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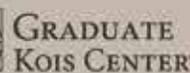
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*What's Up? Central Maryland* online at [whatsupmag.com](http://whatsupmag.com).  
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## Arts & Culture

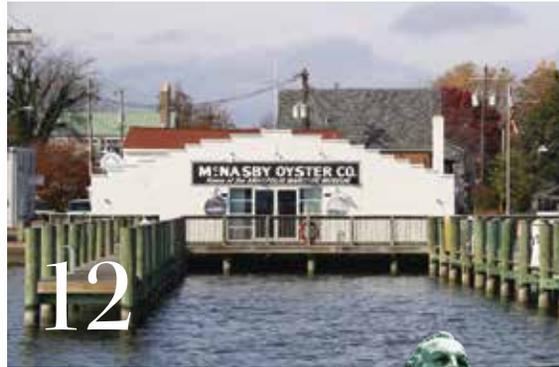
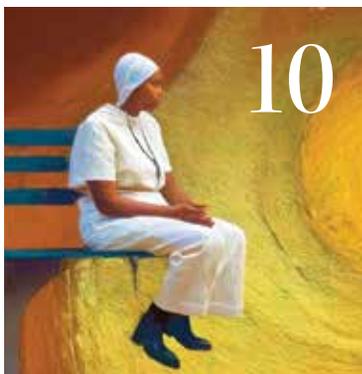
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# JUNE 4

6 - 9PM

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What's Up? Media's Best Of Party celebrates the best of the area's restaurants, shops, services, entertainment, and businesses all rolled up into one fantastic fundraising event. At the party, "**BRIGHTEN UP THE NIGHT**" is the theme, so come dressed in your most vibrant and colorful attire to match the energy of this unforgettable evening! "Best Of" restaurant winners, and only winners, serve samples of their winning dishes.



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Bourbon &  
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Spring Soiree

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### **TEE UP FOR A CHILD**

CASA Anne Arundel County's 24th Annual Tee Up For A Child Golf Tournament will be on May 5th with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Get on the greens at Crofton Country Club to help raise money for CASA, who believes every child who's been abused or neglected deserves to have a dedicated advocate speaking up for their best interest in court, at school, and in our community. Find more information and register at [aacasa.org](http://aacasa.org).

### **THIRD ANNUAL FAIRY HOUSE FESTIVAL**

Starting May 17th and continuing through June 22nd, Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis will have their 3rd Annual Fairy House Festival. Fairy houses will appear along the Holly Pavilion Trail, which is welcome for all to enjoy! On May 17th at 2 p.m., the Opening Fairy House Festival Enchantment will begin, so get your costumes and get ready to celebrate. Find more information at [fqwp.org](http://fqwp.org).



### **Bourbon & Blossoms Spring Soiree**

Maryland Therapeutic Riding's Bourbon & Blossoms is the perfect Spring Soiree at their campus in Crownsville, to be held on May 10th at 5 p.m. Enjoy dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions, bourbon tasting, dancing, and live music from Mood Swings Big Band to raise money for Maryland Therapeutic Riding. Find more information and get tickets at [horsethatheal.org](http://horsethatheal.org).



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Join the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra at Chesapeake Arts Center in Brooklyn Park for an exciting field trip concert that will take students on a rhythmic journey through the world of dance. The shows will be on May 9th at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. This concert will inspire a love for music and performing arts for students aged K-8th grade. Get tickets and find more information at [chesapeakearts.org](http://chesapeakearts.org).

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Photo courtesy of Songbird Festival

### **3RD ANNUAL SONGBIRD FESTIVAL**

The 3rd Annual Songbird Festival will take place rain or shine at Maryland Hall on May 4th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Songbird Collective is made up of local Annapolis musicians and aim to connect all women by providing a platform for storytelling and artistic expression in a safe, community space. This festival brings together a diverse group of women, women-owned businesses, services, resources, and more. Find more information and register for free tickets at [songbirdfestivalwe.com](http://songbirdfestivalwe.com).



Photo courtesy of Key School

### **ANNAPOLIS BOOK FESTIVAL**

Now in its 22nd year, the Annapolis Book Festival brings nationally renowned authors to our town for panel discussions and book signings. On May 3rd, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., visit the festival on the campus of Key School in Annapolis. Interactive, multi-generational, and free of charge, the Festival has something for book lovers of all ages. Combining compelling author panels with live entertainment, children's activities, huge new and used book sales, and food trucks, the Festival attracts more than 3,000 attendees each year. Learn more at [keyschool.org/annapolisbookfestival](http://keyschool.org/annapolisbookfestival).

### **Annapolis Irish Festival**

The Annapolis Irish Festival is back and better than ever, this year with a two-day festival at Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville on May 2nd (adults-only, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and 3rd (family-friendly, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.). Friday night, there are two bands to enjoy: Dublin 5 and Carbon Leaf. Come back the next day for more live music, axe throwing, Irish dancers, bagpipes, best red head contest, the Guinness mile, and so much more. Find more information at [abceventsinc.com](http://abceventsinc.com).





## MENTAL HEALTH GALA & AWARDS DINNER

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is hosting the 5th Annual Mental Health Gala & Awards Dinner on May 17th from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Be a beacon of hope to families living with mental illness by attending this event at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis. The night will have plenty to look forward to, including featured speaker Daniel H. Gillison, Jr., the CEO of NAMI National. For more information, visit [namiac.org](http://namiac.org).

## FRIENDS FOR FRIENDS

Help end the cycle of homelessness by attending Friends for Friends Supporting The Light House event on May 15th, from 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy a fabulous ladies' night out at the USNA Fluegel Alumni Center in Annapolis overlooking College Creek. Dance to live music, enjoy a full open bar, light fare, raffles, and discover the best in women-focused businesses all to benefit The Light House a Homeless Prevention Support Center. Find more information and purchase tickets at [friendslhs.ejoinme.org](http://friendslhs.ejoinme.org).



## U.S. Naval Academy Commissioning Week

One of the most eventful weeks in Annapolis comes every May with the U.S. Naval Academy's Commissioning Week. Celebrate the graduating Midshipmen with activities throughout the whole week in Annapolis. Several of the most exciting events of the week are the Herndon Climb (5/14), the Blue Angels Arrival/Practice (5/20) and Flight Demonstration (5/21), Color Parade (5/22), and Graduation (5/23). Find the week's full schedule of events at [usna.edu/CommissioningWeek/schedule.php](http://usna.edu/CommissioningWeek/schedule.php).

# Strokes of Genius

## MARYLAND FEDERATION OF ART PREPARES FOR PAINT ANNAPOLIS

By Carol Denny

**T**ucked in a cozy gallery in the shadow of the Maryland State House is a powerhouse of the local arts scene: the Maryland Federation of Art. The organization, now 62 years old, serves visual artists across the state and beyond, presenting more than 21 juried shows annually around the Annapolis Arts District.

If you've stopped into MFA's Circle Gallery headquarters, admired works by hometown artists on the walls of area restaurants, dropped by summer exhibitions at Maryland Hall, seen the array of locally created paintings in the hallways of the House of Delegates, or browsed the MFA website, you've seen the remarkable variety of artwork that MFA supports. Its reputation extends nationally and internationally, attracting talented creatives to submit their works for display.

MFA Executive Director Patrice Drago says that the extensive calendar of exhibitions is a big draw for artists, as is the high bar that the organization sets for its shows. "Artists are interested in opportunities, and they like the quality of the jurors we attract," she explains.



"Choices" by C. Lee was named Best in Show at MFA's Circle Gallery.



Top: Art on the Avenue, Paint the Bay, and Dueling Brushes are among the events featured during MFA's annual Paint Annapolis celebration. Bottom: An opening reception at a Circle Gallery exhibition.

"Every year, when we sit down to decide our exhibition calendar, our goal is to open it to as many artists as we can. That produces a wide range of media, styles, and locations in the works we choose. We're not limited to painting—we're very conscious that three-dimensional artists are welcome, too." With this wide-open embrace, MFA can showcase new trends in addition to a rich array of other works.

In addition to its seven staff members, MFA relies on a core group of volunteers. Its unpaid installation team, headed by local artist David Diaz, provides essential help in placing the artwork for each show. "We hang something new in the gallery every month," Drago says, "and we could never afford to hire staff for installation."

Perhaps the best-known event on the MFA calendar is coming up next month: Paint Annapolis, an inspiring celebration of works painted live *en plein air* (in open air). Held at pop-up locations and downtown galleries during the first week of June, it presents paintings that capture the light and atmosphere of the outdoors. In 2024, more than 100 artists participated, including artists who are juried into the competition and others who can apply for admission.

During Paint Annapolis, painters choose subjects in all corners of the capital city, setting up their easels on sidewalks and docks to bring their visions to life. Their creations remain on display to the public for the following two weeks, and all are available for purchase. "It's wonderful for the artists to make sales, and it also proves that the visitors who attend are really engaged," Drago notes.

The 2025 slate of events kicks off on Sunday, June 1st with the popular Dueling Brushes competition at Susan B. Campbell Park,

where participants get two hours to complete their submissions as passers-by look on. Tuesday is Paint the Bay day, especially loved in this coastal capital. Wednesday the theme shifts to twilight, as painters complete 'nocturnes' during the Dinner Under the Stars event on West Street. On Thursday, it's Art on the Avenue, where participants compete for the best painting of an architectural feature in Annapolis. Cash prizes totaling more than \$15,000 are awarded at the Friday evening Collector's Party, and the entire Paint Annapolis oeuvre goes on display for two weeks starting on Saturday. Capping the week is a Sunday morning muffins and mimosas party featuring the presentation of the Mayor's Award. Corporate partners PNC and Annapolis Subaru are the top sponsors of Paint Annapolis, with additional support from Visit Annapolis and National Harbor.

Following Paint Annapolis, MFA will present a new show, Introducing Interwoven Worlds: Art of APIME-DA Diasporas (June 26–July 26). A collaboration with the Asian Arts & Culture Center at Towson University, it will feature works by Asian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, and Desi American artists that express their cultural heritage and uniquely American experiences. The Power of Color (July 30–August 23) promises a vivid collection of 2D and 3D works.

For next year, MFA has more in store: a new digital installation ("I want to see someone holding a hologram of Princess Leia in their hand," Drago says with a wink) and a summer show entitled At Play.

"Our plan is to grow—but we need more space!" she says, echoing the refrain of arts groups across the city. In the meantime, MFA will be doing what it does best: encouraging artists to create, collectors to support, and art lovers to love through every program it presents. Learn more at mdfedart.com.

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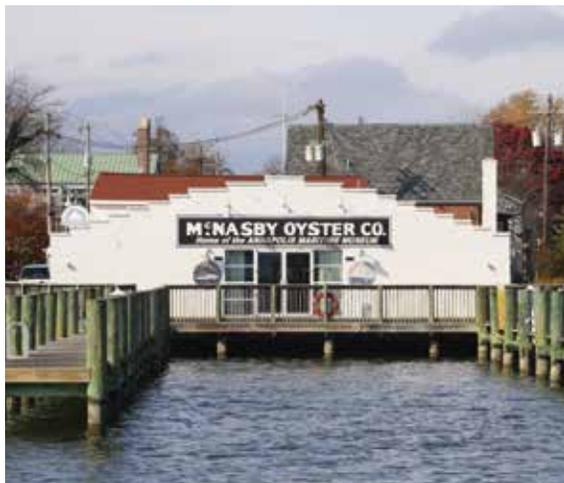
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# Exploring Maryland's Maritime Heritage

By Tyler Ingle

**M**aritime history is deeply woven into the fabric of our State's identity, shaping our economy, culture, and way of life. Native American tribes first navigated the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, relying on the abundant resources for sustenance and trade. With the arrival of European settlers in the early 1600s, the region's waterways became a critical artery for commerce and transportation. Ports soon rose in Annapolis, Baltimore, and other Bay towns, flourishing in trade and commerce—especially with the oyster and crab industries, which became internationally renowned.



Annapolis Maritime Museum



Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum

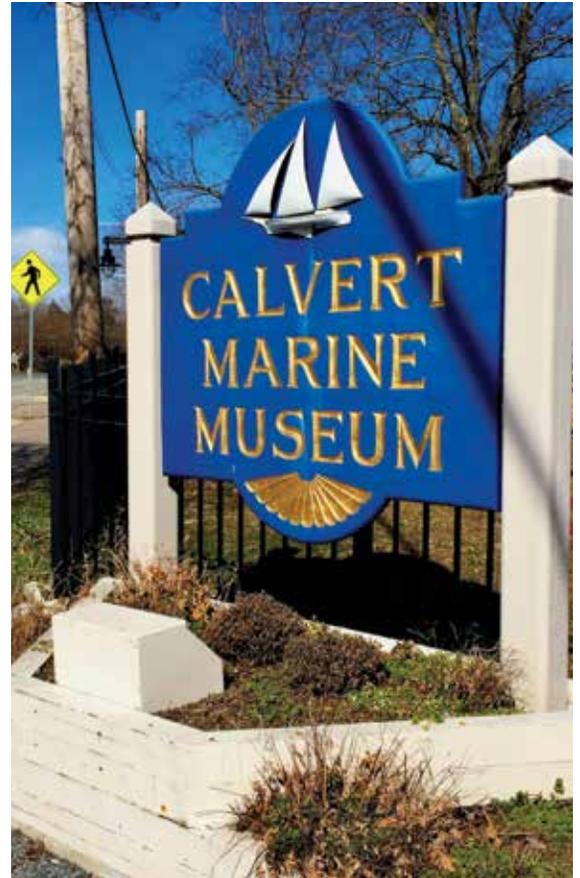
Rich in maritime culture, Maryland is home to several unique museums that share this history.

The **Annapolis Maritime Museum** focuses on Naptown's maritime heritage and the historic ecology of the Chesapeake Bay. This museum is open Tuesdays through Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The museum highlights our celebrated oyster industry while also acknowledging its shortcomings, such as over-harvesting and species depletion. Located inside the old McNasby Oyster Company property, the museum showcases collections of artifacts, paintings, drawings, and more. A few miles from the museum's main campus is the beachside park, a 12-acre waterfront parcel that offers hiking trails, an education center, and a public paddle-craft launch area. Patrons can experience a clamshell walking trail that spans one mile, providing the perfect opportunity for real-world viewing of local wildlife and marine habitat. The museum also hosts water tours aboard the restored skipjack *Wilma Lee*, lecture series, and seasonal exhibits inside. Tickets to the museum and its tours can be purchased online or in person. Visit [amaritime.org](http://amaritime.org).

Located in the peaceful Eastern Shore town of St. Michaels, the **Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM)** offers visitors hands-on learning through its exhibits and on-the-water experiences. Special exhibitions can be seen in the Van Lennep Auditorium and Steamboat Building galleries that offer patrons a deeper look into the historical significance of the Chesapeake Bay. The museum also offers water tours, a demonstration shipyard, family-friendly activities, lecture series, and special events on site. CBMM operates from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, April through October. Tickets can be purchased online or on-site, are valid for two days. Learn more at [cbmm.org](http://cbmm.org).

Founded in memory of captain James B. Richardson, the **Richardson Maritime Museum** in Cambridge focuses on the culture and craftsmanship of boats uniquely made on Maryland's Eastern Shore. The museum also preserves the craft of boatbuilding and teaching the next generation of boatwrights traditional skills. Home to memorabilia that spans 300 years, the intimate museum experience is open by request for tours and visits. In the near future, the museum plans to open with regular hours. For boat-building enthusiasts, the museum is always accepting volunteers to help repair boats, research local history, support collection and documentation for exhibits, become a tour guide, and more. Those interested can sign up on-line, where patrons can also find a link to make donations. Learn more at [richardsonmuseum.org](http://richardsonmuseum.org).

In southern Maryland, the **Calvert Marine Museum** (CMM) hosts a range of experiences for kids and adults alike. The Discovery room is kid-focused but gives visitors of all ages the chance to sift and search for real fossils, ranging from eight- to 20-million years old. Also, you can explore a model of the Cove Point Lighthouse, and see creatures of the Chesapeake Bay. The Biology Gallery houses three distinct Bay habitats, while the outdoor marsh walk crosses



Calvert Marine Museum



Avery Museum

upland marshes in their natural habitat. With a history gallery, oyster house, lighthouses, model boat showroom, and even a section designated for paleontology, CMM is a must-do! Tickets can be purchased online in advance, or in person on the day of your visit. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit [calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://calvertmarinemuseum.com) for details.

Also in southern Maryland—specifically Shady Side—the **Captain Avery Museum** showcases local maritime history through the lens of the historic house once owned by Chesapeake Bay waterman, Captain Salem Avery. The house was constructed circa 1860 and was expanded in the nineteenth century, and again in the 1920s by the National Masonic Fishing and Country Club. The property consists of the main house with additions, three sheds formerly used as bath houses, and a modern boathouse built in 1993 that features the *Edna Florence*, a locally-built 1937 Chesapeake Bay deadrise workboat. Today, the museum is open in the summer on Sundays, 1–4 p.m., between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The rest of the year, the house is only open during public programs and events. Learn more at [captainaverymuseum.org](http://captainaverymuseum.org).

## Expert of the Month



*Suren G. Adams*

Suren G. Adams  
Founding Attorney | Adams Law Office, LLC

**S**uren G. Adams founded Adams Law Office, LLC more than 20 years ago to help her clients get their financial house in order and find peace of mind. Her practice has since grown from a solo practice to a team of legal professionals. Adams obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland and her Juris Doctorate degree from the George Washington University Law School.

### What inspired you to focus your practice on estate planning?

I'm an organizer to my core. Estate planning is such a rewarding area of law because it allows us to plan and organize how we will own and manage our assets during life and after we're gone, so nothing is lost, mismanaged, or given to the wrong person. Organizing these details ahead of time gives such peace of mind because we know that if something unexpected happens, there is an organized plan for our loved ones to follow.

### Estate planning seems overwhelming. What advice can you offer to help me get started on the process?

Hire a professional to help. There are too many pitfalls for the

untrained person to tackle on their own. After spending a lifetime building wealth, don't bargain hunt to protect what you have built. You need to be confident that what you have prepared for the protection of your assets will work when you need it. Don't self-prepare a plan and assume it's okay—causing your loved ones to find out it was done incorrectly when it's too late to change it.

### What is the most rewarding part of your work?

I enjoy helping families find peace of mind. Estate planning keeps people up at night, but it also gets put off during the light of a busy day. At a time when we have very little control over so much in life, this is an area where we can make sure our wishes are honored. When clients complete their plan and leave their signing ceremony—looking like the weight of the world has been taken off their shoulders—I know I have done something good.

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### **LEADINGAGE MARYLAND'S LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION**

LeadingAge Maryland hosted its 9th annual Legislative Reception in January at The Maryland Inn in Annapolis. The event convened more than 32 individuals, including 15 legislators and 17 nonprofit providers. Legislators from the House Health and Government Operations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee gathered with LeadingAge Maryland leadership, board members, and provider members to build relationships and discuss critical issues facing older Marylanders. “It is important that LeadingAge Maryland’s nonprofit member providers of housing, services, and care have the opportunity to engage with our state legislators,” said LeadingAge Maryland Board Chair and CSI Support & Development Regional Manager Brandon Moss. “Our members, like Hospice of the Chesapeake, provide a crucial perspective on the needs and challenges older adults are facing within our communities, as well as issues within our industry.” Learn more about how LeadingAge Maryland at [leadingagemaryland.org](http://leadingagemaryland.org).

### **DESSERT JUNKIE OPENS SHOP**

Congratulations to Dessert Junkie bakery, which recently celebrated the ribbon cutting and grand opening of its brick-and-mortar store! Located at 15480 Annapolis Road in Bowie, Dessert Junkie offers classic American-style desserts and design-forward selections of seasonal cakes, cookies, ice cream, cupcakes, pies, and more. Learn more at [thedessertjunkie.com](http://thedessertjunkie.com).



### **Black History Month Art Competition Winner**

The Cordish Companies and Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland recently announced the winner of its Black History Month art competition. Brandon J. Donahue-Shipp of Baltimore received a prize of \$25,000 and had his piece—titled *Basketball Bloom* (AD—added as a permanent installation at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland. Donahue-Shipp was one of nine local Black artists selected to participate in a pop-up art exhibit, “Reflections of Joy: Celebrating African American Art in Maryland” that opened earlier this year. As part of The Cordish Art Collection, this piece will be displayed in the casino beside Sports & Social Maryland, joining on-site pieces by Andy Warhol, Jennifer Steinkamp, Odili Donald Odita, Mel Bochner, Nick Cave, and more. Donahue-Shipp is a multidisciplinary artist working in painting, assemblage and public art. He received his B.S. from Tennessee State University and M.F.A from The University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He currently resides in Baltimore. Learn more at [maryland.livecasinohotel.com/hotel/cordish-collection](http://maryland.livecasinohotel.com/hotel/cordish-collection).

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## Books Donated

As part of its yearly Summer Kids' Yoga Camp Service Project, Crofton Yoga & Wellness Studio recently donated 405 children's books valued at more than \$3,000 to the 50 non-English speaking children attending the Marshall Hope Corporation, Marshall Learning Center 2024 summer camp. "Books are expensive and our camp directors and campers wanted to help make it easier for the campers at Marshall Learning Center to have the ability to improve their English language skills and enjoy summer reading at home by sharing their love of books," stated Kimberly Murphy, Owner of Crofton Yoga & Wellness. "Reading enriches lives and encourages freedom through literacy, expanding a child's comfort level and options for success in a new country," says Amy Marshall, Executive Director of the Marshall Hope Corporation. "We are grateful to receive this additional resource for our Marshall Learning Center 50 summer camp children." Learn more at [croftonyoga.com](https://croftonyoga.com) and [marshallhope.org](https://marshallhope.org).





**MARYLAND FEDERATION  
OF ART NAMES NEW  
DIRECTOR**

The Maryland Federation of Art (MFA) Board of Directors officially named Patrice Drago as the organization's new Executive Director. Drago's expertise in business management, strategic planning, and negotiation stem from a distinguished career with Marriott International, and subsequently as a Maryland state legislative Chief of Staff. With a deep passion for community-based arts, Drago has been a key player in the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County arts community for over 15 years. "Patrice embraces innovation and brings enthusiasm, a wealth of experience and superb leadership skills to our organization," says Karen Ricketts, MFA's Board of Directors President. When Drago officially assumed the role last May, she had been serving as MFA's Acting Executive Director, succeeding the long-term and distinguished Interim Director Joann Vaughan. "As both a practicing visual artist and lover of art in all forms, I deeply appreciate the benefits of providing support to working artists, and to the community, by providing access to visual art...I am honored and excited to lead this vital and growing organization", Drago says. Learn more at [mdfedart.org](http://mdfedart.org).

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# Maryland Coastal Bays Program

**BOOSTING THE COMMON TERN POPULATION IN ONE OF THE EASTERN SHORE'S MOST PRECIOUS ECOSYSTEMS**

By Lisa A. Lewis

**N**estled behind Ocean City and Assateague Island, the coastal bays of Maryland are some of the most ecologically diverse regions in the state. A wide variety of wildlife lives within this vibrant ecosystem, including common terns, a species of migratory colonial nesting waterbirds. Striking in appearance and graceful in flight, common terns nest in colonies on the ground on sandy islands. Unfortunately, these iconic birds have declined at an alarming rate since the mid-1980s due to sea level rise and erosion of their natural nesting islands in this coastal habitat. They are now categorized as a state-listed endangered species.

In an effort to preserve common terns, the Maryland Coastal Bays Program (MCBP) partnered with the Maryland Department of Natural



Resources (DNR) and Audubon Mid-Atlantic in 2021 to launch an innovative conservation project to provide much-needed nesting habitat and help boost the population. Called the Tern Raft, the project utilizes an artificial floating platform that mimics a natural nesting site. Now in its fifth year, the project has shown great success.

According to data provided by Kim Abplanalp, bird conservation coordinator, MCBP, the population of common terns in Maryland's coastal bays in 2003 was 520 nesting pairs. By 2020, the number had decreased to fewer than 30 pairs. However, when the Tern Raft was deployed in 2021, the population showed immediate signs of recovery, with 23 pairs using the raft for nesting—making it the largest breeding colony of common terns in the coastal bays that year. In 2024, 304 pairs used the raft for nesting, which showed a recovery of more than half of the nesting population since 2003.

The Tern Raft is deployed every April through October in Chincoteague Bay, the largest of the five coastal bays. The other coastal bays include Newport Bay, Assawoman Bay, Isle of Wight Bay, and Sinepuxent Bay.

“The Tern Raft has been very successful in creating critical nesting habitat for common terns,” says Kevin Smith, executive director, MCBP. “In 2024, 82 percent of the adult birds that we banded in the previous three years returned to the raft, which is pretty remarkable. This year is especially exciting because it's the first full year that chicks born on the raft will be old enough to return to breed. It takes three years for birds to mature for breeding, so it feels like we've come full circle.”

“Colonial nesting waterbirds will disappear if we don't preserve their habitat,” adds Nancy Zeller, Ph.D., Citizen Advisory Committee representative, MCBP's Board of Directors. “Artificial nesting habitat works, but it's not a long-term solution. We need to rebuild the sand islands, so we can restore the breeding populations of species that rely on the islands to nest.”





Although the Tern Raft focuses on common terns, MCBP and its partners are also working on projects to enhance nesting habitat for royal terns and black skimmers, two other state-listed endangered colonial nesting waterbirds.

## **NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

Established in 1996, MCBP is one of 28 National Estuary Programs (NEP) across the country that receives funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to work toward the restoration and protection of “estuaries of national significance.” The program establishes partnerships with organizations to monitor water quality, track the health of the coastal bays, identify issues, focus on solutions, and develop restoration projects, such as the

Tern Raft. MCBP also offers opportunities to engage members of the community through its educational programs.

“MCBP works with many organizations and volunteers to keep the coastal bays clean and monitor the health of the waterways, marshes, and maritime forests,” Zeller says. “Maintaining the health of these areas is critical, so we can continue to watch the herons, ospreys, egrets, and terns hunt for fish and raise their young. These are experiences we want to pass on to future generations, and MCBP staff, partners, and volunteers are out there knee-deep in the marshes doing the research, restoration, and monitoring to preserve these habitats.”

## **A BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS**

In order to fulfill its mission, MCBP is required by the EPA to develop a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) to serve as a roadmap for the future. The CCMP must be revised every 10 years to reflect changes over time. This year, the program will release its updated plan, which is prepared



with the help of its partners. The CCMP is expected to be finalized and implemented in mid-2025.

Not only does the CCMP establish goals and actions, but it also determines the lead organization that will be responsible for restoration projects. Without the collaboration of many organizations and volunteers working together, it would be impossible for MCBP to achieve its goals.

“The work we do is so rewarding,” Smith says. “It’s really exciting to see the areas that we’ve restored functioning within the ecosystem like nature intended and to know that we’re helping protect the environment.”

To learn more about the Maryland Coastal Bays Program, visit [mdcoastalbays.org](http://mdcoastalbays.org).



## **Save the Date: Bay Day**

The 6th annual Bay Day event will take place on May 18th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at White Horse Park in Ocean Pines. Hosted by the Maryland Coastal Bays Program and Ocean Pines Association, Bay Day is a collaborative conservation effort that focuses on improving the health of the waterways adjacent to the residential shores of Ocean Pines. The free, family-friendly event will include hands-on activities, boat rides on the St. Martin River, live music, food trucks, live animal exhibits, and more than 30 conservation partners. For more information, visit [mdcoastalbays.org/events](http://mdcoastalbays.org/events).

**Special thanks to Liz Wist, education coordinator, Maryland Coastal Bays Program.**

# Annapolis Blues Women's Team Takes the Field

By Tom Worgo

# A

shly Kennedy may be the closest thing to the ideal coach for the first-year Annapolis Blues semi-pro women's soccer team.

Kennedy grew up in Edgewater and now lives there. She

knows nearly all the players on her team and played at the University of Maryland as a defender while earning All-American status and First-Team Atlantic Coast Conference honors three times.

The 40-year-old Kennedy coaches the girls' soccer team at Archbishop Spalding High School in Severn and coached the semi-pro team, Baltimore Cristo, who play in the same league (USLW League) as the Blues, for three years.

On top of that, Kennedy coached at George Mason University and played professional soccer for the Washington Spirit and in Canada for the Ottawa Fury.

"She's built for the community," says Annapolis Blues midfielder Talia Gabarra, an Annapolis resident and Broadneck High graduate. "Growing up in the area is huge. With her coaching and playing background, it's just evident she knows how to build a successful team. To have a local coach is pretty unique and uncommon."

Gabarra, a midfielder, highlights a deep, extremely talented, and experienced roster. She co-captained the team at the University of Central Florida, where the 24-year-old Gabarra started for three years. A professional team, the Orlando Pride, drafted her after college.

**"WITH HER COACHING AND PLAYING BACKGROUND, IT'S JUST EVIDENT SHE KNOWS HOW TO BUILD A SUCCESSFUL TEAM."**



In high school, Gabarra was named an All-State player three times and won Anne Arundel Player of the Year honors.

Several area players, including Meghan Bernetti (Edgewater), Courtney Corcoran (Crownsville), Sophie Thi-beault (Severn), and Reagan Mallia (Severna Park) support Gabarra in the lineup. The Blues also get plenty of leadership from co-captains Sara Martin and Caroline Duffy. The team also features forward Baylee DeSmit, who scored the most goals in the USLW League last year.

"I have been coaching the core of the players for the past three years," says Kennedy, whose team's season starts in May. "I know their playing style."

We spoke with Kennedy and Gabarra about the Blues.

**Ashly, what does it mean to coach a team in Annapolis when you have lived most of your life in the area?** It's a very humbling and rewarding experience. Coming to my stomping grounds, there are a lot of people that I know and grew up with that have reached out. The encouragement, support, and excitement are great. Having that support makes it that much more special.

**What will be your style of play? Offense or defensive-oriented?**

I am going to fit the style around the personnel. I play a combination of styles, but I make sure we are organized defensively and have strong defensive components mastered. As far as on the attacking side, I run possession style of play.

**What is your approach to inspiring a brand-new collection of players?** The one positive is that I have connections with them. So, I have been coaching the core of the players for the past three years. I know their style. Now, it's just merging and putting the puzzle together of what players work well together. As far as inspiration, I want this to be fun for them. I don't want it to be super structured like they are in college and just have to fill a role. I want them to be able to build creativity and confidence. Having players around them that are going to make them better is always a way to inspire and make it fun for them. Those are big pieces. Also, the support they'll have in the stands will be inspiring.

**What are the biggest challenges in putting a new team together?** A lot of players from the DMV area also play out of state. Working with their schedules and if they are going to be back at school or not before the season ends. I stress the importance of what this summer will look like. They will get quality experience in a really competitive environment.

**How exactly did you learn about the Blues' team and how did you get tapped to be the coach? What was that process?** Jim Gabarra is the general of our club. I have known him for a long time in the soccer community. He used to coach me when I played with the Washington Spirit. I used to train with that team in summers when I was at Maryland. Our philosophies and values aligned. Through my coaching experiences, giving back to the community in the area, and having success, I think it made sense. He said I would love you to be coach of the team and that's how it was settled.



**Do you expect the motivation and intensity of a new team gives you an edge over opponents?** It's definitely raising the level of interest of the players. The quality and the number of players that are coming out for the team has definitely elevated the team. I would say I probably have the strongest player pool at tryouts to build a team that I've had coaching semi-pro soccer for the past three years. This will be my strongest for sure.

**Talia, how excited are you and all the players for the upcoming season?** It is really special and I know a lot of players feel the same. We are excited to have this in the heart of Annapolis. We are surrounded by so many supportive fans. We are also supported by a great staff, owner, and front office. It's not normal to have this much excitement. If someone told us a few years ago that a professional soccer team would be in Annapolis, we would have laughed just because it is so lacrosse-oriented around here.

**What do you think about playing in Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium?** I think it's great. Having the Navy-Marine Corps as part of the name of the stadium kind of speaks for itself. We will be grateful and have a sense of pride. Playing on their turf is something special. Playing in a city with such honorable young individuals that serve our country is something we will not take lightly. To be on the field, surrounded by a lot of fans from Annapolis and having Annapolis on the jersey will feel so incredible. Representing my hometown is not something everybody gets to do. I am grateful for that.

**Do you feel the Blues can compete for a championship considering the team is so new?** Of course. We have been set up for success already because of our coaching staff and resources. I have a ton of faith in Ashly. I never played for her, but I grew up around her coaching. I know she will put together the best team and really lead us in the right direction. Ashly will only put fierce competitors on the team. The players will be competing day in and day out to win a championship and game after game. And we have the community behind us.

FOR THE COMPLETE WOMEN'S AND MEN'S ANNAPOLIS BLUES SCHEDULES AND TO PURCHASE GAME TICKETS, SCAN THIS QR CODE OR VISIT: [ANNAPOLISBLUES.COM/SCHEDULE](https://ANNAPOLISBLUES.COM/SCHEDULE)



# Baltimore Orioles General Manager Mike Elias

By Tom Worgo



**M**ike Elias deeply appreciates the rich history of the Baltimore Orioles. When Elias took over as executive vice president and general manager in 2018, he enthusiastically contacted franchise icons Cal Ripken, Jr., Brooks Robinson, Jim Palmer, and Eddie Murray to let them know about his plan for an overhaul.

“We have more than our share of Hall of Fame players,” says Elias, an Alexandria, Virginia, native. “We have a lot of good resources there. And they are all around the area.”

Those players probably like how Elias, a former assistant general manager with the Houston Astros (2016–18), helped the Orioles become relevant again, starting in 2022. It took a few years because the Orioles organization was in difficult shape. Baltimore lost more than 100 games in each of the 2018, 2019, and 2021 seasons.

“The organization was fractured quite a bit,” Elias recalls.

Who expected this turn around? The Orioles are the only team in modern MLB history to go from 110-or-more losses in a season (2021) to a winning record (83-79) the following year.

Things got even better. The 42-year-old Elias, a Yale graduate who played baseball there, earned the 2023 Major League Baseball Executive of the Year award after Baltimore won the American League East and league-best 101 games that year.

Baltimore went 91-71 in 2024 and returned to the playoffs. The winning likely won't stop, as the Orioles' minor league system consistently receives national praise.

**Was getting the general manager's job like a homecoming for you?** I went to elementary and high school in Northern Virginia. The Nationals didn't exist yet. So, the Orioles were the local major league product. We watched the games on TV and went up to Camden Yards. They were good in the late-'90s. Cal was a local hero for any young kid playing baseball in the area, including me. I grew up with him. I still have a lot of family in the area. I used to scout this part of the country. I am familiar with the area. It was a big draw for me.

**Talk about how important it has been to get the Orioles back to winning?** The way I look at it, no one has been able to string together a long stretch of sustained competitiveness and excellence in the American League East in this modern era. You have to go back to the '70s to see three playoff appearances in a row. We are trying to solve that. Uniquely, for a stretch of time the Orioles were the top organization in baseball. They just did everything well and

were dominant on the field. They were known as a nimble, smart organization. That's what we sought to tap into and reestablish because that was a big part of the Orioles' identity. The fans, especially the ones that have been around a long time, or have multiple generations of fandom, have that sight of excellence in Orioles' history.

**Has it been exciting to interact with some Oriole all-time greats like Ripken, Palmer, and Robinson?** One of the great things about the Orioles is the history of the team. My first couple of days on the job, I called them. Jim Palmer is one of our main broadcasters, Cal lives in the area and is in our ownership group. Brooks passed away (in 2024), but he was so gracious, and inspiring. He would come talk to the team. He was proud when the group started winning in 2022. Eddie Murray works for us and comes to spring training. They have devoted their lives to the Orioles.

**ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT THE ORIOLES IS THE HISTORY OF THE TEAM.**

**When you arrived from Houston, you stressed analytics. Has that been your biggest impact?** There wasn't a lot of alignment between the front office, ownership, and player development. We had a few problems structurally and one was the lack of a modern analytics department. We ramped up investment and infrastructure, built staffing, and the data science and software engineering spaces. I think the track record that I have brought from the Astros and Cardinals allowed us to do so quickly. Now, I think we have a first-rate, very healthy organization with a good farm system, major league team, finances, and first-rate infrastructure.

**You have made a number of trades. What were the ones you liked the most and one you'd like to have back?** The Corbin Burnes trade was a good one. It's a shame we weren't able to enjoy him longer in the playoffs (left as free agent, 2024). He pitched great, but we didn't advance. Some of the ones we did during the rebuild really had an impact. Kyle Bradish (2023 All-Star) was a big boost after getting him in the Dylan Bundy trade. In 2022, we had a tough decision to sell or not. We were in the wild card race a little bit. We traded Trey Mancini. We got a good arm back from Houston and he went on to win the World Series.

**Tell me about each of the three biggest free-agent acquisitions for this season; outfielder Tyler O'Neill, and pitchers Charlie Morton and Tomoyuki Sugano?** We like the way the roster has shaped up. We have a tremendous young core of position player talent. We are able to build around that. Tyler is an obvious need, and it has been for a year or two now of having a right-handed slugger to balance the lineup. There's almost nobody that hits left-handed pitching as well as him. He hit 31 home runs last year. With our starting pitching, we are targeting innings, durability, and experience. They have proven track records.



**What have been the positives of new majority owner David Rubenstein?** He is just getting started. The capital injection from him and his group is huge. They are energetic and well-funded—tremendously successful investors. That will enable us to run the Orioles' franchise optimally. It doesn't mean we are going to look like the Yankees or Dodgers. But we'll work in the context and realities of the Major League economic system and being the market size we are. This group will allow us to explore everything that is smart to keep this franchise in a good spot. David is from Baltimore and really cares about the city. I think what he does is wonderful. He is very transparent and accessible and enjoys the experience. He likes to sit in the seats with the fans.

**What kind of baseball player were you at Yale?** I was a good high school pitcher. I turned into a run-of-the-mill pitcher in the Ivy League. But I was a left-hander who threw seven different pitches and knew how to pitch. I had two pretty good years, then I had a shoulder injury that slowed me down. I came back from it, but it enabled me to start shifting gears and thinking about a career in baseball.

**What were you thinking of as a career choice in college initially?** I was studying Arabic. My dad was a secret service agent and he worked in intelligence. We have Syrian in the family. He could speak a little bit, and I thought it would be interesting to learn it. It was very, very time-consuming. But once I realized I was devoted to baseball, I switched majors. I had devoted my whole life to practicing, learning, and following baseball. I wasn't good enough to play professionally. But I felt I accumulated a lot of knowledge. I didn't want to waste that.

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## Class of 2025

Meet this year's dynamic class of young lawyers nominated by their firm because they demonstrate diligence, passion, and professionalism in their respective area of legal practice. Each lawyer is about 40 years old or younger. Their zenith awaits them. Read on to meet the Up and Coming Lawyers Class of 2025. Lawyers are listed alphabetically by first name.



### Alexander Berman

**Griffin & Griffin, LLP**  
1320 19th Street NW, Ste. 800,  
Washington, D.C. 20036;  
202-429-9000; [washlaw.com](http://washlaw.com)

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law **The firm said:** "Alexander consistently demonstrates exceptional legal acumen and client dedication. His diverse background, encompassing an MBA in Finance and a J.D. with a Real Estate focus, equips him to provide insightful and strategic guidance in complex corporate, real estate, and estate matters."



### Alicen Jobs

**Burnett Injury Group**  
2661 Riva Road, Bldg. 1000, Ste. 1010,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 443-785-6406;  
[burnettinjurygroup.com](http://burnettinjurygroup.com)

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Medical Malpractice Law **The firm said:** "Alicen earned her BS from Towson and is a Registered Nurse (RN). She was in clinical practice for a number of years and then shifted her focus and entered law school. She has been a practicing attorney for several years and is already a leader in the field of Medical Malpractice."



### Alicia Balanesi

**Franke Beckett LLC**  
151 West Street, Ste. 301, Annapolis, MD  
21401; 410-263-4876; [fredfranke.com](http://fredfranke.com)

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law **The firm said:** "Alicia's thorough and creative legal work consistently demonstrates her ability to analyze complex issues and craft innovative solutions that achieve outstanding results. Beyond her technical skill, Alicia excels at building meaningful relationships with her clients."



### Alla Cates

**Frost Law**  
839 Bestgate Road, Ste. 400, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-995-9618; askfrost.com

**Education:** George Washington University Law School **Legal Specialty(s):** Tax Law  
**The firm said:** "Alla brings a decade of experience across a wide range of tax issues, from traditional areas like audits and penalty abatements to cutting-edge challenges like cryptocurrency audits. Her international tax knowledge, spanning numerous countries and complex regulations, adds another layer to her impressive skillset."



### Andre Habib

**Liff, Walsh & Simmons LLC**  
181 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Ste. 200,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-266-9500;  
liffwalsh.com

**Education:** Widener University Delaware School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Litigation, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Andre is a team player with a tremendous work ethic. He applies creative thinking skills to find new ways to resolve complex problems. He is diligent in all of his work, resulting in excellent attention to detail."



### Bridget Campbell

**Campbell and Furneisen Law, LLC**  
210 S. Cross Street, Chestertown,  
MD 21620; 443-480-6229;  
campbellandfurneisen.com

**Education:** Juris Doctor **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law, Family Law  
**The firm said:** "She's wonderful and always willing to help those in need."



### Brittney Grizzanti

**Bagley & Rhody, P.C.**  
1788 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-573-1626; bagleyrhody.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law **The firm said:** "Brittney heads the firm's Estate Planning Department and handles a variety of client needs, ranging from those who are looking to establish a simple estate plan for the first time, to clients with more complex needs, such as probate avoidance, estate, and gift tax planning, business succession planning, charitable planning, and planning for individuals with special needs."



### Christina van Vonno

**McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker LLC**  
9925 Stephen Decatur Highway, Ste. 5,  
Ocean City, MD 21842; 410-213-2202;  
mdswlaw.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law, Litigation **The firm said:** "Since joining MDSW two years ago as an associate attorney, Christina has grown her practice with remarkable confidence and professionalism, quickly establishing herself as a valued contributor to our family law department. Known for her sharp intellect and empathetic pragmatism, she consistently delivers exceptional results advocating for her clients."



### Connor Noel

**Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.**  
221 Duke of Gloucester Street, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-263-3131; hbdlaw.com

**Education:** George Washington University Law School **Legal Specialty(s):** Litigation  
**The firm said:** "In the short time since Connor has been practicing he has already handled many difficult cases for the firm and has earned praise from the clients, opposing attorneys, and his colleagues. Connor is clearly an up and coming attorney in Maryland."



## Corinne D. Adams

**YVS Law, LLC**  
185 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Ste. 130,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-571-2780;  
yvslaw.com

**Education:** St. John's University School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Bankruptcy Law  
**The firm said:** "Corinne has become one of the most respected bankruptcy practitioners in the greater Maryland bankruptcy bar. Corinne's leadership roles include IWIRC and Inn of Court board positions; she is a past co-chair of IWIRC's Greater Maryland network."



## Craig Snyder

**McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker LLC**  
706 Giddings Avenue, Ste. 305, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-934-3900; mdsowlaw.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Craig is one of our firm's most diligent and intuitive associate attorneys. Driven by an exceptional work ethic, Craig is unwavering in his commitment to delivering excellent service and expert guidance to his clients."



## Cristol Wagner

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Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-573-4818;  
spgasior.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law **The firm said:** "Cristol is dedicated to supporting her clients with trust and compassion, whether helping them create a secure estate plan to ease their worries or guiding them through the challenging process of estate administration after a loss. She recognizes that each client or family has unique needs and priorities."



## Dave Baxter

**Coon & Cole, LLC**  
110 N. West Street, Ste. D, Easton, MD  
21601; 410-822-5240; cooncolelaw.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law **The firm said:** "Dave is hard-working, pragmatic in his approach to divorce and custody cases, and does an exceptional job of making himself very easily relatable to clients. Dave cares about his clients, and it's easy to see that come through in how he practices law."



## Diana Khan

**DK Law Group**  
10451 Mill Run Circle, #755, Owings Mills,  
MD 21117; 240-266-0291; dklawmd.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Estate Law, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Diana doesn't just practice law—she transforms lives by empowering clients to build, protect, and elevate their legacies. Through her innovative strategies and unwavering dedication, Diana bridges the gap between legal expertise and genuine client advocacy, creating solutions that leave a lasting impact."



## Edward Scheirer

**McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker LLC**  
100 N. West Street, Easton, MD 21601; 410-820-0222; mdsowlaw.com

**Education:** Villanova Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law **The firm said:** "Edward's sophisticated corporate and business law practice has quickly established him as a standout associate attorney. Known by his clients and colleagues alike for his professionalism and exceptional work ethic, Edward's practice continuously sets a high standard for excellence."



## Elizabeth Noon

**Bagley & Rhody, P.C.**  
1788 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-573-1626; bagleyrhody.com

**Education:** Washington & Lee University School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law **The firm said:** "Elizabeth concentrates her practice on estate and trust planning. She was a member of the Washington & Lee Law Review and served as a judicial extern for the Hon. Michael D. Wilson of the Supreme Court of Hawaii. Following graduation, Elizabeth clerked for the Hon. Cathleen M. Vitale, gaining experience in various civil and criminal cases."



## Erin K. Benson

**YVS Law, LLC**  
185 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Ste. 130,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-571-2780;  
yvslaw.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Environmental Law, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Erin has a diverse skill-set including real estate transactional work, leasing, renewable energy permitting, and Anne Arundel land use and development. She joined the YVS real estate team in 2022, and since then has become an invaluable contributor."



## Garrett Fitzgerald

**Fitzgerald Law Group**  
14 N. Washington Street, Easton, MD 21601;  
410-690-4948; thefitzgeraldlawgroup.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law **The firm said:** "Garrett has a compassionate, realistic, practical approach with his clients. He often represents children on behalf of the court and does so in a thoughtful and generous matter. He works very hard and deals with familial dysfunction which he always seeks to moderate for a peaceful and lasting settlement."



## Helen "Beth" Burgee

**Sinclair Prosser Gasior**  
183 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Ste. 104,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-573-4818;  
spgasior.com

**Education:** University of Georgia School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law **The firm said:** "Beth's mission is to provide clients with peace of mind by expertly guiding them through the estate administration process. Beth's approach is defined by her patience, thoroughness, and attention to detail, ensuring that every step of the process is handled with care and precision."



## Jonathan A. Grasso

**YVS Law, LLC**  
185 Admiral Cochrane Drive, Ste. 130,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-571-2780;  
yvslaw.com

**Education:** St. John's University School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Bankruptcy Law, Litigation **The firm said:** "Jonathan is a highly-skilled practitioner who practices regionally and nationally, representing a diverse range of business clients in the areas of complex commercial litigation, restructuring, bankruptcy, collections, out-of-court workouts and other creditors' rights matters."



## Jonathan Watson

**Bagley & Rhody, P.C.**  
1788 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-573-1626; bagleyrhody.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law **The firm said:** "Jon currently serves as the practice lead for the firm's business law group. Jon's experience is not just limited to corporate law, having also gained experience in estate planning and wealth preservation for high net-worth clients. Jon's broad range of experience and practical approach to problem solving allows him to facilitate even the most complex transactions."



## Josh Matthews

**Frost Law**  
839 Bestgate Road, Ste. 400, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-995-9618; askfrost.com

**Education:** Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Tax Law **The firm said:** "Josh's unique background and dedication to client service make him a compelling nominee. His experience as a Naval Intelligence Officer, combined with his legal training in tax law through the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic and VITA program, provides him with a diverse perspective and strong skillset."



## Kaitlin O'Dowd

**McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker LLC**  
706 Giddings Avenue, Ste. 305, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-934-3900; mdswwlaw.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Employment Law, Litigation **The firm said:** "In the short time she's been with MDSW, Kaitlin has already made a remarkable impact as an associate attorney in our Annapolis office. Her confidence and intelligence have quickly made her an invaluable member of our litigation practice, impressing both her colleagues and her clients with her legal acumen."



## Kathleen Millrood

**Liff, Walsh & Simmons LLC**  
181 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Ste. 200,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-266-9500;  
liffwalsh.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Kathleen is an integral member of the firm's Real Estate, Business Law, and Commercial Finance practice groups. Her ability to navigate complex legal issues with precision and creativity has earned her the trust and admiration of colleagues, clients, and community partners alike."



## Kayla Williams Campbell

**Community Legal Services**  
6301 Ivy Lane, Ste. 720, Greenbelt, MD  
20770; 240-391-6370; clspgc.org

**Education:** Southern University Law Center **Legal Specialty(s):** Public Interest Law **The firm said:** "Kayla is a trailblazing attorney whose innovative leadership has transformed access to justice. Her strategic vision earned her a promotion to Deputy Director, where she now helps oversee a team of 40-plus staff and 10 free legal services programs and clinics. Kayla's commitment to equity and excellence makes her a standout among rising legal professionals."



## Kelly Callahan

**Liff, Walsh & Simmons LLC**  
181 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Ste. 200,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-266-9500;  
liffwalsh.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Kelly consistently applies creative problem solving, helping to overcome unforeseen challenges while finding solutions to unconventional problems. She is extremely reliable and advocates passionately for her clients. She has a tremendous depth of law knowledge making her a huge asset to the team."



## Kirby Hopkins

**McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker LLC**  
100 N. West Street, Easton, MD 21601;  
410-820-0222; mdswwlaw.com

**Education:** Florida Coastal School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law, Real Estate Law **The firm said:** "Kirby has been a cornerstone of MDSW's success and is known for her keen analytical talents, excellent collaboration skills, and meticulous attention to detail. Her exceptional work ethic, paired with her genuine kindness, has cemented Kirby as an indispensable attorney."



**Lauren Torggler**

Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.  
221 Duke of Gloucester Street,  
Annapolis, MD 21401; 410-263-3131;  
hbdlaw.com

**Education:** Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law **The firm said:** "Lauren is one the most dedicated, detail oriented, and conscientious attorneys. She handles the discovery aspect of many of our most complex divorce cases and always goes above and beyond for our clients. She is always willing to put in the extra time to ensure our clients have the best representation."



**Max Frizalone**

FrizWoods Criminal Defense  
540 Ritchie Highway, Ste. 301,  
Severna Park, MD 21146;  
301-383-9266; frizwoods.com

**Education:** University of Miami **Legal Specialty(s):** Criminal Law **The firm said:** "Max's dedication to defending clients' rights and his innovative approach to legal challenges have set him apart in the legal community. His ability to balance a growing firm while providing personalized attention to each client exemplifies his passion for justice and his potential to make a lasting impact in the field of law."



**Michael Ott**

Murnane & O'Neill  
7425 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Ste.  
200, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; 41-761-6800;  
murnaneandoneill.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Criminal Law **The firm said:** "Michael spends most of his day in the courtroom, where he has represented thousands of clients through complex misdemeanor and felony cases. His calming, relatable demeanor helps put his clients at ease throughout the entire process. Michael uses his vast legal knowledge and creative thinking to achieve the best results possible for his clients."



**Patrick Daley**

Kagan Stern Marinello & Beard LLC  
238 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-216-7900; kaganstern.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Litigation **The firm said:** "In his final year of eligibility, Patrick has continued to epitomize what we in the legal community think of when it comes to an Up & Coming lawyer. He is nothing but dependable, hardworking, articulate, and successful in everything that he touches."



**Renee Sullivan**

Bagley & Rhody, P.C.  
1788 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-573-1626; bagleyrhody.com

**Education:** Tulane University Law School **Legal Specialty(s):** Estate Law **The firm said:** "Renee concentrates her practice in estate and trust administration, and helps clients navigate the administration process after the loss of a loved one. She represents personal representatives, trustees, and beneficiaries of estates and trusts of all sizes. Renee works closely with CPAs, financial planners, appraisers, and various professionals to streamline the fiduciary requirements for her clients."



**Robert Braland**

Frost Law  
839 Bestgate Road, Ste. 400, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-995-9618; askfrost.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Tax Law **The firm said:** "Robert dedication to tax law, community engagement, and professional growth makes him an ideal candidate. His background showcases a commitment to serving both the legal profession and the wider Annapolis community. His work with the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, the MSBA Taxation Section, and Live Arts Maryland highlights his well-rounded contributions."



## Shannon Hayden

**Kagan Stern Marinello & Beard LLC**  
238 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-216-7900; kaganstern.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Litigation **The firm said:** "Shannon has played a pivotal role in multiple jury and court trials resulting in victories for the firm's clients. Shannon has quickly developed a reputation for her dependability, litigation skills, and aptitude for assisting clients efficiently and effectively in their time of need."



## Thomas Brimmer

**The Jaklitsch Law Group**  
14350 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper  
Marlboro, MD 20772; 301-781-7600;  
jaklitschlawgroup.com

**Education:** William & Mary Law School **Legal Specialty(s):** Personal Injury Law **The firm said:** "Tom is an outstanding young litigator. He quickly showed his skills in the courtroom, winning multiple difficult cases for his clients in just his first few months our firm, while impressing others with his superior legal knowledge, writing ability, and common-sense way of problem solving."



## Uriel Stern

**Frost Law**  
839 Bestgate Road, Ste. 400, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-995-9618; askfrost.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Bankruptcy Law **The firm said:** "With over a decade of experience representing diverse stakeholders in bankruptcy proceedings, Uriel brings a wealth of knowledge and a proven track record to his practice. His reputation for meticulous attention to detail, strategic thinking, and strong advocacy skills highlights his commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for his clients."



## Valerie Anias

**A Team Family Law**  
168 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
443-906-0025; ateamfamilylaw.com

**Education:** University of Baltimore School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law **The firm said:** "Valerie is a dedicated advocate providing compassionate, inclusive legal services. In addition to excelling in family law and estate planning, Val offers low-cost and pro bono support to the LGBTQ community in Anne Arundel and surrounding counties. Val's professionalism, courtroom prowess, and commitment to justice have transformed countless lives."



## Veronica Mina

**Kagan Stern Marinello & Beard LLC**  
238 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-216-7900; kaganstern.com

**Education:** University of Maryland Carey School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Litigation **The firm said:** "Veronica has demonstrated tremendous aptitude for success in the litigation world, helping to obtain a major preliminary injunction for one client after a four-day hearing and multiple judgments in other matters in favor of the firm's clients."



## Zoha Sohail

**Frost Law**  
839 Bestgate Road, Ste. 400, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-995-9618; askfrost.com

**Education:** University of San Diego School of Law **Legal Specialty(s):** Tax Law **The firm said:** "Zoha's experience spans a wide range of tax issues, including both domestic and international matters. Her background in assisting individuals and small businesses navigate complex tax regulations, coupled with her pro bono work demonstrates her commitment to helping taxpayers understand and meet their obligations."



## Recent *Leading Lawyers* That Were Nominated

In addition to the Up & Coming Lawyers Class of 2025, we present several exceptional lawyers that were nominated for the honor, but were ineligible, having previously earned the distinction of being a *Leading Lawyer* 2024–2025.



**David Baines**

Ewing, Dietz, Fountain & Kaludis, P.A.  
16 S. Washington Street,  
Easton, MD 21601;  
410-822-1988; ewingdietz.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Personal Injury Law



**David Jaklitsch**

The Jaklitsch Law Group  
14350 Old Marlboro Pike,  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772;  
301-781-7600;  
jaklitschlawgroup.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Personal Injury Law



**Frank P. Lozupone, III**

Bowman Jarashow Law, LLC  
162 West Street, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-267-9545;  
bowmanjarashow.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Business Law, Real Estate Law



**Ivette Furneisen**

Campbell and Furneisen Law, LLC  
210 S Cross Street, Chestertown,  
MD 21620; 443-480-6229;  
campbellandfurneisen.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Criminal Law, Immigration Law



**Jennifer Henriquez**

Bowman Jarashow Law, LLC  
162 West Street, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-267-9545;  
bowmanjarashow.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Litigation



**Katie D'Entremont**

Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.  
221 Duke of Gloucester  
Street, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-263-3131; hbdlaw.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law



**Lucas Van Deusen**

Bowman Jarashow Law, LLC  
162 West Street, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-267-9545;  
bowmanjarashow.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Litigation



**Magaly Bittner**

Jimeno & Gray, P.A.  
7310 Ritchie Highway, #900,  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061;  
443-227-5960; jimenogray.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law



**Nicholas Mastracci**

Rice Law  
79 Franklin Street, Annapolis,  
MD 21401; 410-709-8971;  
staceyricelaw.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law



**Sarah E. Brown**

Hillman, Brown & Darrow, P.A.  
221 Duke of Gloucester Street,  
Annapolis, MD 21401;  
410-263-3131; hbdlaw.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Family Law



**Suzanne Burnett**

Burnett Injury Group  
2661 Riva Road, Bldg. 1000,  
Ste. 1010, Annapolis, MD 21401;  
443-785-6406;  
burnettinjurygroup.com

**Legal Specialty(s):** Personal Injury Law



LEADING  

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LEGAL  

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PROFESSIONALS



# FRANKE BECKETT LLC

**F**or more than 40 years we have focused exclusively on the law of fiduciaries, estates & trusts, closely held businesses, non-profits and related litigation. Within this practice area, we handle it all:

- **Estate and Closely Held Business Planning.** We prepare wills, various types of trusts, and other estate planning documents. These documents can be simple or complex depending on specific family concerns and/or on tax and asset protection considerations. Our firm represents clients with family businesses: from the selection of the type of entity and the creation of the governing instruments to structuring business succession planning. In every representation, we explore various approaches with our clients and then tailor the documents to address their goals.
- **Fiduciary Litigation and Tax Disputes.** 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. We handle state and federal complex tax disputes for individuals, non-profits, and 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 focus on specific practice areas. These practice areas overlap to a surprising degree and are closely related. It is largely a world unto itself with its own unique set of laws, 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 closely held business planning, estate/trust administration, and fiduciary litigation. This means that each lawyer constantly sees similar issues from various perspectives which gives depth to our advice and counsel. (3) We work as a team. We do not just

“I appreciate the personal relationship and care that is a part of your practice, as well as the expert counsel.”

give lip-service to intra-firm collaboration, but we follow a business model to achieve it and make it a habit. Clients are clients 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 areas, is a learned profession. Our lawyers regularly teach courses for lawyers and judges. Firm members also write articles for law reviews and other legal publications and are active in the Maryland Bar Association. These activities keep the firm at the forefront of legal developments.

Our roots go back more than 40 years representing individuals and families with their estate planning, with their closely held business entities, and representing personal representatives, trustees, and beneficiaries in related litigation. For the last decade, the firm has consistently expanded but we do not grow so quickly or so big as to forget that every client matter requires the full attention of the firm. Clients benefit from the collective experience and knowledge of the whole firm with partners and associates staying thoroughly engaged in every aspect of every representation.

We serve clients located various distances from our physical office in Annapolis: from the Eastern Shore, the southern counties, the counties surrounding Baltimore and Washington, and western Maryland. The remote service options that we have perfected 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](http://www.frankebeckett.com).



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Kathleen Howard Meredith\*



Benjamin Howard Meredith\*



Patrice Meredith Clarke\*



Christopher Wright



Stephan Y. Brennan



Charles E. Iliff, Jr.



David J. Wildberger

**\* Medical Malpractice Law**Benjamin H. Meredith  
Kathleen H. Meredith  
Patrice M. Clarke**\* Personal Injury Law**

Benjamin H. Meredith

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

## Attorneys at Law

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Pasadena, Maryland 21122  
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# SINCLAIR PROSSER GASIOR

**Estate Planning, Elder Law, Estate Administration and Probate Attorneys**

**H**ave you ever wondered what would happen to everything you've worked so hard for—your home, your car, your bank accounts, your retirement savings—if you were suddenly incapacitated or passed away? The truth is, the fate of your assets depends entirely on what you do now.

We believe that everyone over the age of 18 should have some level of estate planning, whether it's a simple Power of Attorney or a comprehensive Living Trust. And the sooner you take action, the better protected your family—and your legacy—will be.

With nearly 30 years of experience, our attorneys are leaders in Maryland estate planning. But we're not just about drafting documents. We take

a full-service approach to ensure your plan actually works by aligning your assets properly to help avoid probate and reduce stress on your loved ones. Additionally, as members of the prestigious American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys, we stay ahead of the curve with up-to-date strategies and continuing legal education.

At Sinclair Prosser Gasior, we're passionate about building long-lasting relationships with our clients and their families. That's why we offer:

- Free educational events to demystify estate planning
- Complimentary review meetings to keep your plan current
- Ongoing support to adapt as your life evolves

And if you're new to estate planning,

we make the process easy. Attend one of our free seminars and receive a \*\*complimentary consultation with an attorney—a \$500 value—\*\*to discuss your goals and get the guidance you deserve.

With offices in Annapolis, Bowie, Columbia, and Waldorf, our team is ready to provide the personalized, thoughtful assistance you need. Call us today at (410) 573-4818 or visit [spgasior.com](http://spgasior.com) to learn more and register for a seminar near you. Because peace of mind starts with a plan.

## SINCLAIR PROSSER GASIOR

**Annapolis** – 183 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Suite 104

**Bowie** – 4201 Mitchellville Rd., Suite 403

**Columbia** – Columbia Business Suites, 5850 Waterloo Rd., Suite 140

**Waldorf** – Hamilton Centre II, 3261 Old Washington Rd., Suite 2020  
(410) 573-4818 | [Spgasior.com](http://Spgasior.com)



# THE JAKLITSCH LAW GROUP

**The Big Dogs from the Small Firm**

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

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

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

If you're hurt, have the Big Dog bite the insurance company for you!

**THE JAKLITSCH LAW GROUP** | [BigDogLaw.com](http://BigDogLaw.com) | 855-BigDog1





**Q:** I would like to leave assets to my partner, but we are not married. Will my partner have to pay inheritance taxes?

**A:** Because of a recent change in Maryland law, your partner will not have to pay inheritance taxes if you

have filed a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the Register of Wills. To qualify, you and your partner must be 18 years of age or older, live in Maryland, be each other's sole domestic partner and in a committed relationship with each other, and be unmarried.

**Deborah F. Howe**, Franke Beckett LLC



**Q:** How can Advanced Planning Strategies benefit me and my loved ones?

**A:** Advanced Planning Strategies offer powerful benefits for you and your loved ones. These strategies help minimize taxes. The estate tax exemption is currently at

a remarkably high rate and may be lowered at the end of 2025. Acting now can save you and your loved ones from paying estate tax. With the right plan in place, you can preserve your legacy, reduce stress for your family, and gain peace of mind knowing your future is secure.

**Alex Pagnotta**, Sinclair Prosser Gasior  
*Managing Attorney*



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

**A:** Yes. Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, PC, is a small,

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

**Benjamin Howard Meredith**  
Iliff, Meredith, Wildberger & Brennan, P.C.



**Q:** Is it ever possible to change or modify an "irrevocable" trust?

**A:** In general, an "irrevocable" trust is a trust that cannot be changed or terminated by its creator (the "grantor"). These types of trusts are popularly used

for tax planning or creditor protection purposes, and the trust's irrevocability helps accomplish those objectives. However, in limited circumstances, the terms of an irrevocable trust can be changed. For example, a court can modify the trust's terms, or in certain circumstances, Maryland's new Decanting Act permits transfer of the existing trust assets to a new trust.

**Jack K. Beckett**, Franke Beckett LLC



**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

LEADING  
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Menhaden are caught with pound nets and hauled aboard Captain Boo Polly's workboat on the Chesapeake Bay, west of Barren Island in Dorchester County in June 202. Photo by Carlin Stiehl/Chesapeake Bay Program.



CHESAPEAKE BAY  
SPECIES ARTICLE  
SERIES

# THE OSPREY - MENHADEN

*Bay Connection*

**ADDITIONAL STUDIES AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES  
NEEDED TO PROTECT THESE ICONIC SPECIES // BY LISA A. LEWIS**



An adult female osprey on a nest in the York River. The resident pair in this territory arrived in early March and remained on the territory throughout the nesting season. Despite being resident, she never was documented to lay a clutch. Photo by Bryan Watts.

**E**ach spring, birders eagerly await the return of ospreys to the Chesapeake Bay—a welcome sight that signals the end of winter. An estimated 8,000 to 12,000 breeding pairs of ospreys live in the Chesapeake Bay, which is home to the largest breeding osprey population in the world. Since ospreys are sensitive to changes in their environment, they serve as a monitor of the health of the Bay.

So, when 2024 breeding performance results released by the College of William & Mary's Center for Conservation Biology (CCB) showed that osprey chicks continue to starve in their nests in portions of the Bay where they typically depend on menhaden—a small, silvery, nutrient-packed fish—for food, the findings intensified ongoing, decades-long concerns.

According to a press release issued on September 13, 2024, by the CCB, osprey chicks aren't surviving at rates that sustain the population. A survey monitored 571 osprey pairs in 12 sites in Virginia and Maryland during the nesting season (March through August). Ten study areas were located within the main stem of the Bay, where salinity exceeded 10 parts per thousand (ppt), and ospreys are highly dependent on menhaden. Two additional study areas (used for comparison) were located on upper tributaries within tidal fresh waters, where salinity was less than 1 ppt, and ospreys feed primarily on catfish and gizzard shad.

The generally accepted reproductive rate for population maintenance is 1.15 young/pair. Breeding performance varied between the higher-salinity sites—ranging from minor, moderate, and major deficit. However, the reproductive rate within the tidal freshwater sites was 1.36 young/pair, which is above the maintenance target (surplus).

"It's clear to researchers that ospreys are struggling due to food stress, but the starvation issue is mostly confined to the main stem of the Bay, where waters are greater than 10 ppt salinity," says Bryan Watts, Ph.D., director of the CCB. "We do not know why menhaden have become less available to ospreys. The osprey-menhaden issue is a moving

**"It's clear to researchers that ospreys are struggling due to food stress, but the starvation issue is mostly confined to the main stem of the Bay."**

target. Some have suggested that ongoing harvest, warming waters, water quality, or other factors are impacting menhaden in the Bay. However, we do know that osprey broods [groups of chicks] are starving in their nests and that there is not enough menhaden in their diet to support sustainable reproductive rates."

In addition to starvation, scientists and researchers are also observing uncharacteristic behaviors among ospreys. According to Watts, a large number of osprey pairs didn't lay clutches during the 2024 nesting season. This is the first time that this behavior has been documented on a large scale within the Chesapeake Bay. Researchers believe that the most likely explanation is that the females didn't reach the nutritional condition required to produce eggs.

Single-chick broods and asymmetric broods were also widespread throughout the Bay in 2024. Asymmetry develops when food coming into the nest is inadequate to feed all of the chicks—resulting in a dominance hierarchy, which allows the dominant chick to monopolize access to food. Depending on the available food supply, one or all of the chicks may starve.

"Each year, my team and I band ospreys along a 45-mile stretch of the middle and lower Patuxent River, from Jug Bay to the river's mouth at Solomons Island," says Greg Kearns, senior park naturalist for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) at the Patuxent River Park. "As part of our work, we track reproductive trends by noting the number of chicks per nest and the total banded. Between 2013 and 2024, the number of nests producing only a single chick has increased, while those with two or three chicks has noticeably declined, especially in the lower, higher-salinity portions of the river—a sign of decreasing overall productivity. These are preliminary results, which are unpublished and have not been peer reviewed. However, we observed these declines long before they became a broader concern."



## THE ROLE OF MENHADEN IN THE BAY ECOSYSTEM

During the past 20 to 30 years, the baywide community has continued to sound the alarm about the availability of menhaden in the Bay. Scientists, researchers, commercial fisheries, watermen, conservationists, and recreational anglers and crabbers have noticed warning signs. (There is not a recreational fishery for menhaden in Maryland since the fish are very oily, which makes them unpalatable. However, many anglers and crabbers rely on them for bait.)

“We’ve been seeing red flags in the Chesapeake Bay during the past few decades—many of which are right here in Maryland,” says Allison Colden, Ph.D., Maryland executive director, Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). “Maryland watermen aren’t meeting their menhaden quotas, citing that their harvests are down compared to previous years. In addition, the issues we’re seeing with ospreys are being recorded as far north as Poplar Island and have raised concerns about the importance of protecting other species that feed on menhaden.”

Referred to as the “most important fish in the sea,” menhaden are forage fish that serve as a critical part of the food chain in the Bay. They feed on phytoplankton and zooplankton, which they filter from the water. In turn, menhaden are eaten by various predators,

including striped bass, bluefish, bald eagles, ospreys, dolphins, and whales. Some studies show that menhaden comprise approximately 75 percent of an osprey’s diet in higher-salinity areas of the Bay—underscoring the importance of determining why they are less available to ospreys.

According to CBF, the Bay is one of the most important nurseries for menhaden. Their eggs hatch in the open ocean before drifting as larval young on currents into the Bay.

In response to growing concerns about the availability of menhaden in the Bay and the disruption to the food chain, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), which manages the fishery for the 15 states that share the coastline and establishes limits for both the coastwide and Chesapeake Bay harvests, first set a cap for the industrial menhaden harvest in the Bay at 109,020 metric tons in 2006. The Bay cap was reduced to 87,216 metric tons in 2013 and to 51,000 metric tons in 2017 to reflect more recent harvest levels.



Top: An osprey carries a menhaden to its nest platform on Poplar Island in Talbot County. Osprey will often rearrange a prey fish in its talons so the head is facing forward, making their meal more aerodynamic in flight. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program. Bottom: Juvenile menhaden swim in Spa Creek in Annapolis. Menhaden are schooling fish that filter feed on algae and zooplankton in the water column. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program. Right: A symmetrical brood within the upper James River reference site. Symmetric broods are maintained when enough food is delivered to nests to support all young in the brood. Nestlings develop at the same rate and have the same appearance. Photo by Bryan Watts.





Zenon Vasquez works aboard Captain Boo Polly's workboat, hauling menhaden caught with pound nets on the Chesapeake Bay west of Barren Island in Dorchester County in June 2020. Photo by Carlin Stiehl/Chesapeake Bay Program.

## A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE

Although there is a lot of speculation among the baywide community regarding the availability of menhaden, the issue remains a source of disagreement, and a definitive cause has not yet been determined. Although the osprey-menhaden connection is complex, the issue is further complicated by the interests of the industrial menhaden fishery and politicians—making it a controversial topic of discussion within the Bay.

Omega Protein Corporation, a subsidiary of the Canadian multinational seafood company, Cooke, Inc., is the only industrial menhaden fishery in the Bay and along the Atlantic coastline. The company targets menhaden for the reduction industry, which involves grinding them into fishmeal or fish oil to use in other industries, such as cosmetics, nutritional supplements, pet food, and other consumer products, as well as feed for livestock and fish farms.

In the past, reduction plants were located throughout the East Coast. However, Virginia is cur-

rently the only state that still allows reduction fishing for menhaden in its waters. All other states have banned the practice. In fact, nearly 75 percent of all menhaden caught on the Atlantic Coast is harvested by Omega Protein, which operates the last remaining reduction facility on the East Coast in Reedsville, VA. But although industrial fishing only occurs in Virginia waters, it impacts the entire Bay.

“It surprises me that a Canadian-owned company is allowed to operate in U.S. waters and remove such a large biomass of a critical keystone species from the Bay,” Kearns says. “It seems unlikely that it would not have some impact on the ecosystem. It’s common sense. We just don’t know the full extent.”

Indeed, Omega Protein has continued to raise concerns about menhaden management in the Chesapeake Bay. According to a blog post written in 2021 by Chris Moore, Virginia executive director, CBF, the company has a documented history of fish spills, which result when the nets break and spill thousands of dead fish into the water, as well as environmental and regulatory violations, including Clean Water Act violations. In addition, it exceeded the Chesapeake Bay harvest cap in 2019. Perhaps most concerning, Omega Protein refuses to cooperate or share its harvest data with scientists and researchers who are studying the Bay’s menhaden population.



Top: Menhaden is often used as bait to catch both blue crabs or blue catfish. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program. Bottom: An asymmetric brood within the lower Chesapeake Bay. Following the loss of the third young, these two young remain. The two siblings are noticeably different in size, with the smaller young being 50% the mass of the larger. Photo by Bryan Watts.

“Menhaden reduction fishing data is confidential,” Colden says. “Omega Protein, however, knows exactly where, when, and how much menhaden is taken from the Bay since they harvest it. But they don’t share the data publicly, so we don’t have the complete picture. We need more information to help us better manage menhaden.”

In addition to the industrial menhaden fishery, politics also plays a role in menhaden management. In January 2024, Virginia’s House of Delegates Studies Subcommittee unanimously delayed consideration of House Bill 19 (HB 19) until 2025—a major legislative setback that prevented scientists from advancing their knowledge of this critical species. The bill would have funded a comprehensive study of the menhaden population, which would help address significant issues, including the impacts of climate change and industrial fishing.

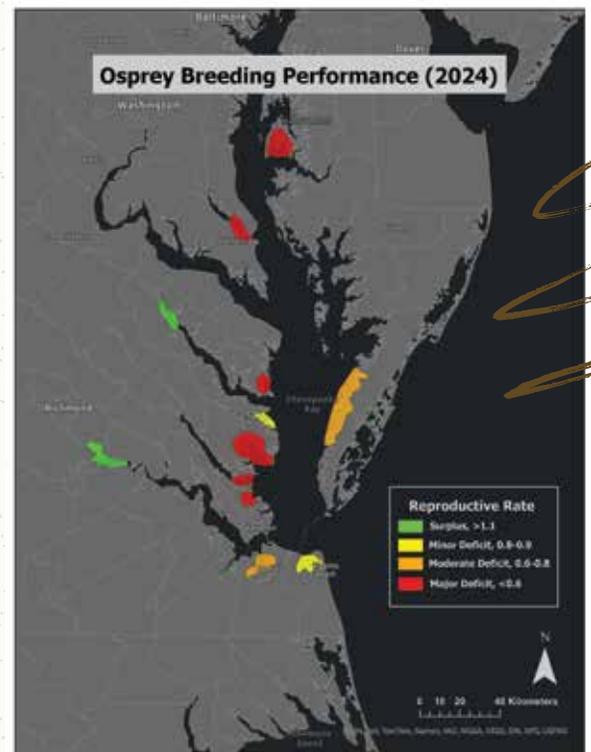
At the time of writing, Virginia is in the middle of a legislative session, and House Bill 2713 (HB 2713) is currently under consideration. The bill would require Virginia to conduct a study of the status of menhaden in Virginia’s portion of the Chesapeake Bay.

## THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKGROUP

Prompted by the 2024 osprey survey results, which showed low nesting success in higher-salinity portions of the Bay, the ASMFC voted to establish a workgroup in August 2024 to assess the need for precautionary measures and additional protections from industrial fishing.

The motion, which was proposed by Colden, a member of Maryland’s ASMFC delegation, directs the workgroup to consider management actions, including possible time of year and area closures, to protect predators that rely on menhaden for food in the Bay. The motion was unanimously supported by the Menhaden Management Board.

“The Chesapeake Bay menhaden harvest caps are just one precautionary measure,” Colden explains. “From struggling osprey populations to dismal menhaden bait landings, it’s clear that additional precautions are needed. This ongoing issue warrants more in-depth discussion. Seasonal fishing closures during the time of year when menhaden are most in demand by ospreys and other predators would help us better manage menhaden fishing in the Bay.”



“The 2024 osprey data adds to the growing concerns about the number of menhaden in the Bay and the importance of a robust menhaden population—[not only] for species that depend on them for food [but also] for the local economy,” Moore adds. “We must follow a precautionary, ecosystem-based approach to [set] limits on the menhaden fishery. That approach must include the study of the industrial fishing impacts to the Bay as well as [the consideration] of seasonal fishing closures from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.”

The workgroup presented an update to the Menhaden Management Board at its October 2024 meeting. Colden says the workgroup decided to take a deeper dive into the issues that affect menhaden and collect additional data. They would also like to bring in more experts to help analyze the issues and make suggestions. The workgroup will present its findings to the board at the spring meeting on May 5–8.

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

The formation of a workgroup is a testament to the ASFMC’s recognition of the need for additional precautionary measures on the industrial menhaden fishery. The relationship between ospreys and menhaden is critical, and the role of menhaden in the food chain cannot be disputed.

Although scientists have some data on the menhaden population in the Bay, there is a lack of specific information with regard to their distribution, which has resulted in ongoing concerns about overfishing and the impact on the Bay ecosystem. Clearly, more targeted research and studies are needed to understand the menhaden population within the Bay.

“Concern about menhaden and ospreys is an emerging issue with several strategic questions yet to be addressed,” Watts says. “During the next two years, we will continue to push the boundaries in the field and collect data designed to answer outstanding concerns. With help from fisheries scientists, industry, and the broader Bay community, I am confident that together we will have the sound science needed to tackle threats to the populations of both ospreys and menhaden.”

**“Concern about menhaden and ospreys is an emerging issue with several strategic questions yet to be addressed.”**

Left: An osprey brings a menhaden back to its nest and partner on Shipping Creek on Kent Island in Stevensville. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program. Top: Norah Carlos of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation demonstrates the first half of the “kiss and twist” method of preparing a menhaden for use as bait for a crab pot during an educational program on the waters of Smith Island. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program. Bottom: An adult female osprey carries a menhaden to a nest in the Chesapeake Bay. Osprey with menhaden has been an iconic sight over Bay waters for hundreds of years. The view has been much less common in recent years. Photo by Bryan Watts.



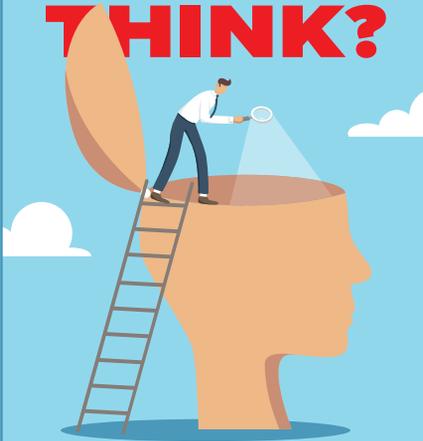
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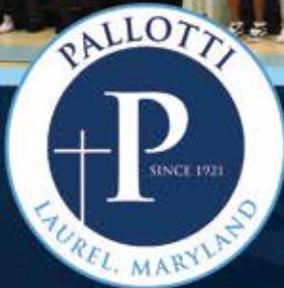
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# The Chesapeake Explorer

Captain John Smith's travels and discoveries of 400 years ago inspire conservation and recreational opportunities today

*By Ellen Moyer*

Captain John Smith (c. January 1580–June 1631) was an English soldier, explorer, and author. He was the first English explorer to map the Chesapeake Bay area and New England.



**O**n Dec 18, 2024, a bill to establish The Chesapeake National Recreation Area unanimously passed the United States Senate. A week later it died in Congress on a partisan vote. The bill introduced by Senator Chris Van Hollen recognized the Chesapeake Bay as a national treasure that would have linked natural and historic sites in the bay watershed, even as far away as New York state (the Susquehanna River's headwaters are in Cooperstown). Bipartisan support for the bay as a national recreation area dates back to the 1980s. Forty-five years later it still remains as an idea.

Joel Dunn, past President of the Chesapeake Conservancy, describes the nation's largest estuary "as spectacular as the Great Smokies, Yellowstone, and Yosemite, and as grand as the Grand Tetons." And so, it is. In fact, the Chesapeake Bay includes the designated Captain John Smith Chesapeake



MAP OF VIRGINIA. (After Smith.)

National Historic Trail, signed into law by President George W. Bush on Dec 19, 2006, which officially made it part of the National Trails System.

There is quite a story behind that Captain's name. Our appreciation and knowledge of this precious natural resource dates back centuries to a time of English exploration.

More than four hundred years ago, Captain John Smith—the first leader of Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607—explored the breadth of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, navigating 3,000 miles of water by canoe. He was the first Englishman to map the Chesapeake Bay, as well as New England, and was knighted for his service to England.

Baptized in 1580, Smith was apprenticed as a tradesman. For Smith, the life in a counting house was boring and ill-suited to his adventurous spirit. At age 16, he set to sea and served in the Army of Henry IV of France, fighting against the Ottoman Turks. He reportedly killed and beheaded three

Top: Vintage engraving of a map of Virginia, 17th century after Captain John Smith. Bottom: Captain John Smith depicted trading with native tribes. From *Barnes Primary History of the United States*, published in 1885.





challengers in single combat duels but was eventually captured and sold at a slave market. He was gifted to a woman in Constantinople. Regularly beaten by his slave master, Smith managed to kill him and escape the Ottoman territory. He returned to England in 1604 and became involved in the quest to colonize Virginia.



Top: The James River flows past the Jamestown settlement and crosses, which mark 30 graves from 1607. Bottom: The old church tower at Jamestown, VA, built between 1639–1700 still stands at the historic 1607 settlement.

Becoming a captain, Smith trained the first settlers in Jamestown to farm and fish, which saved the colony from early devastation. Quoting Thessalonians from the Bible, he declared that “He that will not work, shall not eat.” His leadership is credited with saving Jamestown from harsh winters and his positive relationship with the Powhatan Tribe is recognized as having helped preserve the settlement. He believed the existence and success of the colonies depended on peace with native tribes. He never tried to exterminate them. He was a good friend of John Rolfe, a tobacco planter, who married Pocahontas.

Capt. Smith was described as very straightforward about the dangers and possibilities of life in the Virginia. He asserted that those with a strong work ethic would be able to live and succeed in America in face of great dangers. He is quoted, “Here, every man may be master and owner of his own labour and land...if he have nothing but his hands, he may...by industries quickly grow rich.”





Statue of Captain John Smith at Jamestown, Virginia.

Capt. Smith's maps and books were instrumental in supporting English colonization in the New World. A master in his chosen field, he believed that maps tamed the unknown and advanced civilization. He left the Virginia colony in 1609 due to a gunpowder accident but produced a compilation of his writings and experiences in 1609–1610. Later, in 1614, he returned to the Americas, exploring and mapping the coasts of present-day Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

Capt. Smith died in London in 1631 and is buried in Holy Sepulchre London (nee Newgate church), the largest parish church in London, dating back to 1137 AD. He is also commemorated by a stained-glass window there. In 1864, the New Hampshire built a monument to him, recognizing his visit 250 years earlier to Star Island.

Today, the Captain John Smith Chesapeake water trail throughout the bay includes passages up the Susquehanna, Chester, Nanticoke, and James rivers, among others. The very rivers that Smith navigated and mapped.

The effort to establish North America's largest estuary as a National Recreation Area would not only amplify homage to the spirit of Capt. Smith's exploration but also ensure public access and broadcast the stories of settlement within the Chesapeake Bay. Perhaps 2025 will be the year when it is finally anointed.

Establishing the Chesapeake National Recreation Area could amplify the history and stories of Capt. John Smith and inspire our own recreational exploration of the bay.





# Nonprofits You Should Know

This month we have made it easy for you to map out your charitable giving agenda. Here are some of the many nonprofit organizations we have based in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. Although we can't list them all, here are more than a few nonprofits you should know. Also check out the events these nonprofits are putting on in our Philanthropic Calendar both online and in this issue.

**100 Women Who Care Annapolis** Annapolis; 100womenwhocareannapolis@gmail.com; 100womenwhocareannapolis.org; A giving circle of local women who want to support Annapolis area nonprofits by pooling donations to create a larger impact.

**Adaptive Rowing Annapolis** Annapolis; 410-991-3008; adaptiverowingannapolis.org; Adaptive Rowing Annapolis (ARA) enhances the lives of adults in the Annapolis area with physical or cognitive disabilities by offering year-round training and rowing opportunities, both on and off the water.

**Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay** Annapolis; 443-949-0575; allianceforthebay.org; Engages individuals, groups, businesses, and other environmental organizations and not-for-profit groups to develop collaborative solutions to improve, preserve, and protect the Chesapeake Bay and all its resources.

**American Red Cross of Anne Arundel County/Central Maryland** Annapolis; 410-624-2000; red-cross.org; Respond to disasters, assist members of the military, teach lifesaving skills, and serve as one of the largest blood suppliers in the United States.

**American Foundation for Suicide Prevention** Annapolis; 202-770-8973; afsp.org; The American Foundation of Suicide Prevention focuses on educating our communities about mental health and suicide prevention, advocating for public policy, and offering support for suicide loss survivors.

**Annapolis Community Foundation** Annapolis; 443-370-1785; annapoliscommunityfoundation.org; ACF serves the community by raising, managing, and distributing funds for the charitable purposes designated by its donors.

**Annapolis Immigration Justice Network** Annapolis; 443-203-9175; aijnetwork.org; A volunteer supported organization dedicated to connecting asylum seekers and other vulnerable immigrants to quality legal counsel and direct case management support.

**Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park** Annapolis; 410-295-0104; amaritime.org; Acquire, preserve, interpret, and exhibit artifacts, and photographic and archival collections that are part of the maritime history of the Chesapeake region.

**Annapolis Opera Company** Annapolis; 410-267-0087; annapolisopera.org; Annapolis Opera Company is a cultural touchstone for the community, which delights audiences with musical storytelling; engages new audiences with diverse programming that inspires curiosity for opera; and attracts emerging artists.

**Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre** Annapolis; 410-268-9212; summergarden.com; Bring community-lead stage productions to downtown Annapolis during the summer.

**Annapolis Symphony Orchestra** Annapolis; 410-269-1132; annapolis-symphony.org; Produce, present, and promote memorable symphonic music that increases awareness, enjoyment, and appreciation of music for all ages throughout the region.

**Anne Arundel Community College Foundation** Arnold; 410-777-2515; aacc.edu/about/aacc-foundation; The AACCC Foundation expands private philanthropy and cultivates partnerships to enhance AACCC's ability to support students and initiatives that strengthen our community.

**Anne Arundel Counseling** Annapolis and Glen Burnie; 410-768-5988; annearundelcounseling.com; Counseling and therapeutic professionals dedicated to providing comprehensive treatment to children, adolescents, and adults through individual, family and group counseling.

**Anne Arundel County CASA** Annapolis; 410-222-3330; aacasa.org; CASA educates and empowers diverse community volunteers who ensure each child's needs remain a priority in an over-burdened child welfare system.

**Anne Arundel County Community Action Agency** Annapolis; 410-626-1900; aaccaa.org; Working in partnership with various governmental and non-public organizations to alleviate the difficulties that beset households with low-to-moderate incomes.

**Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities** Annapolis; 410-222-4257; aacounty.org/aging-and-disabilities; The Department of Aging and Disabilities seeks to improve the quality of life for older adults, individuals with disabilities, veterans, caregivers, and anyone wishing to plan for the future by providing options and resources that will enable them to live independent and meaningful lives.

**Anne Arundel County Food Bank** Crownsville; 410-923-4255; afoodbank.org; Anne Arundel County Food and Resource Bank's mission is to alleviate food insecurity in Anne Arundel County by partnering across our community to obtain and distribute nourishing food to our neighbors in need.

**Anne Arundel County Library Foundation** Annapolis; 410-222-1199; aacpl.net/foundation; Provide a margin of excellence and innovation in library services, above and beyond what core government funding can provide.

**Anne Arundel County Literacy Council** Annapolis; 410-269-4419; icanread.org; Provide free one-on-one tutoring in basic literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) to adult residents of Anne Arundel County.

**Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency** Annapolis; 410-222-7858; aamentalhealth.org; The Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency ensures that county residents have access to a wide range of quality mental health and substance use services.

**Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation** Annapolis; 443-481-4747; luminishealth.org; Enhance the health status of the people they serve by providing patients with compassionate, high-quality services that will help alleviate pain, preserve health, and extend life.

**Ann Arrundell County Historical Society** Linthicum; 410-760-9679; aachs.org; Provide leadership in the preservation and exploration of shared history.

**The Arc Central Chesapeake Region, Inc.** Linthicum; 410-269-1883; thearccr.org; Advocate for the rights and respect of all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by creating opportunities, promoting respect and equity, and providing access to services.

**The Arts Council of Anne Arundel County** Annapolis; 410-222-7949; acaac.org; Encourage and invest in the visual arts, performing arts, and historic preservation for the people of our county; as well as well as create a financial support system for arts organizations.

**Arundel Bay Area Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.** Gambrills; abajjoa.clubexpress.com; Membership organization of mothers with children ages 2-19, dedicated to nurturing future African American leaders through leadership development, volunteer service, philanthropic giving, and civic duty.

**Arundel House of Hope** Glen Burnie; 410-863-4888; arundelhoh.org; Arundel House of Hope is a non-profit ecumenical organization that provides emergency, transitional, and permanent affordable housing and support services to individuals experiencing homelessness in Anne Arundel County.

**Arundel Lodge** Edgewater; 443-433-5900; arundellodge.org; Arundel Lodge works toward a world where behavioral health disorders are not a limit to achieving a meaningful life and work to prevent behavioral health disorders and offer the necessary care and support for individuals to lead healthy, productive lives.

**Arundel Rivers Federation** Edgewater; 410-224-3802; arundelrivers.org; Deeply rooted in the South, West, and Rhode Rivers, Arundel Rivers Federation heals and protects our waterways and champions clean water across Maryland.

**Assistance League of the Chesapeake** Millersville; 410-956-3988; assistanceleague.org/chesapeake; This volunteer organization is dedicated to improving the lives of children and adults through community-based philanthropic programs.

**Ballet Theatre of Maryland, Inc.** Annapolis; 410-224-5644; balletmaryland.org; Aim to inspire the audience through the transforming power of American dance.

**Baltimore Washington Medical Center Foundation** Glen Burnie; 410-787-4000; umms.org/bwmc; Provide the highest quality health care service to the community they serve.

**Banneker-Douglass-Tubman Museum** Annapolis; 410-216-6180; bdmuseum.maryland.gov; The museum, named for Benjamin Banneker and Frederick Douglass, is dedicated to preserving Maryland's African American heritage and serves as the state's official repository of African American material culture.

**Bay Community Health** West River and Shady Side; 410-867-4700; baycommunityhealth.org; Provides Primary Care and Behavioral Health services to all ages in a Patient Centered Medical Home environment. Accepts uninsured patients and a variety of health insurances. Insurance Eligibility and Enrollment and Care Management services available at no cost.

**Bello Machre** Glen Burnie; 443-702-3000; bellomachre.org; Dedicated to providing loving care, opportunity, and guidance for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland.

**The Bernie House** Annapolis; 443-951-5193; theberniehouse.org; The Bernie House provides survivors of domestic violence and their families transitional housing and services to promote financial stability.

**The Bill Sweeney Perinatal Care Fund** Arnold; 410-294-0152; billsweeneycharity.org; The Bill Sweeney Charity is dedicated to providing compassionate, specialized bereavement care to families affected by perinatal death, and to promoting healing for those who support them.

**Bo's Effort** Davidsonville; 410-790-9673; boseffort.org; Seeks to assemble community resources to break the stigma of mental illness through education and guidance as well as fund initiatives that offer awareness to families and individuals seeking to manage their illness and live healthy and productive lives.

**Box of Rain Foundation, Inc.** Annapolis; 410-295-0104; amaritime.org/education; Box of Rain's mission is to connect under-resourced youth to the Chesapeake Bay and its maritime heritage through fun, educational, and immersive experiences in nature.

**Boy Scouts of America, Baltimore Area Council** Hanover; 443-553-6913; baltimorebsa.org; Prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County** Annapolis; 410-263-2542; bgcaa.com; Inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need the most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

**The Brick Companies** Edgewater; 443-951-2000; thebrickcompanies.com; Create memorable places for current and future generations and keep a commitment to environmental leadership and social responsibility that us as a company.

**Burrows Hill Foundation to Fight Friedreich's Ataxia** Annapolis; 410-279-6950; burrows-hill.org; Established to raise public awareness, money for research, find a cure, and assist those affected by FA.

**Casey Cares Foundation** Columbia; 443-568-0064; caseycares.org; Provides ongoing and uplifting programs with a special touch for critically ill children and their families in eight states and D.C.

**Center of Help** Annapolis; 410-295-3434; centerofhelp.org; Empowers, educates, and connects immigrants with resources to promote self-sufficiency and to advocate for the successful integration of the immigrant community into Anne Arundel County.

**Charting Careers** Annapolis; 215-301-3387; chartingcareers.org; Inspires youth to discover their power and reach their goals through transformative mentoring, life-enriching opportunities, and family partnership and by serving as champions for equity.

**Chase Brexton Health Care** Glen Burnie; 410-837-2050; chasebrexton.org; Provides compassionate and integrated high quality health care that honors diversity, addresses health inequities, and advances wellness in the community.

**Chesapeake Arts Center** Brooklyn Park; 410-636-6597; chesapeakearts.org; Fosters creativity, create connections, and inspire joy by delivering innovative and accessible arts and education programs.

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Inc.** Annapolis; 888-728-3229 (888-SAVEBAY); cbf.org; Dedicated to the protection, restoration, and management of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

**Chesapeake Bay Trust** Annapolis; 410-974-2941; cbtrust.org; Engages and empowers diverse groups to take actions that enrich natural resources and local communities of the Chesapeake Bay Region.

**Chesapeake Children's Museum** Annapolis; 410-990-1993; theccm.org; Create an environment of discovery about oneself, the peoples, the technologies, and the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay area for all children and the children in all of us.

**Chesapeake Conservancy** Annapolis; 443-321-3610; chesapeakeconservancy.org; To conserve and restore the natural and cultural resources of the Chesapeake Bay watershed for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

**Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area** Annapolis; 410-222-1805; chesapeakecrossroads.org; Chesapeake Crossroads mission is to advance, support, and promote the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the region.

**Chesapeake Environmental Protection Association** Galesville; cepaonline.org; Concentrates on public awareness and education on Bay issues and encourage public activism and involvement in both legislation and enforcement of environmental policy.

**Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (C.R.A.B.)** Annapolis; 410-266-5722; crabsailing.org; Provides the therapeutic benefits of sailing to people with disabilities, recovering warriors, and youth from underserved communities.

**Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra** Annapolis; 443-758-3157; cysomusic.org; Provides young musicians with the opportunity to enjoy and refine their musical skills in ensemble performance.

**Children's Theatre of Annapolis, Inc.** Annapolis; 410-757-2281; childrenstheatreofannapolis.org; Provides arts education for 5-to 18-year-olds through performances, workshops, technical stage training, internships, and apprenticeships in the theatrical arts.

**Chris Gives Foundation** Millersville; 443-695-5008; chrisgives.com; A 501(c)(3) charity organization developed to continue the legacy of Chris Mohns, Sr., who helped many people get back on the road. CGF will provide help to individuals struggling to pay for auto repairs and other transportation costs.

**Chrysalis House** Crownsville; 410-974-6829; chrysalishouses.org; Provides comprehensive recovery services that empower women to build a better life for themselves and their children.

**Coastal Conservation Association Maryland** Annapolis; 800-201-3474 (FISH); ccamd.org; Advocates for and conserves the sustainability of Maryland's marine resources.

**Colonial Players** Annapolis; 410-268-7373; thecolonialplayers.org; Provide entertainment, education, training, and encouragement to all members of the community interested in participating in the dramatic arts.

**Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County** Annapolis; 410-280-1102; cfaac.org; Inspires and promotes giving in Anne Arundel County by connecting people who care with causes that matter.

**The Complete Player Charity** Glen Burnie; 301-580-1546; tcpoutheempowerment.org; Through academic mentoring, emotional support, and leadership programs, TCP creates spaces where all children feel valued and inspired to chase their dreams.

**The Coordinating Center** Millersville; 410-987-1048; coordinatingcenter.org; Partners with people of all ages and abilities and those who support them in the community to achieve their aspirations for independence, health, and a meaningful community life.

**Doctors Community Medical Center Foundation** Lanham; 301-552-8670; luminishealth.org; The Foundation's mission is to continue the legacy of passionately caring for the health and well-being of the residents of Prince George's County and the region with state-of-the-art equipment and quality healthcare services.

**Downtown Annapolis Partnership** Annapolis; downtownannapolispartnership.org; Strengthen and sustain local businesses, recognizing that a vibrant and healthy business community is essential to the economic success of the city.

**The Education Foundation** Annapolis; 410-266-3287; 21st-education.org; Match the needs of the public schools of Anne Arundel County and the resources of surrounding businesses, industry, and community.

**Ellie's Bus** Anne Arundel County; elliesbus.org; Spread awareness of mental health issues and suicide prevention to teenagers across Maryland and across the country.

**Foundation for Community Betterment** Arnold; 410-394-9868; communitybetterment.org; Network of generous individuals who believe a simple gesture that touches just one life can positively impact an entire community.

**GiGi's Playhouse** Annapolis; 410-517-7474; gigisplayhouse.org; Offers therapeutic, educational programs and tutoring for free, to support all ages, from families with a prenatal diagnosis through adult individuals with Down syndrome.

**Girls on the Run of the Greater Chesapeake** Annapolis; 410-635-9313; gotrchesapeake.org; Enhances participants' social, emotional and physical skills to successfully navigate life experiences.

**Girl Scouts of Central Maryland** Baltimore; 1800-492-2521; gscm.org; Provide a place where girls are encouraged to share and explore their hopes and dreams. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

**Giving Back Linda's Legacy** Severna Park; info@homelessdrive.org; homelessdrive.org; Dedicated to helping the homeless and inspiring everyone to get more involved with volunteering.

**Greater Annapolis Design District** Annapolis; annapolisdesigndistrict.com; Help residents and businesses to design, build, renovate, decorate, furnish, repair and maintain their homes and places of business.

**Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake** Baltimore; 410-366-1250; habitatchesapeake.org; Works in partnership with families in need of housing to build simple, decent, and affordable homes.

**Hammond-Harwood House** Annapolis; 410-263-4683; hammondharwoodhouse.org; To preserve and to interpret the architecturally significant Hammond-Harwood House Museum and its collection of fine and decorative arts, and to explore the diverse social history associated with its occupants, both free and enslaved, for the purposes of education and appreciation.

**The Harbour School** Annapolis; 410-974-4248; harbourschool.org; Provides supportive, individualized education to students with learning disabilities, autism, speech impairments, and other disabilities.

**Historic Annapolis** Annapolis; 410-267-7619; annapolis.org; Preserves and protect the historic places, objects, and stories of Maryland's capital city, and provide engaging experiences that connect people to the area's diverse heritage.

**Hope For All** Glen Burnie; 410-766-0372; hopeforall.us; Provides basic human necessities (i.e. furniture, housewares, clothing, and personal items) to families and individuals without sufficient economic resources.

**Hope House Treatment Center** Crownsville; 410-923-6700; hopehousemd.org; Residential, inpatient treatment center specializing in the treatment of substance use disorders, co-occurring mental health challenges and problem gambling.

**Hospice of the Chesapeake** Pasadena; 410-987-2003; hospicechesapeake.org; Provides physical, psycho-social, and spiritual support services to individuals living with and affected by advanced illness.

**Impact 100 Greater Chesapeake** Annapolis; info@impact100greaterchesapeake.org; impact100greaterchesapeake.org; Funding the community through organizations supporting the arts and culture, the environment, education, health and wellness, and families—right here in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

**The Ivy Community Charities of Prince George's County** Suitland; 301-702-7312; icccpgc.org; The Ivy Community Charities of Prince George's County, Inc. is committed to community outreach through education, health, the family, leadership development, cultural arts and economic empowerment.

**James' Place, Inc.** Ellicott City; 410-480-2334; jamesplaceinc.org; Raises funds to provide services to those with substance addiction and educates on the complex issues of substances.

**Junior League of Annapolis** Annapolis; 410-224-8984; jlannapolis.org; An organization of women is committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community.

**Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Foundation** Annapolis; 410-295-9395; kintehaley.org; Spreads Alex Haley's vision of a world that celebrates ethnic diversity while honoring humankind's common, universal experiences.

**Lucky and Blessed Fishing** Maryland; labfishing.org; Dedicated to providing inclusive and therapeutic fishing experiences to underserved and differently abled communities in Maryland.

**Langton Green** Annapolis; 410-263-3225; langtongreen.org; Helps people with developmental disabilities to live with the highest possible degree of independence and quality of life.

**Leadership of Anne Arundel, Inc.** Annapolis; 410-571-9798; leadershipaa.org; Provides people of diverse backgrounds with the education, resources, and networks necessary to become successful, proactive leaders.

**Leslie's Week** Annapolis; 410-263-5598; lesliesweek.org; Provides vacations away from cancer for Stage 4 Breast Cancer women and their families.

**Life of Joy** Millersville; info@lifeofjoyfoundation.org; lifeofjoyfoundation.org; Aims to nurture mental wellness and prevent suicide by serving as a link to integrative care of mind, body and spirit and serve as advocates with collaborative network of resources, community engagement and cost assistance programs.

**Light House: A Homeless Prevention Support Center** Annapolis; 410-349-5056; annapolislight-house.org; Helps rebuild lives with compassion by providing shelter and services to prevent homelessness and empower people as they transition toward self-sufficiency.

**Live Arts Maryland** Annapolis; 443-771-5198; liveartsmaryland.org; Enhances community life through performing a wide variety of music and to provide education programs for musicians of all ages. Programs include Annapolis Chorale, Annapolis Chamber Orchestra, Annapolis Youth Chorus, and St. Anne's Concert Series.

**Livewater Foundation** Annapolis; livewaterfoundation.org; Serves veterans, underprivileged youth, and the waters they paddle while inspiring a lifestyle of health and wellness through water-sports activities.

**Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education (MCIE)** Baltimore; mcie.org; MCIE's mission is to be the catalyst for the meaningful and successful inclusion of all students in their neighborhood or choice schools.

**Maryland Cultural & Conference Center (MC3)** Annapolis; 410-626-6055; Creates a world-class performing arts center in our state capital to confirm Maryland's commitment and support of the importance of the arts in our society.

**Maryland Federation of Art** Annapolis; 410-268-4566; mdfedart.org; Creates connections in the community by hosting professional avenues of exhibition for local, national, and international artists.

**Maryland Hall** Annapolis; 410-263-5544; marylandhall.org; Provides entertainment and education for adults and children including classes and workshops in visual and performing arts in dance, theatre, visual arts, music, and health.

**Maryland State Library for the Blind and Print Disabled** Baltimore; 410-230-2424; marylandlibraries.org; Provides support and awareness of the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

**Maryland Therapeutic Riding** Crownsville; 410-923-6800; horsethatheal.org; Connects humans and horses to help conquer physical, developmental and emotional challenges and improving quality of life.

**Monarch Academy** Annapolis, Glen Burnie and Laurel; 410-444-3800; monarchacademy.org; Tuition-free, public charter school that educates students to be self-motivated, creative, critical thinkers and life-long learners who are productive contributors to the global community in the 21st century.

**NAMI Anne Arundel County** Arnold; 443-995-2222; namiaac.org; Works to positively impact the lives of individuals living with mental illness and their families by reducing stigma and providing support, education, and advocacy.

**National Ovarian Center Coalition: Central Maryland Chapter** Crownsville; 443-569-4651; ovarian.org; The mission of the NOCC is to save lives through the prevention and cure of ovarian cancer and to improve quality of life for survivors and their caregivers.

**Nature's Sacred** Annapolis; 410-268-1376; naturesacred.org; Inspires, informs and guides communities in the creation of public green spaces designed to improve mental health, unify communities and engender peace.

**Nico's Hope for Life Foundation** nichoshopeforlifefoundation.org; hello@nichoshopeforlifefoundation.com; Strive to empower the community by raising awareness about the silent epidemic and providing resources to support those struggling with their mental health.

**Olivia Constants Foundation** Annapolis; 443-949-7714; oliviaconstants.org; Supports and encourages individuals and organizations in their efforts to enhance the positive quality of individual, family, and community life.

**Opportunity Builders, Inc.** Millersville; 410-787-0700; obiworks.org; Provides adults with developmental disabilities a motivational environment offering vocational training, employment services, recreational activities, and support services.

**Oyster Recovery Partnership, Inc.** Annapolis; 410-990-4970; oysterrecovery.org; Leads the conservation of the native oyster in the Chesapeake Bay and beyond, through oyster restoration, shell recycling, conservation, and sustainable fishery practices.

**Parents Place of Maryland** Glen Burnie; 410-768-9100; ppmd.org; Empowers family as advocates and partners in improving education and health outcomes for all children with disabilities and special healthcare needs.

**Partners In Care, Inc.** Pasadena; 410-544-4800; partnersincare.org; Assists older and disabled adults to remain independent in their own homes by helping with transportation, handyman chores, and other neighborly tasks.

**Patuxent Riverkeeper** Upper Marlboro; 855-725-2925; paxriverkeeper.org; Protects, restores, and advocates for clean water in the Patuxent River and its connected ecosystem.

**Pets with Disabilities** Prince Frederick; 443-624-9270; petswithdisabilities.org; Provides humane sheltering and specialized vetting for those pets in need and provide support, resources and education for families whose pet has become disabled or those who are thinking about adding a pet with a disability to their family.

**Project Chesapeake** Annapolis; 443-214-5097; projectchesapeake.com; Strengthens communities through innovative, recovery-focused strategies and connects individuals seeking alcohol or drug abuse and addiction counseling services with the best treatment opportunities to promote long-term recovery and sustained success.

**Providence of Maryland** Arnold; 410-766-2212; www.providenceofmaryland.org; Supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to discover and live their best lives in their communities.

**Rebuilding Together** Severna Park; 240-749-1699; rebuildingtogether.org; Provides free services to Anne Arundel County homeowners who are elderly or disabled, or households with children that face necessary but unaffordable dwelling repairs.

**Robert A. Pascal Youth and Family Services** Severna Park; 410-975-0067; pascalcsi.org; Provides persons experiencing behavioral health and substance use disorder crises with innovative, comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder treatment.

**Rotary Club of Annapolis** Annapolis; annapolisrotary.org; Proceeds from the Rotary Club of Annapolis's fundraising efforts go to many worthy organizations in the area, with the aim of making life in Annapolis better for everyone.

**Sail Beyond Cancer Annapolis** Annapolis; info@sailbeyondcancer.org; sailbeyondcancer.org/annapolis-md-chapter; Honoring those challenged by cancer by harnessing the healing powers of wind, water, and sail.

**Sarah's House** Baltimore; 667-600-2000; cc-md.org/programs/sarahs-house; Provides safe shelter, daily meals, personal, as well as professional casework support for those in need.

**Scenic Rivers Land Trust** Annapolis; 410-424-4000; srlt.org; A nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that assists landowners who want to protect and preserve their undeveloped properties. Land trusts craft and execute voluntary land protection agreements, such as conservation easements, with landowners who wish to conserve their properties and take advantage of financial incentives.

**Scholarships for Scholars** Annapolis; 410-544-2341; scholarshipsforscholars.org; A nonprofit to award scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are county residents attending public and accredited private high schools in Anne Arundel County and home-schooled students living in Anne Arundel County.

**Second Chance** Baltimore; 410-385-1700; secondchanceinc.org; Provides people, materials and the environment with a second chance by deconstructing buildings and homes, salvage usable materials, and make those and other donated items available to the public for reuse.

**Seeds 4 Success** Annapolis; 410-533-3847; seeds4success.org; Provides children from low-income communities with the skills and support to achieve success in school and life.

**Senior Dog Sanctuary** Severn; 443-742-0270; seniordogsanctuary.com; Providing a permanent safe haven for senior dogs who are unable to be cared for by their owners, who are abandoned or abused, or face euthanasia.

**Services from the Heart** Severna Park; donna@communityservicesfromtheheart.com; communityservicesfromtheheart.com; Provides children in need with weekly food backpacks over the weekend and holidays.

**Severn River Association** Annapolis; 410-774-0317; severnriver.org; Connect the people who live, work, and play on the Severn River to restore and protect it for all of our communities.

**Severn Riverkeeper** Annapolis; 410-849-2329; severnriverkeeper.org; To protect and restore the Severn River for our families and future generations.

**Sheppard Pratt** Baltimore; 410-938-3000; sheppardpratt.org; Comprehensive psychiatric rehabilitation services and outpatient mental health clinic services for adults with severe and persistent mental illness.

**SPCA of Anne Arundel County** Annapolis; 410-268-4388; aacspca.org; The SPCA exists to protect animals in Anne Arundel County from acts of cruelty and neglect.

**Special Olympics Maryland** Baltimore; 410-242-1515; somd.org; Provides year-round sports training and competitions to children and adults with intellectual disabilities and other closely related developmental disabilities.

**Start The Adventure in Reading Annapolis (STAIR)** Annapolis; 443-924-1578; stairannapolis.org; Works with second-grade readers in Anne Arundel County Public Schools to help children improve critical early literacy skills.

**The Summit School** Edgewater; 410-798-0005; thesummitschool.org; Educates children with unique learning styles to their full potential. Serving bright students with dyslexia and other learning differences.

**Unstoppable Joy** 410-213-3707; unstoppable-joyco.org; Provides preventive support and supportive care for cancer warriors and caregivers, emphasizing the importance of putting self-care first.

**Vision Workshops** Annapolis; info@vision-workshops.org; visionworkshops.org; Provides innovative, dynamic, educational, and life-changing experiences for youth from underserved communities using the tools of photojournalism.

**Walk the Walk Foundation** Annapolis; 443-457-0216; wtwf.org; Faith-centered organization working to help children with fundamental needs.

**We Care and Friends** Annapolis; 410-263-2874; wecareandfriends.org; Supports the building blocks to create strong families and communities in areas affected by drugs, poverty, and crime in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.

**The Well** Curtis Bay; 410-589-6670; drinkatthewell.org; Community of women committed to transforming lives through long-term relationships, practical programs, and the healing power of love.

**Wellness House of Annapolis** Annapolis; 410-990-0941; annapoliswellnesshouse.org; Provides strength and support for people and families living and coping with cancer.

**YMCA Camp Letts** Edgewater; 410-919-1410; ymcadc.org/campletts; Offers Traditional and Specialty Day Camps, Resident Camps, and a year-round Retreat Center.

**Yumi C.A.R.E.S. Foundation** Ellicott City; 703-624-5482; yumicare.org; Therapeutic art program for pediatric hospital patients founded by Maryland's First Lady, Yumi Hogan.

**YWCA Annapolis and Anne Arundel County** Arnold; 410-626-7800; annapolisywca.org; Provides environments where women and girls can thrive.

Learn about many more nonprofits based on the Eastern Shore by visiting [whatsupmag.com](http://whatsupmag.com) and clicking on "Digital Editions" to read the digital May 2025 issue of *What's Up? Eastern Shore*.



# Cheers for Charity

## 2025 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 nonprofit 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!

### THURSDAY, MAY 1ST

**Treasure the Chesapeake** for Chesapeake Bay Trust at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. Cbtrust.org; This annual celebration helps the Chesapeake Bay Trust empower hundreds of community-based organizations every year to restore nature.

### SATURDAY, MAY 3RD

**2025 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 151<sup>st</sup> running of the Kentucky Derby celebrated at the organization's annual Derby Day Fundraiser.

**Spring Gala: Reflections & Connections** for Academy Art Museum at the museum in Easton. Academymuseum.org; This year's theme, Connections & Reflections, is inspired by the breathtaking work of renowned hyper-photorealistic painter Richard Estes.

**Festival At The Farm** for Wellness House of Annapolis at Chesapeake Dressage Institute in Annapolis. Annapoliswellnesshouse.org; The Festival at the Farm is a special fundraiser supporting the Wellness House of Annapolis, where we help cancer patients and their families navigate the emotional, physical and mental challenges of their journey.

### MONDAY, MAY 5TH

**24th Annual Tee Up For A Child** for CASA Anne Arundel County at Crofton Country Club in Crofton. Aacasas.org; Get on the greens at Crofton Country Club to help raise money for CASA, who believes every child who's been abused or neglected deserves to have a dedicated advocate speaking up for their best interest in court, at school, and in our community.

### THURSDAY, MAY 8TH

**4th Annual Charity Event** for Adaptive Rowing Annapolis at the Adaptive Boating Center in Annapolis. Adaptiverowingannapolis.org; Please join us for an evening of drinks and light fare in support of our rowing program for adults with physical and cognitive disabilities. Our program provides year-round recreational and competitive training both on and off the water for adults with special needs. We take our passion for rowing and turn it into opportunities for others. No limits. No boundaries.

### FRIDAY, MAY 9TH

**Boots & Bling: A Culinary Experience** for Hospice of the Chesapeake at Rod 'N' Reel in Chesapeake Beach. Hospicechesapeake.org; Get ready for an unforgettable night of fun and style at Boots and Bling!

**Haven Ministries Golf Tournament** for Haven Ministries at Prospect Bay Country Club in Grasonville. Haven-ministries.org; Enjoy a great day of golf at Prospect Bay Country Club while supporting Haven Ministries to provide HOPE through Shelter, Clothing, Food, and Support.

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

### SATURDAY, MAY 10TH

**Bourbon & Blossoms Spring Soiree** for Maryland Therapeutic Riding at their campus in Crownsville. Horseshatheal.org; Spend an evening at Maryland Therapeutic Riding enjoying a seated dinner, open bar, bourbon tasting, silent & live auctions and dancing the night away with the entertaining Mood Swings Band!

**Tri-County Ice Cream Classic** for Wounded Warriors and the Harriet Tubman Museum at Talbot County Community Center in Easton. Ridec3.org; Choose your challenge—a 23-, 38-, 64-, or 102-mile race to support Wounded Warriors.

**Central Region Chapter Annual 'Celebration of Conservation'** for Coastal Conservation Association at Langanore Wine Cellar in Mt Airy. Ccamd.org; This fundraising dinner directly supports CCA Maryland's focus on ensuring the health of our marine resources and anglers access to them, and our objective to conserve, promote and enhance our marine resources for the benefit of the general public.

**Sultana Education Foundation's Annual Gala** for Sultana Education at Clovelly Farm in Chestertown. Sultanagala.org; The Sultana Education Foundation's Annual Gala is a party with a mission – raising \$100,000+ each year to underwrite scholarship programs and support specific capital initiatives.

**Mutts & Mimosas** For SPCA of Anne Arundel County at their campus in Annapolis. Eventbrite.com; Join the SPCA of Anne Arundel County and Puppypalicious Gourmet for the first-ever Mutts & Mimosas — a special Mother's Day brunch event designed for dog moms and their four-legged babies!

### MONDAY, MAY 12TH

**The Arc Golf Tournament** for The Arc Central Chesapeake Region at Queenstown Harbor Golf in Queenstown. Thearccc.org; Tee It Up for The Arc is a day of great food, golf, and of course – a great cause. This event has sold out annually since 2019 – so grab your spot today!

### THURSDAY, MAY 15TH

**Friends for Friends** for Friends of the Light House at USNA Fluegel Alumni Center in Annapolis. Friendslh.org; Join your Friends for a fabulous Night Out to support The Light House, a homeless prevention support center.

**Golf Fore Our Girls** for Girls on the Run at Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville. Gotrchesapeake.org; Join us for a great day of "Golf Fore Our Girls" while benefitting Girls on the Run of the Greater Chesapeake girls, ensuring access to our positive, youth development program across our region.

### SATURDAY, MAY 17TH

**NAMI Mental Health Gala & Awards Dinner** for National Alliance on Mental Illness Anne Arundel County at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis. Join in being a beacon of hope to families living with mental illness by attending the Gala & Awards Dinner.

### MONDAY, MAY 19TH

**10th Annual Bo's Effort Golf Tournament** for Bo's Effort at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course in Queenstown. Boseffort.org; Bo's Effort seeks to assemble community resources to break the stigma of mental illness through education and guidance.

### THURSDAY, MAY 29TH

**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.

### FRIDAY, MAY 30TH

**Relay for Life Anne Arundel County** for American Cancer Society at Crofton High School; secure. acevents.org; Relay For Life is a community based non-competitive walking event that brings together more than 3.5 million people worldwide to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember those we have lost, and empower individuals and communities to fight back against this terrible disease.

**Golf for Life** for Nico's Hope for Life Foundation at Queenstown Harbor; nicoshopeforlifefoundation.org; Come out for Noco's 4<sup>th</sup> annual Golf 4 Hope Tournament. Get involved, practice your putt, and we will see you at the links!

### SATURDAY, MAY 31ST

**Pints 4 Paws** for SPCA of Anne Arundel County at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis; eventbrite.com; It's time once again for The Annapolis Home Brew Club's Annual Pints 4 Paws Homebrewing and Craft Beer Festival to benefit the SPCA of Anne Arundel County! This year lets celebrate our 9th year of throwing this awesome event!

**Brunch 4 Brains** for the Epilepsy Foundation at Doubletree Conference Center in Annapolis; givebutter.com/brunch4brains; Join the Epilepsy Foundation for the 1st Annual Brunch-4-Brains and help us to unite people and families in support of all those affected by epilepsy. Together, we will amplify their voices and raise critical funds necessary for research, education, advocacy and connection.

### MONDAY, JUNE 2ND

**Casey Cares Golf Tournament** for Casey Cares at Hayfields Country Club in Cockeysville. Caseycares.org; Proceeds from the tournament will directly benefit thousands of critically ill children in Casey Cares programs! Don't miss this opportunity to make a meaningful difference while golfing for a great cause!

### JUNE 3RD AND 4TH

**GreenGive** for Arundel Rivers Federation, Crownsville Conservancy, Friends of Jug Bay, Scenic Rivers Land Trust, Severn River Association, Spa Creek Conservancy, St. Luke's Restoration of Nature, Unity Gardens, and Watershed Stewards Academy, virtual event. Greengive.org; GreenGive is an online, collaborative initiative to raise funds for and increase awareness of local environmental organizations. We have 9 partner organizations involved and this year's GreenGive.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4TH

**What's Up? Media's Best Of Party** celebrates the best of the area's restaurants, shops, services, entertainment, and businesses all rolled up into one fantastic fundraising event at the Doordan Institute at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis. Get your tickets at whatsupmag.com.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

**Fashion for a Cause** for Hospice of the Chesapeake at the Fluegel Alumni Center in Annapolis. hospicechesapeake.org; Watch as models from our community strut the runway in chic daywear, black-tie elegance, and resort-ready looks from beloved local clothiers on Main Street and Town Center.

**Rock the Dock** for Anne Arundel County Literacy Council at Annapolis Maritime Museum in Annapolis. Eventbrite.com; This year's Rock the Dock will benefit, the Anne Arundel County Literacy Council, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping adults and out-of-school youth achieve functional levels of reading, writing, math and speaking English.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 6TH**

**Annual Casey Cares Rockfish Tournament** for Casey Cares Foundation at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club in Stevensville. Caseycares.org; It will be a great day and evening of fishing, fundraising, and celebrating at the Bay Bridge Marina and The Inn at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH**

**Chesapeake Bay Motoring Festival** for Queen Anne's County Mental Health Committee at Kent Island Yacht Club in Easton. Chesapeakebaymotoringfestival.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.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH**

**Walk for the Animals** for the SPCA of Anne Arundel County at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis. Aacspcawalk-fortheanimals.com; This family and pet friendly event has so much to offer; vendors, adoptable animals and more! Together, we can make a paw-sitive difference!

**MONDAY, JUNE 9TH**

**Woodmore Charity Golf Tournament** for Benedictine School at The Country Club at Woodmore in Mitchellville. Benschool.org; Your generous contribution can create lasting change. Join our mission and support the cause by making a donation.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH**

**17th Annual Paca Girlfriends Party** for Historic Annapolis at William Paca Garden in Annapolis. Pacagirlfriends.annapolis.org; Join Historic Annapolis for the social event of the season! Wander the picturesque William Paca Garden as you enjoy a glass of bubbly and indulge in culinary creations prepared by the area's premier chefs.

**12th Annual Chip in for the Arts Golf Tournament** for Chesapeake Arts at Compass Pointe Golf Course in Pasadena. Chesapeakearts.org; Join us in supporting CAC's arts and education programs as a sponsor, player, foursome, donor, or volunteer for our 12th Annual Chip in for the Arts Golf Tournament

**SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH**

**Bands in the Sand** for Chesapeake Bay Foundation at Philip Merrill Environmental Center in Annapolis. Events.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.

**Every Step Counts** for Bello Machre. Bellomachre.org; Every Step Counts is an annual Walk & Bike Ride to benefit our mission of providing a lifetime of loving care, guidance, and opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

**Tour de Talbot** for Talbot Thrive at Easton Fire Hall; tourdetalbot.org; Ride the scenic roads of Talbot County Maryland! You'll have a choice of three distances, 31.5, 40 or 61.5 miles which wind through the flat farmland and take you to water views, wooden bridges and friendly faces throughout the Eastern Shore.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 21ST**

**Chris Gives Foundation Event** for Chris Gives Foundation at Severna Park Taphouse. Chris Gives Foundation is hosting Genghis Khan and 8-Ball Deluxe for their fundraising event. The night will have a silent auction, raffle baskets, door prizes and more!

**JUNE 21ST AND 22ND**

**Bike MS Chesapeake Challenge** for National MS Society at Talbot County Community Center in Easton. Events.nationalmssociety.org; You'll ride some of the flattest roads Bike MS has to offer, while cruising through scenic byways.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 22ND**

**Taste for Life** for American Cancer Society at The Center Club in Baltimore. Tasteforlifemd.acsgala.org; Indulge in a culinary adventure featuring gourmet delights crafted by the Center Club's renowned chefs, complemented by exceptional wine tastings from prestigious vineyards.

# CHRIS GIVES FOUNDATION

PRESENTS



## 8-Ball Deluxe

### SATURDAY, JUNE 21, NOON TO 10 P.M.

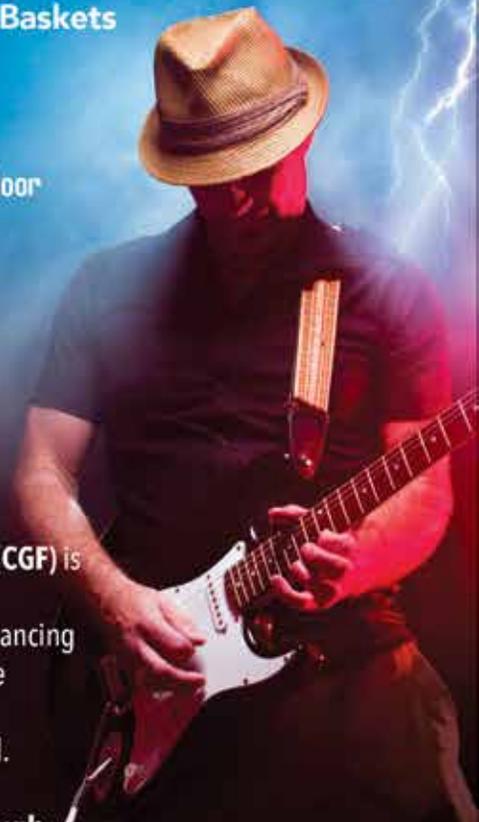
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The Chris Gives Foundation (CGF) is committed to empowering individuals and families by enhancing opportunities in the automotive industry and ensuring reliable transportation for those in need.

**Investing in the Future Through Scholarships:** We provide scholarships to high school students pursuing careers in auto repair.

**Keeping Families Moving:** We assist families facing financial hardships by covering the cost of critical auto repairs.



**SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH**

**Solstice Celebration** for Shore Rivers at Wilmer Park in Chestertown. Shorerivers.org; Enjoy live music by the Judd Nielsen Band, signature cocktails, delicious food from Occasions Catering, good company, and an exceptional live auction to benefit healthier local waterways.

**Golden Anniversary Gala** for Arundel Lodge Behavioral Health at Westin Annapolis. Arundellodge.org; Celebrating 50 Incredible Years of Arundel Lodge Behavioral Health

**SATURDAY, JULY 26TH**

**Bay Paddle** for Oyster Recovery Partnership in the Chesapeake Bay. Baypaddle.org; An epic day of paddle races and a post paddle festival to celebrate and help protect the Chesapeake Bay.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 1ST**

**80th 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.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND**

**Casey Cares Foundation 5K Run/Walk** for Casey Cares Foundation at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. Casey-cares.org; Lace up your sneakers and join Casey Cares for our 16th Annual 5K Run/1-Mile Walk on August 2nd at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore!

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH**

**Annapolis Run for The Light House** for Friends of The Light House at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis. Annapolisrunforthelighthouse.org; The 16th annual Annapolis Run for The Light House provides scenic half marathon, 5k, and walk routes along the trails of Quiet Waters Park and through the beautiful Chesapeake Bay-front community of Hillsmere Shores.

**SEPTEMBER 20TH AND 21ST**

**Annapolis Baygrass Music Festival** for multiple Maryland based non-profits at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis. Baygrassfestival.com; Part of all proceeds from ticket, food, beverage, and merchandise sales will go to Maryland-based non-profit organizations including Watershed Stewards Academy, Oyster Recovery Partnership, and Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST**

**Ride for Clean Rivers** for Shore Rivers at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills. Shorerivers.org; Save the date for our 21st Ride for Clean Rivers and your chance to ride the beautiful back roads of Talbot and Queen Anne's counties in support of ShoreRivers' work for clean waterways.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH**

**Blazers. Bourbon. Cigars.** For Historic Annapolis at William Paca Garden in Annapolis. Bbc.annapolis.org; Connect with a wide network of influential leaders - the region's top entrepreneurs, business professionals, and visionaries representing our diverse community - in the picturesque William Paca Garden.

**SEPTEMBER 26TH THROUGH 28TH**

**St. Michaels Concors d' Elegance** for the Student Chapter of Antique Automobile Club of America at Kent Island Yacht Club. Smcde.org

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH**

**Rock the Reef** for Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center. Bayrestoration.org

**Light House Pumpkin Patch** for Friends of The Light House at St. Martin's Church in Annapolis. Friendslhs.org; An Annapolis tradition every fall, organizations from all over Annapolis come together to sell fresh Eastern Shore pumpkins and raise funds for The Light House, a homeless prevention and support center. Open Thursdays & Fridays: 2-6 p.m. and Saturdays & Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH**

**Hoedown on the Farm** for Maryland Therapeutic Riding at their campus in Crownsville. Horsethatheal.org; Don your cowboy boots and join us for a boot-scootin' good time! Our family-friendly Hoedown on the Farm is back and we're celebrating 28 years of the healing power of horses!

**Little Bobbers Fishing Derby** for Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center. Bayrestoration.org

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH**

**Lifeline 100 Bicycle Event** for Anne Arundel County nonprofit organizations at Kinder Farm Park in Millersville. Lifeline100.com; The award-winning Anne Arundel County Lifeline 100 Bicycle Event is pleased to be an inclusive event offering scenic 65- and 100-mile county tours with water views and historic sites, 15- and 30-mile flat, paved trail rides; and a free bike rodeo and family fun ride for children!

**GiGi's Pickleball Tournament** for GiGi's Playhouse at The PutAway Severna Park in Millersville. Gigisplayhouse.org; Save the date for the pickleball tournament for a great cause!

**OCTOBER 10TH THROUGH 12TH**

**Chesapeake Film Festival** benefits the Chesapeake Film Festival at various locations in Easton. 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.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH**

**OBI Mardi Gras Masquerade** for Opportunity Builders, Inc. at their campus in Millersville. Obiworks.networkforgood.com; Let the good times roll and support a great cause at OBI's Mardi Gras Masquerade! This festive event has become widely known over the past 26 years for bringing the spirit, charm, and culture of New Orleans to Anne Arundel County.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH**

**Bountiful Harvest** for The Friends of The Light House at The Atreem at Soaring Timbers in Annapolis. Friendslhs.org; Join Friends of The Light House for a memorable evening to support The Light House, a homeless prevention support center. Dress in your favorite costume or cocktail attire and indulge in an open bar, gourmet bites, and a night full of entertainment, including an auction and live band.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH**

**Rock 'N' Roll Bash** for Casey Cares at The Recher in Towson. Caseycares.org; The entertainment lineup will feature High Voltage, the nation's premier AC/DC tribute band. They will rock out this year's Bash with a high-energy performance by capturing the pure essence and excitement of a live AC/DC concert!

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH**

**Birdies for Benedictine** for Benedictine School at The 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.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29TH**

**Celebration of Philanthropy Awards Luncheon** at Live! Casino & Hotel in Hanover for the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC); cfaac.org; Join CFAAC in honoring the incredible individuals, organizations, and businesses that demonstrate outstanding generosity and community leadership in Anne Arundel County.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30TH**

**Annapolis Chapter Annual Fundraising Banquet** for Coastal Conservation Association at Chesapeake Bay Foundation Philip Merrill Center in Annapolis. Ccamd.org; As a recreational fishing-based organization, we know that the public's connection to the Chesapeake Bay through fishing and boating is what drives the passion to ensure that future generations will also enjoy what is so near and dear to us.



Don't see your charity event listed? Submit your events by visiting our online form at [whatsupmag.com/events/submit.html](https://whatsupmag.com/events/submit.html).

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[LuckyandBlessed.org](https://LuckyandBlessed.org) | 844.748.FISH

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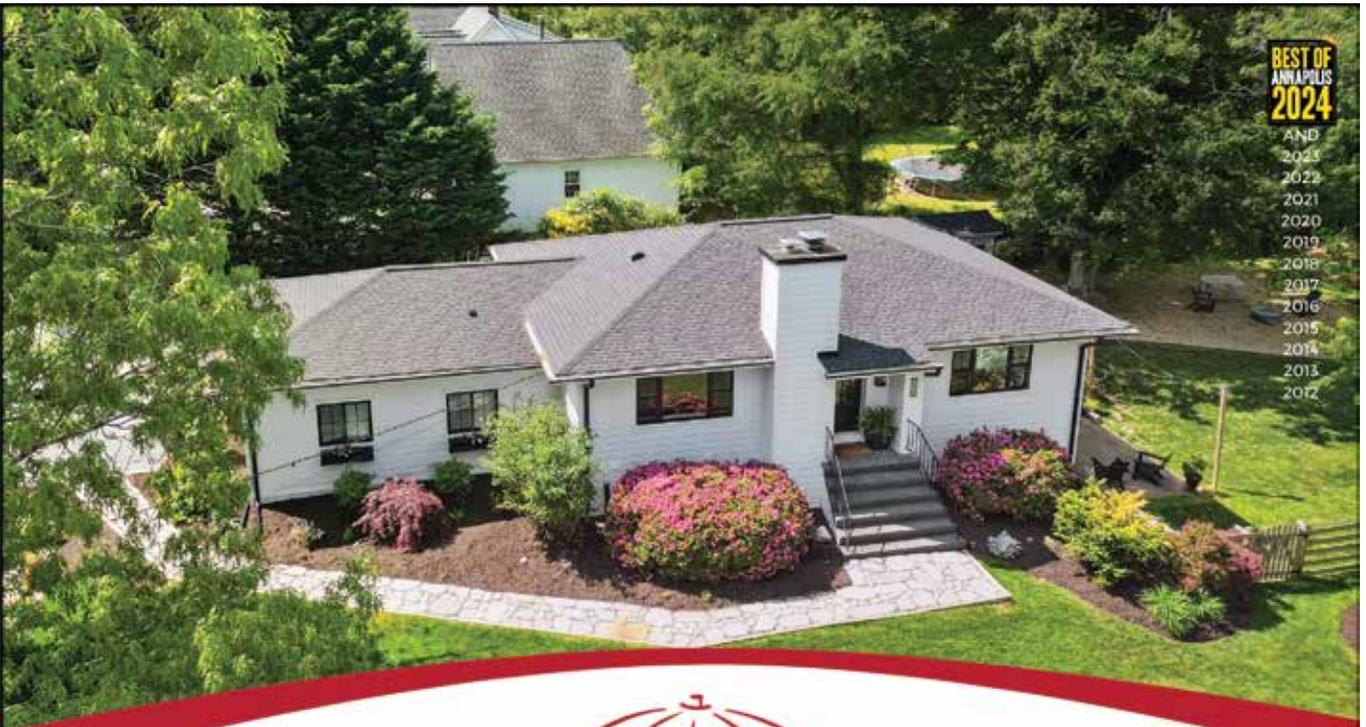
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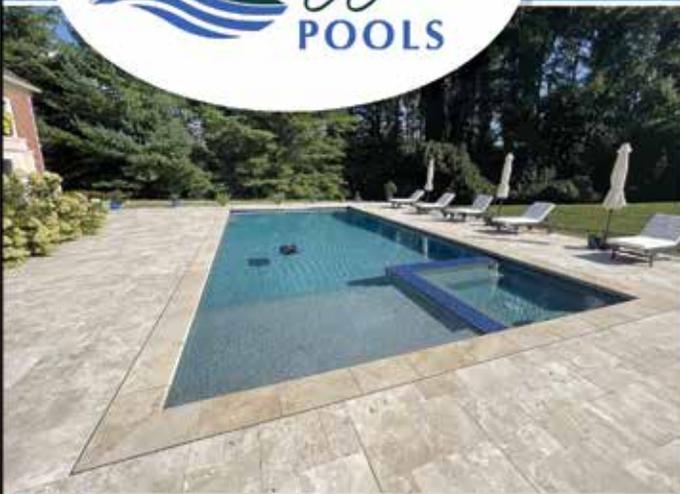
  
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# Home & Garden

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**Traditional  
Design...  
Circa 2025**

**PG. 64**



# Traditional Design... Circa 2025

## UPDATING AN ALREADY EXQUISITE HOME INTERIOR TO REFLECT THE NEW OWNERS' PERSONALITIES

By Lisa J. Gotto

**T**he line in this home's recent real estate listing stated, "Meticulously maintained all-brick Colonial home," which for its new owners spoke to the traditional aspects of design that they were seeking both inside and out. The 3,600-square-foot residence definitely scored big points with its buyers for its timeless curb appeal and its superb location.

"Overall, we wanted to update the house while preserving its style and charm which was a delicate balance between modernizing some elements and respecting others," Lane explains.

**"WE WANTED TO UPDATE THE HOUSE WHILE PRESERVING ITS STYLE AND CHARM!"**

"We kept a great deal of the architectural finishes that define the era of the home, like woodwork, crown molding, and the fireplaces. We refinished the floors and added hardwood where there wasn't any. We paid special attention to adding modern finishes and touches that reflect the house's time period such as a Carrara marble and a slate floor in the mud/laundry room."



**THE PROJECT:** Perception was key to the new homeowners who viewed this house as perfect in terms of good bones and room to grow for their two young daughters. However, the interiors, while still lovely, were showing typical signs of age and were not reflective of the owners' personalities and unique needs. The kitchen was meticulously maintained over several decades, but had so much present-day potential, they would re-work the entire room to optimize flow and utility. And a fresh approach to cabinets, flooring, and fixtures, would be required to align its aesthetic with the sensibilities of the people who now call this residence home.

**THE PLACE:** A prime suburban community in Severna Park, that offered every amenity a young family could want, starting with their own gorgeous exterior landscape and broadening out to offer the family access to an optimal quality of life with its community-provided beach, pavilion, playground, and that all-important water access via boat slips to the Severn River.

**EXECUTING THE PLAN:** The couple were fortunate to have found their interior design professional through mutual friends who deemed them highly qualified and knowledgeable in their respective areas of expertise. Samantha Lane of Ann Lane Home in Baltimore would be tasked with refreshing the entire home for an interiors standpoint and taking a staid traditional aesthetic to the next level. This would include converting a main level office and re-imagining it into a stylish utility and mudroom.

Jeffrey Joy of Joy Remodeling, also of Baltimore, would bring more than 20 years of experience in the commercial and residential construction and remodeling industry to the project which included the kitchen upgrade, remodeling several bathrooms, and relocating a home office from the main level of the home to a previously unfinished attic space.

“Our clients lead a busy life and wanted a home that could accommodate both everyday living and entertaining,” Joy explains. Their key priorities included a more functional kitchen for hosting, a cozy yet sophisticated living area, and updated bedrooms and bathrooms that provided a spa-like retreat.”



## **A BIG BEFORE-AND-AFTER**

While the entire home has substantial “before and after” bone fides, it is in the kitchen where the upgrades are most impactful. So, a charming 1980s-era kitchen with powder blue cabinetry, chair rail and patterned wallpaper with border, and a room-dividing peninsula were swapped out for the 2025 iteration of that kitchen. The homeowners were so impressed with the former owner’s taste that they wished to pay homage to her by choosing a very similar shade to set the tone in the kitchen. The big non-negotiable in the room was the protruding peninsula.



Kitchen Before



Kitchen After

To further enhance the feel of one free-flowing space, the past-its-prime tile-patterned floor would be replaced with red oak, to match the original flooring in the rest of the house. This was a conscious cost-cutting measure that made the most sense because red oak takes easily to stain and was in this case re-stained with a warm walnut shade to balance the cool of the blue cabinets and make the extra thick quartz countertops pop even more.

The cabinets were custom fabricated by Joy’s in-house millwork shop. Storage space that was lost when the peninsula was removed was easily resolved with a new wall of integrated cabinetry that includes the refrigerator opposite the window wall, and in the new statement-making island.

The addition of a banquette framing the window and side wall makes in-room dining comfortable and cozy with its round Downing breakfast table from Serena & Lily, and Carter counter tools from the same manufacturer at the island, allow space for the children and utility for Mom while they are doing schoolwork or projects.

“The blue I think is a traditional color, the Carrera (marble) backsplash is traditional, but we did kind of have fun and do some juxtapositions,” Lane says. “If you notice, the lighting over the island is pretty modern.” They selected Yeon custom pendant lights from Rejuvenation.

Just the most subtle of veining was all the pattern that was required in the Carrera Marmi quartz, for the fresh, understated look they wanted to achieve. The overall aesthetic is fresh, fun, and playful.

## DESIGNER BATH SHOWCASE

This residential home remodel included upgrades to three bathrooms, including the primary suite, the daughters' Jack and Jill bath, and a powder room. While two of these rooms required some floorplan tweaking, the vibe of each room was significantly upgraded from "meh" to marvelous. Using smart new papers, luxe quartz, and next-level subway tile treatments, traditional retreats become more welcoming and personalized. And while small spaces, like powder rooms, have their challenges, they also present opportunities for big ideas. "Powder rooms in general, I think, are just fun places to have a really fun pattern. You can close the door, so I don't necessarily feel like they constantly have to have a perfect connection to the rest of the space," Lane says. The pattern is almost linear. Because it was a really small space decisions focused on maximizing height, which is what this pattern does. It helps maximize the height in that space, which doesn't make it feel so small.



Primary Bathroom Before



Primary Bathroom After



Bathroom After



Bathroom Before



Powder Room Before



Powder Room After



## ROOMS TO EVOLVE

The existing floorplans of the dining and living room were perfect for the couple, so they concentrated on what they could do to provide a fresh, traditional take in these rooms that allows for their style to evolve as they grow with the home.

Bucking the trend away from conventional dining rooms, the young owners prized keeping the space just as it was, adjacent to both the kitchen and living room. This gives them an opportunity, as their personalities change, to change with the room without having to re-haul it. The chairs were moderately priced and so was the buffet. So, if, for example, they want to change out the buffet or the rug, those opportunities exist.

Other intentions for the room would reflect the homeowner's light, sweet, and traditional inclinations. A Highland House table, for example, exudes North Carolina history.

The neutral palette, again, allows for personality changes to update the room more easily.

Both the dining room and living room came with their own classic elements of design, like dentil crown molding, that would only enhance what would come next in the rooms.

To that, Joy's team added the delicate touch of a wainscoting panel to each wall in the living room to elevate the space. Each was painted to match the matte white of the walls creating an element of urbanity suitable for the subtly more formal space.

The fireplace was left exactly as it was, but was then flanked with Highland House accent tables on either side as a pull-through and complement to the adjacent dining room table.

The room's conversation area was furnished with two, super-cozy, skirted scoop-arm chairs and a sumptuous, custom couch and pillows by Century Furniture. The draperies are also custom fabric, 100 percent linen with birds and a subtle blue hue. A glass table was chosen for its fresh and light aspects. This aligns with the homeowner's desire to have this room feel very different than the family room.





## PROJECT NOTES

Overall, the goal of remodeling this home was very intentional in the sense that the new interiors needed to be updated in such a way as to reflect the traditional aspects of its exterior.

“I don’t think it does anybody any favors if you immediately pick something that’s on trend, even though the exterior of the home looks entirely different. So that was very intentional, to stay true to the exterior,” Lane summarizes.

The approach to each individual space addressed the overarching desire to have a traditional vibe with a fresher take, balancing elements of modern touches with very classic timeless pieces.



Photo courtesy of Povison.com



# A Multi-Generational Approach

## THE ENDURING APPEAL OF MID-CENTURY MODERN STYLE

By Lisa J. Gotto

If you have ever walked into a home and were totally blown away by its vibe and depth of interiors, chances are there is at least one aspect or element of mid-century modern design in the room.

And if you ever heard the adage, “the straw that stirs the drink,” mid-century modern style is that straw in the drink of any room. Sophisticated and well-made, often subtle, yet sometimes statement-making, mid-century modern furnishings and décor conjure multi-generational appeal and a timeless aesthetic.

SO, WHAT DEFINES MID-CENTURY MODERN STYLE? THERE ARE SEVERAL COMMONALITIES:



Photo courtesy of castley.com

### QUALITY

Expect high-quality craftsmanship in these pieces as they are generally made from only the best, most durable materials such as leather, teak, and walnut. Status pieces from well-known designers such as Charles and Ray Eames (as in the classic Charles Eames chair) and Danish architect, Hans Wegner, in this category are rare but highly desirable vintage finds, and they continue to provide inspiration for today’s interpretive reproductions.

## Timelessness

The aspect of MCM design is what helps make these pieces work in any interior scheme. Beginning in the 1940s and continuing through the 1960s, this movement was characterized by clean lines and organic shapes. They were also minimalist in terms of ornamentation, so the pieces blend in well with other styles with no sense of competition for attention, just a steady enduring presence that blends effortlessly with traditional and more modern pieces.



Photo courtesy of Povison.com



Photo courtesy of povison.com

## FUNCTIONALITY OF FORM

A hallmark of this style is the practical application within its design, so both furniture and decor pieces are not just lovely to look at, they are created to be comfortable, useful, and sometimes even multi-functional.

## CONNECTION TO NATURE:

From the individuality of its pieces to the grander scale of an entire mid-century modern home design, there are undeniable ties to natural materials and an indoor-outdoor living philosophy. Designs featuring large windows, open floor plans, and organic materials are said to create a sense of harmony with the surrounding environment, a feature that continues in its appeal to present-day homeowners.



Photo courtesy of theplancollection.com



Photo courtesy of JoyBird

## Often Replicated

Many of our contemporary modern design trends borrow heavily from MCM tenets, as seen in the form of sleek furniture silhouettes, minimalist layouts, and the resurgence of retro-inspired color palettes. This continuous reinvention builds in a sense of relevancy for this aesthetic.



Photo courtesy of Povison.com

It is notable that a continued sense of cultural relevance exists with mid-century modern design as we are regularly reminded of its appeal in broader cultural moments through entertainment and multi-media. Who doesn't remember the popular 1960s-based series *Mad Men* with its cocktail carts, abstract print drapes, and sleek office furnishings?

This association with a style known for its era of innovation and optimism, has only added to its desirability, resulting in a vintage aesthetic with aspirational and multi-generational appeal that shows no signs of fizzling out. Martinis anyone?

## FLEXIBILITY

Whether your foundational homebase is located in an urban environment or a rustic country retreat, you'll find that these pieces work well in a variety of settings. On the greater stage, it's not uncommon to see find MCM design mixing well with contemporary, Scandinavian, and even bohemian aesthetics.



Photo courtesy of decorpad.com

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# Every Drop Counts

## CHOOSING THE BEST SOLUTION FOR WATERING YOUR GARDENS

By Janice F. Booth

**O**ne of Benjamin Franklin's famous aphorisms, "When the well's dry, we know the worth of water," fits well with our planet's current predicament. We now buy water in bottles and pay for access to water in our homes. Whether your concern is for the ecological or fiscal effects of water shortages—or both—our gardens and how we keep them flourishing depends on water.

May is a great time to examine our water supply and usage in the garden. Perhaps we can do more with less. Let's take a look at (a) types of watering or irrigation systems for our gardens, as well as their (b) strengths, weaknesses, and common mistakes to avoid when we set up our garden's watering system. In all cases, you may want to consult your landscape team, and if you decide to install a semi-permanent Drip System, you'll need a landscape designer or plumber specializing in their complexities.

**There are four watering systems that have proven their effectiveness over time. From simplest to most complex, they are:**

1. Hand Watering: buckets, hoses and wands
2. Sprinklers: tall, short, directional, or circulating
3. Soaker Hoses
4. Drip Irrigation



### HAND WATERING

**We're all familiar with the old-fashioned bucket or watering can method of satisfying our thirsty gardens. We've probably added a flexible hose or two.**

**Advantages:** The most common reason I hear from friends is the joy of quietly communing with the garden's plants. There's real pleasure in wandering through the garden, splashing life-giving water as each plant seems to require. There's also the opportunity to watch for problems among the plants—sneaky weeds and aphids won't escape your wandering eye.

**Disadvantages:** A gallon of water weighs over eight pounds! Unless you're watering a patio garden, you'll need quite a few gallons daily for your garden. (Need I say more?) Watering the foliage is a real danger. You will need to make sure to get the water around each plant's base, not on its leaves and blooms.

### SPRINKLERS

**I don't know about your garden shed, but mine is replete with sprinklers of various types and sizes, purchased in a fruitless quest for just the right sprinkler to handle my garden's needs. (Nope! I don't have the perfect sprinkler solution to share with you.)**

**Advantages:** With an assortment of sprinklers, you can find the right water distribution for your various flower beds. Sprinklers are light and usually quite durable. Unlike watering cans, sprinklers usually keep ticking away for years on summer mornings. Sprinklers are relatively inexpensive.

**Disadvantages:** Sprinklers can't help getting water on the foliage and blooms—a serious problem and actually a show-stopper. High watering can be disastrous if your plants' leaves aren't able to dry in the sun. Thus, morning watering is the best way to use a sprinkler. They're rather unsightly. Tall, gangly ones or low, metal versions all wear tails of hose winding along the paths or through the beds of flowers. Water pressure outdoors and in the house must be factored into your watering schedule. If you have several sprinklers don't set them all to turn on at once. There'll only be dribbles of water coming out of each sprinkler.



## **DRIP IRRIGATION**

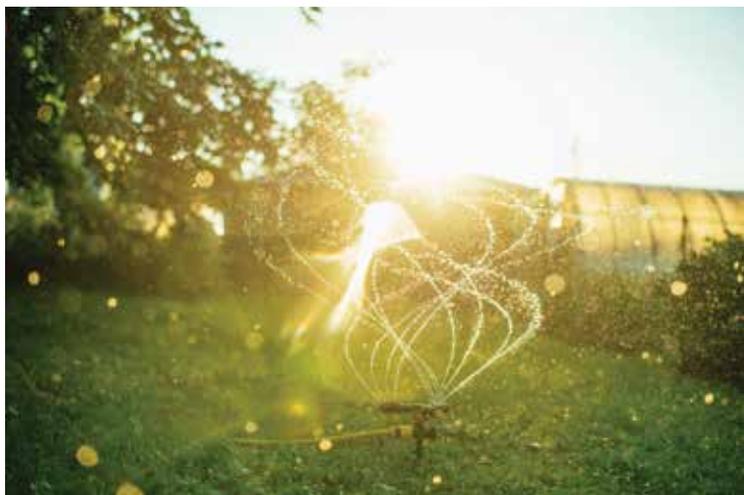
**This system uses sturdy tubing with holes for emitting water, buried 6" to 12" deep. This ensures that the water will be absorbed into the soil and down to the root bed. You'll probably want a professional to install the system which is made up of many essential parts. When setting up the installation, Polyethylene tubing is considered more desirable than PVC tubing due to its flexibility, weight, and resistance to abrasion or chemical erosion.**

**Advantages:** No water will be wasted, and the foliage will remain dry. With a timer, you need not worry about your plants becoming parched. A properly installed drip irrigation system will not drain the water pressure in the house.

**Disadvantages:** The system is expensive, and you may need a professional to set up and properly bury the tubing. There are filters and backflow prevention components that are essential for a system to work properly for 12 to 15 years. Since the tubing is only a foot or less below the surface, you'll have to be careful when planting or aerating the soil. You don't want to damage the tubing. If you're on a well, the drip system may too easily clog with "hard" water.

**Caution:** You'll want to schedule yearly maintenance. Ask your specialist to come in the late fall to drain the tubes and check for any corrosion or leaking.

Whichever method(s) you decide to rely on to water your gardens this season, I wish you just the right amount of rain and sunshine so every one of your plants flourishes.



## **SOAKER HOSES**

**Addressing the important issue of watering plants at their bases, the soaker hose is a solution. Soaker hoses have evenly distributed small holes through which water seeps into the soil. There are also soaker strips that work well where extra flexibility is needed, particularly in tight spaces among young plants.**

**Advantages:** The greatest advantage to distributing soaker hoses in your flower beds is your ability to get the water to specific plants—circling each plant or zigzagging among the plants. Once you've situated the soaker hose or strip properly all the water will soak down into the soil and to the roots.

**Disadvantages:** As with the sprinklers, the soaker hose requires good water pressure. If your hoses are too long the water will not reach the hoses' ends, leaving some plants without water. Soaker hoses are not to be buried. You can disguise them with mulch, which will also hold in the moisture, but don't let the hose's holes become clogged.



# Super Severn Sunsets

By Lisa J. Gotto

**T**

his custom-built contemporary home offers a plethora of Severna River views across its four levels of enhanced living space.

Located in an immaculate gated community, this 5,000-square-foot home is nestled in a lush lot bursting with the flowers and foliage of a number of tree species, such as magnolias, boxwood, nandina, and crepe myrtle. Throughout the home, there are a number of ways to bring the outdoors in with its series of decks and balconies, many which overlook the water providing huge views of the river.

Inside, handsome, wide-plank hardwood floors welcome visitors to the sunny main level living

**Primary Structure Built:** 2006

**Sold For:** \$2,000,000

**Original List Price:** \$1,890,000

**Bedrooms:** 6

**Baths:** 4  
Full, 1 half

**Living Space:** 5,000 Sq. Ft.

**Lot Size:** 1.18 acres



space. Framed with a series of stylish sliding glass doors, the space is all at once inviting and tranquil. Throughout the open-plan kitchen, living, and dining rooms there are opportunities for remarkable views of the water from the spacious wraparound deck.

Custom wood cabinetry in a rustic chestnut color creates a warm and comforting effect in the large gourmet kitchen. A contrasting, two-level island topped with dark granite provides a great gathering and prep space while entertaining, which is a seamless exercise with this spacious layout. All stainless-steel appliances including a custom, six burner gas cooktop help make quick-work of meal-prep.

An adjacent more formal living space with its own waterfront views is accented with a homey, brick-face fireplace wall with wood mantle detail.

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This home's private elevator transports its owners to their amazing primary suite with knockout water views that stretch across the riverfront. From here, they can access a cozy private balcony that also overlooks the water. A soothing bath with all-white cabinetry, a dual vanity, soaking tub, and separate shower completes the owners' retreat.

Three additional bedrooms and two baths are located on this level, and a fifth bedroom is located on the fourth level of the home.

The home's lower level offers another private retreat with its huge recreation room with sliders to the outdoors, and a full efficiency apartment with bedroom, bath, and kitchen that can serve as the perfect guest or au pair suite. And just a short walk away, the new owners can access the marina and the community's additional amenities.

**Listing Agent:** David Orso; Berkshire Hathaway Home Services | Pen Fed Realty; 8 Evergreen Rd., Severna Park; m. 443-691-0838; o. 443-372-7171; david@davidorso.com; davidorso.com

**Buyers' Agent:** Brad Kappel; TTR Sotheby's International Realty; 209 Main St., Annapolis; m. 410-279-9476; o. 410-280-5600; brad.kappel@sothebysrealty.com; ttrsir.com

# Haute Harbor Views

By Lisa J. Gotto

**T**his exceptionally well-located Bay-front condo is a homeowner's dream waiting to come true. Panoramic views and four levels of living space create a wealth of opportunities for its new owners to put their personal stamp on a property within the highly desired Chesapeake Harbour community that rarely offers availability.

This over-sized end-unit property offers attractive curb appeal and its own convenient garage. Once inside on the main level, you are treated to an abundance of light from the open plan kitchen, living, and dining area that features a series of floor-

**Primary Structure Built:** 1988

**Sold For:** \$1,587,500

**Original List Price:** \$2,399,000

**Bedrooms:** 3

**Baths:** 4 Full, 1 Half

**Living Space:** 3,136 Sq. Ft.

**Lot Size:** Condo



to-ceiling windows revealing stunning views to the Bay. At this level, there is simply nothing quite like it.

The contemporary, eat-in kitchen is light and bright with all white cabinetry featuring sleek modern hardware, an in-wall oven/microwave combo, and a center island that offers additional prep space and breakfast bar seating for two. Gleaming, honey-colored hardwoods flow throughout the space.





The lower level is home to an incredible water-front-facing family room with wet bar that opens to the property's private beach area, where the new owners will literally be just steps from the Bay, and close to all the amenities provided as part of the condo community.

In addition to the private sandy beach, amenities include a full-sized, Bay-side pool, tennis and pickleball courts, an oyster-shell walking path, fishing piers, and a deep-water marina with direct access to the Bay. The community also offers dining and entertainment opportunities in the form of an upscale restaurant and Tiki Bar to enhance this property's already amazing resort-style living experience.

**Listing Agent:** Peg Ewing, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services | PenFed Realty, 1997 Annapolis Exchange Pkwy., Annapolis, m. 410-562-8708, o. 410-266-0600, peg.ewing@penfedrealty.com, bhhspenfedrealty.com  
**Buyers' Agent:** Patrick Deleonibus, TTRI Sotheby's International Realty, 2300 Claredon Blvd., Arlington, VA, m. 202-770-7401, o. 703-745-1212, pdeleonibus@ttsir.com, sothebysrealty.com

The adjacent formal dining area is accented above with an attractive tray ceiling and then steps down into a sumptuous living room that offers a feature fireplace wall and those dramatic views of the Bay accessible from both areas.

The third level, which can easily be accessed with home's private elevator, is where you'll find this property's primary suite. Perfectly situated to exploit that waterfront view, this room features an elevated platform for the bed to further improve those amazing sightlines to the water. Like the series of sliding glass doors downstairs, this room offers access to an incredible Bay-facing wraparound deck. The new owners need only crack one of the doors to have their own natural wave machine to lull them to sleep. The generous primary bath has an attractive glass feature wall, dual sinks, a garden tub, and a separate glass shower feature.

Two additional large bedrooms with full baths are located on the home's upper level. Both feature tall ceilings and large windows.



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For more information, visit us at: [www.fishforacure.org](http://www.fishforacure.org).

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# Health & Beauty

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Sweat,  
Strength,  
and Survival  
PG. 87



# Mastering Myofascial Release Therapy

By Dylan Roche

**S**ure, a good massage always feels good—but its benefits actually go a lot deeper (no pun intended). In the case of a technique known as myofascial release therapy, massage helps release tension in your connective tissue, which improves your circulation, reduces pain, and speeds up injury recovery. **The best part?** Although many people turn to professionals to perform myofascial release therapy (MRT), many of the techniques can be done by yourself at home.

## GOT QUESTIONS? HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

### **Q: HOW DOES MRT WORK?**

**A:** You or a therapist will apply pressure to the myofascial connective tissue that surrounds and supports your muscles. In areas of tightness or pain, this sustained pressure will help relax and lengthen the tissue, which improves your muscle's ability to move and alleviates any discomfort. This can also improve your range of motion and increase the recovery time of muscle injuries.

### **Q: DOES SCIENCE SUPPORT THIS?**

**A:** Science is mixed. Some studies show that MRT can alleviate chronic pain and improve flexibility, but there's not enough to conclude that it's any better than other manual forms of therapy, such as basic massage or stretching. However, there's no detriment to MRT—so if it feels good, why not do it? Some critics suggest that MRT might have a placebo effect, and the pain relief is psychological rather than physiological, but enough people with chronic pain, or athletes recovering from injury, see MRT as solution that works for them.

## Q: WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

**A:** Besides the fact that it *feels* good for just about anyone with muscle tightness or soreness, MRT can be used to treat specific conditions, such as fibromyalgia, by targeting pain points. MRT can also help athletes achieve better flexibility, recover between workouts, and alleviate discomfort from intense use of muscles. Some athletes engage in MRT before a workout to improve their mobility *and* after a workout to reduce soreness, as well as on rest days as a means of active recovery.

## Q: HOW CAN I DO IT MYSELF?

**A:** While some people have a physical therapist perform MRT, you are able to perform the right kind of massage at home with a foam roller, a massage ball, or a percussion gun. To achieve the best results, you should:

- ◆ Apply **gentle, sustained pressure** (30–90 seconds) to tender spots.
- ◆ Use **slow, controlled movements**—don't rush through the rolling.
- ◆ Breathe deeply to **help muscles relax** and improve circulation.
- ◆ Avoid **rolling over joints, bones, or very painful areas**—stay on muscles.
- ◆ Do it **before workouts** for mobility or **after workouts** for recovery.



## SELF-MYOFASCIAL RELEASE TECHNIQUES

### Neck and Upper Traps

- ◆ Use a lacrosse ball against a wall or lie on the floor.
- ◆ Roll side to side under the base of your skull and traps.
- ◆ Hold pressure on tight spots for 30 seconds, then move away from those tight spots slowly.

### Chest and Shoulders

- ◆ Press a lacrosse ball against a wall, rolling it over your chest and shoulders.
- ◆ Hold pressure on tight areas for 30 seconds before moving.

### Upper Back

- ◆ Place a foam roller under your upper back while lying on the floor.
- ◆ Cross arms over your chest and roll up and down slowly.
- ◆ Pause on tight spots and breathe deeply.

### Lower Back

- ◆ Use a foam roller at the base of your ribs, tilting slightly to one side.
- ◆ Roll slowly up and down, avoiding direct pressure on the spine.

### Glutes

- ◆ Sit on a foam roller or lacrosse ball and cross one ankle over the opposite knee.
- ◆ Lean into the roller and gently roll side to side.

### Quads

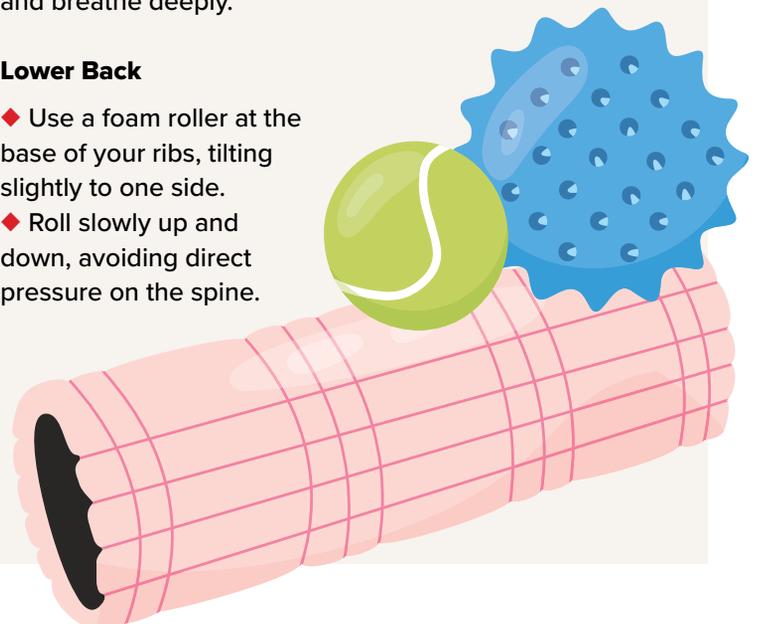
- ◆ Lie face down with a foam roller under your thighs.
- ◆ Roll from hip to knee, stopping at tender areas.

### Hamstrings

- ◆ Sit with a foam roller under your hamstrings, rolling from knee to glute.
- ◆ If needed, add pressure by crossing one leg over the other.

### Calves

- ◆ Place a foam roller under your calves and roll from ankle to knee.
- ◆ Cross one leg over the other for deeper pressure.



# Is It High-Functioning Anxiety?

By Dylan Roche

**S**ome of us really do work well under pressure—but when that pressure is self-imposed and gets to be overwhelming, it's worth taking time to pause and ask ourselves whether the good work is actually worth it. That's because what we might perceive as productivity or efficiency, and thus normalized or even celebrated, might actually be something much less healthy. When the productivity and efficiency is driven by negative emotions, it could be high-functioning anxiety.

**An estimated 40 million adults in the United States suffer from general anxiety disorder, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Symptoms of general anxiety disorder include:**

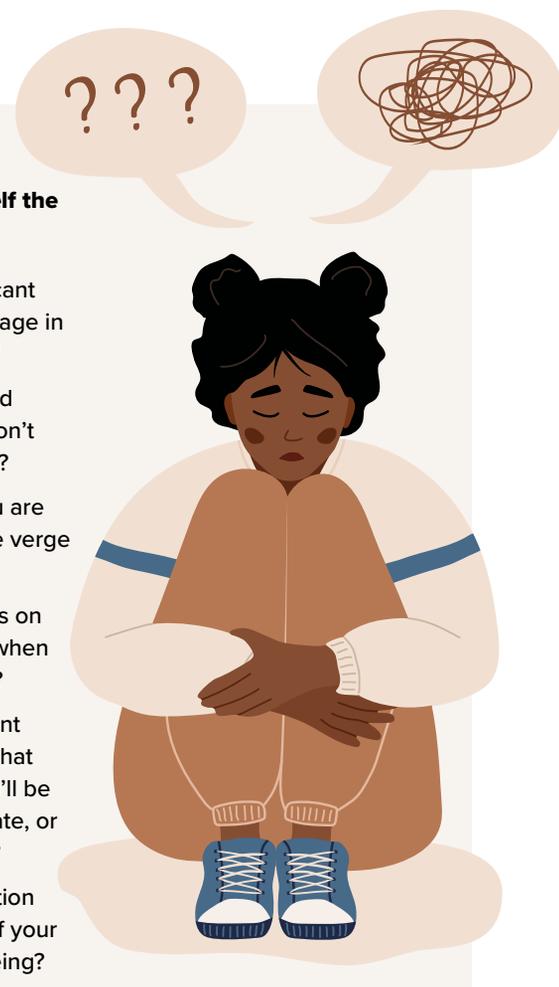
- ◆ Excessive worrying
- ◆ Difficulty concentrating
- ◆ Irritability

But high-functioning anxiety is ever so slightly different. Often people with high-functioning anxiety present themselves with qualities that look admirable from the outside: They are **high achievers** who are **organized, detailed oriented, and proactive**. They are often **outgoing and good at solving problems**.

But if these good qualities are rooted in insecurity or are used as a way of masking negativity, then they could be coming at the expense of your mental-emotional health—and that's a problem.

**If you're a productive individual, ask yourself the following questions:**

- ◆ Do you have significant fear of criticism or engage in frequent self-criticism?
- ◆ Do you feel ashamed or inadequate if you don't accomplish your goals?
- ◆ Do you feel as if you are not in control or on the verge of losing control?
- ◆ Do you tend to focus on worst-case scenarios when it comes to your tasks?
- ◆ Do you need frequent reassurance or worry that if you say no, then you'll be perceived as inadequate, or a task won't get done?
- ◆ Do you seek perfection even at the expense of your own emotional well-being?



**If your productivity might be high-functioning anxiety, the best thing you can do is learn to establish boundaries and reframe the thinking behind your actions. Start by:**

- ◆ Saying no when you need to, so you can avoid overwhelm
- ◆ Setting realistic goals and focusing on progress instead of perfectionism
- ◆ Schedule down time for yourself so you are able to actively remove yourself from high-functioning tasks

**Once you've done this, you can focus on ensuring your productivity and efficiency are done in a healthy way by:**

- ◆ Challenging any negative thoughts about worst-case scenarios with tangible evidence-based observations
- ◆ Focusing on actionable steps you can take to accomplish realistic goals
- ◆ Practicing gratitude for what you've accomplished and acknowledging that you can't always do everything

**ABOVE ALL, IT HELPS TO REMEMBER THAT PERFECTIONISM IS NEVER ATTAINABLE OR HEALTHY—GOOD IS OFTEN GOOD ENOUGH!**



# A Nutrient Worth Its Salt

By Dylan Roche

If you've ever looked at a canister of table salt, you might have noticed it labeled as *iodized*. Or if you've looked at a package of fancy sea salt, there's usually a disclaimer that says, "This salt does not supply iodine, a necessary nutrient."

So, what's the deal with iodine? Why is it sometimes added to salt (and other times not)? And what's the benefit to getting this necessary nutrient in our diets. You might be surprised to learn that iodine deficiency was actually common before manufacturers started adding it to salt—but in recent years, more and more people are suffering from a lack of iodine in their diet. This could ultimately have a negative effect on their metabolism, brain function, energy levels, and more.

## FIRST, WHAT IS IODINE?

Iodine is a mineral nutrient that's naturally found in the soil and water. Many foods are rich in iodine, including seafood, seaweed, eggs, and dairy products. But if you're somebody who doesn't eat a lot of animal products, or if you have increased needs because you're pregnant or breastfeeding, you may not be getting enough iodine. This nutrient aids in thyroid function, helping your body produce hormones that convert food to energy, regulate your body temperature, support skin and hair growth, and boost brain function.

## WITHOUT IODINE, YOU COULD SUFFER SUCH PROBLEMS AS:

Goiter, a swelling of the thyroid • Fatigue, weakness, or weight gain from a sluggish metabolism • Cold sensitivity • Dry skin and hair loss • Difficulty concentrating, memory problems, or other cognitive issues • Developmental disabilities in infants and children

## WHY DON'T WE HEAR MORE ABOUT IODINE DEFICIENCY?

You might not hear about iodine deficiency as much as you hear about, for example, iron deficiency or calcium deficiency because iodine is often added to a very common product: table salt. After iodized salt hit the market 100 years ago, severe iodine deficiency (along with its related maladies) had been cut in half by the 1970s. However, the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology reports that iodine deficiency is reemerging in the United States.

Why? More people are conscious of their sodium intake, which can lead to high blood pressure in excess, so they may be cutting back on table salt or switching to fancier sea salt, kosher salt, or Himalayan salt, none of which contain added iodine.

## HOW CAN I GET MORE IODINE?

Start by talking to your doctor, who can perform a simple urine test to determine whether you're actually deficient. This is especially important for pregnant or nursing women, who have greater iodine needs for fetal and infant brain development (about 220–290 micrograms needed per day). Your doctor may recommend an iodine supplement, or encourage you to try eating more iodine-rich foods:



**Cod:** 150 micrograms per serving

**Tuna:** 17 micrograms per serving

**Shrimp:** 30 micrograms per serving

**Milk:** 23 micrograms per serving

**Greek Yogurt:** 87 micrograms per serving

**Eggs:** 24 micrograms per serving

**Kelp:** 3,000 micrograms per serving

**Wakame:** 42 micrograms per serving

**Nori:** 232 micrograms per serving

# Sweat, Strength, and Survival

## HYROX COMPETITIONS ARE THE RISING FITNESS TREND

By Dylan Roche

It's not a marathon, and it's not CrossFit—but it's a fitness challenge that combines elements of these disciplines in a trend that's quickly growing around the world. If your idea of fun includes sled pushes, burpees, farmer carries, and lots of running, then you might find yourself attracted to this kind of challenge. Hyrox is fitness competition combining strength and endurance in a way that's inclusive, fun, and, yes, tough.

**HYROX IS FITNESS COMPETITION COMBINING STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE IN A WAY THAT'S INCLUSIVE, FUN, AND, YES, TOUGH.**

Hyrox encompasses eight standard functional exercises you would undertake in a CrossFit or similar fitness session, but these exercises are broken up with running between them. You start by running 1 kilometer, followed by an exercise. Then you run another 1 kilometer. By the time you're done, you've run 8 kilometers (almost 5 miles) and completed eight functional exercises.

These competitions started across the Atlantic over in Germany, where they were conceived by triathlete Christian Toetzke and Olympian Moritz Furste back in 2017. In only a few short years since then, Hyrox has spread around the world with competitions held in many major cities. A huge part of the appeal, according to Michele Wilder, a Hyrox performance coach based in the United



Kingdom, is that it's welcoming to everybody. "When you go to a race, you'll see all body types, and Hyrox publicizes stories of everyday people who have overcome adversity to race just as much as they publicize the professionals," she says.

Another aspect of Hyrox's inclusivity is the way the competitions offer divisions, so participants can share the work instead of doing it all by themselves (unless that's the challenge you want!). Divisions you'll find at a Hyrox competition encompass:

**Open:** for general fitness enthusiasts (lighter weights, no elite qualifying)

**Pro:** for experienced competitors (heavier weights)

**Doubles:** for partnered competitors (split the workload)

**Relay:** for team of four (each completes a portion of the race)

**A TYPICAL COMPETITION  
FORMAT LOOKS LIKE:**

1km Run  
1,000m SkiErg  
1km Run  
50m Sled Push  
1km Run  
50m Sled Pull  
1km Run  
80m Burpee Broad Jumps  
1km Run  
1,000m Row  
1km Run  
200m Farmers Carry  
1km Run  
100m Sandbag Lunges  
1km Run  
100 Wall Balls

Hyrox presents a unique challenge because it's about strength and endurance, rather than a marathon or strongman competition, either of which would require one or the other. You need strength to complete the functional exercises, but because they're performed in succession with running interspersed, you need to have the endurance to follow through with all of them.

The average time for finishing is about an hour and a half, though few competitions have time limits and it's not unusual for some competitors to take up to three hours.

**Sound exhausting?** If the idea of a Hyrox competition sounds ex-

citing but you're tired (and a little daunted) when you really imagine what it would be like, the best thing you can do is start training. Four key approaches you can take to train for a Hyrox competition include:

- ◆ **Run Often:** You need strong endurance to maintain running performance between exercises.
- ◆ **Lift Heavy:** The sled push and farmer carry require a lot of power.
- ◆ **Train Functional Movements:** Wall balls, burpees, and rowing should be regular in your workouts.
- ◆ **Simulate Race Conditions:** At least once a week, do a Hyrox-style workout with running intervals.



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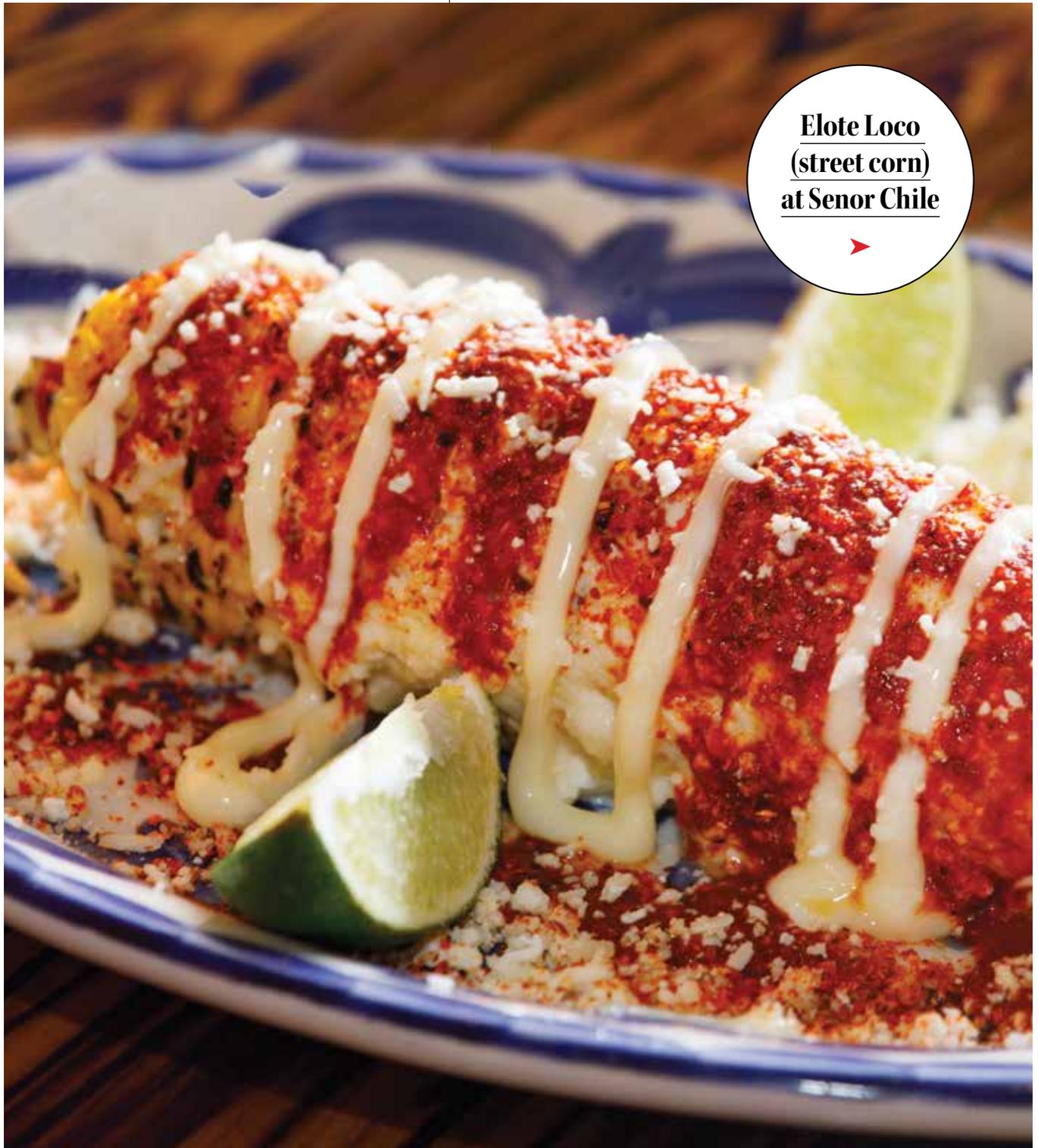
**BEST OF  
CENTRAL MARYLAND  
2024**

# Food & Dining

90 FEAST MODE

92 READERS' DINING GUIDE

Elote Loco  
(street corn)  
at Senor Chile



# Feast Mode

By James Houck

**M**ore than 25 years ago, Fredy Salmoran arrived in the United States at age 17 with big dreams. How big? “I wanted to pursue better opportunities and help my family,” he once told us. “I wanted to have my own business. I wanted to have my own dishes and make my own food.” It took Salmoran several years to learn the local restaurant industry, working in various positions for several well-known establishments. But he eventually opened his own restaurant in 2016 (Mi Lindo Cancun Grill in Annapolis) and grew the business enough to enable him to open another four restaurants since. Those four restaurants are branded as Senor Chile, with locations in Severna Park, Arnold, Edgewater, and Chester on the Eastern Shore. The success and rapid expansion are due to, in Salmoran’s words, being well liked. “We have customers all over Maryland. They asked us to open a new location because they like us. We work with the local community, and we want to do more. We help the schools and churches with fundraisers. We do anything to help the community.”



## SEÑOR CHILE

locations in Severna Park, Arnold, Edgewater, and Chester; [senorschile.com](http://senorschile.com)

And the food is par excellence Mexican fare, which we learned firsthand during a visit to the Severna Park location on a spring afternoon.

Arriving for an early dinner after my daughter’s lacrosse game, our ravenous family of four was warmly greeted by the hostess and offered seating inside or out. Weather abiding, we chose an outdoor table, sat down comfortably, and were quickly introduced to our server Esteban. Had it been a touch cooler, we would certainly have dined indoors, where the vibrant atmosphere has a whimsical “Dia de los Muertos” theme matched to tannic-colored wood flooring, tables, and leather-back chairs. If you want to saddle-up to the bar for a craft margarita, cocktail, or cerveza, you can do that, too. A few booths at the opposite side of the room offer cozier confines.

Esteban took our drink and appetizer selections—sodas, house guacamole, and empanadas—which promptly arrived in short order alongside complimentary nachos and salsa. The guac was bright green, a great indicator of being freshly made. Chunky with chopped tomatoes, diced red onion, peppers, cilantro, and a squeeze of lime mixed in, each heap of guacamole that made it from chip-dip to mouth was savored. The empanadas were pillowy pockets of fried blue-corn dough stuffed with a mash of potato, chorizo, and cheese. The mild spice of each bite was balanced with a dollop of crema. Yum!



But we wanted more...much more. And Senor Chile delivers with large portions. For mains, I ordered a combo platter named Los Amigos featuring one enchilada de mole (I love mole sauce!), one cheese enchilada, one chicken tamale, and one chicken taquito. My wife ordered a California Burrito filled with steak, vegetables, guacamole, pico de gallo, cheese, French fries (!), and chipotle aioli. Daughter chose the Pedros Tacos—three soft corn tortillas with chicken, lettuce, pico de gallo, avocado, and chipotle sauce folded within. Son selected Mexican Street Tacos with chicken as the star protein, topped with cilantro and diced white onion. He also wanted



a side of mac-n-cheese because...why not? To top off our meal, we chose an order of Sopos/Picaditas, which are a traditional antojito snack—three handmade corn tortillas topped with beans, queso fresco, lettuce, crema, avocado, and grilled shrimp.

Depending on what entrée you order, each plate has a mix of expected fixings: rice, beans, lettuce, sour cream, pico de gallo, guacamole, sliced radishes, and so forth. Want something specific? Just ask. We found the kitchen very accommodating to our wishes. Everyone seems chill at Senor Chile and wants you to enjoy your meal.

It turned out that our eyes were much bigger than our stomachs. The huge portions were more than enough to fill us for the evening *and* have plenty left over for a day-after lunch (or—wink—late-night snack). I honestly felt each bite of each dish I sampled was quite fine and exhibited familiar flavors, with freshness—very fresh—being key.

The menu is voluminous, so discovering a new take on a classic dish or a new dish altogether is easy. There's a range of homemade soups, their "famous" birria, and plenty unique entrees that I look forward to trying on our next visit. I wish I left room for dessert—flan or tres leches cake look tempting—but that will have to wait until next time as well.

My advice. Activate your own feast mode at a nearby Senor Chile location for a fun, filling, and easy-going Mexican dining experience.



# Readers' Dining Guide



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

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 169 Mayo Road, Edgewater; 410-956-2995; [adams-grilleedgewater.com](http://adams-grilleedgewater.com) \$\$ ●

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 129A Mitchell's Chance Road, Edgewater; 443-949-8309; [alwaysicecreamcompany.com](http://alwaysicecreamcompany.com) \$ ●

**Bayside Bull**  
 108 W Central Ave, Edgewater; 410-956-6009; [baysidebull.com](http://baysidebull.com) \$ ●●

**The Boathouse**  
 604 Cabana Blvd, Deale; 410-867-9668; [theboathouse-deale.com](http://theboathouse-deale.com) \$\$ ●●●

**Cappy's**  
 479 Deale Road, Deale; 443-607-4138; [cappysdeale.com](http://cappysdeale.com) \$\$, ●●● Seasonal

**Chad's BBQ**  
 158 W Central Ave, Edgewater; 410-956-7774; [chadsbbq.com](http://chadsbbq.com) \$ ●●

**Cooper's Tavern**  
 173 Mitchell's Chance Road, Edgewater; 443-837-6126; [coopers-tavern.com](http://coopers-tavern.com) \$\$ ●●

**Dockside Restaurant & Sports Bar**  
 421 Deale Road, Tracy's Landing; 410-867-1138; [dockside-restaurantmd.com](http://dockside-restaurantmd.com) \$\$ ●●●●

**Edgewater Restaurant**  
 148 Mayo Road, Edgewater; 410-956-3202; [edgewater-restaurant.com](http://edgewater-restaurant.com) \$\$ ●●

**Happy Harbor Restaurant and Bar**  
 533 Deale Road, Deale; 410-867-0949; [happyharbor-deale.com](http://happyharbor-deale.com) \$\$ ●●●●●

**Harper's Waterfront Restaurant**  
 1107 Turkey Point Road, Edgewater; 410-798-8338; [harperswaterfront.com](http://harperswaterfront.com) \$\$\$, Reservation Only ●●●●

**Harvest Thyme Tavern**  
 1251 West Central Ave, Davidsonville; 443-203-6846; [harvestthymetavern.com](http://harvestthymetavern.com) \$\$ ●●

**Jesse Jays**  
 584 West Central Avenue, Davidsonville; 240-903-8100; [jessejays.com](http://jessejays.com) \$ ●●●

**Killarney House**  
 584 West Central Avenue, Davidsonville; 410-798-8700; [killarneyhousepub.com](http://killarneyhousepub.com) \$\$ ●●●●●

**Lemongrass South River**  
3059 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater; 443-221-7693  
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**Mike's Crab House**  
3030 Riva Road, Riva; 410-956-2784; mikescrabhouse.com  
\$\$\$ ●●●●

**Petie Greens**  
6103 Drum Point Rd. Deale; 410-867-1488; petiegreens.com  
\$\$\$ ●●●

**The Pier Waterfront Bar & Grill**  
48 South River Road, Edgewater; 443-837-6057; thepierwaterfrontbarandgrill.com  
\$\$\$ ●●●●●●

**Pirate's Cove Restaurant and Dock Bar**  
4817 Riverside Drive, Galesville; 410-867-2300; piratescove-md.com  
\$\$\$ ●●●●●

**Senor's Chile**  
105 Mayo Road, Edgewater, 410-216-2687; senorschile.com  
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**Skipper's Pier Restaurant & Dock Bar**  
6158 Drum Point Road, Deale; 410-867-7110; skipperspier.com  
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**South County Café**  
5960 Deale Church-ton Road, Deale; 410-867-6450; southcountycafe.com  
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**Stan and Joe's Riverside**  
4851 Riverside Drive, Galesville; 410-867-7200; stanandjoesaloon.com  
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**Yellowfin Steak & Fishhouse**  
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**Ashling Kitchen and Bar**  
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**The Big Bean**  
558 B&A Boulevard, Severna Park; 410-384-7744; thebigbean.com  
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**Blackwall Barn and Lodge**  
329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills; 410-317-2276; barnandlodge.com  
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**Blue Rooster Café**  
1372 Cape St Claire Road, Annapolis; 410-757-5232; goto-roosters.com  
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**Brian Boru Restaurant and Pub**  
489 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park; 410-975-2678; brianboru-pub.com  
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**The Beach Bar**  
1750 Marley Avenue, Glen Burnie; 410-553-0600; Facebook  
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**Bean Rush Café**  
1015 Generals Highway, Crownsville; 410-923-1546; beanrushcafe.com  
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**Broadneck Grill and Cantina**  
1364 Cape St Claire Road, Annapolis; 410-757-0002; broadneckgrill.com  
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2630 Chapel Lake Drive; 410-721-5522; Gallianoitalianrestaurant.com  
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849 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Severna Park; 443-261-3905; garten-eats.com  
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1407 S Main Chapel Way STE 113, Gambrills; 410-702-9896; thegreeneturtle.com  
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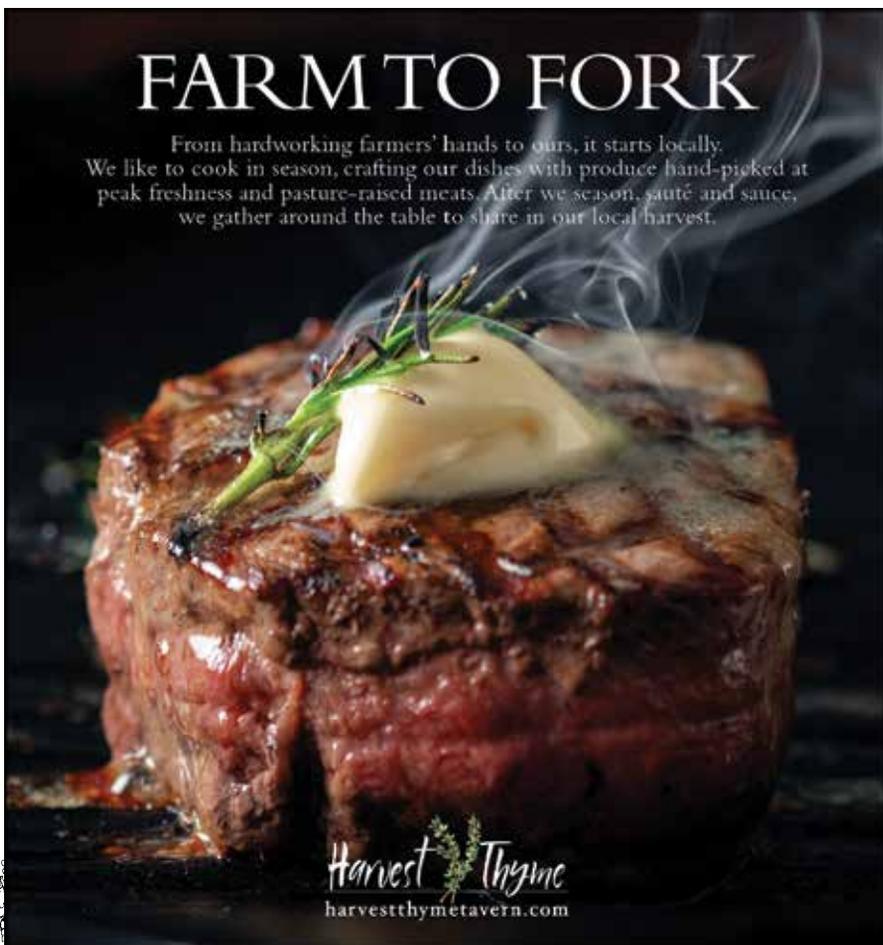
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### Bond 45

149 Waterfront Street, National Harbor; 301-839-1445; bond45nh.com \$\$\$ ●●●●

### Busboys and Poets

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

### The Common

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

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

### Fiorella Italian Kitchen & Pizzeria

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### The Irish Whisper

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

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

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### Mad Cow Grill

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

### Milk & Honey Café

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

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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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# Where's Wilma?

**FIND WILMA AND WIN!**

This month, our faithful mascot Wilma celebrates her 28th year of flying through the pages of *What's Up? Media* magazines. She loves to shop, dine out, visit businesses, and shows no signs of slowing down. Where will she pop-up next? Here's how the contest works: Wilma appears next to three different ads in this magazine. When you spot her, write the names of the ads and their page numbers on the entry form online or mail in the form below and you'll be eligible to win. Only one entry per family. Good luck and don't forget to submit your restaurant review online at [whatsupmag.com/promotions](http://whatsupmag.com/promotions) for another opportunity to win a prize.

**Congratulations to John B.** of Gambrills, who won a \$50 gift certificate to a local business.

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Entries must be received by May 31, 2025. Winner will receive a gift certificate to a local establishment and their name will appear in an upcoming issue of *What's Up? Central Maryland*. **Mail entries to:** Where's Wilma? Central Maryland, 900 Bestgate Road, Ste. 202, Annapolis, MD 21401 or fill out the form at [whatsupmag.com/promotions](http://whatsupmag.com/promotions).

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