

Leonardtown BEACON

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

Calendar of Events

JULY 4

Freedom Fest 2005
County Fairgrounds

JULY 8

Air National Guard Concert
Leonardtown Square

JULY 7-10 & 14-18

LVFD Carnival
Carnival Grounds

AUGUST 11-13

**"L'IL" Margaret's Bluegrass
& Old Time Music Festival**
Goddard Farm

AUGUST 13

Beach Party on the Square
Leonardtown Square

SEPTEMBER 10

Fall Follies
Leonardtown Square

SEPTEMBER 17

Light the Night Walk
Governmental Center

SEPTEMBER 22-25

SMC Fair
County Fairgrounds

OCTOBER 15 & 16

SMC Oyster Festival
County Fairgrounds

OCTOBER 29

Trick-or-Treat on the Square
Leonardtown Square

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Parade
Leonardtown Square

NOVEMBER 25

Christmas on the Square
Leonardtown Square

NOVEMBER 25-27

SMC Festival of Trees
Bell Motor Co.

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

2005 Town Election Results



Serving his 10th consecutive year (1995-2005) as Mayor of Leonardtown, J. Harry Norris was sworn into office by Evelyn Arnold, Clerk of Court. (It is interesting to note that Mayor Norris also served as the Town's Mayor from 1978-1981.)

Mayor J. Harry Norris and Town Council members J. Maquire (Mock) Mattingly, III and Walter Wise were re-elected in the 2005 Leonardtown elections held on May 3rd. Recent legislation was approved increasing Council terms of service from two years to four years beginning in 2005. To maintain the existing staggered-membership Council, these three seats will be phased-in this year to serve a three-year term, with their next election slated for 2008. In 2006, the three Council member seats currently held by Charles Faunce, Walt Gillette, and Leslie Roberts, will be voted upon to serve four years.



Walter Wise, serving on the Town Council since 1995, and J. Maquire (Mock) Mattingly, who has served on the Town Council since 2003, were sworn into office by Mayor Norris.

Mock Council Session



To recognize Municipal Government Week, 4th and 5th graders at Leonardtown Elementary School conducted a mock Town Council session on March 17th. The enthusiastic learners got a hands-on approach to local government, and were tasked by Mayor Norris to designate funding priorities when faced with a \$10,000 budget surplus.

Leonardtown Receives Waste Water System of the Year Award

Steve King, Chairman of the Maryland Rural Water Association, presents the 2005 Waste Water System of the Year Award to the Town Council on June 13th. This award recognizes proactive improvements to the Town's system and outstanding day-to-day operation of the facility. Accepting the award are Mayor Norris, John (Jay) Johnson, Utilities Superintendent, and Tim Lacey, Assistant Superintendent.



Former Mayor and Town Commissioner Fayrene Mattingly Will Be Missed

Our sympathies are extended to the family of Fayrene Mattingly, who passed on June 10, 2005. Fayrene loved Leonardtown, and was a friend to many. She was a Leonardtown resident and businesswoman, and served as Mayor of Leonardtown between May 1981 and April 1982, and as a Commissioner of Leonardtown between May 1982 and April 1985. Fayrene was instrumental in revitalization and beautification projects of the Town, especially her support of the petitioning efforts to preserve the Court House site on its original grounds in historic Leonardtown.





Mayor's Message

Budget time each year can be a challenging time for the Council and me as we work to continue to provide the quality of services that the residents are accustomed to receiving without major fiscal impact. We are also tasked with the obligation to anticipate and prepare for future needs. I am pleased to report that the Commissioners of Leonardtown Fiscal Year 2006 Budget accomplishes these goals. The Real Property Tax Rate will remain at 15 cents per \$100 of assessed value. As established in 1997, there will be a 2% increase in water and sewer service charges. This annual increase was established to help smooth out spikes in rate increases that were necessary every 5 to 7 years to cover the annual increases in operating expenses.

The budget process begins with the Mayor's proposed budget being submitted to the Council for review. A series of budget work sessions follow, with the Mayor and Town Council refining the document that reflects the direction they feel the Town should take in the coming fiscal year. A public hearing is held to hear comment on the proposed budget. The Council then adopts the proposed budget, by ordinance, with or without amendments.

As we have discussed in previous newsletters, Leonardtown has many development and recreational projects that are quickly becoming reality. I encourage you to stop by the Town Hall and take a look at some of these plans. These projects offer many benefits for existing as well as new residents. We will also face new challenges in the years ahead as we realize this growth. Proper planning and decision making is imperative to maintaining Leonardtown as an exceptional place to live, work and play.

 
J. Harry Norris, III, Mayor
Leonardtown Beacon

Come on Out!

Freedom Fest 2005

Celebrate Independence Day! A variety of entertainment, ending with a fireworks display at the St. Mary's County Fairgrounds on Monday, July 4th beginning at 5 PM.

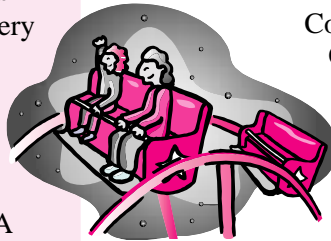


Air National Guard Band of the Mid-Atlantic in Concert

Take a break from the ordinary and jazz up your lunch hour with a free concert presented by the *Air National Guard Band of the Mid-Atlantic* in the Town Square on Friday, July 8th between Noon and 1:30 PM. Traveling from Fort Indiantown Gap in Annville, PA., the band will perform a selection of light classics, marches, Dixieland, swing favorites, and a tribute to the American soldier. Pack a bagged lunch or order lunch at one of the fine eateries around the Square. Bring your family, friends, and co-workers, along with a lawn chair or blanket, relax and enjoy!

LVFD Carnival

Come on out to the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department Carnival the weekends of July 7-10, and July 14-18. Carnival grounds open 7 PM-10:30 PM. Games, bingo, prizes, carnival rides, nightly raffles, and food! Persons interested in volunteering at the carnival should contact Roger Mattingly at 301-475-5966.



"Beauty and the Beast"

Many of our local Leonardtown area students will perform in the popular musical "*Beauty and the Beast*", this year's 22nd annual Recreation and Parks Summerstock production. Shows will be held at Great Mills High School, July 28-31 at 7 PM Thursday-Saturday, 5 PM Sunday, and a 1 PM Saturday matinee. For tickets call 301-475-4200, ext. 1800.

National Night Out

On Tuesday evening, August 2nd, the Leonard's Freehold community will once again participate in *National Night Out* from 5 PM-10 PM with a block party on Norris Street. This event is designed to promote good police/community relationships, heighten crime and drug awareness, and sends a message that neighborhoods are organized to come out and take a stand against criminal activity. For additional information call 301-475-9005 or www.firstsheriff.com/nationalnightout.asp.

Beach Party on the Square

Leonardtown's annual "*Beach Party on the Square*" will be held on Saturday, August 13th from 4 PM-9 PM. Have a great time with your family and friends, enjoying live music by Blonde Ambition and the 25th Hour Band! You won't want to miss the special double dutch performance by the championship "Greenbelt City Stars", Junior Jazzercise with Pam Veitch, hula dancing by the Island Dance Company, "Songs of the Sea" by Ray Owens, Dingbat the Clown, Mr. Magic, and Philip the Juggler. Try your luck at NASCAR with Redneck Racing and show off your talent in the jump rope, hula-hoop and limbo stick contests! There will also be volleyball, kids sand boxes, games, prizes, fire truck hose downs by the LVFD, face painting, arts and crafts, classic and antique cars, food, and much more! Call the Town Office at 301-475-9791 for performance schedule or additional details. *No rain date.*

“L’il” Margaret’s Bluegrass & Old Time Music Festival

For great Bluegrass and old time country music, come on out to this annual music festival, August 11th-13th, located at the Goddard Farm on Fairgrounds Road. Lots of fun and entertainment, classic cars, arts and crafts and home cooked food! Admission. Call 301-475-8191 for schedule and more information.



Fall Follies on the Square

Looking for handmade arts and crafts, pottery, ceramics, baskets, wood carvings, stained glass, jewelry, quilts or paintings? Find these and more at “Fall Follies” on Saturday, September 10th, from 10 AM-3 PM in the Leonardtown Square. Various artisans will also provide demonstrations throughout the day. Other attractions include face painting, fingerprinting by the Maryland State Police, and food! The Crafts Guild of St. Mary’s County sponsors this annual crafts festival. For more information call 301-997-1644. *Rain date: Sunday, September 11th.*



Light the Night Walk

The 7th Southern Maryland “Light the Night Walk” to support the Maryland Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society will be held on Saturday, September 17th at the Governmental Center, beginning at 5 PM. For registration and details, contact Tracey Guy at 301-769-4318.

St. Mary’s County Fair

Celebrate St. Mary’s rural life and heritage at the St. Mary’s County Fair, September 22nd-25th – a tradition upheld by the St. Mary’s County Fair Association since 1947. Home arts, garden, crafts, agriculture, livestock, 4-H exhibits, contests, entertainment, carnival attractions, food, and more! See the fair parade on Saturday. Admission. 301-475-2256.



Health Connections Van in Town

The Health Connections Outreach Center Van offers free blood pressure screenings the second Wednesday of each month from Noon-3 PM in the Town Square! Upcoming days are July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12. For more information, call Health Connections at 301-475-6019.

Veterans Day Parade Now Forming

It’s time to enter your marching group or float in Leonardtown’s annual Veterans Day Parade taking place on Friday, November 11th! For details and to receive a parade entry form, contact the Town Office at 301-475-9791 or Tom Warren, the Parade Organizer at tom_warren55@hotmail.com.



8th Annual St. Mary’s County Festival of Trees Plans Decorating Competition

Make plans to partake in the St. Mary’s County Festival of Trees! You can support the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad by donating a decorated tree or wreath for the silent auction. Do you have any photographs of buildings, landmarks, or other time-altering events of Leonardtown or St. Mary’s County? Please consider sharing them during the Festival of Trees. This event will be held November 25th – 27th at the Bell Motor Co. Show Room. For details, contact Johnny Coombs at 301-475-2209 or Dudley Lindsley at 301-373-2551.

Get your Bicycle in Shape!

Summer is a great time to get outside and hop on your bicycle! For safety, check the tires for cracking or dry rotting, tubes for leaks, rims for balance, gearing, crank bolt tightness, proper seat adjustment, and reflectors on both wheels and the back seat. Remember that Maryland law requires anyone under the age of 16 to wear a helmet. It is also a good idea to wear tennis shoes or cycling shoes, and be sure the laces are tied so they don’t get caught in the gearing or wheels! Now you’re ready to enjoy historic Leonardtown via bicycle! For your convenience while shopping or dining, a bike rack is available in the grassy area between Jeannie’s Flower Shop and the County Seat Deli.

Town Events offer Opportunities for Volunteers & Performers

Volunteering at Town events is a great opportunity for high school students to earn required community service credits, and have fun too! Town events also provide a great venue to debut your talent!! If you would like to volunteer or participate in any of the Town’s events, contact Linda Shepherd at 301-475-9791 or e-mail linda.shepherd@verizon.net.

Mayor

J. Harry Norris, III

Town Council

Walter R. Gillette, *Vice President*
Charles R. Faunce
J. Maguire “Mock” Mattingly III
Leslie E. Roberts
Walter Wise

Town Office Staff

Laschelle Miller, *Town Administrator*
Rebecca Sothoron, *Treasurer*
Colleen Bonnel, *Planner*
Jackie Post, *Fiscal Clerk*
Teresa Myers, *Secretary*
Linda Shepherd, *Public Relations & Events Coordinator*
Barbara Dotson, *Grants Writer*
Mark Grant, *Capital Project Coordinator*

Utilities Staff

John “Jay” Johnson, *Superintendent*
Timmy Lacey, *Asst. Superintendent*
William Shreve, *Plant Operator*
Alina Gatton, *Lab Technician*

Planning & Zoning Commission

Jean Moulds, *Chair*
Frank Fearn, *Vice-Chair*
John “Jack” Candela
Tom Collier
Gary Simpson

Board of Appeals

Dr. Herbert Winnick, *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. Upcoming meetings: July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12

Planning Commission – 3rd Monday of each month @ 3:30 p.m. in the Town Office. Upcoming meetings: July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19

Leonardtown Business Association – 2nd Wednesday of each month, with alternating times and locations. Upcoming meetings: July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9 Dec. 14

Town E-Mail:

Leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net

Town Website

Leonardtown.somd.com

Let's sample the savory selections beginning with the historic downtown Leonardtown Square.

French Cuisine

"Café des Artistes" offers a casual, relaxing atmosphere of culinary masterpieces, lunch and dinner specials and Sunday brunch. The Café is located at the corner of Washington and Fenwick Streets, in the building that is also known as Duke's Fountain-Bar-Restaurant. Built in the 1920's, the building housed, at various times, a bowling alley, movie theatre, restaurant, grocery store, Greyhound bus depot, and auto showroom. Café owners Loic and Karleen Jaffres came to Leonardtown in 1999. Chef Loic recently received certification of his induction into the Academie Culinaire de France, and is on his way to becoming a Master Chef. Weekend piano playing is also enjoyed at **"Café des Artistes"** by such artists as Randy Richie and Lissi Deer, with monthly performances by the Gretchen Richie Jazz Cabaret and others. Bon Appetit! To make reservations, call the **"Café des Artistes"** at 301-997-0500 or go on-line www.cafedesartistes.ws



Delectable Entrees

Also in the Town Square, don't miss out on **"Nook and Monks"** Restaurant. This restaurant is located at 22695 Washington Street in what used to be part of the Fenwick Hotel (also known as the Union Hotel prior to the Civil War, later the Washington Hotel and Lawrence's Hotel.) In 1944, the hotel caught fire, but much of the old hotel building remains to this day. Before operating as a restaurant, the building was occupied by the New Theater. **"Nook and Monks"** is owned by Jennifer Swann, and is open Monday-Saturday for lunch and dinner, featuring daily specials, fine entrees and desserts, and monthly wine dinners. They are also open for Sunday brunch. The chef's signature entrée is jumbo shrimp with crab imperial! Renovations are being made to the old movie theater section, which is planned for banquets, music venues, and theatrical productions. Contact **"Nook and Monks"** at 301-475-3020 or on-line at www.nookandmonks.com.



Leonardtown Offers a Variety of Restaurants

Leonardtown is known for its "old fashioned charm" and uphold this standard, and are committed to providing you with a variety of dining options.

Ice Cream Fantasies

"Carousel's" has a reputation of being the Town's favorite ice cream parlor. Located at 22697 Washington Street, the parlor is also situated in the old hotel building where many will remember Cross' Barbershop and Aggie's Dress Shop. Specializing in premium ice cream flavors, banana splits, and cool smoothies, **"Carousel's"** also offers a variety of soups and sandwiches. The Town Square location can be reached at 301-475-2388. Due to the shop's popularity, owners Ronnie and Starr Thompson, are also opening a **"Carousel's"** in Leonardtown Centre at 40955 Merchant's Lane. You can contact that location by calling 301-997-0167.



Classic Sandwiches and Wraps

Opening this past May at 22696 Washington Street, is the **"County Seat"**. According to the owners, Jeff and Donna Gagnon, the deli was named to identify Leonardtown as the county seat for St. Mary's County. Serving up specialty sandwiches and wraps with a Town flair, the **"County Seat"** is sure to delight any lunch go-er – the only place to go for a "Tudor Hall" Reuben! The **"County Seat"** is open Monday-Saturday 7 AM-3 PM, and also serves breakfast! Eat in or call 301-997-0097 and place your carryout order!



Pizza and Subs

Pizza, pasta, salads and subs, plus an all-you-can eat buffet can be found at **"Four Star"** on 22785 Washington Street. Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, the pizzeria is situated on the corner lot of Washington and Shadrick Streets, just before you enter the Town Square. The White Hall House once stood on this location and was home to the Dillow family. Come in and relax or call for delivery right to your door! **"Four Star"** can be reached at 301-475-1600.



It is recommended that you contact the restaurants in advance to inquire of specific days and times they are open to the public. We are confident you will enjoy your dining experience and the hospitality offered by our Leonardtown restaurants! Bring your family and an appetite to Leonardtown – your taste buds will be glad you did!



Society of Dining Possibilities!

friendly people. Restaurants and eateries in Town certainly with a friendly atmosphere and enjoyable dining experience!

Coffee House Brews

"Brewing Grounds" coffee shop is located at 41658 Fenwick Street. Gourmet coffees, lattes and teas will satisfy those java cravings in a cozy, comfortable atmosphere! Operated by Rene and Gisela Ramos, **"Brewing Grounds"** also offers breakfast platters and fresh baked pastries. Lunch includes signature sandwiches, soup, and salads. Their number is 301-475-8040.



Country Style

"Linda's Café" expects to open later this fall in the downtown building that was vacated by the CVS Pharmacy on Washington Street. In addition to the well-known café Linda Palchinsky operates in Lexington Park, she will perk up your day featuring breakfast omelettes and waffles, lunch and dinner specials, plus delicious homemade desserts (like blueberry cobbler) in the Town location. Visit **"Linda's Café"** online at www.lindacafe.com.

Surf and Turf

Just south of the Town limits at 24509 Point Lookout Road, is historic **"The Willows Restaurant"**. Constructed in the 1920's by John Wilkinson, the building was named "The Willows" in honor of the graceful willow trees surrounding the property, and has enjoyed a reputation as one of the most respected and longest existing restaurants in the County. For the past 10 years, John Nucci has owned the restaurant, serving lunch and dinner specialties, including Willows Duck, seafood entrees and John's favorite Cheddar Crab soup. **"The Willows Restaurant"** can be reached at 301-475-6553 or on line at somid.com/mp/willows/.



The Willows
RESTAURANT & TAVERN

English Tea Room Elegance

Just north of Town on 26005 Point Lookout Road, is **"The Tea Room at The Maryland Antique Center"**. Open for lunch, the **"Tea Room"** features salads, quiche, sandwiches, desserts, and a generous variety of specialty teas. Their latest blend is a refreshingly cool bubble tea. **"Tea Room"** owner Crystal Brasel recommends you call 301-475-1980 for lunch reservations. Reservations are required for afternoon teas. Guests are welcome to browse the Maryland Antique Center during their visit.



The Tea Room

At the
Maryland
Antique
Center

Continuing north from the Town Square, more family favorites can be found at the Leonardtown Centre and the Shops at Breton Bay, located on Merchants Lane. These include:

Catch of the Day

Looking for hot steamed crabs, spiced shrimp or fresh rockfish? Check out **"Crab Knockers" Seafood Market**, where fresh seafood is available for your unique recipes, or they will cook it for you! Take-out only, the market also has soup and sides. They will be glad to fix up a tasty seafood platter or cater your next party! Owned by Mike and Mary Simmons for 16 years, **"Crab Knockers"** is located in Leonardtown Centre and can be reached at 301-475-7830.



Italian Fare

Matt Kulp looks to open **"Arizona Pizza"** later this fall in Leonardtown Centre in the building previously occupied by Perkins. **"Arizona Pizza"** is a casual dining restaurant designed with a Southwestern theme, where the food is served in an entertaining, relaxing and fun-filled atmosphere. Serving lunch and dinner, the **"Arizona Pizza"** menu will feature gourmet and traditional wood-fired pizzas, as well as a wide selection of appetizers, pasta dishes, calzones, strombolis, sandwiches, and salads.



Chinese Delights

The **"Happy Dragon" Chinese Restaurant**, in Leonardtown Centre, offers a variety of dinner combinations, as well as a banquet room. Dine in or carry out, their number is 301-475-9695.

The **"Hong Kong" Chinese Buffet & Restaurant**, in the Shops at Breton Bay, offers a menu and an All-You-Can-Eat buffet with over 60 items daily. Call 301-475-8608 for reservations or take out orders.



Fast Food Favorites

- **"Subway"**, makings subs "as you like it" with fresh-baked breads!
- **"Pizza Hut"** carryout! Simply call in your order at 301-475-2700 and pick up!
- **"McDonalds"** burgers and fries, with a playroom for the youngsters!
- **"Papa Johns"** pizza lovers can call 301-475-6600 for eat-in, carry-out, or delivery.
- **"KFC" & "Taco Bell"**, fried chicken and tacos!
- **"Wendy's"** burgers, salads and sandwiches!
- **"Arby's"** roast beef, sandwiches, and salads.

Summer 2005



Community Highlights

Earth Day Celebration on the Square

A beautiful April day set the stage for the best-ever Earth Day Celebration in Town! A big thank-you to our performers, the Bushwood Mill Band, Fortune's Turn, Joe Norris, Blonde Ambition, the Thistle Dancers, and the Bahirah Bay Mid-East Dancers. Many thanks also to all participants who volunteered their time providing yoga, seated massages, face painting, spinning, weaving, classic cars, animal welfare, nature, environmental, farm, gardening, and recycling services. Excellent job by Randy Richie, our program emcee, and Valerie Deptula, LBA Earth Day Committee Chair!



Learning the Maypole Dance, organized by Lucy Peterkin, was a popular activity at the Town's **Earth Day Celebration on the Square!**



Michael Patterson from Cosca Regional Park fascinated spectators at Leonardtown's **Earth Day Celebration** with this eagle demonstration supplied by Clearwater Nature Center's Live Birds of Prey and sponsored by Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust.



Over 1,500 participants joined in the **10th Annual Run & Fun Walk for Hospice** on Saturday, April 9th, raising over \$38,000 to benefit Hospice of St. Mary's. See race results on line at www.runforhospice.org.



This 1931 Ford tudor sedan, owned by Jim Goddard of Leonardtown, was one of over 175 classic and antique cars on display around the Town Square during the **St. Mary's Rod & Classic's Annual Spring Fling** on April 24th.

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Pedal, pedal, pedal! Even the youngsters enjoyed "Kids Races" at the **10th Annual Leonardtown Criterium** on May 15th! The Patuxent Velo Bicycle Racing Club sponsors this popular event, which attracts over 200 cyclists from the Mid-Atlantic region each year!



Congratulations to Super Stock Division winner Michael Danko and Stock Division winner Cody Reiter, **2005 Southern Maryland Soap Box Derby Champs!** Michael and Cody were recognized at the June 13th Town Council meeting, and are pictured with Mayor Norris, Stuart Ashton, President of the Lexington Parks Lions Club, and Barbara Horn, CEO of Cedar Point Federal Credit Union. The Council commends all the youth who competed in the local **Southern Maryland Soap Box Derby** on June 11th, and applaud the Lexington Park Lions Club for sponsoring another successful Derby!

Celebrating a ribbon cutting on March 9th, **Z Boutique LLC** features designer special occasion gowns, suits, dresses, shoes, purses and accessories. Owner and Custom Clothier, Sonia Zidzik, and her sales staff can help you find the perfect look for your special occasion. Z Boutique is located inside the Olde Towne Properties Building on 22720 Washington Street.



The Plumbing and HAV class from the Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center toured Leonardtown's Wastewater Treatment Plant facility on May 19th. Accompanied by their teacher Drew Ecelberger and Vocational Support Team Member Bill Sento, the students learned about the operation and maintenance of the Town's treatment process, new technology in place to help protect our environmental system and near-by streams, and job opportunities in the growing field of wastewater treatment technology. This annual facility tour was conducted by John Johnson, Utilities Superintendent, and assisted by William Shreve, Plant Operator.

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Airika Johnson, Jamica Pickeral, Emily Grusholt, Samantha Gannon, Katey Benish, Katie Clausius, Taylor Wood, and Katlyn Peck, members of Junior Girl Scout Troop 182, were commended by the Town Council on April 11th for their volunteer commitment at Leonardtown events, especially Christmas on the Square and Earth Day, over the past several years. (Not pictured is Megan Switick.) The troop has been in existence since 2001 under the leadership of Donna Grusholt, formerly of Leonardtown.



Thanks to Stephanie Hey of Girl Scout Troop 1767, there is a Leonardtown self-guided tour brochure designed for elementary and middle school children. Stephanie was congratulated for her scout project at the April 11th Town Council meeting.

Copies of the brochure may be obtained by contacting the Town Office.



Chartered on April 23, 1940, the Leonardtown Lions Club recently celebrated the 65th Anniversary of their founding and charter from Lions Clubs International.

During the celebration, Town Councilman Mock Mattingly presented a proclamation to the Lions, which was accepted by Club President, Mike Payne. Over the next couple of months, members will be cleaning and lighting the WWI Monument in the Town Square. Other projects include the annual St. Mary's County Crab Festival and Christmas Gifts for the Needy. To join the Leonardtown Lions Club call 301-475-3302.

St. Mary's County Historical Society Announces Summer Hours

The historic Tudor Hall Mansion is open Tuesdays – Fridays, 9 AM-4 PM and Saturdays 10 AM-4 PM. The Research Center is open Thursdays & Fridays, 12:00 Noon-4 PM and Saturdays 10 AM-4 PM. The Old Jail Museum is currently open on Thursdays, 12 Noon-2 PM. Call 301-475-2467 for more information or to volunteer.

Mosquitoes Will Bite the Hand That Feeds Them!



Summer is here, and mosquitoes are out! The Town provides mosquito spray services for residents and businesses within its corporate limits, in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control Program. The program relies on surveys and monitoring of the larval and adult mosquito populations to coordinate control activities. Prevention is the best method of keeping mosquitoes from breeding and biting. To shun from mosquito bites, take the following precautions:

- Avoid outdoor activities at dawn and early evening.
- Wear light-colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants outdoors.
- Apply insect repellent when going outside, following package instructions.
- Use fine-mesh screen on windows and doors.
- Avoid mosquito-infested areas such as marshes and wetlands.

Mosquitoes can breed in as little as 1/4" of water, and eliminating sites that serve as breeding areas for mosquito larvae is very beneficial. To help reduce mosquito annoyance in your yard and reduce the risk of mosquito-borne diseases, such as the West Nile virus, drain standing water from items such as plant holders, tarps, grill covers, garbage cans, lids, pails, wheelbarrows, etc. You should also change water in birdbaths at least once a week and remove pet food and water from unused dishes. Ditches that contain stagnant water can produce large numbers of mosquitoes and should be reported to the Mosquito Control Office.

For more information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, or Maryland's mosquito control program, contact the Mosquito Control Program for Southern Maryland at 301-373-4263 or go on-line www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/mosquito_control/.

The Town welcomes Dung Ross as the Deputy assigned to Leonardtown for community policing during the upcoming summer months. Stop and say hello when you meet him on the streets!



Join the Leonardtown Business Association

The Leonardtown Business Association (LBA) strives to bring people into Leonardtown and promote business in Leonardtown. This is done mainly through cooperative efforts, promotions, and Town events. Members receive monthly updates on what's happening in Leonardtown, and can participate in advertising specials. Contact Dan Burris, LBA President, at 301-475-3151 or danburris@danburris.com.

Property Tax Bills

The Town Treasurer anticipates that Leonardtown property tax bills will be mailed by the end of July. The tax rate is unchanged at \$.15 per \$100 of assessment. If you pay taxes to a mortgage escrow account, please forward a copy of your tax bill to them.

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

The Commissioners of Leonardtown are not required to mail the 2004 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to the Town's residents. However, the report will be available to the public on July 1, 2005, and if you would like to request a copy, please contact the Town Office.

Moratorium on Using Town Fire Hydrants for Pool Water

Currently, there is a moratorium on obtaining water for pools from the Town's fire hydrants. If you see any vehicles retrieving water from any of the Town's fire hydrants, please contact the Town Office immediately at 301-475-9791.

The Office of the Leonardtown Commissioners will be closed in observance of upcoming 2005 Holidays:

July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 24	Thanksgiving Day
November 25	Day after Thanksgiving
December 26	Christmas holiday



Town Tidbits

Water Conservation

“Together we can conserve water”! By making simple changes in our daily routines, we can all contribute to protecting this precious resource for future generations:

- Water your lawn early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation.
- Don't over-water your lawn.
- Operate full loads in the dishwasher and clothes washer.
- Turn off water while washing dishes by hand, brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Use a broom, rather than a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- Use a cover to reduce the loss of water through evaporation on your swimming pool.
- Repair dripping faucets and leaky toilets.
- Keep your shower under 5 minutes.

To obtain a copy of the MD Dept. of the Environment's Water Conservation Facts Sheet, contact the Town Office.

Trash Pickup and Recycling

Residential trash pickups are scheduled every Tuesday and Friday. Please have your trash in acceptable 30-gallon cans with lids, or cans on wheels. Bagged trash set on the ground is also acceptable. To guarantee collection, trash should be set out by 6:00 AM on the day of pick-up.

The next **quarterly bulk trash** pickup is scheduled for Friday, September 2nd.

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

Waste Management will observe the following holidays, and pickups will run a day behind for those weeks:

- Independence Day, Monday, July 4th.
- Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5th.
- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24th.

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

Water, Sewer and Trash Charges

Beginning July 1, 2005, quarterly residential utility charges are as follows:

Water	\$ 51.29
Sewer	\$ 76.77
Bay Restoration Fee	\$ 7.50
Trash	\$ 46.97
	\$ 182.53

The trash component increased by \$4.97 per quarter. With the exception of an increase in the landfill tipping fees in January 2004, trash rates have remained the same over the last three years. Water and sewer rates are higher by 2% as prescribed by Leonardtown ordinance. The Bay Fee is unchanged as set by the State of Maryland.

Charges for commercial customers vary by level of service. If you are a commercial customer, you may call the Town office at 301-475-9791 to discuss how the new charges will affect your account.

These new rates will appear on the bill you will receive on September 30, 2005.

Lawns Neat & Trim

With the unusual amount of rain this spring, maintenance of grass and weeds will require a little extra effort this summer. Please remember to check your lot for trimming of grass and bushes so visibility to the street is not being blocked.

Canoe & Kayak Ramp at Port of Leonardtown



Looking for a place to launch your canoe or kayak and enjoy the wildlife too? Check out the launch ramp located at the Port of Leonardtown! McIntosh Run provides the beginning waterway for this relaxing sport and your trip will end on Breton Bay at the Leonardtown Wharf area! The Port of Leonardtown is situated at the old State Highway Garage property nestled between Point Lookout Road and Compton Road. The launch area was made possible with grant funds from the Department of Natural Resources. Future plans for this area include hiking trails, park and picnic areas, and public facilities.

Learn More About Leonardtown's History

“A Most Convenient Place”, written by Aleck Loker of Leonardtown, captures a comprehensive history of Leonardtown between 1650–1950. Also available, is a color print of the *Leonardtown Mural*, which depicts a progression of life in Town during the first half of the 20th Century. Copies are available in the Town Office or at several local businesses. Call 301-475-9791 for details.



What Are Our Residents Asking?

Do I Need a Permit to install a Property Fence?

A permit is not normally required for the installation of a fence. However, an environmental permit is required for property in the Critical Area if trees are to be removed. It is advisable to be certain of your property lines by having them marked by a licensed surveyor. It is also a good idea to install a fence a short distance from property lines to avoid ownership disputes and facilitate maintenance. If a Homeowners Association exists in the community, HOA approval is required. Fencing requirements do apply to swimming pools - please contact the Town Office for specifics.

What Home Improvements Require Permits?

Home improvement projects, including sheds, decks, swimming pools, construction of a pier, room additions and additional living space do require a building permit. Town residents should contact Colleen Bonnel, Town Planner at 301-475-9791 to obtain a building permit before making their exciting and new additions!

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 to: leonardtown.commissioners@verizon.net

Leonardtown BEACON

Commissioners of Leonardtown

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