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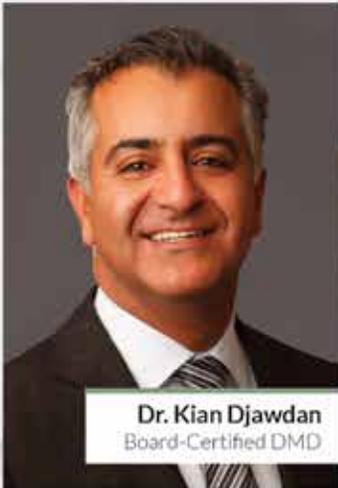
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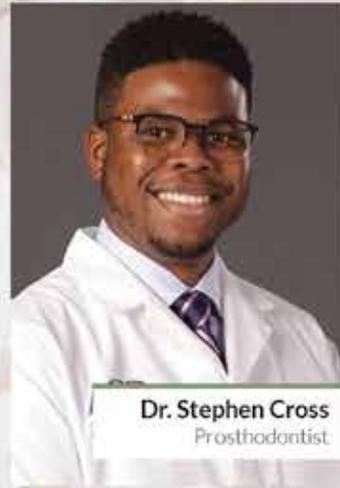
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On the Cover: History, holidays, and seasonal delights comingle in this December issue. Design by August Schwartz. Contact *What's Up? Central Maryland* online at whatsupmag.com Please recycle this magazine.

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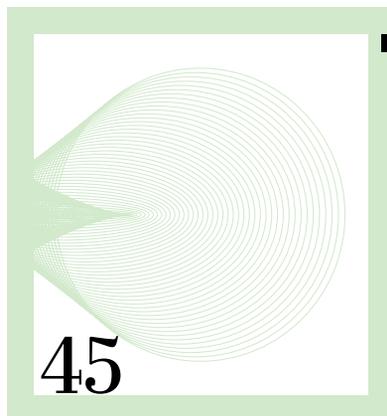
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Publisher & President

Veronica Tovey (x1102)

Editorial Director

James Houck (x1104)

COO & Director of Advertising

Ashley Lyons (x1115)

Entertainment Editor

Megan Kotelchuck (x1129)

Contributing Editors

Lisa J. Gotto, Dylan Roche

Contributing Writers

Janice Booth, Rita Calvert,
JoAnna Daemrich, Tom Worgo

Staff Photographer

Steve Buchanan

Contributing Photographers

Pam Long, Nelly Mirabel,
Michele Sheiko

Art Director

August Schwartz (x1119)

Graphic Designers

Matt D'Adamo (x1117), Lauren Ropel (x1123)

Web Content Specialist

Arden Haley (x1116)

Production Coordinator

Amanda LoPresti

Senior Account Executive

Kathy Sauve (x1107)

Account Executives

Beth Kuhl (x1112), Rick Marsolek,
Nina Peake (x1106), Michelle Roe (x1113)

Finance Manager

Deneen Mercer (x1105)

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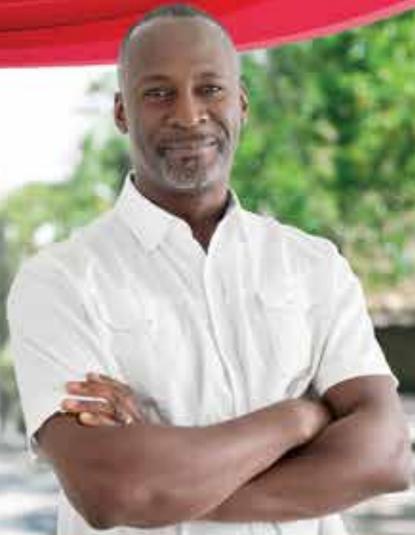
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JANUARY 2024
 Our Education Issue!
 Private School Guide
 The Superintendent Dynamic
 Plus: Winter Ski Slopes Guide

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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA

LEADING LAWYERS

The nomination period for the 2024–2025 Class of Leading Lawyers officially opens November 1st to all legal professionals in the Chesapeake Bay region. Lawyers (and judges) currently practicing the law are encouraged to nominate their legal peers in more than 40 legal specialties for this distinguished honor that recognizes the best local lawyers. This is your opportunity to nominate which lawyers should be acknowledged as leaders in their various areas of practice. We thank you in advance for participating in this valuable service. Nominations will close in January 2024. Results will be published in our May 2024 issues. whatsupmag.com/2024lawyerssurvey



Best of 2024 voting will be live January 1, 2024. Stay tuned for details and make sure you're signed up for our newsletter: whatsupmag.com/newsletter-signup

editor *From the*



Traditions. The hallmarks of the holiday season.

In the early-'80s, my family's must-visit display du jour after Thanksgiving was the nostalgically named Christmas Lane at Holly Farms in Harwood, Maryland. The holiday lighting spectacle, with all its sparkle and shimmer—grand archways of twinkling lights in red and white bridging over a quarter mile-long driveway, with cascading blue icicles everywhere and... “is that... Rudolph and Santa...it is!”—was magical to seven-year-old me. And though this particular “Lane” is long gone (closing in 2001), there remain many more amazing, and I believe essential, holiday displays, attractions, and events to satisfy the holiday spirit.

At Sandy Point State Park, Lights on the Bay will illuminate the Chesapeake shoreline. In St. Michaels and Annapolis, lighted boat parades will also glisten along waterways. Baltimore's Hampden community has its traditional display, Miracle on 34th Street. Ocean City has Winterfest of Lights. And come New Year's Eve, Easton's famed Crab Drop will ring in 2024! Every town has traditions worth celebrating.

So, we've packaged quite a few of them into our Holiday Spectacular Edition of Out on the Towne. Many are unique to our region and dear to our hearts: Cambridge's Crab Basket Christmas Tree, Ballet Theatre of Maryland's *The Nutcracker*, holiday markets galore,

midnight madness shopping, chocolate and gingerbread festivals, jingle bell runs, train gardens, tree lightings, and a partridge in a pear tree (somewhere, I think).

With one year closing and another incoming, this is also a time of planning and preparation. And of helping hands. In the special “Faces of the Chesapeake” profile package, we introduce more than 75 esteemed leaders in their respective fields of service. And they're ready to help you with your goals for the year ahead.

On the home-front, I'll soon be standing atop a rickety aluminum ladder hanging Christmas lights—the best exterior illumination I'm capable of—doing my impression of Clark W. Griswold (it's honestly not even an impression...it's simply middle-age). And I probably could use a helping hand, at that. For a better take on how to decorate your own home, please give the article “Wealth of Seasonal Charm” by Lisa J. Gotto a read—the piece showcases the historic Bolton House in Chestertown fully decked for the holidays.

And with our State Capital Annapolis oh-so-seasonal this month, draped in greenery and its ubiquitous colonial charm, we give the city more than a nod—a full review of its history, preservation, and promoted past in the context of cultural inclusivity. JoAnna Daemrich's article “Shine a Light” is an illuminating look at how we—citizens, tourists, leaders—frame the civic stories of bygone eras. Often, we must reflect on our past, to make progress in the present and future.

And create new traditions. Like “The New Happy Hour,” which you can read about on page 26. Who knew sipping traditional afternoon tea would become so popular? Especially during the seasonal hug that defines each and every December.

*Enjoy something old.
Try something new.
Cheers to '23 and '24!*

James Houck,
Editorial Director



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Out on the **TownE**

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Holiday Spectacular Edition!

On the following pages, we've compiled the region's most cherished holiday attractions, events, parades, and light shows. May you have a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Blessed Kwanzaa, New Year's, and the happiest holiday season!



And for more events, visit Whatsupmag.com or scan this QR code with your device!



ICE! At National Harbor

Each year, National Harbor welcomes Gaylord National Resort's annual ICE! attraction. Now through December 31st, enjoy the interactive ICE! experience which includes 13 scenes from the classic *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. Clarice, Bumble, Sam the Snowman, Hermey the Elf, and, of course, Rudolph will be carved out of more than two million pounds of colorful ice. Find more information and get tickets at christmasatgaylordnational.com.



Holiday Taste and Sip ↓

Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce is hosting its 13th Annual Holiday Taste and Sip on December 5th from 5 to 8 p.m. at Chartwell Golf & Country Club. This is one of the most anticipated and well-attended events of the year and full of fantastic food, wine, and music. The event offers samples from local restaurants, bakeries, and liquor stores. Find more information at gspacc.com.



2023 JINGLE BELL RUN

The Arthritis Foundation's signature Jingle Bell Run is hitting West Shore Park in Baltimore on December 9th at 9 a.m. Get ready to run with your bells on and the holiday spirit and jingle your way to a cure. Your registration fee and fundraising support will help the fight to conquer arthritis. Find more information and start raising money for your pledge at events.arthritis.org.



↑ WREATH WORKSHOP

Historic London Town and Gardens is hosting two Wreath Workshops on December 2nd. Join at 10 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. to create your own holiday wreaths and centerpieces. The expert wreath makers will guide attendees in making the perfect natural holiday decorations for your home this holiday season! Find more information and register at historiclondontown.org.



GLEN BURNIE GINGERBREAD FESTIVAL

'Tis the season for sweetness! Explore the Glen Burnie Gingerbread Festival at Marley Station Mall from December 1st through December 3rd. One can find handmade crafts, a mall-wide scavenger hunt for Gingerbread Men, and the star attraction—the Gingerbread House competition. The festival raises money for needy individuals each year through an auction, gift shop, and people's choice vote. Come out and explore all the Gingerbread Festival has to offer. For more details check out gbgingerbreadfestival.com.



Lights of Kindness

The Rotary Club of South Anne Arundel County is hosting its 10th Anniversary Lights of Kindness charity event during the first weekend of December at Homestead Gardens. Beautifully decorated Christmas trees, sponsored by businesses, in support of local charities, will be displayed from Friday, December 1 through Sunday, December 3. Visitors will have an opportunity to vote and donate in-person then, during business hours, or on-line. Find more information at southcountyrotaary.org.



↑ **Handel's Messiah**

Live Arts Maryland's annual performances of "Messiah" are another Annapolis tradition. On December 15th and 16th at 8 p.m., and on December 17th at 3 p.m., view the performance of the season at St. Anne's Church in Annapolis. A world-class soloist, the Chamber Orchestra, and the Annapolis Chorale come together for a beautiful presentation of this timeless work. Get your tickets at liveartsmd.org.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS ↓

The shopping festivity of Downtown Annapolis is back for three nights! The first two Thursdays of December, from 4 p.m. until midnight, and the third Thursday of the month from 4 to 11 p.m. Downtown Annapolis Partnership and Historic Downtown Annapolis promote this tradition. These nights support local businesses and help our community thrive. Find more information at downtownannapolispartnership.org.



Annapolis Holiday Market

Annapolis' Holiday Market is free this year in Downtown Annapolis on December 7th through 10th. The town is decorated with holiday greens, wreaths, and beautiful storefront windows for the season, so why not add to the cheer by shopping the town market full of arts, crafts, food, and handmade gifts from local and regional vendors. Last year, for the inaugural Annapolis Holiday Market, 45 artisans and 25,000 visitors enjoyed the market over four days. Find more information and a list of vendors at annapolisholidaymarket.com.



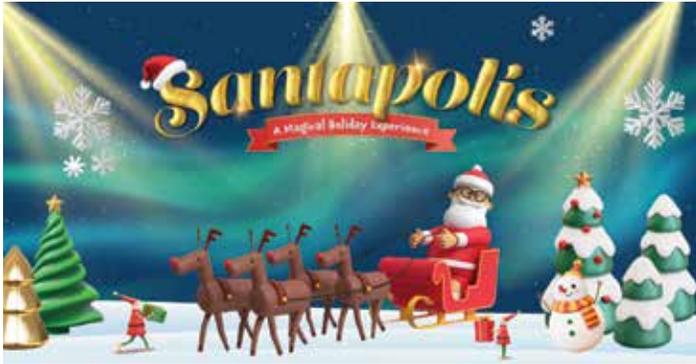
HOLIDAY POPS →

On December 15th, Annapolis Symphony Orchestra will perform their night of cheer, Holiday Pops at 7:30 p.m. at Maryland Hall in Annapolis. The program includes familiar holiday songs you know and love. Artistic Director and Conductor Jose-Luis Novo (pictured) will also bring new and beautiful music from around the world to the performance. The full symphony of more than 72 professional musicians are here to bring the joy of the season! Get tickets at annapolissymphony.org.



Colonial Yuletide Celebration

Celebrate a colonial holiday with Historic Annapolis! Bring the entire family to welcome yuletide at the William Paca House and Hogshhead property on December 2nd. Learn about holiday traditions of colonial Annapolis and hear stories of Christmases past from living historians as they bring these historic homes to life on this merry day. Enjoy sweet treats, music, and crafts. Admission includes both sites; advance registration recommended. Find more information at annapolis.org.



CHRISTMAS AT THE MALL

Looking for the perfect place to get pictures with Santa? Reserve a spot at Santapolis: A Magical Holiday Experience at the Westfield Annapolis Mall to enjoy time with Santa and immerse yourself in the holiday spirit like never before. Santa's elves will welcome you to a world of twinkling lights and festive decor. Photos with Santa are available through December 24th. On December 4th and 11th, our four-legged friends will have the opportunity to take photos with Santa as well. After getting your family's picture taken, stop by the CPK Court and in the food court for the Salvation Army's Angel Trees. Choose an angel from the tree, shop for them and bring unwrapped gifts to Salvation Army on Hilltop Lane by December 11th. Find more information about all things Santapolis at westfield.com

Annapolis Chocolate Binge Festival ↓

Inner West Street Association is back with the popular tradition, the Annapolis Chocolate Binge Festival. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on December 3rd, visit the first block of West Street in Annapolis for family-friendly entertainment, shopping, chocolate, chocolate, and more chocolate. Enjoy a chocolate gingerbread decorating contest and visits from Willy Wonka, Oompa Loompas, Santas, Elfie, live music, and more. Find more information and buy your tickets at IWSAnnapolis.com.



Photo by Joe Heimback



CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS ↓

For one night only! On December 8th at 8 p.m. at Maryland Hall in Annapolis, it's the most wonderful time of the year, especially for this community tradition—Live Arts Maryland's Celebration of Christmas. The concert will feature a sleigh full of holiday cheer provided by the Annapolis Chorale, Chamber Orchestra, Artistic Director J. Ernest Green, and special musical guests like audience favorite Mark Berman at the piano. Find more information and get tickets at marylandhall.org.



The Nutcracker

Enjoy the wonder of *The Nutcracker*, the timeless holiday tradition. Be swept away by the tale of the young heroine Clara and her adventures to rescue her beloved Nutcracker from the Rat Queen's evil spell. Performances will be Saturdays and Sundays December 9th through 17th at Maryland Hall in Annapolis performed by the Ballet Theatre of Maryland. Order tickets at balletmaryland.org.



↑ Christmas with the Celts

Christmas with the Celts is celebrating 12 years of national touring with timeless Irish Christmas Carols and Irish dancing. On December 4th, Christmas with the Celts will be performing at Rams Head On Stage in Annapolis. Even though the group has been touring for 12 years, they vow that no two concerts are the same. So be sure to get your tickets at ramsheadonstage.com.

Across the Bridge

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE ↓

The Holiday Art & Craft Marketplace is back at the Waterfowl Festival Building in Easton. The event presents the finest local artists and craft vendors. Selections for the show are based on quality, craftsmanship, creativity, and uniqueness. The Artisan's market will be December 1st, from 4 to 9 p.m., December 2nd, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and December 3rd from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Find more information at discovereaston.com.



Tour of Homes

St. Michael's Tour of Homes is the highlight of Christmas in St. Michaels weekend and is one of the longest running home tours in Maryland. December 9th and 10th will feature historic homes in town and some very special countryside homes. A ticket includes admission to all homes, transportation to the countryside homes, admission to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum on Saturday and Sunday, as well as admission to the Classic Motor Museum on both Saturday and Sunday. Find more information at christmasinstmichaels.org.



↑ Easton's Moonlight Madness

Celebrate the holidays at Moonlight Madness in Downtown Easton. On December 1st, from 5 to 9 p.m., downtown shops and restaurants will be open with refreshments, snacks, and holiday gifts. There will be music, entertainment, and fun while we shop for the holidays! Find more information at discovereaston.com.



↑ Dickens of a Christmas

Step back into 1840s London and experience the holiday season as Charles Dickens imagined it. On December 1st and 2nd, enjoy carriage rides, entertainment, home tours, food, book talks, and more on Main Street Chestertown. Santa will be available for pictures. Enjoy Victorian tea and so much more to kick off December. Find more information at mainstreetchestertown.org.



RESCUE FIRE COMPANY TRAIN GARDEN

Cambridge Fire Company's Train Garden is back with the tradition that has taken place each December for almost nine decades. The Train Garden is in "the Old Firehouse" at 307 Gay Street in Cambridge. Starting December 1st, the train garden will be open Monday through Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. and open 1 to 4 p.m. and again, from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Find more information at rfctraingarden.org.



↑ SANTACON

All of the Santas are coming to town on December 8th and 9th in Ocean City. The Ocean City boardwalk has turned into the North Pole every year since 2011. Since its inaugural year, SantaCon OCMD has hosted more than 600 Santas annually to support Assateague Coastal Trust and Kenille's Kupboard Pet Pantry & Rescue. Find more information about this year's SantaCon at santaconocmd.com.

SKATE WITH SANTA ↓

Santa will be taking a break from his busy schedule at the North Pole to visit the Talbot County Community Center to share holiday memories with the whole family! Kids will have an opportunity to tell Santa their seasonal wishes and receive a special gift! Please bring your own camera to take a memorable photograph with Santa. Complimentary hot chocolate and cookies will be provided. Pre-registration is required as Santa's helpers need to maintain quantity and quality skates and gifts. Find more information and pre-register at talbotparks.org.



Marketplace and Sweet Shoppe

Visit the Granite Lodge on St. Mary's Square in St. Michaels on December 8th through 10th for the 2023 Christmas in St. Michaels Marketplace and Sweet Shoppe. The marketplace offers one-of-a-kind artisan craft items and culinary delights throughout the weekend. The sweet shoppe will serve hot mulled cider, hot coffee, and a variety of treats baked by the chefs of local inns and restaurants. Find more information at christmasinstmichaels.org.



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

On December 7th at 7:30 p.m. and on December 10th at 4 p.m. at Christ Church in Easton, Easton Choral Arts Society will be performing their 2023 Holiday Concert: Home for the Holidays. Travel through the United States while this program takes the audience through a festive, stylistic journey from Southern gospel to Midwestern folk to the Northeastern crooners, West Coast Hollywood flare, and beyond. Find more information and order tickets at easton-choralarts.com.

The Merry Market ↓

Dorchester Center for the Art's new Merry Market is bringing the spirit of the season now through December 23rd. DCA will transform their entire art gallery into a whimsical shopping experience. The inaugural event will feature dozens of artists displaying a wide variety of their hand-crafted, quality items such as traditional arts and crafts, jewelry, candles, and more. Find more information at dorchesterarts.org.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Another Christmas in St. Michaels tradition is the family-favorite Breakfast with Santa. Breakfast with Santa is December 9th from 8 to 10 a.m. for children ages 4 to 9. Come together at Foxy's Harbor Grille for breakfast, pictures, and plenty of holiday spirit. Find more information and order tickets at christmasinstmichaels.org.



Photograph by Ted Mueller

↑ First Night Talbot

Celebrate the end of the year with the 30th anniversary of First Night Talbot on December 31st in Easton. There will be plenty of free activities for the whole family including face painting, arts and crafts, Carlos the Fire-Juggler, Mike Elzey's Guitar Studio, and so much more. The night will also include the Giant Crab Drop at both 9 p.m. and midnight. Find more information at discovereaston.com.

Parades & Light Shows

Photograph By Jill Jasutca



↑ Crab Basket Christmas Tree

Now in its 9th year, Dorchester County celebrates the local watermen culture with a 20-foot “tree” made of nearly 200 authentic crab bushel baskets that local watermen used during the crab season. J.M. Clayton Seafood Company, said to be the country’s oldest crab factory, loans the baskets and crab buoys that are used as ornaments. The basket tree will be located at the corner of Race and Gay Streets in Downtown Cambridge. Find more information at visitdorchester.org.

EASTON’S HOLIDAY PARADE

Easton’s Holiday Parade will strut down Dover Street on December 2nd from 6 to 8 p.m. Bring the family out for the holiday cheer. Many vehicles, novelties, and floats will showcase the best of Easton to kick off the Christmas season. Find more information at discovereaston.com.



ST. MICHAELS LIGHTED BOAT PARADE

The annual Lighted Boat Parade will be illuminating St. Michaels Harbor on December 9th starting at 6 p.m. Boats will be decorated and lit up for the holiday season. The perfect places to see the parade include the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, the Inn at Perry Cabin, St. Michaels Marina, and St. Michaels Harbour Inn and Spa. Find more information at christmasinstmichaels.org.



↑ Lights on the Bay

One of the most cherished local traditions we have is SPCA’s Lights on the Bay display. This year is the 29th year of the lights, which runs in the evenings through January 1st, 2024 at Sandy Point State Park. The event features a two-mile scenic drive along the Chesapeake Bay with approximately 70 animated and stationary displays illuminating the roadway. The displays are influenced by historic Annapolis, the environment, and whimsical holiday fun. Find more information at lightsonthebay.org.

Photo courtesy of George Sass, CBMM Volunteer





↑ Winterfest of Lights

Winterfest of Lights is open at Northside Park from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesdays through Fridays, now through December 24th and every day from December 25th through 31st. Ocean City's original holiday light show is in its 31st year as an outdoor, walking light tour with wandering paths containing many surprises along the way. Create your Ocean City holiday memories at the attraction, which features a 50-foot Winterfest Christmas tree with a light show several times during the hours. Find more information at oceanacitymd.gov.



TALBOT STREET PARADE ↓

On Saturday December 9th, at 10:30 a.m., Santa is coming to St. Michaels! The parade will run on Talbot Street from Perry Cabin south to Seymour Avenue. The parade will have marching bands, antique cars, boats, fire engines, horses, and, of course, a sleigh. Santa and Mrs. Claus will close the show during the largest holiday parade on the Eastern Shore. Find more information at christmasinstmichaels.org.



EASTPORT YACHT CLUB LIGHTS PARADE

The tradition continues this year with Eastport Yacht Club's Lights Parade in Annapolis. Every year, on the second Saturday in December (December 9th this year), magic happens on the water of Spa Creek and the Annapolis Harbor. Boats will appear out of the cold winter night illuminated with thousands of colored lights and crewed by jolly revelers. Find more information at eastportyc.org.



National Harbor Nightly Tree Lighting

Each night there will be a tree lighting of the 60-foot holiday tree at National Harbor. The tree is guarded by two 12-foot nutcrackers. The nightly show will start at sunset and continue every half hour until 9 p.m. Guests will enjoy thousands of lights dancing alongside a holiday medley recorded by the United States Air Force Band. As well as the light show, each Saturday night fireworks will run at 5:30 p.m., through December 30th. Find more information at nationalharbor.com.



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Central Maryland Chamber Classic

The 2023 Central Maryland Chamber Classic Golf Tournament was held on June 20th at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City. More than 200 golfers and volunteers joined chamber leadership for friendly competition, networking, awards, and fun. Visit centralmarylandchamber.org for more information.

Photography by Pam Long, courtesy Central Maryland Chamber.



Hope @ The Hitch

Nonprofit ministry, Hope For All, held its spring fundraiser last April 26th at Blackwall Hitch in Annapolis. The event was a complete success, raising more than \$18,000 toward the diverse programs of Hope For All, which will directly benefit less-fortunate individuals and families in the region. To learn more about the organization and upcoming events, visit hopeforall.us.

Photography by Nelly Mirabel.

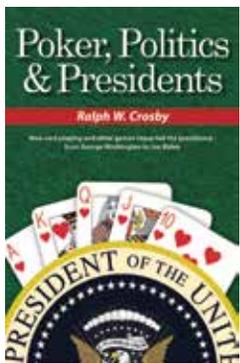
1. David Michaels, Asha Smith, and Connie Cooper
2. Mike Gallina, Molly Chambers, and Glenn Cooper
3. Deanna Baker, Lori Shaddock, and Drew Skibitsky
4. Beth Neuenschwander, Brad Neuenschwander, and Crista Spangler
5. Connie Cooper and Molly Chambers
6. Asha Smith, Erin Karpewicz, Jeanette Ortiz, and Gail McCrary





LOL ANNAPOLIS LAUNCHES

LOL Annapolis, a comedy production company, recently cut the ribbon for opening operations in town and throughout the region. The company will bring renowned live comedy acts and stand-up performances to a variety of venues. For the full schedule of upcoming events, visit pirateislandevents.com/lol-annapolis.

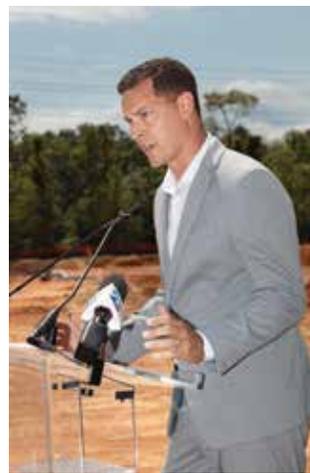


Crosby Pens Presidential Hobbies Book

Ralph W. Crosby, a lifelong Annapolitan and founder of Crosby Marketing, recently wrote and published the descriptive historical book *Poker, Politics & Presidents*.

This new book, his fourth, looks at our U.S. presidents—from Washington to Biden—through the cards, games, hobbies, and sports they enjoyed throughout their lives, and how they impacted their presidencies.

Many of the stories in *Poker* show how the presidents-to-be used the camaraderie of card-playing and sports to gain support for their political runs. Others illustrate which men had integrity and which were prone to cheat. Still others detail how different sports facilities were introduced into the White House and how those changed over time. Perhaps most telling, the book shows how cognitive games, such as poker and chess, went far beyond stress relief, creating a link between those games and the decision making that ultimately impacted the nation's course of history. Available on Amazon, the book is also described at crosbymarketing.com.



Wesley MacQuilliam



Kayleigh De La Puente

AAEDC Appoints Two Prominent Positions

The Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC) recently announced the appointments of Wesley “Wes” MacQuilliam as the organization’s first Chief Operating Officer and Kayleigh De La Puente as its first Town Center Revitalization Manager, strengthening the organization’s redevelopment and revitalization toolbox. “AAEDC has supported smart economic development in Anne Arundel County for thirty years, and these moves signal a sustained commitment to ensuring a healthy and vibrant local economy,” said County Executive Stewart Pittman. “Economic development at the neighborhood level has tremendous impact on small businesses and the residents they serve. With Plan 2040 as a road map and a talented team, AAEDC is poised to support the County in ensuring that our neighborhoods thrive and offer a sense of place and belonging for all.” Learn more at aaedc.org.



ENT PRACTICE WELCOMES DOCTOR TO TEAM

Joining Anne Arundel ENT & Facial Plastic Surgery is Dr. Emily Drury. She joined the Annapolis-based practice in September, after relocating from Michigan, and specializes in ear, nose, and throat conditions of all ages. Welcome to the region Emily! Learn more at aaentmd.com.



↑ ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS HONORED BY GOVERNOR

Governor Wes Moore recently delivered remarks at the 2023 Maryland League of Conservation Voters Changemakers celebration, honoring Marylanders who have demonstrated vision, leadership, and courage in protecting the environment. The event took place at the Colwell Center in downtown Baltimore, home to the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology.

“Being a changemaker is hard and it takes partnership. We praise these changemakers not only for their individual accomplishments, but also for how their collective accomplishments moved us forward,” Gov. Moore said. “If we follow the example of these changemakers, I know we will meet this moment united and build a better, more sustainable, more resilient, and more equitable future.”

The Maryland League of Conservation Voters is a statewide nonpartisan organization that uses political action and education to protect our air, land, water, and communities. Honorees included awards for 2023 Legislators of the Year, presented to Senator Benjamin T. Brooks, Sr. and Delegate Luke H. Clippinger; Climate Champion awardees Delegate Lorig Charkoudian and Delegate Dana Stein; and John V. Kabler Memorial Award recipient Liz Burdock, executive director of the Business Network for Offshore Wind. Learn more mdlev.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

Ryan Jones

Annapolis Area Christian School
Baseball, Soccer

By Tom Worgo

Annapolis Area Christian School's Ryan Jones had a legitimate reason to be concerned. Coming off a 2022 baseball season in which he batted .406, Jones experienced his worst slump to start this past spring.

Jones, now a senior, was batting below .100 from the leadoff spot after six games. In previous seasons, he batted in the middle of the order displaying outstanding contact and power.

"I just wasn't seeing the ball very well," Jones explains. "I was grounding out, popping up, and striking out a lot. I feel the leadoff spot wasn't my thing." It affected Jones mentally. "I was thinking I wouldn't get recruited by a really good school," Jones says. "I'd be good for a junior college."



HE IS A CLUTCH PLAYER AND DEFINITELY A LEADER ON THE FIELD. HE LEADS BY EXAMPLE AND COMPETITIVE DRIVE."

AACS Baseball Coach Matt Selmer understood Jones' concerns and moved him to the cleanup spot. Jones' hitting improved dramatically, along with his confidence—he batted nearly .400 the rest of the season.

Jones, a three-year varsity starter at shortstop and third base, also showed his tremendous work ethic—another big strength. "I took a lot of extra batting practice every single day," says Jones, who played club baseball this past summer for the Fredericksburg, Virginia-based Canes North Scout 17-U elite team. "I worked on drills with coach Selmer to see the ball better."

The 5-foot-11, 190-pound Jones now can put the fears about disinterest from colleges aside, too.

The college recruiting process got off to a good start with Centenary University in New Jersey offering him a spot on its team. In addition, Coastal Carolina, East Carolina, Virginia Tech, Mount St. Mary's, and McDaniel College recruited him.

"I always wanted to play college baseball ever since I have known you can get a scholarship for it," Jones says. "I was around 13 years old."

Jones visited five of those schools and ended up committing to Centenary in late August. The enthusiasm of a new coaching staff appealed to Jones who plans to major in sports management. "Playing at the next level is a huge accomplishment," Selmer says. "He had a couple of options. He found a school that really wanted him. They really saw how much of a quality of a player he is. It's a really good fit."

Canes North Head Baseball Coach Taylor Bloom adds: "I think he will be able to go to that school and immediately contribute in the lineup with his bat. I see him playing first base, third base, or even the outfield."

Besides playing for AACS, suiting up for several high-level club teams, including API Academy and the Lake Shore Blue Sox, has elevated Jones' level of play. The Glen Burnie resident has played baseball for 13 years overall.

"It has helped me see better pitchers, with higher velocity, and all-around hitters," Jones says. "I am able to get my bat speed quicker because we faced pitchers who threw 90 miles per hour."

Jones batted .347 for Canes North this past summer while also showing his ability as a pitcher, going 1-0 with a 0.95 ERA and allowing only 22 hits in 30 innings.

“I started coaching him back at API and he’s always been a really consistent hitter for me,” Bloom says. “He always came through when the game was on the line. He batted third and I wouldn’t take him out of that spot because he was always driving in runs.”

At AACS in 2023, Jones led the team in doubles (7) and finished second in on-base percentage (.403), slugging percentage (.426), and batting average (.324).

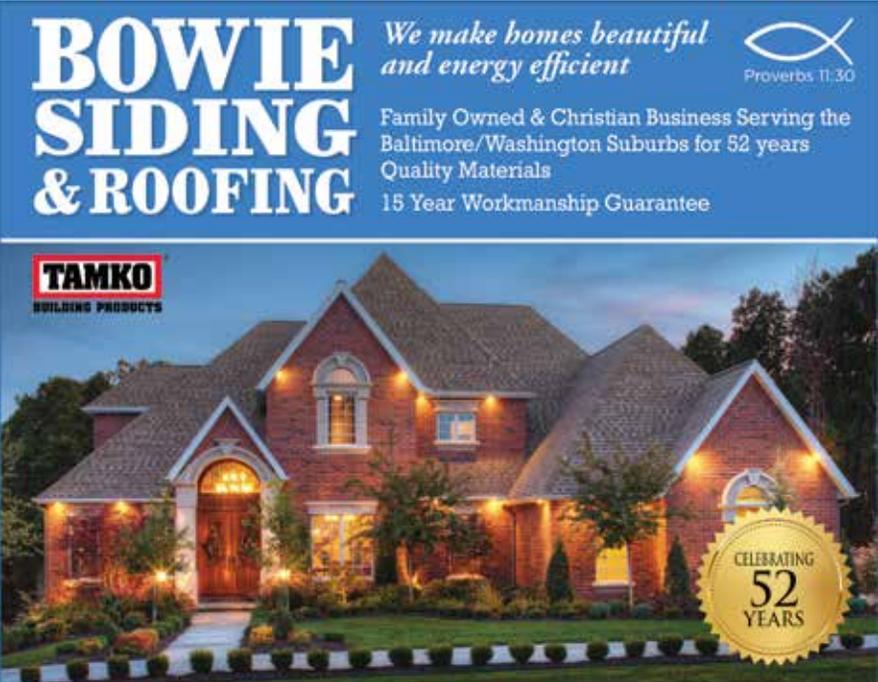
He batted .406 as a sophomore and .310 in his first year in high school.

“He is a clutch player and definitely a leader on the field,” Selmer says. “He leads by example and competitive drive.”

Jones is one of the best athletes at his school. He played football for two years, then started in goal for soccer the past two seasons.

“He is a true competitor and work-horse in all the sports he has done,” AACS Athletic Director Josiah Wolf says. “Everything he does, he succeeds in it. He picked up goalie so quickly and excelled at it.”

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



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The new Happy Hour

**The delight of sipping
afternoon tea has gained
favor as a go-to social
activity; let's explore tea
culture and where to enjoy
this refined beverage**

*Afternoon tea is the new
happy hour, so they say,
A chance to sip, chat, and
while the hours away.*

*In a cup, with milk and honey,
Or iced, with lemon, so very sunny.*

*Let's not forget the food as
afternoon tea—all about the treats,
...from a few savories to
indulgent sweets.*

*Gone are the days of boozy
nights and drunken revelry,
Now it's all about scones with
clotted cream...heavenly!*

In a world where work-life balance is becoming more and more crucial, folks are searching for fresh approaches to happy hour gatherings. One alternative to the traditional alcohol-heavy happy hour that's growing in popularity: tea-time. A new book by Eastern Shore local Gail Greco, *Afternoon Tea Is the New Happy Hour*, explores this idea and offers close to 90 recipes to make your tea hour exceptional with special additions to a brewed cuppa, and both sweet and savory tea-time treats, some with tea leaves or brewed tea as added ingredients to the treats. With recipes such as Chilled Wine Tea and Petite Potato Chip Walnut Tartlets, the book offers an educated and tempting introduction to tea culture.

"Tea at happy hour is hot, or not, so it is a totally cool trend," Greco says. "Enter the relaxing charms of afternoon tea—served hot or cold—but with a more casual vibe, since it is after a long busy day and, so, more of a come-as-you-are affair."



Chilled "Wine" Tea and Potato Chip Walnut Tartlets are featured in Gail Greco's new book *Afternoon Tea Is the New Happy Hour*. Photographs by Gail Greco.



What is Tea?

The *Camellia sinensis* plant is used to make all varieties of tea, including green, black, oolong, and white, using various techniques. The plant's leaves and buds are steeped in hot or boiling water to make the tea. Some drinks called "tea" are not actually derived from the *Camellia sinensis* plant. These drinks are more accurately referred to as herbal teas or tisanes (an herbal infusion), and may include many different herbs, chamomile, rooibos, or fruit.

Caffeine, one of the most well-known components of tea, provides a gently stimulating effect on the body. Additionally, tea contains volatile organic compounds, minerals, chlorophyll, alkaloids, amino acids, carbohydrates, proteins, fluoride, aluminum, and polyphenols. Green tea has less caffeine than black tea and there are decaf teas with more relaxing properties.

While afternoon tea was once a formal British dining experience in the 19th century, it is evolving to reflect today's tastes. Traditional afternoon "high-teas" still have their allure, but truly modern tea-time increasingly features settings and menus showcasing a broader array of teas (green, black, and herbal) as well as more savory and healthier food options—plus cultural cuisine combinations unheard of in 19th century Britain. For example: cheeseboards! Thus, the tradition is brought into the present and offers something for everyone.

Experience Local High-Tea

For a superb Victorian afternoon tea, visit the historic Annapolis landmark, **Reynolds Tavern** (reynoldstavern.org), which offers lodging, meals, high-tea, and refreshments while maintaining the intimacy and comfort that were its hallmark in the 18th century. Open seven days a week, they serve Traditional English Afternoon Tea daily from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Afternoon tea orders provide petite scones and a wide selection of savory and sweet treats, beautifully presented. Traditional high-tea takes a new twist here with offerings of cheeseboards to side step the traditional sweets.

Butterflies and Wishes Tea and Sweets (butterfliesandwishes.com) in Chesapeake Beach features an old-time high-tea with the classic finger sandwiches and sweets. Whimsical tea events for young ones are popular, along with group meetings, book clubs, private parties, and showers. The newly expanded space, “The Tea Nook,” within this sweet place offers takeout service of baked items, specialty tea beverages, including boba/bubble tea. In the tea/coffee gift shop, local art is presented along with gift items. Many packaged teas are available, including the Charleston Tea Garden label from the only tea garden in North America where you can see hundreds of thousands of tea bushes grown on a lush subtropical tea farm.



Author Gail Greco espouses the afternoon tea trend as the new “happy hour.” Photograph by Tom Bagley.



A skip and a jump from Annapolis is **Sweet Simplici-Tea** (sweetsimplicitea.com) in Sykesville. For well over a decade, this historic downtown location has served as a Victorian setting tearoom, lunch spot, bakery, and tea accessories shop. Scones-To-Go is very popular, offering 8–10 varieties daily. Special parties and events are held by reservation. Their afternoon tea option offers many choices, including gluten-free, vegetarian, and nut-free. The opulent Royal Afternoon Tea includes an appetizer, soup, a scone, salad, tea savories, fresh fruit, and desserts to go with your choice of tea.

Travel back in time at **The Granite Rose Tea Parlour** (graniterosetea.net) in Granite, Maryland. Within an 1890s Victorian home awaits a truly historic traditional tea experience in the lovely rural community of Granite. This family-run business offers afternoon tea with mouth-watering indulgences and sweets, all referred to as exquisite: savories such as a mini quiche or crab salad, and apricot-sage, blueberry-lavender, or pineapple-ginger scones with clotted cream and preserves. The setting is perfect for special events and small weddings.

Originally a mansion in the posh Mount Vernon neighborhood of Baltimore, **The Ivy Hotel** (theivybaltimore.com/experience/afternoon-tea) has gone through many metamorphoses and landed as an elegant small hotel. Afternoon tea is a beloved tradition here with seating anywhere in the living room, library, or conservatory with tiers of sweet and savory treats available.

Source Your Tea

With locations in Annapolis, Frederick, Odenton, and Timonium, **Baltimore Coffee and Tea** (baltcoffee.com) does a brisk tea business and has a robust selection of loose-leaf teas and tea in bags. Their Eastern Shore Teas®, as well as Baltimore Teas, are imported from the finest tea gardens around the world. Teas are flavored with real spices, such as cinnamon, clove, lemongrass, and hibiscus. They use full leaf tea in all tea bags, which is cut in their hammermill. Eastern Shore Tea Company was purchased by Baltimore Coffee and Tea and is now simply a brand of their tea, packaged in their Timonium warehouse.

The Spice and Tea Exchange (spiceandtea.com) in Annapolis is a great local resource to find the finest ingredients. Their selection includes over 200 specialty teas, including an impressive array of gourmet teas. The Spice and Tea Exchange is a franchise with many locations across the country. Accessories, spices, salts, sugars and honey, and gifts are also sold in the shop.

Since 2007, **Capital Teas** (capitalteas.com) in Annapolis has been a leading American specialty tea brand, now owned and operated by Anchor Beverages, Inc. The company offers loose-leaf tea, teaware, honey, spice sets, and signature varieties that show-

case the Chesapeake Bay region: Capital Breakfast, Annapolis Treasures, Chesapeake Sunrise, Turmeric Ginger, Island Mango, and Roasted Almond, among others. The majority of the teas sold under the *Capital Teas* brand are USDA-certified organic, and nearly all its teas contain only natural ingredients.

Husband and wife team, Eric and Lynette Dodson opened Baltimore's **Cuples Tea House** (cuples-teahouse.com) in 2015 to create a citified contemporary tea experience while educating about tea, extolling its benefits and holding special tea events.

Emma and Ben Canoles bring a modern and casual approach to a proper British experience at **Emma's Tea Spot** (emmasteaspot.com) in Baltimore. The shop features high-tea biscuits, scones, and ham and cheese toasties, plus other dishes from across the pond. They provide classes and events to showcase their mission to connect community and provide sustainable business practices. High-tea can be experienced in their shop and even ordered as a to-go experience.

Tea, books, and motorcycles? **Pillon Tea** (pillion-tea.com), also in Baltimore, is a unique find: a tea den with a biker vibe! They have a wide assortment of rare, fragrant, loose-leaf teas that can be enjoyed hot, cold, or as a latte and sipped while perusing their book selection. An assortment of pastries is of-



ferred (they recommend checking to see when your favorite is available) along with teaware and books.

In 2016, Baltimore-based siblings, Brittney and Joey Wight, founded **Wight Tea Company** (wighttea.com) as a “blending” tea business. As “teaologists,” the duo bases their house-blended loose teas on their refined palates. Teas can be purchased online or experienced in many Baltimore restaurants.

Local Farms Growing Tea

Maryland’s first tea farm, **Heron’s Meadow Farm** in Woodbine, was first sowed by owners Bob and Lori Baker with 50 plants in 2014. This first-of-its-kind Howard County operation has been working to brew a Free State tea trade. Heron’s Meadow onsite retail shop, blteas.com (named for Bob and Lori), also sells loose teas from around the world in flavors ranging from vanilla rooibos to blackberry jasmine. Visit their shop for tea, tea gift baskets, Heron Meadow Honey, and stoneware pottery that Lori makes herself at MudPi Studios. Get inspired by strolling through the herb gardens. There’s also a patio “where you can sit and relax and watch the wildlife,” Lori tells us. Events are held at the farm, such as yoga and sound bath meditation with a light breakfast.

On a five-acre farm in Pikesville, **Juniper Farm and Culinary Apothecary** (juniperbaltimore.com) grows herbs and flowers to blend for unique themed teas combining function and flavor, superfood blends (blueberries anyone?), and infused salt and pepper. Founder, Sarah Acconcia also sells her lovely edible flowers as an addition to beautiful foods, as well as centerpieces. They encourage visits with an appointment.

As an alternative to the typical happy hour, tea-time is a trend that is growing in popularity. It provides a thoughtful alternative to the bar scene, and with health benefits. Check out the local tea places mentioned herein or, perhaps, host a wind-down tea at home for friends to share the virtues of tea. Tea is documented to be the most popular beverage in the world. Greco, the author of *Afternoon Tea Is the New Happy Hour* quotes Aristotle in her book: “In all things of nature there is something marvelous. I don’t think you can get any closer to nature than drinking tea.”

Annapolis’ Tea Party OF 1774



The Boston Tea Party is very famous, but did you know that Annapolis had one as well? It is said to have been one of the most dramatic in the colonies...maybe right there in Ego Alley! The Maryland State House tells us, “On October 19, 1774, Annapolis experienced its own ‘tea party,’ much like the uprising the year before in Boston Harbor. Peggy Stewart, a Maryland cargo vessel, named after the daughter of Anthony Stewart, met its fate. Stewart was the owner of the ship and a merchant in Annapolis, bringing in a cargo of tea (therefore breaching the tea boycott) and indentured servants. Annapolis’ angry mobs notified the ship’s owner to choose between burning the tea or facing the destruction of his ship and property. The indentured servants were released, the vessel was torched, and the Peggy Stewart burned down to the waterline. This event foreshadowed the Revolutionary War with its revolutionary fever and signaled the end of the ‘Golden Age’ of Annapolis as a major shipping port.”

Holiday Gift Guide 2023



Holiday Tray: Let our Certified Cheese Specialist suggest or create a cheese and charcuterie tray. 48 hour notice required for trays, Fishpaws Marketplace, 954 Ritchie Hwy, Arnold, 410-647-7363, fishpawsmarket.com



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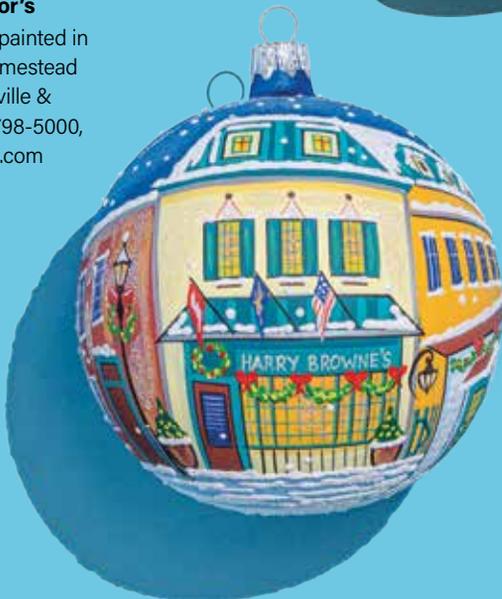


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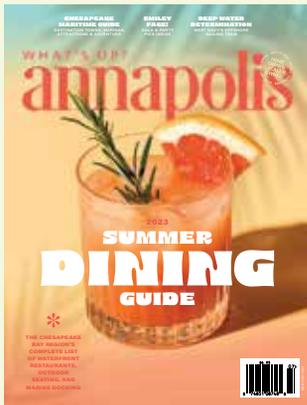
The Gift of Cheer! Treat someone special to the 24 Days of Christmas Wine Advent Calendar or Gift Card Bonus Promotion. Bay Ridge Wine & Spirits, 111 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis 410-268-1961, bayridgewine.com

Holiday Gift Guide 2023

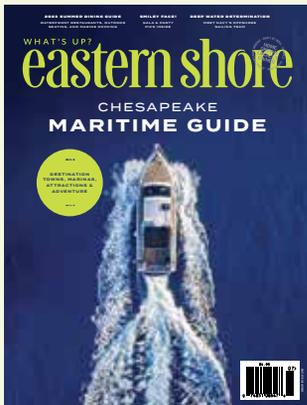


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2.



4.



5.



3.

1. Experience the Magic of the Season: A Holiday Wine Dinner. Enjoy a 5-course menu paired with exceptional wines from Paul Hobbs. 12/4, 6:30 PM, Live Music, \$115/person. Harvest Thyme Tavern, 1251 W. Central Ave, Davidsonville, MD, 443-203-6846, harvestthymetavern.com

2. Treat your family and loved ones to a gift card from Mamma Roma! Family owned and operated since 2016, Mamma Roma offers catering for any occasion. 8743 Piney Orchard Parkway, 410-695-0247, mammaromas.com

3. The gift of What's Up? Magazines. Save 60% off the cover price! Become a subscriber to the Chesapeake Region's favorite magazines and get your finger on the pulse of everything going on around town! From restaurant reviews to real estate, community profiles to local steals and deals, you don't want to miss an issue of What's Up? Annapolis, What's Up? Eastern Shore, What's Up? Central Maryland. Call 410-266-6287 or visit whatsupmag.com to start your subscription!

4. Gift a beautiful day of luxury with a SADONA SALON + SPA gift card. Purchase online or come to 15 West Street, Annapolis, MD. 410-263-1515, mysadona.com

5. Who wants a Jackson Holliday Bobblehead? Purchase your undated 8 or 16-game flex pack plan at Baysox.com for your bobblehead today! Bowie Baysox, 4101 Crain Hwy, Bowie, MD, 301-805-6000.

Holiday Gift Guide 2023

6. Lewnes' Gift Certificate. Swing by or call us at 410-263-1617 to purchase a thoughtful gift of hospitality for someone who is near and dear to you. Lewnes' Steakhouse, Annapolis, lewnessteakhouse.com

7. Brackish Claudia Statement Earrings, The Cottage has something for everyone on your list! From apparel and jewelry to an extensive selection of gifts and more! The Cottage on Main, Annapolis, ShopTheCottage.com

8. Hand-Painted Annapolis Ornaments Once again, Historic Annapolis has partnered with a local artist to create a beautiful line of hand-painted glass ornaments depicting historic properties in the Annapolis, Maryland area. Museum of Historic Annapolis, 99 Main Street, Downtown Annapolis, 410-267-7619, annapolis.org

9. Mauritius jackets are individually handcrafted with Europe's highest quality of leather. There are several styles available including classic & speciality. Scout & Molly's Annapolis at The Annapolis Town Center (we have moved 3 doors down), 443-837-6076, Instagram @scoutandmollysatc, FB @scoutandmollysannapolis

10. Send the gift of flowers from Chesapeake Blooms! Custom designs, floral subscriptions, gift cards, and plants. Located at 22B N Harrison St, Easton MD 410-690-4812, chesapeakeblooms.com

11. Mokes - Home delivery available. Prices starting at \$23,495. Mokes are available for purchase at Preston Automotive Group's Wilmington, Millsboro, Lewes, Pittsville, and Easton locations. Visit PrestonMokeAmerica.com for more information!



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Shine Light^a

By JoAnna Daemrich

Illuminating the underrepresented communities and figures of our colonial history presents challenges, but also opportunities for organizations, leadership, tourists, and citizens to examine our shared trials and tribulations...and heal together

In an airy bedroom overlooking the garden, a group of moms contemplates a cross-stitch sampler and dried medicinal leaves, fragile reminders of the little girl who lived here 257 years ago. They linger to study a pamphlet promising “Remedies for Every Disease.”

As the women turn to leave, their guide, Cathy Schmidt, points out something they missed: a bedroll bundled in a corner, almost out of sight.

At the William Paca House, the Georgian mansion synonymous with Annapolis’ rebirth as a tourist town, this room tells the story of “Little Henny”—an orphaned niece of the revolutionary and his wealthy wife.

Henny moved into the house at age 10 only to die shortly after, perhaps of smallpox or a fever. But this year, the Paca House added the bedroll to the room to remember two other lives: Bett and Sall, enslaved girls not much older than Henny, who fed and dressed her, slept on the floor—and were inherited by the Pacas with the rest of Henny’s belongings.

It’s a small part of the effort here and across the country to better convey the realities of colonial life. From Virginia’s Colonial Williamsburg and Mount Vernon to our London Town and Gardens, 18th Century attractions have adjusted from the exclusive focus on famous property owners. Today, after

soul-searching during the 2020 social justice movement, they’re emphasizing even more of Black, Indigenous, and women’s experiences and perspectives.

“I try to find ways to connect people with the past,” said Schmidt, 75, a volunteer docent and retired history teacher, who can relate a riveting anecdote about almost any name or date.

Historic Annapolis, the nonprofit that runs the Paca House, opened a permanent exhibit last year exploring the city’s diversity. St. John’s College is researching whether any of its campus was built with enslaved labor. Maryland’s last Confederate monument, the “Talbot Boys” in



Easton, came down in March. A new museum at Harriet Tubman's birthplace on the Eastern Shore documents her treacherous trips guiding enslaved people to freedom. And a younger generation of state leaders is rethinking the capitol's centuries-old art.

Not everyone agrees. Angry callers protested the 2017 removal of a statue of Chief Justice Roger Taney, who wrote the Dred Scott decision, from the State House grounds. Some visitors only want to admire the architecture of early homes and plantations along the Chesapeake Bay.

At the same time, some African American leaders, local

historians, and other critics question if the racial reckoning has gone far enough.

"We are still battling with some truths," said Bishop Craig Coates, a PhD in African-American history, who is the city police chaplain. Annapolis, he said, "prefers holding onto a feeling of European colonialism rather than telling the full story of suffering, struggle, and resistance."

Despite recognizing that Paca and his fellow Declaration of Independence signers were enslavers, tours rarely spell out how they prospered by owning tobacco plantations around the state. No markers acknowledge slavery's role

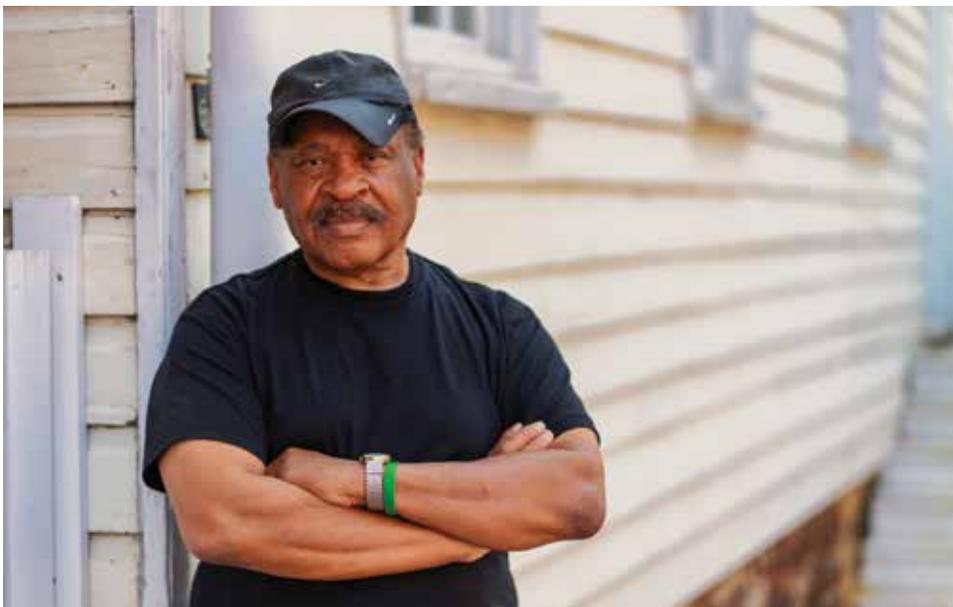
in building the 251-year-old capitol. Guides in Colonial garb, mostly white retirees, sometimes speak obliquely of "servants." A full-length portrait in the State House depicts the British noble who chartered Maryland with an enslaved boy. And several paintings criticized for romanticizing Annapolis' founding hang in City Hall.

Also striking is the discrepancy between preserving two landmarks in Annapolis' historic district: the 1774 mansion of James Brice, a white lawyer and enslaver, and a pre-Civil War home owned by John Maynard, a free Black man.

The state quickly bought the Brice House for \$2.4 million in 2014, partnering with Historic Annapolis to restore it for another \$20 million. Meanwhile, Maynard's simpler home stood vacant and deteriorating for three decades. Only now is the city finishing \$540,000 in renovations, after \$1.5 million to shore up the sagging frame, a tenth of the Brice House cost.

Civil right activist and politician Carl Snowden photographed at the years-long renovation of the Maynard-Burgess House in Annapolis.

"There's always a hundred different reasons for why something is taking so long—research, fighting architects...But behind it all, is racism," he says. Photograph by Stephen Buchanan.



"It comes down to what's important to people," said Carl Snowden, a former Annapolis alderman and longtime civil rights activist. He notes it took 20 years to build the Kunta Kinte memorial at City Dock, where the African ancestor of "Roots" author Alex Haley was sold.

"There's always a hundred different reasons for why something is taking so long—research, fighting architects," Snowden added. "But behind it all, is racism."



Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman delivers remarks at Governor Wes Moore's public inauguration ceremony. ***"I'm in favor of doing anything we can to connect people whose ancestors were enslaved with their history,"*** he said. Photograph courtesy Office of Governor Wes Moore

At the State House

On a spring-like January afternoon, new Maryland Governor Wes Moore emerged from the State House to a 19-gun salute. Oprah Winfrey walked onstage. And Stuart Pittman prepared to share something he had never discussed outside his family with the jubilant crowd.

In welcoming Moore to Annapolis, Pittman reflected on the historic nature of Maryland's first Black governor taking his oath of office up the street from onetime slave docks. Then, the Anne Arundel County executive added a personal note: an ancestor of his, a tobacco planter who "made a fortune on the backs of enslaved men, women, and children," lived in the 1700s where the governor's mansion stands.

"The truth needs to be told," Pittman said later, adding he has also directed the county to install markers at former plantations, like his family's, which relied on slave labor. "I'm in favor of doing anything we can to connect people

whose ancestors were enslaved with their history."

The new governor arrived at a capitol in midst of a generational transformation. Once dominated by white men, the legislature is now younger, over 40 percent female and a third Black, with growing numbers of Latino and Asian-Americans. A Black woman is the House speaker. Yet they work in a building filled with artwork honoring politicians from over two centuries ago, including the state's four signers, early governors, and several other slave-owning colonists.

Over the past three years, the State House made a handful of updates. Life-size statues of Tubman and fellow abolitionist Frederick Douglass now stand watch at the old House chamber, where the state ended slavery in 1864. Another exhibit documents Black Marylanders' fight for freedom. And in 2020, the Senate president hung a painting of Verda Welcome, the first Black female senator, after eighth-graders wrote to ask why none of the portraits looked like them.

Welcome's portrait is still an exception, however. Annapolis Del. Shaneka Henson remembers touring the marble halls as a freshman delegate. Stopping by a portrait of Cecil Calvert, the British provincial proprietor, and his grandson, she noticed an enslaved boy "lingering in the shadows." A tour guide remarked on the painting's "composition and how it was preserved," she recalled. But all she could think was: "Dear God, that's a child!"

Another challenge has been researching the indentured, enslaved, and free Black workers believed to have helped build the capitol, beginning in 1772. Despite decades of research, historians have been unable to identify any of the men who laid bricks, plastered, or painted. Ledgers show a "Negro Candy" and "Negro Nathan," presumably free, were paid to clean the legislative chambers and fireplaces in the 1780s. There must have been many more; as governor in 1783, Paca reported 11 enslaved people in his household (and 58 at his wife's plantation on Wye Island.) But they may remain forever unnamed.



Delegate Shaneka Henson stands in front of the painting of Cecil Calvert, the British provincial proprietor, and his grandson, within the Maryland State House. As a freshman delegate touring the State House, Henson noticed an enslaved boy **“lingering in the shadows”** of the painting. All she could think was, **“Dear God, that’s a child!”** Photograph by Stephen Buchanan

“We’re trying to acknowledge that Black people did contribute,” said Chris Haley, who directs the study of slavery for the Maryland State Archives and is a nephew of the “Roots” author. “It’s important to remember that many things we lionize and celebrate were created by people who were, quite frankly, denigrated.”

A Tale of Two Houses

In the Paca House, the parlor is painted the precise shade of Prussian blue, as in 1765. Mary Paca’s silver candlesticks decorate the dining room. And the terraced, two-acre back yard, now a popular wedding spot, looks the same as when Paca insisted it be part of his official portrait.

Over a half-century ago, Paca’s five-part brick mansion was unrecognizable—subsumed by a derelict hotel and on the verge of demolition. Local preservationists and a fledgling Historic Annapolis came to the rescue, raising \$1.75 million to rebuild the 37-room home and recreate Paca’s “wilderness garden,” unearthed beneath tons of rubble.

It was an immediate success. Retirees came to tea, families to story hours. Along the way, an increasingly well-funded Historic Annapolis guided a decades-long revival of the historic district. And Maryland’s sleepy waterfront capital turned into a bustling tourist and boating center, drawing over 2.5 million visitors a year.

Yet it proved much easier to reconstruct the house than the lives of its inhabitants. Beyond Paca's correspondence as governor, few records survived. No portrait exists of his first wife, Mary, whose tobacco wealth boosted his political career and allowed the young couple to live in luxury on Prince George's Street. Like Little Henny, two of their three children died.

Even less is known about the seven to 10 enslaved people in their household. By researching wills and tax assessments, two historians with Historic Annapolis discovered the first names of a half-dozen people. Others were only listed as an anonymous "Negro woman" or "child."

As a result, the house became a "showcase for objects" and 18th Century design, recalled Jean Russo, one of the now-retired historians. Two generations of schoolchildren learned about Flemish brickwork and Nanking china, as they did about the acorn atop the State House dome.

Beginning in the early 2000s, Russo helped develop a "more expansive interpretation—not just about William Paca and his political career but his connections to town, tradespeople, people living in the house. Themes visitors could relate to."

Simultaneously, Historic Annapolis tapped into a new interest in colonial life created by headline-making local discoveries. University of Maryland archaeologists had uncovered a log road from the early 1700s,

a rare central-heating system at the 1695 Calvert House, and early examples of enslaved West Africans' religious rituals, including a voodoo "spirit bundle."

Professor Mark Leone, the anthropology professor who led the student excavations, decided to "take down the fences and the tarps" and invite the public to watch. Their research led to a deeper understanding of the town's earliest inhabitants, particularly its Black community. The Banneker-Douglass Museum, Annapolis' museum of African-American history, displayed a trove of artifacts and urged Leone to find more about the lives of free Blacks.

But Leone met resistance when he proposed excavating State Circle, and he found the town "dominated by a small group of gate-keeping historians." The program ended in 2010.

Not long after, Annapolis' reluctance to break with tradition was reflected by a brief debate over three paintings in the council chamber. Commissioned in 1995, the mural-like pieces depict the city's settlement with scenes of people of all races and classes gathering. In 2013, when the room was repainted, an advisory committee, including Russo, called them "romanticized" and "historically inaccurate." But several aldermen were unmoved, and the paintings went back up.

All the while, across from City Hall, a house that symbolizes Black freedom remained a dilapidated shell.



The William Paca House was rebuilt by a fledgling preservation organization, Historic Annapolis, in the 1960s and for many years exclusively focused on telling the story of Declaration of Independence signer William Paca. Today, Historic Annapolis has incorporated the broader history of its inhabitants, inclusive of servants, slaves, and laborers.

The Maynard-Burgess home, named after the two families who owned it since before the Civil War, was turned over to the city in 1993 by a short-lived Historic Annapolis subsidiary. The property dates to 1847, when Maynard bought it for \$40. Working as a waiter, he built and improved a two-story home for his family, including his wife Maria and her relatives, whose freedom he bought. The Burgess family owned the house through most of the 20th Century.

Archaeologists have uncovered thousands of artifacts at the property revealing how free Black residents worked, socialized, and even the oysters they ate, inspiring the book "Eating



With a generous grant from the Maryland Historical Trust's African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program, the City of Annapolis is renovating the Maynard-Burgess House for adaptive office and exhibit use. Home of two successive African American families from 1847 to 1990, the Maynard-Burgess House is a tribute to the aspirations of the free black population of Annapolis in the 1800s.

in the Side Room.” But unlike the deep-pocketed Historic Annapolis and Maryland Historical Trust, which have poured tens of millions into white colonists’ homes, the city only dedicated enough money to keep it from collapsing.

Now, after years of delays, the city is wrapping up a top-to-bottom overhaul. Janice Hayes-Williams, an Annapolis historian who is a descendant of the Maynards, is disappointed the renovation is two years behind schedule, calling it “a disgrace.” But she is hopeful the house will be open to offer the public a more

nuanced view of Black lives, saying: “We’ve been pushing for years for inclusion of more people beyond the gentry.”

John Tower, the city’s chief of historic preservation, promises that will happen. With its original entrance, wide-planed ceilings, and back porch refurbished, he said, the house will be a testament to both families’ “hard work and perseverance.”

“If a dozen schoolchildren or other people are profoundly influenced,” he added, “the way I was by preservation growing up, then it will have achieved its purpose.”

A New Generation

In the Paca kitchen, Nannetta Hall pauses sweeping the brick floor, straightens her apron, and greets the fourth-graders trooping in with a question: “What does freedom mean to you?”

Hands shoot up. “Hope.” “No slavery.” “Choice.” Nodding along, Hall launches into an explanation of enslaved, indentured, and convict labor. “Servants,” as the Pacas called them, prepared elaborate four-course meals in this kitchen, while subsisting on back-fat and beans, since: “In 1765, freedom looked different to different people.”

Hall, a youthfully ebullient 58-year-old, directs Historic Annapolis’ childhood education programs. She quickly wins the school group over, introducing herself as the cook Sarah, an enslaved woman who was 52 when she arrived

at the Paca House with nothing more than a bedroll.

As Sarah, she shows off curiosities that fascinate the children, from a stuffed rabbit (“Is it real?”) to a clock-jack, a weight system used to rotate meat over a fire. Otherwise, Hall informs them, an enslaved child their age would have been forced to spend hours turning the spit.

“The enslaved people here were mothers, they were aunts, they were children,” she said later. “Who better to portray it than someone who looks like them?”

By no longer tip-toeing around slavery, the Paca House is grappling more than ever with the paradoxes of Paca himself. A reticent man, he was repeatedly elected to public office. A founder of American freedom, he was an enslaver. He profited off his wife’s inherited plantation, where nearly 100 enslaved people worked, and he helped enshrine slavery into state law. But his views remain unknown, since the Wye Island estate where he retired burned down.

Historic Annapolis decided to delve deeper after reassessing historical perspectives during the 2020 pandemic closures and protests over racial injustice. Likewise, Watermark Tours, whose guides dress as “middling-class” townspeople, “had a lot of frank conversations,” said Jamie Foster, director of land operations. Walking tours added stops to better describe the Black community, both enslaved and

free, that has made up a third of Annapolis since its founding.

“So many stories that have never been told are finally being shared and amplified,” said Karen Theimer Brown, president of Historic Annapolis, adding the group is committed to “sharing our full history.”

Yet to this day, Hall is one of only a handful of African Americans telling these stories at historic homes, the State House, and Naval Academy. Annapolis’ tourist industry has been white-oriented for so long that Snowden and Hayes-Williams created their own Black heritage tours. Some walking tours stop at the Banneker-Douglass museum, but others routinely skip it. And several of the county’s waterfront plantations, including Whitehall Manor, promote wedding rentals on websites that make no mention of their history of enslaved labor.

Perhaps the most visible change is Historic Annapolis’ museum on Main Street. Once frequented for its gift shop, the museum now features three floors of exhibits charting the town’s centuries of racial, economic, and cultural diversity. Locals donated family heirlooms, and Hayes-Williams served as a consultant to make sure all aspects of African American life were included.

Similarly, the Brice House will focus on its inhabitants, not period furnishings, when it reopens in 2026. The imposing home, with views of the neighboring Paca garden, is being renovated from its



“The enslaved people here were mothers, they were aunts, they were children... Who better to portray it than someone who looks like them?”—Nannetta

Hall. Photograph by Stephen Buchanan

shingled roof down to mortar made with oyster shells. It’s possible because Brice, who was also a tobacco planter and mayor of Annapolis, recorded every detail of the construction (which almost bankrupted him) in leather-bound ledgers that miraculously survived.

Many visitors appreciate the new approach. One morning this spring, 38-year-old Mallorie Parker revisited the Paca House, where she worked as a summer intern 20 years ago. She remembered the furniture but was pleased to learn more about people like Bett and Sall.

“I found it enlightening to think about everyone who lived and worked here,” she said. “It adds a lot more substance and context.”

Walking through the streets of Annapolis, Bishop Coates breathes in “the same odor from the clay bricks, the trees around” that he remembers from his boyhood. He had to relearn history after growing up with “the beautiful Founding Fathers’ story” that made no mention of slavery.

Now 57 and a bishop, Coates sees his hometown still struggling with its past. Sometimes, he stops at the Kunta Kinte memorial and wonders if it has become just a place to eat ice cream. “At night,” he said, “I soak up a lot of pain, a lot of suffering. The tourism part can negate this.”

At the Paca House, Hall wants to make sure the next generation understands. It’s almost a spiritual calling. At times, as she greets school groups in the low-ceilinged kitchen, she can sense Sarah’s presence. So, she invokes a once-lost life, reduced to a half-sentence in a will, to make sure she portrays Sarah “with pride and dignity.”

“You have to know where you came from,” she said, “to know where you are now—and where you are going.”

JoAnna Daemrich is an award-winning journalist who worked for 17 years at the Baltimore Sun and now writes freelance articles for local and national publications. She has lived for 30 years in Annapolis, where she also creates publicity for nonprofits, edits book proposals, and volunteers as a literacy tutor.

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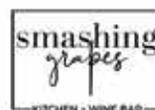
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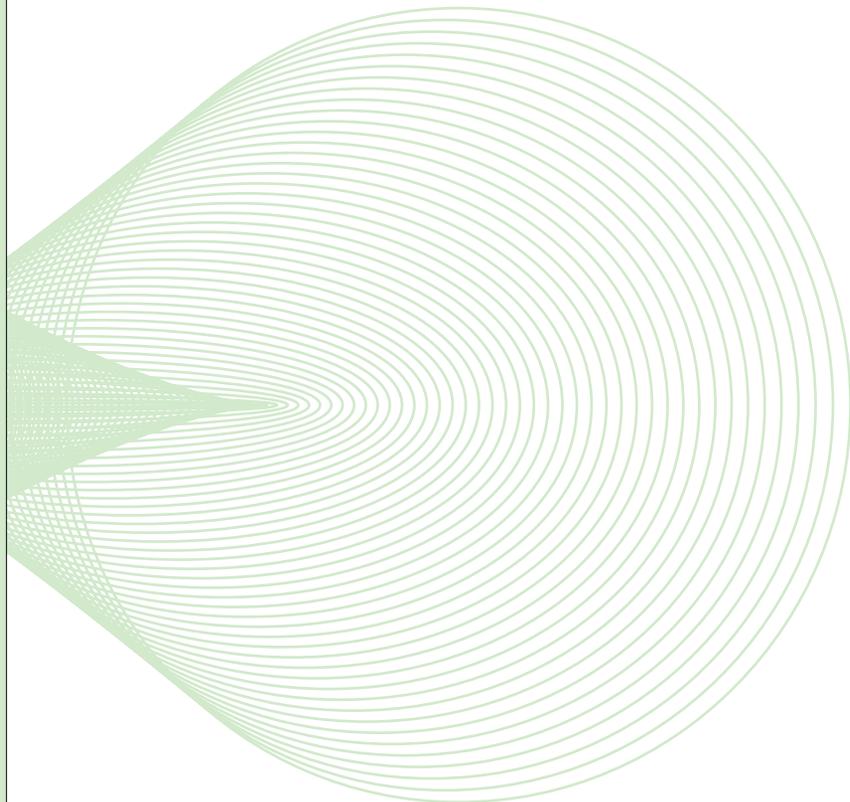
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We are committed to serving as your Real Estate Team for LIFE! Customizing a plan to meet your goals, is our priority! We marry expert knowledge of the Bay region, with a full suite of services tailored specifically to you. Professional, trustworthy and experienced!

DeeDee McCracken
CEO & REALTOR®
410-739-7571
DMcCracken@cbmove.com

Annie Eaton
REALTOR®
410-739-4260
Annie.Eaton@cbmove.com

Kevin McCracken
REALTOR®
443-838-1417
Kevin.McCracken@cbmove.com

Emerson O'Neill
REALTOR®
443-758-8716
Emerson.Oneill@cbrealty.com

Lisa Barton
COO & REALTOR®
410-829-2051
Lisa.Barton@cbmove.com

Destinee Blackstone
REALTOR®, Licensed Assistant
410-693-9291
Destinee.Blackstone@cbmove.com

Becky Wibberley
REALTOR®
443-416-7939
Becky.Wibberley@cbmove.com

Lisa McGrath
REALTOR®, Licensed Assistant
410-320-1971
Lisa.Mcgrath@cbrealty.com

The Faces of Maryland Real Estate

170 Jennifer Road, Suite 102
Annapolis, MD 21401
Direct: 410-849-9181
Office: 410-224-2200
ddmccrackenhometeam.com

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June Steinweg

ANNAPOLIS FINE HOMES OF LONG & FOSTER

In the vibrant heart of Anne Arundel County, June Steinweg stands as a beacon of real estate excellence. With over two decades of unwavering dedication, she's not just a REALTOR®; she's a guiding light in the journey to finding the perfect home. Her unique understanding of the emotional and financial facets of buying a home, honed through numerous personal relocations, makes her an empathetic and trustworthy advisor. June's deep-rooted connection to the community, bolstered by her experiences as a mother, wife, and grandmother, offers her clients a perspective on finding a home that goes beyond the physical structure. Her knowledge of the greater Annapolis area, combined with her instinct for building lasting relationships, creates a secure and comforting environment for buyers and sellers alike. With over \$446 million in sales since 2003, June's expertise in exceeding client expectations is evident. She excels in waterfront property transformations, handling teardowns, rebuilds, and permits, supported by a Maryland-licensed builder. She focuses not just on finding a house, but on discovering a home and community that resonates deeply with her clients' aspirations. Beyond her professional realm, June enjoys life's simple pleasures, from a boat ride to tennis, she embodies the balanced lifestyle that she offers to her clients. Choose June for a real estate journey where professional excellence meets personal commitment, ensuring your path to a new home is as fulfilling as the destination.

The Face of Successfully Navigating the Real Estate Journey

145 Main Street
Annapolis, MD
410-263-3400
longandfoster.com/luxury





Christina Palmer

OF KELLER WILLIAMS FLAGSHIP OF MARYLAND

Christina Janosik Palmer is an Associate Broker with a 30-year tenure in real estate, dedicated to serving Anne Arundel County and the surrounding areas. Known for her unique marketing strategies and commitment to customer service, Christina expanded her solo practice into a robust team in 2016. The Christina Janosik Palmer Group at Keller Williams Flagship of Maryland, now comprising ten professionals, offers clients over a century of collective real estate wisdom. This team transcends the typical client-agent relationship, creating enduring friendships with their clientele, well past the final transactions. Whether it's listing or buying, they promise an effortless experience through their expert guidance. Proudly embedded in their community, Christina and her team are always eager to deliver unparalleled service to those they consider not just clients, but family.

The Face of Extraordinary Real Estate

Associate Broker, Team Leader,
The Christina Janosik
Palmer Group

Graduate, Realtor Institute
Keller Williams Flagship
of Maryland

231 Najoles Rd. Suite 100
Millersville, MD
Cell - 443-938-3379
Office 410-729-7700
cjpalmer@kw.com





Eastern Excavating and Grading Inc.

OVER FOUR DECADES OF EXPERIENCE

Let's celebrate the heart and soul of Eastern Excavating and Grading Inc. – Glenn Smith, known as Smitty! The company's journey began in the cozy kitchen of Glenn and Dolores Smith's home, where they launched their enterprise with a single truck, determination, and hard work. Dolores Smith played a vital role in the early years, diligently handling billing and administrative tasks by firelight at the kitchen table. Her support was essential, allowing Smitty to focus on the business's operational aspects. Together, they overcame challenges, passing meatloaf over invoices, and laid a strong foundation. Smitty, dedicated and unwavering, grew the business from a single truck into a thriving enterprise. They forged lasting friendships, earned a reputation for excellence, and cemented their position in the industry. The legacy continues through their children. Brian Smith, sharing his father's passion, expanded Eastern's fleet and industry influence. Tracey Hoehn joined the family business, maintaining Eastern's tradition of exceptional service. Eastern Excavating is more than a business; it's a testament to hard work, commitment, and family legacy. Smitty's determination laid the foundation, and Brian and Tracey continue to build on these values. Cheers to Smitty, Dolores, Brian, Tracey, and the Eastern family for their heartwarming saga of success. Here's to the dirt-moving dynasty and the bright future it unearths!

The Face of Chesapeake Foundations: Smitty's Legacy with Eastern Excavating & Grading Inc.

1352 Odenton Rd.
Odenton, MD 21113
410-305-0934
easterncompanies.net



Fichtner Home Exteriors

BOB HANNA | THOMAS FICHTNER | NOLAN REDD

What makes a home stand the test of time? At Fichtner Home Exteriors, it's more than strong materials and expertise. It's the people behind the work. Lasting homes and lasting careers go hand in hand. Meet Bob Hanna, the Production Manager. For 25 years, he's overseen roofing and siding replacements, guaranteeing every project stands the test of time. 20-year veteran, Nolan Redd, meets aesthetics with durability. As a Remodeling Manager, he revitalizes homes with windows, doors, coatings, and other elements designed to endure. Thomas Fichtner stands at the helm. For almost 30 years, his vision has guided the company to offer unmatched quality and reliability in home exterior services, shaping their values. These are the faces of durability. Their decades-long careers mirror the permanence and protection they build into every home. Their commitment to excellence has earned them prestigious recognitions, including GAF Master Elite for shingle work, James Hardie Elite Preferred for siding, Marvin Authorized for replacement windows, and Elevate (formerly Firestone) Red Shield Certified for flat roofing single ply membranes. When you choose Fichtner Home Exteriors, you choose a future of lasting protection and timeless beauty. Their dedication to durability carries the promise of a forever home.

The Faces of Durability

1872 Betson Ave
Odenton, MD 21113
410-519-1900
fichtnerservices.com



Elizabeth Arentz

REALTOR® | COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

In today's real estate market, Elizabeth excels as a Millennial market specialist, seamlessly integrating her unique background in healthcare consulting and neurobiology. This unconventional foundation equips her with exceptional empathy, analytical skills, and an understanding of complex systems, all vital in navigating the nuanced real estate sector. Her approach, enriched by social media, digital marketing, and AI, directly caters to the Millennial mindset. In her first year alone, she achieved over \$4M in sales, securing her spot as a Baltimore Real Producers' 30 Under 30 and a "Favorite REALTOR" by Shore Update. Beyond her professional pursuits, Elizabeth is deeply involved in her community, enjoying local events and championing various charities. Raised in a REALTOR family, she now brings a blend of personal experience and academic expertise to her thriving career on Kent Island, alongside her fiancé, Jake, dogs, Jinx and Beretta, and bearded dragon, Mushu. Looking for a real estate experience grounded in knowledge and innovation? Connect with Elizabeth for guidance tailored to the Millennial market.

The Face of Millennial Real Estate

C. 443.988.3495
 @ElizabethArentzRealtor
 Elizabeth.Arentz@cbrealty.com
 O. 410.263.8686
 3 Church Circle
 Annapolis, MD 21401  



Biana Arentz

GLOBAL LUXURY SPECIALIST | COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

Biana Arentz stands as a distinguished leader in luxury real estate, expertly navigating the waterfront properties of Maryland's Eastern Shore and Annapolis. Awarded Best Luxury Realtor by *What's Up?* magazine and *Shore Update* in 2023, she embodies luxury across varying price points. With over two decades in real estate and a passion for community involvement, Biana is known on both sides of the Bridge. Her rise from Hemingways Restaurant to a real estate luminary is powered by gratitude towards her supportive network. Merging in-depth local knowledge with unwavering dedication, she guides clients in their property ventures.

Biana's family life, shared with husband and fellow REALTOR Steve Arentz, and their children, Steven and Elizabeth, revolves around real estate. Elizabeth, following Biana's path, is the latest addition to the industry. Biana's proficiency and local understanding effectively turn real estate dreams into reality, a journey now shared with Elizabeth.

The Face of Luxury Real Estate

C. 410.490.0332
 Biana.Arentz@cbmove.com
 SellingMarylandSunsets.com
 O. 410.263.8686
 3 Church Circle
 Annapolis, MD 21401  



Dr. Henry Sandel MD, FACS

SANDEL DUGGAL PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. Henry D. Sandel IV is an eminent figure in facial plastic surgery and reconstruction. His exceptional expertise and dedication to enhancing natural beauty and confidence have made him a celebrated luminary in the field. As the founder of the prestigious Sandel Duggal Center for Plastic Surgery & MedSpa, Dr. Sandel is renowned for his unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional care. After training at Georgetown University Hospital in Head and Neck surgery, Dr. Sandel pursued a prestigious fellowship in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, attaining dual board certifications in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery.

The Face of Facial Plastic Surgery

104 Ridgely Avenue
Annapolis, MD, 21401
410-266-7120
sandelduggal.com



Dr. Claire Duggal MD

SANDEL DUGGAL PLASTIC SURGERY

Meet Dr. Claire S. Duggal, a distinguished figure in the realm of plastic surgery. She's a board-certified plastic surgeon specializing in aesthetic body procedures and reshaping lives with a unique blend of artistry and personalized care. Dr. Duggal's extraordinary journey began at Harvard University, where she graduated magna cum laude, laying the foundation for her unwavering commitment to excellence. Subsequently, she pursued her medical degree at Emory University, where she earned a coveted spot in the Emory Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery training program, honing her skills and knowledge.

The Face of Body Enhancing Plastic Surgery

104 Ridgely Avenue
Annapolis, MD, 21401
410-266-7120
sandelduggal.com



Mike Sosulski, Ph.D.

WASHINGTON COLLEGE

As the leader of Maryland's premier small college, Mike Sosulski, Ph.D. is committed to the belief that a liberal arts education is the best preparation for life-long student success and to increasing access to students from all backgrounds. Under his leadership, Washington College is one of the leading institutions of higher education to provide an array of unique experiential learning opportunities—from research and field work to internships and community engagement opportunities—that give its graduates an advantage. Sosulski has also overseen the growth of the College's financial support for students and their families, making a private education more affordable.

The Face of Higher Education

300 Washington Avenue
Chestertown, MD
410-778-2800
washcoll.edu



James King

FOUNDER & CEO | TITAN HOSPITALITY GROUP

James King, Founder & CEO of Titan Hospitality Group which owns and operates multiple locations of The Blackwall Hitch, The Blackwall Barn & Lodge, Smashing Grapes Kitchen & Wine Bar and The Lodge Annapolis has spent the last year growing his empire. Titan Hospitality Group embodies an unwavering commitment to fostering a family-like culture. King has become a powerful economic driver in the region. From his work as the President of the Maryland Restaurant Coalition, his accomplishments as a former State Delegate, his Titan Strong Initiative, his creation of the influential business networking group The Arundel Club and his dedication to mentoring the next generation of entrepreneurs, King has proven himself to be a Titan of the Hospitality Industry!

The Face of a Titan

2126 Espey Court, Suite D
Crofton, MD
410-721-5416
titanhospitality.com



Erica Baker

ASSOCIATE BROKER | TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Erica Baker, an Associate Broker at TTR Sotheby's International Realty, is a trusted real estate advisor and lifelong Maryland resident, boasting over eight years of dedicated client service. Her unwavering commitment to exceeding expectations is evident in her ability to align clients' goals with property buying and selling strategies. Leveraging market trends, integrity, creativity, and innovation, Erica effectively markets homes and structures winning offers. As a recognizable local figure, she's backed by one of the world's strongest brands. Erica emphasizes transparency, authenticity, and a consumer-first approach as the core of her business philosophy. With prior experience in home remodeling, she brings invaluable insight to each home evaluation, enabling her to serve clients effectively. Erica Baker's passion lies in transforming the spaces that encapsulate your life, ensuring a truly inspirational environment.

The Face of Ambition

209 Main Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
c + 410-919-7019
o + 410-280-5600
ebaker@ttrsir.com





Prostatis Financial Advisors Group

ANDREW ASHTON | LAWRENCE KIELY | RYAN C. HERBERT | KATHERINE M. GROCE

Our approach at Prostatis Financial Advisors Group is simple: We provide accountable retirement, tax and estate planning, which we pair with clear and constant personal contact with each of our clients. Our team believes in diversification, along with developing sensible, conservative long-term asset allocation strategies. We work side-by-side with clients to build complete financial plans, giving them peace of mind as they transition toward retirement. If you're experiencing a financial transition, you need to move forward with confidence and a team that shares your values and understands your goals. Our goal at Prostatis Financial Advisors Group is to help our clients implement an investment strategy that allows them to maintain their lifestyle throughout retirement, providing an income they will never outlive. Whether you are thinking about retiring or already in retirement, you need a sound plan to ensure the safety of your investments.

The Face of Financial Freedom

7580 Buckingham Boulevard
Suite 180
Hanover, MD
410-863-1040
prostatisfinancial.com



Arundel Lodge

THE SENIOR STAFF AT ARUNDEL LODGE

Arundel Lodge Inc. has been fighting to end the stigma of mental health and substance use disorders since 1979. Arundel Lodge recently opened a Walk In Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center at the Luminis campus on the 4th floor of Sajak Pavilion. The urgent care center welcomes all ages for mental health and substance use issues. Ending mental health and substance use stigma is a long-term process that requires the commitment of individuals, communities, governments, and organizations. It's essential to continue the conversation and take action to make mental health and substance use support and understanding accessible to all.

The Face to End Mental Health Stigma

2600 Solomons Island Rd
Edgewater, MD
443-433-5900
arundellodge.org



Helena Briggs and Johanne Côté

84 LUMBER

84 Lumber, the nation's largest privately held supplier of building materials, is more than just a lumberyard. The Annapolis location boasts an in-house Kitchen & Bath Design Studio. Collaboratively, designers Helena Briggs and Johanne Côté make dreams come true for their customers, creating designs that are as aesthetically pleasing as they are functional. From selecting colors, styles, and finishes through final installation, Helena and Johanne are here to walk you through every step of the design process. With an extensive collection and a range of prices, 84 Lumber is your go-to supplier to revamp your kitchen or bath. Visit the Annapolis Showroom at 1690 Balt-Annapolis Boulevard to get started today.

The Face of Building & Designing Dreams

1690 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd
Arnold, MD
410-757-4684
84lumber.com



Chaney Homes

JENNIFER CHANEY, CSP, GRI, MBA, REALTOR®

'Best Residential Real Estate Brokerage'- SEVEN years running, 'Chaney Homes: Realty, Staging & Design has re-defined 'full-service brokerage'. With a professional design crew staging every listing to perfection, selecting from an arsenal over \$1M strong of high-end inventory to List-Stage-SELL, faster & stronger. Founded by Jennifer Chaney, Broker, owner, designer- her curated collection of timeless, coastal furnishings & decor combines to 'set the stage' for each seller's success story. An all-included 'white-glove' service reserved exclusively for Chaney Homes clientele. Sell (AND Style)... SMARTER with Chaney Homes.

The Face of Sold

List- Stage- SELL
443-249-SOLD
ChaneyHomes.com
Jennifer Chaney, CSP, GRI, MBA
Broker of Record-
Designer- Owner





Tricia Wilson

GRI, REALTOR® | CHANEY HOMES

Tricia Wilson, top-producing Chaney Homes agent, serves five Eastern Shore counties (Queen Anne, Caroline, Kent, Dorchester, and Talbot), along with Anne Arundel, with unwavering excellence. She offers empathetic guidance through the complex journey of each transaction. Tricia's approach involves accompanying clients from the first meeting to settlement, providing expert advice, personalized care, and deep market insight. Her 20+ years of marketing experience give her a competitive edge, combined with her unique staging services, exclusive to Chaney Homes. Based on Kent Island, Tricia lives the 'Shore Life' with her husband, twin boys, and three dogs. Whether it's fishing, crabbing or hunting, Tricia will join them, cherishing every memory they make as a family.

The Face of A Market Mover

410-404-2033
443-249-SOLD - Press 6
206 Old Love Point Rd
Stevensville, MD 21666





Front Row: Tammie Schnable, Kathy Webster, Julia Jones, Chris Parks, Nanette Rediker. Back Row: Lora Davis, Talli Oxnam, Tom Saxon, Lori Smith

Wye Trust

The Face of Wealth Management

Wye Trust offers wealth management, trust administration, and nationwide corporate trustee services through Shore United Bank N.A. with a professional approach personalized to each client's individual needs. Our methodology is to care for our clients in all stages of their financial journey. We offer comprehensive strategies and exceptional service tailored to meet individual and business needs.

Together, our team of experienced Financial Advisors and Certified Financial Planners are dedicated to helping our clients navigate toward their goals. Guidance from a financial professional can make all the difference. Contact us today to see how we can help you, your family and your business.

www.WyeTrust.com

800.309.8124

16 N. Washington Street
Easton, MD 21601

Offices located in Easton,
Baltimore, Waldorf and
Prince Frederick

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Not Bank Guaranteed	Not Bank Deposits or Obligations
May Lose Value	



Oral Surgery Specialists

DRS. CHRIS CHAMBERS, NEIL SULLIVAN, KURT JONES,
BOREK HLOUSEK, CLIFF WALZER, AND KENNETH KUFTA

Drs. Walzer, Sullivan, Hlousek, Jones, and Chambers, renowned Board Certified Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, have welcomed Dr. Kenneth M. Kufta to their distinguished team. These experts skillfully handle a broad spectrum of oral, dental, and facial issues. Their proficiency encompasses dental implant surgery, wisdom tooth removal, and corrective jaw surgery, employing methods that emphasize bone structure rebuilding with minimal surgical intervention and enhanced patient comfort. Their practice prioritizes creating stunning smiles and rejuvenating the functionality of teeth and jaws. Unique to their specialty, they are licensed to administer intravenous (IV) general anesthesia in a state-of-the-art office environment. Their practice ethos combines excellent care with the art, science, and technology, ensuring an outstanding experience marked by compassion, courtesy, and respect.

The Faces of Dental Implants & Oral Surgery

Annapolis, Pasadena,
Kent Island, Waugh Chapel
410-268-7790
annapolisoss.com



Katie Rainey

KATIE RAINEY DESIGN

Recognized as one of the top luxury interior designers in Annapolis, Katie Rainey is a trusted expert on designing, building and renovating homes nestled by the water. Driven to offer her clients relaxation and ease, Katie's spaces are inspired, clean, and feel like a year-round vacation. Her talent lies in partnering with busy professionals and families who seek solace in the water, offering a deep breath from their fast-paced personal and professional lives. Katie's work represents the pinnacle of Waterfront living, having been recognized having been recognized by The Peoples Choice Award for the Best of Houzz 2023, Forbes and Annapolis Home Magazine.

The Face of Waterfront Design

Annapolis, MD
813-214-4179
katierraineydesign.com



Anne Arundel Gastroenterology Associates

SETTING THE STANDARD FOR GASTROENTEROLOGY

For over forty years, AAGA gastroenterologists have been leaders specializing in diagnosing, treating, and preventing all symptoms and diseases associated with the digestive tract: esophagus, stomach, small bowel, colon, pancreas, liver, and gallbladder. AAGA physicians have extensive experience using the latest endoscopic equipment and minimally invasive techniques to help patients with all digestive conditions. Their dedicated team comprises ten board-certified, fellowship-trained gastroenterologists and five advanced practice providers, with a special focus on colon cancer prevention. Current guidelines recommend screening starting at age 45 for those with no high-risk factors such as a family history of precancerous polyps or colon cancer. AAGA consistently garners recognition as the premier physicians and endoscopy center in Anne Arundel County and the surrounding regions. They look forward to meeting you!

The Faces of Gastroenterology

820 Bestgate Road
Annapolis, MD
410-224-2116
aagastro.com

Offices also in Greenbelt,
Odenton, Bowie, Pasadena
and Stevensville



BOB FARLEY

CHRISTINE MURPHY

RICK JAKLITSCH

DAVID JAKLITSCH

The Jaklitsch Law Group

THE BIG DOGS FROM THE SMALL FIRM

The Jaklitsch Law Group is one of the most recognized personal injury firms in the country. The firm boasts four nationally acclaimed lawyers: Rick Jaklitsch, Christine Murphy, Bob Farley, and David Jaklitsch, and has received numerous national awards, including “Best Personal Injury Trial Law Firm - USA”. Affectionately known as the “Big Dogs from the Small Firm,” the Jaklitsch Law Group handles the most serious catastrophic injury and death cases. The Firm’s long track record of substantial settlements and verdicts makes them the unmistakable Face of Personal Injury Law, as again confirmed by What’s Up? Media.

The Face of Personal Injury Law

Annapolis / Upper Marlboro
410-268-2801 | 855-Big-Dog1
BigDogLaw.com



Carrie Olish

BLUE CRAB CUPCAKES

Discover the whimsical delight of Blue Crab Cupcakes, Annapolis' hidden gem off Route 50, where confectionery dreams come to life! Our boutique bakery specializes in irresistibly fancy, scrumptious cupcakes, mini cupcakes, cakes, and weddings. Each bite is an “OMG” moment, crafted to perfection for your special occasions. Whether it’s a wedding masterpiece or a fun, themed birthday treat, our friendly, lighthearted vibe will charm your taste buds and spark joy. Can’t resist the temptation? Give us a call, and prepare to be dazzled by a sweet symphony in every box of Blue Crab Cupcakes magic, filled with love and joy!

The Face of Desserts

1580 Whitehall Road
 Annapolis, MD 21409
 443-221-7246
bluecrabcupcakes.com



Cornelia C. Heckenbach

LONG & FOSTER REAL ESTATE | FORBES GLOBAL PROPERTIES SPECIALIST

Originally from Germany, Cornelia moved to Talbot County in 1989 with her family and quickly became one of Talbot County's leading agents. Sophisticated, warm, and accomplished, her real estate successes range from starter homes to stunning multimillion-dollar waterfront estates, farmland and new construction. Motivated to understand her client's needs, she expertly pairs a natural listening ear with 30+ years of unparalleled international expertise. With award-winning results and passion for the beauty of the Eastern Shore, her clients quickly come to know Cornelia's integrity, leading-edge marketing talent, persuasive advocacy, and exceptional skill at the negotiation table. Cornelia trains her champion Labrador Retrievers, bred from European lines and competes nationally. She enjoys spending time with family on her waterfront farm and cooking farm to table meals. With dedication and business savvy, Cornelia leads sellers to top-dollar results, and buyers to the home of their dreams.

The Face of Eastern Shore Real Estate

410-310-1229
105 S Talbot Street
St Michaels, MD 21663
StMichaelsMdWaterfront.com





Petitbon Alarm Company

RICHIE PETITBON & RICHIE PETITBON III

Richie Petitbon is the Owner and President of Petitbon Alarm Company, founded in 1991. Richie's son, Richie Petitbon III, Business Development Specialist, joined the team in 2020 after earning his masters at Alabama and Illinois. Petitbon's principles were founded upon the Golden Rule, highlighted by no long-term contracts and the most elite service in the industry. The company's five-star reviews demonstrate commitment to service and excellence. Every Petitbon team member is a licensed employee who lives in our community. Most have been on staff for over a decade, many for much longer! The company's tagline "Defense – A Family Tradition™", is a nod to Richie's father, Richie Petitbon, Sr., whose name you may recognize as a former NFL player and one of the top defensive football coordinators of his time. Richie often says "My dad designed defense for the Redskins, and we design defense for your home and business".

**The Face of
Premier Security
Systems**

2151 Priest Bridge Drive, #41
Crofton, MD 21114
301-858-0820
petitbon.com



Elizabeth Bennett

CHESAPEAKE FINANCIAL PLANNING & TAX SERVICES, LLC

Elizabeth is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® and fiduciary working in her client's best interest. She engages with her clients in a consultative partnership educating as well as listening. Elizabeth begins with a financial plan putting together a snapshot of her client's current situation. From there, the plan combines need, wants, short- and long-term goals and a path forward. Additionally, working with her clients other trusted advisors such as estate planning attorneys and CPA's is necessary to ensure her clients' team is coordinating efforts. Money and investing are very empowering. Recommending what is in the best interest of each client is a top priority. Elizabeth's vision for her practice is to continue to provide her clients with peace of mind knowing that they have a plan in place. In today's digital age she can help her clients no matter if they are local or across the country. She has offices in Annapolis, MD and Boca Raton, FL. She brings passion to what she does every day.

The Face of Wealth & Retirement Planning

410-974-0410
71 Old Mill Bottom Road North
Suite #201
Annapolis, MD 21409
admin@chesapeake-financial.com
chesapeake-financial.com



Regenerative Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Annapolis

SEAN MULVANEY, M.D. | JAMES LYNCH, M.D.

Dr. Mulvaney is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Maryland and is board certified in Sports Medicine and Pain Medicine. He has an international reputation as an educator of other physicians and pioneered and published on ultrasound-guided techniques. During his 31-year military career, Dr. Mulvaney served our nation's Special Operations community as both a US Navy SEAL officer and a US Army physician.

Dr. Lynch is an Olympic Team Physician for USA Swimming supporting elite athletes in international competitions since 2011, including the 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro and Tokyo. He is an Associate Professor at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda and is board certified in Family Medicine and Sports Medicine. Dr. Lynch is a 1989 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and holds graduate degrees from Dartmouth College and Brown Medical School.

The Face of Restorative Orthopedics

116 Defense Hwy, Suite. 203
Annapolis, MD
410 505-0530

499 Idlewild Ave, Suite 103
Easton, MD
443-470-6899

rosm.org
thestellateinstitute.com



The Arc

CENTRAL CHESAPEAKE REGION

At our core, The Arc believes people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) deserve the same opportunities to live, work, and connect as any other community member. Our commitment to equity and access means creating these services that people tell us they need to live the life of their choosing. Since 2018, The Arc has nearly doubled, supporting over 3,000 people with IDD and employing over 500 people. Current and emerging needs of the community are what drive our growth and have inspired vital programs such as Behavioral Health and community-wide resources like Port Street Commons (coming Fall 2024).

The Faces of Growth

999 Corporate Blvd
 Suite 300
 Linthicum, MD 21090
 410-269-1883
thearcctr.org



Scott Schuetter

OF BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOME SERVICES PENFED REALTY

Personal and Professional ~ Scott Schuetter has always focused on people, not houses. Every transaction, whether buying or selling, involves a series of complex personal decisions layered with emotions, finances and stress. Scott's military background and training taught him to be calm in any and all circumstances. He states that when things are most chaotic, it is even more important to be the calm and guiding voice. Buying or selling a house is not as stressful as a stormy night carrier landing, but to his clients, it may feel like it. While marketing trends, advertising, community connections, staging a home, market expertise are a huge part of his business, he expresses that in the end it all comes back to people and being there for them when it matters most.

The Face of Personal and Professional Real Estate

1997 Annapolis Exchange Pkwy
 Suite 100
 Annapolis, MD
 410-266-0600 (Office)
 410-900-7668 (Mobile)
 scottschuetter.com





Jack and Marilyn Coolidge

BAYWOODS OF ANNAPOLIS

Maryland natives Jack and Marilyn Coolidge moved to BayWoods in 2022 after extensive research into local retirement communities. They chose BayWoods due to its suitability for them and their two dogs, Coal and Nikki, as well as its equity ownership option. They now relish the scenic grounds, wildlife, and abundant activities in the Chesapeake Bay waterfront setting and historic Annapolis. Marilyn is involved in welcoming new residents and assisting them in transitioning to BayWoods living, while Jack leads as Co-chair of the Woodshop Group and participates in the Building and Grounds Committee. Their dogs also play an active role in the Pet Therapy program located on campus.

The Face of Waterfront Retirement Living

7101 Bay Front Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403
443-837-1208
baywoodsofannapolis.com





Easton Dermatology Associates

DR. MICHAEL DEL TORTO AND DR. DONALD STRANAHAN, JR

Led by board certified dermatologists Dr. Michael Del Torto and Dr. Donald Stranahan, Jr., the team at Easton Dermatology Associates specialize in diagnosing skin disorders and providing the best treatments available to improve the health and appearance of your skin. They stay on the cutting edge of their specialty, which includes using the most advanced medications and procedures to treat the medical, surgical, and cosmetic needs of your skin, hair, and nails. They have received numerous awards and recognitions including the Top Docs, Best of Eastern Shore Magazine, *What's Up?* Magazine's Top Dermatologist Award and the Talbot County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Large Business of the Year Award. All locations are accepting new patients. Book your appointment today!

The Faces of Healthy Skin

403 Marvel Court
Easton, MD

106 Milford St., Suite 501B
Salisbury, MD

411 Thompson Creek Rd Bay 1
Stevensville, MD 21666

410-819-8867
eastondermatology.com



Jonathan Werrlein

WERRLEIN SERVICES

For over 15 years, Werrlein Properties has been dedicated to constructing and refurbishing homes in Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties. Jonathan Werrlein, after collaborating with various subcontractors over the years, has handpicked a skilled team for home construction and renovation. Recognizing the challenges homeowners face when seeking trustworthy and budget-friendly trade technicians, Jonathan established Werrlein Services, a comprehensive solution for all home service needs. It simplifies the process of finding dependable professionals to work in your home, aiming to make home services accessible, reliable, and affordable. He likes to call it "Home Services, Made Easy," offering homeowners peace of mind in their projects.

The Face of Elevated Standards

522 Defense Hwy
Annapolis MD
443-258-9740
werrleinservices.com



Shawn J. Walker, CFP®, Jay Sprinkel, CRPC®, Ryan Ansted, CRPC®, CRPC®, Gregory Ostrowski, CFP®, CRPC®, BFA™, Ian Arrowsmith, CMFC®, CRPC®

Scarborough Capital Management

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT | FINANCIAL PLANNING | PERSONALIZED 401(K) MANAGEMENT

It's a new day. Make it yours. No two people are alike. No two plans are alike. Only after a thorough analysis of your unique set of goals and financial picture do we begin to develop wealth management strategies specifically tailored for you. Whether you are interested in planning for retirement, establishing a steady cash flow, or funding your grandchildren's education, your plan is customized according to your varied needs and changing circumstances. Contact us for a complimentary, confidential consultation with one of our financial planners.

Securities through Independent Financial Group, LLC (IFG), a registered broker-dealer. Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through Scarborough Capital Management, a registered investment advisor. IFG and Scarborough Capital Management are unaffiliated entities. Investing in securities involves certain risks which can include an entire loss of principal. Investors should carefully consider all risks before investing.

The Face of Investment Management

410-573-5700
 SCMadvice.com
 1906 Towne Centre Blvd
 Suite 260
 Annapolis, MD 21401



The For All Seasons' Client Services Team gathers for a photo at the agency's Easton, MD headquarters.

For All Seasons

SINCE 1986

Mental health challenges, sexual assault, abuse, and trauma are a reality for many people in our community. Not everyone wants to discuss these topics, yet we all hope they are being addressed. For All Seasons Client Services Team is a part of the frontline staff serving as the Face of Resilience for our community. Our entire team of over 85 employees provides the highest quality mental health and victim services to children, adults, and families across the Eastern Shore region and beyond. Providing walk-in same-day services, we accept all insurances and serve all clients regardless of one's language or ability to pay. For All Seasons proudly supports our resilient community members on their journey to wellness.

The Face of Resilience

Offices in Easton, Cambridge, Chestertown, Denton, Stevensville, and Tilghman
 Main: 300 Talbot Street
 Easton, MD 21601
 410-822-1018
forallseasonsinc.org



Susan S. Mahaffee

SPIR, SHRM-SCP, NDCCDP

PEOPLE RISE LLC

After a successful career in both public and private organizations, Susan S. Mahaffee transitioned from HR executive to entrepreneur, founding People Rise LLC in 2022. Her strategic business consultancy provides organizational assessments, exclusive retained searches, executive coaching, and training programs in partnership with the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL). Leveraging an in-depth comprehension of clients' businesses, Susan offers precise roadmaps that align business goals with people-centric strategies. Her distinct leadership style prioritizes a commitment to Simplicity and Repeatability, Her distinct leadership style prioritizes a commitment to three elements: Simplicity and Repeatability, Embedded Partnership, and Ethics and Expertise. Together with fostering inclusivity and approachability, she aims to help her clients achieve remarkable growth and lasting success.

The Face of People-Centered Leadership

Severna Park
443-433-2042
peoplerisellc.com

-  /company/people-rise-llc
-  youtube.com/@peoplerisellc
-  instagram.com/peoplerisellc/
-  facebook.com/peoplerisellc



Fred Frederick

FRED FREDERICK CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE - EASTON

For 28 years, Fred Frederick Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM in Easton has treated the needs of each individual customer with paramount concern. We know that you have high expectations, and as a dealership we enjoy the challenge of meeting and exceeding those standards each and every time. We're proud to be an award winning dealership as well as a Certified Agriculture Dealer and Business Link Dealership. We are experienced in providing services to individuals, small business owners, large fleet and corporate accounts, and government contracts. Our staff specializes in providing solutions for individuals as well as business, emergency services, farm, and agricultural needs. Allow us to demonstrate our commitment to excellence! Our experienced sales staff is eager to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with you. We encourage you to browse our online inventory or allow us to find the right vehicle for you. An easy and friendly car buying experience.

The Face of Automotive

8562 Ocean Gateway
Route 50
Easton, MD 21601
410-822-2100
fredfrederick.com



Joanna Dalton

REALTOR® | COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

Joanna has quickly grown in the ranks as a multi-million dollar sales agent at Coldwell Banker Church Circle, the #1 office in the Mid-Atlantic & Baltimore/Metro Region. Her work ethic, local market knowledge, and personal connections allow her clients to succeed in the home buying and selling process. Globally Luxury Certified, Joanna consistently garners industry accolades. She is an astute, Tech savvy, financially literate REALTOR® who displays outstanding service and commitment to her clients. Her premier and professional experience, knowledge, and networking tools help to successfully complete the process from the first consultation to the sale of their home. Her mission: be there to support her clients every step of the way.

The Face of Everything Real Estate

Serving Anne Arundel County & the Eastern Shore

3 Church Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

O: 410-263-8686

M: 410-980-8443

Joanna.Dalton@CBMove.com





Brad Woodward, Jon Bass, Matt McCormick, Erika Strickland, Doug McCuiston, Steve Roth; Not pictured: Teresita Cuesta and Lauren McClain

Indian Creek School

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH, HISTORY, AND SCIENCE FACULTY

Middle School students thrive with challenging, meaningful, hands-on learning opportunities. Last year, when Indian Creek Middle School shifted to a Project Based Learning (PBL) curriculum for English, History, and Science, teachers were confident the format would enhance learning. The gold-standard curriculum has surpassed expectations, resulting in increased engagement, retention, and test scores. Through PBL, students tackle real-world problems through an inquiry-based project, finding success as learners, collaborators, designers, and presenters. This program has further enhanced Indian Creek's commitment to provide a premier PK-12 school experience, where kindness is currency, well-being is priority, and excellence in education is relentlessly pursued. Learn more at: indiancreekschool.org

The Faces of Gold Standard Middle School Project Based Instruction

1130 Anne Chambers Way
Crownsville, Maryland 21032
indiancreekschool.org



Maryland Oncology Hematology

EXPERT CARE CLOSE TO HOME

Maryland Oncology Hematology provides patients with advanced, comprehensive cancer therapies in a community setting that allows patients to receive care near their support systems. Our highly trained and experienced physicians work closely with a talented clinical team that is sensitive to the needs of cancer patients and their caregivers. The best of care, close to home. Patients can be assured that as an independent practice, MOH physicians are able to send patients to the best specialists or make recommendations based on specific care needs. We are never beholden to a health system or network. Unlike some of the major hospitals, our doctors are focused solely on oncology, giving patients the expert care that they deserve.

The Faces of Community Cancer Care

Annapolis Office 810 Bestgate Road Suite 400 Annapolis, MD	Easton Office Coming Soon
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410-897-6200
MarylandOncology.com



Chris Edge

FIRST HOME MORTGAGE

Chris Edge is a Loan Officer and Sales Manager in the Annapolis branch and has been assisting clients with mortgage financing for the past eight years. Chris' approach to mortgage lending is simple. He starts by taking the time to understand his clients' goals and long-term plans, then crafts a comprehensive mortgage solution that meets their needs. As market conditions and programs frequently change, Chris believes in keeping his clients informed and up to date with the latest insights. His true passion is in the education of his clients and helping them understand the process and strategy of buying their dream home. Chris resides in Annapolis, MD with his wife, three kids, and two dogs. When he is not assisting clients with their mortgage needs, Chris spends his time with his family enjoying all the outdoor benefits Maryland has to offer.

The Face of Mortgage

900 Bestgate Road
Suite 310
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-708-1075
firsthome.com/chris-edge

NMLS #1017539 



Hospice of the Chesapeake

DR. MARNY FETZER, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER | BECKY MILLER, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
 RACHEL SHERMAN, DIRECTOR OF NURSING AND CLINICAL ADVOCACY
 KRISTIN WILLIAMS, VICE PRESIDENT OF HOSPICE OPERATIONS

Have you talked with your family about how you want to live your life? Not just the beginning and middle parts – but how you want to live at the end? Have you made plans for the day you might need help should you become too ill to care for yourself? These are often difficult conversations to have at the dinner table or around a fire pit. We see families every day who are forced to have these important discussions during an emergency. These courageous leaders are part of a team focused on educating our community about the value of advanced care planning and supporting these courageous conversations. At our core, we are advanced care advocates who focus on helping individuals make decisions about the care they want for themselves and their families. We are Maryland’s largest independent not-for-profit hospice. We are the Faces of Courageous Conversations.

The Faces of Courageous Conversations

Hospice of the Chesapeake
 410-987-2003
hospicechesapeake.org



Dr. Meredith Todd DDS, FAGD

HARBOR DENTAL CENTER

If you're looking for a dental home that combines state-of-the-art dentistry with a personalized patient-centered approach, look no further than Harbor Dental Center. Since 2013, Dr. Meredith Todd, DDS, FAGD, has been practicing in her hometown of Cambridge, Maryland. She has grown her practice by focusing on patient comfort and compassionate care. Harbor Dental Center continuously improves the patient experience through advanced training and cutting edge technologies such as digital scanning, 3-D cone beam x-rays, and laser technology. The Harbor Dental Center team strives to help patients maintain their dental health for a lifetime while improving their overall health, confidence, and happiness.

The Face of Stunning Results

402 Muse Street
Cambridge, MD
410-228-5445
harbordentalcenter.com



Jack Papaleonti GRI

THE ANCHOR TEAM OF ACADEMY REALTY, INC

Through Jack's professional work and volunteerism, he contributes to the growth of resilient communities by being actively engaged and giving back. At the helm of Academy Realty, Jack has overseen more than a thousand successful real estate transactions over the years, all the while actively supporting various causes in the community. He is extremely devoted to philanthropic endeavors including the annual "Shop with a Cop" event through the Annapolis Optimist Club. Jack has also served as the President of the Annapolis High School Sports Boosters Club and Parish Councilmember at Ss. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

The Faces of Charitable Giving Through Real Estate

801 Compass Way #7
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-263-9105
academyrealty.com





RLC Lawyers & Consultants

TATE RUSSACK | CAMI RUSSACK | GEORGE R. ROLES

RLC's attorneys Tate and Cami Russack have been helping Marylanders from Offices on the Eastern Shore in Easton and in Annapolis since 2000. RLC's experienced and respected Bankruptcy & Debt Relief practice can help you with personal or business negotiations, restructuring and when necessary, all the Protection in Bankruptcy. We know that Your finances are unique. We take the time to listen and understand your situation to offer the right solution to achieve your goals. All of us at RLC always return calls promptly so you have the right answer. With RLC, You have a true advocate to assist you in keeping a sound financial footing. And, we help your Business succeed. Whether it's a new company, a large purchase, contracts, negotiation or restructuring debt, RLC has the expertise to help you. You can depend on great people, effective solutions & great communication at RLC. Give Tate or Cami a call 410-505-4150.

The Face of Maryland's Bankruptcy Counsel

Annapolis, MD
Easton, MD
8737 Brooks Dr. Suite 107
410-505-4150
RLCFirm.com



Ann M. Covington

CFP®, CPWA® | COVINGTONALSINA

Eleanor Roosevelt said, “It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan.” Ann M. Covington couldn’t agree more. Ann founded CovingtonAlsina in 2012 to provide solid financial advice to strong, successful women. Since then, the firm has grown to assist clients of all genders in planning for their future. “Our goal is to overcome the confidence gap in investing and financial planning,” said Ann. Holding both the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® and Certified Private WealthAdvisor™ certifications, Ann has the training, experience, and, equally as important, the compassion, to help people. Through ongoing educational events and personal planning, the team at CovingtonAlsina works to provide access points to financial planning. As an independent firm, CovingtonAlsina is free to select the product or brand that best fits a client’s need. Working as fiduciaries, they always look to act in a client’s best interest, fostering long-term relationships that extend for generations.

The Face of Financial Planning

410-457-7165
67 West Street | Suite 200
Annapolis, MD 21401
Info@CovingtonAlsina.com
CovingtonAlsina.com

CovingtonAlsina is a Registered Investment Advisor

FACES

OF THE



Diane & Crew

OF TAYLOR PROPERTIES

Diane & Crew of Taylor Properties understands that buying or selling a home is more than just a transaction: it's a significant financial and emotional investment. That's why our team of real estate professionals is dedicated to providing exceptional, valuable, personalized service to all of our clients. We take great pride in the relationships we build and always work relentlessly on our client's behalf to help them achieve their real estate goals. Our philosophy is simple: clients come first. We pledge to be in constant communication with our clients, keeping them fully informed throughout the entire buying or selling process. We believe that if you're not left with an amazing experience, we haven't done our job. We don't measure success through achievements or awards, but through the satisfaction of our clients.

The Face of Real Estate

410-279-3868
175 Admiral Cochrane Dr #112A
Annapolis, MD 21401
DianeAndCrew.com





Scott Finlay DDS, FAGD, FAACD

ANNAPOLIS SMILES

For more than 35 years, Annapolis Smiles has been providing the highest level of dental care for individuals and families in the greater Annapolis area. Dr. Scott Finlay's office provides comprehensive dental services from routine maintenance and preventive care to dental implants and reconstructive procedures. Dr. Finlay is recognized as one of the premier cosmetic and restorative dentists in the country. He is one of only 100 dentists that has been vetted as an Accredited Fellow by the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, the Gold Standard for Excellence in cosmetic dentistry, and he is a Diplomate of the American Board of Cosmetic & Esthetic Dentistry. Dr. Finlay takes a detailed approach for each patient to ensure their dental treatment plans balance the complexities of smile design to produce optimal results. Annapolis Smiles has been consistently voted the Best Cosmetic and Restorative Dentist in Annapolis thanks in part to its tenured team of caring dental professionals, five-star service and commitment to exceptional care. Call us today to make an appointment!

The Face of Cosmetic Dentistry

1460 Ritchie Highway
Suite 203
Arnold, MD 21012
New Patients:
410-989-7132
Current Patients:
410-757-6681
annapolisssmiles.com



Dr. Zvezdomir Zamfirov

ALL STAR PAIN MANAGEMENT AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Founded in 2017, All Star Pain Management and Regenerative Medicine has established itself as a leader in Annapolis' regenerative medicine field. With the recent addition of their Bowie office, they now operate in three accessible locations which focus on a comprehensive approach to pain relief. Their innovative procedures target acute and chronic pain symptoms while addressing the underlying orthopedic conditions. Specializing in spine, joint, muscle, ligament, and tendon issues, they offer state-of-the-art techniques, including spinal injections, minimally invasive surgeries, neuromodulation, and joint injections. Their regenerative medicine offerings, including platelet-rich plasma (PRP), alpha-2 macroglobulin (A2M), and pioneering bone marrow concentrate treatments, aim to enhance patients' quality of life with minimal side effects and downtime.

The Face of Regenerative Medicine

443-808-1808
Offices in Annapolis,
Glen Burnie and Bowie
AllStarPainManagement.com



Michele Deckman

THE TOWER TEAM | TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Michele believes the key to being a top tier agent is focusing on the individual needs of each client. Her business is built on rolling up her sleeves and doing whatever needs to be done to help her clients have a smooth experience when buying or selling a home. Michele believes White Glove service means you anticipate challenges, then go above and beyond to find and actively participate in the solutions. Just a few of her full-service offerings include hiring movers to assist a seller in de-cluttering their home and personally staging the entire house from top to bottom with her team. She will even take buyers on waterfront tours aboard her power boat. She often says, "Annapolis by sea is whole different world!"

The Face of White Glove Service in Real Estate

209 Main Street
Annapolis, MD
M: 410-353-3703
O: 410-280-5600
sothebysrealty.com





Laura Carney

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT | TTR SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Laura Carney is a Senior Vice President with TTR Sotheby's International Realty and her extensive knowledge of the Eastern Shore real estate market is second to none. As a native of Talbot County, her insight and in-depth understanding of the area are critical in guiding both buyers and sellers. For over thirty years, Laura has worked not only on the shore but also in the fast-paced markets of the DC metropolitan area. That experience and her long-term agent relationships have proven invaluable. Laura's professionalism, unmatched ethical approach, and unwavering dedication to her client's success are what make her one of the leading agents in Talbot County. Combining her local knowledge with TTR Sotheby's International Realty's global network and reach brings a certain dynamic to the Eastern Shore.

The Face of Real Estate Experience & Success

M: 1-410-310-3307
 O: 1-410-673-3344
 17 Goldsborough Street
 Easton, MD
laura.carney@sothebysrealty.com
lauracarney.com





Radcliffe Creek School

DISCOVER. CREATE. THRIVE.

Radcliffe Creek School, a K-8 institution located in Chestertown, MD has empowered children for over 25 years. Since 1996, the school's mission has been to "empower children in a dynamic environment that celebrates unique learning." A haven for neurodivergent and neurotypical kids alike, students migrate from 9 counties and nearly 25 zip codes to take part in Radcliffe Creek's personalized, multi-sensory education experience. At Radcliffe, a child may receive instruction well above their grade level in the areas in which they excel. However, if a student struggles in an area, such as reading, they receive high-quality, personalized, small-group instruction via programs like Orton-Gillingham.

The Face of Individualized Learning

201 Talbot Blvd Suite A
Chestertown, MD
410-778-8150
radcliffecreekschool.org



Michael Tese

GOLDLEAF

After spending a decade in Miami, Michael Tese moved to Annapolis in 2018, joining GOLDLEAF's mission to redefine the cannabis industry. Under his leadership and with a strong background in luxury hospitality, GOLDLEAF emphasized elite customer service, ensuring every client felt valued and catered for. Since its launch in April 2019 with an initial team of eight manning two registers, GOLDLEAF has grown to 160 professionals handling fifty registers. Today, GOLDLEAF dominates the market serving over 31,000 customers monthly. They provide an unparalleled retail experience, superior quality products, and the most competitive prices in Maryland. Michael's commitment to GOLDLEAF isn't just about business growth; it's about ensuring every Marylander benefits from safe, reliable, and premium medicinal access.

The Face of High-End Retail, Service and Affordability in Cannabis

2029 West St
Annapolis, MD
410-267-3000
goldleafmd.com



Rachel L. Smith & Christine Harrington

LONDONDERRY ON THE TRED AVON

Londonderry on the Tred Avon, a 62+ independent living community on the banks of the Tred Avon River in Easton, MD proudly welcomes new CEO, Christine Harrington. While new to Londonderry, Christine is no stranger to retirement living and brings more than 15 years of executive level experience to the Londonderry Team. She is joined by Rachel Smith, Londonderry's Director of Sales and Marketing, who has helped prospective residents make Londonderry their home for the past ten years. Along with the entire team, Christine and Rachel look forward to welcoming new residents to Londonderry's vibrant and active waterfront campus.

The Faces of Retirement on the Eastern Shore

700 Port Street, Suite 148
Easton, MD 21601
410-820-8732 or 800-752-8732



Haven Ministries

TERRY OTTO – HAVEN MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER, SUSIE RECKORD – HAVEN MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR, PETER GRIM – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Haven Ministries’ volunteer, Terry Otto and Volunteer Coordinator, Susie Reckord, coordinate meal tastings at the Haven Ministries Food Pantry in Queenstown. Peter Grim, Executive Director samples the tasting in the background. Food Tastings are provided to Haven Ministries’ clients monthly in collaboration with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in cooperation with Maryland’s Department of Human Services. Sample nutritious meals are given to clients along with recipes and food so that they can prepare the meals at home. Haven Ministries is a non-profit service organization located in Queenstown, providing food, clothing, shelter, and resources to those in need in Queen Anne’s County.

The Faces of Hope

Haven Ministries Food Pantry
 206 Del Rhodes Avenue
 Queenstown MD 21658
 410-827-7194



HF Advisory Group

RAY HOBSON, CFP®

At HF Advisory Group, you can expect simple unbiased financial advice. We give our clients real individualized attention. Every family has a different idea of what their financial goals are and how they want to get there. We tailor plans to each of our clients' specific needs. As a fiduciary, we are obligated to give you wealth management advice that is in your best interest. We help our clients through every step of the process. We want you to know we're here to support you in all stages of your wealth-management journey. That includes getting to — and across — the finish line of accomplishing your financial goals.

The Face of Common Cents

166 Defense Highway, Suite 102
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-571-1415
hfadvisorygroup.com

Representing HF Advisory Group, LLC. A Registered
Investment Advisor – Annapolis, MD



Brant Nielsen

NIELSEN DEVELOPMENT GROUP

In the competitive world of construction, where projects demand precision and reliability, one company stands out as a beacon of integrity & excellence: Nielsen Development Group, with Brant Nielsen at the helm. In an industry where corners are often cut, NDG takes a different approach – Brant has built a reputation by upholding core values that are as solid as the structures he builds. Evidenced by the fact that 98% of NDG's new customers are referred by satisfied clients, NDG's commitment to delivering exceptional work and building relationships has earned them the trust of clients and partners alike.

The Face of Building Dreams

833-634-6683
2976 Solomons Island Rd
Edgewater, MD 21037
NDG.Solutions



Chesapeake Bay Beach Club

RUSTIC CHARM MEETS CONTEMPORARY ELEGANCE

The Chesapeake Bay Beach Club has been a leader in the Wedding, Special Event, and Hospitality industry for nearly 25 years. Their commitment to excellence in service, food and beverage, and their exquisite property have won countless awards along the way. Through the years, one detail has remained the same: their staff. The Beach Club has created a family-like atmosphere for its devoted 200+ employees. Everything that they do and every event is treated with unparalleled levels of service and dedication. Experience luxury on the Eastern Shore at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club, located just over the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

The Faces of Hospitality

180 Pier One Road
Stevensville, MD
410-604-5900
baybeachclub.com



Eastern Shore Dental Care

DR. ALYSSA WOLFE, DR. ERIC FOOKSMAN, DR. JENNIFER BROTZ

Eastern Shore Dental Care started off as a small dental practice on the Eastern Shore. In 2017, the office was renovated, expanded, and rebranded. Eastern Shore Dental Care is a 7,000 sq. ft. dental spa that employs 8 dentists, and 52 staff members, offers 20 treatment rooms, and serves over 20,000 patients. Eastern Shore Dental Care is under new ownership, but with familiar faces. Dr. Jennifer Brotz, Dr. Eric Fooksman, and Dr. Alyssa Wolfe have taken over ownership and are continuing the level of care their patients have come to know and love. The previous owners, Dr. Billings and Dr. Murphy were pleased to know that after 42 years of ownership, their practice was in trusted hands.

The Face of a Healthy Smile

22 Kent Towne Market
Chester, MD
410-643-5500
easternshoredentalcare.com



Tribute at Melford

RITA CHAPMAN, LNHA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND KENNETH REYNOLDS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIRECTOR | TRIBUTE AT MELFORD | CADENCE LIVING

Some claim service to seniors runs through their veins, but Tribute at Melford’s team genuinely embodies this sentiment. With Rita Chapman as Executive Director and Kenneth Reynolds as Community Relations Director, the team boasts nearly 50 years of experience in senior care. Their faces are well-known in the community, and they pride themselves as being integral members of an esteemed brand. Their team demonstrates exceptional expertise and continually exceeds residents’ expectations. Amidst the myriad of senior living companies, they maintain a distinguished reputation by adhering to Three Pillars of Commitment and Passion: Human Focus, Creativity & Excellence. Their ultimate commitment is to *make seniors happy*.

The Face of Senior Living in Southern Maryland

Tribute at Melford
 17300 Melford Blvd
 Bowie, MD
 301-329-5565
Tributeatmelford.com



ProMD Health

AMY FLEMING, PA-C | MAX LENOWITZ, CRNP
 GEORGE GAVRILA, MD | VICTORIA THURSBY, RN

ProMD Health is a state of the art medical facility specializing in non-surgical treatments and procedures to help patients Look and Feel Younger. The founder, Dr. Gavril, MD, along with Amy Fleming, PA-C, Max Lenowitz, CRNP, and Victoria Thursby, RN, take pride in their advanced skills and techniques. They offer a wide range of services, including Botox, fillers, laser treatments, PDO thread lift, hormone replacement therapy, facial rejuvenation, weight loss shots, Hydrafacial, Sciton Halo, and Emsculpt NEO. Whether your goals are looking like you did 10 years ago, or feeling like you did 10 years ago, ProMD Health has something for everyone.

The Face of Cosmetic Injections

166 Defense Highway
 Suite 302
 Annapolis, MD
 410-449-2060
promdhealth.com



Frame & Frame

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Frame & Frame Attorneys at Law have served their community for over 65 years by providing skilled, knowledgeable and dedicated legal services for estate planning, elder law, probate, special needs planning, and estate litigation. Choosing the right attorney to represent you and your family is an important decision. Often, these decisions affect very personal and intimate aspects of you and your family's lives. We understand that you want someone who will listen to your story and your concerns, while providing solutions that take the weight off your shoulders. Our experienced attorneys handle your case with discretion, care, and compassion. We are proud to serve as your family's lawyers and trusted advisors

The Face of Estate Planning & Elder Law

8562 Fort Smallwood Rd
Pasadena, MD 21122
(Main Office)

234 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

721 Main Street
Stevensville, MD 21666

410-255-0373
frameandframe.com



Jason Salinas

(RET.), US NAVY, UPPER SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER AND ENGLISH DEPARTMENT CHAIR, SEVERN SCHOOL

Upper School English Teacher Jason Salinas asks students hard questions, expecting a range of responses. He places enormous value on discussion and working on tough problems together. “All of us know more than any one of us,” said Salinas. “By collaborating, we get to better answers to serious questions.” The process is an important part of the lesson. As a former helicopter pilot, he also brings a valuable perspective. “I try to help students see that yes, the world has real problems, but a 9/10 on a quiz isn’t one of them. Sometimes I’ll ask, ‘Is the helo on fire?’”

The Face of Perspective

201 Water St.
Severna Park, MD 21146
410-647-7700
severnschool.com



Gratitude Marina

IT'S NOT JUST KNOWING BOATS, IT'S ALSO KNOWING PEOPLE

Why Choose Gratitude Marina for your boat repair needs? Our team has over 100 years of experience and is comprised of local community members with local knowledge of the Chesapeake Bay. Gratitude sits at the entrance to Swan Creek with an easy access fuel dock. Our reliable crew is knowledgeable, honest, welcoming and takes pride in the work they do. Our goal is to have an honest conversation about your boat repair needs and work with you through the process from start to finish. We invite you to come meet our team and let us help you with your next boat repair, big or small.

The Faces of Eastern Shore Boat Repair

5924 Lawton Ave
Rock Hall MD 21661
410-639-7011
ospreypoint.com



Compass Stone & Tile Studio

ANNAPOLIS' PREMIER TILE SHOWROOM

Nestled at 302 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Compass Stone & Tile Studio stands as a testament to excellence in Annapolis, MD. This exquisite showroom, renowned for its vast and unique selection, specializes in high-quality stone, ceramic, porcelain, and glass tiles. Celebrated for winning "Best Stone and Tile Showroom", the studio showcases an array of products to enhance any home style. With 30 years of industry experience, we promise a diversity of world-sourced products and the option for custom orders. Visit us for a personalized experience and discover why Compass Stone & Tile Studio is the go-to destination for those seeking uniqueness and quality in their tiling projects. For inquiries, call (410) 224-0700.

**The Face
of an Expansive
Showroom of
Stone and Tile
Wonders**

302 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Suites A&B
Annapolis, MD 21401
cst-studio.com



Anne Arundel Dermatology

CHARU JAIN, CRNP | DANIELLE TUCKER, BSN, RN | AMANDA GILLESS, LME, MA
KELLY HUNT, MSN, FNP-C | SARAH BREIG, RN

Anne Arundel Dermatology, a leader in the Mid-Atlantic for medical dermatology and excels in treating a wide range of skin, hair, and nail conditions across all ages. Complementing this medical foundation is, Meridiem DermSpa, which offers a luxurious array of spa treatments such as Botox, Fillers, and Body Sculpting. This integration of a medical spa within a dermatology practice embodies their 360-degree, scientific approach, harmonizing health-focused dermatology with aesthetic enhancement. Patients at Anne Arundel Dermatology and Meridiem DermSpa experience a comprehensive journey towards wellness and beauty; rooted in deep medical expertise and complemented by the finesse of cosmetic care. Discover personalized skincare and transformative results at Anne Arundel Dermatology and Meridiem DermSpa – where your journey to radiant health and beauty begins.

The Face of Meridiem DermSpa at Anne Arundel Dermatology

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WEALTH OF SEASONAL CHARM

A look inside Chestertown's historic Bolton House



BY LISA J. GOTTO | PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEPHEN BUCHANAN



In the heart of every historic Eastern Shore town there's a prime street where the homes are remarkably distinct, character-rich, and narrative driven. On such a street in Chestertown you will find our feature home on a block well known for its venue as a fine stroll dotted with wrought iron fences, sumptuous plantings, and welcoming front porches.



HISTORICAL PEDIGREE

This property's particular narrative dates back to the Revolutionary War era when Chestertown was one of the busiest port towns in Maryland—second only to Annapolis—bustling with shipments of tobacco and wheat, and the matter of the day was consumed with the war effort. Into this mix, came a patriot and one of the very Sons of Liberty for the Eastern Shore, John Bolton. An appointee for the Commissary of Kent County, Bolton was a key supplier of ammunition for the colonial military. It was Bolton who sanctioned the construction of the original residence that dates back to 1759.

Today, this meticulously maintained and historically preserved three-bedroom dwelling is home to a husband and wife best suited to its continued stewardship and loving care. All year-round the home of Susan Flanigan and Michael McDowell is particularly distinguished due to its richly red painted exterior and pride of place on a primary town corner. It is at this time of year, however, when the residence takes on a particular glow and a wealth of seasonal charm that says the holidays have arrived in Chestertown.

The first exterior cues that yuletide celebrations are in the offing are the window displays that Flanigan conceives and tends throughout the season. A dedicated member of the local garden club, Flanigan's handiwork is not only seen, but enjoyed aromatically throughout the home.



“Outside the house, I decided to use flowerboxes which are wired to eye-hooks to hold them in place,” explains Flanigan.

Inside those boxes is a fragrant mix of nature’s resources, many plucked or snipped from their own backyard gardens.

“I love the use of berries,” she says, which have been added to what she describes as base greenery, such as boxwood, and other detailed pieces such as blue spruce. “Then, I sprayed some pods gold and layered in pyracantha and holly, to gradually build up the color and texture.”

Each window of the home is then lit in the colonial style with one single white candle. The porch of the home, supported by four stately Doric-style columns, was added in 1780, says Flanigan. It is accented with a railing of intricate wrought iron from which now hangs an ornate swag of both artificial and real greens intertwined with ribbon, pine cones, orange slices, red berries, and white lights.

Most notably when surveying the exterior of the home one notices that another historical property, The Dunn House, was added on in 1786, when William Dunn purchased the Bolton house and

added on to it initially with just one room and then several more over the years. It now functions as two, separate private residences.

The first time Flanigan and McDowell walked across the threshold of their home was 2017, when they had decided that it was time, after thriving D.C.-based careers in education and journalism, respectively, to retire somewhere that would keep them within the confines of the Chesapeake Bay. The region, a place with great meaning to Flanigan, who grew up vacationing at her family’s summer home north of Gibson Island.

“I’ve always been very soulfully attached to the Chesapeake Bay,” says Flanigan.

For McDowell, a Fellow with New America, a policy and research-based thinktank based in the District, Chestertown reminded him of what he enjoyed most growing up in Belfast, Northern Ireland—a walkable town with bricks underfoot, welcoming storefronts, and friendly local business owners that were just a jaunt away. The pair are nostalgic preservationists who have worked closely with the Maryland Historical Trust to ensure that whatever they might want to do to make the home their own was historically appropriate and sanctioned.





MAKING IT THEIR OWN

One of the first matters to be addressed by the couple regarding the exterior was the result of a unique discovery in the home's front hall. Upon inspection they found a secret panel in the wall near the entry. Once opened, it revealed what they learned to be the original color of the home when Bolton lived there.

"The color of the house was white when we purchased it," explains Flanigan. "Then we looked in that secret panel in the front hall and we saw that the original boards [were painted] a deep red." (*This special spot in the entry is now marked for historical reference with a print of artist John Hesselius's portrait of the original owner, John Bolton.*)

This episode in the homeowners' history still amuses them, she says, as the painting project did not go off without a hitch and actually caused quite the stir in town when the first coat of the new hue was applied.

"The painters put one coat over the white, and when you put one coat of red over white, what do you get?"

Flanigan says she clearly remembers returning from an establishment in town that afternoon to see the bright pink result of that first layer of paint and was in a panic, as was the rest of the town who had yet to learn the owners had no intention of keeping it that way.

"And then we got the second coat on, and I told the contractor it was still not deep enough, so we went to three coats of paint and now we have that nice, deep, red color."

Deep, forest green shutters would accompany the rich red wood boards completing the cosmetic portion of the exterior changes to one of the oldest wooden houses in Chestertown. (*Several weightier exterior improvements, including replacing the roof, subsequently needed to be made as well, and were all accomplished with the counsel of the Maryland Historical Trust.*)

The warmth of wide-plank pine floors and a winding center hall staircase wrapped in greens, white lights, and the couple's collection of official White

House Christmas ornaments beckons further entry and provides glimpses into the home's library on the right and front living room to the left.

The library with its stately Federal-style fireplace over which an elephant Audubon print is displayed and flanked by a set of nostalgic, period built-ins, would be deemed the annual location of the couple's primary Christmas tree. Flanigan relays that she often displays several throughout the house, and that they prefer locally sourced fresh trees cultivated without the use of pesticides, so that they can then responsibly recycle them to a nearby farm for goats to enjoy after the holidays.

This room is accented and trimmed in a delicate, pale green and made all the more precious for its collections of keepsakes; none more treasured than the military sword resting next to the tree against the fireplace surround. This particular saber belonged to their son, Marine troop commander, 1st. Lt. H. Conor McDowell, who gave his life for his country during a training exercise in May of 2019 at Camp Pendleton. He was just 24. Other loving remembrances of Conor, such as the clothes pin ornament of a soldier that Conor made as child suspended from branch on the Christmas tree, are placed with care about the home in his honor, and we gratefully acknowledge his and their sacrifice.



That pale green color of the “Jane Austin” room, as Flanigan sometimes refers to the library, is a holdover from the home's previous owner and long-time Chestertown resident, Mackey Dutton. The hue is inspired by a cherished line of *Famille Rose* dinnerware handed down on Dutton's maternal side of the family.

It would be remiss to talk about this home without mentioning the contributions of Dutton and her late husband, Fred, who stewarded its continued renaissance after a long period of neglect in the 1980s. In 1989, a group of committed preservationists were credited with stabilizing the structure, and carefully removing all of the integral period features such as its original chestnut beams, chair rails, and cornices, and meticulously replacing them after an entirely new utility systems package was installed. Once updated, it served as the Dutton residence for many years.

“The house as we purchased it from Mackey Dutton was very much in move-in condition,” says Flanigan, who remarked that there were several antique furnishings and decorative items from the Dutton collection that live on in the house today, including some found in the front room of the house to the left of the entry hall.

This room is the cozy place where the couple enjoys reading and warming themselves by the home's original fireplace mantle and surround to which they have added the efficiency of a wood-burning stove. The family pooch, Rosie, is ever resting at the foot of their Knoll sofa. This room also conceals a hidden treasure behind a set of built-in doors, in the form of an old-fashioned bartender's keep, complete with a nook to make and stir cocktails, and places to store their mixers and spirits.





Flanigan's

TIPS FOR FLAWLESS SEASONAL FLORALS & GREENS

Nothing adds to the festivity of the season quite like using fresh greens with their complementary seasonal scents. Fortunately, floral enthusiasts like Flanigan know there is a knack to working and she agreed to share some tips:

1. To keep her boxwood wreath arrangement above the dining room table looking and smelling its best throughout the holiday season, Flanigan says she always keeps a spray bottle filled with water handy and gives the arrangement a healthy spritz daily.

2. A good rule of thumb when creating fresh floral arrangements, such as a window box, is to view it from different angles to ensure that there is a good measure of height in the middle or center of the arrangement with a gradual tapering down and draping of greenery out and over the sides of the boxes.

3. Did you know that one of florists' most relied upon arrangement tools, Oasis, is also one of the most detrimental to the environment? Flanigan notes that this green, block-like material is toxic and breaks down so slowly that good gardeners and conservationists alike are now looking for alternatives to using it. In her own work, she intends to substitute wire mesh in future window box arrangements to help reduce their personal environmental impact.



FLOURISHES AND OTHER FINERY

No holiday season would be complete without a festive feast or perhaps just a nosh, and that would be most splendidly accommodated in the couple's formal dining room at the heart of the home. This space, so cheery and bright, with its original chestnut beams overhead and wide pine planks below is the consummate entertainers' space. A cherished Flanigan family heirloom dining table is set for the proceedings with an exquisitely stitched tablecloth, the handiwork of a member of her local church, and *crackers*, not to eat, but the British yuletide tradition, as an homage to her husband's roots in the U.K.

This room also boasts a handsome mantle and a wood-burning fireplace that Flanigan says they sought the help of a local craftsman to create since the room was not furnished with one. The exact replica of the mantelpiece design found in the front room is the work of carpenter Dick Swanson.

"And he did it in such a way that it looks like it was always there," adds Flanigan.

Above the table is a crowning touch, another handmade creation, this one crafted by Flanigan, a wreath woven into the existing structure of the chandelier above of fresh boxwood greens and a selection of Christmas balls handsomely painted to depict scenes from the *12 Days of Christmas*.



In addition to Flanigan's passions for the garden and literature, the art of the miniature also plays a larger role in their home.

This aspect is uniquely conveyed upstairs in the home's primary bedroom.

"I have always loved doll houses," explains Flanigan. "I wanted to display my little miniature furniture but didn't have a space for a doll house. So, I created a space in our bookshelf and put some paper on the back of the shelf to create a wallpaper effect, and I added in the little evergreen to make it Christmas-y."

She also adds holiday flair to the display with the tiniest of themed fireplaces and a prized hand-blown, glass Christmas tree that she acquired on a trip to Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library.

With all this attention to detail, it is little wonder that this residence has previously been a stop on the town's Holiday House Tour, an event that Flanigan reflects upon fondly.

"As hosts on the 'Dickens of a Christmas' house tour, we brought that history to life for our visitors. Like Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, we hope to honor the spirit of past, present, and future Christmases here and keep it in our hearts the year round," Flanigan says. "We consider ourselves stewards of Bolton House. Our home belongs to the historic fabric of Chestertown."

For information regarding this year's Dickens of a Christmas events in Chestertown, visit mainstreetchestertown.org.

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Pro Holiday Décor Hacks

DECK THE HALLS, DON'T
HARM THE WALLS

By Lisa J. Gotto

All is merry and bright. Well, maybe not yet, but perhaps you're getting there? If you're in the throes of the post-Thanksgiving ramp up to Christmas and Hanukkah, we hear you! It's full-on winter holiday decorating time for all the non-Scrooge's out there! Every year the stores are bursting with the latest ornaments and festive trimmings that inspire you to create a winter wonderful environment in your home.

That said, some of those trimmings and decorations can not only prove to be difficult to install, but they can also leave evidence of their placement well after the holidays are over. To make these tasks less of a hassle, we suggest having these essential supplies on hand before you get up on that ladder or reach for that hammer. So, while you're decking the halls, you're not wrecking the walls!

Removable adhesive hooks

This little innovation has been a game-changer when it comes to tasks that require attaching items to surfaces throughout your home all year long. This is the time of year when they are especially helpful for hanging garland swags, wreaths, and even stockings. If dressing the mantel is your goal, the pros suggest attaching the hooks at appropriate distances atop the mantel with the hooks facing the fireplace wall. Then you can easily lay your garland behind them making sure you catch a sturdy piece of the greens with the hook as you go. These hooks are also the pros' first choice for hanging wreaths on a door directly using the hook or even securing it from the back if you turn the hook upside down on the inside of the door and use a festive ribbon laid over the top of the door to secure wreath on the other side. Fortunately, these hooks are available in various sizes, so you can even hang a string of lights directly on a wall or around a window if you wish with the smaller versions, instead of making holes in the walls with tacks or nails.



Removable poster putty

This pliable material is definitely your friend if you have kids that love applying paper snowflakes or other embellishments to windows. More good news: Putties are oftentimes reusable and come in various colors so blending with a wall color is easier if you wish to use it as an alternative to adhesive small hooks for décor. There's even a type that is clear in color called Clear Museum Gel, specifically made for glass and crystal use.





Hot glue gun

Pros use this device in tandem with adhesive hooks when attaching garland to exterior brick surfaces, as it provides a secure hold on a porous surface, but the glue can be peeled off when it's time to remove the decoration after the holidays.



ULTIMATE HOLIDAY LIGHT HACK

If you're a home holiday decorating pro, there is one hack you're not going without these days—adding timers to your holiday light displays. Technology has made it easier than ever to cease pulling the plug one-by-one, or even thinking about your lights after you initially set them up. Simply plug in and program with an on and off time, and you're done—until after New Year's that is, when everything needs to go back up to the attic!

Zip ties

Find the most festive ribbon to go with your holiday theme and affix garland to your stair banister first with the ties and then cover each tie with the ribbon. The pros swear by this method as the most secure, non-invasive application.



Washi tape

this colorful alternative to masking tape, can really come in handy for a variety of uses around your home during the holidays. It comes in many colors and holiday themes, and when removed it leaves no marks or residue. Because it is strong yet easily removable, some DIYers are even using it directly on the wall to create displays in smaller spaces where there's no room for a tree.



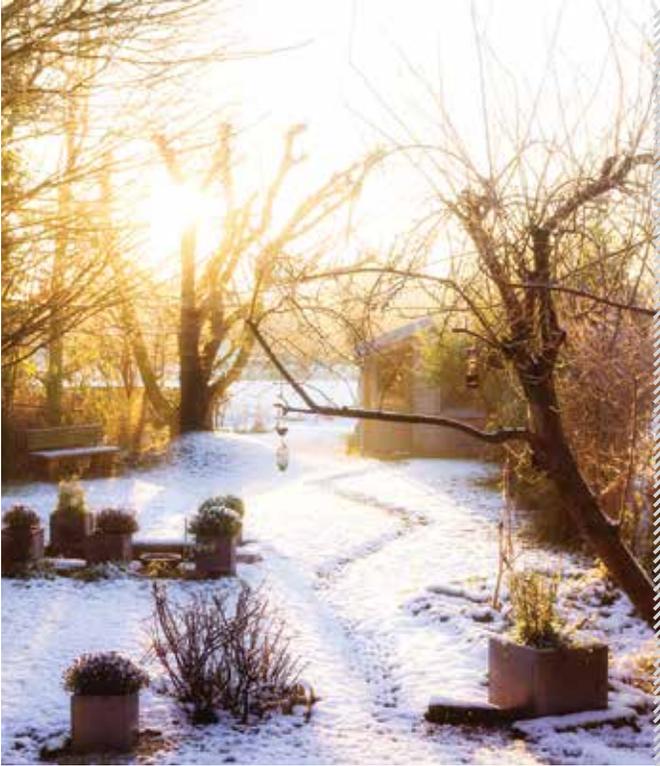
Velcro

An oldie but still a goodie, Velcro, is the ultimate holiday card display perfecter. When used as a strip around a doorway or fireplace you can create a clever garland of cards. And the coin-sized Velcro circle works wonders affixing smaller decorative items like bows and balls to mantle-top and stairway displays.



So, let's get peeling, puttying, and putting those creative talents to good use as we spruce up our homes for the holidays!

Photo captions: Intro photo: Photo by Toa Heftiba via unsplash. Removable adhesive hooks: Photo by Genevieve Rusnac via unsplash. Hot glue gun: Images courtesy of quillingcard.com. Zip ties: Photo by Caleb Fisher via unsplash. Washi tape: Image courtesy of homey-ohmy.com. Velcro: Image courtesy of greenstreetgardens.com.



Beautiful Bare Bones

RECONSIDERING OUR GARDENS IN WINTER

By Janice F. Booth

The holidays are upon us, and you're probably leafing through these pages while waiting to pickup a child at a music lesson or for your turn at the dentist. So, I will be direct: Don't overlook, during this busy season, the gifts to be enjoyed in the garden—yours and the gardens of others. Let me suggest a relaxation technique that's foolproof: Consider spending a little time (a) *admiring and evaluating your own garden* in winter, then (b) visit a public garden or two for ideas and inspiration—a *winter garden walk* can be a lovely experience to share with friends and family.

*When the leaves and flowers are gone, the garden stands in her starkest beauty. Take a bit of time to admire the **architecture of your own garden**, no matter the size. Consider:*

The skyline is a good place to start. Is there variety in height?

The smallest garden can create a pretty tableau against the sky at dawn or dusk. Perhaps you'll want to add a tall, feathery grass to break up the line, or do you need to trim down some shrubs to open a vista.

If you have a spacious garden, do taller and smaller trees and shrubs create a crenelated view?

Then there is depth. As you look out across your garden, does it appear, in the words of Robert Frost, "dark and deep?"

In small gardens, a wandering path can suggest depth, and a carefully placed garden sculpture draws the eye to what appears deeper in the garden.

Larger gardens more easily exhibit depth, however continuity of depth can be a challenge. Without rivers of blossoms to draw the eye, does the garden hold together moving back and away? Here too, a reconfiguring of your garden's paths and the addition of a few visual points of interest can lead the eye into more distant areas in the garden.

Winter's austerity allows texture to take center stage. The eye will note with interest variety in the textures of bark, branch, and berries.

Bark: Copper, Paper, and River Birches, Sweetgum, Coral Bark Japanese Maple, Cherry Tree all offer beautiful textures.

Branch: Red Twig Dogwood, Corkscrew and Witch Hazel, Oakleaf Hydrangea, False Cypress, and Smokebush provide color all year, particularly welcome among the grays and browns of winter.

Berries: Holly bushes and trees, Winterberry, Firethorn, Beauty Berry, and Chokeberry are popular with the birds and other wildlife that shelter in your neighborhood over the winter.

Finally, consider whether there are "holes" in your garden, areas where nothing is delighting the eye or striking the imagination.



Which brings us to my second suggestion: Take an hour or perhaps longer and visit a local public garden. Once you've evaluated your own garden, you have some questions and ideas that may be answered or enhanced by other gardening professionals. (No need to reinvent the wheel or settle for less than charming ideas.)

Here are some public gardens in Maryland that will probably be open when you wish to visit but be sure by checking their web sites. Plan to take some photos while you're wandering through the garden. You may also want to take a note pad; you may run into one of the professional gardeners. Ask them any questions you have about your own garden. They're usually delighted to "talk shop" with a fellow gardener.

Adkins Arboretum,
Ridgely, Caroline County:
adkinsarboretum.org

Brookside Gardens,
Wheaton, Montgomery
County: montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/brookside-gardens

Ladew Topiary Gardens,
Monkton, Harford County:
ladewgardens.com

London Town &
Gardens, Edgewater,
Anne Arundel County:
historiclondontown.org

McCrillis Gardens,
Bethesda, Montgomery
County: montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/mccrillis-house-gardens

Paca Gardens, Annapolis,
Anne Arundel County:
annapolis.org/contact/william-paca-house

Rawlings Conservatory &
Botanical Gardens, Druid
Hill Park, Baltimore City:
rawlingsconservatory.org

Sherwood Gardens,
Baltimore City:
sherwoodgardens.org



Brookside Gardens

And, we must not forget the spectacular treasures we have within easy driving distance, the **National Arboretum** (usna.usda.gov) and the **National Botanical Gardens** (usb.gov). Both are right down Route 50, and both are free to the public. If you haven't visited them in a while, please do.

The Botanical Gardens have a spectacular display of seasonal plants and a huge room with toy trains running among villages, woods, mountains, and rivers all constructed from natural fibers—bark, branches, leaves, heart wood, and more. Open through January 2nd.

Just a little tidbit I ran across in my research: If you're off to Britain any time soon, the largest and oldest public winter garden is in **Regent's Park**, London (royalparks.org.uk/visit/parks/regents-park-primrose-hill). Constructed in 1842–1846, the winter garden is, as you might expect, spectacular—fit for a king or queen!



National Arboretum



Primary Structure Built: 2001
Sold For: \$1,325,000
Original List Price: \$1,299,000
Bedrooms: 5
Baths: 4 Full, 1 Half
Living Space: 5,010 Sq. Ft.
Lot Size: .99 acres

Gracious, Spacious & Bright

By Lisa J. Gotto

This gorgeous, five-bedroom, 5,000-square-foot residence located in the highly desired community of South River Colony addresses growing family needs with an exceptional sense of style.

“The home’s community, lot size, backyard space, and close proximity to Annapolis, made this property a perfect fit for my buyer’s family,” says Buyers’ Agent, Vaneska Adams.

Built in a stately colonial style, this home offers a classic brick exterior punctuated with large, gorgeous windows accented with cornice detail and a four-columned front portico.

Inside, the home instantly impresses with its palatial two-story foyer featuring a curved, grand staircase, beautiful hardwood floors, and Tuscan-style column detail. A spacious, formal living room with large windows invites guests to greet and gather.



Listing Agent: Melissa Murray; Compass Real Estate; 1 Park Place, Annapolis; m. 443-995-2626; o. 410-429-7425; melissa.murray@compass.com; compass.com
Buyer’s Agent: Vaneska Adams; eXp Realty; 8115 Maple Lawn Blvd., Fulton; m. 410-989-5220; o. 888-860-7369; vaneska.adams@exp Realty.com; exp Realty.com

A luxurious, all-white dining room with crown molding and elegant wall trim work provides for many a celebratory experiences with family and friends. This room also offers a generous and convenient butler's pantry and two-tone hardwood floors.



Just steps from the dining room are entry to the home's open-plan and grand kitchen and family room combo. The kitchen is massive with all hardwood floors, stainless-steel appliances, and a spacious island workspace with gas cooktop, gleaming granite tops, and breakfast bar seating for two. Tons of additional counterspace is available for tasks and buffet offerings, and there is a large, informal dining area, which leads to the home's outdoor living area through a series of French doors.



Adjacent to the kitchen, is the home's stunning, two-story great room with its eye-catching wall of windows that soar to the ceiling. This spacious gathering area boasts an elegant fireplace with white brick surround, white-painted mantle, and an attractive, glass-front wood-burning insert.

A back staircase leads to a loft overlooking this space on the upper floor. Four of the home's five bedrooms, including the primary suite can be found on this level. There are two full baths and three bedrooms—one set of bedrooms shares a Jack and Jill bath.



The primary suite is enormous with a spacious separate seating area, and an *en suite* bathroom that feels and looks like a luxury spa with its large, free-standing soaking tub, two separate vanities, and a huge, classically tiled white shower with glass door.

The lower level of this home offers yet another exceptional entertaining space with an attractive, full wet bar, ample space for a complete gaming area, a lounge area, a dedicated home theater, an additional full bedroom and bath, plus additional finished space full of possibilities for, possibly, an exercise room, playroom, or *au pair* suite.

Everything a growing family needs—and then some!



Homeowners' Paradise Found

By Lisa J. Gotto | Photography by Michele Sheiko

Located on a lovely and woody landscaped lot in Wardour, this 3,300-square-foot, ranch-style home offers a deceiving amount of flexibility and stylish indoor living space.

A gracious foyer with attractive, dark hardwood floors leads back to the home's sunken formal living room with its wall of windows and views out to an elevated, wooded backdrop. Dark hardwood here and a light, neutral palette are accented with a lovely, wood-burning fireplace and slanted architectural ceiling detail.

Doorways from the foyer to this room and then into the home's formal dining room are accented with attractive columns. The dining room also benefits from the natural light coming from floor-to-ceiling windows, and a large set of doors leading to the home's attractive, wind-around upper deck.



Listing Agent: Alex Tower Sears; TTR | Sotheby's International Realty; 209 Main Street, Annapolis; m. 443-254-5661; o. 410-280-5600; alextowersears@gmail.com; ttrsir.com **Buyer's Agent:** Jean Dixon; Coldwell Banker Realty; 3 Church Circle, Annapolis; m. 443-995-2791; o. 443-994-4456; jean.b.dixon@gmail.com; coldwellbanker.com

There is a sweet pocket-door entry into the home's roomy, open-plan kitchen and family room combo. The all-white kitchen boasts a center island with granite countertops, prep sink, and breakfast bar seating for two. Attractive, stainless-steel appliances, an additional eat-in area, and a convenient beverage bar, make the space great for gathering. This room also has floor-to-ceiling windows and access to the deck via a side door.



The primary suite offers many of the same advantages with a series of large windows with eyes to the woods, an access door to the deck, and a cozy, wood-burning fireplace. Its *en suite* bath provides a large, soaking tub, dual vanities, and an attractive tile shower. A roomy, walk-in closet with built-ins makes wardrobe selection a breeze. There is an additional bedroom, a home office, and a full bath on this level.



Down the gorgeous, architectural staircase, is a lower level that has been expertly finished to provide not only a sanctuary for those who work from home, but an additional family room with a white-washed brick fireplace, a separate dining space, a utility space for creative endeavors, a full bath and two additional bedrooms.



The lower-level family room provides a walk-out to the residence's wonderfully landscaped backyard and the stairs to the upper, walk-around deck with its cozy seating, dining, and grilling areas. A true homeowner's paradise found.



Primary Structure Built: 1979
Sold For: \$1,400,000
Original List Price: \$1,400,000
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 3 Full, 1 Half
Living Space: 3,365 Sq. Ft.
Lot Size: .48 acres

**CALLING ALL
LAWYERS:
NOMINATIONS
ARE OPEN**



WHAT'S UP? MEDIA

LEADING LAWYERS

The nomination period for the 2024–2025 Class of Leading Lawyers officially opens **November 1st** to all legal professionals in the Chesapeake Bay region. Lawyers (and judges) currently practicing law are encouraged to nominate their legal peers in more than 40 legal specialties for this distinguished honor that recognizes the best local lawyers. This is your opportunity to nominate which lawyers should be acknowledged as leaders in their various areas of practice. We thank you in advance for participating in this valuable service. Nominations will close in **January 2024**. Results will be published in our May 2024 issues.

whatsupmag.com/2024lawyerssurvey

Health & Beauty

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148 GIVE YOUR HOLIDAY STYLE SOME SHINE *plus more!*



Fresh Take

POMEGRANATE

By Dylan Roche

You might not think of pomegranates as a traditional Christmas food in the same way you think of, say, gingerbread—but if you've been paying attention to trendier festive spreads, you might have seen pomegranates making more prominent appearances in recent years. Its seasonality, peaking in early winter, as well as its bright red color, makes it a great addition. And unlike sweets like gingerbread or peppermint candy cane, the naturally sweet pomegranate seeds are packed with antioxidants and beneficial nutrients. They make a great addition to salads, side dishes, desserts, and beverages for all your holiday parties. (Plus, they'll make a colorful decorative item for your wreaths, arrangements, and centerpieces, giving a pop of vibrant red against any holly or evergreen leaves you have on hand!)

Beneath that tough, leathery rind that a pomegranate has, you'll find the inside is full of bright red seeds known as arils. These are the edible parts of the pomegranate, and they have a vibrant sweet flavor with a distinctive tart bite to it. In addition to their powerful flavor, they also have a powerful



Festive Pomegranate Mocktail

INGREDIENTS

1/2 cup pomegranate arils
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 sprig fresh rosemary
1 cup club soda
1/4 cup freshly squeezed orange juice
1/4 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice

Combine the pomegranate arils and 2 tablespoons cold water in a food processor or high-power blender until smooth. Run the puree through cheesecloth to remove pulp until all you have is juice. Thin slightly with more water if necessary. Set a small saucepan over medium heat and add the fresh pomegranate juice, granulated sugar, and rosemary, stirring until thoroughly combined. Allow the sugar to dissolve and the rosemary to give off a fragrant scent, approximately five minutes. Remove the syrup from the heat and transfer to a glass bowl to cool. Discard the rosemary sprig. Once the pomegranate rosemary syrup has cooled, whisk it together with orange juice and lemon juice. Add 1/4 cup of this syrup-juice blend to 1 cup club soda and stir well to combine. Serve over ice, garnished with a rosemary sprig and several pomegranate arils if desired.

nutritional profile—these pomegranate arils are rich in antioxidants, including polyphenols, flavonoids, and anthocyanins, which help prevent the development of disease in the body. Studies even show that pomegranate is good for reducing inflammation and staving off the growth of cancer cells and tumors. Other studies have found that compounds in pomegranates are good for improving cognitive health and reducing risk of Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Like many fruits, pomegranate has plenty of fiber—about 3.5 grams per half-cup serving, which improves your digestion, stabilizes blood sugar levels for a steady stream of energy, keeps you full between meals, and may even help reduce risk of heart disease by lowering cholesterol levels.

If you're staying active throughout the winter (which you should be), pomegranate could be a good dietary choice to improve performance. Pomegranate contains plenty of potassium, which helps with fluid balance and could help offset the effects of any high-sodium dishes you enjoy while celebrating the holidays.

Finally, although the research is inconclusive, some studies have suggested that pomegranate could boost collagen



production, which helps your skin maintain its smoothness and elasticity, even during colder months when your skin tends to dry out easily.

Although recent popularity of pomegranate means that it's easier than ever to simply buy de-seeded arils that are ready to use, the freshest and least expensive way to enjoy this fruit is by selecting a whole, intact pomegranate and removing the arils right before use. Look for a pomegranate with a deep red color and a heavy weight relative to its size. Although you want the leather rind to be strong and firm, it should have a least a little bit of give when you press on it.

Pomegranate can be stored at room temperature before being cut open, but once you've opened up the rind, remove all the arils and store in an airtight container in the fridge, where they'll keep for up to three days.

Now it's just a question of how you can use those arils to impress people at all your holiday gatherings this winter. Don't be afraid to try pomegranate in salads, in desserts, or even as a festive cocktail.

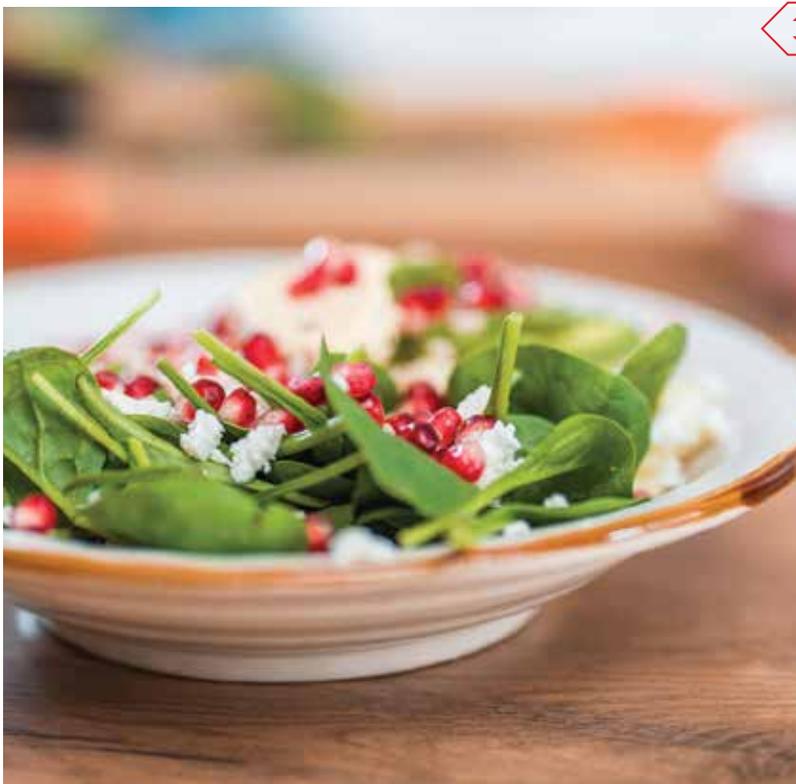
Pome- granate Pistachio Oatmeal Cookies

INGREDIENTS

1/2 cup pomegranate arils
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 cup rolled oats
1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup maple syrup
1 large egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup shelled pistachios, chopped



In a large mixing bowl, cream together the butter, maple syrup, and granulated sugar. Add the egg and vanilla, beating until thoroughly combined. In a separate bowl, combine the flour, oats, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt. Slowly add this dry mixture into the wet mixture, stirring as you go until you have a thick dough. Fold in the pomegranate arils and the pistachios, and mix until evenly distributed. Let the dough chill in the fridge for two hours. Preheat the oven to 350F and line two large baking sheets with parchment paper. Spoon the dough into rounded tablespoons and line the baking sheets, keeping the cookies approximately 2 inches apart. Bake for 12-15 minutes. Cookies should be golden-brown and fragrant though still soft. Allow the cookies to cool (and firm up) before serving.



Pomegranate and Spinach Salad with Citrus Dressing

INGREDIENTS

6 cups fresh baby spinach leaves
1 cup pomegranate arils
1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese
1/2 cup chopped candied pecans
1 red onion
1 medium cucumber
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
1 tablespoon honey
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard

Rinse the spinach leaves and pat dry. Thinly slice the onion and cucumber, tossing with the spinach leaves. Add in the pomegranate arils, feta cheese, and pecans. In a small bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, honey, olive oil, and mustard. Add salt and pepper to taste if desired. Toss the salad with dressing immediately before serving.

Fitness Tips

BREAKING DOWN THE CONCEPT OF PROGRESSIVE OVERLOAD

By Dylan Roche

“Don’t ever let yourself get too comfortable.”

That’s some advice you could apply to many aspects of life, but it’s especially true when it comes to fitness. To get stronger, you need to challenge yourself. When it comes to strength training, this principle is known as *progressive overload*—gradually adding more intensity, either in the form of more weight or more repetitions. This works your muscles harder than they are used to working, ultimately pushing you toward your fitness goals, whether those goals have to do with strength, endurance, or size.

Your muscles respond to the demand—and by increasing the demand, in whatever format that is, your muscles will become stronger. While any kind of resistance training (and any kind of physical activity in general) is good for you, continuing to lift the same weight for the same number of reps will deny your body stimulus and you’ll plateau.

You might have heard the concept of progressive overload summed up with the expression, “No pain, no gain,” but it’s important to emphasize that increasing the overload should never be painful. Pushing yourself too hard too quickly will end up hurting you, ultimately setting you back from making any progress.

Many people opt to add more weight, but you might also choose to add more reps or sets instead. You could even add more time under tension, holding weight in place for a longer period of time.

TRY VARYING THE TYPES OF OVERLOAD, AS EACH WILL CHALLENGE YOUR BODY IN A DIFFERENT WAY:



Increasing Weight: When you find that lifting or moving the amount of weight you’ve been using no longer challenges you, add 5 pounds and work with that until it becomes too easy. If you’re being consistent (training two to three days per week), you should be able to safely add 5 pounds at least once a month.



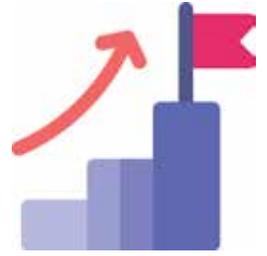
Increasing Reps or Sets: If you’re not ready to add more weight, or if you don’t have heavier weights available, you could always opt to increase the number of repetitions or sets you do with a given weight. Think of it this way: If you’ve been lifting a dumbbell 10 times (repetitions) and repeating those 10 repetitions for two more sets, this combo of reps and sets will eventually get to feel easy. Start pushing yourself to 15 repetitions per set or try five sets of those 10 repetitions.



Increasing Time Under Tension: Holding your muscles under tension for a longer period of time helps them get stronger. When you lift a weight, hold it in that position for 10-15 seconds before slowly lowering it. If holding it for 15 seconds becomes too easy, instead of adding more weight, you could simply hold it for 20 seconds, 30 seconds, or to the point of fatigue.



Increasing Frequency: Don’t overlook the frequency with which you target a specific muscle group. If your strength training is feeling easy, you can always start to do those exercises on a more frequent basis as a way of applying progressive overload. However, take caution with this approach, and allow yourself time for rest and proper recovery between workouts—targeting the same muscle group every day could make you prone to injury, but if you’re doing a specific exercise once a week, why not challenge yourself to do it three times a week with a rest day in between each workout?



As you’re applying progressive overload to your workouts, remember to make your form and technique a priority in everything you do—you should only *add* to your workout if you’re able to do the exercise properly. Continuing to train with your current weight, reps, sets, pace, and frequency is better than trying to push yourself if it means compromising form.

Additionally, keep an eye on your progress. If you’re feeling constantly sore or fatigued, or if you find yourself faced with an injury, this could be a sign you’re overloading too fast. Slowing down, giving yourself time to heal, and consulting with a professional trainer can help you stick with your strength training routine and make progress without putting yourself at risk.

7 Organization Tips

FOR REDUCING STRESS AND BOOSTING MENTAL HEALTH

By Dylan Roche

If one of your resolutions for 2024 is to finally get organized, the new you might be more than just a tidier, more structured, less cluttered version of yourself. You also might get to enjoy some improved mental health.

It should come as no surprise that being organized is good for your mental and emotional wellbeing, with scientific studies over the past 15 years offering confirmation.

If you actually get around to being more organized in 2024 (and we have tips to help you make good on that resolution), here's what you can expect:

Organization reduces feeling overwhelmed—when you have order in your life, you're better prepared to manage responsibilities and tasks, which **reduces your stress and anxiety**.

Because having an organized life puts you in a better position to stay focused and productive, and because you'll likely be in a better mood, you can expect to have **improved self-confidence** and **better relationships** with those close to you.

There are also physical benefits. People who are more organized with their space and their time are more likely to **get sufficient sleep, eat nutritious meals, and exercise**.

Getting organized sounds great—but when your home or office is full of junk and your calendar is chaotically overbooked, it's hard to determine where (and how) you're supposed to start.



Don't feel as if you have to change everything all at once. As with many other aspects of healthy living, there's nothing wrong with taking small steps!

With that in mind, here are the seven best stress-reducing, mood-boosting, mental-health-saving small steps you can take to be more organized in 2024:

1 Take an hour to walk through your house with a box or laundry basket and gather any belongings you know you don't need or want. If you have more time later, you can dedicate an hour to each room of your home.

2 Make the investment in storage solutions that fit your space. Whether you need shelves, cabinets, containers, hooks, pegs, or bins, let yourself spend the money. You can even get smaller organizers to compartmentalize spaces like drawers and shelves.

3 Determine which tasks you can manage on a daily and weekly basis and set realistic times you can accomplish those tasks; e.g. take 15 minutes after dinner to sweep high-traffic areas, sort bills, and put away any items on your kitchen counter or entryway table.

4 Set a rule regarding new items: When you buy something new, you have to discard something old. Determine a favorite charitable organization you can donate unwanted items to.

5 Go digital with all your paperwork. Invest in a scanner or use your smartphone to transfer all paper documents to the digital realm.

6 Swap out and store seasonal items when appropriate: holiday decorations, summer clothing in winter, winter clothing in summer, athletic equipment, and items for hosting or entertaining.

7 Maintain a calendar, whether you prefer analogue or digital. Set reminders for yourself and pay attention to whether you're overbooking. If you're managing a calendar for more than one person, use color-coding.



Give Your Holiday Style Some Shine

By Dylan Roche

Silver and gold, silver and gold. Maybe you have fond memories of Sam the Snowman from the TV special “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” singing those words. The thing is, silver and gold do make festive additions to any holiday aesthetics—including your holiday fashion statements.

Although colors like red, green, and white will always be safe go-tos, they can also feel a little overdone and predictable. Silver, gold, and other metallics give your attire an element of interest so you stand out among other revelers and merrymakers.

So, what do “metallics” entail? In terms of fashion, these are any articles of clothing or accessories that

have a metal-like sheen, finish, or appearance, even if the clothing or accessory isn’t necessarily metal itself. These pieces are shiny or reflective, sometimes even lustrous—think sequined, sparkly, or glossy fabrics, as well as your typical jewelry, of course.

Metallics are popular at holiday time because they look festive. It reminds people of tree tinsel or starlit skies. But there’s also an elegance to metallics, thanks to the way they evoke glamour and luxury, so they work well for cocktail parties and special-occasion outings. Metallics also tend to be versatile, as you can choose to either play them up and make them the focus of your outfit, or play them down and use them for a subtle accent of interest.

Popular metallics in recent years include:



⇒ Rose Gold

Easily the most dominant trend in metallic fashion in recent years, this shade of gold has a warm, pinkish hue to it.

Iridescent ⇒

This is a safe option, as it appears off-white or neutral until it catches the light, then giving off an element of shine for great effect.



⇒ Silver

Silver never goes out of style and is appropriate for nearly any occasion. It's versatile, and it's festive without being ostentatious.

⇒ Matte Metallics

Want to try something metallic without drawing too much attention to yourself. A matte metallic, which is flatter and doesn't have the typical shine, is subtler while still making an impression.



Wearing metallics with black, white, or gray will give the metallic elements a chance to stand out, all without ever looking too bold, but if you want a look that makes a stronger statement, you can always try pairing metallics with rich jewel tones or bright primary colors. This works especially well if you go for contrast: Try warm gold with a deep purple, or an icy silver with a holly red.

Be careful about mixing metallics with other metallics—although it can be done, you run the risk of creating an outfit that is too overwhelming if every article of clothing and every accessory has some shine to it.

If you want to add more interest beyond one or two metallic pieces, you can always try incorporating other textures, such as velvet or faux fur.

With all of this in mind, you're sure to shine at all your holiday gatherings this season!

Will 2024 Be The Year Of Prevention?

By Dylan Roche

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” It’s good wisdom—the sentiment being that trying to prevent an illness is much more beneficial than trying to cure one after it develops.

However, the reality is that most people don’t worry about their health until there’s a problem.

At least, that’s how it’s been in the past. Trends are now moving in the direction of prioritizing prevention, and 2024 looks like it could be the year that Americans start focusing on how they’re going to maximize their well-being before a problem presents itself.

Of course, there are many practical aspects to this approach. Preventative measures—think regular checkups, nutritious food, vaccines, and immunizations—are far less expensive and time consuming than what it takes to treat a serious illness. But there’s also the social-emotional upside to prevention: Dealing with an illness is a huge burden even when money and time are not an issue. Most importantly, staying healthy means you enjoy a high quality of life, even as you get older.



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO PRIORITIZE PREVENTION?

Your doctor is the best person to advise you on what’s the right choice for you specifically, but much of it comes down to the basics you’ve been hearing throughout your life (even if you sometimes don’t always heed them):

- Eat nutrient-dense food, focused on a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables. Choose lean protein sources and opt for whole grains instead of refined ones. Limit your intake of added sugars, salt, and highly processed foods.
- Practice good hand-washing with soap and warm water to avoid the spread of germs.
- Get regular exercise, including at least 150 minutes of moderate aerobic activity or 75 minutes of vigorous aerobic activity every week, along with resistance/strength training activities and stretches that will improve your flexibility and balance.
- Schedule regular checkups with your doctor, as well as recommended screening guidelines, so you can detect and address any health concerns early.
- Get all recommended vaccines to protect yourself from infectious diseases, including seasonal illnesses.
- Abstain from smoking and limit your consumption of alcohol to no more than one to two servings per day.
- Limit your number of sexual partners and use condoms and other protection against STIs.

While none of these best practices is foolproof—sometimes, any of us can get sick despite our best efforts—a cultural movement in this direction goes a long way toward a healthier, more prosperous society and reduces the strain on the system for those who do need treatment. Sounds like a health trend we can all embrace!

Dining

152 AN ITALIAN BEACON IN ODENTON | 154 SAVOR THE CHESAPEAKE
156 SOUP SEASON!

House-made
cannoli at
Mamma Roma
in Odenton



WHAT'S UP? READERS

**RESTAURANT
REVIEW**

Calling All Food Critics!

Send us your restaurant review and you'll be eligible for our monthly drawing for a **\$50** gift certificate to a local restaurant. Fill out the form at whatsupmag.com/promotions.

An Italian Beacon in Odenton

By Tom Worgo | Photography by Stephen Buchanan

Mamma Roma, an Italian restaurant in Odenton, is all about family. Brothers Bruno and Rino share the day-to-day operations. Bruno handles the finances and Chef Rino, supervises the kitchen.

But the heart and soul of the operation is their mother, Teresa Romeo. She still greets customers from behind the counter, just a couple feet from the front door. The thriving restaurant opened in 2005 and will celebrate its 19th anniversary in January.

“In the beginning, it was hard work,” says Bruno, whose family is from Naples, Italy. “It took time to realize who was doing what. It’s wonderful now. Each one of us has a position. I can sleep well.”

The family’s history with restaurants goes back to the 1950s. The Romeos owned a chain of restaurants called Mamma Lucia, which their father Antonio ran.

Today, Mamma Roma’s customers crave pizza and lasagna. The Piccolo Espresso Bar is also a big hit. It features Kimbo brand coffee directly imported from Italy and a bevy of freshly-made desserts.



“I have tried a lot of coffee, and I think it’s the best I have had,” Bruno says.

To learn more, we sat down with the 40-year-old Bruno to discuss Mamma Roma.

Do you use the same recipes that come from the family decades ago?

Mamma Roma is the new generation. But our lasagna and pizza recipes go back to the 1950s. The recipes are from my mother and grandmother. I can say it gives us an edge. We stick to tradition. We sell so much pizza and lasagna, and people just get hooked. Why do we want to change? People love us and it has been proven by the business being good for so many years.

Is the restaurant centered around your mom? She is the symbol of the restaurant. She greets all the customers and takes each and every order. Every customer that comes to the door for dining or carry-out needs to go through Mamma. Everybody calls her Mamma. Even the employees do.

What items are top selling? Pizza comes first. We have been sticking to the traditional recipes and ingredients. The meat pizzas are the ones that sell the most. The pizza tastes wonderful. It’s simply amazing. Pasta is another one of our best sellers, and with seafood. Customers love Fettuccini Mediterranean and Seafood Extravaganza.

MAMMA ROMA 8743 Piney Orchard Parkway, Odenton | 410-695-0247 | mammaromas.com

Tell me about the Piccolo Espresso Bar. We have had it for about five years now. It's unique. I was in Italy in 2016 and got the idea for it. I felt we were missing an espresso bar. We have it so people at the end of their meal can have a traditional, homemade cannoli or a Sfogliatella (pastry), which is a tradition in Naples. We have seven desserts overall. We also have a display of 10-to-15 home-made cookies. You can't find these types of cookies anywhere else.

There are a lot of Italian restaurants in the county. What separates yours from others? Nineteen years. God Bless that we are still in business. We really believe in what we do and are very passionate. It started as work and now it's our passion. That's the difference. We really believe in what we do, and

really care. It's literally my life. I spend so much time at the business. When I am not here, my brother Rino [who worked under one of Italy's best chefs, Piero Sacchetti] takes over.

What keeps the customers coming back? Our food is very consistent. That is the number one thing. Number two is that we are a family operation. Our customers feel like part of a big family because that's how we treat them. We have been in the community a long time and know so many of the customers that come here.

Your curbside service makes for a crowded scene on some days right outside the restaurant. Please explain that. It actually started three years before the pandemic, in 2016. I was kind of skeptical in the beginning. But we had

to build it and try new things and kept changing and kept changing until we got the right combination. It just exploded during the pandemic. It was good we had a system in place. We easily do 80 cars on a weekend. Sometimes, we have a dozen cars lined up. It's a good part of our business. It's convenient, free, and fast.

Tell me about your catering business. Years ago, the customers kept asking, "Can I have a big meal? Can I have a big container?" Our catering started about 10 years ago and we didn't pay that much attention because we were so focused on growing the business and menu. The next thing you know, catering exploded. We are doing parties for Christmas, Mother's Day, Easter, the end of school year, birthdays, gradua-

tion, and summer events. We also do lunches for offices. We do so much catering, it is unbelievable. It's a business itself. That's how big it is.

Some loyal or even new customers may not know about what your business offers at the nearby Piney Orchard Ice Rink. Tell me about the food service there. We just started a Mamma food hall there in July. We use their kitchen and have an online concept. We have two menus. Our focus with one is on rice bowls, and you prepare your own bowl. We have hot dogs prepared the way you want and fresh-cut fries on the other menu. We have curbside service. We already had a concession stand there for five years with beer, wine, and snacks to help you enjoy watching a hockey game.





Savor the Chesapeake

Restaurant news and culinary trends throughout the Chesapeake Bay region

By Megan Kotelchuck

There can be a lot of emotions and excitement going into December. With the holidays here, we gather for parties with friends and coworkers, and around the table with our families...so food and drinks are pretty important. (Get ready to start some new traditions with a hot cocktail in hand! See our recipes on the following page.)

Recently, we celebrated the anniversary of one of our favorite restaurants, said goodbye to another, and heard quite a bit of chit-chat about everything in between. So, let's start with local news.

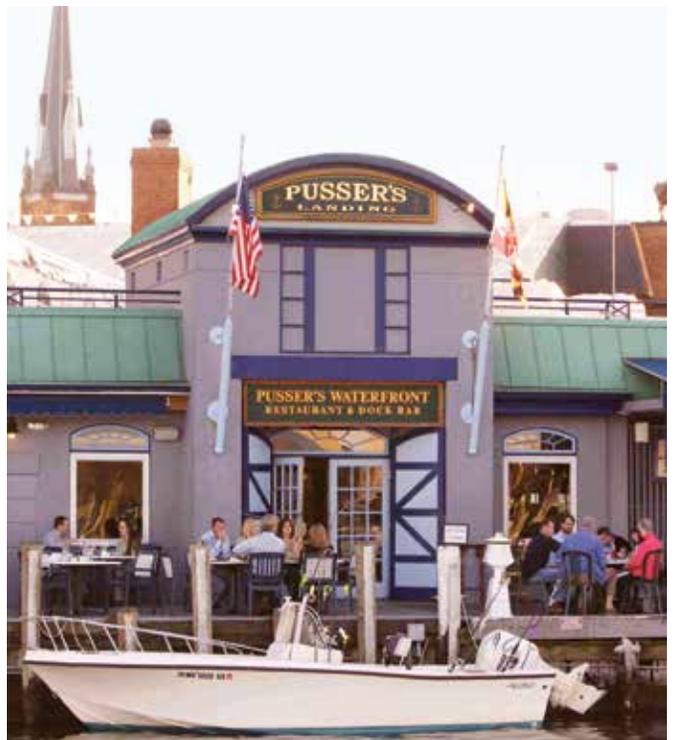
On the Dining Scene...

↑ In October, **Ava's Pizzeria & Wine Bar** celebrated its 15th anniversary! To mark the occasion, all of Ava's locations (St. Michaels, Cambridge, and Rehoboth Beach, Delaware) offered the Chef's favorite pizza at a special price of \$10.19, representing their first day of operations, having opened in St. Michaels on October 19th, 2008, with a staff of eight by founder Chris Agharabi. Now, Ava's has 35 staff members and is a part of a group of restaurants on the Delmarva Peninsula under the helm of Agharabi, CEO of Ava's Hospitality Group. Ava's has been around for a reason! Be sure to enjoy it and make reservations at avaspizzeria.com.

Co-owner and Director of Food and Beverage for **Pusser's Caribbean Grille** Chris Townsend announced on October 18th that the restaurant and bar would be leaving its current Downtown Annapolis location in November 2024. After 30 years, the lease agreement between Pusser's and their landlord, Annapolis Waterfront Hotel, was not renewed by the hotel. Pusser's has hosted over 1,000 weddings and events over the years and been a staple in Annapolis waterfront dining. There will be two restaurants replacing Pusser's, which will be owned by Atlas Restaurant Group, who also own The Choptank. ↓

Baba's Halal has opened in the food court at the Westfield Annapolis Mall. Baba's Halal serves gyros, falafel, platters, and more. Enjoy chicken, lamb, beef, or vegetarian options over rice with mixed veggies, sauces, and plenty of other options. Baba's Halal also has a food truck at Franklin Square Medical Center and a location at Towson Mall's food court.

RegionAle opened their third location this fall in the Annapolis Town Center. After opening locations in Baltimore and Ellicott City, it's about time the American craft sandwich and draft restaurant came to town! RegionAle's menu highlights regionally famous American sandwiches like the Maryland Crabcake sandwich, Philly Cheesecake, and Florida Cubano. Find a full menu and order online at regionalesandwich.com.



Chick-fil-a is loved across the country, but Maryland has even more to offer. Chick-fil-a opened a specialty restaurant in College Park called **Little Blue Menu**, inspired by the founder when he would try different menu items at the first established Chick-fil-a. In addition to the nuggets and waffle fries we know and love, The Little Blue Menu offers burgers and wings. The specialty restaurant opened in mid-September and offers online only ordering. Order at order.chick-fil-a.com/menu.

Almost a year ago, Giant in Crofton moved across Route 424 to its new location. This fall it was announced that **The Fresh Market** will move into the space vacated by Giant at Crofton Station, with plans on opening by the end of 2024. This will be the fifth Fresh Market location in Maryland (Annapolis, Baltimore, Rockville, and Towson). Fresh Market is not the only new tenant in Crofton Station. Chase Bank, Nekter Juice Bar, Taichi Bubble Tea, and Sugaring NYC all opened recently or are opening soon.

Some Like It Hot...

December is a great month to reach for a hot drink. Whether it's tea, cider, coffee, or hot cocoa, trust me, it can be spiked. 'Tis the season, right?



Caramel Apple Hot Toddy

INGREDIENTS

- 1.5 cups Smirnoff Kissed Caramel Vodka
- 1/2 gallon Apple Cider
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup Bourbon, optional but cuts the sweetness
- 2-3 Cinnamon Sticks
- 1 container Cool Whip

INSTRUCTIONS

Combine the vodka, apple cider, bourbon, and cinnamon sticks in a stove-top pan. Heat and simmer until ready to drink. When ready, pour the hot toddy into heat-proof mugs and place a large dollop of Cool Whip on top!

Photo and recipe courtesy of thecookierookie.com

Hot Buttered Bourbon Cocktail

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup Apple Cider
- 2 tablespoons unsalted Butter, softened
- 1 tablespoon Honey
- 1/4 teaspoon Cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground Cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground Ginger
- 1/2 cup Bourbon
- Cinnamon Sticks for garnish

INSTRUCTIONS

In a small saucepan over low heat, bring cider to a gentle simmer. In a small bowl, mix together the butter, honey, cloves, cinnamon, and ginger with a spoon until combined. Add the butter mixture to the cider, whisking just until it melts. Remove pan from heat, whisk in the bourbon and serve immediately. Garnish with cinnamon sticks.

Photo and recipe courtesy of wellplated.com.



Classic Mulled Wine

INGREDIENTS

- 2 small Oranges
- 1 bottle of affordable Merlot, Zinfandel, or Grenache
- 1/4 cup Brandy
- 1-2 tablespoons Maple Syrup or Honey
- 2 whole Cinnamon Sticks
- 3 Star Anise
- 4 whole Cloves
- Optional Garnishes: Fresh whole Cranberries, Cinnamon Sticks, additional Orange Rounds

INSTRUCTIONS

To prepare the oranges, slice one orange into rounds and the other in half through the middle. Place the rounds into a medium heavy-bottomed pot or small Dutch oven. Squeeze the juice from the remaining oranges into the pot. Pour the wine into the pot, followed by the brandy. Add 1 tablespoon of the sweetener (syrup or honey). Add cinnamon sticks, star anise, and cloves. Warm the mixture over medium heat until steaming, about 5 minutes, and keep an eye on it. When you start seeing the tiniest of bubbles at the surface, reduce the heat to the lowest setting. Carefully taste, add another tablespoon of sweetener if it's not sweet enough for your liking. If it's not spiced enough to suit your preferences, continue cooking over very low heat for 5-10 more minutes. Remove from heat and serve in mugs!

Photo and recipe courtesy of cookieandkate.com.

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

Soup Season!

Soup season is here! We all seem to have a favorite cozy soup that we look forward to when the air gets



a little chilly. The following partial list features restaurants that have at least two delectable soups to enjoy this season; for our full dining guide, visit whatsupmag.com.

Average entrée price

\$ 0-14

\$\$ 15-30

\$\$\$ 31 and over

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173 Mitchell's Chance Road, Edgewater; 443-837-6126; coopers-tavern.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷

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421 Deale Road, Tracy's Landing; 410-867-1138; dockside-restaurantmd.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷 🌊 ☀️

Happy Harbor Waterfront Restaurant and Bar

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1107 Turkey Point Road, Edgewater; 410-798-8338; harperswaterfront.com \$\$\$, 🍷 🍷 🌊 ☀️

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

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3030 Riva Road, Riva; 410-956-2784; mikescrabhouse.com \$\$, 🍷 🌊 ☀️

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Senor's Chile

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Yellowfin Steak & Fishhouse

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Akira Ramen Izakaya

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Ashling Kitchen and Bar

1286 Route 3 Suite 3, Crofton; 443-332-6100; ashlingco.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷 🍷

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329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills; 410-317-2276; barnandlodge.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷 🍷 🎵 🌊

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489 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park; 410-975-2678; brianborupub.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷 🍷 🎵

Broadneck Grill and Cantina

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Donnelly's Dockside

1050 Deep Creek Ave, Arnold; 410-757-4045; donnellysdockside.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷 🍷

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The Rumor Reel Restaurant

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The Seaside Restaurant

224 Crain Highway N, Glen Burnie; 410-760-2200; theseasiderestaurant.com \$\$, 🍷 🍷

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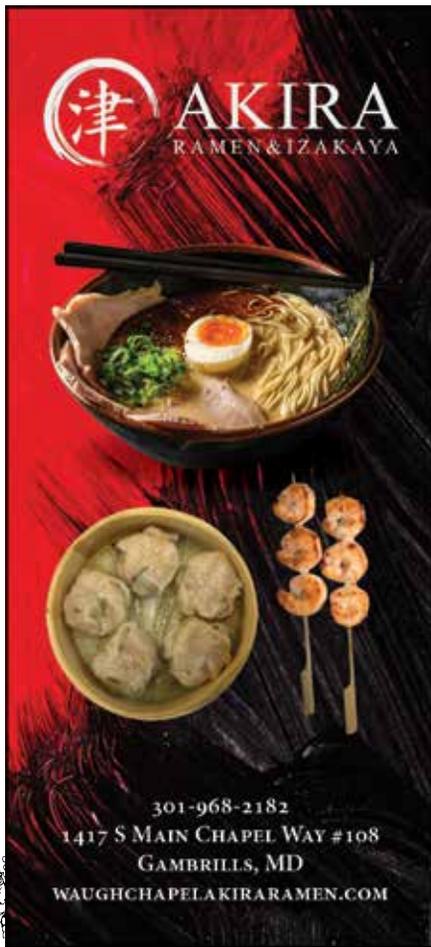
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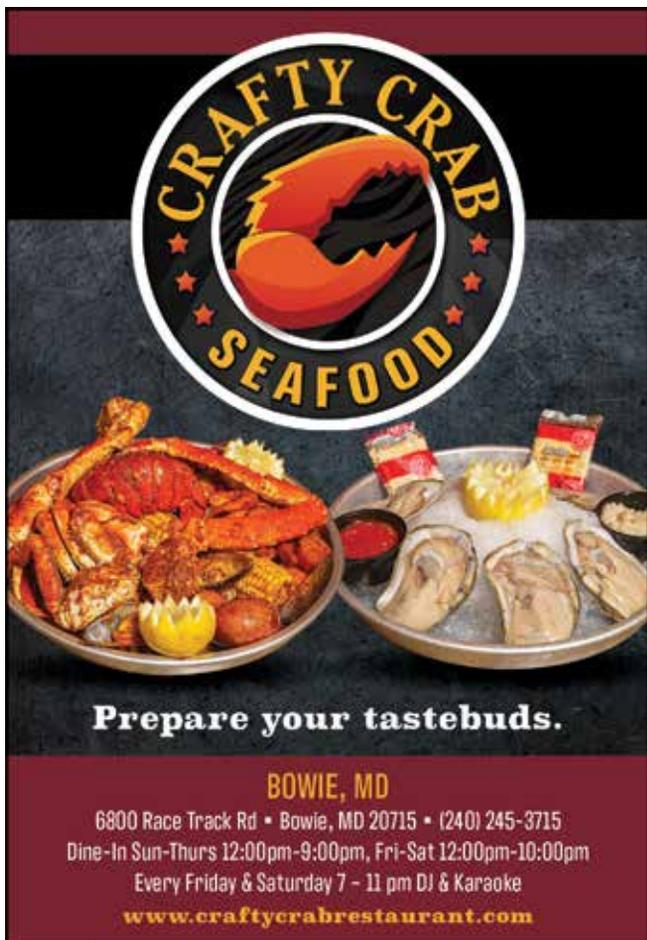
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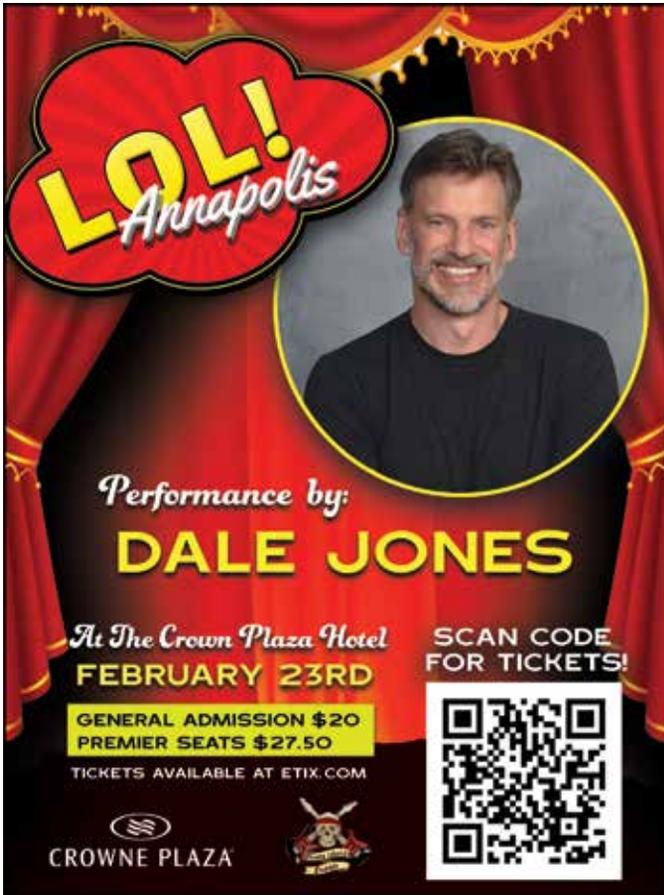
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Here's how the contest works: Wilma appears next to three different ads in this magazine. When you spot her, write the names of the ads and their page numbers on the entry form online or mail in the form below and you'll be eligible to win. Only one 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 **Megan C.** of Gambrells, 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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