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St. Mary's St. Mary's County Times

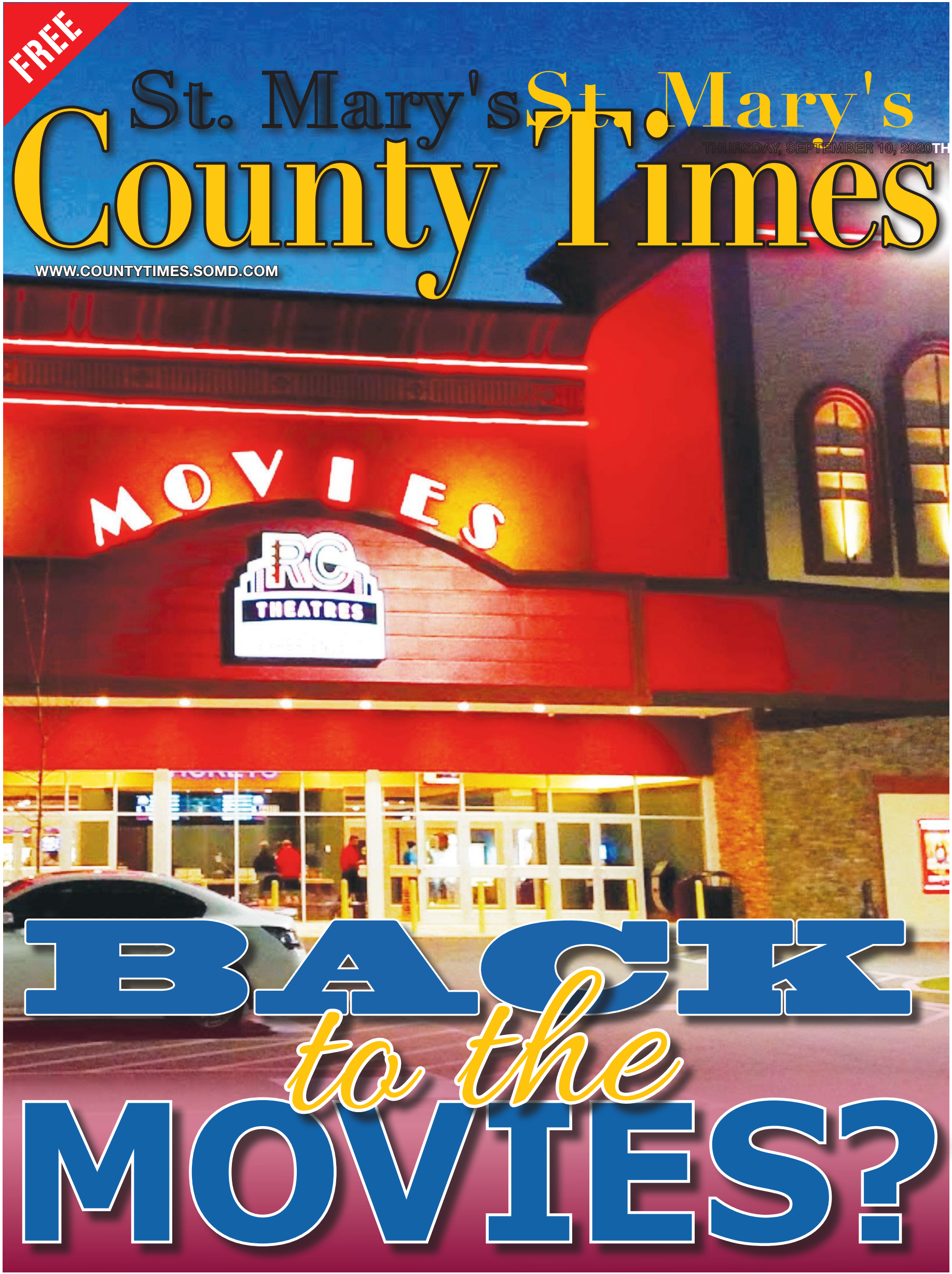
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

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MOVIES



BACK
to the
MOVIES?



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County residents slowly return to the cinema



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Two, uncle and nephew, drown at Greenwell State Park on Labor Day



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One Maryland, One Book program celebrated

“I’M ALSO NOT REALLY IN FAVOR OF IT.”

GOV. LARRY HOGAN ON THE IDEA OF SELLING A MARYLAND STATE POLICE HELICOPTER AND ELIMINATING ONE BASE.

WEEKLY FORECAST

<p>Thu 9/10 81° 70°F</p> <p>Thunderstorms</p>	<p>Fri 9/11 78° 67°F</p> <p>Mostly Cloudy</p>	<p>Sat 9/12 77° 68°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Sun 9/13 82° 69°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>
<p>Mon 9/14 80° 65°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Tue 9/15 77° 65°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Wed 9/16 77° 66°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>	<p>Thu 9/17 79° 66°F</p> <p>Partly Cloudy</p>

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COVID-19

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St. Mary's

1142

55

Information provided by St. Mary's Health Department

Cuts To State Police Medevac Unit May Be Nixed



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

At the Board of Public Works meeting Sept. 2 all three members, Gov. Larry Hogan, Comptroller Peter Franchot and Treasurer Nancy Kopp signaled their opposition to selling one of seven Maryland State Police medevac helicopters and closing its base.

One of the medevac helicopters is Trooper 7 located at the St. Mary's County Regional Airport in California.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic broke out in Maryland the state has been hit with revenue losses that could tally up to hundreds of millions of dollars it needs to cut from state budgets to balance them.

In July the three members of the board were able to agree to some cuts that could be done away with but at the latest meeting last week the members said they had not been aware that the \$1.3 million in cuts to the state police aviation command were still up for debate.

Hogan said he also had not been aware of it and that the proposal had come from the state police.

"Our fiscal situation has changed a lot since then, I didn't hear anything about this," Hogan said. "I'm also not really in favor of it."

The state police are currently conducting a study on whether the sale of a helicopter and base were feasible; the board members said they did not want to make a decision on the proposed cut until having a change to look at the study.

Franchot said he had wanted to reverse the cut but was told by legal counsel that it could not be done; he stated he wanted to get an opinion from the Attorney General's office to make sure that was so.

The first opinion was based on a 30-year old letter he had seen written by then-Attorney General Joseph Curran, who, Franchot stated, said that the cut had been bureaucratically codified.

"I happen to oppose it," Franchot said of the proposal to cut the \$1.3 million. "I hadn't heard anything about this and assume it had been vetted."

Hogan warned, though, that the board would still have to face potentially millions of dollars in cuts to state spending plans.

The item on their agenda that triggered the discussion, though, was approval of a continuation of the lease agreement for Trooper 7's hangar between the state and county government, which the Board of Public Works approved.

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Visit [www.open.maryland.gov /back to business](http://www.open.maryland.gov/back-to-business)
for more detailed information

7th District Store May Be Closing Its Doors



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

After decades in business at Bushwood Wharf, Quade's store and seafood restaurant has announced it is closing for the foreseeable future.

An announcement regarding the family-owned restaurant made its way onto social media over the Labor Day weekend

"This is an extremely difficult post. Due to Covid restrictions and the state of affairs, we have decided it is not realistic to remain open for the foreseeable future. We will have regular hours Labor Day weekend and will be closed thereafter. We are regrouping and brainstorming how to make the Quade legacy continue to operate and serve our community. We welcome your input in a constructive manner. It is devastating to our family and staff and we hope you will be considerate in your comments."

The family still plans to honor its commitments for an upcoming community event.

"We will be open Saturday, September 19th for the 7th District Rescue Squad Boat Scavenger Hunt," the family's social media post stated. "This event was scheduled and is an annual event and we wanted to honor our commitment."

"We sincerely and deeply appreciate everyone's support and we will miss you and look forward to providing even better service in the future."

The community response was quick and sympathetic to the family's plight.

"So sorry to hear this," wrote Lee Bowles. "Quade's has been a staple of this community for so long."

"Hope you can restructure and open again in the future."

Calls to the store had only a message telling potential customers that the store would be open on a limited basis to serve food during a certain time of day from late afternoon until the evening most days.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

State Board Approves "Dove" Funding

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

As the replacement for the Maryland Dove is under construction at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in Talbot County, the state's Board of Public Works has cleared \$5 million in funding for the project.

The item on their Sept. 2 agenda passed with no discussion, save for State Treasurer Nancy Kopp praising the project.

The project aims to build a sleeker, more accurate version of the Dove than the one currently sitting at anchor at St. Mary's City.

For some time now, going back more than 10 years, repair crews have had to deal with rot in the stem and stern posts of the vessel and have found cracks in the keel.

The current ship has undergone several refits, with old wood being replaced but problems persist.

The current Dove is 42 tons, but the new replica will be somewhat lighter and have only two masts.

The current Dove has three.

The Ark, which carried the colonists to St. Clements Island and then to the mainland was 400 tons, a vastly larger ship.

The Dove was to be used as a utility vessel for the colonists to explore inland waterways and make short trips.

The new ship will be both more historically accurate but compliant with Coast Guard safety rules, it will also have diesel engines to allow it to run without wind.

This will make the ship much more available for educational tours to different parts of the state and able to take on passengers for fund raising.

The old vessel should still be seaworthy enough to last another two-to-three years according to its operators at St. Mary's City.

Construction on the new vessel began last June, said Doug Hunter, finance director at the Historic St. Mary's City Commission, and was ahead of schedule before being shut-down in March due to COVID-19.

Construction began once again starting in mid-July to early August, Hunter told The County Times.

"The contract was already negotiated," Hunter said of the \$5 million approved last week. "We just needed the authorization to spend the money."

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Details and weekly winners will be available at www.cedar-lane.org.



NRP: Double Drowning Could Be Accidental



By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Two male victims drowned Sept. 7 at Greenwell State Park, Maryland Natural Resources Police (NRP) said, while trying to fish in local waters.

An adult and juvenile, who were family members, walked in the Patuxent River to fish near Greenwell's kayak launch, NRP officers reported, and it is believed that they may have dropped off of an offshore ledge in that area and drowned.

The responding NRP officers performed CPR on the scene, but it was not successful. The victims were identified as Heber Calixto Garcia Medrano, 37 and Juan Carlos Cesar

Medrano, 15 both from Montgomery Village. They were uncle and nephew.

Volunteers with the Hollywood fire company reported that it was difficult to reach the drowning victims due to the terrain.

"Because of the location of the incident, members had to access the scene via a small walking path and down a steep hill that was approximately 400 feet from the nearest vehicle," the fire company reported.

First responders attempted live saving procedures on both victims but were pronounced dead at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital after being brought there for treatment.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

Dollar General Plans Approved for Lexington Park



The St. Mary's County Planning Commission approved a concept site plan for another Dollar General Store in Lexington Park at their Aug. 31 meeting, this time to be located near the intersection of Hermanville and Three Notch roads.

The store would be 9,100 square feet in size and situated on 1.7 acres inside the Lexington Park Development District.

-Guy Leonard

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Local Leaders Discuss COVID-19 Employment Crisis

Southern Maryland industry leaders say a workforce trained in the essential skills of communication, customer service and office technology will be critical to their operational success in the post-COVID-19 environment. This was the common theme expressed by regional business owners during four virtual town halls sponsored this summer by the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) and the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) as part of its partnership aimed at Getting Southern Maryland Back to Work. The initiative is a joint effort to create a transparent, accessible and coordinated pathway to skills upgrade training and re-employment for individuals who are unemployed or underemployed as a result of the pandemic.

Town Halls meetings were held for leaders from healthcare, retail/hospitality, construction and professional services industries – all considered essential trades during the pandemic and all largely reshaped by COVID-19.

“Obviously each industry provided some salient needs that were specific to them, but the overarching theme crossed all four groups,” said CSM Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Ellen Flowers-Fields. “We found their individual needs to be simplistic and straight-forward and highly important. It was clear to all of us that there has never been a more de-

finite time for CSM and the workforce development community to step up and play a significant role to help these businesses and their employees recover.”

Specific Industry Findings

During the Healthcare Industry Town Hall meeting, leaders said they were in crisis when it came to keeping their most vulnerable employees working.

“We also heard that the physician and nursing shortage continues to impact the industry,” shared Tri-County Council Director of Regional Workforce and Business Development Ruthy Davis. “The pandemic has rightfully caused employee burnout and led to unexpected staff re-deployments.”

While in the Construction Industry Town Hall, attendees acknowledged an ongoing need for strategies and support in recruiting and retaining entry level laborers.

“The trades were struggling with getting trained laborers in their companies before the pandemic hit,” said Flowers-Fields. “We plan to work together as a region to build a stronger pipeline for these workers and this critical work.”

Enhanced cleaning measures and sanitation were the top concerns discussed during the Retail and Hospitality Town Hall. To address this need, CSM immediately established several online on-demand virtual trainings for those employees, according to Flowers-Fields.

“Interestingly, we heard that hospital-ity and retail employees have had to take on new roles as cleaning and sanitation enforcers and inspectors,” said Davis. “That was not a skill requirement listed on their job application when many of them were applied. Now this workforce has had to also shift to master de-escalation and conflict resolution skills.”

Equally changed and perhaps crossing all industries was the pandemic’s impact on the IT and professional services industry.

“Basically, everyone started working from home in March,” said Flowers-Fields. “If your company wasn’t already technologically ready to make that shift, there was no time to prepare. You either fit into one category or the other: Companies that provide IT and professional services or companies that needed IT and professional services – and both categories got hit hard.”

During the IT and Professional Services Town Hall, employers shared concerns regarding worker productivity in the remote environment and the need for leadership training that included managing remote teams. There were also requests for increased digital marketing and social media training opportunities, as well as training on cybersecurity basics to keep privileged information safe.

“Companies are grappling with how to maintain their corporate culture while supporting teamwork and collaboration in the virtual workplace,” said Davis. “Not lost on any of us is the huge emotional impact that this pandemic is having on people and their ability to focus on work.”

“Overall, I can’t say that I was surprised by the feedback and results of our town halls,” said Flowers-Fields, “But perhaps enlightened by the resiliency of these businesses and how they have evolved to continue to provide services. We will continue to put together resources that will ready new hires with certifications that affirm their ability to think critically, analyze data, work independently and communicate effectively. Our shared work is ahead of us as we seek to address these critical workforce issues.”

A Threefold Approach

The key objectives of this initiative are separated into three goals: Investing

in emerging skills needs; responding to business needs; and reshaping workforce development needs for the region’s future.

The immediate and long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will affect the knowledge and skills of workers across industries. According to Flowers-Fields, existing industry training at CSM has already been enhanced to include learning modules on COVID-19 awareness, safe worker and safe workplace protocols. In addition, new certificate programs are being developed for Infectious Control and Barrier Protection, Community Health Liaison, Contract Tracing Proficiency, Medical Assisting, Communication and Customer Service skills and others in direct response to the pandemic.

The TCCSMD has invested in SkillUP, an online platform designed to help the Southern Maryland region build a workforce ecosystem that supports positive economic development. The platform will be available to all Southern Maryland citizens explore career pathways, assess career interests and aptitudes and develop basic skills. SkillUP is a bridge program that helps prepare individuals for employment or secondary education, and is the on-ramp to workforce development response.

For eligible job seekers, the Federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act will be leveraged. The act funds employment and training activities that ensure the region produces a skilled workforce to meet the needs of businesses and strengthen the local economy.

“Strategically, we are poised to deliver this response,” added Davis.

For more information about the Getting Southern Maryland Back to Work Initiative, or to hear/view the Town Halls, visit online at <https://tccsmd.org/bactowork/>.

For more information about the College of Southern Maryland’s workforce training programs visit <https://www.csmd.edu/programs-courses/non-credit/career-development/>

For more information about the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland’s Workforce Division visit <https://tccsmd.org/workforce-development/>.

Press Release from CSM.

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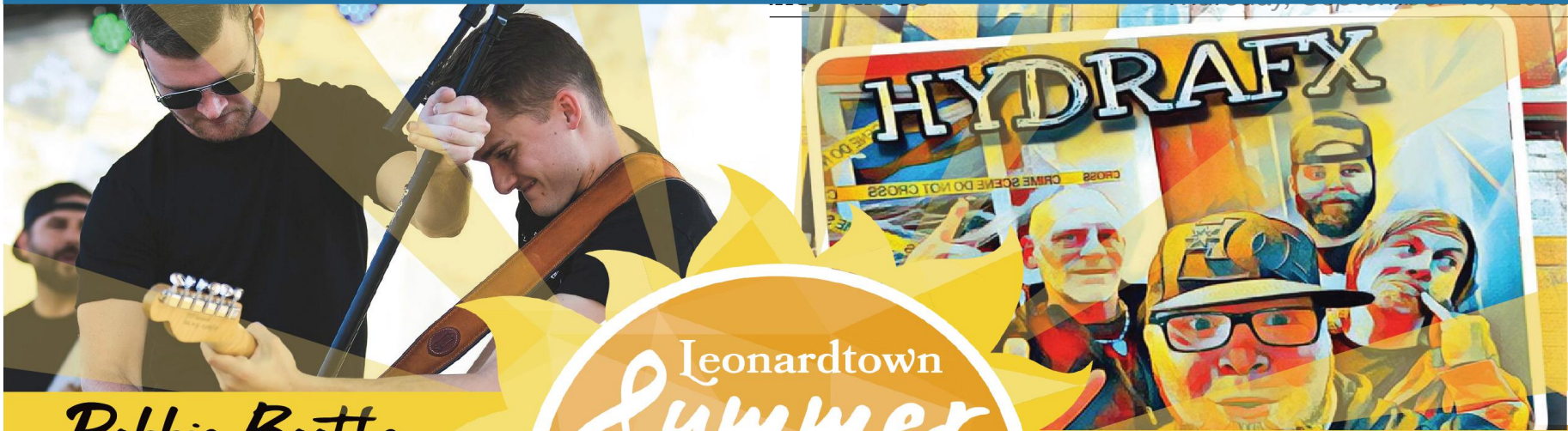


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ST. MARY'S SHERIFF'S OFFICE CRIME REPORT

On View Arrests:

Assault/Resisting Arrest- On August 13, 2020, Dep. Luffey responded to the 23100 block of Three Notch Road on California, for the reported disturbance. In the presence of deputies on scene, **Ashley Marie Moore**, age 36 of Hollywood, struck the victim in the face. Moore provided a false name to deputies on the scene and refused to be seated in the patrol vehicle, and continually kicked the inside of the patrol vehicle. Moore was charged with Assault 2nd Degree, Resisting Arrest, and False Statement to Peace Officer.



Ashley Moore

Assault- On August 13, 2020, Dep. Forinash responded to the 22000 block of St. Inigoes Court in Great Mills, for the reported assault. Investigation determined **Mikaela Janelle Muzzy**, age 26 of Great Mills, assaulted the victim during an argument by forcibly trying to remove keys from the victim's hand. Visible injury was observed to the victim and Muzzy was arrested and



Mikaela Muzzy

charged with Assault 2nd Degree.

Assault- On August 18, 2020, Cpl. T. Snyder responded to the 21600 block of Great Mills Road in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Upon arrival he observed Shuree Sinese Weems, age 39 of no fixed address, spit at/on the victim numerous times. Weems was then observed with a knife in her hand, advancing towards the victim. Weems was ordered to drop the knife, and she complied. Weems was arrested and charged with Assault 1st and 2nd Degree.

Firearm Possession- On August 24, 2020, information was developed a convicted felon was in possession of a handgun. As a result a search warrant was executed at a residence in the 21800 block of Ronald Drive in Lexington Park. A handgun and ammunition were located in the residence. **David Eric Strain**, age 33 of Lexington Park, is prohibited from possessing a firearm due to previous criminal convictions. Strain was arrested and charged with Firearm-Possession with Felony Convictions, Regulated Firearm-Illegal Possession, and Illegal Possession of Ammunition.



David Strain

Legal Notice

IN THE MATTER OF MICHAEL THOMAS CREWE-KLAUSER FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO MICHAEL THOMAS CREWE

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-20-453
Notice (Adult) (DOM REL 61)

The above petitioner, has filed a Petition for Change of Name in which she seeks to change her name from MICHAEL THOMAS CREWE-KLAUSER, to MICHAEL THOMAS CREWE.

The Petitioner is seeking a name change because "I want to remove the hyphenated part of my last name to use the name I typically use."

Any person may file an objection to the Petition for Change of Name on or before the 10/09/2020.

The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served on the Petitioner (Md. Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the Court may issue a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

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Health Department Expands COVID-19 Testing Hours at Leonardtown Site

Beginning Monday, September 14, 2020, the St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) will expand appointment-free COVID-19 testing hours to Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the SMCHD Main Office in Leonardtown. Testing will continue to be offered daily at the SMCHD Harm Reduction Program Office in Lexington Park.

Leonardtown Office: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- 21580 Peabody Street, Leonardtown
- For assistance or accommodations, call ahead to (301) 475-4330

Lexington Park Office: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- 46035 Signature Lane, Lexington Park (co-located with U-Haul Moving & Storage)

• For assistance or accommodations, call ahead to (301) 862-1680

SMCHD COVID-19 Testing:

- Walk up for testing, parking is available
- Appointment-free

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- Bring health insurance information and identification, if possible – Uninsured community members are welcome

Visit www.smchd.org/covid-19-testing for more information.

Who should get tested?

- Anyone showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19
 - Close contacts (even if they do not have symptoms) of persons who have COVID-19
 - Those attending events where social distancing is not maintained
 - Anyone returning from out-of-state travel, particularly from areas with rising case rates
 - Community members without symptoms (asymptomatic) may also get tested
- Please visit the SMCHD website for local COVID-19 updates, data, and information at www.smchd.org/coronavirus.

Volunteers Sought for Boards, Commissions and Committees

The Commissioners of St. Mary's Board of County is calling all citizens interested in volunteering their time to the community by serving on various Boards, Commissions and Committees. Detailed descriptions of the various boards and membership applications are available on the County's website at <https://www.stmarysm.com/boards/>. All applications must include a resume and be submitted no later than Nov. 13, 2020.

Vacancies:

- Adult Public Guardianship Review Board
- Agriculture, Seafood & Forestry Commission
- Airport Advisory Committee
- Animal Control Advisory Board
- Board of Trustees, Museum Division
- Commission on Aging
- Commission on People with Disabilities
- Commission on the Environment
- Housing Authority Board of St. Mary's County
- Library Board of Trustees (Applications must be received by 10/23/20)
- Social Service Board
- Transportation Advisory Committee
- Tri-County Animal Shelter

Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board

The following vacancies have special requirements:

Board of Appeals – Must have some planning experience

Building Code Board of Appeals – Must have surveying experience

Economic Development Commission – Education/Small Business Owner

Electrical Examiners Board – Licensed Electrician

Historic Preservation Commission – Discipline of architecture, architectural history, history or archaeology.

Metropolitan Commission – Must live in the 4th & 5th, 6th and 8th Districts (3 vacancies)

Planning Commission – Must have some planning experience

Plumbing Fuel Gas Board – Must be a Licensed Plumber

Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board – applications must be completed on the Governor's Appointments Office website at: <https://govappointments.maryland.gov/>

Interested citizens can download an application from the county's website or call Diane Gleissner at (301) 475-4200 ext. 1707 for more information.

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St Mary's Bay Bridge Crossing Eliminated

Ferry Service Still to be Studied

By Dick Myers
Editor

The prospect of a Chesapeake Bay bridge crossing in Southern Maryland has been laid to rest by the Maryland Transportation Authority. Four crossings in Calvert County, one in St. Mary's and one in Deale in Anne Arundel County have been taken off the list of options as well as several in northeast Maryland.

Left on the table are the three options closest to the existing William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge, including one that would parallel it. That conclusion drew criticism from Anne Arundel County officials, including County Executive Stuart Pittman, who called the options north and south of the bridge "disastrous." Concern also was expressed about a new bridge parallel to the existing one because of added traffic onto already congested Route 50 and impact on Sandy Point State Park.

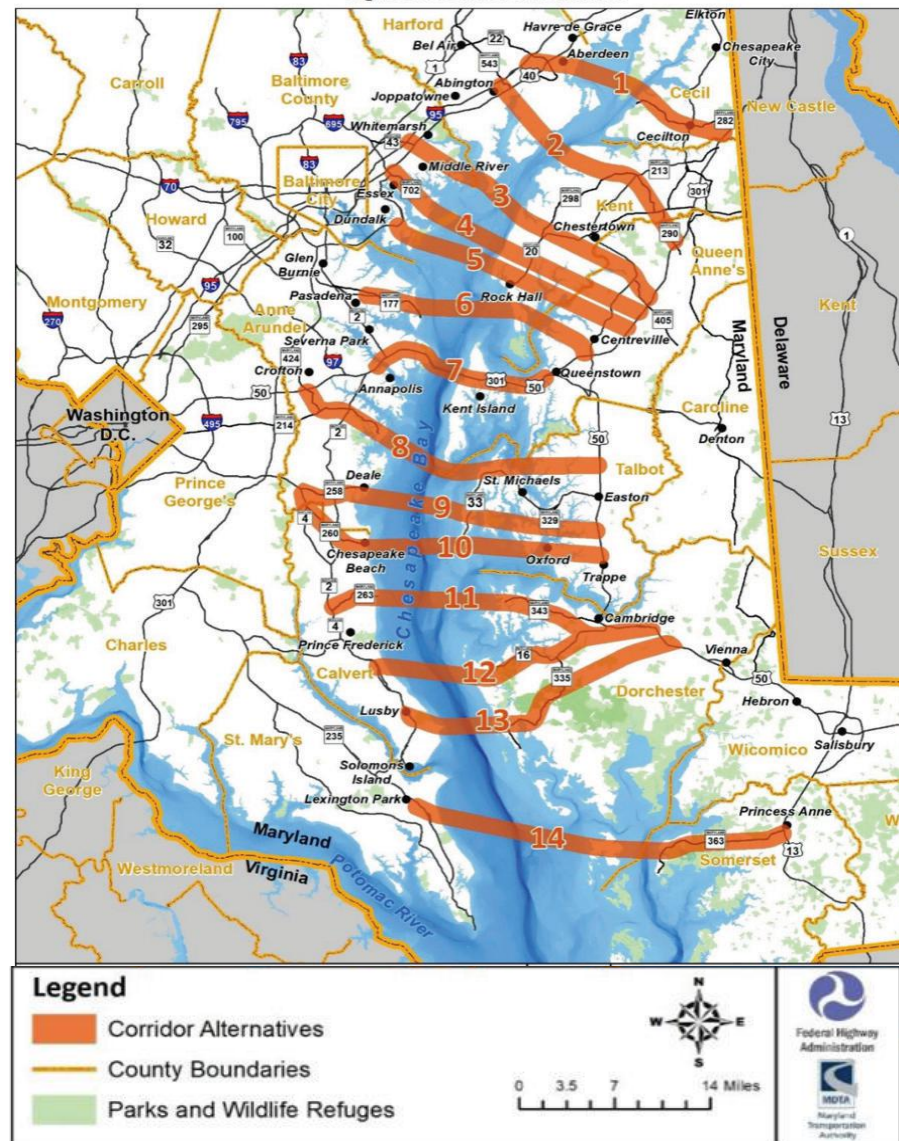
This past Sunday, in the middle of the Labor Day weekend, a multi-vehicle accident on the eastbound span closed that section of the dual bridges backing up traffic for miles and delaying motorists intent on reaching Ocean City for the rest of the holiday weekend.

Crossings in Southern Maryland had been opposed by public officials in Calvert and St. Mary's counties and most who attended workshops in the area.

State Senator Jack Bailey (R: District 29) who represents St. Mary's and southern Calvert told The County Times that he had confidence the Maryland Transportation Authority "will find a way to help Southern Marylanders get to their favorite vacation destination."

The report, called the Chesapeake Bay Crossing Tier I Study, released Sept. 1, said, "The traffic screening results show that corridor alternatives closer to the existing Bay Bridge would be more effective at diverting traffic from the existing Bridge to a new crossing. While most of the corridor alternatives would provide some benefit compared to the 2040 No-Build scenario, few of the corridor alternatives would provide relief compared to existing conditions. Thus, for most of the corridor alternatives, traffic congestion at the Bay Bridge would continue to worsen through 2040 even with a new crossing."

The study looked at alternative modes of transportation, including ferry crossings from Chesapeake Beach to Cambridge, Solomons Island to Cambridge and Solomons Island to Crisfield and concluded they "will be evaluated in more de-



tail in combination with other alternatives in Tier 2."

The report said, "The improvements required to implement a ferry service, including terminals on both sides of the Bay, would be relatively low cost compared to construction of a new crossing. The study estimated that fare revenues generated by most ferry route locations would not be enough to cover operational costs. Environmental impacts of a ferry service would be dependent on location and the number of terminals but would likely be less extensive overall compared to a new crossing. Need for roadway approach infrastructure upgrades could require additional environmental impact. Ferry service does not meet the Bay Crossing Study Purpose and Need as a stand-alone alternative."

The study gave specific reasons for eliminating each one of the Southern Maryland crossings. They are:

Corridor 10 (Chesapeake Beach to Trappe) "would not draw enough traffic to relieve traffic congestion on the existing Bay Bridge relative to existing conditions and would

tion), and 4,000 acres of wetlands."

Corridor 12 (Prince Frederick to Cambridge) would not draw enough traffic to relieve traffic congestion on the existing Bay Bridge relative to existing conditions and therefore does not meet the need of providing adequate capacity. Weekday non-summer crossings at the existing Bridge would increase by 12,900 vpd and summer weekend crossings would increase by 8,600 vpd over existing conditions. Corridor 12 contains substantial environmental resources, including 2,500 acres of parks and wildlife refuges, 6,200 acres of wetlands, 18,100 acres of prime farmland, 8,000 acres of Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas, and 12,200 acres of SSPRAs."

Corridor 13 (Lusby to Cambridge) would not draw enough traffic to relieve traffic congestion on the existing Bay Bridge relative to existing conditions and would therefore not meet the need of providing adequate capacity. Weekday non-summer crossings at the existing Bridge would increase by 14,100 vpd and summer weekend crossings would increase by 10,400 vpd over existing conditions. Corridor 13 contains substantial environmental resources, including 5,000 acres of parks and wildlife refuges, 7,800 acres of wetlands, 16,600 acres of forested land, 19,200 acres of prime farmland, 13,200 acres of Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas, and 22,800 acres of SSPRAs. Corridor 13 passes through Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, with no apparent opportunity for avoidance of the resource and resulting in major practical challenges."

Corridor 14 (Lexington Park to Princess Anne) would not draw enough traffic to relieve traffic congestion on the existing Bay Bridge relative to existing conditions and would therefore not meet the need of providing adequate capacity. Weekday non-summer crossings at the existing Bridge would increase by 15,200 vpd and summer weekend crossings would increase by 14,400 vpd over existing conditions. Corridor 14 would attract low volumes from the existing Bridge, resulting in minimal improvement over the No-Build condition. Corridor 14 requires the longest Chesapeake Bay crossing (17.1 miles) of all the corridor alternatives. Corridor 14 contains substantial environmental resources, including 5,600 acres of parks and wildlife refuges, 28,700 acres of open water, 1,200 acres of SAV, 4,300 acres of natural oyster bars, 4,500 acres of wetlands, 8,700 acres of Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas, and 8,600 acres of SSPRAs."

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therefore not meet the need of providing adequate capacity. Weekday non-summer crossings at the existing Bridge would increase by 10,000 vehicle per day (vpd) and summer weekend crossings would increase by 2,700 vpd over existing conditions. Corridor 10 contains substantial environmental resources including a large area of open water within the corridor (23,400 acres), due to relatively long crossings required. Corridor 10 also includes 7,600 acres of residential land use and 9,600 acres of natural oyster bars."

Corridor 11 (Prince Frederick to Cambridge) "would not draw enough traffic to relieve traffic congestion on the existing Bay Bridge relative to existing conditions and would therefore not meet the need of providing adequate capacity. Weekday non-summer crossings at existing Bridge would increase by 11,900 vpd and summer weekend crossings would increase 6,700 vpd over existing conditions. Corridor 11 contains substantial environmental resources, including 5,100 acres of residential land use, 1,400 acres of SAV (submerged aquatic vegeta-

St. Clement's Island Museum to Reopen to Visitors

St. Clement's Island Museum in Colton's Point, MD, will reopen its galleries to visitors on Friday, Sept. 11 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. after being closed since March due to COVID-19 shutdowns.

A limited number of guests will be admitted at a time. All guests must always wear masks while in the museum building, and social distancing guidelines are encouraged outside family units. Museum staff will be wearing masks and gloves, and frequently cleaning all public contact areas and restrooms. Museum admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for military and seniors, \$1.50 for students. Children ages 5 years or younger are free.

The Museum Store at the museum will be open for purchases and bottled water will be available to buy. The public is encouraged to not touch any Museum Store merchandise unless intent upon purchase.

The St. Clement's Island Water Taxi, the only publicly accessible boat transportation from St. Clement's Island Museum to St. Clement's Island State Park, will continue cruises for visitors. Cruises will depart from the pier at St. Clement's Island Museum at full capacity with several safety guidelines in place so the public can enjoy their time on the boat and island while confident their health and wellness are being considered.

The Water Taxi will operate seven days a week from the museum pier starting at 10 a.m. on a first-come, first served, walk-



up basis. All passengers must wear masks on the water taxi – no exceptions. Masks may be removed while on the island where distancing guidelines still apply outside of family units. No reservations will be taken ahead of time. The last trip from the museum pier leaves at 2 p.m. and the last trip back to the museum departs the island at 3 p.m.

Interested water taxi riders should enter St. Clement's Island Museum through the front door and purchase cruise tickets (\$7 per person, all ages) from the front desk. Credit cards are highly recommended, but cash will be accepted. Please call the museum at 301-769-2222 the day of your planned visit to check on water taxi schedule as weather and other extenuating circumstances could affect boat operation.

The museum will operate on summer hours, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, through October 31, 2020. Winter hours, 12-4 p.m. daily, will begin on November 1, 2020. For more information, please call 301-769-2222.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

COVID-19 Hotline Closes with Stage 3

Questions Directed to Health Department

As part of the local transition into Stage Three of the 'Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery,' St. Mary's County Government and the St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) will be closing the COVID-19 Community Hotline. The last operational day of the Hotline was Friday, Sept 4.

Community members with questions relating to COVID-19 may call the St. Mary's County Health Department directly at (301) 475-4330.

Information on various topics is also available on the SMCHD website: COVID-19 General Information (e.g., prevention, symptoms, information for businesses, and more!): www.smchd.org/coronavirus

COVID-19 Testing Information: www.smchd.org/covid-19-testing

Local COVID-19 Data: www.smchd.org/covid-19-data

Travel Recommendations: www.smchd.org/covid-19-travel

"The COVID-19 Community Hotline has taken nearly 6,000 calls and coordinated testing for over 1,000



community members since its opening in March," said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. "We are thankful for the partnership and support from St. Mary's County Government in launching this emergency hotline. Our health department team is still available to answer community questions and provide needed support relating to COVID-19."

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



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Cedar Point Donates to The Mission



The Mission's Executive Director Richard Myers (left) and Senior Pastor Robert Myers (right) receiving their donation from Cedar Point CEO Charles Roach (center).

Thanks to the participation of their credit union members, Cedar Point Federal Credit Union recently donated over \$1,000 to The Mission. For two months, the financial institution held a promotion which encouraged members to turn off their paper statement and opt in to receive eStatements instead. Cedar Point pledged to donate \$1 to The Mission for every new eStatement sign-up.

Their conservative goal of 200 sign-ups was quickly reached, and by the last day of the promotion, 1,140 members had signed up for eStatements. That added up to a donation of \$1,140 to benefit The Mission and the people that use the organization's resources.

But the giving doesn't stop there. Cedar Point has just announced that they are going to match dollar for pound by collecting 1,140 pounds of non-perishable food for The Mission.

"We are always looking for ways to give back to our community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic" said Kristin Kauffman, Cedar Point's Marketing Manager. "By donating over 1,000 pounds of food, I know we are making a difference at a time when many need it most."

Founded in 2013, The Mission is a

local outreach whose purpose is to provide for the homeless, working poor, and those who suffer from addiction. The organization helps individuals develop the skills necessary to move from the streets into their own home or apartment, all without governmental assistance.

The Mission offers more than hand-outs and warm showers. They establish relationships, provide job training, budget classes, and teach basic computer skills. Their goal is to train and equip those struggling to become competent, self-sufficient individuals who can break the cycle of homelessness.

If you would like to contribute to Cedar Point's food drive for The Mission, please bring nonperishable food items, such as canned goods, to any of Cedar Point's five branches in St. Mary's County and Calvert County. Donations will be accepted during regular business hours through Saturday, September 12.

Cedar Point is federally insured by NCUA. To see what else Cedar Point has to offer, visit www.cpcfuc.com.

To learn more about The Mission and their volunteer opportunities, visit www.seekingshelter.com.

Press Release from Cedar Point Federal Credit Union.

Pet OF THE WEEK

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Residents Make Cautious Return to Theatres

By Guy Leonard
Staff Writer

Movie theatre owners were hoping on director Christopher Nolan's time inversion, mind-bender Tenet to reinvigorate audiences desiring to flock back to movie theatres but at R/C Theatre's Lexington Exchange in California, just a small fraction of the number of movie-goers that the cineplex could handle showed up on Sept. 4.

That was the day Gov. Larry Hogan set for all businesses, including entertainment venues to reopen and usher in Stage 3 of the state's COVID-19 economic recovery plan.

R/C Theatre's CEO Scott Cohen said it was difficult to gauge the cinema's performance over the weekend, even in the time of COVID-19.

"In a non-COVID world, having a gorgeous [weekend], is devastating," Cohen told The County Times. "You're competing against barbecues, ball games and family gatherings.

"So, it's hard to gauge."

In just one of the theatres in the 12-chambered cineplex, the audience for the would-be block buster Tenet at the 7:30 p.m. showing on Sept. 4 was perhaps less than 10 people.

Cohen said some people were likely still concerned about becoming infected with the virus despite the cratering metrics in Maryland and the social distancing enforcement still in effect at theatres.

"I think people are leery," Cohen said. "You've got people who won't go back into a grocery store, or a department store or a hardware store."

Moreover, he and other theatre owners were not sure when they could reopen right up until the governor's order.

"The governor really didn't give us much notice," Cohen said.

R/C Theatre's competitor AMC Theatres, which has a six-theatre facility in Lexington Park, is still wait-



ing to reopen after nearly six months of being closed; the general manager there, Megan Cundiff, said corporate leaders are still trying to organize movies to be shown in theatres company-wide.

She said the corporation had set Sept. 10 as a tentative re-opening date for the Lexington Park theatre, which a few years ago was the recipient of a multimillion-dollar renovation.

The decision to delay opening, Cundiff said, also had to do with retraining staff and ensuring the theatre is safe and clean.

"We want to serve our community," Cundiff said. "We want to have a purpose.

"We want to make sure everything sounds good, looks good and that everything is clean."

Cundiff is hoping the reopening day will be a well-attended one; she said in the days after the governor's order, their phone at the theatre had been constantly ringing to see if they were open before the mandated Friday date.

"Every time I go out with my AMC Theatre shirt on people keep asking me 'When are you going to reopen?'"

It gave her hope that there was still a keen interest among residents to return to the cinema.

Other than practicing social distancing, electrostatic sprayers have been installed at the theatre to disinfect it as well as shields between customers and staff, Cundiff said.

There will also be a 100 percent mandate for all there to wear masks.

"We're taking that very seriously," Cundiff said. "We want people to have fun, but we want to be safe."

Still, there's no certainty about who will come back to the theatre if it reopens this week.

"We think the majority of our clients will be coming back," Cundiff said. "We won't know what the state of business will be until we open."

Other entertainment venues are planning to reopen but are maintaining a wait and see attitude.

CJ Langley, one of the owners of Escape Rooms of Southern Maryland, said they could have opened in June like their counterpart Escape From The Past in California, but chose not to.

"We were playing it more conserva-

tive," Langley said. "The challenging thing is the high-touch content of the games."

Escape rooms require players to find clues and manipulate puzzles to achieve their escape against the clock in close quarters and working in tight proximity with their teammates.

They have worked closely with the county health department in finding ways to change the nature of some of their games to reduce such risks, Langley said.

Also, most of their staff are younger, part-time workers and the escape rooms have been closed since March, Langley said, which will make re-opening more difficult.

"We're going to have to rehire and retrain people," she said. "And we need to see if there's enough people who want to come out and do this or not.

"It'll be interesting to see."

Langley said she and her partners had tried to plan for every contingency before opening their business just a few years ago, but couldn't think of everything that would shut it down.

"Never in a million years would I think this would ever happen," Langley said of COVID-19.

Dr. Jeff Maher, Chief Strategic Officer at St. Mary's County Public Schools, is also the president of the Newtown-Players, who have had to cancel their season for the rest of the year.

Their members haven't given up on the performance arts, though, and have taken to social media in small vignettes such as singing and skits to give something back to their audience.

It gives him hope that the community at large hasn't given up on the arts, either.

"The on-line views have been pretty good," Maher said. "Throughout this pandemic people have been drawn to the arts as a way to connect with others."

The membership will be meeting soon, Maher said, to discuss when they might reopen their theatre space on South Coral Drive in Lexington Park, but they will almost certainly not commit to a full season of plays.

"We need to see if people want to come to a theatre space," Maher said. "That's why we're not rushing to reopen.

"We'll take it one show at a time."

Cohen said going into last week's reopening at Lexington Exchange that it would hardly help balance accounts, but they had to make the effort to try and get movie-goers back somehow, even if their theatres are operating on reduced hours, only about six a day.

"We knew it wasn't going to be profitable," Cohen said. "But we have to start somewhere and get people comfortable with coming back in."

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Crab Pot Pitch Competition Seeks Entries

The St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development wants to invite you to Southern Maryland's Annual Crab Pot Pitch Competition. DED has been an avid sponsor of the competition seeking to promote entrepreneurship and innovation.

ED's Director Chris Kaselemis will even serve as a judge in this year's competition.

The Crab Pot Pitch Competition is Southern Maryland's premier pitch competition for entrepreneurs with cutting edge, disruptive and innovative technologies. Made popular by television shows like ABC's "Shark Tank," pitch contests provide an opportunity for entrepreneurs to present their ideas to a panel of judges or investors in front of an audience.

This event is hosted by Southern Maryland Innovates, an organization with the mission to grow and connect the innovation and technology entrepreneurship community in Southern Maryland. And to serve as the connective hub between various groups that represent a casual and high impact opportunity to meet people interested in innovation, technology and entrepreneurship in Southern Maryland.

This year's Crab Pot Pitch Competition will be held virtually Thursday, October 29th, 2020. Entrance is open to anyone with a cutting edge, disruptive and innovative technology that has potential for regional business growth in Southern Maryland.

Five finalists will be selected to pitch in front of a panel of judges at the final competition in October. The winner will receive \$3,500 and a bushel of crabs. The runner-up will receive \$1,000.

The judging panel consists of Chuck Bubeck—Executive Director



St. Mary's County Director of Economic Development Chris Kaselemis

at Maryland Innovation Center, Mike Steele—Founder of Motobriiz LLC and 2016 Crab Pot Winner, Chris Kaselemis— St. Mary's County Director of Economic Development, Danita Boonchaisiri—Calvert County Economic Development Business Development Manager, and Lucretia Freeman-Buster, Charles County Economic Development Chief of Business Development.

Southern Maryland Innovates is currently seeking innovative minds to enter the competition. The deadline for entrance submissions is Monday, September 7! If you are interested in learning more or registering to attend or compete, please visit <https://www.somdinnovates.com/events/crab-pot2020>.

Please email somdinnovates2020@gmail.com with any immediate questions.

Press Release from St. Mary's County government.

Area Libraries Celebrate One Maryland One Book Program

One Maryland One Book, Maryland's statewide reading project, is underway throughout Southern Maryland now through October. The initiative is designed to encourage everyone in the state to read and then discuss one book chosen by the educational nonprofit Maryland Humanities.

This year's selection, "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See, dovetails with Gov. Larry Hogan's designation of 2020 as The Year of the Woman in Maryland. The goal of One Maryland One Book is to bring together diverse people in communities across the state through the shared experience of reading the same book and participating in book-centered discussions and other related programs.

"The Island of Sea Women" chronicles the lives and friendship between Young-sook and Mi-ja, two girls living on the Korean island of Jeju. They become the closest of friends yet their differences are impossible to ignore: Young-sook was born into a long line of haenyeo and will inherit her mother's position of leading the divers; whereas Mi-ja is the daughter of a Japanese collaborator and will forever carry that mark. From the Japanese occupation of the 1930s and 1940s, World War II, to the Korean War, events will push their seemingly unbreakable bond to its breaking point.

This beautifully written and thoughtful novel shines a light on the remarkable haenyeo culture and two women who are a part of it. Readers won't soon forget the journey of Young-sook and Mi-ja's friendship.

As part of the One Maryland One Book program, author Lisa See will speak during a regional Southern Maryland virtual public event Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, though registration is required by visiting online.

The program is presented by Calvert Library in partnership with Charles County Public Library, St. Mary's County Library, Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, Inc., Calvert County Commission for Women, Community Mediation Center of Calvert County, Friends of Calvert Library and Calvert County Public Schools.

See is the author of the New York Times bestsellers "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane," "Peony in Love," "Shanghai Girls," "Dreams of Joy" and "China Dolls," books that have brilliantly illuminated the strong bonds between women. These books have been celebrated for their authentic, deeply researched, lyrical



Lisa See

stories about Chinese characters and cultures.

Born in Paris and raised in Los Angeles, See was also the Publishers Weekly West Coast correspondent for 13 years. As a freelance journalist, her articles have appeared in Vogue, Self and More, as well as in numerous book reviews around the country.

Copies of "The Island of Sea Women" are available at any public library in Southern Maryland. The book can also be downloaded as a free e-book from the online catalog, COSMOS (cosmos.somd.lib.md.us).

The three Southern Maryland public library systems have developed a variety of programs around the book's themes, including multiple book discussions throughout the region. All One Maryland One Book events are free.

For more information about program opportunities, visit your local library online: Calvert Library (calvertlibrary.info); Charles County Public Library (ccplonline.org); and St. Mary's County Library (stmplib.org).

For a list of One Maryland One Book events throughout the entire state, go to the Maryland Humanities website.

Formed in 1959, SMRLA leverages economies of scale to support the three Southern Maryland library systems with efficient, coordinated services. SMRLA operates the tri-county circulation and online catalog system known as COSMOS (Collections of Southern Maryland's On-Line System); provides access to downloadable books, ebooks, online research and information resources, and other free electronic services; runs the region's interlibrary loan system for books and materials; and organizes in-service training for library staff. For more information about the Southern Maryland Regional Library Association, visit smrla.org.

Press Release from Southern Maryland Regional Library Association.

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Southern Maryland in 1845:

Slave Rebellion, Mixed Consequences

By G. Francis Lewis

Bill Wheeler was born a negro (term used in those days to identify people of African descent) slave. He lived and labored in Southern Maryland on a Charles County tobacco plantation owned by descendants of the Contee family who made their fortunes from tobacco, land and slaves. One mid-summer night in July 1845, Wheeler decided to lead a determined group of fellow slaves, across the Mason-Dixon line to freedom in the north. By this exploit Wheeler, along with another slave named Mark Caesar, forced Maryland civil authorities to raise a public alarm and take to the roads with a dragnet across St. Mary's, Charles, Prince George's and Montgomery counties to stop them. The revolt managed to incite a panic, forcing local authorities to quell the insurrection and stop the real time migration of black fugitives from slave state Maryland to neighboring free state Pennsylvania. In the America of 1845, as the debate on slavery increased in tone and scope, slave owners saw this event as an illegal insurrection while slaves saw this desperate flight as a moral gambit for their freedom.

The fleeing groups' numbers were estimated as 75 or more and made up of all male slaves. As the word spread within the region, they were soon joined by other freedom seekers from St. Mary's and Prince George's counties. At a geographical point, somewhere between Rockville and Gaithersburg, near present day Md State Road 355, the assembled troop was confronted by their Maryland pursuers.

The search party was a mix of town-folk, plantation owners, professional slave hunters, sheriffs and their deputies. One posse involved in the pursuit came to be known as the "Montgomery Volunteers," a vigilante committee from the surrounding area of their namesake county. They were an eleventh-hour detachment of mounted riders sent to stop the movement of the slave mob north. When the two groups collided, on 8 July 1845, confusion and violence took effect as the freedom seeking slaves were urged by both Caesar and Wheeler to put up a fight against their determined re-captors.

Whatever amount of mob reaction and violence that took effect that night is no less vague 175 years later and may never be truly known as very little information for exact numbers of killed or wounded is murky and not easily referenced. Many slaves were believed to have been shot or beaten but details of injuries, among both groups, remains sketchy to this day. The fleeing slaves were described as armed with pistols, swords and farm implementations as their weapons. Since no deaths or injuries are documented among the search



Bill Wheeler or Mark Caesar depicted on July 8th 1845 on the Frederick Road (Courtesy Maryland State Archives)

party it could be assumed not much of a firefight occurred and most of the fugitives gave up without too fierce a struggle. Less than half of the group, about 31-35 escapees, were successfully recaptured that day. Many fled, some perhaps back to their plantations or to places where they would not be challenged by their pursuers. A smaller number managed to get as far as Westminster, in Carroll County before they were recaptured. Astonishingly Wheeler, the leader, evaded recapture and remained a fugitive for another month. Contrasting the elusive Wheeler, Mark Caesar surrendered that night after being injured. Caesar managed to survive recapture and remained in state custody before he was brought to trial in early September 1845.

The local sheriff, Daniel Hayes Candler, 33, of Rockville seems to have followed the law and kept the prisoners safe while in his custody. No accounts of further deaths or injuries occurred after July 8th nor prior to the prisoner's transfer and subsequent trial in Charles County in September 1845.

In late August the state of Maryland, by grand jury, put forth indictments against both Bill Wheeler and Mark Caesar. A pair of senior judges, Clement Dorsey of Summerseat in St. Mary's County and A C (Alexander Contee) Magruder of Prince George's County, would hear the cases brought against each defendant. Both judges were familiar names in the area and as a coincidence one of them, Magruder, shared the ancestral name of the plantation owner where Wheeler escaped).

Each of the jurists were legal elders, experts on slave law in Maryland and highly visible political personalities in the Southern Maryland region. Dorsey

was a former US Congressman and Magruder was a senior member of the Maryland Appellate Court. Together with a jury they would judge the guilt or innocence of each man, according to codified Maryland slavery law. Each defendant had an uphill, if not impossible test to prove their innocence, primarily because in 1845 slavery was the law of the land in Maryland and the United States (8). The stakes were high as the death penalty was a strong possibility for both men if they were convicted of inciting a rebellion among slaves or leading a slave insurrection in the state of Maryland.

For Maryland, the States Attorney in both cases, was George Brent of Allen's Fresh. Brent was a local and state politician who represented the people of Charles County in Annapolis. He was a member of the Whig Party and a distant ancestor of Margaret Brent, who pursued property rights for women very early in Maryland's colonial history.

Brent was assisted by Thomas F. Bowie a lawyer from Prince Georges County (10). Bowie was also a personality in the tri-county area, having attended Charlotte Hall Academy, Princeton College and Union College in New York to get his law degree. He was Deputy Attorney General of Prince George's County and had also been involved in politics as a Delegate to the Maryland Legislature.

Each defendant would be represented by John MS Causin, a former US Congressman from Maryland, a member of the Whig Party and a St. Mary's County resident. Causin practiced law in the southern Maryland region where he was born. John Causin had a legal pedigree for defending antagonists involved in civil unrest, helping defend John Dorr, who led a civil rebellion in Rhode Island in 1842.

Mark Caesar would be tried separately from his co-conspirator Bill Wheeler. Wheeler was recently recaptured in August 1845 and was described, in most newspaper accounts and by the state of Maryland, as the alleged ringleader. The case against Wheeler got underway on Monday, September 1st at the Charles County Courthouse in Port Tobacco. After the jury found him guilty on September 2nd 1845, Judge Clement Dorsey sentenced Wheeler nine days later, to death by hanging). Caesar's case began at the conclusion of Wheeler's trial.

Mark Caesar was 35 years old, a carpenter by trade and literate. Like Bill Wheeler, he did have legal counsel in the personality of Leonardtown native John MS Causin. The state's case against Mark Caesar got underway on September 4, 1845.

Caesar's first trial lasted about two days, with witnesses. Causin evidently

conducted an able, spirited defense that led to a jury deadlock of eight for conviction and four for dismissal. Judge Dorsey evidently nullified that verdict, excused that jury and empaneled a new jury. In the meantime, the state manumitted Caesar to "freedman" legal status and retried him as a co-conspirator of Wheeler's. The new jury rendered a guilty verdict and by November 1, 1845 Caesar was on his way to prison on 10 separate counts of aiding and abetting a slave revolt. Judge Dorsey sentenced him to 40 years total. Mark Caesar would die in jail, from tuberculosis, five years later on November 17, 1850.

A few months into 1846, Wheeler, who may have been considered for either clemency or commutation of his death sentence by Governor Pratt, once again eluded confinement. He successfully escaped from his Charles County jailhouse in March 1846). There is an odd sense that in spite of a bounty of \$100, a good sum for the time, Maryland authorities did not seem to be conducting an enthusiastic hunt for Wheeler after his post-trial evasion from his sentence. There is no further mention of Bill Wheeler in any of the newspapers that chronicled his revolt, recapture, trial and escape. Bill Wheeler was never found nor heard from again.

The outcome for the two men remains an ironic, but fascinating component of this story 175 years later. For Mark Caesar, becoming a "freedman" essentially meant he suffered double jeopardy. Truly ironic is how John Causin's defense succeeded during Caesar's initial trial but led, indirectly, to his demise in prison after his second trial. Because of the state's ability to manumit him, Caesar faced a retrial and since he took part in an illegal act his fate was sealed. In the case of Bill Wheeler, the unschooled lifelong slave who was branded a ringleader, his intuition and grit ultimately led to his escape and apparent lifetime of freedom.

As a footnote, the recaptured slaves faced some amount of punishment and the required penalty of being sold out of state. There is no record of any receiving legal representation nor a day in court.

An under reported feature of this tale is that noble individuals like John Causin, a southerner from Leonardtown, had the moral courage to apply his legal skills to defend Mark Caesar and Bill Wheeler. He would remain engaged in Maryland politics, moving his legal practice to Annapolis after the trials of Wheeler and Caesar. John Causin would eventually leave Maryland resettling in Cairo, Illinois. He died in 1861 just before the Civil War started. Fittingly, he is buried in a place called Lincoln Park.

Submitted article

College/Elementary School Partner for Outside Classroom



St. Mary's College Environmental Studies students analyze pictures drawn by Ridge Elementary School students.

Ellen Kohl, assistant professor of environmental studies, recently partnered with Ridge Elementary School to secure a \$5,000 Chesapeake Land Trust grant to implement an outdoor classroom at Ridge Elementary School. The grant and plans for the outdoor classroom were developed as a partnership between students in her "ENST 490: Environmental Keystone Seminar" and students and staff at Ridge Elementary School.

Kohl and St. Mary's College students partnered with Ridge Elementary School to transform an existing outdoor garden into a functioning outdoor classroom. Kohl's students conducted background research on outdoor classrooms, environmental education, science communications, and inequity in science education, and incorporated that research with garden drawings made by Ridge students. SMCM students also interviewed Ridge teachers and students about the project.

Despite disruptions and challenges due

to the transition to online learning, SMCM student groups created unique proposals that were presented to Ridge Principal Honora Batelka and other members of the Ridge green school team. The SMCM students' proposals not only included designs for the outdoor classroom but also ideas and suggestions on how teachers could integrate lessons on the health of the Chesapeake Bay in the development and implementation of the outdoor classroom.

Kohl worked with Connie Reynolds, a third-grade teacher, and Batelka to integrate the ideas from the SMCM students' proposals into one coherent grant that would meet the school's needs. The grant was submitted in July to Chesapeake Land Trust resulting in the \$5,000 award.

SMCM students involved in the project: Jack Brandenburg, Dylan Brown, Jacqueline Harriot, Anna Lapoint, Elizabeth Marts, Allison Shulman, Ben Sturmer, Ellyse Sutliff, Jacob Wilkins, Serenity Wolf, and Joseph Clark.

Free Meal Program Reinstated

As a result of waiver extensions from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), effective immediately, breakfast and lunch will be offered to all children 18 years of age and under free of charge until December 31, 2020, at all St. Mary's County Public School locations. Starting Wednesday, Sept. 9, drive-through meal service was available each week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at each school site. Parents/guardians and children can visit any school location and receive meals that they can take home during virtual learning.

Pre-ordering of meals will still be

available and is recommended to ensure your selected meal is ready for you upon arrival. Same-day pick up will also be available at all locations.

For more information regarding the USDA's press release please visit: <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2020/08/31/usda-extends-free-meals-kids-through-december-31-2020>

For more information regarding meal pickup locations or to pre-order your meals please visit smcps.nutrislice.com

For questions regarding the lunch service program, please email foodservice@smcps.org

Press release from SMCPs.

St. Mary's Ranked a Top Liberal Arts College

Listed in Washington Monthly



For the past 15 years, Washington Monthly College Guide has ranked colleges "based on what they do for the country." In the rankings released yesterday, St. Mary's College of Maryland is ranked 29 among the top Liberal Arts Colleges in the United States.

St. Mary's College, the National Public Honors College, is also ranked 106 out of 397 colleges in the northeast who offer the Best Bang for the Buck. The guide describes this ranking as "the schools where students of modest means get the most for their money."

Washington Monthly rates schools on three equally weighted criteria: social mobility, research, and community and national service. According to the guide, "This means that top-ranked colleges needed to be excellent across the full breadth of our measures, rather than excelling in just one measure."

For the Best Bang for the Buck ranking, Washington Monthly "used a college's graduation rate over eight years for all students instead of the first-time, full-time graduation rate that is typically used but which presents an incomplete picture of a college's success."

St. Mary's College was also recently recognized in the 2021 Fiske Guide to Colleges, The Princeton Review's "Best 386 Colleges" Guide for 2021, and Money's "Best Colleges for Your Money," and was named a 2020-21 College of Distinction.

St. Mary's College of Maryland, the National Public Honors College, is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education through 2024-2025. St. Mary's College is ranked one of the best public liberal arts schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

Press Release from SMCM.

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Two CSM Students Earn Scholarship

Two College of Southern Maryland (CSM) students have been named 2020 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise and will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Kia Robinson and Solomon Butler are two of 207 Phi Theta Kappa members nationwide who have earned this high distinction.

The Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program helps new Phi Theta Kappa members defray educational expenses while enrolled in associate degree programs. Scholars are encouraged to assume leadership roles by participating in Society programs and are selected based on scholastic achievement, community service and leadership potential. Nearly 700 applications were received.

A total of \$207,000 is awarded through the Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation provides \$200,000 in funding for the scholarships, with \$25,000 set aside for members who are veterans or active members of the United States military. The remaining amount is supported by donations to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation and provides seven Global Leaders of Promise Scholarships, earmarked for international students.

"The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation has a long history of providing financial assistance to outstanding students at community colleges," said Jane Hale Hopkins,

president of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. "We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa to make it possible for more deserving students to achieve their educational goals and support tomorrow's leaders of the global community."

The funds provided by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation not only aid college completion, but also give students the opportunity to engage in society programs and develop leadership skills to become future leaders in their communities.

"Research shows that Phi Theta Kappa members are four times more likely to complete a college degree than their peers," said Dr. Monica Marlowe, executive director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation. "The Leaders of Promise Scholarships recognize students for what they have achieved already and assure that financial need isn't an obstacle to achieving their academic goals."

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The society is made up of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations, with approximately 240,000 active members in the nation's colleges. Learn more at www.ptk.org

Press Release from CSM.

Library Increases Parking Lot WiFi Access Hotspots Available for Checkout

In an effort to support St. Mary's County students and other residents without high-speed internet access, St. Mary's County Library is pleased to announce the extension of the reach of free WiFi at our locations to include the entirety of Library parking lots.

WiFi is accessible outside of all Library buildings 24 hours a day/7 days a week. WiFi is also available inside our buildings during our open hours, Monday – Thursday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday – Saturday, 12 p.m. (noon) to 5 p.m. To access the WiFi, simply select LibraryFreeWiFi in your device's wireless network list.

WiFi users are reminded to observe appropriate social distancing while in parking lots

or at tables or benches in front of the buildings, maintaining at least 6 feet from other users at all times.

Check Out a Mobile Hotspot

In addition to extending the WiFi

reach at our locations, we have increased the number of mobile hotspots that are available for checkout. Hotspots on two networks (Verizon and Sprint) are available for 14-day checkout periods. Hotspots will work in areas that are covered by the device's network.

For more information or to place a hold on a hotspot, visit www.stmalib.org and click on 'Check Out a Hotspot' under 'Read, Listen, Watch.'

Virtual Services Coordinator Sara Stephenson said "We recognize that there are many students and other county residents who do not have reliable internet at home, and we're happy to be able to provide access through WiFi at our locations and mobile hotspots for checkout."

Press Release from St. Mary's County Library

Leadership Group Selects 2021 Class



Leadership Southern Maryland
Regional Collaboration for Today's Leaders and Tomorrow's Vision

The Leadership Southern Maryland (LSM) Board of Directors announces the selection of 29 Southern Maryland leaders for its 13th class - the Class of 2021.

From Baltimore County, works in Calvert County

Crystal G. Dowd, deputy director of Public Safety - Animal Services for Calvert County Government

From Calvert County -

Tamara L. Blake-Wallace, principal planner for Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning

Erin M. Farley, community wellness manager for CalvertHealth

Stanley D. Harris, Jr., assistant division chief for Calvert County Department of Emergency Communications

Harvil C. Jenkins, senior vice president for MIL Corporation

Barry A. Murphy, chief financial officer for AIRtec, Inc.

Lauren Sampson, director of corporate and foundation relations for St. Mary's College of Maryland

Laura A. Schuessler, head detailer for aviation engineering duty/ aviation maintenance duty officer communities, United States Navy

From Charles County -

Kerry P. Dull, director for Calvert County Department of Public Works

Erin Ferriter, action officer for the technical director for Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head EOD Technical Division

Kara A. Harrer, director of pharmacy for CalvertHealth

Monica A. Kempson, director of tax services for Askey, Askey & Associates

Darrin Z. Krivitsky, head of corporate operations for Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head EOD Technical Division

Jenny L. Plummer-Welker, long range planner for Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning

From St. Mary's County -

Kimberly Bannister, supervisory program manager for the US Department of Health & Human Services

Tracy Anne Barkhimer, president of Tracy A. Barkhimer, Acquisitions Strategy & Consulting

Lucia M. Beal, senior reliability compliance manager for SMECO

James H. Bolin, vice president at

KBR

Dave D. Davison, vice president of business development for Naval Systems, Inc.

Heather M. Earhart, senior program manager, PSI Pax, Inc.

Ann M. Hawkins, director of patient access security, MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

James R. Hayden, realtor with RE-MAX 100

Dawn M. Lessel, director of human resources for Zenetex

Deborah C. Settle, supervisor for field services administrative support for MetCom

Kenneth M. Sheffield, air operations officer for Naval Air Station Patuxent River

BJ Sievers, chief information officer for Cedar Point Federal Credit Union

Tara N. Strickland, director of communications for AVIAN

Marsha L. Williams, partner at Williams, McClernan & Stack, LLC

From Virginia, works in St. Mary's County -

Derrick W. Kingsley, prospective executive officer of Naval Air Station Patuxent River

Following a two-day opening retreat in September, these class members will attend eight one- or two-day intense sessions focusing on economic and workforce development, defense, education, healthcare, public safety, housing and human services, multiculturalism, and energy and environment. These sessions will conclude with a closing retreat and graduation in May. More than 50 experts from across the region and state representing business, government, education, and the non-profit community will serve as panelists and guest speakers.

Founded in 2008, LSM has successfully graduated over 350 regional leaders. LSM is an independent, educational leadership development organization. Its Executive Program is designed to broaden the knowledge base of mid-to senior-level public and private sector executives about the critical issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the region. Leadership Southern Maryland is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Press Release from Leadership Southern Maryland



LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS
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CountyTimes

Meet the Maker: Alexandra Blake-Sanderlin!



Alexandra Blake-Sanderlin



Welcome to St. Mary's County Arts Council's "Monthly Mini Feature." It will be highlighting different local artisans and crafters who have been busy imagining, creating, dreaming, and doing.

During this particularly difficult time please remember our artists and small businesses who support them as they have been and always will be valuable contributors to our quality of life, our economy, and one of the many important facets of our community.

The featured artist for the month of September 2020 is Alexandra Blake-Sanderlin! Alexandra is a folded paper artist with a focus on Golden Venture folding/ 3-D origami. Each and every one of her items is meticulously handmade, starting from a simple square which is then shaped into a

triangular pattern. The newly created pieces are then interlocked with each other to create a 3-D figure. Alexandra's "specialties" are stars, swans, kitties, puppies, pigs, pink flamingos, koalas, crabs, chickens, koalas, vases, bowls, and much more! She happily accepts custom orders and is open to working on special requests.

Visit Alexandra's Facebook page (Next Dimension Origami), stop by the Craft Guild Shop in Leonardtown, MD (www.craftguildshop.net), the North End Gallery, also in Leonardtown (www.northendgallery.com), or visit her Etsy shop (NDorigami) to view her work and learn more about our fascinating and quite talented artist.

Press Release from St. Mary's County Arts Council.

The Tackle Box Fishing Report

By Ken Lamb
Contributing Writer

Spanish mackerel are erupting in the bay and the mouth of the Patuxent daily as trollers and lure casters are catching them on small spoons and jigs. Big catches of mackerel were made off Point Lookout in what used to be known as "The Hotel", but is now better described as near the fishing pier. The Potomac has mackerel too, but they are more scattered and can be hard to find.

Spot are in the rivers everywhere, eager to bite bloodworms, fishbites, squid, and even night crawlers.

The spot attract bluefish which are in the salty brine eating cut baits cast from the shoreline by surfcasters at Point Lookout and in the mouth of the Patuxent at Hog Point and, in particu-

lar off the Test Pilot Pier on the Naval Air Station. Bluefish were breaking from St. George Island to Point Lookout over the weekend in the Potomac. Bluefish are in the 16 to 22 inch range, a healthy three pounds or so.

White perch are very plentiful in the creeks and rivers.

Speckled trout are active in the shallows for lure casters along with plenty of puppy drum. A 24 inch redfish was caught in the mouth of St. Jerome's Creek this week. Keepers in the slot of 18 to 27 inches will be much more common this season as we approach cooler weather.

Some big hardhead (croaker) were reported at Cornfield Point in the lower Potomac; also off the O'Club in the Patuxent.



★ ST. MARY'S COUNTY Library

Meet New York Times Bestselling Author Natasha Lester

Join us in welcoming Natasha Lester, bestselling author of *The Paris Seamstress*, *Her Mother's Secret* and *A Kiss From Mr. Fitzgerald*. Natasha will be giving us a sneak peek into her newest novel, *The Paris Secret*, on Monday, September 21 from 7 - 8 p.m. Signed copies of *The Paris Secret* may be preordered through The White Rabbit Bookstore, located in the Wildewood Shopping Center, California, MD. Preordered books will be available on September 15th. Register at www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom webinar the day before the event!

Trees for the Home Landscape

Master Gardener Mariah Dean will cover things to consider when picking a tree for

home landscapes and examples of trees for home landscaping in this live online session on Wednesday, September 23 from 6 - 7 p.m. Information on how to prepare for the periodical cicadas next spring will also be provided! Register at www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom session.

The Art and Craft of Mysteries

On Wednesday, September 23 from 7 - 8 p.m., local author Phil Hayward will discuss the writing of a mystery novel, using his own book, *Deadly Stroke: A Port City Mystery*, as a guide. Topics will include where ideas, plot, characters, and atmosphere originate. Attendees will gain a better appreciation of reading not just mysteries but other genres of fiction as well. Signed copies of *Deadly Stroke: A Port City Mystery* are available for



purchase from The White Rabbit Bookstore, located in the Wildewood Shopping Center, California, MD. Please register at www.stmalib.org to receive the link to the Zoom meeting the day before the event, along with a downloadable attachment of author handouts!

15th Annual Grants Training Seminar: Nonprofit Roadmap to Success

St. Mary's County Library is partnering with the Nonprofit Institute at the College of Southern Maryland as they host presenter Jennifer B. Jones for this live online event on

Friday, September 25 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Leveraging the Jenniferism, "Your nonprofit business is a business," this roadmap to success highlights the differences between business structure, business development, and funding for nonprofit organizations. In this informative session, organize your business for funding readiness; establish an executable business development strategy; establish a framework for funding; and understand grant prospecting, writing, and funding. Register at www.stmalib.org for this free online event!



PATUXENT RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION

News

Test Pilot School Partners With NASA For Student Training

The United States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) is the Navy's principal operator of the Northrop Grumman T-38C Talon supersonic jet trainer, with 10 of the twin-engined aircraft in its inventory. The school's T-38s fly an average of 1,100 hours per year, providing students with valuable experience evaluating its performance, flying qualities, dynamics, and transonic and supersonic flight characteristics.

Because the T-38C is the school's primary fixed-wing trainer, students are required to receive formal flight training in the aircraft prior to their arrival. In the past, this has been done at the U.S. Air Force's Air Education and Training Command at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic, AETC had to pare back its training commitments to the Navy and its other customers. With a new class of students preparing to arrive in September, USNTPS had to find an alternative — and quickly.

USNTPS turned to its long-standing partner, NASA, for assistance. NASA operates the T-38N variant, which is primarily used for astronaut space flight readiness training. NASA operates a simulator for the T-38N which is used to train basic and emergency procedures as well as crew resource management. After discussing the idea with NASA staff to determine availability and feasibility, the school quickly worked with NASA's training staff to tailor a simulator training program to the school's unique requirements. An inter-agency agreement was quickly drafted and funds were transferred to formalize the training program.

Observing strict travel and quarantine guidelines to ensure protection against exposure to COVID-19, five Test Pilots Under Instruction (TPUI) — that's the formal name for the students who attend USNTPS — traveled to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas earlier this summer for training in the NASA simulator. The training was conducted by Cmdr. Adam Klein and Cmdr. Dick Clark, both of whom are USNTPS graduates and former USNTPS staff members, and are both NASA flight instructors.

"NASA appreciates its professional partnership with USNTPS, and we recognize the critical importance of pre-arrival training for fixed-wing students," said Klein, a NASA research pilot who also serves his mili-

tary reserve duty as a flight instructor at USNTPS. "We were happy to assist."

Klein said that although the avionics of NASA's "N" series aircraft differ from the "C" series flown by USNTPS, the fidelity of the simulator's flying qualities and performance were high enough to be an effective trainer for the T-38C. "While the differences between the two series of aircraft might normally be a detriment to the training flow of a fleet pilot, USNTPS is training TPUIs who need to rapidly adapt to new aircraft and interfaces," explained Klein. "By exposing the TPUIs to the T-38N simulator, the students were able to receive the critical T-38 transition training while also receiving a test pilot school primer."

USNTPS commanding officer Lt. Col. Rory Feely praised USNTPS and NASA personnel for transforming a problem into an opportunity, and singled out the school's finance and legal teams, academic and flight instructors, and the maintenance team that keep the school's aircraft flying year-round. "All of them kept pressing the issue in order to achieve success,"

Feely said. "I give my humble thanks to the teams that find innovative ways to bypass obstacles to success on a daily basis."

The school's partnership with NASA has paid significant dividends over the years. Not only do NASA pilots like Klein fly on the USNTPS staff, but the school recently hosted NASA's WB-57F high-altitude research aircraft when a launch observation mission brought it to the mid-Atlantic region. USNTPS personnel supported NASA and learned how NASA conducts high-altitude research flight in full-pressure suits. NASA, in turn, provides major maintenance and painting of the USNTPS fleet of T-38C aircraft.

In addition to NASA, USNTPS maintains active partnerships with a wide range of institutions around the world to help it fulfill its mission of training the world's finest developmental test pilots, flight officers, engineers, industry and foreign partners in full-spectrum test and evaluation of aircraft and aircraft systems. Each year the school trains nine Army rotary test pilots and engineers. The students conduct rotary wing transition training at the U.S. Army's Western Army

Aviation Training Site (WAATS) in Arizona and at the Redstone Test Center in Huntsville, Alabama, and operates eight Army aircraft on permanent loan. USNTPS also executes staff and student exchanges with the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School in California, the Empire Test Pilot School in the United Kingdom, and the École du personnel navigant d'essais et de réception in France.

"Partnerships are a significant contributor to the successful operation of USNTPS and allow us to execute operations of this magnitude with about half the personnel strength of a similarly sized military squadron," Feely explained.

USNTPS is one of the busiest squadrons in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, executing nearly 4,500 sorties annually. The school flies 44 aircraft and unmanned systems representing 14 different types, models, and series. Some of its aircraft are the longest serving military aircraft in the Department of Defense. The USNTPS team manages aircraft maintenance under Navy, Army, Air Force, and Federal Aviation Administration regulations.



NASA research pilot and U.S. Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) instructor Cmdr. Adam Klein, right, prepares for a T-38C training flight with student Lt. Spencer Smith. (U.S. Navy photo by Paul Lagasse)

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

In Remembrance

Justin Travis Bowles



Justin Travis Bowles, 36 of Mechanicsville, MD Justin died unexpectedly at his home on August 24, 2020.

Born August 14, 1984 in Leonardtown, MD, he was the son of Lori Ann Mellott of Hollywood, MD and David Leon Bowles of Mechanicsville, MD.

Justin is also survived by his siblings: Catherine "Marie" Corbin of California, MD and Ryan Mellott of Hollywood, MD as well as many friends and family.

Justin was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County, he graduated from Great Mills High School in 2002, and was a Mason for Bowles Construction. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, weight lifting and playing poker. Justin will be deeply missed forever.

Interment will be private.

Paul Stauffer Zimmerman

Paul Stauffer Zimmerman, 81, of Mechanicsville, MD passed away at his residence on September 1, 2020. Paul was born on July 11, 1939 in Ephrata, PA and was the son of the late Sally Stauffer Zimmerman and Paul S. Zimmerman. Paul was the loving husband of Lucy Zimmerman. He is survived by his children; Ronald (Judith) Zimmerman of Mechanicsville, MD, Kenneth (Cynthia) Zimmerman of Bainbridge, OH, Harry (Victoria) Zimmerman of Mechanicsville, MD, Paul (Vanessa) Zimmerman of Elkhorn, KY, Esther (Neal) Martin of Leonardtown, MD, Barbara (James) Stauffer of Breckenridge, MO, Sally (Jeffrey) Martin of Mechanicsville, MD, Mabel (Robert) Sensenig of Shobonier, IL, Marie (John) Wenger of Tunas, MO, Irene (Joseph) Auker of Homer City, PA, 85 grandchildren and 42 great grandchildren. Siblings; Ammon (Anna) Zimmerman of Tunas, MO, Elam (Anna) Zimmerman of Shobonier, IL, Emma (Milton) Zimmerman of Mechanicsville, MD, Elsie Stauffer of Scottsville, KY, Pearl (Mrs. Frank) Zimmerman, and Katie (Mrs. Irvin) Zimmerman.

Ronald Felix Carlson

Ronald Felix Carlson, "Ron", 91, of

Lexington Park, MD, formerly from Milton-Freewater, Oregon, passed away peacefully at his residence surrounded by his loving family on September 1st, 2020.

Ron was born on May 24, 1929 to the late Felix Ivar Carlson, and Edith Mattson Carlson in Astoria, Oregon, and was the loving husband of Melba Arlene Potter Carlson whom he married on January 17, 1953 in Gretna Green Arizona. He is survived by his four children, Ronda Boyce of Castle Rock, CO, Jean Fail (Peter) of Houma, LA, Cathy Gaffney (Jerry) of Richmond, VA and Neal Carlson of Lexington Park, MD, his sister Carol Minsnger of CA, his 6 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

After Ronald graduated from Washington High in Portland Oregon, he attended Oregon State University for a few semesters before enlisting in the United States Navy in 1950 as an Aviator. Throughout his 31 years of service Ronald was awarded many honorable medals including: Three Air Medals, Navy Expert Pistol Medal, Vietnam Defense Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Antarctic Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Navy Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, Navy Expeditionary Medal, China Service Medal, Air Medal with Two Stars and Four Strike Flight Awards, United Nations Medal, Expert Rifle Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with Seven Stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He was previously stationed in NAS Agana, Guam where he was reinstated to New Orleans, LA, and Patuxent River, MD where he retired as a Commander from the United States Navy in July of 1981.

Following his retirement from the United States Navy Ron Continued to be an active member of his community, he was a Past Potentate of the Boumi Shriners, a 32nd Degree of the Scottish Rite Temple, and an active member of the Elks. When he wasn't participating in the organizations, he enjoyed traveling with his wife, and hunting. Ronald was an amazing man and will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Contributions may be made to: Shriners Hospitals for Children Processing Center, P.O. Box 863765, Orlando FL, 32886

Bruce Anthony Caracaus

Bruce Anthony Caracaus, 65, of California, MD, formerly from Sewaren, New Jersey, passed away with his family by his side on August 29, 2020.

Bruce was born in Topeka, Kansas on April 20, 1955 to the late Anthony J. Caracaus, and Helen W. Caracaus. He is survived by his loving wife, Melinda E. Caracaus, whom he married on December 26, 1979 in Dubai, and his daughter Michelle S. Caracaus, of Abell, MD, and his two sisters Joyce Mayo, of NJ, and Sharon Cahill of NJ.

He graduated from Woodbridge High

School in Woodbridge, NJ. Bruce was an Ironworker for the former Local #373 Newark, NJ, now Local #11 Perth Amboy, NJ for 35 years.

All funeral Services will be private at this time.

Harold Eugene "Gene" Williams, Jr



Harold Eugene "Gene" Williams, Jr, 50, of Lexington Park, MD passed away suddenly at home on August 22, 2020. He was born on July 25, 1970 in Leonardtown, MD; he was the loving

son of Eleanor Mae Williams and Harold Eugene Williams, Sr. of Lexington Park, MD. Gene is survived by his children Ashley Mattingly, Jessica Williams, Amanda Williams, Brittany Williams, Gene Williams, Shawn Williams, Lindsay Williams all of Lexington Park, MD, and 7 grandchildren. Along with his sister Michelle Williams of Lexington Park, MD. He was preceded in death by his sister Sheila Williams.

He was a lifelong St. Mary's County, MD resident and attended Chopticon High School. Gene was a laborer for the Maryland State Highway for 6 years.

Preston Johnson Downs





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

In Remembrance

Preston Johnson Downs, "Stink" 62 of Mechanicsville, MD passed away on September 3, 2020 at his residence surrounded by his loving family. Born on May 25, 1958 in Leonardtown, MD he was the son of the late Preston Joseph Downs and Mary Emma Downs. Stink is survived by his wife Joyce A. Gatton Downs, daughter Melissa Joy Long and her husband Brandon Long and 2 grandchildren Hailey Joy Long and Christopher Brandon Long all of Mechanicsville, MD., siblings; Ronald Downs (Sharon), Albert Downs (Faye), Jerry Downs, (Katina), Herman Downs (Cyndi) and Emma Raley (Wayne) all of Mechanicsville, MD, and Diane Derrick (Ronald) of Westminster, SC. In addition to his parents he is preceded in death by his sister Mary Kathy Downs.

Stink was a lifelong St. Mary's County resident and a graduate of the Chopticon High School Class of 1976. He was employed with the State Highway Administration in Leonardtown Md as a Supervisor and retired in March of 2008 after 30 years.

Stink was a Life Member of the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department and a member of the Mechanicsville Moose Lodge.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department. A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 AM in the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department with Father Michael Tietjen officiating. Interment will follow in the Charles Memorial Gardens Leonardtown, MD. Pallbearers will be John Montgomery, Kenny Lloyd, David Diehl, Harold Anderson, Loren Ruslander and Danny Davis. Honorary Pallbearers will be Mike Machesney, Mark Bailey, Paul Colonna, Denny Raley, Eddie Copsey, Ricky Thompson, Andy McWilliams and David Farrell.

Contributions may be made to the Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad PO Box 15 Mechanicsville, MD 20659 and/or Hospice of St. Mary's PO Box 625 Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Arrangements provided by the Mat-

tingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. Leonardtown, MD.

Lt. Col. (USMC Ret.)

Frederick Roland Wagner Jr.



Lt. Col. (USMC Ret.) Frederick Roland Wagner Jr. passed away Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2020, at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home in Charlotte Hall, Maryland, after a long battle with frontotemporal dementia. He was 70 years old.

A native of Norfolk, he graduated from Norview High School. He studied at Old Dominion University and earned a bachelor's in business from Campbell University, an MBA from National University and a J.D. from Campbell University. Fred was devoted to his Savior, family and his country. He received numerous awards while rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel and was a skilled CH-46 helicopter pilot. After retiring, he worked in the private sector.

Fred plunged headlong into life; he took in all the love, laughter, friendship and adventure he could along the way, with empathy and support for his fellow man. As an avid athlete, Fred loved surfing, the outdoors and running. Throughout his life, he would find any excuse to go in search of the best waves. His love for the ocean has been passed on to his children. As a running enthusiast, he ran dozens of marathons, including in D.C.,

LA and Boston; he was known for his quick steps and short strides.

Fred is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 45 years, Anne Wagner; children Ginnie (Tim) Pewett; Jonathan (Candace) Wagner; Tricia (Ernie) Williams; and Cindy (Hugo) Castellon; grandchildren Mya, Jaelyn, Trey, Brantley, and Aaron; and sister Lisa (Paul) Daley. He was preceded in death by his father Frederick Roland Wagner Sr., mother Edna, and daughter Wendy.

The Wagner Family is deeply grateful to the many friends, family and nursing staff who have walked with us and provided care over the years. Thank you.

A memorial service to honor Fred's life will be at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery on a future date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the "Operation Christmas Child" fund at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8600 Plymouth Rd., Alexandria, Virginia 22308. Fred loved to help collect gifts at Christmastime for children in need (USMC Toys for Tots, Prison Fellowship Angel Tree, etc.). Samaritan Purse's Operation Christmas Child continues that giving spirit by helping provide hope, toys and necessary items to children around the globe.

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

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

Patricia Georgeanna Scriber



Patricia Georgeanna Scriber born on March 18, 1926 to the late Mary Louise Shercliff and Frances Edward Young was called to eternal rest on Friday, August 28, 2020 in her home surrounded by her loving children. Patricia was the seventh of eight children. "Tresa" as she was fondly called by her husband was cherished as a devoted wife, a loving mother, and a nurturing grandmother, great grandmother and great-great grandmother.

Education: Patricia received her education at St. Peter's School in Ridge, Maryland. She was born into a Catholic family and raised in the Saint Joseph

Catholic Church located in Morganza, Maryland. Throughout her life, Patricia was a devout Immaculate Heart of Mary parishioner. She annually served on the Immaculate Heart of Mary committees in support of various church functions.

It's A Family Affair: On August 9, 1946 Patricia married the love of her life, James Frank Scriber, affectionately known as "Tommy". From their union of an astonishing sixty-seven years, they were blessed with thirteen children. Patricia had a fun and outgoing personality; she loved listening to music and dancing. Patricia enjoyed preparing feasts for family and friends during the holidays. Her cooking was the highlight of every family gathering. Patricia's favorite pastime was walking and visiting with her friends in the neighborhood. She was infamous for teaching her grandchildren and great-grandchildren to play her favorite card game Deuces.

Community: Patricia was employed for many years with the Historic Sotterley Plantation Mansion in Hollywood, Maryland. She was an active member of the Tubman Douglas Tenants Association and assisted in organizing community activities for youth. "Pat or Mrs. Scriber", as she was referred to in the community, was the "Neighborhood Mom and Grandma" for every child and adult who knew her.

Legacy: Patricia was preceded in death by: husband, James Frank Scriber, four sons; William Scriber, Robert Scriber, James Scriber, Thomas Scriber, three daughters; Evangeline Scriber, Cecilia Scriber, Carolyn Scriber, three brothers; Bernard Young, George Young, William Young, four sisters; Mary Madeline Young, Mabel Young, Eva Langston, Frances Murdock, one grandson, Wayne Weems, three great grandchildren; Ashton Glover, Brooke Glover, Christian Glover and God son, Carl Brooks.

Patricia leaves to cherish her life and continue her legacy: one son, Joseph Scriber, five daughters; Patricia Scriber, Shirley Chase, Joyce Scriber, Mary Cameron, Marsha Scriber, one sister, Sarah "Polly" Milburn, one daughter-in-law, Carolyn Scriber, one sister-in law, Diane Scriber, four God children; Charles Curry, Diane Mitchell, Geraldine Coleman, Sarah Blackistone-Richardson; twenty-nine grandchildren, forty-four great grandchildren, nine great-great grandchildren and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family and friends who will miss and love her eternally.

Although gone from our sight, but never our hearts

William Edelen Gough Jr.

William Edelen Gough Jr., 92, died peacefully at his home on August 29, 2020. He was affectionately known as "the Mayor of Choptico," where he was born to the late William Edelen Gough Sr. and Edith G. Burroughs Gough on June 18, 1928. He was preceded in death



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by a brother, James J. Gough, and 2 sisters, Mary Loretta Mattingly and E. Gertrude Kokoszka.

He attended Chaptico School, Margaret Brent High School, and graduated from St. Mary's Academy. After receiving his Bachelor's Degree from Loyola College of Baltimore, which he earned in 3 years, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean War for 2 years.

On August 26, 1961, he married the late Mary Lou Burroughs, and celebrated 49 years of marriage. Together they raised a family of four children, L. Jeanne Gough-Cook (Wes), William Edelen Gough III (Meg) both of Mechanicsville, MD, Mary K. Wills (Tom) of Charlottesville, VA, and Susan L. Gardiner (Hugh) of LaPlata, MD. He took great pride in his 10 grandchildren, Lauren Cook, Meredith Cook Holtzner, Erin and William Gough, Luke and Colin Wills, and Elizabeth, Charlie, Henry and James Gardiner. He was excited to become a great-grandfather to his 3 great-grandsons, Graham, Elliot, and Harris.

He began his career as a salesman with Goetze Meat Company, and enjoyed traveling St. Mary's County, meeting with many familiar faces. He was a Sr. Vice President and served on the Board of Directors at Community Bank of the Chesapeake where his career spanned 28 years. He was a true community banker, helping many families and businesses achieve their financial goals.

He was actively involved in the community throughout his life, serving on the St. Mary's Hospital Board of Directors as Treasurer during the construction of the hospital, the Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree, past Grand Knight, Rotary International, and Meals on Wheels. His love of reading led him to join the St. Mary's County Library Board, and the St. Mary's County Literacy Council.

He had a deep and abiding faith as an active lifetime member of Our Lady of the Wayside parish. He served in many capacities, beginning as an altar boy, serving at the first Mass ever celebrated at the church, and went on to become a lector, Eucharistic minister and head of the Parish Council. He volunteered countless hours at events, fundraisers and activities.

There was nothing he enjoyed more than time spent with family and friends, hosting parties, celebrations and holiday gatherings in his home. Anyone who knew him knew that the Christmas season was the highlight of his year, filled with traditions, decorations, and legendary Christmas night parties. He embodied the Christmas classic, It's a Wonderful Life.

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

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

Bethany Carolyn Deibler



Bethany Carolyn Deibler, 25, of Clements, MD departed this life on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, at her home.

She was born August 8, 1995 in Clinton, Maryland. She was the loving daughter of Sharon Ann McElhinney, of Mechanicsville, MD.

Bethany married the love her life, James Christopher Deibler, on August 18, 2018. Together they have celebrated just over two (2) years of marriage, and together for ten (10) years before her untimely passing.

She worked as Project Manager for SAIC. Making many wonderful friends working as a government contractor. She was working toward completing her college degree, having already successfully finished three years.

Bethany was a mother to a wonderful son, Ryan. She loved spending time with him and James. They enjoyed family vacations and just hanging around together. There was nothing more that Bethany loved above her family and friends. She and her best friend, Amelia Dixon, could spend hours talking, laughing and enjoying memories they shared.

Bethany may be gone, but she will never be forgotten. Her beautiful soul may have left her earthly body, but now she is in the heavenly skies soaring above and smiling down upon her family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, James C. Deibler, of Clements, MD; son, Ryan Joseph Deibler, of Lusby, MD; siblings, Ashley Veronica Gilbreath, of Atlantic Beach, FL and Gabriel Ryan Nosek of Mechanicsville, MD; parents, Sharon Ann McElhinney of Mechanicsville, MD, stepfather, Mark Edward Nosek, of Mechanicsville, MD and best friend, Amelia Dixon and many extended family and friends.

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

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

Irene Letha Gross

Irene Letha Gross died peacefully at home on September 1, 2020. She was

the fourth of five children born to the late Walter Lawrence and Charity Mason Lawrence on April 1, 1923, in Valley Lee, Maryland. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Catherine Cutchember and Jeanette Dyson and brothers, LeRoy and Joseph Lawrence.

Irene married Thomas Irving Gross Sr. on September 13, 1953. Together they celebrated 30 years of marriage before his death in June 1984. She was preceded in death by her children; Gilbert Francis Lawrence, Geraldine Adele Gross, and Thomas Irving Gross Jr. all in 2008 and Steven Robert Gross. and grandchildren; Marcell and Mecell Lawrence and Wayne Lawrence II.

Irene was a housewife and loved raising her children. She always ensured her home was clean. Her visitors were welcomed with an offer of something to drink or eat. Irene appreciated the daily and weekly phone calls with family and friends even if it was just to know they were ok.

Irene was a longstanding member of St. George Catholic Church and attended Sunday morning mass until her health declined. She cherished her visits from Father Paul and treated him like a son.

Irene enjoyed seeing her children together especially for Sunday dinners.

She relished eating big meals and her food HAD to be well done. She looked forward to wrapping pennies her children brought on visits. Her favorite spot was sitting in her bedroom rocking chair in front of her window with her word search book and her little heater. Irene always had a positive attitude and never complained even during her dialysis center visits where she made many friends.

Irene leaves to cherish her memory her children, Mack Bernard Lawrence Sr. (Alice) of Waldorf, MD; David Aloysius Lawrence (Karen) of Willingboro, NJ; Theresa Cecelia Lawrence of Piney Point, MD; Gloria Marie Church of Waldorf, MD; Donald Walter Gross (Shirley) of Mechanicsville, MD; Charlotte Ann Gross and Ida May Gross of Piney Point, MD; Steven Robert Gross II and James Emanuel Gross (Linda) of California, MD; and Wayne Levi Lawrence of Cumberland, MD. She is survived by nine grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren. She also leaves to cherish her memory her special friends Helen Abell, Jeremiah Cutchember, Lucille Lawrence, Bud and Betty Harp and Robin Johnson (and her sidekick Kayden Thompson), and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mary M. Lafler Fender

September 20, 1927 - December 13, 2019

A long time resident of St. Mary's County passed away at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home on Dec. 13, 2019. She was born Sept. 20, 1927 in Rochester, N.Y.

Preceded by her mother Mildred Kling and her sister Madge Edwards.

She is survived by her sister Barbara J. Edwards, her 5 children, 11 grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren.

Mary was an avid still life and landscape artist. Volunteered at her church, hospital and Parks & Rec. She worked in Wycliffe Bible Translators in Dakar, Africa in the early 1980s. She also worked for Maryland State Police, St. Mary's County Government and Parks & Rec.

Mary served in the WACS in the US Army assigned to the Pentagon.

A memorial service will be held at Leonardtown Baptist church on Sept. 25, 2020 at 1:00p.m. The service will also be broadcast live on YouTube.

If you prefer to attend this way, the livestream link is: <https://zoom.us/j/91810622706> No password.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Leonardtown Baptist Church 23520 Hollywood Rd. Leonardtown, MD 20650



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Wanderings of an Aimless Mind

by Shelby Oppermann



COZYING UP WITH A GOOD BOOK

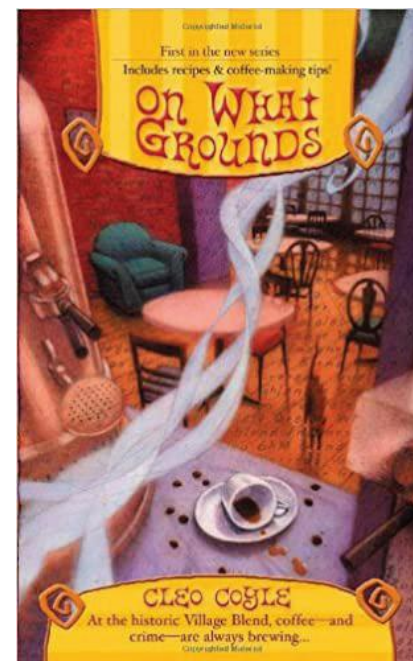
I really did try to stop reading culinary cozy mysteries once, but it didn't last for long. I love all cozies, as they are referred to, meaning "they are a subgenre of crime fiction in which sex and violence occur off stage, the detective is an amateur sleuth, and the crime and detection take place in a small, socially intimate community." Perfect for me since I am a big fan of the same types of shows on TV: mainly ALL the Hallmark mysteries, and my beloved *Murder She Wrote*, and the like.

Lately, it seems, I have been checking out more and more of the culinary cozies. Culinary Cozies run the gamut of murder plot settings from coffee houses and tea shoppes to bakeries and catering businesses. The protagonist(s)/heroine(s) of the stories always manage to find time to whip out immense amounts of mouthwatering baked goods and perfectly made specialty coffees or perfectly steeped teas for their customers, friends, and all the police officers and/or detectives who wish they would just butt out of their investigation – all the while finding clues and solving murders. My dream job! Another common theme is that the amateur female sleuth always solves the crime and eventually falls in love with the police officer or detective.

I like this expected pattern of events; no matter what is going on in my life or in the world, cozy mysteries stay true to form. There is a happy conclusion at the end of each book with a murderer caught in an intricate web of lies that only the baker, barista, etc., etc. can solve. Of course, the amateur sleuths usually find themselves in situations that find them close to death, but as with Jessica Fletcher, the police are usually right behind her, jumping out at just the right second after hearing a detailed confession. It must save a lot of time and money in courtrooms in the cozy mystery world when all the murderers confess in front of multiple witnesses.

The problem with cozy mysteries, especially when listening to them on audiobooks, is that the authors describe – in excruciatingly, delicious detail – how the dessert is being made or in the case of Cleo Coyle's *Coffehouse* mystery series "where caffeine and crime are always brewing" (Cleo Coyle is a pseudonym for a husband and wife writing team) how each specialty coffee is made, the type of beans used, the consistency and aroma, and the euphoric, yet sudden jolt of alertness you get with the first long sip. Oh my, I'll be right back, got to plug the Keurig in.

My last audiobook was Cleo Coyle's first entry in the *Coffehouse* mystery series titled "On What Grounds". I have found that it is really hard to listen to a culinary cozy in the car, because my car will inevitably drive right to a Wawa for



a hot decadent Mocha Latte, or to Social Coffehouse in Leonardtown, or right near me to Happy Hill coffee house in Charlotte Hall. Yes, the car actually does this on its own. If I am listening while anywhere in Charles County or down in California then it is a stop into a Starbucks. Just walking inside a coffee shop makes me happy and calm – maybe not so much after I drink the coffee though.

The cozy book I am currently reading is "Going, Going, Ganache" by Jenn McKinley: a cupcake shop cozy. And anyone that knows me, knows that I love making ganache and eating it...on anything. In fact, I have a partial bowl in my fridge right now. Even though it is not about cupcakes, there is a great line in the book about the heroine's father's passing: "No matter how much time had passed, there wasn't a day that she didn't miss her dad, who had crossed over to the "wrap it in bacon and fry it" diner in the great beyond over ten years ago." This cozy is based around two bakers in a cupcake shop. I thought, well, I am not a real big fan of cupcakes, so this should be a safe read. Nope, I have photocopied all the recipes in the back of the book, and plan on making 4 dozen of 4 types when grandsons Liam and Carson stay with me in two weeks. Yes, of course, I am making them for my grandsons and not for me. I am appalled that you would even think that I would use my precious grandsons as a ruse to make myself 4 dozen cupcakes...of course, they will like the pistachio fig cupcakes and the strong espresso, dark chocolate cupcakes...tehehe.

To each new day's culinary adventure, Shelby

Please send your comments to: shelbys.wanderings@yahoo.com or find me on Facebook (with a PM please).

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.

Friday, September 11

9/11 Commemoration Ceremony Online; 9 p.m.

They will pay tribute to the 9/11 victims by reciting each of the names of the 2977 people who perished in New York, Washington D.C. and Shanksville, PA. Twin beams of light will be beamed skyward beginning at 9:11 p.m., symbolically referencing the New York City Twin Towers that were destroyed in the attacks. If you are in the vicinity of the St. Mary's County Governmental Center and/or the Leonardtown area during this time, you may see the beams of light. Streaming at <https://www.facebook.com/F4Heroes/>. For more information, please contact Dr. Jay Lipoff at Drjay@f4heroes.com or 315-345-5437, or the Public Information Office at 301-475-4200, ext. 1342.

Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Shabbat evening services are being held online due to COVID19. Beginning July 17, 2020 Beth Israel Synagogue will hold online services EVERY FRIDAY at 7PM. Check our website calendar (bethisraelmd.weebly.com/calendar.html) for event details.

Saturday, September 12

TEDxGreatMills

Online; 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Join us for a free, virtual event to celebrate the ideas and experiences that will grow to shape the future and define our community for generations to come. Seven speakers will give interactive talks and activities, followed by a round table discussion. Learn more & register at www.tedxgreatmills.com/.

Walk to End Alzheimers

The world may look a little different right now, but one thing hasn't changed: our commitment to ending Alzheimer's. This year, Walk to End Alzheimer's® is everywhere—on every sidewalk, track and trail.

Your health and safety are our top priorities. This year's event won't be a large in-person gathering—instead, we invite you to walk in small teams of friends and family while others in your community do the same. Because we

are all still walking and fundraising for the same thing: a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia. Learn more and sign up today at www.alz.org/ncawalks.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

St. Andrews Landfill; 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Residents can dispose of household hazardous waste materials in a safe manner and with environmentally responsible practices using the county's certified vendor, ACV Enviro. or a complete list of acceptable hazardous waste items, please visit our webpage. Please remember to wear face coverings and observe social distancing precautions when dropping off rubbish at the landfill. There will be staff on-site to assist with traffic flow and drop off parking. For more information, please contact the St. Mary's Department of Public Works and Transportation at 301-475-4200, ext. 3517. You can also log on to our website at www.co.saintmarys.md.us/dpw/recycling-solid-waste/

Sunday, September 13

2nd District VFD and RS Drive-Thru, Carry-Out Breakfast

2nd District Firehouse and Rescue Squad; 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

MENU: Scrambled Eggs, Home Fried Potatoes, Sausage Links, Hot Biscuits, Sausage Gravy, & Spiced Applesauce; COST: \$10.00 PER Breakfast; For more info call: 301-994-9999.

Carry Out Chicken Dinner

Knights of Columbus Hall Ridge; 11:30 a.m.

\$12 per dinner, served until chicken is gone. Please call 301-872-4641 for more information.

Big Conversation of Southern MD

Online; 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Expert panel will address historical inequities in Southern MD healthcare, implicit bias in healthcare delivery, systemic and environmental impact on health outcomes, and lack of trust in healthcare. Panelists include:

Dr. Meenakshi Brewster – Public Health Officer – St. Mary's County, Shellnice M. Hudson, RN – Director of Quality Assurance, Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Dr. Laurence Polsky – Public Health

Officer – Calvert County, Cheri C. Wilson, MHS - Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions, Malcolm Funn, JD – Calvert NAACP, Moderator: Laretta Grier, MA – Concerned Black Women of Calvert. Followed by small group discussions online. More information: email - bigconmsp@gmail.com or website- dismantleracism.org. Register at <https://calvertlibrary.libnet.info/event/4509915>.

Monday, September 14

Red Cross Blood Drive

2nd District Firehouse; 1:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Please make an appointment at 1-800-REDCROSS.

Tuesday, September 15

Tobacco Cessation Program

Online; 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

The Tobacco Cessation Program is free and that takes place over the course of 8 weeks (weekly 1 hour sessions). Participants learn behavioral modifications, stress management, and other techniques to help them quit using tobacco products. Learn more or register at www.smehd.org/tobacco.

Pesticide Container Recycling Program

Frederick County Landfill; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) is sponsoring its summer collection program for empty plastic (HDPE) pesticide containers according to specific guidelines. The nearest location to St. Mary's County that accepts out-of-county pesticide containers will be hosted by the Frederick County Landfill. MDA inspectors will supervise the collection to ensure only triple rinsed or pressure rinsed, clean, plastic HDPE pesticide containers are collected.

For further information, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Regulation Section at 410-841-5710 or visit their website at www.mda.maryland.gov. For information on recycling programs in St. Mary's County, please visit our webpage at <https://www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/recycling-solid-waste/>.

Wednesday, September 16

Wayback Wednesdays

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

Thursday, September 17

Food Trucks

Mt. Zion UMC; 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Olde Towne Pub, Linda's On The Go, Days Off Deli, Cold Stone Creamery, and Sweet Tooth Funnel Cakes. Limited Outdoor Seating Available. Visit us at www.mtzionmech.org

Ongoing

Donations for RVRSA Treasure Sale

Knights of Columbus Hall Ridge Donation times are Tuesday the 15th to Friday the 18th 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., Wednesday the 16th 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., or by appointment at 301-872-5140. We kindly request no donations of clothes or shoes.

Enchanted Summer

Annamarie Garden and Arts Center; August 1 - September 7

"Frolicking Fairy Fun" - a new event w/ all the best parts of the Fairy & Gnome Home Festival transformed into an amped-up, low-touch/no-touch, multimedia, daily, outdoor experience! Details located on the website at annmariegarden.org!

COVID-19 Appointment-Free Testing

Monday - Friday; 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The St. Mary's County Health Department is now offering COVID-19 testing at the SMCHD Harm Reduction Program Office, located at 46035 Signature Lane in Lexington Park, MD 20653 (co-located with the U-Haul Moving & Storage of Lexington Park). Community members may walk up for testing, parking is available. If you need assistance or any accommodations, please contact the Harm Reduction Program Office at (301) 862-1680. No prior test order is required.



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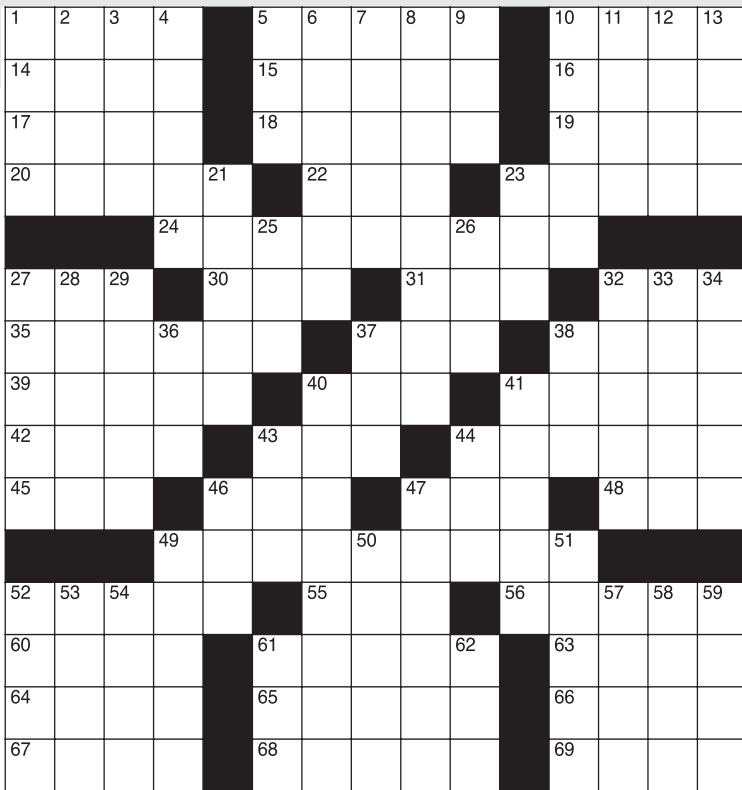
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GAMES & PUZZLES



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Popular musical awards show
- 5. Speech in one's honor
- 11. A state of poor nutrition
- 14. Not ingested
- 15. More lacking in taste
- 18. "Popeye" cartoonist
- 19. Helps to reduce speed
- 21. January 1 greeting (abbr.)
- 23. Georgian currency
- 24. Proverb expressing a truth
- 28. Jewish calendar month
- 29. Volume measurement
- 30. Fair-skinned
- 32. Patti Hearst's captors
- 33. Have already done
- 35. Touch lightly
- 36. Autonomic nervous system
- 39. Plant part
- 41. College degree
- 42. Military alliance
- 44. Tokyo's former

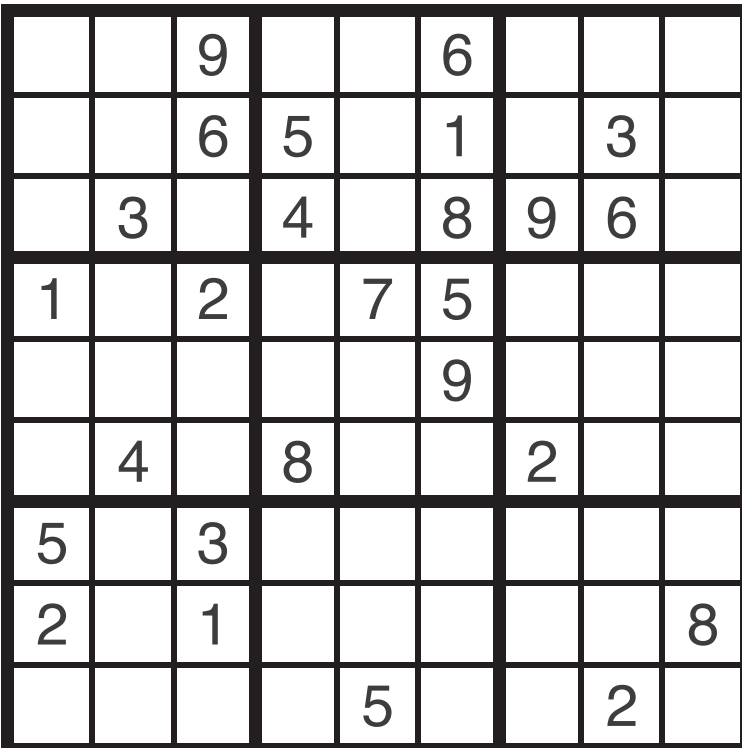
name

- 46. Carpenter's tool
- 47. Before
- 49. Consent to receive
- 52. Passages
- 56. The Duke of Edinburgh
- 58. Utter repeatedly in a chain
- 62. Quality that evokes pity
- 63. Maintained possession of

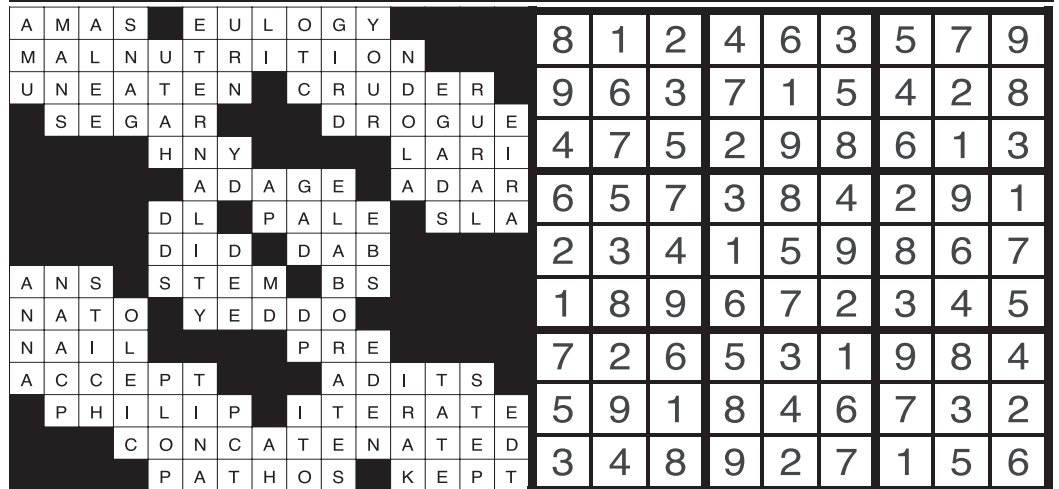
CLUES DOWN

- 1. U.S. military school
- 2. Controls
- 3. Away from wind
- 4. Grab quickly
- 5. Being everlasting
- 6. Vase
- 7. Atomic #3
- 8. Type of medication
- 9. Encircle with a belt
- 10. Belonging to you
- 12. American state
- 13. City in Zambia
- 16. Good Gosh!
- 17. Of the country

- 20. Helsinki district
- 22. 36 inches
- 25. Reporters' group
- 26. The voice of Olaf
- 27. Explains in detail
- 29. Tooth caregiver
- 31. One point south of due east
- 34. Scottish river
- 36. Elsa's sister
- 37. Civil Rights group
- 38. Line of poetry
- 40. Doctor
- 43. Fatty acid
- 45. Avatar (abbr.)
- 48. Awe-inspiring garden
- 50. Fall down
- 51. Rock icon Turner
- 53. Asian country (alt. sp.)
- 54. UK museum network
- 55. Stairs have at least one
- 57. Part of (abbr.)
- 58. Simpson trial judge
- 59. Sun up in New York
- 61. Exclamation of surprise



LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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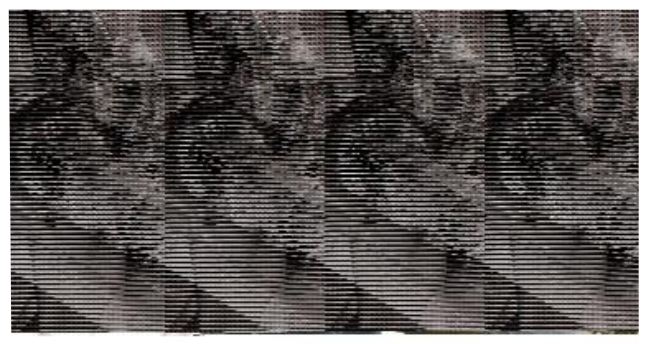


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