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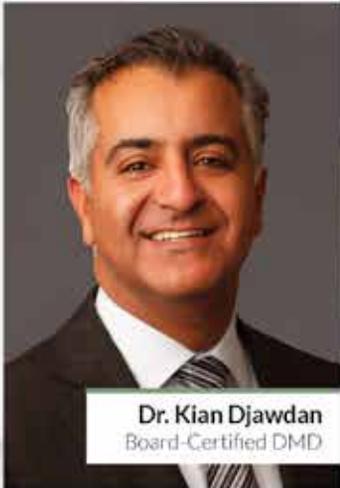
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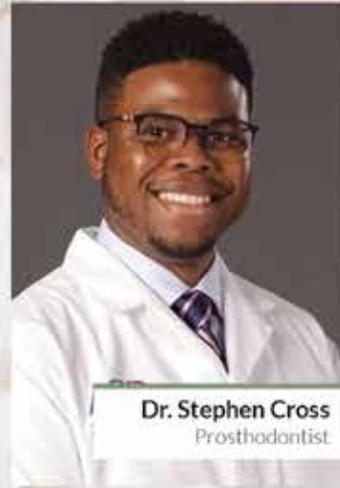
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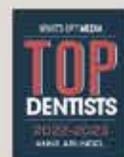
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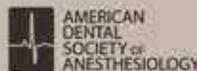
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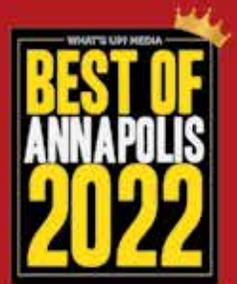
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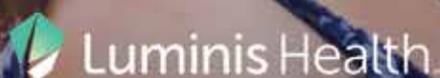
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On the Cover: "Dividing Creek Forever Home," a Home Excellence Award-winning project by Gary Smith Builders. Photograph by Durston Saylor. Design by August Schwartz. Contact *What's Up? Central Maryland* online at whatsupmag.com.
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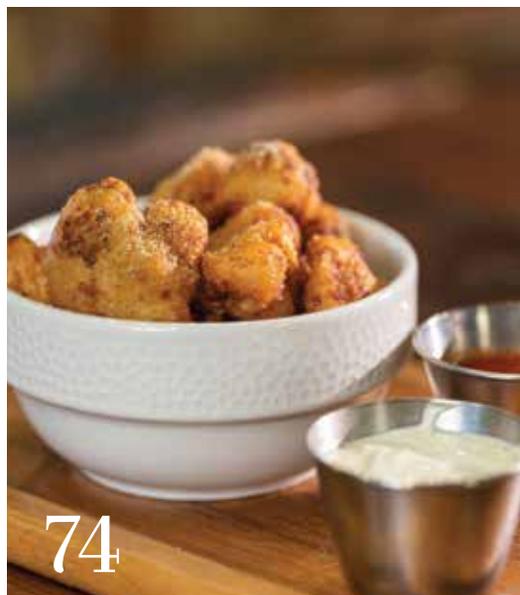


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Vote for The Best!

2023 Best Of Voting Begins January 1st. This is your reminder that the return of Best Of voting will go live New Year's Day and

continue through the end of February. We know you can't wait to vote for your favorite restaurants, shops, and services, so put this on your calendar!



Vote for your favorites here: whatsupmag.com/bestofvoting



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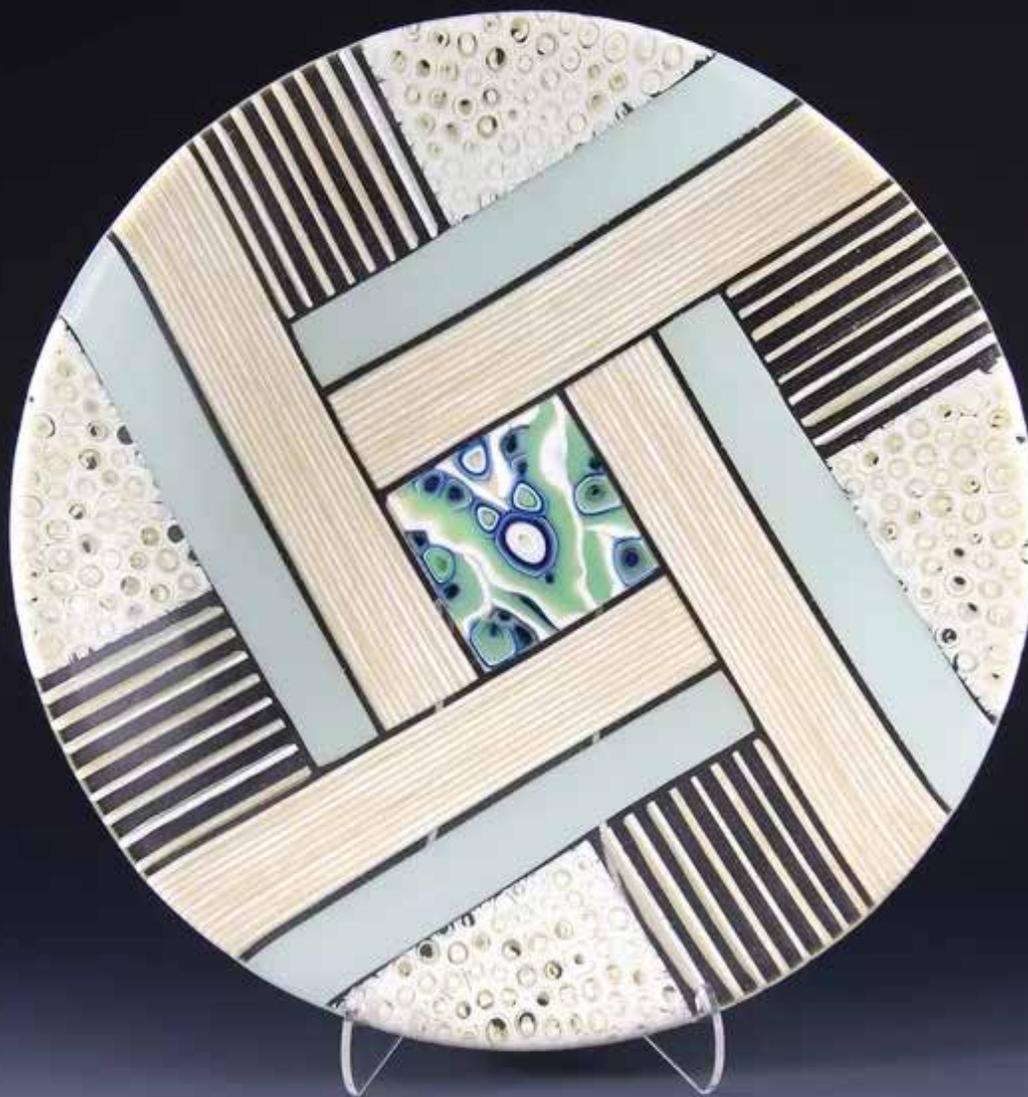
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Out on the **TownE**

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“Wonderland of Art” Exhibition

Over 20 gallery artists have submitted a wide variety of mediums to enlighten winter with a “Wonderland of Art” show. This exhibition continues through February 26th at Artists’ Gallery in Ellicott City and features many pieces of original artwork by the gallery’s member artists. The gallery reception will be held on February 12th from 2 to 5 p.m. Pictured: Karen Wallace’s *Vanilla Mint Wonderland Bowl*. Find more information online, as well as pieces for sale at artistsgalleryec.com.





ADVENTURE AWAITS CAMP FAIR ↓

Stop by Severna Park High School on February 4th from 10 a.m. to noon for a camp fair, showcasing all that Anne Arundel County Recreation & Parks has to offer this summer. There will be representatives from many camps, including the Summer Fun Centers, day camps, adaptive camps, specialty camps, dance, adult programs, and more. Registration will open at midnight on February 4th for families to login and register! Find more information at aacounty.org.

↑ Birdland Caravan

Baseball season is coming up and Orioles players are travelling the region, making special appearances February 2nd through 5th. They'll be at Bowie State University's Student Center on February 4th to sign autographs. Buy tickets online for autograph sessions with various players including Ramón Urías, Heston Kjerstad, Adley Rutschman, and Terrin Vavra. Bring a jersey, photo, bat, or card to get signed. Find more information about all the events and appearances at mlb.com/orioles/fans/caravan.



2023 Teen Writing Contest

The Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore invites high school students between the ages of 14 and 19 to participate in a writing contest. The last day to submit your piece is February 14th. To enter, write an essay or poem about a time when you experienced kindness and the impact it had on you. These submissions of 1,000 words or less must be an original piece and submitted either online or by dropping a printed copy off to any Pratt Library location. Prizes awarded to first-, second-, third-places, and honorable mention. Find more information at prattlibrary.org.

SWEETHEART FAMILY DANCE

Howard County Recreation & Parks is hosting a Sweetheart Family Dance for a parent (or special adult) and their little sweetheart (ages 4-11). Enjoy dancing with a DJ, light refreshments, crafts, a souvenir photo, and more. The dance will be from 4 to 6 p.m. on February 25th at the Roger Carter Community Center in Ellicott City. Find more information and buy tickets at howardcountymd.gov or by emailing Danielle Bassett at dbassett@howardcountymd.gov.



Photo courtesy of Primary Wave

Boyz II Men

Iconic R&B/pop group, Boyz II Men, continues to create timeless hits that appeal to fans across all generations. The band has penned and performed some of the most celebrated classics of the past three decades. The group performs at The Theater at MGM National Harbor on February 19th at 8 p.m. For details and ticket information, visit mgmnationalharbor.mgmresorts.com.

Towne Calendar

A collection of noteworthy community events taking place this month across the Chesapeake Bay region

February 1

Captain Avery Museum Winter Lecture Series at Captain Avery Museum in Shady Side, 11:30 a.m.; captainaverymuseum.org. Join Jim Toomey, the film maker and syndicated cartoonist of Sherman's Lagoon, discussing two years sailing the world with two kids and two captains.

February 2

Annapolis Maritime Museum Winter Lecture Series: Annapolis 1942 at Annapolis Maritime Museum in Annapolis; amaritime.org. The first full year of World War II brings a rush of productivity to the previously sleepy Annapolis waterfront.

February 3

Navy Men's Lacrosse vs Mount St Mary's at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, 5 p.m.; navysports.com. Route on our home team heroes while they take on the Mount.

February 4

Cambridge Reading Social at Cambridge Library in Cambridge, 10 a.m.; visit-dorchester.org. The Reading Social is a monthly event that encourages reading for young birth to 12, the social focus' on improving literacy and building home libraries for children.

Winter Waterfowl Walks at Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, 11 a.m.; eventbrite.com. Walk the refuge to see seasonal flora and fauna. Expect to observe wintering waterfowl and local wildlife.

February 8

Macy Gray at Rams Head on Stage in Annapolis, 8 p.m.; ramsheadonstage.com. Grammy Award winner Macy Gray takes the stage in Annapolis. Gray has sold over 25 million albums globally and is a hit in pop culture all over the world.

February 9

Adult Book Club: The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett at Crofton Library in Crofton, 2 p.m.; aacpl.net. Join Crofton Library staff as we discuss Brit Bennett's *The Vanishing Half*.

February 10

Fire and Ice at Annapolis Town Center, 4 to 8 p.m. Continues through February 11th; More information on Facebook. What's your love story? Join ATC the weekend before Valentine's Day, Friday 2/10 and Saturday 2/11, to celebrate love with Fire & Ice!

2023 Timonium Motorcycle Show at the Maryland Fairgrounds in Timonium, 10 a.m. Continues through

February 12th; More information on Facebook. The country's most complete motorcycle show is back with 100s of bikes, vintage, custom, and antique, as well as stunts, music, beer, and more.

Maryland Black Bears Ice Hockey at Piney Orchard Arena in Odenton, 7:30 p.m.; marylandblackbears.com. The Black Bears play the Maine Nordiques. They also play the Nordiques on February 11th at 7:30 p.m.

Black History in Motion at Publick Playhouse in Ch everly, 10:30 a.m. to Noon; pggparks.com. Celebrate Black History Month with seniors from throughout Prince George's County and beyond with a historical journey highlighting the contributions of African Americans through musical performance.

February 13

Classic Theatre of Maryland Cabaret Series at Classic Theatre of Maryland in Annapolis; classictheatremaryland.org. These popular 90-minute costumed and choreographed productions feature resident singers and special Broadway guest performers, accompanied by the popular Unified Jazz Ensemble.

February 16

Mitchell Tenpenny at Rams Head Live! In Baltimore, 8 p.m.; ramsheadlive.com. Mitchell Tenpenny doesn't believe singing is a hobby; it is his job to get people to love and believe in his songs. See if you can believe it with his performance at Rams Head Live!

Washington College Film Series: Before the Flood at Washington College's Norman James Theatre in Chestertown, 7 p.m.; kent-county.com. The Communi-

cation and Media Studies Program invites you to this month's screening in the Film Series.

February 17

Naptown Brass Band at Rams Head on Stage in Annapolis, 8 p.m.; ramsheadonstage.com. The Naptown Brass Band is a New Orleans style street band that is taking Annapolis. Baltimore and Washington by storm with their riotous renderings of old favorites and modern hits.

February 18

Rotary Youth Leadership Academy at Camp Letts in Edgewater, Continues through February 20th; More information on Facebook. Over two and a half days, students will participate in outdoor and indoor team challenges and recreational activities, expand personal development by learning more about problem solving, and communication, leadership, risk-taking and teamwork.

Frederick Douglass 205th Birthday Celebration at Avalon Theatre in Easton, 6 p.m.; avalontheatre.com. This fundraiser event will include performances by Phil Darius Wallace and Millicent Sparks followed by the unveiling of an 8-foot-tall portrait of Frederick Douglass.

February 19

Hot Chocolate 5K at Kent Island Elementary School in Stevensville, 9 a.m.; runsignup.com. This event is a family and dog friendly race run during the doldrums of winter. We get you off the couch and out of the house for this fun run through the scenic Cross Island Trail.

February 22

Navy Women's Basketball vs American University at Navy Alumni Hall in Annapolis, 7 p.m.; navysports.com. Cheer on the Naval Academy's women's basketball team as they take on American University.

February 23

Black History Month Art Reception at Deale Library in Deale, 6:30 p.m.; aacpl.net. Celebrate art and creativity as you view art inspired by African American artist created by members of the Deale Library Community

February 24

Music Under the Dome: The Beatles at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore, 7 p.m.; mdsci.org. Relax and float downstream on a musical journey through the universe. Experience The Beatles like never before as you take in the music under the 360-degree dome planetarium.

Ballet Theatre of Maryland: Momentum at Maryland Hall in Annapolis, 7:30 p.m.; marylandhall.org. Ballet Theatre of Maryland showcases the versatility of their dynamic dancers with newly commissioned and existing classical and contemporary works.

February 25

Build Your Own Classic Sea Chest at Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, through February 26th, and again March 4-5; cbmm.org. In this four-day workshop, participants will have the opportunity to hone their woodworking skills through constructing their very own 19th century sea chest.

Harvest Bash

On October 15th, Providence Center hosted its annual fundraising party, Harvest Bash, in Arnold. The “feast of fall bounty and abundant cocktails” featured signature drinks, raw oyster bar, custom donuts, live music by the Dan Haas Band and other musicians, live and silent auctions, a wine raffle, fireside lounge, and so much more. Learn more at providencecenter.com.

Photography by Tony Lewis, Jr.

1. Kimberly Smith, Therese Hessler, Jennifer Briemann, Rick Briemann, and Mary Bottize **2.** Scott Dunkle, Maria Marsteller, and Jeff Armiger **3.** Cathy and Ed Reilly **4.** Gabriel Watson, Nick Manis, Allen Comport, Nancy Capistrano, Patty Gomez, Faraj Capistrano, and Sally Comport **5.** Greg Harris, Meredith Harris, Colleen Baldwin, and Jay Baldwin **6.** Debbie Peroken and Jackie Dunkle **7.** Dave Chiseel and Colleen Baldwin





EXPERT OF THE MONTH

JONATHON RONDEAU

President & CEO | The Arc Central Chesapeake Region

Jonathon Rondeau joined The Arc in 2017, bringing nearly 20 years of experience in providing leadership across diverse organizations to create opportunities for self-sufficiency and independence for people with disabilities and those traditionally underserved. As President and CEO, he partners with the board of directors to establish the strategic vision of the organization and make an impact on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across Anne Arundel County and Maryland's Eastern Shore.

To commemorate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, which is observed in March, Rondeau shares his passion for serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, his pride in his team's holistic approach, and his insights on how to support a loved one.

What inspired you to pursue a career working with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities?

When I was 15, I had the opportunity to be a junior counselor for a camp for kids and adults with disabilities. That experience changed my life and put me on the path towards a career that allowed me to create opportunities for people with disabilities that would enable them to work, live, and connect with their community.

What makes The Arc Central Chesapeake Region stand out from other organizations in the area?

Our services are truly individualized to the needs and desires of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We incorporate a holistic approach—looking at the whole person, including their personal life, work and community life, and spiritual life—to provide the necessary support and resources.

Our staff consists of a dedicated team of experts. From our direct support professionals to our support team to our senior leadership, everyone is committed to our mission and facilitates a culture of equity, belonging, and collaboration.

What is the most rewarding aspect of the work you do?

It's truly rewarding to see the people who we serve grow, gain independence, and achieve a life goal.

How can I help a loved one with intellectual and developmental disabilities?

Raising and/or supporting a person with an intellectual and developmental disability can be challenging, and every family needs community support and resources to thrive.

Connecting families who have children with disabilities to the necessary resources, such as The Arc's Family Navigator, advocating for full inclusion of everyone, and ensuring accessibility in public settings is critical.

Jonathon Rondeau

The Arc Central Chesapeake Region
1332 Donald Avenue | Severn, MD 21144
410-269-1883 | thearc.org





TOWNE SALUTE

Elfie Eberle

Orphan Grain Train

By Tom Worgo

Elfie Eberle acquires generous donations from hospitals: hundreds of wheelchairs, beds, crutches, walkers, and portable commodes. And from one company, she secured 3,000 medical stents. All of this for her organization, the Orphan Grain Train. The national nonprofit distributes these items and other medical supplies to communities in need throughout the United States and 69 other countries.

The big donations don't stop Eberle, a Severna Park resident, from persistently looking for other smaller items, even in unusual places—such as scavenging discarded aluminum crutches from neighborhood disposal sites.



IT'S A PASSION OF MINE. THEY GOT MY HEART AND SOUL. MY LIFE IS SO COMPLETE BECAUSE ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN IS A BLESSING TO PEOPLE HERE."

"They are like brand new," she says with a laugh. "When I see them, I grab them. I have done it for as long as I have been with Orphan Grain Train."

That demonstrates how devoted Eberle has been for 28 years as a volunteer for the Orphan Grain Train, which has 28 branches nationwide. Eberle even founded two new branches herself: one in New York in 1994 and one in Maryland in 2003. She's volunteered for 19 years "full-time" as the Maryland branch manager at its state-wide office, located in Millersville, and eight years at the western New York location. And she's assisted 71 international shipments: plus, nine domestically.

"A lot of joy," says Eberle, when asked about the motivation behind all her years of volunteering. "It's a passion of mine. They got my heart and soul. My life is so complete because Orphan Grain Train is a blessing to people here."

"We have great programs to help thousands of people internationally," she adds. "People who can't help themselves. We have what they need, and we have it in surplus."

Eberle stepped down from her position two years ago at age 83 to care for her husband William, a late pastor. For more than 20 years, he volunteered alongside Elfie, who has three children, for the Orphan Grain Train. They took missionary trips for 12 consecutive years to Nicaragua, visiting churches, hospitals, prisons, and orphanages to see what supplies were needed. "We went because Orphan Grain Train had a connection to Nicaragua," Eberle says. "It came out of that."

She remains active with Orphan Grain Train as an ambassador. She helped with the local chapter's campaign of buying and gathering UCI solar lights to be shipped to Ukraine. "My goal is a million lights," Eberle says. "Our national chapter is even getting involved."

A container of 2,000 lights was sent to the war-torn country in December through a church in Washington, D.C. And for the past five years, the local organization has sent about 10,000 lights to South Sudan, Cameroon, and Liberia. Eberle was involved in that project, too.

“She is absolutely a dynamo,” Millersville Assistant Branch Manager Ron Phipps says. “She has incredible energy. She is hard-working, intelligent, and very driven for Orphan Grain Train. She loves her god, and she shows it by helping others around the world.”

Eberle’s biggest achievement was getting a 3,600-square-foot warehouse erected in 2014 on 1.3 acres of land to store supplies for the local branch. Elfie approached a neighbor about donating part of a family farm for the facility. She then had great foresight and convinced her skeptical board members to accept the idea. It took some convincing because they were concerned about the significant funding to pull it off.

“We were shipping only two containers per year,” Eberle explains. “At a board meeting in my house, I said, ‘We have to get a warehouse. We can’t go on like this. It truncates everything we are doing. We can only do so much.’ They looked at me like I grew three heads. It was tedious.”

Today, the warehouse has increased the pace of shipments to once a month. “The production went up a couple of levels,” Phipps explains. And that’s all thanks to Eberle.

To learn more about Orphan Grain Train’s Maryland Chapter, visit ogt.org/branches/md.

Do you have a volunteer to nominate? Send What’s Up? an email to editor@whatsupmag.com.

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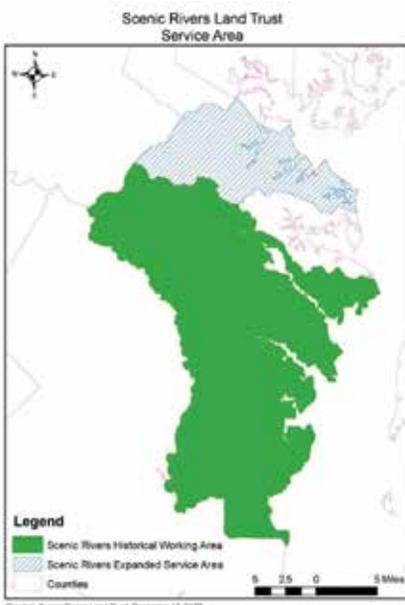


SPG Awards Grants

The Anne Arundel County Senior Provider Group held its year-end meeting on December 13th at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Severna Park. The event was significant in that \$30,000 in grant money was distributed to the following non-profits: Annapolis Wellness House; Encore Creativity; Home-Based Medical; Hope for All; Langton Green; Lillie Cares; Partners in Care; Rebuilding Together; The Salvation Army; and CRAB. The AAC Senior Provider Group invites all individuals and businesses that service seniors in any capacity to join the organization by going to the website senior-providergroup.org. A great opportunity to promote your business, network, and to help seniors. Photographed left to right: Dawn Lewis, Treasurer; Donna Butman, previous treasurer; Nikia Thomas, Grants; Leslie Albertson, outgoing President; Maris Walker, Member at large; Debbie Carta, Media/advertising; Tammy Turner, incoming Vice President; and Jevon Yandow, Membership.

CFG BANK ANNOUNCEMENTS

In October, Oak View Group (OVG), the global venue development, advisory, and investment company, announced an exclusive multi-year arena naming rights agreement with CFG Bank to rename the city's most anticipated live entertainment and sports venue. CFG Bank Arena (originally Baltimore Arena) is undergoing a multi-million renovation and is projected to reopen this month and host more than 120 major events annually. "We're thrilled to partner with Oak View Group and secure the naming rights for Baltimore Arena, now CFG Bank Arena," said Bill Wiedel, CFG Bank CEO & president. "We are so much more than a traditional bank and this partnership is a great example of our entrepreneurial approach and how we do things differently to make change happen for the better." Headquartered in Baltimore, CFG Bank is a locally and solely owned, FDIC-insured bank that provides commercial, personal, and online banking solutions to the Mid-Atlantic business community, national cannabis industry, and national healthcare market. The bank also recently cut the ribbon at the grand opening of its Annapolis location at 107 Forbes Street. Learn more at cfg.bank.



Land Conservation Expands

Scenic Rivers Land Trust has accepted five existing conservation easements, totaling 224 acres, from the Pasadena-based North County Land Trust (NCLT). With the transfer of these existing conservation easements, Scenic Rivers will expand their service area to include the Bodkin Creek and Patapsco River watersheds within northern Anne Arundel County. North County Land Trust will cease operations since its permanent conservation easements will now be watched over by another land trust. "For over 20 years, NCLT has proudly promoted land conservation and environmental education as an all-volunteer organization," said NCLT secretary/treasurer Rebecca Kolberg. "As our founding members begin to retire, we're pleased to be able to turn over the reins to Scenic Rivers Land Trust. We're confident their resources and conservation expertise will be a great asset for northern Anne Arundel County." Learn more at srlt.org. Image courtesy SRLT.



ARC EXECUTIVE JOINS CHAMBER BOARD

The Arc Central Chesapeake Region recently announced that Gregory Snyder II, Chief of Staff, has joined the Central Maryland Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. The Central Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading business resource and advocate for the Central Maryland community, including Prince George's County, Anne Arundel County, and Howard County. As a board member, Snyder will voice the issues impacting the business community while offering Chamber members business opportunities, meeting the community's needs, promoting local businesses, and keeping members up to date on regional topics and trends. "I am proud to serve the Central Maryland region through my new role on the board of directors," Snyder said. "I look forward to being a voice for equity and inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities." To learn more about The Arc, visit thearecccr.org.

Do you have community or business news to publicize? Send What's Up? an email at editor@whatsupmag.com.

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TOWNE ATHLETE

Jason Moore

DeMatha Catholic High School Basketball, Football

By Tom Worgo

Jason Moore played football for the first time in the fourth grade for the Accokeek Ravens, but he lasted only one season. “I just didn’t like football,” Moore recalls. So Moore, now a senior at DeMatha Catholic High School, concentrated on basketball. He quickly developed into an elite player, competing five years for AAU teams, including the Maryland Finest and the highly respected Team Takeover, which produces Division I college players annually.

Moore went to DeMatha for both basketball and football. He overwhelmingly favored basketball. “My dreams were college basketball and the NBA,” Moore explains.



I MADE A LOT OF IMPROVEMENTS FROM LAST SEASON. I AM MAKING BIGGER PLAYS. I KEPT A HIGH MOTOR THROUGHOUT THE GAMES. I AM PLAYING WITH A LOT MORE FIRE. IT LED TO A LOT OF SUCCESS.”

“I got recruited for both sports, but my intentions were strictly basketball.”

As a freshman, Moore made both the varsity basketball (30-3, ranked No. 5 nationally) and football teams. “That’s a rarity,” DeMatha Football Coach Bill McGregor says. “You have to be a special athlete to do that.”

And yet, despite his success in basketball (he was recruited by Maryland and Virginia Tech), he gave it up after two seasons to devote more time to football.

This was the reason: some of the best country’s best college football programs recruited him as a freshman. By his junior year, Moore, a defensive end, had 31 scholarship offers. The 6-foot-6, 270-pound Moore chose Ohio State over Notre Dame, Michigan, Penn State, and Maryland.

“I think the only reason it was 31 offers is that some schools figured they didn’t have a chance to get him,” McGregor says. Moore verbally committed to Ohio State in July and signed a National

Letter of Intent in December. He says that finally getting past the recruiting process was a relief.

Moore regularly got 10 to 15 texts and calls a day. Sometimes, he spent up to two hours returning calls and texts to coaches and recruiters. “I got them randomly throughout the day,” Moore says. “When I was doing homework or spending time with my family. When it first started, it was exciting, but over time it got a little annoying and I got tired of it.”

But in the end, it was well worth it to get scholarship offers from some of the most storied college football programs of all time. Moore plans to major in journalism and he picked Ohio State because, out of the five schools, he felt the most comfortable there.

He’ll head to Ohio State with a lot of confidence since his senior year was his best. Moore picked up his play on the field—big time. He totaled 72 tackles, 10 sacks, three forced fumbles, and two interceptions for the 10-1 Stags. Moore will also play defensive tackle at times.

“I made a lot of improvements from last season,” Moore says. “I am making bigger plays. I kept a high motor throughout the games. I am playing with a lot more fire. It led to a lot of success.”

DeMatha Defensive Coordinator Deno Campbell adds: “He is making the plays he didn’t make last year.”

Moore has had some memorable games in the past two seasons. He recorded three sacks in a 28-0 drubbing of Our Lady of Good Counsel in November of last year. In a 27-3 rout of Gonzaga, Moore intercepted a pass Campbell won’t soon forget. “He went toward the offensive, but knew it was a screen,” Campbell says. “He then was leaning toward the sidelines and was tall enough to tip the ball, it went up in the air and as he falls to the ground, he catches it.” McGregor adds: “That’s as good a play as you will see anyone make.”

Once DeMatha’s season ended, Moore turned his attention toward preparing for Ohio State. He works out one to two hours per day, lifting weights and doing football drills. “He really hasn’t been in the weight room and doing football drills like other players because of basketball,” McGregor says. “He is just scratching the surface of his ability.”

Do you have a local athlete to nominate? Send What's Up? an email to editor@whatsupmag.com.

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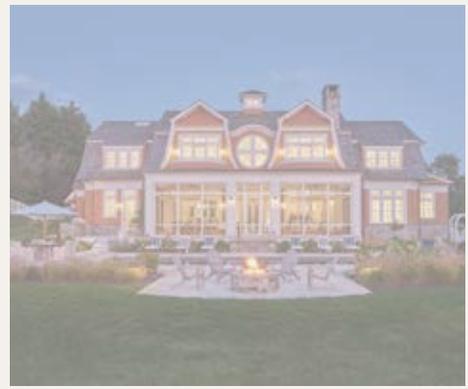
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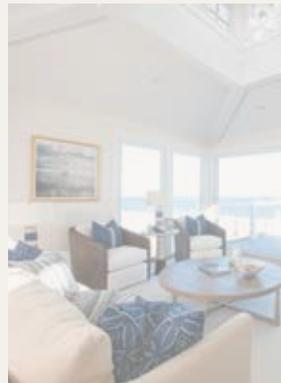
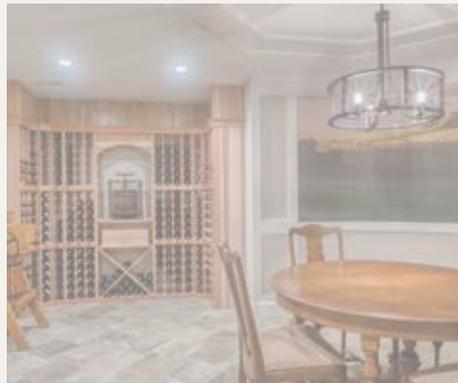
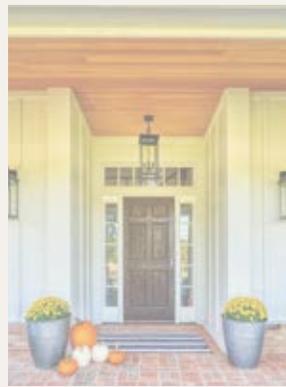
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What's Up? Media has developed an exemplary awards program to honor elite home builders, architects, designers, and professionals serving the greater Chesapeake Bay region.

For two months, we solicited project entries in 13 award categories inclusive of residential interior design, architecture, construction, and renovation. Entries consisted of a written description introducing the project to our judging panel, including structural/aesthetic intent, design/build concepts, materials used, special features, permitting, and overall thoughts. We requested each entry include a minimum of four photographs (maximum 10), of the highest resolution/quality possible, showcasing the project.

The following list of winners represents *the elite projects* that earned accolades from members of our judging panel, which consisted of: (1) American Institute of Architects Chesapeake Bay Chapter Board Member and Senior Associate Architect Matthew J. Ormsby, AIA, LEED AP; (2) What's Up? Media's Home & Design Editor Lisa J. Gotto; and (3) What's Up? Media's Editorial Director James S. Houck.

Of note: Interior Design was the most entered category and, as such, features the most winners by category. Other categories have several winners. And a few have only one winner. We offer descriptions of each project from the contractors themselves, as well as judges' notes. All photographs submitted courtesy by each company represented.



To view full photo galleries of each project, visit www.whatsupmag.com/homeexcellenceawards

Congratulations to the following companies and their award-winning projects!



Interior Design

“Severn River Overlook” by Details & Design

(DETAILSANDDESIGN.COM)

“Our clients came to us in the final stages of a full house renovation. They were pleased with their progress but were feeling challenged to finish the final piece of the kitchen renovation. With their growing family, they needed the space to not only be functional for this stage of life, but also evolve with them into the future. With this project we were able to create a timeless, highly functional design that flowed perfectly between the two dining spaces and into the living spaces beyond.”

The judges said: “High marks for warmth, depth, texture, and layout/flow. This is exactly what you do with a mid-century home remodel.”



Interior Design

“New England Shaker-Style Home” by Divina Lourdes Interior Design

(DIVINALOURDESDESIGNS.COM)

“The project scope was twofold; it was essential the home meet the family’s functional needs while also keeping the sophisticated aesthetic of the couple’s style. Once furniture plans were constructed, focus shifted to curating the furnishings, fixtures, and accessories that fit perfectly within the overall design aesthetic.”

The judges said: “Crisp, clean style throughout. Flawless and classic design with upscale touches. Thoughtful use of materials, and a pleasing palette.”



Interior Design

“Beach House” by Dwelling & Design

(DWELLINGANDDESIGN.COM)

“This beach house was built from the ground up. The clients wanted an easy-care home with fabrics that would withstand teenagers, family functions, and the intense sunshine. Fun lighting was



a must! The homeowners also had a pair of vintage shutters that they wanted to incorporate somewhere in the design. We used them to create a built-in surrounding a bed in the blue and white bedroom.”

The judges said: “What a fun, bright, use of fabric and natural light! I sense this home really reflects the personality of the homeowners. It seems like a very happy place even on a gloomy day.”



Interior Design

“Bold Blue European Bathroom” by Lynn Madyson with LMD Designs and Noble Builders

(NOBLEKITCHENS.COM)

The new bathroom is designed as a European wet bathroom, both the shower and the bathtub are together in an open space with separate shower and bathing systems. Wet room bathrooms are a perfect solution for smaller bathrooms when you don't have the space for a deep soaker tub and a separate shower. This is a high-end luxurious spa hotel look with streamlined, modern plumbing fixtures.”

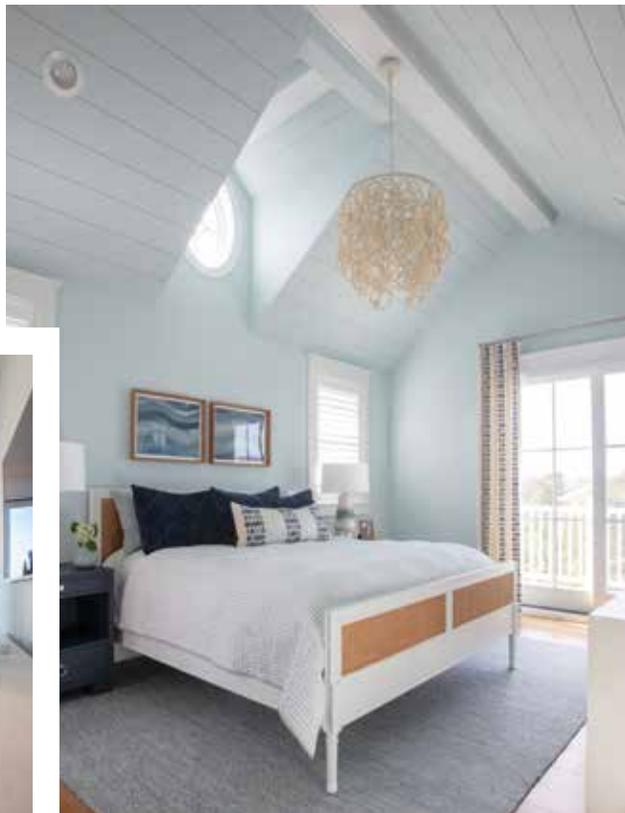
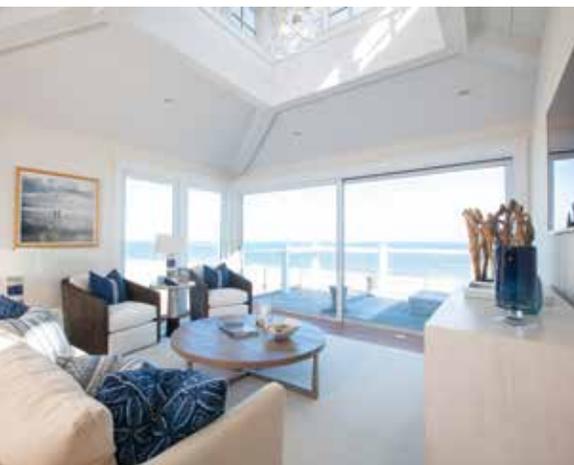
The judges said: “Incorporating the customary European model of the wet bathroom was smart because it works well here as there is a defined area outside of it for the commode. Exceptional tile and finish choices.



Interior Design

“Bethany Beach” by Karen Renee Interior Design

(KARENRENEEINTERIORS.COM)



“The client wanted to incorporate different shades of blue which work well with the setting. I selected natural linens, and textures, in a palette of various shades of blue, from navy to accents of aqua. I sourced furniture with a relaxed coastal vibe and a focus on comfort. I sourced artwork with a coastal vibe, and accessories to complement the design.”

The judges said: “This is a beautiful home and there is a sense of tranquility.”

Interior Design

“New in Easton” by Amanda Friend Interiors



(AMANDAFRIENDDESIGN.COM)

“Since the homeowners were open and excited about taking design chances, we were able to make bold statements where needed while also creating a classic atmosphere. The use of textured wallcoverings made from unconventional materials like cork and bamboo elevate the style of this interior. The use of elegant fabrics and furnishings show a sense of refinement. The interior of this home reflects its owners: stylish, sophisticated, elegant, and interesting.”

The judges said: “This is a lovely home in terms of architectural scale and matching interior treatments to that scale. The palette tones are soothing, welcoming, and friendly. There’s opulence here, but it’s not unapproachable.”



Interior Design

“Delaware Beach House” by Jamie Merida Interiors

(JAMIEMERIDA.COM)

“We tackled the top-to-bottom redesign of this Delaware beach house with two goals in mind: create an elegant, comfortable retreat and maximize the stunning water views. We used a classic coastal color palette of blue, white, and sand. The wood floors and accent pieces bring warmth to the space. The finished result is a beautiful home in harmony with its beachfront setting.”

The judges said: “Its interior elements are spot-on for the type of home that it is. They are well pulled together and give a cohesive look to the home. There is a great meld of texture, color, and pattern.”



HOME DESIGN

Interior Design

“Multi-Use Spaces” by Sew Beautiful



(SEWBEAUTIFULWINDOWS.COM)

“The owners of this Nantucket-style carriage house tasked Sew Beautiful with the challenge of designing versatile, well-appointed, and comfortable rooms. Natural elements bring together multipurpose design pieces. Most of the furnishings and artwork are locally sourced.”

The judges said: “Clean and approachable aesthetic with a layout that complements the home’s architecture and maximizes the functionality of its spaces.”



Waterfront/Critical Area Architecture

“Sahlin Farms Modern” by Purple Cherry Architects

(PURPLECHERRY.COM)



“Perched on the edge of a waterfront cliff in Annapolis, Maryland, this new modern residence utilizes architecture as a backdrop for an artwork collection that tells the story of years of extensive travel. The homeowners also desired a residence where they could truly feel isolated as if they were in their own utopia and where they could display and enjoy their cherished artwork.”

The judges said: “Proves a home does not have to be huge to be impressive. It is a live-in work of art that moonlights as an art gallery. Fabrics, materials, angles, layout, utility, use of natural light, positioning on the lot—all spot on.”



Architecture

“Eastern Shore Grandeur” by Purple Cherry Architects

(PURPLECHERRY.COM)



“Born a lifelong dream for an incomparable waterfront retreat, this estate combines quiet sophistication and unapologetic romanticism. The residence, located on Maryland’s idyllic Eastern Shore, encompasses 44,000 square feet of luxury—the epitome of grandeur in the form of a private sanctuary.”

The judges said: “It is outstanding from every vantage point. This residence is everything the description says and more. It’s warm despite its stately nature.”



Architecture

“Shingle Style Elegance” by Purple Cherry Architects

(PURPLECHERRY.COM)

“Nestled on the waterfront of Annapolis’ South River, this 7,300-square-foot, classical shingle-style

residence provides two well-balanced traditional elevations. Gambrel roofs, swooping capped oval windows, and a curved dormer deliver true custom touches to the waterfront home.”

The judges said: “The exterior lines of design, from top to bottom, are pleasing to the eye and hint at even greater spatial use and surprising details indoors.”

HOME BUILD

Interior Renovation

“Modern Historic Annapolis” by Adrian Development

(ADR-DEV.COM)

“The Modern Historic Annapolis project features a completely restored 1875 façade coupled with a completely new structure built behind with a contemporary style. All the exterior architectural elements had to be approved by the Annapolis Historic Preservation Commission. The interior was an open slate for our contemporary architectural style.”

The judges said: “There is a lot of complexity here and much value was added overall for the high level of utility this home provides. Exceptional materials choices throughout and creative use of space.”



Interior Renovation

“Annapolis Kitchen Remodel” by Lynn Madysen with LMD Designs and Noble Builders

(NOBLEKITCHENS.COM)

“Our clients needed a complete kitchen remodel to have a more contemporary, functional, and bright kitchen to better fit with their lifestyle and taste. The material selections were a white shaker style cabinetry with quartz countertop in a marble pattern, a large farmhouse style sink, and hardware with champagne finishes.”

The judges said: “This new kitchen gets high marks all-around for stylish upgrades that fit the way the family lives today. The previous kitchen offered a good deal of storage, but the reno exceeds that and customizes it. The aesthetic enhancements, most notably, relocating the cooktop and range hood, was a real game changer for this room.”

Interior Renovation

“Coastal Oasis Bathroom” by The Kingston Home

(THEKINGSTONHOME.COM)

“We turned this contractor grade bathroom into a coastal oasis with new cabinet fronts, a stenciled wall, upgraded vanity top and fixtures, and lighted mirrors for the superstars in our lives!”

The judges said: “Exceptional palette, paper, and finish choices. Upgrading with the ‘superstar’ mirrors was a brilliant choice. The ultimate facelift.”



Exterior Renovation

“Lothian Farmhouse Exterior Remodel” by Fichtner Home Exteriors

(FICHTNERSERVICES.COM)

“Complete exterior remodel. Re-framed roof line to delete hips, re-framed front entryway, built new front porch, and other window and door overhangs with fir ceilings. New shingle and standing seam steel roofs. Removed front brick façade. Installed James Hardie siding and trim to entire house and new gutters. Built outdoor shower.”

The judges said: “The home with the Hardie siding now seems better equipped to deal with the elements. Really charming details on this façade as well. One hundred percent improvement.”



Exterior Renovation

“Covered Patio with Fireplace” by Taylor Hart Design

(TAYLORHARTDESIGN.COM)

The judges said: “This is a lovely home upgrade. The utility of extending the living space outdoors wins this project points. Nice blend of textures with the use of stone, beam treatment, mantel, and bead board ceiling treatment. Choice of fan is perfect for the space (large enough) and pulls the whole space together.”

Exterior Renovation

“Modern Beach Look in St. Michaels” by Hometown Exteriors, Inc.

(HOMETOWNEXTERIORSMD.COM)



“The client wanted both to feel more like a modern beach home rather than a sleep away camp. We replaced an old architectural shingle with seamless standing seam metal roofing, cedar shiplap siding around the entryway, and some other accent areas around the home. We also hand painted over 100,000 square feet of existing cedar siding to provide the look of a true modern waterfront property.”

The judges said: “Great choice to pair the black hard surfaces with the warm knotty wood. A real game changer for this property.”



Property Addition

“Second-Story Addition & Three-Car Garage” by Adrian Development

(ADR-DEV.COM)



“This project involved the transformation of a 1960s ranch house into a graceful shingle-style home. The client wished to create a new 2nd story above the existing 1-story house and have a large 3-car detached garage constructed.”

The judges said: “Architecturally inviting inside and out. Function gets an extra ‘star’ for complexity of the remodel, accomplishing much in a small space and an advantageous upgrade to the home’s footprint.”



Green/LEED Construction

“Crawl Space Encapsulation” by Total Home Performance

(TOTALHOMEPERFORMANCE.COM)

“This crawl space underwent a total encapsulation. After removing all existing mold, we were able to install a 16-mil high performance vapor barrier to prevent moisture migration into the now conditioned space, the foundation will have no issues with allergens, mold, and mildew. Equipped with a French Drain, Sump Pump, Custom Access Door, and a Dehumidifier, this customer is happy to know their homes healthy, safe, and energy efficient.”

The judges said: “A smart, efficient way to keep out the unintentional water that happens here on the Chesapeake.”



Waterfront/Critical Area Construction

“Waterfront Teardown on Wye East River” by Mueller Homes

(MUELLERHOMES.COM)



“Complete waterfront teardown and rebuild of a home on the Wye East River in Queenstown. The only thing that was preserved from the original home was the kidney shaped pool. The homeowners desired a space that would accommodate them and their extended family. The waterfront and critical area construction requirements were integrated seamlessly.”

The judges said: “The space in this home is utilized well. There are many great ideas executed here. And I am a big fan of this home’s exterior aesthetic choices.”

Waterfront/Critical Area Construction

“New Waterfront Construction in St. Michaels” by Paquin Design/Build

(PAQUINDESIGNBUILD.COM)



“Touches of vintage design were added into the architecture and the finishings within the home: large, oversized banisters greet you as you pass through the glass paned and wooden front door; floors in barn wood and brick; coffered, planked, and tin ceilings; and antique furniture were weaved into the kitchen and bathroom spaces

throughout the home creating the feel of an old cottage on the shore.”

The judges said: “Blending texture and tone, and creating warmth, are very well executed. The interior flow and the functional aspects of the material choices and furnishings are hallmarks of its exceptional design.”

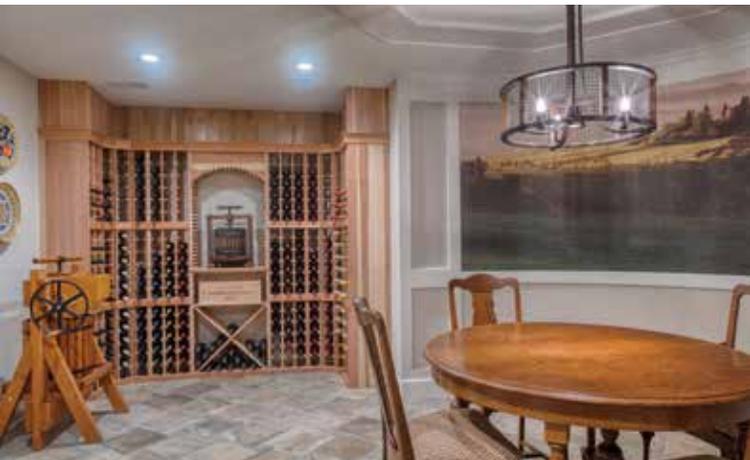
New Construction

“Dividing Creek Forever Home” by Gary Smith Builders

(GARYSMITHBUILDERS.COM)

“We truly feel blessed to be a part of making this owner’s dream home a reality. Walking through the home, you see monumental moments throughout their lives reflected, as well as the beauty in everyday living. From the architect to the interior designer to the landscape architect, the owner personally handpicked the team they knew would look out for their best interest and truly make their dream home a reality.

The judges said: “Exceptional craftsmanship within a challenging footprint along a steep-sloping riverbank makes this an impressive build—outside and within.”



New Construction

“New Waterfront Construction in Arnold” by Paquin Design/Build

(PAQUINDESIGNBUILD.COM)

“An ambitious list of wants and needs had to be met in the design of this multi-generational waterfront home in Arnold. Job one was to maximize water views from every level of the home and incorporate living quarters for the couple, their two children, and parents who would need an apartment within the home. All of this had to be achieved without exceeding the building envelope available on this tapered waterfront lot.”

The judges said: “Clever use of space and the home is so perfectly de-



signed for entertaining on the water. The back stair step down out to the water is an architectural statement maker. This home needed to accommodate many people and needs and does so beautifully.”



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Christy Bishop

Christy Bishop is incredibly passionate about protecting her clients' wealth and accordingly takes her profession very seriously. Her affiliation with Warren Buffet owned "Best of the Best" real estate brand Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices paved her career to becoming a Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Luxury CollectionSM Marketing Specialist providing special expertise for the real estate market in Maryland with true concierge service.

"When you're negotiating someone's largest asset, there's a lot of intrinsic value in the trust clients place on real estate professionals, and I take it very seriously. It's incredibly important to me to represent their best interests." A recent client sent a special thank you of gratitude *"We would not have gotten the sale price for our home without your help. Thank you a million times!"* Treating her clients money as her own sets her apart from others. "Being knowledgeable and full of expertise is important; additionally, it is very emotional to buy and sell real estate. They say the three greatest stresses in life are death, divorce, and moving. The fact that I get to be a part of someone's life during this process and they trust me to alleviate the stress and make it the best experience possible is what I enjoy. It's about the relationship but also the integrity and trust placed upon us." Whether selling a condominium, townhouse or gated estate her clients can be assured of the highest caliber of representation available.

Christy has 27 years of Experience and over 225 Million in industry sales. She is a Maryland native and the daughter of 2 former United States Marines and Naval Academy graduates. Growing up between water surrounded Severna Park and Annapolis she headed west for the mountains at 18 years old and settled in Idaho. After graduating from the University of Idaho with a B.S. in Marketing, Christy entered the financial service industry in ski resort town Sun Valley, Idaho. Driven by desire for greater career opportunities, Christy moved back home in 1996 and was offered the opportunity to market new home subdivisions in Crofton. Her new passion was discovered and the builder named her Sales Manager and subsequently Director of Marketing and Sales. In 2004 she transitioned out of new construction to focus on resale of residential real estate.

Active locally in her industry, she has served on the legislative & community service committees of Anne Arundel County Association of Realtors. She is a lifetime member of the top one percent of Anne Arundel County Realtors Masters Club who exhibit high professional and ethical standards as well as exemplary sales records.

Christy is a host of *The American Dream Television* show airing on CBS, FOX, ABC cable affiliates along with Amazon, Bloomberg, Apple, ROKU and Amazon Fire TV. It is a national show featuring uplifting stories of gratitude, communities, lifestyle and of course local real estate with EMMY nominated writers. If you know the owner of a business, special event, favorite place or nonprofit she should interview, even a home owner thinking about selling and wants their home showcased, reach out and let her know. Send a text message directly to her at 443-994-3405 and request to see recent episodes featuring the epic Odenton community of Two Rivers or Historic Downtown Annapolis Midnight Madness Christmas event.

When she is not working with clients, Christy loves spending time with her soon to be husband, family, friends and her beloved German Shepherd Dury. She enjoys boating, fishing, gardening, writing motorcycles and time away at a second home at the beach in Delaware.



As seen on



Christy Bishop

443-994-3405 | 410-647-8000
Christy@CBMoving.com
www.CBMoving.com

@MarylandWaterfront

FOR SALE AND RECENTLY SOLD PROPERTIES



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2900 Tallowtree Road
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3213 Marcando Lane
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Sold for \$650,000



1612 Petes Court
Crofton, MD 21114
Sold for \$650,000

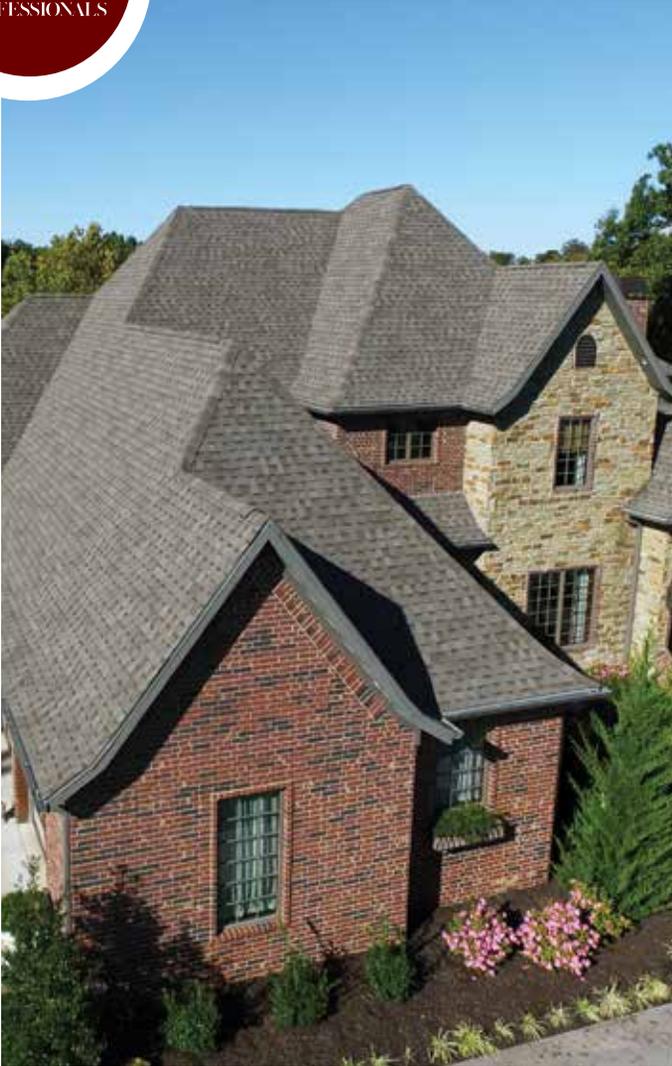


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“My experience was so positive! Jocelyn in the office came to my home to clearly explain the terms of my contract. It helped me make an informed decision. Joe and Jimmy worked steadily and hard with great results. I love the new look and quality of the materials and work. They are honest, helpful and reliable. I highly recommend them!” - Customer

“Bowie Roofing and Siding installed our new roof. Company is very easy to work with! Jocelyn accomodated to our needs and was very friendly and professional. The crew who installed our roof and new skylights were punctual, professional and worked well as a team. Finished in one day.” - Customer

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Jess Young Team

Jess Young-Stewart is the founder of the Jess Young Team of RE/MAX Executive. Jess is passionate about serving members of the community. Real estate has been the perfect way for Jess to combine her passion for business with her love of serving others.

In 2016 Jess founded the Jess Young Team. This team is a boutique real estate group of highly motivated individuals from many backgrounds including former military, government, and the business world. The entire team is committed to community and service. The mission of the Jess Young Real Estate Team is to provide education and concierge level service to community members who desire a high-end experience. The focus of this group is detailed market knowledge, impeccable negotiation tactics, quality marketing and topnotch customer service. If you are searching for local, community minded professionals that live and work in your area, this team is for you. The details are everything and nothing is left to chance with this team. Ranked in the top 100 Realtors region wide, the Jess Young team Makes Home Happen! If you are upsizing, downsizing, combining generations or investing, the Jess Young Team is here to serve.



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www.jessyoungrealestate.com



Vaneska Adams

Born and raised in Maryland, Vaneska has an intimate knowledge of the area, with over 20 years working locally as well as in Washington D.C. and Baltimore.

Prior to entering the real estate industry, she worked in sales and marketing and gained expertise in market research, social media, and customer relationship management on behalf of her clients. She has leveraged those skills into a successful career in residential sales.

Vaneska believes real estate is about developing relationships and is passionate about helping her clients. After gaining a thorough understanding of their priorities, she develops a comprehensive marketing plan that focuses on the unique needs and goals and partners with her clients every step of the way—whether it's finding a home in a certain school district, finding a good mortgage broker, or even recommending home improvement contractors.

She is fluent in English and Spanish and lives in Crofton with her husband, 3 kids, and rescue cat. She enjoys gardening, trying out local restaurants, is actively involved in the local community, and strongly believes in giving back to local businesses.

Vaneska Adams, REALTOR® 
eXp Realty, Maryland
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vaneskaadams.exprealty.com
888-860-7369
8115 Maple Lawn Blvd, Suite 350
Fulton, MD 20759



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Laurel, MD
SOLD \$447,000



Bowie, MD
SOLD \$315,000



Glen Burnie, MD
SOLD \$515,000



Q: What is important to consider when choosing a roofing contractor?

A: I would approach any remodeling project the same way. Is the contractor licensed and insured? Do they have an established business with a strong history in the community? Does this company offer a long-term warranty on their workmanship? Does this

company offer references of their past work? I'm pleased to say that Bowie Siding & Roofing has been offering top notch service since my dad started in the industry in 1971. We approach every home as if it is our own and try to give our best advice. We offer an honest up-front quote in writing for your consideration. There will never be any high pressure sale tactics and we make ourselves available for personal attention to our customers via a variety of different outlets. We would love to earn your business and appreciate our excellent long standing relationships within the community.

Jocelyn Turpin-Anderson
Bowie Siding & Roofing



Q: When is the best time to buy or sell real estate and what do we do if we think we need to do updates or repairs before the property goes on the market?

A: The spring market which starts in January and runs through May has always been historically the best time to sell real estate. As temperatures start warming we expect to see inventory

increase and more buyers return to the market. Timing the market depends on what is truly best for your own individual situation to make that decision. To get the very best guidance and advice, consulting an experienced local realtor is the first step. Before undertaking any updates or repairs let us advise you of the most up to date marketing recommendations. We even have partners that will make renovations or licensed repairs to your property and delay the cost until closing. You get valuable marketing expertise and guidance as to what is necessary or recommended to increase your property value and avoid wasted time and money.

Christy Bishop
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty



Q: Can I sell my investment real estate using a 1031 exchange and buy a vacation home that I can enjoy with my family during the summer months?

A: No. You can sell your investment real estate and reinvest the gain, tax deferred, to purchase your vacation or second home, the challenge is making

sure it will qualify as a 1031 investment property. Meaning that during the initial 24 months of ownership there are strict rules to follow regarding personal use. The important rule is that you can only use the property for 14 days each year or 10% of the actual days that you rent it out. For example, if you lease it for 200 days each year, your personal use can be up to 20 days. If you are able to abide by these rules, after two years the dream vacation home is yours to use as often as you like without any more requirements.

Jack Papaleonti, GRI/Realtor®
The Anchor Team of Academy Realty



Q: To help my children buy their first house I am lending them their purchase money, how can I protect myself?

A: First, talk to your CPA to make sure that the terms of your loan don't constitute a gift for tax purposes. Second, you will need an attorney to make sure that the loan does not run up against any licensing or regulatory requirements and is properly

documented with a Note, Deed of Trust and title insurance policy. Even though you may trust your children/family to repay the loan, you still need to protect the loan against the interests of other unexpected creditors. Be aware that if your child is using a traditional lender for the bulk of the purchase money, this lender may not allow a second position loan.

Feel free to reach out for a quick conversation about your lending needs with an experienced Attorney. Call Cooch, Bowers & Schuller to discuss in more depth. 410-974-1900.

M. Clare Schuller, Esq.
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Cupid's Corner

GIFT GUIDE



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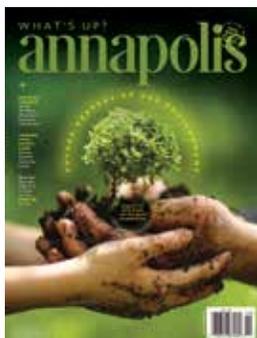
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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA'S 2023

SUMMER CAMPS

YOU SHOULD KNOW

Our staff at What's Up? Media works hard months ahead of time to get quality magazines out each month for our readers. Parents plan ahead similarly, for their kids. For this reason, each February we put together our summer camp guide. This guide has plenty of options for both educational and athletic camps in our area. Check them out to help plan your summer!

Annapolis Area Christian School Summer Programs;

Location: 109 Burns Crossing Road, Severn; Contact: 410-519-5300 x3150; summer@aacsonline.org, aacsonline.org/summer; Ages: 3.5-18 years; Dates/Times: June 20th-August 4th; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Cost: \$335-370 for full day, full week programs (see website for partial week or half day pricing); A full summer of fun and learning with 6 weeks of Eagles Explorations day camp, or choose from a variety of full or half day Specialty Camps: Sports/Academic/STEM/Creative & Fine Arts. Registration opens Jan. 23, Early Bird discount applied through end of March! Lunch included; extended care available.

Annapolis Sailing School;

Location: 7001 Bembe Beach Rd at Annapolis Sailing School; Contact: annapolis-

sailing.com/youth-sailing/ or 410-267-7205; Dates/Times: Weeklong sessions Starting June 19; Ages: 5-15; Cost: \$350-645; Kidship teaches kids to sail through fun practical experience over week-long sessions. Beginners have instructors in the boats with them while they build their confidence and skills giving them the freedom to really enjoy themselves and make friends. With a variety of boats at the school campers will be able to get new experiences as they grow. The relationship with Annapolis Sailing School further provides ways for parents to get out on the water with their newly minted sailors whether they are sailors themselves.

Archbishop Spalding Summer Camps;

Location: Archbishop Spalding High School, 8080 New Cut Road Severn; Contact: communications@

spaldinghs.org; archbishopspalding.org/campus-life/summer-camps; Ages: Will vary depending on the camp; Dates/Times: Will vary depending on the camp; Cost: Will vary depending on the camp; Archbishop Spalding High School offers a variety of summer camps from June through August. Our summer camps' focus areas are academics and athletics and will vary in dates/times, pricing, and age range. We offer academic camps in SAT/ACT Prep, Robotics/Engineering, and Skills for Success Class, which helps prepare students for what they will face in high school and beyond. We have 30 athletic teams at Spalding and will offer summer camps in most programs.

Ballet Theatre of Maryland;

Location: Ballet Theatre of Maryland, 1981 Moreland Parkway, Building 4A Bay 4, Annapolis; Contact: Emily Carey, btmschool@balletmaryland.org; Dates/Times: 3/5 weeks: June 26 through July 29, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., may be attended in 3-week increments; 1 week: July 31 through August 4, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Ages: 12-plus

(3-5 weeks), 8-11 (1 week); Cost: \$2,650 for 5 weeks of \$2,000 for 3 weeks, \$425 for one week; At Ballet Theatre of Maryland's Summer Intensive, dance students will be immersed in dance with classes in a range of styles to further their technique and artistry including ballet, pointe (if applicable), variations, modern, contemporary/improvisation, jazz, acting, character, Pilates, and more! At the end of each session, dancers will have the opportunity to perform in our end of summer performance. Audition and other general information can be found at balletmaryland.org/summer-intensive. Day camps will be offered at our Grasonville location.

BCA Elite Lacrosse Camps (Boys);

Location: Moose Athletic Center; Contact: Collin Meerholz, colin@bcaelite.com; bcaelite.com/summer-camp; Instagram @bcaelitelax; Dates/Times: July 11 through 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Ages: High School Graduating Classes 2033-2028 (2nd through 7th grades); Cost: \$395, \$375 Early Bird before March 15; Daily small group

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🌐 Camps held in Severn & Annapolis.



skill sessions and competitive sixes play with position-specific instruction (incl. goalie and face-off). BCA Elite camp is a player development camp with tournament-style competitive play each day capped off with the camp championships on the final day. Campers will be coached by top local coaches and current college players, and guest speakers will join us daily to discuss relevant topics for today's male athlete. Campers will receive a BCA reversible jersey, swag giveaways, and more.

BCA Elite Lacrosse Camps (Girls); Location: Allen Pond Park; Contact: Collin Meerholz, colin@bcaelite.com; bcaelite.com/summer-camp; Instagram @bcaelitelax; Dates/Times: June 27 through 30, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Ages: High School Graduating Classes 2032 through 2027 (3rd through 8th grades); Cost: \$395, \$375 Early Bird before March 15; Daily small group skill sessions plus competitive sixes play with position-specific instruction (incl. goalie and draw play). BCA Elite camp is a player development camp with tournament-style competitive play each day capped off with the camp championships on the final day. Campers will be coached by top local coaches and current college players, and guest speakers will join us daily to discuss relevant topics for today's female athlete. Campers will receive a BCA reversible jersey, swag giveaways, and more.

City of Annapolis Recreation and Parks Summer Camps; Location: Various Locations, primarily "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center;

Contact: LaKeisha Simmons, lmsimmons@annapolis.gov, 410-263-7958; aacounty.org/recparks; Dates/Times: June 20 through August 25; Ages: 4-17; Cost: Varies by camp; Anne Arundel Recreation and Parks is the destination for camps and programs for all ages. There are many day camp opportunities including: Summer Day Camps, Summer Fun Centers, Art Camps, Science and Engineering Camps, Theatre Performance and Dance Camps, Sports Camps, Summer Aquatics Camps, Nature Exploration Camps, Teens on the Go, and Adaptive Day Camps for all abilities.

Indian Creek School Summer Program; Location: Indian Creek School, 1130 Anne Chambers Way, Crownsville; Contact: Phae Mills (Summer Program Director), indiancreekschool.org/summer; Ages: 3-16; Dates/Times: June 20-July 28, camp hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with before and after camp care available; Cost: varies, based on camp; Indian Creek's Summer Program offers immersive adventures and memorable experiences. Offerings include sports, performing arts, and traditional day camps, academic courses, and more. The program takes place on our beautiful 114-acre wooded campus just minutes north of Annapolis, where campers have access to Indian Creek's wooded trails, performing arts spaces, classrooms, labs, and the Eagles Athletics Complex, including turf fields, the dome, courts, gym, and fitness center. Daily lunches with delicious and healthy options are included in camp tuition.

Johns Hopkins Peabody Institute Camps; Location: Downtown Baltimore Campus, 21 East Mount Vernon Place; Contact: Peabody Preparatory, 667-208-6640; peabodyprep@jhu.edu or peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory; Dates/Times: See Website for dates and times; Ages: All ages, see calendar for specific camps and classes; Cost: Varies; A wide variety of specialty programs, group classes, and private lessons offer opportunities for students of all ages to continue, or begin, your music and dance training through the summer.

Sports, Arts, and Theatre Camps at Maryvale Preparatory School; Location: Maryvale Preparatory School; Contact: maryvale.com; Ages: Rising 4th-12th grades; Dates/Times: June 5-July 14; Cost: Varies; Maryvale is excited to offer a number of summer camps for sports (lacrosse, volleyball, track & field, basketball, middle soccer, and soccer high school prep), arts, and theatre. For more information about dates, pricing, and availability go to maryvale.com/summer-camp.

Musical Theatre Summer Camp; Location: The Key School, 534 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis (7/24-8/4); Mercy High School, 1300 E Northern Pkwy, Baltimore (7/10-21); Contact: Lauren Engler, 443-422-2605; Ages: 6-15; Dates/Times: July 24 to August 4, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; July 10-21, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Cost: \$495; An inclusive experience of all aspects of this great American art form, activities include singing, dancing, acting, costumes, and stagecraft, taught by a staff of musical theater professionals. Campers are organized



into small groups by age and guided by experienced counselors, giving every child constant attention, personal assistance, and advice. The emphasis is on having fun, making friends, and working together toward presenting their final public performance.

Naptown Sings; Location: Naptown Sings and Plays! 141 Gibraltar Ave, Annapolis; Contact: info@naptownsings.com; Dates/Times: June 19 to August 25 (students may sign up for one or multiple weeks). Camp Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Before Care: 7:30-10 a.m., After Care: 3-5:30 p.m.; Ages: 3-11; Cost: \$330, Before Care: \$60 per week After Care: \$60 per week; Our Summer Music Camps are jam-packed with music, more music, and fun! Students of all levels and abilities, will have the opportunity to learn to sing in our pop glee clubs, drum their hearts out in world drumming class, play various instruments, and participate in fun musical activities!

2023 Navy Athletic Summer Camps; Location: U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis; Contact: 410-293-5845; navysports.com. (click on "Camps" tab); Dates/Times: June-August; Ages: Varies by camp and program; Cost: Varies by camp and program; Please visit website for information.

Radcliffe Creek Summer

Tutoring Program; Location: Radcliffe Creek School, Chestertown; Contact: info@radcliffecreekschool.org; Dates/Times: Contact the school for details; Ages: Grades 1-8; Cost: Hourly rate available based on tutor and pupil schedules; Radcliffe Creek's Summer Tutoring Program offers individualized and small group instruction tailored to the needs of the student, providing engaging, multi-sensory instruction that accelerates student strengths, and helps remediate weaknesses. Parents/guardians can identify a specific area (reading, math, writing, study skills, or all) for our specialized tutors to focus on, and they will take it from there. Guardians may request the best dates and times for their family's schedule, and our clearinghouse will help to find a good match amongst our talented team.

St. Margaret's Day School;

Location: St. Margaret's Day School, Annapolis; Contact: Taylor Pazienza, stmargarets1605@outlook.com; Dates/Times: Please check website, stmargaretsday-school.org/summer-camps.html for additional information. Camps run from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Mon.-Fri. the weeks of June 19, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31, and August 7.; Ages: 3-10; Cost: See website for additional information. \$75-275 depending on sessions/week/age; Please join us at SMDS for a summer of fun! We have created six different themes for this summer, one for each week! Before and aftercare is available, extending the day if needed from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. St. Margaret's provides a loving and safe

environment for children to explore and have fun together, with ample outside time.

St. Vincent Pallotti High

School; Location: St. Vincent Pallotti High School, Laurel; Contact: Aneisha Felton, afelton@pallottihs.org; Dates/Times: July 10 through August 4, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with 3-5 p.m. aftercare option; Ages: Various Ages; Cost: Day camps are \$200 a week, aftercare option (\$25 per week) and optional lunch (\$30 per week), Evening camps are \$100 a week; With four weeks of camps for various ages, skill levels, and sport/subject, we have something for everyone. Day Camps include Boys Basketball, Cheer, Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Soccer, SAT Prep, English, Baseball, and more! Evening camps include Boys & Girls Lacrosse, Girls Basketball, Cheer and Girls Volleyball.

Summer at KEY;

Location: 534 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis; Contact: Jane Flanagan, jflanagan@keyschool.org; Dates/Times: Week long camps beginning on June 20 and running through August 4. Full-day camps are 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., morning camps are 9 a.m. to noon, and afternoon camps are 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Ages: 3.5 years and up; Cost: Varies by program; Summer at KEY has many fun and enriching camp programs. There is something for everyone from past favorites such as Circus Camp Stars, Canoeing and Crabbing, Tennis, Emergency Vet, Bulls & Bears, Fashion & Machine Sewing, Nerf & Dodgeball, and our Traditional Camp to new programs including Soapbox Derby, My First Piggy Bank, Drone Racing Grand

Prix, and SuperHero Training Camp, to name just a few. Visit our keyschool.org for more information or contact summer@keyschool.org.

Summer at Saint Andrew's;

Location: 4B Wallace Manor Road, Edgewater; Contact: 410-216-2660; summer.standrewsum.org; Dates/Times: June 20 through August 11, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. or 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 for half-day; Ages: 3-14 years; Cost: Varies by program; Continue the joy of learning, playing, and discovering this summer at Saint Andrew's. Our summer programs offer campers of all ages opportunities to explore and grow in a fun and exciting environment. From time traveling on prehistoric adventures to venturing to space and beyond, your camper is in for an unforgettable summer of fun!

Summer at Severn School;

Location: Severn School Teel and Chesapeake Campus (Severna Park and Arnold); Contact: severnschool.com; Dates/Times: Varies; Ages: Preschool through 12th grade; Cost: Varies; Whatever your passions, we've got a summer camp that's just right for you. For campers entering preschool-5th grade, Chesapeake Camps are a magical mixture of creativity and fun. For campers entering 5th-12th grade, Teel Camps are where you'll find your summer spark. Ages for sports camps vary, check out the lineup to find your spot on the team.

Summer at Summit School;

Location: The Summit School, 664 E Central Avenue, Edgewater; Contact: camp@thesummitschool.org; Dates/Times: Camp Summit July

5-28; Specialty Camps July 17-28; Ages: Camp Summit Grades 1-8; Specialty Camps Grades 6-9; Cost: Varies by program; Summer at Summit offers academic enrichment programming to mitigate summer learning loss. Camp Summit features morning classes in reading, writing, and math followed by afternoon recreation. Specialty Camps include EmPOWER™ for building strong expository writing skills and Executive Functions to help students learn to plan and organize.

Whoof on the Wharf;

Location: Whoof on the Wharf, Pier 7 Marina, Edgewater; Contact: Bonnie McLeod, whoof@whoofonthewharf.com; Ages: 8-14; Dates/Times: Five separate weeks of day camp (starting 6/26, 7/10, 7/17, 7/31 and 8/7), 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (before and aftercare available); Cost: \$400-445 (not counting cost of before and/or after care); Pier 7 is a gated marina with multiple beaches at the intersection of the South River and Warehouse Creek. We have a clubhouse in the marina building right on the water. This camp will involve a combination of activities from kayaking, paddle boarding, swimming, fishing, arts and crafts, basic dog obedience skills, and learning about our local environment on the Chesapeake Bay.





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2023

MARYLAND BUSINESS FORECAST

A roundtable with local chamber and economic leaders, plus our State’s new Comptroller, provides a revealing forecast for conducting business in the year ahead

By Dylan Roche



Between a pandemic and a bumpy economy, there’s no denying that many businesses have had their struggles over the past few years. But with challenges come opportunities—and many business leaders see reason to be optimistic here in Maryland, particularly looking to the year ahead.

For specific insight about the 2023 business forecast in our state, we posed a series of questions to a panel of business leaders comprising chamber heads, development corporation directors, and even our state’s new comptroller. They include →



Kristi Simon, president and CEO of the Central Maryland Chamber of Commerce, which formed in 2017 as a merger of the Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber and the West Anne Arundel County Chamber.

As the Central Maryland area experiences exponential growth, particularly around Fort Meade, the chamber seeks to be a resource for businesses by providing networking and growth opportunities, as well as advocacy and support.



Mark Kleinschmidt, president and CEO of the Anne Arundel Chamber of Commerce, which, like the CMCC, seeks to support and advocate the interests of its business membership in the Anne Arundel County community. Kleinschmidt has been with the chamber since 2018, bringing with him extensive experience in business counseling, economic development, and government relations.

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Liz League, CEO of Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce,

which has promoted the interests of the business community since 1957. League—with her background in sales, marketing communications, and management, as well as community service—stepped into the role of CEO in 2018.



Holly DeKarske, executive director of Easton Economic Development Corporation, which has, in its own words, sought to “drive economic vitality, smart redevelopment, and business creation” in historic Easton since 2013. DeKarske’s background in marketing, nonprofit management, and downtown redevelopment serves her as she oversees the organization’s mission of organizing events and providing business resources.

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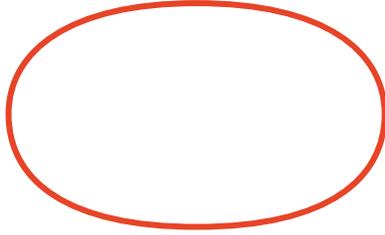
Jill Seamon, interim CEO of Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation,

which seeks to promote business interests by offering investment and technical assistance and seeking to address workforce development needs. Seamon, who has been with the corporation for its 30-year history and previously stepped in as interim CEO once before in 2020, primarily serves as administrative officer.



Brooke Lierman, newly elected comptroller of Maryland, previously served as a state delegate from Baltimore City, and now takes office as the state’s chief accountant. Lierman ran on a platform of creating greater opportunity for small businesses, particularly minority-owned businesses.

.....



verall, many expressed similar sentiments. Primarily, businesses continue to have better prospects as society pushes its way through the end of the COVID pandemic, which forced many entrepreneurs to be innovative and think outside the box in ways they never had before. Diversity and inclusion continue to be a big priority for many businesses and the organizations that support them, with chambers of commerce and development corporations forming committees to support women and minorities as they break through glass ceilings in the business world. And when it comes to the politics of conducting business, they want to make sure legislation will make Maryland a business-friendly state. They also discuss many of the resources available to business owners for everything from loans and grants to networking and professional learning.

The questions and answers you'll read are a fraction of the conversations we had with these leaders. To read the full transcript with additional topics, please visit whatsupmag.com.

.....

How would you generally describe the state of conducting business in (and the economic landscape of) the Chesapeake Bay region?

.....

SIMON: Most businesses I speak to are still struggling with things like workforce and supply chain issues. While many parts of the country are dealing with similar issues, Maryland has a very high cost of living, and the business climate is not as friendly as other states on fees and taxes.

KLEINSCHMIDT: Many businesses in the Chesapeake Bay region had to rethink their customer retention and customer attractions strategies.

The pandemic caused a great deal of disruption and changed consumer attitudes considerably. Using technology, such as improved website email contacts and social media, Chesapeake Bay businesses are finding ways to constantly communicate with customers. This is a trend that is happening throughout the United States. It is a little bit more challenging for folks here in our region—tourism is such a large part of the economy.

LEAGUE: Aside from issues with permitting, businesses have been fairly unimpeded in operations. However, legislation will be going into effect in 2023 that will raise taxes significantly and potentially cause hardship. This includes new climate change legislation and the family medical leave legislation. Businesses are still struggling to make up for their losses during the pandemic, and this is not the time for new taxes and mandates. Other states are much more business friendly.

DEKARSKE: We do everything we can to retain and expand existing business and attract new business. In Easton, we have taken advantage of several programs, such as established enterprise zones, opportunity zones, an Arts & Entertainment District, and a robust Main Street program. We've also been working on various zoning modifications to allow certain business and construction applications into areas that previously we were not able to. We compare quite favorably to other regions in the mid-Atlantic. Our proximity to Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York makes Easton an ideal landing spot for people and companies looking to diversify away from these urban centers—and that's exactly what we have seen over the last several years.

SEAMON: The state of conducting business in our region is strong. More than 60,000 businesses call Anne Arundel County home. Our area is so fortunate to be strategically located near Washington, D.C., and Baltimore and have major assets and economic drivers, such as BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, Fort George G. Meade, the City of Annapolis, which is Maryland's state capital and a popular tourist destination, and the Maryland Live!/Arundel Mills shopping and entertainment district. We're fortunate to have a highly trained workforce in which more than 43 percent can demonstrate having a bachelor's degree or higher.

LIERMAN: It's been a really tough few years for many of our small businesses, especially our retailers and our restaurants. We are facing a time of both some apprehension (about a coming recession) and real opportunity—both because of the lessons learned through the pandemic and because of the amount of federal money that is going to be coming into Maryland over the coming years.

It is now up to our state government leaders to really ensure the money coming from the Inflation Reduction Act, the bipartisan Infrastructure Act, and the CHIPS Act all make their way to our Maryland communities and small businesses in a transparent and accountable way. I'm excited about the coming years because I believe we are really on the cusp of great opportunities for the small business community in Maryland. We have opportunities to create a more diverse business ownership base, to make sure we're supporting our women-owned, Black-owned, and immigrant-owned businesses in Maryland, so they can grow and thrive. State government is really at the crux of ensuring that can happen.

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What public and/or private programs do you believe are most essential to business growth in our region?

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SIMON: Additional support for apprenticeship and training programs will be essential in the coming year, which will both help with businesses workforce issues and help members of our community improve their skills and hopefully secure better-paying jobs. Controlling the fees and taxes on business will be a huge deciding factor for many large businesses considering relocation or expansion in our state.

KLEINSCHMIDT: The General Assembly and County Council must have a better understanding of the impact that some legislation might have on the operation of a small business. Small business makes up a vast majority of all employers in Maryland; however, sometimes the regulations implemented by the General Assembly and local governments prove to be onerous and cumbersome, and make it more difficult for the business.

LEAGUE: Economic Development offices are a tremendous resource to local counties. The Anne Arundel Economic Development Center is an incredible resource that can help struggling businesses find financial support, counseling, business planning, and more. They work closely with the Small Business Development Center, which provides expert analysis to businesses that are looking to scale, grow, launch, or revamp. They are hyper-local with the goal of keeping businesses in business.

DEKARSKE: Business growth and expansion is often fueled by a combination of tax incentives and financing programs. It would be great to see additional programs that touch on both these areas. Workforce programs and funding are key for everyone post-pandemic. Our businesses are still struggling to find staff. We obviously compete with many other towns across the state and region, so marketing and promotion continues to be a top priority for us.

SEAMON: Many businesses are challenged with having enough capital to sustain operations and to expand when the opportunity presents itself. In our current climate of low unemployment, businesses face another challenge in terms of recruiting and retaining talent. So as an economic development organization, our task is to provide resources to help them address such challenges. We have an array of loan programs to help many kinds of businesses from small, minority-, women- and veteran-owned businesses to technology government contractors to innovative startups. We are able to provide financing to qualified businesses, so they have operating capital to get through seasonal and contract cycle fluctuations or be able to undergo an expansion and buildout. Our workforce training grant program can cover 50 percent up to \$1,000 per employee for on-the-job training, classroom or offsite training, purchasing training software, and train-the-trainer scenarios.



LIERMAN: There are a number of programs through the Department of Commerce that are working to reach small business owners and to support their efforts. There's more we can do from the comptroller's office to make sure that businessowners understand how to interact with the state and how to secure state contracts, whether it's for a catering contract or a fuel contract or building highways or selling busses. There are so many opportunities.

I'm excited, as the next comptroller, to ensure that it's easier to do business in the state and to interact with our state government so that questions are answered quickly, and so that businesses can spend more time concentrating on growing their businesses and less time worrying about bureaucratic barriers.

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What industries are the most exciting to you in terms of potential and growth in our region and counties?

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SIMON: Continued growth in the government contracting sector to support our government partners and military installations, data centers, transportation alternatives, and (hopefully) an increase in manufacturing within our region.

KLEINSCHMIDT: Tourism. Electric vehicles. Software as a service.

LEAGUE: The agriculture industry is such an overlooked but important aspect of our local economy. Farming is alive and well, and younger people and women are going into the field (no pun intended). During the pandemic, the local farmers' markets remained opened, and people regained an appreciation of Maryland-grown food and seafood, plants, handmade items, and local vineyards. We are seeing more of the farm-to-table approach with restaurants, which is a great reminder to people that we have a strong agriculture industry. I believe that Maryland agriculture will surge in popularity in the coming years because it meets food demands while focusing on conservation. And this is in line with supporting local businesses, which are the backbone of our economy.



DEKARSKE: Given the inherent beauty of the Eastern Shore, and all that has happened over the past few years, tourism has continued to be important to us. We are fortunate to have our own utility service, which provides the town and surrounding area with the most up-to-date services available. That makes Easton an ideal place for businesses that are information dense and rely on a robust IT infrastructure.

SEAMON: Warehousing and distribution continue to be a very active sector for our area economy, as demonstrated by several transactions announced this year. Window Nation signed a lease for 23,000 square feet in the Cromwell Business Park off I-97 to consolidate their showroom and warehouse. Scannell Properties closed on four parcels on Ridge Road in Hanover, where it hopes to build a 130,000-square foot-warehouse. Other developers, such as Trammell Crow, Prologis, TA Realty, and Atapco Properties, also have warehouse projects in various locations in northern Anne Arundel County.

LIERMAN: I can't pick one. Maryland is blessed to have incredible assets in a number of different areas. And part of that is because of our strong educational base. So, to ensure that we can continue to grow and be leaders in different industrial areas, we need to ensure that we fully implement the blueprint for Maryland's future and strengthen our public-school systems around the state. We need to make sure that we're always building on strengths and working to create a ready and able workforce.



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By the time this goes to print, the Maryland General Assembly will be in session. What legislation and business interests will you be lobbying for or against?

.....

SIMON: Adjustments to the family paid leave bills that were passed last year to clarify language and specific program details. We'll also be fighting for lower taxes and fees, infrastructure improvements and support, creating reasonable and attainable environmental policies, and other issues we will watch for as we head into the new year.

KLEINSCHMIDT: The rules and regulations for the new pay roll tax passed last session to establish a paid leave fund.

LEAGUE: I will lobby for all business-favorable legislation and against business-unfriendly legislation. However, bills have already been passed that will go into effect in 2023 that will negatively impact small businesses. And there is no longer a balance of power with a one-party rule, so bills can pass easily without objection or critical review.

DEKARSKE: No lobbying from our economic development corporation. Our state representatives have been open when it comes to hearing what we have to say. The state has been very good at distributing community development funds, and to the extent that can continue, as the budget allows, I

would encourage that funding to continue, maybe with a special carve-out for rural communities.

SEAMON: AAEDC doesn't lobby on a particular piece of legislation or business interest. When we are called upon to provide guidance on legislation, we can provide data and other information to help county leaders and legislators understand the impact of legislation on particular sectors and business constituencies.

LIERMAN: As a two-term state delegate, I have so much respect for the Maryland General Assembly and the important work that my colleagues engage in and the work that they do in their communities and in Annapolis. I'm thrilled and excited to be able to work with them to ensure that the policies we're passing are evidence-based and will grow our economy in a way that's equitable and benefiting all of our communities.

.....

Please finish this sentence: "2023 will be the year of..."

.....

SIMON: ...innovation and creativity within the business community.

KLEINSCHMIDT: ...the next normal.

LEAGUE: ...cautious optimism.

DEKARSKE: ...coming together to work together. We have an amazing group of individuals from government to private sector to nonprofits serving our area, and the more we come together to work together, the more we can do.

SEAMON: ...cautious optimism. Our county's business community will still be impacted by larger, global issues, such as inflation and supply chain and public health challenges. But as AAEDC works to increase a more diverse community of small businesses and as we continue to see low unemployment and the expansion of our warehouse and data center industries, we are bullish that 2023 will be a year of slow but steady growth.

LIERMAN: ...bold ideas.



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Photo courtesy of kincaidfurniture.com



From Top to Bottom

MASTERING THE ART OF THE HIGH/LOW MIX

By Lisa J. Gotto

What are interior designers doing regularly that you can practice in your home? The experts are masters at breaking down a project, first, into smaller parts and, eventually, pulling them together to create a cohesive, fabulous sensory experience in an interior space.

They do so by defining a style and, in many cases, a budget. This is closely followed by identifying needs and assessing existing resources. Most likely, an expert's best asset is knowing when to splurge and when to save, because not every single item in the room needs to be expensive to work. Below is a consensus guide to advantageous high/low interior element mixing.

The Over-Looked, Overhead

For our purposes, we'll start at the top and work our way down, beginning with an often-neglected aspect of room design, overhead lighting. This is an area where it makes sense to splurge because it sets the tone for each room, and with thoughtful selection, the impact will be statement-making and long-lasting. Just be mindful of the utility required within the room when making your thoughtful selection.



Photo courtesy of rockfordwholesale.com

Whether you choose a luxe perennial collection of pendants over your kitchen island, a tasteful, eye-catching chandelier over your dining room table, or entry, it is worth the investment made when you consider that this aspect can endure for the life of your home.

Once you have established your overhead requirements, less pricey, but still lovely, options may be chosen for floor and table lamps that complement your overall scheme. And keep in mind that they need not all match, as it is more interesting to add in eclectic options to build visual interest.

Balancing the Blank Canvas

Every home comes equipped with its own blank canvas, its walls. Few homeowners, however, have the requisite art collections to pull off the semblance of a gallery. That doesn't mean your wall schemes can't look sophisticated and work with your room's other furnishings and accessories. The key with walls is more about managing "white space"—even if your wall is azure blue.

Photo courtesy of huntingtonhouse.com



This room is an excellent example of blending a collection on the wall that includes photography, which can be your own image taken from your amazing cell phone camera, combined with framed abstracts and prints that pull together a unifying look. The adjacent walls are beautifully unadorned for balance, i.e., white space. And don't be afraid to include a pricy work of art in this collection, as it's all about the blend of complementary subject matter.

If any room in the house demands a true wall splurge, it would be the kitchen. More specifically, your backsplash. These smaller, cut-out spaces and crannies will be the focal point in this room for years to come and should be appointed accordingly.

Photo courtesy of decorilla.com



Look to "thrift it" when it comes to other elements, such as shelving, where you can get creative with thrift store finds, warm woods with live edges, and even glass to make a statement and add interest.

The No-Skimp Zone

Your bed, your sofa, your dining table, and other primary pieces such as buffet, dresser, or armoire should never be shortchanged when it comes to quality. Find the best version of each in durable materials with finishes that best suit your style. Then experiment by working in a special statement piece, which can be either high- or moderate-level, and layer the room with those tasteful touches and creature comforts that turned your head at your local home goods store, or better yet, your favorite consignment shop.



Photo courtesy of rockfordwholesale.com

Photo courtesy of hp antique & design



To keep your home from looking like a furniture showroom or too museum-y, a good rule of thumb is to factor sentimentality into your room schemes by personalizing with those existing resources you assessed prior to starting your interiors project. Perhaps you have been collecting vintage plates, books, or even smaller furnishings over the years. Now is the time to fill in your room's gaps with that one intricately carved chair that spoke to you at the flea market.

perhaps you have been collecting vintage plates, books, or even smaller furnishings over the years. Now is the time to fill in your room's gaps with that one intricately carved chair that spoke to you at the flea market.



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Toss Pillows & Toss Ups

While your room's fabrics and textures are very important to its overall vibe, you need not spend a small fortune on all your soft goods. With some things like pillows and throws you can certainly spend less and still maintain a high-end look. (That said, for some, the feel of cashmere, silk, and velvet is a prerequisite. It certainly is a very personal decision, as these items can come in regular contact with the body.) What always makes a poor impression, however, are shabby window treatments. Budget blinds, curtains, and drapery are décor deal-breakers, so invest in these items without guilt.



photo courtesy of tradewindsfurniture.com



Wall-to-Wall

The walkable surface between the walls is clearly a category for debate, more recently because of the advances in quality engineered flooring options, and quite frankly, because it's the element that gets the most wear and tear. Because it's not something that's easy or inexpensive to replace, flooring is worth significant investment. But certainly, do your research when it comes to utility, especially if you are looking into some of the more innovative materials like cork or bamboo. And if you have pets, you will have different considerations.

Meanwhile, in the mudroom or laundry room, you can scale back and choose a complementary, less expensive tile or engineered hardwood without sacrificing style. And speaking of the laundry room, designers are weighing in on the new washable and practical options in area rugs—and the word is generally good. They get high marks for being the perfect options under dining room tables, for their non-slip grip on hard surfaces, for the ease in which they can be spot cleaned, and for their ability to fit in an average-size washing machine. They are, however, pricy considering these are not plush rugs and don't have elements like fringe detailing.

Because they do come in some impressively stylish patterns, they will blend well with many interior schemes—even those in design experts' homes, where it's all about creating that advantageous high/low mix.

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Gardens, the Original Recyclers

8 FREE, USEFUL GARDEN RESOURCES

By Janice F. Booth

Gardeners are known to conserve and recycle. As gardeners we are particularly tuned to the power and beauty of refresh, renew, reuse—seeds to plants to mulch. What about those free gardening catalogs that come to us, and we pass along to friends or add to our recycle bins?

Maybe, like me, you also pick up tempting pamphlets at fairs and farmers markets—pamphlets on all things related to gardening. I have the best intentions, but seldom study them. They pile up on my desk or tumble out of folders labeled “Projects for next year” or “Read these first.”

With this in mind, I decided to take these catalogs and pamphlets in hand. Now I’m ready to share with you, recycle if you will, eight ways to acquire free and recycled items and resources for your garden.

Since there’s little else to do about the garden in February, here’s a way to keep your gardening juices flowing.

1. POLLINATORS—Why not plant some Milkweed seeds and lure Monarch butterflies to your garden? Visit livemonarch.com/free-milkweed-seeds, the site of the Live Monarch 2023 Seed Campaign. For six years they’ve been sending out into the world milkweed seeds and seeds of other plants that attract Monarch butterflies. The project often engages with schools and provides seeds and information for entire classes. The site has excellent photos of Monarch-friendly plants for identification purposes.

2. PLANTS—Who wouldn’t like to acquire healthy plants for free? Whether you use a gardening service or do your own planting, after winter passes, there’s always a bare spot or two that needs some new plants. Alternatively, spring may find you preparing to lop off or dig up some of those “volunteers” that threaten to overtake portions of your carefully planned flower bed. Try the website gardeningetc.com/advice/how-to-get-free-plants. This site reviews the easiest plants, shrubs, and trees to propagate, coaxing new plants from old. The site explains: • Dividing clumps of perennials. • Collecting seeds. • Using cuttings (rooting, dividing, transplanting.) • Reduced-price plant sales.

3. SEED EXCHANGE—Winter is not the time to put this in practice, but now is a good time to organize a Seed Exchange among your neighbors, relatives, and friends. Send out an invitation with a list of the types of seeds easily harvested and shared. Plan to send reminders to participants as harvest time approaches. It will be fun seeing what is shared. There’s no cost and very little work gathering, drying, and distributing seeds. The only caution, be sure participants label the seeds. Not everyone wants a flower bed filled with surprises.





4. SPROUTING—Vegetable gardening is satisfying and valuable. Additionally, you can plant a healthy vegetable and herb garden from cuttings you have sprouted in your own home.

- Carrot tops in shallow water
- Potato sections with “eyes” sprout in shallow water
- Onion and garlic cloves produce healthy sprouts
- Tomato, chili, pumpkin, and squash seeds are plentiful (dry on paper towels, plant seeds in moist soil in a sunny window.)

5. CRAIG’S LIST AND FACEBOOK MARKETPLACE offer free garden items – tools, soil, plants, and decorative accessories. You can post things you’re offering and find useful items you may not have known you need.

6. “SORT OUT”—We all have sheds or closets or basement cubbies, or several of these, where we keep our gardening supplies—the extra clay pots, potting soil, tools, flowerbed diagrams, and plaster statues. Apply the same ruthless energy that you expend on closet cleaning to your gardening stash. Get rid of what you don’t really need. Someone in your neighborhood may need a smiling gnome statue. If you can talk friends into doing a clean out too, you may end up replacing your unwanted items with a few lovely old bricks or iron bunny from someone else’s garden stash. You can also post your items on the “Free Cycle” web site, freecycle.org.

7. DESIGN TEMPLATES – Whether you work with a professional gardening service, a personal gardener, or do the gardening yourself, you need a *plan*. Your gardener will ask you to describe what you are looking for. You may already be working out your spring garden design on those sheets of graph paper on your desk. Well, here’s some good news. Online you can find free:

- Building plans for: greenhouses, garden sheds, potting sheds, and potting benches.
- Templates to help place fences, sprinkler systems, hedges, and walls.
- Lists of supplies needed to complete a particular design (valuable for budgeting.)

Free Planners and Templates:

“Plan-a-Garden” from *Better Homes & Gardens*: provides 3-D images and drag-and-drop design. Welcome to Plan-A-Garden! (bhg.com)

“Online Kitchen Garden Planner” at Pre-Planned Gardens (gardeners.com). You can print out your plan and how-to information on executing that plan.

The site also provides prepared plans if you’d rather not do it yourself.

“Garden Visualiser” is a British offering from Marshalls Garden (marshalls.co.uk/garden-visualiser). It works something like a 3-D videogame, allowing you to specify sizes and themes for the garden’s design.

8. FINALLY, since free advice is either useless or invaluable, here’s a wonderful site to tuck into your gardener’s diary! The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center (wildflower.org/plants). The site is maintained by the University of Texas at Austin. It provides a fascinating plant-finder that allows you to identify plants based on a wide variety of characteristics, including location, lifespan, bloom, leaf characteristics, average size, and more! Your fellow gardeners will be impressed with the extent of your knowledge.



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Pleasing, Peaceful Retreat

By Lisa J. Gotto

Waterfront living and limitless panoramic views are what this 4,000-square-foot coastal, craftsman-style residence, is all about. Visitors to this home, located in the highly desirable community of Turkey Point in Edgewater, will notice immediately that they have arrived somewhere special as they have a sightline to the water as soon as they walk in.

Gleaming, maple hardwood floors first lead the way to a roomy, informal sitting room with French doors and access to a convenient butler's pantry on through to the home's gorgeous gourmet kitchen, and then to its open floorplan great room. All of this area is light, bright, expansive, and designed with walls of floor-to-ceiling windows.



The contemporary kitchen offers a combination of rich wood and sleek aluminum and frosted glass cabinetry, a huge fridge-freezer combo, and striking granite countertops. The large center island offers a cooktop and breakfast bar seating for three. This area flows into a formal dining area with those expansive waterfront views, and then into the main living area with its walk-out balcony, wood-burning fireplace, and architecturally enticing floating staircase to the level above.

Up those stairs, there are three large bedrooms including the spacious primary suite with vaulted ceiling, a separate seating area, and its own wall of windows where the new homeowners can witness spectacular sunrises. There's also a set of sliders for access to the room's private balcony. A gorgeous *en suite* bath conveys a spa-like feel with its gleaming white tile floors and walls, a large, walk-in shower with unique colored pebble detail, and a granite-topped vanity with vessel sink feature.



Listing Agent: Brad Kappel; TTR Sotheby's International Realty; 209 Main Street, Annapolis; m. 410-279-9476; o. 410-280-5600; brad.kappel@sothebysrealty.com; ttrsir.com **Buyers' Agent:** Kyle McCarthy; RE/MAX Leading Edge; 1166 Maryland Rt. 3 South, Gambrills; m. 301-910-7472; o. 301-502-6190; soldbykyle@aol.com; soldbykyle.com

Primary Structure Built: 1996
Sold For: \$1,595,000
Original List Price: \$1,595,000
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 3 Full, 1 Half
Living Space: 4,376 Sq. Ft.
Lot Size: .10 acres



There are two additional bedrooms on this floor that share a bath, and an additional large bedroom with *en suite* bath and peaceful water views on the home's lower level. This floor features a spacious family room with those light-colored, maple floors and direct access to the home's backyard and waterside deck.

From here, the homeowners will have the perfect vantage point from which to take in all the wa-

ter activity on Ramsey Lake outward to South River. When they choose to recreate themselves, the property provides a private pier with boat slip and lift, and the peaceful feeling of living on an island, with its access to multiple sandy beaches, a community fishing pier, and playground.

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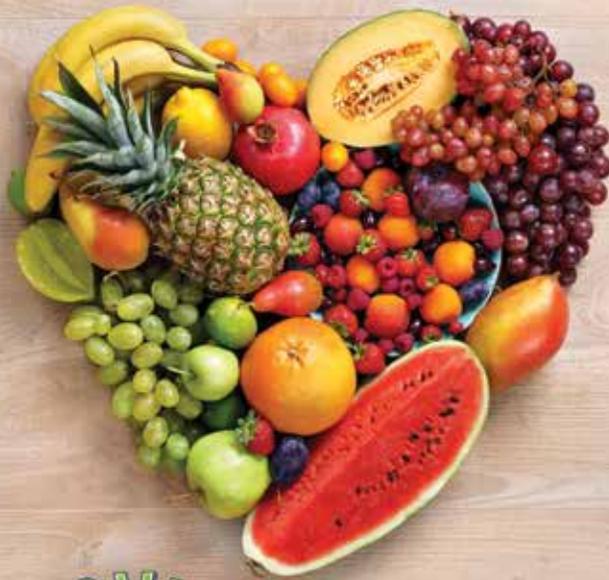
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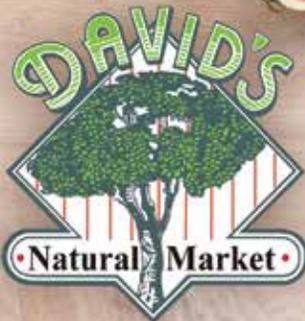


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Health & Beauty

70 FRESH TAKE | 71 SHRINK THOSE PORES | 72 FITNESS TIPS



Fresh Take

PEARS

By Dylan Roche

When the poet Homer described pears in his epic poem *The Odyssey*, he called them “gifts from the gods.” In the millennia since, humankind’s love of this fruit hasn’t wavered. These crisp, crunchy, juicy fruits were, actually, cultivated into more than 3,000 varieties by the ancient Greeks and Romans, who took them beyond southeastern Europe and spread them across the continent.

Today in America, most pears are grown in Washington, Oregon, and California. But because pear trees require so much water to thrive, they became prominent with the development of modern irrigation systems in the latter half of the 20th century. Primarily harvested in the fall and winter, they have a sweet juiciness that works well when paired with contrasting flavors and textures like cheese, nuts, and greens, making them a nice addition to wintertime entertaining menus.

You’ll get a nice health boost when you eat pears, mainly from their abundance fiber content—nearly 6 grams each, more than you would get from a 1-cup serving of leafy greens. Not only does fiber improve your digestion but also it improves your blood sugar and lowers your cholesterol. Pears are high in potassium, which is important for fluid balance and offsetting the intake of excess sodium. Pears provide more than 10 percent of your daily needed vitamin C, a powerful antioxidant that fights disease, repairs cells, and supports immunity.

HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT WHEN YOU BITE INTO DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEARS:

ANJOU: This variety, along with Barlett, is what you think of when you think of a pear. It’s green in color with a sweet, juicy taste and slight citrus flavor. **BARLETT:** They’re slightly juicier and more aromatic than Anjou pears.

BOSC: These pears are longer with a warm brownish color to them. They have a crisp texture and a slight woody flavor with hints of honey. **COMICE:**

While Bosc pears are longer, Comice pears are shorter and rounder. They have an especially sweet taste with a slight buttery flavor. **CONCORDE:** These pears are longer in shape like Bosc, but with the distinctive green color of Anjou and Barlett pears. They’re especially crunchy, and you’ll detect notes of vanilla in their taste. **FORELLE:**

These pears are distinctive for being smaller with a crisp texture and tangy taste. **SECKEL:** This variety is even smaller than Forelles—able to be eaten in just a few bites. They’re very crunchy and sweet.



However, it’s important to note that even though pears provide health benefits for most people, anyone with digestive issues should be careful about introducing pears into their diet. Because pears are high in fermentable oligo-, di-, monosaccharides, and polyols (commonly abbreviated as FODMAPS), they can trigger symptoms in people with irritable bowel syndrome and Crohn’s disease.

You’d have a tough time accounting for the thousands of pear varieties cultivated by the Romans and Greeks in ancient times. But there are still many pears you’ll find at the grocery store or farmers’ market. All pears will have the same nutritional profile, although they’ll have different taste and textures.

You might notice that the pears you find at the grocery store aren’t fully ripe. This is because pears don’t ripen when they’re on the tree and must come to ripeness in the days or weeks after they’re picked. With this in mind, don’t focus on finding ripe pears. Instead, look for pears that have a vibrant color and are free from blemishes on their skin. Keep the pears at room temperature until they are soft to the touch, indicating they are ripe. To prevent overripening, keep them in the fridge once they’ve reached a desirable softness.

Pear Bread with Gorgonzola & Walnuts

INGREDIENTS

3 medium-sized pears
1/4 cup lemon juice
1/2 cup crumbled gorgonzola
1 cup ricotta
1 cup walnuts, chopped
2 cups whole-grain wheat flour
15 grams active-rising yeast (1 packet)
1 tablespoon honey
1 tablespoon brown sugar
3/4 cup milk
3 egg yolks
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon olive oil

Core and peel the pears, then chop into quarter-inch cubes. Toss with lemon juice. In a large bowl, combine yeast, honey, and sugar. Stir in milk, eggs, and salt. Slowly add in the flour until it forms a firm dough. Roll into a ball. Coat a bowl

with olive oil and place ball of dough inside. Cover with a dish towel and allow to rise for 30 minutes. Combine gorgonzola, ricotta, and walnuts in a small bowl. When the dough is finished rising, transfer to a floured surface, and divide into four parts. Roll each part out to quarter-inch thickness. Spread the cheese mixture on each piece of rolled dough and top with chopped pears. Roll the dough up with the cheese and pears inside, then transfer to a greased baking dish, stacking the rolls one by one. Preheat the oven to 350F and allow the dough to continue rising for another 30 minutes. Bake for approximately 40 minutes. Serve warm.



FOR MORE UNIQUE RECIPES WITH PEARS, VISIT WHATSUPMAG.COM.

Shrink Those Pores

By Dylan Roche

Let's start with the message that many people need to hear: There's nothing wrong with having pores. Even big ones. Pores are natural—and they serve an important purpose. These little holes in your skin are like little vents from which sweat and oil can escape. They're also where your hair follicles grow. It's thanks to pores that you're able to keep cool and your skin can stay strong and supple. On some complexions, pores can sometimes become large and noticeable.

If this makes you feel self-conscious, there are easy DIY methods you can undertake in your own bathroom at home to make your pores less prominent:

- Start by keeping your skin clean. Wash your face twice a day—once in the morning, and once in the evening. Avoid washing your face more frequently, as this can irritate your skin and cause greater oil production, thus making your pores even bigger.
- When choosing skin products, including face wash and makeup, look for those that are recommended by the American Academy of Dermatology. Avoid alcohol- and oil-based cleansers, and instead choose cleansers that are water-based.
- Exfoliate at least once a week. This process removes dead skin cells and other debris that build up on your skin and block skin cleansers and moisturizers from penetrating. Although exfoli-



ating scrubs are available on the market, you can make an easy all-natural exfoliating scrub with plain table sugar. Mix 1 tablespoon of sugar with 1 tablespoon of water and 1 tablespoon of lemon juice. Apply to your face and gently massage in a circular motion. Rinse thoroughly.

- If your pores are large and dark, it could be that your skin is producing too much of an oily substance called sebum, which, in moderate amounts, keeps your skin moisturized. Apply a clay mask once a week to dry out the excess sebum. The mask will also give your skin a deep-down cleanse because impurities stick to the clay and will be drawn out when it's rinsed off.
- Cold temperatures are good for tightening your skin and closing your pores. After completing your cleansing and moisturizing routine, apply an ice cube and rub it gently over your face. As a bonus, ice will increase the circulation to your skin, giving you a more vivacious appearance.

If these DIY methods are not sufficient, you could seek professional help. A chemical peel with hyaluronic acid could prevent your skin from overproducing sebum. Additionally, laser surgery is available to reduce the size of your pores. Consult with a dermatologist to determine which course of treatment is the best option for you.

Fitness Tips

DYNAMIC STRETCHING VS. STATIC STRETCHING

By Dylan Roche

It's time for a workout! But before you go through your routine with full force, you're going to do some stretching to start. The only question is what kind of stretching are you doing? Static stretching, or dynamic stretching?

For many years, what's described today as static stretching was the go-to move for exercisers who wanted limber muscles. But now researchers are saying that dynamic stretching is more beneficial, at least before a workout. That's not to suggest static stretching doesn't have its place in your workout—it's an ideal cooldown activity.

As their names imply, static stretching is stationary, whereas dynamic stretching involves movement.

Static stretching requires holding a position for a designated period of time, usually about 30 seconds to 1 minute. You might be standing, sitting, or lying down while doing it, but the important aspect is that you're moving a muscle as far as it can go without experiencing pain.

This is great for increasing flexibility (and flexibility is a key part of avoiding injuries during physical activity), but research shows that doing it before a workout could hinder your performance by leaving you feeling relaxed and thus not as strong and as powerful as you normally could be.

Instead, fitness experts point to **dynamic stretching**, which involves controlled movements you can go through that will loosen up your muscles and ligaments. These movements will take your joints through their full range of motion and decrease muscle stiffness, so you're able to be faster and more agile during the main part of your workout. You can then save your static stretches for the end of your workout when you're relaxing from the activity and trying to prevent your muscles from tightening up.

Need some ideas for the best static and dynamic moves you can do? Here are three of each you can try:

DYNAMIC STRETCH - LUNGE:

Start with your feet shoulder width apart and your arms down by your sides. Brace your core to keep your back from arching as you step forward, lowering your back knee close to the floor while bending your front leg at a right angle. Bring your back knee as close to the floor as possible without touching the floor. Push yourself back up to a standing position and lunge forward using your opposite leg. You should feel this stretch in your glutes and hamstrings.

DYNAMIC STRETCH - LEG

SWING: Stand with legs shoulder width apart. Keeping your leg straight, raise one foot about an inch off the ground in front of you. Using a slow, steady, controlled motion, swing your leg from side to side in front of you. Brace your core to stop yourself from arching your back. Swing your leg from side to side behind you. Repeat this move five times in front and five times in the back. Return your leg to your standing position and perform the stretch with your other leg. You should feel this stretch in your hip flexors.

DYNAMIC STRETCH - TWISTS:

Stand with feet shoulder width apart and your arms out in front of you. Twist your torso to your left, keeping your feet and legs steady. You should be looking straight ahead to your left at the end of the move.



Twist back around and do the same move to your right. Repeat 15-20 times.

STATIC STRETCH - QUADS: Lift one foot behind you, bending at the knee, and reach back with your corresponding hand. Grip your ankle and hold this pose for 30 seconds to one minute. You should feel this stretch in your quadriceps.

STATIC STRETCH - HAMSTRING: Place one foot on a bench or stair about 2-3 feet off the ground. Keep your leg straight and your core braced as you lean forward and reach with your arms as low as you can. Hold for 30 seconds to one minute. You should feel this stretch in your hamstrings.

STATIC STRETCH - SHOULDERS: Reach one arm horizontally across your chest. Keeping that arm straight, bend your other arm up and use it to pull your stretched arm as close to your chest as possible. Hold for 30 seconds to one minute. You should feel this stretch in your shoulders.

Dining

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Grilled Filet Mignon
with Yukon gold mashed
potatoes, sautéed
spinach, garlic chips,
and bordelaise sauce at
Smashing Grapes

WHAT'S UP? READERS

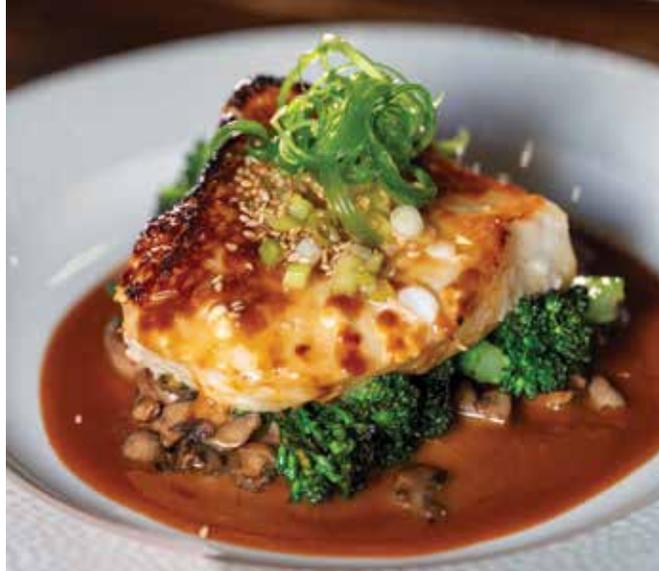
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For the Love of Wine

By Tom Worgo | Photography by Stephen Buchanan



A West Coast entrepreneur turned a hobby into a popular Gambills kitchen and wine bar. Larry Ray owned a winery in California and made wine for himself and his friends. Ray eventually met and partnered with Steve Schuh and James King, who founded Titan Hospitality, owner of Blackwall Hitch and Blackwall Barn & Lodge, among other restaurants, in Anne Arundel County. Ray wanted to expand into an upscale dining concept and Smashing Grapes is the result.

The restaurant's dining menu is a fusion of Mediterranean and coastal California cuisines, and the wine menu offers an extensive selection—more than 350 from 10 countries, including France, Italy, Spain, and various regions of California.

“Larry has a tremendous love for wine and the production of wine,” Smashing Grapes Director of Operations Carlos Oseguera says. “It’s something that excites him very much. He wanted to bring West Coast cuisine and his love for wine to the East Coast. That’s [in part] how the concept was born.”

The food is, of course, also a high priority. The best-sellers are Buffalo cauliflower and miso honey marinated sea bass. Brick-pressed chicken, margherita flatbread, and steak au poivre are also coveted items.



Daniel Hlusak



Carlos Oseguera

We talked to Oseguera and Culinary Director Daniel Hlusak about Smashing Grapes' wine selection, the process of opening the Gambills and Annapolis locations, what highlights the menu, and the popular wine tastings offered.

Daniel, how would you describe the menu?

The menu is coastal Californian, casual elegance with a Mediterranean theme to it. We offer a healthy mix. We have avocado toast and some earthy, crunchy things. But also steak and potatoes. We offer a little bit of everything for everyone. If go you for Italian, we make all our pasta in-house. It's all semolina flour from Durum wheat. It's a lot of hard work. We take great pride in that.

What's a customer favorite?

Our Buffalo cauliflower. It's wonderful. It's farm-fresh cauliflower. We blanch it, then tempura batter and fry it. We serve

it with a little bit of Buffalo sauce and house-made blue cheese dressing. The neat part is you get the crunch on the outside. Then that resilient umami in the center because of the cauliflower. You are dipping it in blue cheese and Buffalo sauce. You get that explosion in your mouth.

What else sells very well?

Miso marinated Chilean sea bass. It has that great umami, fermented flavor, and the meatiness of the sea bass. We have broccolini under the fish and pair it with mushrooms. We add pickled scallions to give it a little punch. It's briny, salty, and sweet. It has a nice crunch from the broccolini. The vinegar really brings out the brightness of the fish.

What made you emphasize wine from California's central coast?

One of our owners lives in the area. It informed the decisions that we have made. He fell in love with

SMASHING GRAPES 2383 Brandermill Boulevard, Gambrills | 410-451-7544 | smashinggrapes.com

wine made where he lives and said, "Let's share that with everybody." Northern California produces amazing wines. It sort of overshadows the other parts of California that produce wines like Paso Robles and Santa Barbara County from Central Coastal California. We feature those. With them, you are getting complex, generous fruit, and fantastic, well-bodied wine with a nice structure. We thought it would be nice to let the wines from Paso Robles and Santa Barbara County shine through.

Was there a void in the market for Smashing Grapes to fill?

Most of the wine places in Maryland are smaller, or the wine list might be 80 to 100 wines. We wanted to do something a little bit bigger and incorporate California

cuisine, but also bring in some Italian, French, and Portuguese influence. Some different international influences on the menu. While there is some focus on Napa Valley's style of food and wine [elsewhere], there really isn't something as big as the Smashing Grapes concept.

Carlos, can you tell us about your wine tastings?

We have tastings for which you can book for two people or eight people, or however many you want. We can tailor them to a specific want or need. We can do whites, reds, or a mix. Most of our managers have been extensively trained on our wine list. So why not tailor every experience to what the guest wants? We have wine tastings from five to 10 times a week. We also have events once a month that



Red Pepper Orecchiette with Italian Sausage & Broccolini

One serving

- 3 oz. ground Italian sausage, cooked
- 1 tsp. garlic
- 3 stems broccolini, chopped
- 2 oz. cherry tomato, halved
- 1 oz. butter
- 2 oz. pasta cooking water
- 1 tsp. nduja (spicy, spreadable pork sausage)
- 4 oz. dried red pepper orecchiette
- 2 oz. parmesan
- 1 oz. ricotta

Bring a pot of salted water to a boil. Boil orecchiette according to instructions, then drain. In a pan over medium heat, add Italian sausage, nduja, garlic, broccolini, and tomato. Sauté for three minutes. Add pasta, the pasta water, and butter. Reduce. Add parmesan. Plate and top with ricotta. Serve.

we call "sip and learn." We recently did one on roses and another on champagne. It's a great maturation and introduction process. It highlights how similar grapes produced in various regions of the world can be different.

What is the difference between the Smashing Grapes in Gambrills and Annapolis?

They have the same menu and wine selection. The difference is that Annapolis has two patios. One on the north side and one on the south side. Gambrills has one patio. It is very popular and fills up first, especially in the spring, summer, and fall. It can be below 50 degrees and people want to be out there. We have a canopy and retractable curtains that come down and close it. We turn the heaters on. It's pretty comfortable.



Savor the Chesapeake

Restaurant news and culinary trends throughout the Chesapeake Bay region

By Megan Kotelchuck

The season of love is here, well at least the month of love. Halfway through February we celebrate and spoil the people we love, whether that is our significant others, children, parents, siblings, or friends. Show them how much you love them by taking them to some of the new restaurants in our area!

On the Dining Scene...

We always want to bring our furry friends everywhere we go, and now we can add one more place to the list of where we can take them. **Bark Social** is opening a new location in Downtown Columbia. Back Social is a 'clean, monitored, and gated dog park that serves coffee and breakfast items in the morning and beer, wine, and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and lunch items in the afternoon and evening. They also have doggy ice cream, pupsicles, and more.

Looking for a new fast-casual restaurant? **Honeygrow** is opening a dozen new locations in Maryland in 2023. Honeygrow offers stir-fry, salads, and more made with high quality ingredients. The first location to open will be in early 2023 in Hanover, followed by Owings Mills, Columbia, Annapolis, and Timonium. Keep an eye out for when these new locations will open.

Shipley Do-Nuts is opening their first Maryland location in Odenton. The business will be located at 1099 Annapolis Road and will serve more than 60 flavors of breakfast pastries made fresh daily. The bakery will include classic donuts as well as new creations like the "white iced with coconut." Renovations are underway with plans to open soon

Drink Up...

Plan a date night at home with some of these sweet and romantic martinis. Play some music, enjoy a nice, home cooked dinner, and enjoy a drink this Valentine's Day!

Queen of Hearts

INSTRUCTIONS

Shake gin, hibiscus syrup, and lemon juice. Pour into a wine glass and top with sparkling wine.

INGREDIENTS

- 1.5 oz. gin
- 3/4 oz. hibiscus syrup
- 3/4 oz. lemon juice
- 2 oz. sparkling wine
- Optional: edible flower

Photo and recipe courtesy of gayot.com



Raspberry Chocolate Martini

INGREDIENTS

- 1.5 oz. raspberry liqueur
- 1.5 oz. RumChata
- 1 oz. heavy cream
- Dark chocolate shavings
- Fresh raspberries

INSTRUCTIONS

Combine all ingredients except the chocolate and raspberries into a shaker with ice. Shake well and strain into a martini glass. Sprinkle dark chocolate shavings and add raspberries to garnish.



Photo and recipe courtesy of crateandbabble.com

Have culinary news to share? Send an email to the editor at editor@whatsupmag.com.



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Romantic Dining

The most famous date night is coming up: February 14th. Grab that bunch of roses and make a reservation early to get dinner at one of your favorite date night restaurants this Valentine's Day. To help narrow down the choice, we have culled some of the area's reputable romantic dining experiences, plus the What's Up? Media family of restaurants, "Our Favorites."

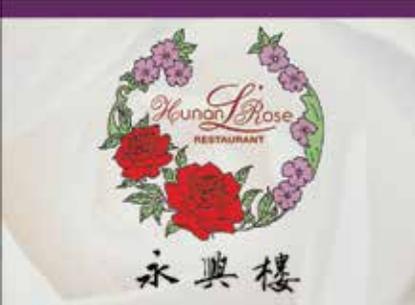
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Blackwall Barn and Lodge

329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills; 410-317-2276; barnandlodge.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Huncho House

6451 America Blvd Suite 101, Hyattsville; hunchohouse.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

Smashing Grapes

2383 Brandermill Boulevard, Gambrills; 410-451-7544; smashinggrapes.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Annapolis Area

Blackwall Hitch

400 Sixth Street, Eastport; 410-263-3454; theblackwall-hitch.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Chart House

300 2nd Street, Eastport; 410-268-7166; chart-house.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Flamant

17 Annapolis Street, Annapolis; 410-267-0274; flamantmd.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

Harry Brownes

66 State Circle, Annapolis; 410-263-4332; harrybrownes.com \$\$\$, 🍷

Levels A Small Plates Lounge

69 West Street, Annapolis; 410-268-0003; levelannapolis.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

Luna Blu Ristorante Italiano

36 West Street, Annapolis; 410-267-9950; lunablufan-annapolis.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

Metropolitan Kitchen and Lounge

169 West Street, Annapolis; 410-280-5160; metropolitanannapolis.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

O'Leary's Seafood Restaurant

310 3rd Street, Eastport; 410-263-0884; olearysseafood.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Osteria 177

177 Main Street, Annapolis; 410-267-7700; osteria177.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Preserve

164 Main Street, Annapolis; 443-598-6920; preserve-eats.com \$\$\$, 🍷 🌟

Ruth's Chris Steak House

301 Severn Ave, Eastport; 410-990-0033; ruthschris.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

Tsunami

51 West Street, Annapolis; 410-990-9869; tsunamian-annapolis.com \$\$\$, 🍷

Severn Inn

1993 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Annapolis; 410-349-4000; severninn.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Smashing Grapes

177 Jennifer Road, Annapolis; 410-266-7474; smashinggrapes.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Vin 909

909 Bay Ridge Ave, Eastport; 410-990-1846 \$\$\$, 🍷 🌟

OUR FAVORITES

Bella Italia

609 Taylor Ave, Annapolis; 410-216-6072; bellaitaliamd.com \$, 📞

Boatyard Bar & Grill

400 Fourth Street, Eastport; 410-216-6206; boatyardbarandgrill.com \$\$\$, 🍷 🌟

Carpaccio Tuscan Kitchen & Wine Bar

1 Park Place Suite 10, Annapolis; 410-268-6569; carpacciotuscankitchen.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Carrol's Creek Café

410 Severn Avenue, Eastport; 410-263-8102; carrolscreek.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Harvest Thyme Tavern

1251 West Central Ave, Davidsonville; 443-203-6846; harvestthymetavern.com \$\$\$, 🍷

Hunan L'Rose

1131 Annapolis Road, Odenton; 410-672-2928 \$, 📞

Knoxie's Table

180 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 443-249-5777; baybeachclub.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Galliano Italian Restaurant

2630 Chapel Lake Drive; 410-721-5522; gallianoitalianrestaurant.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

Libbey's Coastal Kitchen and Bar

357 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-0999; libbey-scoastalkitchen.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Lewnes' Steakhouse

401 Fourth Street, Eastport; 410-263-1617; lewnessteakhouse.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷 🌟

Lime & Salt

8395 Piney Orchard Parkway, Odenton; 410-874-6277; Facebook \$\$\$, 🍷 🌟

Mamma Roma

8743 Piney Orchard Parkway, Odenton; 410-695-0247 \$, 📞

Mi Lindo Cancun Grill

2134 Forest Drive, Annapolis; 410-571-0500; lindocancun-grill.com \$\$\$, 🍷 🌟

Miss Shirley's Café

1 Park Place, Annapolis; 410-268-5171; Missshirleys.com \$\$\$, 🍷 🌟

Rodizio Grill

1079 Annapolis Mall Road, Annapolis; 410-849-4444; rodiziogrill.com \$\$\$, 📞 🍷

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Love is in the air! And so is our famous, flying mascot Wilma. She's soaring and diving through the Chesapeake skyline, to and from her favorite romantic restaurants, beauty salons, jewelers, and lovely locations searching for the perfect Valentine's gift. Where will she land next?

Here's how the contest works: Wilma appears next to three different ads in this magazine. When you spot her, write the names of the ads and their page numbers on the entry form online or mail in the form below and you'll be eligible to win. Only one entry per family. Good luck and don't forget to submit your restaurant review online at whatsupmag.com/promotions for another opportunity to win a prize.

Congratulations to **Kenneth U.** of Glenn Dale, who won a \$50 gift certificate to a local business.

Mail entries to: Where's Wilma? Central Maryland, 201 Defense Hwy., Ste. 203, Annapolis, MD 21401 or fill out the form at whatsupmag.com/promotions



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Entries must be received by February 28, 2023. Winner will receive a gift certificate to a local establishment and their name will appear in an upcoming issue of What's Up? Central Maryland.

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