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Thursday, July 15, 2021

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Leonardtown is promoting boat tours from its wharf to boost economic development and COVID recovery



Somerville up for having part of Route 5 named in his honor



COMMUNITY 11 Womens Club supports Feed St. Mary's

**"WE LOOK FORWARD TO PROSECUTING THESE PEOPLE WHO CARRY ILLEGAL GUNS AND** THINK THEY CAN GO AROUND SHOOTING UP **NEIGHBORHOODS.**"

STATE'S ATTORNEY RICHARD FRITZ ON CONTINUING HIS WORK BY FILING FOR **REELECTION.** 

### WEEKLY FORECAST Thu 7/15 Fri 7/16 Sat 7/17 Sun 7/18 89° | 71°F 89° | 74°F 91° | 72°F 84° | 71°F Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy PM PΜ Mon 7/19 Tue 7/20 Wed 7/21 Thu 7/22 83° | 70°F 84° | 70°F 86° | 70°F 85° | 70°F Scattered Mostly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Mostly Sunny LWAYS FREE IN PRINT



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### **Family Demands Answers In Police Slaying of Son**

By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Peyton Ham, 16, was shot and killed by a Maryland State Trooper April 13, who according to his superiors, had been threatened by Ham with what he thought was a handgun

That weapon turned out to be an airsoft pistol.

After months of investigations by the Maryland State Police and the St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office, Ham's family is still waiting for answers as to why the Leonardtown High School honors student was killed

Ham's family is holding a rally July 17 at the county governmental center in Leonardtown to demand answers.

"We're just hoping justice will be served," said Kellee Raley, Ham's aunt. "We have not forgotten about Peyton.

'Everybody wants answers."

Mike and Kristee Boyle, Ham's parents said the rally would be a peaceful one.

"Just over three months ago, 16-year-old Peyton Ham was shot and killed by a Maryland State Trooper," the Boyle's said. "Saturday's event is a planned, peaceful, rally, intended to remind our locally elected State's Attorney that the community has not forgotten.

Peyton's family has placed their faith in the hands of those officials investigating as most details involving the case cannot be shared with the family due to it being an ongoing investigation."

Deputy State's Attorney Daniel J. White has told The County Times he does not expect to conclude the criminal investigation into the actions of Tpr. Joseph Azzari that day, when he responded to a property mere yards away from the Leonardtown Barrack on Hollywood Road and confronted Ham, until the end of July.

White said he is continuing to wait for the final report from the state Medical Examiner in Baltimore on Ham's autopsy.

Maryland State Police Superintendent Woodrow W. Jones, who held a press conference in Leonardtown the day of the shooting, said the that the trooper arrived on the scene after two anonymous calls reporting "a guy who was acting suspicious who [may have had] a gun."

The trooper confronted the suspect, later identified as Ham, who possessed what appeared to be a gun and a knife, Jones said.

A witness reported seeing the suspect in a "shooting stance" pointing the gun at the trooper, Jones said

"The trooper fired at the male and wounded him," Jones told

Peyton Ham

reporters. A second witness, Jones said, reported seeing Ham pull out a knife after being shot and attempt to get back up.

"The trooper ordered him to drop the knife before he fired again," Jones said.

The trooper called for law enforcement back up to tend to the suspect while waiting for emergency medical personnel to arrive, said Jones.

By the time Ham was transported to Med Star St. Mary's Hospital, he was pronounced deceased, Jones said.

Witness statements and drone footage suggest the law officer fired multiple rounds, perhaps the entire capacity of his service weapon, when he confronted Ham.

The drone footage available online showed that at least 15 evidence marker flags on the ground, possibly denoting expended shell casings, in three separate, distinct groups.

Also, a witness, speaking on condition of anonymity, has said they heard at least 14 shots fired in the incident in three separate salvos that day.

The trooper's service weapon, a Glock 22, .40 caliber pistol, has a magazine capacity of 15 rounds.

Other neighborhood residents have reported finding bullet holes in their residential property, across Hollywood Road, from where the shooting took place.

Greg Shipley, director of the

Office of Media Relations for the soft pistol collected at the shootstate police, responded to The County Times back in April that such flags could be used to mark many kinds of evidence other than shell casings.

Shipley also said then that he did not release the image of the airing scene because it had blood on it; Shipley did release an image of the knife Ham was alleged to have had, a folding knife with a blade length of about three inches.

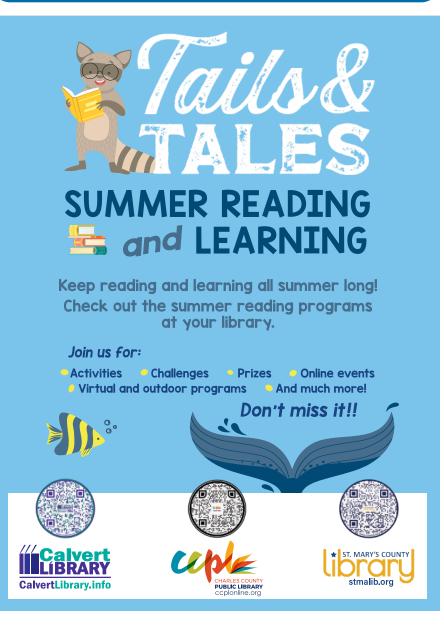
guyleonard@countytimes.net

### #JusticeForPeytonHam

As many of you know, on April 13, 2021, my nephew, Peyton Ham, tragically lost his life at just 16 years old. This happened due to the actions of one MD State Trooper, who has yet to be held accountable for what transpired that day. While we know the actions of one law enforcement officer does not reflect the entire force, it is imperative that we hold that individual accountable and that charges be brought. We ask that you, our family, friends and community, stand

with us this Saturday, July 17th to remind our locally elected State's Attorney that we have not forgotten and that we hope justice will be served.

\*Kellee Raley Facebook Post





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Premiere of Leonardtown A&E Artist Spotlight The Series / Fri, Jul 16th / 1 PM

### LEONARDTOWN ALLS entertainment DISTRICT

In the new regular, monthly virtual show, Leonardtown A&E Artist Spotlight The Series (Premiering on Friday, July 16th at 1 PM)

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- Artist Shares (Learn about their inspiration and experiences that color their work)
- And More!

On the series premiere, we'll introduce you to **Eric Jackson**, the talented local artist who created the beautiful butterfly banners and flags that mark the newest addition to Leonardtown – the Leonardtown Butterfly Trail. Learn about Eric and the inspiration behind his beautiful works of art that are on display along the Trail, and see highlights from the Butterfly Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, held on Sunday, July 11th, on the Premiere of Leonardtown A&E Artist Spotlight!

Tune 7n At: The Town of Leonardtown Facebook Page OR www.visitleonardtownmd.com/leonardtownae

### **Commissioners Pursue Third Early Voting Site**

#### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Board of Elections has chosen a second early voting site, as required by newly enacted state law, but the Commissioners of St. Mary's County have decided to seek a third early voting site to better serve county residents.

The new law only requires that St. Mary's have two early voting sites, with an option for a third; Del. Brian Crosby pressed for the addition of a second early voting site through legislation to eliminate what he called voter disenfranchisement in the Lexington Park area.

In last year's election, during the COV-ID-19 pandemic, the county was required to have just one early voting center, located at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

Wendy Adkins, director of the local election board, told commissioners her department had entered into a contract with the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, located on Shangri-La Drive, as the second site.

Adkins told commissioners there are few suitable facilities in the county that can provide the space required for the thousands of people expected to vote early.

She said 20,000 people came to vote at the Hollywood site last election alone, roughly 20 percent of the county's entire population.

Such facilities also require 25 to 30 people to staff effectively, and who are restricted from leaving the facility for the entire day of the election, Adkins confirmed; the elections board is recruiting volunteers now for the next election as getting sufficient staffing has been difficult.

Adkins said she is considering using the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department's main facility on Hills Club Road as the third site, but that would take the approval of the commissioners, the state election board and the local election board.

Each site is estimated to cost \$200,000 each.

"I have the Mechanicsville firehouse on hold for the northern portion of the county," Adkins told commissioners.

Early voting lasts for eight days before Election Day.

Adkins said any county resident, regardless of their election district, could vote at any of the early voting sites, whereas on Election Day voters must cast their ballots at their designated precinct.

Commissioners Todd Morgan and John O'Connor pushed for commissioners to support a third site to ensure that minority communities other than those normally found in Lexington Park, such as Hispanics, disabled veterans at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home and the Amish and Mennonite communities, also had more convenient access to early voting.

"In the northern end of the county we have an Amish and Mennonite community that far outweighs the [minority] population in Lexington Park, we have a Hispanic population that far outweighs the [minority] population in Lexington Park," O'Connor said. "The only way they can get to these places is to pay someone to drive them in a van [for the Amish and Mennonites]... or their going to have to get transportation from the veterans home. [African Americans]

"The focus has been on one minority group and others have been left by the wayside."

Though the veterans' home was not an early voting site, Adkins said, the local elections board went there in person to collect absentee ballots each election cycle and helped veterans to vote in person by bringing them back to the board of elections.

Commissioner Mike Hewitt was the lone opposition vote, noting in a later statement that he wanted to see how well two sites worked before operating a third.

He also said voting opportunities continued to abound with early voting, absentee ballot applications being mailed to every voter and Election Day itself.

"It's all about what we need versus what's nice to have," Hewitt said.

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Marvin Steiner 23905 Hollywood Rd. Hollywood, MD 20636 301-373-4530

### **Fritz Files for Reelection as State's Attorney**

#### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

State's Attorney Richard Fritz is seeking another term as the county's chief criminal prosecutor; he has served continuously for the past 23 years in that office.

He was first elected as St. Mary's County State's Attorney in 1998. Fritz announced his official reelection campaign July 2 via social media.

"I hope that I have earned your continued support," Fritz wrote. "It is a great honor for me to represent the citizens of this county."

In a July 13 interview, Fritz said he loves his job and "has at least four or five more years in me."

Fritz said he wanted to continue to focus on prosecuting drug dealers, noting fentanyl dealers in particular and also wanted to continue to work closely with the sheriff's office Youth Gun Violence Task Force in getting illegal guns, and those who use them in the commission of crimes, off the streets.

"We look forward to prosecuting these people who carry illegal guns and think they can go around shooting up neighborhoods," Fritz said.

Fritz said he also wants to remain on the job because he expects that Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron, who is serving his fourth, four-year term, will not run again.



Richard Fritz

"I don't think it's wise to have a brand new sheriff and a brand new state's attorney," Fritz said. "I think there needs to be a continuity of policy."

Fritz is among a handful of candidates who have filed for the 2022 gubernatorial election in St. Mary's.

Commissioner John O'Connor was the first to file, seeking to become the president of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County, effectively vacating his position in Commissioner District 3, which he currently represents.

Marcus Drake, a Mechanicsville resident, has filed to run for the District 2 commissioner seat as a Republican; it is unknown whether incumbent Commissioner Mike Hewitt will run for reelection. None of the other incumbent commis-

sioners have filed for reelection.

Christie Kelly, incumbent county treasurer, has also filed for reelection.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

### **Brewster: COVID Delta** Variant Targets Youth, Young Adults

#### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus is now the most prevalent strain of the disease across the country, County Health Officer Dr. Meena Brewster told elected leaders this week, and the youth and young adults of St. Mary's County should be concerned about it.

"It's very concerning," Brewster said of the Delta variant's rise. "It does appear to more contagious and it has a higher attack rate than some of the other variants.

"We're seeing more impacts of severe disease on our youth and young adults."

Brewster renewed her call for those 12 years old and older to get vaccinated if they have not done so already.

"It's [the Delta variant] become the dominant strain in the U.S. due mostly to the unvaccinated, including those not age eligible to be vaccinated," Brewster said. The first case of the Delta variant in Maryland was found in St. Mary's, Brewster said, though that one case is probably one among others that have yet to be positively identified as that particular variant.

Brewster said the health department was working towards gaining better genomic testing abilities to allow it to better identify and track the spread of the variant here.

Despite the rise of the Delta variant, St. Mary's appears to be beating the virus overall.

The county's new case rate as well as other metrics used to track the virus' spread have significantly declined.

"We've definitely enjoyed a slowed down pace of new cases over the past few weeks," Brewster said. "The number of St. Mary's County fatalities has held at 132."

Brewster reported that roughly 53 percent of all county residents have received at least their first dose of vaccine, while about 50 percent of residents have received both doses of a vaccine.

The vaccines deployed against CO-VID-19 are still effective against the Delta variant, Brewster reported.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

### County Wants Part of Route 5 Named for Sheriff Joe Lee Somerville

#### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County sent a letter this week to the Maryland Department of Transportation petitioning for a portion of Route 5 be named in honor of the county's – and the state's – first black sheriff.

Local News

"The Commissioners of St. Mary's County support the dedication of the approximately 10mile portion of Maryland Route 5/Point Lookout Road from Leonardtown to the intersection with Route 235 in Mechanicsville to former Sheriff Joseph Lee Somerville," the July 13 letter stated. "It is a fitting tribute to the many accomplishments, contributions and legacy of a well-respected, historic figure from our community."

Sommerville served as sheriff starting in 1977, filling out the term of Sheriff George Sanger, who died in office.

He was appointed by then Gov. Marvin Mandel and was sworn in at the courthouse steps in Leonardtown.

He was 37 years old; Sommerville won reelection in 1978 and served until 1982.

Somerville, according to the missive, was also the first African American deputy to serve in St. Mary's, his home county, when he joined the agency in 1966.

Somerville passed away Apr. 1. He was 81 years old.

The route proposed by the county commissioners memorializes Somerville's duties performed on the job as well as his memory.

"This particular stretch of roadway encompasses the route that he patrolled during his duty as deputy sheriff and runs past his former home in Loveville where his family still resides today.

"Sheriff Sommerville was a lifetime resident of St. Mary's County and a dedicated law enforcement officer whose contributions and accomplishments deem him more than worthy of this honor and recognition."

guyleonard@countytimes.net



Sheriff Joseph Lee Somerville

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#### Local News 7

### **Alcohol Beverage Board Delays Delivery, To-Go Service Approval**

### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

The St. Mary's County Alcohol Beverage Board held off this week on voting to opt into provisions of a piece of legislation recently signed into law by Gov. Larry Hogan, HB 12, that legalizes carry out of alcoholic beverages. with some restrictions, as well as delivery.

Instead, the board directed their staff to create regulatory language that coincided with the authority of the bill, which the entire board could consider at its Aug. 8 meeting.

The law codifies emergency executive orders from Hogan during the COVID-19 pandemic that helped alcohol beverage licensees continue to operate their business in the absence of in-person customers.

The law does not automatically take hold but must first receive the approval of the local beverage board

Members of the beverage board briefed the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on the legislation's potential effects several weeks ago, stating their concerns that it could encourage more drinking and driving as well as being

difficult to enforce rules of consumption of alcohol, particularly through delivery services.

Board members continued to debate HB 12's merits at their July 8 meeting.

Legal counsel for the board said any regulations the board made stemming from the legislation's authority could be withdrawn if they proved problematic.

"Like any other regulation, the board would have the right to rescind that regulation," said Christopher Beaver, the beverage board's attorney.

"I think that's an important point here," said David Willenborg, board chair. "That there is a reset button.

"I think I'm in favor of this... there are some busithat need help." nesses Willenborg noted the board could still control the amount of alcohol a licensee could sell either by delivery or by carry-out.

Licensees would still have to apply for a permit to engage in those practices from the board, Willenborg said.

Only licensees who can serve prepared food are eligible to take part under the law.

guyleonard@countytimes.net

### **Town Services Restored** After Cyber Attack

#### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

After a week's worth of restorative work on the Town of Leonardtown's computer systems, their ability to provide all services to town residents has been fully restored.

Last week the town government was left reeling from a ransomware attack that was part of what could be the most widespread global ransomware attack in history.

Rebecca Sothoron, town treasurer, said the office staff was 'working almost normally" as of July 14, with some customizations

of personal work stations that needed to be reinstalled.

Also computers at the town's waste water treatment plant on Van Wert Lane also had to be restored with new software.

"We've been slowly coming back system by system, since Monday," Sothoron said.

All the town's utilities bills had been processed, she said, and should be sent out by July 16 to all town residents.

"That was what affected our customers the most," Sothoron said

guyleonard@countytimes.net



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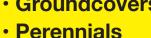
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### Heritage Area Grants Awarded in Southern Maryland

The Hogan administration announced July 9 that 116 matching grants totaling \$5.03 million were awarded to Maryland nonprofits, local jurisdictions, and other heritage tourism organizations by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA). Of them, 11 were awarded in Southern Maryland with grants totaling \$326.217. These grant funds support heritage tourism projects and activities that draw visitors and expand economic development and tourism-related job creation throughout Maryland.

The Southern Maryland grants were:

American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc., Calvert; Parkers Creek Heritage Trail; \$25,827.00

American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc., Calvert; Brown United Methodist Church Stabilization \$8,500.

Calvert Marine Museum Society, Inc., Calvert, Making Community Connections: An Interpretative Plan for the Maritime Gallery; \$50,000.

Friends of Calvert Cliffs State Park, Calvert, Marsh Restoration to Improve User Experience and Increase Nature Tourism; \$20,555.

Friends of Chapman State Park, Inc., Charles, Keys to History: Making Mount Aventine Accessible for All; \$7,750.

Friends of Maxwell Hall Inc., Charles, Maxwell Hall: Discovering and Raising New Voices: Phase 1 \$18,000.

Historic Sotterley Inc., St. Mary's, Historic Sotterley - Transcending Barriers to Common Ground \$15,015.

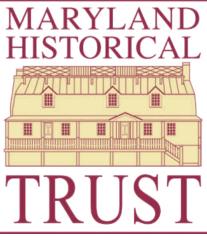
Historic St Mary's City Foundation, Inc., St. Mary's, 1634 St. Mary's Fort Pavilion; \$50,000.

Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, Calvert, Patterson Center Greenhouse Conservation Project; \$6,070.

Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert; FY 2022 Management Grant; \$100,000.

Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert; Southern Maryland Grandma's Hands Project; \$24,500.

"Heritage tourism fosters economic development and job creation, while making our communities better places to live and work," said Governor Larry Hogan. "Our administration is proud that this additional funding will allow for 116 projects to move forward and congratulate Maryland's Heritage Areas and their tourism partners for their support in changing Mary-



land for the better."

MHAA oversees Maryland's system of 13 locally-administered, State-certified heritage areas. Today, all Maryland counties and Baltimore City have at least part of a State-certified heritage area within their boundaries. Heritage areas foster broad public-private partnerships to preserve and enhance the best of Maryland's historic sites and towns, unspoiled natural landscapes, and enduring traditions. These tangible links to both place and the past encourage residents to recognize they have a special piece of the American story to treasure and share with others and that in doing so they are contributing to the economic well-being of Maryland's communities.

Maryland's heritage areas contribute to Maryland's economy by saving and enhancing the places that attract heritage tourists - people who focus their travels on historic sites, museums, cultural activities, or the natural beauty of Maryland's Atlantic and Chesapeake Bay coastal areas and unspoiled scenery of Mountain Maryland. The Maryland Heritage Areas Program provides \$2.4 billion in annual economic impact and MHAA grants generate \$319.8 million in state and local taxes and supports 33,815 full- and part-time jobs annually. A full economic impact study can be found here: https://mht.maryland. gov/heritageareas impact.shtml.

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority is an independent unit in the Executive Branch of government administered by the Maryland Department of Planning. Since its creation in 1996, MHAA has awarded over \$46 million dollars in grants and helped to leverage more than \$1.62 billion in non-state funding for heritage tourism projects and activities in Maryland's 13 Certified Heritage Areas.

Press Release from Maryland Heritage Areas Program.

### Maryland State Income Taxes Due, July 15

Comptroller Peter Franchot reminds taxpayers that Maryland state income taxes are due, July 15, after a 90-day filing and payment extension, which was the most generous in the nation.

"Many Marylanders were hit hard by the pandemic, so extending the deadline was the compassionate and commonsense thing to do," Comptroller Franchot said. "If you're unable to pay what you owe, our agency will help you set up a payment plan, but you must file and pay what you can by July 15."

In March, the Comptroller extended the deadline by three months due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as state and federal legislation that required extensive changes to 2020 tax forms in the middle of the filing season.

No interest or penalties will be assessed if returns are filed and taxes owed are paid by July 15. The extended deadline applies to 2020 individual, fiduciary and corporate income tax returns, as well as 2021 first and second quarter estimated payments.

Individual taxpayers who filed a federal extension automatically get a state extension, with both lasting until October 15. If you expect to owe the state money, that payment must be submitted by July 15 to avoid being assessed interest and penalties. If a taxpayer did not request a federal extension and more time is needed to file state taxes, follow the instructions on Form PV. Filing this form extends the time to submit taxes, but does not extend the time to pay.

Comptroller Franchot recently announced a temporary, automatic waiver of interest and penalties for pass-through entities (PTEs) filing and paying their 2020 income taxes by September 15, 2021. The waiver was a result of legislation passed during the 2021 legislative session that required revisions to the 2020 PTE forms. The waiver applies to late payment interest and penalty that otherwise would have been incurred on payments made after July 15, 2021 if the 2020 returns are filed and tax is paid by September 15, 2021. PTE filers who need additional relief may send requests to PTEREQUEST@Marylandtaxes. gov.

Taxpayers who need assistance filing taxes or with other tax-related questions can get help from agency staff in person or virtually. The agency's 12 branch offices are located in Annapolis, Baltimore, Cumberland, Elkton, Frederick, Greenbelt, Hagerstown, Salisbury, Towson, Upper Marlboro, Waldorf and Wheaton. Appointments are strongly encouraged. Virtual appointments can be scheduled at www.marylandtaxes. gov and clicking on the "Locations" tab.

Comptroller Franchot's office has already processed more than 2.9 million state returns this tax season with more than \$2.1 billion in refunds issued to more than 2.1 million taxpayers, with refunds averaging \$1,000.

For more information or if you have questions about your state return, email taxhelp@marylandtaxes.gov or call 410-260-7980 from Central Maryland or 1-800-MD-TAXES (1-800-638-2937) from elsewhere. Assistance is available Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



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### **ST. MARY'S COUNTY SHERIFF'S CRIME REP Youth Gun Violence Task Lexington Park**

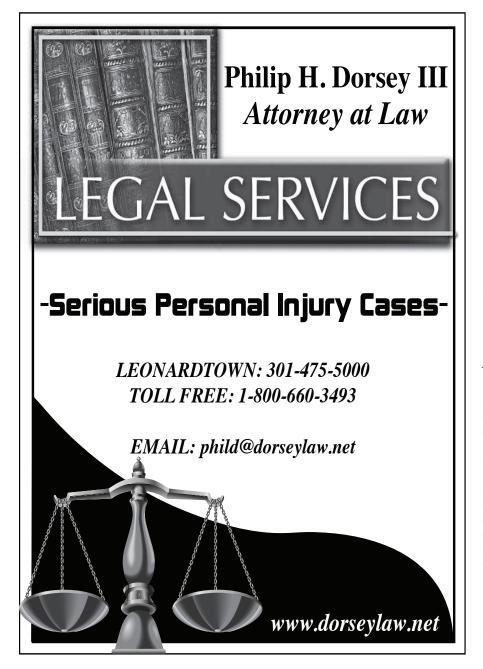
### **Home Invasion Under** Investigation

On July 10 at approximately 6:20 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 20100 block of Three Notch Road in Lexington Park, for the reported assault. Upon arrival deputies located a male victim, age 32 of Lexington Park, injured in the backyard of the residence. The victim advised unknown suspects forced entry into the residence and assaulted him with bats and machetes. The victim ultimately jumped from an upstairs window, and the suspects fled the scene. The victim was transported via helicopter to an area trauma center for treatment.

Detectives from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Criminal

Investigations Division and personnel from Crime Lab responded to the scene and continued the investigation. Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact Detective Payne at 301-475-4200 Ext. 78010 or email: tyler.payne@stmarysmd.com. This incident does not appear to be a random act of violence.

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



# **Force Arrests**

On July 9 members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force responded to the 46300 block of Columbus Drive in Lexington Park, for the reported shots Upon arrival deputies made fired. contact with the victim who advised an individual named Rejon Markee

Barnhill, 20 of Lexington Park, and several other individuals, had approached her vehicle while she was driving, and shot at the vehicle. Damage was observed to the Rejon Markee Barnhil victim's vehicle and shell casings

were recovered from the area.

Barnhill was located in the area and arrested. Barnhill was charged with the following:

- Handgun on Person
- Loaded Handgun on Person
- Possession of Firearm/Minor Firearm Use/Felony Violent Crime
- **Reckless Endangerment**
- Assault First Degree
- Assault Second Degree

Also, on July 9, 2021, members of the Youth Gun Violence Task Force located and apprehended James Sylvester Ford Jr., age 20 of Lexington Park, on an outstanding warrant for the

following:

Possession of Firearm/Minor

Regulated Firearm/ Stolen/Sell Anyone with information on violence gun in St. Mary's County is asked to contact (301) 475-4200 extension 78087 or by email at stopgun-



violence@stmarysmd.com.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Youth Gun Violence Task Force is a collaborative effort with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Maryland State Police (MSP) and the State's Attorney's Office for St. Mary's County to ensure the safety and security of all residents, through the arrest and prosecution of those seeking to do harm unto others through gun violence.

#StopGunViolence

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

### **Mulitple Assaults in Mechanicsville Fight**

On July 11 at approximately 8:03 p.m. deputies from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office responded to the 40400 block of Kavanagh Road in Mechanicsville, for the reported hit-and-run collision involving injury. Preliminary investigation determined numerous suspects blocked a roadway and assaulted five victims who were in two separate vehicles, with baseball bats, pepper spray, a taser, as well as a handgun.

One suspect pointed a handgun at the victim's vehicle at which time the suspects began to actively assault the victims. During the assault, shots were fired and the operator of one of the vehicles fled the area to escape the assault, and as a result a male suspect, age 49 of Prince George's County, was struck by the victim's vehicle. The suspect was ultimately flown to an area trauma center for treatment. Two female victims ages 23 and 20 of Mechanicsville and Bushwood, were flown to area trauma centers for

treatment of injuries sustained in the assault. A female suspect, age 30 of Mechanicsville, was flown to an area trauma center for injuries sustained in the incident. A handgun was recovered from the scene.

Detectives from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division and Crime Lab personnel responded to the scene and continued the investigation. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Detective Warren Forinash at (301) 475-4200 extension 78072 or by email at Warren.Forinash@stmarysmd.com.

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

### **Womens Club Donation**



Recently, The Woman's Club of St. Mary's County, Inc. donated \$1,200 to Feed St. Mary's to help in its mission to alleviate hunger in the County. The Club provides financial assistance to several organizations that support our community, as well as awarding three \$2,000 scholarships each year to deserving high school seniors. Pictured from left to right, Charles Wharton, Outreach Director of Feed St. Mary's; Lynn Newkirk, Woman's Club 1st Vice President; Carole Romary, Woman's Club President; Wayne Millen, Manager of Feed St. Mary's; Dr. Linda Lymas, President of Feed St. Mary; and Reverend Greg Syler, Secretary of Feed St. Mary's

### Farmer Mini-Grants Announced

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC) announces the 8th Round of the Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program.

SMADC will begin accepting Mini-Grant applications on July 15. The Mini-Grant closes on September 1, 2021, with awards announced by October 15, 2021.

The Mini-Grant program aligns with SMADC's mission 'to support farms and the future of agriculture in Southern Maryland and is designed to assist new and beginning farmers who own or lease existing agricultural properties with small start-up projects, and to assist experienced farmers who are looking to diversify or expand a current agriculture project. The projects should be simple in scope and must be successfully completed within one year.

SMADC awards will be up to \$2,000 per applicant and is a oneto-one match by the farmer. A total of \$40,000 in funding is available. However, it is anticipated that the number of applicants may exceed the amount of funding available, therefore grant applications will be ranked and awards may be less than the requested amount.

Grant funds may be used for

equipment/services that help transition a farm's sales strategy (such as online sales, home delivery, onfarm sales, etc.), for other projects that allow the farm business to maintain and/or expand sales, for the purchase of foundation livestock, purchase of plant stock, marketing and promotion of current farm operation, new fencing, hoop house, and materials needed for value-added food production and on-farm upgrades to enhance food safety.

"The Mini-Grant program has become very popular with Southern Maryland farmers, and has awarded \$157,007 to 101 farm projects over the previous seven rounds", says SMADC Director, Shelby Watson-Hampton. "The farmers we work with are innovative, creative, and passionate, and we look forward to seeing what new and creative project ideas come through in the applications for this next round."

For complete details of the SMADC Southern Maryland Farmer Mini-Grant Program, including Round 8 criteria, Grant guidelines, and to access the online Grant application form, visit 'Farmer Resources' to find the 'Mini-Grants' page at www.SMADC.com. *Press Release from SMADC.*  **Oakville Families Celebrate Their Community** 

Full of music, fun, & families.







Photos courtesy of Ceandra Scott.

### Leadership Class Experiences Healthcare



Leadership Southern Maryland (LSM) Class of 2021 on June 3 participated in the eighth of nine educational sessions for the 2020-21 LSM Executive Program - Healthcare.

Sponsored by The Chesapeake-Potomac Healthcare Alliance, this one-day event began with a panel discussion on healthcare issues and challenges in Southern Maryland, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis. The panel included representatives from CalvertHealth System, University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center, and MedStar St. Mary's Hospital.

Following the panel, the class participated in a mental health first aid exercise then met with the health officers from the tricounty area to learn more about public health challenges and programs in the region. Sagepoint Senior Living Services was also on-hand to elaborate on the memory care services they offer to seniors. They provided the class with the unique opportunity to participate in a dementia exercise that demonstrated the challenges faced by those coping with memory loss and sensory issues.

The afternoon portion of the day spotlighted the COVID-19

response in Southern Maryland and how leaders across multiple industries including public safety, healthcare, and education have worked together to navigate obstacles presented by the pandemic. The healthcare session also included presentations on chronic disease prevention and the Charles County Mobile Integrated Health initiative as well as an overview of services offered through Maryland Coalition of Families by family peer support specialist Amy Young.

Leadership Southern Maryland is a nine-month tuition-based program that educates and inspires a diverse group of current and emerging leaders creating opportunities for collaborations and partnerships impacting the community needs of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties ensuring a cross-section of the region including diversity of geographic location, profession, ethnicity, and gender.

For more information, please contact Denise Foster, executive director, Leadership Southern Maryland, 301-862-7663, via email denise@leadershipsomd. org or visit www.leadershipsomd. org.

Press Release from LSM

### Leadership Group Announces Incoming, Outgoing Board Members



Basia Kenney

At its June board meeting, Leadership Southern Maryland (LSM) confirmed its board of directors for 2021-2022.

Joining the board are Lisa Clark LSM'14, principal account delivery executive, state & local government, Microsoft Corporation; Basia Kenney LEAP'20, computer scientist, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division; and Angela Walters Small LSM'16, public information officer and director of media relations, College of Southern Maryland.

LSM's executive board membership for 2021-2022 is as follows: Mary Beth Cook LSM'17, president; Gadson "Ed" Rule LSM'18, vice president; Joan Thorp, LSM'18, treasurer; Joe Mortensen LSM'16, secretary, and Samuel C. P. Baldwin, Jr., Esq. LSM'16, immediate past president.

LSM thanks Barry Friedman LSM'09 and Christa Kuhl LSM'14 for their board service, which completed in June 2021.

Leadership Southern Maryland is a nine-month tuition-based program that educates and inspires a diverse group of current and emerging leaders creating opportunities for collaborations and partnerships impact-



Angela Walters Small



Lisa Clark

ing the community needs of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties ensuring a cross-section of the region including diversity of geographic location, profession, ethnicity, and gender.

For more information, please contact Denise Foster, executive director, Leadership Southern Maryland, 301-862-7663, via email denise@ leadershipsomd.org or visit www. leadershipsomd.org.

Press Release from LSM.





### **Burch Oil Supports** Lcoal Social Services **Access to the Arts**

Partners with Annmarie Garden

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center acknowledges and thank Burch Oil Co., Inc. for its generous help and support of the garden's art programs impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. In early 2021, Burch Oil partnered with the Garden to improve the ventilation in its "Clay Studio", enabling indoor art classes to continue during the cold season.

Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center has become a haven for many during the pandemic. Offering outdoor art experiences like the "Enchanted Summer" and "Garden in Lights", guests of all ages have found joy, peace and creative inspiration during daily visits, events and art classes. Pottery classes, which are held in the Garden's "Clay Studio", a converted garage which is home to a fully equipped ceramics classroom, were in high demand. However, with no HVAC system and little other ventilation, the popular classes came to an abrupt halt in November when it became too cold to work in an indoor/outdoor format.

When we heard activities were being canceled at Annmarie, we knew we had to help," said Sheri Norris, vice president at Burch Oil Co., Inc. "Sometimes we take these things for granted and brush them off as extras. But the stress of the pandemic has made it painfully clear how important creative outlets are to the quality of life in our community. They bring people together and give a little escape from the outside world. This



solution was in our wheelhouse and allowed us to use our expertise in heating and indoor air quality to help make a difference.

With the donated services of Burch Oil and support from the Maryland State Department of Housing and Community Development, an HVAC system and other ventilation equipment was installed allowing classes to resume. "What a wonderful gift," noted Annmarie Garden Program Director, Jaimie Jeffrey. "This upgrade allowed us to provide a therapeutic escape from the stress of this challenging year. Moving forward, what was once a threeseason space can now accommodate classes all year long. It will be buzzing with creative energy!"

Annmarie Garden Development Director, Pam Shilling added "The folks at Burch Oil realized they were in a unique position to help provide a resource for the community. It's this kind of generosity and commitment to helping others that makes Southern Maryland such a wonderful place to live. We're truly grateful to Sheri and the entire team at Burch Oil for their friendship and support.'

Press Release from Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center

## **Exapnds Access**

The Saint Mary's County Department of Social Services (SMCDSS) is pleased to announce the expansion of the SMCDSS Customer Care Team, Lexington Park hours of operation and program enhancements to the Child Support payment options.

Redesign of Service Delivery Since March 2020, Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS) and SMCDSS have undergone changes to ensure all customers' needs are met while providing a full array of services and benefits online, on the phone or on location. The State of Mary-land's MDThink, an on-line platform, has been updated to provide easy access to benefits including food and cash financial assistance, Medical QMB/SLMB, and Energy Assistance. For more information or to apply, St. Mary's residents are encouraged to https://mymdthink.maryland. visit gov/home/#/.

The Customer Care Team (CCT) has implemented an appointment-based system to better serve the community and meet the needs of customers. The CCT answers a wide-array of questions relating to customer benefits and services, schedules in-person and online appointments and resolves 75% of issues at first point of inquiry.

The Lexington Park office, located at 21775 Great Mills Rd., Lexington Park, MD, is open for lobby services during the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. Appointments for services and benefits are encouraged, however, crisis concerns will be addressed appropriately on a case-bycase basis.

Child Support Payment Options available through St. Mary's County DSS include:

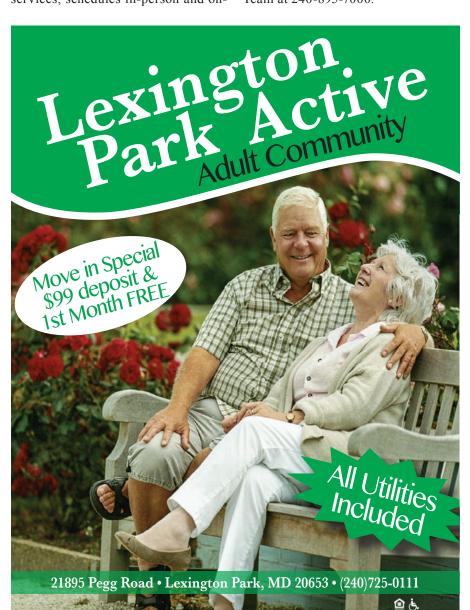
**On-Line**: https:// md.smartchildsupport.com

On the Phone by Credit Card: 844-324-3855

By Mail: Maryland Child Support Account, PO Box 17396, Baltimore, MD 21297

Money Orders can be purchased at your local Post Office, Bank or Other Retail Establishments

For added convenience and efficient service, payments can be made at the DSS Lexington Park office by appointment. To schedule a time between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., please call the Customer Care Team at 240-895-7000.





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### **Potomac Jazz Festival Weekend**











### **Leonardtown Looks To The Water**

#### By Guy Leonard Staff Writer

Leonardtown is working to quickly recover and reopen for business as the county is ready to leave the COV-ID-19 pandemic behind and it's looking to the water to boost its success.

The county's tourism arm, Visit St. Mary's, and a local charter boat captain are partnering with the town to take full advantage of its wharf and growing docking amenities there as well as its scenic vista of Breton Bay.

Visit St. Mary's new director, Barbara Sopato, is working on a comprehensive plan to boost tourism throughout the county and that includes Leonardtown.

"Leonardtown is a very important part of it," Sopato told The County Times. "I feel it's vitally important.

"It's such a hub for restaurants, the arts, all kinds of activities and of course there's the wharf."

Supporting the new boat tours that Capt. Phil Langley of Fish the Bay Charters is offering is just one more reason for tourists, and county residents who have long felt little reason to visit Leonardtown, to discover it, Sopato said.

"We have a solid amount of limited-service hotels in St. Mary's but they're not really destinations," Sopato said. "Leonardtown, thankfully, has a newly opened hotel." Leonardtown has the restaurants, shops and other amenities that make the town a destination tourists want to come to and spend more than just an afternoon.

"That's how we measure success, is through overnight stays," Sopato said.

The hotel, located on Park Avenue, also has a trolley that can take guests to different destinations in town, making shopping and vacationing easier.

Sopato said such a transportation system could be expanded to bring people from all over the county to Leonardtown and around town once they arrived.

It was one part of her vision to aid tourism and economic growth there, she said.

But the boat tours, she said, were a way to distinguish Leonardtown from other destinations as much of the nearby shoreline was largely undeveloped and perfect for sightseeing.

"I absolutely think it's a winner," Sopato said of the tours and the town's focus on its maritime assets. "The water is a great distinction for St. Mary's County and it's a great distinction for Leonardtown."

Leonardtown's walkability is also an asset, Sopato said, as people were anxious to get back out and socialize after more than a year of social distancing restrictions and stay-at-home orders.

"The trend right now is going outside and staying outside," Sopato said. "There are a lot of people who have lived in Leonardtown who've never been out on the water there. "It gives people the perspective of the beauty here."

The water tours will be operating through October, she said, so passengers will get to see the county's shorelines change seasons.

"I can't wait to get out there and see the fall colors," Sopato said.

Langley said Leonardtown's location made it an ideal hub for boat tours.

"I've been considering doing it for a few years," Langley said of operat-





ing out of the town's wharf property. "I think it was underutilized."

The wharf has become a popular spot for weddings, various events, boating and kayaking; the town is pushing ahead with more amenities there including more docking slips for visiting boaters.

Langley's route for boat tours takes passengers from the wharf looking out over Breton Bay, out into the Potomac River and out on to the west side of St. Clements Island, where colonists from England first landed in 1632.

Water taxi tours from the St. Clements Island Museum to the island are offered by the county but they do not take visitors to other parts of the island, just to one embarkation point directly across from the Coltons Point shore.

"It's getting people on the water and experiencing some of that history of St. Mary's County," Langley said.

In recent years Leonardtown has been trying to reclaim its connection to the water; generations ago it was a major hub of commerce and transportation involving significant boat traffic. The wharf was also a center for entertainment and nightlife with a restaurant, bar and many other amenities, the restaurant fell victim to a fire decades ago and the amenities there never fully returned.

The town has long sought to attract a restaurant there, and though it is still working toward that goal, it has found a vendor willing to operate a food concession stand at the kiosk at that property.

Langley has been running the tours for about a month and said of the comments about the service that "90 percent of them are very positive."

Weather and sea conditions can be a factor in how long a tour is able to last – normally they are two hours in duration – but sometimes that is also dependent upon his passengers on board the Linda S.

"Not all of my passengers have sea legs," Langley said. "But there seems to be quite a bit of interest in it."

The partnership with the town, Visit St. Mary's and Langley has been a beneficial one for him, he said.

"It's a win-win situation," Langley said. "I'm excited; I've got generations of history here in St. Mary's County and I like to share it."

Laschelle McKay, town administrator, said the town was well situated to make a post COVID-19 recovery, which was already underway.

"We've been working on getting people back into town," McKay said. "COVID did us a favor in that people heard about us.

"They've discovered us now because of the outdoor seating [in front of restaurants and bars.]

Leonardtown fought hard in the early days of the pandemic to get such seating approved with the aid of the county's Alcohol Beverage Board, which helped bring customer back to beleaguered small businesses throughout the town.

The town council declined to purchase a paddle boat last fall that would have conducted similar tours, but McKay said Langley's service allowed Leonardtown to continue to use its waterfront to prosper from tourism.

"While everyone didn't agree with the paddle boat, there is buy-in from everyone that we should have more activities near the water."

guyleonard@countytimes.net

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# JULY 17, 2021 - 10 A

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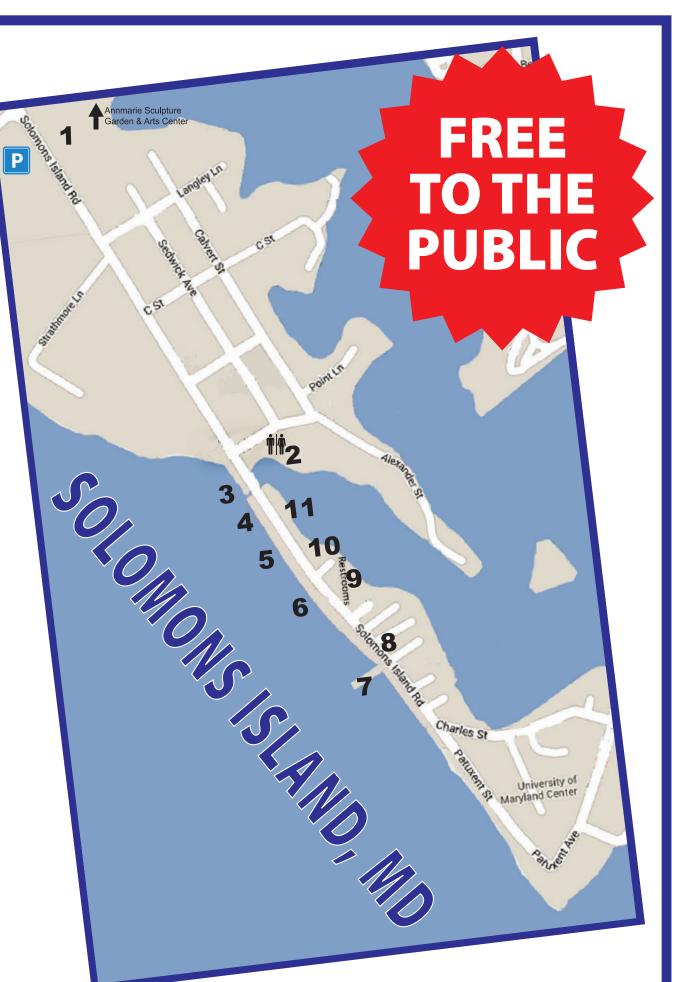
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Chamber	1
County Democratic Womens Club	7
County Minority Business Alliance	7
County Sheriff's Dept	9
Hospice - The Shoppe for Hospice	11
or Children - CASA Program	7
of Southern Maryland	4
n Patterson Park	6
rederick Vol Fire Department	10
s Volunteer Rescue Fire Dept.	2

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### **EVENT ACTIVITIES:**

Use your camera app and scan the code for specific specials, discounts and activities taking place!



### Leonardtown Wharf (OASTAL ARTS MARKET



Saturday • July 17<sup>th</sup> • 9 AM - 3 PM www.coastalartsmarket.com

## **Craft Guild Shop**

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### Education 19

### **St. Mary's College Inducts Phi Beta Kappa's Zeta Students**

Twenty-two St. Mary's College of Maryland students were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa's Zeta Chapter of Maryland on April 9. Two members of the St. Mary's College faculty - Dr. Todd Eberly and Dr. Julia King - were inducted as honorary members. The virtual ceremony took place via Zoom.

Eighteen seniors and four juniors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest academic honor society. The society's founding dates to 1776. The Zeta Chapter at St. Mary's College was approved in 1997, after a rigorous three-year review by the national organization.

The newest members of Zeta Chapter's Phi Beta Kappa include:

- Devin M. Garner of Huntingtown
- Harrison F. Bauman and Rachel A. Steelman of Mechanicsville
- Maura C. Mullaney of Prince Frederick.

### **County Public Schools Announce Virtual Academy**

St. Mary's County Public Schools' (SMCPS) announces the opening of the SMCPS Virtual Academy for the 2021-2022 school year.

The SMCPS Virtual Academy will be open for any student that is currently enrolled in St. Mary's County Public Schools or plans to enroll for the fall of 2021. The Virtual Academy will provide full-time, online instruction for students in grades 3-12. Using a blend of online educational technology tools and platforms, the Virtual Academy will provide students an opportunity to continue learning at home through a variety of synchronous, asynchronous, and blended approaches to the curriculum. Additionally, students in grades 9-12 will have the opportunity to create a hybrid schedule, attend some classes at the Tech Center or their home school, and enroll at the Virtual Academy for other coursework completion.

Ms. Maggie Giles, Academic Dean, says, "The Virtual Academy is going to offer students and families a choice and voice in their educational pathway. Online learning meets the needs of many of our learners. I am excited to be a part of this newest pathway for SMCPS students."

More information on the Virtual Academy can be found by visiting schools.smcps.org/virtual. The first of three informational sessions will be held on July 13, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Please join us via Zoom or in-person in the Board of Education Meeting Room, located at 23160 Moakley Street, Leonardtown, MD 20650. The Zoom link and information can be found by visiting the homepage of the SMCPS Virtual website. If you are ready to enroll your student, please do so by completing this registration form.

### Grab and Go Meals and Weekly Activity Bags

St. Mary's County Public Schools' (SMCPS) Judy Center and Food and Nutrition Services are pleased to announce its free summer meals program in partnership with a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture. Meals are for children 18 and under, free of charge. Details about the grab-and-go meal pick-up and weekly activity bag pick-up are included below.

On Wednesdays, July 7th - August 25th, the SMCPS' Food Service will operate a Grab and Go Breakfast and Lunch pick up at G.W. Carver Elementary School and Greenview Knolls Elementary School from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Parents or guardians may visit either site to pick up seven days of nutritious breakfast and lunch for their child.

Additionally, on Wednesdays, July 7th - August 4th, the Judy Center will be offering weekly learn at home family activity bags at G.W. Carver Elementary School and Greenview Knolls Elementary School from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

For additional information regarding grab-and-go breakfast and lunch, please contact Food and Nutrition Services at foodservice@ smcps.org. For more information regarding weekly family activity bags, please contact the Judy Center at 301-863- 4068.

# Wanderings



### YES, IT IS THE LITTLE THINGS



It truly is the little things that count isn't it? I never would have thought this before the last year and a half, but I am thankful for getting to sit in a waiting area last week at a large Baltimore hospital waiting for good news on my husband's procedure, which we happily received. How many of us have not been able to be with a loved one during a hospital stay, or an ER visit (we had one of those too back in February, where I had to drop him off and just go home). How many of us have still yet to celebrate the life of a relative that passed during that time? I am hoping we might yet have a memorial service for my cousin that passed last year. So, yes, waiting for my husband, or any relative that needs someone to be with them, is something that will be even more of an honor and cherished from now on

I look forward to aimless days with my husband in the old Mustang just exploring new areas, finding new wineries, or visiting our favorites when we can. As you can imagine, I will appreciate riding around in the Mustang at night a lot more when the headlight switch comes in and gets installed.

Any day I get to wander and explore the county by myself when I am not rushed is a little blessing too. A specialty coffee qualifies as well. Combine the two with visiting and talking with people and the day is happy and complete for me. And if my day gives me time to hold a book in my hands and get lost in the words on the pages then all is right in my world.

An upcoming blessing is having a new specialist, Dr. Jean-Marc Voyadzis, MD, "who is associate professor in the Department of Neurosurgery and co-director of the Center for Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery at MedStar Georgetown. He is also director of Neurosurgery Service at Calvert Memorial Hospital in Prince Frederick, Maryland" who is now in my list of specialists, and who was able to order me a COMPLETE SEDATION MRI at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital scheduled for October. It may be a little thing, but you can't get the proper treatment without the proper tests. I do not want to wake up in that machine. But I do want to be able to enjoy every minute of everyday of my life and if this is what it takes, then let's get it done.

My husband bringing me roses is always something, one of many somethings, that shows me he loves and appreciates me. Anything that involves dark chocolate, or a great steak, and good wine or Bourbon is a little thing that brings happiness to my husband. We make time to sit out at our firepit area every night we can with Mindy to appreciate the music of the birds. the frogs, and the beauty of the slow descent to dusk. There is that certain point where the temperature changes quickly and feels so perfect. You also have to enjoy that magic time between dusk to darkness quickly, because we all know that is when the mosquitos and no-see-ums come out to eat and buzz around you

Our church friends are a great blessing too and having one of their pre-teen daughters come over to plant flowers for me was amazing. Now I get to see that happy Black-eyed Susan's and remember that they were planted with friendship and love. Back to having church refreshments in a new way after church service and getting to sing with our wonderful choir and be with all those we have longed to see and hug again has filled that empty place in my soul. I will keep looking for those wonderful, soul-filling moments each and every day; hoping you have lots of them too.

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



### **Aerial Targets Program Office Changes Leadership**

The Aerial Targets program office (PMA-208) welcomed a new program manager during a ceremony July 1 at the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum.

Rear Adm. Brian Corey, Program Executive Officer for Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons (PEO (U&W)), presided over the change of command ceremony that transferred leadership from Capt. Molly Boron to Don Blottenberger.

"This program office has developed some amazing payloads that give our surface warriors and our air warriors (of all services) a very challenging presentation," Corey said. "Molly and her team arose to the challenge each and every time."

Since July 2018, Boron has led a team of over 300 personnel and was responsible for a \$1.6 billion program that supplied relevant aerial targets, target control systems, augmentation systems and threat simulation payloads for major combat weapon system test and evaluation (T&E), U.S. Fleet Forces Live Fire With a Purpose (LF-

WaP) training, and Foreign Military Sales (FMS) partners.

Under her tenure, BQM-177A achieved initial operational capability and the target was delivered to the first operating activity at Pacific Targets and Marine Operations (PTMO) at Naval Base Ventura County in California. Her team is currently on the cusp of completing the fourth and final operating activity BQM-177A transition.

PMA-208 played a part in USS Ford (CVN-78), DDG-1000, Standard Missile, Rolling Airframe Missile, and Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile development programs, as well as Rim of the Pacific (RimPac), Formidable Shield and other major U.S. naval exercises Boron also led introduction of the GQM-163A target capability at NASA Wallops and Hebrides, Scotland, providing high-end training to U.S. Fleet Forces and 6th Fleet and increased launch capacity at Point Mugu Sea Range by installing a 2nd MK-7 launcher.

Boron will now support NAVAIR's (U&W) as deputy program manager Inspector General Office.

"I could not be prouder of the men and women of PMA-208. As a team, we established new subsonic and supersonic capability and capacity," said Boron. "Our products are key enablers to PEO Integrated Warfare Systems combat weapon system test and evaluation and deploying ships' readiness. The team has leveraged their talent and invested incredible hours into our aerial and land targets, target systems, the stand up of new operating sites, and the training of fleet operators."

Blottenberger takes command after recently serving as the deputy program manager for the Precision Strike Weapons program office (PMA-201). A Maryland native, he graduated from University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1994. He has more than 25 years of experience as a civil servant supporting NAVAIR. Blottenberger has served in multiple roles in the F/A-18 program office and within PEO

for the Unmanned Carrier Aviation and Tomahawk program offices.

Without a doubt, the targets community is talented and poised to meet the demands of our Navy," Blottenberger said. "Targets will be ready to play its part in shaping our Navy as we deal with the uncertainties of the next 10 years. Together we will work to grow each other from good to great as we continue to pursue excellence while building the targets community of tomorrow."

PMA-208 provides threat representative aerial targets, such as the GQM-163A supersonic sea-skimming target, AQM-37D, BQM-34S, BQM-74E, BQM-177A and QF-16 Full Scale Aerial Target, to replicate numerous antiship cruise missiles and other airborne threats. Additionally, the program office provides augmentation systems, threat simulation payloads and target control systems - all of which allow targets to be configurable, tracked and controlled.



Rear Adm. Brian Corey, left, who oversees the Program Executive Office for Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons (PEO (U&W)), provides remarks at the Aerial Targets (PMA-208) change of comm where Capt. Molly Boron, center, is relieved by Don Blottenberger, right, as the chaplain looks on July 1 at the Pax River Naval Air Museum in Maryland. (U.S. Navy photo)

### **Tackle Box Fishing Report 48th Annual Governor's**



By Ken Lamb Contributing Writer

Cobia fishing is rocking along at a good pace. There are lots of cobia seekers and lots of chum lines, so it is inevitable that some will make a good strike and land several while others get skunked. Try to get out on a weekday when the traffic is less dense. Live eels are the trick.

Trollers are finding some cobia using surgical eel lures. There have been blue fish in the 18 to 25 inch range taking these lures. Some have caught a dozen or so of these toothy critters.

Cobia are located in the Mud Leads, below the Target Ship, and most anywhere in the Triangle.

Spanish mackerel are also in the lower bay mixed with blues.

Rockfish are available for lure casters. The Maryland summer closure starts on July 16 and lasts until the 30th. The Potomac cloure is already in and lasts until Aug. 21.

Spot are everywhere. If you can see water you are in the presence of spot. They will take the new Lugworms, bits of squid, shrimp, nightcrawler, etc, The favorite bait for spot 'bloodworms are in short supply. There have been no shipments of bloods from Maine since the Fourth of July. Bad tides, heat, and labor shortages are blamed. The Fishbite manufacured bait is an excellent substitute.

Perch fishing is excellent in the rivers. The perch fishing in the creeks has been good, but not like it should be. The lack of tide flow, abundace of nettles, and stained water due to rain fall has sent a lot of perch to the cleaner water in the deeper rivers. A break in the heat and some dry days will change that soon.

Tiny puppy drum like the heat and stain and are prevelant in the creeks taking most any bait or lure. Release them carefully. I have heard of a handful in the legal limit slot range of 18 to 27 inches.

There are reports of flounder at Point Lookout Bar and at Cornfield Point in the Potomac. Drift with live minnows and be prepared to catch lots of little ones that have to be thrown back for evey one of legal size.

### Can't Find Us On The News Stand?

Find Us Online @ www.countyfilmes.net

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



### **48th Annual Governor's Cup Yacht Race Sets Sail**

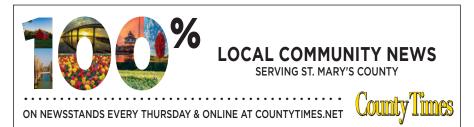
St. Mary's College of Maryland's highly anticipated Governor's Cup Yacht Race, scheduled for July 30-31, is open for registration.

This year marks the 48th running of the oldest and longest overnight race on the Chesapeake Bay and one of the biggest celebrations of sailing around. The race starts from Maryland's current capital city in Annapolis to its first capital city in St. Mary's City. Simultaneously, Potomac Race sailors start at Dahlgren, Southern Race sailors start at Fishing Bay, and Solomons Race sailors start at Solomons to sail to St. Mary's City. At the finish line, College faculty, staff, alumni and other members of the campus community will greet race participants to shore for a celebration including a waterfront crab feast and barbecue, Governor's Cup Awards Ceremony and music provided by a DJ.

Sports

Qualified sailors interested in participating in the race can register online at the official Gov' Cup website,www.smcm.edu/events/ govcup. Submit a completed entry along with a \$120 entry fee no later than July 23 at 5 p.m.

For information about the event, visit www.smcm.edu/events/govcup or email govcup@smcm.edu.





### **St. Mary's Department of Aging & Human Services** *Programs and Activities*

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

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

#### **Medicare Seminars**

Join us Wednesday, July 21, from 5-7 pm at the Garvey Senior Activity Center located at 23630 Hayden Farm Lane, Leonardtown to learn what changes take place when you no longer are eligible for Medicaid due to becoming eligible for Medicare. We will be discussing how you may be able to retain your Medicaid benefits, Medicare Savings Programs, Part D, Medigap plans, etc. To register contact us at medicarequestion@ stmarysmd.com or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1064.

Residents who are turning 65 this year are invited to attend a Medicare presentation on Wednesday, July 28, from 5-7 pm at the Garvey Senior Activity Center located at 23630 Hayden Farm Lane, Leonardtown to understand what options you have when choosing your Medicare benefits. We will be discussing Medigap plans, Part D, how retirement insurance works with Medicare, etc. To register contact us at medicarequestion@ stmarysmd.com or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1064.

**Energy Assistance** 

It is that time of year to apply for assistance with your electric and heating expenses. Eligibility is determined by the gross household income for everyone living in the residence. New this program year is varying income criteria based on the age of household residents. If all household members are under the age 67 the maximum monthly income for one person is \$1,878 and \$2,540 for a two-person household. For households with at least one member age 67 or over the monthly income for one person is \$2,147 and \$2,903 for a two person household. Higher income guidelines are available for households with three or more members. Persons age 60 and over or for those with a disability you may receive assistance applying for this program by calling 301-475-4200, ext. 3104. For those under 60 you may call the Tri-County Community Action Committee at 301-475-5574, ext. 200

#### Another Volunteer Bingo Caller Needed

The Loffler Senior Activity Center is looking for another person to call BINGO two Wednesdays per month from 12:30-1:30 p.m. We have one new volunteer who will call twice a month and would like another person to call on the other two Wednesdays. If you are someone who enjoys providing fun for the 50+ population, can call out numbers loudly and sometimes referee, we'd love to hear from you! Call Shellie Graziano at 301-475-4200, ext. 1655 or e-mail Sheila.Graziano@ stmarysmd.com.

#### **Pinochle Players Needed**

Do you like playing this game? Our group plays on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9 a.m. at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. They are looking for a few more people to get another table going. Interested? Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1658 or e-mail Sheila.Graziano@stmarysmd. com.

#### Presentation on Sleep Difficulty

On Wednesday, July 21, at 10 a.m. Healthwatch Coordinator Mary Tennyson will present Good Night, Already! at 10 a.m. in person at the Loffler Senior Activity Center: What is keeping you up at night? Difficulty sleeping is a common complaint among people over 60. Why? What, if anything, can be done about it? To register, call 301-475-4200, ext. 1660. Free.

### Loffler Book Club Selection Announced

The next book club meeting at the Loffler Senior Activity Center will take place on Friday, August 6, at 2 p.m. The group is reading Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker by Jennifer Chiaverini. Let us know if you'd like to be a part of this group by e-mailing Sheila. Graziano@stmarysmd.com or call Shellie: 301-475-4200, ext. 1655.





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

#### Thursday, July 15

#### **CSM Transfer Thursday** *Virtual*

11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

### Friday, July 16

#### Beth Israel Synagogue Shabbat Services Online

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

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

#### Bingo

Father Andrew White School 6:30 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus Council 1470 in Leonardtown is reopening bingo.

### Saturday, July 17

**Conversations & A Cruise** St Clement's Island Museum 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Enjoy summer breezes on a fun, educational and familyfriendly morning of cruising on the St. Clement's Island Water Taxi during this series of themed cruises throughout the season! \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids, kids under 2 are free. Call to book. 301-769-2222

#### **Meet and Greet**

St. Matthew Pentecostal Church;

*Noon - 4 p.m.* 

Connect with our community and our neighbors. Introduce the

community to Pastor John Butler and Lady Marie Butler and Church officials. Allow visitors to tour the church and the church pantry. Food and drinks will be provided. Social activities for youth and adults. For more information contact Corey or Zenobia Dyson at 240-210-1568 or visit our website at https://www.stmatthewpentecostal.church/.

### Monday, July 19

#### Aikido Classes Stat

A traditional Japanese martial art, with roots in ju-jitsu. Noncompetitive and non-confrontational, with the core principle of conflict resolution, while causing minimal damage. This class is suitable for all levels. Ages 7 & Up. Register at https://recreation. stmarysmd.com/wbwsc/webtrac.wsc/ under the self defense section.

#### Tuesday, July 20

#### **Grief Support Group** *Calvary Chapel*

7 p.m.

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

### Wednesday, July 21

#### Wayback Wednesdays

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

#### **DAV Assistance Program**

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

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

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

#### Food Pantry

Noon- 6 p.m.

St. Matthew's Pentecostal Church, 23755 Hollywood Road Leonardtown, MD 20650. 301-475-2910

### Thursday, July 22

**CSM Transfer Thursday** *Virtual* 

11 a.m.

CSM hosts Transfer institutions virtually each Thursday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Representatives from two different institutions will be available to chat with students and help navigate their future transfer experience. RSVPs are required to access Zoom information. Free. csmd.edu/transferthursdays

#### Ongoing

**Summerstock Show** July 23 at 7 p.m. July 24 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. July 25 at 3 p.m.

our Thursday publication.

Tickets are now on sale for the production of The Pirates of Penzance: a Live Concert Reading. You can purchase online, at the St. Mary's Recreation and Parks office in Leonardtown, or one hour before the show. Seating is limited.

#### **AmazonSmile Charity**

AmazonSmile could donate a percentage of shoppers' purchases to the2nd District VFD & RS (AKA Co. 6 / Valley Lee). For more info / instructions how to shop contact Cheryl @ 240-925-7559

COVID-19 Appointment-Free Testing

Lexington Park Office:

- Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, Wednesday, and 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

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

SMCHD COVID-19 Testing:

- Walk up for testing, parking is available
- Appointment-free
- No doctor's order needed
- Free of Charge (no out-ofpocket cost, co-payment, co-insurance, etc.)
- Bring health insurance information and identification, if possible – Uninsured community members are welcome and will not be charged

#### **Legal Notices** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY KNM INVESTMENTS Case No:C18CV21000007 KNM INVESTMENTS Case No:C18CV21000004 Plaintiff Plaintiff HOPPING HARVEY C HOPPING KATHLEEN R MD INVESTMENTS Defendant(s) Defendant(s) **Order of Publication** Order of Publication The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property LOT 644 SECTION 2 PLAT 3 GOLDEN redemption in the following property LOT 15 BLK J PLAT 1 - SECTION 4 PLAT 8/47 - WICOMICO SHORES, in the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S, sold by the Collector BEACH, in the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S, sold by the Collector of Taxes for of Taxes for the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff in this in this proceeding: proceeding: The property is described as account number 04-032349, LOT 15 BLK J The property is described as account number 05-009537, LOT 644 SECTION 2 PLAT 3 GOLDEN BEACH assessed to MD INVESTMENTS. PLAT 1 - SECTION 4 PLAT 8/47 - WICOMICO SHORES assessed to HOPPING HARVEY C HOPPING KATHLEEN R. The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid. redemption have not been paid. It is thereupon this 24th day of May, 2021, by the Circuit Court for ST. It is thereupon this 15th day of June, 2021, by the Circuit Court for ST. MARY'S COUNTY, Ordered, that notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this MARY'S COUNTY, Ordered, that notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this order in some newspaper having a general circulation once a week for 3 successive order in some newspaper having a general circulation once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by 24th day of July, 2021, and redeem the property ACCOUNT NUMBER 05-009537, the 15th day of August, 2021, and redeem the property ACCOUNT NUMBER LOT 644 SECTION 2 PLAT 3 GOLDEN BEACH, and answer the complaint or 04-032349, LOT 15 BLK J PLAT 1 - SECTION 4 PLAT 8/47 - WICOMICO thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of redemption in the SHORES, and answer the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered property, and vesting in the plaintiff, KNM INVESTMENTS LLC, a title, free foreclosing all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff, KNM and clear of all encumbrances. INVESTMENTS LLC, a title, free and clear of all encumbrances. IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY KNM INVESTMENTS Case No:C18CV21000005 KNM INVESTMENTS Case No:C18CV21000006 Plaintiff Plaintiff BRINTZENHOFE RICHARD A SUZANNE J James and Mary Parrish Defendant(s) Defendant(s) **Order of Publication Order of Publication** The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of The object of this proceeding is to secure the foreclosure of all rights of redemption in the following property LOT 37 BLK B PLAT 1 - SECTION 2 PLAT redemption in the following property LOT 32 BLK F PLAT 6 SECTION 2 PLAT 8/47 8/44 - WICOMICO SHORES, in the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S, sold by the Collector WICOMICO SHORES, Mechanicsville, Maryland in the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S, of Taxes for the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S and the State of Maryland to the plaintiff sold by the Collector of Taxes for the COUNTY of ST. MARY'S and the State of in this proceeding: Maryland to the plaintiff in this proceeding: The property is described as account number 04-040074, LOT 37 The property is described as account number 04-033027, LOT 32 BLK BLK B PLAT 1 - SECTION 2 PLAT 8/44 - WICOMICO SHORES assessed to F PLAT 6 SECTION 2 PLAT 8/47 WICOMICO SHORES assessed to PARRISH BRINTZENHOFE RICHARD A SUZANNE J. JAMES P. The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for The complaint states, among other things, that the amounts necessary for redemption have not been paid. redemption have not been paid. It is thereupon this 24th day of May, 2021, by the Circuit Court for ST. It is thereupon this 24th day of May, 2021, by the Circuit Court for ST. MARY'S COUNTY, Ordered, that notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this MARY'S COUNTY, Ordered, that notice be given by the insertion of a copy of this order in some newspaper having a general circulation once a week for 3 successive order in some newspaper having a general circulation once a week for 3 successive weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by weeks, warning all persons interested in the property to appear in this Court by the the 24th day of July, 2021, and redeem the property ACCOUNT NUMBER 04 24th day of July, 2021, and redeem the property ACCOUNT NUMBER 04-033027, LOT 32 BLK F PLAT 6 SECTION 2 PLAT 8/47 WICOMICO SHORES, and answer 040074, LOT 37 BLK B PLAT 1 - SECTION 2 PLAT 8/44 - WICOMICO SHORES, and answer the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing the complaint or thereafter a final judgment will be entered foreclosing all rights of all rights of redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff, KNM redemption in the property, and vesting in the plaintiff, KNM INVESTMENTS LLC, INVESTMENTS LLC, a title, free and clear of all encumbrances. a title, free and clear of all encumbrances. If you would like to place a **LEGAL NOTICE contact**

AlDaileyCountytimes@gmail.com

### Legals

### **Legal Notices**

IN THE MATTER OF DESTINY AMBER SMITH FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO DESTINY AMBER WOLFE BY AND THROUGH THEIR MOTHER/FATHER/GUARDIAN TONYA SMITH

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-21-459 Notice (Minor)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name from DESTINY AMBER SMITH to DESTINY AMBER WOLFE. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: Personal choice.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 08/15/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

IN THE MATTER OF BRIAN ALEXANDER SMITH FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO BRIAN ALEXANDER WOLFE BY AND THROUGH THEIR MOTHER/FATHER/GUARDIAN TONYA SMITH

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

#### Case No.: C-18-FM-21-466

Notice (Minor)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name from BRIAN ALEXANDER SMITH to BRIAN ALEXANDER WOLFE. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: His father is changing his last name to Wolfe.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 08/15/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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

#### IN THE MATTER OF BRIAN EDWIN KEITH SMITH II FOR CHANGE OF NAME TO BRIAN KEITH WOLFE

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

Case No.: C-18-FM-21-460 Notice (Adult)

The above Petitioner has filed a Petition for Change of Name from BRIAN EDWIN KEITH SMITH II to BRIAN KEITH WOLFE. The petitioner is seeking a name change because: Personal choice.

Any person may file an objection to the Petition on or before the 08/15/2021. The objection must be supported by an affidavit (written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation) and served upon all parties (Md Rule 1-321). If no timely objection is filed, the court may enter a default judgement or grant the name change.

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



### FINANCIAL FOCUS HOW DOES SOCIAL SECURITY FIT INTO RETIREMENT?

Here's something to think about: You could spend two, or even three, decades in retirement. To meet your income needs for all those years, you'll generally need a sizable amount of retirement assets. How will Social Security fit into the picture?

For most people, Social Security won't be enough to cover the cost of living in retirement. Nonetheless, Social Security benefits are still valuable, so you'll want to do whatever you can to maximize them.

Your first move is to determine when you should start taking Social Security. You can begin collecting benefits when you reach 62 – but should you? If you were to turn 62 this year, your payments would only be about 71% of what you'd get if you waited until your full retirement age, which is 66 years and 10 months. ("Full retirement age" varies, depending on when you were born, but for most people today, it will be between 66 and 67.) Every month you wait between now and your full retirement age, your benefits will increase. If you still want to delay taking benefits beyond your full retirement age, your payments will increase by 8% each year, until you're 70, when they "max out." Regardless of when you file, you'll also receive an annual cost-of-living adjustment.

So, when should you start claiming your benefits? There's no one "right" answer for everyone. If you turn 62 and you need the money, your choice might be made for you. But if you have sufficient income from other sources, you're in good health and you have longevity in your family, or you're still working, it might be worthwhile to wait until your full retirement age, or perhaps even longer, to start collecting. Another key consideration is

Another key consideration is spousal benefits. If your own full retirement benefit is less than 50% of your spouse's full retirement benefit, you would generally be eligible to claim spousal benefits, provided you're at least 62 and your spouse has filed for Social Security benefits.

Survivor benefits are another important consideration. When you pass away, your spouse would be able to receive up to 100% of your benefit or his/her own retirement benefit, whichever is higher. Thus, delaying Social Security could not only increase your own benefit, but also the benefit for your surviving spouse.

An additional issue to think about, when planning for how Social Security fits into your retirement, is your earned income. If you're younger than full retirement age, your benefit will be reduced by \$1 for each \$2 you earn above a certain amount, which, in 2021, is \$18,960. During the year you reach full retirement age, your benefit will be reduced by \$1 for each \$3 you earn above a set amount (\$50,520 in 2021). But once you hit the month at which you attain full retirement age, and from that point on, you can keep all of your benefits, no matter how much you earn (although your benefits could still be taxed).

One final point to keep in mind: The more you accumulate in your other retirement accounts, such as your IRA and 401(k) or similar employersponsored plan, the more flexibility you'll have in managing your Social Security benefits. So, throughout your working years, try to contribute as much as you can afford to these plans.

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

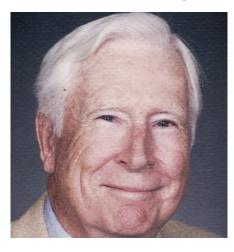
25

26 Obituaries

### **The County Times**

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.

#### James Marshall Banagan



James Marshall Banagan, 90, died July 13, 2021. Known to many by his nickname Jimmy, was born in Palmer, Maryland April 9, 1931. He was the son of the late George Marshall Banagan and Hilda Morris Banagan. He attended Holy Angels School and was a 1948 graduate of St. Mary's Academy. Jimmy joined the Coast Guard in November of 1954 and went in the Coast Guard Reserves in January 1955. He was employed by C & P Telephone Company from 1956 to 1976.

Jimmy married the love of his life Dot on September 29, 1956. In 1971 Jimmy and his wife in partnership with Eddie and Patsy Bailey opened B & B Maintenance of Maryland Inc. in Bushwood. When he and Dot retired in 1986 the business was passed on to the next generation when they turned it over to her niece Julie Buckler and nephew Greg Payne. Over the past 49 years, through hard work and dedication, the business has grown into the leading maintenance service provider in Southern Maryland.

Jimmy was an active member of his community and his contributions numerous. He worked at Holy Angels Church dinners, served on the St. Clements Hundred Osprey Gala Committee, 7th District Optimist Club 1st President, Charter President (1968), Lt. Governor (1969-1970), Optimist of the Year (1986) and Blessing of Fleet (Chairperson/Co-Chairperson). 50-year Charter member of 7th District Optimist Club (2018), Admiral of Chesapeake Bay (1975) Charter Member 7th District Fire Department (1948-1949), Judicial Nominating Committee (16 years) Judicial Nominating Committee Chairperson (4 years), St. Mary's Agriculture & Seafood Commission (3 years), Aquaculture Advisory Committee (3 years), Treasurer, Commissioner William E. Bailey (2 terms), St. Mary's County Nursing Home Board (6 years), St. Clements Island Board (14 years), St. Clements Hundred Osprey Gala (5 Years), Appointed to Democratic Central Committee, American Legion



FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR TWO GENERATIONS

www.brinsfieldfuneral.com

Post #221 (50 years), Boy Scout Master (10 years), Sacred Heart Church Cemetery Committee, and Democrat of the Year 2005.

Jimmy and Dot were both distinguished alumnae of SMA and were recognized as Pillars of the Community by St. Mary's Ryken High School for their outstanding contributions to improve the quality of life in their community. Jimmy was active in Democratic politics. When Eddie Bailey ran for St. Mary's County Commissioner, Jimmy was his campaign treasurer. Eddie was elected to two terms and Jimmy enjoyed the down-home exposure to politics. Jimmy also served on Johnny Wood's fundraising committee for over thirty years. As a staunchly loyal democrat, he could be found working the polls faithfully. Jimmy was a man of the world with many interests and hobbies. There wasn't a subject you could bring up that he didn't have some knowledge about.

He loved to share stories of what he learned of other cultures on his travels. Antiques (That Oyster Can Collection was his pride and joy!) and collectibles including their history and why they are important, bird watching, taxidermy in his younger years, Scouting and his role in founding the Sea Scouts, horticulture, and the history of the 7th District and Potomac River are just a few of the varied interests Jimmy enjoyed talking with other like-minded folks about. With his wealth of knowledge about so many topics, you were fortunate if you got seated by him at a dinner party. He was a great conversationalist! He traveled extensively throughout the United States and enjoyed his trips to Australia, China, Italy, Alaska, Africa, and Ireland.

Jimmy was predeceased by his wife of 50 years Dorothy Gass Banagan. Although he had no children of this own, Jimmy considered his nieces Jackie Payne Norris and Julie Payne Buckler his ("Number Ones.") The family is receiving friends on Monday, July 19, 2021 from 9:15 am to 10:30 am at Holy Angels Catholic Church, Avenue, Maryland where Optimist Prayers will be said at 10.30 am A mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am. Interment will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Bushwood, MD. Pallbearers will be: Steven J. Bailey, William E. Bailey, Jr., J. Greg Payne, R. Christopher Gass, David B. Cullins, Jerry W. Cheseldyne. Honorary Pallbearers will be: 7th District Optimist Club. Contributions may be made to: St. Clements Hundred, P.O. Box 71 Colton's Point, MD 20626, and St. Mary's Ryken High School, 22600 Camp Calvert Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory Leonardtown, MD.

### John "Johnny" Franklin Williams, Sr

Remembrance



John "Johnny" Franklin Williams, Sr. 67, of Avenue, MD passed away on July 10, 2021 at his home. He was born on January 13, 1954 in Leonardtown, MD and was the son of the late Ellen Dora Bean Williams and James Clark Williams, Sr. Johnny was the loving husband of Maria Jennings (Jenny) Williams, whom he married on November 9, 1974 in Medleys Neck, MD. Johnny is survived by his children J.F. Williams, Jr (Cindy) of Avenue, MD and Jennifer Kraft (Jeremiah) of Fredericksburg, VA, along with his grandchildren Payton Kraft, Ada Kraft, Cameron Kraft, D.J. Williams, and Jace Williams. He is also survived by his siblings Jimmy Williams of California, MD, Ellen Ball of Clements, MD, Janice Hammett of Park Hall, MD, Gary Williams of Hollywood, MD, Susan Redmond of White Point, MD, Joe Williams of Redgate, MD, Mary Garner of Hollywood, MD, Jack Williams of White Point, MD, Jackie Mays of Callaway, MD, Ronnie Williams of Leonardtown, MD, Patricia Howes of Bushwood, MD, and Karen Bailey of Leonardtown, MD. He was preceded in death by his sister Elizabeth Norris.

"Johnny", as he was affectionately referred to, was a kind, caring, generous, and loving man who was blessed with an incredibly loving family and several friends. No matter the company, he always had a smile for everyone. When he got that little grin of his going, there was always a surprise in store. He was quick with his wit and even quicker with a joke and loved to make people smile and laugh. Johnny started his career as an electrician with Drury Electric where he worked for ten years. His career carried over to St. Mary's Hospital where, after 33 years of faithful service, he retired in January of 2016. His hobbies included playing and managing softball for the Town Inn softball team and volunteering his time to coach little league baseball. He was an avid golfer for several years and accumulated several golfing buddies until his illness rendered him physically unable to play. Johnny's one true passion was bluegrass music. He played the mandolin in the Spoon Creek Band and the Hump Day band. His talent and love for bluegrass blessed him with an

### Obituaries

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additional and enormous family who enjoyed each time he came out to play. He always made time to travel across Maryland and Virginia to enjoy the outdoors and attend as many bluegrass festivals as he could. Johnny is survived by his adoring wife, Jenny, of 46 years of marriage, and his two children and two children-inlaw, both of whom he loved unconditionally, his son, J.F. and wife, Cindy, and his daughter, Jennifer and husband, Jeremiah. No matter the day, no matter his mood, there was always a special place in his heart for his grandchildren. They could never do wrong in Pop Pop's eyes. Johnny will be greatly missed by family - immediate, distant, and bluegrass - as well as his many, many friends.

A Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 10:00 AM in the Funeral Home Chapel with Deacon Ammon Ripple officiating. Interment will follow in Charles Memorial Gardens, Leonardtown, MD. Serving as pallbearers will be J.F. Williams, Jr. Patrick Farrell, Donald Thompson, Brian Hammett, Steve Williams, and Darrell Williams. Honorary pallbearers will be Jimmy Williams, Gary Williams, Joe Williams, Jack Williams, and Ronnie Williams.

Contributions may be made to the Seventh Dist. Vol. Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 7, Avenue, MD 20609 and ACTS (A Community That Shares), P.O. Box 54, Bushwood, MD 20618.

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

Kelly Marie Cusic



Kelly Marie Cusic born in Dallas Texas July 26, 1978 to Gerald Wayne Couch and Janis Dianne Couch. She passed away on July 4, 2021. She was preceded in death by her father, Gerald Wayne Couch and brother Craig Dale Couch and her daughter Brooklyn Marie Cusic.

She was married to James Kenneth Cusic on April 8, 2000 and spent all those married years in Southern Maryland.

She is survived by her husband James Kenneth Cusic, children, Angelica Marie (Cusic) Mabry and husband Nick Mabry, Destiny Marie Cusic, and Megan Marie Cusic, and mother Janis Dianne Couch, her brothers, Kyle Wayne Couch and his wife Ariel and their two children, and her half brother Brett Wayne Couch. 3 aunts, Kay Harkins and her husband Jack and their two children, Susan Hendrix and her husband Kurt and their two children, Rita Wilharm and her daughter, her uncle Martin Benshoofand his daughter and other extended family.

She loved all things water, skiing, boating, dolphins and loved to travel like her Dad. She was devoted to her children, documenting and encouraging their interests and successes and consoling them when they were troubled.

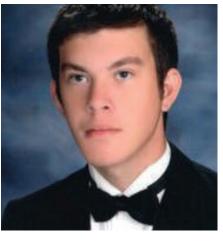
She was the keeper of family history dating back to oldest records and treasured their memories. When she made friends they were for a lifetime. Her oldest friend from high school, Angie Hermann, was like a sister to her as well as the rest of the family.

Kelly loved people and had a soft spot for neglected children and animals which she has passed on to all her children. Her mother describes her as strongly determined, protective with a tender compassionate heart.

Kelly will be deeply missed by her family, friends and all who knew her.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.mgfh.com. Arrangements provided by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A.

**Rollin David Henry III** 



Rollin David Henry III, 31, of Riviera Beach, FL (formerly of Mechanicsville, MD) passed away suddenly on June 24, 2021 in Riviera Beach, FL.

He was born on February 16, 1990 in Prince Frederick, MD to Veronica (Ronnie) Plewacki Henry of Mechanicsville, MD and the late Rollin David Henry Jr.

David graduated from Mother Catherine Spalding School in 2004 and is a 2008 graduate of Chopticon High School. He is a 2008 graduate of the James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center earning a certificate in AutoCAD. He continued his education at the Community College of Southern Maryland. He was most recently employed by VSP Marketing as a creative and skilled Print Production Manager.

He was athletically inclined. He played soccer for Recreation and Parks for many years. He played on Mother Catherine School basketball team, and later on Chopticon's football, soccer, and track and field teams. His favorite sports teams were the Baltimore Ravens and Baltimore Orioles. He enjoyed vacations to the beach, especially Ocean City, MD and Juno Beach, FL. He was a foodie and enjoyed trying different cuisines, especially Japanese foods. He was a connoisseur of sushi, and miso soup. In fact, he enjoyed all kinds of soup. He also enjoyed his fiance's Puerto Rican cuisine. He had a sweet tooth and loved candy, especially gummi bears and Swedish fish. He was an animal lover, and over the years has loved many pets. most recently his pet ferret "Buddy Girl." He enjoyed visiting the zoo and going to parades growing up. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his son Auggie whom he loved deeply. He was recently engaged and planning to marry his beloved fiancé, Shaneen Child this year.

In addition to his mother Veronica, David is also survived by his fiancé, Shaneen Child; his son, Auggie Rollin Henry of Leonardtown, MD; his cousins, Justin Larue, Chloe Larue, and Dennis Barnes, and many extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his father.

Family will receive friends on Thursday, July 15, 2021 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., with Prayers at 7:00 p.m., at Brinsfield Funeral Home, 22955 Hollywood Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650. A Funeral Service will be celebrated by Reverend Chip Luckett on Friday, July 16, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite charity on Rollin David's name.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

#### Lucy Harrison Vallandingham

Lucy Harrison Vallandingham passed away on July 3, 2021 at her residence. She was born on February 7, 1928 in Budds Creek, MD. She was the daughter of the late Mary Lowery Harrison and Robert I. Harrison. Lucy married the love of her



life James Howard Vallandingham Sr. on October 31, 1943 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Morganza, MD. They Celebrated 42 years together before his passing on November 17, 1985. Together they ran their family Painting Business, and she was employed at different businesses including Sparlings, Raley's Furniture, 7-11, Highs, Guy Brothers Implement and later "Howards Antiques".

Lucy was passionate about Genealogy and accumulated notebooks, newspaper clippings and numerous books researching her family Heritage. She was an avid NASCAR fan from way back attending races in Dover, The Pocono's, Richmond and even Daytona with her brother Jimmy. She was such a fan that not only did she have the opportunity to assist in changing a tire on a racecar but she also got the thrill of a lifetime by actually being driven in a racecar around the Daytona Track at 150mph.

Lucy loved baseball and started collecting cards over 40 years ago. She was a member of the choir at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Leonardtown. It was through these friends she was introduced to country line dancing. Because of her love of dancing and never knowing a stranger, she soon took to the task of learning all the dances and made many more friends in the process. These friends became an intricate part of her life and she attributed her longevity to them and drinking milk

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### The County Times

Remembrance

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.

#### all her life

When she started playing softball at the age of 64, she was catcher for Anderson's Bar; again, she continued to make many more friends. With this new group, she spent time in Ocean City, MD having a blast dancing the night away.

Lucy also got the chance to travel with her family to places like San Diego, Niagara Falls, Mystic, Conn., The Grand Ole Opry, Las Vegas, Lancaster, PA and even to Hawaii, where she hiked the Diamond Head Summit Trail which went up 1.8 miles.

Some of her favorite memories were trips to Gulf Port, Florida with her daughter and granddaughter, to spend a few weeks with one of her sons.

Lucy is survived by her children; Lucy Dixon, Jim (Dana) Vallandingham, Judy (Lynn) Hudson, Pat (Phil) Clark, Melinda (Tommy) Ford, Milly (Bosie) Farrell, Irving (Lynn) Vallandingham, 30 grandchildren and 43 great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Mildred Harrison and her brother James Harrison. She was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband, her children: Harrison Vallandingham, Joan Chicwak, Susan Eyler, Monica Reyes, her granddaughter Corinne Reyes, her son-in-law Harry O. Dixon; her siblings Manning Harrison, Robert Harrison Jr., Lewis Harrison Sr., Sam Harrison, Sydnor Harrison, Dusty Harrison, Bill Harrison Sr. and Louise Cooksey.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

William "Joe" Joseph Tucker



William "Joe" Joseph Tucker, 67, of Mechanicsville, MD succumbed to injuries sustained in a vehicle accident on Friday, December 18, 2020.

He was born on July 20, 1953 in Cheverly, MD to the late, John Oliver Tucker and Rosemary Agnes (Windsor) Tucker. He was one of nine (9) children.

As a young man, Joe enlisted in the US Army in March, 1972. He served his country and family proud and was honorably discharged in March, 1975. During his enlistment, Joe received numerous medals for his service.

Joe was a hard-working man who sup-

ported his family as a carpenter. He enjoyed working with his hands and building forever homes for families. In his spare time, Joe enjoyed playing softball and keeping active. If the weather was good, he loved to go fishing with his son and grandsons. He found peace sitting on the banks of a pond or cruising the river waters. An avid sports fan, he watched many games from the comfort of his favorite chair. Nothing brought Joe as much happiness as spending time with family, especially his four grandsons. They had a special bond with their Pop-Pop that can never be replaced or forgotten.

A great man was lost, but his memory will remain in the heart of his loved ones for generations to come. The true legacy of a man is in the eyes and actions of his loved ones. If you know his family, you know they had a strong and steady hand to guide them through life. His family will cherish memories of his infectious laughter and comforting support.

Joe is survived by his son, Jonathan Adam Tucker (Teresa) of Lusby, MD; four (4) grandchildren, Leonardo, Nickolanii, Roman and Xander Joseph. He is also survived by his siblings, Benjamin Tucker, Edward Tucker, Russell Tucker, Nelson Tucker and Harry E. Tucker. Joe is also survived by his partner of over 40 years Janet Lee Windsor. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Rosemary Tucker and siblings, Bessie Largen, Mary Catherine Tucker and Richard Oliver Tucker.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Brinsfield Funeral Home & Crematory, P.A., 30195 Three Notch Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. A Memorial Service with military honors will be held at 1:00 p.m. with Rev. Joe Orlando officiating.

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

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

#### Alkadio "Tony" Moreno



Alkadio "Tony" Moreno, 96, of Lexington Park, Maryland, passed away comfortably and peacefully in the Hospice House in Callaway, Maryland on July 4, 2021.

Tony was a proud veteran of the United

States Navy, where he served our country for 26 years, including serving in World War II. After retiring from the military, he worked as a painter/maintenance man for many years for the local Wildewood community. Tony was very well known and loved around the St. Mary's County area where he was happy to call his home for many years. His energy, personality, and smile were enough to make anyone around him happy.

He was a tough man, but his calm demeanor and his ability to make everyone around him smile and laugh provided the perfect combination of grit and grace that everybody knew and loved about him. During his later years, many of his close friends started calling him "The Rock" because of his toughness and charm, to which he'd reply with something like "I could knock The Rock out in one punch!", which would make everyone smile and laugh. His personality was truly one of a kind. Tony was also a very giving, generous man, and he would do what he could to help his loved ones, close friends, and even complete strangers. He truly made an impact on anybody who he met and got to know

Tony is survived by his daughter Melody Moreno-Benoit, 55, her husband Randy Benoit, 58, his son Christopher Stiefel, 33, his granddaughter Stacey Benoit, 35, and his grandson Nicholas Benoit, 28.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

#### Lucy Ann Wise



Lucy Ann Wise, 52 of Lexington Park, MD passed away peacefully on July 3, 2021 at home.

She was born on January 14, 1969 in Lemoore, CA to the late James Neugent III and Lucia Neugent of Lexington Park, MD.

Lucy graduated from Great Mills. She earned her Associate Degree in Business from Saint Leo University. She was employed by NAVAIR as a Cost Analyst for the last ten years. Before working for the government she was employed by Booz Allen Hamilton. Over the years of her career she earned many achievements and many long lasting professional and personal relationships. She knew how to live

life to the fullest; she loved doing everything with her girls, especially their family trips to Punta Cana and Spain, or just staying local in St. Mary's County, boating on the river, gardening, and sunning on the beach. She was also an excellent cook, her specialties were Italian sausage, steak, and pasta dishes. She loved the holidays and everything that came along with them- spending time with family, cooking meals, decorating, and socializing. She was known for being a socialite and was the life of every party. Anyone that was lucky enough to meet Lucy was captivated by her outgoing, vibrant, and incredibly caring personality. She will truly be missed by her friends and family.

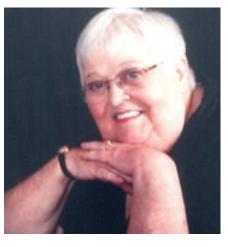
She is survived by her daughters, Erika and Nicole Wise of Lexington Park; brothers, James Neugent IV (Julie) of California, MD and Michael Neugent of Lexington Park, MD; nephew, Steven Neugent of Lexington Park, MD; niece, Rachel Neugent of Hollywood, MD, and her significant other, Kris Bell of Lexington Park, MD.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul of IHM, 22375 Three Notch Road, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Lexington Park, MD 20653 or The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, P.O. Box 13600, Phoenix, AZ 85002.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Kathleen "Kathy" Fitzsimmons Rotzell



Kathleen "Kathy" Fitzsimmons Rotzell, 73 of California, MD, formerly of North Palm Beach, FL passed away on July 3, 2021 at her home with her husband by her side. She was born on March 2, 1948 in St. Louis, MO to Thomas Fitzsimmons and Mary Grace (Powers) Fitzsimmons.

Kathy graduated in 1966 from Hazelwood High School in MO. She later attended Florissant Community College in MO where she studied Accounting. She worked many different places but most notably for Ozark Airlines and Venture Department Stores, from which she "retired" to become a stay at home mother, which was her favorite job of all, until she became a grandma.

#### Thursday, July 15, 2021

### The County Times

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A Start A Start

She married the love of her life, Timothy Clifford Rotzell on August 22, 1981 in St. Louis, MO. Kathy and her husband raised a daughter, Amanda, whom she loved dearly. She and her family loved to travel. Their most memorable trips were cruises and summer family vacations to many different destinations like Sarasota, Williamsburg, Gulf Shores, and Pigeon Forge. Family and friends were most important to her and she was, without a doubt, the caretaker and peacemaker of the family. When Amanda was in school, Kathy was the parent you would always find volunteering, involved with organizing field trips and running Girl Scout troops. As a grandma, she continued that tradition, remaining ever present, never missing a preschool graduation or a school performance.

She was an excellent cook and her specialties according to her grandsons were pumpkin pie, mac-n-cheese, chili, and layered rainbow jello. Her love of learning and reading was evident as she always had her Kindle in hand. She was skilled in the knowledge of random trivia facts; winning trivia contests, answering the most challenging questions on Jeopardy and finishing any puzzle on the Wheel of Fortune. Her newest passion was researching her family heritage, delving into online research and recently making exciting new discoveries of family connections from far in the past that she had not known.

Kathy will be remembered for her loving, compassionate, and outgoing personality and her ability to make friends with anyone no matter where their paths crossed. She was the life of the party with a presence that filled the room, a contagious laugh, and a wild story always on hand to share. She will forever be remembered and loved by all who knew her.

Kathy is survived by her loving husband, Timothy; her beloved daughter, Amanda Ramos and favorite son-in-law, Ricky Ramos of California, MD, and her grandchildren, Ricky, Jr. and Timmy, whom she loved to spoil rotten. She was preceded in death by her parents.

At this time services are private.

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

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.

### Joseph Thomas Wright "Joe

### Tom"

Joseph Thomas Wright "Joe Tom", 73 years of age, passed on Wednesday, July 07,2021. Joe was born January 04, 1948 in Ridge, Maryland to the late Harry Wright Sr. and Annie Lucille Wright (Wise). He is one of four children, with one sister Mary Catherine Fenhagen (Ray) and two brothers, Bobby Wright (Kathy), and Harry Wright Jr "Butch" who preceded him in death.

Joe was married to the late Connie Wright in 1966. For 44 years they were married and went on to have three beautiful daughters, Teresa Cunningham (Pat-



rick), Tracy Hammonds (John) and Julie Foreman (John). All daughters now have families of their own. Joe was a grandfather to 9 grandchildren; Joseph Hammonds (Brittany), Katlyn Hammonds, Christina Hammonds, Celie Foreman, Emily Barnhart (Austint), Cameron Foreman, Lindsay, Weston and Nicholas Cunningham, he had 5 great grandchildren; Hadley, Grayson, Sawyer, Haiden Hammonds and Annalee Perry.

Joe began working at Ridge Service Texaco where he went on to work at Verizon and Charles County Health Department where he retired from both. He was a longtime member of Hawthorne Country Club, where he also worked for many years. He then went on to work at Wicomico Shores Golf Course where he was currently employed.

Over many years Joe enjoyed many hobbies, which included his favorites: golf, playing cards and dancing. Playing a round of golf with his friends was his favorite pastime. Growing up on the water in Ridge he enjoyed boating, skiing, tubing, jet skiing or just hanging out on the beach enjoying time with his family.

Joe was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, son and friend.

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

All arrangements have been made at Brinsfield Funeral Homes, Charlotte Hall, Maryland.

**Brenda Marie Unkle** 



Brenda Marie Unkle, 62, of Park Hall, MD, surrounded by her family, slipped away peacefully into the arms of our Lord on July 5, 2021. Born December 22, 1958 in Leonardtown, MD, she was the loving daughter of the late Joseph Parrylee and Lois (Delahay) Russell.

Brenda was a lifelong resident of St. Mary's County and attended Father Andrew White Catholic School, Leonardtown, MD and graduated from St. Mary's Academy, Leonardtown, MD, Class of 1976. She was the loving wife and soulmate of Thomas J. Unkle, whom she married on May 8, 1981 at Holy Face Church, Great Mills, MD. Together they celebrated over 40 wonderful years of marriage. One of Brenda's blessings in her life was being a mother to her loving son Brian, her pride and joy, her everything. Her love for him could stretch around the world countless times. She was so proud of the man he has become.

Brenda had a passion for working in the medical field and dedicated her entire career to serving to help others. Her many years with Wildewood Medical, under Dr. Tidball, gave her joy and satisfaction. She loved helping others which was always her comfort zone. Brenda retired in 2018.

She was a cherished daughter, devoted wife and mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and a caring friend to all. To know Brenda was to know a person with a heart of gold.

Brenda lived life to the fullest and more than anything loved spending time with her family. She was an avid reader, enjoyed gardening, playing pitch, traveling, the beach and going to watch the Orioles play. She was an outstanding homemaker. She was famous for always sharing a new dish, which always turned into a favorite for everyone and an essential dish for future gatherings. Holidays were always treasured and filled with family and delicious meals. She was an exceptional shopper who always would find the best bargains. Very special in her heart was her much loved 'Academy Girls', members of her 1976 St. Mary's Academy graduating class, who stayed in touch and celebrated get togethers for the last 45 years. She cherished these times with her many beloved high school friends. Also, very special to her were her dear friends and traveling companions from Baltimore, MD, Wilmington, NC, Hendersonville, NC and London, England, whom she traveled with to many exciting places creating memorable and unforgettable happy times.

She was loved by many and will be greatly missed by everyone that had the pleasure of meeting her. She was a treasure to her family and friends and will always be in their hearts.

In addition to her beloved husband (Tommy), Brenda is survived by her loving son Brian (Lori) of Lexington Park, MD and three cherished grandchildren, Mia, Carlie and Jordan; Siblings Lois Ann Springer (Dale) of Valley Lee, MD, Joe Mike Russell of Port Orange, FL and Tina Russell (Mike) of California, MD, her Aunt Mary Katherine (Khackie) McCurdy (Bruce) of Marriottsville, MD; nieces and nephews Jennifer Shizak (Andy) of Lusby, MD, Robin Cook of Lexington Park, MD, Jeffrey Springer of Valley Lee, MD, Layla Sitnek (Ric) of Frederick, MD, Christy Davis (Darius) of Leonardtown, MD, and Tyler Unkle of Dameron, MD; great nieces and nephews Sydney Mooney, Kyle Shizak, Elizabeth Shizak, Alexis Cook, JJ Springer and Kendal Springer.

Serving as pallbearers will be Andy Shizak, Darius Hawkins, David Adams, JJ Springer, Tyler Unkle and Georgie Kennett. Honorary pallbearers will be Jennifer Shizak, Jeffrey Springer, Robin Cook, Christy Davis, Layla Sitnek.

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

### **Gary Lee Taylor**



Gary Lee Taylor, 75 of Great Mills, MD passed away on July 6, 2021 at home with his family around him.

He was born on March 24, 1946 in West Virginia to the late James H. Taylor and Betty Jean (Smith) Taylor.

Gary was in the Air Force from 1965 to 1969 where he specialized in electrical and mechanical engineering. He continued in this vocation for several decades as a civilian travelling all around the world.

He is survived by his two children, Greg Taylor and his wife Karen Ross Taylor, Gennifer Taylor Morgereth and her fiance John Toich; and his two granddaughters Jamie and Julia Morgereth- all from Baltimore, MD; and his sister Cecelia St. Don, niece Tammy Hall, nephew Jim Seidenstricker, and niece Vicki Pilkerton all from St Mary's County.

He is preceded in death by his parents, ex-wife Judith DeHart Taylor and daughter Gina Taylor.

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

Interment of cremains is private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his name can be made to the Parkinson's Foundation at parkinson.org

Arrangements by the Brinsfield Funeral Home, P.A.



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26. Calendar month

25. Awesome!

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39. Porticos 40. Pouch 41. Smooth fabric 42. Enough (archaic) 43. Institute legal proceedings against 44. Scarred 45. Draw from 46. Brother or sister 47. Body part 48. Commercials

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- 27. Native of region in Caucasus 28. Indian citv 29. Exclusive 32. Alaskan town 33. Covered with ivy 34. Loose granular substances 36. Native American tribe 37. Written American English 38. Holiday (informal) 40. Add up 41. Small brown and gray rails 43. Get off your feet 44. Express disgust 46. Surface of the ground 47. Put into a silo 49. Belief 50. British noblemen 51. Tennis game 52. Dry, protective crust 53. Swiss river 54. Large integers 57. La \_\_ Tar Pits, Hollywood 58. Every one of two or more 59. "Deadpool" actor Revnolds 61. Earlier 62. Peter's last name

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IAST WEEK'S DU77IE SOLUTION

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





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### **Implant Retained Dentures are a Life-Altering Improvement Over Removeable Dentures**

#### By: Jeff Tomcsik

If you are stuck in removeable dentures, a removeable prosthesis like a bridge, or if you've been in need of a replacement option for missing teeth, you need to pay attention to this game changer in the dental industry. Embarrassing moments with removable dentures are a thing of the past with implant retained dentures. In fact, a lot of concerns and issues are a thing of the past with this truly life-like alternative to removables.

Implants have come a long way over the past several years. They are predictable and successful when placed by highly trained and educated professionals. The implants themselves are placed into the jawbone, creating an anchor for the prosthesis (denture, bridge or single tooth replacement). This anchor integrates with the natural bone in the jaw making the connection as permanent as a real, healthy tooth's root.

Because the implant mimics a

natural root, it allows for functionality like a real tooth. In fact chewing function with an implant retained, permanent denture maintains about 80% of original function over the removable's functionality of about 20%. It also creates bone stability, which means the jawbone will not atrophy (loss of bone) over time as with a traditional prosthesis or lack of teeth all together. This will help you keep a more youthful and healthy appearance for the rest of your life.

The fixed option also allows you to care for and clean the prosthetic teeth while in the mouth like you would with your original teeth. No more removing your denture and soaking it or brushing it outside of the mouth. It will not fall out during active events or while you eat. In fact, it won't fall out ever! This creates peace of mind as it avoids embarrassing situations. Only you and your dental team will ever know your teeth are not your originals. Implant retained dentures are also quite economical over the life of the denture as well. If you've been suffering with ongoing dental problems, finding yourself in the dental chair year after year getting fillings, root canals and crowns, just to lead to bridges and eventually dentures, you could spend tens of thousands of dollars over time.

While a full arch (upper and/ or lower teeth) fixed denture isn't cheap up front, it solves most of your dental problems for the rest of your life. You will never have another cavity, root canal, or crown again. Your periodontal condition has the opportunity to hit the reset switch. Your life becomes yours to enjoy again rather than worrying about pain, discomfort, or embarrassment all of the time.

Tidewater Dental has the most talented implant doctors in our service areas including a periodontist, Dr. David Peto, a prosthodontist, Dr. Bruce Finagin as well as Dr. Reza Nikpourfard, Dr. Kolade Akinwande, and Dr. Todd Cooper, all three general dentists with extensive education and experience in placing and restoring implants.

With Tidewater Dental's team of Dental Professionals, you get the convenience of having all the professionals under one roof so that you can get your implants placed and final product fabricated without having to go to multiple offices to see multiple providers. Our doctors work collaboratively with each other to make sure you have a seamless experience with the most beautiful and functional result.

You can go up the road to the competition and pay \$5,000 to \$10,000 more for the same result, or you can come to the clear choice in implant retained dentures, Tidewater Dental. Contact any of our six locations to schedule a free consultation to see if you are a candidate for implant retained dentures.

### Restore the Strength and Beauty of Your Smile!



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