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WHAT YOU READ  
IN THE BEACON

# St. Mary's Beacon

THE COUNTY  
NEWSPAPER  
SINCE 1839

118TH YEAR, 36TH WEEK

LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND, Thursday, September 4, 1958

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## Editor's Memo

By BILL GAIL

**PROFESSIONAL B L A B B E R - M O U T H !** That's what a newspaper man can be called. He gets paid for blabbing what he knows. AND—the more he can aid ALL people by his information, the more he usually gets paid; both in cash and in personal satisfaction. SO—when anybody asks a blabbermouth to hold back a story, he is in effect asking for the loan of a ten-spot or asking that the writer yield his personal integrity. The money's not so hard—but integrity is hard to come by.

To state a fact and then say: "That's off the record," does not in any way obligate an individual not to repeat what he has heard. Once something has been pronounced it is the sheerest treachery to ask a reporter to hold it back.

Now as to what Bill Gail feels: I will recognize no "off-the-record" remarks because I am not in business to keep secrets; I am in business to spread information. In doing so, I will do my very utmost to make sure the "news" is presented truthfully and in a well-rounded manner fair to all. In no case will I withhold a story which I feel falls in the category of "news."

My definition of this difficult-to-pin-down commodity?

Any event arousing interest in the general public. Such events would include fires, accidents, births, deaths, weddings, wars, money, weather and politics.

This policy is pronounced because I believe that by following it I maintain the dignity of my profession and I not only help myself, but I help YOU!



QUEEN—Pert Virginia Schultz, 19, of Annapolis, will reign over the 1958 state Truck Safety Roadshow as Maryland's "Miss Highway Safety."

Deputy William Sanner reported that Hodges was discovered by Coast Guard Chief Everett L. McMahon, who is assigned to the Coast Guard Search and Rescue Vessel Cherokee, presently tied up at the Piney Point station.

McMahon, with his crew mates Chief William C. Aycock, Ward V. Keltz, HM-1, and Jerry R. Sandy, SK-1, immediately began to give artificial respiration to the unconscious man and sent out a call for police. Dr. P. J. Bean and State Tyroper Charles Herrman answered the call along with Deputy Bill Sanner. The men continued respiration until the arrival of the Lexington Park Rescue Squad. When it became apparent that only respiration could keep the victim breathing, the four Coast Guardsmen trained in rescue techniques accompanied him in the ambulance to St. Mary's Hospital. Deputy Sanner reported the men even continued to work on Hodges until he was placed in bed. He was pronounced dead at the hospital, only a few minutes after his arrival.

Walker, a Coast Guard on the tug Apalachee, was arrested after Deputy Sanner questioned members of his crew. The Cherokee operates out of Norfolk and the Apalachee out of Baltimore.

Deputy Sanner ordered the youth held for questioning. He was later identified as James Hall, who was vacationing in the county from New York where he is reportedly employed, and was charged in the crime.

Later Sunday afternoon, Deputy Sanner and Corporal John Koonitz flushed out of the woods near Esperanza Road another youth who said he had been with the second burglar a short time before. He was not charged.

Keeping the highways and the road under scrutiny, the officers spied Lynch near the Two Spot Club and gave chase on foot, but it would not start.

When Deputy Sanner arrived, he found the side doors of the building open and the office safe missing.

Three State Troopers joined the deputy, blocked off the road and began searching for the thieves. The car was found abandoned near a home on Esperanza Road. Mrs. Louise Smith said she saw some men run into the nearby woods. The law enforcement officers towed the car back to Patuxent Motors.

About 4:30 a.m., a youth drove up in another vehicle and demanded the return of his automobile. He told police he had left the car on Esperanza Road when it would not start.

Deputy Sanner ordered the youth held for questioning. He was later identified as James Hall, who was vacationing in the county from New York where he is reportedly employed, and was charged in the crime.

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## School Starts Sessions with Integration of 2

### Father of Five Dies After Beating; Hold Guardsman, 21

A desperate race against death ended in a murder charge Wednesday morning when William Beverly Hodges, 33, father of five children, was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Mary's Hospital.

Charged with murder is 21-year-old David Earl Walker, USCG, of Corbin, Ky.

For several hours, four Coast Guardsmen labored in vain to pump life into the body of the brutally beaten tugboat man with artificial respiration. They continued their efforts in an ambulance along the 15 miles of winding road from Piney Point to Leonardtown.

Hodges, a Stewart Transportation Company employee at Piney Point, was found unconscious and bleeding from multiple head injuries in the front seat of his car on the Coast Guard station grounds at Piney Point shortly before 3 a.m.

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### Crab Production On the Upswing

Maryland crab production is now on the upswing following a slow start, and the Tidewater Fisheries Commission said it could exceed last year's output.

Production of hard crabs in July, according to Chairman John P. Taves, totaled 6,209,680 pounds, nearly a million pounds more than in June and 575,413 pounds more than in July of last year.

Further consideration will be given a petition submitted by owners of property in "Hollywood Shores" asking the county to assume control of the roads there.

Joseph Newlin, president of the Hollywood Shores Civic Association has informed commissioners there are 300 lots and 20 houses in the area.

Road Engineer Bond said he can committee, where he charged angrily that "We are seeing a situation without precedent, where the Republicans leaders are fighting tooth and toenail to keep their own candidate off the ballot."

Although Guyther's withdrawal on the last possible day definitely dropped him from the race, the Democratic State Central Committee was expected to try to name a candidate to represent the party before its deadline of Sept. 10.

Guyther said that he decided to withdraw from the race "after considering the amount of work required to reorganize the State's Attorney's office and planning the way it should be done."

He added: "I decided to withdraw after seeing that it would be impossible to take the office with its present work load and operate it efficiently and properly while at the same time continue my law practice. The salary of the State's Attorney, \$3,000 a year, would make it impossible for me to devote full time to the job."

### County Commission Approves Roads; Court House Builder Fails To Act

A schedule of contemplated road construction for 1959 has been prepared and submitted to the state by St. Mary's County Commissioners who say it probably will not be made available to the public until after the November election.

Commissioners Leonard S. Alvey, Ernest Stone, and C. Byron Guy, pointed out Tuesday that knowledge of road plans might make some voters unhappy if they learned their roads were not scheduled for improvement.

Preparation of the list was made last week in an executive (closed door) session with Douglas Bond, state road engineer.

Permission was granted Tuesday for another executive session with Larry Millison and Ralph Cheser after the two Lexington Park business men asked that they be allowed to meet "in private" with the commissioners. The nature of their discussion was not announced.

Tip to Write Dean Court House architect Frederick Tip, who can't collect his pay until the building has been accepted, agreed to write to Merrell M. Dean, contractor, explaining that the list of corrections prepared in the building had been approved by himself, not "the county commissioners and Billy Sterling" as Dean claimed in a story last week in this paper.

Several items, which all felt Dean should correct as a matter of "pride of workmanship" were pointed out by Tip, including a window in which the sash is installed upside down and a boiler room floor which is several inches lower than the drain and constitutes "a danger from electrical shock to anyone working in the area."

Tip indicated his feeling that Dean was not going to make the corrections. He has been given until Friday to do so by the commissioners who have informed Dean if he does not, they will hire another contractor and use \$1,000 still owing him to make the corrections set up by Tip.

More Schools School board officials Robert Wigginton and Robert E. King, appeared to lay the ground-work for two new buildings which feel are needed and for which funds should be provided in next year's budget. They said they are seeking sites for one school in the Seventh District and another at Charlotte Hill.

Supt. King explained that Mechanicsville school is the most over-crowded building, in the county, and cannot be used to solve the need for a school in the Seventh District.

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He is survived by a son, Robert Leo, Jr., and his wife.

### County Voters May Register Sept. 9 and 16

Registration of new county voters will take place Sept. 9 and 16 in the nine election districts. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Locations of registrars are as follows: First District—Ridge Fire House, Second District—Cecil's Store, Valley Lee.

Third District (Precinct 1)—Leonardtown Fire House. (Precinct 2)—First National Bank Building.

Fourth District—Chapline Garage, Chapline. Fifth District—Mechanicsville Fire House. Sixth District—Norris Store, Hollywood.

Seventh District—American Legion Hall, Avenue. Eighth District—Lexington Park Fire House. Ninth District—St. George Island Imp. Association Hall, St. George Island.

### Hospital to Ask Air-Conditioning Needs In Move to Meet License Requirements

The State Health Department will be asked specific instructions on what equipment is needed to bring the infant nurseries in St. Mary's Hospital up to licensing requirements, according to Merrell M. Dean, president of the hospital's board of directors.

Dean told the hospital's Ladies Auxiliary, which has earmarked money for nursery air conditioning, "that he doubted whether half or three-quarter ton units designed for home and office use would be satisfactory."

One of eight requirements laid down by the State board that the hospital must meet before it receives a license is that the nurseries "be equipped with control for atmospheric conditions."

The auxiliary, which has offered to pay for the cost and installation of required equipment, were told by Dean that room air conditioners which do not adjust automatically to changing outside weather conditions might prove more a hazard than a help.

"Newborn babies rarely cannot be subjected to the extreme cold which might occur if a room air conditioner were left running for several hours should outside temperature changes occur," Dean said. "My personal feeling is that whatever air conditioners are required should include a thermostat control."

Other business at the monthly September meeting included the following nominating committee, appointed by Auxiliary President, Mrs. Hume Peabody: Mrs. William Hayden, Mrs. Mildred Jones and Mrs. Lillian Cryer.

The auxiliary will hold a rummage and bake sale on Oct. 10 and 11 in Leonardtown.

### Eight Injured in Four Auto Crashes As County Escapes Holiday Fatalities

Eight were hospitalized in four traffic smash-ups in St. Mary's County over the Labor Day weekend, but no fatalities occurred here during the holiday which traditionally booms the nation's toll of automobile deaths.

The worst accident of the weekend sent five to the hospital in the early hours of Sunday morning when two cars collided broadside at the intersection of St. James Road and Route 285.

State Police said that a car driven by Raymond F. Chase, 38, of Lexington Park pulled into Route 235 in front of another vehicle driven by Richard G. Coyne, 29, N.A.S.

A passenger in Chase's car, two passengers in Coyne's car, and the two drivers were thrown from the cars on the impact, which totally destroyed both automobiles.

Chase and his wife, Sarah, were taken to St. Mary's Hospital by the Lexington Park Rescue Squad. He was later transferred to Freedman's Hospital in Washington, with a fractured left arm and a possible fracture of the skull. Mrs. Chase was reported suffering from fractured ribs and scalp lacerations.

### Jury List Drawn For Court Term Starting Sept. 15

The following jurors were drawn by Circuit Court Judge Philip H. Dorsey, Jr., on Aug. 28, in accordance with the Acts of the General Assembly. They will serve in the September-March term of Circuit Court, which begins Sept. 15.

First District—Rose Leona Bradburn, Myrtle Bush, Warren P. Owens, James E. Peacock, Elizabeth M. Messick, Stephen M. Bradford.

Second District—Robert B. Swann, James H. Davis, Ernest G. Dickey. Third District—Charles R. Tunman, Kenneth B. Duke, Killian Lashchait, Jr., J. Marion Gough, Wiley Hartwell, Elsie Woodburn, Nellie Miles, Leroy McNeely, Thomas Tippet.

Fourth District—James B. Beavens, George Thomas, Wallace Yowalski, William E. Gough, Jr. Fifth District—Benjamin H. Burroughs, Sr., C. Leo Evans, W. Raymond Quade, Herman O. Wood.

Sixth District—Bernard Barber, F. Woodrow Hill, Hamilton Buckler, Wilson Butler, Manley L. Joy, Francis R. Hayden. Seventh District—George E. Lacey, Samuel M. Bailey, Jr., George McWilliams, Jr., J. Herman Gass, Irving Owens, George H. Welby.

Eighth District—Llene Henderson, J. Rodman Tension, Esther Himmelfarb, Luther Tarleton, Belle Leink, Edsel Potter, Ralph Chesser, Thomas K. Clarke, Howard Dyanon. Ninth District—John Shaffer.

Officials Expect Assessing Notice To Help Taxpayer New forms with a fuller explanation of assessing policy are now being prepared for use in St. Mary's County.

"Many people do not understand the present form," say assessors Ralph Abel and William Herbert, "and we expect the new valuation is placed when a land transfer takes place."

The new owner is notified and can appear at a set date before the County Commissioners if he is not satisfied with his assessment.

Assessors Abel and Herbert said there are approximately 1200 land transfers each year.

Placing special emphasis on the treatment of farm land, they pointed out that such land must be assessed according to its use. That is, although it might appear very valuable for other uses, if it is used for farming, it is assessed on that basis.

### Schools Seek Better Accreditation; Board OK's Friday Dances at Ridge

Highlights of the county school board meeting held last week were:

• Consideration of a request by architect Frederick Tip that skylights and a signaling system be added to the Town Creek School now under construction. Board members feel that if this is to be done, additional bids should probably be secured.

• Accepted a change in specifications for Margaret Brent home economics equipment. Use of steel equipment will provide a savings of \$600.

• Heard Supt. Robert E. King, Jr., state: school buses "are in excellent shape" ... increased size may force the system into using machine bookkeeping with a cost currently estimated at \$8,000 ... this is to be studied more, with reference to Charles County ... a music teacher is needed for Margaret Brent and two special education teachers.

• Board meetings will be held at various County schools, with the next one to be at Mechanicsville, Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 1:30.

• Giving permission to the Church of the Nazarene for a picnic Labor Day at Great Mills elementary school.

• Granting approval for dances each Friday night at the Ridge School, sponsored by the PTA and well-chaperoned; also giving permission for a PTA-sponsored Boy Scout troop.

• Awarding the bus insurance contract to Nationwide Co., lowest bidder of two firms (seven were asked to bid), for \$1,596.

• SEEK UPGRADING Evaluation of Great Mills and Bancker high schools will take place during the next year by officials of Middle States, accrediting agency. In 1961 Leonardtown, George Washington Carver, and Margaret Brent high schools will be reviewed.

To help prepare for this visit, state officials will come to the county this year and evaluate Great Mills and Bancker. Supt. King pointed out that all five schools are fully accredited by the Maryland Department of Education but it would be an advantage to also be recognized by Middle States.

Present at the meeting, in addition to the superintendent, were Robert Wigginton, Clarence Young, and Mrs. Grace Knight.

### Judge Refuses to Stay Order Opening High School to Negro

A Federal judge refused Tuesday to allow the St. Mary's County Board of Education a stay of the court order that granted a 16-year-old Negro girl admission to Great Mills high school as school bells ring out for 5,400 public school students in St. Mary's County and an undetermined number of parochial students who are returning to classrooms.

Judge Simon E. Sobeloff declined to give his reasons for his decision, but said he would try to arrange for a speedy hearing on the County's appeal of last week's ruling by Judge Roszel E. Thomsen.

Judge Thomsen ordered that Joan Elaine Groves be admitted to Great Mills, although the County's plan for gradual desegregation stops at the ninth grade this year.

Miss Groves' brother, Thomas Conrad Groves, was earlier accepted into the ninth grade at Great Mills by the board under its integration program. He was then dropped from the suit entered by their father, William Groves of California, requesting his children's admission into the all-white school.

Robert E. King, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, said Tuesday that "we have to admit" Miss Groves pending the results of the case before the Circuit Court of Appeals.

If the Groves youngsters show up at the opening of school Thursday, it will mark the first Negroes ever to attend a white public school in St. Mary's County. Four Negro children were accepted by the school board into the elementary grades last year, but none attended.

King said that although the Groves girl has the credits to enter the senior year, he believed her parents wish her to enter as a junior.

She originally applied, along with her brother, to enter Great Mills because certain courses they wished to follow were not available at Jarboesville High.

Although Judge Thomsen noted that Jarboesville was introducing courses similar to those Miss Groves sought, he said he was not basing his decision on available studies but on the girl's "personal" constitutional rights to a desegregated education.

Judge Sobeloff's refusal to discuss his reasons for denying the stay was based on the fact that "the merits of the case are to be considered and determined at a later date by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit."

Public school officials look for 3,461 pupils in the thirteen elementary schools, and 1,980 in the five high schools. Father Wilkinson, parochial school co-ordinator, said it would be difficult to make an estimate of enrollment in the Catholic schools but he expected a normal increase.

All schools will be on half-day sessions Thursday and Friday and no food will be served. Cafeteria will be open Monday, Sept. 8.

### Kerosene Blast On Wood Stove Kills Woman, 70

A kerosene can, which apparently exploded when its contents were emptied on the flames of a wood stove, led to the death of a St. Mary's County woman who was burned over 95 per cent of her body Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Lillian Russell, wife of James H. (Willmer) Russell, was fatally burned at her home two miles south of Leonardtown while canning fruit Sunday morning.

A neighbor, Parran Connelly heard her screams and pulled her from the flames. A Mattingly Funeral Home ambulance took her to Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, where she died later in the day.

Mrs. Russell, who had baked herself a birthday cake every year since she was tall enough to stand up to a stove, would have baked her 71st cake Sept. 3.

She is survived by her husband and one daughter, Mrs. Mary Frances Gibson of California. Prayers were said at 8 p.m. Sept. 1 at the Mattingly Funeral Home. Mass was offered at 10 a.m. Sept. 2 at St. Aloysius Church, Leonardtown, with interment in the church cemetery.

## Roadblock Traps Two Suspects In \$12,000 Safe Robbery

A roadblock at Sandy Bottom Sunday night ended a 12-hour search for thieves who stole a safe holding nearly \$12,000 from Patuxent Motors Sales in Lexington Park early Sunday morning.

The theft made a total of almost \$15,000 in money, goods, and slot machines snatched from County businesses within two days.

The roadblock netted the second of two men charged, in the motor company robbery. The first was picked up a few hours after the crime when he returned to the scene to claim his confiscated car.

Held on \$5,000 bond were James Anthony Lynch, 19, Lexington Park, and James Hall, about 20, formerly of St. James, Md. Both were charged with breaking and entering and grand larceny.

Patuxent Motors shop foreman Willie Fleissner reported to Deputy William Sanner that he had received a wrecker call at his home about 1:30 a.m. Sunday and drove up to the garage and showroom to see a car gun away.

Fleissner, according to the Deputy, followed the car until it turned into Esperanza Road outside Lexington Park. He said the vehicle nearly turned over several times in the chase.

When Deputy Sanner arrived, he found the side doors of the building open and the office safe missing.

Three State Troopers joined the deputy, blocked off the road and began searching for the thieves. The car was found abandoned near a home on Esperanza Road. Mrs. Louise Smith said she saw some men run into the nearby woods. The law enforcement officers towed the car back to Patuxent Motors.

About 4:30 a.m., a youth drove up in another vehicle and demanded the return of his automobile. He told police he had left the car on Esperanza Road when it would not start.

Deputy Sanner ordered the youth held for questioning. He was later identified as James Hall, who was vacationing in the county from New York where he is reportedly employed, and was charged in the crime.

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## Greenwell Is Dropped By Board, Vows Fight

Valley I. Greenwell was dropped from the November ballot by the Board of Election Supervisors last week but promised immediately he would fight through the courts the efforts of County political leaders "to force on the people" a ballot with only one candidate.

In another critical move foreshadowing the impending political campaign, Oliver R. Guyther withdrew from the race for State's Attorney, leaving the field momentarily open for Republican candidate John Van Brunt.

In neither race, however, did it appear that Walter B. Dorsey or Van Brunt would get away without a fight when the Nov. 4 balloting rolls around.

Charging that County Republican leaders "don't want anyone to run against Dorsey because he is their candidate, too," Greenwell said he would fight to get back on the bal-

lot by forcing the Republican State Central Committee to appoint him to the vacancy.

This falling, he said, "I will fight them through the courts to show what they are doing to the people of St. Mary's County, forcing on the people a ballot with only one man to vote for."

CORRECTION Last week's paper erred in reporting that Greenwell was asked by Paul Bailey to change his affiliation. Both men have informed the "Beacon" that this did not happen.

A public meeting was called for this Thursday night at 8 p.m. in the Court House for "County people interested in democracy to exercise pressure" to force his name back on the ballot.

"If this doesn't work," Greenwell added, "I will go to court and show everyone just what goes on among the political leaders of this County."

He met in an impromptu meeting Tuesday night with the election board and members of the Republi-

## Shores, Fisheries Chief Inspector, Dies Sunday at 45

Robert Lee Shores, 45, top enforcement official as chief inspector of the Tidewater Fisheries Commission, died suddenly Sunday at his home at Deal Island, Md.

Also taken to NAS were passengers Frank J. Olivas, 27, NAS, with a possible fractured vertebra, and George Connolly of Leonardtown, with a lacerated forehead. Connolly was transferred to St. Mary's Hospital after emergency treatment.

Charges are pending against Chase, police said.

Man Loses Arm A Washington man lost an arm when his car sideswiped a moving van on Route 235 at Hollywood Saturday at 1 a.m., police reported.

Robert L. Gaither, 31, also suffered lacerations of the head in the accident, and was taken to St. Mary's Hospital for treatment, before being transferred to Mount Alto Hospital in Washington, D. C.

State Police said Gaither's arm was severely mangled when his car hit a van driven by James N. Bush, 64, of St. Iniges.

A passenger in Gaither's car,