

# Leonardtown BEACON

A Publication for the Community of Historic Leonardtown ~ Est. 1660



## Calendar of Events

**FIRST FRIDAY, MONTHLY**  
Celebration of "First Fridays"  
*Historic downtown and uptown Leonardtown*

**3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAY, MONTHLY**  
Coastal Arts Market  
*Port of Leonardtown Park*

**3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAY, JUNE-AUGUST**  
Sunrise Yoga  
*Leonardtown Wharf Park*

**4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY, MAY-AUGUST**  
Downtown Tunes  
*Leonardtown Square*

**APRIL 5**  
Community Easter Egg Hunt  
*The Sterling House*

**APRIL 11**  
Hospice 10K & 5K Run/Fun Walk  
*Governmental Center*

**APRIL 19**  
Earth Day Celebration  
*Leonardtown Square & Wharf*

**APRIL 26**  
Spring Fling Classic Car Show  
*Leonardtown Square*

**MAY 2**  
Great Strides 5K Walk  
*Leonardtown Wharf Park*

**JUNE 13**  
SMC Crab Festival  
*SMC Fairgrounds*

**JUNE 14**  
Flag Day Celebration  
*Governmental Center*

**JULY/AUGUST**  
Twilight Performance Series  
*College of Southern Maryland*

**JULY 11**  
Southern Maryland Film Festival  
*Leonardtown Square and Businesses*

**AUGUST 8**  
Beach Party on the Square  
*Leonardtown Square & Wharf*

**AUGUST 15**  
The Commodores, U.S. Navy Jazz Band  
*Leonardtown Square*

*At Home in Leonardtown featuring . . .*

## A Reading Room and Outreach Center for a Community at the "Little Blue House"

Creating a reading room for children in the Leonard's Freehold community was an inspiration shared in the summer of 2000 by both Town Council member Becky Proffitt and Laschelle McKay, who was gearing up as the new Town Administrator. Leonard's Freehold is a housing complex of 75 townhomes located just off Dorsey Street in downtown Leonardtown. At that time, the 80-plus children living in the Leonard's Freehold community encompassed the majority of children living in town. In just a few months, available space was found in an area of the complex that was being used for a storage room. The room required some remodeling, so Laschelle obtained carpet, paint, shelving and décor that was purchased through a donation and spent several weekends laying the carpet, installing shelves and decorating the room. A group of volunteers from St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Leonardtown painted the room. Later, a book drive was held at the Town Office to stock the shelves with books, and a desktop computer was donated.

With support of the program by Mayor J. Harry Norris, III and the Leonardtown Council, the Town approached St. Paul's United Methodist Church (*known today as First Saints Community Church*) about the possibility of operating the new "Reading Room". The church felt led to offer a strong presence in their community and agreed to provide volunteer staff two days a week both during the summer and throughout the school year. The "Reading Room" idea had become a reality and was open for the neighborhood children on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the small, but nicely decorated room with all the books.

The children were so excited about their new "Reading Room" and enjoyed reading books, playing games, learning crafts, getting homework help, and sometimes, just spending time talking with the volunteers. An interesting, and encouraging, demographic noticed in the early months was the high number of middle school aged boys that utilized the "Reading Room" for homework.



THE LITTLE BLUE HOUSE

Volunteers from First Saints returned each year, and in a few years' time, the church expanded this ministry to include a school homework program. The success of the "Reading Room" and summertime



2013 Summer Camp Volunteers mingled among the children in this photo include Emma Patregnani, Lexy Eberhardt, and Kate Bonnevier.

activities also validated the need for a wide range of children, youth and adults within the downtown Leonardtown area to be involved in structured events and to heighten an appreciation for their community.

In 2008, a little blue house directly across the street from the Leonard's Freehold complex became available for rent. The house included a kitchen, running water, and several rooms. First Saints looked at the house as an opportunity to relocate from the small space at the "Reading Room" to a place that could offer more possibilities and open doors for the children and adults in the community – plus, it was within walking distance for the children! The church rented the house, closed the "Reading Room" and opened a new Educational Outreach Center (EOC) that was quickly called the "Little Blue House" by the children. The EOC operates multiple sessions three to four evenings a week with over 15 volunteers who delight in helping children. Each year, more than 300 visits are made by kids who seek after-school tutoring, homework and reading assistance, computers for research or projects, checking out donated books, or again, just wanting to spend time with an adult who takes a genuine interest in them and is willing to listen about their day.

*See page 7 to read more!*



## Mayor's Message Room to Grow

As I wrote about in the last edition of the Beacon, great things are continuing to happen in Leonardtown as we move down the path toward revitalization and diversifying the economy of our Town. I frequently get asked "Where would we grow? There is no more room downtown." In actuality we are extremely fortunate to have land available adjacent to the downtown to continue to ensure the future vitality of Leonardtown for decades to come.

In the late 1990's Leonardtown received land from the State, 240 acres of a 390 acre farm known as Tudor Hall Farm. This property is directly adjacent to the current downtown business district. It is anticipated to be designed as a continuation of the existing downtown with gridded streets continuing from Lawrence Avenue, Fenwick Street and many of the smaller streets. The denser development and the commercial component would be within walking distance to the downtown. The Conceptual Plan below shows how those uses might tie into the town as well as the expansive area that we have to grow into.

The Council and I are also looking at opportunities for recruiting additional small retail shops in the downtown. There are many aspects that need to be continually pursued in order to ensure the future success of Leonardtown. Working together we will continue to enjoy those successes.

*Daniel W. Burris*  
Daniel W. Burris, Mayor



Conceptual Plan

**First Friday** Visit Leonardtown for a springtime "First Friday" welcome on May 1<sup>st</sup> with music by local folk legends David & Joe Norris on the Square and a "Then and Now" themed historical walk around Town. Come see pictures and keepsakes from various eras of the Town and talk to long-time residents and local historians about the Town's history. Thanks to Kennedy Abell, Chip Norris, Ernie Bell, the St. Mary's Historical Society, the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, Roger Mattingly, and others for their help with this project.



Coastal Arts Market is open to the public on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month from 9 AM-3 PM at the Port of Leonardtown Park. The Market will feature handmade, affordable art from local and regional artists and artisans, including painting, photography, ceramics, glass, jewelry, wood, handmade quilts, clothing, soap, furniture and other delights. Local artists interested in exhibiting their handmade, original work, should visit [coastalartsmarket.com](http://coastalartsmarket.com) to obtain guidelines and an application. The Port of Leonardtown Park is located at 23190 Newtowne Neck Road in Leonardtown - home of the Port of Leonardtown Winery.

**Southern Maryland's largest running event to benefit Hospice of St. Mary's** kicks off at 8:30 AM on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Governmental Center in Leonardtown. 10K runners will run along Cedar Lane Road and behind CSM, 5K runners will run through the Singletree neighborhood, and 5K walkers will enjoy a scenic stroll downtown. Visit [runforhospice.org](http://runforhospice.org) to pre-register, find details on course routes, race packets, parking, etc. You can also register on race day beginning at 7:30 AM. This is a rain or shine event. 240-925-5423.



## Downtown Tunes

Mark your calendar now for "Downtown Tunes" and enjoy an evening of music and friends in the Leonardtown Square. The popular "tunes" get underway at 6 PM on the fourth Saturday of May through August: May 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, and August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Performers are currently being confirmed. Check the Town's website at [leonardtown.somd.com](http://leonardtown.somd.com) for the latest updates and performance schedule, or call the Town Office at 301-475-9791. (Tunes rain date: the next day, Sunday)

## Earth Day Celebration

Look for a fun and educational Earth Day Celebration on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM-4:30 PM throughout the Town. Various organizations will have current news on recycling, energy and water conservation, animal rescue, beekeeping, organic produce, herbs, plants, and other green initiatives. Entertainment includes live folk music, dance performances, reflexology demonstrations and more. Kids can also enjoy face painting and creating hands-on nature crafts. Activities at Leonardtown Wharf Park include a moonbounce for kids, free kayaking and canoeing. Be sure to take in the awesome views along scenic Breton Bay. Sponsored by the Leonardtown Business Association, Inc. and the Commissioners of Leonardtown. 301-475-9791



## Spring Fling XXX Classic Car Show

Celebrate 30 years of the Spring Fling Classic Car Show with the St. Mary's Rod & Classic Car Club. Over 350 classic and antique cars, trucks and hotrods will be displayed around the Leonardtown Square on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM-4 PM. Bring the kids for a fun tractor pull, games and prizes. Live music and a silent auction will round out the day. No admission, but a \$2 donation is gratefully accepted to benefit Hospice of St. Mary's and other local charities. Visit [stmarysrodandclassic.com](http://stmarysrodandclassic.com) or call 301-994-9666 for more information or to enter a vehicle. (Rain date: Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.)



The National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is looking for your support to help find a cure for CF! This year's Great Strides 5K Walk starts at 11 AM on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at Leonardtown Wharf Park. Come for the walk and stay for the post-walk festivities with food, games and upbeat music. For more details and to pre-register, call 301-657-8444, ext. 215 or visit [cff.org/Chapters/metrodc](http://cff.org/Chapters/metrodc). You can also register on walk day beginning at 10 AM.

## Flag Day Celebration

Bring your family out for a Flag Day Celebration honoring our nation's flag on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. The celebration is held at the Governmental Center in Leonardtown, beginning at 6 PM with patriotic music and free handheld flags. A formal ceremony follows, with presentation of colors, Pause for the Pledge, special guests and raising of the American flag. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 1340.



# On Out!



## St. Mary's County Crab Festival

Experience St. Mary's crab culture and cuisine at the annual St. Mary's County Crab Festival on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at the SMC Fairgrounds, 11 AM-8 PM. Enjoy steamed crabs, soft crabs, crab cakes, and other seafood and non-seafood dishes. Entertainment includes live music, dance performances, classic cars and bike displays, children's activities and more. Admission is \$5 per person for ages 12 and up. Food is purchased separately. This event is sponsored by the Leonardtown Lions Club. To volunteer or for more details, visit [stmaryscrabfestival.com](http://stmaryscrabfestival.com) or call 301-475-8384.



## Stand-Up Paddleboarding

Stand-up paddleboarding (SUP) is a water recreational activity that is also a fun, alternative way to work out. Jen Houck, Owner/Instructor

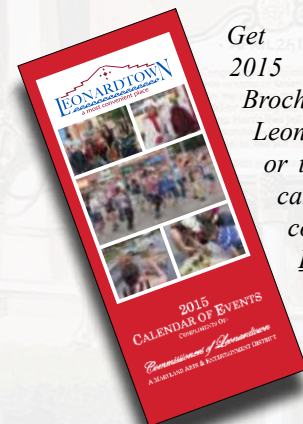
of Potomac SUP & Fitness is offering SUPFUN classes (perfect for first timers as it teaches the FUNDamentals of SUP) as well as SUP lessons, SUP fitness and SUP yoga classes at Leonardtown Wharf Park. Classes are scheduled on designated days during the months of May through September. If you are interested in more information on this "fun and fitness" water activity, visit [potomacsupfit.com](http://potomacsupfit.com) or call Jen at 301-247-0977.

## Sunrise Yoga at Leonardtown Wharf

Enhance your well-being at Leonardtown Wharf Park while watching beautiful sunrises and tranquil waters. These open community yoga practices will be held on the promenade at Leonardtown Wharf Park from 7:30 AM-8:30 AM on three Saturday mornings: June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 18<sup>th</sup>, and August 15<sup>th</sup>. Bring a friend, your mat and a bottle of water. In lieu of admission, please bring a canned good for local food banks or dry pet food for a local shelter. Contact Evolve Yoga at 301-862-1236 for more details.



Musicians and actors will entertain you while you sit back, relax and mingle about on the lawn of the College of Southern Maryland-Leonardtown Campus. Mark your calendar now to enjoy a summer evening of spectacular music and entertainment for the whole family. Admission is free. The entertainment begins at 6:45 PM on the following Tuesdays: July 7<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>, July 28<sup>th</sup>, and concludes on August 4<sup>th</sup> with a special children's show. Check [csmd.edu/arts](http://csmd.edu/arts) for the latest entertainer listing and details.



Get your Leonardtown 2015 Calendar of Events Brochure at various Leonardtown businesses or the Town Office. You can also download a copy from our website [Leonardtown.somd.com](http://Leonardtown.somd.com)



Beat the summer heat and enjoy the best of local filmmaking at the first-ever Southern Maryland Film Festival on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>! Conceived by members of the Southern Maryland Film Society and the Friends of the Leonardtown Theater, the event will be hosted right in the heart of the Leonardtown Arts & Entertainment District. Movie screenings, panel discussions and meet-the-artist receptions will be hosted by participating businesses in and around Leonardtown. Purchase individual screening tickets or all-day wristbands to take full advantage of everything the Festival has to offer. At the end of the day, a special panel of local celebrity judges will evaluate the films, and audience members will vote for their favorites. Prizes will then be awarded to the filmmakers in several categories. For event updates, ticket information and details, visit [smdff.org](http://smdff.org), like the Southern Maryland Film Festival Facebook page, and follow the event on Twitter @SoMDFF. Watch for SMDFF commercials on media sponsor Metrocast Channel 10.

The Festival Planning Committee is also seeking volunteers and sponsors for the event. Businesses in the tri-county area interested in being a sponsor for the film festival should email Theresa at [foilt@outlook.com](mailto:foilt@outlook.com).

Film submissions are open until April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015, and there are no submission fees. Find submission details online at [smdff.org](http://smdff.org).

## Enjoy A Great Walk Around Town All Year Long!

We all get a little sedentary at times, and just wish exercise was more exciting. Well, wish no more! A perfect plan that won't cost you a mint, is to get up and take a leisurely walk, refreshing jog or invigorating run around Leonardtown. It's ideal, it's exercise, it's convenient, and you can do it when you want. While stepping out, be sure to take in the town's architecture, historical buildings and landscaping. Window shopping can be fun too! Prefer some company? Partner up with a neighbor or friend!

For a more challenging activity, paddle a kayak or row a canoe along McIntosh Run from the Port of Leonardtown Park into beautiful Breton Bay! Launch your own kayak or canoe, or rent your vessel through the Patuxent Adventure Center. Find information on rentals, guided tours and special paddling events online at [paxadventure.com](http://paxadventure.com) or call 410-394-2770.



### Mayor

Daniel W. Burris

### Town Council

Leslie E. Roberts, Vice President  
Thomas "Tom" M. Combs  
Hayden T. Hammett  
J. "Jay" Maguire Mattingly, IV  
Roger L. Mattingly

### Town Office Staff

Laschelle McKay, *Town Administrator*  
Rebecca Sothoron, *Treasurer*  
Jackie Post, *Fiscal Clerk*  
Teri Dimsey, *Executive Secretary*  
Cindy Williams, *HR and Planning/ Zoning Assistant*  
Donna Page, *Receptionist*  
DeAnn Adler, *Plans Reviewer*  
Maria Fleming, *PR & Event Coordinator*  
Linda Shepherd, *Beacon Editor*  
Tony Wheatley, *Capital Project Coordinator*  
Cpl. Peg Smolarsky, *Town Deputy*

### Utilities Staff

John "Jay" Johnson, *Superintendent*  
Timmy Lacey, *Operator*  
Joe Bucior, *Operator*  
Kyle Shepherd, *Operator*

### Planning & Zoning Board Members

Jean Moulds, *Chair*  
John "Jack" Candela  
Heather Earhart  
Christy Hollander  
Laura Schultz

### Board of Appeals

Dr. Herbert Winnik, *Chair*  
Robert "Bob" Wentworth  
Darren Meyer  
Joan Ritchie

### Meetings

**Town Council** - 2nd Monday of each month @ 4:00 PM in the Town Office. April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14

**Planning & Zoning Commission** - 3rd Monday of each month @ 4:00 PM in the Town Office. April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21

### Contact the Town:

Commissioners of Leonardtown  
Proffitt Building  
41660 Courthouse Drive  
P.O. Box 1  
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Phone: 301-475-9791

Fax: 301-475-5350

E-Mail: [Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net](mailto:Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net)  
Website: [Leonardtown.somd.com](http://Leonardtown.somd.com)

**The Office of the Commissioners of Leonardtown will be closed in observance of upcoming holidays:**

May 25	Memorial Day
July 3	Independence Day
September 7	Labor Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 26	Thanksgiving Day
November 27	Day after Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas Day

## Antique Tractor & Truck Parade

Sponsored by the Southern Maryland Antique Power Association, along with members of the Antique Truck Association, the Annual Tractor & Truck Parade on October 12, 2014, captivated many spectators, young and old. This annual event benefits the Christmas in April Foundation of Southern Maryland.



## Christmas on the Square & Annual Tree Lighting

On Friday, November 28, 2014, the Town Square came alive with Christmas merriment! Of course, the highlight of the event was a visit from Santa Claus, who used a little magic to light the Town's Christmas Tree. The crowd also enjoyed carriage, train, and hay rides through Candy Lane, live holiday music and dance performances, a living Nativity, a working blacksmith, ice-carver, and children's activities in Mrs. Claus' tent. Special thanks to all those who make this popular holiday extravaganza possible each and every year!



## Trick-or-Treat on the Square

The Town saw plenty of fall fun on October 25<sup>th</sup>, when hundreds of youthful characters,

from ballerinas and princesses to superheroes and goblins, frolicked around the Town Square trick-or-treating local businesses, making pine cone crafts, painting pumpkins, and having their faces painted.

## Veterans Day Parade

In addition to the record number of Vets proudly representing their branch of service, several political guests of honor made an appearance at the Leonardtown Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2014. Governor Larry Hogan began his Thank You tour around the



state right here in St. Mary's County. He was joined by State Comptroller Peter Franchot and U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer. Words of gratitude for all Veterans were expressed during the Wreathlaying Ceremony by

elected officials and special guests, including Captain Heidi Fleming, Naval Air Station Patuxent River's first female commanding officer. Leonardtown



Elementary school students Nakilah Harrison, Emma Guy, Elle Lazare, and Austin Guy also recited their winning essay on "What Veterans Day Means To Me". This annual event is sponsored by the Town of Leonardtown and the St. Mary's County Commissioners, with much assistance from our local businesses, schools and friends.

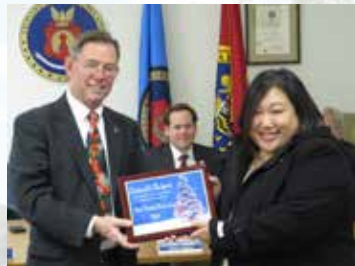
Photos courtesy St. Mary's County Public Information Office.

## LVRSA Christmas Festival

Visitors stopping by the 2014 Christmas Festival in the Winegardner Showroom on November 28<sup>th</sup> enjoyed seeing decorated Christmas trees, bidding on auction items, and watching model trains choo-choo'ing around a holiday village. The Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary is grateful to supporters of this event which annually raises funds to benefit the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad.

## "Best Dressed Business Award"

Music teacher and business owner Sue Tayag proudly accepted the Best Dressed Business award on behalf of her team at Bella Music School during the December 8<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting. In addition to the snowflake-lined storefront and beautiful white



tree that won them the award, Bella Music School continues to perform music selections during the Christmas on the Square event. Some of the students and teachers also perform the National Anthem at the beginning of many Town events. Bella Music School is located at 41665 Fenwick Street, Unit 17. To check out their services, visit [bellamusicschool.com](http://bellamusicschool.com) or call Sue at 301-247-2602.

## Santa & Mrs. Claus in the Square

Hundreds of children brought their siblings, parents, and grandparents into Town to see Santa and Mrs. Claus on the Square on Saturday, December 13, 2014. Santa left with a pocket of wish lists, and the kids all left with a smile and a candy cane!



## Support Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department

Congratulations to Gary Bell, President; Jonathan Scully, Chief, and all the 2015 officers of the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department. Congratulations also to the new President of the Auxiliary, Doris "Foo" Tippet, and all the 2015 Auxiliary officers.



The Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department is currently seeking firefighters, emergency medical technicians and administrative members. Training and benefits are provided.

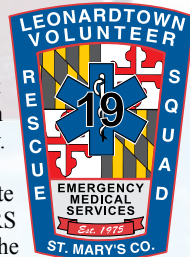
Log on to [lvfdl.org](http://lvfdl.org) for a complete listing of all the 2015 officers and to check LVFD news, stats, events, or to apply for membership in the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department or the Auxiliary.

## Support Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad

Congratulations to Peter "Rocky" Woodburn, President; Mary Ellen Borland, Chief, and all the 2015 officers of the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad. Congratulations also to Candy Chesser, President of the Auxiliary, and all the Auxiliary officers.

The Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad is also looking for new members that have a penchant for helping others and a passion for supporting their community. Training and benefits are provided.

Log on to [lvrs.org](http://lvrs.org) for a complete listing of 2015 officers, check LVRS news, apply for membership in the Rescue Squad or Auxiliary, or to make a tax deductible donation for the Squad's current building fund. Preparations to construct the new building are now beginning on the present site.



## Residents of Cedar Lane Celebrate 90+ Birthdays!

The Cedar Lane Senior Living Community celebrated their annual 90+ Birthday Celebration on January 23, 2015. The 32 honorees marked milestone birthdays of 90 to 102 years, and shared their favorite memories of the 1940's decade. Leonardtown Council Members Hayden Hammett and Jay



Mattingly were honored to have their photo taken with birthday girl, Mildred Lindner, 102. Councilman Roger Mattingly also enjoyed being a part of this special celebration. More photos and information about the Cedar Lane Senior Living Community can be found at [cedar-lane.org](http://cedar-lane.org) or call 301-475-8966.

# Highlights



PORT OF LEONARDTOWN WINERY

The International Eastern Wine Competition (IEWC), sponsored by the Vineyard & Winery Management Magazine, was held on February 10 and 11, 2015 in Sonoma County, California with more than 100 wineries entered from the U.S. and across the world. Port of Leonardtown wines showed well with all wines submitted winning awards. International medals from prestigious competitions such as IEWC demonstrate once again that Southern Maryland grown and produced wines can compete with the best.

Port of Leonardtown Winery is open Wednesday through Sunday, Noon to 6 PM, with extended hours on First Fridays and special dates. The winery is home to one of the few cooperative wineries in the country, the Southern Maryland Winegrowers Cooperative. Their winemaker, Patrick Isles, has established the high standards for our award winning wines, having won over 150 awards including multiple Best in Class awards and international medals since 2010. For more Winery news, visit [portofleonardtownwinery.com](http://portofleonardtownwinery.com) or contact [info@polwinery.com](mailto:info@polwinery.com) or 301-690-2192.

## Leonardtown Business Association News

The Leonardtown Business Association (LBA) welcomes Dawn Carroll as the LBA's new Business Development Consultant. Dawn will assist in the advancement of LBA membership and sponsorship. Whether a new business opens in the 20650 zip code or an established business has questions about membership or sponsorship opportunities, Dawn will be the LBA follow-up contact.

An LBA Membership Drive is currently underway. There are already 100+ members who enjoy the membership benefits of connection, communication and promotion. If you, or your business, are interested in becoming an LBA member, the cost is only \$100 a year - and the business benefits are immeasurable.

The LBA is also looking to increase event sponsorships. Leonardtown is a destination, and over 20,000 visitors enjoyed Leonardtown events in 2014! The main events with sponsorship opportunities include Earth Day, Downtown Tunes, Beach Party, and Christmas on the Square. While supporting great family fun events, LBA event sponsors build name recognition for their business.

If you are interested in the benefits of connection, communication and promotion as an LBA member or would like to hear more about LBA event sponsorship opportunity levels, contact Dawn Carroll by email at [dawn@teamacarroll.com](mailto:dawn@teamacarroll.com) or call 301-904-6031.



LBA Executive Board officers Dan Norris, President, and Randy Richie, Secretary, are happy to introduce Dawn Carroll as the LBA Business Development Consultant.

## State of the Town Breakfast

The annual State of the Town breakfast was held in the auditorium of the College of Southern Maryland-Leonardtown Campus on February 13, 2015. Attendees enjoyed presentations by the Town and LBA representatives updating them on what's happening in Leonardtown and the benefits of being an LBA member. During the presentation, a new business to business and member oriented website was revealed – the link is [thelba.org](http://thelba.org) – be sure to check it out!

## Seymour Town Properties, LLC Apartments and Restaurant Coming Soon!

The building on the corner of Washington Street and Park Avenue will soon undergo a major remodeling. The "Corner Critters" pet shop, occupant of the lower level for the past 20 years, closed their doors over the winter. Some will also remember dining at Bailey's Restaurant in that same location years ago.



Recently, this building was purchased by Seymour Town Properties, LLC. Proposed plans include a new, modern restaurant on the lower level, raising the building to three stories instead of two and converting the existing eight small apartments to five 2-story apartments.

## Updated Comprehensive Plan

The Town has received a request to consider land on Hollywood Road, just outside the town boundaries, for possible annexation. Prior to any annexation of land the Town must first update its 2010 Comprehensive Plan to include these properties as possible future growth areas. The process to add these parcels which include the Wilkinson Farm, the Wathen Farm and seven small parcels along Hollywood Road has been underway since January. Two public hearings were held and the proposal was sent to State agencies for comment. These parcels are already included in the State's Priority Funding Area and the County's Development District and is zoned for development at 5 units per acre. Access to public water and sewer is the driving factor for bringing the property into the Town. The Town Council approved the amendment to the Comprehensive Plan at their March 9, 2015 meeting and once the Ordinance goes into effect the annexation request can move forward.

## Medstar St. Mary's Hospital Quad House

Approval to move forward and build a Quad House on Doctor's Crossing was received by Medstar St. Mary's Hospital on February 9, 2015. The residential looking home will house two 2-bedroom and two 1-bedroom units to serve as temporary housing for visiting physicians. According to Rick Braam, Vice President of Finance for Medstar St. Mary's Hospital, the county is severely underserved by physicians and the hospital is working on a rural residency rotation for internal medicine physicians that would work in local community practices. This project would provide temporary housing for the visiting physicians. Research has shown that physicians tend to homestead where they have done their training.



The Community Foundation of Southern Maryland is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, public charity whose purpose is to literally act as your private foundation. It allows you, the donor (nonprofit, families or corporations), to establish an endowed or non-endowed charitable Fund in your name, your family's name, or in the name of any person or organization. Grants distributed from your Fund are awarded in the name of the Fund. The Foundation offers you tax advantages, flexibility in charitable giving, and saves you from the burdens of tax and financial paperwork, time, and expense associated with running your own private foundation.

To learn more about the Foundation or Endow Maryland 2015 Tax Credit, come by their 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Chesapeake Bay Waterfowl Arts Show – May 15<sup>th</sup> kicks off the event with the Cattails and Cocktails Reception and the Show continues on May 16<sup>th</sup> with auctions, decoys, art and tastings all day at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds, check their website at [cfsomd.org](http://cfsomd.org), email Gretchen Hardman at [gretchen@cfsomd.org](mailto:gretchen@cfsomd.org) or call 240-670-GIVE (4483).

## Deputy's Corner

Do you know the 4 stages of car seat safety?

**Rear Facing** – Rear facing provides the best protection for a young child's developing spine: rear face to a minimum of age 2, ideally age 4.

**Forward Facing** – When a child has outgrown their rear facing convertible seat and is **at least** 2 years old, move to a forward facing seat with a five point harness.

**Booster** – When a child has outgrown their five point harness, is **at least** 5 years old, and is mature enough to sit properly, move to a belt positioning booster. This age is the recommended age. By law the minimum requirement to graduate to a belt positioning high back booster is four years and forty pounds. Age and weight, however, are not the only factors when considering car seat safety. If your child moves around, the seat belt doesn't ALWAYS stay in the appropriate position, they fall asleep and slump, or they reach for things in the car, THEY ARE NOT READY FOR A HIGH-BACK BOOSTER. Children are safest in a five-point harness until they outgrow their seat.

**Seat Belt** – When a child is **at least** 10 years old and can pass the five step test, move to a seat belt alone.

To have your child's safety/booster seat installed or inspected, please call Cpl. Peg Smolarsky at 301-475-4200 ext. 1960 to schedule an appointment.

Spring 2015



# HANDS-ON LEARNING & SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO SAY GOODBYE TO WINTER? GET OUT, GET BUSY AND LEARN SOMETHING NEW! WHETHER IT'S SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS OR CLASSES AT LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR ADULTS, THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN LEONARDTOWN!

## FOR THE KIDS!

### Bella Music School Summer Camps

Encourage your kids to keep practicing and improve their skills with summer music camp skill sessions offered June 22<sup>nd</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>. Camps include piano skills for ages 4-6, string basics for grades 3-5, advanced strings for grades 6-12, rock star guitar for ages 7 and up, and cello performance. Camps are held at Bella Music School on Fenwick Street. Call 301-247-2602 or email [sue@bellamusicschool.com](mailto:sue@bellamusicschool.com) for details and registration.

### College of Southern Maryland Kids & Teens College

CSM provides comprehensive and exciting youth programming for children ages 5 to 17 years old. Summer programs include Science, Art, STEM, Technology, Academics, and Sports, Gaming and Programming. Camps are available at all three campuses: Leonardtown, LaPlata, and Prince Frederick. Call 301-934-7634 or email [kidscollege@csmd.edu](mailto:kidscollege@csmd.edu) for more details.

### St. Mary's Ryken Summer Knights

Help your kids improve in the classroom, on the field, on stage, or learn a new skill! Professional coaches and educators will lead camps for all ages in Drama, Dance, Cooking, World Cultures, Knitting and Weaving, Boys & Girls Soccer, Tennis, Girls Lacrosse and so much more! For more information email Crystal Dunkin at [skdirector@smrhs.org](mailto:skdirector@smrhs.org) or call 301-475-2814, ext. 419 or visit [smrhs.org/page.cfm?p=3011](http://smrhs.org/page.cfm?p=3011) to register.

### Art Buzz Kids Summer Camp

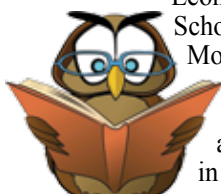
Four exciting weeks of creative art fun for kids ages 5-12 will be offered at Wine and Design studio in Leonardtown, 9 AM-1PM. Imaginative themes highlight "Superhero" Camp: June 22-26; "Once Upon a Time" Camp: July 6-10; "Creepy Crawlies" Camp: July 20-24; and "Out of this World" Camp: August 3-7. Visit [wineanddesign.com/smc](http://wineanddesign.com/smc) for details, cost and online sign-up, email [somd@mdwineanddesign.com](mailto:somd@mdwineanddesign.com) or call 240-925-7464.

### Yellow Door Classes & Summer Camps

Offering drawing, painting and mixed media classes for children throughout the year, Yellow Door Arts Studio also holds summer camps from June 22<sup>nd</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>. Choose from Art for Tots (3-6 years old), Renaissance Art Camp, Modernistic Art Camp, Illustrator Art Camp, Global Contemporary Art Camp, Expressionist Pop Art Camp, and Nature Trekkers, all available for ages 6 and older. For complete details, cost and registration visit [yellowdoorartstudios.com](http://yellowdoorartstudios.com) or call 240-925-1888.

### Leonardtown Library

The Leonardtown Library will offer a variety of free, professional performances at Leonardtown Elementary School at 12:30 PM every Monday from June 29<sup>th</sup> through August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Children of all ages are also invited to participate in storytimes, science programs, art projects and the 2015 Summer Reading Program offered by all three St. Mary's County Library branch locations from June 22<sup>nd</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup>. Visit [smalib.org](http://smalib.org) for more details and happenings at your local library.



### More to Explore!

Looking for a free and easy outdoor activity for the whole family? Pick up your "More to Explore!" passport at any local branch of the St. Mary's County Library and take self-guided family outings to over 22 scenic sites and recreational parks in St. Mary's County. Track your travels by checking in at each venue, visit 10 spots or more to receive a More To Explore Compass, and be entered in a drawing for a larger prize in August. Complete instructions and contest details are inside your passport. Program runs from June 21<sup>st</sup> until August 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Recreation and Parks Summer Camps

St. Mary's County Recreation and Parks offers over 30 summer camps for children ages 3-20. Camps include Fun Day Camps, Sports Camps, and Therapeutic Camps that will run from June 22<sup>nd</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>. New this year is Camp Limbo, a 3-day interim camp open June 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. Visit [www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/camps](http://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/camps) for summer camp themes, descriptions, and registration.

Find more exciting summer activities and events in the R&P 2015 Summer Program Guide at [www.stmarysmd.com/docs/currentprogramguide.pdf](http://www.stmarysmd.com/docs/currentprogramguide.pdf). Copies are also available in the Recreation and Parks office, or call 301-475-4200 ext. 1800.

## FOR THE ADULTS!

### Caught My Eye

The professional artisans at Caught My Eye offer an eclectic variety of hands-on, make-n-take classes, such as ceramics, card making, simple book making, basic hand stitching and stained glass – basic, intermediate and advanced – or try them all! Contact Tas at 301-475-6805 for details and to register.

### Crazy for Ewe

Whether you're a beginner or advanced crafter, find expert instruction and guidance at a variety of crocheting and knitting classes offered at Crazy for You – they even have Mommy & Me classes! For details visit [crazyforewe.com/collections/classes-events](http://crazyforewe.com/collections/classes-events).

### Fuzzy Farmers Market

Explore the timeless crafts of felting, knitting, crocheting and weaving with highly skilled teachers at Fuzzy Farmers Market. Class schedules can be found at [fuzzyfarmersmarket.com/ClassSchedule.html](http://fuzzyfarmersmarket.com/ClassSchedule.html).

### BTB Coffee Bar & Speakeasy

Learn how to craft your favorite cocktail or try an interactive crafting class package that includes supplies, a drink and snacks. Find complete listings on the BTB website Calendar tab at [btbcoffeebar.com/calendar.html](http://btbcoffeebar.com/calendar.html).

### Quality Street Catering

Add a little spice to your regular menu, sharpen your knife skills, and learn new culinary techniques and tastes from acclaimed local chefs. Find updated class schedule by visiting [qualitystreetcatering.com/classes.aspx](http://qualitystreetcatering.com/classes.aspx).

### St. Mary's County Wine & Design

A full calendar of painting classes, including Date Night specials, can be found at [wineanddesign.com/smc](http://wineanddesign.com/smc). For more details contact [somd@mdwineanddesign.com](mailto:somd@mdwineanddesign.com) or call 240-925-7464.

# 6

# SUMMER FUN!

Leonardtown Beacon

Continued from Cover

Since opening the EOC, a summer camp is held to provide a safe environment during the summer months where the kids can participate in informal games and outdoor activities, eat a healthy lunch, learn about healthy living, and participate in field trips. The popularity of the summer camps have grown to include children in both the Leonard's Freehold complex and the neighboring area at the playground of the Leonardtown Elementary School. Several Leonardtown businesses also rally in support of the EOC summer camps, providing life enrichment activities such as health and wellness by St. Mary's Hospital; healthy cooking and eating with Chef Loic of the Café des Artistes; healthy food demonstrations at the Good Earth Natural Foods Store; creating art projects at the Yellow Door Art Studios, informational tours to Heritage Printing & Graphics, an excursion to John and Ann Richards' pet-friendly farm, and others.



The campers enjoy creating their own art at the Yellow Door Art Studios.

To expand the outreach of its local ministries and to assist in garnering grants, donations and volunteers to help support the EOC, First Saints Community Church established Bridges of St. Mary's County. Bridges is a non-profit 501-c organization that believes all children should have the opportunity to be successful, and that success begins with education and support. By submerging itself specifically where kids are, in their neighborhoods and in their schools, Bridges is certain they are helping to provide that educational support. For the 2014-2015 school year, the church and the EOC partnered with Leonardtown Elementary and Bridges to continue providing accessible homework assistance at both the "Little Blue House" and directly after school at Leonardtown Elementary School. Through Bridges, the EOC also assisted neighborhood adults with resume preparation,

FAFSA preparation assistance and budgeting assistance for those who want to improve their quality of life and increase their potential for job opportunities.

What originated as a "Reading Room" for children 15 years ago has swelled to an Educational Outreach Center for a community. Many of the volunteers have been involved in this mission since its beginning, helping not only with reading and homework, but engaging in prayer, building character, showing love and giving hugs. Today, the future of the "Little Blue House" is uncertain, as it is under foreclosure and slated for sale. At the time of this printing, it is unknown if the church will be able to obtain the "Little Blue House". Will a new home or different property need to be found for the EOC to continue its calling to the Leonard's Freehold community? Will potential opportunities subsist to maintain their presence in this community? What we do know, is that First Saints Community Church believes they are right in the heart of a neighborhood that needs the "Little Blue House" as much as they need the neighborhood. The Town continues to be supportive of the Educational Outreach Center but its First Saints Community Church that carries the torch.



Terry Bonnevier, a member of First Saints Community Church, took the operational and volunteer lead for the Reading Room in 2001. To this day, Terry remains vigilant in the operation of the Educational Outlet Center, and also serves as the Board Chairperson for Bridges of St. Mary's County. In this earlier photo, Terry is reading to one of the children in the original Reading Room.



Chef Loic shares the importance of fresh veggies and healthy eating while preparing Ratatouille for the campers at the Outreach Center.

## TRASH AND RECYCLING INFORMATION

**Residential Trash and Residential Recycling** containers should be set out the night before or by 6 AM the morning of pick-up. Items are accepted in 30-gallon cans with lids, cans on wheels, or totes issued by Affordable Refuse and Recycling, Inc. Whenever possible, please break down cardboard boxes before placing in your recycling tote.



For questions about your trash service, billing, extra pickup or to report a missed pickup, please call the Town Office at 301-475-9791 and ask for Jackie Post. Please **do not** call the trash company directly. Visit [leonardtown.somd.com](http://leonardtown.somd.com) for more about this service.

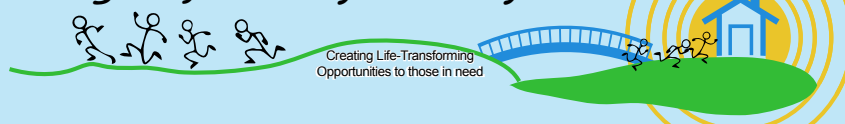
The next quarterly **bulk trash** pickup date is Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Bulk trash items will be collected with your regular trash and should be placed at the curb together on this day.

**Holiday pick-up for the week of May 25<sup>th</sup>:** Trash pickup will slide forward a day. For example, trash pickup normally scheduled for Monday will slide to Tuesday, and so on for that week. Recyclables will be collected on Wednesday as scheduled.

### Leonardtown Shred Day

The Town of Leonardtown is hosting a free paper shred day for Town residents and businesses on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM-1 PM in the Town Parking Lot located on Park Avenue, across from the Good Earth Natural Foods Store. Bring up to five boxes of documents to be securely shred on site, and be sure to remove any binder clips, three-ring binders, or hanging files. Check [leonardtown.somd.com](http://leonardtown.somd.com) for any updates on this service

## Bridges of St. Mary's County



All events at the EOC are supported by First Saints Community Church through donations, time and prayer. If you would like to volunteer at the EOC, provide donations of snacks, drinks, books, or craft supplies for the EOC, or to apply for appointment on the Bridges of St. Mary's Board, please email [bridgesofstmarys@verizon.net](mailto:bridgesofstmarys@verizon.net) or call 301-475-7200.

### Can you help the EOC find its permanent home?

Bridges of St. Mary's County has provided tutoring, summer camps, and educational opportunity to over 75 youth in need over the last 10+ years, and has also been able to provide these opportunities based solely on the generosity of our community. To find out how you can help Bridges secure the Educational Outreach Center at the "Little Blue House" or to find another house for this community, please visit [crowdrise.com/savethelittlebluehouse](http://crowdrise.com/savethelittlebluehouse).

Spring 2015



# Town Tidbits

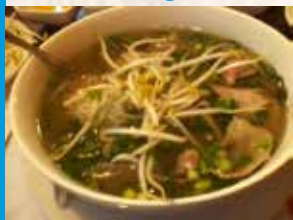
College of Southern Maryland Foundation

## Splash

for SCHOLARSHIPS

Splash for Scholarships is a pool party inspired evening of fun that celebrates the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wellness and Aquatics Center at the Leonardtown Campus. All proceeds will support CSM student scholarships. Come join the celebration on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 7PM-11PM, and feel free to wear your best beach attire. For ticket information visit [csmd.edu/foundation](http://csmd.edu/foundation) or call 301-934-7647.

### "Pho Saigon" Restaurant is Open



Whether you are a seasoned connoisseur of Vietnamese cuisine or want to introduce your taste buds to new flavor combinations, give

Pho Saigon a try! Talk around town is that the fresh spring rolls and pho are a big hit! Pho Saigon is located on 40874 Merchants Lane in the Shops at Breton Bay. 240-309-4044.

### Quarter Auction to Benefit Our Vets

Southern Maryland Vacations for Vets is a program that offers free weekend retreats, here in Southern Maryland, for our recovering Service members and their families, including our Vets at Charlotte Hall. On Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> the organization will host a benefit Quarter Auction at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds. Doors open at 12 Noon and the auction begins at 1 PM. To reserve your seat, contact Connie at [cdpennington@icloud.com](mailto:cdpennington@icloud.com) or 301-904-0707.

### Leonardtown Tru Value – now Ace Hardware

The Leonardtown Tru-Value is now your neighborhood Ace Hardware. The name is new, but the friendly folks you know and trust, are the same. Marty Rudman, Manager, says the change will bring better pricing, name brand merchandise, and a new paint studio. Stop by the new Ace at 40845 Merchants Lane, and remember to sign up for the Ace reward program! 301-475-5800



### Lightfoot Massage & Aromatherapy

Audrey Lightfoot, owner of Lightfoot Massage, is both a Licensed Massage Therapist and Certified Aromatherapist. Services and products offered include aromatherapy massage, therapeutic massage, aromatherapy workshops, organic body products, essential oils and hydrosols. Lightfoot Massage is located at 22530 Washington Street, just before Leonardtown Wharf Park. For more details and online scheduling visit [lightfootmassage.com](http://lightfootmassage.com) or contact Audrey at 757-718-3626.



### Staff Notes

Joining our friendly Leonardtown staff is Donna Page, our new Town Receptionist. Donna looks forward to assisting our many residents and callers.



### Farmer's Market in Leonardtown

Beginning in mid-April, fresh garden vegetables, fruit, and fragrant flowers will be available at St. Mary's Hospital on Thursdays and in the Leonardtown Square on Fridays between 11 AM-5 PM. You can also find fresh eggs, home-made jellies, jams and cookies. These seasonal markets are being brought into Town by the Finch Family Farms.



### Additions to Leonardtown's Website

When perusing Leonardtown's website, be sure to "click" on the following links to check out our latest additions! We hope these new features enhance your Leonardtown experience!

- "Get Noticed" – Click on the **News** tab for up-to-date event postings and Leonardtown news. Click on any news article and then subscribe to Leonardtown News to receive automatic notifications when new items are added.
- "Socialize" – Click on any of the Town's five **Facebook** links and connect with others.
- "What's Happening" – Click on the **First Friday** logo and the **Arts & Entertainment District** logo to instantly see events and photos.
- "Wedding Wows" – Click on **Visit Us** and choose a Wedding Venue that's just right for you!
- "Lights Out!" – Click on the **For Residents** link then scroll to the Community Information section to report a street light outage.
- "Got to Have It" – Click on **Local Business** to find your perfect shopping, dining, art, salon, or other Leonardtown business service.



## Leonardtown BEACON

Commissioners of Leonardtown

P.O. Box 1  
Proffitt Building  
41660 Courthouse Drive  
Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 16  
LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650

A Public Hearing for Leonardtown's FY2016 Budget will be held on Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 during the Town Council meeting, which begins at 4 PM. The public is welcomed.

Editor: LINDA SHEPHERD

Layout/Design, Printing & Mailing by



[www.heritageprinting.com](http://www.heritageprinting.com)

Custom Signs • Custom Displays • Brochures  
Event Signage • Character Cutouts • Banners  
Backdrops • Retail P.O.P Displays • Catalogs

(301) 475-1700



### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

301-475-9791

Fax: 301-475-5350

Leonardtown's Web Site: [www.leonardtown.somd.com](http://www.leonardtown.somd.com)