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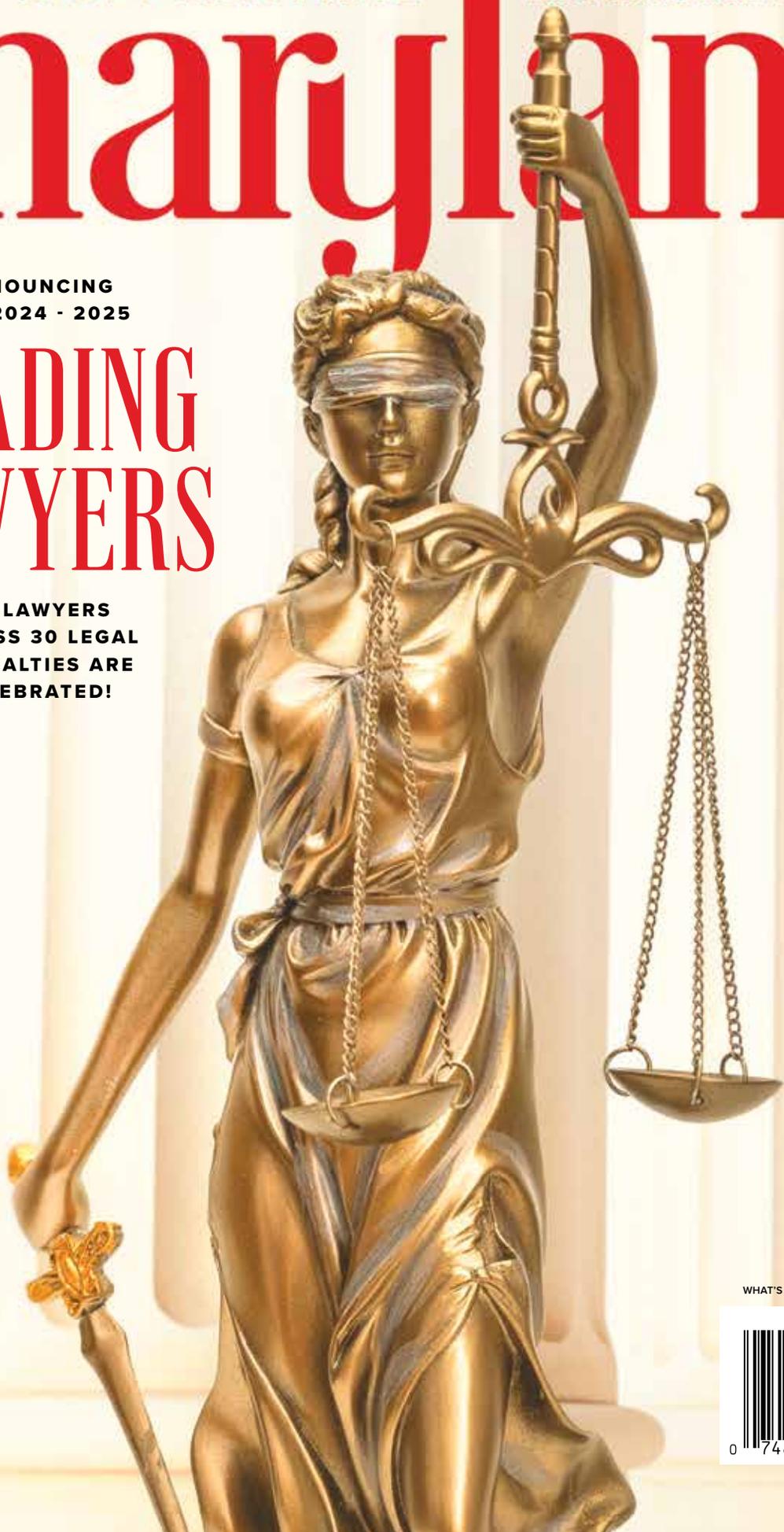
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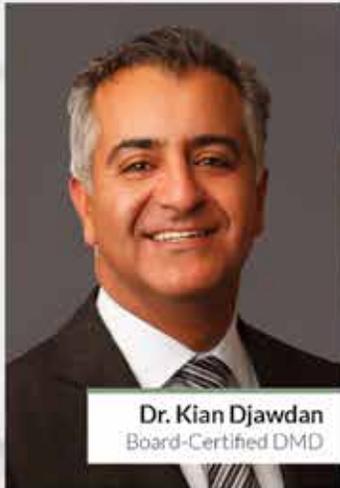


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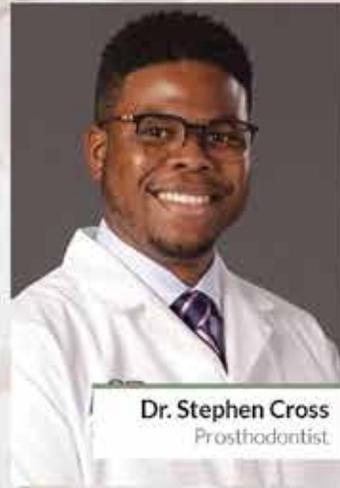
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This issue of What's Up? Central Maryland employs more than 25 local residents.

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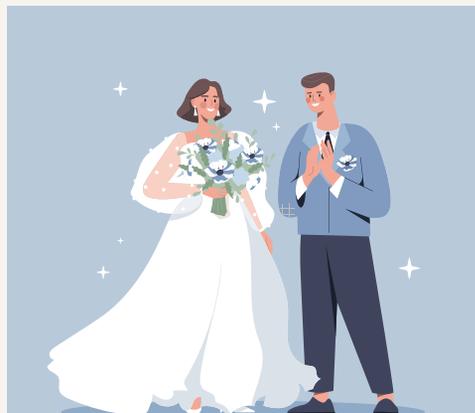


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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA'S 2024

EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

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



Planning your big day and looking for vendors? Visit our wedding vendor guide at whatsupmag.com/weddings/wedding-vendors





Let's make your mental health *a priority*

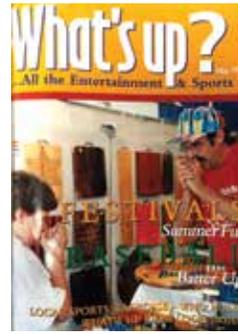
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During these 27 years, it's been *you* that motivated us to continue producing this magazine. From the stories and featured content to the many businesses and readers that support us, each magazine is testimony of the diversity, exciting culture, and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

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

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

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

Thank you for 27 fantastic years of support and encouragement!

James Houck,
Editorial Director

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Out **ON THE** Towne

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**Bourbon &
Blossoms**

PG. 11





WASHINGTON D.C. BOAT SHOW

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

Arundel Rivers on the Half Shell

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





Bourbon & Blossoms

Maryland Therapeutic Riding is trotting into Spring with its signature soiree. Bourbon & Blossoms will be at Maryland Therapeutic Riding in Crownsville on May 4th at 5 p.m. Live music by the Bachelor Boys Band will be performed while attendees enjoy dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions, bourbon tasting, dancing, and watch the Kentucky Derby broadcast. Find more information and get tickets at horsethatheal.org.

FEEDING HOPE

For its third year, the Anne Arundel County Food Bank will host Feeding Hope, a casual spring garden party mixed up with a mini-food and drink festival, on May 22nd, from 6 to 8 p.m. Presented by the Dietrich Family Foundation, the benefit at Davidsonville's Homestead Gardens brings together more than 200 food bank supporters to raise funds to help our neighbors in need fill their tables with fresh, nutritious food. Guests enjoy small bites and tastes from a variety of local restaurants and food shops, sip on wines, brews, and cocktails, and dance along to live music from Red Betty & The Ruckus. Find more information at aafoodbank.org.



Photo by Nyia Curtis Eye Opening Photography



**LET'S GO!
MUSIC FEST**

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

GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE GALA

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



Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition

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



MARYLAND FIESTA LATINA

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

Annapolis Irish Festival

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



Photo courtesy of U.S. Department of Defense

BLUE ANGELS AIR SHOW

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

Hospice of the Chesapeake

CELEBRATING LIFE AND CARING FOR FAMILIES FOR 45 YEARS

By Lisa A. Lewis

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

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

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



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

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

Dynamic Leadership, Dedicated Volunteers

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

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

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



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

—REBECCA MILLER

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

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

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



45TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

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

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

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

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

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

To learn more, visit hospicechesapeake.org.

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

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



WANT TO NOMINATE A LOCAL VOLUNTEER?
EMAIL US AT EDITOR@WHATSUPMAG.COM



11th Annual Black History Month Celebration & Awards

In honor of Black History Month, the Maryland Washington Minority Companies Association (MWMCA), The Cordish Companies, and Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland celebrated the impact of 10 local leaders during a celebration on February 22nd. Ten honorees were recognized as Black History Heroes, selected for their positive influence and significant contributions made to their communities and fellow Marylanders. The ceremony was hosted at The HALL at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland and included a keynote speech from Frances Murphy Draper, CEO and Publisher of The AFRO-American Newspapers dba AFRO News. “This award represents each recipient’s year-round commitment to making economic and social contributions to communities in Maryland where they live and work,” shared Ryan Eller, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland. “This event, which we partner with MWMCA for each year, is of great importance because it advances our commitment to lift the voices making positive impacts in our backyard.” Learn more at mwmca.org and maryland.livecasinohotel.com.

THE 2024 HONOREES INCLUDED:

- ◆ **Francis Murphy Draper**, Chief Executive Officer and Publisher, The AFRO-American Newspapers
- ◆ **Charlestine R. Fairley, Ph.D.**, Chief Executive Officer, Ane Arundel County Community Action Agency, Inc.
- ◆ **Jennifer Jones**, Chief Executive Officer, Howard County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA)
- ◆ **Rodney William Pitts, III** (posthumously), Firefighter/EMT, Baltimore City Fire Department ◆ **Kishia L. Powell**, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, WSSC Water ◆ **Everett L. Sesker**, Sheriff, Office of the Sheriff, Anne Arundel County ◆ **Zed Smith**, Chief Operating Officer, The Cordish Companies ◆ **Sean Stinnett**, MBE/VSBE/SBR Liaison & MBE/VSBE Compliance Supervisor, MD Department of General Services
- ◆ **Wesley Stith**, Vice President, Clark Construction Group, LLC ◆ **Chrissy M. Thornton**, Chief Executive Officer, Associated Black Charities



SPORTS & SOCIAL DC LAUNCHES BETTING PARTNERSHIP WITH FANDUEL AND LIVE!

Sports & Social DC, the nationally recognized dining and entertainment concept, celebrated the start of the March Madness basketball tournament by launching a new sports betting experience with FanDuel, an online sports betting platform. Sports bets can now be placed via self-serve kiosks or full-service desks. This announcement is in partnership with The Cordish Companies and Live! Casino & Hotel. The official ribbon-cutting included ceremonial commentary from Leon Twyman Sportsbook General Manager at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland, Suzanne Trout, Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer, and Bryan Harris, General Manager of Sports & Social DC. Marc Clark emceed the event with former University of Maryland head basketball coach Gary Williams and former University of Maryland and Washington Wizards guard Juan Dixon placing the ceremonial first bets. For more information, visit sportsandsocial.com/dc.



FRAME & FRAME MARKS 70 YEARS!

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



Kennedy Krieger Received CDC Funding

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently awarded Kennedy Krieger Institute \$7.5 million in supplemental funding to increase the number of participants in a well-regarded fellowship program. The program seeks to eliminate health disparities as it advances the public health education and careers of young researchers, particularly those from underrepresented populations. This additional money for the program will fund at least 72 more 12-month fellows who will focus on learning bioinformatics, laboratory sciences, and epidemiology technologies as well as gaining experience in integrated laboratories “With this new money, fellows will receive specific training in expanding technologies that are used to track and study infectious diseases as well as ways to prevent their spread,” said Harolyn Belcher, MD, MHS, senior director of Kennedy Krieger’s Center for Diversity in Public Health Leadership Training. “Students will have access to some of the newest advancements in public health, which is an incredible opportunity.” Visit kennedykrieger.org for more information.



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Evelyn Rogers

**ELIZABETH SETON
HIGH SCHOOL
CROSS COUNTRY, TRACK**

By Tom Worgo

E

velyn “Eva” Rogers’ father Andrew—who participates in 5Ks and ran at DeMatha Catholic High School—encouraged his daughter to run to stay in shape.

Evelyn didn’t take him too seriously until she started attending Elizabeth Seton High School in Bladensburg as a freshman. The Odenton resident decided to try out for the cross country team in fall of 2020 because she wanted to participate in a new activity.

At the time, virtual learning left her isolated at home, so she was eager to meet new friends at a new school where she didn’t know anybody.

As it turned out, high school cross country changed her life. To concentrate on running, the 5-foot-9 Rogers gave up her favorite sport, softball, which she stopped playing during her freshman year at the school.

“Cross country just really grew on me,” Rogers says. “I fell in love with the control you have over a sport like cross country. You get out of it what you put in. I got burnt out with softball. I put so much time and effort into it.”

Rogers became so good at cross country that she earned a scholarship to compete in the sport along with indoor and outdoor track at the University of Maryland.

Rogers says she also had offers from Florida State University, the University of Richmond, and the Naval Academy. She carries a weighted 4.4 grade-point-average and plans to major in finance with a minor in economics.



“I FELL IN LOVE WITH THE CONTROL YOU HAVE OVER A SPORT LIKE CROSS COUNTRY. YOU GET OUT OF IT WHAT YOU PUT IN.”

“Eva’s goal was to get some scholarship offers,” Elizabeth Seton Cross Country Coach Omar Wilkins says. “She knew she had to work hard to make that dream come true. She didn’t come in blazing. She really worked hard to get to where she is now. I don’t think Eva knows how to not be good at something.”

Wilkins isn’t just talking about running. Rogers puts a lot of energy into extracurricular school activities, including tutoring younger students at school in math and science and serving as treasurer of Vincentian Service Club. She helped plan the club’s annual Walk for the Poor and Breast Cancer fundraisers and volunteered to cook meals at Our Daily Bread in Baltimore.

When it came to cross country, her high school achievements jumped out this past fall.

Rogers won four consecutive races: Eagle Invitational, Bull Run Invitational, Adidas XC Challenge, and, finally, the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championships, where she beat the second-place runner by nearly a minute and a half. She also won the Seahawk Invitational and set a personal-best time of 17:32 for the three-mile course.

Those results contributed to Rogers being named the 2023–24 Gatorade Maryland Girls Cross Country Player of the Year and *The*

Washington Post All-Met Cross Country Runner of the Year.

“If you had told me (in September) that I would be winning it, I would have laughed,” Rogers says of the Gatorade award. “The girl (Leah Stephens) who won it last year runs for North Carolina State, the top program in the country and has the state record in the 5K and two-mile. I never thought I would have a chance to win it.”

Rogers established herself as a special runner during her sophomore season, winning a combined four invitationals and championships. That success has carried over to indoor and outdoor track. Rogers has competed in several national competitions and she capped the 2024 indoor season by placing 13th among 110 competitors in the 3,200 meters during the New Balance Nationals Indoor in Boston.

Her best accomplishments in outdoor track came in 2023 when won the 1,600 and 3,200 Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championships.

“Her mindset is always to push herself to the limit,” Assistant Indoor and Outdoor Track Coach Jonathan Glass says. “When she is focused on something, she is very dedicated to it. She will run herself into the ground. We have to literally give her rest or recovery days.”

Once Rogers completes her 2024 outdoor track season this May, she will turn her attention to training for the cross country season in the fall at the University of Maryland.

“I thought it was the perfect fit,” Rogers says of the university. “And it’s only 30 minutes from home.”



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Leading Lawyers

2024 // 2025



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

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

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

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

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

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Rick Jaklitsch



Christine Murphy



David Jaklitsch

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The Jaklitsch Law Group handles the most serious and catastrophic injury cases, and its four award-winning lawyers have become synonymous with significant settlements and verdicts for their clients. This track record of success has repeatedly earned the firm recognition from many of the nation's most prestigious groups of trial lawyers, and is another reason why *What's Up? Media* is again recognizing the Big Dogs from the Jaklitsch Law Group as "The Best of Central Maryland" and "The Best of Annapolis." Some of the firm's accolades include:

- Named "Best Personal Injury Trial Law Firm-USA" by Global Business Insight
- Honored by US News and World Report as a one of the country's "Best Law Firms"
- Named Maryland's "Best Personal Injury Firm" AND "Best Civil Litigation Firm" by The Daily Record
- Rick Jaklitsch again honored by Martindale-Hubbell as "AV Preeminent," the highest possible peer-review rating.
- Rick Jaklitsch and Christine Murphy recognized by "Best Lawyers in America" year after year
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- **Estate and Trust Litigation.** We handle a broad range of will, trust, and other fiduciary litigation. This litigation includes disputes on the meaning of estate planning documents, arguments involving estate or trust administration, challenges based on lack of capacity or undue influence, and breaches of fiduciary duty within trusts, estates, or closely held businesses.
- **Estate and Trust Administration.** We help clients with the process of winding up a decedent's financial affairs by implementing the individual's estate plan or in accordance with state law if the person has no valid planning documents. We prepare all estate and income tax returns in-house so we can offer seamless administration services from beginning to end.

Our Firm Culture and Why It Is Important to Clients

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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Attorneys Laura Curry, Jon Gasior, and Alexander Pagnotta.

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As members of the American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys, Sinclair Prosser Gasior has been helping families by providing peace of mind since 1995. We have assisted thousands of families preserve their legacy and wealth through comprehensive estate planning and estate administration.

We aim to foster lifelong relationships with clients and their families by offering free educational events, complimentary review meetings, and ongoing support to families.

No matter your age or financial status, every adult should have their basic estate planning documents in place. We offer free public estate planning seminars and webinars throughout the year. By participating in these events, you can gain valuable insights into the various estate planning options that are available to the modern family. Attendees receive a complimentary consultation with an attorney (\$450 value) to discuss their own estate planning goals and concerns.

Sinclair Prosser Gasior attorneys and staff will help ensure you have taken

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- Named Best of Annapolis 2022 from *What's Up?*, our hometown (and favorite) magazine.
- Named both Maryland's "Best Personal Injury Firm" and "Best Civil Litigation Firm" by *The Daily Record*.
- Named Annually to "Best Law Firms" list by both *U.S. News & World Report* and *Best Lawyers*.
- Rick Jaklitsch and Christine Murphy recognized as two of the "Best Lawyers in America" by *Rue Rating*.
- Christine Murphy named one of Maryland's "Leading Women" by *The Daily Record*.
- David Jaklitsch Named a "Top 40 Under 40" civil plaintiff trial lawyer by *The National Trial Lawyers*.

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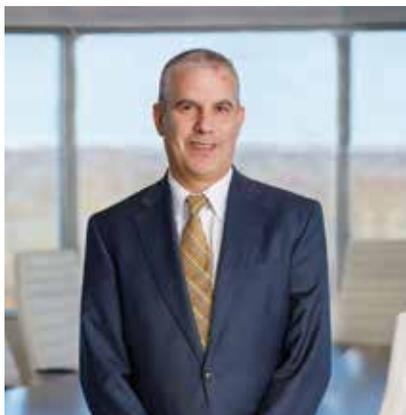


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KAREN M. AUTHEMENT, ESQ.

KMA Law Office

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

KAREN M. AUTHEMENT, ESQ.

KMA Law Office

540 Ritchie Hwy #201,

Severna Park, MD 21146

410-777-8646 | kma-law.com

info@kma-law.com



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

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

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

Jack K. Beckett, Franke Beckett LLC



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

Jon Gasior, Sinclair Prosser Gasior



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

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

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

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



Q: Do I really need an attorney if I'm injured in car crash?

A: We often see people try to handle their injury claims themselves, thinking they can quickly settle directly with the insurance company. However, they realize after they've settled that their injuries were worse than

expected and permanent. It is important to make sure your injuries are properly documented by doctors, that you get clear photographs of the scene and damage to the vehicles. It is best to contact an attorney as soon as possible after a collision in order to start preserving information, evidence and they will assist you in making the proper claim for benefits you are entitled to. An experienced attorney will know how to fully explore all insurance available to cover your injuries and damages from a collision.

Karen M. Authement, Esq., KMA Law Office



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

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

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

Deborah F. Howe, Franke Beckett LLC

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The Excellence in Nursing Campaign starts this month! A peer-survey project that celebrates exemplary nurses practicing in the Greater Chesapeake Bay Region. We are calling for licensed nurses and medical professionals to nominate your fellow nurses in several fields of practice. The results will be tabulated, vetted, and become Excellence in Nursing 2024.

Voting will close at the end of June (6/30). Those earning Excellence in Nursing honors will be notified in early fall and the results will be published in the November issues of *What's Up? Annapolis*, *What's Up? Eastern Shore*, and *What's Up? Central Maryland*, in addition to the online platform and social media channels of What's Up? Media.

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GOVERNMENT BUILT

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

BY LISA HILLMAN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TONY LEWIS, JR.



Imagine you have 188 bosses.

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

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

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

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

THE BACKGROUND

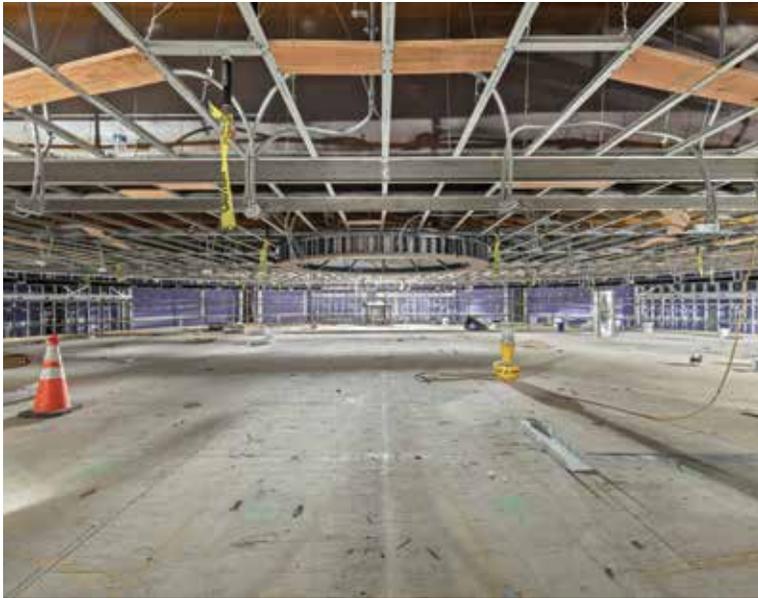
The original DLS building—built in 1976 on State Circle in downtown Annapolis directly across from the State House—was erected on the site that once held the Court of Appeals, Calvary Methodist Church, the church rectory, and several private residences. The site shared space with Lawyers Mall, an open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

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

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

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

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



THE TEAM EXPANDS

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

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

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

they determined the best course was a new building.

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

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

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

SAD FAREWELLS

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

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

MOVING OUT, MAKING WAY

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

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

By mid-fall of 2021, everyone was out.

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





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

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

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

The plan followed four phases:

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

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

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

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

WHAT’S INSIDE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





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

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

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

THE CENTERPIECE

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

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

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

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

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

WHAT’S OUTSIDE

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

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

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

WHAT’S UNDERGROUND

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

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



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

–VICKI GRUBER

much-needed upgrades, including waterproofing and improved lighting.

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

OPENING DAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Snapshot of What’s Where

4th Floor: Information Technology, Office of Program Evaluations

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

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

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

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

Basement: Library, Facilities, Procurement

The Project Team

Maryland Stadium Authority

Department of Legislative Services

Department of General Services

Architect: Murphy & Dittenhafer

Construction Manager: Whiting Turner



YOUR 2024 PHILANTHROPIC EVENT CALENDAR

Compiled by Megan Kotelchuck

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

EDITOR'S NOTES:

✦ There are a few To Be Determined events listed within the months they typically have been held in past years.

✦ For all events listed, always call ahead to confirm date and information, as changes have been known to occur.

✦ Don't see your organization's event listed? Email us at editor@whatsupmag.com to be added to the online listings and next year's print version.

MAY

WED, MAY 1

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

THUR, MAY 2

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

FRI, MAY 3

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

SAT, MAY 4

Bourbon & Blossoms at Maryland Therapeutic Riding's Crownsville campus. Horsesthatheal.org/events; Kentucky Derby themed event that supports MTR's therapeutic equestrian programs for those with special needs.

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

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

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

MON, MAY 6

Tee It Up for a Child for Anne Arundel County CASA at Crofton Country Club. Aacasa.org

FRI, MAY 10

Julianne Rosela Memorial Golf Tournament for The Julianne Rosela Founda-

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

SAT, MAY 11

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

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

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

WED, MAY 15

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

THUR, MAY 16

Golf Fore Our Girls for Girls on the Run at Renditions Golf Course, Davidsonville. pinwheel.us/registrationinfo/event/GolfFore-OurGirls2024; Girls on the Run of the Greater Chesapeake teaches girls in 3rd – 8th grades social, emotional, and physical well-being through a positive youth development curriculum. The program, offered in both fall and spring, includes life skills lessons, a community impact project, and culminates with a celebratory community 5K event that offers girls a tangible sense of accomplishment through goal-setting.

FRI MAY 17

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

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

SAT, MAY 18

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

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

MON, MAY 20

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

WED, MAY 22

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

FRI, MAY 31

Relay for Life for American Cancer Society at Crofton High School. Acevents.org; Help fund groundbreaking cancer research and patient care programs.

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

JUNE

SAT, JUNE 1

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

debris from more than 8,595 miles of shoreline.

MON, JUNE 3

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

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

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

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

THUR JUNE 6

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

FRI, JUNE 7

Fashion for a Cause for Hospice of the Chesapeake at the Fluegel Alumni Center (Annapolis). Hospicechesapeake.org; Join Hospice of the Chesapeake for an evening of runway fashion, food and cocktails, and revelry for a great cause.

SAT, JUNE 8

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

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

who need assistance coping with mental illness.

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

MON, JUNE 10

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

TUES, JUNE 11

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

WED, JUNE 12

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

FRI, JUNE 14

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

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

SAT, JUNE 15

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

MON, JUNE 17

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

SAT, JUNE 22

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

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

SUN, JUNE 23

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

SAT, JUNE 29

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

JULY**SAT, JULY 6**

Big Band Night for Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum at their campus in St. Michaels. Cbmm.org; In celebration of Independence Day, bring lawn chairs and picnic

blankets for an evening of music, dancing, and fireworks along the Miles River.

FRI, JULY 12

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

SAT, JULY 13

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

SAT, JULY 20

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

SAT, JULY 27

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

AUGUST**FRI, AUGUST 2**

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

SAT, AUGUST 3

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

SAT, AUGUST 17

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

SUN, AUGUST 25

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

THUR, AUGUST 31

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

SEPTEMBER**TO BE DETERMINED**

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

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

FRI, SEPTEMBER 6

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

SAT, SEPTEMBER 7

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

WED, SEPTEMBER 11

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

SUN, SEPTEMBER 15

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

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

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

MON, SEPTEMBER 23

GiGi's Playhouse Golf Tournament for GiGi's Playhouse at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course.

GiGisplayhouse.org; GiGi's Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to change the way the world views Down syndrome.

THUR, SEPTEMBER 26

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

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

FRI, SEPTEMBER 27

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

Chesapeake Film Festival benefits the Chesapeake Film Festival at various locations in Easton, through September 29th. Chesapeakefilmfestival.org; It is the mission of the Chesapeake Film Festival to entertain, empower, educate, and inspire diverse audiences of all ages by presenting exceptional independent films and events.

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

MON, SEPTEMBER 30

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

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

OCTOBER

TO BE DETERMINED

Tilghman Day Celebration for the Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department. Find more information on Facebook; Local watermen and other members of the community plan a number of exhibits

and demonstrations designed to highlight the Chesapeake Bay waterman's way of life.

SAT, OCTOBER 5

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

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

SUN, OCTOBER 6

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

THUR, OCTOBER 10

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

SAT, OCTOBER 12

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

SAT, OCTOBER 19

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

FRI, OCTOBER 25

Bountiful Harvest: Boots & Bling for Friends of the Light House at The

Atreum at Soaring Timbers in Annapolis. Friendslh.ejoinme.org

NOVEMBER

TO BE DETERMINED

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

FRI, NOVEMBER 1

Sultana's Downrigging Festival for Sultana Education Foundation in Chestertown, through November 3rd. Downrigging.org; One of the largest annual tall ship gatherings in North America. The festival features ship tours, live bluegrass music, lectures, exhib-

its, family activities, regional food, and more. Proceeds benefit the Foundation's environmental literacy programs and the other nonprofits participating in the festival.

FRI, NOVEMBER 8

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

SAT, NOVEMBER 9

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

CHRIS GIVES FOUNDATION TAPHOUSE

Annual Fundraiser
Saturday, June 22, 2024
 3-9 pm

Severna Park Taphouse
 58 W. Earleigh Heights Rd.

A Classic Case Band | 5-8 pm
Morty | 3:30-4:30 (Solo Guitarist)

Visit ChrisGives.com
 for more information on tickets,
 raffles, silent auctions,
 and 50/50's

The Admission Ticket price for the event is
 \$20/ \$25 at the door and includes \$6 Crushes
 and select Craft Beers for the night.

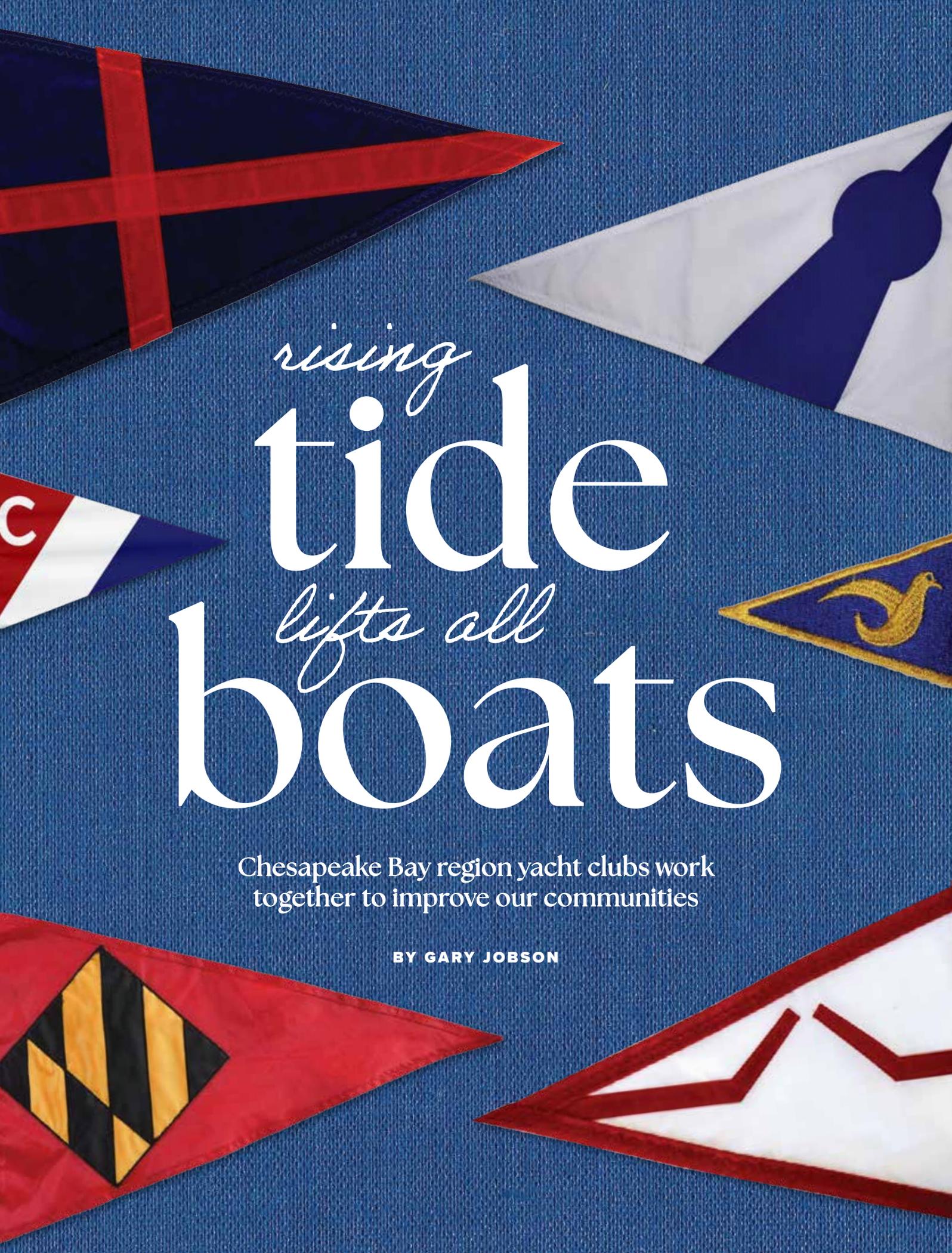


People. **Community.** Opportunity.

Supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live the life that they chose *for themselves.*



Scan to donate today &
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rising
tide
lifts all
boats

Chesapeake Bay region yacht clubs work
together to improve our communities

BY GARY JOBSON

S

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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

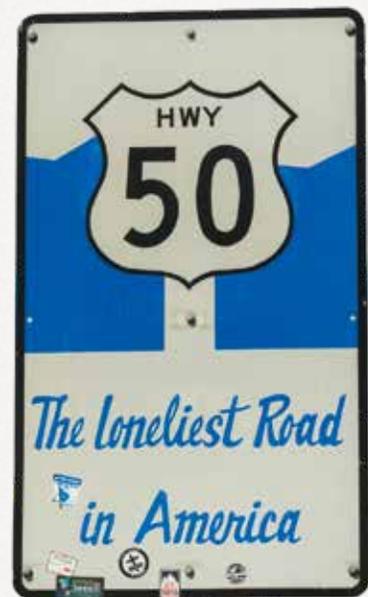


Henry Ford’s revolutionary automobile and its mass manufacturing would spur the United States to develop a national highway system to accommodate the rapid increase in auto travel.

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

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

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





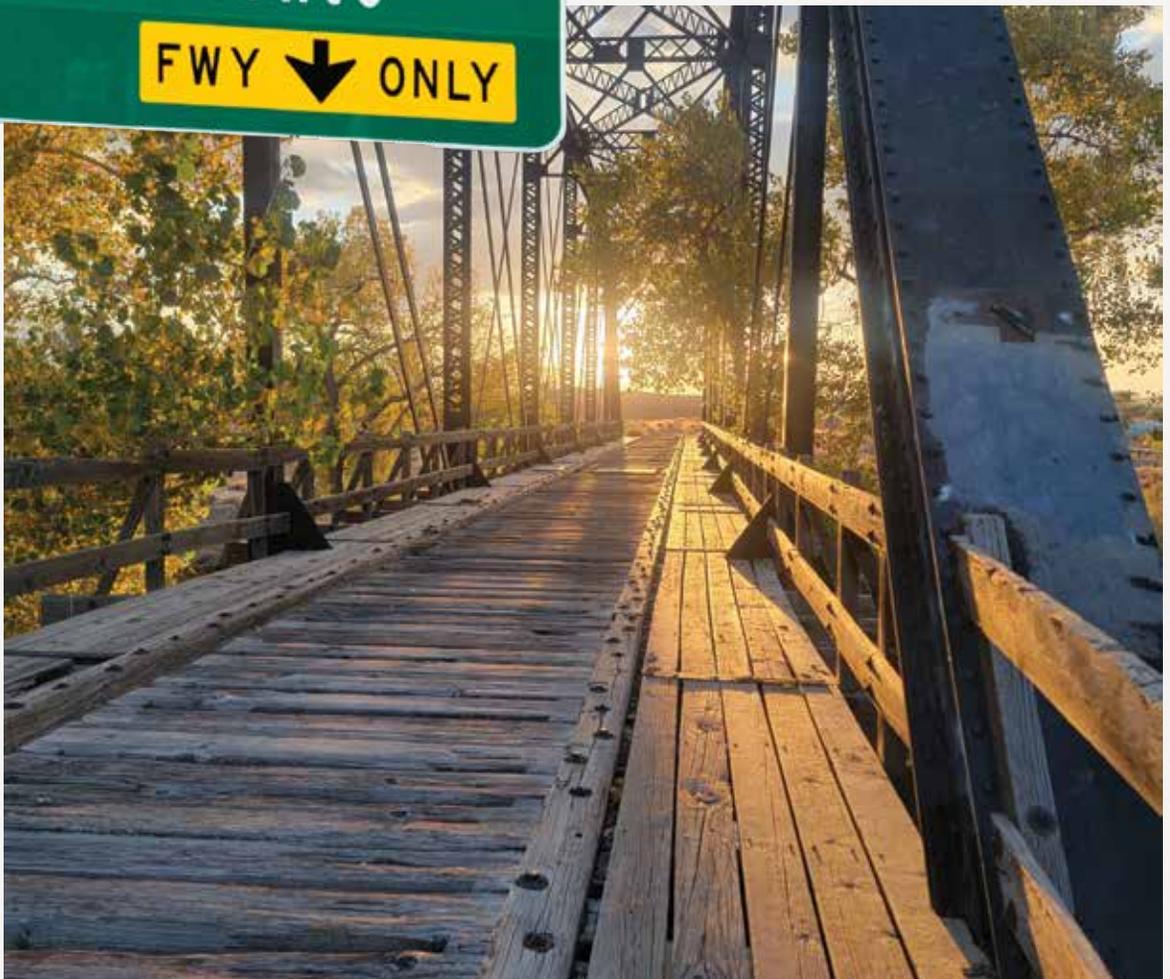
But what about U.S. Route 50, which began as a cross-country route from Wadsworth to Annapolis? The town of Wadsworth was named for a Civil War general killed in the Battle of the Wilderness in 1864. It was a major railroad town situated on the Truckee River. After 40 miles of desert, Wadsworth was a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

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

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



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





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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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60 STARTING WITH VALUE...

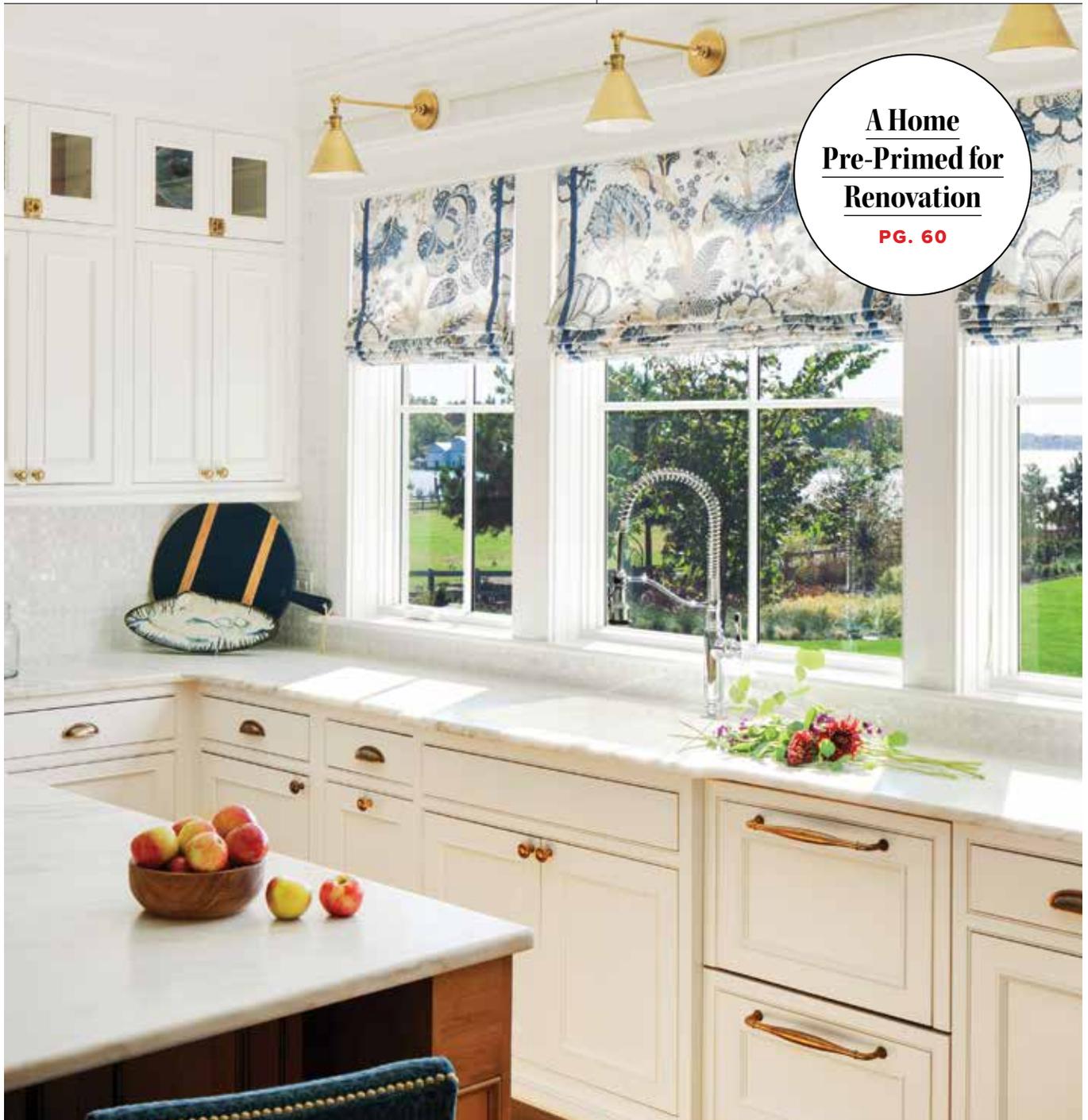
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**A Home
Pre-Primed for
Renovation**

PG. 60



Starting with Value...

AND A HOME PRE-PRIMED FOR RENOVATION

By Lisa J. Gotto

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





AFTER

BEFORE AND AFTER TAKEAWAYS

Dramatic. Impactful. Stunning.

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



FILLING THE MERE SHELL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

A PLACE FOR THEIR PALS

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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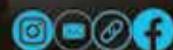
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Pretty Performers

FRESH FABRICS THAT EXTEND INDOOR LIVING TO THE OUTDOORS

By Lisa J. Gotto

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

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

WHAT MAKES IT LAST?

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

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



ACRYLIC:

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

Polyester:

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



SUNBRELLA:

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



Olefin:

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



SOLUTION-DYED:

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



WHAT'S HOT?

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

OH, WHAT A TANGLED WEB?

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



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



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

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



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

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

Protecting the Pollinators

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

By Janice F. Booth

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

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



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

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

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

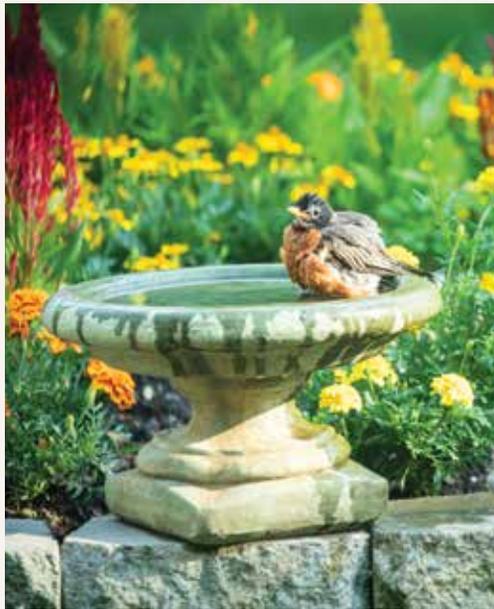
Discouraging techniques: If you plan to spend the winter away from home, think about removing some of your garden's tempting treats in autumn. Stop filling the bird feeders; remove and clean out the birdhouses. If you've provided a fountain or a birdbath, drain and clean it. Make your garden less inviting.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

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

NUMBER 2: BEWARE OF HIDDEN POISONS.

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

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



NUMBER 3: WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE, BUT NOT A DROP TO DRINK!

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

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

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



NUMBER 4: A PLAGUE OF RICHES!

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

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

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

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



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



On the Corner & Crazy Cute

By Lisa J. Gotto

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

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

Primary Structure Built: 1928

Sold For: \$1,546,800

Original List Price: \$1,425,000

Bedrooms: 4

Baths: 3

Living Space: 2,025 Sq. Ft.

Lot Size: .12 acres

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

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

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

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



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



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Sweet Charleston Charm

By Lisa J. Gotto

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

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

Ridge...we felt we had to make this their home."

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

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

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

The large kitchen in this home is a true showcase with dramatic, dark wood cabinets contrasting with the lighter vibe of its sourced-from-Ireland center island that offers breakfast seating for four, and its light floors and walls. A wealth of functional

Primary Structure
Built: 2009

Sold For:
\$1,800,000

Original List Price:
\$1,925,000

Bedrooms:
4

Baths: 4
Full, 1 Half

Living Space:
5,069
Sq. Ft.

Lot Size:
.21 acres



counter space topped with striking white marble, and a complete stainless steel appliance package including a six-burner Wolf gas range, make the space as functional as it is fashionable.

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

Ascend the wrought iron trimmed staircase to the second level and find an enormous primary suite that's more of a retreat than just a place to sleep with its spacious separate lounge with more custom built-ins and French door access to the room's private balcony, which also can be accessed through the bedroom. This balcony is a private get-away of its own with its views to the refined landscaping of the front yard, its column and railing detail, and sunny pergola overhead. The primary bath is spa-like with a soaking tub, a luxurious tile shower, and separate vanities. There are three additional bedrooms, two on this floor; they are both large. One makes the perfect suite for teens and kids with a great lounge for hanging out.

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

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

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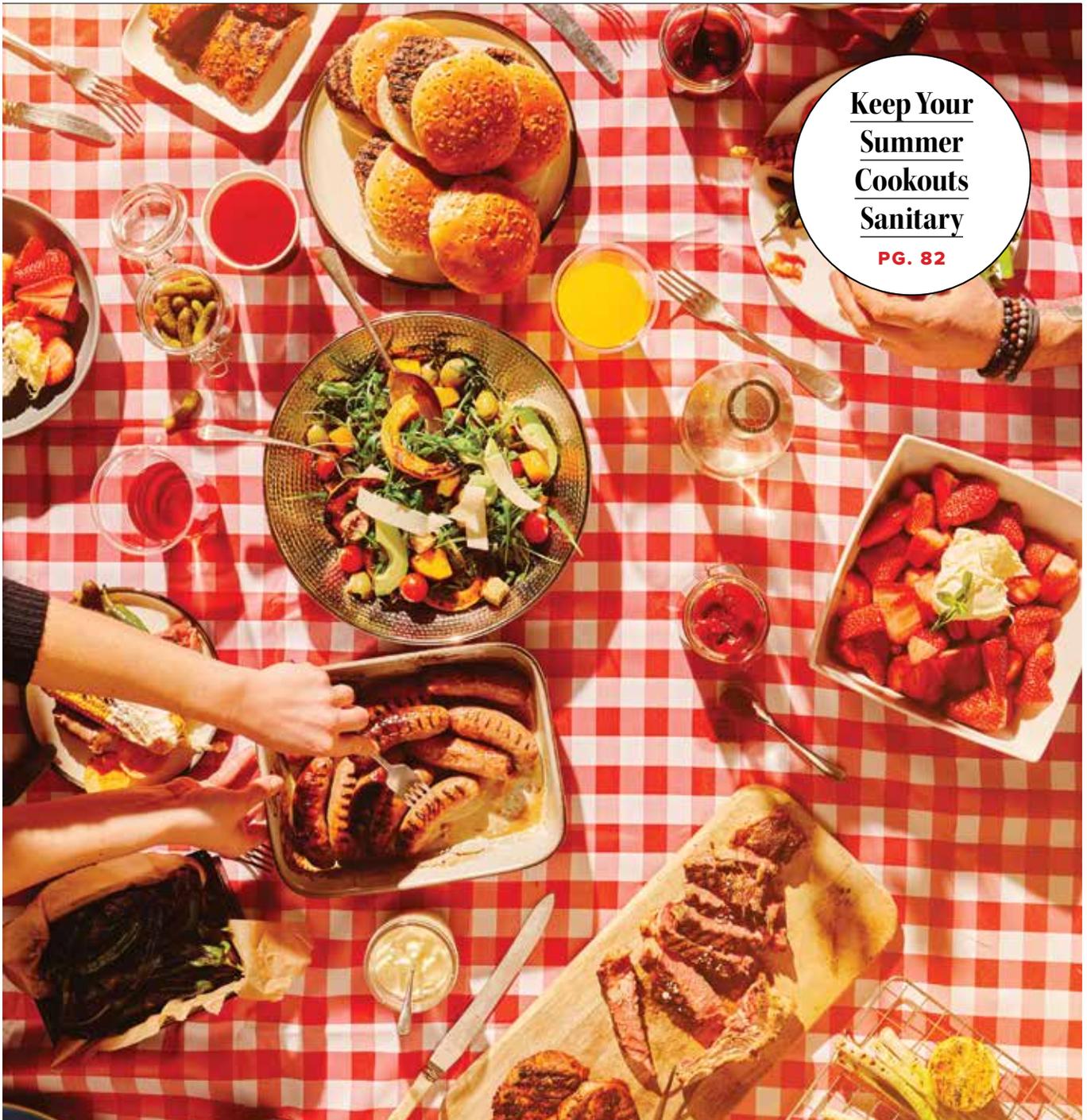
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**Keep Your
Summer
Cookouts
Sanitary**

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EMS

EFFECTIVE, BUT NOT AN AB WORKOUT

By Dylan Roche

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Look Away from This Cosmetics Trend

By Dylan Roche

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

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

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

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



Don't Invite the Grossness

KEEP YOUR SUMMER COOKOUTS SANITARY

By Dylan Roche



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

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

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

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



1. A DIRTY GRILL

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

2. Your hands

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

3. UNDERCOOKED MEATS

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



4. YOUR FRESH FRUITS AND VEGGIES

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

5. Cutting boards and plates

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



6. FOOD THAT'S BEEN SITTING OUT TOO LONG

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

7. YOUR MARINADE CONTAINER

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



8. OVERCOOKED MEAT

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

9. Melty Ice Cream

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



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

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

PFAS

WHAT ARE THEY, AND WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

By Dylan Roche

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

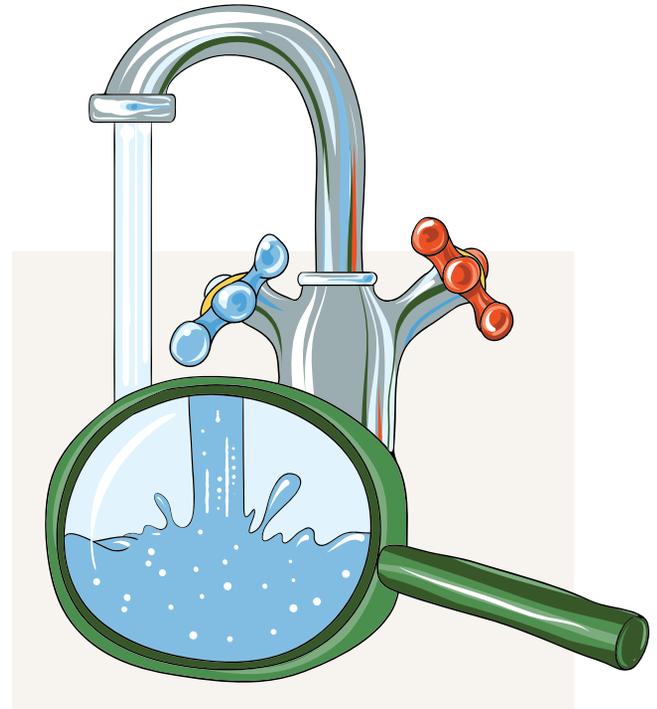
As the nickname suggests, these microplastics don't break down. They linger in the air we breathe, the soil in which we grow our food, and the water we drink. Because of this, they often end up consumed by humans or animals, where

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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When the Internet Diagnoses Narcissistic Personality Disorder

By Dylan Roche

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

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

There's a lot of overlap in behavior between a person with narcissistic personality



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

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

disorder and somebody who is simply self-absorbed. Both of them might brag a lot, or even put others down. They might seek attention in most social situations and get upset when they don't get treated in a special way.

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

This ability to empathize usually affects their sense

of ethics. A self-centered person might *want* preferential treatment, but they still have a moral compass. They understand rules, and they accept that rules apply to them just as they apply to others. Somebody with narcissistic personality disorder will find a way to rationalize breaking the rules, or they may even blame other people around them for the way they are being held accountable.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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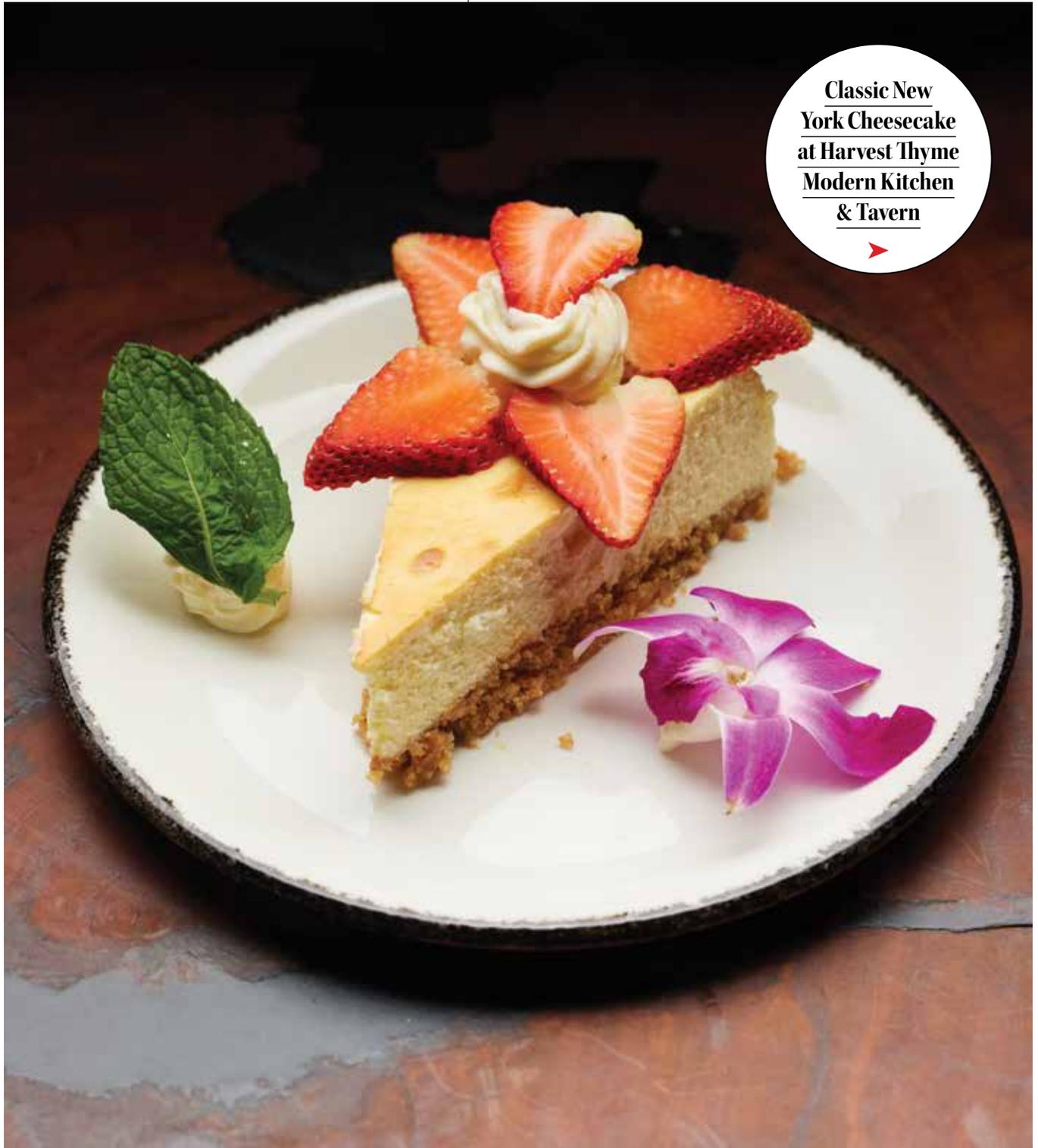
BEST OF CENTRAL MARYLAND 2022

Food & Dining

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Classic New
York Cheesecake
at Harvest Thyme
Modern Kitchen
& Tavern



A Special Kind of Place

By James Houck

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



Readers' Dining Guide



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

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6713 Ritchie Highway, Glen Burnie; 401-766-3713; cm-casella5/wixsite.com/glenburniepappas \$\$ ●●

Pitaya Mexican Restaurant

497 Ritchie Highway, #2d, Severna Park; 410-421-8044; pitayamexicanrestaurant.com \$\$ ●●

The Point Crab House & Grill

700 Mill Creek Road, Arnold; 410-544-5448; thepointcrabhouse.com \$\$ ●●

Ram’s Head Dockside

1702 Furnace Drive, Glen Burnie; 410-590-2280; rams-headdockside.com \$\$ ●●●

The Rangoli Restaurant

7791-C Arundel Mills Blvd, Hanover; 410-799-5650; therangolirestaurant.com \$\$ ●●●

The Rumor Reel Restaurant

1701 Poplar Ridge Road, Pasadena; 443-702-2188; therumorreelpasadena.com \$\$ ●●●

Sam & Maggie’s Dockside Grill

1575 Fairview Beach Road, Pasadena; 410-360-9526; samandmaggies.com \$\$ ●●● Seasonal

The Seaside Restaurant

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

Senor’s Chile Café

594 Benfield Boulevard, Severna Park; 410-431-3000; senorschile.com \$\$ ●●

Senor’s Chile Cantina

1264 Bay Dale Drive, Arnold; 410-421-1010; senorschile.com \$\$ ●●

The Social

139 Ritchie Highway Suite A, Severna Park; 410-544-2457; thesocialsp.com \$\$ ●●●●

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560 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park; 410-647-6300; sofiscrepes.com \$ ●●

Timbuktu Restaurant

1726 Dorsey Road, Hanover; 410-796-0733; timbukturestaurant.com \$\$\$ ●●●



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Busboys and Poets

5331 Baltimore Avenue, Hyattsville; 301-779-2787; busboysandpoets.com \$\$\$ ●●●●

The Common

Inside College Park Marriott Hotel and Conference Center; 301-985-7326; marriott.com \$\$\$ ●●

Crafty Crab

6800 Race Track Road, Bowie; 240-245-3715; crafty-crabrestaurant.com \$\$\$ ●●

Fiorella Italian Kitchen & Pizzeria

152 National Plaza, National Harbor; 301-839-1811; fiorellapizzeria.com \$\$\$ ●●●●

First Watch

15471 Excelsior Drive, Bowie; 301-352-3447; firstwatch.com \$ ●

Huncho House

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

The Irish Whisper

177 Fleet Street, Oxon Hill; 301-909-8859; theirishwhispernh.com \$\$\$ ●●

KitchenCray Cafe

4601 Presidents Drive, Lanham; 301-577-1425; kitchen-cray.com \$\$\$ ●

Looney's Pub

8150 Baltimore Avenue, College Park; 240-542-4510; looneypubmd.com \$\$\$ ●

Mad Cow Grill

310 Domer Avenue, Laurel; 301-725-7025; madcowgrill.com \$\$\$ ●●

Milk & Honey Café

12500 Fairwood Parkway, Bowie; 240-260-3141; milknhoneycafe.com \$\$\$ ●●●

Portum

6400 Oxon Hill Road, National Harbor; 240-493-1003; portumnationalharbor.com \$\$\$ ●●

Public House

199 Fleet Street, National Harbor; 240-493-612; public-housenationalharbor.com \$\$\$ ●●●

Red Hot & Blue

677 Main Street, Laurel; 301-953-1943; redhotandblue.com \$\$\$ ●●●

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American Grill
186 Waterfront Street, National Harbor; 301-567-8900; redstonegrill.com \$\$\$ ●●●●

Rip's Country Inn

3809 Crain Highway, Bowie; 301-804-5900; ripscountry-inn.com \$ ●●

Rosa Mexicano

153 Waterfront Street, National Harbor; 301-567-1005; rosamexicano.com \$\$\$ ●●●●

Ruby's Southern Comfort Kitchen

14207 Old Annapolis Road, Bowie; 240-260-3989; rubys-bowie.com \$\$\$ ●

SoBe Restaurant and Lounge

10621 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt; 240-334-2819; soberestaurantand-lounge.com \$\$\$ ●●

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186 Waterfront Street, National Harbor; 301-567-8900; succotashrestaurant.com \$\$\$ ●●

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