he added.

The competition consists of a preliminary round as well as a final round of selling items in a live auction setting. Contestants were scored on fifteen specific elements under the categories of Presentation, Chant/Voice, and Effective Auctioneer. The top three contestants from the preliminary round then compete in the final round of competition

such as legal matters, contracts, auction methods, advertising and marketing, and best practices.

Jason now joins the ranks of other Maryland State Champions including Ronnie Farrell who was honored to have been selected as the 2011 Maryland Auctioneer Bid Calling Champion, and Randy Farrell who was second runner-up in the 2017 Championship, all who are part of Farrell Auction Service, LLC located in Mechanicsville, Maryland. Jason, Randy and Ronnie conduct auctions in various formats but also assist other auctioneers in Southern Maryland and within the State.

Pet

OF THE WEEK

MEET GRACE

LOVE is a four legged word!

Hello, my name is Grace. I'm a BEAUTIFUL 10-MONTH-OLD who likes to take my relationships slowly. I really LOVE to find a high place to keep my eye on the world. My TCAS pals feel I would excel in a PATIENT HOME that understands that I like my space. If you are looking for a GENTLE, LOW MAINTENANCE FRIEND and don't want cat hair on your lap every day, I will be the PERFECT CAT for you! 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>

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SMECO Rate Increase Surprises, Shocks Customers

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Last week the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) announced it would raise service rates for electricity by about 27 percent, prompting a shock amongst customers at such a sharp rise in costs.

Two St. Mary's County members of the Board of Directors for SMECO defended the increase, saying that the rise in electricity rates was closely tied to the increase in price of oil and natural gas stocks which are burned in the production of electricity.

In a prepared statement released by SMECO last week, the cooperative made the same argument as to why the costs had to go up so abruptly.

"Higher costs for oil and natural gas, which are the fuels used by electric generating plants, have spurred increases in wholesale energy costs since last fall," explained Sonja M. Cox, SMECO president and CEO. She added, "The co-op does not make a profit on standard offer service (SOS) energy charges. We work to keep our rates as low as possible by using a portfolio approach to purchasing power, with contracts for base load and peak load, structured as long-term and short-term contracts. Because of previous rate reductions, SMECO's new adjusted rates will be similar to where they were in 2017."

Local businessman Rayner Blair a long-time SMECO board member, has long advocated for keeping rates low for cooperative customers — but agreed to move ahead with requesting the approval of the Maryland Public Services Commission for the rate increase.

"I voted for the increase because that was what we had to do," Blair told The County Times. "It's the new world we live in."

Blair said the recently completed construction of a new corpo-



SMECO board member Rayner Blair

rate SMECO building in Leonardtown was not connected to the rise in service rates.

"That has nothing to do with the prices increases," Blair said. "That's another issue."

Blair said the electrical cooperative, which is the sole provider of power to much of Southern Maryland with few exceptions, has moved in recent years to reduce its operational costs, which are separate from the cost of the energy it provides.

Such efforts include shutting down their offices in White Plains and Prince Frederick, leaving the facility in Hughesville and the new building in Leonardtown.

"We've brought people to two locations instead of four," Blair said. "We're still less [in energy costs] than others [utilities]."

SMECO's SOS rate is made up of the energy charge and the power cost adjustment (PCA).

SMECO has increased the residential winter energy charge from 6.56 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to 8.33 cents per kWh. A residential bill issued in February for 1,000 kWh will be about \$15 higher than a bill issued in January of about \$141 for 1,000 kWh, according to an estimate from SMECO.

The summer energy rate will in-



SMECO board member Gilbert Murphy

crease from 6.11 cents per kWh to 7.8 cents per kWh, SMECO said.

Gilbert Murphy, St. Mary's member of the board of directors, blamed the current federal administration's actions for the rising costs that SMECO had to pass through to its customers.

"They're trying to get rid of all coal production," Murphy said. "We're not energy independent anymore."

Differing from Blair's assessment, Murphy said he did believe that SMECO's operations costs had increased, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The pandemic had a lot to do with that," Murphy said. "But every business's costs have increased."

One such increase in costs was related to the use of SMECO service vehicles, which under pandemic regulations were prohibited from carrying more than one employee on service calls.

Under normal circumstances, at least two would travel in the same truck, Murphy said, but during the pandemic the two technicians had to use as many vehicles for the same call.

This meant SMECO had to spend more on fuel and vehicles than before.

"We were doing that in an at-



SMECO President and CEO Sonja Cox

tempt to suppress COVID," Murphy said.

A rate increase, though necessary, Murphy said, was not the preference of anyone on the SMECO board of directors.

"No one wants a rate increase," Murphy said. "There's not a single board member who voted for an increase just to have an increase."

"It's a pass through for our energy costs, it's nothing but a break-even."

Thomas Dennison, government and public affairs manager for SMECO, said that the rate increase for the electricity was separate from any distribution service costs.

SMECO said in its prepared statement that its transmission costs have increased, however, but did not divulge by how much.

Dennison said the sharp increase was preceded by several recent rate decreases, prompted by the lower fuel costs.

"What we pay [for the energy] is what we charge," Dennison said of how the cooperative operates. "We have not filed [with the Public Services Commission] for a distribution rate increase in a number of years."

St. Mary's County Commissioner Eric Colvin said many of his constituents were taken by surprise by SMECO's announcement.

"I've definitely heard from constituents about it," Colvin said. "That [the rate increase] was a little disappointing."

While SMECO and other businesses can pass on their costs for energy to customers, customers must be the last in line to bear the brunt.

"It's getting harder for everyone to pay their bills," Colvin said. "I was very surprised and had no idea this was coming."

Murphy said the cooperative would act if fuel costs decreased.

"If costs do go down, we'll reduce the rates," said Murphy.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



New SMECO office in Leonardtown



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

Navy Installs Mask on Breathing Device Trainer Improving Capability, Readiness

Story By: Lindsey Frisco,
PMA-205 Communications Specialist

The Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges program office (PMA-205) began installation of the new Mask on Breathing Device (MOBD) trainer at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md. in January.

The MOBD trainer will improve mask-on breathing distress familiarization training for tactical jet aviators. Because hypoxia is not the only serious breathing distress issue for aircrew that can lead to physiological episodes (PE), the Naval Aviation Survival Training Program (NASTP) collaborated with the Office of Naval Research and the Naval Medical Research Center to ensure the device allows aircrew to experience three breathing distress profiles to include hypoxia, hyperventilation and air hunger.

“This groundbreaking training device helps naval aviators recognize breathing distress and allowing them time to execute emergency procedures, contributing to improved survivability” said PMA-205 program manager, Capt. Lisa Sullivan.

The NASTP debuted the MOBD trainer at the Aviation Survival Training Center (ASTC) in Jacksonville, Fla., last fall. A total of 35 of these revolutionary breathing trainers will be installed in ASTCs across the country this year to help recognize and prevent PEs, naval aviation’s top safety concern.

PMA-205’s NASTP team developed the concept for the MOBD which replaces and improves upon the legacy Reduced Oxygen Breathing Device by replicating two more breathing distress symptoms beyond hypoxia.

Cmdr. Andrew Hayes, NASTP integrated product team lead, explained that the MOBD incorporates an innovative approach that produces nitrogen-rich air from the ambient environment, eliminating the logistical and financial burden of using the compressed gas cylinders that were required by the legacy system. Hayes said, “It was designed to mimic the On Board Oxygen Generation System on-demand airflow and is a significant improvement over the legacy trainer, which has long been criticized for unintentional symptoms caused by its constant airflow”.

Four MOBD devices were delivered to ASTC Jacksonville in October 2021 and five additional devices were delivered to ASTC Pensacola in December 2021. This capability will be ready for training at ASTC Patuxent

River in the first quarter of 2022 and will be available at all eight ASTCs this summer.

About the Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges program office (PMA-205)

PMA-205 provides full life-cycle acquisition of naval aviation training platforms, general training systems, training range instrumentation systems, and distributed mission training centers to provide Navy and Marine Corps pilots, naval flight officers, aircrew, and maintainers with the training equipment required to provide superior capability and operational readiness. The program office manages flight simulators, part-task trainers, maintenance trainers, airborne and underwater training range instrumentation, threat systems, and associated curricula to ensure optimum performance for naval aviation.



Navy Hospital Corpsman first class Marcus K. Billingsley provides training on the newly installed Mask on Breathing Device (MOBD) at the Aviation Survival Training Center, Pensacola, Fla. (U.S. Navy photo)

St. Mary's College Freezes Tuition

Trustees Approve New Majors

On Saturday, Feb. 5, the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College of Maryland approved a tuition freeze for a third consecutive year. The board also approved a new performing arts major and a business administration major.

Tuition and Fees

The Board of Trustees authorized, at the recommendation of the Finance, Investment and Audit Committee, that student tuition rates for academic year 2022-2023 remain equal to 2021-2022 rates. For the third consecutive year, tuition for in-state students will remain \$12,116; out-of-state tuition will remain at \$28,192; and tuition for District of Columbia residents remains at \$22,116.

The Board also authorized an increase of 2 percent for mandatory fees and room rates. For board (dining) rates the Board authorized a 4 percent increase due to inflation.

The tuition freeze began as the result of a review of recommendations from a Board of Trustees task force, formed in 2019 at the request of President Tuajuanda C. Jordan. The task force studied how the College, as a public institution that is focused on providing an all honors education, could ensure greater access to students.

"St. Mary's College recognizes the strain that increases to college expenses can have on students and families and the Board remains committed to easing that burden," said Board Chair Susan Lawrence Dyer. "While we are not able to control costs impacted by inflation such as our dining expenses, I commend President Jordan and the staff for managing the budget in a way that we are able to once again hold steady on our tuition rate while still maintaining the exceptional honors education students and families expect from St. Mary's College."

Current tuition, fees, room and board for an in-state student total \$28,993 and \$45,069 for a non-Maryland resident.

"The restructuring across the entire institution, belt tightening, and increased efficiencies have made our efforts to mitigate tuition increases possible," said President Tuajuanda C. Jordan. "Continuing our freeze strengthens our commitment to our students and opens the way for others to see this place, the National Public Honors College, as their college of choice."

Performing Arts and Business Administration

Pending Maryland Higher Education Commission approval, two new majors are slated for a fall 2022 start date, performing arts and business administration.

Faculty members from music and theater worked together over the summer to put together a proposal for the per-

forming arts major that includes a gateway course, an integrated capstone, and three concentrations (music, theater and integrated performing arts). The major replaces the former music, and theater, film & media studies majors. "We look forward to offering this new performing arts major, especially with it being unveiled along with a new performing arts building," said Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Jeffrey Byrd.

For the business administration major, the College has contracted with a search firm specializing in higher education to assist in identifying the appropriate pool of candidates for the inaugural William Seale Professor of Business. Simultaneously, planning is underway to make sure enough of the entry level business administration courses are available for students wanting to begin the major this fall. "Students have been clamoring for a business administration major and the faculty have designed one that is rooted in the liberal arts tradition and ripe for interdisciplinary connections," Byrd said.

In other business:

- The Board authorized, at the recommendation of its Campus Life Committee, a chosen name policy that allows students and employees to officially notify the College of their chosen first name. Students can submit a chosen name request form for review by the vice president of student affairs. Employees can submit a request to human resources. The chosen first name would be reflected within on-campus communication systems that do not require the use of legal names.

- The Board also approved a revised Student Trustee position description. The Student Trustee serves one year and can participate and vote in all Board meetings except in establishing or administering faculty or administrative personnel policy. The position description was developed by the Campus Life Committee to define the role, responsibilities, and benefits; provide guidance to the current Student Trustee and Student Trustee in Training; encourage qualified students to apply; and empower students who engage with the Board of Trustees in these roles to have meaningful experiences.

- The Board authorized revamping criteria for the Order of the Ark and Dove citation at the recommendation of the Trustee Governance Committee. The Order of the Ark and Dove citation was originally created in 1972 to honor those who have given distinguished service to St. Mary's College. This citation is the highest honor the College can bestow.

Press Release from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

SMCM Presents an Evening to Honor the Legacy of Lucille Clifton



Carolyn Forché



Raymond Antrobus

Nurturing the Compassionate Community: An Evening to Honor the Legacy of Lucille Clifton, Feb. 28

Nurturing the Compassionate Community: An Evening to Honor the Legacy of Lucille Clifton, featuring Carolyn Forché and Raymond Antrobus

Carolyn Forché's first volume, "Gathering the Tribes," winner of the Yale Series of Younger Poets Prize, was followed by "The Country Between Us," "The Angel of History," and "Blue Hour." Her most recent collection is "In the Lateness of the World." She is also the author of the memoir "What You Have Heard Is True" (Penguin Random House, 2019), a lyrical and visionary memoir about a young woman's brave choice to engage with horror in order to help others, which was nominated for the 2019 National Book Awards. She has translated Mahmoud Darwish, Claribel Alegria, and Robert Desnos. Her famed international anthology, "Against Forgetting," has been praised by Nelson Mandela as "itself a blow against tyranny, against prejudice, against injustice." In 1998 in Stockholm, she received the Edita and Ira Morris

Hiroshima Foundation for Peace and Culture Award for her human rights advocacy and the preservation of memory and culture.

Raymond Antrobus is the author, most recently, of "All the Names Given" (Tin House, 2021), which was shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize and The Costa Poetry Award. His debut collection, "The Perseverance" (Tin House, 2021), won the Ted Hughes Award, the Rathbones Folio Prize, and the Somerset Maugham Award, and was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize, among others. Born in London, Raymond is currently based between London and New Orleans.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Feb 28, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://smcm.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pWjmFnEdSZi-0A5YG7H6-lw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Press Release from St. Mary's College of Maryland

Can't Find Us On The News Stand?

Find Us Online @

www.countytimes.net

For Daily News Updates On COVID-19 In St. Mary's And Calvert Counties Go To:

facebook.com/CountyTimesCalvert
facebook.com/CountyTimesStMarys



FINANCIAL FOCUS

Watch For Changes in RMDs

If you're a certain age, you'll need to withdraw money from some of your retirement accounts each year. But in 2022, the amount you must take out may be changing more than in other years – and that could affect your retirement income strategy.

Here's some background: Once you turn 72, you generally must start taking withdrawals, called required minimum distributions, or RMDs, from some of your retirement accounts, such as your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan. Each year, your RMDs are determined by your age and account balances. This year, the life expectancy tables used by the IRS are being updated to reflect longer lifespans. This may result in lower annual RMDs than you'd have to take if this adjustment hadn't been made.

If you've started taking RMDs, what does this change mean to you? It can be a positive development, for a few reasons:

- Potentially lower taxes – Your RMDs are generally taxable at your personal income tax rate, so the lower your RMDs, the lower your tax bill might be.
- Possibly longer “lifespan” for retirement accounts – Because your RMDs will be lower, the accounts from which they're issued – including your traditional IRA and 401(k) – may be able to last longer without becoming depleted. The longer these accounts can stay intact and remain an asset, the better for you.
- More flexibility in planning for retirement income – The word “required” in the phrase “required minimum distributions” means exactly what it sounds like – you must take at

least that amount. If you withdraw less than your RMD, the amount not withdrawn will be taxed at 50%. So, in one sense, your RMDs take away some of your freedom in managing your retirement income. But now, with the lower RMDs in place, you may regain some of this flexibility. (And keep in mind that you're always free to withdraw more than the RMDs.)

Of course, if you don't really need all the money from RMDs, even the lower amount may be an issue for you – as mentioned above, RMDs are generally taxable. However, if you're 70½ or older, you can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from a traditional IRA directly to a qualified charitable organization, and some, or perhaps all, of this money may come from your RMDs. By making this move, you can exclude the RMDs from your taxable income. Before taking this action, though, you'll want to consult with your tax advisor.

Here are a couple of final points to keep in mind. First, not all your retirement accounts are subject to RMDs – you can generally keep your Roth IRA intact for as long as you want. However, your Roth 401(k) is generally subject to RMDs. If you're still working past 72, though, you may be able to avoid taking RMDs from your current employer's 401(k) or similar plan, though you'll still have to take them from your traditional IRA.

Changes to the RMD rules don't happen too often. By being aware of how these new, lower RMDs can benefit you, and becoming familiar with all aspects of RMDs, you may be able to strengthen your overall retirement income situation.

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

Former State Senator Receives CSM Award

CSM Board of Trustees Chair Jay Webster joined the cast of CSM leadership to congratulate winter commencement graduates on behalf of the entire board.

“All of us at CSM are so proud of you for accomplishments and the hard work it took for you to get here,” Webster said. “You have grown in your career and in your professional goals, and more importantly you've grown personally in ways none of us could have ever predicted. For many of you, your academic journey at CSM started, and is now ending, during a global pandemic. When you stop to think about how astonishing that is, you then realize how much more amazing your accomplishments are today.”

Webster also took the opportunity to share with the graduates and viewers the Board of Trustees' choice for its Distinguished Service Award.

“In my role as Board of Trustee Chair, I have the honor of seeing CSM from many different perspectives,” he said. “By far the best view is watching our students work extraordinarily hard and succeed. But I also get to see many people behind the scenes, on the sidelines, and in our cheering sections who work hard for our students and our institution to help ensure our high level of excellence. I am here today to talk about one of them and recognize them for their ongoing commitment to CSM and that person is former Charles County Commissioner and Maryland State Senator James C. “Jim” Simpson.”

As a friend of CSM for many years, the Simpson and his late wife Barbara moved to Charles County in 1958 with their three children, James III, Gary and Carol (both Gary and Carol attended CSM when it was called Charles County Community College). Together, they ran Simpson Distributing Company until they sold the business in 1986.

“Their first gift to our college was in 1996 in support of the Center for Business and Industry Building and the family has never waned in their support over the years,” Webster said. “I can't wait until the time comes that we can do this in person, but for now know that it is my absolute honor to represent the Board of Trustees and the entire CSM community in virtually awarding you the CSM's 2021 Trustees Distinguished Service Award. You and your entire family's ongoing generosity and investment in CSM impacts



CSM Board of Trustees Chair Jay Webster

many lives, many families and the prosperity of our region. We are grateful.”

When contact at his home in Florida, Simpson said he was “humbled and honored” to be chosen as the recipient of the Board of Trustees Distinguished Service Award.

“My interaction with than the Charles County Community College started many years ago when I was president of the Charles County Commissioners and Jay Carsey was the college president and John Sine was a dean at the college,” Simpson wrote in an email response. “Their plan was to build and expand facilities with more programs while providing excellent, affordable education with diversity and equity in the forefront of their minds. And so it began. I recall one of the earliest programs at the college was nursing and if completed the students were guaranteed a position at the hospital in La Plata.”

Overtime, Simpson wrote, “all three counties of Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's came together and to create the College of Southern Maryland,” which he noted as “a truly great accomplishment.”

“And the winners have always been everyone who wants to further their education,” Simpson shared. “Now under the current leadership of CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy and the CSM Board of Trustees the original plan and goals continue to grow with new facilities and programs while still providing excellent, affordable and inclusive education for all.”

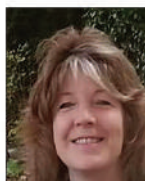
Press Release from CSM

Wanderings

of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann

FINDING SPACE



Oh, my goodness, my mind is frying from trying to separate years of photographs into “like” piles, as one decluttering expert from one of the many decluttering Facebook groups I’m in calls it. Even my decluttering groups are clutter for me now. I can’t remember which one suggested what was the best way to do the like piles now. One administrator commented back under one of my posts that the way I have been keeping my sweaters and turtle-necks in space bags is the worst idea ever and no one does that anymore. I meekly wrote back that it has been working for me for years, and added that it’s only two space bags, and everything comes out just as nice and fresh each year as when I put them in. Both bags fit perfectly on the top shelf of my closet here in the office (because I already told you all that my husband commandeered the bedroom closet years ago). I just think there are nicer ways to comment back to people. We are on these organizing sites because we want helpful, nice tips, not to feel like we are incompetent, out of style, out of date, and disorganized failures. We don’t want to hear that even if it is true. I know where everything is in my house, I can’t help it if somehow things move all on their own.

Right now, my “like” photo piles are sitting on the edges of things in the extra room (because that is the only space for them at present). The extra room was once a bedroom for kids but long ago turned into my craft, art, & book storage, and dressing room among other things. So, every time I go in there to change clothes or get to my pretty little antique desk my big block hips knock a pile down. The photos sitting on the edges of my small dresser and desk are in piles I have ready to send (dump) on other family members. I am really not sure if my cousin Jaqueline who wrote the definitive Coffey Family genealogy book will want the photos of our ancestors gravestones I took in Kentucky in 1985, but I feel like it is a “Send first, ask forgiveness later” kind of thing. I already sent a large envelope to one cousin here in Maryland of anything related to his dad (my mother’s late brother, Sonny) and him last month. And I am getting together photos, and any mementos from my grandmother, and any of our family recipes for my cousin in Las Vegas who has requested them sort of as his dying wish. He has asbestosis from being a welder onboard ship during The Vietnam

War. He never smoked, never drank, never did drugs, and he is the oldest, yet last, of four brothers still alive. His mother was my mother’s late sister, Honey. This has to be my first priority above all else. And yes, the three siblings were called Sonny, Sister, and Honey.

The photo separation process is kind of a problem because they want you to find a flat surface in your house with nothing else on it that you don’t have to worry about it being disturbed for a few weeks. Can you hear me laughing out loud right now? The dining room table usually has a huge gathering style basket on it full of breads, crackers, and snacks. I have my “action” files there on the end, and usually have a painting/fixing/craft project on it at different (most) times of the year. The only time we eat at the dining room table is when company is coming over. The office has no big flat surfaces, well I could clear off the desk with hutch I’ve had from my 5th birthday in 1966, but it has books lined up across the back, an acrylic shelf file for our pool business current files, and there is a pile of cords that I need to find out what they attach to (mental note to order those writable tabs for each cord, and then remember to put the tabs on each new cord that comes in with an electronic device). And there is also a computer mouse that needs to go back to Best Buy from a couple months ago.

Okay, so what surfaces are left? The outside workshop flat file table always has something on it, and the matching workshop table right inside the basement door has become a catchall for all sort of things that get brought in. That leaves only the guest room bed, but I guarantee as soon as I get the piles sorted, someone will visit. I am already worn out from thinking about this, and I feel like a nap would better serve me right now than problems that make my head hurt. Or I could do like everyone else, like my grandmother did to my mother, and my mother did to me – leave it for the next generation to deal with. But, I really want to get all the photos sorted, scanned and in some sort of acid-free protection before I hit the big H someday. I should clarify that I mean the H that is skyward...I hope. I knew I should have been better in the ‘70s!

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



The Way We Were...

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

The Legend of Moll Dyer

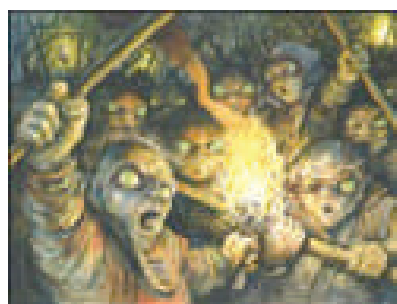
Part 2

THE LEGEND

In the last installment, we saw that documents reveal when and where Moll (or Mary) Dyer was born and trace her journey from England to St Kitts then in 1677 to Maryland and St Mary’s County. That there are no records of her life in the County or of the events that created her legend leads many people to conclude that she and her legend are myth.

While that might be the case, it is just as reasonable to conclude that the Moll Dyer Legend is based on fact. History is often transmitted orally between generations with varying degrees of accuracy, to be sure. And while stories can be embellished or distorted, at the center they tell of real people and real happenings.

Records show that the winter of 1697/98 was unusually cold and accompanied by a severe epidemic, most likely influenza. Sickness and death spread through Southern Maryland. Legend has that late one night in February, 1698, a group of ten men living nearby came with torches and pitchforks, confronting Moll Dyer and accusing her witchcraft and the cause of the cold and disease. They descended on her small hut, set it aflame, and chased her into the woods where she was later found dead, laying across a rock with a print of her right hand clearly etched into the surface. She would have been about sixty-four years old.



Let’s look deeper at this.

Moll Dyer was known to have acquired knowledge of herbs, poultices, and, very possibly, spells and incantations while she was in the Caribbean. As an indentured servant, it was quite

possible that she offered some of these techniques to help others (the record is unclear whether or not she was married or had any children). Folk remedies and the like were common, particularly among those without access to accepted medical care. Life then was, after all, very hard.

It’s quite easy to imagine Moll Dyer offering to help one or more villagers with teas or poultices to combat the raging flu epidemic. Of course, we know today that it takes more than spices and creams to combat disease. It is quite likely that if Moll had been called on by one or more villagers, her remedies failed and someone died – possibly a child.

The Legend of Moll Dyer may have started just that way. A well-intentioned but ultimately ineffective effort to comfort or heal. A parent – or parents – stricken by grief, suffering from cold and a disease they couldn’t understand, could well have seen Moll Dyer as the cause of death. At best, she was a misguided old spinster who didn’t save their loved one. At worst, she was a witch who diabolically and intentionally brought about pestilence and death.

If villagers were angered by her rash promises of a cure, particularly on more than one occasion, then chasing her and burning her house become plausible. She wasn’t hunted, hanged, or burned at the stake so it’s possible that she wasn’t viewed as being a witch.

Oh yes, the rock and its handprint. You’ll find them next time in Part 3.

Part 3: The Rock

The Historical Society, Town of Leonardtown, the County, and local businesses will hold a town-wide Moll Dyer Day celebration February 26th. Scan this QR with your cell phone for more information.



St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 1658
 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 1050
 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 3101
 Visit www.stmarysmd.com/aging for the most up-to date information

Department of Aging & Human Services Seeking Team Members

Do you want to work with an amazing team supporting the St. Mary's County community? Consider joining the Department of Aging & Human Services!

Open positions include:

- Caseworker
- Fiscal Specialist
- Fitness Instructor
- Food Transporter
- Program Coordinator - Home-Delivered Meals
- Program Coordinator - Home and Community-Based Services

For more information, or to apply, visit www.stmarysmd.com/hro/vacancies/.

Volunteer Instructors Needed

The Loffler Senior Activity Center is looking for volunteers to Share What You Know.

Do you have a skill, some knowledge, a craft or anything that would appeal to people who like to try new things? Guest instructors and presenters are highly prized at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. If you care to share, we want to hear from you! Contact Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1655.

Black History Month – Thursday Film Series

Are you interested in learning more about black history? Join us in the Social Room at the Northern Senior Activity Center for our free Thursday Film Series, February 10, 17, and 24, from 12-2 p.m. The first film, HBO's King in the Wilderness (1hr 51min), will be shown February 10 and chronicles the final 18 months of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life. Netflix's 13th

(1hr 40min), will be shown February 17 and is an examination of the U.S. prison system and looks at how racial inequality drives the high rate of incarceration in America. Lilies of the Field (1hr 34min) will be shown February 24 in honor of the late Sidney Poitier. This film is noted for Sidney Poitier's historic Academy Award win when he became the first African American to win an Oscar for best actor. Space is limited for each showing. To request a reservation, please leave a message on the reservation request line at 301-475-4200, ext. 3115, and your call will be returned.

Nutrition Presentation:

Donna Taggert will discuss Eating for Heart Health at the Loffler Senior Activity Center on Valentine's Day (Feb. 14) at 10 a.m. Registration is required- please sign up by leaving a message on our reservation line: 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. ADDITIONALLY- Donna will be offering free personal nutritional counseling at 11 a.m. on that day if you make an appointment with her by text message or calling 240-538-6539.

Taking Care of Your Mental Health:

Trust/Relationships

As we age life's events can often become overwhelming. During this time, it is even more important to take care of your mental wellness. We have collaborated with Hope & Healing Psychotherapy, LLC to bring you a Mental Health Series at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. Each month we will hear a presentation on a new topic. On February 15 at 12:30 p.m. the topic will be Trust/Relationships. Advance sign up is required. A donation of \$5 per per-

son is requested. Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075, to register.

Guest Author to Discuss Book

Loffler Senior Activity Center is happy to again welcome author Carole McCabe Booker on Friday, February 25, at 10 a.m. to discuss her latest book Cove Point on the Chesapeake: The Beacon, the Bay, and the Dream. In this narrative, Mrs. Booker tells the story of how nature and human desire define a singular place along storied waters. In its pages are tales of exploration and heroism, sports and tragedies, heroes and scoundrels as well as the families who populated this tiny waterfront community, once known mainly for shipwrecks and treacherous riptides, that became a World War II training ground, the locale for hunting buried treasure, and later a cog in the global energy trade with a natural gas plant. To sign up for this talk leave a message on our reservation line 301-475-4200, ext. 1660.

Nutrition Education: Heart Health

Do you want to learn more about nutritional health? Join us for Nutrition Education with Donna Taggert on Monday, February 28, at 12 p.m. Donna is a Certified Diabetes Educator and Registered Dietician. This month's class will cover heart health. We encourage you to sign-up for a meal this day as well. The class will be held in the dining room immediately following lunch. To request a reservation, please leave a message on the reservation request line at 301-475-4200, ext. 3115, and your call will be returned.

Loffler Book Club News

Curl up with the book The Time Traveler's Wife by Audrey Niffeneg-

ger during the month of February so that you can discuss on March 4 at 2 p.m. at the Loffler Senior Activity Center - A funny, often poignant tale of boy meets girl with a twist: what if one of them couldn't stop slipping in and out of time? Discussion will be led by Kim Crow. If you would like to be on the notification list for this book club or would like more information, contact Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com.

Lengthen & Strengthen

Lengthen and strengthen those muscles on Wednesdays through March 9 at 12:30 p.m. at the Garvey Senior Activity Center. The one-hour class will focus on toning all the major muscle groups while simultaneously stretching and lengthening the muscles. This method of training allows for deeper movements while building strength and stability. It's appropriate for all fitness levels. Cost is \$3.50 per class. To learn more, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1075.

Looking for Bridge & Double Pinochle Players!

The Northern Senior Activity Center needs more card players! Bridge is held on Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and is looking for experienced bridge players for their party bridge program. Double Pinochle is held on Tuesdays & Fridays from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and looking for experienced pinochle players, or those familiar with the game. Both groups meet in the Game Room on their respective days. For more information, call Keilan Ruppert, Program Specialist at 301-475-4200, ext. 3103.

Southern Maryland

Online

Stop by & see what Southern Maryland Online has to offer! Stay abreast of community happenings, speak your mind, & make new friends in the forums, or buy & sell in the most popular classified market in the area.

Your Online Community for Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties

www.somd.com

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 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 significant 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.

Queen of Hearts LVRSA Fundraiser

Action Lounge and Billiards
25470 Point Lookout Road
Leonardtwn
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. 11

Community Day at St. Clement's Island Museum

St. Clement's Island Museum
38370 Point Breeze Rd.
Coltons Point
10a.m to 4p.m.

Have you ever wanted to contribute to an exhibit at a museum? St. Clement's Island Museum is seeking historic documents, photos and other significant objects

related to St. Clement's Island and the Colton's Point area from the 20th century and earlier.

We will scan photos and documents, leaving you with the originals, and we can photograph objects and people for potential new exhibits. Set up a convenient appointment by calling the museum at 301-769-2222.

Don't have anything to contribute? You can also donate funds dedicated to new exhibits: bit.ly/DonateSMCMuseums

This event encourages the public to share items and information that will help the St. Mary's County Museum Division expand the interpretation, exhibits and story of its historic sites.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Virtual Bake Auction-Feb.12th to 13th-2nd Dist. VFD&RS Aux

Virtual Event—Winners Pick-up
Location—Co. 6/2nd Dist
VFD&RS
45245 Drayden Rd.
Valley Lee
4p.m.

Delicious Homemade Desserts & "A Superbowl Cooler Full of Goodies" to bid on!

Just in time for the Super Bowl & your Valentine!

Fundraiser sponsored by the 2nd District VFD & RS Auxiliary

After all pictures of baked goods have been posted on the "SDVFD-RS Auxiliary Facebook Page", the virtual viewing and bidding will begin online.

Go to: SDVFD-RS Auxiliary Facebook Page to View and Bid
(Aux. Facebook url: www.facebook.com/pg/SDVFD-RS-Auxiliary-260355781452833/posts/)

WINNERS will be posted online, Sunday, February 13th, after 4:00 p.m.

ALL WINNERS pick-up their items on Sunday, February 13th, between 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

At the 2nd District Volunteer Fire Dept. & Rescue Squad

Cash or check accepted (Make checks payable to 2nd Dist. VFD & RS Aux.)

For more info contact: Robin at 240-577-0270

Sunday, Feb. 13

Farmers Market AEROPARK-St. Mary's County

Regional Airport
44200 Airport Rd
California, Md
9a.m. to 1p.m.

Fly in-Drive-in Walk-in!! Oysters, Local Meats, Honey, Baked Goods, Eggs, Seasonal Produce, Local Hard Cider, Local Bourbon, Breads, Pickles, Goat Milk Soap, Aged Oils & Vinegars, Sheep Cheese, Local Beer, Spices, Local Chocolate.

Sponsored by Historic Sotterley

Monday, Feb. 14

Red-Cross Blood Drive

2nd District Firehouse
45245 Drayden Road
Valley Lee
1:30p.m. to 6p.m.

A blood drive will be held from 1:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the 2nd District Firehouse, 45245 Drayden Road, Valley Lee. For more information / schedule your life saving donation / visit redcrossblood.org to download the blood donor app. ****

Social Distancing—Mask required

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Letters to the Editor

Thanks, from Shop With A Cop

To the Editor:

Shop With A Cop, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. It was chartered to assist children whose families are having economic hardships. Each child is teamed up with a police officer for the day with the intent of providing a positive experience dealing with members of law enforcement while having a memorable shopping experience before Christmas and before their return to school in the fall.

We would like to once again thank all of the police officers, Optimist Clubs and community members who support this youth program. The 100 plus children who were able to participate in this past year of 2021 and the community are very appreciative.

Also, a very special thanks to the many anonymous cash contributors and the below listed businesses and patrons for their contributions. This community generosity has allowed the Shop With A Cop program to continue through 18 years of operation.

Walmart California MD, Mission BBQ of California MD, Chic-Fil-A California MD, American Charities, Republican Women of St. Mary's, George & Barbara Brstilo, David & Luann Smouse, David & Nicole Herrington, John & Ann Richards, Vincent & Patricia Roche, Virginia O. Woods Trust, Ripple Brothers Construction, Guy Distributing Co, Inc., J.F Taylor, Inc., Mary Ann & Raymond Thompson, AV3, Inc., Christine & Charles Kohls, Rita B. Catering, Inc., Loyal Order of Moose Mechanicsville Lodge 495, The Optimist Club of St. Maries, Quality Built Homes, Inc., American Legion Auxilary Ridge Unit 255, Patricia Hayden, Vincent Enterprises LTD, John & Linda Wharton, Jeffrey & Gloria Turbyne, Kathleen Harsh, St. Mary's Knights of Columbus #1470, Optimist Club of Seventh District, St. Mary's County Fair Board, Scott & Mary Ruble, Terry & Lynn Briggs, James & Myrtle McWilliams, Hancock Refrigeration Co, Inc., Cornelius & Clarissa Stripling, Frank Dawson, Cynthia Vakoutis, Frances Titus, First Saints Community St. Paul's United Methodist Women, ACE Group Foundation, Inc., Marlo & Ronald McGee, Ann Ellis, Emma & Rich Rulz, Bill Mattingly, Thomas & Kathy Gill, Blue Knight Motorcycle Club MD IV, Charles & Patricia Hayden, Jeffrey & Colleen Allan, Silent Angel Memorial of St. Mary's County and SMECO.

Donations are greatly appreciated and can be made to Shop With A Cop, Inc., P.O. Box 2336, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

*Lorraine (Bunny) Brewer, Chaptico, Maryland
(The writer is the treasurer of Shop With A Cop, Inc.)*



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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Another Side of Glenn Youngkin

To the Editor:

I applaud Marilyn Crosby for practicing citizen participation by writing her letter of February 2, 2022. In it, she praises Glenn Youngkin, the new governor of Virginia, as an exemplar of "leadership and service." To the contrary, I would describe him as a sleight-of-hand man who hid his real self from Commonwealth's voters.

One might say that he is actually a master of trickery and deception. Why do I depict him as such? First, Ms. Crosby mentions his so-called "worthwhile" education goals, particularly his pledge to do away with Critical Race Theory (CRT) in the public schools. No matter how much educators tried to bring out the truth before the citizenry--that is, that the public schools don't have such programs--those who supported Youngkin paid little or no attention. Most had not the slightest idea what CRT meant. But the more they heard that cloudy term, they got angrier and taunted teachers and administrators even more.

It was not a proud time in the arena of "democratic dialogue." That conflict was hard to bear for dedicated educators who have also been continually attacked during Covid for vaccine protocols in public schools. More on that topic later. Now, Youngkin may be deceitful, but he is no dumb man. He has to realize that there have been countless corrosive fractures, especially racial issues, throughout U.S. history. But he seeks to hide those gaping stains in our culture, as if America has been somehow pristine and free of prejudice, slavery, segregation, violence (e.g., Civil War, lynching, etc.), red lining and ghetto housing, legal barriers, gross inequities (e.g., economic, educational, social, and political), and the like. Unless he has been living in an isolated cave (of course, as a rich mogul, he has not), Glenn knows that the American nation, the world's wealthiest, has had enormous problems throughout its history--especially in terms of living up to its ideals. We have always been a work in process--one that has experienced the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Youngkin and his family are among the most fortunate Americans. His children went to the National Cathedral School and St. Alban's School--two of the most elite private schools in the country. While there, they were enriched by a very progressive anti-racism curriculum, including readings and discussion on systemic racism. The National Cathedral School's DEI (Diversity, equity and Inclusion) program afforded "critical connections around topics of race, anti-racism, social justice, and inclusion." St. Alban's School offered a similar program. Naturally, Youngkin did not want to mention the above during his campaign. Nor did he bring up the fact that he was a governing board member at National Cathedral School from 2016 through 2019. Yet now Glenn seeks to use his state power to disadvantage Virginia public school students; he does not want them to enjoy the critically reflective pedagogy that his own children enjoyed.

As I write, the governor (only a few weeks into his term) has established a tip line email site which encourages anyone to report on schools and teachers who are so bold as to instruct students in the real history of America, thereby hiding its tragedies yet embracing its ideals (the latter still abundantly unfinished). The specter of book burning perhaps looms among the debris in Virginia and other states. At this same time, the ACLU and numerous school districts are suing Youngkin for his anti-mask policy in order to protect, in particular, children with disabilities. No, Ms. Crosby, Glenn Youngkin is no Superman working to save public education. He seems to be more a charlatan in disguise who could care less about children, schools, or the larger society.

I hope our country can be saved; but I am not overly optimistic, given the crude course it has taken in recent times--one which has been akin to a modern dark age.

*Joseph L. DeVitis
Leonardtown, MD*

(The author is a retired professor of education who taught at Old Dominion University in Virginia.)

Carleen Cecelia Insley



Carleen Cecelia Insley passed away on January 27th at Chesapeake Nursing Home.

She was born on July 1, 1930.

She was the first of six children to Carl Dehield Insley and Agnes Cecelia (Cindy) Insley of Hollywood MD.

Carleen had many friends in her lifetime. Some worked with her at Sparling Kings, The Hub, Highs, and Rite Aid. Others would see her at the Post Office in Leonardtown or grocery store. The luncheon girls group she joined got together every month at different places.

Teddy Wathen was the love of her life whom she dated for sixty-two years. They enjoyed country music arenas, the Leonardtown carnivals, and firehouse events.

Carleen loved talking about the past. The good old days when you were judged by your character, respect, and good old common sense. It was just another era she would say. It would never return and she had lived through the best of it.

She was full of spunk and no one changed her mind when it was made up. Her favorite saying was, "I'm still here."

Carleen had two deceased brothers, Carl Deshield Insley, Jr. (Jack) and John Lowell Insley (Buddy) and three living siblings, Joseph Walton Insley of Florida, Agnes Delores Green of Hollywood, and John Edward Insley of Delaware.

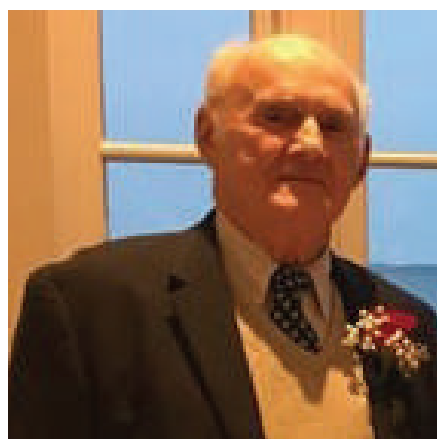
Her family and her friends will miss her dearly.

Carleen's burial arrangements were private through Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home.

Thanks go to all those angels who attended to her at Chesapeake Nursing Home.

Lawrence Edwin "Larry" Mills

Lawrence Edwin "Larry" Mills, Jr., 84, of Leonardtown, MD, passed away on February 2, 2022 at his home. Born on January 9, 1938 in Morganfield, KY, he was the son of the late Catharine Greenwell and the late Lawrence Edwin Mills. Larry was the loving husband of the late Gloria "Teresa" Mills, whom he married on March 5, 1960 in Avenue, MD, and who preceded him in death on May 6, 2010. He is sur-



vived by his children Jeffrey Mills (Judy) of Waldorf, MD and Bonnie Tountasakis (Rick) of Queenstown, MD, his siblings Donald Mills of KY and Margaret Ann Mills of AZ, along with his grandchildren Mitchell Mills and Katelyn Tountasakis Micken. Larry was preceded in death by his brother, Jerome Mills.

Larry served in the United States Navy for four years, before being honorably discharged in 1960. During this time, he served on the U.S.S. Saratoga on multiple deployments. Larry worked for 36 years as a Chief Executive Officer for several companies before retiring in 1993. Upon retirement he moved from P.G. County, MD to St. Mary's County, MD. He enjoyed golfing.

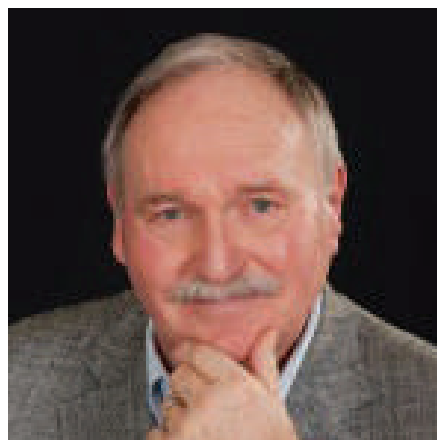
The family will receive friends on Friday, February 11, 2022 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Compton, MD, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30 AM with Rev. Ryan Islo Pineda officiating. Interment will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Bushwood, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Mitchell Mills, Glenn Thompson, Jimmy Quade, Katelyn Micken, Bobby Thompson, and Jay Thompson.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society at donate3.cancer.org.

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

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

Gunther "Bear" Jaster



Gunther "Bear" Jaster, age 75, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, January 30, 2022 in Lexington Park, Maryland. He

was born on December 07, 1946, in Germany, to the late Herman and Else Jaster of Swartz Creek, Michigan. Gunther leaves behind his loving and devoted wife of 46 years, Monica Jaster. Gunther is survived by his 3 children, daughter Rachelle and husband Matthew Osborne of Leonardtown, Maryland, son Scott and wife Amanda Jaster of Lexington Park, Maryland, daughter Stacy Jaster of Lexington Park, Maryland; 14 grandchildren, Cameron, Carliegh, Lauryn, Lainey, Addilynn, Aiden, Ryland, Ronan and Malachi Osborne; Logan and Landon Jaster; and Caleb, Monika, and Robbi Hay; siblings, sister Magdalena Heinze and brother Siegfried Jaster; and a multitude of in-laws, nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, and brother Helmut Jaster.

Gunther attended Dobbins High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Proud of his service to country, Gunther honorably served his country for 24 combined years in the Air Force and Navy until his retirement in 1994. He was a Vietnam Veteran as well as the recipient of the Navy Core Values Award. Following his military service, Gunther continued his service to the military community in various roles in the Naval Air Station Patuxent River community, including 16 years as a vital part of the NAS Patuxent River St. Nicolas Protestant Chapel. He enjoyed

life and devoted himself to making memories with his wife, children and grandchildren at every opportunity. He was a beloved Sunday School Teacher, Youth Group Leader, and Church Choir member who loved his Lord and Savior and wanted to share God's Love and Salvation with all. He enjoyed the outdoors and loved sailing on his boat, as well as anything that involved nature. He lived by the mantra of "God, Family and Country" and created a lasting legacy of impact in each of these areas that will never be forgotten.

With his passing, Gunther would want people to rejoice in the knowledge that while he is no longer here with us on earth, he is alive with his Lord and Savior, made whole and rejoicing... "not goodbye, but see you later" (with a wave). The most important thing to him was his relationship with Christ and making sure everyone knew about eternity and where they would spend it. His favorite saying was: "...only one life, it will soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last".

The family will receive friends on Friday, February 11, 2022, from 1:00pm - 2:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 46707 S Shangri-La Drive, Lexington Park, MD 20653 with a Celebration of Life Service immediately following. Internment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Live stream of the Celebration of Life Service will be



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offered and can be viewed at: <https://trinitylutheranlp.org/livestream>

Contributions can be made to the Gunther "Bear" Jaster Memorial Fund at: https://www.gofundme.com/f/gunther-bear-jaster-memorial-fund?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1.

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.

Hugh "Hughie" Howard Heiss



Hugh "Hughie" Howard Heiss, Jr., 61, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away on January 26, 2022 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

Hughie was born on December 31, 1960 to Hugh Howard Heiss, Sr. and Louise V. Heiss "Stephens" in Washington DC. After he received his diploma, he went on to study Computer Electronics at TESST College of Technology.

After graduating from his college classes, he landed his first job as a Electronics Technician for Computerland, kicking off his career in electronics.

In 1987, he met Kim, and they wed in 1990, going on to have three (3) wonderful children, Hugh III, Amanda, and Hunter.

Hughie was a passionate sports fan. He loved playing pool with the local pool leagues and horseshoes. When he wasn't doing that, you could find him in the living room cheering on each and every Washington Sports Team. Whether they had a great record or not. He also enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. We will miss him greatly.

He is survived by his wife Kim Heiss of Mechanicsville, MD; his mother Louise V. Heiss of Mechanicsville, MD; his sons Hugh Howard Heiss, III and his significant other Taylor Trawick, of Fredericksburg, TX and Harrison Hunter Heiss and his significant other Alyssa Williams of Mechanicsville, MD; his daughter Amanda Mercedes Heiss and significant other Ashton Brown of Mechanicsville, MD; his brother Chuck Heiss and his wife Chrissy Heiss of Huntley, IL; his sisters Sammy Diehl and her husband Steve Diehl of Me-

chanicsville, MD, Jane Canter of Mechanicsville, MD, Barbara Pappas and her husband Drew Pappas of Annapolis, MD and Lori Garner and her husband Jerry Garner of White Plains, MD; his grandchild Logan Christopher Bunnell and several beloved nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his father Hugh Howard Heiss, Sr.

The family will be accepting friends for his Life Celebration Memorial Gathering on Saturday, February 26, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A. at 30195 Three Notch Rd, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 with his Funeral Service will be at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be private.

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

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

Shannon Christine Thomas



Shannon Christine Thomas was a loving daughter, mother, sister, and friend. She passed pain free and in peace on January 26, 2022 at the age of 52 with her family by her side.

Shannon was born on May 14, 1969 in San Diego, California, to parents Alfred and Claudia. She grew up on St. George's Island in St. Mary's County and graduated from Leonardtown High School. Her first job was as a cashier at Wendy's. Shannon worked very hard and stayed dedicated to better her life. She obtained her Associates Degree. Shannon became a DoD contractor and worked as a Senior Systems Analyst leading up to her passing.

She was a dedicated mother first and foremost. She cherished her time with her son. She enjoyed game nights with her family. She loved spending time with her grandpups, Rosie and Tuckey. She had a bubbly personality that would light up every room. Shannon loved pushing her Mustang, Roxy, down the road rocking out to music. She joined a Drag-on Boat team in Charleston, SC, full of cancer survivors that inspired her to keep fighting. While in Charleston, she also became a spin instructor. Shannon focused on health and exercise. She enjoyed the beach and anything nature related. She was full

of knowledge and researched everything. Shannon kicked cancers ass for 4 years.

She is survived by her son and his wife, Justin and Eli Caulder; mother, Claudia Andersen; step-father, Bruce Andersen; and brother, Shawn Andersen. She was preceded in death by her father, Alfred Thomas and her brother, Billy Andersen.

Family will receive friends on Friday, February 18, 2022 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22945 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Memorial Service will be celebrated by Reverend Joe Orlando at 6:00 p.m. and will be live streamed beginning at 6:00 p.m. via the funeral home website at Broadcasts for Brinsfield Funeral Home - Leonardtown, MD (boxcast.tv).

Donations may be sent to Justin Caulder. Please reach out to Justin or Eli for their address. Flowers can be sent to Brinsfield Funeral Home. The family would like the Memorial Service bright and beautiful like Shannon.

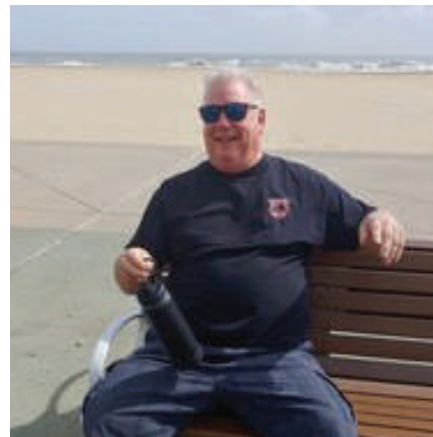
In memory of Shannon, memorial contributions may be to: Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650 and The Colon Cancer Foundation, 10 Midland Avenue, Suite M-06, Port Chester, NY 10573, it would truly be appreciated.

Shannon's Celebration of Life will be planned closer to her birthday. Details will be given closer to May.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Richard Wayne "Rick" Jackson



Richard Wayne "Rick" Jackson, 64, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD with this loving wife by his side. He was born on August 21, 1957 in Takoma Park, MD to the Harold Jackson and the late, Sandra (DeShazo) Jackson. He spent many years of his youth living in the State of California and always spoke about his fond memories of his childhood.

After high school, Rick enlisted in the United States Army and was honorably discharged. He met his

forever love later in his life, Deborah M. Gray and they have been married for over six (6) years.

Rick was a great man who loved his family and found his greatest joy in spending time with them. He was thoughtful, caring and had the very best sense of humor. A jack-of-all trades, Rick was knowledgeable about many things and loved to share his experience with others. He was the man you called when you need a helping hand.

He was a proud business owner and found great joy in keeping busy every day. He had a passion for cars and loved riding his motorcycle in his younger years. He was a racing enthusiast and even raced in several states, but mostly at Potomac Speedway. He was musically inclined and could play the guitar and drums. He enjoyed music and always had it playing in the background. You never knew what he would be playing and everyone always enjoyed his musical choices.

Rick is survived by his beloved wife, Deborah M. Gray of Mechanicsville, MD; father, Harold Jackson; siblings, Dale Jackson (Becky), John Jackson, Joe Jackson, Billiejo Jackson and Lorrie Jackson; six nieces, one nephew, four-great-nephews. He is also survived by his step-daughter, step-son and four step-grandchildren; and many extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his mother, Sandra Jackson and brother, Ronnie Jackson.

At this time all services will be private due to the continue Covid-19 pandemic.

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

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

Garry Kelvin Wright



Garry Kelvin Wright, 59, of Great Mills, Maryland passed away unexpectedly at home on January 31, 2022.

Garry was born February 14, 1962 to the late Johnny Elmo Wright and Mary Alice McDougald (Miles). Born in Hartford, CT and raised in surrounding areas, Garry, affectionately known as "G", will be remembered most for his deep melodic voice, his infectious laugh and his love of family.

Garry belonged to the Wind-

sor High School class of 1980 and shortly after high school, joined the United States Air National Guard as an HVAC technician. For the past 15 years, he was employed by the State of Maryland Department of Environment as a Waterworks and Waste System Operator and was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Garry loved sports growing up, and was a well-known bowler in the Hartford community. He was one of the original youth bowlers of the Insurance City Senate of Hartford that began in 1976. He maintained TNBA membership until he passed away, and he is a current member of the Greater Washington Bowling Senate. His love of sports was also represented in his staunch support of the Dallas Cowboys and the Philadelphia 76ers.

Along with his beautiful mother, left to mourn his passing and cherish his memory are his wife Nicole Wright (Glover), and children Ayan-na, Quincy, Jalin, Desiree, David, Domonique, Christina, Jessica, and Breyana. He is also survived by his sisters Dearra Milner (Wright), and Arnetta McDougald, as well as a host of grandchildren, a goddaughter, a niece, nephews and cousins. Garry is predeceased by his father, Johnny and special Uncle Alphonso Wright Sr.

Services will be held at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road Leonardtown, MD on February 12, 2022. Family and close friends are welcome to gather between 12-2 PM with a memorial service starting at 2 PM. For those who cannot attend physically, the memorial will also be livestreamed

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692. Following service, celebrations will continue at the family home.

Condolences to the family may be made at www.brinsfieldfuneral.com Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

**Frederick "Fred"
"Freddie" William
Christian III**



Frederick "Fred" "Freddie" Wil-

liam Christian III was a loving son, brother, uncle and friend. He passed away unexpectedly on January 29, 2022.

Fred was born September 12, 1981. He graduated from St. Mary's Ryken High School in 1999. After high school, Fred continued his education at College of Southern Maryland. While attending high school and college Fred worked for the family business. He later discovered love and passion for animals and began his career with the Charles County Humane Society. Fred's daily tasks included preparing animals for and assisting in 30-50 surgeries a day, and providing love and care to all of the animals in need. Fred was actively pursuing his degree to become a certified veterinary technician.

Fred's world revolved around his family. He was a loving uncle who was adored by his nephews and nieces. Fred was an amazing older brother to four siblings who always looked up to him. He set the example of how to love and respect one another, and above all, put family first.

Fred enjoyed playing video games, pool, golf, poker and was always up for a round of frisbee golf. Fred was a fan of Anime, Marvel and DC comics and movies, as well as sci-fi movies and TV shows.

Fred is survived by his parents, Elizabeth Antonioli and Eugene Paul Antonioli. His sister Kimberly Christian (spouse) Joseph Ganzer; brothers Edward Christian (fiance) Wendy Shelton, Mark Antonioli (spouse) Stacey Antonioli, Eugene Antonioli (spouse) Ashlynn Antonioli; nephews Roman Antonioli, Apollo Antonioli, Dominic Antonioli; nieces Teresa Antonioli and soon to arrive Kimberly Elizabeth Christian. The love of his life, Diana Szot, her parents Dawn and Wally Szot, and her sister Aneilia Szot; as well as countless aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Memorial service will be held at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A. at 30195 Three Notch Rd, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622, Life Celebration Memorial Visitation will be held 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. with the Memorial Service at 12:30 p.m.

Fred loved animals and they loved him back. In lieu of sending flowers, please send donations in Fred's name to the Humane Society of Charles County at www.humanesocietycc.org

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

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

Suzanne Mary "Sue" Cole

Suzanne Mary "Sue" Cole, 72, of Mechanicsville, MD, who loved to be called Mom by her children and Grammy by her grandchildren, departed her loving family peacefully on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in



Leonardtown, MD. She was born on June 13, 1949, in Boston, MA to the late Merlin E. Jacobs and Avis I. (Thurston) Jacobs.

Sue was a beautiful, kind and generous woman with a captivating smile. She met her forever love Stephen Allen Cole and they have spent over twenty-seven (27) years happily married. Together they raised their combined families and celebrated their love daily.

A caregiver by nature, Sue made it her career and helped so many families throughout the years. She was a blessed woman with a gracious spirit. Sue was a talented craftswoman who made beautiful, knitted items that her family will cherish for many generations. She was able to excel at all crafts and enjoyed keeping herself busy making treasures for her family. Sue adored her family and valued every moment she could spend with them. Sue's Christian faith was an essential part of her life; she spent a great deal of time studying the bible and forming a close relationship with God.

Although, Sue has left many to mourn her passing, we are truly blessed to have her bright light guide our path through the darkest days. There will never be another Sue, but our memories will continue to bring laughter and joy for many future generations.

Sue is survived by her husband, Stephen A. Cole of Mechanicsville, MD; children, Kimberly S. Rye of Leonardtown, MD, Kevin I. Roberts of Keedysville, MD, and Darlene M. Roberts of Hugar, SC, Jennifer A. Cole of Mechanicsville, MD, Sara L. Cole of Charlottesville, VA seven; (7) grandchildren, Alicia Dean, Lynsey Rye, Kevin Roberts, Mackenzie Roberts, Gavin Yurko, Jeda Yurko, and Gabrielle Roberts; and two (2) great-grandchildren Hailey and Hanna Dean. She is also survived by her siblings, Merlin Jacobs, Thurston Jacobs and Gertrude Sever. She was preceded in death by her parents, Merlin and Avis Jacobs.

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

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

Denise Marie Martin-Eaton, 56 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on January 24, 2022 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD.

She was born on October 21, 1965 in Cheverly, MD to Carol Louise Elliott Martin of Callaway, MD and the late Walter Howard Martin.

Denise graduated from Largo High School in 1983. Soon after she married Robert Brown and through their marriage a beautiful baby Sarah Marie Brown entered the world. As Denise and Robert mutually separated they remained friends until Denise's passing. Shortly after she met Russell thru mutual friends and they began dating. She married Russell Emmett Eaton on August 10, 1996 in Landover Hills, MD their marriage welcomed a son Colin Jacob Eaton in to the world. They spent 25 wonderful years together. Denise worked for four different car dealerships for over 20 years working in the accounting offices eventually becoming an Office Manager. In march of 2006 Denise became a grandmother for the first time and when her second grandchild came in May of 2009 she felt it was time to make a change to spend more time with them. Denise accepted a part time job as a Mail Carrier close to home which allowed her to spend time with her family especially the grandkids. After eight years of delivering mail and 2 more grandsons she decided it was time for her to become a full time grandma a title she wore proud. September 2021 She welcomed her fifth grandchild and spent as much time as she could with him. Denise was all about family and friends and loved spending time with them whether it was with her aunts, uncles and many cousins on the Martin side of the family or a small gathering of close friends, it would always bring a smile to her face. Denise loved to travel and was able to visit Disney, Myrtle Beach and various other states. She would travel anywhere especially if it involved sand, water and flip flops. Everyone who met her would be drawn to her beautiful smile and infectious laugh along with her heart of gold. She treated everyone like family and would do anything to help someone.

She is survived by her husband, Russell Emmett Eaton, her children, Sarah Marie Brown of Leonardtown, MD and Colin Jacob Eaton of Leonardtown, MD, her brother, Troy Martin of Canaan, ME, her sisters, Diana Martin of Callaway, MD and Barbara Jean Quade of Lusby, MD, her grandchildren, Brayden Dixon, Layla Dixon, Kayden Eaton, Hunter Doornbos, and Colt Eaton. She was preceded in death by her father and her sisters, Walter Martin, Donna Martin and Julie Shirley.

Services are private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Gloria Paxton Ausburn

Gloria Paxton Ausburn, 73 of Park Hall, MD passed away on January 29, 2022 at MedStar St. Mary's Hos-



pital, Leonardtown, MD with her loving family at her side.

Gloria was born on September 3, 1948 in Pelzer, SC to the late W.J. Paxton and Virginia James Paxton.

Gloria's family was the joy of her life. On September 11, 1981, Gloria married her beloved husband, Gerald Ray Ausburn in Greenville, SC. Gloria and Gerald enjoyed 41 wonderful years of marriage and were an example of true love to everyone who had the pleasure of witnessing their love for each other. Her family was always her top priority and she was their biggest fan in every part of their lives. Her support of family and friends was unwavering in all they did. She was a loving, accepting, and perfect Mama to her grandchildren and many honorary grandchildren. She was strong in her faith and this was evidenced by how she treated loved ones and strangers alike with love and kindness. She and Gerald loved vacationing with family in Myrtle Beach and admiring the beauty of the mountains in Skyline Drive in the Fall. She worked as a contractor supporting multiple programs at the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) Patuxent River, retiring after 30 years in 2019. She leaves a legacy of love for her family and friends and a beauty of spirit that shined on all around her.

In addition to her beloved husband, she is also survived by her son, Donnie Ray "Buddy" Hooper, Jr. (Heather) of Piney Point, MD; her siblings: Leon Paxton (Susan) of Piedmont, SC, Kathy Hood of Piedmont, SC, and Debra Smith (Gary)

of Williamston, SC; and two grandchildren, William and Matthew Hooper. She was preceded in death by her parents.

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

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Tony Raymond Bean



Tony Raymond Bean, 43, of California, MD passed away on January 17, 2022. Tony was born on September 20, 1978, in Leonardtown, MD. He was born just nine blissful months after the marriage of his parents, William B. Bean Jr. and Connie A. Bean of California, MD.

Tony was preceded in death by his brother, Billy Joe Bean, maternal grandmother, Addie Marie Biscoe, paternal grandparents, William B. Bean, Sr. and Gertrude Mae Bean, and great grandmothers, Gertrude Goldsmith, Edna Fannon and Lillian Gentry.

Tony was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County. He graduated from Leonardtown High School in 1996. He started working for the family business, C.A. Bean Inc. while he was still in high school. In the early days, Tony and his brothers would leave school and head straight to the asphalt plant to fill silos for the next day's work. He continued to work for the family as they expanded into paving the tri-county area. Tony did

his best work when he was trying to avoid working, spending much of his time talking to everyone on the crew, inspectors, and anyone who would listen.

Tony enjoyed professional wrestling and his beloved Washington Redskins, watching both at any opportunity. Tony never met a stranger; he would talk to anyone and everyone even if it was simply to hear himself speak. The family considered him a professional joker for the sake of making others around him crack a smile. When getting the chance to speak with his nieces, he would make sure they knew he loved them and that they had the best uncles on the planet to watch over and protect them. He enjoyed spending time with his nephews and watching them fish, though he never took part himself, but making sure they had a few snacks (particularly his favorite Wendy's Frostys).

Tony is survived by his parents; son, Riley Joseph Jones Bean; sisters, Theresa C. Bean (California, MD) and Stephanie L. Bean (Leonardtown, MD); brother, Shawn L. Bean (Leah) (California, MD); Nieces, Krishus E. Bean, Taylor M. Bean, and Laurel M. Bean; Nephews, Justin C. Harmon, Adam Vandrascio, Alex Vandrascio, and Camden W. Bean.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 456, Ridge, MD 20680 or a charitable fund of your choice.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Joseph Stanley Dziewit Jr.



Joseph Stanley Dziewit Jr., 87 of Lexington Park, MD passed away peacefully on Thursday February 3, 2022 with his family at his side.

He was born on December 13, 1934 in Philadelphia, PA to the late Joseph Stanley Dziewit and Stella Chelkowski Dziewit.

Joe was raised on Terrace Street in Philadelphia, PA. He worked his first job at the age of 11 and had various jobs throughout his younger years - selling newspapers, setting pins at a bowling alley, and working at the local gas station.

In 1955 he enlisted in the United States Navy where he proudly served his country as an aviation electronics

technician Chief Petty Officer until his honorable discharge in 1978.

Joe married his beloved wife, Pauline Henry Dziewit on September 27, 1958. Together they celebrated over 61 wonderful years of marriage before her death in 2020. They traveled the world together, raised 4 children, and enjoyed numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He earned many degrees including a Master's of Science in Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He was a CPR and First Aid Instructor as well as a Water Safety Instructor and an Instructor Trainer for swimming, canoeing, sailing, and lifeguarding. Joe was also a Girl Scout Troop leader and enjoyed taking his troop on numerous adventures to New York City, Atlantic City, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Washington DC and an annual weekend ski trip to Ski Liberty.

Joe loved the waters around St. Mary's County where he taught many county residents to swim, canoe, and sail. He also enjoyed time on the water with his family - boating, waterskiing, scuba diving and jet skiing. His love of the water was exceeded only by his love of flying. Joe shared his passion for flying by instructing hundreds of students, and amassing tens of thousands of flight hours. He ran the Patuxent River Navy Flying Club for over 20 years.

Joe was an active member of several religious and fraternal organizations, which included the Knights of Columbus.

Joe is survived by his four children: Laura Kennedy (Michael) of Moyock, NC, Clarissa Dziewit of Lexington Park, MD, Joseph Dziewit III (Brenda) of Destin, FL, and Paul Dziewit (Peggy) of Valley Lee, MD. In addition to his children he is survived by his siblings, Anne Lavin of Collegeville, PA, Walter Devitt (Maureen) of Drexel Hill, PA, and Edward Dziewit (Kathleen) of Conway, SC. Joe is also survived by his four grandchildren: Kristi Sinclair (Bob), Christopher Kennedy (Ashley), Matthew Petit (Kimberly), Elizabeth Petit; and four great grandchildren; and many more extended family and friends. Joe was preceded in death by his beloved wife, parents and sibling, Helen Dziewit.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Sandra Kay Meador

Sandra Kay Meador, 79, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away on Wednesday, February 3, 2022 in MedStar St. Mary's Hospital. She was born on November 10, 1942 in Crab Orchard, WV to James Wilbur Collins and Iline Blevins. She was one (1) of three (3) children.

After graduating from high school, she worked many different jobs before starting her career as an Administrative Assistant for Eugene Cops-



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ey's Septic Plumbing. She worked there for many years, making a lot of lifelong friends along the way.

In 1963, she met Thomas Lee Meador, and they wed a short time later, going on to have two children, Thomas and Brian Meador.

Kay was talented in so many aspects of her life. She was a genius with words and writing even though she never pursued that path. She was also an amazing baker. Aside from that, Kay enjoyed making arts and crafts, and cuddling on the couch watching movies. Most importantly Sandra was a terrific mother, grandmother, wife, and friend. Her children and grandchildren were her life. There was never a day that went by she didn't brag about her beautiful babies.

Kay's life would seem too short to many, but those of us who were Blessed to be touched by her understand that her existence and the imprint she left on our hearts exceed the quantity of time that she stayed here.

Kay is survived by her sons, Thomas Lee Meador of Port Orange, FL and Brian Keith Meador of Mechanicsville, MD; her brother Howard Ray Collins of Myrtle Beach, SC; her grandchildren Joshua Meador, Brian Meador and Mariah Meador and her great granddaughter Amari Meador. She is preceded in death by her husband Thomas Lee Meador, James Wilbur Collins and Iline Blevins and her brother James "Butch" Lowell Collins.

The family would like to thank Tiffany Lynn Hancock Kay's daily companion as they spent every day together.

The Interment will be Thursday, February 10, 2022 at Charles Memorial Gardens, 26325 Point Lookout Rd, Leonardtown, MD 20650, at 2:00 p.m.

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

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

Denise Marie Martin-Eaton

Denise Marie Martin-Eaton, 56 of Leonardtown, MD passed away on January 24, 2022 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital, Leonardtown, MD.

She was born on October 21, 1965 in Cheverly, MD to Carol Louise Elliott Martin of Callaway, MD and



the late Walter Howard Martin.

Denise graduated from Largo High School in 1983. Soon after she married Robert Brown and through their marriage a beautiful baby Sarah Marie Brown entered the world. As Denise and Robert mutually separated they remained friends up until Denise's passing. Shortly after she met Russell thru mutual friends and they began dating. She married Russell Emmett Eaton on August 10, 1996 in Landover Hills, MD their marriage welcomed a son Colin Jacob Eaton in to the world. They spent 25 wonderful years together. Denise worked for four different car dealerships for over 20 years working in the accounting offices eventually becoming an Office Manager. In march of 2006 Denise became a grandmother for the first time and when her second grandchild came in May of 2009 she felt it was time to make a change to spend more time with them. Denise accepted a part time job as a Mail Carrier close to home which allowed her to spend time with her family especially the grandkids. After eight years of delivering mail and 2 more grandsons she decided it was time for her to become a full time grandma a title she wore proud. September 2021 She welcomed her fifth grandchild and spent as much time as she could with him. Denise was all about family and friends and loved spending time with them whether it was with her aunts, uncles and many cousins on the Martin side of the family or a small gathering of close friends, it would always bring a smile to her face. Denise loved to travel and was able to visit Disney, Myrtle Beach and various other states. She would travel anywhere especially if it involved sand, water and flip flops. Everyone who met her would be drawn to her beautiful smile and infectious laugh along with her heart of gold. She treated everyone like family and would do anything to help someone.

She is survived by her husband, Russell Emmett Eaton, her children, Sarah Marie Brown of Leonardtown, MD and Colin Jacob Eaton of Leonardtown, MD, her brother, Troy Martin of Canaan, ME, her sisters, Diana Martin of Callaway, MD and Barbara Jean Quade of Lusby, MD, her grandchildren, Brayden Dixon, Layla Dixon, Kayden Eaton, Hunter Doornbos, and Colt Eaton. She was preceded in death by her father and

her sisters, Walter Martin, Donna Martin and Julie Shirley.

Services are private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Jackie Lee Goodman



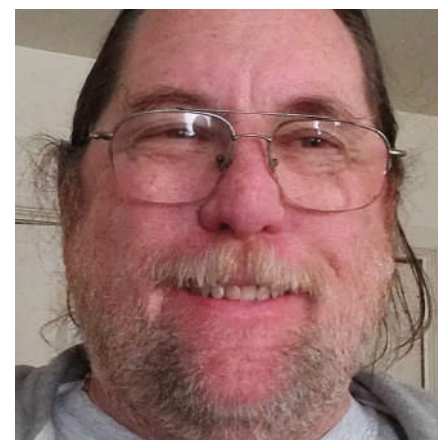
Jackie Lee Goodman, 78 of Williamsburg, WV passed away Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at the Peyton Hospice House, Lewisburg, WV. Born July 10, 1943, in Williamsburg, WV he was the son of the late Millard Fields and Ruth McMillion Goodman. Jackie was a member of the Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church and was a retired Oil Executive. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Karen Goodman Evans and a brother, Paul Goodman.

He is survived by his loving wife of fifty-nine years, Barbara Wilson Goodman, daughter, Paula Goodman of California, MD, brother, Junior Goodman (Carol) of Williamsburg, WV, grandchildren, Holly Summers (Todd) of Valley Lee, MD, Jackson Scott Evans, and Hunter Luke Evans both of Mechanicsville, MD, great grandchildren, Parker, and Miles Summers, and a son-in-law Steven Evans of Mechanicsville, MD.

Graveside services will be private for the immediate family at the Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD beside his daughter. There will be a Celebration of Life service at 1:00 PM, Sunday, February 20, 2022 at the Andrew Chapel UMC in Williamsburg, WV. In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations be made to the Williamsburg Community Action Center, c/o Laurie Hedrick – PO Box 185, Williamsburg, WV 24991 or to the Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church c/o Allie Hedrick – PO Box 110, Williamsburg, WV 24991. Online guestbook can be signed at www.morganfh.net. Arrangements by Morgan Funeral Home, Lewisburg, WV.

Raymond B. "Arby" Brown

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 McMahon, and Grace Vallandigham.

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.

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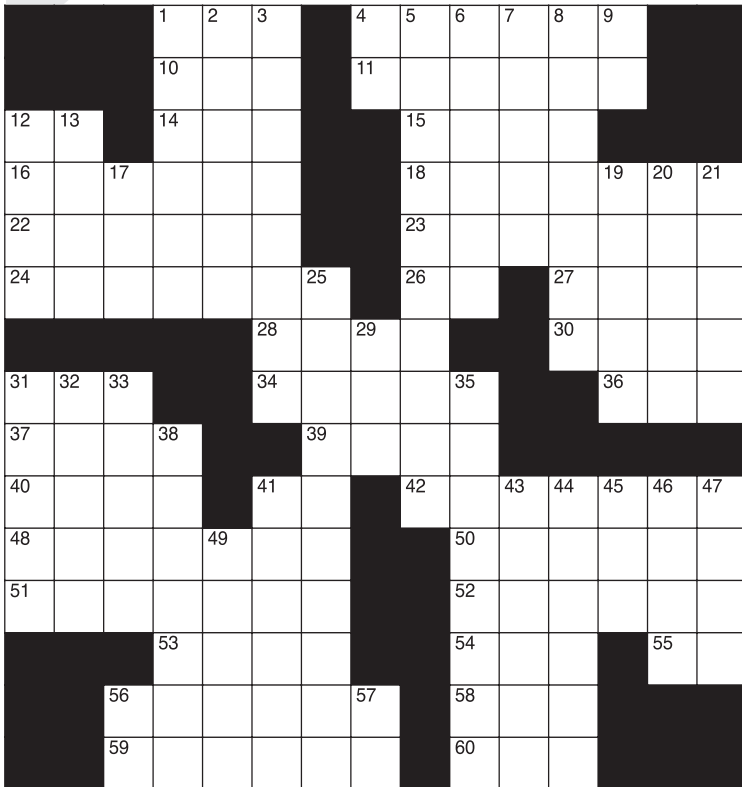
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. One point east of due south
- 4. City in Maine
- 10. Inquire too closely
- 11. Make dirty
- 12. Small Greek island
- 14. Bitterly regret
- 15. Millisecond
- 16. ___ the ante
- 18. Without value
- 22. Eurasian ryegrass
- 23. Authentic
- 24. Having a mournful quality
- 26. Not out
- 27. Salvador ___, Spanish artist
- 28. Cargo (abbr.)
- 30. This (Spanish)
- 31. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 34. Slang for trucks with trailers
- 36. Helps you hear
- 37. Steer a boat
- 39. British School

40. Genus of olive

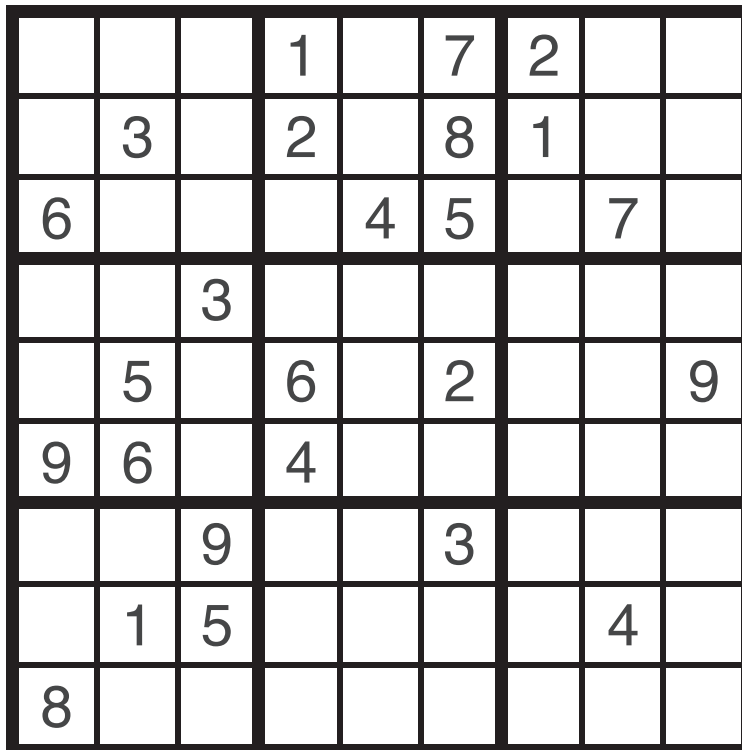
- 41. Computer term (abbr.)
- 42. Horse gear
- 48. Give off
- 50. A type of salt
- 51. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- 52. One who watches birds
- 53. Sailboat
- 54. A major division of geological time
- 55. Sodium
- 56. American state
- 58. Soak in water
- 59. Thin decorative covering of fine wood
- 60. Affirmative

manufacturer

- 7. A way to address
- 8. Obstruct
- 9. Atomic number 45
- 12. Ill-mannered
- 13. Opaque gem
- 17. Indicates before
- 19. Remove
- 20. Populous Argentine city
- 21. More cunning
- 25. Rich dessert
- 29. Payment (abbr.)
- 31. Footwear
- 32. Famed Alabama city
- 33. Sheep's cry
- 35. Arrogance
- 38. Clergical vestment
- 41. Serving no practical purpose
- 43. An evening party
- 44. Print errors
- 45. Not good
- 46. Egyptian Sun god
- 47. Industrial German city
- 49. Scottish island
- 56. Early multimedia
- 57. Atomic number 18

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One of the four seasons
- 2. Its sultan is famous
- 3. A lens for correcting defective vision in one eye
- 4. College degree
- 5. Soldiers need it
- 6. Japanese car



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

1	2	5	8	7	6	3	4	9	R	E	B	E	C	C	A		C	E	D	E	S						
8	4	3	1	2	9	5	7	6	E	L	I	S	I	O	N		A	B	E	L	E						
9	7	6	5	4	3	2	8	1	C	A	T	E	R	P	I	L	L	A	R	S		A	X				
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4	3	7	9	8	2	1	6	5				D	Y	E	S		S	O	N	E							
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The St. Mary's County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of St. Mary's County. The St. Mary's County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The St. Mary's County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

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