

# Leonardtown BEACON

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

## Calendar of Events

**SEPTEMBER 13**

Fall Follies  
Leonardtown Square

**SEPTEMBER 18-21**

St. Mary's County Fair  
County Fairgrounds

**SEPTEMBER 27**

5K Walk for United Way  
Leonardtown Square & Streets

**OCTOBER 3**

LHS Homecoming Parade  
Leonardtown Square

**OCTOBER 18 & 19**

SMC Oyster Festival  
County Fairgrounds

**OCTOBER 19**

St. Mary's-Ryken 5K Walk/Run  
Campus and Square

**OCTOBER 25**

Trick-or-Treating  
Leonardtown Square

**NOVEMBER 8 & 9**

Antique Show & Sale  
Leonard Hall Jr. Naval Academy

**NOVEMBER 11**

Veterans Day Parade  
Leonardtown Square

**NOVEMBER 28**

Christmas on the Square &  
Annual Tree Lighting  
Leonardtown Square

**NOVEMBER 28-30**

SMC Festival of Trees  
Bell Motor Co. Showroom

**DECEMBER 20**

Santa & Mrs. Claus  
Leonardtown Square

*Leonardtown  
Has Something  
for Everyone!*

## Featuring

### At Home in Leonardtown

## St. Mary's County Historical Society

On October 25, 1951, the first meeting of the St. Mary's County Historical Society was called at Tudor Hall, which was then the Memorial Library. Col. Norwood Sothoron was the first president. Its constitution and by-laws



*The Old Jail Museum contains many artifacts relating to the history of St. Mary's County and serves as an Information Center for St. Mary's County.*

*The original cannon from the Ark is mounted in front of the Old Jail Museum, located on Courthouse Drive beside the Circuit Courthouse.*



were drawn up with the following objectives: "It shall be the purpose and the objective of this Society to do all in its power to collect all available materials connected with or associated with the history of St. Mary's County, and to preserve the same. It shall be the purpose of this Society to collect, preserve, and diffuse such information as may be available in the field of genealogy connected with the above named county. The above objectives shall include the collection of historic relics, museum materials, copies of local newspapers, old church records, private papers, monographs, letters, and other materials of such nature."

When Col. Sothoron was unable to continue as president for a second year, Charles E. Fenwick Sr. accepted the position. During this time, besides meeting at the library, meetings were held in schools, thanks to Miss Lettie M. Dent, Superintendent of Schools for St. Mary's County, and Dr. May Russell, President of St. Mary's Seminary.

In 1953 the Society began publishing a quarterly bulletin, "The Chronicles of St. Mary's", with Charles E. Fenwick as editor. Edwin W. Beitzell became editor in 1956, and served in that position until 1983, when succeeded by Regina Combs Hammett, and in 1996 by Alfred Gough Jr., who is the current

editor. The Society has been fortunate to have such dedicated and talented editors who have made the "Chronicles" the respected narration of St.

Mary's County persons, places, and events that it has become.

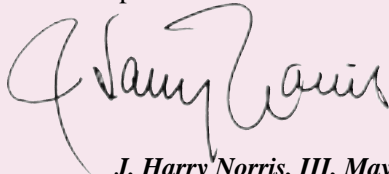
Col. Thurston Baxter became president after Charles Fenwick in 1971, and was the first president to have the Old Jail as a home for the Society. This was possible due to an agreement with the St. Mary's County Commissioners to give the Society a long-term lease on the Old Jail if they could raise money to properly restore it, which they did. In front of the Old Jail is one of the cannons from the ship Ark which brought the original settlers to the Maryland Colony, and a plaque is inscribed thereon; "This cannon was brought to Maryland in 1634 on the Ark, then

# Come on Out!

## Mayor's Message

Hurricane Isabel made her presence known along the East Coast on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Many areas throughout St. Mary's County sustained varying degrees of property damage, including downed trees, flooding, power outages, and other significant losses. Considering the intensity of this storm, I feel the Town of Leonardtown was very fortunate. I have been in contact with Mayors of other Townships along the Chesapeake and tributaries; some, including the Town of North Beach, have extensive damage to both the public and private sectors. Our thoughts go out to them.

I'm proud of the Town staff for their diligence and dedication during the storm. I would like to thank the County Administrator, Director of the Emergency Operations Center, their staff, and all of the local volunteers for their assistance during this disaster. I would also like to thank all of the people of the Town for their patience and understanding as we continue clean-up efforts and power restoration.



*J. Harry Norris, III, Mayor*



*This large oak tree fell across Calvert Street, barely missing surrounding homes.*

### The Town Office will be closed in observance of upcoming holidays:

- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 27 - Thanksgiving Day
- November 28 - Day after Thanksgiving
- December 25 - Christmas Day
- January 1 - New Year's Day
- January 19 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 16 - Presidents' Day



*Leonardtown Beacon*

## St. Mary's County Fair

The St. Mary's County Fair Association sponsors its 57<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Mary's County Fair, September 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Home arts, garden, crafts, agriculture, livestock, 4-H exhibits, contests, entertainment, carnival attractions, food, and more! Admission. For more information call 301-475-2256.

## 5-K Walk for United Way of St. Mary's

The First National Bank of St. Mary's will sponsor its 3<sup>rd</sup> 5k Walk for United Way of St. Mary's County, on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Stroll the streets of historic Leonardtown, starting and finishing in the Town Square. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., or pre-register at any branch of the First National Bank of St. Mary's. For more information call 301-862-5577. *Rain or shine.*

## Basket Bingo

A Basket Bingo will be held at the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department on Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., with Bingo beginning at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds will go toward the LVFD fund-raising campaign to purchase a pre-lit artificial Christmas Tree for the Town Square. For details call Roger Mattingly at 301-475-5966 or e-mail [rogr69@aol.com](mailto:rogr69@aol.com).



## A Leonardtown Legend Portrayed

The St. Mary's Ballet will present "*Legend of the Witch, Moll Dyer*", October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., and October 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Ryken Fine Arts Center. The ballet explores the events surrounding the life and tragic death of a Leonardtown woman in the late 1600's. Appropriate for audiences of all ages. Tickets are \$10 in advance (available at "Musically Yours") and \$15 at the door. For more information call 301-884-8601.

## St. Mary's County Oyster Festival

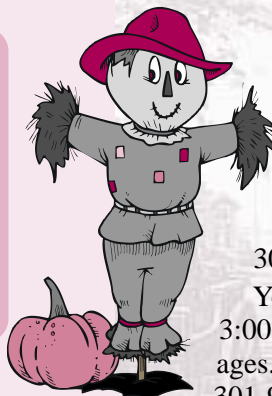
Make plans to attend the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Mary's County Oyster Festival at the County Fairgrounds, Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The National Oyster Shucking Championship and Cook-off is the highlight of this annual festival, sponsored by the Lexington Park Rotary Club. Live entertainment, music, games, rides, arts and crafts, and more. Admission. For more information, call 301-863-5015 or visit their web site at [www.usoysterfest.com](http://www.usoysterfest.com).

## Trick-or-Treat on the Square and Make your own Scarecrow

Kids can dress up in their favorite Halloween costume, and have fun "*trick-or-treating*" with participating downtown merchants around the Leonardtown Square on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Free. Bring your treat bag to fill with goodies. For more information call 301-475-9791.

You can also create your own life-like scarecrow from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. on the Town Square with the Old Towne Crafters. All ages. Cost is \$5 and includes supplies. For more information call 301-997-1644.

*(Note: "Trick-or-Treat on the Square" replaces the former "Halloween on the Square" and will not include a costume contest and haunted house.)*





## Antique Show & Sale

Antique furniture, jewelry, books, artwork, toys, door prizes, and more at Leonard Hall Jr. Naval Academy, on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., and Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. \$5 admission. For details, call the school at 301-475-8029.



## Veterans Day Parade & Memorial

Salute America's Veterans on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>! The parade on Washington Street in Leonardtown begins at 10:00 a.m., and features over 4,000 participants, including dignitaries and elected officials, Veterans, marching bands, military units, color guards, bagpipers, Native American Dancers, classic and antique cars, boy and girl scouts, cheerleaders, Arabian horses, motorcycles, fire department equipment, and much more! Immediately following the parade, a Veterans memorial ceremony will be held in the Town Square. Sponsored by the Commissioners of Leonardtown and the St. Mary's County Commissioners. For more information call 301-475-9791.

## St. Mary's Sinfonia

The St. Mary's Sinfonia will open its 2003-2004 season on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. (Location TBA). Support our young orchestral musicians as they perform "Mostly Mozart" selections! Admission is free. For more information about Southern Maryland's youth orchestra program, contact Gene Carter at 301-997-1133 or e-mail [gensalstudio@msn.com](mailto:gensalstudio@msn.com).

Editor: LINDA SHEPHERD

Layout & Design: STEVE GASS

**HERITAGE**  
**PRINTING & GRAPHICS**

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

The Southern Maryland's Print  
Quality Award Winners!

(301) 475-1700

## Christmas on the Square and Annual Tree Lighting

Ring in the holiday season on Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. on the Leonardtown Town Square. Festive decorations, entertainment, holiday music, sleigh rides, hayrides, pony rides, petting zoo, live nativity, Christmas carols, face painting, make-and-take crafts, gingerbread house displays, puppet show, food, Frosty, Santa and Mrs. Claus, and much more! Santa's parade and lighting of the Town Christmas Tree begins at 7:00 p.m. Many downtown merchants will be open for your Christmas shopping needs! Sponsored by the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, Leonardtown Business Association, and the Commissioners of Leonardtown. For further information, call 301-475-9791. *Rain date: November 29<sup>th</sup>.*



## SMC Festival of Trees

The Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary, Inc. is sponsoring the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Mary's County Festival of Trees November 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Bell Motor Company Showroom in Leonardtown. Hours are Friday: 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and Sunday: Noon-4:00 p.m. \$1 Admission. See the sparkling trees and wreaths, and cast a vote for your favorite. Decorated entries will be auctioned by silent bid on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. To register a decorated entry, or for more information, call 301-373-2551.

## Visit with Santa on the Square

Kids of all ages can visit Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Get those last-minute Christmas lists in! Bring your camera! (*In the event of inclement weather, Santa & Mrs. Claus will be in the Bell Motor Co. Showroom.*)

## LVFD Christmas Tree Campaign

The Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department continues its efforts to accept donations for a 20' reusable, lighted, artificial Christmas tree to be placed in the Town Square during the upcoming Christmas holiday seasons. Tax-deductible contributions can be mailed to Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650. (*Please note "Christmas Tree" on your check.*)

## Mayor

J. Harry Norris, III

## Council Members

Walter Gillette, Vice President  
Bernard "Tub" Delahay  
Charles Faunce  
J. Maguire "Mock" Mattingly, III  
Walter Wise

## Town Office Staff

Laschelle Miller,  
Town Administrator  
Rebecca Sothoron, Treasurer  
Colleen Bonnel, Planner  
Jackie Post, Fiscal Clerk  
Victoria Berkshire, Secretary  
Linda Shepherd, Public  
Relations & Events Coordinator  
Barbara Dotson, Grants Writer  
Frank Marquart, Town Deputy

## Utilities Staff

John "Jay" Johnson,  
Superintendent  
Steve Woodburn, Plant Operator  
Timmy Lacey, Maintenance Technician  
Margaret Proctor, Lab Technician

## Planning & Zoning Board Members

Jean Moulds, Chair  
Leslie Roberts, Vice-Chair  
John "Jack" Candela  
Frank Fearn  
Gary Simpson

## Board of Appeals

Dr. Herbert Winnick, Vice-Chair  
Massey Connelly  
Dr. William Icenhower  
Harry S. Lancaster, Jr.  
Brian Mattingly

## Meetings

**Town Council** - 2nd Monday of each month @ 4:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Upcoming meetings: Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9

**Planning Commission** - 3rd Monday of each month @ 3:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Upcoming meetings: Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, Dec. 15, \*Tues., Jan. 20, \*\*Tues., Feb. 17 (*\*In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. \*\*In observance of Presidents' Day.*)

**Leonardtown Business Association**  
- 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 8:30 a.m. in the Town Hall. Upcoming meetings: Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11

Fall/Winter 2003



# Community Highlights

## Envirothon Competition held on grounds of Tudor Hall Farm

Nearly 60 students representing Chopticon, Great Mills, and St. Mary's-Ryken High Schools gathered at Tudor Hall Farm in Leonardtown on May 1<sup>st</sup> for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Envirothon Competition, sponsored locally by the St. Mary's Soil Conservation District. Objectives of the day-long event are to test the students' knowledge and understanding of State resource issues and to cultivate the desire to learn about environmental issues, including soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, land conservation, and other natural resource areas, studied during the school year.



## 2003 Soap Box Derby Winners



What an exciting day of derby racing! The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Soap Box Derby was held on Fenwick Street (Derby Hill) on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to Super Stock Champion, Kacie Rader, and Stock Champion, Justin Rayle, who were recognized at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting. Pictured with Kacie and Justin are Chris Hayden, Derby Director and Tub Delahay, Town Councilman. Kacie and Justin represented Southern Maryland in the All-American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio in August. The Town Council congratulates all the youth who participated in the Soap Box Derby and the Lexington Park Lions Club on another successful Derby!

Mark Feldhaus and his pet "Speedy", an African Spur-Thighed Tortoise, readying for the Recreation & Parks Turtle Races held on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Leonard Hall Recreation Center.



Mark enjoys helping his dad, Bob, at the Corner Critters Pet Shop on the Town Square.



## Beach Party on the Square & La Familia Festival



The Town Square was bedecked with sand, palm trees, wind sails, bamboo torches, and surfboards, as many enjoyed *Beach Party on the Square*, held on August 9<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with the *La Familia Festival*. Sounds with a Caribbean beat could be heard throughout the Town Square as Orquesta La Romana played to the crowd. Despite threatening clouds, laughter and fun prevailed, with music, clowns, juggling, hula dancing, hula hoops, jump rope, limbo, miniature golf, games, classic cars, sand volleyball, LVFD fire truck hose-downs, Jazzercise, a dance performance by the Interact Tomorrow Village Players and more! Thank-you to all who

supported *Beach Party on the Square* and *La Familia Festival* — your generous donations, volunteer help, and participation made this event a huge success!!



Town Councilman Charles Faunce and his wife Louise observe paintings and art work by local artist Mary Lou Troutman, who was one of the many crafters featured at the annual *Fall Follies*, held on the rain date of September 14<sup>th</sup>. *Fall Follies* is sponsored by Old Towne Crafters and the Crafts Guild of St. Mary's County.





## J. Maguire "Mock" Mattingly, III appointed to Town Council

At the July 14, 2003 Town Council meeting, J. Maguire "Mock" Mattingly, III was sworn in by



Mayor Norris after being appointed to fill the term left by Ruth W. "Becky" Proffitt, who passed on May 22, 2003. Mock is a life-long resident of Leonardtown and brings with him,

knowledge and deep caring about our Town. He and his wife Linda have two children, Jay and Jonathan. A legacy of Leonardtown has been instilled in Mock, as his father J. Maguire Mattingly, Jr., served on the Town Council from May 1985 to April 1987 and as Mayor of Leonardtown from May 1987 to April 1992. Mock expresses a major interest in the concerns of the Town's citizens, Leonardtown's prosperity, and the College of Southern Maryland. Mock is employed at the Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, NAWCAD.

*Maryland's Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele enjoyed a visit to the Leonardtown Town Hall, as well as other areas of St. Mary's County on July 14<sup>th</sup>.*

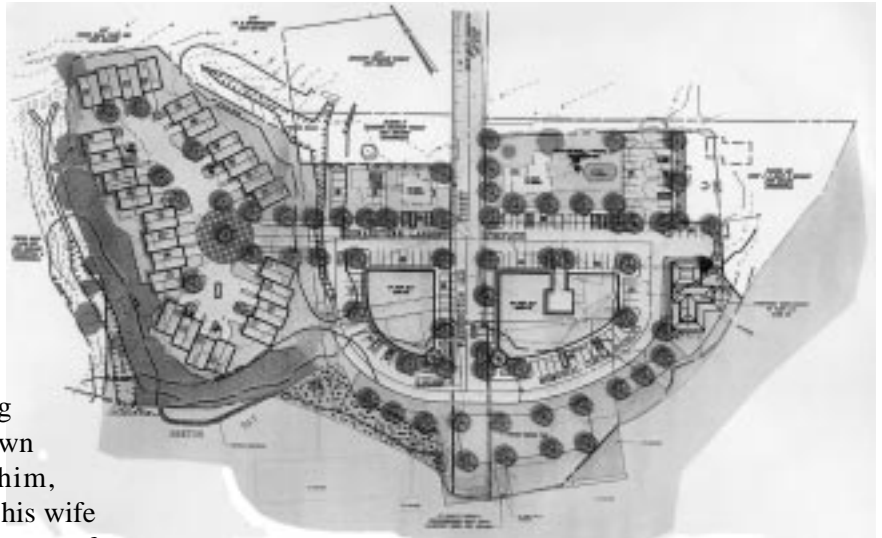


*In memory of, and to honor the civic achievements of Leonardtown Councilwoman Ruth W. "Becky" Proffitt, a United States Flag was presented by Senator Roy Dyson to Mayor Norris on July 14<sup>th</sup>, and by Commissioner President Thomas McKay, to Jan Norris (Becky's daughter), on July 15<sup>th</sup>.*



## Former Council Member Passes On

Sympathies are extended to the family of J. Wilmer Bowles, who passed on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bowles was very active in the community, served on the Leonardtown Town Council from May 1954-April 1961 and was president of the Council from May 1983-April 1985.



## Leonardtown Wharf Project Update

Town staff is working with Ron Russo, RAR Associates, to finalize the concept plan for the Leonardtown Wharf revitalization. Many meetings with State officials from a variety of agencies will help to ensure a quality project for everyone, as well as a significant improvement environmentally to this property.

The Town has employed a consultant, Crozier & Associates, to design the public waterfront park, which will include public restroom facilities. The Town recently applied for a second Community Legacy grant to fund the moving of the sewer lift station, currently located on the property, to be housed in a building that will also serve as public restrooms.

Mr. Russo has received concept approval and is anticipating beginning Phase I, 26 Townhome units in the Spring of 2004. Recently, a meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers brought attention to the need for a resolution to the run off problem from Town Run. The Town will continue to collaborate with the Army Corps to find a resolution to this problem.

Stay tuned for more information to come on this exciting revitalization project!

## Councilman Walter Gillette re-elected to MML Board of Directors

Walter Gillette, Vice-President of the Leonardtown Town Council, has been re-elected to serve a third term on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Board of Directors and is the District Vice-President serving St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert and Anne Arundel County Municipalities. MML is a non-profit, non-partisan association representing over 157 city and town governments and two special taxing districts throughout Maryland. MML works to strengthen the role and capacity of municipal government through a program of services that includes legislative representation, research, training, technical assistance and information dissemination. Walt also serves as Vice-Chair of the MML'S Communications Committee, and recently completed a 3-year "Academy in Excellence" program.



## Leonardtwn Business Association

The Leonardtown Business Association (LBA) strives to bring people into Leonardtown and promote business in Leonardtown. This is done mainly through cooperative efforts, promotion, and Town events. If you want to be listed on the new Leonardtown map, sign up now to renew your LBA membership, or become a new member for year 2004! Yearly dues are only \$100. The LBA meets every second Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the Town Hall. Contact Dan Burris, LBA President, at 301-475-3151 or [danburris@danburris.com](mailto:danburris@danburris.com) for more information or if you would like to join the LBA. Recent new members include Sunshines Catering, Main Street Appraisals, and Bell Motor Company.

*Allen Payne and Jamie Morgan, residents of Leonard's Freehold, enjoy their first Orioles Baseball game at Camden Yards! Leonardtown Business Association*

*members Kyra Eberle and JoAnn Clifton accompanied the boys to the game on July 17<sup>th</sup>, with tickets donated by Ron Russo of RAR Associates.*



## Matt Mattingly takes lawn care seriously



If your travels bring you into downtown Leonardtown, chances are you will often see Matt Mattingly on his mower or trimming lawns. Matt is a resident of New Towne

Village, and participates in The Institute for Community Inclusion, which supports the rights of children and adults with disabilities to participate in all aspects of the community, including employing people with disabilities in community settings. You can read about Matt's lawn care business venture on the web at [www.communityinclusion.org](http://www.communityinclusion.org) and clicking on Flexible Funding Project.

*Residents Joan Gonzalez and Narayan Kulkarni proudly display a newly installed sign and logo for New Towne Village.*



# 6

Leonardtwn Beacon

## 2002 Consumer Confidence Report

The 2002 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the Commissioners of Leonardtown was made available on August 15, 2003. The public may view a copy at the Town Office, 41675 Park Avenue, Leonardtown, MD, between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., or on the Town's web site at [www.somd.com/leonardtwn](http://www.somd.com/leonardtwn) and clicking on News. The CCR will not be mailed to the Town's residents.

## Changes in Utility Charges

Effective July 1, 2003, the quarterly charge for residential water, sewer and trash will increase to \$165.44. This \$11.42 increase will show on the next quarterly invoice on September 30, 2003. Of this increase, \$10.45 is directly related to the costs associated with the BNR upgrade now complete at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The remaining increase of \$.97 is for the water system. Trash rates will remain unchanged.

Changes in quarterly charges for commercial customers will vary depending on the number of sewer units charged for each customer. The per unit price of sewer is increasing by \$10.45, the same as the increase for residential customers. Please contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791 if you have any questions about the utility rate changes.

## Water Sale Moratorium

The Town Council has voted to continue the moratorium on outside water sales for the upcoming season. If you see or hear of someone accessing the Town's water supply, do not attempt to make contact with the violator. Please make note of the vehicle or company, and contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791 immediately.

## Trash Pickup and Recycling Reminders

**Residential trash** pickups are scheduled every Tuesday and Friday. In the event of a Waste Management holiday, pickups will be deferred to Wednesday and Saturday for that week. Please have your trash in acceptable 30-gallon cans with lids, or cans on wheels. Bagged trash set on the ground is also acceptable. To guarantee collection, trash should be set out by 7:00 a.m. on the day of pick-up.

The next **quarterly bulk trash** pickup is scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, 2003.

**Residential recycling** pickups of old newspapers, glass bottles, jars, metal and aluminum cans, and approved plastic bottles are made on Thursdays. In the event of a Waste Management holiday, recycling pickups will be deferred to Friday for that week.

### Upcoming Waste Management holidays:

November 27 - Thanksgiving Day

December 25 - Christmas Day

January 1 - New Year's Day

For further information on trash service, recycling, or to obtain a recycling container, contact Waste Management at 301-863-3288.

*John Curtis, a resident of St. Mary's Nursing Center, enjoys a hula dance with Misty Knott of the Island Dance Co. at the Center's annual Luau on September 11<sup>th</sup>.*





## Featuring at Home in Leonardtown

(Continued from page 1)

used in defense of St. Mary's City, and as a St. Inigoes Manor boundary marker."

In 1974 J. Spence Howard succeeded Col. Baxter as president followed by Frederick L. McCoy in 1977 and Alfred Dillow in 1980. Richard Gass became president in 1996 and the current president, Mary Combs Barber succeeded him in 2002.

A major accomplishment during Alfred Dillow's term as president was the acquisition of Tudor Hall in 1984. It became available when the St. Mary's County Library needed more space and moved to a new location. To help support this large addition to the Society's holdings, a portion of the building was leased to the Leonardtown Commissioners to be used as town government offices. Repairs and improvement to Tudor Hall continued, financed with grants and donations from a loyal membership. For example, in the summer of 1999, window air conditioner units were removed, a central air conditioning system was installed, the windows, widow's walk, and porch were repaired, and the complete exterior was painted. The Commissioners of Leonardtown vacated the site in 2000, leaving the Society as the sole occupant. The Historical Society's offices were moved there, and joined the Research Center which houses the vast array of books, genealogies, and material related to the history of this county. The Society's archives serve as a repository for collections of local historians, such as Charles Fenwick Sr., Edwin Beitzell, and others, whose families have donated their material from a lifetime of researching and collecting history to the Society after their deaths. A bookstore featuring books of local historical interest is located therein.

One of the achievements of the Dick Gass presidency was the Heritage Tour of England in 2000. Forty members of the Society made the trip to visit selected sites connected with the families who

established the Maryland Colony in 1634. Arrangements were made through Cole Travel to visit the estates of the Calvert and Brent families, and the Isle of Wight, where the Ark & Dove had set sail.

A Tudor Hall garden restoration was started in 1996, with a plan based on what was actually there in 1820 and what was typical for that period. Features of the



*Officers and Board of Directors of the St. Mary's County Historical Society seated left to right: Marie Goldsmith, Secretary; Mary Combs Barber, President; B. Kennedy Abell, Jr., Treasurer; and Henriette Avram. Standing left to right: Edward Lawrence; Joseph Gough; Dr. Robert Goldsmith; Dr. Roy J. Guyther; Carolyn Laray; Joseph Anderson; J. Ernest Bell II. Directors not pictured: John Bohanan; Father Rory Conley; Richard Gass; Alfred Gough; Aleck Loker; and Dr. Martin Sullivan.*

restoration were crushed oyster shell paths and a sundial in the pleasure garden, restored brick walks throughout the yard, and the planting of 44 trees and shrubs, all of them native to the region. The old yew tree was pruned, and the "ha ha" wall repaired to make the old features fit with the new.

The St. Mary's County Historical Society celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2001 with almost two hundred Society members and guests attending a banquet at St. Mary's College. Senator Tomas V. Mike Miller, President of the Maryland Senate, delivered the keynote address. Mrs.

Mary Combs Barber spoke of the Society's accomplishments, and Mr. Richard Gass recognized the tremendous contributions of members, volunteers, and staff.

Looking ahead to 2004, the Historical Society resolves to become better known to all the people of St. Mary's County. The Research Center continues to attract enquiries and investigators, especially those doing genealogical research. The Society will work with groups who wish to teach St. Mary's County History to their members. The buildings and grounds are available for small groups who wish to hold meetings or



*The Society invites you to visit historic Tudor Hall, tour the building, check out the bookstore, and stroll the gardens and lawn.*

luncheons. Tudor Hall is owned by the Society, and the responsibility of stewardship of this 250-year-old site is taken seriously.

The St. Mary's County Historical Society is located on Tudor Place and Camalier Drive in Leonardtown. The building is open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Their address is P.O. Box 212, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Call 301-475-2467 or e-mail [smchs@erols.com](mailto:smchs@erols.com) or visit their website at [www.smchonline.org](http://www.smchonline.org).

*This concludes part II of this two-part series.*

*Contributing to this article was Edward Lawrence.*

Fall/Winter 2003

# Town Tidbits



## Nook & Monks "Theatre on the Square"

Nook & Monks "Theatre on the Square" is celebrating its grand opening on October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> with the romantic comedy "Love Letters".

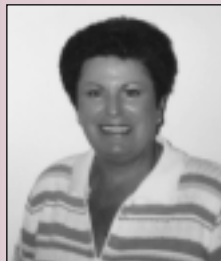
Upcoming attractions include an Octoberfest on October 18<sup>th</sup>, a Costume Party on October 31<sup>st</sup>, a Mystery Dinner on November 1<sup>st</sup>, a Thanksgiving Day Feast, and a New Year's Eve Party. For more information and to make reservations, call 301-475-9985.

## Local Business Professional Earns Certification

A national program to standardize certification for consultants who help families plan funeral services in advance, managed by the National Funeral Directors Association, recently awarded the Certified Preplanning Consultant (CPC) designation to Michael K. Gardiner, Sr., and M. Kevin Gardiner, Jr., of the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A.

## "Nurse of the Year"

Lynn Delahay, who began her nursing career in 1966 as an aide at St. Mary's Hospital, was named Nurse of the Year by District 9 of the Maryland Nurses Association. Lynn is currently a clinical nurse educator at Calvert Memorial Hospital, and resides in the Leonardtown area.



## Pocket Garden

"Thank you" to the St. Mary's County Garden Club and members Joan Lawrence and Joan Marsh, who

bedded a colorful "Pocket Garden" ground cover at the public parking lot across from the Town Hall this past spring, as part of a landscape beautification project.

## Health Connections Van in Town

Visit the Health Connections Outreach Center Van the second Wednesday of each month from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the Town Square. Upcoming dates are Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, and Feb. 11. For more information, call Health Connections at 301-475-6019.

## Holiday Gift-Giving Ideas!

Color prints of the Leonardtown Mural, depicting a progression of life in the Town during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, are available at the Town Hall. Additionally, copies of Aleck Loker's book "A Most Convenient Place", capturing a comprehensive history of Leonardtown between 1650-1950, are also available in the Town Office or at several local businesses. Call 301-475-9791 for details.

## Breakfast at Do Dah Deli

The Do Dah Deli now serves breakfast Mondays-Saturdays, beginning at 6:00 a.m. Call 301-997-1604.

# Leonardtown BEACON

## Commissioners of Leonardtown

Post Office Box One  
41675 Park Avenue  
Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



### Office Hours

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

301-475-9791

Fax: 301-475-5350

### E-Mail:

Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net

### Town Web Page

www.somd.com/leonardtown