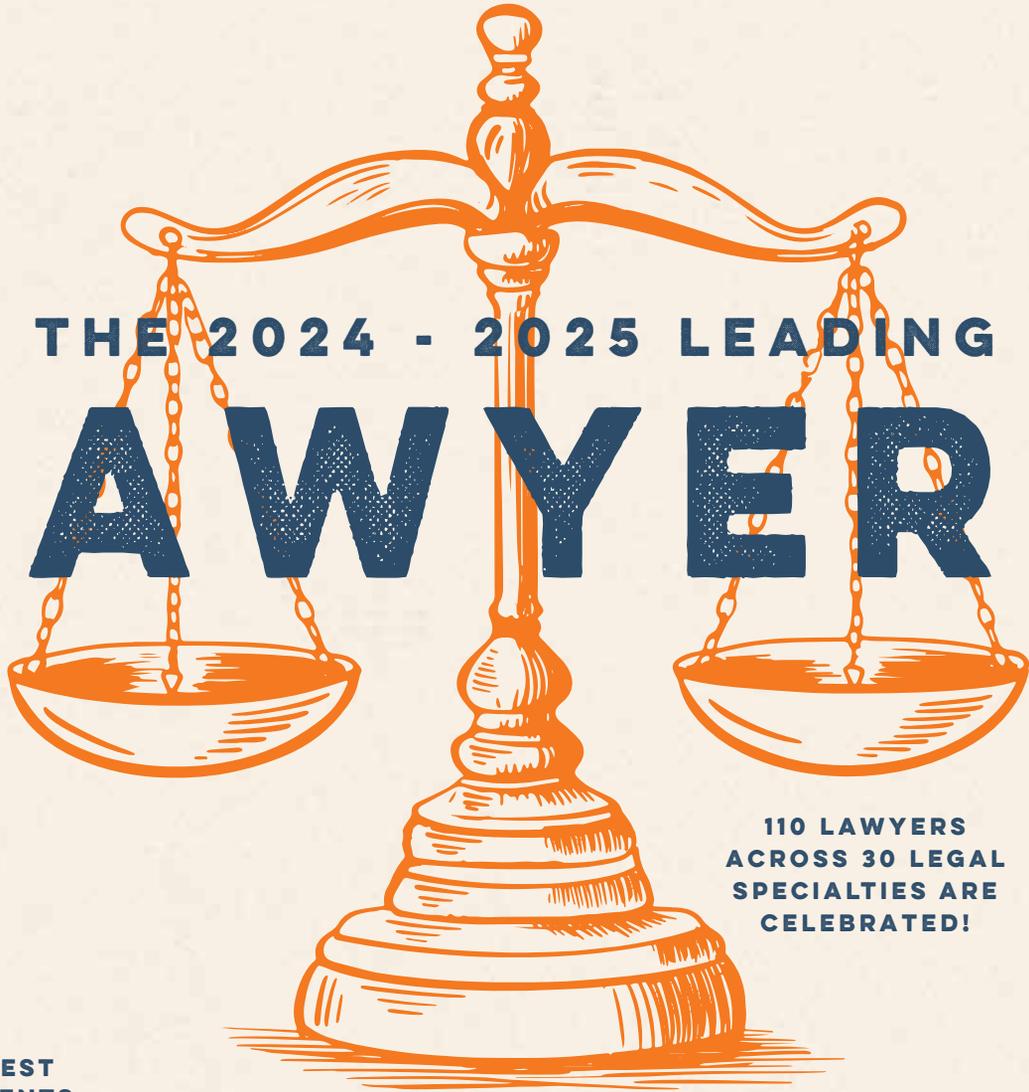


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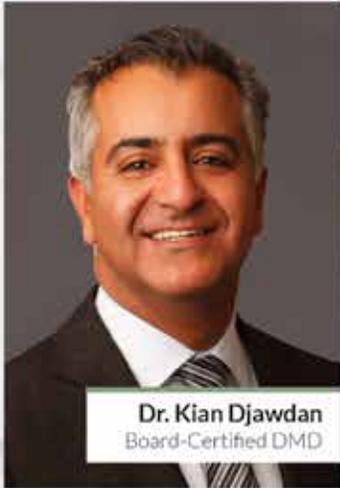


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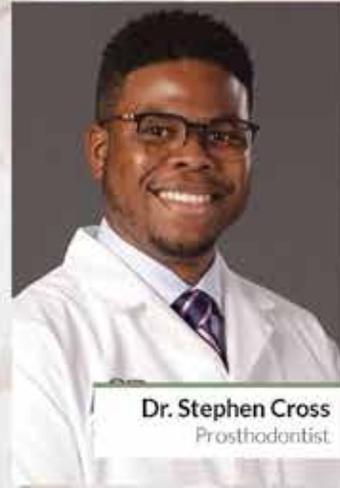
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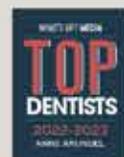
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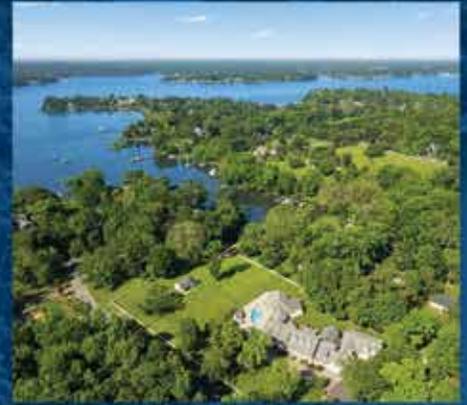




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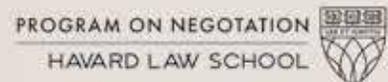
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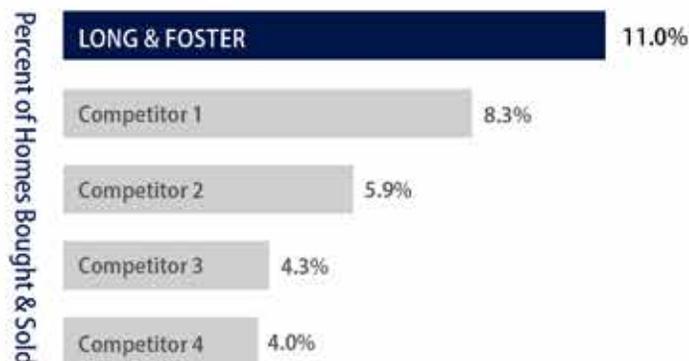
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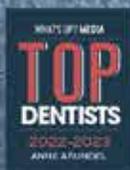
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MAY 2024

◀ **On the Cover:** The scales of justice within our legal system weigh the arguments and evidence of each judicial case. Design by August Schwartz
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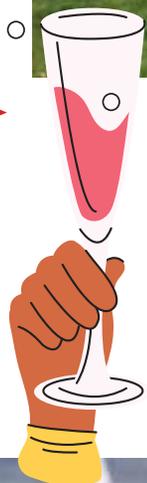
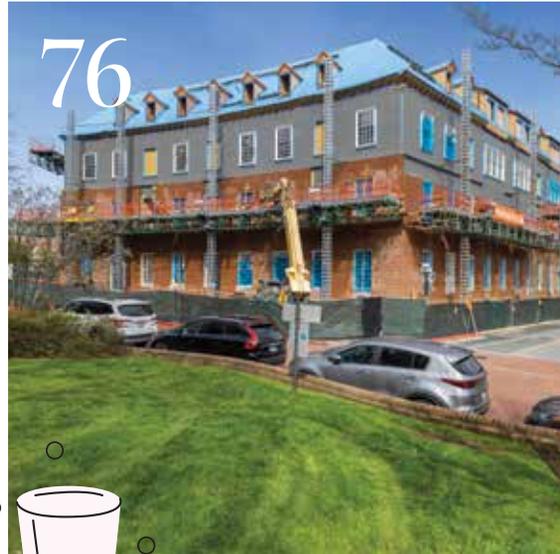
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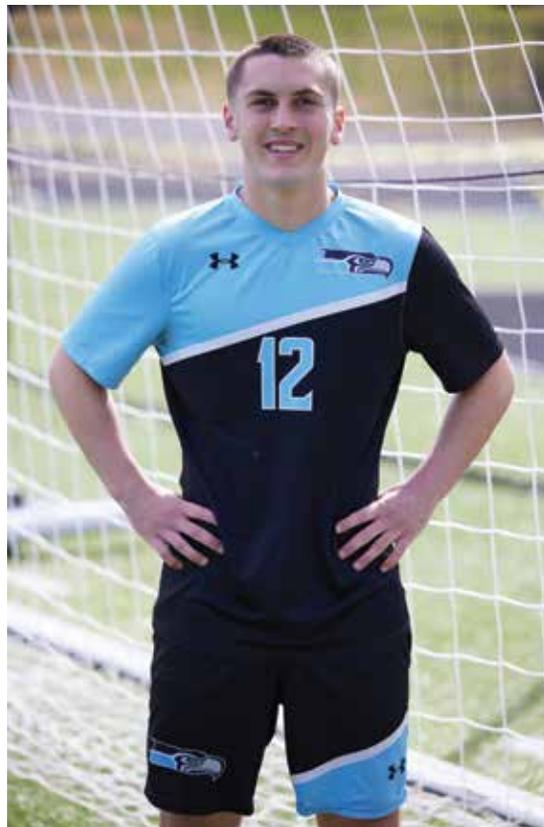
COMING UP IN JUNE 2024

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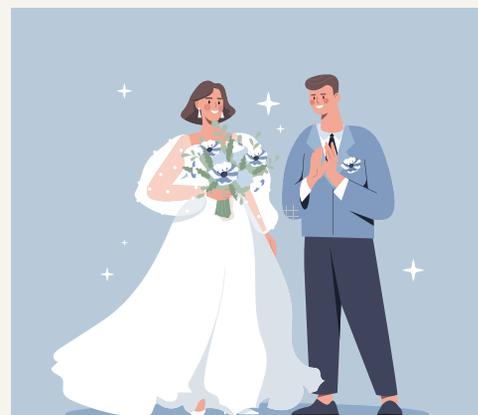


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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA'S 2024

EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

The Excellence in Nursing Campaign starts this month! A peer-survey project that celebrates exemplary nurses practicing in the Greater Chesapeake Bay Region. We are calling for licensed nurses and medical professionals to nominate your fellow nurses in several fields of practice. The results will be tabulated, vetted, and become Excellence in Nursing 2024. Voting will close at the end of June (6/30). Those earning Excellence in Nursing honors will be notified in early fall and the results will be published in the November issues of *What's Up? Annapolis*, *What's Up? Eastern Shore*, and *What's Up? Central Maryland*, in addition to the online platform and social media channels of What's Up? Media. Visit whatsupmag.com/2024nurses to nominate a nurse.



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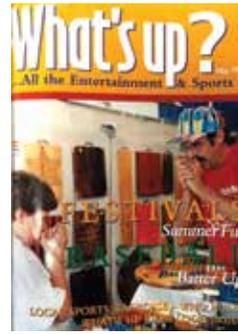


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During these 27 years, it's been *you* that motivated us to continue producing this magazine. From the stories and featured content to the many businesses and readers that support us, each magazine is testimony of the diversity, exciting culture, and community spirit within our hometowns and the state of Maryland.

In this issue, we celebrate a few things to this end. For starters, philanthropy. We've compiled the season's "greatest hits" of nonprofit events worth putting on your calendar, including posh galas, casual beach parties, golf tourneys, 5Ks, and other fantastic fundraisers—all for great causes. In another feature piece, "Rising Tide Lifts All Boats," writer/renowned sailor Gary Jobson discusses the very-involved community and charity programs of local yacht clubs.

We're also excited for a number of local businesses celebrating milestone anniversaries this year (see Towne Spotlight). Meanwhile, festival season begins with some real whoppers this month (see Out on the Towne). The arrival of the Blue Angels over the middle Bay on May 21st and 22nd will herald the summer season! And, for nearly two decades, we've honored the very best lawyers in the region with the biennial "Leading Lawyers" peer-review survey and results—this year's class is one of the most thoroughly vetted and distinguished in recent memory.

If you thumbed through that first issue of *What's Up?* in 1997 you'd likely be happy to see that this May's version hasn't veered from our company's mission to create a fun, informative lifestyle magazine for the community that's both homegrown and locally owned.

Thank you for 27 fantastic years of support and encouragement!

James Houck,
Editorial Director

If you could open a time capsule from, say, May of 1997, what would it contain? Maybe a movie ticket from the opening weekend of *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* (released May 2nd, 1997). A Palm Pilot device (remember those?!) Can of *Surge* energy soda (meh).

A mix CD with cuts released in '97 might include: the "Macarena," "Barbie Girl" by Aqua (remember that earworm?), "MMMBop" by Hanson (another one!), a couple tracks from Spice Girls, "Un-Break My Heart" by Bowie, Maryland's own Toni Braxton, and maybe "High" by Annapolis' Jimmie's Chicken Shack.

Perhaps the very first issue of *What's Up?* (May 1997) also would be in this time capsule—offering a snapshot of "All the entertainment and sports" taking place throughout the Chesapeake Bay region.

This month, *What's Up? Media* celebrates its 27th anniversary. And it's neat to take a look back and see just how far we've come as a company and community.

In May '97, I graduated from Key School and four college years later began working at *What's Up? Media* as an assistant editor. By that time, the company also had graduated, so to speak—moving from founding Publisher Veronica Tovey's basement to new office space in the Mason Building on West Street in Annapolis. Things were cooking.

By May '07, as the company recognized a decade in business, *What's Up? Eastern Shore* was launched. And five years later, *What's Up? Central Maryland* (nee *West County*) came along. Between these publications and continuing evermore, we also publish *What's Up? Weddings*, *Navy Guide to Annapolis*, *The Directory* (for Anne Arundel County's Dept. of Aging & Disabilities), and a fleet of digital products, including the flagship website *whatsupmag.com*. It's a lot of work for our entire team, but it's fun!

**THANK YOU FOR 27
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RYAN SCHOENBAUER

Owner | Old Bay Pest Control

Opened in 2019 by Ryan Schoenbauer when he was 26 years old, Old Bay Pest Control is committed to providing the safest and most effective methods of exterminating. Serving Annapolis and the surrounding areas, the company takes pride in using products that are safe for families, pets, and the environment, ensuring a pest-free home. A native of Anne Arundel County, Schoenbauer grew up in Riva and graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in finance.

Why did you decide to start a pest control company?

After I graduated from college, I had a hard time finding a job in finance. I started working for a friend's dad, who owned a pest control company. After a few months, I was no longer working for them. Since I knew I would still have a hard time finding a finance job, I decided to open my own company. I realized I had the knowledge I needed to be a business owner. So with the support of my now-wife, I took a leap of faith and never looked back.

What makes Old Bay Pest Control stand out from other pest control companies in the area?

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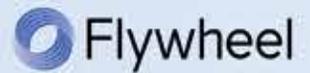
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26 EVENT PICKS

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36 SPOTLIGHT

42 ATHLETE

**Let's Go!
Music Fest**

PG. 30





Photo by Daniel Djukic

ANNAPOLIS BLUES FC HOME OPENER

Annapolis Blues soccer team's season opener is May 15th against the Maryland Bobcats FC (Germantown, Maryland) at their home field, the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis. This game also is billed as the 2nd Annual Community Shield Charity Match. Proceeds from this game will go toward various local charities in the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County area. The Blues have three away games after their home season opener and then will be back for home games on June 1st, 7th, 16th, 29th, and July 6th. Get your tickets at annapolisblues.com.



Fairy House Festival

Quiet Waters Park and the Friends of Quiet Waters Park Sculpture committee are hosting this year's Fairy House Festival at the Holly Pavilion within the park on May 4th at 2 p.m. Fairy houses will be on display along the Holly Trail from May 4th through May 31st. These houses are made with materials found in nature and are on display within the woods of Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis for the whole month. Find more information at fqwp.org.

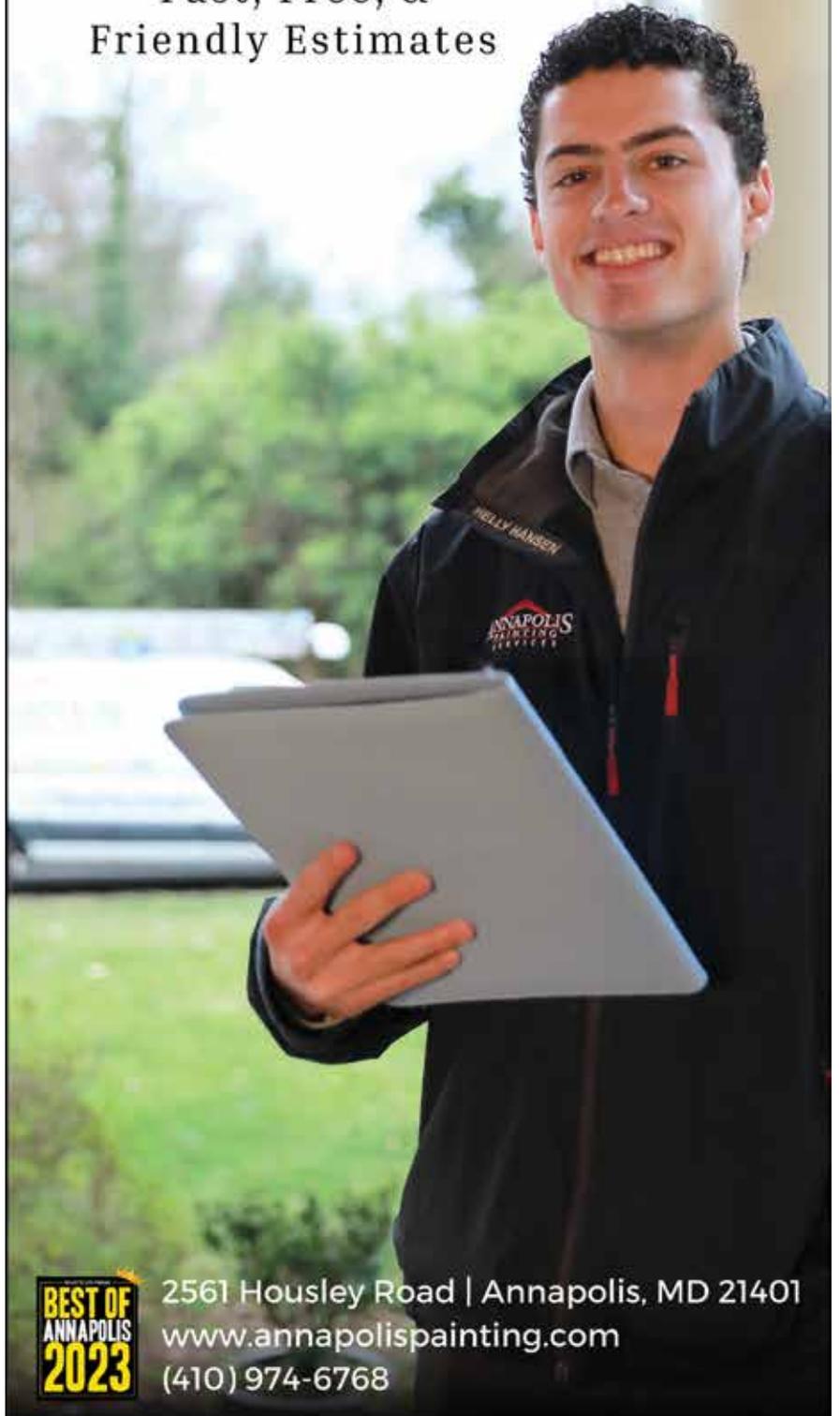


ANNAPOLIS IRISH FESTIVAL

The Annapolis Irish Festival is back at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville on May 4th from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. The family-friendly event will have plenty of entertainment, activities, music, food, and drink. Entertainment will include live bands, Irish dancers, bagpipes, men in kilts contest, red head contest, and all-things Irish. Find more information and buy tickets at abceventsinc.com.



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MARYLAND FIESTA LATINA

After a short hiatus, the Maryland Fiesta Latina is back this Spring. On May 5th from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., visit the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville for a celebration of Latino heritage and culture. The festival is the perfect time to learn and celebrate with live music, cultural demonstrations, ethnic food, local artisans, and more. Find more information and buy tickets at abceventsinc.com.

Friends for Friends

The Friends of The Light House Shelter’s fabulous ladies’ night out is at the Annapolis Waterfront Hotel on May 16th from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Friends for Friends, which overlooks the Annapolis Harbor, will be the perfect place to discover the best in women-focused networking. The night will have live music, open bar, light fare, raffles, and more. All proceeds benefit The Light House a Homeless Prevention Support Center. Find more information and get tickets at friendslhs.ejoinme.org.



Photo by Nina K Photography



Photo courtesy of U.S. Department of Defense

BLUE ANGELS AIR SHOW

Every year, the Blue Angels flight squadron are a part of United States Naval Academy’s Commissioning Week to celebrate Midshipmen, their families, and the town of Annapolis. This year, the Blue Angels will perform on May 21st (arrival and practice) and 22nd (air show). The show will begin at 2 p.m. on both days, so enjoy from your boat, downtown Annapolis, or bring blankets and chairs to parks and greenspace around the Severn River for the best views. Celebrate graduation with the U.S. Naval Academy and find more information about Commissioning Week and the Blue Angels at usna.edu/commissioningweek.

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Let's Go! Music Fest is bringing the entertainment to the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds May 31st through June 2nd. Listen to music from Taking Back Sunday, Dashboard Confessional, Daughtry, The Revivalists, and many more throughout the weekend. In addition to two stages of entertainment, there will be food and craft beverages from the best of Annapolis' chefs and vendors. This festival is created for music lovers by music lovers with the backyard feel we all love. Get your tickets and find a full list of performers at letsfest.com.

GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE GALA

Gigi's Playhouse is hosting its annual gala fundraiser on May 17th at The Atreum at Soaring Timbers in Annapolis. The "I Have a Voice" gala will honor and raise money to support programs for children and adults with Down Syndrome. The gala will include a gourmet dinner, drinks, music, dancing, live and silent auction, wine pull, and more. Find more information and get tickets at gigisplayhouse.org.



Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition

Hear the talented rising stars in the classical vocal genre at the 36th Annual Vocal Competition. Annapolis Opera's competition will be at Maryland Hall in Annapolis on May 5th at 3 p.m. The free event will showcase singers selected by a panel of renowned judges from hundreds of outstanding applications from across the nation. Find more information at annapolisopera.org.

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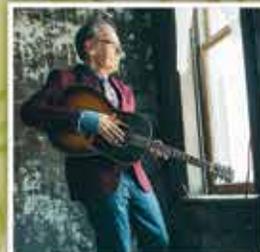
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WASHINGTON D.C. BOAT SHOW

The Washington D.C. Boat show will hit the National Harbor on May 3rd through 5th. The second annual boat show will be a weekend on the Potomac River to kick off the boating season. There will be a wide variety of vessels from sailboat to powerboat, and new to quality pre-owned, for sale and to order. Tour the boats, grab food and drinks, and listen to live music throughout the weekend. Cutwater Spirits will have a beach party on Saturday with Bobby McKeys mobile dueling piano bar playing as well as a live stream of the Kentucky Derby. Find more information at dboatshows.com.

Arundel Rivers on the Half Shell

Arundel Rivers Federation is hosting its annual Arundel Rivers on the Half Shell on May 11th from 6 to 9 p.m. at Camp Letts in Edgewater. This is the largest fundraising event of the year, raising money to protect, preserve, and restore the South, West, and Rhode rivers. The fun-filled evening will have camp fare, drinks, oysters, and a silent auction. Get tickets and find more information at arundelrivers.org.



Hospice of the Chesapeake

CELEBRATING LIFE AND CARING FOR FAMILIES FOR 45 YEARS

By Lisa A. Lewis



As Hospice of the Chesapeake commemorates its 45th anniversary this year, the organization will not only reflect on its past achievements but also celebrate its tremendous growth—from a small, all-volunteer organization to a regional leader of hospice and grief care. Founded in 1977 as Arundel Hospice by four like-minded individuals who wanted to change the community’s perception of the end-of-life journey, the organization, which was officially incorporated as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization in 1979 has dramatically transformed the landscape of hospice care.

“We have been caring for families for 45 years,” says Sandie Dillon, director of communications for Hospice of the Chesapeake. “We began from humble beginnings, and the volunteers who founded the organization were true innovators. Hospice looks different for everyone and involves customized care. We are proud of our team-oriented, holistic approach, which involves physicians, nurses, certified nursing assistants, social workers, counselors, and chaplains and focuses on the mind, body, and spirit. Most important, we include the patient’s family throughout the journey.”

Serving Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and Prince George’s counties with locations in Pas-

adena, Prince Frederick, Waldorf, and Largo, the mission of the organization is “caring for life during illness and loss.” And although it officially changed its name to Hospice of the Chesapeake in 1992, its mission remains the same.

From four patients served in 1979 to more than 6,100 served in 2023, Hospice of the Chesapeake has successfully emerged as the largest nonprofit independent hospice organization in Maryland. Since its inception, the organization has served just over 59,000 hospice patients and more than 100,000 family members.

Dynamic Leadership, Dedicated Volunteers

In addition to commemorating a milestone year, Hospice of the Chesapeake also celebrates its 45th anniversary under the direction of a new executive leader. Rebecca Miller, MSW, was named president and chief executive officer, effective February 23, 2024, by Hospice of the Chesapeake Board of Directors. A licensed clinical social worker, Miller began her career in the hospice industry as a patient care volunteer and has held positions at Hospice of the Chesapeake since October 2021.

“I am honored to continue to serve Hospice of the Chesapeake in this new role and help patients live each day comfortably,” Miller says. “It’s a privilege to reimagine hope where none may have existed and see possibilities. Being invited into a patient’s personal story and providing compassion and support is so rewarding.”

“Celebrating 45 years of [service to] our community is a tremendous milestone,” adds Nancy Smit, chair of the board of directors



“IT’S A PRIVILEGE TO REIMAGINE HOPE WHERE NONE MAY HAVE EXISTED AND SEE POSSIBILITIES. BEING INVITED INTO A PATIENT’S PERSONAL STORY AND PROVIDING COMPASSION AND SUPPORT IS SO REWARDING.”

—REBECCA MILLER

of Hospice of the Chesapeake. “We are fortunate to have a very talented, professional team, a new executive leader, and volunteers [who create] meaningful experiences for patients and their families.”

From visiting patients to completing administrative tasks, volunteers make a profound impact, offering care and support and enhancing quality of life. In 2023, 135 volunteers provided 7,100 hours of care—a testament to the community’s dedication to “caring for life.”

Sharon Downey, who lives in Crofton, was impressed by how Hospice of the Chesapeake supported her friend during a recurrence of breast cancer and made her and her family feel comfortable during her final days. When Downey’s husband passed away three years ago, she turned to Hospice of the Chesapeake for grief counseling. She soon decided that she wanted to help others and has been a volunteer ever since.



45TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

In honor of its milestone anniversary, Hospice of the Chesapeake encourages members of the community to join the celebration, which honors its patients and their families and helps create meaningful memories. The organization will host several special events to celebrate life, including the following:

Caring for Life 45th Anniversary Celebration: May 11th, 5:30–10 p.m., Fluegel Alumni Center, Annapolis.

14th Annual Fashion for a Cause: June 7th, 6–9:30 p.m., Fluegel Alumni Center, Annapolis.

21st Annual Golf Tournament: September 26th, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Queenstown Harbor Golf Course, Queenstown.

Blue Crab Fun Run: October 5th, 8 a.m.–1 p.m., Regency Furniture Stadium, Waldorf.

To learn more, visit hospicechesapeake.org.

“I primarily work with patients at the inpatient care center, where I may see five to 10 patients a day,” Downey says. “I provide compassionate care, including comfort touch, a type of massage of the hands, arms, and shoulders, and I also work at the front desk once a week, which allows the care team to focus on the patients. Volunteering is such a great way to give back to the community and support patients and their families. I really enjoy volunteering, and it has made a huge difference in my life.”

“I am in awe of the four original volunteers who vowed to change the way our community experiences end of life,” Smit says. “I believe the organization we see today has far exceeded their vision at that time, and we are now building on that vision, incorporating new and exciting approaches [to support] those living with serious illness and their families.”



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AAMC EARNS ACCOLADE

Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center (LHAAMC) has been recognized by Newsweek as one of the best hospitals in the United States. Out of the 412 hospitals named, LHAAMC ranks as the 90th best hospital nationwide for providing outstanding healthcare to patients. “This ongoing recognition by Newsweek is humbling and reflects the commitment and dedication of our team to prioritize patient care,” said Sherry Perkins, president of LHAAMC. “I extend my sincere gratitude to every member of our hospital and to our community for entrusting us with their healthcare needs for more than 120 years.” Learn more at luminishealth.org.

Career Day a Success

Charting Careers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring youth through mentorship and career guidance, hosted its annual Career Day in partnership with Anne Arundel County Public Schools’ Annapolis Middle School on March 7th. The event showcased the power of community and the importance of mentorship. Almost 40 adults from various professions, including artists, marine service leaders, firefighters, entrepreneurs, and more, volunteered their time to share their personal career journeys with seventh-grade students. “We believe in the potential of every student,” said Erin Snell, PhD, Executive Director at Charting Careers. “By connecting students with professionals from different fields, we aim to inspire students and broaden their horizons, helping them make informed decisions about their futures.” For more information about Charting Careers and how to get involved, visit chartingcareers.org.





HERRMANN CELEBRATES 45TH ANNIVERSARY

Brands with staying power, especially in the marketing arena, are increasingly rare these days. But bucking the trend is what Herrmann Advertising|Branding|Technology has been doing for clients—and themselves—since 1979. As the agency celebrates its 45th anniversary this year, its founder and creative director, Judi Herrmann, continues to propel her Annapolis-based firm to new heights. “We are extremely proud of the work we’ve delivered over the past 45 years, and we look forward to capitalizing on that momentum as we move ahead,” Herrmann says. “With every new brand, new assignment or new hurdle our clients bring us, we’ll bring the experience, creativity, and forward-thinking strategy to take on the challenge.” From its humble beginnings in a small office suite in Annapolis with a limited clientele, the agency steadily grew to serve hundreds of local, regional, and national clients. Today, Herrmann partners with clients from wide range of industry sectors, including legal, associations, health care, tourism, real estate, government agencies and contractors, education, retail and nonprofits. Learn more about the agency at herrmann.com.

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The regional law firm, Frame & Frame Attorneys at Law, is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. “We are beyond excited to be celebrating 70 years of service to our community this year,” stated the company, led by managing partner and attorney, Tara K. Frame. “My father and founder of the firm, Vernon Frame, was a practicing attorney for over 70 years serving the community before he retired in 2002 at the age of 80,” Frame says. “I grew up watching him help the residents of Anne Arundel County when they needed legal advice or representation.” Today, Frame & Frame has offices in Annapolis, Stevensville, Pasadena, and Frederick. Follow the firm’s YouTube channel (@frameframelaw) to learn more about its history and services or visit frameandframe.com.

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Coastal Pools Partners with PebbleTec International

Coastal Pools, a renowned leader in the pool building and remodeling industry, announced its strategic partnership and Elite Builder status with Pebble Technology International, the industry's premier provider of pool finishes. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in Coastal Pools' commitment to offering the very best materials and products to its customers. Brad Hull, Founder of Coastal Pools, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership, stating, "After extensive research, Coastal Pools proudly chooses PebbleTec International as the exclusive provider of our pool finishes. We firmly believe in aligning ourselves with industry leaders to offer our customers the highest quality product and experience." For more information about Coastal Pools and PebbleTec International, visit coastalpoolbuilders.net and pebbletec.com.



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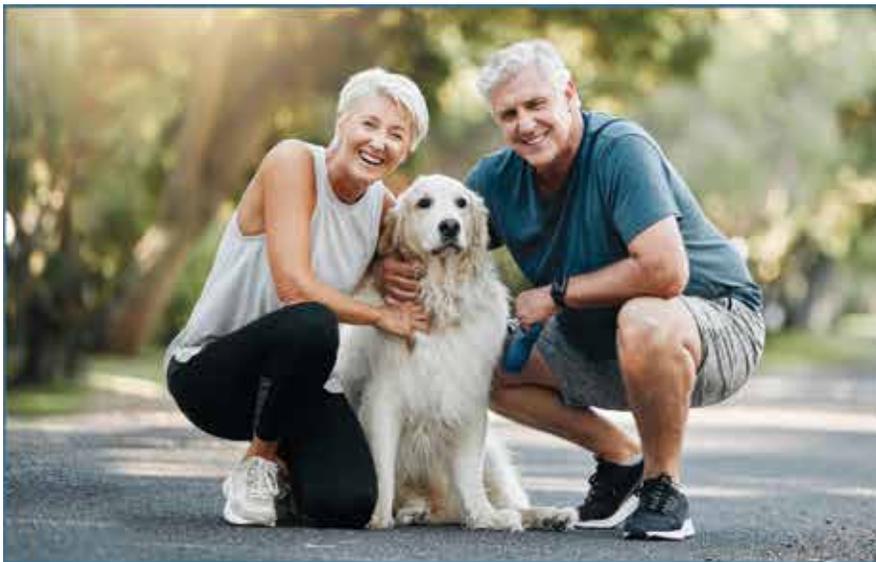


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PURPLE CHERRY ARCHITECTS' 30-YEAR MILESTONE

This year, Annapolis-based architecture firm Purple Cherry Architects (PCA) celebrates its 30th anniversary; a remarkable accomplishment, during which time the firm has completed more than 1,500 projects, expanded to five office locations, and employed 38 professionals. “Thirty years ago, I started this business with a dream and a lot of hard work,” stated Cathy Purple Cherry, founding principal of the firm. “I never imagined that I would have such fantastic clients who would trust and allow us to create beautiful homes on such a large scale. It has truly been a life blessing, so thank you. I also want to profusely thank each member of the Purple Cherry Architects team. I am proud of and boundlessly grateful for your energy, commitment, and hunger for creative perfection.” Learn more about PCA at purplecherry.com. Photo by Elyse Cosgrove.

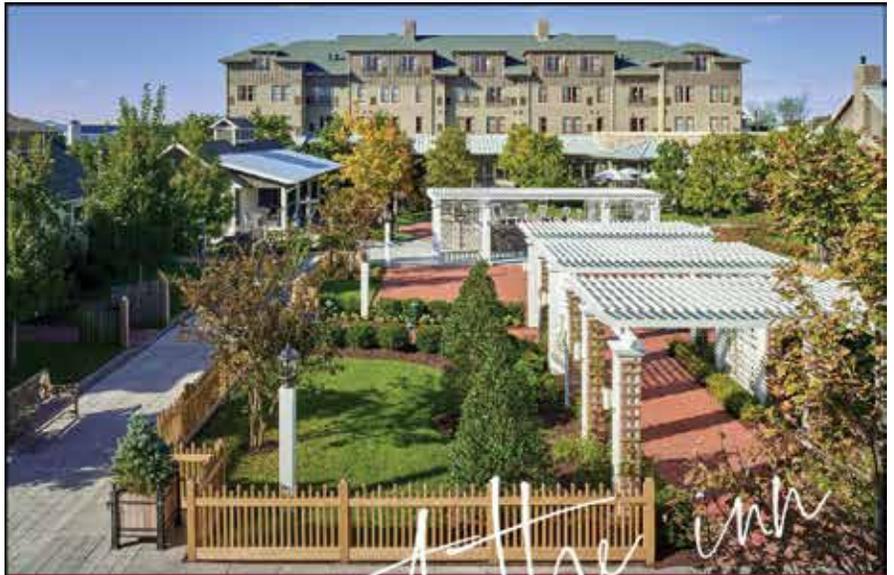


Aesthetic Nurse Joins Skin Wellness Team

Skin Wellness MD recently announced the newest addition to their practice, Chelsea Grieco, R.N., Aesthetic Nurse. Specializing in injectables, laser rejuvenation with Sciton’s full suite of products including the BBL and HALO lasers, and body contouring with CoolSculpting ELITE, Grieco “brings a unique blend of skill and artistry to our team,” the company stated. “Her commitment to personalized care and staying abreast of the latest advancements in aesthetic medicine align seamlessly with our practice’s dedication to excellence.” Learn more about Annapolis-based Skin Wellness MD and their services at skinwellnessmd.com.



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Hunter Marsden

SOUTH RIVER HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

By Tom Worgo

South River High School senior Hunter Marsden completed his soccer career with a Hollywood-style finish. Marsden helped the Seahawks to a Class 3A state championship in November and later earned Anne Arundel County Boys Soccer Player of the Year honors.

For years, he wanted to play at the college level and had the options to play at Salisbury State University or St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Yet his future in soccer has taken a different turn in recent months, and for the better. Marsden has committed to play the sport in Argentina. In March, he signed a nine-month contract—housing and meals included—with Mendoza United Football Club.

“I just want to see where this takes me,” explains Marsden, who will start practicing in Argentina in August. “I am looking to play at the highest level I can and play professional soccer.”

A scout from Mendoza United saw Marsden playing for a Baltimore Celtic Soccer Club team at an East Coast National League showcase tournament in Florida last year. The recruitment really picked up in December. So, Marsden and his family spent a lot of time exploring the opportunity.

“We were calling some of the players down there to see how the living conditions are, the level of soccer is, and how I could get seen by other pro academies,” Marsden says. “And my parents were talking to other players’ parents to get their view.”



“HE IS A PERFECTIONIST. HE WANTS TO MAKE SURE HE IS DOING EVERYTHING HE CAN TO PLEASE THE COACH.”

Celtic Club Coach Patrick Crawford believes playing in Argentina will help the 18-year-old Marsden achieve his goals.

“If someone sees him there, he could get a professional contract,” Crawford says. “He could also sign with a top-level academy or club, or even come back to the

United States and work on getting a scholarship.”

Marsden, an Edgewater resident, has played soccer for 10 years overall and during eight seasons he competed for club teams, including six with Celtic. The time with Celtic has proven to be crucial to his development.

“He can be dominant and take over games,” Crawford says. “He is one of the most technically sound players I have coached. He is a perfectionist. He wants to make sure he is doing everything he can to please the coach.”

At South River, Marsden's senior year was clearly his best. He received *The Baltimore Sun's* First-Team All-Metro, *The Washington Post's* First-Team All-Met, and First-Team All-State honors. He's a four-year varsity player who produced some memorable games.

None more than the Class 3A state championship against Towson. Marsden totaled a goal and two assists. "We scored two goals in the first five minutes," South River Assistant Boys Soccer Coach Sean Perdomo says. "They scored five minutes after we got our second goal, and it rattled us. Hunter scored the third goal and that settled us down. If he hadn't scored that third goal, the outcome could have been different."

South River Boys Soccer Coach Marlyn Argueta adds, "It wouldn't have been possible to win (a state title) without him."

The 5-foot-8 midfielder also assisted on the game-winning goal against Howard in the state semifinals.

"He was dominating and frustrating opponents in all of our 21 games," Perdomo recalls.

Marsden didn't rack up high point totals. He had six goals and 12 assists in 2023, but controlled the tempo of games with his quickness, high soccer IQ, and athleticism. You could call him the Seahawks' quarterback.

"Other coaches have come up to me and said, 'That kid is amazing,'" Argueta says. "He is like the maestro of our team. His dribbling and creativity are so good. He is irreplaceable."



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2024 // 2025



Heading into the new year, *What's Up? Media* conducted the biennial **Leading Lawyers Peer Review Survey**, inviting all attorneys and judges who practice law in Anne Arundel County, Central Maryland, and/or the Eastern Shore to participate. We would like to thank the many area attorneys who took the time and effort to fill out the official survey online.

A true peer review survey is a rarity today—most publications don't take the time and energy to conduct the survey in-house, which makes these results all the more meaningful. These are not “editor picks” or the result of limitless ballots from the general public. **These honors only come directly from other at-**

torneys and judges—people who really know what it takes to be a good lawyer right here in Maryland.

We are especially gratified because we believe this biennial poll provides **an invaluable service to our readers**. Please consider this group of esteemed lawyers when seeking and vetting legal counsel.

The following names, in 30 categories, represent the individual lawyers who clearly received the *most substantial number of nominations*; not every lawyer who was nominated. *No attorney paid to be on this list*. Some categories list more names than others. This is the result of especially active voting in those categories. Congratulations to all Leading Lawyers named herein!

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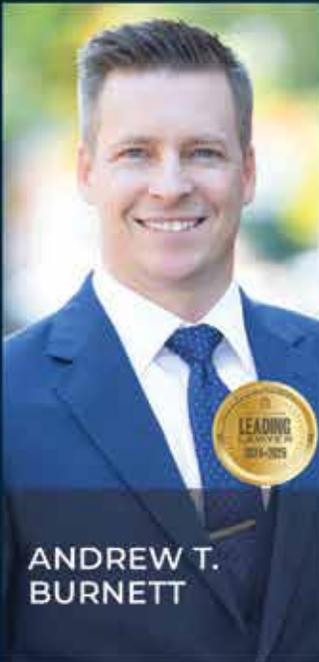
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- Named "Best Personal Injury Trial Law Firm-USA" by Global Business Insight
- Honored by US News and World Report as a one of the country's "Best Law Firms"
- Named Maryland's "Best Personal Injury Firm" AND "Best Civil Litigation Firm" by The Daily Record
- Rick Jaklitsch again honored by Martindale-Hubbell as "AV Preeminent," the highest possible peer-review rating.
- Rick Jaklitsch and Christine Murphy recognized by "Best Lawyers in America" year after year
- David Jaklitsch named a Top 40 Under 40 civil trial lawyer by The National Trial Lawyers



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LEADING LEGAL PROFESSIONALS 2024



From left to right: Daniel J. Mellin, Crighton A. Chase, Lauren A. Torggler, Katie L. D'Entremont, H. Winship Wheatley III, Marietta B. Warren, Samuel J. Brown, Jonathan E. Pasterick, Sarah E. Brown, Michael P. Darrow, M. Evelyn Spurgin, Brian D. Lyman, Carla M. Poole

HILLMAN, BROWN & DARROW, P.A.

Celebrating 45 Years of Service to the Community

When Hillman, Brown & Darrow (HBD) commemorates its 45th anniversary on October 1, the momentous event will represent yet another milestone in the law firm's history. One of the oldest and most respected firms in Annapolis, HBD has continued to grow and evolve throughout the years—solidifying its status as a trusted leader in the legal profession and establishing an enduring legacy of success.

Founded in 1929 by Noah A. Hillman, the rich history of HBD dates back to 1976 when Samuel J. Brown began his practice with Noah and his son, Richard Hillman. Noah, who worked from an office in the Maryland Inn, laid the foundation for success that continues today. So it's especially noteworthy that 2024 also marks 95 years since he began practicing law—a reminder of his esteemed role in the community and

his establishment of a long-standing tradition of excellence. Although Brown joined the practice in 1976, it was not until October 1, 1979—when Hillman & Brown merged with the practice of Michael P. Darrow—that HBD, as it is known today, was officially born. A mainstay of the community, HBD is conveniently located in the heart of downtown Annapolis—just steps from the courthouse—and has occupied the same iconic building since 1983. Steeped in history, the firm's roots in the community are deep, and its involvement is far-reaching.

A full-service law firm, HBD has stood the test of time and prides itself on its longevity, its stability, and its role as a pillar of the community. One of the keys to its success is its dynamic team of attorneys. The firm is comprised of attorneys from all walks of life who practice in various areas. From partners who have built successful careers to a new generation of associates who are poised to follow in the footsteps of

their esteemed predecessors, the attorneys excel at providing high-quality legal services to meet their clients' individual needs.

Since 1979, HBD has grown from three to 13 attorneys who have nearly 300 years of combined experience, including Samuel J. Brown, Daniel J. Mellin, M. Evelyn Spurgin, Jonathan E. Pasterick, Marietta B. Warren, Crichton A. Chase, Brian D. Lyman, and Sarah E. Brown (partners); Lauren A.

“I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the way you and **your team showed up for me** yesterday. I don't know the words to express how grateful I am, but I will remember forever.”

– satisfied client

Torggler, Carla M. Poole, and Katie L. D'Entremont (associates); and H. Winship Wheatley, III and Michael P. Darrow (of counsel). In addition to the attorneys, HBD is comprised of a highly skilled support staff. Its longest continuous staff member is Judy Myers, a dedicated legal secretary and administrative assistant who also celebrated her 45th anniversary with the firm this year.

“We focus our practice on serving the needs of our clients and hiring the best team members to help us fulfill our quest for success,” Samuel J. Brown says. “Our top-notch team epitomizes the hard work, diligence, and love for the practice of law that we at HBD strive to exemplify. As we celebrate our 45th anniversary, we also applaud Judy for 45 years of service to the firm.”

The attorneys have consistently received recognition for their achievements and earned numerous awards—a testament to their legal prowess and their steadfast dedication to their clients. Jonathan E. Pasterick and M. Evelyn Spurgin have been selected as 2024 Maryland Super Lawyers, and Sarah E. Brown and Lauren A. Torggler were named 2024 Maryland Rising Stars. In addition, the lawyers at HBD have been listed as Leading Lawyers in *What's Up?* since the inception of the survey. This year, several of the attorneys were recognized in various categories, which resulted in a total of 29 honors.

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- Alcohol Beverage Licenses

For nearly a half-century, HBD has embraced the practice of law with a spirit of enthusiasm. As the firm looks towards the future, it is excited to carry on the tradition of excellence that was passed down by the founding partners and strengthen its legacy. Here's to another 45 years!



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For more than 40 years we have focused exclusively on the law of estates and trusts and the law of fiduciaries. Within this practice area, we handle it all:

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- **Estate and Trust Litigation.** We handle a broad range of will, trust, and other fiduciary litigation. This litigation includes disputes on the meaning of estate planning documents, arguments involving estate or trust administration, challenges based on lack of capacity or undue influence, and breaches of fiduciary duty within trusts, estates, or closely held businesses.
- **Estate and Trust Administration.** We help clients with the process of winding up a decedent's financial affairs by implementing the individual's estate plan or in accordance with state law if the person has no valid planning documents. We prepare all estate and income tax returns in-house so we can offer seamless administration services from beginning to end.

Our Firm Culture and Why It Is Important to Clients

There are four defining attributes imbedded in the DNA of our firm: (1) We are an estates and trusts firm. The law of estates and trusts is largely a world unto itself with its own rules and practices. It requires a concentrated focus. (2) We keep a broad perspective while practicing in a defined niche. We “do it all” within that niche – estate and business planning, estate/trust administration, and fiduciary litigation. This means that each lawyer constantly sees issues from various perspectives which gives a unique depth to our advice and counsel. (3) We work as a team. We do not just give lip-service to intra-firm collaboration, but we follow a business model to achieve it and make it a habit. Clients are cli-

“You make the complex issues surrounding estate planning easily understandable for the layperson”

ents of the whole firm – not just of one lawyer in the firm. (4) Our culture fosters a deep understanding of our practice focus. The practice of law, like medicine, engineering, and other professions, is a learned profession. Our lawyers regularly write and teach courses for lawyers and judges. These activities keep the firm at the forefront of legal developments.

The firm is a multi-lawyer firm with partners and associates. Our roots go back 40 years of exclusively practicing the law of estates and trusts and that of fiduciaries. For a decade, the firm has consistently expanded while never growing so quickly or so big as to forget that every client matter requires the full attention of the firm. Each client is treated as a client of the whole firm, benefiting from the collective knowledge and experience of the entire firm. We work as a team with partners and associates thoroughly engaged in every aspect of client representations.

Our partners write for law reviews and other legal publications, routinely present continuing education courses on estates/trusts topics for other Maryland lawyers and for the Maryland Judicial Institute, and are active in Maryland Bar Association Estates and Trust Section Council and events. These activities help keep our

firm on the cutting edge of developments in Maryland estates and trusts law and deepen and extend the firm’s collective understanding of the law of estates and trusts.

We serve clients located various distances from our physical office in Annapolis: from the Eastern Shore, the southern counties, and those counties surrounding Baltimore and Washington. The remote service options that we first developed in response to the pandemic continue to provide our more distant clients with ease and convenience without sacrificing the quality of our services. For more information about our firm and how we approach representing our clients, visit our website at www.frankebeckett.com.



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ILIFF, MEREDITH, WILDBERGER & BRENNAN, P.C.

Attorneys at Law

Since its founding in April 1995, the attorneys at Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C. have worked tirelessly to represent victims injured as a result of medical negligence, i.e., medical malpractice. While the firm's primary focus is on medical malpractice injuries, the firm's practice also emphasizes representation of clients injured in automobile accidents and truck accidents.

The firm understands that victims are often unable to afford an attorney's hourly rate. The firm often represents clients on a contingency fee basis. This means that the firm is paid a percentage of a client's recovery as the firm's fee, but that a client does not owe the firm a fee unless a client obtains a monetary recovery. This contingency fee model allows Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C. to represent injured clients who otherwise could not afford to pursue their claims.

Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan,

P.C. offers clients a potent combination of small firm efficiency coupled with ability and experience in litigating large and complex cases. All of the firm's clients receive personal attention from their attorneys at Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C.

Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C.'s relationships with clients are characterized by confidence and trust. Irrespective of the type, value, or complexity of a given case, the attorneys care about what happens to the firm's clients. The firm's attorneys do their utmost in every case to ensure that justice is done for their clients and to assist clients in achieving the best possible result.

Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C. also believes in giving back to the community. In addition to financially supporting community initiatives, the firm's attorneys regularly donate their time through a variety of charitable and professional organizations. This com-

mitment has resulted in many honors and awards to Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C. and its attorneys, as well as many leadership positions being held by the firm's attorneys in both community and professional organizations. Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C. provides potential clients with free legal consultations. Please contact the firm by telephone (410) 685-1166 or online to discuss how its attorneys may be able to provide assistance. Please visit Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C.'s website, www.ilimer.com, to review a more complete description of the firm's practice areas and to view individual attorney profiles.

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RONALD M. NADITCH, P.A.

Ron Naditch has decades of experience successfully handling disputes in the areas of family law (prenuptial agreement, divorce, alimony, domestic violence, and all children related issues), automobile accidents, criminal law, and general civil law.

Ron is a graduate of Dickinson College and University of Maryland Law School (with honors), where he served as an Assistant Editor of the Maryland Law Review and finished in the top 10 percent of his day school class. After law school, he served as a law clerk for The Honorable C. Ferdinand Sybert, a judge on the Maryland Court of Appeals. He then served a tour of duty in the United States Coast Guard before going into private practice as an associate of Goodman and Bloom in Annapolis, a position he held for one year.

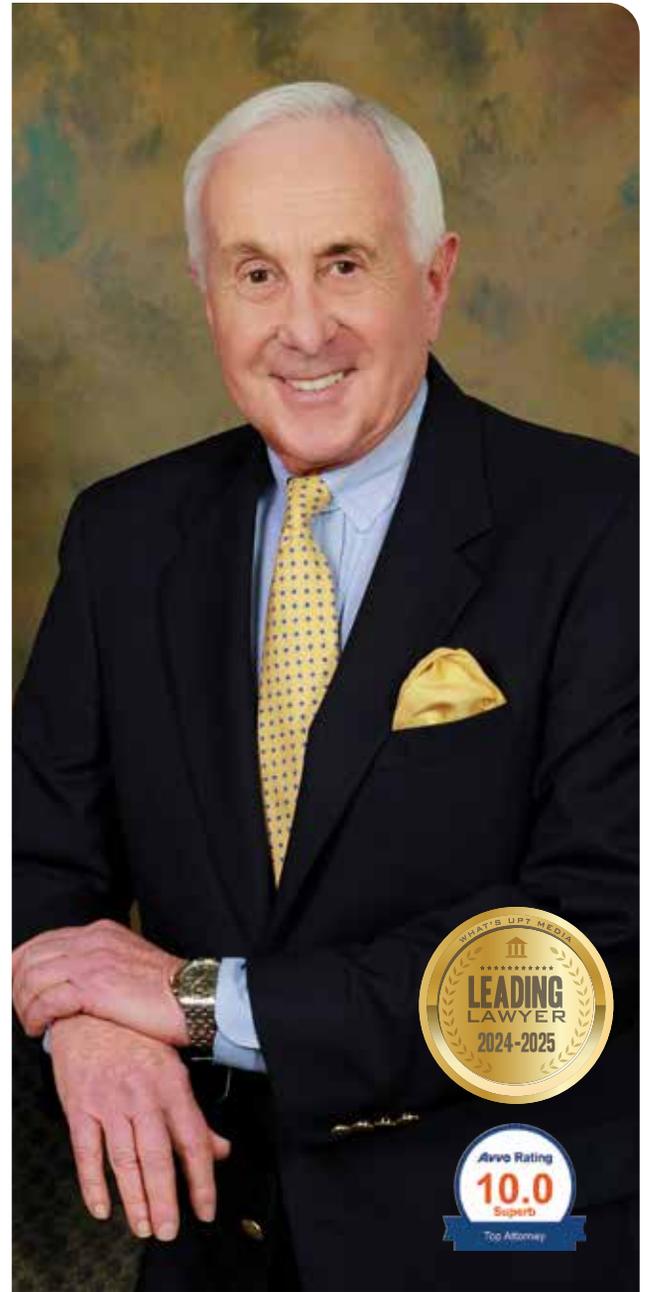
For more than 25 years thereafter, while Ron was developing his private practice, he served under five States Attorneys as a part-time Senior Assistant State's Attorney in Anne Arundel County. In this capacity he specialized in handling murders, rapes, robberies, and other major felony cases and was the go to person in cases involving insanity pleas until he retired in 1993.

During his legal career, Ron has represented the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services; he has been a member of the Maryland Attorney Grievance Review Board; and he has been recognized by Martindale Hubbell (a publication that rates lawyers based upon responses from their peers) as an "AV" rated attorney since the mid-1970s. He also has the highest attorney rating from AVVO. In 1993, the judges of the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court appointed him as part-time Master/Examiner and he participated as a hearing officer for the Court in 5000-7000 cases over a period of 25 years before the elimination of that position in 2018.

At this stage of his practice, a great deal of Ron's time is spent conducting mediations for people who have family law issues. It has been his experience, after more than 25 years as a mediator, that nearly all family law issues can be resolved in this non-adversarial procedure. Mediation is far less expensive than litigation and, with the assistance of a trained mediator, can allow couples to dissolve their marriages and determine how to fairly resolve all child related issues, as well as issues relating to fair and appropriate monetary adjustment with regard to their property and/or to adjust their differences in income. The balance of his time is spent representing clients in contested family law cases in Anne Arundel, Queen Anne and Talbot Counties.

Ron considers family law to be a unique legal area and that it is in the best interest of the divorcing parties and their children if they seek to mediate solutions to their problems, as opposed to allowing the courts to mandate decisions about their lives, the lives of their children, and their financial assets. A divorce should not be about winners, losers, and results that end in scorched earth. Peaceful solutions to divorces inures to the benefit of all parties. An attorney should act as a problem solver, neither accelerating nor aggravating what is often a stormy situation. Ron's approach is to say to his clients when they come into his office, "Let's sit down, discuss, mediate, and resolve the issues, instead of letting a person in a black robe make a decision about you and your family."

According to Ron, "I think of myself as a problem solver, not a troublemaker, in family law cases. But if trouble arises or problems cannot be resolved without limitation, I have the experience to handle any type of case."



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Attorneys Laura Curry, Jon Gasior, and Alexander Pagnotta.

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Kagan Stern Marinello & Beard provides highly skilled legal services to businesses and individuals in the areas of business, employment, and litigation in Maryland, DC, Virginia, and other jurisdictions throughout the country. The firm's attorneys have been consistently recognized as "AV" rated by Martindale-Hubbell (which is the highest rating attorneys can receive from their peers), as well as by "Super Lawyers," "Best Lawyers," and annually by *What's Up? Media's* "Leading Lawyers," in the areas of business, employment, and litigation.

Kagan Stern's business law practice includes corporate formation and organization, drafting contracts and business agreements, mergers and acquisitions, and financing and security transactions. In addition, our attorneys draft and review intellectual property and related licensing agreements and handle other general counsel needs of our business clients. The firm also participates in real estate matters, including drafting and negotiation of leases and purchase contracts, and conducting real estate settlements through its title company affiliate, Title Nation, in addition to land use and licensing matters such as development and zoning issues, variances, special exceptions, site design plans, permitting, and issues related to liquor licenses.

The firm's employment law practice involves advising businesses and individuals on nearly all aspects of the employment relationship. The firm's attorneys draft and review employment agreements, nonsolicitation and noncompetition agreements, confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements, severance agreements, employee handbooks, and employment policies. They also advise on matters such as wage and hour compliance, trade secret pro-

tection, discrimination and leave laws, and privacy issues. Kagan Stern's lawyers are trained and experienced in conducting confidential internal investigations for businesses regarding potential violations of employment laws and other sensitive business matters.

When litigation arises or becomes necessary, the firm's experienced trial attorneys handle a wide variety of complex civil cases in trial and appellate courts, as well as in arbitration and before governmental agencies or boards. The litigation attorneys at Kagan Stern are experienced in handling cases involving business, employment, trusts and estates, real estate, and various other types of disputes.

The combination of business, transactional, and trial experience makes the attorneys at Kagan Stern an ideal choice to represent companies as outside general counsel to work with management on a regular basis to address the particular legal needs of the business.



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Planning is also very important for your Last Will and Testament and/or other estate documents to give guidance and instruction to those who care about you and who are taking care of things when time comes.

Kendall Summers Esquire, is an experienced attorney practicing in the fields of Family and Estate Planning Law with 25+ years of experience.



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So...why the Big Dogs from the Small Firm?

In 1999, Rick founded the Jaklitsch Law Group with the goal of creating the number one personal injury firm in the state. Established on family principles, valuing open communication, trust, and empathy, the Jaklitsch Law Group quickly garnered a reputation for superior client service and case results. Today, the firm specializes in serious and catastrophic injury cases, and its four award-winning lawyers have become synonymous with significant settlements and verdicts for the seriously injured. This track record of success has repeatedly earned the Jaklitsch Law Group national awards and recognition, and is another reason why *What's Up? Annapolis* is again recognizing Rick and his firm as one of its Leading Legal Professionals.

- Named Best of Annapolis 2022 from *What's Up?*, our hometown (and favorite) magazine.
- Named both Maryland's "Best Personal Injury Firm" and "Best Civil Litigation Firm" by *The Daily Record*.
- Named Annually to "Best Law Firms" list by both *U.S. News & World Report* and *Best Lawyers*.
- Rick Jaklitsch and Christine Murphy recognized as two of the "Best Lawyers in America" by *Rue Rating*.
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KAREN M. AUTHEMENT, ESQ.

KMA Law Office

Karen Authement's practice focuses on the areas of Wills, Trust & Estate Planning and Personal Injury. Karen is a member of the Estates & Trusts Section of the Maryland State Maryland Bar Association and Maryland Association for Justice.

Karen started her own practice in 2010 focusing on assisting individuals and families to protect their interests

and assets. Karen graduated from University of Baltimore School of Law with honors in 2004.

KMA Law Office is located in Severna Park. Our firm is led by Maryland attorney Karen M. Authement. She has more than 20 years of legal experience in estate planning, wills and trusts, personal injury claims, and collections.

Big-Firm Services With Small-Firm Attention And Dedication.

- **Estate Planning:** Knowing your future is protected can put your mind at ease. Ms. Authement strongly believes that having a comprehensive estate plan in place can achieve this goal. She works closely with clients to ensure that the personalized documents created address all of their concerns while protecting their assets and legacy for future generations.
- **Personal Injury Claims:** When working on personal injury cases, Ms. Authement has extensive experience dealing with insurance companies, medical providers and other parties that can be involved in resolution of personal injury claims. KMA Law Office takes over the stressful task of dealing with insurance companies and paperwork while you focus on your recovery.
- KMA Law Office also takes pride in offering clients the same approach in workers' compensation cases. Our firm understands what it is like to be injured at work and attempt to recover while keeping your job.

Ms. Authement fights for what's best for injured workers and pursues the workers' comp benefits they deserve.

It is the mission of KMA Law Office to protect our clients by helping them:

- (1) Protect their legacy so that their assets go to their loved ones after they're gone; and by
- (2) Help injury victims whose world has been turned upside down get the compensation they deserve from the insurance companies.

Our firm values: Professionalism; Compassion, Empathy, Teamwork, Honesty and Hard work.

KAREN M. AUTHEMENT, ESQ.

KMA Law Office

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McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker, LLC



McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker (MDSW) is honored that our dedication to the practice of law and service to our communities has been recognized with 17 of our attorneys selected as 2024-2025 Leading Lawyers across Annapolis and the Eastern Shore!

MDSW is a mid-sized regional law firm comprised of attorneys with decades of experience representing professionals, Fortune 500 companies, private equity firms, physician groups, hospital systems, public and private schools, families, municipalities, and closely-held businesses.

At MDSW, we are dedicated and experienced in handling all manners of complex business transactions, bet-the-company litigation, employment disputes, estate and trust planning, family matters, real estate mat-

ters, and land use regulation issues. With offices across the Eastern Shore and into Annapolis, we are uniquely positioned to deliver outstanding and effective legal representation to our clients.

2023 marked a significant expansion for MDSW's Annapolis presence, with the addition of a new suite of offices that allowed us to increase our attorney footprint. The expansion of our modern space at 706 Giddings Avenue underlines our commitment to innovation and growth in the Annapolis community. With this expansion came the addition of attorneys Michelle DiDonato (real estate law) and Christopher Mincher (administrative law and appeals). Michelle and Chris join Steven Brown, Tim Oursler, Strider Dickson, Anthony Kupersmith, Sarah Dwyer-Heidkamp, and Craig Snyder in MDSW's Annapolis office.

At MDSW, we understand that the essence of a successful law firm is not only in the expertise of its attorneys but also in their commitment to the community they serve. Our Annapolis attorneys are actively involved in various community programs, boards, and non-profit organizations, including Leadership Anne Arundel, the Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce, the Anne Arundel Bar Association, the James C. Cawood, Jr. American Inn of Court, and the Maryland Tech Council. We look forward to the opportunity to continue growing our relationships in the Annapolis region and beyond.

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Front row, from left to right: Jane Frankel Sims, John Robinson, Matthew Pearl, Sarah Thiroway, and Gabby Beese. Back row, from left to right: Christia Pritts, Michael E. Lehr, Zoe Kerasidis, Frank R. Campbell, and Jennifer Yeagle.

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At Sims & Campbell, our estate planning lawyers advise and assist individuals and families to develop estate plans that preserve family harmony, avoid probate, minimize gift and estate taxes, preserve and protect assets, designate guardians of minor children, and benefit charitable organizations.

All of our lawyers focus their practice exclusively in estate planning and estate administration. We believe that by focusing our practice, we bring experience and wisdom to solve complex tax, family, and other planning issues with common sense, clarity, and compassion. Ultimately, we strive to provide every client with **peace of mind** that their plan is orderly and efficient for their loved ones. This year, two of our attorneys were selected as Leading Lawyers: **Frank Campbell** and **Michael (Mike) Lehr**.

Frank earned his law degree from Hofstra Law School and a Master of Laws in Taxation (LLM) from University of Baltimore. Since 2005, he has focused his entire practice on estate planning. He began his legal career as a Judge Advocate in the United State Marine Corps and previously serve as the General Counsel for the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction.

Mike completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Maryland, and earned his law degree from University of Baltimore. He began working at an estate planning law firm in law school and has dedicated his entire career to estate planning, wealth transfer planning, and estate administration. Mike has taught courses on estate planning at Anne Arundel Community College, serves on several local charity boards, and is a past Chair of the Anne Arundel Estate Planning Council.

The firm serves a wide range of clients, from young families to ultra-high net worth individuals and families, which allows clients to remain with the firm as their level of wealth and the complexity of their estate planning changes over time.

Please check us out at www.simscampbell.law to learn how we can serve our family and plan your legacy.

OUR ATTORNEYS: Jane Frankel Sims, Frank Campbell, Michael (Mike) Lehr, John Robinson, Christia Pritts, Jennifer Yeagle, Matthew Pearl, Zoe Kerasidis, Sarah Thiroway and Gabby Bease.



EVAN KOSLOW

Your Family Law Advocate

For more than a decade, Evan Koslow has been helping couples, families, and children in Maryland get to a better place. Located in Annapolis, the Koslow Law Firm handles many types of family law cases including military divorce, best interest attorney, third party custody, collaborative law, and mediation. Evan has successfully taken on hundreds of the most difficult and complex divorce and family law cases in Maryland.

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- **Accessible**
- **Determined**

Recognizing that every client is in a unique situation, Evan will be your advocate and provide you with personal attention to better understand the circumstances surrounding your legal situation.

Koslow Law Firm supports clients in many parts of Maryland including, but not limited to: Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Calvert County, the Eastern Shore, Howard County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County.

With flexible appointments available all week, Koslow Law Firm LLC strives to be easily accessible to clients and all calls and emails are returned within 24 hours.

Give us a call today to discuss your family law case.



Koslow Law Firm, LLC

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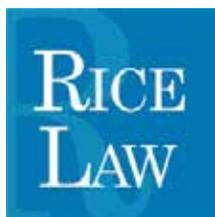


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Rice Law

Rice Law is a family law firm, focusing on divorce, custody, child support, alimony, protective orders, prenuptial agreements, guardianship, and adoption. Our mission is to provide each client with exceptionally dedicated service, as trusted advisors and tenacious advocates, navigating disputes and seeking to achieve unique goals through a personalized, strategic approach grounded in empathy.

The firm is led by Stacey B. Rice, who has practiced family law for nearly two decades in her 24 years as an attorney in Annapolis. The Rice Law team includes partners Samantha Posner and Nathan Volke (also an AACO Councilman), along with associate attorney Nicholas Mastracci. Rice Law is unique in that our attorneys offer a collaborative, team approach and work together closely on all cases to give our clients the very best representation possible.



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In addition to being experienced trial attorneys and negotiators, Stacey is a certified mediator for custody cases, Samantha is a certified parent coordinator, and Stacey, Samantha and Nick are regularly appointed as Best Interest Attorneys, representing children in custody and divorce cases.



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(From Left to Right): **Kinley Bray** (Member); **Paul Sweeney** (Managing Member); **Corinne Adams** (Counsel); **David Plott** (Sr. Counsel); **Erin Benson** (Associate); **John Rott** (Associate); **Ben Wechsler** (Member); **Catherine Hopkin** (Member); and **Jonathan Grasso** (Member).

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HENLEY & HENLEY



Henley & Henley is a litigation law firm representing clients in civil and criminal matters.

Robin Henley is an experienced trial lawyer and recognized by *What's Up? Magazine* as a 2024 Leading Lawyer in Criminal Law. He represents clients charged in various types of criminal matters, serious felonies, misdemeanors, and serious traffic offenses. His civil practice includes personal injury, workers' compensation and family law matters. Mr. Henley also holds rating with Super Lawyers.

Susanne Henley is a past-chair of the Litigation Section of the Maryland State Bar Association and represents clients in a broad range of civil matters, land use and all aspects of family law cases. With over 30 years of trial practice, Ms. Henley uses her experience towards the effective resolution of matters and is regularly contacted for mediations.

Matthew Katz joined the firm in 2020 and has developed a trial practice in line with the firm's ideals on providing clients with personal attention and focused representation.



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KEATTS LAW GROUP, LLC

James (Jim) Keatts is a former Assistant State's Attorney for Anne Arundel and adjunct college professor who has taught numerous courses on criminal procedure and evidence. He has handled thousands of cases in state and federal court, several of them high profile. He was appointed by the Governor to serve as a member of the Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commission, an entity that vets prospective judges and forwards the candidates' names to the Governor for appointments as judges. Mr. Keatts concentrates his practice on criminal trial work and has also been successful in personal injury litigation. Mr. Keatts strives to solve problems for his clients, obtain excellent results, and make his clients feel comfortable during the often stressful legal process.

Q&A

Questions & Answers with the Legal Experts



Q: How can a lender reduce the risk of loss?

A: Creditors who are assertive and act to protect their interests in their debtors' specific property are rewarded over those who wait or

hope to be paid. Usually, the adage "first in time, first in right" applies to property that has multiple creditors making claims against it, but security interests need to be "perfected" as to other creditors. Many industry-specific liens and security rights have specialized details and enforcement procedures. Due to the myriad types of obligations and relationships between borrowers and debtors, consulting with counsel is advisable.

Brian D. Lyman, Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.



Q: What issues arise in planning for transferring a family legacy property or closely held business to the next generation?

A: Whether preserving legacy property, such as a farm or vacation home, or transferring a family business, the governance provisions are of equal or greater importance

than other considerations. Such planning is a mix of tax, legal, and family considerations. Although each situation is different, a primary concern is control and governance: how will the decision-making power be handled, and what rights will minority members have if they disagree? To do it right, a successful plan needs to establish a governance plan that balances the legitimate concerns of all stakeholders. Franke Beckett LLC brings both planning and litigation experience to the table in helping families implement effective succession planning.

Jack K. Beckett, Franke Beckett LLC



Q: How does a person who is about to become involved in a family law problem select the right lawyer?

A: 1) Start by checking the lawyer's rating in Martindale-Hubbell, a publication which rates attorneys based on evaluations from one's peers. 2) Inquire of friends who have been through a similar situation. 3) Inquire of lawyer

friends you may have. 4) Ask people at the courthouse who work for the court in the family law division. 5) Confer with more than one lawyer to make certain that you are comfortable with the person selected. Lawyers are not "one size fits all." Determine what you are looking for—super aggressive, cerebral, or warm and fuzzy. Look for someone who is responsive in getting back to you, who will not delegate duties to others, and who specializes in the issues that are likely to be involved in your case. This is a very important decision — select wisely.

Ron Naditch, Ronald M. Naditch, P.A.



Q: What is Enhanced UIM?

A: Enhanced UIM is coverage on your policy that protects you if the at fault driver has a lower policy than what you carry. This "enhances"

or increases your coverage, so that you have more insurance coverage to protect YOU if you are injured by someone else's carelessness. This is typically a minimal cost, and your health and a full recovery are worth it.

Deborah Potter, Potter Burnett Law



Q: Should I add my child to my deed to make things easier when I pass away?

A: For many of us, our home is one of the most significant assets in our estate and we want to make sure it passes to our loved ones with ease. Most people think

adding a child to their deed is a simple and inexpensive solution, however, there are serious consequences to consider. Title issues, gift tax implications, third-party creditor claims, and capital gains tax issues are just a few reasons we do not recommend this technique. You should always consult with your attorney on the titling of your assets to ensure a successful estate plan.

Jon Gasior, Sinclair Prosser Gasior



Q: Will a corporation protect my personal assets?

A: I'm often asked to set up companies to help clients limit their liability. Forming a corporation or LLC can largely achieve this, but it's not

a cure-all. You can be liable for torts you personally commit. If you ignore corporate distinctions by commingling company money with your own or treating the company like an empty shell to do business, you could be personally liable for company debts. Don't mix business with pleasure. If you don't treat your company as a separate entity, neither will the law.

Jonathan E. Pasterick, Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.



Q: As the majority owner of a business what obligations do I owe to the other owners/ members?

A: Statutory and common law obligations are continuously changing which influence ownership dynamics, require corporate officers and LLC members to uphold a duty of

loyalty, and exercise prudence in decision-making. Corporate governance documents, such as By-Laws or Operating Agreements, may introduce additional obligations. Compliance is essential to avoid legal exposure. Given the unique characteristics of your business, consulting with an experienced business attorney is advisable for a comprehensive review of these documents and to understand specific obligations. This is particularly critical before significant business decisions like mergers or sales to prevent disputes and potential litigation, thus safeguarding the business's continuity and minimizing legal liabilities associated with decision-making processes.

Frank Lozupone, Bowman Jarashow Law LLC



Q: What does McNamee Hosea offer its clients that separates it from other law firms?

A: McNamee Hosea attorneys always provide their clients with consistent and clear communication to solve whatever legal problem needs to be solved. Whether your legal problem involves

a business dispute, an estates and trust issue, litigation, employment, zoning, contract, criminal defense, bankruptcy, or anything in between, you can trust that McNamee Hosea attorneys will be understanding and empathetic. For more than forty years, our skilled trial attorneys and advisors have provided creative solutions to complex legal issues. Because of our diverse practice experience, we can handle all of your legal needs within our Firm, resolving them effectively and efficiently.

John P. Lynch, McNamee Hosea, P.A.



Q: When can I file for divorce?

A: Last year, Maryland did away with "fault-based" grounds for divorce, including adultery and desertion. A new law establishes three new "no-

fault" grounds, namely mutual consent, six-month separation, and irreconcilable differences, and allows you to get into court much faster. While fault has been removed as a prerequisite to filing, your spouse's conduct and the circumstances giving rise to your divorce remain important considerations and could impact the Court's decisions regarding custody, spousal support, property, and attorney's fees. An attorney can help you navigate these issues.

Marietta B. Warren, Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.



Q: What happens when a spouse takes or misuses Marital Money?

A: An Issue that can come up in a divorce/family law case involves the question of the possible misuse of Marital Funds or other property during the parties' marriage to one another, such as the taking of marital money to pay for lavish vacations and uses

outside of the marriage. Recent court decisions have affirmed that the Court in Maryland has the authority and may make an adjustment to compensate the injured spouse for the other spouse's misuse of funds (termed a "Dissipation of Assets") which generally means the use of funds for purposes outside of the marriage during a time of irreparable breakdown of the marriage and/or to reduce the amount of assets available to their spouse at distribution.

Kendall Summers, Esquire, Kendall Summers Law



Q: I am under contract on a home. What is title insurance and do I actually need it?

A: Yes! For most people, a home is the single largest investment they will make in their life. For a one time fee at settlement, owner's title insurance protects your property rights for as long as you or your heirs own your

home. There are many hidden issues that may pop up after your home purchase. Getting an owner's title insurance policy is the best way to protect yourself from unforeseen legal and financial title discrepancies. Unexpected issues that could arise include: (1) outstanding mortgages and judgments or a lien against the property because the seller has not paid taxes; (2) pending legal action against the property that could impact you; or (3) an unknown heir of a previous owner who is claiming ownership in the property. You insure everything else that is valuable to you – your life, car, health... the same should apply for your largest investment!

Lee Ann Adams, Council Baradel



Q: What can a lawyer do for me if I'm injured in a car crash?

A: Your lawyer can do more than simply help you get the best monetary result possible. A great lawyer can assist with the property damage settlement on your car (or settling the total loss) and getting you into a rental car while you wait. The lawyer will interview witnesses while the accident is fresh, including the

investigating police officer, obtain the light sequence from the State Highway Administration (or black-box data in a commercial truck crash), look for physical evidence, such as skid marks or crash debris, run tag traces, and more. Your lawyer will also coordinate paying the doctors either through health insurance or Personal Injury Protection Coverage (PIP) and arrange treatment with a quality doctor if needed, all while ensuring no immediate out-of-pocket payment is required from you. Your lawyer will also maximize the available insurance coverage available to you by coordinating different insurance policies that you may not even know exist, will know the value of your case for settlement purposes, can advise you on litigation strategy, and help you obtain the maximum value for your case. Remember, you should only pay if a lawyer wins your case. So contact a lawyer immediately who handles nothing but car, truck or train crashes if that's how you were injured.

Rick Jaklitsch, The Jaklitsch Law Group | 1-(855)-Big-Dog1



Q: I would like to give my residence to my children. What are the tax implications?

A: A lifetime gift of your residence may not be the best option if your residence has increased in value since you purchased

it. If you make a gift, the recipient takes your basis in the property and will have to pay taxes on the gain if they sell in the future. If, however, you own your residence at your death (or have a life estate in your residence), your estate will receive a stepped up in basis to the fair market value. Because of this, the tax liability associated with the increase in value during your lifetime disappears.

Deborah F. Howe, Franke Beckett LLC



Q: My employer is asking me to sign a non-compete for my job. What should I be on the lookout for?

A: Non-competes are a balance of protecting an employer's interests, such as goodwill and confidential information, with your ability to make a living.

You should be thinking about your marketability in the workforce if you were to leave. Ask to limit the geographic reach as close as possible to your current location and ask the time limit to be as short as possible. Non-competes can be a breeding ground for litigation, so addressing these items upfront can be a huge cost savings for you. Still unsure? Ask your local employment attorney for advice prior to signing.

Steven A. Brown
McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker, LLC



Q: Should I put my adult children's names on my bank accounts and deed to my house?

A: Putting adult children's names on bank accounts and other assets is one of the biggest estate planning mistakes people make. When adding your

children to accounts or other assets, you are giving your children an ownership interest in your assets, which could subject your assets to your children's creditors. There could also be unintended negative tax consequences when the kids sell certain assets after your death. Finally, you could be creating animosity in the family if you have multiple children but only add one child to your accounts. This can be avoided with proper estate planning.

Greg Jimeno, Jimeno & Gray, P.A.



Q: My spouse and I have agreed to terms for a Marital Settlement Agreement (MSA). What's next?

A: Congratulations on trying to reach an amicable divorce. It's always better when you and your spouse agree to the terms instead

of a court ordering them. Even if you agree on terms related to your children, support, and property/financial matters, it's best to have an attorney review the terms of your agreement and help you draft an MSA. People often proceed without an attorney and encounter issues because they didn't understand their rights or the terms of the agreement.

Sarah E. Brown, Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.



Q: Is Maryland now a "No Fault" Divorce State?

A: Actually – YES. In Oct 2023, Maryland made some major revisions to its divorce laws. Specifically, the legal grounds for divorce were changed from fault grounds (like adultery,

vicious conduct etc.) to three non-fault grounds: (1) "Consent" where the parties have created a Marital Separation Agreement (MSA) resolving all issues; or (2) a 6-month Separation (now including separate living in the same house); or (3) for Irreconcilable Differences. The realities of unkind and harsh treatment, adultery, etc can still be considered by a court in its consideration of property division and alimony support, however. Overall these changes seem to be promoting a less hostile and contentious divorce process. Call us if you would like to learn more!

Kendall Summers, Esquire, Kendall Summers Law



Q: Have there been any recent changes to how severance agreements may be used with departing employees?

A: Yes – and they are significant. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), an independent federal agency, recently announced that severance agreements with broad non-disparagement

and confidentiality clauses are unlawful because they burden employees' right to organize. Not only may employers not offer or agree to those clauses going forward, NLRB says that even enforcing old agreements with them is an unfair labor practice. Employers should consider consulting with a lawyer about severance agreements new and old to ensure compliance with NLRB's new position.

Dave Dorey, Partner | Liff Walsh & Simmons



Q: With thousands of lawyers out there, how do I find the best lawyer to handle my car crash?

A: You wouldn't hire a doctor who says "I handle dermatology, allergies, lung cancer and oh, by the way, I do brain surgery on the side." Lawyers that limit their practice to car crash cases

will most likely get much better results than lawyers who do not. We live and breathe those issues daily. Start there – find someone handling only the problem you have. Then check them out on-line, with a judge you may know, through MartindaleHubble.com (find lawyers with an "AV" rating), ask other lawyers, read client reviews, look in Faces of the Chesapeake Magazine, ask bailiffs or courtroom clerks who watch lawyers in court every day. Find lawyers that have built their reputations on trial results. Insurance adjusters know which lawyers will push hard for the best results and which will settle easily for less money. You need that information too.

Rick Jaklitsch, The Jaklitsch Law Group | 1-(855)-Big-Dog1



Q: I am planning to sell my business. What can I do to ensure the process goes smoothly?

A: First, make sure your financial records are in good order. This will ensure the buyer can conduct an efficient review of your business. If your business is subject to any loans or lines of credit, confirm the payoff and lien release process with

your lender. If your business leases commercial space, review your lease and engage your landlord early about the assignment process so you and the buyer have sufficient time to get consent to an assignment or to negotiate early termination of the lease. Lastly, retain counsel experienced in business transactions who can assist with the negotiations, document preparation, and closing.

Ryan Beard, Kagan Stern Marinello & Beard, LLC



Q: How do I keep my house out of Probate for my family when I'm gone?

A: A "Living" or Revocable Trust is a common method used to avoid probate in Maryland. Transferring your home to the trust allows it to be handled outside of probate. A trust is not for everyone as it will cost

more than just a Will. For someone with few assets setting up trust could actually cost more than the probate process. A Life Estate Deed is another great tool to use to transfer ownership of your home after your death. The life estate provides you with right to occupy and use the property, or receive benefits of the property, during your life time and at your death the person named as the remainder automatically becomes owner of the home.

Karen M. Authement, Esq., KMA Law Office



Q: If I hire Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger, & Brennan, PC to represent me, will I be able to speak with my attorney throughout the entire case?

A: Yes. Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, PC, is a small, client-focused law firm. Every

case is staffed by at least two attorneys. Our goal is to provide clients with ready accessibility to attorneys at all times. We work hard to ensure effective communication with clients from start to finish.

Benjamin Howard Meredith
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GOVERNMENT BUILT

MARYLAND'S DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES GETS A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED HOME, ENABLING ITS BI-PARTISAN WORK TO RUN SMOOTHER THAN EVER BEFORE

BY LISA HILLMAN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TONY LEWIS, JR.



Imagine you have 188 bosses.

And the place where you work houses another 300-plus employees. But it's crumbling around you. The basement floods. Sewage pipes burst. Walls hold asbestos, mold, and lead paint.

Add to this, you oversee the sole agency supporting the legislative branch of state government. That includes the 141 members of the House of Delegates, the 47 members of the State Senate, their staff and support personnel—and not just when the Maryland General Assembly is in session for 90 days from January to April, but year-round.

That's the situation Vicki Gruber discovered when she returned to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) as its executive director in 2018 after serving as Chief of Staff for the late Senate President Mike Miller.

"It was the beginning of the second Hogan administration," she recalls. "Our agency had grown. We had all these problems. Something had to be done."

THE BACKGROUND

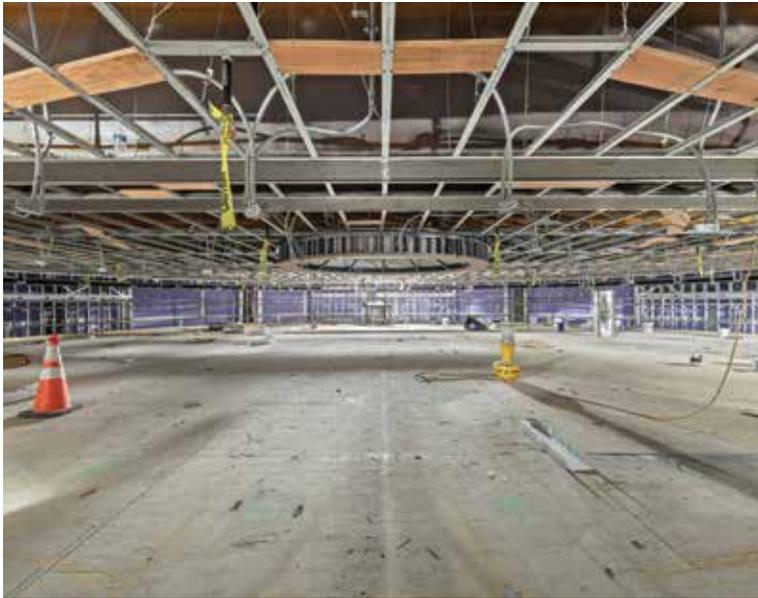
The original DLS building—built in 1976 on State Circle in downtown Annapolis directly across from the State House—was erected on the site that once held the Court of Appeals, Calvery Methodist Church, the church rectory, and several private residences. The site shared space with Lawyers Mall, an open plaza created in 1973 and later home to the Thurgood Marshall memorial erected in 1996.

Four decades later, DLS had grown to keep pace with a General Assembly whose members worked throughout the year. New services were added. New technology arrived.

DJ Lissau, a 29-year employee of DLS and Senior Manager in Administration, describes the gradual change in how the DLS building operated. "We had 'pass through' offices. You had to pass through one to get to the other."

The staff endured frequent floods, including sensitive areas like the technology office. Many reported illnesses related to mold. Asbestos and lead paint threatened other health concerns. But it was probably the sewage pipe bursting on the ground floor "trashing" the legislative library that was the capping indignity. The project had been in the state's capital budget for years but kept getting pushed out to the future. With the support of House Speaker Adrienne Jones and Senate President Bill Ferguson it finally became a priority in 2018.

After the Department of General Services conducted a condition assessment, DLS needed someone to oversee the project. General Services was occupied with the reconstruction of Lawyers Mall. Gruber and Lissau turned to the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA). Established in 1986, MSA is best known for building and leasing Orioles and Ravens stadiums, but it also has built facilities across Maryland, including the Ocean City Convention Center and some 27 schools throughout Baltimore City. On July 9, 2019, DLS entered a Memorandum of Understanding with MSA.



THE TEAM EXPANDS

MSA and DLS entered a months-long process to select the architect. They chose Baltimore-based Murphy & Dittenhafer known for its experience with historic buildings. MSA contracted with the renowned firm of Whiting-Turner (WT) Contracting Company as construction manager. WT is no stranger to the region, having built Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center in Parnoke and the Hillman parking garage in downtown Annapolis.

The question the team faced was, could the building be refurbished? Or would it need to be rebuilt?

According to Lissau, there were four possibilities: (1) do nothing; (2) refurbish; (3) refurbish with an addition; or (4) rebuild. Team members assessed the existing structure with its cracking foundation, need to mitigate mold, flooding, and lead paint, as well as a poor layout for expansion. After reviewing costs for each model,

they determined the best course was a new building.

The goal was to complement the existing House and Senate office buildings. The main entrance would face Lawyers Mall where the Thurgood Marshall statue would be centered to resemble his coming down the steps of the former Court of Appeals. The building could not be “more extravagant” than the State House.

Ultimately, the design called for a six-story structure, four above ground with two below. Because the State of Maryland is not subject to City of Annapolis regulations, the City had no oversight on the final design.

At a cost of \$120 million, the 141,000-square foot building on the 1.2 acre site is one story higher and 50,000 square feet bigger than its predecessor. It is not without its detractors. Many city residents decry its mass and wonder why it had to be so large. Occupying an entire city block from State Circle to College Avenue, it looms over neighboring residences.

SAD FAREWELLS

They disappeared almost overnight. In just three short days in late June 2022, eight trees were removed from the site. As limbs were shorn first, then trunks, passers-by stood and watched. It was an oddly emotional time for local workers and residents who had come to know the trees as neighbors, stately beacons offering shade, breeze, and brilliant colors. Some held back tears, whispering farewell to old friends.

Even Lissau confesses “The worst day on the project was seeing the trees go.”

MOVING OUT, MAKING WAY

In the fall of 2021 Gruber and Lissau faced an immediate challenge: where to place hundreds of employees in temporary quarters for three years?

“That itself was a major project,” Lissau says. Soon reception areas and multi-purpose rooms in the historic Shaw House, Senate, and House buildings were lined with cubicles. Plexiglass sprouted during the pandemic. Those who could telework—at least 40 percent of the workforce—did.

By mid-fall of 2021, everyone was out.

The greatest challenge, according to Gary McGuigan, Executive Vice President of MSA, was the building’s location “in the heart of downtown





Annapolis, surrounded by high profile neighbors.” Not only was it directly across the street from the State House, but also adjacent to Government House where Maryland’s Governor and his family reside.

“We couldn’t use explosives or implode the building. The impact to nearby residents and the impact of dust was too risky,” McGuigan says.

There were other challenges. The site was very tight, leaving little room for staging. Workers wearing hard hats and bright orange vests had to manage traffic daily. Coordination with the City of Annapolis on nearby projects required close coordination.

The plan followed four phases:

- ◆ Demolition, excavation and waterproofing of underground structures.
- ◆ Digging the “big hole” two stories down with a foundation.
- ◆ Utility work connecting from the surrounding streets, and
- ◆ Constructing the building from basement to roof.

WT used a “standard demolition” process, bringing in huge excavators to section off the building slowly and methodically.

Removing the cupola that stood atop the building’s roof provided a memorable moment and an “inside” joke. The giant claw-like machine began chewing away, nipping at the cupola’s fast hold. It took more than a day and at one point, it broke.

Says Lissau, “The gag around here was “Cupola – 1. Claw – zero.”

WHAT’S INSIDE

Since the department’s primary mission is to support the General Assembly and its operations, much of what the building houses will be invisible to the public. Upper floors include offices for such functions as bill drafting for the estimated 2,500 bills that pass through the department each legislative session, information technology, and website design linking the General Assembly to the public.

In the basement, the Legislative Library occupies much needed additional space with 5,400 square feet. Open to the

public, the library contains the entire history of the Maryland General Assembly, including files on every bill created, reports from state agencies and committees, and House and Senate journals. Although much has been digitized, DLS still maintains paper records.

Lissau notes, “Maybe ten years ago we printed more than 500 copies. Today we print only 26, exactly what we need.”

But working toward a “paperless” age did not lead to less space.

“As we become more paperless, we have reduced staff through attrition,” he says. “But our bill drafters need to be onsite. We need space for members to review the drafts, make amendments, and to meet our staff here.”

The 352 offices—versus 260 in the old building—include first floor space for the Attorney General (AG) and four assistant AGs. State Police also have a first-floor office. At least five state troopers are present year-round. During the session, their numbers increase to provide security for each legislative committee hearing room. Two troopers are assigned fulltime to the House Speaker and Senate





President. New space is allocated for legislative caucuses, including the Women’s, Latina, Black, and Asian Caucus, each with a fulltime staff member.

In the past five years, Gruber has added two new functions: (1) an office of program evaluation to evaluate state agencies for their efficiency and effectiveness, and (2) an office for “REIN” which stands for racial equity impact notes. This team will examine data for disproportionate effects on different communities, both positive and negative, and is currently focusing on criminal justice legislation.

But clearly the centerpiece of the building—certain to be a highlight for the public—is the Joint Hearing Room.

THE CENTERPIECE

It occupies a floor and a half, located just beyond the reception desk inside the main entrance off Lawyer’s Mall.

At 5,000 square feet, the new Joint Hearing Room is two-thirds larger than its predecessor. Gruber calls it “the centerpiece” of the building. “This really is ‘the legislative room,’” she says.

The Joint Hearing Room is reserved for controversial or complex bills which draw large crowds to testify before House and Senate members. It also is sometimes used for non-legislative purposes by special request. Built before ADA requirements, the room often required last-minute shuffling to arrange more seating.

Designed to accommodate up to 300 people, including 74 members of two House and Senate Committees simultaneously, the new Hearing Room, with its amphitheater-like layout, provides stadium seating on chairs that rise a full story from the ground floor. ADA compliant, the design allows wheelchairs to enter from the ground level or first floor.

There is great attention to detail. The room will have wood-paneled walls, three video screens, and dark wood accents sporting Maryland colors, reds, and yellows. The ceiling will resemble a dome. A multi-colored stained-glass window, ten feet in diameter, will be backlit resembling the former Tiffany dome now in the Senate Building. It will feature an acorn, similar to the State House dome, “to symbolize wisdom of the decisions being made beneath.”

WHAT’S OUTSIDE

According to MSA’s McGuigan, the landscaping plan brings in garden beds with native trees, shrubs and bushes, ground cover, and flowers. Much of it is focused on the Lawyer’s Mall entrance. A series of crepe myrtles in boxes will line the North Street side.

“Interestingly, when we removed the trees, we found their roots had caused damage to the utilities,” McGuigan says. “We need to box the trees to preserve the integrity of new utilities.”

Atop the building will be a 6,000-square foot green roof. Plants and grasses grown there will help to prevent stormwater run-off. The building is designed to be LEED Silver, an environmental status required by state law. It means the structure will be well-insulated and water-proofed to achieve a high level of energy efficiency.

WHAT’S UNDERGROUND

Most people don’t know they exist, not even those who live or work nearby.

Running deep underground beneath the State House complex are three pedestrian tunnels. The original was constructed in 1948 beneath the old Court of Appeals. That tunnel connects the DLS building to the State House. Tunnels connecting the House and Senate office buildings to the DLS were added in 1976. The tunnels are receiving



“WE ARE NON-PARTISAN. THAT’S VERY IMPORTANT TO US. WHATEVER WE DO FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WE DO WITHOUT BIAS. WHETHER IT IS ONBOARDING A STAFF PERSON, HELPING WITH HEALTH BENEFITS, RETIREMENT, DRAFTING A BILL OR AMENDMENT, WRITING A FISCAL NOTE FOR A BILL, OR JUST MOVING A DESK OR HANGING A PICTURE, WE DO THE SAME FOR ALL.”

–VICKI GRUBER

much-needed upgrades, including waterproofing and improved lighting.

Library staff oversee tours of the DLS and State House complex for some 12,000 people annually. They say the tunnels are especially a big hit among schoolchildren.

OPENING DAY

With an expected ribbon cutting in December 2024, both Gruber, Lissau, and our state’s many legislators look forward to moving their hundreds of employees into their new quarters.

“The Maryland General Assembly cannot do its work without the dedicated, bipartisan staff of the Department of Legislative Services,” Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates Adrienne A. Jones says. “They deserve to carry on their vital work in a new, state-of-the-art building that is scheduled to be completed by the 2025 Legislative Session. Meanwhile, it has been fascinating to have a front row view of the entire process coming to work each day.”

“DLS has always been a collaborative group,” Gruber says. “Out for the pandemic and now for construction, part of that has been lost. Being able to get back into the building and have our newer staff near our senior staff, just to pop into an office and ask for someone’s help...I am excited to bring back that collegiality.”

With a nod to today’s global, political climate, she emphasizes: “We are non-partisan. That’s very important to us. Whatever we do for the General Assembly, we do without bias. Whether it is onboarding a staff person, helping with health benefits, retirement, drafting a bill or amendment, writing a fiscal note for a bill, or just moving a desk or hanging a picture, we do the same for all.”

MSA’s McGuigan will be proud to see the project completed as he anticipates, “on time and on budget.”

“From where the project started it has been extremely complicated. I have to praise the team for its cooperation and understanding throughout. We will have a building that will last for decades to come.”

Snapshot of What’s Where

4th Floor: Information Technology, Office of Program Evaluations

3rd Floor: Bill Drafting, Editing (part of Office of Policy Analysis)

2nd Floor: Budget, Fiscal Notes (Part of Office of Policy Analysis)

1st Floor: Joint Hearing Room, Attorney General, State Police, Human Resources, Finance

Ground Floor: Graphics and Printing, Mail and Bill Room, Library Offices

Basement: Library, Facilities, Procurement

The Project Team

Maryland Stadium Authority

Department of Legislative Services

Department of General Services

Architect: Murphy & Dittenhafer

Construction Manager: Whiting Turner

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YOUR 2024 PHILANTHROPIC EVENT CALENDAR

Compiled by Megan Kotelchuck

Save the date! Perhaps, save many... there's no shortage of toast-worthy celebrations taking place throughout the greater Chesapeake Bay region this month and throughout summer into fall. We've compiled a generous list of charity events benefiting various non-profit organizations; from derby day parties and beach concerts to black-tie galas and everything between. Have a great soiree season, all for many great causes!

EDITOR'S NOTES:

- ✦ There are a few To Be Determined events listed within the months they typically have been held in past years.
- ✦ For all events listed, always call ahead to confirm date and information, as changes have been known to occur.
- ✦ Don't see your organization's event listed? Email us at editor@whatsupmag.com to be added to the online listings and next year's print version.

MAY

WED, MAY 1

35th Annual Youth of the Year Awards Dinner for the Boys & Girls Club of America at The Westin in Annapolis. Bgcaa.org; The Youth of the Year Awards Dinner is BGCAA's biggest fundraiser of the year and the premier recognition program for Club teens. Honor Anne Arundel County's amazing teens!

THUR, MAY 2

26th Annual Treasure the Chesapeake for the Chesapeake Bay Trust at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. Cbtrust.org; Show off your love for the Bay, amplify your commitment to restoration, and catch up with old friends and new connections.

FRI, MAY 3

Haven Ministries Art Auction for Haven Ministries at Cascia Vineyards in Kent Island. Haven-ministries.org; The evening features lite fare, libations, live and silent auctions, including unique art, jewelry, and items by local artists.

SAT, MAY 4

Bourbon & Blossoms at Maryland Therapeutic Riding's Crownsville campus. Horsesthatheal.org/events; Kentucky Derby themed event that supports MTR's

therapeutic equestrian programs for those with special needs.

2024 Derby Day for Talisman Therapeutic Riding at their campus in Grasonville. Talismantherapeuticriding.org; Coming down the home stretch is the event you've been waiting for—the 150th running of the Kentucky Derby celebrated at the organization's annual Derby Day Fundraiser.

Mother's Day Tea and Spring Walk for Adkins Arboretum at their campus in Ridgely. Adkins.donorshops.com; Celebrate spring and the wonderful women in your life with a guided walk and afternoon tea. Look for spring wildflowers along the forest paths, then return to the covered pavilion for a cuppa, scones, and other treats made by a local baker.

Academy Art Museum Spring Gala: An Evening in Tuscany for Academy Art Museum at their Campus in Easton. Academyartmuseum.org; An evening of art, live music, and Tuscan festivities in support of the museum's mission of accessible, high-quality art and art education for everyone.

MON, MAY 6

Tee It Up for a Child for Anne Arundel County CASA at

Crofton Country Club. Aacasa.org

FRI, MAY 10

Julianne Rosela Memorial Golf Tournament for The Julianne Rosela Foundation. Juliannerosela.org; Enjoy a great day of golf while supporting the Julianne Rosela Foundation; founded to assist in addressing the needs of local families that experience tragic loss as well as to provide scholarships for Kent Island HS and Queen Anne's County HS graduating seniors.

SAT, MAY 11

Hospice of the Chesapeake 45th Anniversary Celebration for Hospice of the Chesapeake at Fluegel Alumni Center (Annapolis). Hospicechesapeake.org; Hospice of the Chesapeake will commemorate its historic tradition of hospice, supportive and grief care with its 45th Anniversary Celebration.

Sultana Education Foundation's Annual Gala for Sultana Education at Clovelly Farm (Chestertown). Sultanaeducation.org; The Sultana Education Foundation's Annual Gala is a party with a mission—raising \$100,000-plus each year to underwrite scholarship programs and support specific capital initiatives.

Arundel Rivers on the Half Shell for Arun-

del Rivers at YMCA Camp Letts (Edgewater). Arundelrivers.org; Arundel Rivers on the Half Shell is the organization's largest, annual fundraising event. The evening features camp fare, drinks, oysters, and a silent auction—all to benefit our rivers!

WED, MAY 15

Chip in for the Arts Golf Tournament for Chesapeake Arts Center at Compass Pointe Golf Course (Pasadena). Chesapeakearts.org; 11th annual Chip in for the Arts Golf Tournament will pay tribute to Lou Zagarino, a longtime CAC Board member and North County business and community leader.

THUR, MAY 16

Golf Fore Our Girls for Girls on the Run at Renditions Golf Course, Davidsonville. pinwheel.us/registration/info/event/GolfForeOurGirls2024; Girls on the Run of the Greater Chesapeake teaches girls in 3rd – 8th grades social, emotional, and physical well-being through a positive youth development curriculum. The program, offered in both fall and spring, includes life skills lessons, a community impact project, and culminates with a celebratory community 5K event that offers girls a tangible sense of accomplishment through goal-setting.



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EVERY step COUNTS

**Saturday,
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Anne Arundel Community College 9:30am
Manchester Valley High School 9:30am

Every Step Counts is an annual Walk & Bike Ride to benefit our mission of providing a lifetime of loving care, guidance, and opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. Gather family and friends and come out to join us! Every dollar raised directly supports the people we serve and their families. Anyone can participate in Every Step Counts — whether individually or as a group. Just form a team, set a fundraising goal, and join us on the day! You can also help out as a volunteer.




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FRI MAY 17

GiGi's Playhouse "I Have a Voice" Gala for GiGi's Playhouse at The Atreem@ Soaring Timbers (Annapolis). Gigsplayhouse.org; Honor children and adults with Down syndrome at GiGi's "I Have a Voice" Gala fundraiser, promoting greater acceptance for all.

Providence's Designer Bag Bingo Fundraiser for Providence at Elks Lodge (Severna Park). Providencceofmaryland.org; Join Providence for a great night of bingo and your chance to win a variety of designer handbags from Coach, Kate Spade, Michael Kors, and Tory Burch.

SAT, MAY 18

4th Annual Mental Health Gala & Awards Dinner for National Alliance on Mental Illness Anne Arundel County at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis. namiaac.org; Recovery from serious mental illness is not only possible, but for many people living with mental illness today, probable. Join us in being a beacon of hope to families living with mental illness by attending the annual Awards Dinner.

Chesapeake Cycling Club Tri-County Classic for Wounded Warriors at Talbot County Community Center (Easton). Ridec3.org; Choose your challenge—a 23-, 38-, 64-, or 102-mile race to support Wounded Warriors.

MON, MAY 20

9th Annual Bo's Effort Golf Tournament for Bo's Effort at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course. Boseffort.org; Support a great cause and make a difference in the community.

WED, MAY 22

Feeding Hope for Anne Arundel County Food Bank at Homestead Gardens (Davidsonville). Aafoodbank.org; For its third year, the Anne Arundel County Food Bank will host Feeding Hope, a casual spring garden party mixed up with a mini-food and drink festival, to raise funds to help neighbors in need fill their tables with fresh, nutritious food.

FRI, MAY 31

Relay for Life for American Cancer Society at Crofton High School. Acsevents.org; Help fund groundbreak-

ing cancer research and patient care programs.

University of Maryland Chester River Health Foundation of Shore Regional Health Golf Tournament at Chester River Yacht & Country Club (Chester-town). Umcrhf.org; The 30th annual golf tournament to support the health system.

JUNE

SAT, JUNE 1

Clean the Bay Day for Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Cbf.org; This short, three-hour annual event has a massive cumulative impact. Since it began in 1989, this tradition has engaged more than 170,066 volunteers who have removed approximately 7.30 million pounds of debris from more than 8,595 miles of shoreline.

MON, JUNE 3

Providence's 31st Annual Moran Golf Classic at Queenstown Harbor. Providenceofmaryland.org; The event features 18 holes of golf on Queenstown's two pristine courses on the Chester River, catered fare, beverage cart service, contest holes, silent auction, raffle, cocktail reception, and awards ceremony.

Woodmore Charity Golf Tournament for The Benedictine

Foundation at The Country Club at Woodmore (Mitchellville). Benschool.org; Hosted by Thad Fletcher to benefit Benedictine.

Casey Cares Golf Tournament for at Baltimore Country Club. Caseycare.org; Proceeds from the tournament will directly benefit thousands of critically ill children in Casey Cares programs.

Designer Bag Bingo for Maryland Therapeutic Riding at their campus in Crownsville. Hors-esthatheal.org; The mission of Maryland Therapeutic Riding (MTR) is to improve the quality of life of children, adults, active military, and veterans with special needs by connecting humans and horses in a healing environment.

THUR JUNE 6

Bash for our Besties for the YWCA at the Charles Carroll House (Annapolis). Annapolisywca.org; Celebrate friendship while supporting the work and mission of the YWCA. Music, photo bus, fire pits, and delicious food.

FRI, JUNE 7

Fashion for a Cause for Hospice of the Chesapeake at the Fluegel Alumni Center (Annapolis). Hospicechesapeake.org; Join Hospice of the Chesapeake for an evening of run-

way fashion, food and cocktails, and revelry for a great cause.

SAT, JUNE 8

Bands in the Sand for Chesapeake Bay Foundation at the Philip Merrill Environmental Center (Annapolis). Cbf.org; Bands in the Sand is the party of the year, and you won't want to miss it! Each summer 1,600 guests gather on the beach, dance the night away to live music, and raise a drink to a saved Bay.

Chesapeake Bay Motoring Festival for Queen Anne's County Mental Health Committee at Kent Island Yacht Club in Easton. Chesapeakebaymotoring-festival.org; Support the Queen Anne's County Mental Health Committee, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established to support those members of our community who need assistance coping with mental illness.

Every Step Counts for Bello Machre at Anne Arundel Community College (Arnold). Bello-machre.org; Form a team, set a fundraising goal, and join the fun on the day of. You can also help out as a volunteer.

MON, JUNE 10

24th Annual Steve Quick Memorial Golf Tournament at The Preserve at Eisenhower Golf Course (Crownsville). Events.golfstatus.com; Benefits a local family with medical support needs.

TUES, JUNE 11

What's Up? Media's Best Of Party 2024 at Doordan Institute of Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center (Annapolis). Whatsupmag.ticketspice.com/best-of-party-2024; Sip, sample, and celebrate the best restaurants, shops, and services at this annual party, which benefits local charities.

WED, JUNE 12

Paca Girlfriends Party at Historic Annapolis' William Paca Gardens (Annapolis). Pacagirlfriends.annapolis.org; Enjoy a glass of bubbly, indulge in culinary creations prepared by the area's premier chefs, shop the festive marketplace, and connect with a wide network of influential women.

FRI, JUNE 14

Casey Cares Rockfish Tournament for Casey Cares Foundation at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club (Stevensville). Caseycare.org; A great day and evening of fishing, fundraising.

THANK YOU



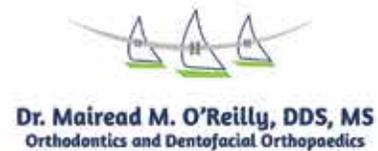
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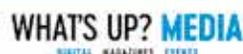
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Maryland Hospital Association Report

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GET HOOKED

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Fish For A Cure (F4AC) is a fishing and fundraising competition that benefits cancer patients and their families in our community. Over the last 17 years, F4AC has raised more than \$5 million to support the Cancer Survivorship program at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center's Geaton and JoAnn DeCesaris Cancer Institute. The 18th Annual Fish For A Cure Tournament, Paul C. Dettor Captain's Challenge, and Shore Party will be taking place on Saturday, November 9, 2024 at Safe Harbor Annapolis, our new tournament home. Registration for the 2024 tournament is now open.



For more information, visit us at www.fishforacure.org.

Join us in 2024 as we celebrate continued commitment to making a splash in cancer care for our community.



Heroes of the Chesapeake for Bayside H.O.Y.A.S. at Fountain Park in Chestertown, through June 15th; Two-day celebration kicks off with a block party Friday evening with live music, and continues with live performances by Sombarkin', Frederick Douglass reenactor Nathan Richardson, educational programming, keynote speakers, and more.

SAT, JUNE 15

Pints 4 Paws for SPCA of Anne Arundel County at Navy Marine Corps Stadium in Annapolis. Annapolishomebrewclub.com; More information forthcoming; check website for details.

MON, JUNE 17

2024 Blasé Cooke Classic Golf Tournament for Catholic Charities at Baltimore Country Club. Cc-md.org; Each team plays for a different Catholic Charities program and the winning team has the opportunity to present a \$2,500 check to that program.

SAT, JUNE 22

Solstice Stomp 5K for Kinera Foundation at Cascia Vineyards (Stevensville). Kinera.org; Kent Island Running Group's (KIRG) 8th Annual Solstice Stomp 5K.

Bike MS: Chesapeake Challenge for National MS Society in Easton. Nationalmssociety.org; Cycle along the scenic, flat terrain of Maryland's Eastern shoreline with a community of riders dedicated to changing the world for people with MS.

SUN, JUNE 23

Taste For Life for the American Cancer Society at The Center Club (Baltimore). Tasteforlife.org; Enjoy delicious cuisine and taste fine wine, live entertainment, silent auction, and more.

SAT, JUNE 29

Shore Rivers Solstice Celebration for Shore Rivers at Wilmer Park (Chestertown). Shorerivers.org; Big-tent party on the banks of the Chester River to support Shore Rivers programs, advocacy, and restoration of the local rivers.

JULY

SAT, JULY 6

Big Band Night for Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum at their campus in St. Michaels. Cbmm.org; In celebration of Independence Day, bring lawn chairs and picnic blankets for an evening of music, dancing, and fireworks along the Miles River.

FRI, JULY 12

Plein Air Easton for Avalon Foundation in Downtown Easton, through July 21st. Pleinaireaston.com; Plein Air Easton is the largest and most prestigious juried plein air painting competition in the United States.

SAT, JULY 13

Speak Your Truth Annual Event for Speak Your Truth at ArtFarm Studio in Annapolis. Spea-kyourtruthcrew.org; Poets, visual artists, dancers, clothing designers, and more share their experiences with mental illness.

SAT, JULY 20

Bay Paddle for Oyster Recovery Partnership, Chesapeake Conservancy, Waterkeepers Chesapeake, and Kent Island Outrigger Canoe Club in Kent Island. Baypaddle.org; SUP, kayak, and paddle watercraft event

to raise awareness of Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts.

SAT, JULY 27

Benedictine's Chrome City Fundraiser for The Benedictine Foundation at their campus in Ridgely. Benschool.org; Support Benedictine and its critical services and visit the campus all while enjoying a vast collection of cars and motorcycles.

AUGUST

FRI, AUGUST 2

79th Annual Rotary Club of Annapolis Crab Feast for Annapolis Rotary Club at Navy Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. Annapolisrotary.org; This well-known Annapolis event is a major fundraiser for the community, benefiting many nonprofit organizations. This is an all-you-can eat feast, along with other food options, beer, water, and soda.

SAT, AUGUST 3

Casey Cares 5K Run/Walk for Casey Cares at Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. Caseycares.org; Participants will receive a tech shirt, race bib, and finisher medal. Awards for the largest team, most spirited team, and top fundraising team.

SAT, AUGUST 17

CRAB Cup for Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating. Crabsailing.org; More information forthcoming.

SUN, AUGUST 25

Annapolis 10-Mile Run for Annapolis Striders at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis. Annapolisstriders.org; The Annapolis Ten Mile Run is a 10-mile foot race organized by the Annapolis Striders, Inc., an all volunteer, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization that promotes physical fitness and mental well-being through distance running.

THUR, AUGUST 31

Charity Boat Auction for Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum at their campus in St. Michaels. Cbmm.org; Bid on donated vessels of all shapes and sizes in support CBMM. Dozens of boats and watercraft, ranging in size and performance, will be auctioned off to the highest bidders with no minimums or reserves.

SEPTEMBER

TO BE DETERMINED

Boatyard Beach Bash for Annapolis Maritime Museum at their campus in Eastport. Boatyard-barandgrill.com

Haven Ministries Annual Golf Tournament for Haven Ministries. Haven-ministries.org

FRI, SEPTEMBER 6

Arts Alive 2024 for Maryland Hall at their location in Annapolis. Marylandhall.org; Supports Maryland Hall's mission to provide art for all, to inspire creativity, to uplift and celebrate diverse voices, and to tell important stories through a wide range of high-quality and engaging arts programming in our community.

SAT, SEPTEMBER 7

Boating Party Fundraising Gala for Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum at their campus in St. Michaels. Cbmm.org; More information to come.

WED, SEPTEMBER 11

Bello Machre Golf Tournament for Bello Machre at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course. Bellomachre.org; Bello Machre's annual golf tournament is a great way to support people with developmental disabilities while enjoying a wonderful day of golf.



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SUN, SEPTEMBER 15
Annapolis Run for The Light House for The Light House A Homeless Prevention Support Center at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis. Annapolisrunfortheighthouse.org; Scenic half-marathon and 5K routes along the trails of Quiet Waters Park and through the beautiful Chesapeake Bay-front community of Hillsmere Shores.

Bay Bridge Paddle for Foundation for Community Betterment at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis. Abceventsincc.com; This race will bring together all levels of paddlers to share in a day of camaraderie and fellowship.

Ride for Clean Rivers for Shore Rivers at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills. Shorerivers.org; Ride the beautiful back roads of Talbot and Queen Anne's counties in support of ShoreRivers' work for clean waterways.

MON, SEPTEMBER 23

GiGi's Playhouse Golf Tournament for GiGi's Playhouse at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course. Gigsplayhouse.org; GiGi's Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to change the way the

world views Down syndrome.

THUR, SEPTEMBER 26

Bourbons. Blazers. Cigars at Historic Annapolis' William Paca Gardens (Annapolis). Bbc.annapolis.org; Network, enjoy bourbon, whiskey, and other fine liquor tastings, premium cigars, and delightful food from the area's top chefs. Supports Historic Annapolis.

Hospice of the Chesapeake Annual Golf Tournament for Hospice of the Chesapeake at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course. Hospicechesapeake.org; The golf tournament is held annually in the Fall at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course.

FRI, SEPTEMBER 27

St. Michaels Concors d'Elegance for the Student Chapter of Antique Automobile Club of America at Kent Island Yacht Club, through September 29th. Smcde.org

Chesapeake Film Festival benefits the Chesapeake Film Festival at various locations in Easton, through September 29th. Cheapeakefilmfestival.org; It is the mission of the Chesapeake Film Festival to entertain,

empower, educate, and inspire diverse audiences of all ages by presenting exceptional independent films and events.

Dorchester Chamber Challenge Golf Tournament at Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort and Spa in Cambridge. Dorchesterchamber.org; Network with business owners and leaders from across the region while enjoying 18 holes of golf.

MON, SEPTEMBER 30

Birdies for Benedictine for The Benedictine Foundation at Talbot Country Club in Easton. Benschool.org; For over 30 years, our annual Charity Golf Classic tournament has raised more than \$1 million to provide resources for the children and adults living with developmental disabilities and autism that Benedictine supports.

31st Annual BGCAA Bob Ferry Golf Classic for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County at The Golf Club at South River in Edgewater. Bgcaa.org; Enjoy a day on the links, including a putting contest, closest to the pin contest, food and drinks, and much more.

OCTOBER

TO BE DETERMINED

Tilghman Day Celebration for the

Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department. Find more information on Facebook; Local watermen and other members of the community plan a number of exhibits and demonstrations designed to highlight the Chesapeake Bay waterman's way of life.

SAT, OCTOBER 5

Hoedown on the Farm at Maryland Therapeutic Riding's Crownsville campus. Horsethatheal.org/events; Country themed event that supports MTR's therapeutic equestrian programs for those with special needs.

Blue Crab Fun Run for Hospice of the Chesapeake at The Regency Stadium in Waldorf. Hospicechesapeake.org; After the run/walk, experience a community event with local vendors and family-filled activities. This event will raise funds to support Hospice of the Chesapeake programs.

SUN, OCTOBER 6

2024 Lifeline 100: Scenic Rivers' Ride for Land & Water for Scenic Rivers Land Trust at Kinder Farm Park in Millersville. Srlt.org; 100-, 65-, 30-, and 15-mile routes, as well as a family fun ride.

THUR, OCTOBER 10

Oysterfest for Chesapeake Maritime Museum at their

campus in St. Michaels. Cbmm.org; Sip, slurp, and savor at the fall festival, featuring live music, retriever demonstrations, oysters, and more.

SAT, OCTOBER 12

10th Annual Harvest Bash for Providence of Maryland at their greenhouse in Arnold. Providencceofmaryland.org; More information forthcoming.

SAT, OCTOBER 19

Rock 'N' Roll Bash for Casey Cares Foundation at Rams Head Live! In Baltimore. Caseycare.org; The entertainment lineup will feature High Voltage, the nation's premier AC/DC tribute band.

FRI, OCTOBER 25

Bountiful Harvest: Boots & Bling for Friends of the Light House at The Atreum at Soaring Timbers in Annapolis. Friendslhs.ejoinme.org

NOVEMBER

TO BE DETERMINED

Beef, Bonfires, & Cigars for Haven Ministries. Haven-ministries.org

FRI, NOVEMBER 1

Sultana's Downrigging Festival for Sultana Education Foundation in Chestertown, through November 3rd. Downrigging.org; One of the largest annual tall ship

gatherings in North America. The festival features ship tours, live bluegrass music, lectures, exhibits, family activities, regional food, and more. Proceeds benefit the Foundation's environmental literacy programs and the other nonprofits participating in the festival.

FRI, NOVEMBER 8

Waterfowl Festival for William A. Perry Scholarship Fund and Samuel H. Shriver, Jr. Sporting Heritage Fund throughout Easton, through November 10th. Waterfowlfestival.org; For three days every November, between 18,000 and 20,000 visitors discover the best of local wildlife art, crafts, heritage, food, and fun at the Waterfowl Festival.

SAT, NOVEMBER 9

Fish For a Cure is back on November 9th based at Safe Harbor Annapolis (new venue). This annual fishing tournament and fundraising challenge has been making waves in cancer care in our community for years. The tournament will be followed by a Shore Party and all funds will benefit the Cancer Survivorship Program at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center's Geaton and JoAnn DeCesaris Cancer Institute. Find more information and register today at fishforacure.org.



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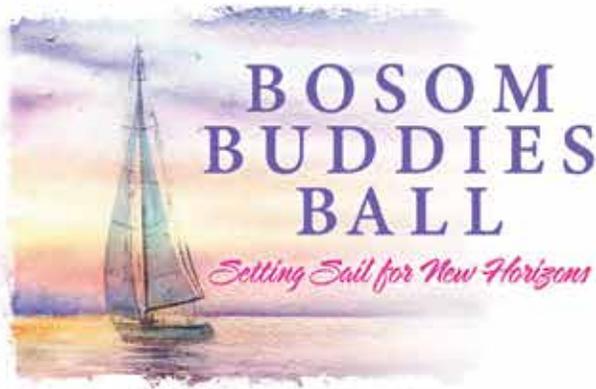


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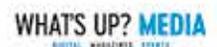
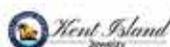
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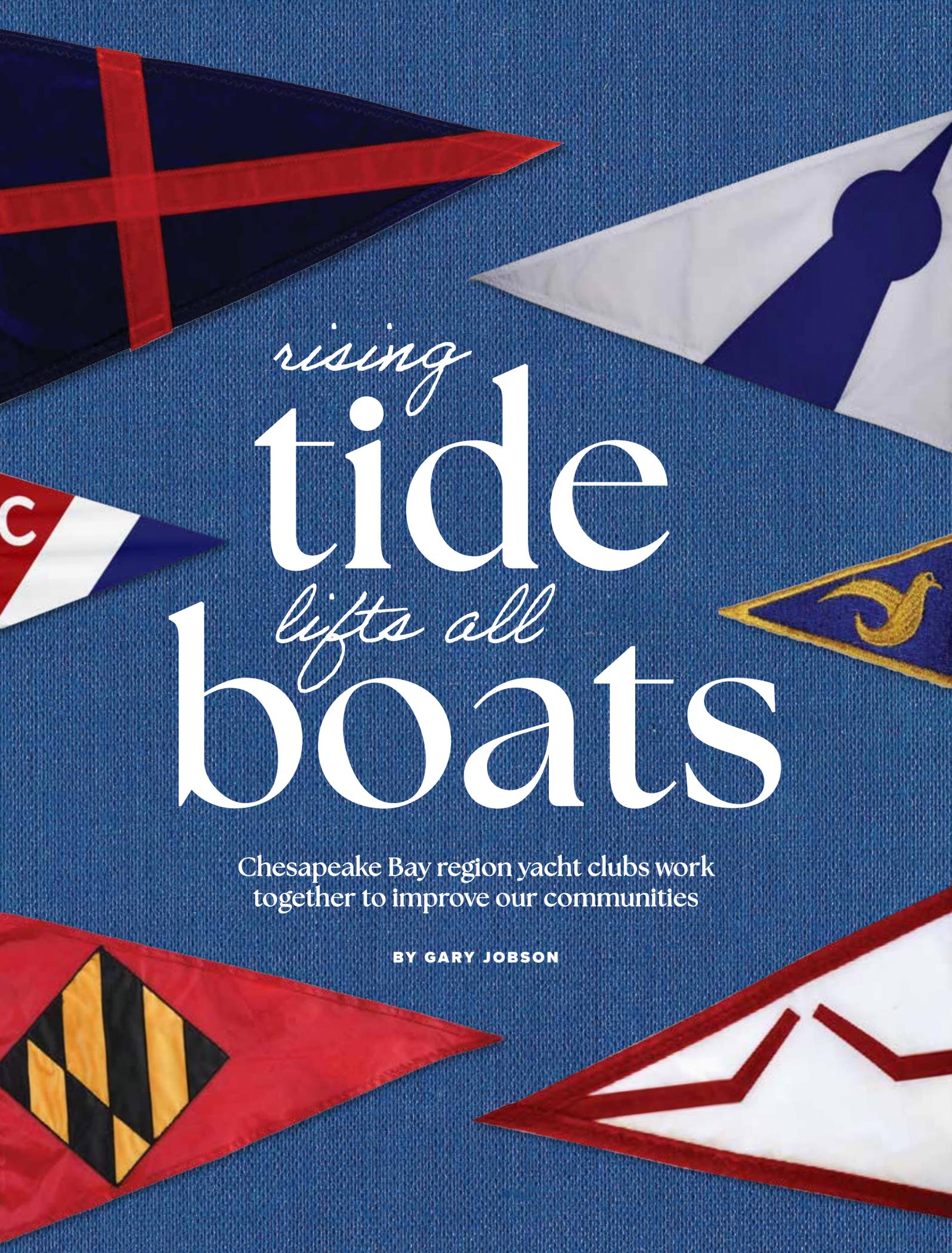
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rising
tide
lifts all
boats

Chesapeake Bay region yacht clubs work
together to improve our communities

BY GARY JOBSON

S

ailors in Annapolis like to refer to our town as “America’s Sailing Capital,” which is a nice play on words since the city is the capital of the State of Maryland. From early spring until late in the fall

the bay is filled with boats. To my eye it is a heartwarming sight to see so many people enjoy the freedom of being out on the bay.

Several yacht clubs, sailing schools, and a variety of sailing associations work hard to help people of all ages to get on and enjoy the water. A high percentage of our population has difficulty gaining water access. The mission of every yacht club is to promote sailing as a life-long activity. These organizations support separate foundations to help aspiring sailors learn the sport and encourage more people to spend time boating safely. Adding to this narrative, many programs support projects outside of the sport.

The Eastport Yacht Club Foundation (eycfoundation.org), for example, hosts an annual Marine & Maritime Career Expo for high school students considering a career in the marine industry. The Expo is scheduled each spring and usually takes place at Bert Jabin’s Yacht Yard. Students learn



The Annapolis Yacht Club overlooks Spa Creek in Annapolis and has a long history of supporting aspiring sailors in the community and encouraging youth participation in the sport. The yacht club’s Foundation (AYCF) announced its latest quarterly grants and scholarships to area sailors and 501(c)(3) organizations totaling \$26K, bringing the AYCF contributions to more than \$130K for the year.

from industry professionals about career opportunities, maritime scholarships, on-the-job training programs, and college courses.

The Eastport Yacht Club also has long hosted a charity regatta to raise funds for cancer research. The first Leukemia Cup was organized in 1993. The Annapolis Yacht Club joined one year later. Between 1993 and 2020 the sailing event raised \$4 million dollars, presented to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. In 2022, the name of the regatta was changed to the Maryland Cures Cancer Regatta with the funds being donated to a



new cancer center at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Two other prominent charity regattas are held during the year, The Hospice Cup, and the CRAB Cup. Of the latter, the clever acronym stands for Chesapeake Regional Accessible Boating—the premier organization in the region dedicated to providing recreational sailing opportunities for people with disabilities.

Together, the three race events have been combined into an annual Triple Crown of Charity Sailing. Winners of the contest are determined by a combination of results on the water and the amount of money individual sailors raise. Another fundraising regatta that was formed recently honors the memory of sailing great Jeff Ewenson in support of the EWE Foundation.

Eastport Yacht Club commodore Mark Jones says, “EYC has and continues to pride itself on being an organization that is engaged with the community. We support Valhalla Sailing and their Veteran Sailing Program to prevent Veteran Suicide. EYC is proud to support the Seafarers Yacht Club. We work with the team at Seafarers to organize and execute their event that benefits their foundation.”

Jones adds, “We are also the home yacht club for Maryland’s Tall Ship, the *Pride of Baltimore II*.”

The Seafarers Yacht Club of Annapolis (seafarersyc.com) was formed in 1959 by African American sailors and power boaters. In 1967, the group acquired an abandoned schoolhouse in Eastport and completely renovated the building, along with adding a swimming pool and a deck overlooking Back Creek. The club’s Seafarers Foundation provides swimming lessons for neighborhood children. In 2003, a one-week summer program was formed for at-risk children between the ages of eight and 12 years old from Anne Arundel and Prince George’s counties. In 2018, the program was expanded to two weeks and includes STEM and maritime education. Interestingly, a day of chess instruction is included by the U.S. Chess Center. The Seafarers Foundation supports a Sea Scout Ship 1959 named *Commitment* in honor of the late Bill Pinkney’s vessel. Pinkney was the first African American to sail solo around the world. The vessel is chartered by the Boys Scouts of America’s National Capital and Baltimore Districts.

The Annapolis Yacht Club Foundation (AYCF; aycfoundation.org) works to foster excellence in na-



This year’s Hospice Cup will be held on September 14th, with the shore party held at Horn Point Marina in Annapolis. Now in its 43rd year, the annual regatta raises funds and awareness for hospice care. Participating hospices use funds raised through Hospice Cup to continue to offer quality end-of-life care to patients, their families, and friends.



Past Commodores of the Seafarers Yacht Club were recently honored. From left to right: PC Melville Wyche, PC William Woodard, PC George Smith (represented by his wife Vivian), PC David Turner, IPC Benjamin McCottry, and current Commodore Derrick Cogburn.

tional and international amateur sailing competition and provides grants to charitable and educational organizations in the Mid-Chesapeake Bay Region. An advisory committee analyzes requests for support.

Commodore Timothy Cusack says, "We support the Annapolis Maritime Museum and Box-of-Rain which connects under-resourced youth to the Chesapeake Bay. The Foundation has provided scholarships for the Annapolis Junior Summer Program."

Last spring, AYCF hosted a dinner and lecture to support three college sailors who are working to gain a berth in the 2024 and 2028 Olympic Games. Olympian Paul Cayard gave the keynote address to 200 junior sailors prior to a sold-out dinner. The event netted over \$100,000. Cusack adds about the Olympic night, "Truly one of the best fundraisers in quite a long time. We hope to build on this year's success."

A few notable sailors the AYCF has supported includes Leo Boucher who is an All-American sailor at St. Mary's College of Maryland, Joe Morris who made the Olympics in the International 49er Class in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, and Tommy Sitzmann who was a standout in the International Optimist Dinghy Class. He finished 5th in the World Championship out of a 258-boat fleet in 2018.

Currently, the AYCF is supporting Chesapeake Bay sailor, Peter Gibbons-Neff, one of 90 entrants in the Mini Transat. He is the only American in the race. The race stretches 4,050 miles on two legs that start in France to the Canary Islands and a second leg to Guadeloupe in the Caribbean. The

race boats are only 21 feet in length. Gibbons-Neff is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and serves active duty in the Marine Corps for 10 years. He was a member of the Academy's Offshore Sailing Team as a midshipman.

The Severn Sailing Association (SSA; severn-sailing.org) was founded in 1954. The mission of the organization is to promote one design racing and education through a vibrant junior sailing program for children between the ages of 5 and 18. The annual dues for a junior member is a modest \$47 per year.

About 170 youngsters participate each summer. The club makes a point to enroll several children from Eastport that might not be able to afford any fees. In addition, the club sponsors three high school sailing teams during the spring and fall seasons. The club has hosted numerous major national and international championships over the years. Commodore Bruce Empey says SSA does not have a separate foundation like the other clubs in town but does host a regatta that raises funds for the Olivia Constants Foundation through a team race regatta. In 2011, Olivia tragically drowned when her small dinghy sailboat capsized. The regatta pairs sailors of all ages together in different boats. The event is well run and in 2014 was recognized by the U.S. Sailing Association for exceptional race management, awarding SSA with the prestigious St. Petersburg Trophy.

Severn Sailing Association works with local Scout troops to assist in maritime-oriented merit



The Seafarers Summer Youth Program was established for at-risk children between the ages of 8 and 12 years from Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties, providing instruction and practical experiences in first aid and life saving measures, water safety, swimming, fishing, boating, the science of navigation, math and reading skills, etiquette, information on career opportunities in the marine environment.



badges. Empey says, “Most of these young people are non-members nor children of members. We supply 60 oyster cages each year in conjunction with the Oyster Recovery Partnership and a local Scout troop. The oysters are recovered and are taken upriver for planting near the Route 50 bridge.”

The Eastport Yacht Club is also heavily involved in the Oyster Recovery Partnership. Additionally, EYC has an Environmental Committee that works closely with Sailor’s for the Sea Clean Regatta’s Program. And one of the most popular events in Annapolis during the Christmas and holiday season is the annual Lights Parade. A portion of the sponsorship revenue goes into the Eastport Yacht Club Foundation.

On the Eastern Shore, the Rock Hall Yacht Club (rockhallyachtclub.org), established in 1937, has a long history of engaging the local community and philanthropic work. The Club’s sailing school offers camp partnerships and scholarships to the community to promote sailing and the enjoyment of the Chesapeake Bay. RHYC welcomes visitors for a day of learning basic sailing instruction

and introducing water to children that may not otherwise have the opportunity.

A bit south, the Cambridge Yacht Club (cambridgeyachtclub.com), formed in 1911, hosts an annual fundraiser for the Choptank River Lighthouse and supports an awareness walk for suicide and mental health. Junior sailing is a high priority for the club along with neighboring Tred Avon Yacht Club (tayc.com) in Oxford, Maryland. Both clubs host Log Canoe racing that draws large crowds to watch the racing.

The list of charitable programs supported by passionate sailors and local yacht clubs is long. Improving life for the whole community sets an important example for all. ■

Gary Jobson is a world-class sailor, television commentator, author, longtime resident of Annapolis, and pre-eminent ambassador for sailing of the United States. He either serves on or has served on the boards of Operation Sail, US Sailing, Olympic Sailing Committee, Leukemia Cup Regatta Series, Annapolis Yacht Club, National Sailing Hall of Fame, Chesapeake Bay Trust Board of Directors, and Visit Annapolis, among many others.

Junior (youth) sailing programs are the hallmark of many yacht clubs, including Severn Sailing Association in Annapolis, Rock Hall Yacht Club, and Cambridge Yacht Club on the Eastern Shore, among many others.

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3.



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6.

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7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



12.

7. Take Part in the Baysox Annual 1K Beer Run prior to their game Saturday, May 25th. The run encompasses 3 laps around the field while you drink a beer for each lap. Winner throws out first pitch! Purchase tickets at Baysox.com. **8. Southwind Apparel.** Reward Mom with her new favorite apparel that is comfortable and versatile. Visit us on Kent Island, MD or at The Cottage on Main! www.southwindapparel.com. **9. Give the gift of beauty this Mother's Day** with the gift of pamper at Avalon Nails & Spa. 410-956-6367, Edgewater, MD. **10. Custom Charcuterie Board.** Let our Certified Cheese Specialist suggest or create a cheese and charcuterie tray. 48 hour notice required for trays, Fishpaws Marketplace, 954 Ritchie Hwy, Arnold, 410-647-7363, fishpawsmarket.com. **11. Our Blackberry Chipotle Thighs are real comfort food.** Come to award-winning Julep Southern Kitchen for the freshness and flavor! www.julepannapolis.com, 2207 Forest Drive, Annapolis, 410-571-3923. **12. Sip In Style!** Elevate your whiskey experience with Fishpaws premium single barrels. Get your bottles etched at our all bottle etching date this year June 14, 4-7pm. Fishpaws Marketplace, 954 Ritchie Hwy, Arnold, 410-647-7363, fishpawsmarket.com

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FROM OCEAN CITY BEACHES TO CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE,
ROUTE 50 TRAVERSES AMERICA // BY ELLEN MOYER

In 1997, *Time* magazine devoted an entire issue to the road they called the “Backbone of America.” Reporters followed the road from its most eastern terminus in Ocean City, Maryland, through 12 states, across the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains, and the Great Basin, to Sacramento, California. Their mission...to discover along the way “what is holding America together and what is pulling it apart.” The chosen road was U.S. Route 50—the very road that wraps around our state capital, Annapolis, and is a straight highway from ocean to ocean across middle America. Of it, author William Least Heat-Moon wrote, “For the unhurried, this little-known highway is the best national road across the middle of the United States.”

U.S. Route 50 was officially named so in 1926. Its first route was designed from Wadsworth, Nevada, to Annapolis, Maryland, but would soon extend from Sacramento, California, to Ocean City, Maryland—a full 3,073 miles across the USA. Before it became U.S. Route 50, however, it was known by monikers such as the Northwest Turnpike and the Midland Trail. Further back in the 1700s, parts of the route were surveyed by George Washington. It was known simply as a wilderness trail, a wagon trail, and the way west.

In the early 1900s, shortly after the creation of the automobile, America did not have a road network. It had a railroad network. The new auto invention was viewed as a toy for the rich, and not worthy of spending one’s money on. Roads from one town to another were open to bicycle and stagecoach travel, often sponsored by banks and private organizations, and given names such as the Lancaster Pike, Liberty, and Lincoln Highway (one of the first transcontinental highways).

But by 1925, Henry Ford and his car company had proven the auto skeptic wrong, and 250 named highways soon crisscrossed

The four-mile long Chesapeake Bay Bridge is one of the most iconic stretches of U.S. Route 50’s 3,073 miles.

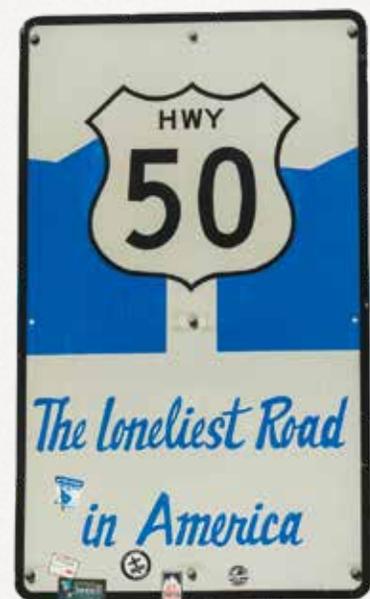


Henry Ford’s revolutionary automobile and its mass manufacturing would spur the United States to develop a national highway system to accommodate the rapid increase in auto travel.

the country. It was a confusing non-network. Though there was talk among states and federal agencies for years about creating a national system, it wasn’t until Franklin D. Roosevelt’s presidency in the 1930s that an interstate highway system began to come to fruition.

The Interstate Highway System eventually became reality with the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 and signed into law by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Though some viewed losing the uniquely named highways as a historic loss, the new number system would shape the nation for the 20th century. It linked named highways into continuous routes and, for the first time, set standards for road design. Today, although we see cars everywhere, roads cover only one percent of the U.S. land area according to the Federal Highway Administration.

A sign in the Nevada desert denotes rural Route 50 as “The Loneliest Road in America.”





This railroad bridge that spans the Truckee River at Wadsworth, Nevada (population 991 as of the 2020 census) is one of the last remnants of the once-bustling railroad industry dominated by Central Pacific in the 1800s.



But what about U.S. Route 50, which began as a cross-country route from Wadsworth to Annapolis? The town of Wadsworth was named for a Civil War general killed in the Battle of the Wilderness in 1864. It was a major railroad town situated on the Truckee River. After 40 miles of desert, Wadsworth was a preferred stop along the Lincoln Highway, located near Lake Tahoe, as well as Pyramid Lake on the Paiute Reservation. In 1867, Central Pacific Railroad had a 21-stall, two-story roadhouse in Wadsworth.

The Route 50 Bridge in the foreground of this aerial view of Ocean City is the starting point (or end) of the cross-county highway. At the other end; Sacramento, California.

Wadsworth was a thriving company town and supply center with hotels, shops, and saloons that opened the southwest to travelers and



U.S. Route 50 reaches its highest elevation of 11,312 feet in Gunnison, Colorado.

tapped into its fishing and trapping areas. So, it was natural that this center on the Lincoln Highway would

be selected as the start of a major route east to the capital of Maryland—home of the U.S. Naval Academy and close to Washington, D.C.

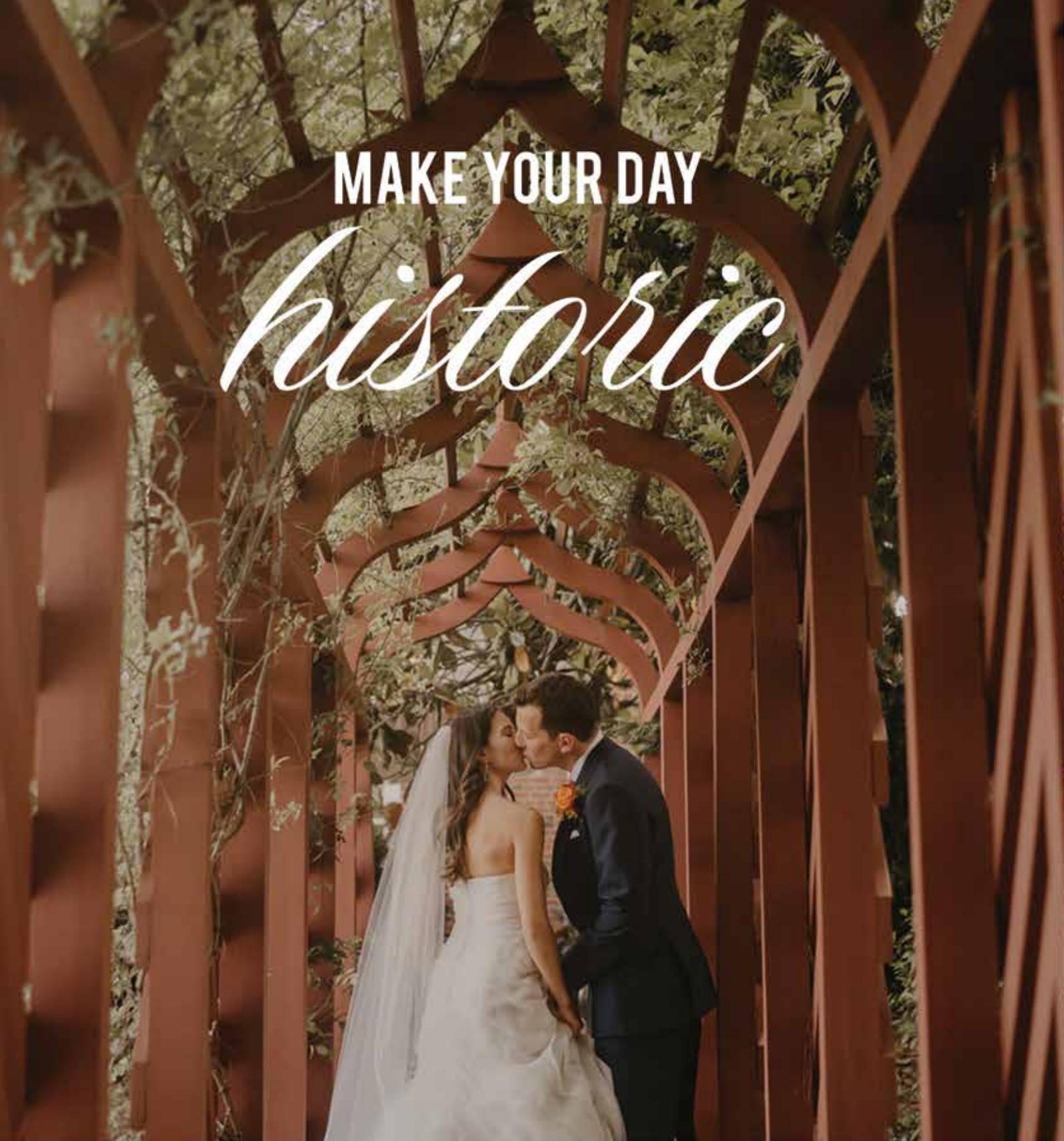
But today, Wadsworth is a ghost town and U.S. Route 50 is known locally as the “loneliest road in the country” as it winds through miles of Nevada desert and extinct volcanos. The route reaches a high point of 11,312 feet at Gunnison, Colorado. By 1949, the highway route would lengthen to Sacramento westward and Ocean City east.

Every road has a story to tell and along them once-thriving towns have died, such as Wadsworth, while new towns were born, such as Ocean City. U.S. Route 50 was traveled by national heroes and helped birth legends including Kit Carson, The Pony Express, Johnny Appleseed, and George Washington. Along its way, U.S. Route 50 leads travelers

and tourists to national parks, canyon lands, serpent mounds in Ohio, Civil War battlefields, historic Annapolis, and Assateague National Seashore, among so many more national treasures. This highway offers an outstanding United States history and landscape story. Though it might not be the best-known or most-romanticized highway in our country, it is the “Backbone of America.” ■



Located just 10 miles from U.S. Route 50 in Peebles, Ohio, Serpent Mound Prehistoric Monument is a 1,348-foot-long, three-foot-high prehistoric effigy mound—the largest serpent effigy known in the world.



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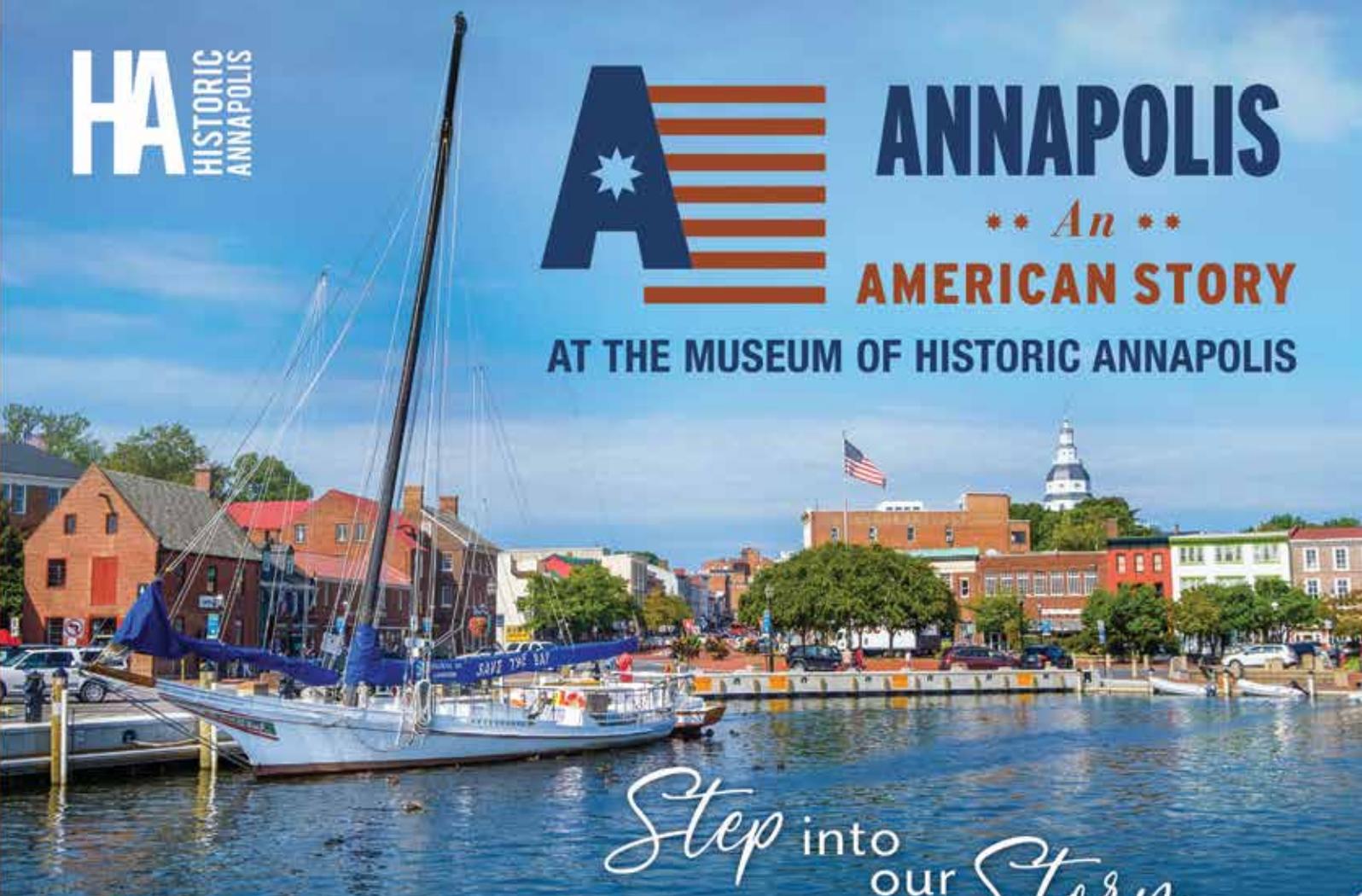


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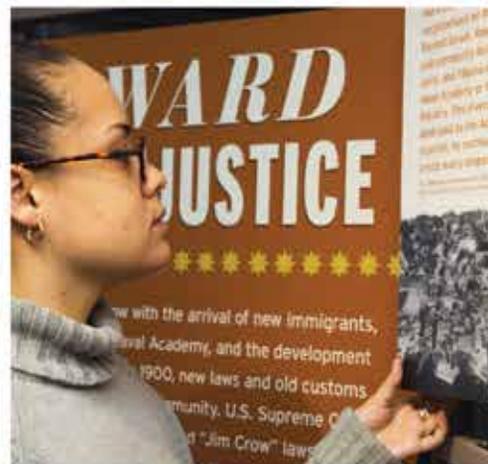
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AMERICAN STORY

AT THE MUSEUM OF HISTORIC ANNAPOLIS



Step into our Story





Annapolis in 50 Years

Major Downtown and City Dock redevelopment plans coax us to predict what our capital city could look like when it celebrates its 365th anniversary in the year 2073

By Gary Jobson

As I drive around, I see congested roadways. I'm horrified when City Dock floods. And I observe an extraordinary amount of densely packed condominiums being constructed. Our infrastructure is being stressed. It makes me wonder about Annapolis' future. The town is more than 300 years old and holds a special place in America's history. For a brief time, Annapolis was the capital of the United States. The city is the capital of the State of Maryland, home to two fine colleges, the U.S. Naval Academy and St. John's College, is a magnet for tourists, hosts the best boat shows in America, is a vibrant maritime center, and a place that works well for busy professionals and retirees. With all the history, growth, and pressures, what will Annapolis be like in 50 years?

Forecasting the future is never easy and rarely precise, but it does help citizens and planners to think about how to prepare for the evolution of our historic city. On the one hand, 50 years ago seems like a long time, but when you look back, it is amazing how swiftly time passes. The baby boomer generation (including me) certainly remembers the early 1970s when Richard Nixon left the White House, the nation was recovering from the Vietnam War, inflation was a major problem, and Annapolis

changed when a large hotel on the waterfront prompted a new focus on historic preservation. More recently, a new garage has been built, the City Dock is about to receive a much-needed renovation, and the problems of congestion are coming into sharp focus. These issues need immediate attention and hopefully will be addressed.

Fifty years from now the world will likely be different. A new Chesapeake Bay Bridge will likely have been in place for 40 years. This Bay Bridge, named for Governor Larry Hogan, will feature four lanes in each direction with 20-mile approaches helping to move traffic. The oldest bridge will have been torn down. The three-lane bridge opened in 1973 will likely be at the end of its life or gone too. Annapolis will rediscover the utility of high-speed ferries. Commuters will be able to get to Baltimore less than 30 minutes. Almost all automobiles will be electric. Fast charging batteries will last for long periods of time. Someone will have invented a quiet leaf blower eliminating the annoying noise from today's leaf blowers. Electrical power will be generated by wind turbine farms off the coast and on the Eastern Shore's open fields. Solar panels will appear on the roofs of almost every building. There will be political resistance initially, but the economics of lower energy costs will encourage more use of wind and solar energy.

Everyone 50 years old or younger will have been born after this article is published. The new generation will be more environmentally conscious than our generation. As a result, the Chesapeake Bay will be cleaner, but still not perfect. The rising sea level will be a major issue. The Naval Academy seawall and elevated City Dock completed in 2026 will need to be raised again. Waterfront owners will spend considerable sums of money addressing rising water levels. The initiative to upgrade City Dock Park, as it was renamed in 2023, has served as an example for other public projects over the past 50 years.

Making changes in an historic city is never easy and often emotional. The philosophy ranges from "don't touch a thing" to "tear it all down and build anew." Building a consensus takes patience and persistence. The lessons learned from the City Dock Park renovation project in 2023 and 2024 were many. The first step was to define the project and work to get acceptance from a wide range of entities with varying interests. Economic considerations were an important factor in every decision. It can be similar to renovating a new kitchen. The budget expands, and the project takes longer than expected, but when the work is finished, it is worth the effort.

Improving available parking in downtown Annapolis was paramount to the City's reimagining. Most everyone agreed that the old Hillman Garage structure needed replacing. Mayor Gavin Buckley gained considerable credibility when the decaying parking garage was completely rebuilt on time and on budget. The handful of naysayers faded when the new garage opened.

Mayor Buckley was an enthusiastic marketer of his dream to renovate City Dock. He was determined to finish the project before a succeeding administration could undo the work. Buckley and

his team, including Burr Vogel, Eileen Fogerty, and Matt Fleming, realized rebuilding City Dock Park would require a significant public relations campaign to receive input from the populace and eventual buy-in for the project.

There were many factors involved in the criteria for the City Dock Park renovation. Flooding was a persistent problem and getting worse. A bold remedy was called for. Also, open space was required to be available for America's most important in-the-water boat show. Annapolis' precious and limited waterfront needed a serious upgrade to attract visitors. The design elements took many forms as the months passed. The Annapolis City Council felt significant pressure from various interest groups lobbying for specific requests.

Eventually, the aldermen agreed to proceed with the project. The funding came from the National Park Service, the State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County, and the City of Annapolis, along with investments by developers who added a hotel, retail spaces, marine enterprises, and tourist attractions to the mix. At the time the projected cost was \$88 million. Fifty years later the budget seems like a bargain.

A key organization throughout the process of renovating City Dock Park was the engagement with Historic Annapolis. The organization was founded at a time when construction in downtown Annapolis threatened the colonial fabric for the city. Thoughts about upgrading the City Dock area had been proposed in several studies over the years but all of these efforts never moved passed the "study" stage. The breakthrough in





the process happened when Mayor Buckley and the leadership of Historic Annapolis jointly started working on a plan. The rising waters of the Chesapeake Bay were no longer an occasional annoying inconvenience and rapidly became a serious detriment to conducting business, traffic flow, safety, and health. Hurricane Isabel back in 2003 and Superstorm Sandy in 2012 made dealing with climate change a priority when City Dock, the Naval Academy, and surrounding properties were swamped with extraordinarily high tides causing many millions of dollars in damage. Something needed to be done. Resiliency became an important word in the quest to hold back rising waters from ruining the city.

Additional issues included revamping the street map for better traffic flow around the dock area and creating a popular walking path along the waterfront. The project was a huge undertaking, but Annapolis has been a more vibrant place for residents and visitors over the decades since the work was completed.

Happily, Historic Annapolis will continue to maintain important buildings. The State Capital will continue to be the center of legislation thanks to on-going renovations about once per decade. The need for more office space will expand the government's operations along Rowe Boulevard.

The Naval Academy will graduate about the same number of midshipmen each year. Many

will be well educated on the use of cyber warfare. St. John's College will still teach the lessons from the "Great Books" but will have added degrees in media studies. World leaders will have found ways to control inaccurate information on the Internet. The United States will have survived the assault on democracy. The perpetrators were found guilty and sent to prison for their crimes. The resolve of the United States to "right-the-ship" served as an example to the rest of the world that autocracy does not work. (I am making up this assumption, but I hope I am correct). There is a long history of despots meeting their demise.

The population of Annapolis will grow slightly over the next 50 years while the county will add another two hundred thousand residents. An additional lane will have been added to Route 97 at the southern end of the busy road. Traffic will diminish somewhat because many people will be working remotely in the service economy. Printed newspapers will be a thing of the past. People will get all their news on the Internet, which will be completely integrated with television. High cable, streaming and internet costs will be lower with the consolidation of content delivery methods.

Most people will enjoy three-day weekends. Outdoor activities will be important. Bike and hiking paths will be constructed throughout the area. With the cost of energy rising, the sport of sailing will be more popular than power boating. The new generation will realize that too much time on computer screens is detrimental to young people. The new generation will fix this problem.

Though poisonous insects will be a hazard, scientists will continuously find effective ways to eliminate pests. Twenty years will have passed since the city and Anne Arundel County rebuilt the sewage system and put electrical wires and cables underground. Wood burning fireplaces will have been replaced by gas. City zoning officials will have eliminated requiring historical windows and doors that are inefficient energy drains.

Breakthrough scientific studies will continue to extend cancer patients' lives. The advances in medicine since the end of World War II have been impressive. Just 60 years ago Leukemia took the lives of 90 percent of the children that had the disease. Today, that number is down to about 10 percent. Treatments for many diseases will be found. People will live longer.

Annapolis will continue to be a desirable place to live thanks to its well-preserved historic past, the proximity to major urban centers, the attraction of the Chesapeake Bay, being the location of state government, home to top academic institutions, and a comfortable place to live. In the year 2073, as Annapolis marks its 365th anniversary, preparations will be underway for celebrating the 300th birthday of the United States in just three short years (2076). ■



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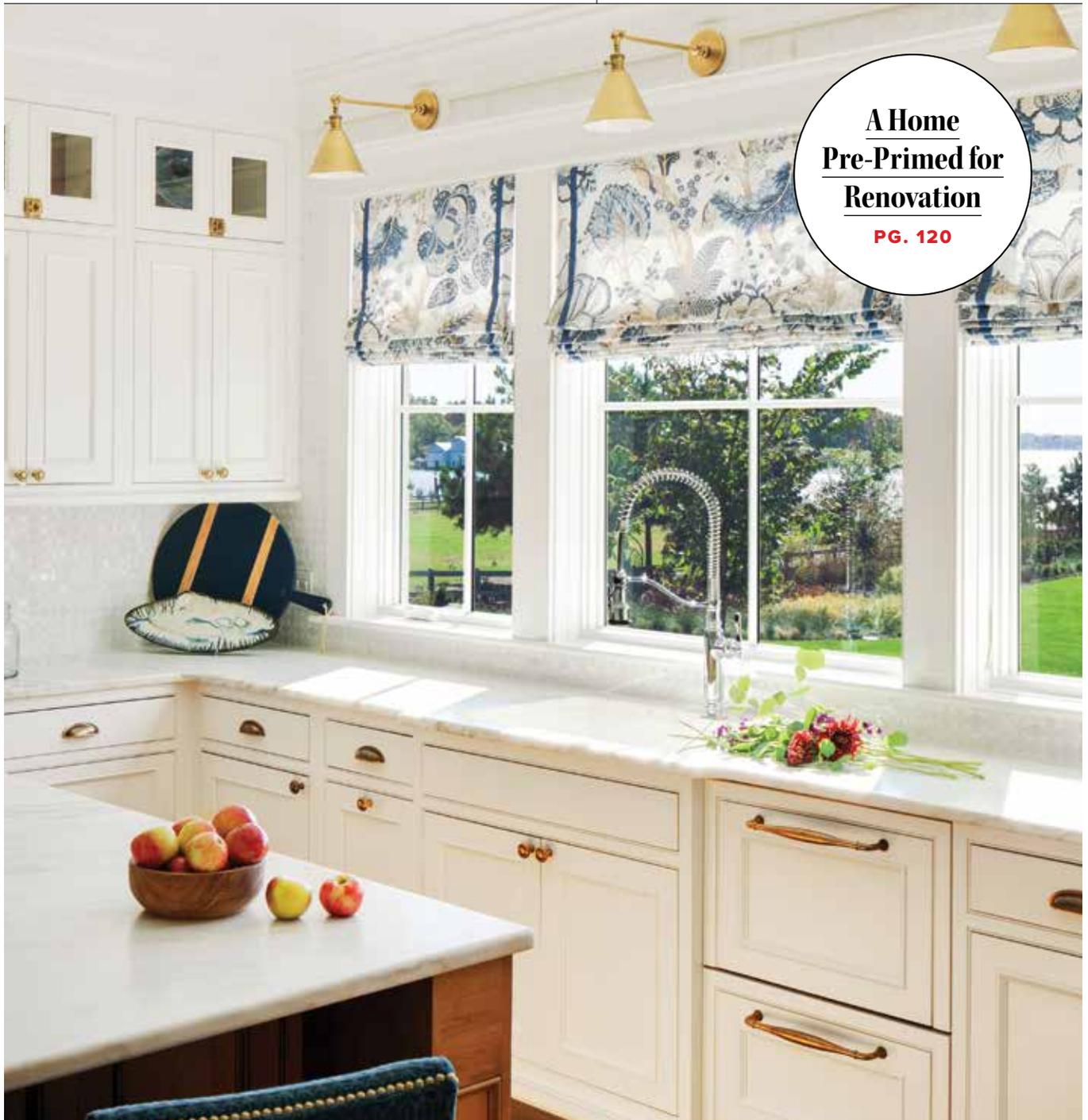
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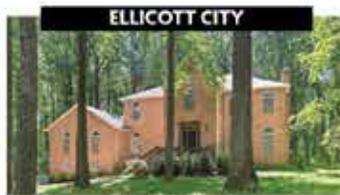
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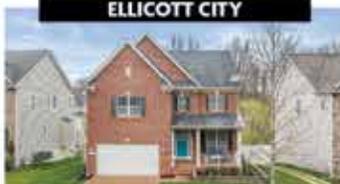
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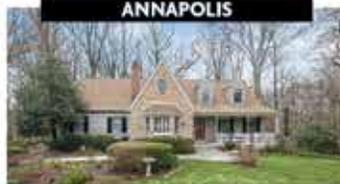
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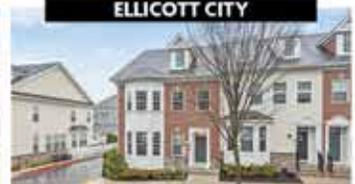
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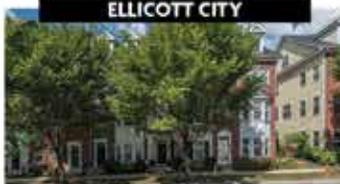
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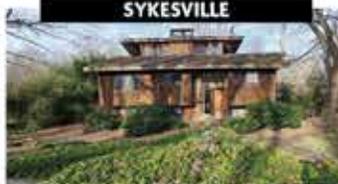
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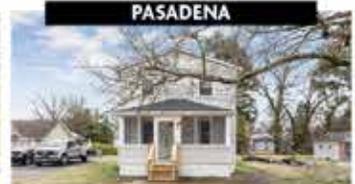
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Starting with Value...

AND A HOME PRE-PRIMED FOR RENOVATION

By Lisa J. Gotto

After three years of searching the mid-Atlantic seaboard for just the right property, our feature homeowners thought that their intention to relocate from their 10-acre homestead in Nashville to a new, waterfront residence would not be realized. However, persistence and a willingness to reassess their goals provided them with a unique opportunity beyond their imagination.

As the homeowner explains, she and her husband had been looking for a place where they could take their true love of boating and finally get out on the water on a regular basis.

“It was hard in Nashville because you had to drive an hour to get to your boat when you’re on a lake, and you’re kind of landlocked. So, we did a lot of research. We went here, went there, and looked at oceanfront properties and stayed for a week in different places along the East Coast,” she says. “We knew we wanted to be on the East Coast on the water, but we really wanted to have a dock or a pier and to be able to just walk out our back door and be on that pier and get on a boat and not have to get in a car to do that.”

Along with the water requirements, the couple wished for a dwelling that was turn-key with little to no upgrades to be made. They desired a minimum of five acres of land, plus other features that would help accommodate their beloved dogs and cats—and there are five of each!

Their last residence had been a total revamp of a historic home from the mid-1800s, so the thought of another large-scale renovation was a non-starter until—until it wasn’t. After numerous

scouting trips to Annapolis and finding properties that didn’t hit the mark because the lot was too small or the elevation too high, their real estate agent had one last property that she felt had merit, even though it wasn’t listed on the Multiple Listing Service—and the interior was a mere shell.

There’s one word that turns a mere shell into a sold home...potential.

Despite the structure presenting a failing, ’80s red brick façade, a crumpled front gable, and rough landscaping, the location along Duvall Creek was exquisite, and the lot was large and flat.

“We knew that this was it as soon as we turned into the driveway,” she says. “I immediately saw so much potential. I saw the fencing around it for the dogs, a really beautiful gate. I could see the house, how it could look. It was just beautiful. It just needed somebody.”

The 7,300-square-foot Georgian classic, which was up for private sale, had been in a state of perpetual renovation with no clear resolution in sight.

Complicating the scenario, the home was also located in a critical area, which meant the new owners would need to find just the right team that could provide structural, logistical, and design expertise to address all that wasn’t working and then enhance what was working.

The couple chose Purple Cherry Architects (PCA) of Annapolis after doing some thorough research.

“We immediately knew Cathy [Purple Cherry] was the one; her personality fit ours.”

In addition to the team at PCA, the couple chose Gate One Builders to execute the plan and Champion/Hruby Landscape Architects to dress the surrounding acreage.

“WE KNEW WE WANTED TO BE ON THE EAST COAST ON THE WATER.”





AFTER

BEFORE AND AFTER TAKEAWAYS

Dramatic. Impactful. Stunning.

Attaining ‘before’ and ‘after’ effects of this scale are what it’s all about in the home remodeling arena. Project driver Cathy Purple Cherry points out that while it looks as though this home required many structural changes to produce what we see in the ‘after’ photos, some homeowners might be surprised to learn that the primary ingredient when it came to the façade, was the three coats of white opaque stain used to transform the drab brick.

“And only one other change, obviously, was simply the circle window in the big front gable because in the existing [home] proportionately, it was very tiny, and the front door changed to something that wasn’t arched and allowed that classic palladium window to sit above it,” Purple Cherry explains. “Then we also did bigger columns.”

Classic touches include the solid mahogany front door framed by two striking, oversized coach-style lanterns. The landscape is architecturally re-imagined with intentional, house-framing native plantings in the front and borders of hardscaped stone and garden-like plantings in the back. The entire package creates a reminiscent, Lowcountry feel.



And it is the back of the home that was richly deserving of a transformation worthy of the home’s advantageous waterfront positioning.

What had been a totally unremarkable and underwhelming waterfront reveal became a gracious and glorious walk out to the property’s private pier. Three levels of the home’s exterior had also been upgraded to maximize every sightline from indoors to out and provide a copious amount of outdoor living opportunities.

Purple Cherry says that the strategy was primarily centered on the application of the back porches. “And we did an addition on the right-hand side,” she says.

“If you compare the [before and after photos], we needed more room in the downstairs back kitchen, so we pulled that out. We then obviously widened our shed dormer on the right, and on the left took off the fake gable and then dug in and created those decks on the second floor.”

They then added an entire second- and third-story porch level to the structure's center core so that those new spaces could create those indoor and outdoor living opportunities.

"At the very top of the peak, that is a home office," she continues. "The right is the master suite. The left is a second master suite in concept. And then the lower level—the three, big quad pairs in the center under the roof are the great room, dining, and kitchen."

Completing the floorplan, the family room is located on the far left and the home's support spaces, including a back kitchen that feeds to the garage and the side entry, are located to the far right.

The back of the home was intentionally designed to be a less formal complement to the front of the house, says Purple Cherry, noting this was accomplished in several ways including changing the shape of the end gables and substituting square columns for round ones to create one cohesive informal but gracious visual takeaway.



FILLING THE MERE SHELL

The homeowner's interior scheme had a Mediterranean vibe to it, which was totally out of keeping with its classic, Georgian exterior. Purple Cherry had a remedy for that.

"We had to move walls, move lines, move patterns, move everything. So, we basically went in and ripped out," she says.

Once through that mahogany front door, however, one is immediately impressed with how some aspects of the home's floorplan, like the existing three-story entry would combine with newly envisioned sightlines to create a breathtaking introduction to the waterfront.

The PCA interiors team then took certain cues from the homeowner who had some serious experience creating interiors from her former home renovation and was already full of ideas of what she wanted and where it should go.

Although their former home was more traditional and evoked aspects of the equestrian lifestyle, coming to Annapolis meant an opportunity to do something different; somewhat coastal with a modern edge to it.

"I just had this vision of this house having all of these elements, all the window seats that we built in—and in every room that otherwise would've been an empty space. But now they're these cozy little nooks that you just want to sit in," she says.

Also on the homeowner's wish list was wide-plank floors, so with the help of PCA's interiors team, they chose a sanded and stained white oak in a chestnut color. And although they were basically starting from scratch at this point, there were some conventions of the structure that required workarounds. The lower-profile ceilings in the home's living areas, for instance, were not something they could change.

They could, however, be augmented. The result is a series of rooms where you notice refined architectural treatments, not a lack of height. In the great room, there's exquisite coffering on the "fifth wall" that complements the rest of the luxurious molding and trim work, including the accents on the crisp, white central fireplace with marble surround. This is another great example of

"WE HAD TO MOVE WALLS, MOVE LINES, MOVE PATTERNS, MOVE EVERYTHING. SO, WE BASICALLY WENT IN AND RIPPED OUT,"



a structure that already existed in the home but was enhanced ever so subtly by the homeowner requesting that two small stars be added to the mantle façade. A small detail with large impact.

In the family room, painted beams were added, and in the primary suite, knotty wood beams play off the rustic charm of its white mantle fireplace with brick surround.

The kitchen afforded another opportunity to get creative with the home's existing footprint. The room's square footage was a tad smaller by some of today's standards but enlarging it would require going through the permitting process again, creating another non-starter. The remedy was the addition of an adjacent back kitchen/butler's pantry that provided the homeowner with further creative license to personalize the space. A fashionable, coastal blue paint was used in this room for the cabinetry and molding, and upper glass fronts and heritage style hardware were chosen to further elevate the look

of the custom cabinets. The homeowner opted for a Dutch exterior door in this room, handsomely balancing style with substance by honoring her love of horses and creating a safer space for meandering pets. Re-claimed Chicago-style brick was laid in a herringbone pattern on the floor.

The main kitchen retained the wide-plank hardwoods and added an incredible view of the backyard and waterfront from a series of windows over the sink.

"I am not of big fan of cold white kitchens," says the homeowner. However, the smaller space denoted using white. So, the design would call on the owners' love of wood accents and custom, vintage hardware to help bring in warm tones and textures to balance out their crisp, Danby marble counters and white cabinets. Luxe, patterned window treatments with coastal vibes by Thibaut were sourced through Sew Beautiful Interiors of Severna Park, completing the bright, sunny look.

A PLACE FOR THEIR PALS

At the end of the day, one of the most important things the house needed to do was provide a home for all of the empty nesters' pets. Ardent animal rescuers, the couple required some workarounds for their furry brood of five dogs and five cats.

Purple Cherry explains that these types of conversations were central for the mindful outfitting of a home with many pets.

"What's the fabric that's going to be chosen? What's the floor material? For example, the family room...that is the Number One dog area, meaning that was the place where they envisioned that they would hang out all the time watching television and all of the animals would be with them. So, believe it or not, the hardwood stopped outside of that space and a decorative hardwood tile went in specifically because when the dogs are there, they can have accidents."



In fact, the homeowner says that one of her home's favorite features is located on the lower level where they installed a huge, dog washing station, that she muses is bigger than all of their showers combined.

"They all have to be washed and all of our dogs are shakers," she laughs. So, they provided plenty of space for them to do just that behind large glass panels, and they chose Chicago brick for the flooring. The finishing touch: Thibaut wallpaper depicting whimsical pencil drawings of dogs in shades of gray, yellow, and black for the walls.

Other aspects on the homeowners' favorite feature list include the home's entry with its soaring ceiling and its big, open-water view, and the primary bedroom with its fireplace, overhead beams, and soft, cozy vibe. All part and parcel of a team effort, and a true appreciation of what they had found.

"We are so proud of the house because we literally took a shell that was just torn to bits," she recalls. "It was a mess, and we turned it into a stunning, beautiful, warm, stately, elegant home. And that was the goal. I wanted it to look like it had been there forever."

Pretty Performers

FRESH FABRICS THAT EXTEND INDOOR LIVING TO THE OUTDOORS

By Lisa J. Gotto

Can it be that poolside-sitting weather is finally upon us? Perhaps you're getting ready to retrieve your patio soft goods from their storage containers for another season of outdoor relaxation and recreation? How is that going? Do they remain seasonally stunning, or might they look like they've been adrift in the Severn for a spell?

No matter, there's still time to style up a pleasing patio scene with best-in-class fabrics that stand the test of time while lending grace to your outdoor space.

WHAT MAKES IT LAST?

Maybe a better question is, what are your outdoor living goals? The truth is, not all upholstery fabrics are created equal. For some people this is of little consequence; while for others having to replace their pillows, cushions, umbrellas, and cabana drapes once upon a season is a story they have heard one time too often.

Once you have assessed your needs, you'll want to be aware of these buzzwords before you head out on your next cushion excursion:



ACRYLIC:

Synthetic and man-made, fabrics made from acrylic fibers are widely used for outdoor applications primarily for its water-resistant properties. Acrylic is also known for its resistance to fading and mildew. It's soft to the touch, quick-drying, and resists shrinking. For the long-haul, however, some of these fabrics may pill over-time and show signs of chafing. They are also highly flammable, so steer clear of the fire pit if you're choosing this popular option. These fabrics are best for consumers who wish to update their outdoor patio panoramas more frequently, perhaps as much as every summer, because these fabrics are option-rich and seasonally thrifty.

Polyester:

Another commonly used material for outdoor fabrics is polyester. It is not inherently waterproof, however, so it is most often treated with additional coatings or finishes such as silicone, or polyurethane to enhance its durability and resistance. The coating process plumps up the fabric giving it more elastic properties and a filmy surface feel. This additional affordable and durable option is also hypoallergenic.



SUNBRELLA:

Perhaps the most popular brand of high-performance outdoor fabric because of its affiliation with mass market retailers like Pottery Barn, Sunbrella fabrics are often made from acrylic, or a blend of acrylic and other materials known for their UV resistance, water repellency, and ease of maintenance. Other brand contenders that get high marks in this category are U.S.A.-based Bella-Dura Fabrics and Inside-Out Performance Fabrics.





Olefin:

Also known as polypropylene, Olefin is a synthetic fiber that is resistant to moisture, mold, and fading. It is often used for outdoor rugs, cushions and upholstery. Olefin is used in high-quality brands, such as GeoBella, known for its beautiful and touchable texture. While often compared to Sunbrella fabrics, Olefin is classified mostly as an indoor fabric that can be used outdoors, where Sunbrella is exclusively made for outdoors.



SOLUTION-DYED:

Manufacturers of premium fabrics for outdoor living like Perennials, a trendsetter in luxury fabric for poolside and boat, use a process called 100 percent solution-dyeing technology to enhance and sustain the color and pattern of outdoor fabrics. This process adds color pigments during the fiber production process which results in a more fade-resistant and durable fabric. These fabrics are often considered more natural-looking and feeling, as well. Many manufacturers will offer a five-year warranty on a solution-dyed fabric.



WHAT'S HOT?

That pesky ol' color of the year, Peach Fuzz, continues to pop up on our design radar and while you may have never dreamed of going in that direction outdoors, our style spies are loving how it well it works with waterside surroundings. Sunbrella fabric offerings come in a variety of textured solids, subtle stripes, and geometric patterns. So inspiring! Ready to head back out to the patio? It's pillow-puffing and crab-cracking season once again!

OH, WHAT A TANGLED WEB?

Not really, but it does pay to know the particular weave of a fabric when you're seriously considering making an investment in new outdoor soft goods.



Among the most popular weaves in outdoor fabrics are plain, twill, and slub weave. The simple crisscross pattern of the yarns in a **plain weave** intersects at right angles creating a balanced and strong fabric that is durable, smooth, and easy to care for.



Twill weave creates a diagonal pattern by interlacing its warp and weft threads. Each weft thread passes over a certain

number of warp threads before going under, creating its distinct diagonal line. Twill weaves are known for their durability, flexibility, and characteristic diagonal appearance. The most popular heavy-duty fabric, canvas, for example, is a tightly woven material created from either a plain or twill weave. Every proper Marylander is familiar with the abilities of this boat-friendly, workhorse fabric.



The yarn fibers in a **slub weave** involve intentional irregularities, or thicker sections of yarn, that create a more textured

or uneven surface than a plain weave. This type of weave allows for a greater degree of visual interest within the fabric, or even a more handcrafted look.



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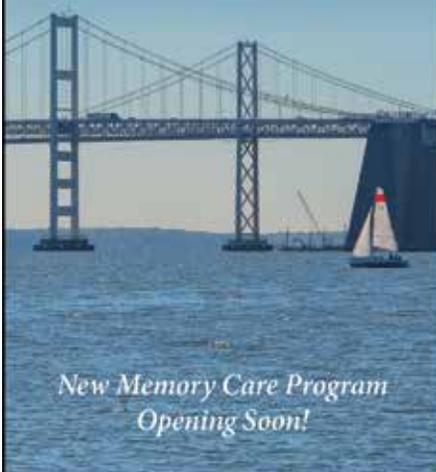
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Protecting the Pollinators

A FEW PRECAUTIONS TO HELP THE BIRDS, BEES, BUTTERFLIES, AND BUGS IN YOUR GARDEN

By Janice F. Booth

Pollinators are an essential part of our garden's success. Seventy-five percent of all plants depend on pollinators. We're all aware, I suspect, of the dangers facing pollinators and read our share of articles and books explaining how to plant and maintain gardens that attract pollinators: birds, bees, butterflies, and our less popular friends, bugs.

So, rather than go over lists of the pollinators' favorite flowers and bushes, I have four cautions or advisories you may want to know when gardening with "The Four Bs" in mind.



NUMBER 1: TO FEED OR NOT TO FEED, THAT MAY BE THE QUESTION.

If you're luring pollinators to your garden, particularly birds, **plan to provide food and water all year long, including winter months.** Bees hibernate. Butterflies may too. Bugs go underground where they sometimes hibernate. If you've provided a sanctuary with food and water all summer, the birds may choose to stick around instead of migrating.

In the autumn you'll either need to find ways to discourage the cardinals, jays, bluebirds, and finches from staying, or you'll have to provide their necessities all winter long.

Discouraging techniques: If you plan to spend the winter away from home, think about removing some of your garden's tempting treats in autumn. Stop filling the bird feeders; remove and clean out the birdhouses. If you've provided a fountain or a birdbath, drain and clean it. Make your garden less inviting. If birds stay anyway, they will have found ways to feed themselves and locate water. (If you're home, occasionally during the long, cold winter, you can put out a suet cake or pans of seed and water. But only randomly unless you plan to keep up the kindness.)

Winter Provisioning techniques: Spending the winter in Maryland can be daunting. Watching our feathered friends enjoy our feeders and birdbaths becomes one of winter's joys. But it is essential that food and water are consistently provided. If the sources of food and water on which they depend disappear, they may die. Think of the birds as pets that live outdoors. If you go away for more than a day, ask a neighbor or friend to stop by to fill the birdfeeder and refresh the water. (You may want to invest in a birdbath water heater.)

**NUMBER 2:
BEWARE OF
HIDDEN POISONS.**

When buying new plants and shrubs for your garden, **know your grower, buy your plants from the source.** If you are using a professional gardening service, ask if they can vouch for the safety of their growers' plants. Birds, bees, butterflies, and bugs are extremely susceptible to poisoning by pesticides and chemicals. While you may be very careful to avoid using pesticides in your garden, plants introduced into your garden may carry death warrants for your wild friends, and sometimes even for your pets.

Neonicotinoid chemicals are often used by large-scale growers to protect seedlings and young plants. Since the chemicals are applied long before they're sent to be sold in big box and hardware stores, usually the neonicotinoid or other chemical pesticides or fertilizers are not identified nor are warning signs put up by the sellers. You could buy a flat of lovely young bee balm and discover too late that they were laced with a lethal chemical.



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NUMBER 3: WATER, WATER EVERY- WHERE, BUT NOT A DROP TO DRINK!

Birds, bees, and butterflies are not waders! Even though they ingest liquid nectar, they still need fresh water. They need **Puddling Stations**. Let's consider how each of these creatures procures water:

1. Birds must be able to stand on a dry or slightly damp surface while leaning forward to take water in their beaks. **2.** Bees stand in very shallow water and extend a straw-like appendage (a nose) that inhales water. **3.** Butterflies also use a straw-like mouth part. They must settle on a dry or almost-dry surface close to the water without getting their wings wet! **4.** Bugs get most of their water from the plants they eat, so we needn't worry about those little imps.

Check your fountain, pond, or birdbath. Be sure it has **relatively dry resting places that are very near the water's surface**. You could add a few flat stones in the birdbath. Perhaps devise a platform around the fountain's edge. Reorganize the steppingstones or pavers around the edge of your pond so that all these little guys can safely drink the water they need.



**NUMBER 4: A
PLAGUE OF RICHES!**

Unless you have a very savvy professional gardener or you are an experienced gardener yourself, you may be unaware of the headaches you may be planting when you add ornamental grasses and some attractive shrubs to your Pollinator Garden. Yes, the grass provides seeds and cover for little creatures. Yes, the bushes may produce berries that can feed feathered friends. BUT, **beware!**

Ornamental grasses are lovely and graceful. They're easy to grow and settle in happily. It's that "settling in" that gets us in trouble. Each year the ball or *tussock* at the base of the grasses gets thicker and wider. After a few years you will have a very difficult time dividing the clump or even paring it down to a more manageable size. These tussocks must be addressed yearly and severely chopped to retain control. These grasses are ruthless, and less inviting to the little creatures as they grow more dense.

Ornamental and berry-bearing bushes may have a similar flaw. Burning bushes and winter-berry, for example, are lovely to look at, but they are not native, and they spread and invade areas of your garden and the gardens and woods beyond.

All these cautions are just my effort to help you and your pollinators live in harmony in your garden.



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On the Corner & Crazy Cute

By Lisa J. Gotto

You'll certainly experience all the great Craftsman feels when you walk into this pristine and expertly updated two-story home with additional backyard carriage house in Murray Hill.

A great neighborhood and a corner lot provide the backdrop for this sweet charmer built in 1928. Sit a spell on the gracious front porch or make yourself at home in this open and airy iteration of a first-floor plan accentuated with rich, dark hardwoods under foot and period-perfect mill work around its charming windows and doorways.

A large living room offers a wide entry into a spacious, light, and bright kitchen with every bell and whistle a good cook dreams of, including a gas range, custom cabinets, and a large dining space, plus an additional cozy nook with an attractive stone wall feature. A separate seating area leads to a large set of French doors and to the outdoor patio scape. This is a lovely, café-like area with pretty paver stones and a fountain feature so the party can easily spill outside while entertaining.



Primary Structure Built: 1928

Sold For: \$1,546,800

Original List Price: \$1,425,000

Bedrooms: 4

Baths: 3

Living Space: 2,025 Sq. Ft.

Lot Size: .12 acres

The home offers three bedrooms, including a spacious suite with private access stairs and a separate lounging area with its own balcony overlooking the downstairs courtyard. Absolutely dreamy! The courtyard leads to a precious carriage house, perfect for hosting friends and family when they're in town for town events.

This sweet escape features the same attractive finishes as the main house and adds attractive shiplap details to its main living area. This space transitions into an efficiency kitchen with built-in eating area, mini fridge, and microwave. A full bath with marble top vanity and a large, glass shower with attractive tile treatment is located beneath the carriage house's loft bedroom quarters.

The property also boasts a private outdoor shower in its extended courtyard area, which is an ideal relaxation spot after exploring nearby Spa Creek via paddle board or kayak, or playing pickleball at nearby Truxton Park.

With so many great features, it's no wonder this property topped the market—going for more than \$120K over ask!



Listing Agent: Jennifer A. Siska, Long & Foster Fine Homes, 145 Main Street, Annapolis, m. 410-507-0995, o. 410-263-3400, jennifer.siska@longandfoster.com, jennifersiskarealestate.com **Buyers' Agent:** Dave Luptak, Long & Foster Annapolis Eastport, 320 Sixth Street, Annapolis, m. 202-841-9084, o. 410-260-2800, david.luptak@longandfoster.com, longandfoster.com



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Sweet Charleston Charm

By Lisa J. Gotto

Brimming with style, sophistication, and substance, this 5,000-square-foot home in one of Annapolis's most desirable neighborhoods, brings a taste of sweet Charleston charm to the Chesapeake.

"My clients were looking for a home close to the water and when we walked into this home they knew it was the one," says Buyers' Agent, Betty Batty. "The combination of charm, character, and quality workmanship throughout the home and

Primary Structure Built: 2009

Sold For: \$1,800,000

Original List Price: \$1,925,000

Bedrooms: 4

Baths: 4
Full, 1 Half

Living Space: 5,069 Sq. Ft.

Lot Size: .21 acres

being in the sought-after community of Bay Ridge...we felt we had to make this their home."

And what a home! This three-level residence has gracious and inviting curb appeal with its façade presentation of columns, balconies, railings, and French doors. Mature trees and refined landscaping frame the home providing shade, privacy, and pride of place.

Inside the front door, guests will immediately notice the gorgeous heart of pine floors that flow throughout, and the level of customization and detail this home offers. The living room is highlighted with one of the home's two fireplaces. A wider arch entry provides flow into the home's casual, yet elegant dining room with its light and neutral tones, and generous natural light from a series of casement windows.

This floor also features an attractive library with a wall of gorgeous built-ins— a great, sunny space, for reading, meditating, and working from home.

The large kitchen in this home is a true showcase with dramatic, dark wood cabinets contrast-

ing with the lighter vibe of its sourced-from-Ireland center island that offers breakfast seating for four, and its light floors and walls. A wealth of functional counter space topped with striking white marble, and a complete stainless steel appliance package including a six-burner Wolf gas range, make the space as functional as it is fashionable.

This easily transitions into a spacious family room which shares views of an adjoining fireplace that can be appreciated from either room. Sets of French doors lead from both the kitchen and family room to the home's gracious outdoor living spaces.

Ascend the wrought iron trimmed staircase to the second level and find an enormous primary suite that's more of a retreat than just a place to sleep with its spacious separate lounge with more custom built-ins and French door access



to the room's private balcony, which also can be accessed through the bedroom. This balcony is a private get-away of its own with its views to the refined landscaping of the front yard, its column and railing detail, and sunny pergola overhead. The primary bath is spa-like with a soaking tub, a luxurious tile shower, and separate vanities. There are three additional bedrooms, two on this floor; they are both large. One makes the perfect suite for teens and kids with a great lounge for hanging out.

Just one floor above, there's a sunny, carpeted bonus room that provides access to the home's signature feature: a spacious, rooftop deck with water views—leaving no detail unaddressed for those who aspire to quintessential Annapolitan living.



Listing Agent: Pam Tierney, Long & Foster Real Estate, 145 Main, St., Annapolis, m. 443-822-9079, o. 410-263-3400, ptierney@Inf.com, longandfoster.com
Buyers' Agent: Betty Batty, Compass Real Estate, 2077 Sommerville Rd., Annapolis, m. 301-832-7609, o. 410-429-7425, betty.batty@compass.com, compass.com



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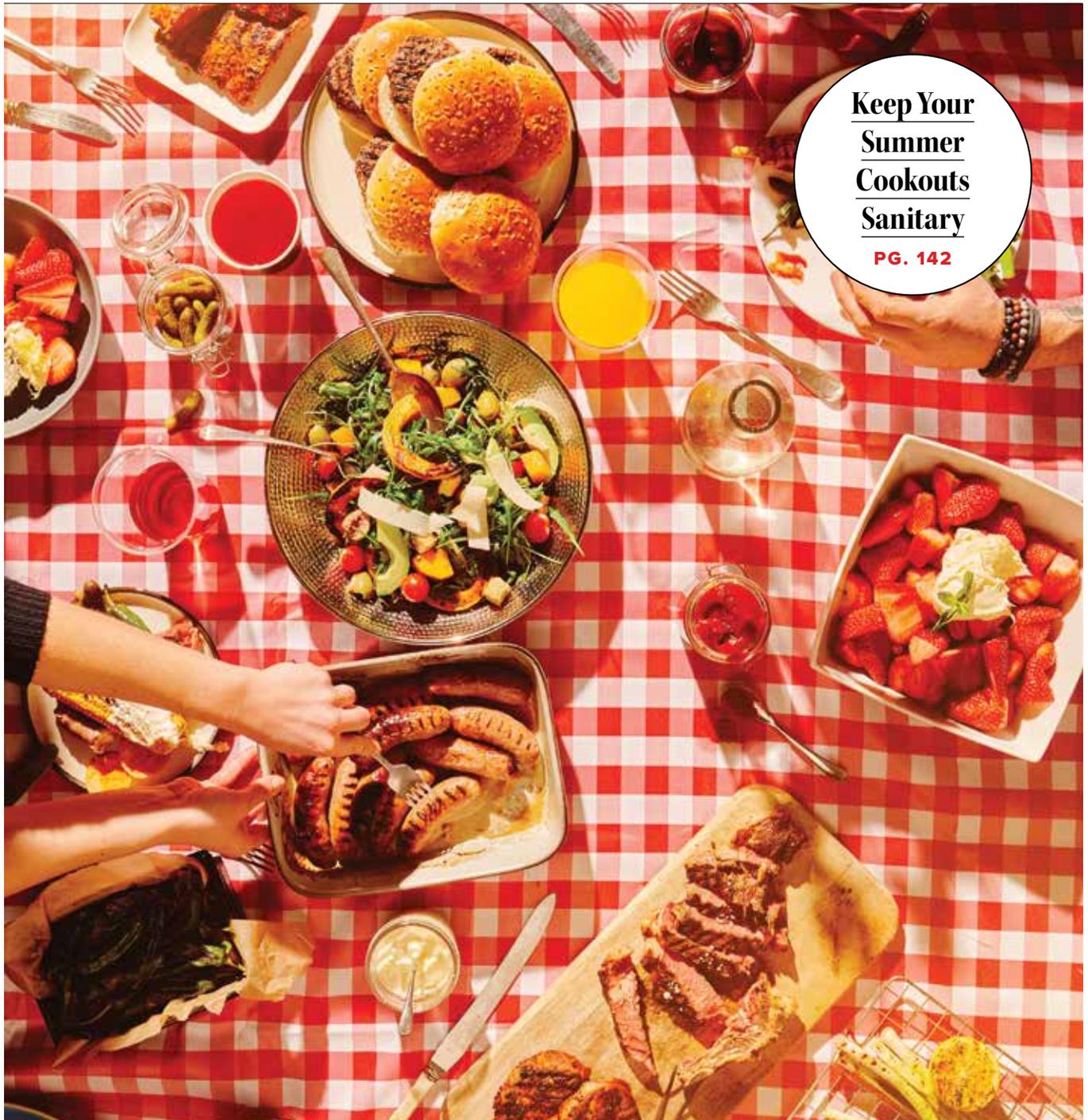
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**Keep Your
Summer
Cookouts
Sanitary**

PG. 142



EMS

EFFECTIVE, BUT NOT AN AB WORKOUT

By Dylan Roche

Can *that* actually work?” It’s a question you could reasonably ask yourself when you consider electronic muscle stimulators, aka EMS. The short answer might be: It’s complicated.

These devices deliver minor pulses of electricity to your muscles, causing them to contract the same way that physical movement would. They’re safe and effective, according to the Food & Drug Administration, but that doesn’t necessarily mean they’re going to give you same results as an intense fitness routine would. And with an ab stimulator recently getting approval from the FDA to be sold on the market, it becomes important once again for consumers to manage their expectations.

When the FDA gives its approval to a medical device, such as a programmable pacemaker, or in this case, an EMS, it’s because the device is *safe and effective*. When used properly, it’s not a high risk to your health and safety, and it will fulfill the medical purpose it claims it will.

Many EMS devices are approved by the FDA, but only one ab stimulator, Slendertone Flex, made by BMR NeuroTech Inc., was approved as recently as January 2024. Ab stimulators are unique among EMS devices because they are designed specifically to target your abdominal muscles, unlike other EMS devices used by medical professionals in clinical settings to do things like treat muscle spasms or improve range of motion. The FDA’s approval of Slendertone Flex gives a jolt to the conversation about what EMS can do—and what it can’t.



If Slendertone Flex is FDA approved, does that mean using this over-the-counter device can give you a six pack? And is there a chance that other ab stimulators could soon get the same approval from the FDA?

Here’s the reality: Yes, an ab stimulator will strengthen your abdominal muscles, but it will likely not be so significant that you see any noticeable change. As the FDA itself states on its website, “Stimulating muscles repeatedly with electricity may eventually result in muscles that are strengthened and toned to some extent but will not, based on currently available data, create a major change in your appearance without the addition of diet and regular exercise.”

To see your muscles, you would have to strengthen your abs enough for them to grow in size *and* decrease your body fat. The National Academy of Sports Medicine says that abs only become visible on women below 19 percent body fat and on men below 9 percent body fat. That’s very low but still healthy—once a woman’s body fat drops below 16 percent and a man’s drops below 6 percent, they are in the unhealthy range.

Most experts agree that the best way to strengthen your abs is through core workouts, such as planks and crunches. A healthy diet and an exercise routine combining aerobic activity and strength training can help you lower your body fat.

Then there’s another final point to keep in mind. If a particular device hasn’t been approved by the FDA, there’s likely a good reason for it. Some non-approved EMS devices have caused shocks, burns, bruising, and skin irritation, or they might even interfere with pacemakers and defibrillators. Even if they aren’t dangerous, there’s no guarantee they’re going to do what they claim they’ll do. It’s not worth risking your safety while taking a shortcut to “better health.”

Look Away from This Cosmetics Trend

By Dylan Roche

Most cosmetic procedures can leave you feeling more confident about your appearance, but this is one surgery that could ultimately end up leaving you with poor eye health. Buzz about cosmetic eye color surgery has been growing, most prominently at the end of last year when Victoria's Secret model Jessica White took to her social media channels to show off her new eye color. Her previously brown eyes were now hazel after undergoing *keratopigmentation*, a process

that involves using lasers to insert dye into the corneas, so they mask the natural color of the eye's irises. The process has sometimes been referred to as "corneal tattooing."

What doctors are performing this kind of procedure? The first keratopigmentation practice in the country, KERATO, is based in New York City, and its owner Dr. Alexander Movshovich has garnered a widespread following on TikTok of people who are fascinated by the prospect of the cosmetic surgery trend. Although the procedure isn't approved by the Food and Drug Administration for safety or effectiveness, most health experts look to it as being safer than other forms of eye color surgery, such as iris implants, in which a doctor cuts a small slit in the cornea to insert an artificial silicone iris. Iris implants are illegal and considered to be malpractice in the United States, although some patients do travel abroad to seek the procedure. Organizations including the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Glaucoma Society warn not to undergo iris implant surgery, as it can end up doing severe damage to the eyes.

The biggest concern some eye health experts have is that very few people *need* to change their eye color, making any procedure a risky endeavor for minimal reward. A small percentage of patients may need their eye color changed because of eye injury or eye disease, such as ocular albinism. But generally speaking, if you're looking to change your eye color, the safest and easiest option is to use colored contact lenses, which is a low-cost, temporary (i.e. reversible) method.



Don't Invite the Grossness

KEEP YOUR SUMMER COOKOUTS SANITARY

By Dylan Roche



Once summer gets here, many of us will be firing up our grills and inviting the neighbors over for a cookout. It doesn't matter whether it's for a special occasion or just because it's a nice day outside.

But what *does* matter is that everything gets done in a clean, sanitary, healthy way. And the unfortunate reality is that when you're cooking and eating foods outside in the heat, or enjoying food over an extended period of time, such as you might during an hours-long cookout, there are a lot of unhealthy practices you fall victim to without even realizing it.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that about 48 million people get sick from some kind of foodborne illness during the course of a given year, with summer being one of the riskiest times because of the high temperatures that make it easy for bacteria to multiply and spread.

GIVEN THAT INFORMATION, HERE ARE 10 GROSS THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO BE CAREFUL WITH AT YOUR COOKOUT THIS SUMMER:



1. A DIRTY GRILL

This isn't even about a grill that has raw meat juice on it. This is about a grill that's been sitting around for a while, maybe even since last summer. You have no idea what kind of buildup from last year's barbecue is still on there, or what dirt has accumulated over the winter. Before cooking anything, clean the grill thoroughly with soap and water, using a wire bristle brush to get into any hard-to-reach places. Be careful, however—make sure none of the wire bristles from your cleaning brush come off on the grill, where they could easily get stuck to the food that somebody eventually eats.



2. Your hands

Think of everything you've been touching as you prepare food. First, there's the raw burgers. Then there's the unwashed produce. Then there's the trash you've bagged up and taken away. You should be washing your hands between each step of preparing food, especially after you handle anything dirty or germ. Use hot water and lather your hands with soap, scrubbing them for at least 30 seconds before rinsing thoroughly and drying with a clean towel.

3. UNDERCOOKED MEATS

Raw and undercooked meat harbors countless bacteria, and the only way to kill that bacteria is to cook the meat thoroughly. Even if you're setting the meat over hot coals or open flame, you need to ensure the center of the meat is reaching a temperature great enough to kill all the bacteria—don't rely on color as a way of telling whether a piece of meat is thoroughly cooked, even if you've been told that this is a reliable method. Instead, use a meat thermometer to ensure that fish or pork reaches 145F, poultry reaches 165F, and ground beef reaches 160F.



4. YOUR FRESH FRUITS AND VEGGIES

Produce is an essential part of any cookout, including the tomatoes and onions you're slicing up for the burgers or the fresh fruit you're dicing for a refreshing side dish. But all produce has to be washed. Think of the soil that it's grown in and all the handling it has endured as it's been transported to your local grocery store. Even if fruit has a rind that you're removing—such as watermelon and pineapples—you still need to wash the fruit so that your knife doesn't pick up any dirt as it slices through.

5. Cutting boards and plates

Cooking your meat thoroughly and washing your produce won't do you much good if you're subjecting all the food to cross-contamination. Keep everything separate and clean between uses. If you use a plate to hold raw meat, don't place the cooked meat back on that same plate. If you've been collecting dirty produce on a cutting board, be sure to clean the cutting board off when you wash the produce.



6. FOOD THAT'S BEEN SITTING OUT TOO LONG

Once your food is cooked, don't assume that it's safe indefinitely. Once food has a chance to sit out for a long period of time, especially in the heat of summer, it can quickly become a hotbed of bacteria all over again. The golden rule is to keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Don't let anything sit out for longer than two hours, or one hour if it's above 90F where you are. After that, everything needs to go in the fridge—and if it happens to sit out longer, it's safest to throw it away afterward.

7. YOUR MARINADE CONTAINER

Marinating your meat, poultry, or seafood can give it lots of flavor, but it can also allow bacteria to thrive if you're not careful. Always marinate food in the fridge, where there's less risk of bacteria breeding. Once your marinade has been exposed to raw meat juices, do not reuse it—transferring raw meat from a marinade container to the grill and then back to the marinade container isn't a safe move. If you wish to add more marinade after grilling, use marinade separate from what the raw meat sat in.



8. OVERCOOKED MEAT

This one isn't about germs, but it's still a health precaution you should keep in mind—when meat is cooked at high temps, its fatty juices create a seared crust around the exterior. As tempting as this is, it's also carcinogenic. You can avoid this by cooking the meat in the oven, but that would go against the spirit of a cookout, where a grill is often the main attraction. In this case, the MD Anderson Cancer Center recommends limited your consumption of extra-crispy barbecue to only a few times per month, and to load up on antioxidant-rich vegetables and fiber to counteract the effects.

9. Melty Ice Cream

Ice cream seems like a safe bet when it comes to a cookout. Once the ice cream gets too warm, it starts to melt, and then it comes inedible anyway. Unless, of course, you tend to take ice cream in and out of the freezer all summer. All the milk, sugar, and butterfat can become a breeding ground of bacteria for ice cream that sits out to soften—and when you return the tub to the freezer, bacteria remain despite the low temps of the freezer. If you take the tub out again for your cookout the next weekend, carefully assess the quality. If it has the icy, too-solid consistency of ice cream that's been melted and refrozen, it's best to rethink dessert for the occasion unless you want to risk an upset digestive system.



10. BEER THAT'S BEEN SITTING IN YOUR GARAGE THROUGHOUT THE WINTER

Sure, your garage is a handy place to store a case of beer throughout the winter. It's out of the way, and it's often cold enough that you don't even need to refrigerate it. Once summer comes, you can put the cans over ice and serve them at your cookout. But if this is your storage method, it's best to rinse those cans off first—you never know what kind of dirt, grime, or pests they've been exposed to in your garage for a few seasons. A simple rinse could be the difference between someone putting their lips to a dirty can or a clean one.

PFAS

WHAT ARE THEY, AND WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

By Dylan Roche

Nobody wants to think there are chemicals in their drinking water—but it's a fact that many Americans need to face. Health experts and environmental advocates have been encouraging more discussion in recent years about PFAS, short for per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances, also known as “forever chemicals.”

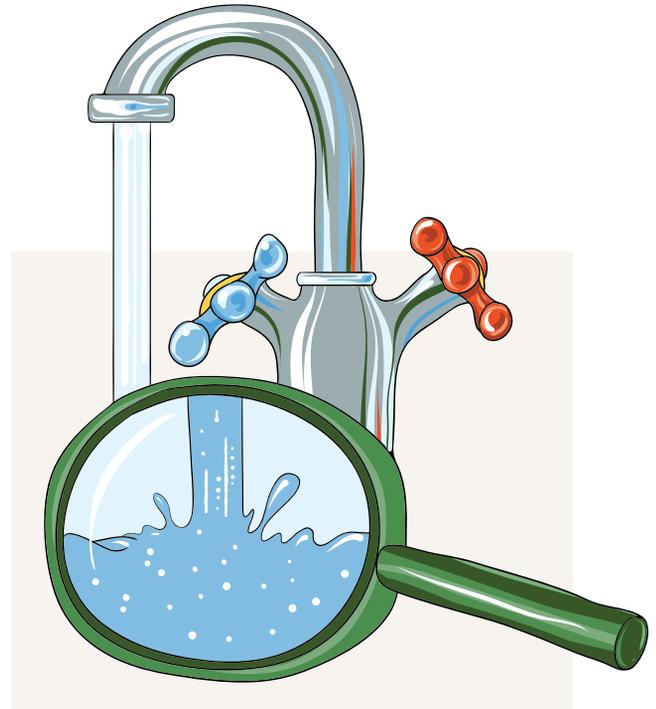
As the nickname suggests, these microplastics don't break down. They linger in the air we breathe, the soil in which we grow our food, and the water we drink. Because of this, they often end up consumed by humans or animals, where

they can accumulate in the body. In fact, in February 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency released data showing that about 70 million Americans have consumed drinking water contaminated by PFAS.

That's bad news, because this bioaccumulation of microplastics in our bodies has negative health consequences,

including cancer and damage to our DNA, our reproductive systems, and our immune function. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 90 percent of people have been exposed to forever chemicals, determining that exposure is so commonplace that the agency put out guidelines for dealing with them. This CDC guidance encourages health care providers to test for PFAS in a patient's blood, and to talk to patients about how they can reduce future exposure.

Although the EPA and CDC warn about the risks associated with these forever chem-



icals, there are still no laws at the federal level regulating PFAS in drinking water. Currently, nine states have laws in place. Maryland currently has laws regulating the use of PFAS in fire-fighting products and apparatus, food packaging, and carpets, but there are no laws setting limits in drinking water.

Until standards are set by law, many consumers take a risk by drinking any water, including bottled water. Because the FDA does not regulate PFAS in bottled water, it is possible that some products still contain them. The International Bottled Water Association requires its members to test and limit products, but not all bottled water manufacturers and distributors are a member of this organization.

For those who are wary of the risks surrounding PFAS, one safety method is to install your home tap with a water treatment method certified by the National Sanitation Foundation, such as reverse osmosis or an activated carbon filter. Both of these methods use a type of filter (a semipermeable membrane in the case of reverse osmosis, and granulated activated carbon in the case of a carbon filter) to remove contaminants from the water. This can leave your home tap water clean and as free from as many chemicals as possible.

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When the Internet Diagnoses Narcissistic Personality Disorder

By Dylan Roche

They're such a narcissist." You've probably heard a peer describe someone this way in reference to an ex-partner, a former friend, an estranged parent, or another unhealthy relationship they're keeping at a distance. *Narcissist* has become a popular buzzword in social discourse lately, but not every person who is self-absorbed or manipulative suffers from narcissistic personality disorder, an actual mental health condition marked by a person's disproportionate sense of their own importance.

And no, this doesn't mean that you can't distance yourself from a self-absorbed person simply because they aren't a clinical narcissist, nor do you necessarily have to go no contact with somebody just because they receive this diagnosis. But it's important to determine when a person in your life might have an actual disorder, particularly if you're encouraging them to get the therapeutic intervention they need.

There's a lot of overlap in behavior between a person with narcissistic personality disorder and somebody who is simply self-absorbed. Both of them might brag a lot, or even put others down. They might seek attention in most social situa-



IF YOU THINK YOU'RE DEALING WITH A NARCISSIST, CONSIDER ASKING THESE QUESTIONS:

- ◆ Can they acknowledge their mistakes and how those mistakes affect others?
- ◆ Do they feel bad about how their negative actions affect others?
- ◆ Are they able to provide emotional support to others?
- ◆ Do they respect other people's needs and boundaries?

tions and get upset when they don't get treated in a special way.

The big difference comes down to empathy and whether this person is actually able to relate to others, according to the Cleveland Clinic. When you point out a self-absorbed person's bad behavior, they can recognize how their actions affect others and they will make an effort to change. On the other hand, a narcissist will not have this ability to empathize. They will be dismissive of the criticism or even angry that it was offered to them.

This ability to empathize usually affects their sense of ethics. A self-centered person might *want* preferential treatment, but they still have a moral compass. They understand rules, and they accept that rules apply to them just as they apply to others. Somebody with narcissistic personality disorder will find a

way to rationalize breaking the rules, or they may even blame other people around them for the way they are being held accountable.

This discernment is difficult because it often comes down to understanding their motivation. A self-absorbed person could commit to changed behavior because they know how it affects those around them, but they struggle with changing their behavior because habits are hard to break. A narcissist might not care about the negative effects of their behavior, but they will pretend to change as a way of further manipulating those around them.

Although many of us understandably don't like to have narcissists in our lives, it's worth remembering that this mental condition can have negative repercussions for the person who has it. They will struggle with relationships, both platonic and romantic. They may even hit plateaus in their career because somebody with this mental health condition isn't fit for leadership roles or management, and this person could

negatively affect professional relationships with a company's clientele. Narcissists often deal with deep unhappiness because, underneath their bragging, they are deeply insecure and deal with negative emotions when they don't get the treatment they feel they deserve.

It's not clear how many people have narcissistic personality disorder, as it can often go undiagnosed. An estimated 0.5 percent to 5 percent of the U.S. population likely has it. For many with this condition, it forms in their youth. Children may show some narcissistic behavior, but this is often age appropriate and something they grow out of. If it continues into their teen years, it could be a warning sign that they will carry this behavior into adulthood.

Health experts aren't sure what causes narcissistic personality disorder, although there are theories. It could be caused by negative childhood experiences, such as rejection or neglect, but on the flip side, overindulgence might also cause it by making a child feel as if they are entitled to this type of treatment. Genetics and neurobiology might play a role as well.

The best treatment option available is talk therapy, or psychotherapy, which can equip a narcissist with a better understanding of how they affect others and how to unlearn their feelings of self-importance.

WHAT'S UP? MEDIA'S 2024

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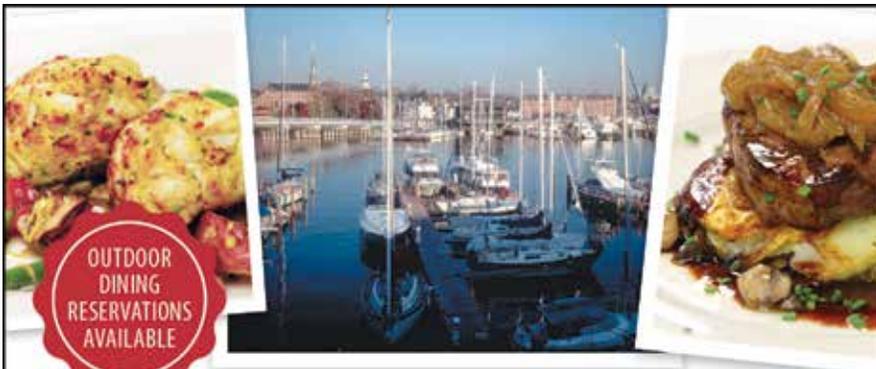


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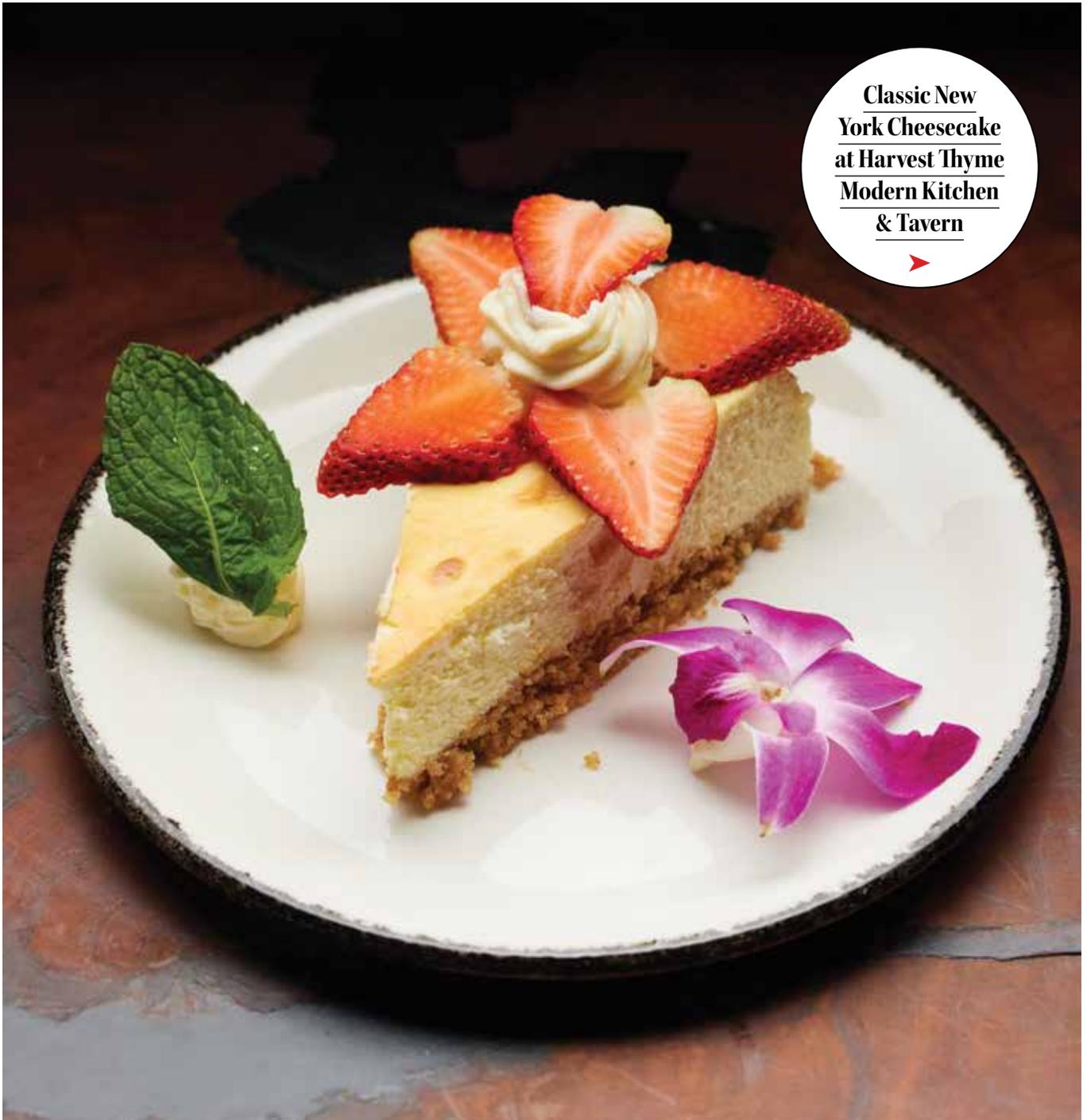
Food & Dining

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Classic New
York Cheesecake
at Harvest Thyme
Modern Kitchen
& Tavern



A Special Kind of Place

By James Houck

Harvest Thyme Modern Kitchen & Tavern and its owners, Rik and Pam Squillari, have reached an industry peak of which many restaurateurs would be envious—that of an unassuming restaurant surpassing the five-year mark in business (it stands at seven now) and building a loyal following of discerning diners. This magical, little culinary oasis resides away from the bustle of touristy Downtown Annapolis or D.C.—enough so, that by the time you arrive to its Davidsonville location straddling the Anne Arundel and Prince George’s county line, you’ll be hungry and wholly eager for the Harvest Thyme experience. And *it is* an epicurean experience.

Bonus: it’s not pretentious, nor stuffy. The entire atmosphere lives up to the tavern moniker and feels relaxing, but with that “special kind of place” aura. After a country drive from Crownsville along back roads that bob along the Patuxent watershed to the small business complex on Central Avenue in which Harvest Thyme resides, my wife and I were warmly greeted by the evening’s hostess and settled into cozy booth seating.

I observed the room, glancing toward the left where a well-curated bar is situated. Indeed, *curated* may be the adjective du jour, as the restaurant boasts floor-to-ceiling wine shelving built into much of the wall space that surrounds the dining area. Clearly, ownership knows their vino. Even the partition separating our booth and front-of-house featured display bottles of carefully chosen whiskies tucked within it. I overheard the hostess respond to another diner’s inquiry about one such bottle: “We were able to procure only two cases of the reserve anniversary bottles.” I believe this was in reference to a particular Woodford whiskey.

And like those beautiful bottles of whiskey and hundreds of wines on display, the entire room is domi-

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ATMOSPHERE LIVES
UP TO THE TAVERN
MONIKER AND FEELS
RELAXING, BUT WITH
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OF PLACE” AURA.**



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nated by earth tones, wooden furniture, grainy finishes, and such. Beyond a collection of dining tables is the open kitchen, where a fleet of cooks scurry into action with every order. Central to this activity is the woodfire pizza oven from which signature pies emerge piping hot and crisp.

All of this hints at what’s on the menu.

As early-bird diners on a calm Wednesday evening, we enjoyed on-point attention from the hostess to our server, Alyssa, and several food and bus runners. The beverage menu is lengthy and covers all bases. A fine selection of wines by the glass as well as bottles from the old world and new dominates (many varietals covered). But do take note of the specialty cocktails—each a harmony of fresh ingredients and top shelf liquors. There are several equally creative mocktails on this menu. And the beer list has a collection that covers each taste. I chose an Ayinger pilsner because... well, the Germans make excellent beer. And it would pair well with the chosen courses to come. Serving the beer in a goblet versus a traditional pilsner glass was interesting, and actually accentuated its brightness. My wife enjoyed freshly brewed iced tea.

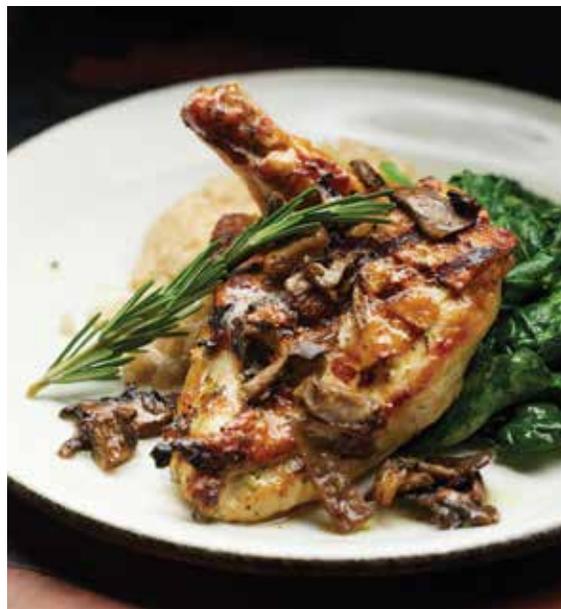
We were careful to select introductions that wouldn’t overfill. Thus, we chose the Steamed Mussels for an appetizer, along with a Panzanella Salad (the smaller portion of two size options). Both dishes hit the expected notes perfectly. A catch of mussels was nestled in a shallow bowlful of garlic broth, in which slivers of red onion, tomato, and Italian sausage also resided. Cuts

of crostini rested on the bowl's edge, fit for mopping up this bath of morsels. Absolutely delicious. The salad mixed very fresh bib lettuce and field greens with capers, small house-made croutons, tomatoes, and crumbles of goat cheese—all dressed with a red wine vinaigrette that punctuated the entire offering with zing. This small plate proved a spot-on, shareable accessory to the mussels, as we alternated bites of both dishes, then felt ready to tackle our main courses.

My better half opted for an entrée chosen from the evening's list of specials—Lobster Ravioli with lumps of blue crab enveloped in a scampi-style sauce. And I, the Lemon and Herb Chicken, accompanied by a mushroom risotto and sauteed spinach. For a kicker on top, so to speak, we ordered a stand-alone crabcake just to get Harvest Thyme's take on this locals' favorite.

I found the chicken—an airline breast with attached drum—to have the very desirable caramelized crispy skin, likely achieved from an expert with the sauté pan, and proper doneness, likely from finishing in the oven. Topped with sauteed mushrooms, each bite of chicken was cherished. The side of risotto was spot on and had the right mouthfeel. It was delicious. The spinach balanced the plate and tasted at home with the mushrooms.

Lobster ravioli has become a popular dish at many Italian and seafood restaurants in the past quarter-century. What separates Harvest Thyme's is love. The ravioli had that distinct house-made taste and feel. The feel of made-from-scratch pasta. Each square was stuffed with sweet meat and the sauce lent a rich, buttery finish to the dish. No wonder that nary a bite was left on the plate.



And the crabcake? A backfin beauty! Though we forked into a couple jumbo lumps of meat, we found the composition favored backfin. The ingredient list of this crabcake was short—as it should be. The crab meat shined. A dusting of seafood seasoning and maybe a few flakes of parsley, along with a light binder (some mayo and egg, perhaps) made their way into this no-filler patty. The accompanying tartar sauce was delivered on the side and was clearly a homemade effort, dill dominant, and had a consistency akin to white sauces you may typically find on southern menus. This micro-dish was a homerun.

Having hit all the savory notes one could wish for and truly feeling satiated, we couldn't bring ourselves to stuff in dessert. Though we did peruse the menu. The sweet offerings are plentiful and elevated; there's an apple pie concoction a la mode, chocolate cake in several forms, cheesecake, a peanut butter pie, sorbets, gelato, and liqueurs for the appropriate digestif.

Tempting as all of these were, we ordered two pizzas to-go (oh yes, we did!)—the Woodcutter featuring a smattering of meats and mushrooms, and a simple Cheese (aka white pizza). Both being a roundabout way to sample another section of the menu by claim of “feeding the kids at home” (true, they were home and, true, they/we devoured the pizza the night after).

Of the all the dishes, drinks, and desserts you'll find at Harvest Thyme—which includes cuts of prime steak, fresh seafood, chops, and homemade pastas—I'm certain you'll be able to cobble together a meal plan that suits your tastes, time and again. The Harvest Thyme experience is worth repeating—the Squillaris will thank you.



Savor the Chesapeake

RESTAURANT NEWS AND CULINARY TRENDS THROUGHOUT THE CHESAPEAKE BAY REGION

By Megan Kotelchuck

We have good news of several restaurants opening throughout the region and even a local chef appearing on the national stage. Plus a couple herbal cocktails worth whipping up. Let's get into it...

ON THE DINING SCENE...

Bay Wolf Restaurant in Rock Hall has closed and **Flying Decoy Bar + Grill** has opened in its place. Flying Decoy is described as “a delightful culinary haven with a testament to the fusion of fresh, locally sourced ingredients and has a commitment to providing exceptional value without compromising on quality. Flying Decoy has a diverse menu for all palates.” The restaurant is open Monday through Saturday for lunch and dinner. Find more information at flyingdecoy24.com.

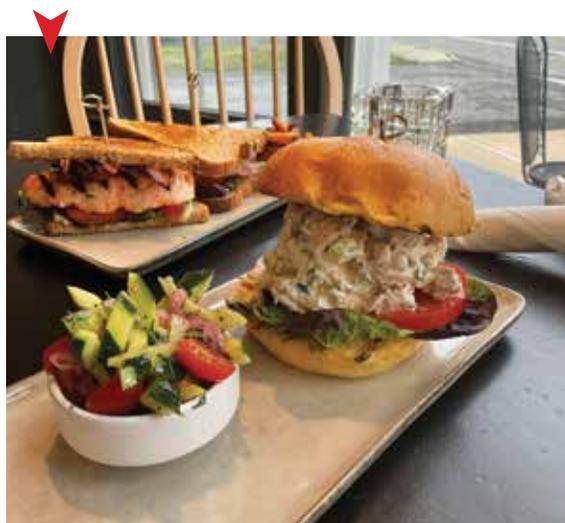


Photo by Flying Decoy Bar & Grill



Titan Hospitality Group has closed their wine bar concept, Smashing Grapes, in Gambrills, allowing creative company to bring their newest concept, The Farmhouse, to life this summer. The Farmhouse will pull key features from their sister concepts, The Lodge and Blackwall Barn & Lodge to bring a greater focus to their farm-to-table style cuisine. The new restaurant will have three private dining rooms, a large outdoor patio, a cozy bar and lounge with an indoor fireplace, and a front porch area. There is still a Smashing Grapes location in Columbia. Find more information at farmhousegambrills.com.

After 19 months closed, **Sailor Oyster Bar** reopened this February. Sailor Oyster Bar experienced a fire on June 8th, 2022. While they were closed, the community raised \$110,000 which mostly went to support the staff. Sailor Oyster Bar is one of the top shell recycling alliance restaurants for the Oyster Recovery Partnership. Find their refreshed menu and hours at sailoroysterbar.com.

Jammin Flava opened at the beginning of March in Odenton. Jammin Flava is a Jamaican restaurant which started as a food truck in May 2015. Jammin Flava's new brick and mortar is located between Pizza Hut and Rita's Italian Ice, where The Brown Box Eatery used to be located. Enjoy jerk chicken, curry goat, oxtails, Cajun fried fish, and more with sides of plantains or coco bread. Find hours, menus, their food truck's daily location, and catering information at jamminflava.com.

Earlier this year, a new Italian restaurant opened in Edgewater. **Robiolina Amore** makes simple, delicious food under chef and founder Chef Canales. This restaurant takes pride in crafting homemade Italian dishes where each bite is a delectable reflection of Italy's rich culinary heritage. Robiolina Amore features handcrafted in-house pastas and more to transport your taste buds to the heart of Italy. Reserve a table and check out the menu at robiolinaamore.com.

During the pandemic, **Tobias Dorzon** opened Huncho House in Hyattsville. Now, Chef Dorzon is taking a quick break from the restaurant to compete in Food Network's *Tournament of Champions*. This competition gathers some of the world's greatest chefs to compete head-to-head, East Coast versus West Coast to crown the best of the best. Need something new to watch? See how our hometown chef did and make reservations for Huncho House at hunchohouse.com.



Photo courtesy of The Food Network

Reap What We Sow...

We have consequences for all of our actions, right? Well, if you start an herb garden, the consequences are delicious opportunities to create dishes and drinks. Here are a couple herbalicious cocktails!



THE MAY QUEEN FLORAL COCKTAIL

Ingredients

Lavender Infused Gin:
4 tablespoons dried
culinary lavender

Hibiscus Rose Syrup:
1.5 cups Sugar
1.5 cups Water
1/2 cup Hibiscus Flowers
2 teaspoons Rosewater

Instructions

Lavender Infused Gin: In a large jar combine the dried lavender and gin. Cover and shake. Let sit for 4 hours. After 4 hours strain the lavender from the gin. Transfer the gin to a clean jar. The lavender infused gin can be stored in a cool place for several months. **Hibiscus Rose Syrup:** In a saucepan combine the sugar and water. Place over high heat and bring to a simmer. Stir occasionally until the sugar is completely dissolved. When the syrup comes to a simmer, add the dried hibiscus flowers. Simmer for 2 to 3 minutes then remove from the heat. Cover and let steep for 20 to 30 minutes. After steeping, strain the syrup and discard the hibiscus. Add the rosewater to the syrup and let cool completely before using. The hibiscus rose syrup will keep for 1 month in the fridge. **Cocktail:** In a cocktail shaker add the lavender gin, elderflower liqueur, hibiscus rose syrup, fresh lemon juice, and egg white. Add ice, then cover and shake for 10 to 15 seconds. Strain into a coupe glass. Garnish with fresh flowers if desired and enjoy!

Photo and recipe courtesy of rhubarbandlavender.com

LEMON BASIL VODKA MARTINI

Ingredients

2.5 ounces vodka
1 ounce lemon juice
1 ounce simple syrup
3 to 4 basil leaves
Sliced lemon wheels for
garnish

Instructions

Add the basil leaves, simple syrup, and lemon juice to a cocktail shaker. Muddle the basil leaves until they are very bruised and torn. It should smell like basil. Add a handful of ice to the cocktail shaker along with the vodka. Shake well for 15–20 seconds until chilled. Strain the cocktail into a chilled martini or coupe glass. Garnish with a lemon wheel and a basil leaf. Enjoy!

Photo and recipe courtesy of toshistable.com





Readers' Dining Guide



Welcome to your regional dining guide. We include many restaurants for many tastes and experiences. Don't see your favorite on the list? Email mkotelchuck@whatsupmag.com or editor@whatsupmag.com and let us know! And for the full guide, visit whatsupmag.com.

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