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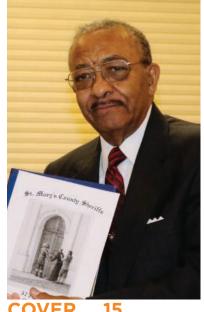
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St. Mary's mourns the passing of former Sheriff Joseph Lee Somer-



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VE'RE GOING TO DO

ST. MARY'S COUNTY FAIR BOARD CHAIR JOHN RICHARDS ON PLANS TO RESUME THE FAIR THIS YEAR.

WEEKLY FORECAST

Thu 4/8	Fri 4/9	Sat 4/10	Sun 4/11
64° I 50°F	62° I 54°F	67° I 57°F	70° I 51°F
Partly Cloudy	PM Showers	AM Showers	Showers
Mon 4/12	Tue 4/13	Wed 4/14	Thu 4/15
67° I 49°F	64° I 48°F	60° I 47°F	60° I 44°F
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	AM Showers	Partly Cloudy



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Positive Cases

Deaths

As of April 7

St. Mary's 6,536

Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

County Fair Returns This Fall

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

After being cancelled last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the St. Mary's County Fair is set to make a comeback this year, The County Times has learned.

John Richards, president of the St. Mary's County Fair Board, said with the advent of successful vaccination efforts county residents can look forward to fun times in September celebrating the county's agricultural heritage, livestock shows, food vendors and carnival rides.

"We're going to do it," Richards

"We're looking forward to getting back to things the way we're used to."

The actual shape of the fair has yet to be determined, said Richards, though he expected that there would be some changes to the normal operations to ensure a safe return of visitors.

In almost 75 years of operation, the St. Mary's County Fair is one of the most heavily-attended public events, bringing tens of thousands of visitors to the fairgrounds in Leonardtown over a four-day schedule.

Many of the volunteers who work year-round to ensure the fair is a success were senior citizens and at greater risk of health complications if they contracted the virus; this was one of the key reasons for cancelling the fair last year.

Richards said he was more hopeful for fair season this year.

"By September, I think things will be more normal than now," said Richards. "We'll have a better grasp of what the protocols will be."

Richards said the carnival vendor had a plan to enact social distancing for the rides at the fair this year.

"They have plans to space them [the rides] out and how to handle the lines," Richards said, which could involve having the lines between rides instead of extending out into the fairway.

Temperature checks would also likely be among the health protocols but any requirements to wear masks "remain to be seen."

"A lot of these things are still developing," Richards said. "There's a long time between now and September.

The livestock shows might also have to be modified, Richards said, along with other farm-related exhibits in the many buildings at the fairgrounds, including designated sole entrances and exits to them.

The number of entries into those contests may also be restricted.



The number of seats available to visitors for popular fair events, such as the horse pulls, might also have to limited, he said.

Sanitation stations throughout the fairgrounds would also be available at this year's fair.

The county's health department had selected the county fairgrounds

earlier this year as a possible site for mass vaccinations and they would be involved in the opening of the fair this year, Richards said.

"They are aware," he said. "We're in touch all the time.

"We'll see what September brings." guyleonard@countytimes.net



Young Life St. Mary's wishes to thank the following businesses and individuals for donating items to our online auction. Because of their support, the auction was a huge success, and our ministry will be able to reach more local middle school and high school kids. Thanks!

RC Lexington Exchange Texas Roadhouse Charles Street Brasserie Solomons Island Winery Toyota of Southern Maryland Sky Zone Calvert Marine Museum Magooby's Joke House Frontier Town Freedom Physical and Aquatic Therapy Planet Fitness Jennifer Fenwick Port of Leonardtown Winery Mike's Bikes **Emily Barcomb** Sweet Bay Restaurant Hannah Roberson Geoffrey Engle

The Rex Ye Olde Town Café McKay's HARK (Heartfelt Acts of Random Kindness) Board and Brush Cheseldine Tire and Auto Linda's Café Sanner's Lake Sportsmen's Club Tackle Box Practical Training Professionals (PTP) Hand and Stone Healing Hands Therapy Chesapeake Embroidery SMFCO Chris Barrett Rob Seltzer of Herring Creek Furniture Swann Store Mission Barbecue

Special thanks to Jennifer Fenwick for all her hard work.

https://smc.younglife.org/





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Veterans Home Funding Restored



By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist. 29A) reported this week that \$1 million that been removed from the budget for the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in a floor vote in the House of Delegates two weeks ago has been restored.

Morgan said Sen. Michael Jackson (D-Dist.27) was instrumental in helping restore the funding to this year's Budget Reconciliation and Funding Act or HB 589.

A video of Morgan during debate on the House floor shows him asking Del. Maggie McIntosh (D-Baltimore City) chair of the conference committee if the funding had been restored as part of an amendment.
"Yes it is," McIntosh said.

In a debate on the House floor nearly two weeks ago, some argued that the veterans home, the only one in the state, already had more than sufficient funds

Del. Keith Haynes (D-Baltimore City) argued that the transfer of the \$1 million would not hamper the operations of the facility.

"This is what we call in the budget committees a fund swap," Haynes had said. "It is not a cut."

Haynes said one contractor company provides the patient care at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, which bills the state about \$3 million each year for their services.

This year, the veterans home received an additional \$4.2 million in CARES Act money from the federal government as well as \$2 million more in funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Haynes said.

'They have a fund balance way beyond what they normally have, the Baltimore delegate said of the veterans' home's finances.

Recapturing the state's \$1 million and putting it back into the general fund would relieve budgetary pressure, Haynes said, because federal dollars were there to replace it.

Both Morgan and a Baltimore County delegate argued strongly against the removal of the funding.

Del. Rick Impallaria (R-Baltimore County) said the state's only veterans' home shone above others because it did not have the same loss of life as similar facilities.

Impallaria said he has a loved one residing there.

'They've done a stellar job of treating our veterans in the best way they can be treated," Impallaria said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



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Boys Missing from Ridge Found In Virginia



Josiah Vladimir Clark

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Two brothers, aged 13 and 15 years old, who were last seen in their home in Ridge around 9:30 p.m. April 4 were found safe in Westmoreland County, Virginia, according to volunteers who were involved in the search Tuesday evening

Jesse Oleg Clark, 13 and Josiah Vladimir Clark, 15, had been reported missing the evening of April 5 by one of their parents and were believed to have taken a canoe and assorted other items with them

Their absence prompted a major search effort by police, fire, Coast Guard and Civil Air Patrol assets.

Sgt. Eric Molinares, spokesman for the Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office, said a concerned citizen saw the two boys staying in an abandoned home in the Coles Point area of the Northern Neck, close to the Potomac River.

"It's right across from Maryland," Molinares told The County Times.

Westmoreland County deputies arrived on scene and found the two boys were unharmed



Jessie Oleg Clark

"They were in good condition," said Molinares. "They were transported back to the sheriff's office and their parents came to pick them up."

Their father, in a video recorded statement to volunteer search and rescue members at the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department on Apr. 6, said his two sons had said in the days prior that they had planned to take a canoe trip to Virginia.

The search initially began on Harry James Road next to Harry James Creek in Ridge, according to information from the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department.

Other agencies involved in the search for the two boys included the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Naval District of Washington Fire Department stationed in St. Inigoes, a search and rescue boat each from the Seventh District and Second District volunteer fire departments, county government emergency communications, a U.S. Navy search and rescue helicopter, the Calvert County Sheriff's Office and the all-volunteer Smith Point Sea Rescue organization located in Burgess, Virginia.

guyleonard@countytimes.net





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Straight Talk on Straight Teeth

BY: JEFF TOMCSIK

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

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

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

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

Many people who have ongoing problems with decay or pain despite their efforts to keep their teeth clean, might be suffering from malocclusion issues that are causing the ongoing dental problems. The good news is that orthodontics may be a solution to these problems, and a straighter, more beautiful smile is a bonus to the treatment, not the reason for the treatment.

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

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

of the time to other safe orthodontic options.

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

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

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





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Final Phase of COVID-19 Vaccinations Begins

Ages 16 & Over Eligible



By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

All Marylanders over the age of 16 could begin to get a vaccine dosage to fight COVID-19 beginning Apr. 6, Gov. Larry Hogan announced Monday, noting that fewer of Maryland's older population – those aged 65 and up – were being sickened by the virus due to successful vaccine efforts.

This announcement opened Phase 3 – the final phase – of vaccinations against the virus.

But more and more younger people were making up the majority of infection cases due to more infectious variants of the virus, Hogan said at the Apr. 5 Annapolis press conference, making it much more urgent to get as many younger residents vaccinated before the virus could take hold in that part of the population.

"Getting as many people vaccinated as we can as quickly as we can is our absolute best defense against these variants," Hogan said. "We're starting to see hospitalizations of people in their 20s, 30s and 40s as opposed to 70s, 80s and 90s."

Residents can get their dosages at any of the mass vaccination sites across the state, Hogan said, but they must still make an appointment.

The increasing success of the state's vaccination program, as well as continued increased supply from the federal government, allowed his administration to open pre-registration for a Phase 3 inoculation; more than 500,000 have already done so, Hogan said.

"Even though we're opening up eligibility to everyone does not mean everyone will be able to immediately get an appointment," Hogan said, cautioning against a rush to get an inoculation.

On April 12 all providers of the vaccine will be required to allow dosages for all residents over the age of 16.

Hogan warned that 16-and-17-year-old residents can only get an inoculation at a clinic which uses the Pfizer vaccine; this was the only one with approval for that age group from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Hogan said any resident who was in Phase 1 and Phase 2 who had not yet received a dose would be prioritized for one.

So far, more than 42 percent of all Maryland adults have received a vaccine, while more than 76 percent of residents over the age of 65 have been inoculated, Hogan said.

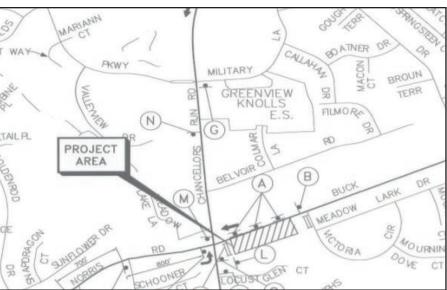
The governor said the state is opening three new mass vaccination sites including one at the Greenbelt Metro Station, at the fairgrounds in Baltimore County and in Germantown at Montgomery College.

Last week the state started a walk-up vaccination clinic in Salisbury and starting Apr. 6 one was set to open in Hagerstown, Hogan said, neither require an appointment.

Marylanders can register for Phase 3 vaccinations at COVID-vax.maryland.gov or by calling 1-855-MD-GOVAX.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Buck Hewitt Road Utility Work to Affect Traffic



The Department of Public Works & Transportation is alerting residents that due to the relocation of utilities. Buck Hewitt Road will experience traffic delays and brief closures. A gas main located just northeast of the intersection at Chancellor's Run Road (MD 237) will be relocated.

While the utility work is taking place, through traffic will be periodically delayed and briefly

closed. Local traffic is permitted only for access to residential entrances. Video message boards and traffic control measures will be provided. Disruption to traffic patterns will occur for approximately one week, weather dependent.

For additional information, please contact the Department of Public Works & Transportation at 301-475-4200, ext. 3522.



Audit Shows Flaws in South Korean COVID Test Deal

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

A report released by the state April 2 criticizes the lack of contracts or documentation for a multi-million-dollar deal brokered by Gov. Larry Hogan and a South Korean producer of COVID-19 test kits brought into the country last year.

The document from the Office of Legislative Audits also investigated the termination of two state employees who questioned the nature of the deal, which Hogan was quick promote as a major step forward in fighting the pandemic before vaccines were created.

According to auditors, the investigation that resulted in the 133-page document took four-and-a-half months to complete, which was far beyond the normal time to complete such an audit.

The governor's office was highly critical of media reports last year that detailed problems with the tests, such as missing components and false negative as well as inconclusive test results.

"Our review disclosed a pervasive lack of written documentation to support the key aspects of the procurement, use, and validity of the tests and the aforementioned terminations," the first pages of the

report showed. "The procurement of the tests occurred during the onset of the formal state of emergency declared by the Governor.

Though there was an urgent need to get tests at the time, the audit stated that did not eliminate requirements to follow all procurement regulations in the deal with LabGenomics

"We concluded that the tests were not procured in accordance with state procurement regulations," the audit continued. "For example, the payments made for the COVID tests were not supported by formal written contracts or agreements containing any of the critical provisions required by state procurement regulations. We also were not provided with comprehensive written documentation of the extent to which other vendors were considered, or of the specific parties involved in the evaluation and selection of LabGenomics."

Questions that swirled around the procurement of the tests led to legislators calling for the audit that was just released; in a press conference held earlier this week in Annapolis, Hogan decried the report as entirely partisan.

"The report was partisan nonsense," Hogan said. "We used every, single one of the 500,000 kits.

"I wouldn't change a single thing." The initial flight from South Korea into Baltimore Washington International Airport in April of last year with the 500,000 tests was also unjustifiably costly, according to the report as was the cost of the tests themselves.

Hogan, at the time, called their arrival a "game changing" moment in fighting the virus' spread.

"Finally, there was no support of the basis for the \$11.5 million ultimately paid for the tests or the decision to charter a flight for the shipment of the first tests at a cost of \$464,369 when the second tests were shipped for a cost of \$14,265," the report stated.

The initial tests also did not have federal regulatory approval.

"We also found that the first tests obtained from LabGenomics had not been authorized by the federal Food and Drug Administration and one study conducted by a laboratory in Maryland concluded the tests were likely to have an increased number of false-negatives and inconclusive results," the report stated. "In addition, while concerns were raised with the reliability of test results reported by the University of Maryland Pathology Associates (UMPA)

laboratory using the second tests obtained from LabGenomics, we were unable to obtain documentation of test results from UMPA to corroborate the concerns with the reliability of test results."

Requests by the auditors were initially denied, according to the report, and they have yet to receive them for analysis.

The terminations of the two state employees after they raised concerns over the tests was supported as appropriate in interviews with their supervisors, auditors said, but the reasons for them were not properly recorded.

In the case of one of those employees: "...supervisory officials advised us that the termination was due solely to unrelated performance issues; however, this was not supported by written documentation in the employee's personnel file."

The audit noted that key agency personnel interviewed for the report, including from the Office of the Governor, state health department, Towson University and the general services department, disagreed sharply with many of the conclusions to which auditors arrived.

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Commissioners Approve Relief Funds to Support Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

Tuesday, March 30, 2021, Commissioners of St. Mary's County approved the St. Mary's County Hotel Relief Fund II, Restaurant Relief Fund III and the Online Sales and Telework Fund. St. Mary's County recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused economic hardship for many businesses. To provide local relief from this hardship, St. Mary's County has activated three relief funds.

1. The Hotel Relief Fund II will have a maximum budget of \$189,787. The maximum award per grantee is \$25,000.

Grants may be used for

- Normal operating costs, such as rent, payroll, job training, taxes, debt service or similar costs
- Purchase of PPE, sanitization services or other COVID-19 related supplies

Lodging establishments must be engaged in activities in accordance with NAICS Code 721110 (Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels or 721191 (Bed-andbreakfast Inns) and if a part of a franchise with multiple locations of businesses, are owned by a Maryland franchisee, must demonstrate a need for assistance, be based in St. Mary's County, be in good standing with the State of Maryland, St. Mary's County Department of Land Use and Growth Management, Office of the Treasurer and St. Mary's County Finance Department.

Eligible businesses can submit an online application starting at 3 p.m. Monday, April 5, 2021, at https://www.yesstmarysmd.com/hgrants/ Applicants are encouraged to visit the grant portal for more information on required documents, applicant eligibility, and to create a user account before submission of the application.

The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Friday, April 23, 2021.

2. The Restaurant Relief Fund III will have a maximum budget of \$471,443. The maximum award per grantee is \$12,000.

Foodservice establishments must be engaged in activities in accordance with NAICS Code 722320, 7224 or 7225, must demonstrate a need for assistance, be based in St. Mary's County, be in

good standing with the State of Maryland, St. Mary's County Department of Land Use and Growth Management and Office of the Treasurer.

Grants may be used for

- Working capital, such as rent, payroll and job training
- Purchase of equipment and services to expand outdoor dining, such as tents, heaters, warmers, and carts
- Infrastructure improvements, such as HVAC system upgrades
- Technology to support carry out and delivery
- Purchase of PPE and disposable food containers and utensils
- Sanitization services

Eligible businesses can submit an online application starting at 3 p.m. Monday, April 5, 2021, at https://www.yesstmarysmd.com/rgrants/ Applicants are encouraged to visit the grant portal for more information on required documents, applicant eligibility, and to create a user account before submission of the application.

The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Friday, April 23, 2021.

3. The Online Sales and Telework Fund will have a maximum budget of \$9,487. The maximum award per grantee is \$3,159.

Small businesses must be based in St. Mary's County, be in good standing with the State of Maryland, St. Mary's County Department of Land Use and Growth Management and Office of the Treasurer, have been established prior to March 9, 2020, currently be in operation, and not have more than 20 total employees excluding the owner.

Grants may be used for

• Expenses incurred to establish or expand online sales and/or telework during COVID (after March 2020).

Eligible businesses can apply for the Online Sales and Telework Fund by contacting St. Mary's Chamber at rfleming@smcchamber.com starting April 1, 2021.

The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. May 1, 2021.

If you have any questions regarding any of the grant funds, please contact Kellie Hinkle, Deputy Director Kellie.Hinkle@StMarysMD.com 240-925-7178.

US Geological Survey Gage Installed on McIntosh Run

The Department of Emergency Services is pleased to announce the installation of a United States Geological Survey (USGS) gage height and precipitation monitor on McIntosh Run in Leonardtown. "This will provide real-time data that is essential to situational awareness and early warning notifications," said Director Steve Walker. The monitoring equipment will provide data on water level and precipitation on McIntosh Run.

The USGS Water Resources Mission Area provides water information that is fundamental to the protection of life and property and national and local economic well-being. Public and private users use data from the network for various applications, such as the following:

- 1. Planning, designing, operating, and maintaining the nation's multipurpose water management
- 2. Issuing flood warnings to protect lives and reduce property damage.
- 3. Designing highways and bridges.
 - 4. Mapping floodplains.
- Monitoring environmental conditions and protecting aquatic

- 6. Protecting water quality and regulating pollutant discharges.
- 7. Managing water rights and transboundary water issues.
- 8. Education and research.
- 9. Recreational uses.

Each of the nine categories of uses listed above has a range of users, data uses and beneficiaries of the data. Each category provides benefits - either direct, indirect, tangible or intangible.

Citizens can view rent conditions and sign up for alerts for McIntosh Run at https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring location/01661350/#param eterCode=00065

Other monitoring sites in St. Mary's County:

• St. Clements Creek near Clements

https://water.weather. gov/ahps2/hydrograph. php?wfo=lwx&gage=clmm2

• St. Mary's River at Great

https://water.weather. gov/ahps2/hydrograph. php?wfo=lwx&gage=gmrm2

• St. George Creek at Straits

https://water.weather. gov/ahps2/hydrograph. php?wfo=lwx&gage=sgsm2



McIntosh Run, Leonardtown



Noise Advisory - FCLP Training Flights Scheduled Through April 30

Communities surrounding the naval air station are advised that noise-generating testing events are scheduled to take place April 1-30, 2021 from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Pilots at NAS PAX will be conducting Field Carrier Landing Practices (FCLPs). FCLPs are simulated carrier landings conducted to prepare the pilot to land safely on an aircraft carrier. The practices consist of series of touch-and-go maneuvers, "bounces." Airspeed, altitude and power are all precisely choreographed in order for a pilot to approach the ship within an acceptable window to land on the deck safely.

FCLP training is essential for the precision and safety of our pilots and the success of their mission. Landing on an aircraft carrier is perhaps the most difficult task in military aviation. It is a highly complex and perishable skill, and requires intense period of training before pilots deploy. Residents may notice increased noise levels due to these operations.

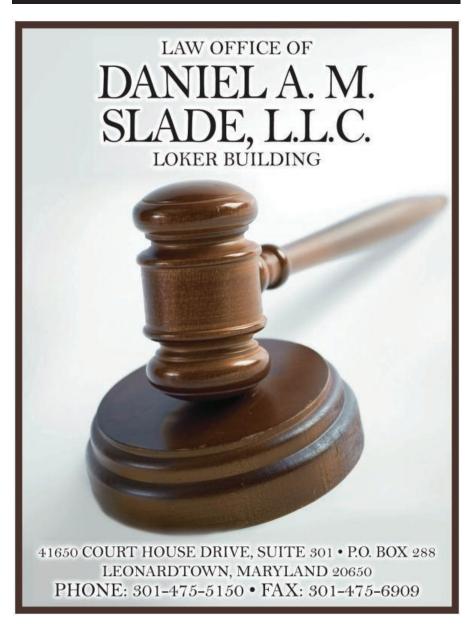
As with all operations, NAS Patuxent River takes precautions to lessen the impact of testing activities on the community. For more information call 1-866-819-9028.



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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S **OFFICE CRIME REPORT**

Assault- On March 18, 2021, Dep. Westphal responded to the 19700 block of Oak Court in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Investigation determined Jessica Lynn Morgan, age 38

of Lexington Park, assaulted the victim by scratching the victim in the face, causing visible injury. Morgan was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Assault- On March 18, 2021, DFC. Budd responded to the 21200 block of Mayfaire Lane in Lexington Park, for the reported assault involving a knife. Investigation determined the suspect Varena Corrina Telesford, age 25 of Lex-

ington Park pushed the victim causing visible injury and retrieved a large knife and threatened the victim with the knife. Telesford was and arrested



charged with Assault 1st and 2nd Degree.

Assault- On March 21, 2021, Dep. Luffey responded to the St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown, for the reported assault. Investigation determined Zach-William ery Ruggerio, age 32 of Great Mills, was actively assaulting the victim, when **Bryon** Michael Bishop, age 22 of Leonardtown, entered into the disturbance and assaulted the vic- Bryon Bishop tim. Both Rug-



Zachary Ruggerio



gerio and Bishop were charged with Assault 2nd Degree.

Assault- On March 21, 2021, Dep. Wilhelmi responded to the 20600 block of Hermanville Road in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Investigation determined Ashleigh Paige Friend, age 29 of Lexington Park, assault-

ed the victim by biting the victim during an argument. Visible injury was observed to the victim and Friend was arrested and charged with Assault 2nd Degree.



Editor's Note:

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



St. Clement's Island Museum Resumes "Dinner & a Cruise" Series for 2021



Beginning April 25, 2021, visitors can enjoy a fun evening of cruising on the St. Clement's Island Water Taxi, cocktail reception at St. Clement's Island Museum and delicious seafood dinner at waterside Morris Point Restaurant during a series of themed events throughout the season.

The run of five cruises kick off April 25, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. as part of the Black Diamond Disaster American Civil War Commemoration Weekend with "The Civil War and St. Clement's Island." The tour will include a guided presentation about St. Clement's Island's interesting role during the American Civil War.

The four other cruises occur in May, June, August and October. They include the following themes: Sunday, May 16, 2021, features "Meet Dr. Thomas Gerard," from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. where your water tour guide will portray a colonist, Dr. Thomas Gerard, who once owned St. Clement's Island. Sunday, June 13, 2021, features "Maryland's Beautiful Swimmers," where your water tour guide will talk about the Chesapeake Blue Crabs. Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021 features "Inside the Blackistone Lighthouse," where your water tour will include a guided tour of the Blackistone Lighthouse on St. Clement's Island. Sunday, Oct. 10, 2021 features "A Narrated Fall Foliage Tour" from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. where your water tour will include a guided presentation about why St. Clement's Island is so important

"Since all of 2019's themed cruises sold out quickly, we knew we had to continue offering these fun, yet informative, events to get visitors back out on the water, especially after 2020's shutdowns prevented us from doing so" states Karen Stone, Manager of the St. Mary's County Museum Division. "This year's series includes five cruises, all concerning different interesting subjects. We now have plenty of opportunities for the public to grab tickets before they sell out."

Though there are more chances to get your spot before tickets are gone, Stone suggests reserving early. "We recommend calling in for any of the cruises as soon as possible – the tickets will sell out quickly as we only allow a maximum of 20 spots per cruise for these exclusive events."

Tickets for all cruises are \$55 per person or \$100 per couple and include a boat ride, cocktail reception at St. Clement's Island Museum and dinner at Morris Point Restaurant. When making a reservation, the public is encouraged to choose an entrée for their meal, which includes: Crabcake; Seafood Combination (broiled or fried of any two: crabcake, shrimp, scallops, soft-shell crab or fish); or Chicken and Pasta dinner. All meals include two sides.

For more information or to reserve your ticket, please call St. Clement's Island Museum at 301-769-2222.







Hello, my name is Bunnie. As you can see, I'm a GORGEOUS 3 year old SWEETHEART! I'm SUPER FRIENDLY and I just LOVE meeting new people. However, I'm not at all demanding, so if you are busy, I won't mind spending time by myself. Give me a sunny spot by a window or a comfy rug and I will be HAPPY to spend all of my 9 lives with YOU. If I'm the type of kitty you are looking for then email animalshelter@ charlescountymd.gov to schedule an appointment to meet me ASAP! BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! When you choose to adopt from TCAS, you are literally saving a life.

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Tri-

County Animal Shelter Southern MD or view us on our website at https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/tri-county-animal-shelter





Free Document Shredding

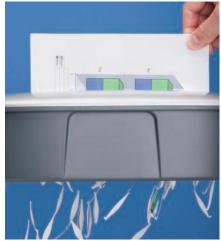
Event

You Got It - You Bring It - We Shred It! It is time to clean out your file cabinets, closets and desks and get rid of confidential, private, and important personal documents that you no longer need to keep.

The Department of Public Works & Transportation will be conducting the 11th annual community document shredding event Saturday, April 24, 2021, from 8 a.m. – noon at the St. Andrews Landfill located at 44837 St. Andrews Church Road in California.

This community event allows residents to have their confidential, private, and important documents destroyed by a professional shredding service at no cost. The shredding process will turn sensitive documents into confetti-sized pieces ensuring confidential material cannot be copied. All paper material shredded during the event will be recycled.

Please refrain from bringing materials that are not confidential, such as newspapers and magazines, acceptable at any of the six Convenience Centers, as they will cause the truck to fill up more



auickly

The shredder can handle simple staples, paper clips, spiral notebooks, and thin metal prongs; however, it cannot accept three ring binders. Please limit the number of boxes you bring to three standard bankers' boxes (10"H x 12"W x 15"D) per person so we can serve as many residents as possible. A total of 12,650 pounds (6.32 tons) of paper was collected from over 239 vehicles at the last event held November 7, 2020.

For more information, please call the Department of Public Works & Transportation at 301-475-4200, ext. 3517

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Meet Maryland Author John Balkam

John Balkam, author, social entrepreneur, and sports marketing professional will be joining us to talk about his book "3-Win Sponsorship: The Next Generation of Sports & Entertainment Marketing" on Monday, April 12 from 7 – 8 p.m. As a public speaker and the founder of Third Win Group, John's primary goal is to connect activist athletes and artists to brand marketing teams interested in taking a stand on social and environmental issues. In 3-Win Sponsorship, he points out the impact that sports and entertainment sponsorships have had on our society in the past, and the reasons why athletes, artists, and entertainers will continue to influence social issues in the future. Join us as John explains the 5 principles behind a 3-win sponsorship, how a Win-Win-Win mentality benefits all of us, and the business case for brands to embrace the 3-Win

mindset and methodology. Register with an email address on www.stmal-ib.org to receive the link to the Zoom meeting the day before the event. Copies of Balkam's books will be available for purchase at White Rabbit Bookstore in California, MD

STEM Fun: Art Machines

STEM Fun: Art Machines will be held Tuesday, April 13 from 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Learn about levers and fulcra as you engineer three sculptures that are designed to move. Register to reserve a supply kit and receive the link to the live Zoom event with STEM coaches from FutureMakers. Register once per child needing a supply kit on www.stmalib. org; kits will be available for pickup beginning Thursday, April 8. The live program will also be recorded for later viewing.



Art with Jamie Naluai: Welcome Spring

Paint a spring scene in acrylic on wood with local artist Jamie Naluai on Thursday, April 8 from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Find a list of recommended materials to follow along and register on www.stmalib.org. Jamie Naluai is a local artist based in Southern Maryland who creates murals, faux finishes, and trompe l'oeil of all sizes in Maryland and the greater Washington D.C. area.

Outdoor Storytime at Historic St. Mary's City

Stories, songs, and activities for children with their adult caregivers, in the great outdoors at Historic St. Mary's City on Saturday, April 17 from 9 – 9:30

a.m. Siblings welcome; please register once per family group on www.stmalib. org. Rain date: Apr 24. This activity will take place on the State House lawn, which is a grassy area. Participants should park at the State House parking area and follow the signs to storytime, bring blankets or chairs for comfort, and follow social distancing practices during the event. This outdoor event is weather-dependent: in case of bad weather it will be postponed or cancelled. Masks are encouraged during the outdoor storytime, and required to enter any Historic St. Mary's City buildings. Storytime attendance is free; families wishing to explore the grounds afterward should plan to visit the Gift Shop to purchase admission after 10am.



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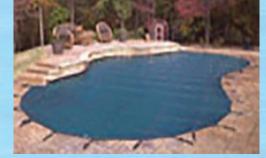
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Thursday: 10 AM - 7 PM
Friday: 10 AM - 7 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 7 PM
Sunday: 11 AM - 5 PM
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Closed

22725 Duke Street, Leonardtown, MD Behind the Volunteer Fire Department



Somerville Remembered as Everyone's Sheriff

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Joseph Lee Somerville, Sr., 81, who served as the county's – and the state's – first black sheriff passed away last week leaving a legacy of protecting the community that his family still carries forward today in the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office.

Somerville was a lieutenant in the sheriff's office in 1977 when he was appointed by then Gov. Marvin Mandel to serve out the term of then Sheriff George Sanger, who died in office.

He then ran for the office and handily won the local election to serve another four years.

As well as having sons who actively served – and continue to serve in the agency – he also brought on a deputy more than 40 years ago who now leads the office.

"He hired me in July of 1980," said Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron, remembering his first commanding officer. "We were a very small agency and it was not lost on me that I was the only 21-year-old in the agency.

"I was very lucky; it was never lost on me that he took a chance on me."

Throughout the county, Somerville, the patriarch of a large, extended family in St. Mary's, was known as a gentleman and well-liked by almost everyone who knew him. After serving as sheriff he went on to work as a bailiff in the St. Marys' County Circuit Court.

"I saw him enough coming in and out of the sheriff's office headquarters when it was at the courthouse and he always stopped to talk," Cameron said. "He would ask questions about my family and my future plans.

"He focused on you; he was a very warm and humble person."

But being the first black sheriff in St. Mary's County left some in the community feeling resentment, according to Cameron.

"He was a forward leaner," Cameron said of Somerville. "But I'm sure it was not popular with some people.

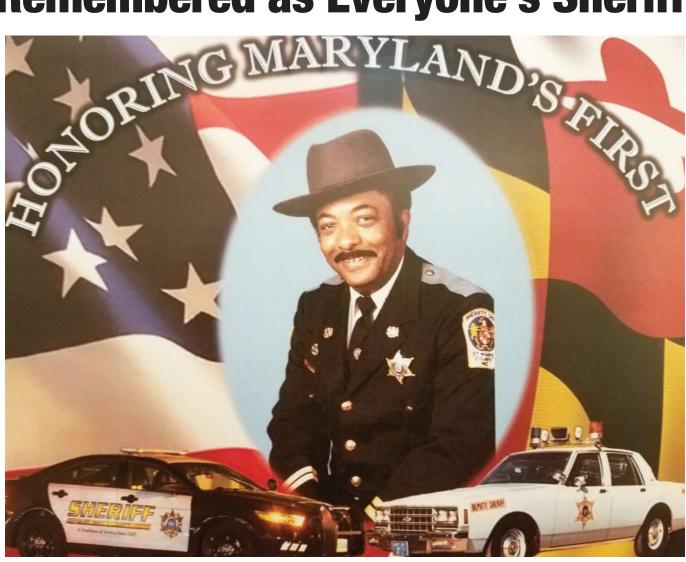
"He and his family were victims of their home being shot at."

It was an isolated incident during Somerville's first term in office, Cameron said, but he believed the animosity involved was real.

"Clearly, someone did not like him," he said.

Cpl. Joe Somerville, Jr., still working for the sheriff's office remembers that day.

He said he was working on his dirt bike behind the family home during nighttime hours when it happened.



"Someone pulled in front of the house," the younger Somerville said. "I heard something whiz by and a flash at the end of the driveway."

He ran to his father to tell him someone had fired at their home – he said his father didn't think it had actually happened, initially – but a broken window confirmed it.

"We didn't find them, and I don't know what happened with the investigation," the younger Somerville said.

Sheriff Somerville apparently did not let the incident affect his work as one of the top law enforcement officers in the county.

But the family carried on.

"You've got to, one day at a time," his widow Delores Somerville said. "When he became a deputy, the hatred was already there; it wasn't going to stop."

The sheriff's widow said that even though many people liked and respected her husband, the specter of racial bigotry against him from some people still existed.

"He never hurt anyone," Delores said. "What else could it have been?"

Joe Jr. said that if his father encountered any other bigotry against him in his tenure he never told his family about it.

"You had a few knuckle heads out there," Joe Jr. said.

More than being well liked,

Somerville knew his duty.

"He was a very good man; I think he was a very good cop," Cameron said. "He had the confidence of the people he talked to and he turned that into a lot of information we could act on.

"That's hard earned and easily lost."

Even with the advent of greater technology, information from the community is still highly prized for solving or even preventing crimes.

Whenever a citizen would come down to the sheriff's headquarters to speak with Somerville, Cameron said, he would make the time to listen to them.

"I saw him do that all the time," Cameron said. "He would talk with, meet with anybody."

Cameron praised both Joe Jr. and his brother Kevin Somerville, who is retired from the agency, for their service with the sheriff's office, carrying forward their father's legacy.

"They're both exceptional men," the sheriff said. "That's a real testament to him [Sheriff Somerville.]"

Joe Jr. remembered that their father was on constant call, listening to the police scanner while at the dinner table and hopping up when an incident occurred to answer it.

"He would be up and out the door," Joe Jr. said. "One time he

heard over the scanner a tractor had turned over on Bishop Road and the guy who got thrown said when he saw my father driving around the corner it was like he was up on two wheels."

The former sheriff found that the man who had been thrown was alright, but he rushed to the scene with a real sense of urgency.

"It was tough, but we knew what he had to do," Joe Jr. said. "He was always willing to give."

The sheriff's widow said that her husband's work with the sheriff's office was his calling.

"That job, he was really attached to it," she said. "He was a man who really wanted to help.

"I want to thank the people who loved him so much."

Joe Jr. said the community has rallied around the family after their loss.

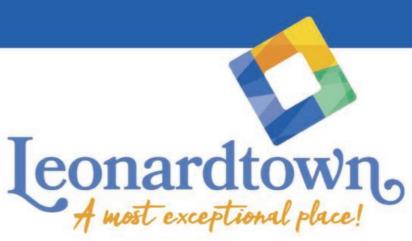
"The outpouring of respect of love is amazing," Joe Jr. said. "I had my dad for 58 years and I wanted him for another 58."

His father's legacy of service stemmed from his dedication to the law and the county, he said.

"Being in law enforcement was his calling and he answered it every time," Joe Jr. said. "He's resting now, he earned it."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

See Sheriff Somerville's obituary on page 26





The 21st Annual Earth Day Virtual Celebration Features:
Conservation Gardening Recycling The Birds of Prey Exhibit
The 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Reptile World Show
Nature & Waterman Tours Cooking & Fitness Demos
Music Performances and More























Thursday, April 8, 2021 The County Times Sports 19

Tackle Box Fishing Report Walk-Off Single

By Ken Lamb Contributing Writer

We begin the 2021 season with catfish hitting cut bait (alewife and mud shad) with gusto in the Potomac River. From Port Tobacco to the Wilson Bridge there are catfish of merit including some in the 50 pound range. There are catfish at Abel's Wharf in Breton Bay, and at the public fishing area behind Ryken High School. The fishing off Bushwood Pier has been very good. A nice catfish

was taken from Solomon's Pier last week.

There are rumors of white perch in the creeks, but May 1st is the traditional kickoff date for these tasty table fish.

Rockfish are off limits until May I when the season opens with one per day the creel limit and 35 inches the minimum length. All stripers are protected in the month of April and can not be targeted even for catch and release.



Donald Russell with a nice 43" 49.4 pound Catfish out of Mattawoman Creek using cut bait last week.



Garrett Norris with huge 10.3lb Largemouth Bass from a farm pond in 7th District, which was quickly released after being caught.



Gene Wright with an awesome string of Yellow Perch caught with some Tackle Box live minnows at Allen's Fresh Thursday. Nice fish Gene.

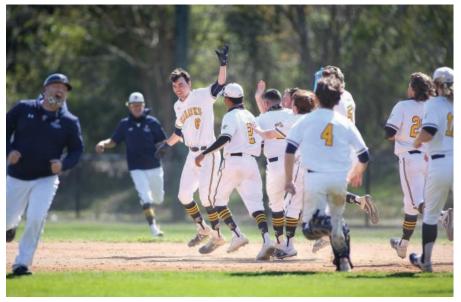
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Walk-Off Single Pushes Seahawks Past Christopher Newport



The St. Mary's College of Maryland baseball team (5-5, 3-1 C2C) hosted the Christopher Newport University Captains (9-5, 4-1 C2C) on Sunday (Apr. 4) in Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference action. The Seahawks defeated the Captains 13-12 in walk-off fashion when Connor Coursey delivered the game-winning base hit. The Seahawks handed the Captains their first conference loss of the season and defeated CNU for the first time since April 4, 2015.

St. Mary's College - 13, Christopher Newport University - 12 How It Happened

• St. Mary's College struck first in the game when Dillon Waters blasted a double to left center to plate Joey Bryner. Trailing 1-0, the Captains captured the lead with six runs between the second and third innings to take a 6-1 advantage. In the bottom of the third, St. Mary's College cut the CNU lead to four when D. Waters flew out to center for a sacrifice fly to bring home Derrick Booker.

• CNU responded with four runs in the fourth inning to jump out to a 10-2 lead. However, the Seahawks kept fighting with four runs between the fifth and sixth innings. D. Waters and Jake Wood drove in one run each, while Coursey brought home two runs to bring the score to 10-6 in favor of the Captains. CNU added one more run in the top of the seventh to extend their lead to 11-6.

• Trailing by five runs, the Seahawks began their furious comeback with two runs in the bottom of the seventh and added another three runs in the eighth to even the game at 11. Sam Smith and Brian Sanders both drove in runs in the seventh. In the eighth,

Andy Collins stepped up to the plate to pinch hit and put the ball in play, forcing a throwing error from the CNU pitcher to plate two more runs. Coursey capped off the eighth with an RBI double to left field to knot the game up at 11-11.

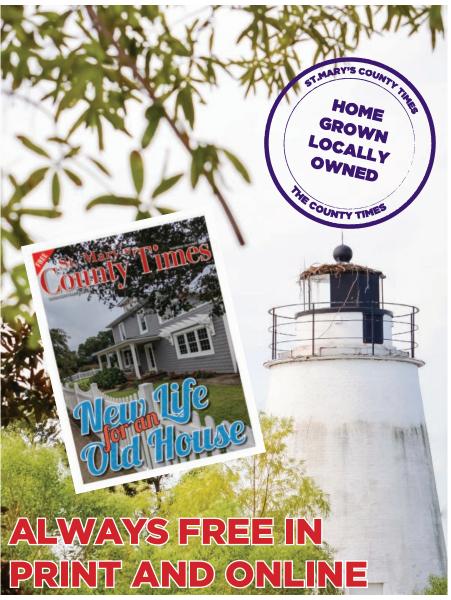
• The Captains attempted to steal the game back in the ninth by tacking on a run to take a 12-11 lead. With three outs left in the game, the Seahawks began their walk-off victory when Sam James drew a walk. Next, Booker reached first on a fielder's choice, but James was called out at second. Jake Wood stepped into the batter's box next and lined a single to left field and advanced Booker to third. After Nathan Brown drew a walk, D. Waters recorded a sacrifice fly, which brought home Booker to even the game at 12. Lastly, Coursey pulled off the late game heroics with he drilled a single into center field to score Wood to complete the Seahawk comeback victory.

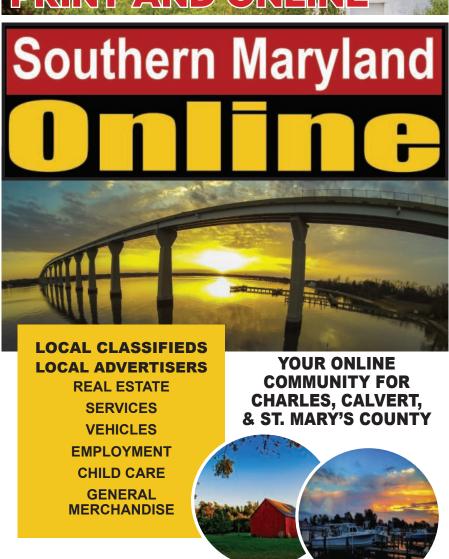
Inside the Box Score

• Wood recorded a team-best four hits on the afternoon and added one RBI. D. Waters and Coursey both tallied three hits and four RBI each. Booker stole the lone base of the game for the Seahawks.

• Tyson Johnson started the game on the mound for St. Mary's College and threw three innings. Johnson allowed two earned runs and recorded four strikeouts. Jackson Edelman, Jake Wills, and Coursey pitched in relief. Wills recorded two strikeouts and Coursey notched one. Coursey pitched two innings and only allowed one earned run to earn the victory.

Press Release from SMCM.





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Men's Swimming Downed by Marymount



The St. Mary's College of Maryland men's swimming team (0-3) hosted the Marymount University Saints (1-0) on Friday (Apr. 2) morning in Atlantic East Conference action. The Seahawks were downed by the Saints with a final score of 117-52.

St. Mary's College - 52, Marymount University - 117

How It Happened

• The Seahawks picked up their first victory of the meet in event four when Sebastian Ludwig swam a time of 10:57.72 in the 1,000 Yard Freestyle.

Next, Nate Donoghue earned a first place finish in the 50 Yard Freestyle, swimming a time of 22.98.

• St. Mary's College recorded second place finishes from Jack Kennedy (1,000 Yard Freestyle), Anri Ciruentes Robinson (100 Yard Butterfly, 100 Yard Breaststroke), and Ludwig (500 Yard Freestyle).

Up Next for the Seahawks

• Apr. 10 vs. Elizabethtown College (Virtual) | 10 AM | The Aquatics Center at the MPOBARC

Press Release from SMCM.

Women's Swimming Wins First Victory of Season



The St. Mary's College of Maryland women's swimming team (1-2) hosted the Marymount University Saints (0-1) on Friday (Apr. 2) morning in Atlantic East Conference action. The Seahawks picked up their first victory of the season by defeating the Saints 102-74.

St. Mary's College - 102, Marymount University - 74

How It Happened

- St. Mary's College started the meet strong with a victory in the first event. The team of Rileigh Krell, Anna Kidd, Christina Trnkus, and Leila McCloskey swam a time of 4:20.28 in the 400 Yard Medley Relay for the first place finish. The Seahawks kept their winning ways going when Anna LaPoint won the 1,000 Yard Freestyle with a time of 11:35.66.
 - The Seahawks won their third-

straight event with a first place finish from Bailey Edgren in the 200 Yard Freestyle. Edgren recorded a time of 2:14.13. Next, St. Mary's College earned two-straight first place finishes with victories from McCloskey in the 50 Yard Freestyle and Kidd in the 200 Yard IM.

• Kidd followed up her performance in the 200 Yard IM with a first place finish in the 100 Yard Freestyle, swimming a time of 56.63. In event 15, Krell won the 100 Yard Backstroke with a time of 1:05.31. LaPoint captured another first place finish when she swam a time of 5:38.70 in the 500 Yard Freestyle.

Up Next for the Seahawks

• Apr. 10 vs. Elizabethtown (Virtual) | 10 AM | The Aquatics Center at the MPOBARC

Press Release from SMCM.

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commissioners of St. Mary's County will hold a Public Hearing on **April 27, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Chesapeake Building, 41770 Baldridge Street, Leonardtown, Maryland, 20650 and can be viewed at http://www.stmarysmd.com/publichearings.asp to consider adoption of:

- #1 Constant Yield Tax Rate ("Real Property Tax Increase")
- #2 St. Mary's County Fees & Charges
 - a) Aging & Human Services Northern & Garvey Senior Center Activity -Fees/Room Rental.
- b.) Emergency Services Billing Transport & Medicare Transport Fees.
- c) Recreation & Parks Activity Fund Fees.

#3 FY2022 Recommended Budget

Public meetings are now open to the public as long as social distancing guidelines can be maintained and the Commissioners' Meeting Room capacity limits do not exceed 32 people. Everyone in attendance must adhere to the social distancing guidelines and wear a mask at all times unless they have a disability or if they are speaking or consuming food/drink. If social distancing guidelines or occupancy room capacity limits cannot be followed, the hearing may be rescheduled. The public is strongly encouraged to view the hearing remotely on SMCG Channel 95 and YouTube or listen to the Public Hearing by calling 301-579-7236; Access code: 963443#.

In lieu of appearance, comments may be submitted via:

- a) Phone: 301-475-4200 Ext 1234 to speak via telephone during the public hearing
- b) Email: csmc@stmarysmd.com
- c) US Mail: P.O. Box 653, Leonardtown, MD 20650
- d) Submit a 3-minute video clip to publicmtgs@stmarysmd.com no later than 5pm on May 4, 2021.

All submissions will be considered by the Commissioners at the Public Hearing and/ or the seven (7) days following the Public Hearing. Public Hearing Guidelines are subject to change.

Appropriate accommodations for individuals with special needs will be provided upon request. In order to meet these requirements, we respectfully ask for one week's prior notice. Please contact the County Commissioners Office at 301-475-4200, Ext. 1340. Proceedings are televised live and/or recorded for later broadcast on television. All content of these proceedings is subject to disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act. Photographic and electronic audio and visual broadcasting and recording devices are used during the Commissioners' meetings. These are public meetings and attendance at these meetings automatically grants St. Mary's County Government permission to broadcast your audio and visual image.

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

By: L. Jeannett Cudmore, Chief Financial Officer

IN THE MATTER OF JURNAZHIA AALIYAH MILBURN FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO JURNAZHIA AALIYAH MILBURN-CHASE BY AND THROUGH THEIR MOTHER/FATHER/GUARDIAN OUENTIN CHASE

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-21-06

Notice (Minor)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name of a minor from JURNAZHIA AALIYAH MILBURN to JURNAZHIA AALIYAH MILBURN-CHASE. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: It's my last name.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 05/14/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

If you would like to place a LEGAL NOTICE contact

AlDaileyCountytimes@gmail.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND CASE NO: C18CV21-000090

Alan Wetter

Plaintiff

VS.

The Estate Of Annie L. Moss 7511 Mandan Rd Apt 112 Greenbelt, Md 20770

and

ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

and

all known owners of the property described below, their heirs, devisees and personal representatives and their or any of their heirs, devisees, executors, administrators, gratnees, assigns, or successors in right title and interest and any and all persons having or claiming to have an interest in the property described as:

Wilson D

and also known as Account Number 07-021135

Defendants

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this proceeding is to secure the redemption in the following property, sold by the Collector of taxes for St. Mary's County to the Plaintiff:

Wilson Dr.

0-0000

also known as Account Number 07-021135

The Complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid. It is therefore on this 19 day of March 2021, by the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, Maryland:

ORDERED, that notice be given by insertion of a copy of this ORDER in some newspaper having general corcu; ation in St. Mary's county once a week for 3 sucessive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the 19th day of May, 2021 and redeem the property and answer the Complaint, or thereafter a Final Judgement woll be entered foreclosing all right of redemption in the property, and vesting in the Plaintiff a title, free and clear of all encumbrances.

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

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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

Sea Trials For F-35b, Italian Aircraft Carrier Confirm Readiness to Operate Fifth Gen Fighter

By Michael Land F-35 Joint Program Office Public Affairs

The F-35 Joint Program Office has delivered a flight clearance recommendation to the Italian navy for the safe operation of fifth generation F-

safe operation of fifth generation F-35B fighter aircraft on the upgraded Italian navy flagship aircraft carrier

ITS Cavour (CVH 550).

To develop the recommendation, an embarked team from the F-35 Patuxent River Integrated Test Force (Pax River ITF) and the Cavour's crew conducted five weeks of atsea flight tests evaluating how the short takeoff and vertical landing (STOVL) variant of the Lightning II performed onboard and around the ship, and how well the F-35 air system is integrated with the carrier.

The Cavour Sea Trials comprised

more than 115 ski jump short takeoffs and 120 vertical landings plus two vertical takeoffs. These activities were followed by countless hours of data analysis, which yielded information that tells the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) and the Italian navy how to safely conduct F-35B flight operations on Cavour.

"The [shipboard operating bulletin] is done. We provided the data and recommendations for a limited envelope, or sail home envelope, that will allow U.S. Marine Corps and Italian F-35B pilots to fly training workups aboard the ship," said Ron Hess, F-35 Pax River ITF Basing and Ship Suitability (BASS) team lead aboard Cavour.

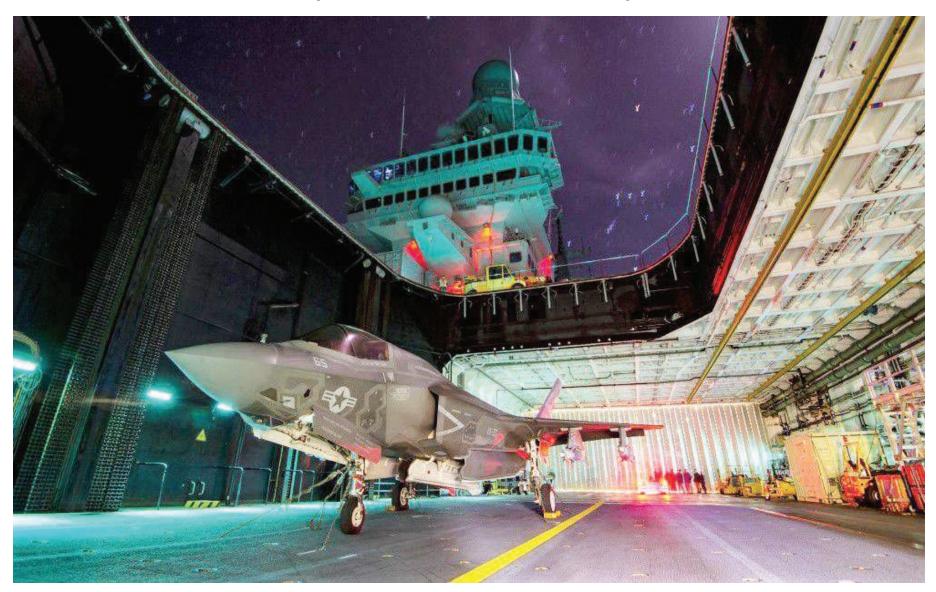
Describing as "huge" what has been accomplished, Hess said that by April, flight clearance and airworthiness documents "should be in place" for a safe launch and recovery envelope. "They don't have to wait weeks, months, and years" to have the capability to operate F-35Bs on the flight deck, Hess explained. The limited sail home envelope will be followed up with a full envelope recommendation once all Sea Trial test data has been evaluated.

Safe and effective flight test, and a successful detachment, required close coordination, partnering, and hard work.

"It's amazing how ITS Cavour crew and the ITF team have reached, so rapidly, this level of synergy and integration with great professionalism and a strong common will to achieve the ambitious goal," said Italian navy Capt. Giancarlo Ciappina, commanding officer, ITS Cavour. "I am very grateful to each and every ITF team member as well as to each sailor of my crew for the great job done and for such tremendous achievement.

"In this sense, I am very proud for the success of ITS Cavour's "Ready for Operations" campaign: our allies will soon perceive the Italian navy and the Italian Armed Forces as a whole, as enhanced cooperative partners thanks to the strategic enabler that the fifth generation aircraft carrier capability would represent, in either specific maritime or wider joint operations," Ciappina said.

For more information about the F-35 Lightning II, visit www.jsf.mil.



Wanderings Aimless Mind



SPRING THIS AND THAT

Oh my, it's just one of those days, actually the whole week, where I find it so hard to stay inside and concentrate to get anything done (this is why I could never work in an office, much to my family's chagrin). I keep looking out the office window at our firepit sitting area thinking wouldn't be nice to sit out there with a nice book and a cup of tea? 70 degrees and dry is my kind of weather, though I could feel a bit more humidity today. Yes, it would be nice out there, but it is also lovely here in the office with a cup of tea nearby, and a gentle breeze coming in. The main problem is trying to stay away from the leftover jellybeans, especially the Starburst jellybeans. I have been checking through the grass left in the grandkids' Easter baskets for any stray candy I missed before I repackage everything in the Easter Rubbermaid boxes. My younger son will come by this evening with his two little boys for their Easter baskets and an egg hunt, so that will be lots of fun, maybe they will share with Grandma.

I think after writing, I can find a way to sit out front and get work done. I will just make all my husband's pool opening scheduling calls out at the firepit area - no guilt then. "Kill two birds with one stone as they say" hmmm, maybe that analogy isn't the best. Pool season is upon us which means that the "extreme togetherness" that my husband and I cherished all through the long winter months is about to be cut back. We both agreed that it was about time for this to happen. Now we will have more things to talk about other than news or what else an actor has appeared in besides the show we are watching.

Yesterday I had fun making baskets up for our upcoming Christ Episcopal Church, Chaptico Spring Auction starting April 15th – 17th. Naturally, my two basket contributions are a 4 bottle wine basket with some handmade goatmilk lavender, rosemary, almond soaps by Samantha Garner (@Sammyinthesky on Facebook) and a basket with my artwork: an original painting, plus prints, notecards,



and a crabby ornament. There have been some amazing items and baskets donated from handmade quilts, a Maryland basket of items, a tea basket, a gardening basket, a Foxy Fish gift certificate with painted sign, and more to come. Since there won't be a church Strawberry Festival this year, we, like other churches are going the online auction route and holding a yard sale on May 22nd in front of our Parish Hall on Zach Fowler Road in Chaptico.

The Clements Cuties Foundation for raising awareness for childhood cancers and supporting those with severe childhood illnesses is also gearing up for events later this year (Clements Cuties on Facebook). I know I can't wait to see what my husband, aka Rockin' Roberta, and all the other Cuties will wear this year, and also what their on the ballfield shenanigans will be. It's quite an event, hope you can put September 11th on your calendar for the Cuties vs. Women's Over 30 Allstars game plus huge brown bag auction at Cryer's Back Road Inn.

Events are in the works all over the Southern Maryland area; people are slowly getting safe events under way this year to help their churches and community which helps give some sense of normalcy. I am looking forward to going to a few, yes, I know, mainly winery events, but hey, it keeps me happy. Enjoy the day!

To each new day's adventure, Shelby

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

Letters to Editor HB 745

To the Editor,

St. Mary's County Commissioners have written an opposition letter to The Honorable Anne Kaiser, Chairperson of Maryland House Ways and Means Committee to oppose HB745 Election Law – Early Voting Centers. The Commissioners stated, "We OPPOSE the introduction of this legislation and do not believe this legislation would benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County." We cite the Commissioners' February 9 letter here: http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/cmte_testimony/2021/wam/lorPSiUcBnBTW8K_xK-Tjcf6D90vIxH9yZ.pdf

HB745 would increase the required number of Early Voting Centers in St. Mary's County from one to two. Thirty-six percent of county voters who voted in the 2020 General Election chose to vote early. Clearly, early voting is a popular method of voting in the county, and a second Early Voting Center in the southern half of the county is needed to serve the large population and employment center in the Lexington Park/Great Mills area. A second center would be more accessible to historically disenfranchised communities and it would be more accessible by public transportation for those voters in the 4th Commissioner District, which has the densest concentration of voters in St. Mary's County. Additionally, since county voters can vote at any county Early Voting Center

regardless of their assigned polling place, a second Early Voting Center in the southern hub will provide convenient voter access for those who work for the county's largest employer.

Why would our commissioners OPPOSE HB745 and say that it would not benefit our citizens? Shouldn't a democratic government strive to increase voter access through additional early voting centers? Don't our commissioners have an interest in supporting election legislation that would benefit our citizens?

We wish to thank the Maryland House and Senate members because they have voted to improve statewide voter access, and for us that would mean a second early voting center. As of March 30, HB745 is on its way to the Governor for signage into law! Just leaving us with the question of why our St. Mary's County Commissioners were the only direct county legislators of 24 Maryland counties to oppose the Election Law - Early Voting Center legislation and say it would not benefit our citizens. We all know a democratic government strives to increase voter access, which the second early voting center will provide to the benefit of the citizens of St. Mary's County.

From Members of I Am St. Mary's, Democratic Women of St. Mary's County

iamstmarys@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/CountyTimesSt.Marys

St. Marys Community Community Community

To submit your event listing to go in our Community Calendar, please email timescalendar@countytimes.net with the listing details by 12 p.m. on the Monday prior to our Thursday publication.

Thursday, April 8

Tobacco Cessation Program

The Tobacco Cessation Program is free and that takes place over the course of 8 weeks (weekly 1 hour sessions). Participants learn behavioral modifications, stress management, and other techniques to help them quit using tobacco products. Next Series: Thursdays, February 4, 2021 – April 15, 2021 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Learn more or register at: www.smchd.org/tobacco

Diabetes Prevention Program

The Diabetes Prevention Program helps participants establish and stick with positive lifestyle changes, such as healthy eating habits, physical activity and positive stress management, which can prevent or delay the onset of Type 2 diabetes. This free program includes 16 weekly sessions, followed by monthly sessions for ongoing support from a lifestyle coach. Register at www. smchd.org/dpp.

Friday, April 9

Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID19. Beth Israel Synagogue will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7 PM. Check our website calendar (bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html) for event details.

Saturday, April 10

First Landing Wine and Arts Festival

St. Clements Island Museum; 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Experience a full day of fun at St. Clement's Island Museum with St. Mary's County wineries on the First Landing Wine Trail, as well as local artisans and crafters, at the first annual First Landing Wine & Arts Festival. Enjoy food from Chief's, sweets from Intoxi-CAKE-tion, FREE wine tastings of locally-grown wine from Port of Leonardtown Winery, Generations Vineyard and Xella Winery & Vineyard, browsing local crafted items and more on the scenic shores of the Potomac River. Learn the story of the first landing and the beginnings of Maryland in the museum or take a water taxi ride over to the St. Clement's Island State Park (regular

admission applies), where the original "First Landing" took place in 1634 for an entire day of fun! Kids and family activities, as well as lots of history, await. Event admission is FREE; various costs for food, museum admission, water taxi rides or any vendor or wine purchases.

Sunday, April 11

Carry Out Chicken Dinner K.C. Hall Ridge; 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. or until sold out

Monday, April 12 Pax River Quilters Meeting

Virtual; 6:30 p.m.

Pax River Quilters Guild Welcomes You Visit our Website www. paxriverquiltguild.com or email prqgsomd@gmail.com for an application to join, or check out our Facebook page Pax River Quilters Guild. If you become a member your can join in on Guest Speakers, Sit and Sews, and the online Quilto Games Pax River Quilters Guild is a 501(c) (3) Organization and is open to everyone. Currently meetings are online on zoom the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30pm. This Month's (Monday April 12th) guest Speaker is Cindy Grisdela a quilt artist and teacher, Playing with colors will be her talk. Following CDC Guidelines. For more info call Cindy Miskolczi 301-769-1151.

Tuesday, April 13

Science for Citizens

Virtual; 7 p.m.

Have you ever wondered what's in your drinking water? We use chemicals in our daily lives, but which ones might end up in a local stream or the Chesapeake Bay? How efficient can wastewater treatment be, and what chemicals are made in the process? Water is the foundation of life, but it carries a staggering diversity of chemicals that are naturally derived and manufactured by humans, both intentionally and made by accident. In this seminar, Dr. Michael Gonsior will give an overview of the invisible chemical world that defines our local waters as he answers these important questions.

Grief Support Group

Calvary Chapel; 7 p.m.

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. The support group meets weekly. You are welcome to begin attending at any point. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. For more information call the church office and leave a message at 301-645-0660 or email us at admin@ccsomd.com.

Wednesday, April 14

Wayback Wednesdays

We hope you're loving our weekly video series showing some of the stories that make St. Mary's County's history so unique and interesting. We thought this would be a fun way to bring our closed museums to you while we all keep our social distance. Join us every week for short videos featuring everything from the quirky to the fascinating - tune in! We have several episodes in the playlist! Facebook.com/SCIMuseum

DAV Assistance Program

St. Mary's Square ReStore; 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Veterans - do you have a serviceconnected disability? Did you receive an injury while on active duty and are now filing for disability through the Veterans Administration (VA)? The Disabled American Veterans organization is here to assist you with those VA forms at no cost to you. These men and women (who are disabled veterans) are volunteers who ensure you are placing the proper information in the proper blocks and advise you on common mistakes that are made on these VA forms. Their spaces are toward the rear of the building on the left side. Stop by

and see if we can be of assistance to you. No appointment necessary.

Dine-In or Drive-Thru Lunch and Dinner

Kevin's Corner Kafe; 11 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Benefit for 7 th District VFD Auxiliary

Choose from the following: 4 pc. Fried Chicken, ColeSlaw & Fries - \$9.99; Crab Cake Sandwich, Fries & ColeSlaw - \$15.99, Fried Shrimp Basket, Fries & ColeSlaw - \$15.99, 12 pc. Fried Chicken, 24 Crab Balls and 2 Family Sides - \$39.99, 12 pc. Fried Chicken, 2 lbs. Steamed Shrimp and 2 Family Sides - \$39.99, All Kids Meals on Menu \$1.99 - \$4.99, A percentage from each of

these meals goes to the Auxiliary. Any questions call Kevin's at 301-997-1260 or 301-997-1261 The Auxiliary thanks you in advance for your support.

Thursday, April 15

Tobacco Cessation Program

The Tobacco Cessation Program is free and that takes place over the course of 8 weeks (weekly 1 hour sessions). Participants learn behavioral modifications, stress management, and other techniques to help them quit using tobacco products. Next Series: Thursdays, February 4, 2021 – April 15, 2021 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Learn more or register at: www. smchd.org/tobacco

Food Truck Night

Mt. Zion Methodist Church; 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Deutsch-Mex, Linda's On The Go and Sweet Tooth Funnel Cakes. Limited Outdoor Seating Available Bring your lawn chairs and do some tailgating. Rain date April 22. www. mtzionmech.org

Ongoing

Indoor Yard Sale

7th District VRS; April 10 - 17, Saturday 7 a.m. - 1 p.m., Sunday -Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Outside Space Rental \$20.00. Call Trisha at 301-769-3214 or Peggy at 301-481-7210 for information or donations.

Scratch-Off Fundraiser Raffle

PRIZE; \$250 Scratch-Offs & \$100 Cash; \$5.00 Per Ticket – (MUST BE 18 TO BUY RAFFLE TICK-ETS); Purchase in Person: *At SD-VFD & RS, Valley Lee - Wednesday (630pm - 830pm); *At Dyson's Lumber, Great Mills - Saturdays (8am-2pm); or *At WEIS, Callaway – Sundays (9am-1pm); For more information contact: Robin Dove (240)577-0270, Drawing: Tuesday, May 18, 2021@ SDVFDRS Auxiliary Meeting; Winner need not be present to win!

Blackstone Grill Raffle

To benefit 7 th District VFD Auxiliary Range Top Combo with Griddle, Two-Burner Stovetop & District Stovetop & Stovetop Range Fryer A basket full of Cooking Essentials included. Tickets: \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 Raffled: July 2, 2021 Contact: Barbara Sue at 301-769-2654

St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services

Programs and Activities

Loffler Senior Activity Center 301-475-4200, ext. 71658 Garvey Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4200, ext. 71050 Northern Senior Activity Center, 301-475-4002, ext. 73101

Visit www.stmarysmd.com/aging for the most up-to date information

Brought to you by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County: James R. Guy, President; Michael L. Hewitt; Eric Colvin; Todd B. Morgan; John E. O'Connor; and the Department of Aging & Human

Videos from Aging & Human Services

The Department of Aging & Human Services is proud to announce our brand new Virtual Senior Activity Center and YouTube page! Go to https://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/virtual-senior-center/ or www.youtube.com, keyword SMC Aging & Human Services, to see what we have for you! There are more videos coming soon!

Scattergories- it's back with a new day and time!

Fridays, April 9 & 23, 1 p.m. via Zoom

Candice and Shellie will again be hosting Scattergories two times a month on 2nd and 4th Fridays at 1 p.m.! This game requires paper, pencil and computer or smart phone to connect with us on ZOOM. The rules are easy, but the categories can be challenging. If you like thinking up things that start with a specific letter while competing against a timer and other players, then this is for you! To get in on the game, e-mail Candice. Nelson@stmarysmd.com. She will e-mail you the link on the morning of play. Players will be admitted starting at 12:50 p.m. so that the game can begin on time.

Current Events Session on Zoom

Do you want to discuss today's topics with others? There's a lot going on! This was a popular meeting at the Loffler Senior Activity Center before COVID happened. Now that people are getting accustomed to using Zoom, we think this is a good time to start meeting again. We will hold these discussions on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 10 a.m. The first one is scheduled for April 12. You do NOT need to have a Zoom account to attend, you only need to have access to the internet via computer, laptop or phone and an e-mail account so that we can send you the link, which you will receive in a reminder notice before the meeting. Contact Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com to sign up for the first session.

Independent Project Clubs

ASSIGNMENTS FOR APRIL 14 Sewing Club: Make cloth napkins Set of 12- Bonus Table Runner. Suggestion: Make it early using spring colors and use it for your Easter table

Garden Club: Draw design of small flower & herb garden plan. Include two seeding flowers (such as marigold or zinnia) and your herbs. Size can be anywhere from 4-25 square feet. Can be annuals,

perennials or mixed. Can use pots (10" deep) if you don't have a yard to put a garden in. E-mail Shellie at Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com to let her know you are participating or to learn more about the program. Reveal Day will be April 14 from 1-3 p.m. at the Loffler Senior Activity Center (or you can send a picture of you and your project to Shellie).

Virtual Performance with Rearview Mirror

Join us on Zoom April 21, 2021 from 1-2 p.m. for a free virtual performance with Rearview Mirror. This oldies cover duo has provided entertainment for many of the luncheons at our senior activity centers over the years. Their lineup includes a blend of rock and roll, R&B, pop, country and more, covering many of your favorite artists. This event will be provided free of charge thanks to the MD Department of Aging Senior Center Operating Funds Grant. Pre-registration is required by e-mailing Shellie Graziano at Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd.com.

911 Memorial Tour

Join us April 28, 2021 at Noon for a virtual tour of the 911 Memorial. This 45 minute live virtual tour via Zoom will explore the design and history of the outdoor Memorial, highlighting the stories of those affected by the attack. Funding for this event is being provided by the MD Department of Aging Senior Center Operating Funds Grant and will be offered free of charge for up to 100 participants. Pre-registration is required by emailing Shellie Graziano at Sheila. Graziano@stmarysmd.com.

Community Shred Day & Medication Collection

The Department of Aging & Human Services is proud to partner with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, the St. Mary's County Health Department, and the Department of Public Works & Transportation to host a Community Shred Day & Medication Collection on Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., in the governmental center, located at 41780 Baldridge St, Leonardtown, MD.

For the safety of the community and employees assisting during this event, masks will be required. Remain in your vehicle once on site and adhere to instructions from attendants. Please place documents or expired medications in your trunk or truck bed to lessen the chance of exposure.

For more information, contact Sarah Miller at 301-475-3200, ext. 1073, or email Sarah.Miller@st-marysmd.com.



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

In Remembrance

Joseph Lee Somerville, Sr.



Joseph Lee Somerville, Sr., affectionately known as "Joe Lee", was born on November 19, 1939 to the late Rosia "Rosie" Q. M. Somerville and William S. Herbert in Loveville, Maryland. He departed this life peacefully on April 1, 2021 at his home. Joe Lee attended St. Joseph Colored School in Morganza, MD, and Banneker High School in Loveville, MD, graduating in 1959. Joe Lee married the love of his life, Delores Briscoe on November 3, 1962. Together they enjoyed 58 years of marriage until the time of his death.

In his early life, Joe Lee worked as a short order cook for Bailey's Restaurant in Leonardtown, MD. He was a member of Local Union 832 and employed as a concrete finisher in Washington, D.C. and as a truck driver for Charles County Concrete (now Chaney). Joe Lee was also a lifelong waterman.

In 1966, Joe Lee joined the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Department (later renamed the Sheriff's Office) becoming St. Mary's County's first African American Deputy. Deputy Somerville was promoted to Lieutenant in 1976. In 1977, Governor Marvin Mandel appointed Lt. Somerville to Sheriff, following the sudden death of then Sheriff Sanger. He was sworn in on the Courthouse steps on March 1, 1977 at the age of 37. He graduated from the National Sheriff's Institute, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Academy, and the Maryland Police Training Academy. Sheriff Somerville completed the appointed term and ran for office in 1978, winning his election by an overwhelming majority. With this victory, Sheriff Somerville earned the distinction of being the State of Maryland's first African American appointed and elected Sheriff. He was the sixth African American Sheriff in the country.

Sheriff Somerville was actively involved in the Battered Spouse Education Program and youth-oriented drug and safety education programs. He established several Neighborhood Watch programs, including night patrols, to help stem the rise of crime. As Sheriff, Joe Lee was dedicated to keeping control of the Sheriff's Department in the hands of the local government and community. Sheriff Somerville retired from the Sheriff's Department in 1982 following an unsuccessful re-election campaign.

Joe Lee fondly recalled memories from his time with the Sheriff's Department. If anyone loved a job, it was Joe Lee. He loved to help people. In his words, "one should never be too big to help their fellow man, even if you have to get down in a ditch to do it."

Following his retirement from the Sheriff's Department, Joe Lee became a Nuclear Security Officer at the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company in Calvert County, MD for 20 years, retiring in 2002. He then worked for six years in the Plumbing Department at Lowe's in California, MD. It was there that Judge Karen Abrams offered him the position of Bailiff in her courtroom where he worked for 11 years. In addition, Joe Lee served as the Safety Advisor with his sons' business, Somertyme Tree Service. Joe Lee was a hardworking provider for his family. His various careers spanned over 59 years; working until his health prevented him from doing so.

Joe Lee was involved in numerous community initiatives and was a member of several organizations, including the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the Board of Directors for the Maryland State Sheriff's Boys Association Ranch, the 4H Club, the Community Affairs Committee, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He also served on the Board of Directors for the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) but had to give up his position because he could not hold two public offices at once. Joe Lee was a member of Loveville Riders and Blue Knight Maryland IV Motorcycle Clubs.

Joe Lee received many accolades throughout his lifetime, including a Governor's Citation from Governor Marvin Mandel (1978), a Resolution from the State of Maryland House of Delegates (1979), a Governor's Citation from Governor Harry Hughes (1983), the Constellation Energy Group Faithful Service Award (2002), a St. Mary's County Highway Safety Program Appreciation Award for his superior support of the Driver's Education Program (2003), a United States Colored Troops Memorial Monument Committee Community Service Award (2009), a Certificate of Appreciation from the Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC) (2016), and the NAACP Crystal Stair Award (2018) to name a few. One of Joe Lee's most memorable honors was being named Honorary Crew Member by McDonald's Corporation on April 27, 1980 in recognition of his contributions to the children in the community. There is also an exhibit featuring Joe Lee and his law enforcement career at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum in Baltimore, MD.

On February 22, 2018, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office held a program to honor Joe Lee for his contributions as Sheriff and to St. Mary's County. Speakers included St. Mary's County Sheriff Tim Cameron, who Joe Lee hired as a Patrol Deputy in 1980 and Sheriff Troy Berry, Charles County's first African American Sheriff. During the program, presentations included a Proclamation from Governor Larry Hogan, a Citation from Senator Chris Van Hollen, a special presentation from the FBI, as well as the UCAC, NAACP, the FOP Lodge 7, St. Mary's County Historical Society and Historical Trust.

When not at work or involved in the community, Joe Lee enjoyed many days tending to his garden, better known as the neighborhood garden, because of the amount of people it fed. He enjoyed riding motorcycles with his boys, especially his Suzuki Intruder, as well as many outings on his boat, the Quiet Storm. Joe Lee enjoyed hosting family and friends in his home where he took pride in serving his homemade wines, eggnog, and "special" beverages. He especially looked forward to hosting monthly pizza night with his "Friday Pizza Crew" where pizza and toasts were endless and the phrase "Be A Soldier" was heard. Joe Lee was a huge Washington Football Team (formerly the Redskins) fan. Joe Lee, Pops, Pop Pop, will be remembered for his sense of humor, quick wit, and he will truly be missed.

Joe Lee is survived by his loving wife, Delores; daughter, Terry Cutchember, and sons, Joseph Somerville, Jr., Wayne Somerville, Kevin Darryl Somerville, and Rodney (Christina) Somerville; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; siblings, Margie Armstrong, Helena Holt, and Barbara (Spencer) Whalen; sisters-in-law, Imogene Somerville "Tootie" Somerville; and Valeria brother-in-law, Joseph "Moe" Jones and a host of nieces, nephews, God children, cousins, and friends. Joe Lee also leaves to cherish his memory Joseph and Aletha Barnes, Sherrie and Alan Blair, George and Sylvia Brown, Ernest and Martha Carter, Paul and Rebecca Rustin, and George and Angela Walker.

In addition to his parents, Joe Lee was predeceased by his brothers, Paul Vincent Somerville, James "Jimmy"



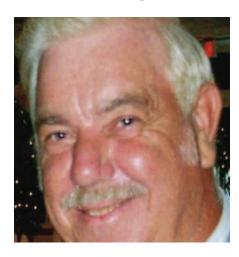
www.brinsfieldfuneral.com



Somerville, William S. Herbert, Jr., and Joseph "Joe Charles" Herbert, Sr.; sisters, Mary Armstrong, Betty Bray, and Dorothy Bush; sisters-in-law, Charlotte Jones and Deborah Brooks; and brother-in-law, Joseph "Junior" Briscoe.

On Friday, April 9, 2021, visitation and viewing will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home, 38576 Brett Way, Mechanicsville, MD. On Saturday, April 10, 2021, Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 29119 Point Lookout Rd, Morganza, MD.

Joseph Wilbur Vallandingham



Joseph Wilbur "Mr. Joe" Vallandingham, Jr passed away on April 5, 2021 at his home with his loving family and caregivers by his side. Joe was born October 21, 1957 in Leonardtown, MD to Joseph Wilbur Vallandingham, Sr. and Mary Moonyeen (Graves) Vallandingham.

He was a 1975 graduate of Ryken High School in Leonardtown, MD. After graduation he attended Charles County Community College for a business degree.

Joe married his longtime love of his life, Sara Teresa (Tere) Downs in October 1979. Together they produced three wonderful children, Katie, Bobby and David. Joe was a caring husband, father, son, brother, uncle, grandfather and friend who loved his family above all else. He had a heart of gold and was always available to help anyone with a problem or a dilemma. He was a problem solver and always landed on his feet.

Joe was an advisor, counselor, business man and teacher. His farming interest started at age 4. At age 6 he was driving Oliver tractors proficiently. He has advised and mentored many of his farming colleagues over the years. His farming management and practices have been a model for many of his peers. He was a true steward of the land, growing such beautiful crops with the best yields. He always strived to be the best and

could always figure out what his crops needed despite the adversities of weather.

In his later years he became involved in local politics. New laws and regulations regarding land use, nutrient management, oyster cages, etc. sparked his interest. He told his family that we needed to become more involved and be aware of what is going on in our county by attending local meetings. Joe endorsed several political candidates he felt had the best interests of the county. These candidates respected him for his common-sense input and later became great friends of his.

Along with his wife, Sara (Tere) of Clements, MD, he is survived by his children Katie Marie Sanchez (Steve), Joseph Robert (Bobby) Vallandingham, (Susan) and David Andrew Vallandingham (Christina) of Leonardtown, MD. He has 8 grandchildren, Lillian Sanchez, Helen Sanchez, Trent Vallandingham, Delia Vallandingham, Levi Vallandingham, Colby Vallandingham, Ryleigh Vallandingham, and Rebecca Vallandingham. He is survived by his mother, Mary Moonyeen Vallandingham, whom he just adored and made sure she never needed for anything. He is survived by his siblings Dana Marie Russell (Willie), William Earl Vallandingham, Mary Lisa Estevez (Steve) and Mark Allshouse (Janie). He is survived by his niece and nephews Sara Johnson (Kyle), William Patrick Russell (Jenn), Christopher Paul Russell (Shelley), William Daniel Estevez, Brian Allshouse and Kevin Allshouse. He especially loved his great nephew, Bailey Johnson, whom he wished he had more time to teach him so many things about farming. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Wilbur Vallandingham, Sr, his sister Wanda Farrell and her husband Joe Farrell.

Joe leaves behind so many amazing friends. These friends called, visited, and supported Joe and his family throughout his illness. His caregivers, the Baker family, learned to love him like family and he appreciated Erica, Beverly, and Agnes for all the compassionate care they provided. You can judge how a great a person he was by the many friends in his circle of life. We thank all of these friends for everything.

Joe leaves us with an amazing legacy which will be carried on for future generations. Vallandingham Farms is strong and enduring thanks to Joe Vallandingham's vision, strength, leadership and business style.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM in Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church Chaptico, MD with Father Chip Luckett officiating. Interment will follow at Queen of Peace Catholic Cemetery Helen, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be Patrick Russell, Chris Russell, Bailey Johnson, Daniel Estevez, Brian Allshouse, and Ira Mosely. Honorary pallbearers are Rich McCoy, Charlie Wallace, Steven Russell, Robin Russell, Dale Vallandingham, Mike Granados, David Thompson and Aaron Mattingly.

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

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

Diane Deaner Wilson



Diane Deaner Wilson, 68, of Lexington Park, MD, formerly from Damascus, MD passed away on March 31, 2021 at her home. She was born on July 5, 1952 in Washington, DC and was the daughter of Paul Moon Deaner, Sr. and the late Lorene Olive (Smith) Deaner. Diane was the loving wife of John A. Wilson whom she married on September 23, 1978 in Germantown, MD.

Diane is survived by her children Christine Hylton (Andrew) of Broomes Island, MD, Lisa Maples (Brian) of Leonardtown, MD, and 4

grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother Paul M. Deaner, Jr.

Diane graduated from Damascus High School in 1970. She moved to St. Mary's County in 1996 from Damascus, MD. She worked for the Department of the Navy as an Administrative Assistant, retiring in August of 2014. Diane enjoyed gardening, quilting, needlepoint, and was a member of the Town Creek Garden Club.

The Family will receive friends on Monday, April 12, 2021 from 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home Leonardtown, MD where a Funeral Service will be held in the chapel at 11:00 AM with Pastor Dan Moore officiating. Interment will be private.

Contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 3123.

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

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

Beverly Rose Elkins



Beverly Rose Elkins, 80, of Leonardtown, MD formerly from La Plata, MD passed away on March 29, 2021 in Leonardtown, MD. She was born on October 27, 1940 in Elizabeth,



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

In Remembrance

NJ and was the loving daughter of the late Gladys Vondran and Joseph Vondran. Beverly was the loving wife of William C. Elkins whom she married on July 3, 1960 in Sacred Heart Catholic Church South Plainfield, NJ. She is Survived by her children Pauline Norris (Ricky) of Leonardtown, MD, Laura Beth Wetmore of Newington, CT, and 3 grandchildren Colleen Westmore of East Hampton, CT, Mallory Norris of St. Mary's City, MD, and Stephen Norris of Leonardtown, MD. Along with her siblings Sharyn Suaree (Ray) of Jupiter, FL, Louise Vondran (Bob) of New Bern, NC, Irene McCamley (Pat) of New Bern, NC, Stephanie Ciak of South Plainville, NJ, and Ellen Gentle(Bobbie) of South Plainville, NJ. She was preceded in death by her brother Jay Vondran.

Beverly graduated from St. Peters High School in New Brunswick, NJ in 1958. She moved from La Plata, MD to St. Mary's County, MD in May, 2018. She was a homemaker. Beverly loved to travel and spend time with family.

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

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

Janice Ann Woodburn Hayden



Janice Ann Woodburn Hayden, 88, of Leonardtown, MD went home to be with the Lord on April 2, 2021 at home surrounded by her children.

Born June 7, 1932 in Great Mills, MD to the late Dellie Woodburn and Ruth Norris Woodburn. Janice was married for 41 years to the late Walter Vincent Hayden, Sr. whom she married on July 26, 1958 at Holy Face Church, Great Mills.

A lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, she was a parishioner of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Leonardtown. Janice enjoyed reading books, magazines, and the County Times. Also, The Chronicles of St. Mary's County as she enjoyed studying ge-

nealogy of her family and St. Mary's County. She enjoyed music, especially nights at Office on Aging blue grass.

Janice was Salutatorian of her High School class. She worked for the (USPS) Postal Service, family farm business, St. Mary's County Public Schools, and St. Mary's County Farm Bureau before retiring. Janice volunteered at various organizations for 30 years including St. Mary's County Farm Bureau and the Farm Bureau Woman's Committee which during her tenure the committee published "A Brief History of St. Mary's County Farm Bureau 1925 to 2005". She held positions as Women's Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Also, St. Mary's County Historical Society and Retired and Senior Volunteer (RSVP) Program.

She is survived by her brother Francis Woodburn (Jean) and sister Mary Ruth Bowles; six children: Debbie Griffin (David) of Mechanicsville; Walter Hayden Jr. (Cathy) of Leonardtown; Richard Hayden Sr. (Judy) of Leonardtown; Ellen Hayden of Leonardtown; Cathy Knapp (Greg) of Hollywood; and Joe Hayden (Pratumtong) of Hollywood. She is also survived by 8 grandchildren, Kim Hayden, Charlotte, NC; Vince Hayden III (Katie) of Hollywood; Michael Hayden (Sarah) of Leonardtown; Jess Shircliffe (Jon) of California; Richard Hayden Jr. of Leonardtown; Jenn Emmart of Mechanicsville; Kyle Hayden of Mechanicsville; and Marissa Knapp of Hollywood and 9 great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, Janice was predeceased in death by her sister, Erva Mae Woodburn and brother-inlaw, Ralph Bowles.

At this time services are pending. Pallbearers are Vince Hayden, Michael Hayden, Richard Hayden Jr., Jon Shircliffe, Jamie Thomas and Bobby Rowand.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Kenny Booth, Clem and Agnes Johnson, members of the country blue grass and members of the family Farm employee families.

Memorial contributions may be made to Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, 22855 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown, MD 20650; Arthitus Foundation @ arthritis.org or Juvenile Diabetes @ JDRF.org

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

William Lawrence Crowell II

William Lawrence "Buff" Crowell II departed on his last flight April 3, 2021, California, MD. Buff's life was filled with an abundance of love for his family, friends, and country.



Buff was born on June 26, 1956 to Albert and Ellen Crowell in New York City. He grew up in Westport, CT and after graduating from Staples High School in 1974 attended Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay, MA. He graduated in 1980 with a B.S. in Marine Transportation. In 1981 he married Katy L'Estrange, and they would have celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary this June 13th.

Buff was proud to be a Navy pilot. After graduating from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, he went through Navy flight training in Pensacola, FL and Corpus Christi, TX. Upon earning his Wings of Gold he went to Little Rock, AR and attained his qualifications as a C-130 Hercules pilot. Buff then travelled to NAS Barbers Point, HI in 1982 where he joined the "Ironmen" of VQ-3 and flew the Navy's EC-130s supporting the Take Charge and Move Out (TACAMO) strategic communications mission. Buff was a consummate aviator and became qualified as an Aircraft Commander, Mission Commander, and one of the few first-tour pilots to be selected as an Instructor Pilot. After his tour in Hawaii with the Ironmen, he transferred to the Naval Recruiting District, Philadelphia in 1986 where he helped recruit a new generation of Naval Officers. In 1989 he returned to TACAMO to join the "Shadows" of VQ-4 in Patuxent River, MD. Following TACAMO Buff supported the USS Eisenhower Detachment 0166 from NAF Andrews in Washington, DC followed by transfer to the Individual Ready Reserves in 1995. In June of 2001 after more than 20 years of naval service Buff retired with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. His heart remained with the TACAMO and he continued to support the community as a defense contractor, currently employed by Northrup Grumman as a Manager for PMA-271 Customer Relations. He continued his education and earned a Masters Degree in Systems Management from Florida Institute of Technology. His knowledge as a pilot and of the mission were key contributing factors to the community's successful

transition to the E-6 Mercury aircraft. Buff was one of the original founders of the TACAMO Community Veterans Association and was the glue that held the group together. At home, Buff shared his life with Katy, his wife and partner of 40 years; his children Trish and William III (Trey) of which he was very proud, and Eddie his dog. Buff was a raconteur, happiest around friends and family sharing sea stories over a beer. He was known to enjoy a practical joke, had a zest for life, and was the first to volunteer when help was needed. Buff was an active member in many organizations in his local community, including the Thomas J. Shryock Masonic Lodge #223 and the Fleet Reserve. We will miss him but carry him with us as a husband, father, Naval Aviator, adventurer, and friend. William Lawrence Crowell II, a life well lived.

There will be a visitation on Thursday, April 8 at the Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Rd, Leonardtown, MD, 20650 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his memory to Hospice of St. Mary's, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

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

Mary Elizabeth Taylor



Mary "Pat" Elizabeth Taylor, 94, of Prince Frederick, MD (formerly of Fulton, NY) passed away on March 30, 2021 at St. Mary's Nursing Center in Leonardtown, MD.

Mary was born on March 4, 1927 in Syracuse, NY to the late William Francis Maher and Edna Mae Maher.

Known by her family and friends as "Pat," and in her later years as "MT," she was a graduate of the State University of New York at Oswego, earning a Bachelor's degree in education and a Master's degree in English. She taught in the Fulton school district for over twenty years, both in the class-



room and later in home-schooling settings for students who were on medical leave. She was an active and devoted volunteer for many years with State Street Methodist Church, the Literacy Council, and Parents Anonymous, and had served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Fulton Public Library. Her charity extended beyond family and friends to include Vietnamese immigrant families in Fulton during the 1970s and '80s: she taught English as a second language and helped with educational and occupational goals, easing each family member into their new community. Her relationships with those families lasted decades beyond their relocation and spanned the width of the United States. An amateur ornithologist, she spent hours bird-watching throughout her life, even into her 90's. During her years living at St. Mary's Nursing Center, she could nearly always be found near the courtyard, counting birds and watching for new nestlings and fledglings. Despite her declining health, she was a reliable companion for anyone who would watch the birds with her. She was a fiercely proud grandmother, and in her late years was happiest when her youngest grandson would bring a violin with him and serenade her during his

Mary is survived by her daughter, Camille Reynolds of Prince Frederick, MD; her sister, Mabel "Midge" Witt of Leesburg, FL; her grandchildren: Shawn Duffy, Meghan Duffy, Matthew Duffy (Jamie), Molly Duffy, Allen Reynolds II, Jason Reynolds, and Christian Reynolds; her great grandchildren, Gavin Allen and Ezra Duffy. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Taylor; daughter, Patti Duffy; her son-in-law, Allen Reynolds; and her siblings: James Maher, John Maher, William Maher, Robinson "Bud" Maher, Margaret "Marge" Nelson, Eileen Anderson, Dorothy "Jean" Fultz, Edna Menuez, and Clifford Maher.

All services will be private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Christine Fogler Meyer

Christine Fogler Meyer, age 57, died on March 30th after a courageous battle with Pancreatic Cancer. She passed peacefully, surrounded by friends and family.

Christine is survived by her immediate family of Ron French (fiancée) and his children Andrea and Travis who she considered as her own as well as her brother Dennis and sisterin-law Sarah Fogler and niece Lucia and nephew Liam. She also is survived by friends far and wide.



Additionally, she is survived by other family including: parents Dennis and Gayle Fogler; brother Brian (wife Gina) Fogler and nephews Gage and Ethan; and step-children Matthew (wife Stacy) and Zachary (wife Allison) Meyer and her grandchildren Zachary, Abigail, Katelyn, Emma and Ethan whom she shared with Fred Meyer.

Feisty, sassy and forthright, she loved with all her heart and soul. As a life-long educator, she adored teaching everyone she could. Her passions included her friends and family, eating hard crabs, her flowers and garden, the Redskins (no Washington Football team for her!), proper use of grammar and cooking. She went down fighting and is now watching over everyone from above.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, May 9, 2021 from 1-4pm at The French Homestead. In order to plan accordingly, please RVSP here.

Family requests in lieu of flowers, donations be made to a local hospice group in your area or you perform some general acts of kindness in her honor.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Mark Alan Hood



Mark Alan Hood, 38, formally of Waldorf, MD passed away on Friday, March 26, 2021, at his home in Mechanicsville, MD. He was born on January 11, 1983 in Clinton, MD to Tammy Sue (Kline) Robertson and the late James Pearson Hood.

A hard-working man, Mark worked as an Assistant Manager at Dollar General Store in both the Mechanic-sville and Leonardtown locations. He loved that his job gave him the opportunity to meet so many people. His co-workers became great friends.

Mark was a caring, loving and charming man. He was a die-hard Washington Redskins fan and could be found watching every game. He was a fan of the burgundy and gold and proudly wore those colors on game days. On a warm spring day or summer evening, he could be found at the water's edge dropping a line in the pond. He found great peace sitting on the banks and shared this love of nature with his family and friends. He was a wonderful uncle to his six nieces and nephews they were his favorite people and he was their favorite person.

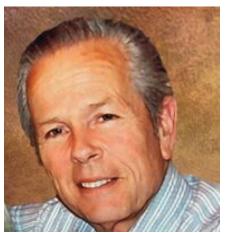
Although, Mark may have left us to soon, the memories he left behind will be cherished and reminisced for many generations. Whether you knew him as Mark, son, brother, uncle, cousin or friend you know you never had to question his dedication to you, he would have given you the shirt off his back or the last dollar in his pocket.

Mark is survived by his mother, Tammy Sue Robertson of California, MD; siblings, Rachel Rodriquez of Lexington Park, MD and Stevie and Martine Howell of Savage, MD; nieces, Taylor, Skyler, Makayla and Izabell and nephews, Caleb and James; cousins and other extended family members. Mark was preceded in death by his father, James Pearson Hood; step-father, Christopher Robertson; and maternal grandparents, Jimmy and Nellie Watson.

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

Arrangements are being made by Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A.

Chester Morris Seaborn, Jr.



Chester "Chet" Morris Seaborn, Jr., Chief Master Sergeant, United States Air Force, Ret., 72, of Mechanics-ville, MD passed away peacefully at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD. He was born on July 24, 1948 in Washington, DC to the late Chester Morris Seaborn, Sr. and Carlyn Haskins Seaborn.

Chet joined the United States Air Force Reserves after graduating high school where he proudly served his family and country proud for fifteen (15 years). After which, he would spend the next twenty (20) years active duty as a decorated Airman receiving many medals, badges, awards and citations for his dedication to his chosen profession. He worked as an Air Passenger Specialist, Supply Administrator and also in the food service area.

Chet married the love of his life Janice Marie and they spent many wonderful years together until her untimely passing in 2015. Chet would spend the rest of his life loving his beautiful bride and awaiting their reconciliation in heaven. Family and friends are taking solace in knowing they are now reunited. A great man may have left many behind, but he is now at peace with his beloved wife and Lord and Savior.

He was an avid outdoorsman, who loved to hunt deer. He found peace in the woods on a crisp fall morning. He enjoyed antique cars, especially a '57 Chevy.

He is survived by his dear friends, Don and Veronica Wyatt of Prince Frederick, MD; siblings, Patricia Millikin, and Cheryl Brown; cousins, Steve and Salvatore Maggio; and many nieces and nephews. Chet was preceded in death by his parents, Chester Seaborn, Sr. and Carlyn Seaborn; wife, Janice Seaborn and brother Richard Seaborn.

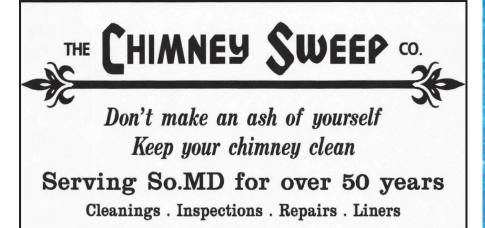
Family will receive friends for Chet's Visitation on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home, Charlotte Hall and officiated by Pastor Derek Yelton from Hughesville Baptist Church, before his interment at the Maryland Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

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

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







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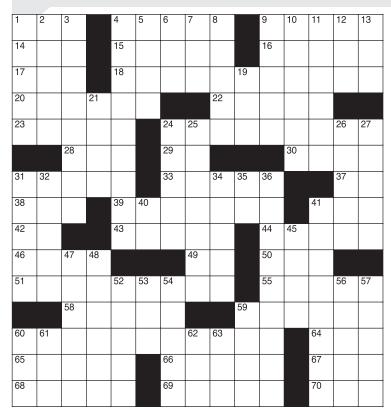
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GAMES & PUZZL



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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- 4. Ceramic jars
- 9. Monetary units
- 14. Alias
- 15. "Superman" actor
- 16. Britonic tribe
- 17. Shorten
- 18. LA Dodgers
- manager
- 20. Hoarded
- 22. Theatrically
- portray
- 23. Noah's grandson
- 24. Dependent
- 28. Peyton's little
- brother
- 29. Cools the house 30. Principle part of
- 31. Type of wrap
- 33. Peels
- 37. Commercial
- 38. Make an attempt
- 39. Arrange in steps
- 41. U. Utah athlete
- 42. Old English
- 43. Trade
- 44. Nostrils
- 46. Ticket seller __Hub
- 49. Of I 50. Institute legal
- proceedings against
- 51. Takes apart
- 55. Doorway
- 58. Long int'l river

- 59. Trailblazing athlete Gibson
- 60. Former CBS News host
- 64. Sign language
- 65. Badgerlike
- mammal 66. Thin strips of wood
- 67. Brooklyn hoopster
- 68. Portents of good
- or evil
- 69. Footwear
- 70. When you think you'll arrive

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Batflower genus
- 2. Predatory seabirds
- 3. Fish farm
- 4. Arrangements
- 5. Go in advance of
- others
- 6. Bulgarian monetary unit
- Maria"
- 8. W. African
- ethnoreligious group
- 9. Wild Asian oxen
- genus
- 10. Vinegary
- 11. To this
- 12. Explosive
- 13. Female sibling
- 19. Orlando museum (abbr.)
- 21. Type of hoop

- 24. About Holy Father
- 25. Academic environment
- 26. Extremely angry
- 27. Surrenders
- 31. Swiss mountain pass
- 32. Sharp mountain
- ridge 34. Erases
- 35. Spielberg's alien
- 36. Absurd
- 40. Dorm worker
- 41. Used to make
- pesticides
- 45. The sister of your father or mother
- 47. A way to let know
- 48. Can't produce
- much vegetation
- 52. Small streams
- 53. Folk singer
- DiFranco
- 54. Weights
- 56. Start over
- 57. Black Sea resort
- city
- 59. Wimbledon champ
- 60. Corporate
- executive (abbr.)
- 61. Unskilled actor who
- overacts
- 62. Bravo! Bravo!
- Bravo! 63. Of or relating to

WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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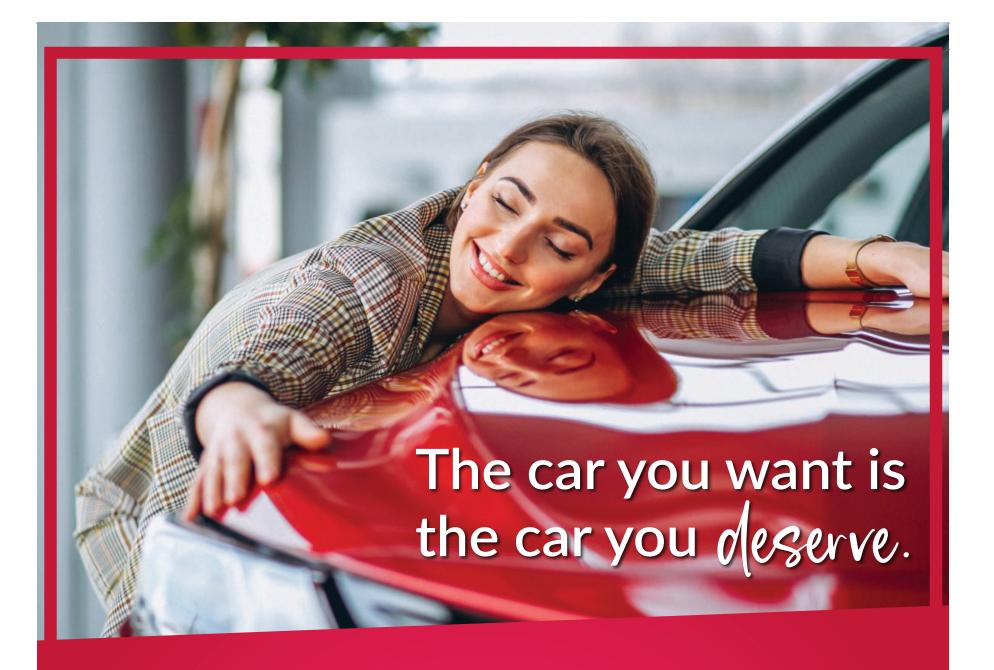
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