

Leonardtowntown BEACON

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



Calendar of Events

FIRST FRIDAY, EVERY MONTH
Celebration of "First Fridays"
Historic downtown and uptown
Leonardtowntown

OCTOBER 25
Trick-or-Treat on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square

NOVEMBER 11
Veterans Day Parade
Leonardtowntown Square

NOVEMBER 16
National Youth 5K
Leonardtowntown Wharf Park

NOVEMBER 28
Christmas on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square

NOVEMBER 28
Christmas Festival
Winegardner Auto Showroom

DECEMBER 13
Santa on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square

APRIL 19, 2015
Earth Day Celebration
Leonardtowntown Square

Celebrating LEONARDTOWN arts & entertainment DISTRICT

Arts and Entertainment Districts are defined as "well-recognized, labeled, multi-use areas with a high concentration of arts and cultural facilities as anchor attractions". However, the Districts are not solely about art. They were designed to develop and promote community involvement, tourism and revitalization through tax-related incentives which appeal to artists and art-related endeavors. In 2001 Maryland became one of the first states to create, by legislation, a statewide tax benefit jurisdiction for Arts and Entertainment, and arts districts are now found across the country, most in older cities or towns, reflecting local interests, history and culture.



In July 2013, Leonardtowntown became Maryland's 22nd Arts and Entertainment District, the first and - so far - only one in Southern Maryland. The District itself is limited to 100 acres and is comprised of most of the downtown area, including quaint shops, galleries, and studios. The North End Gallery on Fenwick Street has been located in Leonardtowntown for 28 years, with 25 member artists showing their work at that first exhibition. Today, the North End Gallery continues to showcase local, professional artists. In recent years, additional art galleries and shops have opened in town: Opal Art Gallery, Yellow Door Art Studio, Leonardtowntown Arts Center, The Walters Art Gallery, Sharon's Dragonfly Designs, and Wine and Design Studio.

But there are other businesses that also showcase many forms of art, including music, textiles, and handmade crafts throughout the year: Fenwick Street Used Books and Music, Café des Artistes, David's



Antiques and Flowers, Fuzzy Farmer's Market, Crazy for Ewe, and Bella Music School to name a few. And just outside the district are many more businesses that support the arts, such as the Maryland Antiques Center, the Craft Guild Shop and Port of Leonardtowntown Winery.

Leonardtowntown is also home to the St. Mary's County Arts Council which, through projects like the Art Walk and Uplifting Designs, continues to increase local awareness of the value of the arts and the way the arts enhance the quality of life for the residents of the community. "We are proud to have received this great designation and will continue to work to grow our support of the Arts," said Mayor Dan Burris. The District is managed by a group of 17 local volunteers from the Town and throughout St. Mary's County with involvement in the Arts.



The appeal of having Leonardtowntown designated an A&E District was to be able to diversify the Town's revitalization efforts. While the Patuxent River Naval Air Station drives a good portion of the County's economy, recent events have proven that it cannot be the only income generator. It is time for local municipalities to tap into other sources of revenue. According to the Maryland State Arts Council's 2014 Annual Report, the economic impact of the arts in Maryland is staggering, \$1.07 billion annually. The arts create 12,700 full time jobs and add \$48 million in state and local tax revenue.

Where does the money come from? Having a large, well-rounded, well-supported pool of artistic talent living and working in town draws in a tourist population through festivals, arts education, and guest artists, financially supported in part by organizations like the St. Mary's and Maryland State Arts Councils. To make the District appealing to artists, arts organizations and other creative enterprises, the designation now offers several tax benefits by way of property owners and individual artists:





Mayor's Message

As we continue with our challenge of diversifying the Town's economy it is important to remember that Leonardtown's vitality is important to all who live or work here. Currently there are several large buildings available for sale or lease. There is a tremendous interest in these properties and we will continue to work hard to secure strong tenants in these properties. Having a diverse and thriving commercial environment in Leonardtown is so important to our success. The commercial tax base carries the bulk of the tax burden in a small town, which allows the residents to enjoy a high quality of life with a relatively low property tax rate.

We are faced each week with weighing the overall benefits of development with the challenges it creates. Bringing our growth to a standstill would not be a good thing for any of our futures. Recently a project called The Hampton's was proposed between Fenwick Street and Rt. 5 across from Academy Hills. The proposal was for a luxury apartment complex. The owners of the property have certain development rights just as any property owner does. The property was zoned for multifamily development and it was believed by the majority of the Town Council that this project would provide a source of housing that was currently missing in Leonardtown. The residents of this community would also create additional customers for our commercial businesses within walking distance; helping to ensure the continued success of those businesses as well as attracting more retail into the downtown.

We understand that developments such as The Hamptons would also create more traffic on Rt. 5. We continue to work with the State Highway Administration on solutions for improving the traffic safety issues along this corridor but believe that shutting down development and our future growth is not the answer.

Leonardtown is one of two development districts in St. Mary's County and is also designated a Priority Funding Area by the State of Maryland. These designations are instituted to drive growth into areas where infrastructure already exists and to protect precious farmland and forests and maintain the rural character of our community. Not only is reinvestment economically and environmentally responsible, but there is also a strong market for more compact, walkable communities.

The Council and I are pleased with the recent designation of the town as an Arts and Entertainment District and a Sustainable Community. While no one thing is the answer to our success, we will continue to explore opportunities to help ensure our future.


Daniel W. Burris, Mayor
Leonardtown Beacon



Winter "First Fridays" in Leonardtown

"A Grateful Harvest - Share the Bounty" is the theme for Leonardtown's November First Friday. Donations of nonperishable food items to support local food banks will be accepted at participating Leonardtown businesses November 7th thru November 21st. Anyone making a food donation toward this food drive will be entered in a drawing to win a prize.

The perfect place to shop for unique holiday gifts is Leonardtown! Keep an eye out for extended holiday hours, restaurant specials, local art, handmade crafts, jewelry and more! Remember, Leonardtown First Fridays continue all winter long --- the festivities just move indoors!

Many thanks are extended to Carol Picon of St. Mary's Macaroni Kid for serving as the First Friday Committee Chairperson for the past three years. We are happy to announce the new First Friday Co-Chairs, Ellen Lewis of Crazy for Ewe, and Misti Dayton of Fuzzy Farmers Market.

To see a list of participating businesses, First Fridays specials, entertainment and interactive events, check leonardtownfirstfridays.com or *The County Times* regularly. Leonardtown First Fridays are sponsored in cooperation with the Leonardtown Business Association.

Trick-or-Treat Fun

Kids can dress in their favorite costume and enjoy an afternoon of trick-or-treating downtown merchants, decorating pumpkins, and making pine cone crafts on Saturday, October 25th from 1 PM-3 PM. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian while trick-or-treating around the Square. Thanks to our co-sponsors, Friends of Cedar Lane, Wine & Design/ Art Buzz Kids and Girl Scout Troop 6191.



LHJNA Antique Show

The Leonard Hall Jr. Naval Academy will sponsor its 34th Annual Antique Show on Saturday, November 15th from 9 AM-5 PM, and on Sunday, November 16th from 10 AM-3 PM. Featured items include period memorabilia, linens, primitives, furniture, silver, jewelry, toys, books and more. This two-day event will be held in the Leonard Hall Recreation Center in Leonardtown. \$5 admission. For additional information, visit lhjna.com or call LHJNA at 301-475-8029

Salute America's Veterans! Veterans Day Parade & Memorial Ceremony

The 39th Annual St. Mary's County Veterans Day Parade begins at 10 AM on Tuesday, November 11th on the Square in Leonardtown! Stepping out from St. Mary's Ryken High School, the parade proceeds along Fenwick Street, through the Town Square, and ends at Courthouse Drive.

Come see the many Veterans, school bands, civic organizations, scouts, cheerleaders, dance troupes, motorcycles, antique cars, horses, and more!



Free hand-held American flags will be dispersed among the crowd...wave your flag proudly! The SMC Veterans Day Parade is recognized as one of the largest Veterans Day Parades in Maryland, and received its 2nd award as a National Veterans Day

Regional Site as designated by the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs.

Plan to stay in the Town Square for the Veterans Memorial Ceremony immediately following the parade. This tribute to our service men and women will include patriotic music, laying of wreaths on the war memorials, and a bi-plane fly-over. The annual Veterans Day Parade and Memorial Ceremony in Leonardtown are sponsored by the St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners, and the Commissioners of Leonardtown. Call the Town Office at 301-475-9791 for more information.

Veterans Day Parking

SPECTATORS! Free parking and shuttles for spectators will be available at both the St. Mary's County Governmental Center and the County Fairgrounds.

PARADE PARTICIPANTS! Free parking and shuttle services are available for parade participants at Leonardtown Middle School. To alleviate congestion at Route 5 and St. Mary's Ryken High School, parents of scouts and other marching groups are asked to park at Leonardtown Middle School and take the shuttle, rather than dropping off individuals at Ryken.

NEW THIS YEAR! SPECTATORS AND PARADE PARTICIPANTS! Please do not park at the Courthouse parking lot and surrounding areas in town. These areas will be reserved for school buses and shuttles, which will reduce congestion at the end of the parade route.

Visit leonardtown.somd.com for more information and to see a detailed parking map.

National Youth 5K

The Pax River Youth 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run will be held on Sunday, November 16th at 3 PM, starting at Leonardtown Wharf Park. Help kids learn to overcome challenges in life and succeed with help from their team. Please visit nationalyouth5K.com for registration and race details.

On Out!

Christmas on the Square & Annual Tree Lighting

Join us for Leonardtown's exciting Christmas on the Square and Annual Tree Lighting on Friday, November 28th. This is a wonderful event for the whole family to enjoy! The festivities begin at 5 PM with a host of holiday entertainment and music, horse and carriage rides, sleigh rides, hayrides, a live nativity, petting zoo, face painting, children's crafts, food, hot chocolate, fresh kettle korn and much more. Watch for Santa's parade into Town and lighting of the Town's Christmas Tree at 7 PM. Many of our downtown restaurants, art galleries, gift shops and craft shops will be open for your holiday shopping.



Park at the College of Southern Maryland and take the free, round-trip shuttle bus for easier access into Town. The Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, the Leonardtown Business Association, and the Commissioners of Leonardtown sponsor this popular holiday event. Check leonardtown.somd.com for the latest details and entertainment schedule. (Rain date: Saturday, November 29th at 7 PM – Tree Lighting only.)



LVRSA Christmas Festival

This annual Christmas Festival features decorated Christmas trees and wreaths, a scenic holiday train display, a silent auction, a wagon of toys raffle, and face-painting. The festival will be held downtown in the Winegardner Auto showroom on Friday, November 28th from 5 PM-9 PM, and is sponsored by the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary. Free admission, however, the LVRSA gratefully accepts donations! For more information or to contribute an auction item, contact Ricky Chesser at rchesser@milcorp.com or 240-298-5310.

Santa & Mrs. Claus on the Square

Kids of all ages! Come visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday, December 13th from 11 AM-1 PM in the Leonardtown Square. Free candy canes for all! Remember to bring your Christmas "wish list" for Santa and a camera for photos. (In the event of inclement weather, Santa & Mrs. Claus will be in the Winegardner Auto showroom.)



Earth Day Celebration



Leonardtown's 2015 Earth Day celebration will be held on Sunday, April 19th. Enjoy an exciting day of environmental initiatives, demonstrations, and entertainment for all ages! Details of this spring event will be posted on leonardtown.somd.com as they are confirmed.

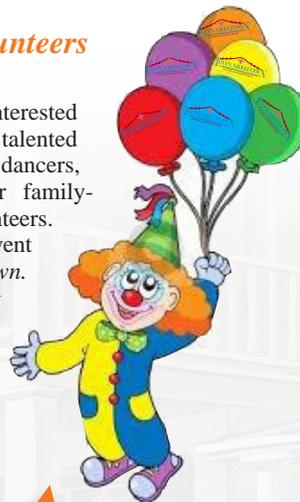
Calling Local Filmmakers... The Summer Film Festival Is Coming!



The Friends of the Leonardtown Theater are partnering with the Southern Maryland Film Society to organize the first-ever Southern Maryland Film Festival, scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2015 in Leonardtown. Filmmakers of all ages and all levels of experience are invited to submit their own films to be shown at various locations throughout the town. Prizes will be awarded in several categories. Please visit smdfs.org for more information on how to submit your film for consideration, or if you'd like to volunteer to help with the festival. Businesses in the tri-county area interested in being a sponsor for the film festival should email foilt@outlook.com.

Performers and Volunteers Needed!

Leonardtown is always interested in hearing from our local, talented performers, musicians, dancers, jugglers, clowns and other family-oriented artists and volunteers. Contact Maria Fleming, Event Coordinator, at leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net or 301-475-9791.



Visit the Town of Leonardtown on the web at leonardtown.somd.com for current news and happenings in and around Town, and to read current and earlier publications of the Leonardtown Beacon newsletter online. You can also follow Leonardtown events on [Facebook.com/TownofLeonardtown.com](https://www.facebook.com/TownofLeonardtown.com)

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, Town Secretary
DeAnn Adler, Plans Reviewer
Maria Fleming, PR & Event Coordinator
Linda Shepherd, Beacon Editor
Tony Wheatley, Capital Project Coordinator
Cpl. Peggy Smolarsky, Town Deputy

Utilities Staff

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

Planning & Zoning Board Members

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

Board of Appeals

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

Meetings

Town Council - 2nd Monday of each month @ 4:00 PM in the Town Office. October 13, November 10, December 8, 2014; January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, 2015.

Planning & Zoning Commission - 3rd Monday of each month @ 4:00 PM in the Town Office. October 20, November 17, December 15, 2014; January 20*, February 17*, March 16, April 20, 2015. * Tuesday meeting due to Monday holiday.

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

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

HOLIDAYS:

November 11	Veteran's 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 Day
February 16	President's Day

River Concert Series on Location

The audience in the Square was treated to a small cross-section of the full Chesapeake Orchestra on Saturday, July 19th. The string quartet ensemble played a full hour of classical music, concluding the evening with a dynamic finale accompanied by Maestro Silberschlag and his son on trumpet. Many thanks to the Chesapeake Orchestra and the St. Mary's County and Maryland Arts Councils for facilitating this concert!



Beach Party on the Square

Leonardtown's "Beach Party" event on Saturday, August 2nd highlighted an afternoon of family fun with fire truck hose downs, sand volleyball play, tug-of-war competitions, pony rides, games, and dancing to music performed by The 25th Hour Band. Other fun entertainment included Running of the Balls, and a return visit by Mermaid Alexis and professional juggler Philip DePalo. New attractions this year featured Historic racing boats and Chesapeake Bay buy boats at Leonardtown Wharf Park, while sack races and a popular Wrecking Ball inflatable were added to the Town Square entertainment.



Special thanks to the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department, Leonardtown businesses, the LBA, and all the sponsors, performers, participants and vendors who always make this such a fantastic and exciting event for all!



Arts & Entertainment First Friday

With all the artist demos, live music, and children's activities, there was plenty of action in the Town Square for the September 5th Arts & Entertainment First Friday and Art Walk. A surprise flash mob choreographed by Donna Jordan of the House of Dance, added to the wide variety of what St. Mary's artists have to offer.



Concert on the Square

Through both arranged music and improvised solos, *The Clazzical Project* charmed the September 6th audience in the Square with their unique blend of classical music and jazz rhythms. Special thanks to the St. Mary's County Arts Council for their annual support of the Leonardtown Concert Series.



A Taste of St. Mary's

The warm fall day enticed a large gathering of hungry folks to the Town Square for an afternoon of tasting savory food and socializing with friends at the Taste of St. Mary's on September 14th. Lines were steady throughout the afternoon for annual favorites such as stuffed ham, ice cream, bar-b-que, and seafood; and new favorites – lumpia, Southern Maryland chicken cordon bleu and corn on the cob! The St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce sponsors this annual event.



Congratulations to this year's winners!

Best Appetizer: Days Off Deli & Grill (rockfish bites)
Best Specialty Item: Days Off Deli & Grill (tuna tacos)
Best Dessert: Days Off Deli & Grill (mini cannolis)
Best Entrée: McKay's Market & Café (stuffed ham)
People's Choice Award: W.J. Dent & Sons/Chief's Bar

"Pink Friday" Fun!

Pink ribbon flags adorned the Town and welcomed visitors for a celebration of *Pink Friday* on October 3rd. Thanks to all who participated and made donations toward the Uplifting Art Exhibit. In this unique fundraiser, people voted for their favorite cleverly decorated bras by making a monetary donation. Congratulations to St. Mary's Macaroni Kid for collecting the most money with its winning bra "Peek-A-Boob". Other decorated



entries included such creative themes as "Crab-Knockers", "Mardi Bra",

and "Candle La Bra". Thanks to Nell Elder and the SMC Arts Council for coordinating this component of the event!

"Top It Off!" was a new fundraiser this year whereby local artist Candy Cummings of the Leonardtown Arts Center donated her collection of hand-crafted whimsical hats to be displayed and sold at local participating businesses until October 31st.

Proceeds from both fundraisers, as well as donations from the local business community, will be given to MedStar St. Mary's Hospital's cancer support programs. Many thanks to the Hot Toddies band for entertaining the crowd with their sizzling classics, and to all our LBA business owners for their participation in this annual event!



Craft Guild Fall Harvest Festival

Sunny crafts brightened the cloudy skies during the Crafts Guild first two-day Fall Festival on Saturday, October 11th and Sunday, October 12th at the Port of Leonardtown Park. Shoppers marveled over fanciful fall decorations, original paintings, handcrafted baskets, woodworks, jewelry, quilts, blankets, baby outfits, homemade soups and jellies, baked goods and more! There was even scarecrow-making and pumpkin painting for the kids! If you missed this event, you can still find a great selection of crafts and gifts at the Craft Guild Shop located at 26005 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown. The artisans invite you to come by the Shop for a special Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 13th



from 10 AM-5 PM. Check craftguildshop.com or call 301-997-1644 for more information.

Highlights

Antique Tractor Parade



With a rumble, a chug-chug, and a puff of diesel, a variety of tractors and antique trucks – including fire trucks

and a military transport vehicle – lined the streets of Leonardtown on October 12th. Celebrating these workhorses of the past, this annual event is also a fundraiser for Christmas in April of St. Mary's, raising money through entry fees, donations and raffles. If you were not at the event, but still wish to donate, contact the Southern Maryland Antique Power Association at snookybowles@gmail.com.

Sprucing Up the Library Grounds

Many thanks go out to a team of staff and volunteers from the College of Southern Maryland Leonardtown Campus for sprucing up the Leonardtown Library grounds during the United Way Day of Caring for St. Mary's County on Friday, September 5th. Team members, Jacqueline Dyson, Testing Center Manager; Latasha Baker, Enrollment Advisor; Jennifer Van Cory, Student Life Coordinator; Regina Bowman-Goldring, Student Services Senior Executive Director; Kyle Medlock, Prospective Student Officer and Kelly Boswell, Student Assistant, enjoyed their task of mulching and grooming plants and shrubbery for the visiting public.



Father Andrew White School Celebrates 60 Years

Father Andrew White School in Leonardtown celebrated its 60th Anniversary on October 4, 2014. The evening of memories was enjoyed by many alumni, parishioners, friends, special guests and elected officials. Leonardtown Councilman Roger Mattingly graduated from FAW in 1965, and was honored to emcee the event.



A Museum Planned for Leonardtown Carnival Grounds



Over the next two years, the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department plans to build a museum and storage area on the grounds that were once home to Leonardtown's annual carnival (1942-2005). The fire department firefighters and volunteers are very excited about the museum project, which is projected to display photos and memorabilia from earlier days, fire safety materials, and local history for the viewing public. At the top of the list, are refurbishing the century-old carousel that so many families enjoyed at carnival time for over 60 years, and the department's (restored) 1937 Seagrave firetruck. The building would also provide space for additional emergency apparatus storage and a maintenance area. The projected cost of this project is \$700,000. To date, the LVFD has received a \$105,000 grant from the State in a bond bill and the County Commissioners have matched those funds. Application for a \$200,000 State Community Parks Grant through a request submitted by the Town of Leonardtown has also been made. Supporters of this project can contribute to the LVFD online at lvfdl.org or by mailing their donation to LVFD, P.O. Box 50, Leonardtown, MD 20650. Please identify your donation as "Museum Project".



Comptroller Franchot Honors Café des Artistes

Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot stopped by Café des Artistes on Tuesday, September 30th, flanked by many local elected officials, to present Chef Loic Jaffres and his wife, Karleen, with a proclamation recognizing their vision for starting an upscale bistro in St. Mary's County 15 years ago. Chef Loic said that they are grateful to Leonardtown for the wonderful support they have received since opening here.



Pedestrian Improvements to South Washington Street

The Commissioners of Leonardtown received a Community Legacy grant to make pedestrian improvements to South Washington Street along the hill leading to Leonardtown Wharf. Improvements will be made from the Courthouse Drive intersection all the way to Godwin Way and will include sidewalks, curb and gutter, street lamps along the west side of Washington Street and repaving of the entire street. The work began on Monday, September 29th and will take approximately one month for completion.

Clarks Rest Development

The Clarks Rest Development is progressing nicely. Several Use and Occupancy permits have been issued in recent weeks for new neighbors in this neighborhood, and improvements along Rt. 5 are also taking shape. Feel free to stop by the model home for a tour and brochure of information. Additionally, a model of the townhomes being offered will be open soon. To learn more about this development you can also visit the Marrick website at marrickhomes.com.

The Hamptons at Leonardtown

The Saba Group has proposed a luxury apartment complex to be located between Fenwick Street and Rt. 5 across from Academy Hills and has received concept approval at the July 14, 2014 Town Council meeting. The project will consist of two (2) three story buildings with 119 units.

Deputy's Corner

Helpful Tips to Protect Against Burglary

Protect your home from a burglary! Make sure all your windows and doors are locked, especially at night. While many like to keep their windows open during cool nights, Cpl. Smolarsky strongly recommends against this, especially on the first floor. If you hear an unusual noise in your home in the middle of the night, do not dismiss it as a family member or pet. If you feel you or your home is threatened, dial 911.

Another crime that has been trending in the criminal element is to steal garage door openers and later come back and burglarize the house. If you have a garage door opener, you may want to consider bringing it inside with you, leaving it in your purse or some other option. Also, do not leave your garage door open when you are not at home.

It appears burglaries to motor vehicles are on the rise again in the county. These thieves will typically go from neighborhood to neighborhood. Please be proactive in preventing your vehicle from being burglarized. If possible, park in your garage. If not possible, make sure the vehicle doors are locked and windows are up. Do not leave anything of value visible in your vehicle, as would-be thieves target vehicles where packages are visible. Please take valuables inside or lock them in your trunk. Have a motion sensor spot light for your property or leave on outside lights. This is especially important with the upcoming holiday season.

Report any suspicious activity/persons in the neighborhood to the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Department at 301-475-8008 or call 911. When reporting a suspicious vehicle, try to obtain a tag number, or at least, the make, model and color. Remember, while there is no 100% full-proof way to prevent crime, you can make yourself less likely to become a victim by following these tips.

Celebrating National Night Out

Residents, neighbors and friends of Leonard's Freehold and Leonardtown Village gathered together on August 5th in celebration of National Night Out, sharing neighborhood safety ideas, enjoying a hometown picnic and playing outdoor games. The kids especially had fun running through hose downs provided by the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department and getting new school supplies from Town Deputy, Cpl. Margaret Smolarsky.



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Leonardtown Beacon

Residential Emergency Contact

The Commissioners of Leonardtown have recently instituted improvements to our emergency notification process. We now have answering machines at the Town Office, as well as the Wastewater Treatment facility, that can be accessed remotely to update information for residents that call 301-475-9791 or 301-475-5445. The Town website and Facebook are already good sources of up to date information. In addition we now have authorization to issue Code Red Notifications through the County system in emergencies. This system can target just those affected by an emergency situation and can be sent on short notice. We believe these measures will make emergency communications with our residents much easier and more timely.

Trash and Recycling Pickup for Leonardtown Residents

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.



Trash is collected on a cycle of Monday and Thursday, or Tuesday and Friday, depending on your street. Recycling is collected on Wednesdays on all streets. Leonardtown residents needing to check their day for trash pickup should visit the Leonardtown website at leonardtown.somd.com. If you have any questions about your trash service, billing, schedule, an extra pickup or to report a missed pick up, please call the Town Office at 301-475-9791 and ask for Jackie Post. Please **do not** call the trash company directly.

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

Holiday Trash and Recycling: Weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's:

- Trash pickup scheduled for Thursday will slide forward to Friday. Trash pickup scheduled for Friday will slide forward to Saturday.
- Recyclables will be collected on Wednesday as scheduled.

Fall Leaf Pick-Up

Affordable Refuse and Recycling, Inc. will pick up bagged leaves set out by Town residents on regularly scheduled trash collection days. This service is limited to 5 bags of leaves per household per collection day. Any remaining bags may be set out for pickup on the next trash collection day, but still observing the 5-bag limit. Please do not place piles of loose leaves in the street, as this is not part of the trash disposal service.



Snow Removal

Winter is just around the corner! In the event of snow, the Town will plow neighborhoods and side streets when accumulations reach over two inches (2") while main routes will be kept plowed through the nighttime hours. It is recommended that residents and business owners not use rock salt on concrete or brick pavers. If rock salt is used in an improper way, it can damage the concrete and deteriorate it very quickly. The



Town will remove the snow from the brick pavers in the downtown areas and will treat it as well. Citizen safety is our utmost concern, and the Town will make every effort to ensure the quality service that our residents are accustomed to while retaining our efforts to trim snow removal costs.

Leonardtown Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

The Enhanced Nutrient Removal Upgrade to the Leonardtown Wastewater Treatment Plant is moving forward. The anticipated two year project was put out to bid on September 2, 2014, and the pre bid meeting was held on September 19, 2014. Bids are due October 28, 2014 by 2 PM.

Water Quality Report

See the Commissioners of Leonardtown Annual Drinking Water Quality Report on our website by visiting leonardtown.somd.com/government/CCRReport-current.pdf

Leonardtown Business Association News

The Leonardtown Business Association can be a valuable tool in the success of your business. There is a wide range of benefits that can be gained by becoming an active member. Some of the benefits include cooperative advertising campaigns, networking, business-to-business opportunities and promoting your business to visitors. The more you participate, the more you profit. LBA meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Meeting locations vary each month so that LBA members have the opportunity to showcase their individual businesses. Important upcoming events include the LBA Christmas gathering to be held in December and the State of the Town Breakfast upcoming in February, 2015. You are encouraged to visit the LBA's website at thelba.org for more details and happenings.

Businesses persons interested in learning more about LBA membership are welcome to attend an LBA meeting to see what it's all about! Below is a list of scheduled meeting locations for the upcoming months:

- **November 8** – Lola Belle Co.; hosted by Amy Thompson
- **December 14** – Holiday Party (for LBA members)
- **January 10** – Marrick Homes at Clarks Rest in Leonardtown; hosted by Mike Jacques
- **February 13** – State of the Town Breakfast at the College of Southern Maryland-Leonardtown Campus.
- **March 13** – Leonardtown Fitness and Nutrition; hosted by Leslie Boone



- **Property tax credit**, which owners of new or renovated buildings in an A&E District can take based on the increased assessed value of a building being used in whole or in part by a qualifying resident artist. The credit is in effect for 10 years.
- **Income tax subtraction modification** for qualifying resident artists. Qualifying resident artists will not pay any state or local income tax on qualifying income. To qualify as a resident artist you must own or rent property in the State of Maryland and derive income from the sale or performance of any creative work within an A&E District in Maryland.
- **Exemption for the Admissions and Amusement tax** within an A&E District.

Now that Leonardtown has received this designation, it is imperative that we spread the word about these benefits to artists all over Southern Maryland. Bringing in a vibrant and geographically diverse variety of music, theater, dance, photography and the visual arts will be the key to the success of the A&E District. Artists need to know about the statewide benefits derived from living, working, creating and selling in Leonardtown. On September 16, 2014, the Leonardtown A&E District Committee and the St. Mary's County Arts Council hosted a free public workshop with guest speakers on the Benefits of the A&E District Designation, Advocacy of the Arts and Copyright Law for Artists. Statewide promotion of the Arts and Entertainment Districts is another huge benefit of receiving the designation, and the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development works diligently to spread the word of the 22 Districts in Maryland. To learn more, visit their website at msac.org/programs/arts-entertainment-districts.

At the September 2014 First Friday, Leonardtown celebrated its anniversary of the A&E Designation with the 2nd Annual Art Walk. Twenty-two businesses showcased works from 33 artists that visitors could vote on for their favorite piece. This annual event also offers live music on the square along with numerous artist demonstrators and special exhibits in many of the local businesses. It has become a popular venue for showcasing our many wonderful artists, and has the potential to expand into a weekend-long event that would include artists from all over the area and bring in valuable revenue. As Leonardtown grows and continues on its path to revitalization, the Arts will play an important role in the future quality of life for its residents. Leonardtown officials all agree, that being an Arts and Entertainment District is an important platform on which to build Leonardtown's professional, cultural and economic diversity.



Celebrating the Holidays with Leonardtown Arts & Entertainment District Galleries and Shops

The Arts shine for the holidays, making it a perfect time to visit Leonardtown's Art Galleries, Art Centers, and creative art shops! Leonardtown art galleries and shops will be open during Leonardtown's Christmas on the Square event on November 28th. During Leonardtown's December 5th First Friday event, each art gallery will host a holiday reception where you can meet and greet the artists and view original artworks. The creative art shops will also be open to show their diverse talents.



The **North End Gallery**, Leonardtown's oldest art gallery, will showcase their 28th holiday show, "Holidays are Here Again" beginning the last week in November thru December 31st. For details: northendgallery.org or 301-475-3130.

Opal Fine Art will celebrate the holidays with their Annual Holiday Gift Show and a special art showing from November 28th thru December 31st. For details: opalfineartgallery.com or 302-438-1629.

Experience art as it happens at **The Leonardtown Arts Center**. Watch artists create their works in their studios, participate if you'd like, or even take a class or workshop. For details: leonardtownartscenter.com.

The **Yellow Door Art Studios** is an art school for children and adults. Stop by their gallery to see illustrations by Christina Allen during Leonardtown's December First Friday event. For details: yellowdoorartstudios.com or 240-925-1888.

The **Walters Art Gallery** will feature a special art showing - Come be suprised! For details: leonardtownofficespace.com/gallery/index.php or 301-466-0872.

Wine and Design Studio is a place where you can unleash your inner artist and express yourself through your own paintings. For details: wineanddesign.com/location/leonardtown-md/home or 240-925-7464

Caught My Eye has a great blend of handmade arts and accessories, some even coming from India. For details: caughtmyeyesite.wordpress.com or 301-475-6805.

Crazy for Ewe is a fun yarn store to shop and create your own accessories. For details: crazyforewe.com or 301-475-2744.



Dragonfly Designs offers a wide assortment of unique jewelry and accessories appealing to all styles. For details: facebook.com/dragonflyjewelry1 or 240-434-5495.



Fuzzy Farmers Market uses fiber arts, wool, decorative painting, and other back to basics for their one-of-a-kind creations. For details: fuzzyfarmersmarket.com or 301-475-3899.



Town Tidbits

“America Super/Natural”

On Sunday, October 5th, the Weather Channel premiered a new series called “America Super/Natural”. The series premiere featured our own Leonardtown with the legend of Moll Dyer. “America Super/Natural” gives viewers a never before seen look into how weather can shape local legends. Small town Americana has been haunted for hundreds of years by monsters that weather created and folklore fostered. The show airs at 10 PM on Sunday evenings. If you missed seeing your neighbors featured in the premiere of the series be sure to tune in when it is shown again on Saturday, October 25th at 7 PM and Sunday, October 26th at 1 AM.



Artist's impression of the legend of Moll Dyer by Norma Durkin.

Cedar Lane Senior Living Community

The Cedar Lane Senior Living Community is asking for the community's help in continuing affordable housing, assisted living, socialization and support services to meet the needs of their low-income seniors and disabled adults. To help in this endeavor, a fun raffle will be held beginning Saturday, October 11th and each Friday thereafter, with a grand prize drawing on Friday, November 21st. For details and tickets, call 301-475-8966, visit cedar-lane.org or stop by the Cedar Lane main entrance.

Community Christmas Dinner

All are invited to share the spirit of Christmas with others on Thursday, December 25th at Father Andrew White School from 2 PM-6 PM. The dinner is sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Aloysius Church. To volunteer or to request a dinner to be delivered to the homebound in our community, call 301-481-2942 before Monday, December 15th.



Help local, needy families to enjoy a memorable Christmas Holiday!

Food and Toy Drive – Bring canned food, grocery store gift cards and new, unwrapped toys to Kevin's Corner Kafe' from November 1st through Christmas Eve. Kevin's is located at 41565 Park Avenue, just off the Town Square. 301-997-1260.



Toys for Tots – Bring new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages to Winegardner Auto Company from November 11th through December 19th for distribution by U. S. Marine Corps Reserve representatives. Visit toysfortots.org to learn more about the Toys for Tots program.



Keepsakes of Leonardtown's History

A keepsake of history is always a welcome addition for your personal collection or a thoughtful gift. Leonardtown keepsakes include the book “A Most Convenient Place” which recaptures Leonardtown's History 1650-1950, the eye-catching Leonardtown Mural depicting the Town 1850-1960, and Leonardtown's 300th Anniversary Commemorative Cookbook with its collection of recipe favorites by Leonardtown residents and friends. Just last year, the Commemorative Captain Walter Francis Duke A.A.F. Coin was designed and is now part of Leonardtown's memorabilia. If you or someone you know would enjoy these keepsakes, contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791.



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