

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

4th SATURDAY, MAY-AUGUST

Downtown Tunes
Leonardtowntown Square

3rd SATURDAY, JUNE-AUGUST

Sunrise Yoga
Leonardtowntown Wharf Park

JULY/AUGUST

Twilight Performance Series
College of Southern Maryland

AUGUST 4

National Night Out
Leonard's Freehold

AUGUST 7

Fox 5 News Zip Trips Live
Leonardtowntown Square

AUGUST 8

Southern Maryland Boat Club Racing
Boat Regatta & Beach Party on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square & Wharf

AUGUST 15

The Commodores, U.S. Navy Jazz Band
Leonardtowntown Square

SEPTEMBER 12

Art*Work*Shop
Leonardtowntown Square

SEPTEMBER 20

Taste of St. Mary's
Leonardtowntown Square

SEPTEMBER 24-27

St. Mary's County Fair
SM County Fairgrounds

OCTOBER 11

Antique Tractor & Truck Parade
Leonardtowntown Square

OCTOBER 17-18

St. Mary's County Oyster Festival
SM County Fairgrounds

OCTOBER 24

Trick-or-Treat on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Parade
Leonardtowntown Square

NOVEMBER 27

Christmas on the Square, Annual Tree
Lighting & LVRS Christmas Festival
Leonardtowntown Square

DECEMBER 12

Santa & Mrs. Claus on the Square
Leonardtowntown Square

At Home in Leonardtown featuring . . .

Captain Walter Francis Duke Elementary School Opens This Fall

Leonardtowntown's newest elementary school opens its doors to students on August 19, 2015. This wonderful addition to Leonardtown is a long anticipated, eco-friendly and energy efficient school that will provide a high-quality education for approximately 585 students from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade. The motto of the school is "Where Children Soar" and this theme can be seen in a multitude of little touches placed with thoughtful attention to detail throughout the school.

Named after Captain Walter Francis Duke, a native of Leonardtown and a local hero, the school honors Captain Duke's military career and the ultimate sacrifice he paid during his service in World War II. The Duke family played a key role during the choosing of the name for the new school as they came out in force at each school board meeting, hoping to persuade the board to honor their fallen family member.

Captain Duke was born here in Leonardtown on August 6, 1921 and graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1940. He joined the U.S. Army Air Corp when America entered World War II, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He was assigned to the 459th fighter squadron and flew a P-38, which he named Miss V, after his wife Verja. He was honored with many distinguished recognitions during his military career, was credited with destroying 19 enemy planes and became the squadrons and Maryland's leading war ace. On Captain's Duke's last flight he was shot down in Burma while circling back to search for his wingman. He was listed as Missing in Action on June 6, 1944.

Sixty eight years later, in late 2012, the U.S. Army located a P-38 plane presumed to be Captain Duke's, in a recently cleared jungle, and it is hoped that someday soon his body will be returned to the U.S. for burial.



The Captain Walter Francis Duke Elementary School honors not only Captain Duke, but all those who serve our country through military duty. All branches of the military are recognized throughout the school, from the flagpole area at the front of the school with its rose compass listing the different branches of the military and words used to define their ideals of service, to panels at the end of each corridor with the motto of each military branch. Even its school colors are patriotic red, white and blue.

TCA Architects, from Annapolis, and the St. Mary's County School Board construction team worked hard to blend the themes of patriotism, military service and Captain Duke's legacy into all the little touches seen throughout the school. There will be Captain Duke memorabilia, donated by the Duke family, displayed in a glass case inside the front entrance of the school, along with a medallion created especially for Captain Duke by C. Forbes, Inc. of Richmond, VA. The school was also lucky enough to be given a one quarter scale model of a P-38 airplane, donated by Mr. David Nash of Arizona. This model airplane will hang in the media center. A depiction of a runway, with scale model images of a P-38 taking off and soaring into the clouds, is painted on the media center hallway. The cafeteria is decorated in a patriotic, WWII era, art deco theme with large white stars and blue stripes adorning the adjacent gymnasium.

To help the students develop a deeper understanding of the world they live in, there are two interactive learning kiosks located near the front entrance of the school, one for local issues, such as school information, lunch menus etc. and one for global issues such as environmental conservation and world news. There are two playgrounds, one for the younger children located at the front of the school, fenced in and covered with soft mulch, and a larger playground, asphalt running track, swing sets, colorful play equipment and even a sundial, located in the back of the school by the cafeteria/gymnasium. The

See page 7 to read more!



Mayor's Message Route 5 Project

For many years the Route 5 widening project has been a top road improvement priority for local officials working with the State Highway Administration. The project will eventually include improvements from the intersection of Route 5 and Hollywood Road to the intersection of Route 5 and Newtowne Neck Road. The chosen alternative includes adding left turn lanes, raised medians, sidewalks and extra wide bike lanes to accommodate Amish buggy traffic. The dangers of this section of road are well documented. Today over 30,000 cars per day travel this portion of roadway with many collisions due to the lack of turning lanes.

This month Governor Hogan announced funding for a strategic portion of the project. Construction for the \$10.1 million project will begin in the fall of 2018. This project, along with the improvements being constructed by Marrick Homes along the frontage of the Clark's Rest neighborhood, represents a significant portion of the overall project planned for completion.

We would like to thank Governor Hogan for funding this important project and look forward to working with the State Highway Administration toward completing this much needed improvement for Leonardtown.

Dan Burris
Daniel W. Burris, Mayor



Celebrate Leonardtown First Fridays

Fun times are heating up for Leonardtown First Fridays! Join us on August 7 for Flip Flop First Friday to kick off Beach Party weekend with Bob Schaller leading the First Friday Blues Jam. Be sure to bring the kids the following day for Leonardtown's annual Beach Party event!

On September 4th in celebration of the 3rd Annual Arts & Entertainment First Friday Art Walk, artists will be doing live demos in the Square, and businesses will be hosting guest pieces of artwork. Artists who would like to participate in the event should contact the First Friday committee at firstfriday@thelba.org.

Mark your calendars now for the October 2nd Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Friday featuring the ever-popular Hot Toddlies live music on the Square, the Uplifting Designs Bra Decorating Contest and pink themed fundraiser activities throughout the Square. Special thanks to the St. Mary's County Arts Council for contributing the special programming during Fall First Fridays! Visit leonardtownfirstfridays.com often to see First Friday highlights and specials!

National Night Out

Celebrate National Night Out with the Leonard's Freehold community in Leonardtown on Tuesday, August 4th starting at 5 PM. This annual event provides games, food, children's activities and a chance for neighbors to come together to strengthen community partnerships with police and first responders. For details call 301-475-9005.



'L'il' Margaret's Bluegrass Festival

The 27th Annual "L'il" Margaret's Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival at the Goddard Farm off Fairgrounds Road will be held Thursday, August 6th thru Saturday, August 8th. Visit lilmargaretsbluegrass.com or call 301-475-8191 for tickets, schedule, etc.

FOX 5 News ZIP Trips Live on the Square

Town residents, businesses and non-profit organizations are invited to join FOX 5 News in the Square on Friday, August 7 from 7 AM – 11 AM to be the live audience for the taping of their Friday ZIP trips. You and your family can be on the news, receive free giveaway items and enter a raffle for a new car! No need to RSVP – everyone welcome!

SMBC Regatta at the Wharf

On Saturday, August 8 from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM the Southern Maryland Boat Club is bringing their historic racing boats back to life in the waters of Breton Bay. Bring your whole family out to the Leonardtown Wharf Park to see these amazing vessels cutting through the waves in this APBA sanctioned event. Please note that alcohol is not permitted at this event; we appreciate your cooperation!

Beach Party on the Square

Come for the boats and stay for the Party! After the SMBC Regatta at the Wharf, enjoy



festivities throughout the Town from 4 – 9 PM on Saturday, August 8th, with music by The 25th Hour Band, kids' games, sand volleyball and tug-of-war, fire truck hose downs, Dancing with Daughters of Veda, face painting, strolling entertainers, a live mermaid and more! Register now at Big Larry's Eatery to compete in the first-ever "Big Larry's Hot Dog Eating Contest" at 5:30 PM and don't miss "Running of the Balls" on Fenwick Street Hill at 7 PM sponsored by the Leonardtown, Lexington Park and Charlotte Hall Rotary Clubs. Adopt your golf ball in advance at runningoftheballs.org or from any Rotary Club member.

Beach Party admission and activities are free. Food will be available for purchase, and kayaks and stand up paddleboards are available for rent at the Wharf. Contact the Town Office or visit leonardtown.somd.com for more information and a performance schedule.

Sunrise Yoga at Leonardtown Wharf

The last Saturday morning yoga practice will be offered at Leonardtown Wharf Park on August 15th from 7:30 AM–8:30 AM. Bring a friend, a mat, a bottle of water, and a non-perishable food item for donation to a local food bank or pet shelter. Contact Evolve Yoga at 301-862-1236 for more details. Rain date, if needed is September 19.

Third Time's the Charm for U. S. Navy Jazz Band The Commodores



Highly regarded for their renditions of big band jazz over the last 40 years, The Commodores, U.S. Navy Jazz Band will present a free concert in the Leonardtown Square on Saturday, August 15th starting at 6 PM. Having been cancelled by both sequestration and rain the last two years, the band will try for a third time to fill the square with their perfect blend of timeless tunes and soulful ballads. Bring friends, a blanket or chair to sit on and join us - dancing encouraged!

Downtown Tunes

The 2015 Downtown Tunes series wraps up on Saturday, August 22nd at 6 PM in the Town Square with charming country powerhouse Sara Gray joined by rising local soloist Robbie Boothe. The concert is free, and concert-goers are invited to bring chairs or blankets to sit on. Come early and visit our shops, restaurants and galleries before the concert starts. The series is organized and hosted by James LePore and the Leonardtown Business Association and is sponsored in part by

On Out!

Quality Built Homes, Winegardner Automotive, Marrick Homes, Guy Distributing, and Big Larry's Eatery. Rain Date: Sunday, August 23rd.



Many thanks to our May, June and July performers: The Latrice Carr Band,

Megan Nosek & Josh Airhart, Jennifer Cooper & Groovespan.



Save the Date – September 12 Art*Work*Shop

The St. Mary's Arts Council, in conjunction with the Leonardtown Arts & Entertainment District is planning a day of outstanding Art Classes for the public on Saturday, September 12, 2015. Showcasing Leonardtown as an art and tourist destination, the event invites people from Southern Maryland and beyond to try their hand or increase their skills in a variety of art forms. Renowned artists will teach classes for virtually all skill levels and ages, creating a hands-on art experience for the whole family.

This event will take place in several locations around The Square in downtown Leonardtown - with many of the classes being held at the Leonardtown Arts Center - and is also an opportunity for artists to display and sell their work and for participants to visit all galleries and shops in Leonardtown. Registration required. Please visit www.stmarysartscouncil.com for details and updates.



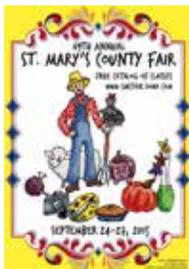
Leonardtown Arts Center - and is also an opportunity for artists to display and sell their work and for participants to visit all galleries and shops in Leonardtown. Registration required. Please visit www.stmarysartscouncil.com for details and updates.

Walk a Mile in My Shoes

The 8th Annual Friends of the Poor Walk to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be held on Saturday, September 12th at 9 AM at Father Andrew White School. Call Patty Belanger at 301-904-7990 or visit svdpusa.net/fop to register or make a pledge. Same day registration begins at 7:30 AM. Rain or Shine.

A Taste of St. Mary's

A Taste of St. Mary's returns to Leonardtown Square on Sunday, September 20th from Noon - 4:30 PM. Sample award-winning specialties from area restaurants and caterers. Tastings of soups, entrees, desserts - even beer and wine - are available from only \$1-\$5 each. Try as many as you like and be sure to vote for your favorites! Enjoy music and family entertainment too. For more information, visit the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce at smcchamber.com or call 301-737-3001.



St. Mary's County Fair

There's fun for everyone at the 69th Annual St. Mary's County Fair, Thursday, September 24th thru Sunday, September 27th at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds. The Fair Parade on Saturday starts at 10:30 AM. For more information, check the 2015 Fair Catalog or visit smcfair.somd.com.

SMR Blaine Whorl Memorial 5K Run/Walk

The SMR Blaine Whorl Memorial 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, October 3rd begins at 9 AM at the St. Mary's Ryken Stadium and proceeds into downtown Leonardtown. For information, email Suzanne.Taylor@smrhs.org or register on walk day beginning at 7:30 AM.

Antique Tractor & Truck Parade

The 6th Annual Antique Tractor & Truck Parade will be held in the Leonardtown Square on Sunday, October 11th at 1 PM. Sponsored by The Southern Maryland Antique Power Association, proceeds from the event and related raffles benefit the St. Mary's County Christmas in April Foundation. For details or to enter a tractor or truck in the parade, call 240-538-3687.



St. Mary's County Oyster Festival

The 46th Annual St. Mary's County Oyster Festival will be held at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds in Leonardtown on Saturday, October 17th from 10 AM-6 PM and Sunday, October 18th from 11 AM-6 PM., \$5 admission; children under 12 free. Free parking. This event is sponsored by the Lexington Park Rotary Club and is the proud host of the exciting U. S. National Oyster Shucking Championship and National Oyster Cook Off. For more information, visit usoysterfest.com or call 301-863-5015.



Trick-or-Treat Fun on the Square

There's plenty of Halloween fun for kids in the Leonardtown Square on Saturday, October 24th from 1 PM-3 PM.

Trick-or-Treat! Kids can dress up in their favorite Halloween costume and have fun trick-or-treat merchants on the Square. Bring a goodie bag to collect your candy!
Make A Life-Size Scarecrow!

Create your own scarecrow with members of the St. Mary's Crafts Guild. For all ages! An \$8 fee per scarecrow covers supplies.

Pet Costume Contest! Bring your outfitted cat or dog to the pet costume contest sponsored by SMAWL! Photos will be posted on Facebook for votes.

Pumpkin Painting! Join artists from Wine & Design Art Buzz Kids and members of the Friends of Cedar Lane for free pumpkin and face painting.



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, Human Resources and Planning & Zoning Assistant
Donna Page, Receptionist
DeAnn Adler, Grants Administrator & Beacon Editor
Maria Fleming, PR & Event Coordinator
Tony Wheatley, Capital Project Coordinator
Cpl. Peg 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 Hollander
Laura Schultz

Board of Appeals
Dr. Herbert Winnik, Chair
Robert "Bob" Wentworth
Darren Meyer
Joan Ritchie

Meetings
Town Council - 2nd Monday of each month @ 4:00 PM in the Town Office. August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14

Planning & Zoning Commission - 3rd Monday of each month @ 4:00 PM in the Town Office. August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21

Contact the Town:
Commissioners of Leonardtown
Proffitt Building
41660 Courthouse Drive
P.O. Box 1
Leonardtown, MD 20650
Phone: 301-475-9791
Fax: 301-475-5350
E-Mail: Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net
Website: Leonardtown.somd.com

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

September 7	Labor Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 26	Thanksgiving Day
November 27	Day after Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas Day



20th Annual Hospice Run



On April 11th, over 2,600 runners and walkers helped celebrate the 20th Annual Run and Fun Walk, raising \$70,000 to support Hospice of St. Mary's. Visit

runforhospice.org to see photos and race results.

Earth Day on the Square - and at the Wharf!



In addition to the regular eco-friendly products, educational opportunities and family entertainment offered at the **Earth Day Celebration on the Square**, visitors on April 19th had the opportunity to enjoy a taste of life on

the water with Heritage Waterman Captain Phil Langley and his wife Stephanie from Fish the Bay Charters.

30th Annual Spring Fling Car Show

April 26th marked 30 years for the **Spring Fling Car Show** hosted annually by St. Mary's Rod & Classic.



Proceeds benefit Hospice of St. Mary's, the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad and other local charities.

Congratulations to all the club members on a job well done!

Leonardtown Elementary Students Conduct Mock Council Meeting

In recognition of Municipal Government Week, fourth grade students of Leonardtown Elementary School conducted a mock Town Council meeting on May 1st. Mayor Dan Burris and Councilman Hayden Hammett – himself an LES alum – guided students in conversations about spending Town money. This year's group, along with the "Mayor" and "Council" decided to spend more money on Community and Economic Development.



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Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Great Strides Walk

Over \$23,000 was raised to support the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation during the 5th Annual Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis in Leonardtown on Saturday, May 2nd. Thanks to the local community for supporting local families battling the disease and the Foundation that is so close to a cure!



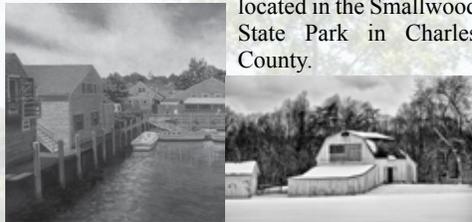
Annual Flag Day Celebration

Councilman Roger Mattingly presented a proclamation with a short talk about Leonardtown history, and the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department ladder truck was there to display Old Glory in the Annual Flag Day Celebration sponsored by the St. Mary's County Government on June 14th. Other local officials and music by 3 different school groups were also a part of the program.



North End Gallery News

The North End Gallery is proud to announce that works by member artists, Chris Sams and David Zippi were accepted to the 21st Annual Juried Show at the Mattawoman Creek Art Center. Chris and David's work will be on display until July 5 at the Mattawoman Creek Art Center, located in the Smallwood State Park in Charles County.



North End Gallery August Show

Do opposites attract? Visit the North End Gallery in Leonardtown for dynamic artworks created to illustrate the concept in action. "Opposites Attract" runs August 4 through September 27. The First Friday Reception for "Opposites Attract" will be held August 7 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. Remember to enter the Mystery Box drawing for a chance to win a piece of art. The winner will be announced at the end of the First Friday reception; no need to be present to win. For additional information, call the gallery at (301) 475-3130. Founded in 1987, the North End Gallery in Leonardtown is a co-operative art gallery with 35 juried artists who reside in the tri-county area of Calvert, St. Mary's, and Charles Counties. The gallery is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 am to 5 PM and from 12 to 4 PM on Sundays. Learn more at www.northendgallery.com.

Caught My Eye

On the second Sunday of every month from July through October, Caught My Eye will be hosting a Vintage Sale. Items sold will be furniture, collectibles and vintage finds. Hours are 11:00 AM through 4:00 PM.



On the last Sunday of every month from July through October they will be hosting a Green Expo where shoppers can buy their natural and organic products.

Starting in September they will also be teaching 6 week quilting classes, for both beginner and advanced quilters.

Lastly, also in September, Caught My Eye will be conducting human form sketching classes. Artists can come and work on their sketching skills. Two sessions will be held, one with a female and another with a male model.

Contact Tas at 301-475-6805 for details and to register.

Maryland Antique Center

On the third weekend of every month, from March to October, the MD. Antique Center will host a Flea Market selling gifts, collectibles, yard art and other items. The event will be held rain or shine. For information on renting a space for the weekend, please call Teresa at 301-690-2074 or email her at mdantiquecenter@gmail.com.

The Maryland Antique Center is open daily from 10 to 5 PM. They are located at 26005 Point Lookout Road in Leonardtown.

Cedar Lane News

Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot visited the Cedar Lane campus on June 15th to present them with the 2015 William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award for St. Mary's County.

Delegate Deb Rey, former Delegate Johnny Wood, Town Council Member Tom Combs, and Rachel Jones, representing Senator Barbara Milkulski's office, joined Cedar Lane and Friends of Cedar Lane Board Members and dozens of staff and residents for the ceremony and reception for the award, which honors the legacy of public service exemplified by former Governor, Comptroller and Baltimore City Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

Nominees are sought from throughout the state, and recipients are selected in 23 counties and Baltimore City based on their demonstration to improve the community; to promptly respond to a citizen problem through effective government intervention; to directly aid those most vulnerable in society; or to establish a public/private partnership to improve the lives of fellow Marylanders.

Cedar Lane was nominated by Tom Dennison and Tom Russell of SMECO, who were in attendance. Comptroller Franchot also presented Tom Russell with a special medallion in recognition of his exemplary community service.



Highlights

Cedar Lane's Studio Challenge

Three design teams representing some of St. Mary's County's leading boutiques and interior design firms accepted Cedar Lane's challenge to fit their innovative ideas into less than 350 square feet. The Studio Challenge put a unique spin on the classic design showcase by having teams transform several of their studio apartments – proving that you don't need a big space or a big budget to transform your home.



The featured design teams from Baldwin Design, Caught My Eye, and Black Market Interiors, in partnership with The Right Mix, were given free-range to create their ideal vision for a small space. The teams began by coming up with unique design concepts that ranged from “affordable, modern sophistication,” to “decorating on a shoe-string budget,” to “blending old and new.”

Sponsors and major donors got a sneak peek at the designs, met the designers, and enjoyed an evening of live music by Swingaway Jazz Duo, an art project led by St. Mary's County Wine & Design, great food and door prizes at a special preview party on June 12th.

Members of the community made donations to tour the decorated studios and an untouched “before” apartment, over two weekends in June, and had a chance to purchase the furnishings and decorative items featured in the studios in the final hours of the event.

This community outreach and fundraising event was presented by Friends of Cedar Lane with sponsorships from BB&T, Burch Oil, CPB Properties and several other local businesses and over \$3,000 was raised to support resident activities and facility improvements.



Coastal Arts Market

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

Farmer's Market in Leonardtown

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

Leonardtown Business Association News

On June 12, 2015, Leonardtown Business Association (LBA) held its annual meeting and re-elected all four officers - Dan Norris as President, Joe Orlando as Vice President, Randy Richie as Secretary and Susan Kilroy as Treasury. Businesses and organizations that join the LBA have membership privileges and networking opportunities. The LBA holds regular monthly meetings with its membership and special invited guests such as the Mayor of Leonardtown, Town Council members, St. Mary's Sheriff's Office, St. Mary's County Department of Economic and Community Development and many others. This gives members the opportunity to discuss opportunities and challenges in an open atmosphere and get answers quickly. For more information, please visit the newly redesign LBA web site at <https://www.thelba.org>

So. MD Film Festival Says THANK YOU!

With grateful hearts the Organizing Committee of the first annual Southern Maryland Film Festival wishes to thank Heritage Printing & Graphics, Metrocast Channel 10, the College of Southern Maryland, Big Larry's Eatery, St. Mary's Ryken HS, Marrick Homes, The Rex, Crazy for Ewe, the Leonardtown Arts Center, Chik-Fil-A, Rent-A-Center, Ye Olde Towne Café, Café des Artistes, BTB Coffee Bar & Speakeasy, Opal Art Gallery, North End Gallery, Caught My Eye, The Good Earth Natural Foods Company, Town of Leonardtown, the St. Mary's County Arts Council, our other financial and in-kind sponsors and the kind residents of Leonardtown for your faith, support, and overwhelming generosity. We could not have had the Film Festival without you and we look forward to working with you all again on SMFF 2016: The Sequel!



Deputy's Corner

Phone Scam Alert

Recently, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office has received several reports of suspects (scammers) posing as agents from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and officials from various law enforcement agencies. During these phone calls, the scammer informs the citizen there is a past due balance on their Federal tax filing. The scammer directs the citizen to load a prepaid money card with funds then call the scammer back to provide the PIN number. The scammer threatens the citizen with arrest if the citizen does not pay immediately.

In another recent phone scam, the scammer directs a citizen to pay a preset bail for failing to appear for grand jury duty. Once again, the scammer threatens the citizen with arrest if he or she does not load funds onto a prepaid money card and call back with the PIN number.

Scammers go to great lengths to APPEAR to be a legitimate IRS or law enforcement agent. In complaints received over the last week, scammers are even identifying themselves as “Sergeant Jacob (SCAMMER), of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Warrant Division” and directing citizens to “hang up and dial 9-1-1 if your call is an emergency” in voice mail messages.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and the IRS do not call with threats of arrest if you don't pay a fine for missing jury duty or to pay back taxes. If you receive a scam call anything like those described, HANG UP immediately. Never provide personal information over the phone.

PLEASE SHARE THIS and be sure to warn our elderly residents, who may not have internet access. They are most vulnerable to these types of scams.

First Responders Drone Symposium

A First Responders Drone Symposium will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 from 11am to 2:30 pm near CAPT W.F. Duke Elementary School. The symposium will include presentations and live demonstrations of drone use for fire and rescue services and police operations and will be presented to the St. Mary's County Commissioners, the Sheriff's Office, and fire and rescue squad volunteers from throughout the County.

The goal of the Symposium is to provide an opportunity for First Responders to learn how unmanned systems can be used to assist in fire and rescue situations. This will be demonstrated during a simulated police raid and a controlled burn of a vacant building, which will be managed by the St. Mary's County Fire Chief with assistance from the Leonardtown and Hollywood Volunteer Fire Departments. The public may see smoke rising from the site of the demonstration.



Hollywood Road Sidewalk Improvement Project

The State Highway Administration is working with the Town and County Governments to improve the existing sidewalks along Hollywood Road and to add additional sidewalks from the College of Southern Maryland to Leonard's Grant Parkway. The project is scheduled to be advertised for bid in late 2015. This much needed project will greatly improve pedestrian access to the downtown area for all residents of Leonardtown.

Leonardtown Receives Community Parks and Playground Grant

The Town recently applied for and received a \$30,000 Community Parks and Playgrounds Grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. This money will be used to add a small playground and a bandstand/pavilion structure at the Leonardtown Wharf Park. This covered pavilion will be a great addition for music concerts, weddings, parties or other community events. Many residents have requested playground equipment at the Wharf to enhance visits by young children. Look for these improvements by the end of 2015.

Leonardtown Wharf Park Sign Gets a Facelift

Stop by and check out the updated sign at the Leonardtown Wharf. The sign had begun to show signs of wear from the sun and wind. Heritage Printing and R.D. Hammett painting did an outstanding job of updating the sign.



ENR Project Begins at Wastewater Treatment Plant

The State mandated upgrade to an Enhanced Nutrient Removal process at the Leonardtown Wastewater Treatment facility is now underway. The 22 million dollar project is funded in part by the State of Maryland in the amount of \$8.97 million dollars. The project was awarded to MEB Contractors, a Chesapeake, Virginia based company. The project is expected to be completed by July 2017.

Hollywood Road Annexation Request

A petition to annex has been received from 13 property owners located on the outskirts of the Leonardtown town limits. Two of the parcels of land are large farms owned by Quality Built Homes who plans to develop the properties in a similar style to the Leonard's Grant Community.

The other existing residential homes currently utilize town utilities but are charged at an out of town rate. The Town Council will hold a public hearing to hear the request at their August 10, 2015 meeting.

Port of Leonardtown Park Pavilion

Stop by and check out the newest addition to Port of Leonardtown Public Park. A portion of the Church Street water tower roof, ladder and ball have been transformed into a beautiful pavilion. The 1924 Church Street water tower was



demolished in 2012 and Hilltop Welding reconstructed the roof into the pavilion. Picnic tables will be added so that residents can enjoy a day out at the park.



New Arts and Entertainment Banners Go Up

The Leonardtown Arts and Entertainment District received a matching grant to acquire banners to raise awareness of the Arts and Entertainment District designation. The beautiful new banners are now flying all around the Square.



Thanks for the Memories and the Mentoring, Linda!

It is with mixed emotions that the Commissioners of Leonardtown and the Town Staff say "Happy (2nd) Retirement" to our dear friend Linda Shepherd. Having been the Town Event Coordinator for over 10 years, organizer of the Town Anniversary Cookbook, and Editor of the award-winning *Beacon* newsletter, Linda's cheerful smile, impeccable work ethic and knowledge of the local community will be greatly missed. Thank you, Linda, for being a wonderful example, friend and co-worker. We wish you and Arthur all the best in your new pursuits!



Robert "Bob" Combs

It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of one of Leonardtown's native sons Mr. Robert "Bob" Combs. Bob was a lifelong resident of Leonardtown and served as a hard working Town Council member from 2006 to 2010 and as chairman of the Recreation and Parks committee. He was always willing to lend a hand to make the Town run smoothly and he will be greatly missed.



"Tidbits" Continue on page 8.

Trash and Recycling Information

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

For questions about your trash service, billing, extra pickup or to report a missed pickup, please call the Town Office at 301-475-9791 and ask for Jackie Post.

Please **do not** call the trash company directly. Visit leonardtown.somd.com for more about this service.



Bulk Trash Pickup: Please take notice that there will be a slight change to all future quarterly bulk trash pickups. Future collections will take place across two consecutive days. The next bulk pickups are scheduled for Thursday **September 3rd** and Friday **September 4th**.

Bulky items will be collected on the same day as your regular trash. Please make sure the bulky items are placed with your trash by 7:00 AM. Please call the Town Office if you are unsure whether your items are eligible for bulk pickup. Please remember that refrigerators and freezers must be tagged by a certified technician that all refrigerant has been safely removed.

For commercial customers that do not receive collection on Thursday or Friday, please place bulky items near your existing collection container by Thursday at 7:00 AM. The contractor will collect those items either Thursday or Friday.

Labor Day Holiday Trash Pick-up for the Week of September 7, 2015: Trash and recycling pickup will slide forward a day. For example, trash and recycling pickup normally scheduled for Monday will slide to Tuesday, and so on for that week.



Get your Leonardtown 2015 Calendar of Events Brochure at various Leonardtown businesses or the Town Office. You can also download a copy from our website Leonardtown.somd.com

Continued from Cover

indoor gym will be used in the winter months and is complete with indoor rock climbing wall and full size basketball court.

The Captain Walter Francis Duke Elementary School was designed as a learning tool for environmental stewardship and sustainable practices. During construction, 75% of the construction debris was recycled and diverted from the local landfill. It was modeled after Evergreen Elementary School, which opened in August 2009, and is located in the Wildewood Subdivision in St. Mary's County. Evergreen Elementary was the first school in St. Mary's County to be awarded a LEED Gold rating from the U.S. Green Building Council. It is expected that the Duke Elementary School will rate LEED Gold also. Some of the eco-friendly additions include two 15,000 gallon water tower cisterns that collect rainwater from the roof for non-drinking water purposes. Ninety percent of the water used to flush the toilets in the school



will come from these cisterns, saving thousands of gallons of water yearly. In the summer months, the cisterns will provide water for an eco-friendly cooling tower for the air conditioning system. The school also has a solar-thermal hot water system, to provide hot water for the restrooms, classrooms and cafeteria. The school is a 2 story building, which minimizes the building footprint and provides more green space on the school property.

Over 90% of the occupied spaces in the school have some form of daylighting or direct views to the outdoors. Light shelves were provided over most of the south facing windows in the classrooms. Light shelves overhang the windows outside and have high-reflectance upper surfaces, which reflect daylight onto the ceiling and deeper into the classrooms, thus reducing the need for electric lighting. They are also designed to shade near the windows, due to the overhang of the shelf, and help reduce window glare. To save energy, a state of the art lighting control system was installed that dims the lights according to the amount of daylight in the room. Energy efficient solar light tubes also are used to bring natural light into some of the interior spaces of the school



and all electric lighting is either fluorescent or L.E.D. lighting.

At the front of the new school visitors might notice that plants are growing on the roof. This is a "green" roof, which means that a layer of vegetation (usually different types of hardy, drought resistant sedum) is growing in trays in a lightweight growing medium. These trays are placed over a waterproof membrane on the roof's surface. There are several environmental advantages to a green roof, they provide building insulation, absorb rainwater runoff and remove heat from the air, thus reducing the temperature of the roof surface and the surrounding area. Also located at the front of the school are several bio retention areas that collect storm water runoff



from the roof; interpretative signage explains the process. Also the parking area was designed to provide preferred spaces for bicyclists and carpool vehicles. Native plants were used as much as possible in the landscaping surrounding the school and parking lot.

To provide environmental learning opportunities for the students, several other forms of eco-friendly features have been installed, including rain barrels used to irrigate the green roof, a 26 panel solar photovoltaic array on the roof which provides some of the electricity required to power the school, and even a wind turbine to create another small amount of electricity. The cafeteria continues the eco-friendly theme with large recycling centers for the children to place paper, plastic, food waste and garbage in their proper bins. All of these environmental features are designed as teaching tools to educate each new generation of children about the importance of conservation and environmental stewardship and how to better use our natural and economic resources.

The school will be a welcome addition to our growing town. Located on the former Hayden Farm, off of Leonard's Grant Parkway, it is part of a larger master plan for that site. Future uses planned for the Hayden Farm site include a middle school, walking trails, sports fields, a new library, and an early childhood education center. To allow room for future growth there are approximately 100 extra seats at Duke Elementary School (Leonardtown Elementary School will have approximately 200).



The cost of the Captain Walter Francis Duke Elementary School was approximately 27 million dollars and it was completed on time and on budget. The funding was approximately split fifty-fifty between local funds and state dollars.

A formal dedication ceremony is planned for September 29, 2015 and there will be several community open houses in August before school officially begins. Children attending the new school can register in the office this summer. Registration hours are 8:30 to 3:15 Monday through Friday.

Ms. Beth Ramsey has been appointed acting Principal of the new Captain Walter Francis Duke Elementary School. Ms. Ramsey graduated from St. Mary's College and received her Master's degree at Towson University, along with a Reading Specialist Certification and an Administrative Certification. She has been in public education for 17 years, starting her career in Charles County, where she taught third and fifth grades. For the past three years she has been Principal of White Marsh Elementary and she and her husband have lived in Southern Maryland for almost 30 years. She has three grown children. Her Assistant Principal will be Ms. Jamie Jameson and her secretary will be Ms. Gail Beavers.

A voting contest was held to determine whether the new mascot for the school would be the "Flyers" or the "Aviators". The Aviators won!

You can visit the school's website at <http://schools.smcps.org/cwfdes/> for more information.



The Board of Education
Construction Team: Larry Hartwick,
Brad Clements and Kim Howe





Town Tidbits

Continued from page 6

Do You Have a Band? We Have a Venue!

While many people know about Downtown Tunes, First Friday's music and the Summer Concert Series in the Square, there are other bands that play independently during the year at the Leonardtown Wharf Park! For the past two years,



the Leonardtown High School Jazz Band and the Bluegrass Gospel Express have offered free concerts during the summer

at no cost to the audience or the Town.

The Wharf is a great venue for small to mid-size ensembles, and we sometimes have the stage set up in the Square for the weekend and only use it one day. So, if you have a band that does not require a lot of electricity, can provide their own sound or PA system, and are just looking for a venue and an audience, please contact Maria at maria.fleming2@verizon.net.

Raiders & Invaders Organizers Receive Award

During the May 19th County Commissioners meeting, the St. Mary's County Historic Preservation Commission presented several awards to members of the community, including the Historic Preservation Service Award to Leonardtown Administrator Laschelle McKay; Town Event Coordinator Maria Fleming; and The St. Mary's County Office of Tourism, Carolyn Laray and Andrew Ponti; as well as the rest of the Raiders & Invaders Steering Committee for their efforts to preserve local history and share it with the public in a fun and educational event.

General Town Information

Town Hall is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM. A drop-box is provided for after-hour payments and is located on the front door of Town Hall.

Please consider using the Town's website to find information about what's going on in Leonardtown. The website features information on activities of the Mayor and Council, the various Boards & Commissions, trash pick-up and event reminders, as well as links to other resources. Town staff updates the website daily to provide up-to-date information. The site is accessible for use with all electronic devices www.leonardtown.somd.com.

Like us on Facebook, too! Town events, updates and changes are also posted on the Town Facebook Page. The Town has FIVE Facebook pages. A link is provided on the Town website or search "Town of Leonardtown, Maryland" "Leonardtown Square" Leonardtown Wharf" "Port of Leonardtown Kayak and Park" and "Leonardtown Arts and Entertainment District" on Facebook.

Reminder!!
Pedestrians have the right-of-way in all cross walks. Please stop to allow pedestrians to safely cross the street. It is a Maryland State Law!

Water Quality Report

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

www.leonardtown.somd.com/government/CCRReport-current.pdf

Heritage Chocolates Coming Soon!

What's better than handmade chocolates? How about handmade chocolates crafted right in front of you? The aroma of warm creamy chocolate will be coming from the corner of Washington St. and Fenwick St and swirling around Leonardtown Square soon! Heritage Chocolates will be opening up shop in August 2015 and will bring the unforgettable experience of handmade chocolates, truffles, and candies to you and your family.

Nicole Heisey, co-owner and chocolatier, has been making chocolates by hand for years and has decided to take her passion for crafting chocolate to a retail shop to be seen and appreciated by all. Taught from the best, her late father who was an internationally recognized master confectioner, Nicole certainly knows a thing or two about chocolate.

Not only will Heritage Chocolates be supplying Southern Maryland with decadent handmade confections, they are planning to have candy and chocolate events in the store where they will be demonstrating the candy making process and will be hand dipping other sweet treats for all to enjoy. Heritage Chocolates has a passion for sharing the chocolate making experience with others the way Nicole's father made confections in his store for decades.

Heritage Chocolates started locally in Southern Maryland as a fundraising effort for local schools and organizations. This quickly grew into a small cottage industry; and now with an overwhelming demand for her chocolate, Nicole has partnered with Terra Neely to stand up a store front retail location. Just like the product they make, which focuses on fresh and high quality ingredients without preservatives, the store will have the same natural feel. From concrete floors and corrugated steel to the reclaimed wood, Heritage Chocolates' store has aspirations to be a welcoming place to sit and sample the variations of chocolates all while watching Nicole and the Heritage Chocolate team create the delicious chocolates, truffles, and candies behind the counter. Follow Heritage Chocolates on Facebook to know the exact date of opening and stop by their web page for a full listing of products www.heritagechocolateshop.com.

Leonardtown BEACON

Commissioners of Leonardtown

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