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ST. MARY'S HONORS THE FALLEN

Navy Wants Rent
for Lancaster Park

Hope Fades for
Gas Tax Relief

Townhouse
Project Approved



Photo credit: Ceandra Scott

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Navy wants rent for Lancaster Park



LOCAL 11
Sheetz gas price cut causes traffic snarls



ON THE COVER 9
St. Mary's prepares to say goodbye to fallen Firefighter Brice Trossbach

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 6 PM Thunderstorms Hi: 87° Lo: 70°	FRI, JUL 7 Partly Cloudy Hi: 89° Lo: 71°	SAT, JUL 8 Mostly Cloudy Hi: 88° Lo: 71°	SUN, JUL 9 Scattered Storms Hi: 81° Lo: 67°
MON, JUL 10 Partly Cloudy Hi: 84° Lo: 66°	TUE, JUL 11 Mostly Sunny Hi: 87° Lo: 68°	WED, JUL 12 Mostly Sunny Hi: 90° Lo: 71°	THU, JUL 13 Partly Cloudy Hi: 89° Lo: 70°



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Billy Fitzgerald

Hope Fades For Special Session to Address Gas Tax

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Last week Gov. Wes Moore implored the Maryland General Assembly to reconvene in a special session to address the automatic increase of the state's gas tax.

His plea has so far — at least on the side of Democrats — has fallen on deaf ears.

The gas tax increase, which occurs every July 1 and is pinned to inflation, has now taken the tariff on every gallon of gasoline purchased to 47 cents.

“Quite frankly, I do not believe a special session is going to be called to deal with the gas tax,” said Del. Todd Morgan (R-Dist.29C)

The governor has the authority to call a special session in Annapolis but he has yet do so; though Republicans have already publicly declared their support for such a move, they are in the minority and unable to affect much change in the matter.

Gas prices are already about one-dollar-and-a-half less than the same time last year.

Morgan said the gasoline tax affected rural areas like St. Mary's and Calvert counties more than urban jurisdictions.

“There is no public transportation down here,” Morgan said, adding that residents had to spend more money on gasoline to

travel without the public amenity.

The gasoline tax revenue goes into the state's transportation trust fund, which in turns funds road projects as well as mass transit services.

One new type of vehicle — electric cars — does not contribute anything to the transportation fund currently.

“They're heavier than normal cars and they're tearing up the roads, too,” Morgan said. “There has to be compromise across the board; we have to find some way for them to contribute.

“Fair is fair at the end of the day.”

But Del. Matt Morgan (R-Dist.29A) believed the debate over the gas tax could have farther reaching consequences than just whether or not there is tax relief this summer.

“Annapolis is dominated by the [political] left,” Matt Morgan said. “There could be some sneakiness there to put in some other revenue generator.”

The governor has signaled, the North County delegate said, that instead of a special session he would establish a committee to study the issue and arrive at recommendations for a solution.

That is what the delegate from 29A feared, that the state might try to put in another tax to offset any cuts in the gasoline tax.

Certain states were considering going to

a mileage tax, he said, to compensate for the fact that more electric vehicles were on the roads and not contributing to fuel taxes and transportation funds.

A mileage tax would solve that problem but at a cost of not only more revenue from residents but a loss of privacy as well, Matt Morgan said.

The only way, he said, to determine what mileage could be taxed each year would be through emissions inspections.

Those are inspections from which St. Mary's County residents are exempt by law.

To ensure that they were included in emissions inspections to track mileage for a new tax, that would have to change.

What shape the gasoline tax increase issue would take in the coming legislative session this January was unsure but Matt Morgan said voters should be prepared to mobilize against a mileage tax.

“The state should not be involved in any mileage tax and tracking people,” Morgan said. “That's an intrusion on our freedoms.

“This is a threat and we need to mobilize people against it.”

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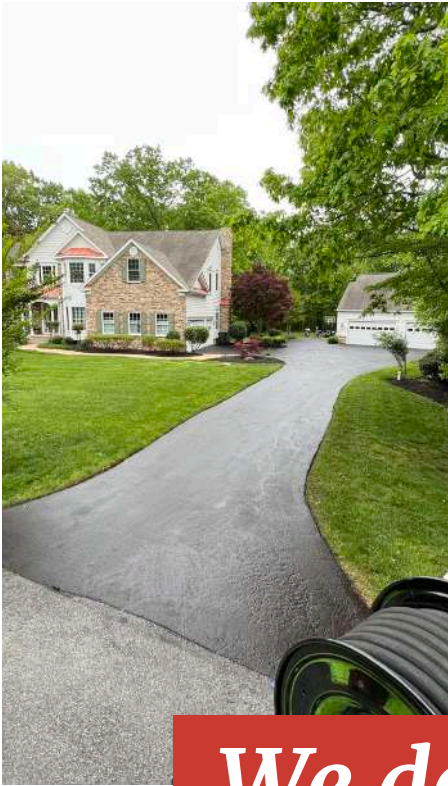
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St. Mary's Judge Receives Reprimand

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Michael White, a judge with the Orphans Court of St. Mary's County, has been reprimanded by the state's Commission on Judicial Disabilities for several lapses including failing to file accurate financial disclosure forms and being reticent in answering questions honestly during a hearing in late June.

The commission stopped short of filing any charges against White, their report stated, because his violations did not rise to that level.

The report states that throughout a deposition in which he was asked questions about his signature he "lacked candor and credibility by not answering truthfully and honestly."

The report continues: "He was asked on numerous occasions to verify his signature made on various documents to which the judge responded 'I don't know.'"

White was also uncooperative with the investigating counsel, the commission's report reads, which prolonged the hearing.

White was involved in a contentious lawsuit in federal court last year when his brother John White named alleged he and his other brother, former county assistant state's attorney Daniel White, embezzled money and stole trade secrets from a marketing firm the three brothers had owned and worked in together as executive members.

That lawsuit has since been dismissed,



Orphans Court Judge Michael White

but investigators in the recent commission case alleged that White had underreported his income by hundreds of thousands of dollars while working as an executive with Compass Marketing, Inc., the e-commerce company owned and operated by his brother John White in Annapolis, before moving on to work at the company known as Flywheel, which was the other company's rival.

Michael White has alleged publicly that the lawsuit brought against him and his brother Daniel by their brother John has been an attempt to conceal John White's own financial misdeeds in regards to the Annapolis based company.

The Orphan's Court judge made his claim last year; he did not return calls seeking comment for this article as of press time.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Navy Wants Rent for Lancaster Park Use

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

For the past 20 years the county government has tended to the care and maintenance of Lancaster Park in Lexington Park, though the Navy, through Patuxent River Naval Air Station, owns the property.

Now, to continue to use the park the Navy wants the county to pay rent.

The amount: \$42,000 for the first year, following last week's renewal of the lease on the property by unanimous vote by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Though they have approved the new lease agreement, the commissioners have yet to pay the charge set by the Navy; instead, they have sent missives to members of the state's Congressional delegation to get assistance in dealing with the surprising and uncommon request.

Commissioner Eric Colvin said the commissioners had been aware for several weeks before the June 27 vote that a charge for rent might be coming but the precise answer as to why is unclear.

"It just seems outrageous to me," Colvin told The County Times in a later interview. "It's absolutely ridiculous that the Navy would charge us money for it."



Lancaster Park is home to the monument honoring St. Mary's African American residents who fought and died in the Civil War on the side of the Union as well as many athletic fields.

It plays host to many community events throughout the year as well a continual flow of sporting events for young people enrolled in sports activities with the county's Department of Recreation and Parks.

In addition to the \$42,000 for the next year, the county has already paid \$15,000 for an appraisal of the property at the request of the Navy.

Colvin said that the county has been informed through the Navy's negotiators that the Navy could be open to services in kind in lieu of the \$42,000 payment.

Colvin said the amount of money the Navy is charging is comparatively small but it points to a change in attitude about the relationship the Navy and the broader St. Mary's community have shared for nearly 80 years.

"We've been cutting their grass for 20 years," Colvin said. "We've never charged them for that service."

"None of us thinks this is fair or right."

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- 10/25** Fall Open Enrollment-Know the changes you can make during Medicare's Open Enrollment Period, review your current coverage, how to make changes to your Medicare health and drug coverage.
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- 12/20** Medicare and Mental Health-Understand how Medicare covers outpatient mental health services, prescription drugs for mental health treatment, and inpatient mental health services.

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Lexington Park Townhouse Project Approved



An artist's rendering of the Villas of Lexwood

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

A plan to build 40 new townhouses in the Lexwood community off of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park received initial approval last week from the county planning commission.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the decision.

The proposed development, known as the Villas of Lexwood, would be on a little less than four acres in the residential high-density zone, according to county planning documents.

The developer of the project, AYDCO Holdings, LLC, must seek a variance from the county board of appeals, planning documents stated, to reduce the amount of green, open space required by the zoning ordinance.

They must also obtain a variance to reduce the required width of each of the townhouses from 20 feet to 16 feet.

The planning commission placed these

as requirements on the developer as conditions for approval as well as the requirement that the developer also obtain a variance to disturb some nearby wetlands, according to county planning documents.

The planning commission also approved an amendment to the county's comprehensive water and sewer plan (CWSP) that would bring water and sewer service to the property where the project is proposed within three to five years instead of six to 10 years as it was previously designated in the plan, county planning documents show.

Those improvements to the land are to be developer financed, planning documents showed.

The local wastewater treatment facility, the Marlay-Taylor water reclamation plant, is currently adequate to provide service to the proposed development, county planning documents state.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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Community Pulls Together for Fire Service

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As St. Mary's mourns a fallen hero, the community has come together to provide whatever support the fire service needs as they prepare to lay their comrade — Leonardtown volunteer and Patuxent River Naval Air Station firefighter Brice Trossbach — to rest today.

From free haircuts for firefighters to prepare them for attending Trossbach's viewing and funeral to providing water and meals to firefighters filling in for Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department many businesses and community organizations are taking part.

Leonardtown Co. 1 is still out of service following Trossbach's death while fighting a house fire in their first due area June 27 on Deerwood Run Drive.

Trossbach, who was responding to aid the Leonardtown volunteers, entered the house, which was already heavily engulfed in flames, and fell through to the basement after the floor underneath him caved in.

Firefighter companies from around the entire Maryland, Virginia and Delaware region have come to fill in for them, members of the county seat's fire company have said.

"Truly humbled by all of the fill in crews who have jumped in to cover our fire house and emergency calls!" read a message from the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary on social media. "These folks left their families and community to take care of ours; an act of pure altruistic sacrifice!"

"Words that come to mind...brotherhood, sisterhood, family, grateful, blessed, loved. We are grateful of all!"

The auxiliary has been busy providing meals around the clock for the fill in crews since the Co. 1 stand down.

Kallie Kishpaugh, owner of Olde Town Barbershop in Leonardtown, donated free haircuts to the volunteers at the Mechanicsville fire company in preparation for the Trossbach's viewing and funeral this week and Real Life Church in Mechanicsville has been busy collecting donations of water to donate during the services.

"As we all know, first responders are our local heroes, when it comes to any kind of emergency they are there, they always want to help, always want to keep their community, their family, their friends safe," she told The County Times. "They don't second guess any decision they make whether it is dangerous or not."

"They give so much and [we] as a community in such a tragic time have come together to take care of them."

She said she wanted to do something that would take one less worry away for fighters.

"So, anything I can do to take one more 'to do' off that list for them I will. You know haircuts is the last thing on their minds, so when I heard the tragic news, and then the services coming up, I wanted to offer free haircuts as a way of me saying thank you, and giving them the chance to get cleaned up, shaped up before we pray for a fallen brother."

Her mother and brother are both deeply involved in the local volunteer fire service, she said.

Church members were quick to bring in donations, said Denise Vukmer, director of operations at the church but they also provided baked goods for the fill in crews at the Leonardtown station.

Vukmer said the church had collected 60 cases of water and sports drinks for the ceremonies and was able to fill a pick up truck with them.

"It was a quick turnaround," Vukmer said. "We wanted to take a moment to give back to them, recognizing just how much they give to the community."

Just two days after the tragedy, Southern Maryland BMX had a fundraiser race at their track in Mechanicsville to raise money for Trossbach's family; they were able to raise \$1,200, the group reported.

"Brice is a true hero and we are thankful for his service to the community and send our thoughts and prayers to his family," a statement from the group said.

Greg Wheeler, representative for SOMD BMX said it was the the group's chance to show first responders how much they appreciated their service to the community.

"As an extreme sport, we've used services of first responders many times," Wheeler said. "We felt that at this time of such a tragic event it that we wanted to do our part and give back."

Trossbach's funeral is scheduled for today, July 6, with services to be held at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire House at 10 a.m.

A graveside service will be held at Charles Memorial Gardens in Leonardtown following the funeral, parking will be available at the Shops at Breton Bay Shopping Center.

Shuttle Service will be provided starting at noon, parking is limited and priority will be given to those participating in the funeral.

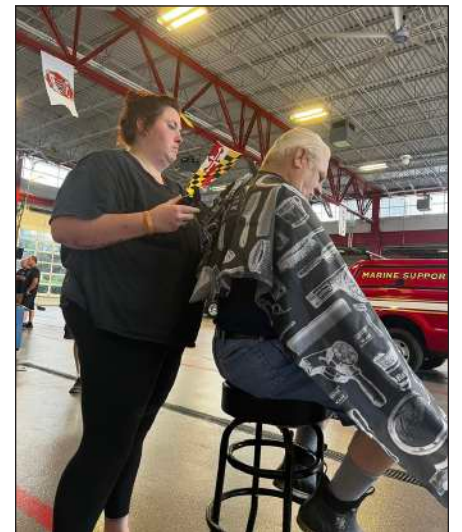
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Photo credit: Ceandra Scott



Photo credit: Ceandra Scott



Sheriff's Office Seeking Information in Decades-Old Homicide

Almost 50 years ago, the bodies of two unidentified males were discovered dead in a marshy area on St. George's Island. One had been shot several times. The other had been drowned, with his head buried in the mud.

Former Sheriff Voorhaar recalled in a 1983 Enterprise article, "We weren't even sure he had a head."

The only thing found in the victims pockets were car keys. The victim that was shot had keys from a 1977 Oldsmobile, reported stolen from the National car rental company.

This led investigators to a parking area at the Take It Easy Ranch in Callaway. That weekend, they were hosting the "11th Annual Brute Music Festival: One Nation Under A Groove." It was billed as "the biggest celebration of the nation's 201st birthday going on in America."

The weekend featured soul music's biggest and best musical acts - the Brothers Johnson, The Sylvers, Kool and the Gang, The Commodores with Lionel Richie and a dozen others.

Attendance was huge. Tickets for the entire four day event were just \$15. Newspapers estimated the crowd was numbered at 15,000. At \$15 a ticket, gate receipts alone approached a quarter million dollars.

Investigators from your Sheriff's Office located the stolen Oldsmobile near the entrance of the event. The keys fit.

Inside the car, deputies found a wallet belonging to the first victim, Theodus McNair of Washington DC. In the trunk,

deputies found a shotgun and a gray haired, full-faced mask.

The remaining victim was identified that Tuesday, when a lone vehicle remained in the parking area at the conclusion of the concert weekend. The keys in the second victim's pocket fit. That car was registered to the second victim, Thomas Hornsby Brown, also of DC. Nothing of value was located in Brown's vehicle.

The Medical Examiner determined McNair died from gunshot wounds and Brown was drowned. The Sheriff's Office worked with the Washington DC Metropolitan Police Department on the case without success.

The investigation took an unexpected twist less than two months later, when the owner of the production company that put on the concert, Washington DC disc jockey Bob "Nighthawk" Terry, never showed to pick up his son at a DC airport. Terry's car was found abandoned and burned in North Carolina a short time later. Terry's body has never been found.

According to a 1983 article in the Washingtonian magazine, the victims were working the gate at the concert, and a dispute arose over ticket receipts. McNair, Brown and Terry may have paid for that dispute with their lives.

If you have any information on this case - fact or rumor, old or new - let us hear from you. Contact Lieutenant Mike Boyer at michael.boyer@stmaryscountymd.gov



Deputies at the crime scene in 1977



A shotgun found in the investigation

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Sheetz Drops Gas Prices for Independence Day

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

To commemorate July 4 Sheetz convenience stores and fueling stations dropped their gasoline prices sharply to 1.77 per gallon to match the year the nation declared independence from Great Britain — 1776.

Here in St. Mary's, the deal on fuel, which offered a serious break to consumers by cutting costs almost in half, caused traffic backups all day long on Chancellors Run Road at the store sitting at the intersection with Three Notch Road.

The county sheriff's office posted warnings to motorists to be prepared for significant delays.

By the late evening the gas pumps were empty but motorists continued to pull into the store looking for low fuel at prices that had been unheard of for years.

"Sheetz is a family owned and operated company and we are always looking for ways to assist the communities and customers that we serve," Sheetz president and CEO Travis Sheetz said in a news release. "We hope this discount helps our customers keep a little more change in their wallets as they travel to celebrate the 4th of July with friends and family, with an obvious nod to our nation's birthday."



Sheetz, based in Altoona, Penn. has nearly 700 stores in that state as well as Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and Ohio.

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Legal Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO: C-18-CV-23-000246

Chesapeake Employers' Insurance Company,
Plaintiff

v.

Diaz Logistics, LLC, et al.,
Defendants

NOTICE

The above Plaintiff has filed a Complaint entitled *Chesapeake Employers' Insurance Company v. Diaz Logistics, LLC d/b/a and/or t/a Diaz Logistic LLC and Jose Diaz* in which it is seeking damages of at least \$78,505.00, plus punitive damages in the amount of \$150,000.00, as well as interest, costs, attorneys' fees, and for such other relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.

Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County that the relief sought in the aforementioned Complaint may be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary. Defendants Diaz Logistics, LLC d/b/a and/or t/a Diaz Logistic LLC and Jose Diaz are to file a response to the Complaint on or before July 30, 2023. Failure to file the response within the time allowed may result in a judgment by default or the granting of the relief sought, provided a copy of this notice should be published in some newspaper published in the county, once for one (1) week on or before June 30, 2023.

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

ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

Fatal Crash on St. Andrews Road Under Investigation

On July 03, 2023 at 3:42 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a single vehicle accident in the area of St. Andrew's Church Rd and Fairgrounds Rd. Deputies arrived to find a single vehicle had left the roadway. The driver and passenger were extricated from the vehicle. The driver and passenger were flown to Capital Region Hospital with life threatening injuries. The passenger was pronounced deceased a short time later at the hospital. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Collision Reconstruction Unit responded to conduct the investigation. Next of kin has been notified.

Preliminary Investigation revealed a 2020 Subaru Outback operated by Susan Blizzard, age 74 of Mechanicsville, MD, was traveling northbound on St. Andrew's Church Road when for unknown reasons, lost control of the vehicle and left the roadway. The vehicle struck a tree trapping both the passenger and driver. The front seat passenger was identified as Francis Rowan, age 96.

Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or any events leading up to the collision and have not provided a statement are asked to contact Cpl. Dale Reppel at dale.reppel@stmaryscountymd.gov or by phone (240) 496-6694.

Identity Needed for Vandalism Suspect

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is seeking the identity of the subject pictured in a Property Destruction. On Friday, June 23, 2023, at approximately 11:40 AM the suspect spray-painted graffiti on several exterior walls on a building on Corporate Drive in Lexington Park.

The suspect is described as a black male in a pink camo hoodie, light-colored pants, white socks and flip-flops, using a can of black spray paint.

Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect or this incident is asked to call Deputy Richard Stillwell at 301-475-4200, ext. 8183 or email Richard.Stillwell@stmaryscountymd.gov. Case #33349-23

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



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Salmon
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6.98 1-Lb.
Nature's Best
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Juicy
Peaches
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Sweet Athena
Cantaloupes
2.98

Bing
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Cabbage
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4-Lb.
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20-Oz., Squeeze
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9.5 To 20-Oz., Selected
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Cookies
2/\$7



64-Oz., Selected
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Cranberry Juice Cocktail
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16 To 19.1-Oz., Selected
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15-Oz., No Beans Or
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20-Oz., Easy Squeeze
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Wine

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750ML
Marc Cellars
Wine

9.99

The Tackle Box Fishing Report

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

Spot are everywhere! If you can see water you are in the presence of spot. Catch them two at the time in the mouth of the Patuxent. The creeks have tiny spot in schools circulating on the surface. The size of the spot are medium for the most part. In a few weeks they will grow to Jumbos. Spot love blood-worms but will hit most any bait presented.

White perch are plentiful most everywhere. Beetle spins and Perch Hounders in white an orange are hot. Moving tides are the best times to plan an outing for perch.

Rockfish are in the rivers around structure for lure casters at dusk and dawn.

Cobia are moving in for trollers using surgical eels and for chum liners using live eels or live spot.

Crabs are plentiful and very good sized for chicken neckers and hand trap users.

Waterfront homeowners using crab pots find good daily catches using alewife and razor clams.



A View From The BLEACHERS



DEBATING TECHNOLOGY

By Ronald N. Guy Jr.
Contributing Writer

The delirious crowd counted off the waning seconds in unison. One team sauntered off the field stunned and dejected; the other basked in the ultimate victory. A band played in the background and thousands of jubilant souls belted out the fight song. Players donned championship attire. Media swarmed for interviews with the conquering heroes. League luminaries presented the championship trophy. Clips from the locker room conveyed the childlike joy of a group that had ascended their profession's summit.

This was as good as it gets – for every executive, coach, player and ardent fan.

Those were the concluding scenes of Super Bowl XXVI, a resounding 37-24 Washington dismantling of the Buffalo Bills at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It was Washington's fourth Super Bowl appearance in 10 seasons and its third championship. The organization was the class of professional football; its fanbase was among the largest and most passionate in professional sports.

Much has happened in the world of Washington football in the years since that January night in 1992 – an understatement typed with palatable anger. And so, when NFL Network recently broadcast an unabridged re-run of the game, I couldn't help but watch, if only to remember what once was.

The game demanded other comparisons. NFL football, of course, is played differently now – more passing, deemphasized running and less hitting. But the antiquated technology jumped off the screen. The lack of high definition and limited camera angles offered a much different viewing experience. Close plays passed without a review. Replays lacked clarity and limitless angles. Overall, the game seemed to have a haze over it as Canadian wildfire smoke had penetrated the Metrodome.

It wasn't better. It wasn't worse. It was just different.

In the quiet reflection after the game ended, contemplating the differences between 1992 and 2023 were inevitable. The "evolution" isn't constrained to football; there were 30 years of technological growth to consider. Phones are now all-encompassing personal communication and life-facilitating devices. Face-to-screen time is far more common than face-to-face time. Anxiety is up; mental health is down. Artificial Intelligence is infiltrating our lives – first "customer support" bots, now artificial readers of college application essays and sources of music, among other more sinister uses. Humans are no better than the machines. Lives are carefully constructed and broadcast through social media platforms. Photos are so filtered that if you met the person, in person, the resemblance would be distant, at best. Eagerly published, hand-selected personal propaganda screams "Look at my perfect moment... and lament your mundane life". Likes and followers are oddly coveted forms social validation and misconstrued correlations to self-worth.

On the other hand, what an amazing world we occupy. Virtual work. Convenient contact with family and friends. The ability to track kids! Information access. Greater diversity of thought. A world with less firm borders. The ease with which we can do almost anything boggles the mind - especially minds (like mine) that remember when a paper map was required for road trips, new goods could be acquired only through store visits and adolescent boys had to woo adolescent girls via in-person charm or calls on her parent's landline – both equally terrifying.

With the Super Bowl XXVI re-run fresh in the mind, I attended a Brandi Carlile concert at Wolf Trap recently. There was a moment where I just observed the delirious crowd – humans lost in an unplugged, live moment that required no internet connection. I was left convinced that technological wizardry was not aiding human advancement. But then I thought about how the tickets were acquired. The GPS that led us care-free to the site. The text messages that quickly brought our group together. The communications we maintained with our kids, precariously left at home, during the evening. The photos and videos we captured. Much of it would have been impossible three decades ago.

Am I sold on tech? Label me undecided. But tech is here, for good or ill. So, I'll embrace it with necessary suspicion. As the opening jingle to an old television show said, "You take the good. You take the bad. You take them both and there you have – The Facts of Life."

Send comments to RonaldGuyJr@gmail.com

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PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION *News*

U.S. and Australian Navy Partnership Proves Maintenance, Readiness

For the first time, the U.S. and Royal Australian navies have successfully demonstrated a periodic maintenance interval (PMI) on a U.S. Navy MH-60R Seahawk in Australia. The milestone demonstrates both countries' commitment to advancing military readiness in the Indo-Pacific region.

H-60 Multi-Mission Helicopter Program's (PMA-299) Special Projects Team developed a unique, and expedited, acquisition strategy leveraging U.S. and Australian "mateship" to complete the first-ever U.S. Navy aviation Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) in the Indo-Pacific region. An essential piece to readiness is the ability to address emergent MRO requirements outside of normal domestic sites. Broadening the MH-60R MRO facilities and infrastructure around the globe, specifically in today's world climate, allows for a wider maintenance reach in time of conflict while increasing cooperation with our allies. This century-long alliance remains advantageous in this region.

"Demonstrating successful PMI on a U.S. Navy MH-60R in Australia is a testament to our two nation's shared trust and commitments in our century-long partnership with the Royal Australian Navy," said Capt. William Hargreaves, PMA-299 program manager. "Achieving this maintenance event expands our aircraft's footprint ensuring the fleet is ready to fight tonight."

U.S. and Australian forces have fought together in every significant conflict since World War I. Showcasing the allegiance and confidence between these allies by entering into an agreement for maintenance and inspection further deepens the "mateship" connection.

Twelve years ago, PMA-299 and Royal Australian Navy's were further united in a foreign military sale for MH-60 Romeo helicopters.

Sikorsky Aircraft Australia Limited (SAAL), a subcontractor to Lockheed Martin Rotary Mission Systems, began the PMI in late-October 2022 in Australia, and completed two months under the projected 10-month timeline. PMI on the MH-60R included material acceptance and inspection, repairs, and an aircraft functional check flight. The U.S. Navy will conduct post-PMI flight checks upon arrival at Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM)41, the U.S. Navy's West Coast Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) in San Diego, CA.

"The principal aim of this activity was to demonstrate to the U.S. the capability of

Australian industry and the pathway available to perform maintenance, repair and overhaul of this helicopter in our region," said Commodore Darren Rae, Royal Australian Navy Director General Navy Aviation, Aircrew Training and Commons. "This demonstration of Australian industry's support to U.S. Navy helicopter maintenance is a hallmark for the steady progress being made in the U.S.-Australian Alliance."

Strengthening the U.S.' partnerships and ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific region is critical to the nation's security and to its allies; partnerships like this help defend common interests.

"We have made strides in this PMI demonstration," said Hargreaves. "We now have the ability to rapidly address emergent MRO requirements, if necessary, outside of standard activity sites during contingency operations."

The successful PMI, deeply rooted in innovative acquisition strategies and contract execution, also hailed a NAVAIR Commander's Award in May 2023 and an Australian Day Honours Award in January 2023.

The NAVAIR Commander's Awards recognize outstanding teams and individuals across NAVAIR who have demonstrated creativity, agility and accountability in delivering the capability the fleet needs, on time, at a price we can afford.

Hargreaves recognized his team's achievement and went on to say "winning the NAVAIR Commanders Award for this effort truly validated the team's efforts to further strengthen ties between the two countries and entrusting them to complete the PMI as if on U.S. soil."

Similarly, and in recognition of the significance of this milestone, Australia's former MH-60R Seahawk Romeo Helicopter Assurance Program Co-Lead, Commander Andrew Newman, was presented an Australia Day Honours Award in January 2023 of a Conspicuous Service Cross for his outstanding achievements and devotion to pursuing this activity.

PMA-299 provides full-spectrum, worldwide support for the U.S. Navy's and international partners' MH-60R and MH-60S helicopters and user communities. The MH-60R Seahawk is the U.S. Navy's essential submarine hunter and anti-surface warfare helicopter enabling anti-submarine and surface warfare.

Additional PMIs in Australia are possible. Once the aircraft has returned to the U.S., the USN will review all after actions for future potential contract agreements.



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AUCTION CLOSURE: Thursday, July 20, 2023 beginning at 6 pm.
PREVIEW: FRI, July 14th 3 pm – 7 pm; SAT, July 15th 9 am - NOON
PREVIEW LOCATION: 22350 Budds Creek Road, Leonardtown, MD

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Firefighter Brice Trossbach Funeral Information

St. Mary's County Government, in partnership with Naval Air Station Patuxent River announces the following advisories for St. Mary's County on Thursday, July 6, 2023, for Firefighter Brice Trossbach's funeral.

Funeral Service

The funeral for Firefighter Brice Trossbach will be held Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 10 a.m. at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

- **Parking:** Handicapped parking will be located at Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. Parking for all others will be at the following satellite locations: the Wildewood Shopping Center, RC Lexington Exchange Movie Theater, and Dorsey Park. There will be shuttle services provided beginning at 8 a.m.
- **Streaming:** The funeral will be streamed live at <https://stmarysfire.org/funeral>.

Funeral Procession:

The procession will leave Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department at approximately 12 p.m. and go down Rt. 235 to Gate 1 of the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, enter the base and move down Cuddihy Road to Tate Road before turning on to Cedar Point Road to proceed past Building 409 and the Fire Station before exiting out Pax River's Gate 2. They will proceed to pass Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, Station 3, then move to Rt. 5 and process through the Town of Leonardtown and Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, Station 1 and finally to Charles Memorial Gardens.

Any member of the public wishing to line the route to pay respects can park at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds or Leonardtown Middle School. Please do not line the route elsewhere.

Personnel assigned to NAS Patuxent River wishing to line the procession route on base and render honors are encouraged

to do so, and advised to prepare for high temperatures that day with sunscreen and water if lining the route.

Graveside Services

Parking for graveside services will be in The Shops at Breton Bay shopping center. Shuttles will be provided starting at 12 p.m. There is limited space for parking for this part of the event. Priority will be given to those participating in the funeral.

Internment

The internment is private.

Traffic Advisories

- Rt. 235 southbound between Clover Hill Road and Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, the shoulder and right-hand travel lane will be closed from approximately 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Rt. 5 in the area of Redgate there will be a flagging operation with one-way traffic from approximately 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Rt. 5 between Rt. 245 and Rt. 234, expect delays, and possible closures, in both directions from approximately 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- Washington Street will be closed in the Town of Leonardtown in the afternoon.
- NAS Patuxent River Gates 1 and 2 and will be temporarily closed to inbound and outbound traffic while the funeral procession makes its way through the base. Gate 3 will remain closed during this time as well.

Any questions about apparatus joining the procession can be directed to Chief Mike Clark at 301-399-9722.

Any questions about apparatus backfilling stations can be directed to Kiona Black at kiona.black@maryland.gov. Time-sensitive questions can be directed to her via phone at 410-456-3243.

Pet

OF THE WEEK

MEET STEVIE



Hello, my name is Stevie. My pals here at the Care Center feel I'm a VINTAGE MODEL DOG with a HEART OF GOLD! They feel that I'm definitely not your ordinary dog. I'm a CLASSIC MODEL who comes with LOADS OF CHARM and IRRESISTABLE CUTENESS! Despite my age, I'm a SWEET FELLA who has a heart full of love and PLENTY OF ENERGY to share! I like other dogs and animals, I'm the PERFECT ROAD TRIP COMPANION, and most importantly, I'm the EPITOME OF GOOD BEHAVIOR. I'll be JUST PERFECT for those who prefer a CALM AND COMPOSED COMPANION. If you're ready to OPEN YOUR HEART and HOME to me, please visit during adoption hours. Help to make my adorable vintage model's dreams come true! Stop by Monday-Friday 11am-4pm and Saturday 10am-3pm or email animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov. BE MY MIRACLE AND PLEASE CHOOSE ME! And remember, ALWAYS OPT TO ADOPT, please don't shop!

To see more of my amazing friends also available for adoption, "like" us on Facebook @ Charles County Animal Care Center or view us on our website at <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/animal-care-control/animal-care-center>



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Cedar Point Federal Credit Union Reopening



Cedar Point Federal Credit Union celebrated reopening its headquarters in Lexington Park on June 29th. The location had been closed since April 29th for renovations to the lobby.

Cedar Point was excited to welcome Commissioners Eric Colvin and Scott Ostrow, President of Maryland DC Credit Union Association John Bratsakis, Chris Kaselemis and Lee Greely from St. Mary's Department of Economic Development, Dr. Christine Bergmark from St. Mary's Chamber of Commerce, Terri Raley from the Lexington Park Business Association, Dr. Frank Clinton from the Small Business Development Center, Brian Shepherd from 1771 Architecture Studio, Wayne and Austin Davis From WM Davis, and board members to celebrate the reopening of the headquarters.

The credit union has operated out of its current headquarters since 1997, with the last major update happening in 2000. "This building has been here for 26 years, and quite frankly, the lobby needed a refresh." Said Charles Roach, President and CEO of Cedar Point Federal Credit Union. Since its founding, membership at Cedar Point has grown to over 46,000. To better serve the ever-increasing number of members, this remodel focused on overhauling the appearance and technology of the branch.

According to Roach, the main lobby has a modern look with new flooring, lighting, and teller stations. "I feel excited learning

new ways to work in our lobby more efficiently," said Ashley Thomas, Headquarters Assistant Branch Manager. "The openness of the lobby and adding more offices for other employees encourages teamwork."

Technology updates include a large LED display featuring educational and promotional content and guest Wi-Fi to modernize the area further. New money counters called teller cash recyclers (TCRs) have been installed. "I feel that the TCRs will improve the accuracy and speed of cash transactions," said Owen Lewis, Headquarters Branch Manager. "This version of the lobby will allow members to be helped in a more timely manner overall." Additionally, the drive-up ATM has moved to the lane closest to the building, and the drive-thru lanes are now operated by video screen.

State Senator Jack Bailey, State Delegate Brian Crosby, and County Commissioners Scott Ostrow and Eric Colvin recognized Cedar Point's dedication to serving the community of St. Mary's County for the past 78 years with official citations. The branch staff looks forward to building upon that legacy of service for many years to come.

Cedar Point Federal Credit Union is organized to serve people who live, work, worship, attend school, and do business in St. Mary's, Calvert, and Charles counties. Cedar Point is federally insured by NCUA. For more information about Cedar Point Federal Credit Union, go to cpfcu.com.

Free Back-to-School Vaccine Clinics

The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) is hosting free back-to-school vaccination clinics for children (birth to age 18) living in St. Mary's County. The following vaccines will be available:

- Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough)
- Meningococcal (meningitis)
- HPV (human papillomavirus)
- Varicella (chicken pox)

A parent or guardian must be present and bring the child's immunization record and any related school forms. Marylanders can view and print their official vaccination records through MyIR, Maryland's free immunization record portal. A Spanish speaking interpreter will be on-site to assist community members as needed.

To make an appointment, please visit

smchd.org/immunizations or call 301-475-4330. Clinics will be held on the following dates and locations:

Spring Ridge Middle School-Based Health Center

- Tuesday, July 11 (3-7 p.m.)
- Friday, July 14 (9 a.m.-12 p.m.)
- Saturday, August 12 (9 a.m.-12 p.m.)
- Saturday, September 9 (9 a.m.-12 p.m.)

Margaret Brent Middle School-Based Health Center

- Tuesday, July 25 (3 p.m.-7 p.m.)
- Friday, July 28 (9 a.m.-12 p.m.)
- Saturday, August 26 (9 a.m.-12 p.m.)

For more information about vaccination recommendations by age, please visit smchd.org/immunizations or call the SMCHD Health Clinic at 301-475-4330.

RVRS Mourns Passing of First Female Chief

The officers and members of the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad regretfully announce the passing of Life Member Frances Ann Cullison. Frances Ann joined the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad in 1964 and held the positions of Chief, Assistant Chief, President, Vice President, and Board of Director. She was bestowed Life Membership in 1979 and became a member of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association Hall of Fame in 2003. Frances Ann was the first female Chief presiding in St. Mary's County. She was a friend to many and will be sorely missed.

Viewing was held at the Brinsfield Funeral Home on Wednesday, July 5th, from 5-8 with EMS Prayers at 7pm. The funeral will be held at St. Michael's Church in Ridge, MD on Thursday, July 6th, at 11am.



Road Work Advisory

The Department of Public Works and Transportation will be installing a roundabout at the intersection of Mount Wolf Road and Triangle Drive beginning on or about Wednesday, July 5, 2023. The project is expected to take approximately 60 days. The roadways will remain open for traffic, however, please be aware of changing traf-

fic patterns and expect delays. In addition, Variable Message Boards will be deployed in the area prior to and during the project to serve as an additional reminder.

For additional project information, please contact the St. Mary's County Department of Public Works & Transportation at (301) 475-4200 ext. 3513.

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Friday, July 7

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Antoinette's Garden Brunch, facebook.com/AntoinettesGarden

10 a.m.-6 p.m. The Good Earth Natural Foods Company will be featuring the "Blueberry Jam Smoothie" (blueberry and banana in coconut water with date syrup, cardamom, and lavender) in honor of the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival, goodearthnaturals.com

10 a.m.-7 p.m. The Old Jail Museum & Visitor's Center will be open with extended hours for First Friday, facebook.com/theoldjailmuseum

10 a.m.-7 p.m. Shepherd's Old Field Market specials throughout the Market, shepherdsoldfield.com

11 a.m.-7 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Meet-and-Greet in LTown Alley beside New View Fiberworks hosted by the Friends of the St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums (find information about the museums and the Jazz Festival happenings) featuring visiting vendors: Flying Monkey Fashions, Especially Kelly jewelry, and Something For You (African baskets and more), eventbrite.com/e/388459541947

12 p.m.-12 a.m. Viking Axe Throwing at the Brudergarten in Shepherd's Old Field Market, facebook.com/vikingaxethrowingandrentals

12 p.m.-2 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Jazz Cruise at the Wharf with Fish the Bay Charters featuring live music with Adam Wine, seafood and beverages courtesy of Visit St. Mary's, visitstmarysmd.com/jazzfest2023

2 p.m.-4 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Welcome Reception at the Inn at Leonardtown facebook.com/innatleonardtown featuring the Higher Standards Jazz Trio and Quality Street Kitchen and Catering

3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Jazz Cruise at the Wharf with Fish the Bay Charters featuring live music with Adam Wine, seafood and beverages courtesy of Visit St. Mary's, visitstmarysmd.com/jazzfest2023

5 p.m.-6 p.m. Audience Participation Drum Circle on the Arts Council Lawn, stmarysartscouncil.com

5 p.m.-7 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Concert on the Square featuring the Eric Byrd Trio, visitleonardtownmd.com/leonardtownmusicfest

5 p.m.-8 p.m. North End Gallery Opening Reception for their member show titled, Forest Light: The Art and Adventures of Suzanne Shelden, northendgallery.com

5 p.m.-8 p.m. St. Mary's County Arts Council will host an Opening Reception for their Wonders of the Sea Community Art Show. This Show will be featured for the month of July 2023 w/ an Opening Reception on First Friday, June 7th from 5 p.m.-8 PM., stmarysartscouncil.com

5 p.m.-10 p.m. FREE Trolley Rides provided by Patuxent Transportation LLC courtesy of the Town of Leonardtown, visitleonardtownmd.com/leonardtowntrolley

5:15 p.m. Flapper Barre with Rebecca at SPICE Studio in honor of the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival, facebook.com/spicestudio

5:30 p.m.-6 p.m. Drumline performance on the Arts Council lawn, stmarysartscouncil.com

5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Port of Leonardtown Winery, live music featuring Jason Mitchell, food by Gato Tacos Food Truck, facebook.com/portoftownwine

6 p.m.-9 p.m. Board & Brush, Pick Your Project Workshop (for 16 +), boardandbrush.com/leonardtown

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. The Yellow Line Studio, Summer Abstracts with the American Gnomes and Popup Homes Workshop, facebook.com/theyellowline.co

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Wine & Design-Kids Open Studio (12 and under), facebook.com/wndstmaryscountymd

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Wine & Design-Open Studio for teens to adults, facebook.com/wndstmaryscountymd



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- 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Wine & Design**—Open Studio for teens to adults, facebook.com/wndstmaryscountymd
- 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Antoinette's Garden Brunch**, facebook.com/AntoinettesGarden
- 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Old Jail Museum** Visitor's Center and Gift Shop is open daily, facebook.com/theoldjailmuseum
- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Vendor Saturday** at Town Market, facebook.com/townmarketllc
- 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Arts Council Gift & Gallery** viewing hours featuring the Wonders of the Sea Community Art Show, stmarysartscouncil.com
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. North End Gallery** viewing hours featuring their member show titled, Forest Light: The Art and Adventures of Suzanne Shelden, northendgallery.com
- 12 p.m.-7 p.m. Port of Leonardtown Winery**, live music featuring the Jazz Trotters, food by Heidi's Eats, Sage's Treats Food Truck in honor of the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival, facebook.com/portoftownwine
- 12 p.m.-12 a.m. Viking Axe Throwing at the Brudergarten** in Shepherd's Old Field Market, facebook.com/vikingaxethrowingandrentals
- 2 p.m.-10 p.m. FREE Trolley Rides** provided by Patuxent Transportation LLC courtesy of the Town of Leonardtown, visitleonardtownmd.com/leonardtowntrolley
- 7 p.m. Live music with Griffin Mullen** at Social Coffeehouse starting at 7 p.m., facebook/socialcoffeehouse
- 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Jazz Ambassador After Party** for the Potomac Jazz & Seafood at the Brudergarten at Shepherd's Old Field Market with DJ music and the Jamaican Grille Food Truck, facebook.com/events/215162851132691

Sunday, July 9

- 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Antoinette's Garden Brunch**, facebook.com/AntoinettesGarden
- 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Old Jail Museum** Visitor's Center and Gift Shop is open daily, facebook.com/theoldjailmuseum
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE Trolley Rides** provided by Patuxent Transportation LLC courtesy of the Town of Leonardtown, visitleonardtownmd.com/leonardtowntrolley
- 11 a.m.-Close Customer Appreciation Day** at Action Billiards & Lounge offering FREE pool all day long, facebook.com/actionlounge
- 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Port of Leonardtown Winery**, live music featuring GrooveSpan, food by the Sweet Blue Smoke Food Truck in honor of the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival, facebook.com/portoftownwine
- 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Pick Your Project Workshop** at Board & Brush, boardandbrush.com/leonardtown
- 1 p.m.-6 p.m. Viking Axe Throwing at the Brudergarten** in Shepherd's Old Field Market, facebook.com/vikingaxethrowingandrentals
- 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Kids Open Studio** at Wine & Design (kids 12 and under), facebook.com/wndstmaryscountymd
- 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Wine & Design**—Open Studio for teens to adults, facebook.com/wndstmaryscountymd
- 3 p.m.-5 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Jazz Cruise** at the Wharf with Fish the Bay Charters featuring live music from Turk Cannon, seafood and beverages courtesy of Visit St. Mary's, visitsmarysmd.com/jazzfest2023
- 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Jazz Cruise** at the Wharf with Fish the Bay Charters featuring live music from Turk Cannon, seafood and beverages courtesy of Visit St. Mary's, visitsmarysmd.com/jazzfest2023

The information included here is accurate at the time of printing, and is subject to change. Please visit the event page for current information.



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In Remembrance

To schedule an obituary in the County Times, submit text and picture to aldailey@countytimes.net by noon on Tuesdays for publication on Thursdays. Any submissions received after this deadline may run in the following week's edition.

Corinne Geraty, 90



Corinne Therese Geraty, 90, of Lexington Park, MD passed away on June 21, 2023. Corinne was born November 20, 1932 to the late James Aloysius Galvin and Martha

Jane Hancock of Norfolk, VA.

Corinne, a Holy Trinity High School senior, met Harry James Geraty - a navy sailor that she met after a basketball game. They courted, married and began the traveling life of a military family - with assignments at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Chincoteague, VA., Jacksonville, FL and Patuxent River, MD. With each transfer, another child was born. Corinne was a gifted homemaker and devoted mother, often taking on the Dad role." There were challenges, but our family was a noisy, happy, busy life, filled with the joy that faith, family and life-long friendships bring.

When the youngest children entered middle school - Corinne enrolled in Nursing School - graduating two years later at the top of her class, as a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1977! She worked at St. Mary's Hospital and Nursing Home for several years.

Faithful members of every parish the family attended while in the military, Harry & Corinne were deeply involved when they joined Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. You name it - they did it! Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent DePaul, Food Pantry, Collection Counters and more. In the years after Harry's death, Corinne remained connected - in Bible study, church linens, Lazarus Committee, and always welcoming new parishioners. She enjoyed cooking and took immense pride in her yard. They traveled often with friends and family; enjoying visiting their many children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Corinne is predeceased by her loving husband, Harry, with whom she shared 65 blessed years, her son, Glenn Edward Geraty and six Galvin siblings.

Additionally, she is survived by her children: Diane Carroll (James) of Columbus, OH; David Geraty (Patricia) of Eden Prairie, MN; Paul Geraty (Kelly) of Rehoboth Beach, DE; Mary Ellen McDaniel (Richard) of Virginia Beach; VA, Peggy Gugerty (Stephen) of Newark, DE; Maureen Petrino (Michael) of Bel Air, MD as well as, 22 Grandchildren and 19 Great Grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to visit on July 7, 2023 from 7-9 PM at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 22375 Three Notch Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated July 8, 2023 at 11:00 AM followed by interment at the church cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 22375 Three Notch Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653, attention St. Vincent DePaul or Lazarus Committee.

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home in Leonardtown, MD.

Thelma Hayden, 94



Thelma Theresa "Tookie" Hayden of Hollywood, Maryland, passed away on Monday, June 19, 2023, at the age of 94. She is survived by her four children,

Patricia Mattingly of Mechanicsville, Maryland, Deborah Mattingly (Dennis) of Leonardtown, Maryland, Diane Koslofsky (Les) of Hollywood, Maryland, Robin VanKirk (Joe) of Mechanicsville, Maryland and her sister Phyllis Joseph of Solomons, Maryland. She was blessed with six grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, and one great, great grandchild. She was predeceased in death by her loving husband Thomas (Teenie) Hayden, her father John Frank Wilkinson, her mother Mary Theresa (Russell) Wilkinson, her grandchild Scott Mattingly, and her siblings, Dot Barclift, John Wilkinson, and Frankie Sullivan.

She was born on August 27, 1928 in Washington, D.C. When she was 5 years old, her parents and oldest sister moved to St. Mary's County. She attended St. John's Catholic School graduating in 1942. She continued her education at St. Mary's Academy where she graduated in 1946. On May 30, 1951 she married Teenie Hayden. They were married for 56 years.

She played a huge part in the St. John's PTA while all four of her children attended the school. Religious education was very important to her. As the children grew older, she became a school bus (#38) driver for the public schools driving the bus for Mr. James Dean. As this career ended, she would become a Bank Teller at the First National Bank in Leonardtown, Maryland. She worked as a Bank Teller for 29 years and retired from the PNC Bank in 2001. During her work days, her social life centered around the Beck pool, a member of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, and attending family gatherings. Family was a high priority in her life. When she became a grandmother, her social life would include First Communion, Confirmations, Weddings, sporting events, school plays and the like. All throughout her life, she was a regular attendee at the 8:00 am daily mass and the 7:00 am Sunday mass at St. John's Catholic Church until five years ago where her illness became a problem.

The family received friends on Thursday, June 29, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

with prayers at 7:00 PM at the Mattingley Gardiner Funeral Home, in Leonardtown, Maryland. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 30, 2023 at 12 :00 PM with Father Ray Schmidt officiating at St. John's Catholic Church in Hollywood, Maryland. Interment followed in the church cemetery. Serving as pallbearers were William (Billy) Long, Jeffrey (Jeff) Koslofsky, Michael (Mike) Koslofsky, David Thompson, Florencio Torres, and Randy Chandler. Honorary Pallbearers were Chris Sullivan, Tommy Thompson, Randy Johnson, Jimmy Hayden, Hank Hayden, and Chuck Hayden.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the St. John's Catholic Church Revitalization Fund, or to the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, or to Meals on Wheels, St. Mary's County Department of Aging and Human Services, P.O. Box 653, Leonardtown, Maryland 20650.

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

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

Golda Blankenship, 85



Golda Jean (Jeannie) Blankenship, 85 of Hollywood, MD passed away on June 18, 2023, at her home with her loving family by her side.

She was born on November 3, 1937, in Logan, West Virginia to Walter Browning and Mildred (Akers) Neace.

Golda grew up in Logan WV. Golda (Jeannie) came to St. Mary's County in 1974 for a fishing trip and loved it so much she moved here. She worked as a cook for most of her life but decided she wanted a new career at age 70. She then worked as a bus attendant for St. Mary's County Public Schools until her retirement in 2018. She had a special bond with her chihuahua, Bella who was always by her side. In her free time, she enjoyed playing computer games, embroidering, cooking, and baking using her collection of cookbooks, and most of all caring for her great grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, Kenneth Blankenship of Callahan, FL, Melinda McDonald (Scott) of Amherstdale, WV, Betty Nickerson (Mike) of Leonardtown, MD, Ruby De La Cerda (Rolando) of Stockton, CA, and Terri Vause (Ronnie) of Hollywood, MD and son-in-law, Gary Knott of Leonardtown, MD; her siblings, Dorothy Justice Knotts of OH, Freda Smith of WV, and Ralph White of AZ, 19 grandchildren, 31 great grandchildren, 8 great-great grandchildren, and her dog Bella. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Hazel Knott, her sisters, Bonnie Fields and Lena Mae Canterbury, and her brother, Randy White.



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All services are private.

Any contributions can be made to Hospice of St. Marys, P.O. Box 625, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Brice Trossbach, 25



Brice Clayton Trossbach, 25, of California, MD passed away tragically in the line of duty on June 27, 2023.

He was born on October 4, 1997 in Leonardtown, MD to Warren Trossbach, Jr. and Diane Katherine Trossbach of Leonardtown, MD.

Brice was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County; proud of his heritage in the farming and first responder community. He attended Father Andrew White Catholic School and is a 2015 graduate of Leonardtown High School. Brice loved spending every minute with his fiancé Cheyenne and their St. Bernard Molly. He grew up on the family farm helping raise animals, participating in 4H, and participating annually in the St. Mary's County Fair. Growing up in the fire department alongside his father, brother and cousins, it was apparent that Brice was selfless and thrived to serve his community. At 16 years old he began his fire career as a probationary member and then worked his way to junior member, before becoming a full member at the age of 18 with Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department and later Bay District Volunteer Fire Department. In 2019, he began his career as a fire fighter with the Naval District Washington at Naval Air Station Patuxent River Fire Department. A career as a fireman was in his blood and was a life dream and a distinctive honor and privilege.

In addition to his love volunteering at the fire department on his off time, he also enjoyed fishing, cutting grass, socializing and vacationing with his family and friends. He very much enjoyed spending time with his nephew, Rhett.

In addition to his loving parents, Warren and Diane Trossbach; Brice is also survived by his brother, Jared Trossbach (Kaitlyn);

his nephew, Rhett Trossbach of Loveville, MD; beloved fiancé, Cheyenne Sederbaum of California, MD; brother, Sean Sederbaum of California, MD; and many extended family members and friends.

Family will receive friends for Brice's Life Celebration on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m., with Fireman's Prayers at 7:00 p.m., at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department; 24801 Three Notch Road, Hollywood, MD 20636. A Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hollywood Fire Department. Interment will be PRIVATE.

Serving as pallbearers will be Mikey Hillman, Drew Wallace, Steven Stauffer, James Driscoll, Tyler Brady, Sean Sederbaum, Ray Currie, Mark Joy, Stephen Norris and Kyle Woodburn. Honorary pallbearers will be Kyle VanRyswick and Rhett Trossbach.

The family requests memorial contributions in Brice's memory be made to the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 1440, California, MD 20619 and the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650 in lieu of flowers.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Diane Cook, 59



Diane Elizabeth (White) Cook, 59, of California, MD passed away July 1, 2023, at her home.

She was born on July 16, 1963 in Clinton, MD to Francis E. White of Crofton, MD and Joy E. Kroll White of Atlanta, GA.

Diane is a 1981 graduate of Surrattsville High School and attended Prince Georges Community College. On September 20, 1986 she married her beloved husband, David Harmon Cook at St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church in Hollywood, MD. Together they celebrated over 28 wonderful years of marriage before his passing in 2015. She was employed for many dedicated years as an Account Controller for Askey, Askey and Associates. Diane took great pride in her family and was a loving and devoted mother

and grandmother.

She previously served on the Board at St. Mary's Nursing Center as the Treasurer.

Family will receive friends for Diane's Life Celebration on Saturday, July 15, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; with a Memorial Service celebrated at 12:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A., 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Interment will be private.

In addition to her parents, Diane is also survived by her daughter, Brittany R. Brown (Spencer) of Annapolis, MD, her son, Connor N. Cook (Nicole) of Durham, NC; sister, Jackie White of Annapolis, MD; grandson, Brody Brown; and her extended family and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband, David, sister, Debbie Thorne and brother, James White.

Memorial contributions in Diane's names may be made to St. Mary's Hospice House and St. Mary's Nursing Center.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

Linda Maloney, 74



Linda Jean Maloney, "Breezy", 74, of Mechanicsville, MD, formerly of Weirton, WV, passed away on July 1, 2023 in Mechanicsville, MD. Born on June 28,

1949 in Steubenville, OH, she was the loving daughter of the late Doris Bertwell and the late William Bertwell. Linda is survived by her sons, Shane Maloney and Chad Maloney, both of Waldorf, MD, her siblings Bill Bertwell of Upper Marlboro, MD, Albert Bertwell of Clarksburg, WV, and Denny Bertwell of Chapin, SC, as well as two grandchildren, Teagan Maloney and Lochlan Maloney.

Linda graduated from Madonna High School in 1967; she then attended Fairmont State University, graduating in 1971. Linda moved to St. Mary's County, MD from Prince George's County, MD in 1975. She worked at Father Andrew White S.J. School as a teacher from 1986 to 1993, and then as a principal until her retirement in 2017.

The family will receive friends on Friday, July 7, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM with prayers recited at 7:00 PM in the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Leonardtown, MD. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, July 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM in St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Leonardtown, MD with Father David Beaubien officiating. Interment will be private. Serving as pallbearers will be Teagan Maloney, William Bertwell, Albert Bertwell, Dennis Bertwell, Shea Proctor, and Chastan Proctor.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in memory of Peyton Greer, in honor of Linda Maloney, can be made to the Clements Cuties Foundation, P.O. Box 992, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

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

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

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You touched so many lives with your kind and loving ways. You have left us with lasting memories that shine on all our days.

Love,
Mom, Yvonne, Shayna and Jeremiah

★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library



Virtual Author Talk with Mystery Author Dianne Freeman

Join the library for a Virtual Author Talk with mystery author, Dianne Freeman, on Wednesday, July 12 from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Dianne Freeman is the acclaimed author of the Countess of Harleigh Mystery series. She is an Agatha Award and Lefty Award winner, as well as a finalist for the prestigious Mary Higgins Clark Award from Mystery Writers of America. After thirty years of working in corporate accounting and finance, she now writes full-time. Register on www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom meeting the day before the event.

Taiko: The Art of Japanese Drumming with Mark Rooney: Summer Performer

An interactive performance of tradi-

tional & contemporary songs &, rhythms that explores the instruments, the voice in taiko, and a bit of history & Japanese vocabulary. Two sessions on Monday, July 10: Lexington Park Library from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and Leonardtown Library from 2 - 3 p.m. Some audience volunteers will get to try their hand at playing these BIG drums! Note for those with sensitive ears: Taiko drums are very, very loud. Most seating will be on the floor- feel free to bring a blanket! Space may be limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Summer Performing Arts events are supported in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council.

Board Game Club

Come to the Charlotte Hall Library on Tuesday, July 18 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. to play board games, including the game of the month. Use our provided games, or bring your own! Game of the month

provided by Third Eye Comics. Ensure all board games, pieces, etc. you bring in are brought home with you. Meetings are on the third Tuesday of every month. Participants under 16 allowed with adult supervision. July's game of the month is Sheriff Of Nottingham.

Magic Show with Thomas Lilly & Beowulf T. Wunderbunny

Laugh at the silly jokes and be amazed by the illusions at this magic show for kids of all ages, featuring Thomas Lilly and his magic rabbit, Beowulf. T. Wunderbunny. Two shows: 10:30 a.m. at Barns at New Market, Value-Added Building and 2 p.m. at Leonardtown Library. Most seating will be on the floor- feel free to bring a blanket! Space may be limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Summer Performing Arts events are supported in part by a grant from the St. Mary's County Arts Council. Address

of the Value-Added Building (the big barn) at the Barns at New Market farmers' market, 29133 Thompson Corner Rd, Charlotte Hall, MD 20659.

Introduction to 3D Printing

Have you ever wanted something 3D printed at the library, but weren't sure how? Now is your chance to learn! Leonardtown Library on Tuesday, July 18 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. This introductory course will cover the basics of how a 3D printer works and how to use PrusaSlicer software. Learn how to find ready-to-print files online and submit them to the Library for printing. No prior experience is needed. This is an in-person class held in the Computer Lab and Makerspace. Register on www.stmalib.org.

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St. Mary's Community Calendar

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

Fri, Jul 7

Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Concert

Leonardtown Square
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The 3-day weekend of the 23rd Annual Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival kicks off on Friday, July 7, 2023 during Leonardtown July First Friday, with a FREE concert on the Leonardtown Square from 6 PM—9 PM featuring the astounding Eric Byrd Trio (this concert is part of the Leonardtown Summer Music Festival)!

For more information about the Leonardtown Summer Music Festival visit: www.visitleonardtownmd.com/leonardtownmusicfest

For more information about the Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival visit: www.facebook.com/PotomacJazzandSeafoodFestival/

Sat, Jul 8

Pave the way for the 2nd Dist. VFD & RS

2nd Dist VFD & RS
19330 Piney Point Rd., Valley Lee
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

2nd Dist.FD & RS Fundraiser Group have open spots for sale to Pave the Way for the FH & RS—Buy bricks as a memorial of a loved one / thank you to our volunteers—past & present / note etc. Tax Donation Email for more information: brickfundraiser@sdvfdrs.org; Contacts to call for more info / how to buy brick: Dee Dee 240-561-2750 / Stephanie 301-481-9879;

To buy a brick/bricks:

1. Online Go to: www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/SDVFDRS2 go to 2nd Dist. FD&RS website address (www.sdvfdrs.org/index.cfm) and select click here to purchase a brick
2. Buy a brick from one of our Depts. Volunteers on MOST SATURDAYs from 8:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. by visiting Dyson's Building Center in Great Mills, MD 20634

Make checks payable to SDVFDRS Building Fund. and then Mail to: SDVFDRS, Attn Fundraising, P.O. Box 1, Valley Lee, MD 20692.

growingSTEMS—Combat Robotics Summer Camp

The Hive—A growingSTEMS Center
Commerce Avenue, Hollywood
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

growingSTEMS is happy to offer a Combat Robotics summer camp focused around Termite Class Combat Robots! Competitors in grades 3-7th are able to participate in this 2-day camp. Each camp will run on Saturday and Sunday, 10-3PM each day.

Camp sessions will be available for the following dates:

- July 8-9th
- July 29-30th
- August 5-6th

There will be 12 slots per camp and each camp will be limited to 3 of each robot design.

All competitors must pre-register for the event, walk-ins are not accepted. Registration and more information can be found on our website—www.growingstems.org/product/termite-class-combat-robot-summer-camp/

Tue, Jul 11

Virtual Vacation Bible School

First Missionary Baptist Church
July 11–13, 5:30 p.m to 7:00 p.m.

You are cordially invited to join us! First Missionary Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Roderick W. McClanahan, will host Virtual Vacation Bible School for

ages 4 to adults. The classes will be held virtually via Free Conference Call, the phone number is 617-691-8533 or virtual meeting ID: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/fmhc0>.

For additional information please contact First Missionary Baptist Church at 301-863-8388, and we are located at 46370 Pegg Lane, Lexington Park, MD 20653.

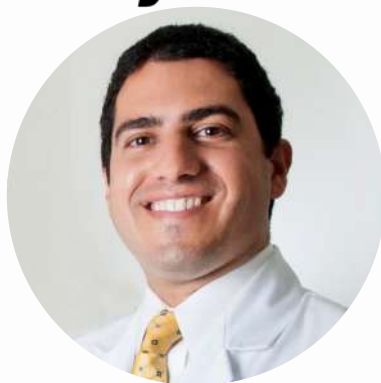
Upcoming

HVFD Annual Carnival

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department
Thu, Jul 13—Sun, Jul 16
Thu, Jul 20—Sun, Jul 23
7 p.m to 10 p.m nightly

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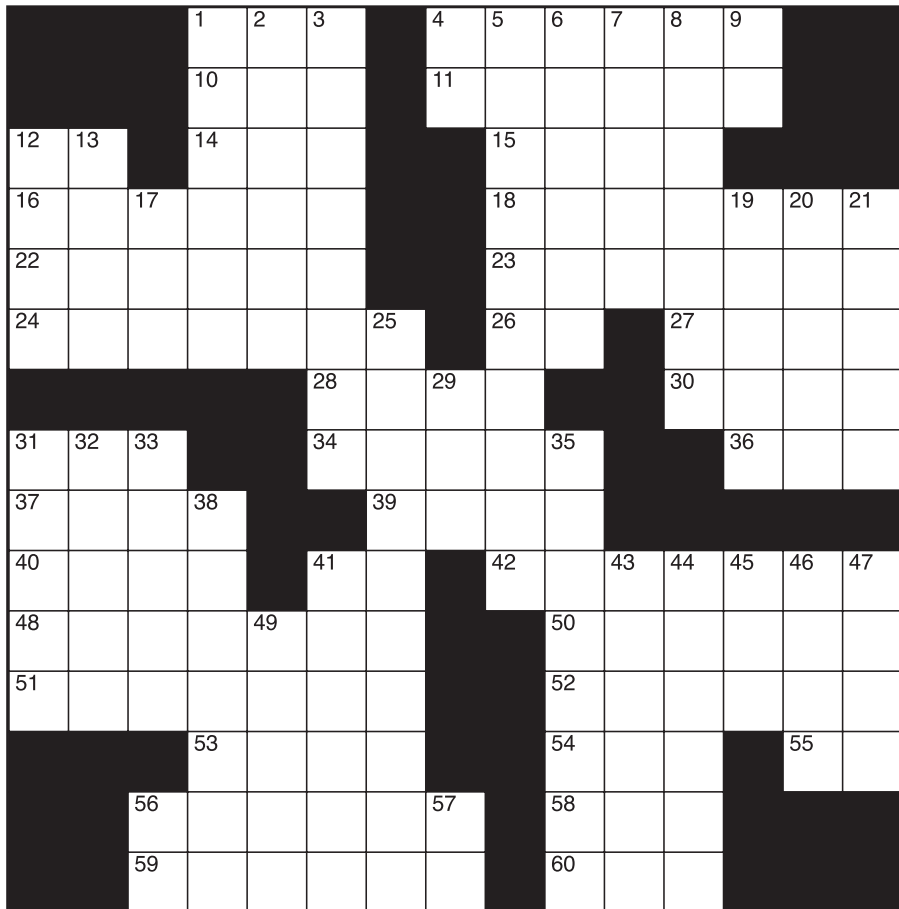
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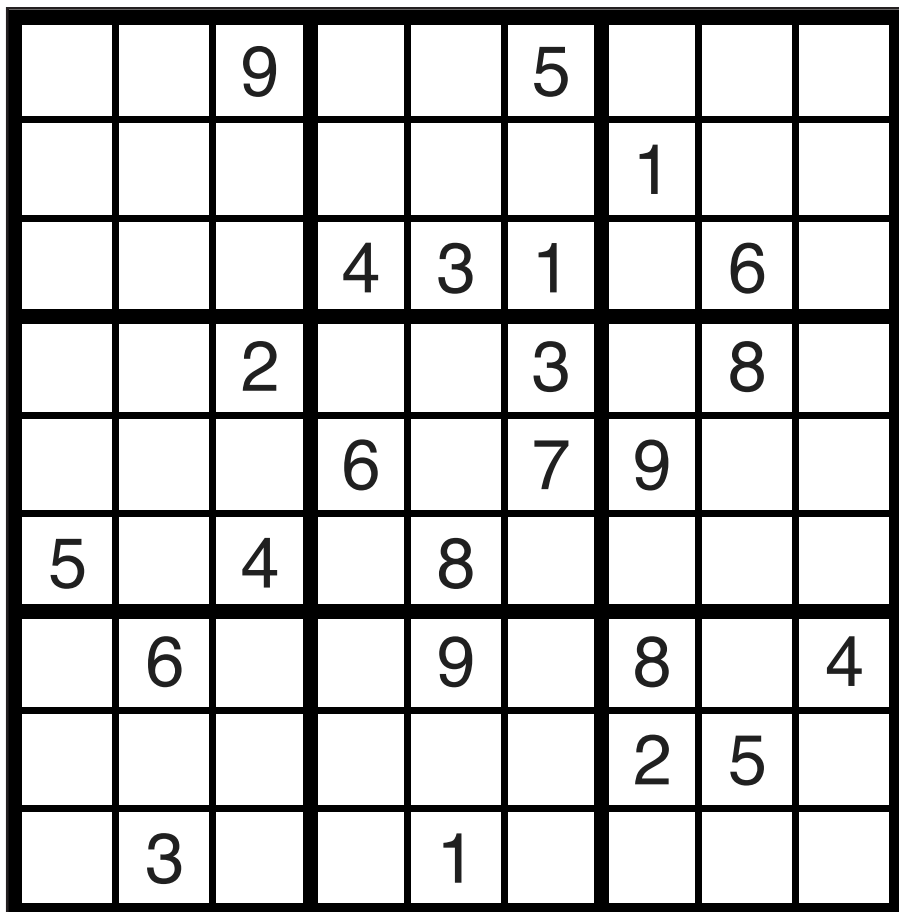


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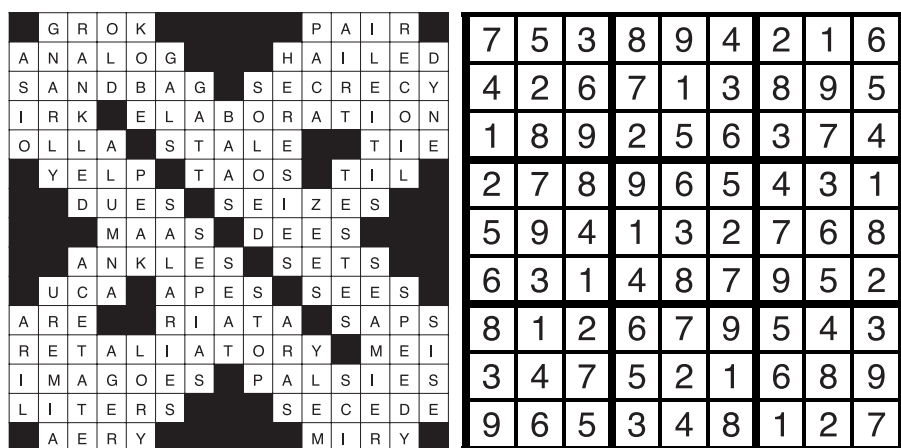
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- 12. Canadian province
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- 26. Publicity
- 27. Near
- 28. Tools of a trade
- 30. Offer in good faith
- 31. "American Idol" network
- 34. Garments
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 37. Retired NFL DC Dean
- 39. Hot meal
- 40. A type of gin
- 41. Percussion instrument
- 42. A \$10 bill
- 48. About ground
- 50. Medicine man
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. National capital of Albania
- 53. Appendage
- 54. OJ trial judge
- 55. By the way
- 56. Bicycle parts
- 58. Barbie's friend
- 59. In a way, stretched
- 60. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Make up for
- 2. American songbird
- 3. Pay
- 4. International organization
- 5. Engravers
- 6. Declared as fact
- 7. Criminal
- 8. Jewelry
- 9. Hospital worker (abbr.)
- 12. Nonsense (slang)
- 13. Town in Galilee
- 17. Value
- 19. Another name
- 20. Sheep in second year before shearing
- 21. Town in Surrey, England
- 25. Appropriate during a time of year
- 29. Creative output
- 31. Recesses
- 32. District in N. Germany
- 33. Rider of Rohan
- 35. The official emblem of the German Third Reich
- 38. One who puts down roots
- 41. Scribe
- 43. Painted a bright color
- 44. Tycoons
- 45. Actress Thurman
- 46. Walking accessory
- 47. Crest of a hill
- 49. Member of a North American people
- 56. Type of computer
- 57. U.S. State (abbr.)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



Calvert Community Calendar

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

Thu, Jul 6

Summer STEAM

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons

Twin Beaches Branch
3819 Harbor Road, Chesapeake Beach
2:30-3:30 p.m.

Combat the heat and join our interactive SummerSTEAM hour as we build a strong community through books, activities and a snack. For kids K-5th grade. 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Group Meditation

Solomon's Mission Center
14454 Solomons Island Rd S, Solomons
6:30-8 p.m.

We gather together to practice mindful movements and meditation, and to discuss practicing mindfulness in daily life. No registration, donations to The Solomons Mission Center gratefully accepted. Everyone is welcome. Our practice is universal and non-sectarian. Sponsored by Southern Maryland Meditation Community. someditationcommunity.org

Sat, Jul 8

Sharkfest!

Calvert Marine Museum
10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Celebrate all things shark, all day, at CMM! Live sharks will be featured in the Corbin Nature Pavilion for viewing. Learn fascinating 'sharktoids', examine evidence of prehistoric sharks, and take a picture in the life-size jaws of a Megalodon shark. Food and drinks

will be for sale on site. Strollers and carts are not allowed in the museum for SHARKFEST. We strongly recommend purchasing admission tickets in advance. Capacity is limited. Cost: Museum admission applies; CMM members are FREE. Complimentary museum passes will not be honored.

Mon, Jul 10

JobSource Mobile Career Center

Calvert Library Fairview Branch
Rt. 4 and Chaneyville Road, Owings
1-4 p.m.

Stop by for your job search needs! Get job counseling and resume help, search for jobs and connect with Southern Maryland JobSource. 410-257-2101. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tue, Jul 11

Exploring Google Docs: Technology Workshop

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 5-7:30 p.m.

Interactive workshop on getting comfortable using Google Chrome and Google Docs. Whatever your word processing needs, Google Docs can help! This two-session series will give you plenty of hands-on practice using Google Docs, a free alternative to Microsoft Word. You'll learn to use grammar and spellcheck, download your documents and more. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Summer STEAM

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
2:30-3:30 p.m.

Combat the heat and join our interactive SummerSTEAM hour as we build a strong community through books, activities and a snack. For kids K-5th grade. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Tarot Study Group Drop-In Program

Calvert Library Southern Branch
13920 H. G. Trueman Road, Solomons
6-7:30 p.m.

Come learn and practice tarot as a creative tool, for self-reflection, introspection, meditation, thoughtfulness, or as a fun hobby. Explore the ever-changing meaning and uses of the tarot as we seek new imagery and interpretations that speak to each of us, whoever we might be. For all experience levels (even if you've never tried tarot before) and degrees of belief or non-belief. 410-326-5289. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Wed, Jul 12

Job Seeker Resources

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
9 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Maryland Department of Labor, Veterans Program, Senior Community Service Employment, and Job Service representatives will be in person to meet with those seeking employment or career change. Walk ins welcome on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Resumes and Cover Letters

Calvert Library Prince Frederick
850 Costley Way
10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Offered by Maryland Department of Labor, American Job Center, this is an interactive workshop for resume and cover letter writing help. Looking for a new

job or career? Don't miss this free class. Registration recommended by the Monday before event. 410-535-0291 or 301-855-1862. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Thu, Jul 13

Eco Adventures: Summer Fun

Northeast Community Center
Chesapeake Beach
10-11 a.m.

All Together Now... for fascinating animals! Join Dr. Brady Barr—world-renowned scientist, National Geographic herpetologist and the only person to have captured all 24 species of crocodilians as he introduces some of his favorite animals and shares fascinating facts about them and their habitats. All ages. Presented by Calvert Library Twin Beaches Branch 410-257-2411. <https://CalvertLibrary.info>.

Upcoming

Waterside Performance Series: LEE BRICE

Calvert Marine Museum
Thursday, July 27
7 p.m.

CMA and ACM award winner **Lee Brice** will take the stage for CMM's third Waterside Music Series concert. Lee has taken nine radio singles to Number One: "A Woman Like You," "Hard to Love," "I Drive Your Truck," "I Don't Dance," "Drinking Class," "Rumor," "I Hope You're Happy Now," "One of Them Girls," and "Memory I Don't Mess With." Opening for Brice is multi-platinum selling artist **Elle King**. Her unique blend of rock, blues, and country has captivated audiences around the world. Gates open at 5 p.m. with food and beverages onsite. Cost of tickets are \$39 - \$89 (additional fees apply).

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The County Times is a weekly newspaper providing news and information for the residents of St. Mary's and Calvert County. The County Times will be available on newsstands every Thursday. The paper is published by Southern Maryland Publishing Company, which is responsible for the form, content, and policies of the newspaper. The County Times does not espouse any political belief or endorse any product or service in its news coverage.

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



County Times

P. O. Box 250 • Hollywood, MD 20636

CSM Professors Welcome Graduates Into Nursing Profession At Pinning Ceremony

The College of Southern Maryland's (CSM) 49 nursing graduates from the Spring 2023 commencement celebrated their achievements at the La Plata Campus with a time-honored pinning ceremony that allows CSM faculty to welcome their students as peers and colleagues in the field of nursing.

The graduating class chose a quote from Kobe Bryant as the theme for the event: "Great things come from hard work and perseverance. No excuses."

Linda Goodman, professor of nursing, served as the mistress of ceremonies and welcomed attendees to the celebration of students' courage and hard work.

"This event provides an opportunity for us, your faculty, to recognize you and welcome you as our peers and colleagues in nursing," she said. "Thank you to those in attendance for helping us to recognize the efforts of these individuals in this celebration of their accomplishments."

Before the students were called to the stage, Linda Hamel, associate professor of nursing, explained the significance of the pin each nurse would receive. She said that the modern pinning ceremony dates to the 1860s, when Florence Nightingale was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in recognition for her tireless service to the injured during the Crimean War. To share the honor, Nightingale in turn presented a medal of excellence to her brightest grad-

uates and by 1916, the practice of pinning new graduates was standard throughout the United States.

Students received their pins from faculty pinners Lauren Guy, Dawn Leukhardt, Rose Miller, Kathleen Parsons, Annette Ragland, and Deborah Rutledge. Dr. Eden Kan presented the candidates.

"I will forever be in your corner"

The featured speaker for the event was CSM alumna Jeanne Hill '01, associate professor of nursing. She spoke about her memories of her own nurse pinning ceremony at CSM 22 years ago.

She reflected on the theme for the year's event and encouraged the students to keep their focus on what is best for their patients.

"Your perseverance that brought you here is what will carry you through those hard times," she added. "I promise you that at the end of every single day, even the hard ones, there is going to be at least one patient that is grateful that you showed up to work that day."

"I have never been more proud to call a group of people my newest colleagues in this busy, demanding, exciting, often frightening, sometimes frustrating, but ultimately deeply rewarding profession," she continued. "Believe in yourselves and your ability to make a difference and create change. I will forever be in your corner, cheering you on."

"We have the power to change the world"

Graduating student Ella Videga, who also received the department's "Achievement in Nursing" award, was selected by her classmates to speak on behalf of the class.

She spoke of the bonds that developed between the nursing students, and the support that the faculty gave them as they overcame obstacles to achieve their goal.

"I realized that I wasn't simply a part of a nursing cohort, I was a part of family of beautiful men and women, committed to fulfilling their passion and desires to make a difference in nursing through their empathy, kindness, integrity, and overall people who I could truly count on," she said.

She encouraged her classmates to continue to learn and grow as they enter their new profession.

"Hold on to the passion, dedication, and resilience that brought you to this point," urged Videga, who is pictured right. "Remember that you are not just healthcare providers, but also advocates, educators, and innovators. As we embark on this next chapter of our careers, let us continue to strive for excellence, to uplift and support one another, and to make a positive impact on the lives of our patients and communities. We have the power to change the world, one patient at a time."

"Shine the light and beauty of this great profession"

Closing remarks were provided by Robin Young, professor of nursing, who echoed the



Graduating student Ella Videga addresses her classmates at the pinning ceremony

theme of perseverance.

"Trust there will be days as a nurse where you will face challenges but approach each one with a positive attitude and energy," she said. "Some outcomes may or may not yield favorable outcomes but knowing you gave it your best effort and perseverance will keep you going and fulfilled throughout your career ... Now, go out into the world and continue to shine the light and beauty of this great profession."

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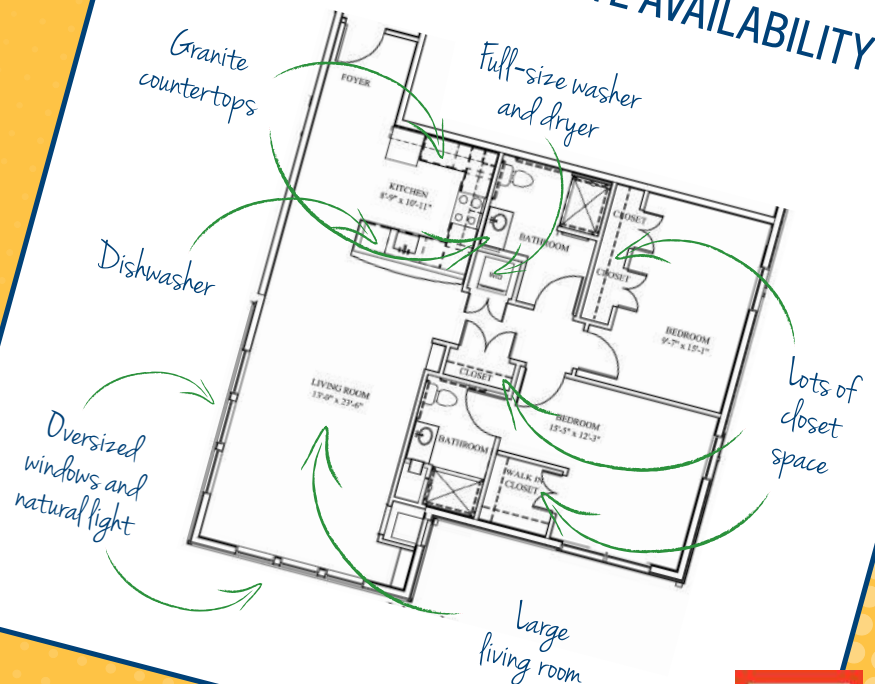
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Dunkirk Plan Draft Ready for Planning Commission Review



By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

While the Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning is deeply emersed in updating the county's zoning ordinance and Prince Frederick Town Center Master Plan, they are also moving ahead with the update of the Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan, which staff says is not nearly as complicated, with fewer changes from the current plan. The town center is almost entirely commercial.

Long-Range Planner Jenny Plummer-Welker told the planning commission at their June 21 meeting that the update is now ready for their review and will be discussed at their July 19 meeting and perhaps extended to a previously scheduled special meeting on July 26.

The planning commission work sessions follow three previous public sessions and a meeting of the liaison group set up to review the plan.

Plummer-Welker told the planners at their June meeting, "The planning commission endorsed a three-phased process to update the town center master plans: issue identification, plan development, and plan adoption. The Dunkirk Town Center update is currently in the second phase: Develop the Plan. The planning commission acknowledged three focus areas for the Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan Update: Land Use; Roads, Traffic and Public Walkways; and Economic Vitality. The planning commission, at its meeting on March 16, 2022, directed staff to further explore transportation concerns and develop possible solutions with the assis-

tance of a town center consultant. The planning commission directed staff to proceed with the second phase of the town center master plan update: Develop the Plan."

Plummer-Welker went on to say, "The Planning & Zoning Department staff has worked with staff in other departments and agencies to develop the Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan – Spring 2023 Draft. Planning & Zoning and Public Works staff further explored the transportation concerns and worked with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration staff in researching and analyzing traffic in the Dunkirk Town Center and vicinity."

Plummer-Welker noted, "County staff worked with the consultant, Sabra & Associates, a Mead & Hunt company, to prepare the Dunkirk and Prince Frederick Bikeways Feasibility Studies. This project was supported with county funds and a state grant from the MDOT's Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program."

She added, "The Long-Range Planning staff worked with staff from other county departments and the Calvert County Health Department to prepare the Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan – Spring 2023 Draft for the planning commission's review." A print copy of the draft was provided to the planning commission for their review for the next meeting.

For more information of the Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan update go to: Dunkirk Town Center Master Plan and Zoning Update | Calvert County, MD - Official Website (calvertcountymd.gov)

dickmyers@countytimes.net

CALVERT SHERIFF'S CRIME BLOTTER

During the week of June 19– June 25, 2023, Calvert County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 1,663 calls for service throughout the community.

Damaged Property: 23-45304

On June 25, 2023, Cpl. Callison responded to the 1900 block of Pardoe Road in Lusby, for the report of damaged property. Investigation revealed 3 reflective signs and approximately 20 feet of guard rail had been spray painted with green graffiti. The estimated value of damaged property is \$900.00.

Destruction of Property: 23-44556

On June 22, 2023, Deputy DeSantis responded to the 9000 block of Bay Ave in North Beach, for the report of property destruction. The complainant advised sometime between 9 p.m. on June 20th and 6 a.m. on June 22nd, three of the victim's tires were slashed. The estimated value of damaged property is \$721.66.

Motor Vehicle Theft: 23-44938

On June 23, 2023, DFC Rzepkowski responded to the 6500 block 4th Street in Chesapeake Beach, for report of a vehicle theft. The complainant advised sometime between 8 p.m. and 11:53 p.m. on June 23rd, the victim's vehicle was stolen from the front of the residence. The estimated value of stolen property is \$7,000.00.

Theft: 23-44367

On June 21, 2023, Cpl. Livingston received report of a theft. The complainant advised his wallet was left on the check-out counter of the Breezy Point Market and when the victim went back to retrieve it, the wallet and its contents (Driver's license, social security card, various credit cards, etc.) had been stolen. The estimated value of stolen property is \$100.00.

ARRESTS

On June 21, 2023, Deputy Zinn responded to CalvertHealth Medical Center located at



Brian Anthony Hill

100 Hospital Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of a disorderly subject. Investigation revealed **Brian Anthony Hill**, 42 of no fixed address, assaulted hospital staff after kicking a hole in the wall,

kicking down a hospital bed gate, and ripping down a curtain causing \$1,300.00 in damaged property. Hospital staff reported Hill to be aggressive and disorderly while kicking and spitting on deputies. Hill was placed into custody and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where he was charged with Second-Degree Assault, Disorderly Conduct, and Malicious Destruction of Property.



Shelley Marie Dodson

On June 24, 2023, Deputy Aley responded to the 7-Eleven located at 15 N. Solomons Island Road in Prince Frederick, for the report of a theft. Investigation revealed **Shelley Marie Dodson**,

51 of Lusby, went behind the counter and stole a pack of Newport cigarettes. The estimated value of stolen property was \$11.44. Dodson was arrested and transported to the Calvert County Detention Center where she was charged with Theft: Less than \$100.

Anyone with information about these incidents is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (410) 535-2800 and reference the case number provided. Citizens may remain anonymous thru the 'Submit a Tip' feature on the Calvert County Sheriff's Office mobile app. To download, visit <https://apps.myocv.com/share/a39520678>. Tipsters may also email ccsotips@calvertcountymd.gov

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New Book Details a Century-Old Calvert Murder Mystery

By Dick Myers
Staff Writer

It's a whodunit. But it's also a snapshot in time of long ago in Calvert County. A new book just published tells of an unsolved murder of a waterman in Solomons in 1900. But it the telling of the story of the "Waterman's Widow" by county resident Carol McCabe Booker, the reader is propelled back to what it was like in the county almost 125 years ago.

Waterman Capt. Littleton T. Condiff was killed while he was lying in bed at his home in Solomons on Sept. 13, 1900, in a house on Main Street that is now a gift shop. His wife Bessie was reported at the time to be asleep by his side. An intruder was said to be the culprit, but she would quickly be charged with his murder after her husband died the next day. The weapon was found outside the house. It had been purchased by their 17-year-old son, who claimed it had not worked and been discarded by him.

Keep in mind this was before CSI, fingerprints and DNA.

The book details the long judicial process that ultimately led to a trial in Baltimore that gripped the whole state and was reported on by newspapers in New York. The outcome of the trial leaves many unanswered questions and why this uncommon crime in a sleepy watermen's village can be considered

unsolved to this very day.

Booker, while doing research on a book about the Cove Point Beach community in southern Calvert, found a detailed story about the crime in the Baltimore Sun and she was intrigued enough to do more research and to write the book that has just been published by New Bay Books of Fairhaven, the same publisher of her other book on Cove Point.

Booker will be doing a presentation about the book and the incident that prompted it on July 15 at 11 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Prince Frederick. The event is sponsored by the Calvert County Historical Society. Copies of the book will be on sale, with proceeds going to the historical society.

Booker said, "I just came upon a clipping, when I was researching my earlier book on the history of Cove Point in Calvert County. And this Baltimore Sun clipping showed up because of the murder that was in Calvert County. And thought it was very interesting, but it was not relevant to the history of Cove Point. So I put it aside with the idea that I'd go back and look at it again, and I never forgot about it. And when I did get finished with the Cove Point book, I went back and started looking for more clippings. And the Baltimore Sun had done a terrific job of reporting on this. Very meticulous!"

She was able to research the Baltimore Sun articles through several online newspa-

per repositories. "The Library of Congress has Baltimore Sun and other major newspapers," she explained.

She also research Calvert newspapers, which also gave her a feel for what the community was like at the turn of the 20th century. One of the facts she found was that the oyster industry was in a sad state, not unlike in the present-day Chesapeake Bay.

There was hope, she said, that the oysters would return because they had been overfished. Planting of oyster beds was seen as the future.

She said, "Fishermen from New England had even come down here to take oysters back up to New England to reseed their oyster beds. And that was all part of the oyster wars as the population diminished. But then there was an effort to bring it back, and new restrictions and the oyster population rebounded."

She noted, "We had in the 1800s twice as many oysters as all foreign countries put together."

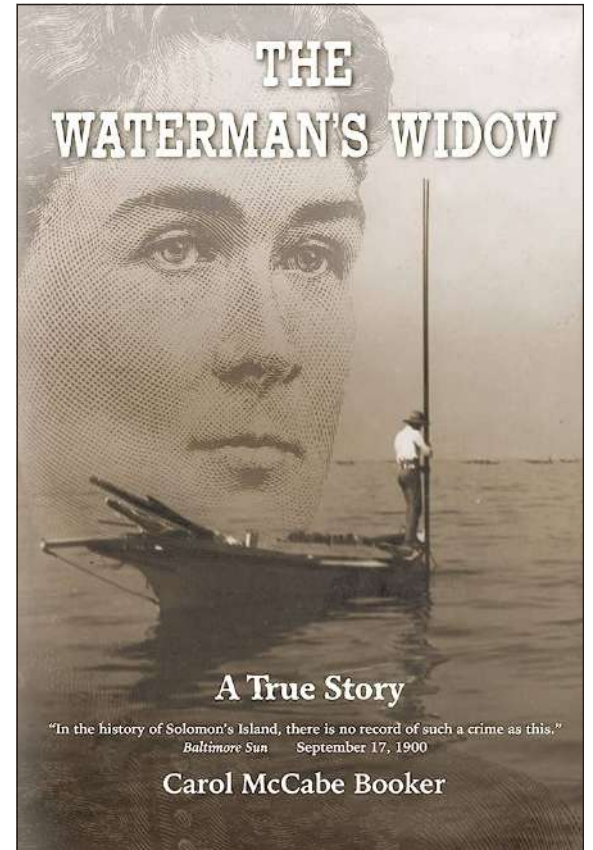
Police believed Bessie Condiff's motive was to collect life insurance monies and her fear of her husband's ability to make a living on the water, the only work he knew. They had mortgaged their home to survive the lean oyster years and were severely behind on payments.

She said, "He, his heart was clearly in oystering, others were leaving it. I looked up in state records the oystering licenses that had been issued, and I have a figure in the book, that the number of licenses issued, close to the time of his death diminished by about a third, they were giving up."

The book also details the deplorable conditions at the county jail in Prince Frederick that Bessie found herself in. Those conditions would persist well into the middle of the century.

Booker said, "The powers that be in the county considered the poor quality of the jail to be a deterrent to crime. And one official even advised that you tell your kids in school, tell anybody you can talk to how bad it is, and that'll dissuade them from following any kind of path of crime. But it also meant that if we believe that you're innocent until proven guilty, that innocent people were put in the jail under terrible conditions. And because you couldn't be guaranteed a swift trial in those days because the court met only at scheduled times, you could languish in that jail until it was time for the grand jury to call be called.

"In the case of the widow Bessie Condiff, she was arrested in mid-September, and the grand jury did not meet until November. They didn't keep her in the jail though, because it also was not only their conditions in that two cell jail were so bad, but it was so easily broken into as had been proven 15 years earlier when a young man



was dragged from the jail and lynched after only a few days there." So she was moved to the Baltimore jail, where her trial was eventually held.

Booker would rather not say her opinion on whodunit. "I'd like every reader to be a member of the jury. And now they have the advantage of hindsight looking back on it and putting the details together. They also, though, have the disadvantage of not having been in the courtroom and seeing the individuals and gauge their behavior. And so it's an interesting thing."

She said she's getting differing opinions about who actually killed the captain – his wife, his son, it was a suicide, or an intruder.

Perhaps the court of public opinion could be polled online to see who the favorite perpetrator is?

This is the first time Booker has ever written true crime. Her interest is in history and this is very much a history book. She said, "I enjoy the historical part just more than anything. And in neighboring St. Mary's County too. And, got into Charles County a little bit. You know, it's not that long ago that these things happened. We're talking about just that whole generation."

In her research, Booker built up some sympathy for the "Waterman's Widow." She said, "Even her own neighbors condemned her before trial, but they never said she was stupid, and they never said she was crazy. And one thing she might have been, was very devoted to her family. That's all I'm going to say about that."

Spoiler Alert: The Baltimore jury found the widow "Not Guilty." She never returned to Solomons.

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“APPROACH EACH DAY WITH A POSITIVE ATTITUDE”

CSM PROFESSOR OF NURSING ROBIN YOUNG TO GRADUATING STUDENTS



LOCAL 4
Dunkirk plan draft ready for review



COMMUNITY 6
ON THE COVER
Solomons prepares to celebrate Independence Day



COMMUNITY 6
CSM Celebrates nursing graduates

WEEKLY FORECAST

THU, JUL 6 Partly Cloudy Hi: 85° Lo: 70°	FRI, JUL 7 AM Clouds/PM Sun Hi: 87° Lo: 71°	SAT, JUL 8 Mostly Cloudy Hi: 86° Lo: 72°	SUN, JUL 9 Scattered Storms Hi: 81° Lo: 67°
MON, JUL 10 Partly Cloudy Hi: 83° Lo: 67°	TUE, JUL 11 Mostly Sunny Hi: 87° Lo: 69°	WED, JUL 12 Mostly Sunny Hi: 89° Lo: 71°	THU, JUL 13 Mostly Sunny Hi: 88° Lo: 70°

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