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Thu 4/30 65°   52°F 	Fri 5/1 65°   50°F 	Sat 5/2 70°   54°F 	Sun 5/3 73°   54°F 
Mon 5/4 70°   47°F 	Tue 5/5 66°   50°F 	Wed 5/6 61°   47°F 	Thu 5/7 59°   47°F 

**County Times**  
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# St. Mary's Plans a Virtual Graduation

By Dick Myers  
Editor

With the prospect of traditional graduation ceremonies looking highly unlikely, St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS) are planning a unique experience for the students and the community – a virtual graduation.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. J. Scott Smith unveiled the plan to the school board at their April 29 meeting and will inform parents today (April 30) via letter. He said that traditional graduations, which were planned for three consecutive nights in early June at St. Mary's College, could only occur during Phase 3 of the governor's Roadmap to Recovery. "There is no realistic timeline yet for any of this because before they do that, they want to see approved vaccines and effective therapeutics to rescue patients with significant challenges," Smith said.

Seniors are done with their classwork on May 19, Smith said, and the final graduation lists readied by May 22.

So, Smith said while the plan remains flexible, after considerable work and discussion with everyone involved, including student leaders at all there high schools, they have come up with a virtual ceremony. "We desperately, the whole community needs to find something that's really positive and rally around it and lean into."

The logistical challenge: "Everyone has to realize that right now there's nobody at any building."

Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster has been in on the discussion. Smith said, "Whatever we do, we have to follow all of the social distancing protocols that are in place."

Each school puts their own spin on graduation. Smith said, "We want to honor them to the greatest extent possible. Our ultimate goal is to create something that's memorable."

He said that should be "something that they can hold on to, something that records the time that we have with these incredible, incredible young ladies and young men."

So, the schools through the ubiquitous miracle of Zoom have already begun gathering pictures of all the students and staff at each high school.

The James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center south of Leonardtown will be the focal point. The number of people in the building will be limited. Those that not inside must queue outside in their cars.

"They would figure out a schedule to call in the seniors." First, they will pick up their caps and gowns on a fixed time beginning May 4.

Then beginning May 18 they will schedule the videotaping of the students, Smith said, "We will record each child walking across the stage with their principal and their superintendent on the stage appropriately distanced and following protective personal equipment, so every kid will at least have a video snippet of them walking



across the stage at the end of their senior year." They can walk in one door and out another without touching anything.

Also, speeches of everyone who would have spoken at a normal graduation will be recorded separately.

They also will record some individual celebrations for each school. Also, Smith said, "We will work with our incredibly gifted and creative orchestra, music, and choral directors at each one of the schools to figure out a way to coordinate some kind of performance that can then be embedded."

Everyone's name will be read, even those who chose not to show up. "Everybody's going to be represented digitally in some fashion." And transportation will be provided to the tech center for those unable to arrange it.

Then the photos of each student, everyone walking across the stage, and the celebrations will be assembled by the school system's media department into one video for each school that can be distributed to each student as a keepsake.

And on the night that each school would have had their graduation, "We will premiere broadcast our created commencement exercises," Smith said.

"Is it perfect? No. Does it accommodate having live audience to be there? No. Can we do that? No," Smith said. But he said it's making the best of what they were dealt.

Board Member Rira Weaver, as did the rest of the board, praised the plan. She said, "I'm very grateful for everything that you and your staff have put together along with the students because across Maryland, some counties are doing absolutely nothing for their students."

Student Member of the Board Naggena Hora said she has been chatting with her counterparts around the state. "This is the best plan that I've seen so far."

It will be a community effort. For instance, the Amish community will be making 1,200 face masks in each school's appropriate color to distribute.

Smith said a lot of people will be involved to pull it off. "We want to do anything and everything we can to make something special for the class of 2020. If we don't do it like this, I don't think we can do it any other way."

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# Few Details on St. Mary's Health Department Cyber Incident

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

A cybersecurity "incident" against the St. Mary's County Health Department's computer network on Apr. 23 is still under investigation, officials with the Maryland Department of Information Technology (MDIT) said but they are not sharing details about the nature of the incident or what part of the network was affected.

"We don't want these details getting back to... bad actors," said Patrick Mulford, spokesperson for MDIT. "It could be detrimental to the investigation."

With the combined efforts of the Maryland Department of Information Technology and the Maryland Department of Health, the St. Mary's County Health Department was able to quickly

get certain critical functions back up and running and is working to restore other functions in order to fully serve the people of St. Mary's County." Mulford said in a statement

County Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster said the incident would not stop the department from fighting the novel coronavirus.

"This challenge will not deter us from our main focus right now – protecting our community from the threat of COVID-19. We will continue to respond to the pandemic and provide essential public health services as we work with the state to address this network issue," said Brewster in an official statement just after the incident.

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# Sheriff: Released Inmates Still Monitored

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

There are still no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at the county's adult detention center, said Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron this week and the inmates who were released a month ago are still being monitored by corrections personnel.

There were 116 inmates who were allowed to leave the detention center due to concerns over their age, pre-existing medical conditions or both, Cameron told The County Times.

Those inmates who left the jail became enrolled in the court's pre-trial program which subjected them to monitoring while outside the jail; the work release program has since been suspended, Cameron said.

"These were all inmates with misdemeanor records and none with violent crimes," Cameron said.

More than a week ago Gov. Larry Hogan issued an executive order that allowed for the release of inmates from state prisons mirroring similar orders in other states because of fears of certain prisoners being exposed to COVID-19 if an outbreak in close quarters were to occur.

These orders have met with criticism with concerns that inmates could be released only to reoffend.

The Maryland House GOP Caucus re-

cently sent a letter to Hogan expressing their worries on the issue.

"Multiple other states that have enacted COVID-19-related prisoner releases, including areas as varied as New York and Florida, have already experienced terrible instances of early-release, allegedly non-violent inmates quickly committing violent and serious crimes and endangering the public at a time when public health and safety concerns are already heightened," the letter partially reads.

Cameron said that since state level officials in charge of inmate release were not always available because of teleworking during the pandemic, the county had not been informed about how many prisoners had been released to come back here.

"I'm not really sure who's been released who is from St. Mary's to come back to St. Mary's," Cameron said. "Under normal circumstances... they would eventually all be released."

Cameron said the release of qualified, at-risk inmates from the local facility was the best option given the pandemic to avoid a infection hotspot.

"If you had an outbreak at the jail you'd have to shut it down," Cameron said. "Then where would we go?"

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

# Cell Phone Data, People Not Staying Home

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

In a widely distributed social media post, Shawn Davidson, the county's EMS chief warned that recent data the local COVID-19 response team has seen points to a slackening in adherence to Gov. Larry Hogan's stay-at-home order made weeks ago.

This could diminish or destroy the gains St. Mary's County has made in combating the novel coronavirus and flattening the curve of infections.

"Cell phone data shows that compliance with that order is slipping," Davidson said in his post of Facebook. "People are starting to go out more. The more people go out the less social distancing we can manage. The less social distancing we manage the greater the spread and the longer the duration of the problem."

Davidson said he had many questions from residents since making his post, particularly about cell phone data possibly being used to track people during the epidemic.

"When you travel with your cell phone it connects with the nearest cell phone tower," Davidson said. "The data is looking at generally this cell tower is being pinged more at different times of the day, which indicates movement."

It was this data which the local team received from the state that gave the indications people were travelling more when they should be staying home, Davidson said.

Davidson said that the data only measured the number of pings at cell towers and not which specific phones – and their numbers – were coming into proximity.

"There is nothing that connects any of that to a person," Davidson said. "We are not snooping into what you are doing. It's quantities, not identities."

Since the closure of many businesses to foster social distancing and the stay-at-home order, restaurants have begun to offer carryout and delivery services, but Davidson said the increase in that specific sort of traffic had already been



EMS Chief Shawn Davidson

factored into the data analysis.

Such services had been deemed essential under the governor's order.

"It's [the increase in travel] not explained away by necessary movement," Davidson said.

At their weekly meeting Apr. 28, County Commissioner Eric Colvin said he had seen infection rate models for COVID-19 from the county's health officer Dr. Meena Brewster, projecting the county's infection surge sometime in June.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt said he could not understand why, under the governor's order, charter fishing was allowed but recreational boating by private citizens was not.

He said it was one example of constituent complaints about the many virus-related restrictions placed on them by the state.

"We've got to find some way to reopen this county, this state, this country," Hewitt said. "One size does not fit all."

Davidson said he believed the county had a good chance of beating COVID-19 if it continued to practice social distancing more strictly.

"The happy news is... people have been good [generally] about the stay-at-home order," Davidson said. "Businesses have been good about establishing social distancing inside their stores."

"Our numbers are manageable; we have a chance of getting through this relatively unscathed and relatively quickly."

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

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Previously planned for May 30<sup>th</sup> - Cancelled

**Tri-County Livestock Auction**  
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<i>As of April 28</i>	<b>Positive Cases</b>	<b>Deaths</b>
<b>Calvert</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>St. Mary's</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>7</b>

Information provided by St. Mary's and Calvert Health Departments  
4-29-2020

# Calvert Schools Revise Behavior Program

To be Consolidated at Mutual Elementary



Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Diane Workman

By Dick Myers  
Editor

In the wake of persistent criticism about behavior problems in Calvert County Public Schools, the system's Behavior Development Program (BDP) has been significantly modified. Included in the changes are the consolidation of the program at one location, Mutual Elementary School (MES) in Port Republic, and the addition of new staff positions, including an additional 12-month assistant principal to coordinate the program.

The changes were unveiled to the Calvert County Board of Education at their April 23 meeting which was held virtually. The changes were explained by Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Diane Workman. She said the changes are modeled after a long-time successful program in Anne Arundel County.

Workman was unable to give the school board a bottom-line budget impact of the changes.

The revised BDP involves moving all the program components currently at Barstow Elementary School to MES. The BDP will occupy three classrooms at Mutual and accommodate 21 students. Two classrooms will be set aside for up to 14 alternate education (Alt-Ed) students, those transferred from other schools because of extreme behavior problems.

Workman said the classrooms at Mutual are larger than the ones used at Barstow. Those smaller Barstow classrooms had caused problems for teachers when a particularly difficult student was added to the mix.

In addition to the new assistant principal, new staff will include an 11-month school social worker, an 11-month behavior technician and an additional Alt-Ed teacher.

Some current 10-month BDP teachers will have to reapply for new 11-month positions being created under the revised program, according to Workman. Advertising for the changed and new positions has begun.

The changed assignments include five teachers and eight instructional assistants being switched from 10-month to 11-month positions.

In addition to the new assistant principal, the program at MES will include additional mental health and behavioral support. The program according to Workman will provide "ongoing professional development to the MES behavior and Alt-Ed staff and proving time for staff within the contractual day to debrief crisis, discuss individual students and to participate in professional development."

The school board had requested that the county commissioners fund six additional kindergarten teachers and three more guidance counselors to also begin to address the behavior problems. Funding for those nine positions was not included in the Staff Recommended Budget the commissioners will take to public hearing on May 19.

School board members at the April 23 meeting expressed hope they could change the commissioners' minds. But it also was reported at the meeting there is an anticipated additional fund balance expected from the current budget and that also monies are anticipated to the system from the CARES Act federal stimulus funding.

Presumably savings in the current fiscal year will be available to cover the additional costs for the revised BDP presented at the April 23 meeting. Part of the savings will come from the lower than budgeted costs to finish Northern High School.

Savings in health care costs for employees are expected to be applied to a one-month premium holiday for current employees and retirees.

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# Student Video Shows At-Home Experiences

*Northern Class Presents Quarantine Edition*

By Dick Myers  
Editor

High school seniors finishing out their final year at home are facing the prospect of missing out on much of what they were looking forward to, including proms and even possibly graduation ceremonies. But one Northern High School senior put a positive spin on it: "It will be a senior year that we will remember."

That senior was part of the Calvert County high schools Broadcasting class that on April 23 released a 25-minute YouTube video chronicling the experiences of going to school online at home. The video features the course's students relating their experiences interwoven with comments from Principal Stephen Williams and teachers and other administrators.

As another student synopsized the unusual experience, "We are still graduating and we are still getting a diploma."

Another student noted the difficulties of not being around her classmates: "This epidemic has made me feel isolated and out of control." But another said

it afforded him the opportunity "to get closer to the family."

Things could be a lot worse, one student noted. He said think of what it would have been like 100 years ago without the online access.

The elective Broadcasting class is taught by Gary Clites. Usually the students produced a video every two weeks as part of their course work, but being at home presented challenges. Some of his students did part of the editing, but this time he had to do the final edit.

During the video Principal Williams observed the positive accomplishments, but also said it still wasn't the same. "We cannot replace face-to-face connection." "We all miss you," Williams added.

The video also includes a unique appeal for the community to support End Hunger in Calvert County, which is helping to provide meals to families unable to get to the Grab and Go locations.

To view the WNHS special Quarantine Edition go to <https://youtu.be/j051BEAtOCU>

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# Calvert County Government Reopens

*Buildings Remain Closed to Public*



Calvert County Government offices reopened Monday, April 27 at 8:30 a.m.; however, buildings will remain closed to the public until further notice, as a precautionary measure to slow the spread of COVID-19. The county remains under a local state of emergency.

"The closure period has given us time to focus on responding to this crisis while reducing the health risk to county staff and their families, so we can safely and effectively provide services to citizens – but now is not the time to become complacent," said Board of County Commissioners President Kelly McConkey. "Staff have worked diligently over the past weeks to adjust protocols and prepare to safely reopen county government offices to employees, in accordance with health and distancing guidelines. We are proud of their commitment during this unprecedented challenge. Let us all stay the course and look out

for one another, and we will get through this."

In accordance with statewide mandate, all senior centers and community centers remain closed. Some county parks remain open to Calvert County residents for passive activities only, such as walking, biking, running and hiking; limited park hours and other restrictions on park use and capacity are still in effect. Additionally, public transportation will operate with reduced service.

A complete list of services is located on Calvert County's virtual resource center at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

Updates will continue to appear on the Calvert County Government website, [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov), Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd](http://www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd) and Comcast Channel

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

# Hogan: Three-Phase Recovery Plan Depends on Declining COVID Numbers

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Gov. Larry Hogan revealed a three-phase plan to reopen Maryland's social and economic life Apr. 24 after more than a month of virtual statewide shutdown due to COVID-19 but that plan will only start when key data points become a real trend.

Those include seeing declining rates of COVID-19 hospitalizations as well as patients admitted to intensive care units, Hogan said at an Annapolis press conference.

"We are watching these numbers very closely on a daily basis," Hogan said, adding that declines or significant plateauing of these cases would allow for the recovery plan to commence.

Hogan expressed guarded optimism regarding the state of COVID-19 in Maryland, as recent numbers show that infection rates are beginning to stabilize but much more improvement was needed to be able to reopen businesses, public venues and rescind the state at home order.

"We have not had the very high spikes that we've seen in other states," Hogan said. "The number of COVID-19 cases is still rising in Maryland."

"[Under federal and scientific guidelines] Maryland is not able to lift our restrictions."

Testing for the novel coronavirus was set to vastly increase in Maryland, Hogan said, and many more cases of the virus were expected to be added to the current count.

If Marylanders would continue to stay home, telecommute and practice social distancing, Hogan said, he was optimistic the key metrics would decline or

plateau.

The first phase of the recovery plan would allow for the reopening of venues such as golf courses as well as allow for recreational boating and the reopening of certain retail businesses.

Local parks, playgrounds and libraries were included in the first phase.

Hogan cautioned that these phases would have to be initiated slowly and with caution to ensure infections did not spike.

Dr. Tom Inglesby, Director of the Center for Health Security of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, said at the press conference that maintaining social distancing and wearing face masks or coverings would have to be a fact of life in the foreseeable future.

"If we opened the state today... there would be a fast acceleration of infections to a high rate," Inglesby said, adding that over the past two weeks numbers had been plateauing.

"But there is no decline yet."

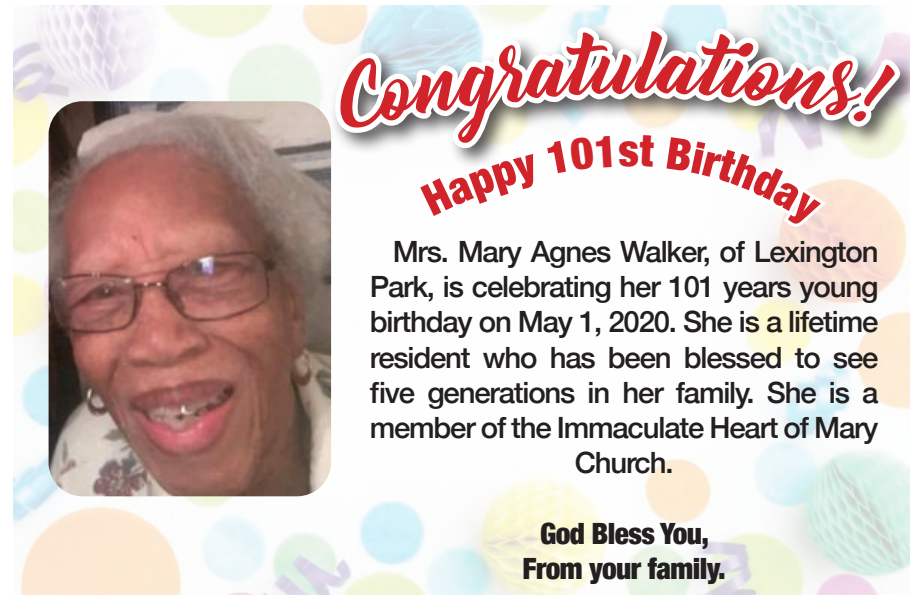
The second phase of Hogan's plan would raise the limits of people who can congregate together as well as begin to open restaurants and bars "with significant safety restrictions," the governor said.

That could include limiting occupancy in such establishments.

Under the third state of the plan large gatherings and events would reopen, as well as high-capacity restaurants and bars.

Hospital restrictions could also be lifted, Hogan said, including the reinstatement of family visits to nursing homes.

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# CSM Braces for Financial Hardship

## Hiring Freeze, Voluntary Reductions Announced

The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) announces that it has taken a number of actions that will affect college personnel as it continues to address the operating environment and financial impact caused by COVID-19. In addition, CSM will freeze tuition for the fall semester, and waive summer and fall semester course fees to help current, returning and new students impacted by the pandemic.

### Workforce Actions

On Thursday, April 16, 2020, college leadership informed faculty and staff that it will keep campuses closed and operating in a remote, or restricted, working environment with online learning through Aug. 16. The decision, according to CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy, “ensures the safety and welfare of our communities, with a goal of ultimately getting us back to our campuses. CSM employees have done an exemplary job helping us get quickly to where we are now; however, the impact of this virus is lingering longer than we’d first hoped.”

“Many college operations will also have to be suspended or temporarily reduced until it is safe for us to reopen fully,” she told faculty and staff, via video. “The college must now take steps to reshape our workforce for this current environment. By reshaping our work, we will be able to respond more nimbly to the

virus and its impact.”

Three of the steps the college is taking to facilitate the changes include a soft hiring freeze; offering employees with 20 years or more of service a voluntary separation incentive; and offering all employees a voluntary workload reduction.

“This is very difficult for everyone,” Murphy said. “We are a family, and families care for each other, especially during hard times. However, we also have to be honest and transparent and recognize that the future workforce of the college and the larger society will look different on the other side of this pandemic. And while these times are true hardships, I have never been more certain – convinced even – that the CSM team is the strongest strategic partner to help lift our communities and rebuild our economy. The steps we are taking today will help us remain a critical part of the solution.”

### Fall Tuition Freeze, Putting Students First

Every step that CSM has taken since the news that the COVID-19 pandemic had reached the United States, has been to ensure the health and welfare of students, faculty and staff – while maintaining the continuity of learning.

Recognizing that registration for the fall registration opened Monday, April 20, CSM leadership decided last weekend to

freeze tuition for the fall semester. Tuition is set by the CSM Board of Trustees.

“CSM leadership, faculty, and staff have shown amazing commitment to our students in these unprecedented times,” said CSM Board of Trustee Chair Ted Harwood. “Their collective, and ongoing, response to this pandemic shines a light on their compassion, resiliency, and commitment to our learners and our community. The CSM team are forward-thinkers and they have the Board’s full support, respect, and gratitude.”

In addition to the tuition freeze, CSM has taken numerous steps to put students first, including moving instruction to a virtual environment March 16; closing campuses to the public March 17; reaching out to personally contact nearly 600 students who expressed they needed help – to connect them with resources; and loaning students CSM “loaner laptops.”

On April 15, CSM announced it would waive the \$20 per credit online course fee for its 2020 Summer Sessions. The waiver has been extended to the fall semester to help further ease the pressure associated with transitioning to an online learning environment and recover from the economic downfall.

The CSM Foundation has also provided more than \$25,000 in student emergency aid including funds for 125 students who

identified food insecurity as an issue. The CSM Foundation continues to work hard – raising more than \$50,000 – to support students with food and living incidentals, education supplies; transportation; and tuition assistance.

### Coronavirus Update

CSM will maintain a virtual learning environment for its students, and faculty and staff will continue to operate remotely, or in restricted mode, through Aug. 16, 2020. CSM’s campuses remain restricted to pre-approved and authorized personnel. This date may again be extended as CSM stands united with the nation in the fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Along with limiting public access to campuses, CSM has made several operational changes that can be tracked at ready.csm.edu/covid-19/. Please visit the website often for resources and updates.

Students should make sure they are monitoring their CSM student email accounts, as well as the MyLearning course shells for their individual courses, and stay in close contact with their professors if they have any questions about their courses.

CSM remains in contact with local, state and federal authorities, and will share information as quickly as possible when and if these new operating conditions change.

*Press Release from CSM.*



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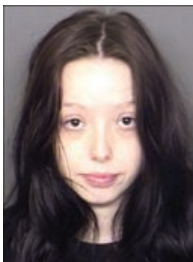
## ST. MARY'S SHERIFFS OFFICE CRIME REPORT

### On View Arrests

**Assault/Violate Protective Order-** On April 22, 2020, Dep. Jerew responded to the 46300 block of Columbus Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Investigation determined Phillip Desales Miles, age 29 of La Plata, assaulted the victim by grabbing the victim by the neck. The victim has an active protective order against Miles which prohibits Miles from contacting the victim by any means. Miles was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree and Violate Protective Order. Later that same day, Dep. Haas responded to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center for the reported protective order violation. Investigation determined Miles had attempted over 20 phone calls to the victim from the detention center's phone system. Miles was charged with Violate Protective Order.

**Assault-** On April 23, 2020, Dep. Baker responded to the 21800 block of Ronald Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Investigation determined Jacqueline Shay Adams, age 20 of Lexington Park, scratched the victim's neck and damaged the victim's property by throwing the victim's property onto the ground. Adams was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.

**Violate Protective Order-** On April 17, 2020, Cpl. Hartzell responded to the 29900 block of Three Notch Road in Charlotte Hall, for the reported disturbance. Investigation determined Tasco Cassandra Plater, age 51 of St. Leonard, confronted the victim at a business and began yelling at the victim. Plater also approached the victim outside and attempted to take a picture of the victim. There is a valid court order prohibiting Plater from contacting the victim by any means. Plater was arrested and charged with Violate Protective Order.



Jacqueline Adams



Phillip Miles



Tasco Plater

## MARYLAND STATE POLICE CALVERT CRIME REPORT

April 28, 2020

The below incidents, investigations, and arrests are, in part, demonstrative of the Prince Frederick Barrack's effort to ensure that Calvert County is a safe place to live, work, and visit.

**Traffic Stop/CDS Arrest/Firearm Seizure-** On 04/26/2020, Trooper Moorman conducted a routine traffic stop on Route 4, in the area of Chaney Road, Dunkirk, for traffic violations. A strong odor of marijuana was emitting from the vehicle. Trooper Moorman identified the driver as Ernesto NMN Rodriguez (08/05/1988), 31, and was asked if there was anything illegal in the vehicle. Rodriguez admitted that there was a firearm under his seat. A vehicle search was conducted on the vehicle, CDS- Marijuana was located in the vehicle and a 9mm Glock

19 firearm. A local and national check was conducted on the firearm, which came back as possibly stolen through Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department in North Carolina. Contact was made with that Police Department and they were able to confirm that the 9mm Glock was in fact stolen. Latham was subsequently placed under arrest for CDS-marijuana, and possessing a stolen firearm. Rodriguez was transported to the Maryland State Police, Prince Frederick Barrack for processing prior to being incarcerated at the Calvert County Detention Center. All CDS and firearms were packaged and processed at the Maryland State Police, Prince Frederick Barrack.

*Press Release from MSP Prince Frederick Barrack*

## Hobar Arrested, Incarcerated

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office would like to inform the public that Kenneth M. Hobar, the individual known to our community for Facebook impersonations, fake Facebook/social media profiles, antagonizing posts to local businesses, churches, and community organizations, etc. was apprehended April 27nd is currently incarcerated with no bond.

Below is article from late 2019 when he was arrested prior:

Hobar, 67, of Lecanto, Florida was arrested on March 21 on an active warrant for a misdemeanor charge of Stalking - (willfully, maliciously, repeatedly follow, harass, cyberstalk another person.)

Hobar appeared in the Citrus County Fifth Judicial Circuit Court on November 13, 2019 where he was facing trial. Sheriff Evans was present in court to testify at the sentencing. Hobar was found guilty for the Stalking charge and was sentenced to 89 days in jail and one year probation following his incarceration.

A condition of Hobar's probation is to have no contact with Sheriff Evans and not to post any more items on social media regarding the Sheriff. If the public should see any evidence of malicious posts for the next year, please contact the Calvert County Sheriff's Office at (410) 535-2800.

*Press Release from CCSO.*

## Lusby Man Dies in Motorcycle Crash

Charles County officers responded on April 25 at 1:46 p.m., to the area of Carrico Mill Road and Groveheart Place in Hughesville for the report of a motorcycle crash. A preliminary investigation revealed the operator of the motorcycle, Thomas Andrew Weaver, Jr., 55, of Lusby, was traveling on Carrico Mill Road when for unknown reasons he left the roadway and struck an electrical pole. He was pronounced deceased on the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to call Cpl. T. Hemsley at (301) 609-5903. Tipsters wishing to remain anonymous may contact Charles County Crime Solvers by calling 1-866-411-TIPS. Tips can also be submitted online at [www.charlescountycrimesolvers.com](http://www.charlescountycrimesolvers.com) or by using the P3Intel mobile app. The investigation is ongoing.

*Press Release from Charles County Sheriff's Office.*

## Information Sought in Assault and Vandalism

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking information from the community in an assault and vandalism investigation. On Sunday, April 5, 2020 at 12:50 pm, the victim was assaulted by three black males at the air pump at the Wawa convenience store in Lexington Park. The victim's vehicle was also damaged during the incident. The suspects were seen traveling in a black or dark blue Crown Victoria car with silver rims.

Anyone with information about the

suspects or this incident is asked to call Deputy Courtney Edwards at 301-475-4200, ext. 78003 or email [courtney.edwards@stmarysmd.com](mailto:courtney.edwards@stmarysmd.com). Case # 20911-20

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

**Philip H. Dorsey III**  
*Attorney at Law*

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## Commissioners Make Second Amendment Declaration

By Guy Leonard  
Staff Writer

Making a largely symbolic vote at their Apr. 28 meeting, the Commissioners of St. Mary's County unanimously approved of declaring St. Mary's a Second Amendment constitutional county.

The resolution adopted by commissioners states that they are strong supporters of the Second Amendment, which affirms the right of the people to keep and bear arms, and that that right is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, which they are sworn to uphold.

The resolution also gives support to other Maryland jurisdictions which enact similar resolutions; St. Mary's is the sixth so far in the state to do so.

The movement to have the county declared a Second Amendment sanctuary began in the winter with a grassroots group of activists seeking the support of elected leaders; moves in the Maryland General Assembly that sought to further restrict rights of gunowners fed the movement.

The resolution did not say that the

county would take any action to prevent laws that apparently restricted gun rights or ownership, only that they opposed them in principal.

County Attorney David Weiskopf said that any opposition to such laws or restrictions should be challenged in the courts.

"The enforcement falls on the state's attorney and the sheriff," said Commissioner Todd Morgan.

Commissioner Eric Colvin said that the resolution approved by the commissioners did not negate any laws.

"I've found that gun owners are highly educated about the law," Colvin said. "This doesn't mean that the commissioners are saying you can carry firearms... you have to follow the law."

In other news they authorized the sale of \$30 million in public construction and infrastructure improvement bonds to a New Jersey-based bidder.

The bonds were taken to market in March; the successful bidder was Robert W. Baird and Co. Inc.

*guyleonard@countytimes.net*

## Loan Program Available for Farmers

### SMADC Partners with MARBIDCO

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, announces new Pandemic Assistance for Southern Maryland farmers.

SMADC is partnering with the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) on their new Pandemic Adjustment Loan Fund Program, specifically to assist Southern Maryland food and fiber producers, harvesters and primary processors adjust to business disruptions caused by COVID-19.

The program is targeted to assist existing agriculture or resource based enterprises in making timely adjustments to their operations and to help them take advantage of new or continuing market opportunities.

Eligible farms and rural businesses can apply directly to MARBIDCO for loans up to \$3,000 in working capital and up to \$10,000 for equipment purchases at low interest rates with flexible terms. Loan repayments will be interest only for five months followed by payments for 12 to 36 months, with a rate of 3.75%. Borrowers who make all their payments will receive a 10% grant back (of the original amount borrowed) at the end of the loan

term.

Southern Maryland loan recipients will receive a grant of an additional 5% of the loan amount from SMADC funds. The grant will be turn-key and administered seamlessly through MARBIDCO.

"SMADC is happy to be partnering again with MARBIDCO, and we're glad to be able to quickly offer assistance to Southern Maryland farmers through the Pandemic Loan fund and hope many farmers will be able to take advantage of it," said Shelby Watson-Hampton, Director of SMADC. Loan applications are due by May 31, 2020, and can be found on MARBIDCO's website at MARBIDCO.ORG.

About the Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation

MARBIDCO's mission is to help Maryland's farm, forestry, and seafood businesses achieve sustainability and profitability through the provision of targeted business assistance and financial services that helps retain existing resource-based industry production and commerce, promotes rural and urban-edge entrepreneurship and nurtures emerging food/feed/fiber industries.

*Press Release from SMADC.*

## Pet OF THE WEEK

### MEET OREO

Older pets are a treasure  
It takes a long time to become this sweet!

Hi there, my name is Oreo. I'm 18 years young and I have an UNBELIEVABLY GREAT PERSONALITY! My experience includes living with kids and being an only pet. I'm also front declawed. So now I'm EARNESTLY SEARCHING for my FOREVER HOME, hopefully, one with a soft blanket to lay on. I know I LOOK GREAT in my picture but you really have to meet me in person! So send my wonderful pals at TCAS an email to make your appointment and I will be SO EXCITED to meet you! BE MY MIRACLE! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

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

Send the wonderful gang at TCAS an email for an appointment at [animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov). To see more of my amazing friends available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-County Animal Shelter Southern MD. TCAS is located at 6707 Animal Shelter Road, Hughesville, MD.



**TRI-COUNTY  
ANIMAL  
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# Museums Participate in 'Day of History'

*#GivingTuesday: Global Day of Unity*



The Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums is responding to meet the needs of the St. Mary's County Museum Division during this difficult time by hosting "A Day of History" on social media platforms May 5, 2020.

#GivingTuesdayNow is a global day of giving and unity, set to take place May 5, 2020, as an emergency response to the unprecedented need of nonprofits caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The day is designed to drive an influx of generosity, citizen engagement, business and philanthropy activation, and support for communities and nonprofits around the world.

At a time when we are all experiencing the effects of the pandemic, generosity is what brings people of all races, faiths, and political views together across the globe. Generosity gives everyone the power to make a positive change in the lives of others and is a fundamental value anyone can act on. It's a day for everyone around the world to stand together and give back in all ways, no

matter who or where we are.

As part of this initiative, the Friends will be celebrating "A Day of History" and will be hosting a post-a-thon on the Friends social media accounts about the history of our museum sites in St. Mary's County. The Friends will celebrate their mission to preserve the history of the county where Maryland began and share links and information on how the public can support that mission as well.

Amber Puschinsky, Fundraising Coordinator for the Friends, says: "This is a critical point in the year for fundraising for our museums. We hope by sharing our important mission with the community that we can create awareness of the work our historic sites are doing. Whether it is by donating \$10 or even simply sharing one of our social media posts, any action taken will help the museums be successful with sharing these stories of the past through exhibitions, family events and community programming when we reopen."

## Telehealth Resource Guide Available For Behavioral Health Support

The COVID-19 pandemic may cause strong feelings of fear, anxiety, sadness and uncertainty in our community. Older people, people with chronic illnesses, youth, health care workers and first responders, and people with mental health conditions may be particularly impacted by the stress of the pandemic.

The St. Mary's County Health Department has created a Telehealth Resource Guide to provide information on local behavioral health resources (mental health, substance use, and crisis services) that are providing support through phone or video during this pandemic. Reaching out for help may provide relief and tools to cope during this stressful time. Individuals with pre-existing mental health conditions should continue with their treatment plans and monitor for any new or worsening

symptoms.

"Today is the start of National Public Health Week, a time to highlight the importance of health issues to our whole community," said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "As we in public health partner with our community agencies and residents to face this unprecedented challenge, we must all remember to care for one another and for ourselves. Call to check on your loved ones and neighbors, and please share these support resources."

For local COVID-19 updates and resources, please visit [www.smchd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchd.org/coronavirus) - click on Mental Health, Substance Use & Crisis Support for more information on mental health and coping during the pandemic.

*Press Release from St. Mary's County Health Department.*

People can show their generosity in a variety of ways during #GivingTuesdayNow, whether it's helping a neighbor, advocating for an issue, sharing a skill or giving to causes (like the Museums) - every act of generosity counts. The global movement will emphasize opportunities to give back to communities and causes in safe ways that allow for social connection even while practicing physical distancing.

"As a global community, we can mourn this moment of extreme crisis while also finding the opportunity to support one another. We each have the power to make an impact with acts of generosity, no matter how small, and to ensure the sustainability of organizations and services that are crucial to the care and support of our communities," said Asha Curran, CEO of GivingTuesday. "#GivingTuesdayNow is a chance for us to stand united and use grassroots generosity to show that we are all in this together, beginning to end. Even as many face financial uncertainty, generosity is not about size. From calling an elderly neighbor to chat to offering translation help; from showing gratitude to our health care workers to donating to your local food bank, every act of kindness is a beacon of hope in this crisis. We all have something to give, and every act of human consideration and kindness matters."

Those interested in joining the Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museum's #GivingTuesdayNow efforts

can visit [Facebook.com/FriendsSCI](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsSCI) and [Facebook.com/FriendsOfPineyPoint](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfPineyPoint) each hour during the day May 5, 2020, to learn more about the important things the organization does to preserve local St. Mary's County history.

For more details about the GivingTuesday movement, visit the GivingTuesday website [www.givingtuesday.org](http://www.givingtuesday.org), Facebook page [Facebook.com/GivingTuesday](https://www.facebook.com/GivingTuesday), or follow @GivingTuesday and #GivingTuesdayNow on Twitter. For youth interested in joining the movement, visit [GivingTuesdayKids.org](https://www.givingtuesday.org/youth) for inspiration and project ideas.

#GivingTuesdayNow is organized by GivingTuesday, in partnership with its global network of leaders, partners, communities and generous individuals. GivingTuesday is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

The Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums raise funds in order to support historical interpretation, education programs and special needs of the sites managed by the Museum Division of St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks. The Friends organization is a 501(c) 3 organization sponsoring events, assisting with acquisitions and supporting efforts to broaden the understanding of our culture and community's heritage.

*Press Release from St. Mary's County government.*

## Meal Service Offered Through Community Partners

St. Mary's County Public Schools will provide a drive-up lunch service Monday-Friday fthrough May 15 at the locations listed below from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily.

Meals will be offered to all children 18 years and younger free of charge. Parents and children can drive up to these locations and receive meals that they can take home during our current school closures.

Leonardtown Elementary School  
22885 Duke Street  
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Greenview Knolls Elementary School  
45711 Military Lane  
Great Mills, MD 20634

Margaret Brent Middle School  
29675 Point Lookout Road  
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Lexington Park Elementary School  
46763 Shangri-La Drive  
Lexington Park, MD 20653

For questions regarding the lunch service program, please email [foodservice@smcps.org](mailto:foodservice@smcps.org).

St. Mary's Caring Soup Kitchen, 20850 Langley Road, Lexington Park is distributing take-and-go meals between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. One meal per person. The soup kitchen also has bagged lunch distribution sites on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, with a Pop-Up Pantry on Wednesdays between 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the parking lot at the following locations:

Ridge - Dollar General, 13270 Point Lookout Rd.

Piney Point- Chief's Restaurant, 44584 Tall Timbers Rd.

Charlotte Hall - April's Pools, on the corner of Rt. 5 and Rt. 6

Bushwood - Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 23080 Maddox Rd.

For more information on the St. Mary's Caring program, call 301-863-5700.

The Department of Social Services has launched a local Food Hotline for residents needing assistance with food supply and can be accessed by calling 240-895-7000.

For additional community resources, please visit the St. Mary's County Government Community Resource map.

# Road Construction Underway on Park Entrance

The Calvert County Department of Public Works has begun construction on a new roadway that will provide secondary access for those entering and exiting Hallowing Point Park. The roadway will extend from the back of Hallowing Point Park to Jibsail Drive, on the east side of the Calvert County Industrial Park.

Current park exit procedures will remain in place during construction, with right turn only allowed from the park onto Hallowing Point Road (MD 231) on Saturdays and Sundays, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The new road is expected to be in use by the end of April.

Citizens are reminded to stay away from the construction area.

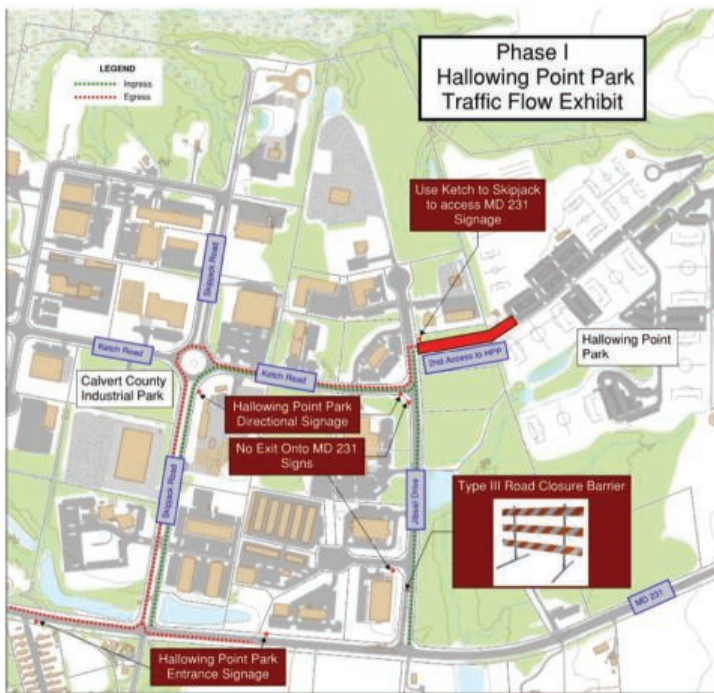
Building a secondary entrance road is the first phase of traffic safety improve-

ments in the area of Hallowing Point Park. Additional phases will include further roadway modifications in the surrounding area to optimize the safe flow of traffic into and out of the park.

The park returns to summer operating hours of 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. on March 14. Hallowing Point Park is located at 4755 Hallowing Point Road in Prince Frederick.

For updates on Parks & Recreation services, park availability, field closures and more visit Parks & Recreation at [www.Facebook.com/CalvertCountyParks](http://www.Facebook.com/CalvertCountyParks). Find information on Calvert County Government services online at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov).

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*



# Calvert Chamber Announces New President/CEO



Kathryn Maney

Kathryn Maney will succeed Lee Greely as President/CEO of the Calvert Chamber of Commerce as of May 18, 2020.

Greely will be stepping down as President/CEO of the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce effective May 17, 2020 to assume a new role of Development Manager with the Charles County Public Library. Maney will begin her new role with the chamber beginning May 18, 2020, providing a seamless transition for Chamber members.

Maney has not only been a member of the Chamber for five years, she has also spearheaded several successful Women to Women annual events, has served on the Board of Directors since her appointment in 2018 and regularly assists with planning and execution of most Chamber events.

"We are excited to have someone stepping into the President/CEO role that is so knowledgeable of the day-to-day operations of the business," said Board Chair Janna Jackson. "Pair that with the fact that Lee is willing to remain with us until the end of May and we won't miss a beat during this most trying of times for local businesses."

Greely has been instrumental in ex-

ecuting many new initiatives to improve business relationships and bring the Chamber up to the communication standards of today's business needs. His enthusiasm for the success of the Calvert County business community has left a lasting impression on our members.

Greely achieved many significant accomplishments in his tenure, including:

Implementing new digital communication tracking platforms to ensure successful and efficient member engagement

Streamlining updates to all member and business communications, including consistencies and enhancements to the weekly e-newsletter along with improved recognition and engagement for members through social media platforms

Restructuring Business After Hours into the newly rebranded Chamber Connect

Reshaping and refocusing all Chamber committees, including the Business Advisory Committee and the Membership Engagement Committee

Providing leadership and engagement with membership through the ongoing COVID-19 challenges, including creating and updating a member resources page, establishing a members Facebook group for connections and idea sharing, and shifting monthly events to a virtual platform to provide continued value and support for members during this unprecedented time

"We cannot thank Lee enough for the passion, enthusiasm and motivation he has given our organization during his tenure as President/CEO. Lee will be greatly missed by the staff, Board, volunteers and supporters alike, and we look forward to following the success of his career," Jackson said.

*Press Release from Calvert County Chamber of Commerce.*

**“**

The County Times is one of the best methods for advertising my events - it is also the best source for me to catch up on all the local news and events, especially those related to our County's rural heritage.

**”**

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# 2020 Presidential Primary. Vote Safe, Vote by Mail

A 2020 Presidential Primary Election will be held Tuesday, June 2nd, 2020. The Maryland State Board of Elections is committed to educating voters on the changes made to election procedures due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. These changes are made to ensure voters can exercise their fundamental right to vote while also safeguarding the public's health during this pandemic.

This election will be conducted by mail, with at least one in-person voting location in every county and Baltimore City available for those who are unable to vote by mail.

Here are commonly asked questions about this election and guidance for residents on how to vote safely and conveniently. For further questions, please visit [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov) or contact the State Board at 1-800-222-8683.

1. What is the date for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election? Tuesday, June 2, 2020

2. What is the safest way to vote? To reduce the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus, voters are strongly encouraged to vote by mail. The State Board of Elections will mail ballots to all eligible voters. No postage is needed to return your ballot - you will get a postage paid return envelope with your ballot.

3. Do voters need to request a ballot? No. The State Board of Elections will mail ballots to all eligible active voters.

4. When will ballots be mailed? Ballots will be mailed in early to mid May.

5. If a voter has requested a ballot, does the voter need to request another ballot? No. All eligible voters will receive a ballot for the 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

6. What is the deadline by which voters must mail in their voted ballots? Voted ballots must be postmarked on or before June 2, 2020.

7. What if a voter can't vote by mail? If a voter cannot vote by mail, there will be at least one voting location in each county and Baltimore City. The voting locations will be open on June 2nd from 7 am to 8 p.m. The State Board will announce the precise locations soon, and voters unable to vote by mail are encouraged to check [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov) for those locations.

8. If a voter has already requested an absentee ballot, does the voter need to do anything? No. The voter will receive a ballot in early to mid May.

9. How do voters know if they are registered to vote? If you aren't sure if you are registered, or at what address, check your voter registration status by visiting [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov) and clicking "Look up your Voter Info." If you do not have internet access, call 1-800-222-8683 and ask a State Board of Elections representative to check your registration.

10. What kind of identification is required to cast a ballot by mail? If you

are a registered voter and voted before, no identification is required to receive or submit a ballot by mail. A very small number of newly registered voters may need to provide ID with their voted ballots. If you have to provide ID, there will be instructions with your ballot.

11. Can voters register to vote online? It is possible to register to vote in Maryland elections online. Visit [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov) and click "Register to Vote" to learn more. The deadline to register to vote is Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

12. Is identification required to register to vote? No, but you must provide some information so election officials can verify your identity.

If you use the State Board's online system to register, you must enter your Maryland driver's license number or Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) issued state ID number, the date MVA issued your license or ID card, and the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. If you reside outside of the United States or are a member of the military or spouse or dependent of a member of the military, you must enter the last 4 digits of your US social security number. If you provide a license or State ID number, your signature on file with the MVA will become your official voter registration signature. If you provide a social security number, it will be used as your official voter registration signature.

If you use the paper application to regis-

ter, you must also provide your Maryland driver's license number or MVA-issued state ID number if you have one. If you don't have one, you must provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. If you don't have either number, check box 6c. If you check box 6c, you might be required to show ID before voting for the first time.

13. How will voters know that their ballots will be counted? You can check that your ballot was counted by visiting [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov) and clicking "Look up your Voter Info." If you do not have internet access, call 1-800-222-8683 and ask a State Board of Elections representative to check the status of your voted ballot. The information will be posted about 10 days after the election.

14. How do voters update their address? Give the local board of elections where you currently live your new address information. You can use the voter registration application to make the change, or you can submit in writing your new address. Voters must update their address with their local board of elections. For instructions on updating your address, please visit the State Board of Elections website at [www.elections.maryland.gov/voting/address.html](http://www.elections.maryland.gov/voting/address.html). The deadline to update your information is Wednesday, May 27th.

*Press Release from Maryland State Board of Elections*

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## Calvert Begins Drive-Thru Farmers Market

*Features Fresh Local Food, Products*



The Calvert County Department of Economic Development announces a drive-through farmers market will be held Tuesdays in Prince Frederick at the CalvertHealth Medical Center located at 130 Hospital Road through Nov. 24, 2020. Citizens can visit the market from 2:30-6:30 p.m. to purchase local produce, meat, bedding plants (vegetables and herbs) and more, while maintaining a safe social distance from vendors and other citizens.

Patrons should remain in their vehicles at all times and vendors will deliver products directly through the driver's side window. Per Gov. Hogan's executive order, citizens and vendors are required to wear a face covering. For a full

list of state farmers market guidelines, please visit [www.marylandfma.org/wp-content/uploads/Maryland-Farmers-Markets-Operations-During-COVID-19-State-of-Emergency-.pdf](http://www.marylandfma.org/wp-content/uploads/Maryland-Farmers-Markets-Operations-During-COVID-19-State-of-Emergency-.pdf).

For more information on Calvert County's agricultural community, and updates on local farmers markets, visit [www.calvertag.com](http://www.calvertag.com), or contact the Calvert County Department of Economic Development at 410-535-4583 or 301-855-1880 or via email at [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com).

For COVID-19 resources, guidance and updates, please visit Calvert County's virtual resource center at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

*Press Release from Calvert County government.*

## SMECO Rate Reduction Approved

*Lower rates take effect in May*

Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative's (SMECO) Board of Directors recently received approval for a decrease in the power supply rates that customer-members pay for their electric service. On February 28, SMECO submitted a filing to the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) to reduce its base energy charges by more than 10 percent for residential customers. The lower rates were approved by the PSC on April 22 and will go into effect on May 1, 2020.

"This rate reduction couldn't have come at a better time. We know that many of our customer-members have been affected by the stay-at-home orders in Maryland and their income has been significantly impacted," said Sonja Cox, SMECO president and CEO. "At 6.21 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), our residential base rate for May will be the lowest it has been in almost 15 years."

The base rate for an average residential customer with 1,300 kWh of monthly usage will be \$10.40 less this summer than last summer. "Lower rates have a positive effect on a house-

hold budget," Cox said. "But for commercial accounts, schools, churches, and government buildings, whose facilities use a lot of energy, the savings can be considerable."

SMECO's Standard Offer Service (SOS) rate is made up of the energy charge and the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). SMECO's base residential energy charges for summer will decrease by 11 percent, from 6.98 cents per kWh to 6.21 cents per kWh. Summer energy charges appear on bills rendered May through September. Base residential winter energy charges will be reduced from 7.54 cents per kWh to 6.74 cents per kWh, a 10.6 percent reduction.

On SMECO's monthly electric bills, lower power supply costs have been reflected in the PCA, which has been a credit for the last several months. The PCA, which changes monthly, is a credit of 0.8839 cents per kWh for April. The combination of the base energy charge and the PCA credit effectively reduces the SOS rate for April from 7.54 cents per kWh to 6.6561 cents per kWh.

*Press Release from SMECO*

# Happy Mother's Day

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# Professors Awarded Three-year NSF Grant

## Will Fund Student Research Experiences

St. Mary's College's Liza Gijanto, associate professor of anthropology, and Randy Larsen, professor of chemistry, were recently awarded an NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) grant focused on archaeological investigations of colonial Maryland. The \$368,278 grant will fund a multi-year research program for numerous students from across the U.S.

Each summer during this NSF-REU program, 12 undergraduate students and their mentors will investigate the role of country estates in shaping Maryland society from the mid-17th until the early 19th century. This archaeology REU program is novel in terms of research focus, combining traditional field and laboratory techniques with cutting-edge collection management methods (archaeometry, mapping, dating, photogrammetry). Participants will also receive instruction in ethical curation that includes interpretation in both scholarly publications and museum exhibition. The eight-week program will be hosted by St. Mary's College of Maryland, with field work occurring at the Cremona Estate in Mechanicsville, Maryland, and collections management and conservation training done in collaboration with the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) in St. Leonard, Maryland. The three-year project was scheduled to run in the summers of 2020, 2021 and 2022. However, due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pan-

dem, Gijanto and Larsen are working with NSF to delay implementation of the project by one year.

This comprehensive and innovative REU program will provide undergraduates with a first-class research experience in archaeology and state-of-the-art training in the latest scientific and methodological approaches to archaeological fieldwork, artifact curation, materials analysis, curatorial interpretation and public engagement with scholarly content. Gijanto and Larsen also seek to highlight the ongoing archaeological collections crisis, which is largely due to the separation of archaeological fieldwork from collections management and the lack of planning and resource allocation for the proper care of materials once they have been excavated. To investigate the research question and provide solid training in archaeology, students will learn: 1) the use of archaeological, archival, and spatial data to discern the role of country estates in shaping Maryland society; 2) the relationship between generating a collection and maintaining it; 3) archaeometry and materials characterization; and 4) public engagement through research presentations, publications and museum exhibition. This combination of research and state-of-the-art training available to early career, underserved students is currently unique among U.S. field schools.

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

# College Wins Four Advertising Awards

St. Mary's College of Maryland's Office of Institutional Advancement, led by Vice President Carolyn Curry, has won four awards in the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Advertising Awards.

The increasingly-popular Hawktoberfest earned a silver award in the Special Event category and this past Giving Tuesday earned a bronze award in the Fund-Raising Campaign category. The campaigns were 100 percent created and executed by the Institutional Advancement team. Two awards were submitted on behalf of St. Mary's College by its marketing partner Creative Communication Associates. Under the category of Total Recruitment Package - the College's viewbook, travel piece, and LEAD brochure - a silver award was earned. This fall's open house advertising campaign was awarded a bronze award in the Integrated Marketing Campaign category. Partly because of the campaign, which prominently launched the Col-

lege's new brand, the fall 2019 open houses saw an increase of 72 percent in attendance by prospective students over the previous year.

The Annual Educational Advertising Awards is sponsored by Higher Education Marketing Report. The Educational Advertising Awards is the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country. This year, over 2,350 entries were received from over 1,000 colleges, universities, and secondary schools from all 50 states and several foreign countries.

Higher Education Marketing Report has been the nation's leading marketing publication for higher education marketing professionals for 35 years. Curry was recently featured in the November/December edition of the Report. In the interview, Curry discusses launching St. Mary's College's new brand as The National Public Honors College.

*Press Release from SMCM.*

# Wireless Internet Available in School Parking Lots

Free WiFi access is now available to all students and staff in the parking lots of nine St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS). Access is restricted to individuals with an official SMCPS email address.

The SMCPS Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) evaluated several alternatives and determined that an extension of the existing SMCPS network signal to school parking lots provided the best short- and long-term value. SMCPS reallocated existing technology funds from the Fiscal Year 2020 operating

budget to prioritize internet access for our students and staff. Schools with parking lot WiFi signals are:

- Ridge Elementary
- George Washington Carver Elementary
- Great Mills High
- Leonardtown High
- Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center
- Evergreen Elementary
- Dynard Elementary
- Chopticon High
- Lettie Marshall Dent Elementary

# Professor Receives Fulbright Research Award



St. Mary's College Professor of Religious Studies Betül Başaran

St. Mary's College Professor of Religious Studies Betül Başaran has won a three-month Fulbright Global Scholar Research award for the Spring 2021 Semester to conduct critically important archival research in England and India for her book project on the legacy and impact of Princesses Niloufer (1916-1989) and Durrushehvar (1914-2006).

Başaran's host institutions will be the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, The Centre for Historical Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi, and the Centre for Deccan Studies in Hyderabad. As a Fulbright Global Scholar, she will give lectures about her research at each of these institutions, and organize semi-

nars with students who have an interest in Islamic Studies and Gender Studies.

Başaran's project underscores the agency of Muslim women as important role models and pioneers in world history, in contrast to the contemporary western narrative most prevalent today that reduces them to mere victims or religious extremists.

The story of late Ottoman princesses and their cross-cultural journeys present a unique perspective to investigate the intertwined themes of international politics, religion, royalty, and Muslim women's agency during a turbulent period of major social and political transformations in the 20th century. The princesses belonged to the Ottoman dynasty and were condemned to life-long exile after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire following World War I. Their life is a fascinating story of exile from Turkey to the French Riviera, followed by royal glamor in India as daughters-in-law of Hyderabad's last independent ruler, where they evolved from foreign brides into cultural ambassadors dedicated to women's empowerment.

Başaran's project aims to enhance our understanding of the role of Ottoman princesses as transnational and cross-cultural agents for change during the 20th century.

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



ON NEWSSTANDS EVERY THURSDAY & ONLINE AT COUNTYTIMES.NET 

# Working On the

By Dick Myers, Editor and  
Guy Leonard, Staff Writer

They are part of the workforce that has been deemed “essential.” Unlike many who continue to work from home or who are now unemployed, those essential workers get up every morning and go to work as if nothing has changed when in fact almost everything has changed.

It goes without saying that those who work in hospitals and provide other emergency services (police, fire, rescue) are “essential.” They are all used to being essential. Since the crisis started, they are also being hailed as heroes.

But, there’s a whole new group of essential workers who never thought they would fall into that essential category and surely never imagined they too would be called heroes. They are the folks who work in grocery, pet, liquor, hardware and convenience stores. They deliver packages, food and heating oil, service cars, provide pest control and yes, even are newspaper editors and reporters.

Many of those essential workers interviewed for this article admit that times sure are unusual but they are quickly adapting and rolling with the punches. That doesn’t mean that their families and friends aren’t worried that they could be in harm’s way.

“It’s just another day,” is how 16-year veteran employee of Bowen’s Grocery in Huntingtown, Teri Hammon describes her new reality.

Hammon works in the deli and at the cash register. It has taken her a little time to get used to wearing the personal protective equipment such as the face mask and gloves. But after a while it’s become second nature.



The store had made some operating changes, such as requiring customers to call in deli orders and pick them up at the counter. And Hammon is seeing what a lot of stores are seeing – less of a rush at certain times, such as when people were commuting to work, and more of an even flow of customer traffic.

Like many stores, Bowen’s requires customers to be wearing masks or they aren’t allowed in.

Those masks can be an interesting diversion for store clerks because many customers have customized them. Ceferino Epps, who works part-time at Patuxent Wine & Spirits in Lusby, is seeing a lot of sports pride being displayed on the masks, with of course the Washington Redskins being the local favorite.

Epps came out of retirement a year and a half ago to help the store help customers with their wine selection. Epps had significant experience with that, having operated an Italian res-

taurant on Solomons Island.

Epps, 78, said he falls into the category of not being fearful coming into work, saying he feels safe. The store’s owner, Calvert County Commissioner Mike Hart said he has always been a neat freak. “I am a germ-a-phobe,” he said.

Epps said all surfaces, from the credit card machine to counter tops are frequently cleaned.

The store also was used to curbside delivery since they have always offered to take their customers’ purchases to the car for them.

Epps said that even though they are offering now to deliver to cars, so customers don’t have to come in, only a small portion of them choose to do so.

“I don’t detect any,” said Epps about any reluctance of their customers to enter. He said they, like he, feel safe.

At the McKay’s Food Store in Charlotte Hall, Mary Wathen, the bakery manager, said she and the other employees have had to change the way they operate but the demand is still strong for that most basic of food staples, bread.

“It’s a little more difficult customer service wise,” Wathen, who has worked for the McKays for 37 years, said. “You have to be more careful.”

“And it’s very hot back here when you’re wearing a mask.

When suppliers run out of bread to stock the shelves, the bakery staff has to make more to fill the gap, she said, and customers are buying up more snacks from the bakery.

“They’ve really picked up on the sweets,” Wathen said. “Especially the cookies.”

Demand for birthday and celebratory cakes has dropped off, though, since parties are essentially forbidden now by order of Gov. Larry Hogan.

Mother’s Day and high school graduation cakes will also suffer, she said.

“It’s going to be tough on everyone not being able to celebrate days like Mother’s Day,” Wathen said.

After nearly four decades working

in food service, Wathen said she never once considered she would be considered an essential, frontline employee.

“You’ve got to do it,” Wathen said. “You’ve got customers that need you; they’ve got to feed their families.”

Jeanette Norris, a 30-year employee with the McKays and assistant manager at their Hollywood store, said the COVID-19 pandemic had drilled into employees the critical need for cleanliness.

“We’ve always tried to keep things clean,” Norris said. “Now it’s ingrained into us.”

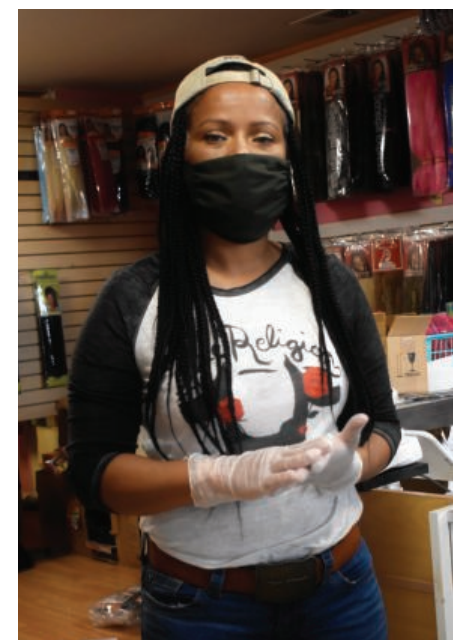
And even more, it’s kept them even busier than normal.

“We still have pretty big shopping being done here,” Norris said. “We’ve been busier.”

“It keeps your mind busy, so you don’t dwell on things.”

Her employers have supplied them with protective gear, Norris said, and installed face shields at check out aisles, transforming the store somewhat.

“The customers have been thanking us for being open,” Norris said. “We appreciate that because sometimes we’d like to be home, too.”

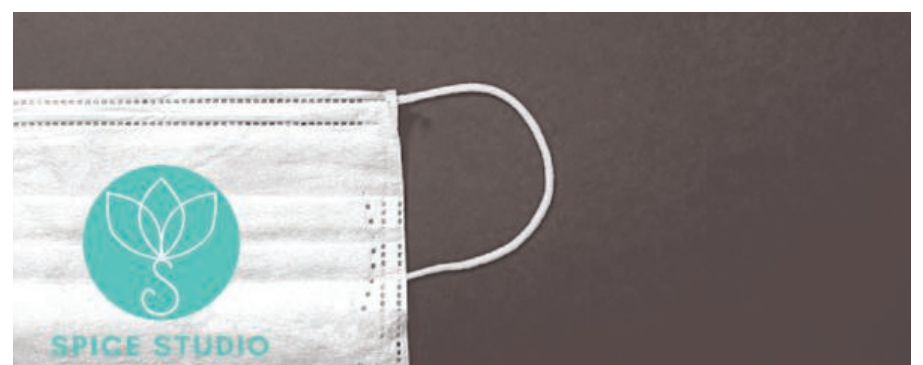


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# Frontline



Ricky Kline, a production manager with the professional cleaning business Servpro, has been busy along with four other crews fighting the novel coronavirus ever since it was found here; his work has taken him to St. Mary's and Calvert counties.

He and his crew know the threat the virus poses, and they are ready for it.

"The amount of training we have is incredible," Kline said. "We have all the necessary PPE (personal protective equipment).

"It's not nerve racking at all; we're trained for this kind of thing."

His crews and others have been called to homes, businesses, federal buildings and schools to clean even if the site was suspected of harboring the coronavirus, he said.

"We'll go in and inspect the property and follow all the CDC guidelines," Kline said. "We clean everything from the ceiling on down and then apply a disinfectant.

"We have five crews and at least one of those crews is on a COVID-19 job at least once a day."

Servpro is reaching out to the fire and EMS companies in both St. Mary's and Calvert counties, Kline said; they have cleaned at both companies in Hollywood and the Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Their strict safety regimen and use of PPE means they have not one case of COVID-19 among them, Kline said.

"I'm thankful to be able to get out there and help people get back to a

normal state," said Kline.

Laryssa Somerville is finally able to get back to plying her trade of styling hair after being shutdown by the state due to COVID-19; she's been in business for 26 years.

Now, working at Executive Salon Suites in Lexington Park, she is working on hair of other essential workers one person at a time.

"It's affected me because I've been without an income," Somerville said of the COVID-19 shutdown. "It's not been an easy thing."

Before the pandemic she was seeing between six to 10 customers a day, now she sees just one to two a day, she said.

Given the pandemic, she has to keep her customers to a manageable number for their safety and for hers.

"I have a nurse I used to see once a week; now I talked her into coming once a month," Somerville said.

She has to be fully dressed in mask, gloves, eye protection and apron to be able to work.

Other stylists rent out space from her – they work in separate suites at her building – and she works just on Mondays and Tuesdays now. They are on a rotating schedule to keep occupancy low.

Trying to get back to a semblance of normalcy is difficult.

"If I accept cash, I have to quarantine it for a few hours or a day or so," Somerville said.

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# Saluting Our Essential Workers

These essential workers were nominated by friends, family and colleagues on The County Times facebook page

**Mardy Millen** my daughter **Lindsey Millen Perry** nurse at medstar and all the employees at medstar leonardtown



**Barbara Whipkey** My entire team at Wild Birds Unlimited and Wild Birds Unlimited



**Jessica Ann Warren N Evans Jr** Napa auto parts Lexington park md!

**Jessica Ann Joe Johnson** at Napa auto parts in Lexington park!



**Carey Fowler** Aaron Dailey and Jasmine Peterson Weis Pharmacy



**Amanda Burroughs** My brother Jame Abell Jr & My Uncle Danny Gatton at Dean's in Hollywood md, My Sister Jessica Abell & Donna Abell at Napa in California md, Myself Amanda Burroughs at Napa in Charlotte Hall md and to all my fellow Napa family in St. Mary's and Calvert.



**James Christopher Leavy** The entire Frito lay staff keeping your stores full of all your great snacks especially j.c. Who serves the leonardtown Foodlion, Bjs, and Harris teeter .



**Maria Hayner Fleming** The entire staff of Asbury Solomons Continuing Care Retirement Community - nursing, dining, housekeeping, maintenance, reception, security, wellness, pastoral care, marketing, human resources, transportation, social work, physical therapy, home care services and administration.



**Linda Smith** My son, Carl Pyles. Providing childcare at Pax River, Child Care Center..



**Terri McCollum** My brother Ken Wasson is an assistant manager of Auto Zone in Leonardtown. His roommate Tricia King is a manager at CVS Hollywood and they both still work regularly.



**Tytiana Snyder** My mom, Jennifer Thomas working at Cedar Lane Apartments. My sister Dominique Thomas Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. My sister Audrey Hall working at Jarboe building. My sister Keyonnda Hall working at St. Mary's Nursing Center. My husband Terence Snyder working for MDOT (state highway)



**Josh Layne** Platform Aerospace, Hollywood MD. We don't stop!



**Diann Fretwell** My daughter **Twania Fretwell** is a patient support at Charles Regional Medical Facility and my grandson Andy Fretwell is law enforcement here in St. Mary's Co.



**Jessica Van Patten** My husband Jason vanpatten, he is an electrician.

**Lynda Wert** The staff at Fastop, Solomons MD



**Tawanda Spence** Shawnta Elsey-Checkers  
Natasha Brown-United States Navy



**Stephanie Eid Jacobs** My husband, **Matt Jacobs** and all of his coworkers at UPS out of the Waldorf building.

**Amber Levinson** My son, Treyton Levinson Walmart



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# CSM Donates Medical Supplies, Equipment

*Nursing Students Volunteer on Front Line*



CSM staff and faculty pack up the college's PPE and medical supplies to donate to local health care providers caring for patients in the nation's battle against the coronavirus pandemic.

When the national call to action sounded for public donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in mid-March, College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Health Sciences Division Chair Dr. Laura Polk rallied her CSM colleagues – and got to work. She immediately organized staff and faculty to gather the college's PPE and medical supplies for local health care providers who were preparing for the surge of COVID-19 patients in the nation's battle against the coronavirus pandemic.

Among the items the CSM colleagues packed up to donate to Calvert Health, Charles Regional Medical Center, MedStar St. Mary's and Southern Maryland hospitals were more than 22,000 pairs of non-sterile gloves; 2,500 pairs of sterile gloves; 1,000 face masks; 1,400 isolation gowns and gallons of antibacterial soap, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes. Polk was also able to donate two ventilators to the Maryland Department of Health for state-wide allocation. CSM's donations to the state's pandemic response equaled more than \$30,000 in equipment and supplies. The college has also made its campuses available for storage space or emergency staging to the tri-county emergency management teams and experts.

But Polk didn't stop there.

Along with joining the CSM faculty's tireless efforts to bring CSM to a virtual learning environment, she collaborated with the Maryland Institute

for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) and helped develop a process that identified three levels of care that CSM nursing students – and college nursing students from around the state – could register for in order to assist in the COVID-19 response. The 'Nursing Clinical Extern Portal' has now been in place for several weeks and it complements the volunteers who are staffing the Maryland Medical Reserve Corps.

"To date, we have a least one dozen faculty and students who have registered for the Maryland Medical Reserve Corps," confirmed Polk. "And of the 270 nursing students currently in our programs, more than 60 students signed up as Clinical Externs to help with acute care staffing across the state. That equates to more than 20 percent of our nursing students who are volunteering to go the front lines in any way they can – all the while keeping up with their course work."

CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy shared that she isn't surprised by the faculty, staff and students' efforts.

"I think it is extraordinary the way that everyone is 'leaning in' to answer the call to help with things we never thought we'd have to deal with," Murphy said. "But that is exactly what the CSM family does day-in, and day-out."

"To me, it's all about fulfilling our mission," Polk said. "We are here to help our learners be the best they can be and we're here to build collaborative community partnerships. These

are the very days when we absolutely need to be giving back to, and assisting, our community partners in every way that we can."

**Students on the Front Lines**

Shannon Windsor, 26, of Dentsville, is a fourth-semester nursing student and one of the CSM students 'leaning in.' Three weeks away from graduating with her ADN [associate degree in nursing degree], she signed up for both the Maryland Medical Reserve Corps and MIEMSS' 'Nursing Clinical Extern Portal' and has already served on the front lines at the VEIP-turned COVID-19 testing center in Waldorf. Windsor called the experience that had her administering 25 tests the first day, and 30 tests the second day, 'eye-opening.'

"It was very controlled," she explained. "It was good to visualize it and learn as much as I possibly could from seasoned nurses. I know there is tremendous value in what I am doing right now, because in three or four months, after I graduate, I will be caring for COVID-19 patients as a nurse in the field, not as a nursing student."

Windsor said her classes picked up the pace with pandemic training, as well.

"In our clinical settings now – even though we're online – we are doing pandemic scenarios," she said. "Our instructors went right to work to deepen our knowledge."

"To say I am proud of our faculty and students for stepping up to help

in every possible way, would be an understatement. We strive to promote students' commitment to their respective health profession and the community, and it has been amazing to see them respond," Polk said.

**Coronavirus Update**

CSM last week announced that it will maintain a virtual learning environment for its students for the rest of the spring semester and faculty and staff will continue to operate remotely through May 31. CSM's campuses remain restricted to pre-approved and authorized personnel. This date may again be extended as CSM stands united with the nation in the fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Along with limiting public access to campuses, CSM has made several operational changes that can be tracked at [ready.csmd.edu/covid-19/](https://ready.csmd.edu/covid-19/). Please visit the website often for resources and updates.

Students should make sure they are monitoring their CSM student email accounts, as well as the MyLearning course shells for their individual courses, and stay in close contact with their professors if they have any questions about their courses.

CSM remains in close contact with local, state and federal authorities, and will share information as quickly as possible when and if these new operating conditions change.

*Press Release from CSM.*

## Progress Cited in Meeting Chesapeake Goals



Thomas Point Lighthouse by Stephanie Brown

The Chesapeake Bay, the nation's largest estuary, has been at the core of Maryland's culture and economy since the dawn of history. Unfortunately, by the 1960s it became apparent that the health of our bay had fallen on difficult times. At first, there was little agreement on what the problems were, and much disagreement on what to do about them. But as science was brought to bear on the issue, it became clear that the primary problem was far too many nutrients and sediment running off of the land and into our waterways as a result of a growing and impactful human population. Still, how to solve the problem remained far less clear.

We now have more than 50 years of science, debate, politics, and bureaucracy between when we first identified the problem and where we are today at solving it. In 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), working in collaboration with Maryland, our sister jurisdictions comprising the Chesapeake Bay watershed (Virginia, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Delaware, West Virginia, and New York), and a lot of scientists and interested stakeholders, established a standard of bay health—Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL. This is the maximum amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment that can enter the bay without substantially and negatively impacting the quality of our waters and living resources. The EPA then divided that bay-wide TMDL up among the seven watershed jurisdictions and mandated—through the authority granted in the Clean Water Act—that each jurisdiction implement best management practices for reducing pollution to meet each individual TMDL no later than 2025.

The good news is that we are making progress. Maryland's TMDL requires that we reduce the amount of nitrogen entering the Chesapeake Bay from Maryland by about 21% from 2010 levels. Maryland is now about halfway to its 2025 goals. That progress is particularly significant when you recognize that today we have about 50% more people living in the Chesapeake Bay watershed than we did in the 1970s. So despite significantly more people creating significantly more waste, we have reduced the amount of its impact. That is a major accomplishment of which we should all be proud!

We still have a substantial way to go, and not a lot of time to get there, but we have a plan and we are following it. To provide reasonable assurance that the TMDL will be met, the EPA has required that each bay jurisdiction develop Watershed Implementation Plans that detail the actions each will take to meet its TMDL. The first iteration of these plans—known as WIPs—were required and submitted to the EPA by each state in 2010. The WIPs have been updated twice since then based on updates in our scientific understanding and lessons learned as we progressed. In August 2019, Maryland submitted our most recent version (known as the Phase

III WIP) and we are now beginning the process of implementing those strategies.

### Sharing the Load

But simply reducing the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment entering the bay by 2025 is not enough. We all know that achieving, maintaining, and enjoying a healthy bay involves far more than just planting cover crops and upgrading wastewater treatment plants.

In recognition of that fact, in 2014 all seven watershed jurisdictions, the federal government, and the Chesapeake Bay Commission signed the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, which commits the signatories to achieving 31 varied and critical bay restoration outcomes beyond meeting the TMDL by 2025. These Watershed Agreement outcomes include sustainably managing our fisheries, maintaining vital habitats (wetlands, forests, streams, fish passage), reducing the impacts of toxic contaminants, restoring and conserving healthy watersheds, promoting citizen and local government stewardship, increasing public access to the bay, supporting environmental literacy and education, and addressing the impacts of climate change.

Finally, we have also recognized that, even after meeting all our bay restoration goals, our population will likely continue to grow—meaning that our efforts to offset the impacts of that growth will continue far beyond 2025.

These goals are challenging, but not impossible. Central to success will be using the best science available to maximize and continually improve the cost effectiveness of Maryland's three primary Chesapeake Bay restoration funding programs: the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund, the Bay Restoration Fund, and the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost Share Program. Leveraging these fund sources with other state programs like Program Open Space, federal programs, local funds, and the private sector is essential. Maryland has a strong tradition of remaining grounded in sound science while pushing the envelope on innovative policies and initiatives.

Maryland has been a leader in the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership since its inception. Governor Hogan and his Chesapeake Bay Cabinet have embraced that leadership role, and are committed to the science and innovation that have carried us thus far and that will ensure the successful realization of our goal. The Department of Natural Resources remains central to this success through our world-renowned water quality and living resource monitoring and assessment programs, our innovative and cutting-edge management of the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund, sustainable management of our fisheries, our Program Open Space, and a range of programs involving environmental literacy, climate resiliency, public access, fish passage, forestry, wildlife, communication, and legislative work.

DNR has contributed and continues to contribute greatly to Maryland's and the greater bay watershed's efforts to realize a healthy and vibrant Chesapeake Bay. We continue to be guided by science—it may not always tell us what we want to hear, but it always shows us the path to success. We have come far and our challenges ahead are significant, but if we remain committed, we are well positioned to achieve our goal.

*By David M. Goshorn, Ph.D., the Senior Bay Restoration Coordinator for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Appears in Vol. 23, No. 1 of the Maryland Natural Resource magazine, spring 2020.*

## Calvert Schools Introduce Apex Learning

Calvert County Public Schools has sent the following information to parents:

Calvert County Public Schools recognizes the unprecedented impact of COVID-19 on our school community. Our concern for the well-being of our students, staff, and their families continues to drive the decisions we make, including our efforts to transition learning to a digital environment. As CCPS navigates these uncertain waters, we must continually assess and adjust to the needs of our students, families, and staff. In order to provide secondary teachers and students access to digital content during this extended school closure, CCPS will provide Apex Learning courses for students in grades 6-12. Access to these courses will support the continuity of learning and well-being of our families and staff. Apex courses will provide meaningful learning activities and resources to support teachers and students in a digital environment.

**What is Apex Learning?** Apex Learning, Inc. is a provider of digital curriculum accredited by AdvancED. APEX Learning is an approved online course provider and is utilized by CCPS for diversified instructional purposes.

**Will my child be using Apex?** Teachers will communicate directly with their students through Schoology if Apex is a resource they will be using in their online instruction.

**What does Apex offer CCPS students?** Apex offers students the following: § Flexible learning opportunities that can be adjusted based on family needs and schedule (Apex courses are available to learners 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). § Easily accessible courses equipped with audio, video, animations, printable study sheets, and built in checkpoints already designed for distant delivery. Continuity of learning

between classrooms with learning in a digital environment. Opportunities to engage in new curricular topics. Optional learning extensions for students who are ready to extend their learning. § Content for courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies, world languages, and other electives, such as business math.

**What parents should expect learning to look like for their students?** Parents can expect that communications regarding lessons and assignments will remain consistent with the procedures and timelines already established by CCPS. Additionally, teachers will still provide students with feedback and discussion opportunities via Schoology. Apex lessons will offer students additional instruction into essential course content, which will extend their understanding of essential course concepts. Additionally, parents will find that their children have opportunities to engage in voluntary extension lessons. What learning activities and resources will be provided for courses that are not offered in Apex? If a course is not in Apex, teachers will continue to develop lessons to be disseminated through Schoology in accordance with the guidelines established by CCPS.

**Will students continue to work in Schoology?** Teachers will continue to use Schoology to assign students learning activities, provide feedback, and connect with students.

**How do students access Apex Learning?** Students will access Apex through Schoology. Students in courses using Apex will be provided with a brief orientation video, which will teach them how to access their Apex course(s). Information about the orientation material will be made available to students via Schoology and their O365 email.

## Calvert School Calendar Changes Approved

In an effort to maintain social distance and thereby slow the spread of COVID-19, Dr. Karen Salmon, the Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, ordered all schools in Maryland to close from March 16-March 27. As a result, local school systems missed ten scheduled instructional days. The Maryland State Board of Education approved waiving five days of student attendance at its meeting on April 14. Local school systems are therefore required to make up five instructional days.

The Calvert County Board of Education previously approved the makeup of two days on April 8 and 9, which had been scheduled for spring recess.

On April 23, the board approved a calendar modification to make up the

additional three days. One of those days will be made up on Election Day, June 2, since the primary will be conducted through mail-in ballots with limited in-person voting. Therefore, schools—in the event that they reopen after the current closure date of May 15—will see minimal use as polling sites.

The last two student make-up days will occur on June 12 and 15, which makes June 16 the last day for 10-month staff. June 2, 12, and 15 will count as student attendance days whether students have returned to school buildings or continue to learn at home in a digital environment as a result of statewide school closures.

*Press Release from Calvert County Public Schools*

# Leonardtwn Launches Virtual Arts & Entertainment Programming



The Leonardtown Arts & Entertainment District, the Commissioners of Leonardtown, the Leonardtown Business Association and the St. Mary's County Arts Council are proud to present virtual programming to include a variety of classes, demos, workshops and original shows.

Three new series, The Leonardtown Virtual Artist Showcase, The Leonardtown Learn and Share Series and Leonardtown A&E Feature Presentations, are set to launch soon and will provide the community with a variety of engaging, online content.

The majority of the online content will be FREE and open to the public with reservations being required for some of the select special group events. Here's a closer look at the virtual programming that's being planned:

### The Leonardtown Virtual Artist Showcase:

This exciting, new series will showcase performances from local musicians, dancers and performing artists. Each showcase will be 30 to 60 minutes in length and will be available on [www.VisitLeonardtwnMD.com](http://www.VisitLeonardtwnMD.com).

This online series kicked off with the Leonardtown Earth Day Virtual Event Finale hosted by hometown favorites Robbie Boothe and Donovan Farrell and will feature new and established artists including: Justin Myles, Jay Armsworthy, Wesley Spangler, Dylan Galvin, Joe Parsons, Donna Jordan and more! Artists interested in participating in the Leonardtown Virtual Showcase should contact: [brandy.blackstone@leonardtwnmd.gov](mailto:brandy.blackstone@leonardtwnmd.gov).

### The Leonardtown Learn and Share Series:

This virtual series will include classes and demos from local teachers/instructors, businesses and organizations. The classes will be on a wide variety of subjects from exercise and cooking to learning a new skill like knitting or dancing. Classes will be available on the [VisitLeonardtwnMD.com](http://VisitLeonardtwnMD.com) website with subjects including: Health & Wellness with root, SUP & Fitness, Learning to Tap Dance with Justin Myles, Knitting with Crazy for Ewe, Carrie Patterson Art, Salsa with Donna Jordan, Zumba Fitness Around Town and much more. Class information will be available soon on the [VisitLeonardtwnMD.com](http://VisitLeonardtwnMD.com) site beginning Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Leonardtwn A&E Feature Presentations:

The Leonardtown Arts & Entertainment District presents original online programs and special events. Sample shows in development include online make and celebrate parties, child-friendly programming, music variety shows, and more available on the [VisitLeonardtwnMD.com](http://VisitLeonardtwnMD.com) site. Start date for this series is TBA.

The Town of Leonardtown, the only Arts & Entertainment District in Southern Maryland, offers a rich experience in culture including art galleries, shows, art shares with upcoming and prominent artists, one-on-one art classes, instructor-led workshops and much more. For more information about the programming noted above, visit [www.VisitLeonardtwnMD.com](http://www.VisitLeonardtwnMD.com) or contact [brandy.blackstone@leonardtwnmd.gov](mailto:brandy.blackstone@leonardtwnmd.gov).

*Press Release from Town of Leonardtown.*



# CalvART Gallery Goes Digital for April



Gilhooly 2019: sipping nectar



Morrison space: cowgirl2

It's a bird! It's a Plane! It's things with wings! Take off virtually this windy month, while calvART Gallery features some great new art for you to enjoy and perhaps even buy for your home.

They will be showing all manner of wonderful, wacky and beautiful artwork. So grab your favorite wine, some snacks, and sign on to Facebook to see the main part of their April exhibit. Work is for sale through calvART Gallery.

Just like at a reception, calvART Gallery is encouraging comments and discussion on each work of art. They want to know what you think of their latest work. If you want to buy it, say "I want to buy this!" in comments and they will be in touch. Or more privately, you can email [calvartpres@gmail.com](mailto:calvartpres@gmail.com) or contact the artist directly to arrange for purchase. <https://www.facebook.com/www.calvartgallery.org/>

Money spent locally stays in the local economy and continues to strengthen the economic base of the entire community. Small local businesses make indispensable contributions to communities

and neighborhoods. Supporting local artists allows them the opportunity to continue to serve their communities. You will often see members of calvART supporting local charities and organizations by participating in art shows, teaching workshops, and donating items for fundraisers.

The calvART Gallery is located in the Prince Frederick Center at the intersection of Rt. 4 and Rt. 231 nestled between the Sakura Restaurant and Dreamweaver Café. Open Wednesday through Sunday from 11am-5pm. For more information visit the website [www.calvartgallery.org](http://www.calvartgallery.org) or call 410-535-9252.

The calvART Gallery is a program of the Arts Council of Calvert County. The gallery has new shows every month and receptions are open to the public. Please bring your friends!!

*Press Release from Arts Council of Calvert County.*



Preston plane1460

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

## In Remembrance

### Victor "Butch" John Dennis Bukewicz



Victor "Butch" John Dennis Bukewicz, III, 69 of Valley Lee, MD passed away on April 2, 2020 at his home with his wife by his side.

He was born on November 19, 1950 in Wilkes-Barre, PA to the late Victor John Bukewicz and Eleanor Groski Bukewicz.

Butch was employed as an electrician for Singleton Electric in Washington, D.C. He married Sandra M. Rothberg on January 30, 2007 in Key West, FL. They spent 22 wonderful years together. He and his wife enjoyed touring wineries and traveling to Key West, Savannah, and Charleston. He was known by family and friends as the grill master and his cooking specialty was shrimp wonton. In his spare time he enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, playing darts, and especially loved keeping his yard in top shape and creating beautiful flower gardens. His truly amazing sense of humor and storytelling will be missed by all who knew him.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his step-children, Petrina Cicconi-Guinan and Salvatore Cicconi (Michelle) of Horseheads, NY; his brother, Peter Bukewicz (Edie) of Queens, NY; his niece, Jessie Bukewicz (Charlton Hutton) of Brooklyn, NY, his niece, Christie Breto (Mike) of Levittown, NY and his nephew, Peter Bukewicz,

Jr. of Queens, NY; grandchildren, Lia and Isabella Cicconi of Horseheads, NY. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son-in-law, Christopher Guinan.

Services are private.

A special thank you to Van and Deanna Osburn for all of their help and support the last few months.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to ACTS, P.O. Box 54, Bushwood, MD 20618 and Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

### Hugh B. Hall, Jr.

Hugh Barnett Hall, Jr., age 91, died at The Beacon in Gulf Breeze, Florida, on April 23, 2020. He was the son of Hugh Barnett and Sarah Hall and was born in Opelika, Alabama, on December 10, 1928. After graduation from Clift High School, where he played on the football team, he graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He continued his education at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where he later served as an instructor on the faculty. He was ordained as a Methodist minister and served a parish in Cannondale, CT, and in 1960 was ordained as an Episcopal minister in the Diocese of Washington, D.C. He served at All Saints, Oakley, Maryland, and was rector of Christ Church, Chaptico, Maryland, for 14 years. In 1989 he left the Episcopal Church USA to establish St. John's, a traditional Episcopal parish in Mechanicsville, Maryland, before coming to All Saints Anglican Episcopal Church in Pensacola, Florida, in 1992. He retired from All Saints in January of 2010 but continued as Rector Emeritus until his death.

Reverend Hall was preceded in death by his parents and brother Harry Hall. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Suzanne Henderson Hall, and his children Hugh III (Sheryl),

Elizabeth (Sam) Graves, Sally (Frank) Halstead, and Jennifer (Bryan) Turney. He is also survived by a sister, Sarah Scheufler; a brother, Roy (Annette), nine grandchildren (Sarah (James) Smith, Amy Arnold, Casey Vandor, Chloe Hall, Hugh IV, Hannah Hall, Amelia Grace Turney, Emmeline Turney, and Andrew Turney), and three great-grandchildren (Trey and Makayla Smith, and Autumn Arnold). A marriage to Elizabeth Moore in 1950 ended in divorce in 1973.

Funeral services will be conducted for family and friends via Zoom at a date and time to be announced. Please contact family or Waters & Hibbert Funeral Home for the information to join the Zoom service. Interment will be in the Glendale Memorial Nature Preserve in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Covenant Care (by check to 5041 N. 12th Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32504 or online at <https://www.choosecovenant.org/donate-now/>), Christ Church (by check to P.O. Box 8, Chaptico, MD 20621), or All Saints (by check to P.O. Box 4538, Pensacola, Florida 32507).

### Ida Mary Tyler



Ida Mary Tyler, 94, of Capitol Heights, MD, beloved wife, mother and Mema, passed away on April 26, 2020 with loving memories by family members. Ida married and focused on her greatest passion of being a wife, mother, and grandmother. Ida enjoyed in her spare time, gardening, shopping for and collecting antiques. She had many hobbies and enjoyed crocheting and traveling with her children. Ida was also an active member of the Veterans of Foreign War VFW. She was an optimist who always saw the good in people. She was a mom to many, a wonderful friend and a giving, caring, selfless woman. She lived for her family, and was the best mother, grandmother, great and great-great grandmother. She was there to comfort and make you smile. Today, Melvin welcomed home his loving wife, and our family lost a bit of our heart. You are so loved and will be missed. You left a lasting mark on this world and in our lives. Rest in paradise, beautiful lady.

Ida was preceded in death by her

devoted husband of 64 years Melvin A. Tyler, her daughter Virginia L. Jewell, and her brother Frank T. Vendemia. She is survived by her daughters Marion T. Thomas and husband Joseph Thomas of Berlin, MD, Beverly A. Halton and husband John F. Halton of Dunkirk, MD, son-in-law William Jewell of Golden, CO, and a brother John F. Vendemia of Cheverly, MD. She is also survived by 8 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 23 great-great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers of expression of sympathy, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105-1942.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Camillo Renato Dilodovico



On April 24, 2020 Camillo Renato Dilodovico passed away peacefully at Yellow Bank Adult Living Facility in Dunkirk, MD. Camillo was born in Elice, Italy on June 27, 1940 and came to the United States in 1958. He was a skilled mason of 60 years in a family owned business. He was a member of Old South Country Club and was an avid golfer.

Camillo was preceded in death by his parents Silvio and Maria Dilodovico, and sisters Julie Demino and Deloris Canaiglia. He is survived by his wife Patricia Dilodovico, sons Damon and Darin, grandchildren Nicholas, Damon, Andrew, and Dominic, great-granddaughter Natalie, sister Marisa and Enna, and brother Frank.

Memorial donations in Camillo's name may be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838,

Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/>

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Evelyn Elizabeth Bowen, "Sissy"

Evelyn Elizabeth Bowen, "Sissy", of Prince Frederick, Maryland passed away on April 23, 2020. Elizabeth was born on May 21, 1931 to the late Thomas M. and Evelyn H. Bowen of

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Barstow, MD. She graduated from Calvert County High School in 1948. After graduating from school, she worked for C & P Telephone Company in Prince Frederick, Maryland. In 1949 she attended Maryland General School of Nursing in Baltimore, Maryland and graduated with a Degree of Nursing. She worked at Maryland General Hospital from 1952-1955. In 1955 she started working as a registered nurse at Calvert Memorial Hospital, Prince Frederick, Maryland until she retired from there in 1992.

Elizabeth is preceded in death by her brother, William Thomas Bowen. She is survived by sister Martha B. Jones and brother Douglas R. Bowen (Jean). She is also survived by sister in law Betty R. Bowen, cousins, nieces and nephews. Special thanks to her niece Lynn Bowen and nephew Mark Watson who were dedicated to taking care of her for many years.

A private service will be held at Asbury Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Calvert Hospice, P.O. Box 838, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; 410-535-0892; Link: <https://calverthospice.org/> or Full Gospel Assembly of God, 890 Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

**Donald Calvin "Don" Jones**



Donald Calvin "Don" Jones, 85, of Owings passed away April 22, 2020 at his home. He was born February 3, 1935 in Hyattsville to Thomas C. and Julia June (Zabinski) Jones. Don joined the United States Navy in 1954 and was honorably discharged in 1957, having

served as a Radarman 2nd Class aboard the USS Cowell during the Korean War. He was very proud of his time in the Navy and was honored to have served his country. Don was a member of the American Legion and Elks Club. In his spare time, he enjoyed bowling, playing badminton, BINGO, and being outdoors, gardening and cutting grass.

Don is survived by his significant other Janice Kent, stepdaughter Patricia Maynard, stepson Dennis Moon, grandchildren Michael, Glenn, Brian, and Wesley Maynard and Dennise and Michael Moon, 11 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, sister-in-law Becky Jones and numerous nieces and nephews. Don is also survived by Janice's children whom he shared a special bond with; Chris Kent (Erin), Corie Duffy (Weston), Casie Kent (Wayne Simms), and Caitlyn Kent (Josh Donnelly), 9 grandchildren and one on the way.

Don was preceded in death by his wife Helen Jones, grandson Michael Maynard, sister Betty Agpaoa, and brother Robert Jones.

All services will be private. A memorial service and celebration of Don's life will be held at a later date.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

**Peggy Joan Loveless**



Peggy Joan Loveless, 78, of Huntingtown, Maryland passed away April 22, 2020 in Washington DC. She was born on May 27, 1941 in Prince Frederick, Maryland to the late Leroy F. and Sara E. Gibson Brady. In addition to her parents, Peggy is also preceded in death by her first husband, Robert Edward Weems, a son Robert Edward Weems, Jr., and siblings: William L. Brady, Mickey Brady, and Edith Brady.

Peggy retired after many years from Bank of America where she worked as a Loan Officer. After retirement, you always knew where you could find Peggy and that was in her yard weeding, planting flowers or sweeping her sidewalk and steps. She loved her yard, her cat Satan, and most of all important to her was her family.

She is survived by her husband, Richard "Dick" Loveless, her son, Dale

Allen Weems and his wife Lauren, Step mother of Daniel Loveless and his wife Sandy, Wayne Loveless and his wife Linda, April Hanrahan, Cheryl Vaughn and her husband Dennis and Anita Lynn Daniels and her husband Aubrey, and numerous grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, Dottie Bridgett and her husband Daniel, Leonard Brady and his wife Zeta, Robert Brady, and Faye Brown and her husband Jimmy.

A private family graveside service will be held in Christ Church Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Dementia Society of America, P.O. Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901. A celebration of life will be held at a future date.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

**Christopher Charles Browning**

Christopher Charles Browning, 31, of Huntingtown passed away April 19, 2020. He was born July 22, 1988 to Robert Lee Browning and Sherri Lea Keller. Chris was raised in Calvert County and graduated from Northern High School in 2006. Following high



school, Chris attended the Academy of Professional Barbers & Stylists in Silver Spring and enjoyed success as a barber at Turnin' Headz Barber Shop in Sunderland. Chris loved his job, cutting hair and being around and talking with people.

Chris is survived by his mother Sherri Keller (Pete Losacano) of Huntingtown, brother Tyler Niland, sister Brianna Niland, grandparents Brigitte and Bob Eveland of Dunkirk and Robert Browning Sr. of Mt. Airy, stepfather James Niland of Huntingtown, uncle Stephen Keller and cousins Ashley and Jordan Keller, as well as numerous other cousins and extended family members. He was preceded in death by his father Robert Lee Browning and grandmothers Margaret Keller and



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FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR TWO GENERATIONS

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

## In Remembrance

Judy Niland.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Funeral arrangements were by Rausch Funeral Home.

### Veronica Marie (Combs) Johnson



Veronica Marie (Combs) Johnson "Boots", 88, of Great Mills, MD passed away on April 24, 2020 in Lexington Park, MD. She was born on September 18, 1931 in Great Mills, MD to the late Martha Mary Combs, and Thomas Leonard Combs. Boots was the loving wife of the late Benjamin Perry Johnson, Sr., whom she married on February 3, 1950 in Leonardtown, MD and who preceded her in death on August 19, 2002. Boots is survived by her children Debra Irene Johnson, Leonard Wayne Johnson, Sr. (Lauren), Karen Marie Johnson, 11 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren, 5 great great grandchildren, son in law Jim Shawver and daughter in law Bonnie Johnson.. She was preceded in death by her daughter Veronica Lynne Shaver and son Benjamin P. Johnson, Jr. Siblings Mary Naomi Combs, Agatha Valerie Combs, Thomas Leonard Combs, Jr, John Albert Combs, and Theresa Ruth Combs.

She was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident. Boots was a secretary for Little Flower School retiring in 1970.

All Funeral Services will be private.

Serving as pallbearers will be members of the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department. Honorary pallbearers will be Brother Billy Combs, Melvin Tennyson, Wayne Johnson, Jr, Joe Thompson, Rick Redmond, and Jack Weatherbee.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of St. Mary's P.O. Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

### James Richard (Slim/Rich) Lyon, Jr.,



James Richard (Slim/Rich) Lyon, Jr., 56, of Fredericksburg, VA passed away on April 10, 2020 at home with loving family by his side. He was born in Cumberland, MD on March 10, 1964. Richard fought a great battle against cancer for over twenty-two months but Cancer won. When he left us at 10:10PM, with his Harley on his mind, he took off to see others that left before him. He loved working with numbers so we guess the 10s were what he wanted to leave us with.

He is survived by his children, Jesse William Blair Lyon of Hartwood, VA, Jacqueline Kasey Marie Lyon Hatcher (Trey) of Hartwood, VA, and Aaron Logan Mauck of Brooklyn, NY. He is also survived by his Mother, Patricia Long Lyon of Fredericksburg, VA, and his sisters, RoseMary Ann Lyon

of Latrobe, PA., Linda Marie Lyon Parker (Kerry) of Alexandria, VA, Patricia Jeanne Lyon Patterson (Fred) of Greensburg, PA, Sharon Elaine Lyon James, of Gainesville, FL, and Janet Leigh Lyon, of Houston, TX. Also surviving are three grandchildren, Jackson, Easton, and Savannah Hatcher.

He was preceded in death by his father James Richard Lyon, Sr. and his Grand Parents William Blair and Alberta Thompson Long, and James Aubrey and Jeanne Berry Lyon.

Richard started working early in life by delivering newspapers in Leonardtown, Md. Followed by working for a landscaping company, a building supply company, a printing company, as a Coca Cola delivery man, night time work loading Fed X delivery trucks and many other jobs. One of his most recent companies was Automatic Rolls, making rolls for McDonald's and working in miscellaneous positions.

He was plagued with back problems for most of his adult life which caused having many surgeries to relieve the pains. Along with shoulder problems and other surgeries there.

One big joy of his life was having his children and being their Father and exposing them to the things he loved, like fishing, sleigh riding, watching the car races and many other things in life. When the first child was delivered he exclaimed that the baby was a boy and with tears in his eyes he said "he looks just like me". Then he had a girl whom he thought the world of and she in turn stuck to him like glue when she was little and then he had another son who was so interesting to watch as his personality was unique.

Richard enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, it was always a dream he had after having a little motor bike when he was younger. Fishing was a big part of his life and he enjoyed challenging his buddies to see who caught the larger fish. One of his biggest enjoyments which started at an early age was watching and going to NASCAR races and he was a great fan of Ricky Rudy and Kyle Busch.

### John Meredith Miller



John Meredith Miller, "Johnny", 77 of Hollywood, MD, formerly from Marshalltown Iowa, passed away on April 22, 2020. He was born on August 27, 1942 in Denver, Colorado, and was the son of the late Gail Margaret Cole Miller and Ralph Miller. John was the loving husband of Barbara June Miller whom he married on September 14, 1963 at the Lexington Park United Methodist Church. He is also survived by his son John Miller Jr., of Hollywood, MD, and his two sisters Charity Paglia of Missouri, and Nancy of Marshalltown, Iowa. He is preceded in death by his brother Lawrence Miller.

Following John's graduation from Marshalltown Highschool, he enlisted in the Navy on October 31, 1960, Marshalltown Iowa. During his service in the Navy, he was stationed on the USS Bennington, the USS Coral Sea, and at the Naval Aircraft Station in Lemoore California where he worked as an aircraft engine mechanic. In 1964 John moved from Lemoore California to Hollywood Maryland, where he was stationed at the Patuxent Naval Air Station until October 30, 1966. Following his service in the Navy John joined the Navy Reserves on April 1, 1973 where he was an Aircraft Pneudraulic Systems Mechanic Leader for 23 years leading to his retirement on September 1, 1990.

In his retirement John truly loved spending time with his dogs, watching western movies, and mowing his lawn.

All funeral services will be private.

Contributions may be made to the Hollywood Rescue Squad.

P.O. Box 79

Hollywood, MD 20636

### Lillian "Wennie" Marie Howard



Lillian "Wennie" Marie Howard, 86, of La Plata, MD formerly from Loveville, MD, and Lehigh Acres, FL passed away on April 21, 2020 in Arlington, VA. She was born on October 17, 1933 in Washington D.C., and was the loving daughter of the late Nellie Agnes Mattingly Jones and Joseph Buckler. Wennie was the loving wife of the late Erwin C. Howard, Jr. who preceded her in death on May 9th

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2009.

She is survived by her son Kenneth Dale Howard of Chaptico, MD, 3 grandchildren and 5 Great grandchildren, siblings Mildred Bridgett of Myrtle Beach, SC, Mary Ann Forrest of Ridge, MD, and James C. Jones of Clinton, MD. She was preceded in death by her son Ernest Lee Howard and her sisters Neota Forrest and Margaret Jones. She attended Sterling High School. Wennie was a bookkeeper for the International Union of Operating Engineers.

All Funeral Services will be private at this time.

### Betty Mae Robbins



Betty Mae Robbins, 82, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at her home.

Born on January 15, 1938, in Connellsville, PA, she was the daughter of the late William Franklin Tressler and the late Eleanor Haberer Tressler.

Betty married the love of her life, Robert Scott Robbins in 1956. Together they celebrated over 50 of marriage until his passing in 2009. As their love grew, they adopted their only child, a daughter, Rowena, into their family. Betty worked as a Sales Manager for Sears Department Store retiring in 1990.

Betty enjoyed crocheting and volunteering at the thrift shop on Andrews Air Force Base.

Betty is survived by her daughter, Rowena Rohls of Waldorf; her sister, Lu Porter and brother-in-law, Ronald Porter, of Pennsylvania; 3 grandchildren Dawn, Melissa and Sarah; and 11 great-grandchildren Yasmin, Brianna, Natavia, Brian, Serenity, Izabell, Willow, Jaxson, Aiden, Camerin and Anthony. She is preceded in death by her husband and her parents.

At this time all services will be private. Betty will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery with her beloved husband at a later date.

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

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

### Frank "Sunny" Thompson Bibb, Jr



Frank "Sunny" Thompson Bibb, Jr., 73, of Dunkirk, Maryland passed away on Monday, April 20, 2020, at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in Charlotte Hall, Maryland. He was born on February 23, 1947 in Cleveland, Ohio to the late Frank Thompson Bibb, Sr., and Pauline (Fish) Morris.

Sunny proudly served in the U.S. Army and honored his country during both peace and wartime, specifically, the Vietnam War, and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a proud American who was honorably discharged in June 1976, after serving his country and family proud. Sunny was a Master Electrician by trade and a member of the Electrical Workers Local Union 26. He retired from Local Union 26 in 2005.

As a young man, Sunny was an avid weight lifter. He enjoyed spending time with his family, watching old western movies, listening to country music, collecting coins, and was an animal lover. His greatest joy and passion was time spent with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His tough exterior was matched with his loving, caring interior. His kind soul will continue to be remembered by family and friends. Sunny will be greatly missed.

Sunny is survived by his life companion of 45 years, Marcelle Miller of Dunkirk, Maryland; brother, Donney Bibb (Renee) of Waldorf, Maryland; step-daughters, Kathleen Akil (Sam) of Sunderland, Maryland and Wendy Blancke (George) of Owings, Maryland; grandchildren, Matthew Curtin (Erica), Alyssa Blancke and Hannah Akil; great-grandchildren, Ava Curtin and Charlotte Curtin; and close friend and caregiver, Alexander LoBianco. He was preceded in death by his parents.

All services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Sunny's honor to the American Diabetes Association at <https://www.diabetes.org/donate/donate-memorial>.

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

All arrangements have been made by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A.

### Robert D. Turner



SSG Robert D. Turner, US Army (Ret.), 55, of Mechanicsville, MD, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 17, 2020 at his residence, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Born on August 17, 1964, in Maryland. He was the son of the late Harold R. Turner, Jr. and Shirley Ann (Binger) Turner.

Robert proudly joined the United States Army in July 1982 and served his country honorably. Robert was a proud American and spent his life devoted to protecting his country. During his enlistment, he received several awards and commendations. He was a highly respected and a distinguished member at the time of his retirement.

He loved his family and spoke of them often. His children were his world and when he moved to Maryland in 2003, he missed seeing them all the time. He kept in constant contact with them and loved hearing about his grandchildren. His only regret was he was not there for him to hug and love.

Robert enjoyed trips to visit his family and the casino. He had a poker face that never let him down. He could have a full house and still look like he held nothing. Robert was a fierce card-shark. He was greatly loved and will be missed by many family and friends.

Robert is survived by his children, Jennifer Van Riper (Jason) of Texas, Danielle LeBlanc (Jonathan) of Wyoming and Richard Turner of Texas; Five 5 grandchildren, Austin, McKenzi, Raelyn, Ella and baby girl to come; siblings Beverly Turner (Danny) of Mechanicsville, MD and Brian Turner of Mechanicsville, MD. Many Uncles, Aunts, Nephews and Nieces. He is preceded in death by his parents.

At this time, all services will be private. Robert's family will plan a Life Celebration in the coming months.

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

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

### Barbara Lee Gallegos



Barbara Lee Gallegos, age 55 of Lexington Park, entered into eternal rest on April 19, 2020. Barbara was born June 23rd 1964 in Ogden, Utah to John E and Martha Gallegos. She attended Clearfield High School and graduated with the class of 1982. As a young adult, she traveled out of Utah and made a home in San Francisco, CA for over 15 years. It was in California that she met Brigardo Groves and they had two beautiful daughters. In 2002, Barbara and her daughters relocated to Maryland to further her career with the Internal Revenue Service. Barbara would have retired in 2021, serving 37 years of service for the US Department of Treasury.

All that knew Barbara, knew that she was a dedicated mother first and foremost. She treasured her daughters and embraced every moment with them. Later on, she wholeheartedly embraced her role as Grandma. Her preferred activity was doing things with her grandchildren, whether it was attending a swim meet, dance recital, softball game, going to the movies, or just being at her house. She always was an active participant in their activities.

Everyone that Barbara came in contact with felt her warm spirit and welcoming soul instantly. Barbara's ability to care for others was always genuine with every interaction. She was truly one of a kind. Her vivacious personality and contagious smile are simply what made her so lovable and also exactly what so many will miss.

Barbara is survived by her daughters and best friends, Briana (CJ) Groves-Bowman, and Brittany (Erica) Groves. She leaves behind four beautiful grandchildren, Brielle, Emmanuel, Cairo, and another granddaughter on the way. She is also survived by mothers Martha Gallegos and Benita Gallegos, UT. Surviving siblings are Trish (Terrance) Frazier, Anita (Tyrone) Perry, Mandee (Joaqion) Pearson-Richards, Chris (Mandi) Kawa, and Dustin (Courtne) Kawa. Barbara also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and uncles who adored

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

## In Remembrance

her tremendously. Barbara was preceded in death by her father John E Gallegos, nephew Brixton John Harvey Kawa, and Brigardo Groves. Arrangements by Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home.

### Patricia Arlene Bennett-Ball



"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith; Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteous..." - II Timothy 4:7-8

Patricia Arlene Bennett-Ball was born on December 9, 1958 and departed this life on earth to be with the Lord, suddenly on April 18, 2020 due to health complications. She was born in Leonardtown Hospital, Leonardtown, Maryland to Shirley T. Bennett-Dickerson and the late James A. Bennett. She was the fourth child of five daughters.

Patricia graduated from Great Mills High in 1976. She was employed by the Federal Government and the State of Maryland. She was also employed as a Patient Registration at Civista Hospital, La Plata, MD, as a caseworker at Freedom Landing, the Department of Social Services, and Three Oak Homeless Shelter, in Lexington Park, MD. She was also a volunteer with the African Historical Museum at St. Peter Claver Church, in St. Inigoes, MD, and was a member of AmeriCorps.

Patricia accepted the Lord as her Savior as a young child at St. Peter Claver Church. She actively participated in the choir, bible study, missions, and other church functions. She was known as "Ms Pat", "Ms Ball", "Ms Patricia", "Ms Tricia", "Mommy Ball", "Queen B", "Patty B", and "Granny." Patricia had much praise, joy and love for the Lord she would spread it anywhere she went. She would resound an AMEN in all services. Her passion was to help people in any way she could, always being supportive lending a helping hand whether on the frontline, backline, or sideline of service. She would do it. She was determined, dependable, and dedicated throughout communities.

Patricia lived life to the fullest. She enjoyed family and friends' gatherings, mealtimes, bingo, musical activities,

and just clean fun. Her favorite pastime was playing with her grandbabies and going fishing with Richard. Patricia was a true servant. She would spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone. She would open her arms stating "give me some love" hugging tightly and a hearty smile. She possessed the attribute and gift of encouragement and exhortation to the elderly and to the youth. Patricia would tell anybody, about somebody, who could save everybody, and whose name is JESUS. Letting them know that she loved them, and that God our Father loves them more than anything else. She would encourage whomever to trust God, for it is only by the Grace and Mercy of GOD that any of us are here. She shared how she welcomed God the Father and His Spirit into her life and that Jesus had "Paid the Price." God gave Patricia a vision and a plan which she implemented called "The LOVE (Living, Out, Victoriously, Everyday) Ministry". Her statement was "A change ain't a change", until YOU change"! Hearts were touched, missions accomplished, and people changed. Patricia believed and encouraged all by proclaiming "God Got It, and her, and indeed HE have her, she is now "Totally HEALED". Hallelujah!

She leaves to cherish her memories her mother, Shirley T. Bennett-Dickerson, of Lexington Park, MD, her daughters, Natosha Ball and Amy Hebb of Lexington, Park, MD, her grandchildren, Thomas Hill, Tome Hill, Mayill Barber, and Daymere Graham of Lexington Park, MD, her siblings, Pamela Curry, and Sandra Rowe (Larry) of Virginia Beach, VA, Sylvia Clinton, and Claudette Bennett of Lexington Park, MD, four aunts: Mary Catherine Allen, of Lexington Park, MD, Barbara Ann Butler (Patrick) of St. Inigoes, MD, Carolyn Ross of Virginia Beach, VA, and Marie Scott, of PA, one uncle, James Biscoe (Debbie) of PA, a dear companion, Richard Hebb of Lexington Park, MD and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Patricia was preceded in death by her father, James A. Bennett, her godmother Margaret Allen and her niece Tamika Bryant. Arrangements by Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home.

### Norman Edward Bailey Jr.

Norman Edward Bailey Jr., (affectionately known as "Joe") was born on in Norfolk, Virginia to the late Norman Bailey Sr. and Irene Beatrice Keeling.

God blessed Norman upon his birth and provided him with an indelible instrument that he would use to serve others his entire life. God gave Norman his golden beautiful voice. That voice we ALL loved to hear him sing. Norman LOVED singing!!! And boy could he



sing!!!! There will NEVER be another Norman Bailey Jr.

As a young child Norman sang with a young male gospel group called Vice Royal Jubileers, which was directed by Mark Richardson. The group sang every Sunday morning on radio stations, WRAP and WTAR which were located in Norfolk, Virginia. The group also travelled to North Carolina and surrounding areas to perform. Also, during that time period, there were many famous gospel groups travelled to Norfolk to perform. Some of the groups but not all inclusive were the late Sam Cooke and the Soul Stirrers, Gospel Cavaliers, Madame Edna Garman Cook, Ivy Tucker and the Dixie Hummingbirds. One thing that many people didn't know, was that the famous Sam Cooke and the Soul Stirrers wanted Norman to join the group and travel with them. His grandmother (guardian) refused because she thought the he was too young.

Norman grew up during some very difficult times. His mother (Irene), made a decision to move to Maryland for employment purposes, while leaving her children in the care of others. As young adolescents, Norman and his younger brother Wilbur Bailey decided to hitch-hike from Virginia all the way here to St. Mary's County Lexington Park, Maryland to be with their mother. Even during those times, God was on his side. Both young men made it safe and free from harm, isn't God good?

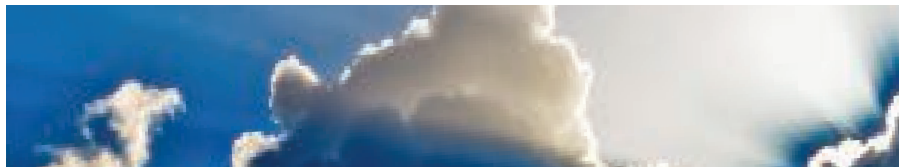
Upon Norman arriving in St. Mary's county, people instantly took notice of his high-pitched tenor voice. Several Rock Bands and Spiritual groups wanted him to sing with them. Norman could always sing!!! And sing, he did. From a child until his later days. Norman became a member of Zion United Methodist Church for over 60 years. Singing as a soloist, choir member, and he was the vocalist of the Zion Methodist Men Spiritual group. The group produce one album in the late 1970's. Over those years, Norman sang at many different venues to include, funerals, weddings, retirements, change of command (Military); in addition, people would ask him on the spot wherever he was, to just sing. Even during times in his last days, Norman was singing the songs of Zion.

Norman's steadfast faith and belief in the Lord has always remained solid.

In his teenage years, Norman met the "love of his life" Delores Taylor. The two formed a union that lasted until his death. From that union, Norman and Delores had two children, Desiree Inez Bailey and Troy Dion Bailey Sr. Norman was also the proud grandfather to one grandson, Troy Bailey Jr. Norman's love for his family was unparalleled. He would always confess his love to his wife and children, and this was on a daily basis. That was Norman. When it came to confessing/sharing his love, Norman was not a selfish person. He loved everyone, in fact many of you reading this, he told you that he also loved you. That was how Norman was, a very loving man. Education: Norman graduation from the former George Washington Carver High School. July 1966 Attended Prince George's County Public Schools Adult Education certified in Air Duct Sheet Metal Fabrication Course. Attended Materials Engineering Institute successfully completing the Metallurgical Course entitled Aluminum and Its Alloys. Norman was always interested in haircare. This interest prompted to seek out training. Norman met a gentleman in the military, Seaman Woodson and Master Barber Marion Johnson. Both gentlemen took Norman under their wings, and trained to become a barber. Norman later joined with the late Sylvester Barnes in his barbershop, where they both cut hair together for years. Norman also successfully completed many correspondence courses while serving in U.S. Navy. Norman was a Certified Career Counselor in the United States Navy.

#### Employment

Norman was a civil service employee for 26 years. Simultaneously, Norman served proudly for 25 years and retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve. His job classification was an Aircraft Structural Mechanic and he was assigned to Patrol Squadron VP68 at the Naval Air Station Patuxent River Maryland. While serving he obtained the rank of E-5 and received many accolades during his career. He had tours at: Andrews Airforce Base, Rota Spain, Azores Portugal, New Orleans, Jacksonville Florida, Bermuda and Norfolk Naval Base. During his career, he received numerous Letters of Appreciation Citations. One that he was most proud to receive was a citation from the Commanding Officer of Patrol Squadron 68. Norman was commended for his outstanding services to the "BLACKHAWKS" of Patrol Squadron 68. According Captain Lemmon, his dedication and reliability were underscored by his ability to consistently excel in all areas of assignment. Norman also received a Certificate of Training from the Department of the Navy for Basic



Supervisory Development, Instructor Training and Conference Leadership.

After both aforementioned careers, Norman continued to work. He began employment as a security clerk/guard for several different contractors. Norman worked until March 2019, his last company was Jahn Corporation Lexington Park, Maryland.

Norman leaves to mourn his death: wife, Delores Bailey of Lexington Park, Maryland, daughter Desiree Bailey of Waldorf, son Troy Bailey Sr. of Columbia, Md., grandson Troy Bailey Jr. of Hanford, California; sisters Shirley Blount of Hampton, Virginia, Lorraine Womack of Lexington Park, Maryland, Brothers in law; Avon Dyson of Hyattsville, Maryland, Bruce Dyson of Florida (Martha), John Taylor (Lois) of Park Hall, Maryland, James Taylor of Mechanicsville; sisters in law: Rosalee Holley (Richard - deceased) of Lexington Park, Maryland, Annie Sims (Richard) of Lexington Park, Maryland, Marlee Francis (Fabian) of Massachusetts, Eloise Dyson (Frank) of Park Hall, Maryland, Austine Somerville (Robert - deceased) of Park Hall, Maryland, and Jackie Davis of Lexington Park, Maryland.

The family would be remiss for not mentioning two surrogate brothers, William Jackson of Mechanicsville, Maryland and Francis Jackson of Maryland. Both brothers became friends with Norman upon his arrival to St. Mary's County. They actually lived with Norman's family for a period of time, so they grew up as brothers. Their brotherly relationship continued into adulthood, as they maintained contact with Norman through visits and phone calls. They called Norman daily and that spirit continued until his death. Both called to speak with him and when Norman could no longer speak, they still called to check on his status. The family would also like to mention Iva Micheau. Norman and Iva's relationship developed in high school. Iva would always call Norman, send him birthday, Christmas and Get-Well cards. Norman leaves behind host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

In addition, Norman was preceded in death by two brothers: Wilbur Bailey (Sandra) and Milton Bailey Sr., one sister Velma Bailey Rothwell, and one great-granddaughter Ayana Bailey.

We understand that many family members, friends and coworkers, could not come to pay their respects to Norman during these times of the Coronavirus. We agree with you that Norman deserves a much larger than life celebration; Norman did many things and touched many lives, so we know that you ALL wanted to be here, to show your support and pay your respect. However, lest not forget, God

is in control of ALL. So, we have to respect God's decision to call Norman home during this time period of our earthly lives. Most of all, this not about us here on earth, this is about Norman's journey home to be with God. On behalf of Norman, we would also like to thank his Pax River and Church Families.

Arrangements by Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home.

### Z. Bernard Lloyd ("Bernie")



Bernie Lloyd passed away on 4/16/20, a victim of the Covid-19 virus. He was a long-time resident of Calvert County and took great pride in being one of the many "Lloyds of Southern Maryland." Born at Georgetown Hospital on 6/9/44, he grew up in Montgomery County, MD and moved his family to Battle Creek in Port Republic, MD in 1980.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Margaret Dietrich (Charlie), his fine young nephew, Patrick Landers, and beloved cousin, Kelly Dargan Carter (Louis).

He is survived by his former wife, Terri of Colorado, sons Zach IV and Chris Lloyd (Katy) also of Colorado, daughters Theresa Harris (Dave) of North Carolina and Bridget Evans (Johnny) of South Australia.

He is also survived by his grandchildren, they include Dargan, Delaney & Daly Harris; Fiona, Eamon & Sean Lloyd; and JJ, Keegan, Annabel & Ingrid Evans.

He is survived by his brother Andy Lloyd (Elaine) of New Jersey, sisters Cathy Ann Grundmayer (Ed) and Mary Theresa Landers (Jack) both of Maryland and survived by brother in law Charlie Dietrich (MD). Born to a large Irish family, Bernie's cousins are too numerous to list, with the exception of special cousins and residents of Calvert County, Steve & Carol Dargan.

His family would like to recognize the entire staff at Calvert Memorial Hospital for their continued commitment to patient care, especially during these trying times.

A memorial will be planned once large gatherings of people are again permitted.

## Time to Reflect

To the Editor:

Since the coronavirus has changed the world, we suddenly have more than a little time to reflect. We are suddenly more conscientious about conversing with our families and friends. We appreciate each other more. We see many neighbors risking themselves to care for others; so, it's not always about the money.

We have seen that many of our activities are not much more than busy time takers, such as 24/7 news, internet games, travelling sometimes hundreds of miles to view sporting events, plus many more. We have seen a great drop in our luxurious use of energy for entertainment.

With much less travel we have seen our air quality in the cities improve dramatically.

Also, we are coming to realize how vulnerable so many of our friends and neighbors are. We are more conscious of the great numbers of those in our society who depend on others. We are also very conscious that even the most seemingly independent individuals are still very dependent on others. For instances, while backyard chickens are all the rage, I know of no milk cows in my area, a few old goats maybe. We need our milk, communications, power, etc. Most importantly, we come to realize we are so much more than the busy/busy persons we have sometimes been satisfied with.

So maybe we can make a conscientious effort to waste our time more efficiently by taking more time to converse with and care for others, reduce our need for entertainment, take more time to educate ourselves, etc. We can reduce our energy waste and reap the benefits of cleaner, more healthful air. Maybe we do not have to travel to school daily and travel to work as much as we have done. Maybe we can do even more business meetings on line, so less time and energy wasted. Maybe we should participate in sports more rather than leaving it to the expensive and talented professionals. Maybe we can hold the Olympics without spending billions of dollars on a new location every four years. Maybe we individuals can become healthier, less dependent and more productive, even in small ways. Maybe we can take more time for prayer and reflection instead of being busy and self-important.

I am a great believer in my Catholic religion and the values taught. I am also a great believer in using our technological advances for our betterment, such as solar. I am a great believer in developing our rational, physical, artistic and spiritual attributes. I have slowly learned to be more of a doer rather than a complainer (still learning that one).

God bless us all.

Mike Thompson  
Hollywood, MD 20636

## Thank you to our First Responders

To the Editor:

Though late in sending, this letter is a most sincere thank you to the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad (MVRS), the Public Safety Officers at St. Mary's College and the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad. On December 13, 2019 one of our guests at Historic St. Mary's City had a medical emergency. The emergency occurred during the Madrigal Dinners inside the Reconstructed State House. Immediately, five other guests, who just happened to be members of the MVRS, stepped in and handled the situation. They were quick to make an assessment, get their medical supplies and stabilize the guest. They did not hesitate to assist even though they were in formal dress and missed out on a large part of the entertainment.

Thank you to Marie Kurtz, Brigid and Dan Kenny, Nicole (Nikki) Simpson and Linda Talton from MVRS. The

Public Safety Officers from St. Mary's College were called and were on the scene in about a minute. Thank you to Gerald Sellers and David Turner from the PSO Office. The MVRS members and PSO's stayed with the guest until the Ridge Rescue Squad arrived for transport to the hospital. Thank you to Brian Evans and Gregory Askew from the Ridge Rescue Squad. I may have missed some names but please know that I offer my sincere thanks to all of you. Our community is most fortunate to have so many selfless individuals that willingly help others. During this COVID-19 pandemic, we are especially grateful to all our first responders and all those helping and risking their safety during this unprecedented time.

Mary Bohanan  
Events Manager  
Historic St. Mary's City  
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

## Four Seahawks Named to All-Conference Teams



Photo Credit: Bill Wood

The Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA) announced the 2019-20 All-Conference Teams with four student-athletes from St. Mary's College of Maryland receiving honors.

The Seahawks were led by All-MAISA First Team Coed Skipper sophomore Leo Boucher. Junior Lewis Cooper was named an All-MAISA Second Team Coed Skipper, while senior Ashley Wagner and junior Sophia Taczak were named All-MAISA Crews.

"Our coaching staff is very proud of the accomplishments of the Seahawk sailors and the post-season All-MAISA award recipients," said Head Sailing Coach Adam Werblow. "These four players are certainly amazing sailors who have achieved much. Having said that, top players on any team know that no matter how talented they may be; individual honors come out of the hard

work and dedication of a team who pushes to be their best."

As the Seahawks' top coed skipper, Boucher had a historic season as he won the LaserPerformance Men's Singlehanded Nationals in Santa Barbara, California on Nov. 9-10. Boucher also captured first place finishes at the Laser South and the Carl Van Duyne MAISA Men's Singles during the fall.

Cooper highlighted his season by leading a trio of Seahawks to a first-place finish in the War Memorial. In addition, Cooper was a skipper in the Georgetown Team Race where St. Mary's College finished second.

As the Seahawks top crew members, Taczak and Wagner assisted the Seahawks in a runner-up finish at the Danmark Trophy, a first-place finish at the War Memorial, and a runner-up finish at the Rose Bowl.

*Press Release from SMCM.*

## A View From The BLEACHERS Twelve Years Ago

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.  
Contributing Writer

Say it with me: "#\$!% COVID-19." Ah, that feels better.

Quarantine check: it has been 50 days since the NBA suspended its season and 49 days since schools closed. We should be checking baseball standings and following the Capitals' playoff charge to another possible Stanley Cup. Instead we are watching re-runs of old baseball games, encore broadcasts of the Capitals' march to the 2018 Stanley Cup and "The Last Dance", that so far so sweet docuseries on the 1998 Chicago Bulls.

Thank God for the memories, I suppose.

Last Thursday, the NFL Draft mercifully stepped into this barren wasteland of cancelled athletic events and nostalgia grabs to offer the fix we craved: a live sporting event, minus actual blood and sweat, but with all the uncertainty, intrigue, excitement and even the occasional tears. Like interactions with family, work and schooling these days, it was virtual, which isn't familiar or ideal, but with candid shots into the homes of coaches and general managers - lavish spreads, elite landscaping, kids and pets! - it was curiously different. What stood out most though, was that everyone - ESPN, the league, teams and prospective draftees - adapted and made it work. And isn't that what we're all doing right now: making "it", whatever "it" is, work?

Moments into the broadcast, Ravens defensive linemen Calais Campbell, the current Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year, made a brief cameo. I hadn't even gotten my head wrapped around Commissioner Roger Goodell announcing picks from his man cave, Bill Belichick's "war room"/kitchen table or Cardinals coach Kliff Kingsbury's palatial spread before the NFL opened up this old wound.

Campbell has haunted me for a dozen years. See, back before the 2008 NFL Draft, he was a top prospect from the University of Miami and seemed a good fit for my struggling, Jim Zorn/Vinny Cerrato era 'Skins of Washington. I am going to extend some benevolence to myself and those with similar rooting interests by cutting this long, sordid story short. So, here's the gist: the

'Skins traded out of the first round and ended up with three second round picks. Campbell was available for the first two of those picks but the 'Skins chose WR Devin Thomas and TE Fred Davis instead. Thomas lasted just over two years in D.C. and managed only 40 receptions. Despite showing promise, Davis's career was over by 2013 after a series of drug suspensions and a DUI charge.

Meanwhile Campbell has been to five Pro Bowls, is a three-time All-Pro, was Defensive Player of the Year in 2017, is a member of the NFL 2010's All-Decade Team and won the Bart Starr Award and Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year in 2019. But wait, there's more! My favorite stat: Campbell, a DEFENSIVE LINEMAN, has three career touchdowns...matching the total touchdown catches Thomas managed in his "illustrious" career!

Ugh. Like I said, haunted...for... twelve...years.

I watched the 2008 NFL Draft at my sister's house where our family had gathered to celebrate my nephew's birthday. Not virtually. We were there live and in person. No one wore masks or practiced social distancing. Kids ran around like wild animals, a culinary spread filled the kitchen, candles were perfectly placed on the cake, presents covered the table, smoke billowed from the grill and adults mingle on the deck around a cooler of beer. Aside from the whiff on Campbell, it was a perfect day.

This year I wished my nephew a happy birthday via text. My dad and I talked on the phone before the draft about the 'Skins' prospects. After Philadelphia shocked the world by taking QB Jalen Hurts in the second round, I poked my bother-in-law and diehard Philly Goon with a text. It was okay, I guess - a sign of the times for football fans... a sign of the times for the world. Truth is, I'd trade it all in a second for another combined in-person draft day and birthday party, even if it meant the 'Skins choosing two duds instead of this year's version of Calais Campbell.

No doubt that's a draft day trade we would all make.

Stay safe. Be well.

Send comments to Ronald-GuyJr@gmail.com

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# Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



## “Bouquets of Blessings”



It was so wonderful to walk out the front door with Mindy this morning and find a beautiful bouquet of flowers left on our front porch – even the ribbons were beautiful. I have not found out who left them for us yet. I posted a photo of them on Facebook with a thank you, but no one has responded that they are the secret flower deliverers. My neighbor Shelley said, they must have been meant for her. Which is true, if anyone should get flowers it should be her, because I can't think of anything nice I have done lately. So, it was a beautiful start to a beautiful warm, dry day (while I am writing this anyway). We are blessed, my husband and I say that every day and name lots of the people and things we are blessed with.

Also, as I am writing, Google Calendar annoyingly keeps popping up on the right side as I type saying, “You have no events scheduled for today.” See, I am not in nice mode. Yes, I know I have no events, quit rubbing it in. Actually though, I am loving being at home. Don't get me wrong, I do get excited about those rare trips to the grocery store now, and I try to really savor the time shopping. I always have loved grocery shopping anyway – it is a comfort time for me. And we all need comfort now.

Seems like we were so crazily busy before all this with something to do, or felt like it was important to do, every day or night. Was it important? Some things yes, of course. Now, I am perfectly content to stay at home lots more than before. Let me rephrase that, I was content to stay home or at least in the house until I got the bright idea to dump half a bag of Snake Away at the base of our laundry room door (on the outside) and outside my workshop door. Well now we shouldn't have any snakes, or anything else living, within a mile of the stuff. My husband is finding baby

snakes everywhere, which is fine, I just don't want any in our house again. I remember the startled look on the plumber's face a few year's ago when he found a snakeskin down in the laundry room. My husband and I told him, “Wow, that snake has gotten bigger, that's the second skin.” I did have some sleepless nights there for awhile wondering just where that snake might be hiding, especially since our bedroom is right above the laundry room. So Snake Away to the rescue this season.

Oh my, I can't believe how just spreading it outside of our house has caused our entire house to smell like mothballs – which I hate, and my husband likes. He says it has a clean smell to him. I feel like it has cleaned out my sense of smell and taste. Everything tastes and smells like mothballs to me. Thank goodness our Chaptico Market fried chicken dinner last night tasted like it was supposed to – delicious and such a treat. We even made it home without chicken bones flying out the car window. I miss coming out of our church, Christ Church in Chaptico, on Sundays and smelling all that Sunday fried chicken cooking at the Market. All of Chaptico smells like fried chicken – could there be anything better? Well, Thursday is meatloaf day at Chaptico Market, and that is a strong contender. Love the huge slab of meatloaf on white bread the Market fixes.

I guess its out to the workshop for me now, it is such a beautiful day, even without the beautiful bouquet that was left this morning. If it was you who left it, thank you for bringing joy to us. I wish joy and good health for all of you, and lots of daily blessings.

To each new day's beautiful adventure, Shelby

Please send your comments or ideas to: shelbys.wanderingsyahoo.com or find me on Facebook

# IT'S TIME FOR A CHECK-UP

Contributing Writer:  
Lynda J. Striegel

When you visited your doctor last time, did the doctor tell you he or she wanted to see you in 6 months or a year for a “check-up”? Probably, and you probably understood that a check-up of your health was important. Why is it then that many people seem to not understand the importance of an estate planning check-up?

Have you changed over the past 20, 10 or even 5 years? What about your loved ones? Have their circumstances changed over time? Yes, you have a Will so can feel comfortable that you have at least expressed your intentions in writing. But, when was the last time you actually looked at your Will, or Power of Attorney, or Living Will, or Trust? Not surprisingly, most people who actually review their older estate planning documents are shocked by what they find—beneficiaries who have died, executors who are no longer able to serve in such a position, no mention of younger generations of loved ones, continued mention of long-divorced or even deceased spouses, etc. And, keep in mind that it isn't only the will or trust you need to keep up to date. It is, in fact, every beneficiary designation you have made on retirement plans, investment accounts, bank accounts, insurance policies, etc. For a married couple, that means times two.

Does updating your estate planning documents really matter? If you want to leave peace and harmony in your family when you go, the answer is yes. If you want to precipitate a war among loved ones and family members, there is no better way to do it than to have fights over the meaning of language you have left behind. “Everything to my spouse, if she survives and, if not, in equal shares to my children.” Sound good? It is, unless you take into account that the creator of this language was divorced with two children he has not seen for twenty years; remarried to a woman who died but had children and has been rearing his step-children (whom he never adopted) as his own for twenty years. Under the language, the step-children are cut out of the will entirely.

Or, suppose you went to the trouble of protecting your loved ones by creating a Revocable Living Trust. The concept of the Trust is to avoid the probate process. To do that, you re-titled your property into the name of your Trust so that you would not die holding property in your sole name. Holding property in your sole name means your loved ones have to go through the probate process

to take possession of the property. To create a Trust and not check it periodically just defeats the purpose of the Trust. Suppose, for example, that you inherited a house after you created your Trust and you did not update the Trust to include it. When you die, that house will have to go through the probate process to get to your loved ones—the very thing you created the trust to avoid. Updating a Trust is critically important and you should be meeting with your estate planning attorney to do that every couple of years.

Let's not forget the critical Power of Attorney document or your Living Will. The person you might have appointed in your Power of Attorney years ago may no longer be capable or even willing to serve in that capacity. Most attorneys advise clients to name at least two fall-back persons who can act as Power of Attorney in the event the named person doesn't survive. If you have not yet done that, make sure you do. And, if you have not reviewed your “no life-sustaining procedures” requests made under your Living Will, make sure you still agree with what you said. Keep in mind—with all estate planning documents, the latest dated document counts.

What about those beneficiaries you designated to receive your retirement amount or insurance proceeds when you die? When was the last time you checked those? You need to know that a Will or a Trust will NOT override the beneficiaries you have named to receive insurance or retirement proceeds. So, make sure those beneficiaries match what you want to do in your Will or Trust. Have you left your retirement savings to an ex-spouse? Or your life insurance proceeds to your deceased parents? Updating beneficiary designations is one of the most important tasks you can complete to ensure you have protected yourself and your loved ones.

Updating your estate documents is not a difficult task. Many firms, including mine, offer document review at no charge. Even if you have changes you want to make, amending your documents is not a costly proposition. Give yourself the gift of peace of mind by regularly reviewing what you have and keeping all your estate planning documents up to date.

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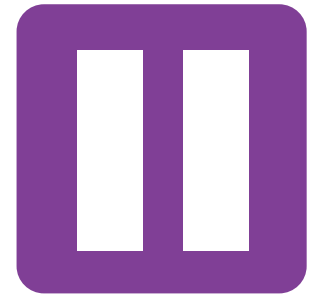
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# Finding Rest in Our Pause!



Right now, our world has been put on pause. In the midst of COVID-19, nations, our country, and our state have been brought to a pause. The question we all should be asking ourselves is “what will we do with our pause?”

A pause can lead to rest. Rest is purposefully ceasing action to restore, renew, recharge. While our world and government officials all over the world have decided to hit the pause button for our lives, will we find rest? What will we do with this pause? I hope we find true rest and give this pause a purpose. Hopefully it will not last too long, like when we hit the pause on our remotes and go get a drink, look at a text, have a brief conversation, or go to the restroom. What will our lives look like when this is over, and we hit the play button again? What will it look like when we go back to life? Jesus said, “**Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**” (Matthew 11:28)

If we are honest, most of us were controlled by our routines and busyness in life. We were weary and burdened. We may not have even realized it. So may we take Jesus’ advice and rest in Him. May we take advantage of this pause God has given us. May we not waste this pause by complaining about government overreach or living in panic. Instead, let’s use this pause as an opportunity to find rest in life. May we embrace this pause as a gift from God. Do not squander it. Spend time in the Word, pray, connect with people digitally, eat around the dinner table with family, get to know each other and love each other more, take time to write and read, do some projects around the house, and take time to draw near to God while He may be found! Then, when we return to what we call normal, maybe we will have a new perspective about what is really important! Perhaps then we can return to what we call normal, knowing that the disruption of our routine and busy lives was worth it because we will have found rest in Christ!

Beyond the rest of Christ in this life is the eternal rest Christ offers all of us. The Scriptures teach us: Therefore, since the promise to enter his rest remains, let us beware that none of you be found to have fallen short. (Hebrews 4:1) May we all enter into the rest of Christ. The Bible tells us to “*beware*” so we do not fall short of God’s rest. The truth is we all fall short of God’s eternal rest without Christ. May that not be so for any of us. As experience this time of crisis together, may we find rest in Christ through the repentance of our sins and trusting in the eternal promise of Christ, that He will give all who are found in Him eternal rest.

If you would like to have this rest in Christ. Be encouraged to **ADMIT** you are a sinner and confess your sins to Christ and be forgiven (1 John 1:9). **BELIEVE** that Jesus is the Son of God and find life in His name alone (John 20:31). And **COMMIT** your life to following Jesus as Savior and Lord (Luke 9:23).

Pausing for Christ,  
**Pastor Chris McCombs**  
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[www.lpbconline.org](http://www.lpbconline.org)



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