

Leonardtowntown BEACON

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

Calendar of Events

MARCH 24

Disability Awareness Day
Governmental Center

APRIL 7

Easter Egg Festival & Hunt
Governmental Center

APRIL 21

Run & Fun Walk for Hospice
Governmental Center

APRIL 22

Earth Day Celebration
Leonardtowntown Square

APRIL 29

Spring Fling Classic Car Show
Leonardtowntown Square

MAY 3 - MAY 6

So. Md. Spring Festival
SMC Fairgrounds

MAY 20

Criterion Bicycle Races
Leonardtowntown Square

JUNE 9

Soap Box Derby
Fenwick Street

JUNE 10

SMC Crab Festival
Governmental Center

JUNE 14

Flag Day Celebration
Governmental Center

AUGUST 11

Beach Party on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square

*Come see
what's new
in historic
Leonardtowntown!!!*

At Home in Leonardtown featuring . . .

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TRAVELS TO JAPAN

Town Administrator, Laschelle Miller, was selected by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) as one of nine candidates from the United States and Canada to participate in a ten-day local government exchange program held in Japan. This exchange and cooperation program took place in November 2006.

Laschelle was nominated by Scott Hancock, Executive Director of the Maryland Municipal League, who participated in the program himself two years ago. Other candidates came from towns and cities of various sizes or from government support organizations. Some of the other participating cities, states and organizations included Santa Paula, California, Dearborn, Michigan, Markham, Canada, State of New Jersey and New Hampshire, National

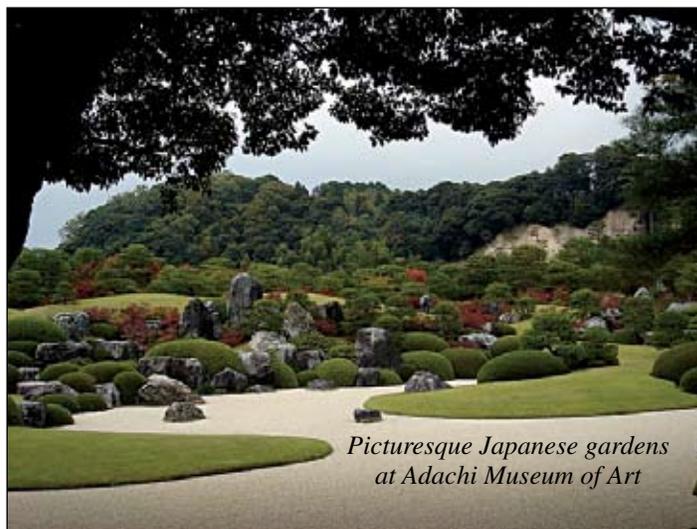
Governor's Association, National Conference of State Legislatures and the Council of State Governments.



Japanese Diet House (Parliament Building)

The candidates began their travels with a tour of Little Tokyo in Los Angeles. They then flew directly to Tokyo, Japan where, with representatives from Australia and China, they toured many historic sites and government-related facilities. Japan Government officials met with the group to educate them about the local autonomy system.

The candidates were then flown from Tokyo cross-country to the rural setting of the Shimane Prefecture and Matsue City. For six days they toured and met with various State and City officials and participated in



*Picturesque Japanese gardens
at Adachi Museum of Art*

Continued on page 10

Mayor's Message

During the years that I have served as Leonardtown's Mayor I have shared with the residents my goal of revitalization of the Downtown. To achieve this goal a great deal of planning by the Council and staff has been accomplished to ensure that the groundwork has been laid to accommodate the growth in as positive a manner as possible for both new and existing residents.

I am pleased to announce that in November of 2006 Leonardtown was awarded the Outstanding Program Award by the Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association for the Redevelopment and Revitalization of Downtown Leonardtown. The award recognized the proactive approach the Town has taken to revitalize its downtown and the planning effort it has made to plan for future growth. The Council and I have commissioned a number of studies in the last several years such as the Downtown Plan, Development Design Manual, Downtown Parking Study, Water and Sewer Study, Waterfront Plan and the Planned Infill and Redevelopment District zoning overlay.

Over the last several years Leonardtown has attracted more and more attention at the State level. In 2002 Leonardtown received the Smart Growth Award for Redevelopment and Revitalization from Governor Glendening. In 2005 Leonardtown was named Governor Ehrlich's first Priority Place for the redevelopment of Leonardtown Wharf.

Developers, Engineers and Planners that have worked with the Town in the last several years have commented that Leonardtown's proactive approach to planning for the anticipated growth is a rare and commendable effort. Just walk down the streets of Leonardtown today and you will see the fruits of these efforts paying off for all the businesses and residents of our wonderful, historic town.

J. Harry Norris
J. Harry Norris, III, Mayor



High Hopes for Everyone!

This interactive event designed to increase disability awareness will be held on Saturday, March 24th between 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Leonard Hall Recreation Center. Sponsored by the Commission for People with Disabilities. For details call 301-475-4200, ext. 1800.

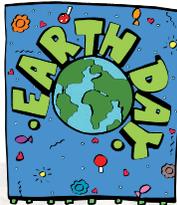


Easter Egg Festival & Hunt

Egg hunts, carnival attractions, prizes, and pictures with the Easter Bunny on the lawn of the Governmental Center, Saturday, April 7th, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. \$1 hunt fee. All ages! Call 301-475-4200, ext. 1800 for details.

12th Annual Hospice Run & Fun Walk

Southern Maryland's largest running event will be held rain or shine on Saturday, April 21st starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Governmental Center with a 10K Run through a scenic country road course and a 5K Run & Fun Walk on the streets of Historic Leonardtown. Awards to top winners! Children, strollers, and pets are welcome. Pre-register on-line at <http://www.runforhospice.org/> or on race day beginning at 7:30 a.m. Proceeds benefit Hospice of St. Mary's.



Earth Day Celebration on the Square

A celebration of Earth Day will be held in the Town Square on Sunday, April 22nd, from 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of music, entertainment, displays, face painting, a puppet show, and children's crafts while getting information to help save our planet, including recycling, organic gardening, pesticide-free produce, conservation and environmental tips. Flowers, plants, fresh herbs, and homemade jams and relishes will be available for purchase. The Town is excited to launch our new Historic Leonardtown Walking Tour Brochure during this event! Sponsored by the Leonardtown Business Association. For more information call 301-475-9791. (Unfortunately, canoeing and kayaking will not be available during the event this year due to construction at Leonardtown Wharf.)



Teri Dimsey, the Town's Executive Secretary, accepts the planning award on behalf of the Town. The award was presented by Richard Hall, President of the Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association and Secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning.



Spring Fling XXII Classic Car Show

Classic and antique cars, trucks, and street rods will be displayed around the Town Square on Sunday, April 29th, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Trophies awarded for best of class, best of show, people's choice, foreign car, pedal car class, and model car contest. Kids can also enjoy a tractor pull, games and prizes! Donations accepted to benefit Hospice of St. Mary's. To register your classic coupe' contact Bill Higgs at 301-994-9666 or go on-line <http://stmarysrodandclassic.com>. Sponsored by the St. Mary's Rod and Classic Car Club. (Rain date Sunday, May 6)

So. Md. Spring Festival

Entertainment includes music, crafts, carnival rides, a parade, car show, and more during the annual So. Md. Spring Festival, Thursday, May 3rd-Sunday, May 6th. The Spring Festival is held at the County Fairgrounds and is sponsored by Holy Face Church. Admission. Call 301-994-0525 for details.

12th Annual Leonardtown Criterium Bicycle Races

See exciting USCF bicycle racing with over 200 cyclists from the Maryland, Delaware, DC, and Virginia areas on the streets of historic downtown Leonardtown on Sunday, May 20th beginning at 8:00 a.m. Youth ages 10 and under are welcome to bring their bike or trike and participate in the "Kid's Races" at 11:30 a.m. Helmets are required and parents must be present to sign a release. Prizes for all kid racers! Admission is free. Sponsored by the Patuxent Velo Bicycle Racing Club to benefit Special Olympics of St. Mary's. For race registration and details, call 410-394-2770 or go on-line <http://www.paxvelo.com>.



Soap Box Derby

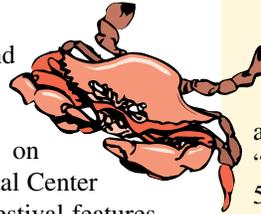
The 2007 Southern Maryland Soap Box Derby will be held on Saturday, June 9th beginning at 9:00 a.m. on "Derby Hill" (Fenwick Street) in Leonardtown.

Boys and girls between the ages of 8-17 will race their derby car for an opportunity to represent Southern Maryland in the 70th Annual All-American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio. Details about the All-American Soap Box Derby can be found online at <http://aasbd.com>. The Lexington Park Lions Club sponsors this local Derby event where youth learn some of the basic skills of workmanship, the spirit of competition and the perseverance to continue a project once it has begun. Contact Chris Hayden, Southern Maryland Derby Director, at 301-934-3659, for registration, kits, and requirements.



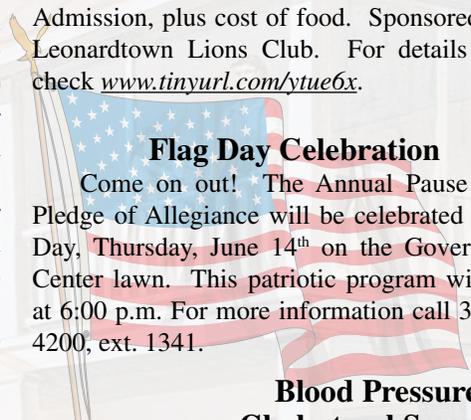
SMC Crab Festival

Bring your family and friends to the St. Mary's County Crab Festival on Sunday, June 10th between Noon-5:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Governmental Center in Leonardtown. The annual festival features hot steamed crabs, seafood and non-seafood items, live music, classic cars, crafts, and more! Admission, plus cost of food. Sponsored by the Leonardtown Lions Club. For details on-line check www.tinyurl.com/ytue6x.



Flag Day Celebration

Come on out! The Annual Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance will be celebrated on Flag Day, Thursday, June 14th on the Governmental Center lawn. This patriotic program will begin at 6:00 p.m. For more information call 301-475-4200, ext. 1341.



Blood Pressure & Cholesterol Screenings

Look for the Health Connections Van in the Town Square every second Wednesday of the month, from Noon-3:00 p.m. for free blood pressure, cholesterol, and PSA screenings. Upcoming dates are April 11th, May 9th, June 13th, July 11th, Aug. 8th, Sept. 12th, Oct. 10th, Nov. 14th, Dec. 12th. Call Health Connections at 301-475-6019 for details and other services.

North End Gallery

The front showroom of the North End Gallery features monthly "themed" showings and exhibits with artists' receptions and refreshments on "first Fridays" from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Original art, pottery and jewelry by Southern Maryland artists can be found at the North End Gallery located at 41652 Fenwick Street in the downtown. For the 2007 show schedule and event calendar, call the Gallery at 301-475-3130 or check their web site at www.northendgallery.org.

Maryland Antiques Center

Each month, a guest artists' reception with complimentary refreshments and special sales will be held on "first Saturdays" from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Artisan Galleries of the Maryland Antiques Center, located at 26005 Point Lookout Road. In addition to artwork, the Center also features antiques, collectibles, and giftware. For details and other calendar events call the Center at 301-475-1960 or check their web site at <http://www.paxp.com/mac/>.

Beach Party on the Square

Mark your calendar for Leonardtown's annual "Beach Party on the Square" on Saturday, August 11th! This family fun event begins at 4 p.m. and highlights an afternoon of live music, entertainment, sand volleyball play, fire truck hose-downs, jump rope and hula-hoop contests, crafts, games, and more! Watch for details in the summer edition of the Beacon!



Summer "Concerts on the Square"

The Leonardtown Business Association is planning evening concerts with open mic and performances by local musicians from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. on the following "fourth Saturdays": May 26th, June 23rd, July 28th, and August 25th. Musicians interested in playing during open mic should call Robin Guyther at 301-904-4452.

Additionally, "lunch-time" concerts will be presented by the St. Mary's River Concert Series "Brass Ensemble" on Wednesday, July 11th and the "Jazz Ensemble" on Wednesday, July 18th from 12:00 Noon-1:30 p.m.

All concerts will be held in the Town Square and will be free of charge. Bring a lawn chair or blanket! As performers are scheduled, announcements and details will be listed on the Town's website at <http://leonardtown.somd.com/>.

Community Highlights

Council Members

Walter Wise, *Vice-President*
Thomas R. Collier
Robert C. Combs
J. Maguire "Mock" Mattingly, III
Leslie E. Roberts

Town Office Staff

Laschelle Miller, *Town Administrator*
Rebecca Sothoron, *Treasurer*
Jackie Post, *Fiscal Clerk*
Teri Dimsey, *Executive Secretary*
Jeannine Peele, *Town Secretary*
Linda Shepherd, *Events Coordinator*
Barbara Dotson, *Grants Writer*
Mark Grant, *Capital Project Coordinator*
Gray Maloy, *Town Deputy*

Utilities Staff

John "Jay" Johnson, *Superintendent*
Timmy Lacey, *Asst. Superintendent*
Joe Bucior, *Operator*
Derick Brown, *Maintenance Technician*

Planning & Zoning

Board Members

Jean Moulds, *Chair*
Frank Fearns, *Vice-Chair*
John "Jack" Candela
Dan Burris
Dave Frock

Board of Appeals

Dr. Herbert Winnik, *Chair*
Harry S. "Lanny" Lancaster, Jr.,
Vice-Chair
Massey Connelly
Dr. William Icenhower
Kristin Kraus

Meetings

Town Council - 2nd Monday of each month @ 4:00 p.m. in the Town Office. April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 13*, Dec. 10 (*Tuesday in lieu of Monday holiday)

Planning Commission - 3rd Monday of each month @ 2:30 p.m. in the Town Office. April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17

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

Website: Leonardtown.somd.com



Trick-or-Treat on the Square

Many characters were seen in the Town Square on October 28th as kids had fun showing off their fancy costumes and collecting Halloween treats from downtown merchants!



Scarecrow-Making on the Square

Load 'em up! These youngsters certainly had fun creating their very own life-like scarecrows! With a little help from members of the Old Towne Crafters, over 50 scarecrows were created!

Veterans Day Parade & Memorial

Flags waved and patriotism radiated during the annual Veterans Day Parade in Leonardtown on November 11th! What a wonderful parade and fantastic turnout to honor our Veterans! Thanks to Tom Warren, our Parade Coordinator for a great job! Congratulations to Gabrielle Allred, Joshua Carpenter, and Ashlyn Dishman, 4th grade students of Leonardtown Elementary School who were selected to read their "What Veterans Day Means To Me" essay.

The Wayne Mast family sports a pair of their parading Clydesdales!



Displaying patriotic spirit on the Leonardtown Elementary School Float!



Mayor Norris looks on as Jim Raley, past president of the St. Mary's County Memorials Association, speaks to the Veterans Day crowd. The Association added the name of Cpl. Louis A. Saunders, Korean War, to the Deceased Veterans Memorial, and then unveiled the "Global War on Terrorism Memorial" honoring St. Mary's County Veterans who lost their life during the Iraqi Wars. The new memorial recognized St. Mary's County Veterans Spc. Raymond Faulstich, Jr. and Cpl. Matthew P. Wallace.





All Aboard! Enjoying a train ride on the Leonardtown Express around the Town Square!

Christmas on the Square and Annual Tree Lighting

The Town Square filled with excitement and anticipation as thousands awaited Santa's arrival to light the Town's Christmas tree on November 24th! Throughout the evening, Christmas melodies rang in the air and children were fascinated by the holiday entertainment! Congratulations to LBA Christmas Holiday Basket winners Brian

Adkins, Kathy Hennessy, Ricky Hayden, and Judy Hayden! For such a successful event, a special "thank-you" is extended to all our performers, volunteers, merchants, contributors, sponsors, the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, and the Leonardtown Business Association!

Frosty the Snowman enjoys entertaining one year old Trew Shepherd of Leonardtown and Nicholas and Carly Capulli of Plano, Texas.



Santa and Mrs. Claus on the Town Square



Jesse, Jacob, Grace, and Faith Farren of Leonardtown enjoyed visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus on the Town Square on December 16th. Over 340 children came out to share their Christmas wants and wish lists!

"Christmas Gifts for the Needy"

"Christmas Gifts for the Needy" chairman Dick Russell proudly displays gifts that were delivered to 87 children in the County over the holidays. The Leonardtown Lions Club, in conjunction with St. Mary's Ryken High School, has sponsored this program for 28 years.



"Best Dressed Window" Award

Town Administrator Laschelle Miller and Councilman Mock Mattingly presented the 2006 "Best Dressed Window" award to Tommy Bell and Bell Motor Company during the Town's "Christmas on the Square" event. Mary Beth Griffin hand-painted the showroom windows with holiday scenes and whimsical characters of "Peanuts & the Gang".



SMC Festival of Trees

Beautifully decorated Christmas trees and wreaths sparkled during the 9th annual St. Mary's County Festival of Trees, held November 24th-26th in the showroom of the Bell Motor Company. This holiday event, sponsored by the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue

Squad Auxiliary, raised over \$14,000 for the Rescue Squad. In addition to trees and wreaths, the 2007 Festival will expand to include fine art prints. Volunteers interested in assisting the Auxiliary coordinate the SMC Festival of Trees should contact Dudley Lindsley at 301-373-2551.



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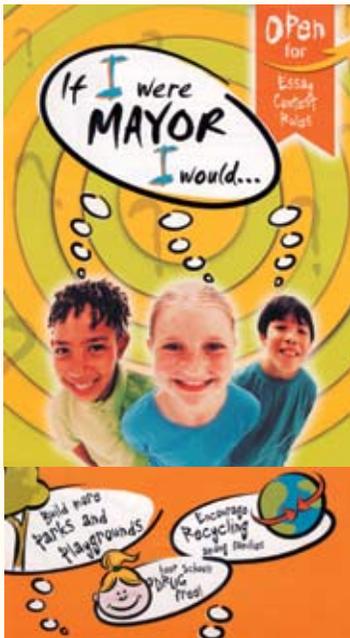


Winter 2006/Spring 2007

“If I Were Mayor, I Would ...”

Essay Contest for 4th Graders

“What Would You Do If You Were Mayor of Leonardtown?”



The Maryland Municipal League's Communication Committee is sponsoring an essay contest for 4th grade students in Maryland enrolled in the 2006-2007 school year. This project gives students an opportunity to creatively use cognitive and grade-specific language arts skills and civics-social studies knowledge. One winning essay will be selected from each of the MML's 11 regional districts throughout the State. Winners will receive a \$250 savings bond, an award plaque, and be recognized at the Municipal Government Week celebration activity held at the Maryland State House in May.

Essays must be submitted by April 1, 2007 to Mayors Contest, Maryland Municipal League, 1212 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401. Students can download an official entry form, contest rules, and contest study guide by visiting the MML website at www.mdmunicipal.org. For further assistance, call MML at 1-800-492-7121 or the Town Office at 301-475-9791.

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Leonardtown Beacon

Attention Town Residents!

2006 Tax Returns

When completing your Maryland Income Tax return, please remember to check the “Municipality” box and write in “Leonardtown”. This does not increase your taxes, but, thanks to you, it does assure that the Town will receive its share of income taxes from the State of Maryland.

Leonardtown Elections

With the recent institution of the Town Council members serving a four-year term of office, there will not be a Town Election Day in 2007. The next Town Election Day will be in May of 2008, whereupon the Mayor's seat and two Council seats will be voted on. All elected officials of the Town of Leonardtown must be a registered St. Mary's County voter and reside within the incorporated limits of Leonardtown. Potential candidates for the 2008 elections are encouraged to contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791 for additional information.

Permits Required for Home Repairs

With the upcoming spring and summer seasons, it's customary for residents to check their “to do” lists and make plans for home improvement projects. Town residents should apply for and obtain a building permit at least two weeks before making their new and exciting additions! Building permits are required for sheds, decks, swimming pools, piers, room additions and additional living space. In some instances, approval may also be required from your homeowner's association before a building permit can be issued. Contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791 for details.

Publishing Opportunity for Leonardtown Authors and Historians

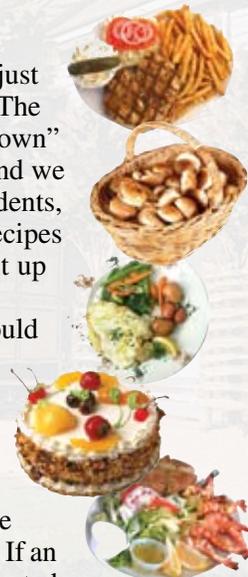
Do you have a vested interest in preserving Leonardtown's history and promoting the Leonardtown community? Arcadia Publishing of South Carolina, best known for its popular Images of America series, which chronicles the history of communities, towns, and neighborhoods throughout the country, is seeking a Leonardtown resident to author a book for its 2007 publishing program. If you would like more information about this opportunity, e-mail Lauren Bobier at lbobier@arcadiapublishing.com or go on-line to Arcadia www.arcadiapublishing.com.

Wanted! Your Yummy & Special Recipes

Everyone that cooks has a favorite recipe or two that they just love to share! Well, here's your opportunity to do just that! The Town of Leonardtown is planning to produce a “Taste of the Town” cookbook as part of our 300th Anniversary Celebration in 2008, and we need your tasty and exciting recipe favorites! Residents, past residents, business workers, friends, and anyone who would like to submit recipes for inclusion in the Leonardtown cookbook is welcome to submit up to 10 of their favorites!

Recipes must be received by September 1, 2007. Recipes should be typed or legibly handwritten and may be submitted to the Town by e-mail Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net, by postal mail to Commissioners of Leonardtown, P.O. Box 1, Leonardtown, MD 20650, or hand delivered to the Town Office.

Please be sure to double-check your recipes for accuracy before submitting, and include your name, address, and phone number. Every effort will be made to include all recipes submitted. If an overwhelming response is received or numerous recipes are duplicated, we reserve the right to select from the recipes submitted for print.



Town Web Site Gets a Face Lift!



Check us out! Our new and improved Official Leonardtown web site is all geared up at <http://leonardtown.somd.com/>. We hope that the modernization of our site will better serve you and

be a good communication tool for our visitors. Your comments are welcome! Thanks to Dee Jay Gude, David Noss, and Southern Maryland On Line for their cooperation, complimentary design and services! Be sure to visit Southern Maryland On Line at <http://somd.com> for local news and many other features.

Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department Installs 2007 Officers

Congratulations to Wayne Miedzinski, Sr., President, John Trossbach, Fire Chief, Kit Pilkerton, Auxiliary President, and all the administrative officers, line officers, engineers, and members of the 2007 LVFD and Auxiliary. A complete list of officers and information about the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department can be found on their web site at <http://www.lvfd1.org/>.

Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad Installs 2007 Officers

Congratulations to Mary Della Trossbach, President, Bill Holmes, Chief, Candy Chesser, Auxiliary President, and all the administrative officers, line officers, engineers, and members of the 2007 LVRS. For a complete list of officers and information on the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad, visit their web site at <http://www.lvrs.org/>.

Leonardtown Business Association

It's never too late to join the Leonardtown Business Association! With a membership of over 50 businesses, the LBA promotes business, projects, and community events in Leonardtown. Monthly meetings are held every second Wednesday at either 8:30 a.m. or 5:30 p.m., and are hosted by various LBA members. This is a great opportunity to showcase your business while connecting with other business men and women. LBA membership is only \$100 annually. To join LBA, contact Dan Burris, President, at 301-475-3151 or e-mail danburris@danburris.com.

The LBA welcomes its newest members: Hillside Rides, Leonardtown Blueprint, Tea N Scones, and Thieme Creative Media.

Annual Legislative Meeting for Southern Region Municipalities

The Town of Leonardtown hosted the 2006 Southern Maryland Municipal Association Legislation dinner on December 13th at the Café des Artistes. Following dinner, the Mayors of the Towns of Annapolis, Chesapeake Beach, Highland Beach, Indian Head, La Plata, North Beach, Port Tobacco and Leonardtown presented Town updates. Meeting topics highlighted increased State aid for municipal police protection, local government authorization to purchase streetlights, and municipal opt-out electrical aggregation.



Delegate John Wood confers with Town Administrator Laschelle Miller during the SMMA dinner served in the new dining room of the Café des Artistes.

"Our Town Award" Presented to Loic and Karleen Jaffres

For their outstanding contributions and promotion of the Town of Leonardtown, Loic and Karleen Jaffres of the Café des Artistes were presented the 2006 "Our Town Award" by Mayor Norris and the Town Council during the March 12th Council meeting. The "Our Town Award" is a national program to recognize a group or individual who has demonstrated service, commitment, leadership, and pride for their town, and is sponsored locally to the Town of Leonardtown by the Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, Michael K. Gardiner, President/Funeral Director.



Red Cross "Hometown Heroes Day" Proclaimed in Leonardtown

The Town recognized the Southern Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross and proclaimed the month of March 2007 as American Red Cross Month and Tuesday, March 20, 2007 as Hometown Heroes Day in the Town of Leonardtown in support of our dedicated Red Cross volunteers and contributors. For more information about our local Red Cross chapter, visit their web site at <http://southernmaryland.redcross.org/> or call 888-276-2767.



In addition to providing its many services, the Southern Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross is a familiar participant in the annual Veterans Day Parade in Leonardtown.

Leonardtown Wharf is Shaping Up

The Leonardtown Wharf Park project is progressing nicely. The bulkhead and elevated catwalk are in and the foundation for the public building is completed. You are beginning to



see the outline of the park and the potential this waterfront park has. Keep watching in the next several months for more dramatic changes as we move toward completion of this much anticipated project. Great job to the contractors, Cianbro Corp. and W.M. Davis, and the project coordinator, Mark Grant.

Port Of Leonardtown Public Park & Winery

Many guests and friends joined local officials in a toast to celebrate the proposed public park and winery at the Port of Leonardtown on October 31st. Speakers included local officials, Kevin Atticks of the Association of Maryland Wineries, and James Horstkamp of the So. Md. Wine Growers Cooperative. It is anticipated that the park and winery will provide an opportunity for local grape growers, as well as derive much attention from the tourism industry. This project is a joint venture between the Commissioners of Leonardtown and the St. Mary's County Commissioners, with support from the State of Maryland.

Cheers! Kevin Atticks, Mayor Norris, Town Administrator Laschelle Miller, and St. Mary's County Commissioner President Tom McKay look forward to the winery project at the Port of Leonardtown.

The crisp fall day at the Port of Leonardtown made for enjoyable conversation and camaraderie.



Rt. 5 Widening Design Begins

In the Fall of 2006 Governor Ehrlich announced funding to begin the design of Rt. 5 widening from MD 245 to MD 243 through Leonardtown. The design will feature a center turn lane, sidewalks on both sides and some areas of planted medians. The design team met on February 9, 2007 to put together a strategy that will allow for citizen and business input as we move through the process. Everyone is anxious to get this project moving to ensure a safer drive on this section of road.

Leonardtown Fact - Did You Know?

Throughout the Town's early history, Leonardtown Wharf was a main artery where steamboats and other vessels made deliveries of ice, coal, lumber and many other necessities.

Have Fun Volunteering at Town Events!

Would you like to volunteer or perform during any of the events on the Leonardtown Square? This is also a great opportunity for high school students to earn those needed community service credits! For details and to obtain a 2007 event calendar, contact Linda Shepherd, our Event Coordinator, at 301-475-9791, or e-mail linda.shepherd@verizon.net.



What Are Our Residents Asking?

Where Can I Get Information on Local Leonardtown Ordinances?

One of the duties of the Mayor and Town Council is to “protect the public health, safety and welfare in residential structures and premises”. To accomplish this goal many local ordinances have been passed over the years. Ordinances regarding property maintenance (including grass, brush and weed maintenance), animal control regulations, trash collection, livability standards, burning, vehicle storage, building construction, and water and sewer are all a part of the Code of the Town of Leonardtown.

The Code is available for your perusal at the Town Office, or you can obtain an electronic copy at <http://leonardtown.somd.com/> or www.generalcode.com. If you have specific questions regarding the Code or would like to become familiar with any sections please feel free to call or visit the Town Office at 301-475-9791.

Your questions are important to us!

Let us know if you have a question about the Town you would like answered in a future issue of the Leonardtown Beacon. Call the Town Office at 301-475-9791, or e-mail Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net

Computer Based Mapping to Begin in Town

The Commissioners of Leonardtown are making preparations to begin computer based mapping of its public utilities and other assets. The Town, with the use of a dedicated computer workstation, GPS receiver, and software purchased through a generous grant from the Department of Homeland Security, plans to establish a GIS (Geographical Information System) for the Town. Its first task will be the mapping and data collection of a fire hydrant system with the assistance of students from the James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center, under instructor Christiana Daley, who are currently enrolled in the GIS elective class. This cooperative effort will hopefully be the start of allowing students to hone their GIS skills in real world conditions while assisting the Town coming into the 21st century in asset management. GIS is recognized as the cutting edge in infrastructure management for municipalities and plans for its expansion to cover other areas, such as the water and sewer systems planned for this summer. Further information can be obtained from the Town's Capital Project Coordinator, Mark Grant at 301-475-9791.



Equipped with traffic safety vests, a handheld GPS receiver, and letters of explanation for interested citizens, students Stephanie Rice and Erin Cornelius, with their instructor Christiana Daley, are beginning the data collection on fire hydrants and the Town's utilities system.

Stopping Illegal Dumping

Each quarter Leonardtown businesses pay their quarterly waste disposal bill just like everyone else. The problem comes when their dumpsters are so full of other people's trash that they can't use what they are paying for. Town staff is working with businesses and Town Deputy, Gray Maloy, to stop illegal dumping. Please do your part and keep your eyes open for anyone illegally dumping trash. Contact the Town office if you have information that will help in stopping this problem.

Trash Pickup and Recycling Reminders

Residential trash collections are scheduled every Tuesday and Friday. Trash is accepted in 30-gallon cans with lids, cans on wheels, or bagged trash set on the ground. To guarantee collection, trash should be set out the night before or by 6:00 a.m. on the day of pick-up. Bagged leaves set out by Town residents will also be picked up on regularly scheduled collection days, but is limited to 5 bags per household, per collection day.

The 2007 quarterly bulk trash pickup dates are: Wednesday, March 7th, Wednesday, June 6th, Wednesday, Sept. 5th, and Wednesday, Dec. 5th.

Residential recycling pickup of old newspapers, glass bottles, jars, metal and aluminum cans, and approved plastic bottles is made on Thursdays.

Waste Management will operate on a regular schedule during the weeks in this quarter having a holiday.

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| May 29 | Memorial Day |
| | Trash pick-up: Tuesday & Friday |
| | Recycling pick-up: Thursday |
| July 4 | Independence Day |
| | Trash pick-up: Tuesday & Friday |
| | Recycling pick-up: Thursday |

In the event of hazardous conditions, service will be resumed as soon as the driver can access the streets safely.

For further information on trash service, recycling, or to obtain a recycling container, contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791.



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TRAVELS TO JAPAN

Continued from page 1



Lounging in their yukatas after a customary dinner at a traditional Japanese hotel (Ryokan) and hot springs.

discussions about local government. Many of the problems faced by the local government thousands of miles from here are issues that jurisdictions in the United States are faced with as well. Their population is aging and many of the young people are leaving the country. Meanwhile the financially strapped local government is looking for ways to bring tourists to the area as well as create more attractive jobs for the locals.

During one of the meetings Laschelle presented to Mr. Hidetaka Matsuo, the Vice Governor of Shimane, a Maryland Flag, previously flown over the State House, compliments of Maryland Delegate John Wood. To the Mayor of Matsue City, the host city, Laschelle presented the flag of the Town of Leonardtown with a handwritten note from Leonardtown Mayor J. Harry Norris. Individually, the candidates were welcomed into the homes of Japanese families for a two-day home stay to gain knowledge first hand about Japanese culture. The host families indulged their guests with personalized tours of some of the family's favorite tourist sites, school activities, shopping locations or restaurants of choice.

On the last day of the program, the participants were given a day to freely browse, shop, and experience Tokyo on their own. In summary of the program and trip, Laschelle commented, "I was overwhelmed by how kindly, welcoming and tremendously helpful the Japan Government officials, the CLAIR staff, and the Japanese citizens were. To be invited to visit such a

The group visits the Panasonic Center in Tokyo



Group with Vice Governor Matsuo and staff

Horikawa Pleasure Boat trip on canals in Matsue City





Mayor Masataka Matsuura of Matsue City expressed his gratitude after Laschelle presented him with a Leonardtown flag.



Laschelle with her host family, Yoshimi Masaoka, Haruo, Setsuko, Miyo, Akira, and Yui.

historically rich country was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I am deeply honored to have been selected and will cherish the memories and the friendships I made and will continue to preserve.”

Laschelle is currently organizing a visit for representatives of the Japan Local Government Center and other Japanese officials to St. Mary’s County in May of this year to reciprocate their hospitality.

The Office of the Leonardtown Commissioners will be closed in observance of the following 2007 Holidays:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------|
| January 1 | New Year’s Day |
| January 15 | Martin Luther King Day |
| February 19 | President’s Day |
| May 28 | Memorial Day |
| July 4 | Independence Day |
| September 3 | Labor Day |
| November 12 | Veteran’s Day |
| November 22 | Thanksgiving Day |
| November 23 | Day after Thanksgiving |
| December 25 | Christmas Day |

“Mock Council” Session



In recognition of April as Municipal Government Month, 4th grade students of Leonardtown Elementary School participated in a mock Town Council meeting on March 14th in the Town Hall. Mayor Norris set the stage for the council who must make a decision in allocating a budget surplus. A hearing was held whereby the students suggested areas of need in the Town based on their experiences and observations for the council’s consideration. Following the hearing, a motion was voted upon and passed 4-1, to divide the surplus between education, public safety, parks and a rainy day fund. The opposing voter wished to include monies toward a hospital as well.

What year was this?

Main Street, Leonardtown, Md.



Answer: 1914





Town Tidbits

“Quality Street Kitchen & Catering” Holds Ribbon Cutting



Mayor Norris presents Joann McKeown with a print of the Town Mural during a ribbon cutting on November 27th to celebrate the opening of “Quality Street Kitchen & Catering” located at 41675 Fenwick Street. For store information check their web site at www.qualitystreet.com or call 301-997-0700.

“Good Earth Natural Foods Co.” Holds Ribbon Cutting

Friends and coworkers joined with Valerie Deptula and her mother Miriam, during the February 2nd ribbon cutting celebrating the opening of “The Good Earth Natural Foods Company” in their new location at 41675 Park Avenue. Valerie is excited by the store’s larger quarters, and plans to hold cooking classes in the new demo kitchen, nutritional seminars, and organic wine tastings. For information, call 301-475-1630, or visit their web site at www.goodearthenaturals.com.



“Café des Artistes” Opens Private Dining Room

Chef Loic Jaffres and his wife Karleen invite you to see their new dining room at the “Café des Artistes” on 41655 Fenwick Street. The recent addition duplicates the “bistro style warmth and charm” of the main dining room, and offers accommodations for private parties and events. A downtown restaurant since 1999, the “Café des Artistes” features culinary masterpieces and daily specials in a casual, relaxing atmosphere. For information and reservations call 301-997-0500, check their web site at www.cafedesartistes.ws/ or stop in for a visit.

“El Cerro Grande” Now Open

Tacos! Quesadillas! Fajitas! Burritos! For a taste of fine Mexican cuisine and atmosphere, try the new El Cerro Grande Mexican Restaurant in the Town Square at 27695 Washington Street! Open daily for lunch and dinner, Manager Nicolas Cervantes looks forward to your dine-in visit. Hours are Monday-Thursday 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. For carryout orders call 301-997-0808.

“Tea N Scones” Opens in the Town Square

Crystal Brasel invites you to stop by her new café “Tea N Scones”, which opened on January 29th! The café serves breakfast and lunch, with a menu that includes specialty salads, sandwiches, homemade quiches, pastries, and panini. “Tea N Scones” is open Monday thru Saturday from 7:30 a.m.- 4 p.m., and is located at 22697 Washington Street. Reservations are required for a full or high tea. Call 301-997-1110.

“Room With a Brew” Now Open

Enjoy coffee in the true Italian tradition, smoothies, beverages, muffins, scones, and a variety of pastries. Owner Wendy Heidrich suggests you view the hand crafted artwork on exhibit from local artists while enjoying your freshly brewed coffee. There is also space for dance classes, children’s parties, or business conferences. “Room with a Brew”, located in the Leonardtown Centre at 40900 Merchants Lane next to Blair’s Video, is open Monday thru Friday 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 301-475-8811.

“Auto Zone” Opens in Leonardtown

Need auto accessories? “Auto Zone” is now open at 40800 Merchants Lane in Leonardtown. Contact them at 301-475-3250 or visit their web site at <http://www.autozone.com/> for details and their latest circulars!

Askey, Askey & Associates, CPA, LLC Celebrate 10 Years in Leonardtown

On November 1, 2006 Askey, Askey & Associates, CPA, LLC located at 23507 Hollywood Road celebrated its 10th Anniversary of providing professional tax, accounting and management advisory services to the Southern Maryland community. To help meet demands of a growing business the team is excited to announce the opening of a second office in LaPlata this spring. For more information, call 301-475-5671.

St. Mary’s County Historical Society Needs Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help at the historic Tudor Hall Mansion and the Old Jail Museum. Please contact Susan Wolfe, Executive Secretary of the St. Mary’s County Historical Society at 301-475-2467 if you are interested in volunteering!

Visit Historic Tudor Hall Mansion, where you can tour the building and grounds, see a film of its history, find history on St. Mary’s County, explore your roots in the genealogical research center, and check out the bookstore. For current days and hours of operation for the Tudor Hall Mansion or the Old Jail Museum, call 301-475-2467.

Leonardtown BEACON

Commissioners of Leonardtown

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