



Compassionate Advocates for the Injured and Disabled

# The Christie Report

Social Security Disability — Car Accidents—Nursing Home/Medical Malpractice

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If you wish to be added to or removed from our mailing list, please call: 800-218-7062 ext. 200

## Personal Message - *from Sharon*

I'm writing this message at 6:30 p.m. and the sun is still shining! That always puts me in a good mood and makes me feel positive about the future.

As a country, we're going through a very rough time. And I know that many of you are suffering personally from illness, injury or the loss of a loved one. Please remember that there is hope and light at the end of the tunnel.

If you have an open case with us, know that we are working hard for you. I want to thank all of you who have called or written to express your appreciation for our work at the end of your case. It means a lot to everyone in the office. I also want to thank you for your referrals. The greatest compliment that we receive is when our clients refer family, friends and colleagues to us!



## Meet The Staff - *Kathy Jeffries*

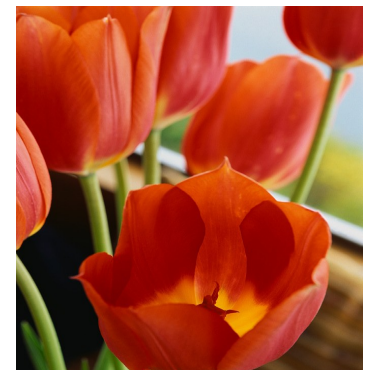


I've worked as a nurse in several hospitals around the Baltimore area for many years. Several years ago, I went back to college and earned a paralegal degree. With Sharon, Pat and Donna, I work on disability cases. I continue to work in the hospital part-time to keep my nursing knowledge current.

I live in northern Harford County with my husband and son. We have two cats and two dogs that are important members of our family. My husband and I like to garden. We grow a variety of vegetables and berries every summer. Our dogs like the berries, too, but they eat them right off

the bushes!

Our son, John, is fifteen. He's a talented musician and hopes to study music composition in college. My husband and I hope he gets a record deal before that to cover tuition costs!

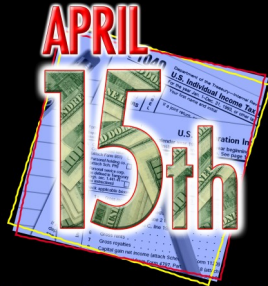


Hi, I'm Kathy Jeffries. I've spoken with many of you on the phone but have never had the opportunity to meet you!

I'm an RN and a paralegal.

# This & That...

The deadline for filing your Federal Income Taxes is...



Remember to file on time!

## Pampering Men

"Shave and a haircut? How about a scotch and a manicure with that? Want to see the game on ESPN?"

Men used to have the choice of a local barber or a female-focused beauty shop. New style barber-shops in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and other cities are changing things. The shave and a haircut will cost more in these swanky places, but the male-oriented atmosphere, complete with black leather sofas and a pool table, seem to make it worth it.

The Wall Street Journal testers liked John Alden's location a few blocks from Wall Street, where they had a scalp-massaging hair wash, a neck rub, a haircut and a manicure, accompanied by a lot of attention and beer!

## National Parks Are Fun AND Economical

Parks offer great vacations at a price far lower than resorts. Some parks have lodges, cabins and/or yurts.

The lowest-priced, and possibly most fun vacations, involve pitching a tent at one of their great campsites for about \$19 a night! There are usually sites for trailers, too. And the scenery is spectacular. You have your choice of lakes, deserts, sea shores or mountains

Most parks offer free activities, lectures, nature walks and campfire programs.

For more information, go to <http://www.nps.gov/>.

# The Lighter Side

## ...of golf

Some say it's a series of tragedies and the occasional miracle, followed by a cold bottle of beer.

Golf is harder than baseball because you have to play your foul balls.

If you want everything perfect before the shot, you won't get a perfect shot.

Golf is the only game where the most feared opponent is you.

It's like marriage. If you take yourself too seriously, it won't work and, like marriage, it's expensive.

The best wood in most amateurs' bags is the pencil!

## ...of the courtroom

The small-town prosecuting attorney called an elderly lady to the stand. He approached her and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know me?" She responded, "Why, yes, I do know you, Mr. Williams. I've known you since you were a young boy, and frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat and you manipulate people."

He was stunned! He pointed across the room and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know the defense attorney?" She again replied, "Why, yes, I've known Mr. Bradley since he was a youngster, too. He's lazy, bigoted, and has a drinking problem. He cheated on his wife with three women."

The judge told both counselors to approach the bench. In a very quiet voice, he said, "If either of you idiots asks her if she knows me, I'll send you to the electric chair!"



"Side effects include, headache, dry mouth, muscle fatigue and turning into a frog."

# Keep Credit Card Info to Yourself

## Scammers want your CVV number!

Once thieves have your credit card number, they need the secret three-digit number on the back of your card (four digits on the front if you have an American Express) in order for them to use it.

They will call claiming that your card was flagged by security because of an unusual purchase.

When you deny making the purchase, a very official-sounding voice assures you that a credit

will appear on your next statement.

At this point, the caller asks you to provide the three-digit number on the back of the card to show that it is in your possession. Or, they may give you a fake telephone number to call, where you will be asked to give the number.

Once they have it, they can charge anything in any amount up to your credit limit from any vendor and they will not be questioned.

Also beware of emails that look

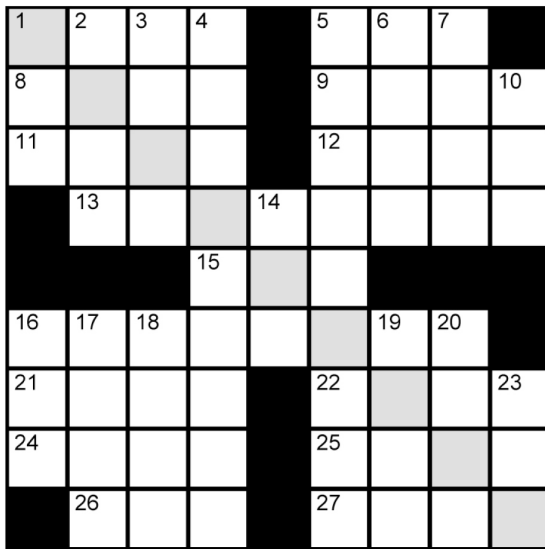
official. Never follow links in an unsolicited email asking for sensitive information.

No matter how official a caller or email sounds, never give out the CVV (Card Verification Value) number. By the way, some card companies call it the DVV2 or DVD2. American Express calls it the CID.

A credit card company will **never** ask you for it. If you receive such a call or email, contact your credit card company immediately.



## Outdoor Fun



The  
headline  
is a clue to  
the answer  
in the  
diagonal!

**Across**

- 1. Icky stuff
- 5. Use a Singer
- 8. Heroic tale
- 9. Mimicked
- 11. Affectations
- 12. "\_\_\_ Las Vegas"
- 13. Embarrassed
- 15. Dusk, to Donne
- 16. Sideboard
- 21. Lady Macbeth, e.g.
- 22. "\_\_\_ Misbehavin'"
- 24. Popular fragrance
- 25. Fine-tune
- 26. Nth degree
- 27. Glitch

**Down**

- 1. Govt. property org.
- 2. Animal shelter
- 3. Beast
- 4. A dance for two people
- 5. Port & river in Georgia
- 6. "Beowulf," e.g.
- 7. "\_\_\_ Only Just Begun"
- 10. "Dear old" guy
- 14. Charge
- 16. Computer monitor, for short
- 17. Ramble
- 18. Exile isle
- 19. Utah national park
- 20. "\_\_\_ Karenina"
- 23. Two year old sheep

**FREE Seminars**

**- Social Security Disability -**

Next session in May!

See website for days, times, and locations

### Baltimore Area Events



**Orioles Home Opener**  
(vs Yankees) -

April 6, 2009, 4:05pm

**Maryland SPCA 14th Annual March for the Animals -**

Apr. 19, 2009, 10am - 2pm  
(even if it's raining cats & dogs!)  
Druid Hill Park

**Barbie: Fifty Fashionable Years -**

Now thru May 31, 2009 - All day  
31 W. Camden St.  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**The Original Fell's Point Ghost Walk -**

Now thru Nov. 28, 2009, Saturdays 7-9pm  
Fridays starting in July  
www.fellspointghost.com  
731 South Broadway  
Baltimore, MD 21231



# The Stimulus Package & You

The stimulus package, signed by President Obama, includes tax benefits and spending increases that will directly benefit many of you. Here are some of them...

**Reduction in income tax:** The IRS is updating withholding tables to incorporate the Making Work Pay tax credit of \$400 for singles and \$800 for couples.

**First time homebuyer tax credit:** Singles with income of up to \$75,000 and couples earning up to \$150,000 who buy their first home (or who haven't owned a home in the last three years) can claim a tax credit of up to \$8,000, or \$4,000 for singles, which does not have to be paid

back. The home must be bought between January 1 and December 1 of 2009.

**New car tax credit in 2009:** Individual taxpayers who earn up to \$125,000 in 2009 (\$250,000 for couples) will be able to deduct state taxes, local sales taxes and excise taxes paid for the purchase of any new car, light truck, recreational vehicle or motorcycle priced at up to \$49,500.

**New car tax credit in 2010 and 2011:** Taxpayers can claim a tax credit of up to \$2,500 for the purchase of a plug-in hybrid until manufacturers sell more than 200,000 of them.

**Job training funds:** The amount of

money states get for job training will be increased. To find a local job training program, visit [www.servicelocator.org](http://www.servicelocator.org).

**COBRA assistance:** Those who lost jobs between September 1, 2008 and February 17, 2009 will have government assistance to pay for 65 percent of COBRA healthcare coverage.

**Food stamps:** Recipients will get an additional \$20 to \$24 in stamps each month.

**Pell Grants for education:** Increases the maximum Pell Grant - funds for low-income undergraduates and certain post-graduate college students. Maximum grant for 2009 will be \$5,350. \$5,500 in 2010.

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**To receive a FREE copy of**  
**Sharon Christie's**  
*Unofficial Guide to Social*  
*Security Disability*  
*Benefits*

Call 410-823-8200 ext. 200  
 or visit our website at  
[www.SharonChristieLaw.com](http://www.SharonChristieLaw.com)



# Sharon A. Christie Law

The **Law Office of Sharon A. Christie** helps disabled workers receive the Social Security Disability benefits they deserve. The firm also helps clients who are seriously injured in car accidents, by medical malpractice or who are victims of nursing home abuse get fair compensation for those injuries.

The firm's mission is to fight for the underdog and level the playing field, whether the opponent is the government or an insurance company.

The firm's founder, Sharon A. Christie, is a nurse as well as an attorney and her staff includes a nurse-paralegal.

***Sharon's clients receive the benefit of having their cases handled by a firm that knows the medicine AND the law.***

For more information about the law firm, visit our website at **[www.SharonChristieLaw.com](http://www.SharonChristieLaw.com)**.



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**Towson, MD 21204**

**Office Hours**

M-F 9am to 5pm

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**Practice Areas**

- Car Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Nursing Home Abuse & Injuries
- Social Security Disability

