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Home Excellence Awards

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eastern shore

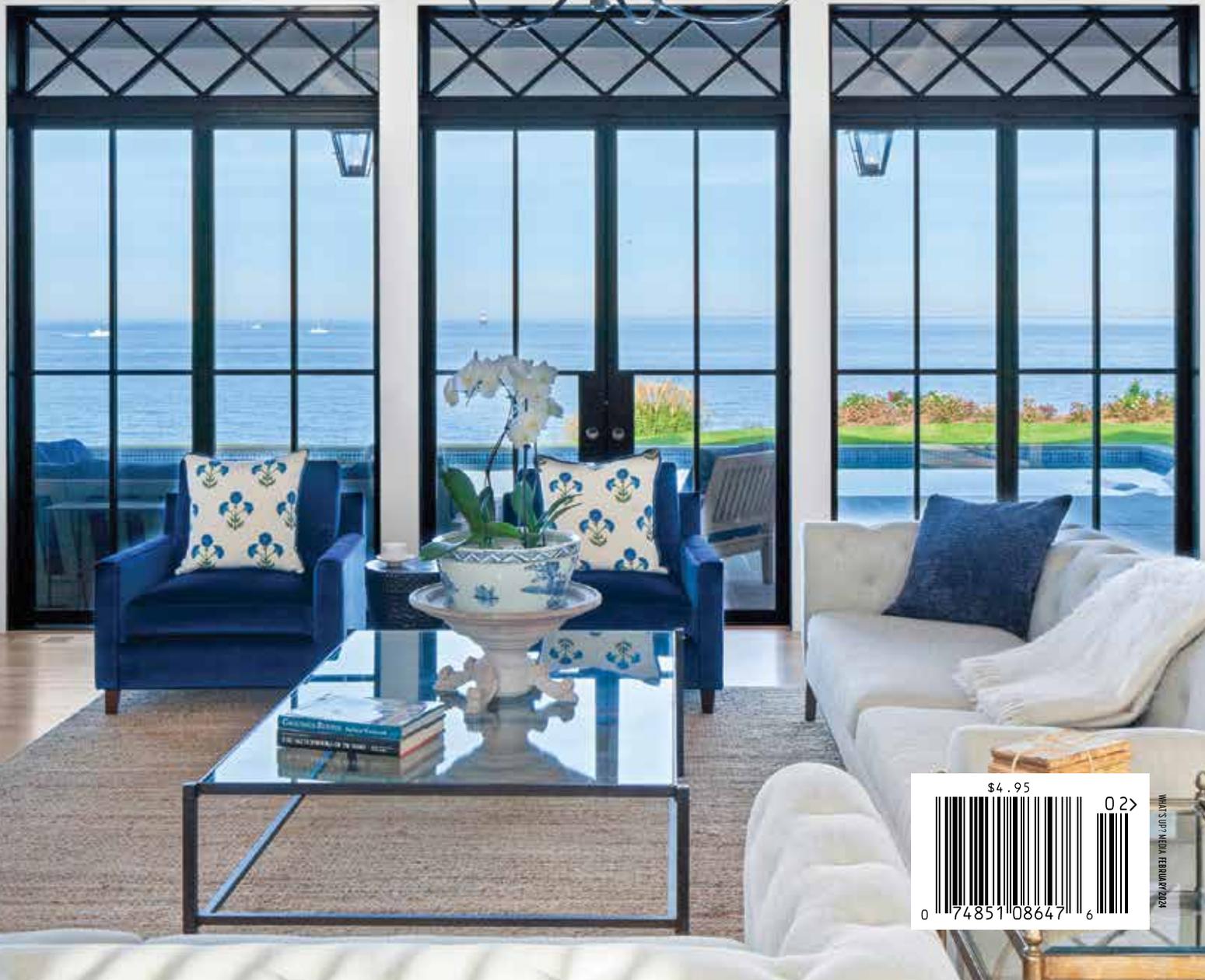
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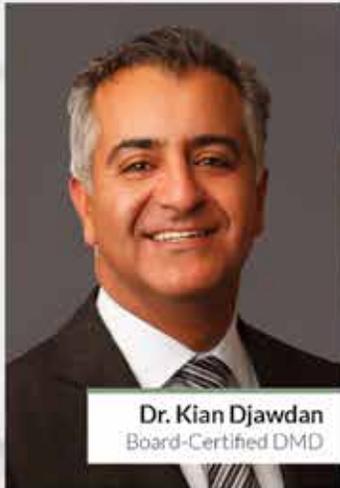


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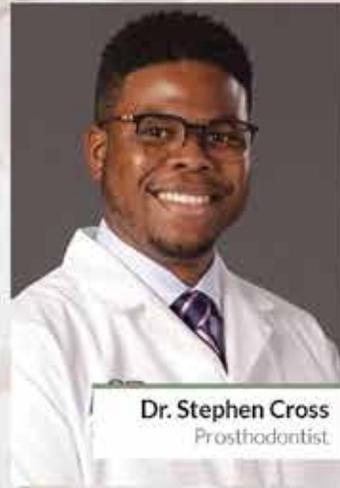
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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA

BEST OF 2024

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Food & Dining

Allergy-Friendly
Appetizers/Small Plates
Bakery
Barbeque
Beer Selection
Bloody Mary
Breakfast
Brewery
Brunch
Burger
Caterer
Charcuterie
Chef
Chinese Restaurant
Cocktails
Coffee Shop (Local)
Crabcake
Cream of Crab Soup
Cupcakes
Deli
Dessert
Ethnic Fusion Cuisine
Family-Friendly Restaurant
Farm-to-Table Menu
Fast-Casual
French Restaurant
German Restaurant
Gluten-Free
Grab & Go
Greek Restaurant
Happy Hour
Healthy Restaurant
Ice Cream
Indian Restaurant
Irish Restaurant
Italian Restaurant
Japanese Restaurant
Korean BBQ
Maryland Crab Soup
Mexican/Latin Restaurant
Neighborhood Restaurant
New Restaurant
Outdoor Dining
Pizza (Chain)
Pizza (Local)
Ramen/Pho

Raw Bar/Oysters
Romantic Restaurant
Salads
Seafood Restaurant
Smoothies/Juice Shop
Southern Restaurant
Specialty Cakes
Sports Bar
Steakhouse
Steamed Crabs
Sushi
Thai Restaurant
Vegetarian Menu
Wait Staff/Service
Waterfront Restaurant
Whiskey Selection
Wine Selection
Wings

Health & Beauty

Acupuncture
Addiction Counseling
Barber Shop
Barre Class
Blowout
Body Contouring (Non-surgical)
Bootcamp
Cannabis Dispensary (Medical)
Children's Fitness Class
Chiropractor
Cosmetic Injections
Customer Service
Dance Studio
Day Spa
Dental Hygienists
Eyebrow Care
Eyebrow Coloring
Eyebrow Microblading
Eyebrow Threading
Eyelash Extensions
Facial
Float Spa
Gym
Hair Color
Hormone Therapy
Hospice Care
Hydration/IV Therapy

Kickboxing
Laser Hair Removal
Laser Skin Treatment
Life Coach
Manicure/Pedicure
Martial Arts for Adults
Martial Arts for Children
Massage
Medi-Spa
Men's Haircut & Styling
Mental Health Services
Nutritionist
Optician
Optometrist
Pain Management
Permanent Makeup
Personal Trainer
Physical Therapy
Pilates Class
Prenatal Fitness
Resort with Spa
Spin Class
Stand-Up Paddle Board Class
Swim School
Tanning
Tattoo Parlor
Teeth Aligner Specialist
TRX Class
Urgent Care Facility
Waxing (Body)
Weight-Loss Program
Women's Hair Cut & Styling
Yoga Studio

Home & Design

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Architect
Basement/Crawl Space Water-proofing
Closet Organizer & Designer
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Custom Builder
Customer Service
Electrician
Fence & Deck Contractor
Flooring & Carpet Contractor
Foundation/Structural Repairs

Gutter & Siding Contractor
Hardscape Design/Build
Home Appraiser
Home Automation Services
Home Design/Build
Home Inspection Service
Home Insulation
Home Remodeling Service
Home Security/Alarm Systems
HVAC Service
Indoor Cleaning Service
Interior Design Service
Irrigation Contractor & Service
Kitchen & Bath Design
Landscape
Lawn & Garden Equipment Supply
Lawn Service & Treatments
Lumber & Building Materials
Supply
Luxury Home Realtor
Luxury Real Estate Team
Mortgage Lender
Paint Store
Painting Contractor
Pest Control
Plumber
Pool Design/Build
Pool Maintenance
Power Washing Service
Real Estate Team/Brokerage
Residential Realtor
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Title Company
Tree Service
Water Treatment Service
Waterfront Real Estate Team/
Brokerage
Waterfront Realtor
Window & Door Contractor
Window Treatments

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Cannabis Dispensary (Recreational)
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Charter Boat Company
Computer Services
Customer Service
Driving School
Dry Cleaner
Emergency Pet Care
Financial Advisor
Florist
Framing Shop
Furniture Store
Garden Center
Growlers & Crowlers
In-Home Senior Assistance
Insurance Agent/Company
Interactive Game Experience
Intimate Apparel
IT Solutions for Business & Home
Jeweler
Law Firm
Local Band/Musician
Local Music Venue
Lodging/Bed & Breakfast
Marina
Marketing Agency
Men's Clothing Store
Music/Instrument Store
Nonprofit Gala
Nonprofit Organization (Local or Local Chapter)
Nonprofit Sporting Event
Organic Grocer
Party Vendor (Balloons, Facepainting, Rentals)
Payroll Company
Pet Boarding & Daycare
Pet Grooming & Services
Pet Training (Dog)
Pet Walking/Sitting

Professional Organizer
Purses & Handbags
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Retirement Community (Active Living)
Sailing School
Senior Living Facility (Assisted Living)
Specialty Grocer/Market
Summer Camp
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Women's Clothing Store

Weddings

Bar Service
Bridal Hair Cut & Styling
Caterer
Ceremony Venue
Dance Studio
Decor
Desserts
DJ/Entertainment Service
Dress Shop (Wedding, Bridesmaids, etc.)
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Food Trucks
Hair Stylist
Jeweler
Live Band
Makeup Artist
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On the Cover: We celebrate the 2nd Annual Home Excellence Awards winners. Design by August Schwartz. Contact *What's Up? Eastern Shore* online at whatsupmag.com. Please recycle this magazine.

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eastern shore

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MARCH 2024
Maryland's First Lady
Dawn Moore
The New American Home
Fossil & Arrowhead Hunting

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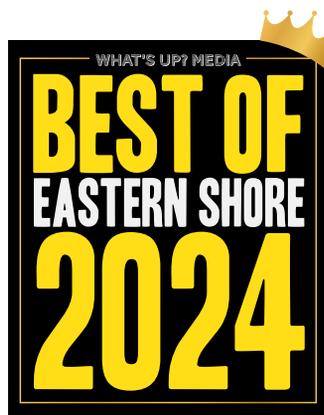
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Vote for The Best!

This is your reminder that the Best Of 2024 voting is live through the end of February. We know you can't wait to vote for your favorite restaurants, shops, and services, so cast your vote quickly!



Vote for your favorites here:
whatsupmag.com/bestofvoting



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





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editor *From the*

February is my kind of month. We're smack dab in the middle of winter. Trees are bare and there's often a brittle stillness to the air. It's quiet. You can see your own life with each breath outside. Perhaps we'll get a dusting of snow. Maybe a snowstorm. We'll never know with certainty, no matter if the groundhog sees his shadow or not.

A sunny morning may begin warming the day a few degrees—perfect for a brisk walk to get some fresh air. I love exploring my neighborhood and the surrounding woods this time of year. A red-tailed hawk might fly overhead. Squirrels usually scamper at the sound of my footsteps. A dog barks, echoing in the distance. The congestion of the daily grind seems to be hibernating just a wee bit.

This can be a relaxing time to reflect on things. It is for me, at least. If only because this is also my birthday month. Entering year 45, I realize that I've been making this magazine for exactly half my life, beginning as an editorial assistant in June of '01. Feels like a lifetime ago, but obviously it's not. If I'm lucky, maybe a quarter. I started with *What's Up?* Media curating events for the print calendar, preparing the summer camp guide, restaurant listings, and writing more than a few articles. These elements have made our publication reliable for so many readers—as much back then, as they do today.

This February issue is a fine example of what we bring to your coffee table, which, I know, is increasingly full of ever-evolving media options, publications, and providers vying for your attention. We've been doing this for some time, though, so I like to think that we do know *what's up*.

We have some choice events and entertainment options to look forward to; we have the latest edition of the summer camp



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guide (fams, book your kiddos now!); one of our state's leading economists offers his take on markets, financials, and more for the year ahead (also an election year!); and there's a nod to nature with a piece about birdwatching in winter (a most excellent time to view the migratory species that visit our region).

One of the most compelling and exciting features we offer all year also is in this issue. If you're a homeowner, in the market for one, or just fascinated by living spaces (who's not?), you're going to love this—the annual Home Excellence Awards winners are unveiled! Many outstanding projects have won architecture, interior design, critical area, construction, and other

honors. This feature is the *pièce de résistance* of the magazine. And, I hope, serves as inspiration for your dream home. If anything, it offers plenty of concepts on which to reflect.

It's February, after all—the month to imagine what your upcoming spring (and, perhaps, life) may become.

James Houck,
Editorial Director



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HOSPICE and Palliative Care:

Making a Difference



A hospice nurse was recently asked, “How can you work in hospice – it must be so sad!”

She answered, “I love providing highly-skilled, compassionate care because I know I make a huge difference in the quality of a person’s life. I love that I can use my training as a nurse to bring comfort and dignity to my patients, and seeing the relief on their faces and on the faces of those who care for them. I love that I can offer practical solutions to patients and families and help them find more meaningful moments at the end of life.”

Hospice isn’t about dying but is about living as fully as possible despite a life-limiting illness.

What is Hospice Care?

Hospice care provides pain management, symptom control, psychosocial support, and spiritual care to patients and their families when a cure is not possible. The nation’s hospices serve more than 1.5 million people every year – and their family caregivers, too.

Hospice care is fully covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans and HMOs.

Many people only consider hospice care in the final days of life but hospice is ideally suited to care for patients and family caregivers for the final months of life.

What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care brings a similar interdisciplinary team care as hospice to people earlier in the course of a serious illness and can be provided along with other treatments they may still be receiving from their doctor.

Hospices are the largest providers of palliative care services and can help answer questions about what

“

How can you work in hospice? It must be so sad!

”

might be most appropriate for a person. Many hospitals also have palliative care teams available to provide services.

Hospice and palliative care are available to people of all ages with any serious or life-limiting illness.

Hospice and palliative care combine the highest level of quality medical care with the emotional and spiritual support for patients and family caregivers. Hospice and palliative care can make a profound difference and help maximize the quality of life for all those they care for.



To learn more about hospice and palliative care, contact us at 410-822-6681, or visit our website at www.talbothospice.org. Our clinical specialists are happy to discuss more details about hospice care and palliative care, and help you if you feel a loved one may be in need of one of these important aspects of care.

To see some videos and stories about the moments that hospice makes possible for patients and families, visit www.MomentsOfLife.org.

For more information on Talbot Hospice’s services and other programs, you can contact the office at 410-822-6681 or go to the website: talbothospice.org.



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Out on the **TownE**

16 EVENT PICKS | 18 SPOTLIGHT | 20 ATHLETE



Mother/Son & Daddy/Daughter Valentine Ice Skate

Valentine's Day isn't just about love for a significant other, but also love for our children. On February 7th and 8th, Talbot County Community Center will host Valentine Ice Skating with refreshments, party music, door prizes, and a complimentary photo shoot. Find more information at talbotparks.org.



High Voltage AC/DC Tribute Band

High Voltage is an upbeat five-piece veteran musician rock band that performs many of the classic AC/DC hits. They perform on February 3rd at the Avalon Theatre in Easton. The show starts at 7 p.m. Get your tickets at avalonfoundation.org.



TIMONIUM INTERNATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW

From February 9th through 11th, the Timonium International Motorcycle Show will be held at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium. The country's most complete motorsports show will feature hundreds of bikes, on and offroad motorcycles and ATVs, flat truck point series races, beer, music, stunts, and so much more. Find more information, visit motorcycleswapmeets.com/timonium-international-motorcycle-show.

EASTERN SHORE OUTDOOR SHOW

The Eastern Shore Outdoor Show will be coming to the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center in Salisbury on February 9th from 4 to 9 p.m. and on February 10th from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event will have vendors and entertainment for all ages throughout the weekend. Explore hunting, fishing, shooting, archery, boats, RVs, outfitters, demonstrations, seminars, and more to improve your knowledge of the hobbies you love! Find more information at easternshoreoutdoorshow.com.





OC Seaside Boat Show

The 41st Annual OC Seaside Boat Show will be at the Ocean City Convention Center on February 16th through 18th. The show

will have 350 boats, including cruisers, sport fishing boats, performance boats, and more than 140 exhibitors, including firearms trainers, pro fishing shops, marinas, insurance, fishing gear, cleaning systems, and more. For more information, visit ocboatshow.com.

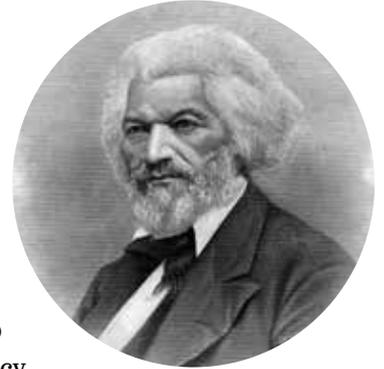


STEW + BREWS

Sponsored by Friends of the Easton VFD, the 4th Annual Stews & Brews at Easton Volunteer Fire Department will be held February 17th from 12 to 4 p.m. The day will have stew samples, beer and wine tastings, small bites, vendors, and more. There will be 30-plus craft brewers, wineries, and distillers for festival goers to enjoy. For tickets, search “2024 Stews & Brews” on eventbrite.com.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS' BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

February is Black History Month and the birth month of famous abolitionist Frederick Douglass. His Eastern Shore descendants are planning the 206th Birthday Celebration at Avalon Theatre in Easton on February 17th at 3 p.m. To honor Douglass' life and legacy, the Bailey-Groce Family Foundation is hosting a day of live performances, music, and art. To kick off the day, actor Phil Darius Wallace will come to the stage to perform his original one-man play, *Frederick Douglass: Lion of Thunder*. Find more information at avalonfoundation.org.



Chesapeake Fire & Ice Festival

The most anticipated festival on the shore will be in Downtown Easton this President's Day weekend. On February 16th and 17th, see dozens of ice sculptures spread throughout the historic district. The Friday night block party will have free live music and fire performances, outdoor ice skating, and the unveiling of the weekend's ice sculptures with a self-guided tour and light display. The weekend will feature live ice carving demos, family fun activities, seasonal shopping, and more. Find more information at discovereaston.com.



Photo by Michael Roe



Hague Celebrates 30 Years

As 2023 drew to a close, Hague Quality Water of Maryland celebrated its 30th anniversary. The veteran and family-owned and operated water treatment company has served the Maryland, Delaware, and D.C. areas since 1993. What started out as a small business from the home of Colonel Ron Edwards and his sons has grown into a 25-employee company based in Annapolis with an office in Ocean City and run by his children Brian Edwards and Kathleen Bridgman. Hague also supports the local community philanthropically, partnering with organizations like Wreaths Across America, local schools and sporting events, sponsor of the Annapolis Blues professional soccer league, and numerous pediatric cancer foundations.

“We are proud of the work we’ve done for the community over these three decades,” Edwards says. “We believe that clean water is a necessity. We look forward to another thirty years of serving our community.” Learn more at hague-waterofmd.com.



Friends of the Easton Vol. Fire Department Receives Major Gift

The Friends of the Easton Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) recently received a \$1 million investment from the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation for its Public Safety Capital Campaign for its Emergency Services Training Campus in Easton, Maryland. The state-of-the-art training campus will serve the town of Easton, fire departments, emergency service personnel, law enforcement, and paramedics in Talbot County for specialized education and certification.

“This investment is crucial in providing Talbot County’s first responders with the necessary resources and training to continue serving and protecting our community,” said Clark Foundation Board Chair Courtney Clark Pastrick.

The project will include a 3,500-square-foot concrete public safety building for first responder training; a 3,600-square-foot classroom training and storage building; and a 1,500-square-foot concrete pad for car fire, extrication/stabilization, and traffic safety training.

For more information or to donate to the Friends’ Capital Campaign project contact Brett Whitehead at 302-236-6249 or by email at whitenj20@gmail.com.



Student Artwork Exhibition at UMM Shore Medical Center

University of Maryland Shore Medical Center at Chestertown, in partnership with the Kent Cultural Alliance and Kent County public and private schools, recently hosted an art reception in the hospital’s Aging & Wellness Center to showcase a new exhibit of student artwork from the local community. (Pictured is Radcliffe Creek School fourth-grade student Femi Aderoba and his father, Tenitayo Aderoba, at the opening.)

“We are thrilled for the partnership with the Kent Cultural Alliance and all of the public and private schools in our Kent County community,” said Lara Wilson, Director, Rural Health Care Transformation at UM Shore Medical Center Chestertown. “Bringing student art into our Aging & Wellness Center has breathed new life into these halls. Patients and staff alike are blown away by the talent and creative gifts of these young artists.”

Artwork from Kent County Public Schools, Radcliffe Creek School, and Kent School will change twice a year, to give more students a chance to participate. Artwork may be viewed by the public during normal business hours in the Aging & Wellness Center, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, visit umms.org/shore.

Shore Legal Access Opens New Location

Shore Legal Access unveiled its new Easton location and name this past fall with a grand reopening reception at SLA’s offices on Idlewild Avenue in Easton. A Talbot County Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony also took place. More than 40 people attended the event, which included light refreshments, cake, and door prizes donated by several local businesses. The nonprofit’s Easton office moved to its larger location this past December to accommodate expanded free legal services for housing and family law. The name was changed from Mid-Shore Pro Bono to Shore Legal Access this past May to be inclusive of the communities served in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties, and clearly convey the services provided. Learn more at shorelegal.org.





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What trends in financial planning are you seeing in 2024?

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Historically, the industry was built around advisors in sales positions who earned commissions for their compensation. A key trend is the steady transition of advisors from selling to acting as fiduciaries. While no compensation structure is perfect, the more advisors practicing as fiduciaries, the better for consumers.

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Gennie Webb

Sts. Peter & Paul High School
Field Hockey, Swimming, Tennis

By Tom Worgo
Photograph courtesy Webb Family

Gennie Webb always seems to carry around a field hockey stick with her everywhere. It all started in elementary school when she played with her older sisters Abby and Libby in the backyard or basement of their family's Easton home, or even at a nearby field.

Webb stays involved with the sport year-round whether it's playing for her high school team, Saints Peter & Paul, one of two high-caliber club teams, or coaching and refereeing.

Webb, a senior three-sport athlete, practices everyday with her younger sister Angie, a freshman field hockey player at Saints Peter & Paul. The sport consumes Webb.

"I can remember when field hockey was not in my life," Webb explains. "I was always with my sisters practicing or on the sidelines watching them. I can't imagine life without field hockey. My parents sometimes worry about me getting injured because I play so much."

Libby and Abby Webb went on to play field hockey at Division I Saint Francis University in Pennsylvania after graduating from the same high school their sisters now attend.

"My older sisters played in college and seeing their experiences inspired me to play in college," Webb says.

It's not a surprise that Webb will be playing field hockey in college. In fact, she will suit up this fall for Division I Virginia Commonwealth University, where she'll major in biology with an eye on going to dental school afterward. The 17-year-old Webb carries a 3.86 weighted grade-point average in high school and took five advanced-placement classes.

"The main reason I want to go to Virginia Commonwealth is the coaches," says Webb, who also had an offer from Davidson College in North Carolina. "I think they are amazing. The head coach (Stacey Bean) coached my two older sisters while at St. Francis."

The 5-foot-7 Webb, a midfielder, had a stellar career in high school. The Eastern Shore Independent Athletic Conference named her its Player of the Year in both 2022 and 2023. Webb also led the Sabres in scoring three times.

"She has had a field hockey stick in her hand since basically she could walk," Saints Peter & Paul Field Hockey Coach Debbie McQuaid says. "She works at her game nonstop. Her stick skills are phenomenal. I have coached in high school for 25 years and she's one of the best I've ever had."

If there is one thing you can say about Webb it's that she is a consistent offensive player, scoring 22 or more goals during her last three years in high school. Webb's senior year was her best as she totaled 25 goals and 25 assists.

She had some outstanding games this past fall. Webb scored four goals in a 10-1 thumping of Salisbury's Holly Grove Christian School and recorded two goals and an assist in a 3-0 blanking of Severna Park's Severn School.

"She is the best teammate you can have," McQuaid says. "She makes everyone around her better. She encourages the younger players and helps them with their skills."



After the high season is over Webb focuses on further developing her skills playing for Team Chesapeake in the winter and the Shore Field Hockey Club in the spring and summer.

"It has really helped me get better," Webb says of competing with the club players. "I am going against some amazing players. And it has helped me get recruited by colleges."

Webb excels in swimming and tennis, too. She ranked as the No. 1 tennis player on her school team. And Webb competes against boys in swimming as the Sabres compete in the Baltimore-area's Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association. She took third in the 100-yard backstroke in the conference championships.

"She blows some guys out of the water," Sabres' Swimming Coach Caroline Petosa says. "A lot of the girls on the team get really nervous racing against the boys, but Gennie just gets in the pool and goes for it."

Webb may be the busiest student at her school. Besides playing three sports and carrying a heavy course load, she volunteers for canned food drives, Toys for Tots during Christmas, at nursing homes, and tutors younger students in English and Spanish through clubs.

Outside of school, she volunteers at For All Seasons Mental Health Behavior and Rape Crisis Center in Easton and paints in her spare time.

"She is the definition of a student athlete," Petosa says. "I was a student athlete myself and I would love to say I figured out a system half as well as she has."

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

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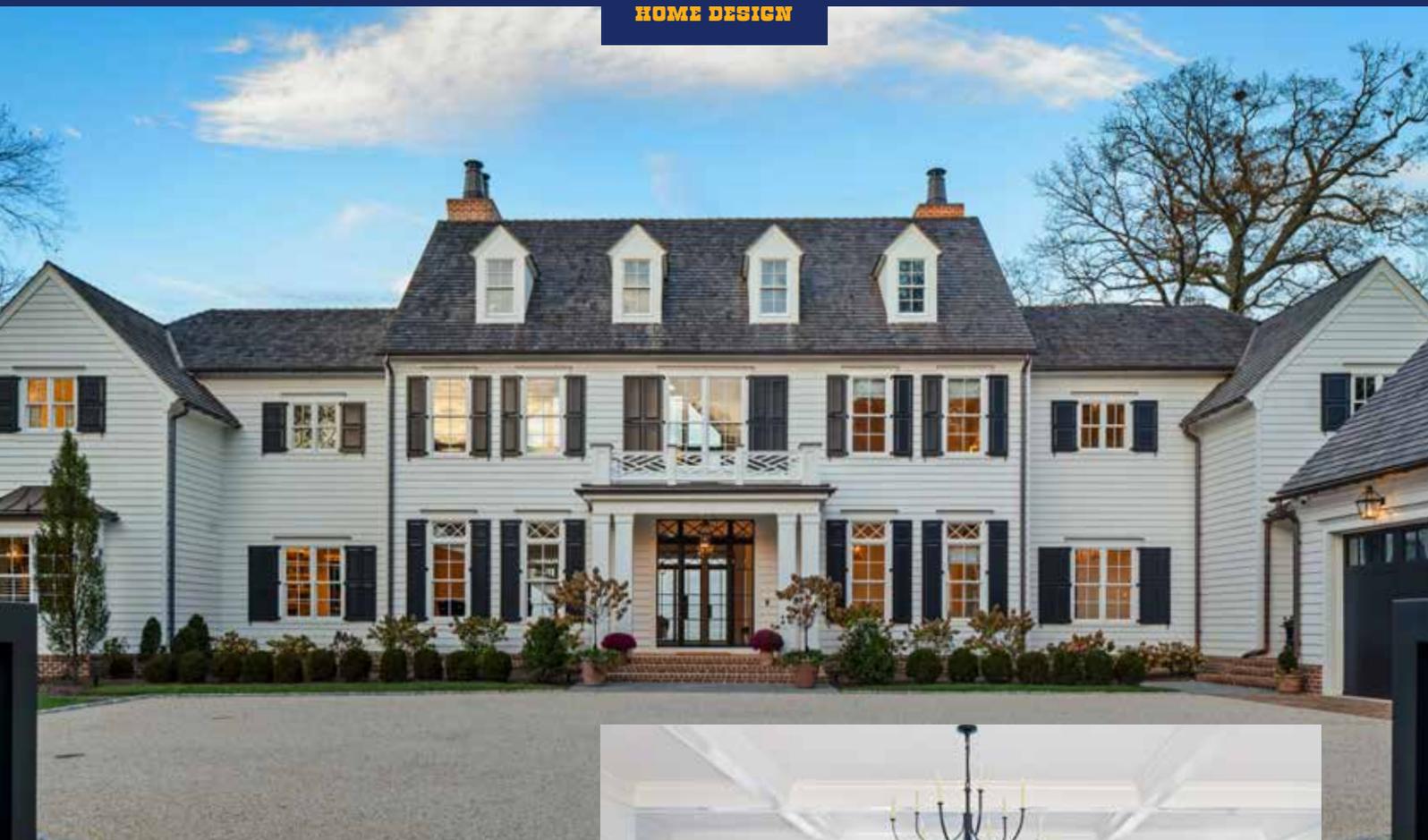
**Welcome to What's Up? Media's annual
showcase of elite home projects!**

The Home Excellence Awards program honors exemplary home builders, architects, designers, and professionals serving the greater Chesapeake Bay region. For two months, we solicited project entries in award categories inclusive of residential interior design, architecture, construction, and renovation. Entries consisted of photographs and a written description introducing the project, including structural/aesthetic intent, design/build concepts, materials used,

special features, permitting, and overall thoughts. The following list of winners represents the projects that earned accolades from our editorial judging panel. Of note, a few categories elicited many entries and, thus, feature the most winners by category. Other categories may have only one winner (or a couple). We offer descriptions of each project from the contractors themselves, as well as judges' notes. All photographs submitted courtesy by each company represented. Congratulations to the following companies and their award-winning projects!

To view
full photo
galleries
of each
project





ARCHITECTURE

“Beacon Hill”

by Purple Cherry Architects
purplecherry.com

A unique fusion of architectural styles. From the street, the home presents a classic, traditional façade, evoking the charm of coastal residences with its timeless appeal. However, the back of the home undergoes a stunning metamorphosis, revealing a sleek and contemporary exterior. This juxtaposition is an architectural tone that is carried throughout the rest of the home.

The editors said: “This residence gets high marks in every regard from its best-in-class craftsmanship, creation and execution of its floorplan design, visual ease of transitional spaces, use of materials, and joining together the owners’ request to marry their traditional and modern sensibilities.”



WATERFRONT/CRITICAL AREA ARCHITECTURE

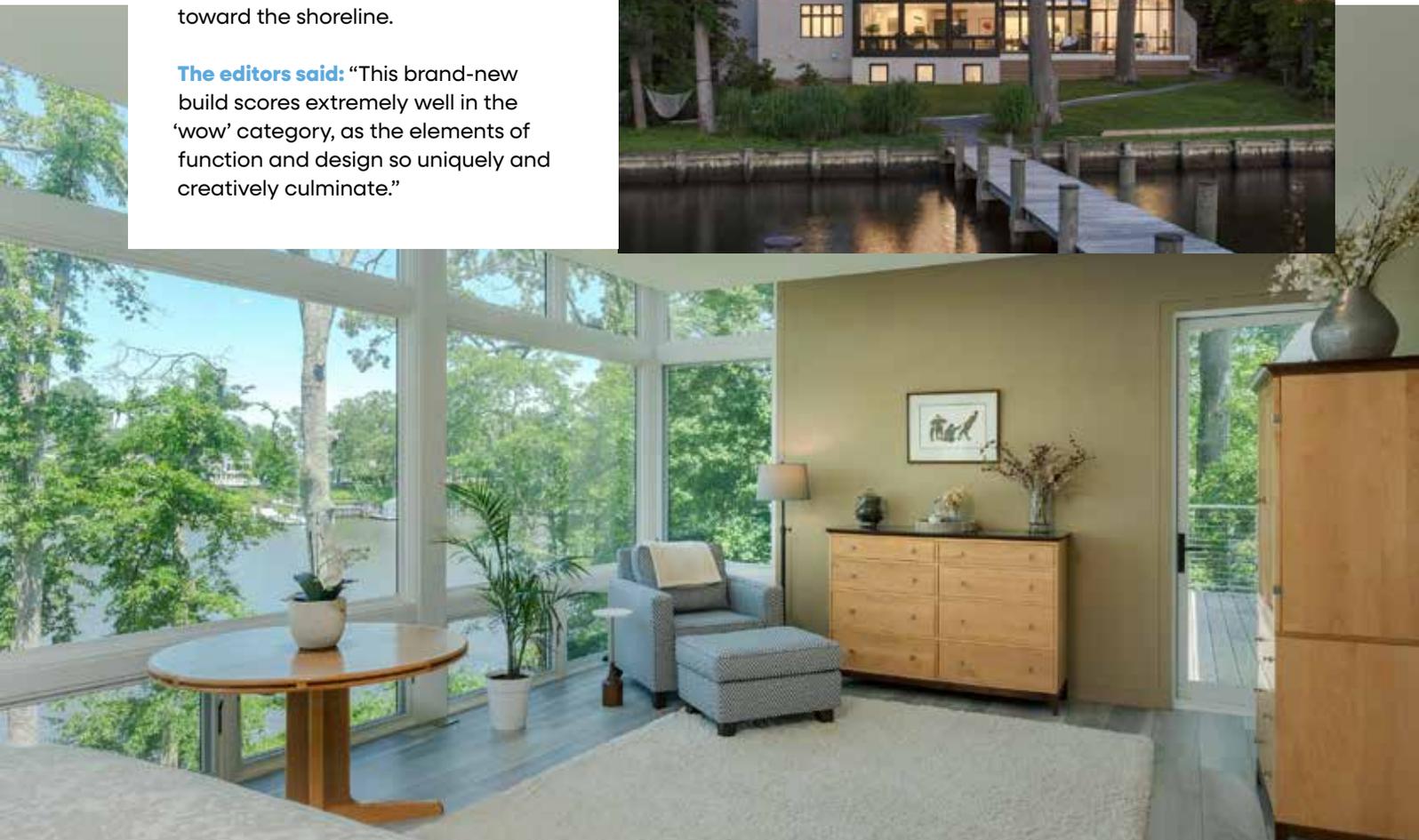
“Modern Waterfront”

by **SPEIGHT studio architects, inc.**
speightstudio.com

Danish and Chesapeake influences in a modern palette. Clean lines and minimalist details allow the proportions and framed views to be prominent in this new waterfront home. The massing of the home consists of a two-story gabled cruciform with a major and minor axis and one-story flat-roofed elements on the street side that make up the required additional first floor footprint.

Complex site issues dictated the exact and irregular waterside footprint of the home. During the design process it was determined that, due to site features including topography, views, light, and even air flow, a better result would be had by flipping the footprint. This resulted in less mass toward the shoreline.

The editors said: “This brand-new build scores extremely well in the ‘wow’ category, as the elements of function and design so uniquely and creatively culminate.”





WATERFRONT/CRITICAL AREA ARCHITECTURE

“Pasadena Waterfront”

by Locust Grove Studios
locustgrovestudios.com

Located in Pasadena, Maryland, this home’s architecture and interiors were designed by Locust Grove Studios of Kennedyville. The build was completed by Delbert Adams Construction Group, with custom steelwork by Blacksmith Sawyer. Styling of the home by Kristen Alcorta and photography by Peak Visuals.



The editors said: “This exquisite home is truly in a class of its own and stands on its own on a private, waterfront point in Pasadena. This is a ground-zero critical area situation, and the task of this team of architects and builders was no doubt formidable considering the square footage requirements and the residence’s obvious level of sophistication. An architectural model of best-in-class contemporary waterfront living only somewhat captures the luxury and innovation of this home.”



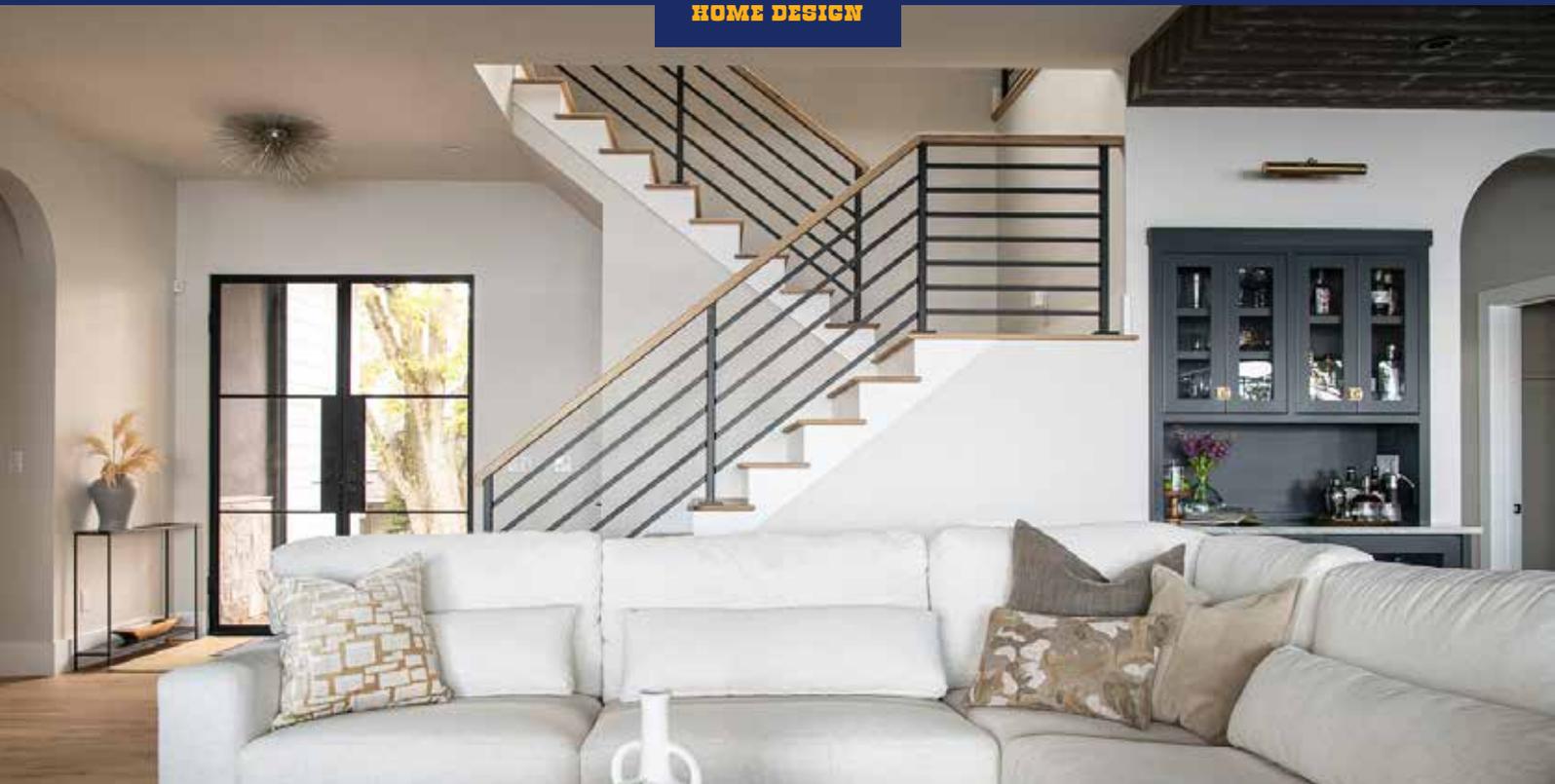


INTERIOR DESIGN

“Rehoboth Retreat” by Gable Interiors gableinteriors.com

This complete re-build features a ton of incredible design elements including a custom built bunkroom for kids complete with sailboat wall-paper, a pool house kitchen, living room, and bathroom for a private outdoor oasis. Custom millwork and beams add to the beach house charm. Bold wallpaper and lots of lighting are elements that help take this new build to the next level.

The editors said: “We love its beachy light hardwoods, curated use of woods throughout, and an intentionally calming palette of natural and neutral colors with some serendipitous splashes of lighter blues and navy mixed in for good measure. Textures and textiles also play a starring role in the balancing of structured pieces and serving as a resting place for the dwelling’s ample natural light.”



INTERIOR DESIGN

“South River Retreat”

by Taylor Hart Design
taylorhartdesign.com

A new open floor plan with expansive water views was a priority, including a modern kitchen with a large island, walk in pantry, laundry, and mudroom. All while executing their minimalist yet transitional esthetic. Special details can be found at every turn in this kitchen including beautiful custom cabinetry, luxurious white oak floors, a plaster range hood, multi-tonal backsplash tile, iron glass doors, outdoor pass-through window, honed countertop surfaces, fabulous lighting, and a soft and sophisticated color pallet.

The editors said: “Lifestyle is duly noted throughout the home with the visual ease of its transitioning spaces and paths accentuated with gorgeous and rich material choices. We’re especially loving the kitchen backsplash of tiled stone with an ever so clever reflective coating that banter with room’s natural light. And the understated (and well-integrated) cocktail cabinet gets high marks for effortlessly introducing a new hue and visual interest into the open-plan living scenario.”



INTERIOR DESIGN**“New Kitchen”**

by **Cabinet Discounters**
cabinetdiscounters.com

This kitchen was done in a newly constructed home. The cabinets are from Brighton Cabinetry. The perimeter (lighter) cabinets are Wide Rail Shaker door style with Maple Iceberg color. The darker cabinets and pantry area are Madrid door style with Walnut Gunpowder finish.

The editors said: “Exceptional kitchen with a variety of finishes and materials that complement each other creating a cohesive, clean whole.”





INTERIOR RENOVATION

“Kitchen for Family & Entertaining” by Paquin Design Build paquindesignbuild.com

Full kitchen and eat-in area renovation in waterfront home in Queenstown, Maryland. Clients focus was to incorporate an oversized multi-purpose island for family meals and entertaining.

The editors said: “This complete kitchen remodel caught our eye for its bright and bold approach to how families use their kitchens today. The older iteration, while still open-plan was dark, heavy, and choppy. A better sense of flow and utility has now been addressed in the form of an enormous, T-shaped center island topped with gorgeous white stone. The island provides copious amounts of storage, has an attractive cook-top, prep sink, and a clear sightline to a media wall.”



WATERFRONT/CRITICAL AREA CONSTRUCTION

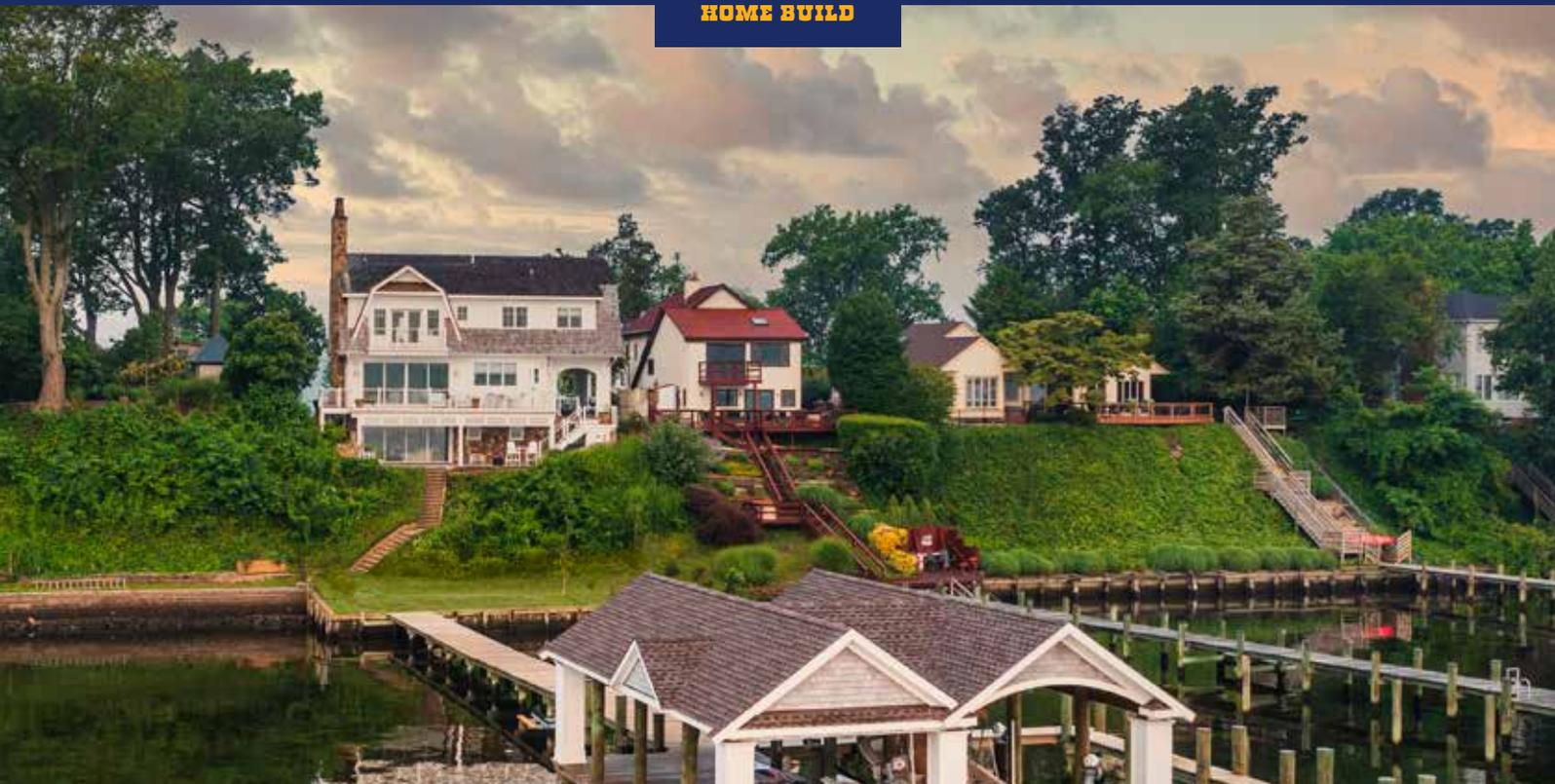
“Sea Glass”

by Marnie Custom Homes
marniehomes.com

Sea Glass is a North Bethany complete oceanfront tear down and custom rebuild boasting breathtaking beach views from literally every angle. Spanning over 7,800 square-feet, the home was thoughtfully designed to capture the waterfront setting from each space within the four-floor home. When constructing on this oceanfront lot, compliance with evolving FEMA and DNREC regulations were crucial factors.

The editors said: “This four-level beachfront stunner wins big for its sound and responsible construction practices and materials, as well as a design that embodies the sense of taking in all that waterfront living affords.”





WATERFRONT/CRITICAL AREA CONSTRUCTION

“Long Point Rebuild”

by Procopio Homes
procopiohomes.com

Along the narrow drive of Long Point on the Severn in Crownsville, Maryland, you’ll notice this standout one-of-a-kind home. Meant to draw complete appreciation of the Severn River, with Round Bay on the front and Little Round Bay on the rear of the home. As a complete tear down, this home was rebuilt with waterfront entertainment in mind.

The editors said: “This home proves that a small footprint does not need to limit the imagination when it comes to fine design and sublime function. This residence is a stunner from the curb, through its peek-a-boo carport to the water, and to its expansive outdoor living spaces. This home also scores big for ingenuity of design and depth of materials and finishes chosen. Some of our favorite features include engineered European white oak floors, bead board ceiling detail, wrap-around fireplace mantles, and built-in, ratan-faced storage units.”



NEW CONSTRUCTION

**“Dream Home”
by Nielsen Development Group
ndg.solutions**

The house seamlessly integrates with the gently sloping Millersville wooded landscape, showcasing a public face of refined Bungalow or Craftsman-styling at the front and a modern, expansive design at the rear to capture the breathtaking southern views.

The editors said: “This brand-new build is a great example of using a time-honored base structure and applying the layers and individual aspects that turn a house plan into a dream home.”





NEW CONSTRUCTION

“Live Lucky”

by Marnie Custom Homes
marniehomes.com

The new construction project initiated on an empty lot where only a boat house previously stood and is now a sanctuary inspired by Florida-style living and designed for a resort-style experience featuring a pickleball court, putting green, pool, hot tub, outdoor kitchen, boat house with two boat slips and three decks, including a rooftop deck with ocean views, all nestled on the tranquil shores of Fenwick Island’s canal.

The editors said: “When you’re building brand new you’re inclined to think big, and this luxurious home off a canal on Fenwick Island scores points for being the epitome of an entertainment dream house come true.”

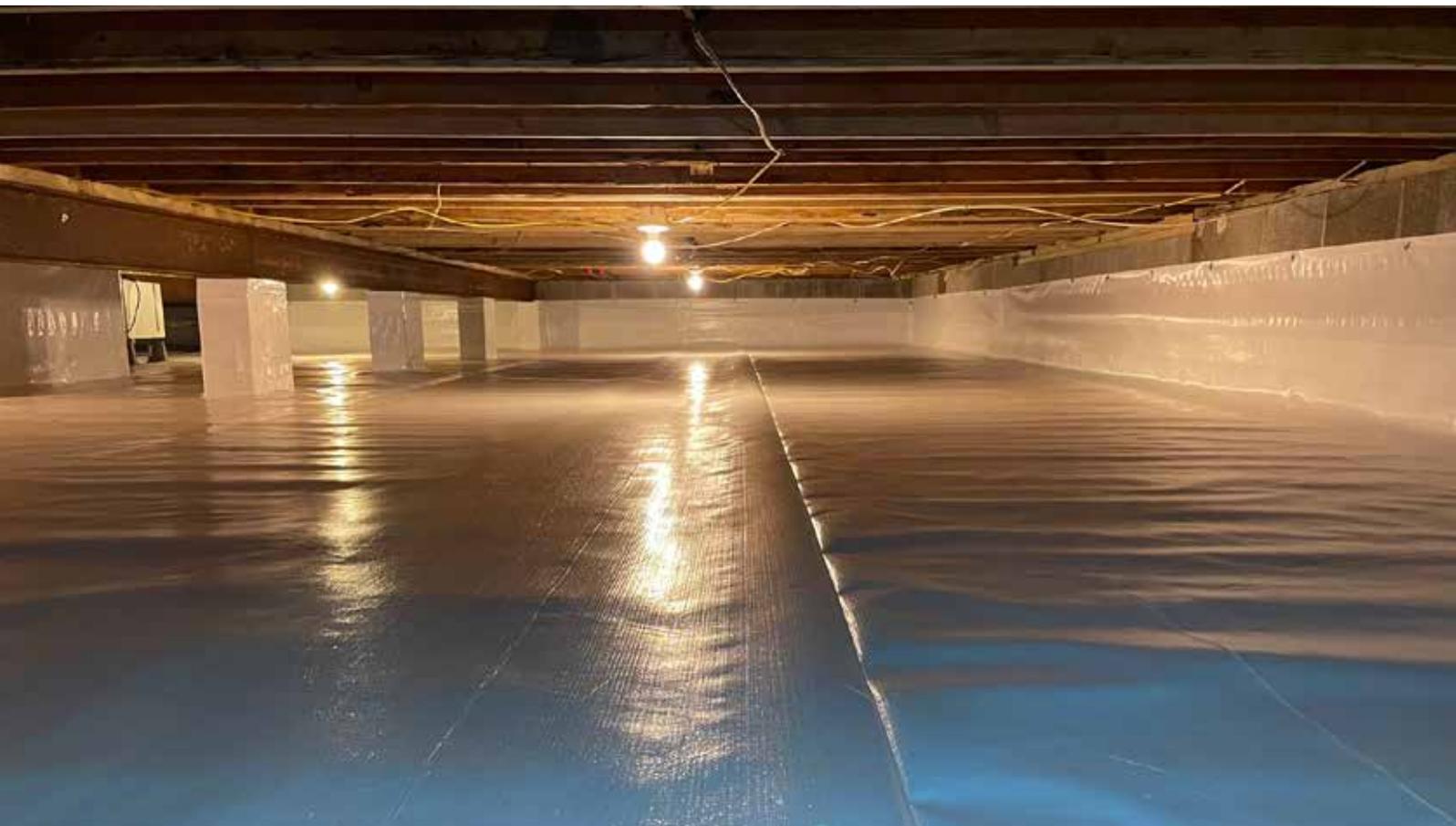


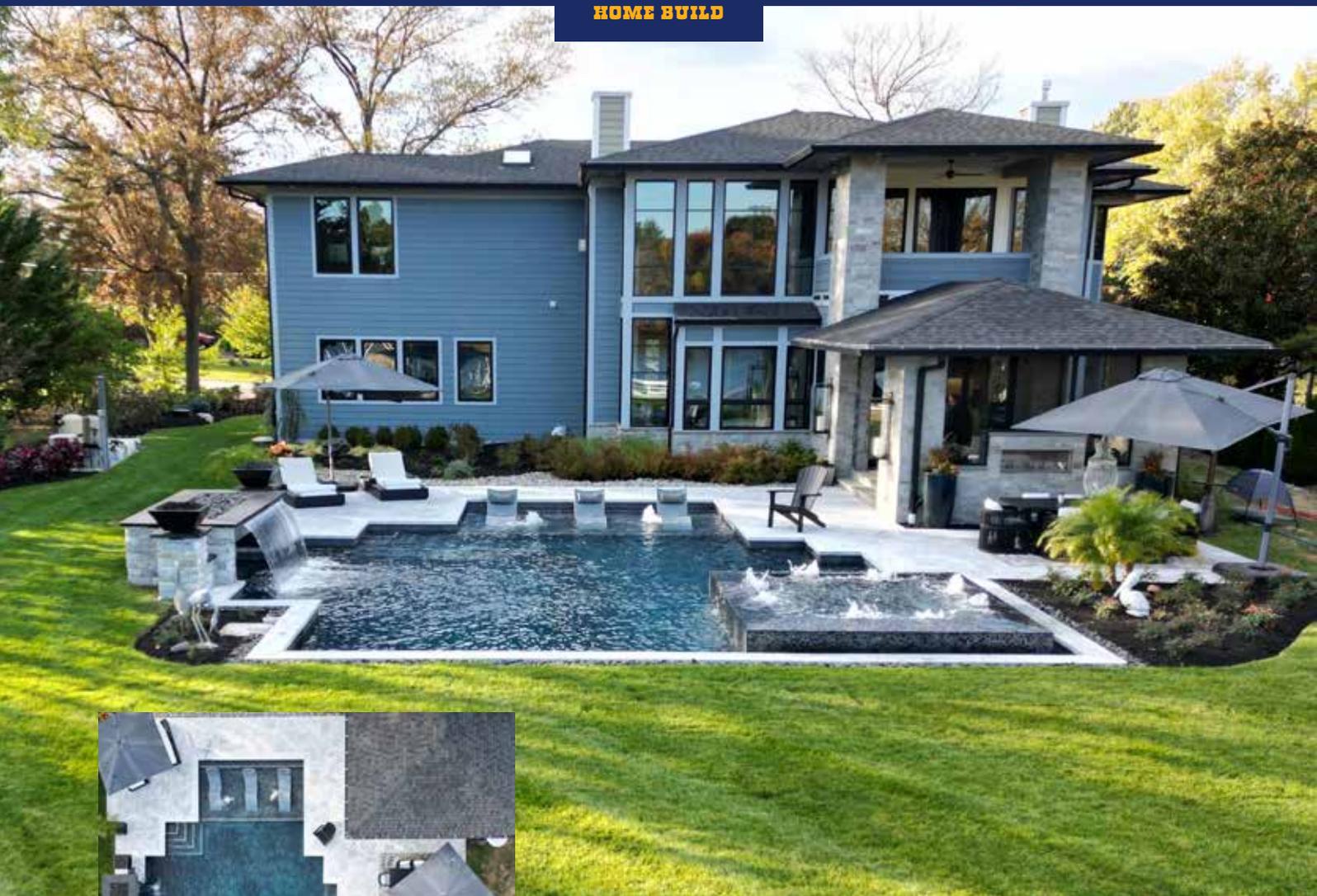
GREEN/LEED CONSTRUCTION

“Crawl Space Encapsulation” by Total Home Performance totalhomeperformance.com

The crawl space received a total encapsulation. Once all existing mold was removed, a high-performance vapor barrier was installed, which effectively air seals the area to prevent any moisture from entering the now conditioned space. This means that mold, moisture, and pests are no longer a concern. Additionally, the area was equipped with a French drain, sump pump, custom access door, and a dehumidifier to ensure optimal conditions.

The editors said: “We were pleased to see the innovation taking place in this home’s crawl space. We gave this project extra points for equipping the space with extras to ensure optimal conditions for a healthy, comfortable, and energy-efficient home.”





POOL DESIGN/BUILD

“Geometric Pool”

by Coastal Pools
coastalpoolbuilders.net

Located in Kent Island, Maryland, this geometric pool features perimeter overflow spa and a grotto with LED sheer descent.

The editors said: “This stunning geometric pool design offers an edgy twist to basic pool shapes and provides not just a place to make a splash, but an upscale, pool apron surround that employs a sleek combo of white and misty gray stone.”



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Gift Guide



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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA'S
SUMMER CAMPS
 YOU SHOULD KNOW!

Our region is rich with diverse summer camp options, but also a vast number of families, children, and teens to fill them up! So, parents must plan ahead and start the enrollment process now. Each February we put together our summer camp guide, which has plenty of options for both educational and athletic camps in our area. Check out more than a few of our favorites to help plan your summer!

AACS Summer Programs; Location: AACS Upper School, 109 Burns Crossing Rd, Severn, MD 21144 & AACS Middle School, 716 Bestgate Rd., Annapolis; Contact: summer@aacsonline.org; Ages: 3 1/2 - 18; Dates/Times: June 17-Aug 2; Cost: Variable; The AACS Summer Program offers over 50 camp options, including sports camps, Academic and STEM camps, creative arts, and so much more. Eagles Exploration camps fill fast, so be sure to register early. Early bird discount through March. Registration will open on Jan. 22. Go to aacsonline.org/Summer to register.

Archbishop Spalding Summer Camps;

Location: Archbishop Spalding High School, 8080 New Cut Road Severn; Contact: communications@spaldinghs.org; Ages: Will vary depending on the camp; Dates/Times: Will vary depending on the camp; Cost: Will vary depending on the camp; Archbishop Spalding High School offers a variety of summer camps from June through August. Camps' focus areas are academics and athletics and will vary in dates/times, pricing, and age range. Academic camps include SAT/ACT Prep, Robotics/Engineering, and Skills for Success Classes. Thirty athletic teams at Spalding and will offer summer camps in most programs. To learn more about our summer camps and how to register, please visit archbishopspalding.org/campus-life/summer-camps.

Ballet Theatre of Maryland Summer Intensive;

Location: 1981 Moreland Parkway, Building 4A, Bay 4, Annapolis; Contact: emily.carey@balletmaryland.org; Ages: 11+ (3 or 5 Week Programs) and 8-11 (1 Week Program); Dates/Times: 5 Week Program: June 24-July 27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 3 Week Program: July 8-27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 1 Week Program: July 29-Aug 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Cost: 5 Week Program \$2,450, 3 Week Program: \$1,275, and 1 Week Program: \$425. At Ballet Theatre of Maryland's Summer Intensive, dance students will be immersed in dance with classes in a range of styles to further their technique and artistry including ballet, pointe (if applicable), variations, modern, contemporary/improvisation, jazz, acting, character, Pilates, choreography, and more. General information can be found at balletmaryland.org/summer-intensive.

Bowie Baysox Baseball Camp;

Location: Prince George's Stadium 4101 Crain Highway, Bowie; Contact: Dani.Fox@baysox.com; Ages: 6-13 years old; Dates/Times: June 18-20, July 1-3, August 6-8, 8:30 a.m.-noon; Cost: \$209 per session. Pizza party included on final day. Also receive box seat ticket to a Baysox game; Have your child learn from future Baltimore Orioles at a Baysox Baseball Camp this summer. Instruction is led by Baysox players and staff.

Calvert Hall Summer Camps;

Location: Calvert Hall College High School, Baltimore; Contact: brian.rowe@calverthall.com; calverthall.com/school-life/summer-program; Ages: 6-15; Dates/Times: June 17 through August 9; Cost: Varies by camp; Spend your summer at The Hall. There are 12-day camp opportunities including Baseball, Basketball, CHC Kids Camp, College Application Bootcamp, Debate, Fishing, Football, Lacrosse, Robotics, Soccer, Theatre, and Volleyball. There is something for everyone.

Capital SUP Grom Camp;

Location: Cap SUP Boathouse at Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis; Contact: capitalsup.com; Dates/Times: June 17th through August 26th, 1PM-4PM (PM Session), 9AM-12 PM (AM session), 9AM-4PM (Full Day - 10 yrs+ only); Ages: 7-14 Cost: \$339 (half day) \$605 (full day); Kids will learn to paddle, enjoy Standup Paddleboard games, party barge rides, on-water trampoline, paddleboard fitness (yoga and racing), nature walks, and explore Quiet Waters Park. All kids are required to wear life jackets while they are in the water.

Summer Camps

Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Middle School Bay Eco-Camp; Location: CBF's Port Isabel Island Environmental Education Center; Contact: cbf.org/ecocamp; 800-445-5572; Ages: Rising 6th-8th grade students; Dates/Times: July Camp: July 15 through July 19; August Camp: August 12 through August 16; Cost: \$1,000 per student - includes meals, lodging, activities, and ferry transport; Explore and learn with CBF this summer! Investigate habitats by boat, study critters from canoes, build a sense of wonder, and create memories with friends during a 5-day island adventure in the heart of the Bay. Monday drop-off and Friday pick-up will take place in Crisfield, Maryland.

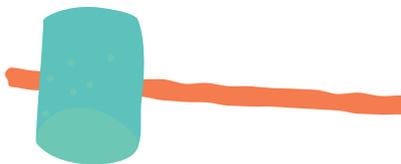
Summers at Seton; Location: Elizabeth Seton High School 5715 Emerson St, Bladensburg; Contact: Brittney Wagner, bwagner@setonhs.org; Ages: 9-17; Dates/Times: June 24 through August 2 (camps vary); Cost: \$175 +; Summers at Seton is designed to unlock, unleash, and cultivate the creativity, confidence, and critical thinking of young girls. Girls enrolled in our summers at Seton Program will be encouraged to identify and cultivate their interests, enhance their athletic ability, improve their interpersonal skills, elevate their independence as well as self-expression, and learn to lead and serve others in a diverse and safe space.

Holy Trinity Camp; Location: Holy Trinity, Glenn Dale; Contact: Ms. Becky Williams, Director; summer-camp@htrinity.org; Ages: Pre/K-9th Grade; Dates/Times: June 17-August 9 (1st-9th Grade), June 17-July 26 (PK-Kindergarten); Cost: Varies.

Indian Creek School Summer Program; Location: Indian Creek School, 1130 Anne Chambers Way, Crownsville; Contact: Bob Laffey, blaffey@indiancreekschool.org; indiancreekschool.org/summer; Ages: PK-12; Dates/Times: Six Weeks beginning the week of 6/17 and ending the week of 7/22; Ranges from \$350-450 depending on camp; Indian Creek will offer a variety of options for children of all ages. We are excited to offer full days of arts, academics, service, and athletics. Our hope is to provide opportunities for young people to discover passions, cultivate skills, and most importantly have fun!

Maryland Hall Summer Camps; Location: Maryland Hall, Annapolis; Contact: marylandhall.org; Ages: 3 and up.; Dates/Times: Week by week dates throughout the Summer, June 17 through August 30; Cost: Varies; Explore a world of creativity this summer at Maryland Hall with a diverse array of camps in art, dance, theater, ceramics, jazz music, digital art, jewelry, fashion, and fiber arts. Whether you're aiming to refine your existing talents or embark on a new artistic journey, our camps provide the perfect opportunity to connect with others and enhance your skills!

Musical Theatre Summer Camp; Locations: Baltimore at Mercy High School 1300 E. Northern Pkwy; and Annapolis at The Key School, 534 Hillsmere Drive; Contact: Lauren Engler, Camp Supervisor at 443-422-2605, MusicalStages.org or info@musicalstages.org; Ages: 6-15; Dates/Times: Baltimore: July 8-19, Annapolis: July 22-August 2; Cost: \$495; Musical Theatre Summer Camp provides your child an inclusive experience of all aspects of this great American art form. Classes in singing, dancing, acting, costumes, and stagecraft are taught by a staff of musical theater professionals. Campers are organized into small groups by age. Each group is guided by an experienced counselor, giving every child constant attention, personal assistance, and advice. Learning musical numbers from classic and contemporary Broadway shows, campers are taught healthy vocal techniques, develop poise and coordination while practicing their choreography, explore acting skills and improvisational games, rehearse their scenes, make their costumes, and design and create their set. All the activities emphasize having fun, making friends, and working together toward presenting their final public performance.



Naptown Sings and Plays Summer Music Camp; Location: 141 Gibraltar Ave, Annapolis; Contact: Sophia Hardesty, naptownsings.com/summer-camps-and-classes; Ages: 3-11; Dates/Times: 10:00 - 3:00 PM Before Care Available at 7:30 AM: \$75 per week After Care Available until 5:30 PM: \$75 per week, June 17-21, June 24-28, July 1-5, July 8-12, July 15-19, July 22-26, July 29 - August 2, August 5-9, August 12-16, August 19-23; Cost: \$350 per week; What keeps kids coming back year after year? Our Summer Music Camps are jam-packed with music, more music, and fun! Students, ages 3-11 of all levels and abilities (no experience necessary), will have the opportunity to learn to sing in our pop glee clubs, drum their hearts out in world drumming class, play various instruments, and participate in fun musical activities! In addition, our older kids (6-11) will learn an instrument: piano or ukulele. Our younger students (ages 3-5) will be immersed in a world of music exploration, from instrument playing, to rhythm and melody, and of course, fun! We have highly qualified instructors on staff to ensure a well-rounded educational experience and an exciting week. In addition to group instruction in voice and instruments, students will make friends, play games, and have an all-around musical good time! Camps will be held indoors at the Naptown Sings and Plays! studio. Campers will be grouped into groups based on age and instrument selection. Considering multiple weeks? Each week we will have new music, new genres, and new themes for a full immersive experience!



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

Peabody Preparatory Summer Programs in Music and Dance; Location: Baltimore; Contact: peabody.jhu.edu/prepsummer; Ages: Various; Dates/Times: June 17 to August 9; Cost: Dependent on the program; The Peabody Preparatory offers a variety of weeklong specialty music and dance programs designed to provide a fun yet focused opportunity to hone your craft or try something new. From ballet to guitar virtuosity, our camps offer extraordinary artistic experiences. Craft your own beats, master the piano, explore the world through dance, or simply have a blast with your new friends. With programs for students of all ages and skill levels, there is something for everyone this summer at the Prep! Visit our website today at peabody.jhu.edu/prepsummer to learn more and register.

2024 Safe Harbor Annapolis Junior Tennis Camps and Program; Location: Safe Harbor, Annapolis; Contact: 410.268.8282; annapolis@shmarinas.com; Times: Spring/Summer; Ages: Varies by Program; Cost: Varies by Program

St. Anne's Day School Explorers Summer Camp; Location: St. Anne's School of Annapolis; Contact: Tracy Edlich, Tedlich@st.annesschool.org; Ages: 3.5-5 years old; Dates: June 17 through August 9; Cost: \$375; Ahoy, Explorers! Welcome to St. Anne's School's 2024 Summer Explorers Summer Camp. Our camp is for adventurers aged 3.5 to 5 years old and includes eight separate weeks of fun, themed explorations. Special "Expert Explorers" join us each week to help us dive further into the week's theme. We break out our water toys on Fun in the Sun Fridays for some extra splashin' around. Summer Explorers camp runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday (unless noted) with optional before and after care add-ons. Camp is \$375 per week and multi-week discounts are available.

St. Margaret's Day School Summer Camp; Location: 1605 Pleasant Plains Road Annapolis; Contact: Taylor Paziienza, Aleshia Marshall stmargaretsdayschool1605@outlook.com; Ages: 2-6; Dates/Times: June 17-21 Animal Planet; June 24-28 Unmask the hero in you!; July 8-12 Dinosaur Adventures; July 15-19 SMDS Summer Scientists; July 22-26 Build it, Design it LEGO; July 29-Aug 2 Welcome to the Summer Olympics!; Aug 5-9 St. Margaret's Pirates on the High Seas; Cost: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. M-F is \$300 (ages 4-6); 9 a.m.-3 p.m. MWF is \$250 (3s); 9 a.m.-1 p.m. MWF is \$200 (3s); and Tu/Th is \$100 (2s); Join us for a summer of fun with weekly themes. Each week the counselors will create a variety of engaging hands-on activities, crafts, and lots of outdoor time to learn, explore, and have fun with their friends. Learn more about our camps by visiting stmargaretsdayschool.org/summer-camps.html.

St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School/ Club SciKidz MD; 375-A Benfield Road, Severna Park; 410-647-7055; clubscikidzmd.com/programs/camp-locations/#location-127; email: science-camps@clubscikidzmd.com; Full-day (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) and Half-day (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) camps available. Before- and after-care available. Prices vary; week-long science and technology camps for children in grades PreK-6th grade.

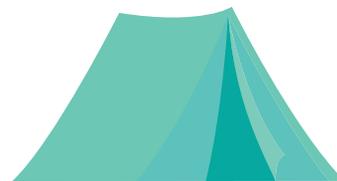
St. Vincent Pallotti High School Summer Camps; Location: St. Vincent Pallotti High School, Laurel; Contact: Aneisha Felton, afelton@pallottihs.org; pallottihs.org; Dates/Times: July 8 through August 2 (9 a.m.-3 p.m. Day Camps with 3-5 p.m. aftercare option, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Evening Camps); Ages: Rising 1st Grade to 10th Grade; Cost: \$225/week (Day Camps); \$125/week (Evening Camps); Pallotti Summer Camps are back and bigger than ever! With four weeks of camps for various ages, skill levels and sport/subject, we have something for everyone.



Summer at KEY; Location: Key School, 534 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis; Contact: Jane Flanagan, jflanagan@keyschool.org; Ages: 3 1/2 and up; Dates/Times: June 17 through August 2 (Closed June 19, July 4 and 5) Half-day and full day options, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Key offers After Care until 5:30 p.m.; Cost: Cost varies by program; Located on Key School's beautiful fifteen-acre campus, the setting provides access to ample space for outdoor exploration and play, in addition to kitchen facilities, science labs, music rooms, and gymnasiums. Fusco Athletic Park is located just two miles from the campus. This seventy-acre property provides space for our sports and adventure camps. More than 150 fun and enriching camps, from themed traditional camps for the youngest campers to specialty STEM, cooking, art, adventure and athletic camps. Average camper to staff member ratio of 8:1. The Summer at KEY staff comprises veteran teachers and experienced counselors, and is licensed by the State of Maryland.

Summer at Saint Andrews; Location: Saint Andrew's UM Day School, 4B Wallace Manor Road, Edgewater; Contact: summer@standrewsum.org; Ages: Rising PK3 to rising 9th; Dates/Times: June 17 through August 9, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. daily; Cost: Varies; Continue the joy of learning, playing, and discovering this summer at Saint Andrew's. Our summer programs offer campers of all ages opportunities to explore and grow in a fun and exciting environment. From time traveling on prehistoric adventures to space and beyond, your camper is in for an unforgettable summer of fun!

Summer at Severn; Location: Severn School (Teel Campus at 201 Water Street, Severna Park and Chesapeake Campus at 1185 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Arnold); Contact: Olivia Eggstein, o.eggstein@severnschool.com or 410-647-7701 x2054 or visit severnschool.com/summer-at-severn; Ages: Preschool through rising 9th graders; Dates/Times: Camps run weekly starting June 24, and running through July 26; Cost: costs vary; Summer at Severn has something for every camper. Kids entering preschool to fifth grade can choose from traditional day camps with a different theme each week or fun specialty camps focused on photography, art, dance, theater and more. For tweens and teens, the Teel Camps offer an immersive experience in a variety of specialized interests, allowing them to explore their passion. Severn also offers a variety of sports camps (ages vary, see descriptions on website) and for younger campers there are jumpstart academic camps to help students prepare for the upcoming school year.



Camp Summit, Executive Functions Camp and EmPOWER Writing Camp; Location: The Summit School, 664 E Central Avenue, Edgewater; Contact: thesummitschool.org/summer-programs, camp@thesummitschool.org; Dates/Times: Camp Summit July 1-26, Executive Functions July 15-19 or July 22-26, EmPOWER July 15-19 or July 22-26; Specialty Camps July 17-28; Ages: Camp Summit Grades 1-8; Specialty Camps Grades 6-9; Cost: Camp Summit \$2,400 (4 weeks), specialty camps \$480; Camp Summit is for bright children entering grades 1-8 who struggle with reading, writing and math. Morning academics are followed by afternoon recreation. Executive Functions: This week-long course will help your student develop strategies to plan, organize, strategize, manage time, pay attention to and remember details. EmPOWER: This camp will teach students how to use the EmPOWER writing process to launch them on the road to writing success. The EmPOWER writing process helps students connect oral language, organization of thoughts, and writing.

Washington College Summer Camps; Location: Washington College, 300 Washington Avenue, Chestertown; Contact: washcoll.edu/admissions/visit/upcoming-events/summer-conferences; Ages: Students entering Sophomore through Senior year of High School; Dates/Times: Varies by camp; Cost: Varies by camp; Does your dream summer include meeting living writers, discovering the ecosystems in your own community, exploring the world through technology, or investigating history beyond the printed word? If so, you have come to the right place!





TAKE FLIGHT

From its western mountains to the Chesapeake Bay and onward to the Atlantic coast, Maryland boasts a wide variety of habitats that attract an impressive array of bird species. In this article, we'll explore the vibrant world of birdwatching in Maryland, including the essential equipment needed and the thriving birdwatching communities that make the experience even more enjoyable.

Birdwatching is a popular and rewarding hobby for nature enthusiasts and bird lovers alike. To get started with birdwatching, you don't need an extensive array of expensive equipment or in-depth scientific knowledge. In fact, the basics are quite simple, making it accessible to anyone interested in observing and appreciating the avian world.

First up are binoculars; a good pair of binoculars is the most essential tool for birdwatching. They allow you to get a closer look at birds without disturbing them. When selecting binoculars, consider factors like magnification and field of view. A magnification of 8x to 10x is generally suitable, and a wider field of view is helpful for tracking birds in flight. In addition to binoculars, you may want to invest in a spotting scope for long-distance observation, especially for waterfowl or birds in open habitats. Tripods can also be helpful for stabilizing your optics.

**WINTER
BIRDWATCHING
CAN OPEN YOUR
SENSES TO THE
MARYLAND'S
NATURAL
WONDERLAND**

BY TYLER LEWIN

Wherever you go, make sure to have a field guide. Field guides provide detailed information on bird species, including their plumage, behaviors, and habitats. These guides help you identify and learn about the birds you encounter. Keeping a birdwatching journal is a great way to document your observations. Note the date, location, weather conditions, and any interesting behavior or characteristics you observe. Over time, your notes can help you track bird migration patterns and changes in bird populations. While not strictly necessary, a smartphone or a camera with a decent zoom lens can be handy for capturing photos of birds. These images can serve as a visual record of your sightings and assist with identification. Remember to prioritize the welfare of the birds and avoid disturbing them for the sake of a photo.

Make sure to dress appropriately for the weather and terrain you'll be exploring, especially during winter. Neutral-colored, heavyweight clothing (lightweight in warmer months) and comfortable, waterproof footwear are essential for prolonged birdwatching excursions. Wearing camouflage or earth-toned clothing can help you blend into the environment and minimize disturbance to the birds. A small backpack or field bag is useful for carrying your equipment, field guide, notebook, and snacks. Look for a bag with multiple pockets and compartments to keep your gear organized.

Finally, make sure to be patient and persistent. While not tangible, these qualities are perhaps the most important for successful birdwatching. Birds can be elusive and will likely require time and effort to locate. Patience and persistence are key to honing your observation skills and building your birdwatching expertise.

Mary Huebner is president of the Tri-County Bird Club, a chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society, which covers the lower Eastern Shore counties of Worcester, Wicomico, and Somerset. She views birdwatching as an inclusive community of folks who are passionate about enjoying the beauty of, and being in, nature. "I think we are a special group because of our diversity," Huebner says. "We have very experienced birders, as well as those just 'getting their feet wet,' so to speak, in becoming more knowledgeable about what we see, and what we hear." Huebner says that club field trips generally begin early in the morning, at about 7:30 a.m., and last until mid-afternoon.

BIRDS CAN BE ELUSIVE AND WILL LIKELY REQUIRE TIME AND EFFORT TO LOCATE. PATIENCE AND PERSISTENCE ARE KEY TO HONING YOUR OBSERVATION SKILLS AND BUILDING YOUR BIRDWATCHING EXPERTISE.



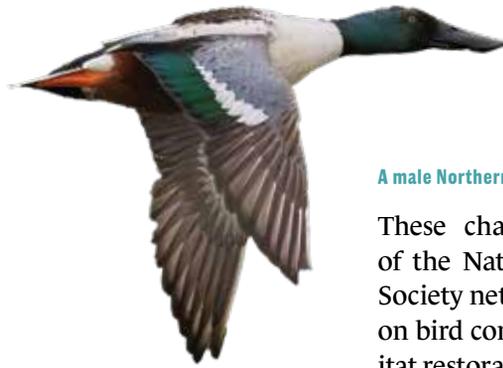
The Eastern tundra swan population winters on the Atlantic Coast in the Chesapeake Bay of Maryland and North Carolina. By summer, the swans will travel to the Arctic tundra areas from the Seward Peninsula of Alaska, east to Hudson Bay and Baffin Island to nest. Photograph by Sara DeRosa.

A mature male Bald Eagle perching on a snow fence along the beach at Assateague Island National Seashore looking out to sea.

Birdwatching clubs play a vital role in fostering a sense of community among bird enthusiasts, providing opportunities for shared experiences, education, and conservation efforts. Maryland is home to several active birdwatching clubs that cater to both seasoned birders and beginners. These clubs offer a range of benefits, making them an integral part of the birdwatching scene in the state. Let's meet a couple:

The **Maryland Ornithological Society** (mdbirds.org) is one of the most prominent birdwatching clubs in the state, with 15 local chapters (e.g. Tri-County Bird Club, The Anne Arundel Bird Club, The Patuxent Bird Club, The Kent County Bird Club). MOS serves as a hub for bird enthusiasts of all levels of expertise. They organize regular field trips, workshops, and meetings to facilitate learning and networking among members. MOS also maintains a comprehensive checklist of Maryland's native bird species, supports important conservation initiatives, and publishes the quarterly journal, "Maryland Birdlife."

Several local **Audubon Society chapters** (audubon.org/about/chapters) can be found throughout Maryland, including the Audubon Society of Central Maryland, Audubon Society of Maryland and D.C., and others.



A male Northern Shoveler.

These chapters are part of the National Audubon Society network and focus on bird conservation, habitat restoration, and public education. They often host bird walks, bird counts, and educational programs.

In Maryland, we are fortunate to have a vast amount of both native and migratory bird species. "We go from the ocean to the Nanticoke River," explains Huebner, of the region she personally enjoys birding within. "This affords us the opportunity to see Bald Eagles, Osprey, Kingfishers, and Great Blue Herons, all more or less in our back yards!"

"We'll also look for Hermit Thrushes, Junco, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, Loons, Gannets, Northern Shovelers, Ruddy ducks, and the Brown Creeper, in addition to a wide variety of beautiful ducks that visit our area in the winter."



Piping plovers are an endangered species that nest on Assateague Island when spring arrives. Photograph by Sara DeRosa.

A small group of Northern Pintail Ducks flying within Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.



TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF THESE SPECIES, AND MANY OTHERS, HERE ARE SOME OF THE TOP BIRDWATCHING LOCATIONS IN THE STATE:

Assateague Island National Seashore

This pristine barrier island on Maryland's Eastern Shore is a birdwatcher's paradise. Known for its migratory birds, including waterfowl and shorebirds, Assateague is a designated Important Bird Area (IBA).

Patuxent Research Refuge

Located in Laurel, Maryland, this refuge offers over 12,800 acres of protected wildlife habitat. Birders can spot a variety of waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors in this area.

Conowingo Dam

A few miles north of the Susquehanna River's mouth sits the massive Conowingo Dam, opened in 1928 to provide hydroelectric power to the greater Baltimore region. Below the dam is the pool, full of fish and wildlife and especially popular for predatory species such as bald eagles—plus the birders who flock to the dam to observe them.

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge

Just south of Rock Hall, the island refuge was established in 1962 as a sanctuary for migratory birds. The refuge offers wonderful wildlife viewing and expansive views of the Chester River and Chesapeake Bay along seven different trails. Over 240 bird species visit the refuge.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge

Situated on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, this 32,000-acre protected land and water is famous for its wintering population of bald eagles. It's also home to a multitude of waterfowl, herons, and shorebirds.

Catoctin Mountain Park

This park, nestled in the Catoctin Mountain range, is a prime destination for forest birdwatching. Its diverse habitats support a range of woodland species, including warblers, thrushes, and woodpeckers.

Allegany County

The western mountains of Maryland are a great spot for observing mountain birds like the Blackburnian Warbler and the American Woodcock.

Maryland's geographic diversity, ranging from the Appalachian Mountains in the west to the Atlantic Ocean in the east, provides a wide range of ecosystems, making our state excellent for birdwatching. Whether you're an experienced birder or a novice, Maryland offers something for everyone.

A Modest Forecast

The economic outlook for the year ahead is highlighted by cautious optimism for a U.S. economy that, despite all its challenges, continues to outperform expectations

BY ZACHARY FRITZ,
SAGE POLICY GROUP





In October 17, 2022, Bloomberg published a story with the headline, “Forecast for U.S. Recession Within Year Hits 100% in Blow to Biden.” While Bloomberg’s model was uniquely certain about a downturn, they were hardly alone in predicting an economic contraction. That same month, the average respondent to the Wall Street Journal Economic Forecasting survey put a 63 percent chance of the economy entering recession within the next year.

Of course, those forecasts were wrong. Not only has the U.S. economy avoided recession in 2023, it has outperformed even the most optimistic expectations. Despite the effects of high interest rates on certain segments, like homebuying, employers continue to hire, consumers continue to spend, and inflation has subsided without causing a large uptick in unemployment.

As the federal reserve tries to navigate an elusive soft landing, risks remain, including in the form of a frozen housing market, still above-target inflation, labor shortages, and emerging signs of household financial stress.

The Housing Market

While most economic segments have, somewhat surprisingly, shrugged off the effects of higher interest rates, the housing market has been virtually paralyzed by the impact of extraordinarily elevated mortgage rates. This has been especially true for the existing home market which has been hampered by low inventory levels; October 2023 existing home sales were down more than 38 percent compared to the prevailing level in 2021.

New homes, on the other hand, are selling at roughly the same rate as in the months leading up to the pandemic, largely because of the dearth of existing homes on the market. Even with the relative increase in market share for new construction, however, overall home selling activity is close to the lowest level this century.

That may be about to change. Mortgage rates have declined in each of the past six weeks, falling from the two-plus decade high of 7.79 percent for a 30-year fixed rate to 7.03 percent. That’s still extremely elevated compared to the prevailing rates of the past decade, but it’s low enough to cause some pent up demand to be released. Mortgage applications, the most real-time indicator of homebuying activity, have increased in each of the previous six weeks, indicating just how sensitive homebuying is to rate declines.

Given the dramatic disinflation observed throughout 2023, mortgage rates will continue to decline in 2024. That will undoubtedly push home selling activity higher over the course of the year. For prospective homebuyers, there will likely be a sweet spot in early 2024 when rates have fallen to a palatable level, but the buying frenzy hasn’t yet begun.

◆
PERHAPS THE GREATEST REASON FOR OPTIMISM IS THAT INFLATION HAS SLOWED TO AN ABSOLUTE CRAWL IN RECENT MONTHS.



Rate Cuts

For much of the past twenty months, the question was “How high will the Fed raise interest rates and how long will they keep them there?” Given rapid disinflation and a slowly cooling labor market, the question has changed to “When will the Fed start cutting rates and how low will they go in 2024?”

The answer to this question varies wildly depending on who you ask. Goldman Sachs, for instance, forecasts three 25 basis point cuts in March, May, and June. Projections from the Federal Reserve are slightly more reserved, with the equivalent of three 25 basis point rate cuts projected for 2024. In either of

those cases, easing of monetary policy would support, among other things, a significant increase in construction activity and home-buying. The ultimate answer to that question, however, depends on data released between now and the Federal Reserve’s March meeting, with the most critical indicators pertaining to inflation.

Disinflation

Inflation has slowed dramatically over the past year and a half, with the annual rate of price increases plummeting from a catastrophic 9.1 percent in June 2022 to a far more manageable 3.1 percent in November 2023. Given that the Fed seeks to bring inflation back to a 2.0 percent annual rate, much of the battle has already been won.

Perhaps the greatest reason for optimism is that inflation has slowed to an absolute crawl in recent months; the Consumer Price Index increased at a 0.9 percent annual rate over the first two months of the fourth quarter of 2023, with prices unchanged in October and rising just 0.1 percent in November.

To the extent inflation remains an issue, it is almost entirely due to shelter prices, which are up 6.5 percent over the past year. Excluding shelter, economywide prices are up just 1.5 percent over the past year, and economists expect the shelter component of CPI to decline over the next several months due to methodological issues.

The outlook for inflation is increasingly benign. The Fed expects it to slow to a 2.6 percent annual rate in 2024. That would be a welcome development for both consumers and businesses, especially with some economic segments set to slow.

MONTHLY INFLATION CPI-U: 1-MONTH % CHANGE

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



A Slowing Labor Market

Monthly payroll employment gains have weakened in the second half of the year, slowing from more than 300,000 per month in the first quarter of 2023 to 186,000 per month since June. This was always going to happen; the pace of job creation over much of the past few years reflected the recovery of jobs lost during the pandemic and was simply too fast to be sustainable.

Yet despite slowing, job growth is far from slow. U.S. employers have added more jobs from July through November of 2023 than over the equivalent period of each year from 2017 to 2019. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate fell to 3.7 percent in November, close to the lowest level in over 50 years.

Perhaps most importantly, the worker shortages that have defined the post-pandemic economy (at least for employers) are starting to improve, though there are still far too few available workers. To put this problem into context, there are currently 1.4 job openings per unemployed worker; even if the unemployment rate fell to 0.0 percent, there would still be a significant number of job openings.

Consumers Keep Spending

Despite high interest rates and a few years of elevated inflation, consumers keep spending. That's been a surprise for many economists and forecasters, most of whom thought spending would fall off a cliff due to difficult financial conditions.

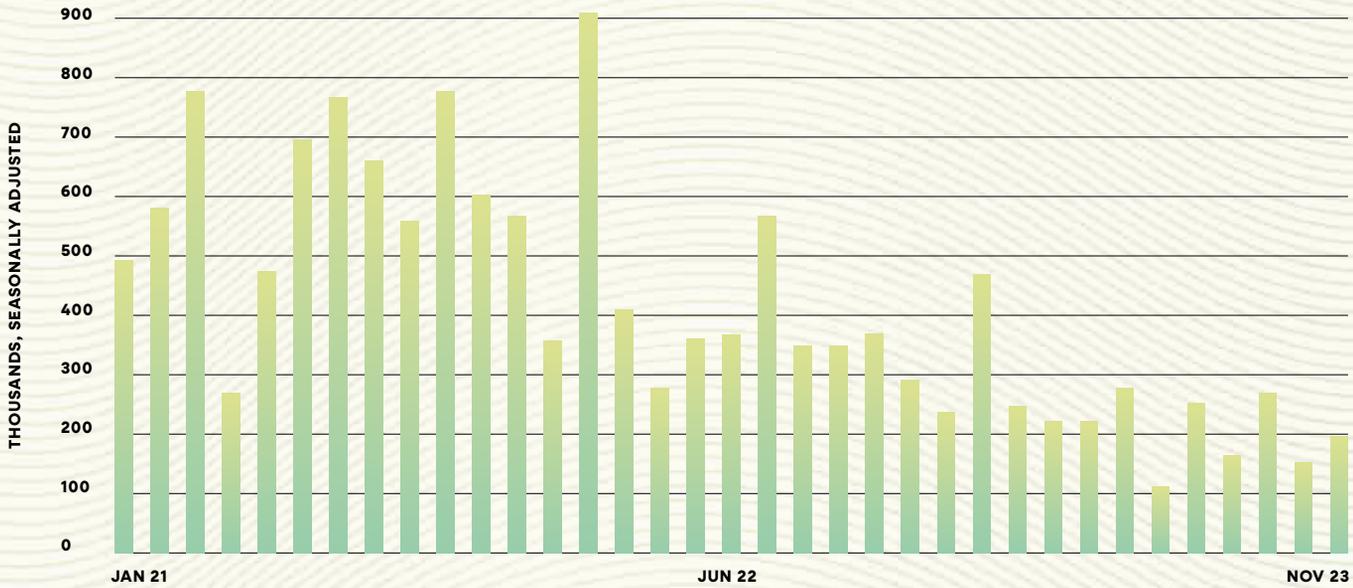
A few factors have contributed to the ongoing strength of the demand side of the economy. First, an unprecedented share of homeowners either purchased a home or refinanced in 2020 or 2021 and are, as a result, locked into low fixed rate mortgages. That has sheltered them from the impact of higher interest rates, freeing them to spend on other things.

Second, it's difficult to know exactly how much of the excess savings—the money households stashed away due to stimulus checks, expanded unemployment benefits, and an inability to spend due to lock downs and business closures—consumers accumulated during the early months of the pandemic remain, but the answer seems to be a lot.

Third, gas prices have plummeted due to record domestic oil production, and that

JOB GROWTH: 1-MONTH NET CHANGE

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Recession

has saved consumers hundreds of millions of dollars on a daily basis.

And finally, the unemployment rate remains near historical lows and wages have been rising at a faster rate than prices. If everyone who wants a job has one, and those jobs pay well, why would spending slow down?

Despite ongoing consumer momentum, minor signs of financial distress have started to emerge. Flows into credit card delinquency have sped up in recent months, and with the interest rate on credit card debt at the highest level since at least 1994, those who fall behind on payments will face particularly severe penalties.

That, along with the resumption of student loan payments in October and the cumulative effect of high interest rates and inflation, should put downward pressure on spending activity over the next several quarters. Of course, given the historical relationship between rate increases and economic activity, spending activity should have already slowed. That, to say the least, has not been the case.

A majority of forecasters anticipated a recession in 2023. Despite those projections proving spectacularly wrong, the consensus outlook still puts the odds of a downturn in 2024 at roughly 50 percent. Some say the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. I say that's practice. Whether forecasters are insane or just extremely practiced at being wrong, the economy continues to outperform even the most optimistic expectations.

How long the economy can maintain that momentum is heavily dependent on when the Federal Reserve begins to lower rates; the difference between landing a plane and crashing it is all about when the pilot pulls up.

Zachary Fritz joined Sage Policy Group in 2013 and has led the firm's day-to-day operations since 2015. He specializes in economic and fiscal impact estimation and economic content creation, and his writing has appeared in the *Washington Post* and *Baltimore Sun*, among other publications. He is a regular columnist in *I-95 Business* magazine, and he founded and coauthors the Sage Economics newsletter.

WYE FINANCIAL PARTNERS



Pictured above from Left to Right:

Tammie Schnable, Kathleen Webster, Julia Jones, Chris Parks, Nanette Rediker, Lora Davis, Talli Oxnam, Tom Saxon, Lori Smith, Neil Zurowski (not pictured)

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Q ■ Have you explored what you can do with a living trust?

A: Living trusts are extraordinarily useful. It's a legal entity that you create while you're alive to own property such as your house, a boat, or investments. Property that passes through a living trust is not subject to probate. Living trusts are attractive because they are revocable. You maintain control – you can change the trust or even dissolve it

for as long as you live. Despite these benefits, living trusts have some drawbacks. Assets in a living trust are not protected from creditors, and you are subject to income taxes on income earned by the trust. In addition, you cannot avoid estate taxes using a living trust.

LORA DAVIS, CFPA®, Vice President, Financial Advisor | Wye Financial Partners



Q ■ What should I remodel first?

A: If you need to choose which room to remodel first, you'll want to choose the room that will recoup the remodeling costs and create actual equity.

Experts agree that choosing to remodel your kitchen or bathroom first is traditionally the smartest move. And while kitchens typically cost more to remodel than bathrooms, they tend to yield a better return on investment, so they end up paying for themselves over the long run.

MATTHEW BISHOP, Project Consultant | Lundberg Builders, Inc.



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SOLD St Michaels \$2,998,000



SOLD Nutcracker Point \$1,150,000



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Home & Design

56 POSH & POLISHED | 59 GARDEN DESIGN TRENDS | 61 REAL ESTATE





In upscale kitchens today, cabinetry hardware combined with complementary materials and finishes become the “jewels in the crown” in this most popular room for gathering. In recent years, we’ve seen a proliferation of streamlined bar pulls because they bring that combo of sublime form and pair it with utility and ease of use. Iterations in finishes abound as well, which will keep this particular style at the top of options for the foreseeable future.



The Linden collection by Pottery Barn offers this accommodating modern option made of solid brass that has broad appeal with its range of fine finishes, including satin nickel and antique bronze. Have a modern farmhouse? Try matte black. The collection also includes coordinating knobs in the matching finishes.

Posh & Polished

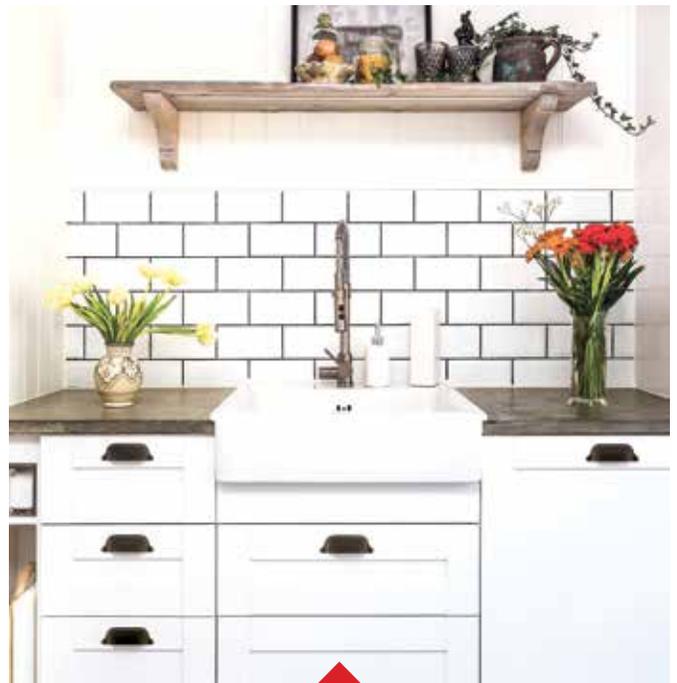
THE BEAUTY & CARE OF HAUTE HARDWARE

By Lisa J. Gotto

Little things mean a lot. That said, some little things can really still pack a punch. Case in point, the hardware you choose for your kitchen. This one aspect of interior design is easy to overlook if you’re just thinking from the standpoint of function, but taking the extra step to combine sublime form with function always helps take a room’s aesthetic to the next level.

All Eyes on Design

Nothing rivals the kitchen when it comes to gathering space in the home, especially since the advent of the open-plan concept. This change in the way we live and entertain requires that this space be as visually appealing as possible, so the tone conveyed by the hardware you choose should be as distinct as the company you keep.



Rustic Inspiration

Cup pulls are the timeless statement maker in hardware that help put the exclamation point on a distinctive kitchen or mudroom. This Nostalgic Warehouse pull by Perigold is an optimal choice for its “Let’s-get-to-work, but-let’s-work-beautifully” vibe. Available in nine finishes, and with many other variations in its design, the cup style pull brings it all together for homeowners with impeccable taste who admire quality.



Going Big & Bold with Brass

Durable, easy to care for, and possessing natural anti-microbial properties, solid brass hardware in any style, is a discerning design option. In addition, because it is composed of copper and zinc, it is corrosion-, rust-, and tarnish-resistant. So, perfect for a humid environment like the kitchen and bath.

High-end interiors experts from coast-to-coast are employing bold hardware elements in brass to the most customized of kitchens, and we love, love, love this example by Rejuvenation Hardware that goes a bit beyond bold by layering in specialty brass hardware elements in this luxurious modern kitchen.



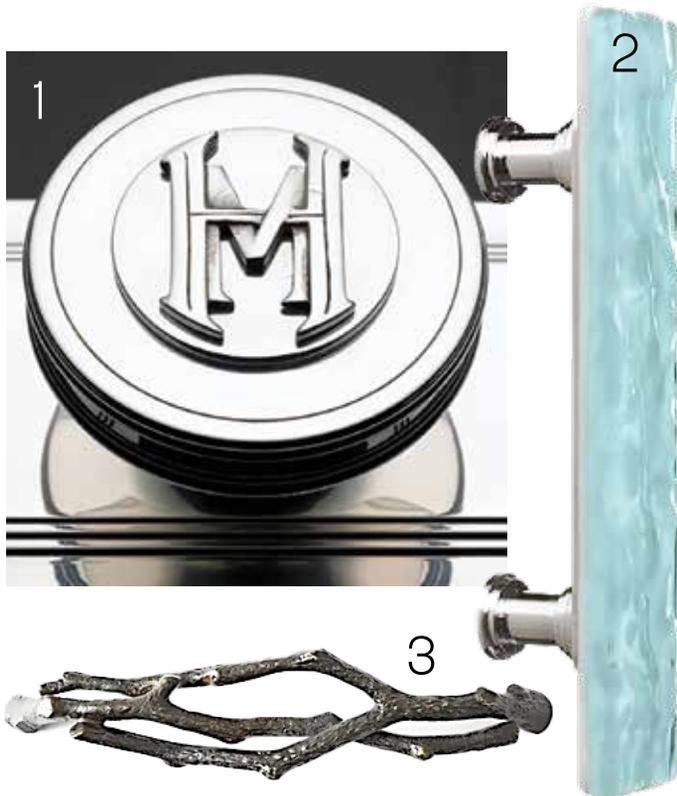
In Throwback Mode

For the restoration buffs among us, choosing just the right statement in retro hardware can be a creative and nostalgic journey in making what was once prominent, pertinent again. And nothing captures the luster and appreciation of a by-gone era in home interiors, more than crystal cabinet knobs. This knob from House of Antique Hardware is part of the aptly named Waldorf Collection. This particular manufacturer uses a proprietary process for its new brass hardware that provides a desirable, time-worn patina of authentic antiques that is superior to factory-applied antiquing techniques. It provides the rich, warm yellow tone uniquely associated with vintage finishings.



TIP:
**Narrowing
Down
the Field**

Having a hard time narrowing down a hardware selection online? Consider a trip to a showroom so you can spend some quality tactile time with the design options. Get a feel for how the handles operate and work in your hand so you can determine how comfortable and functional it will be over time in your daily scenarios.



Boutique Manufacturers

No hum-drummers wanted. Only those who march to their own drummers can truly appreciate the creativity that goes into a custom hardware collection.

1. If opulence is a must for you and you really enjoy putting your stamp on things, the Monogrammed Hardware collection by H. Theophile will help you do just that in an elegant and distinctive fashion. While more appropriate for a bathroom, we couldn't resist showing you this barrel knob based on a mid-19th century Neo Grec design. It comes in several custom finishes including burnished nickel and antique silver.
2. Specializing in pulls made of modern glass, Sietto sets itself apart in the luxury hardware market for consumers with highly customized interior schemes. Their Glacier collection applies an array of colors to tactile, textured glass.
3. If you are a lover of the natural world, you can easily bring that indoors with offerings from designers like Michael Aram whose handcrafted Butterfly Ginkgo collection includes hardware pulls of delicate looking intertwined twigs in oxidized brass. Its handcrafted nature ensures that, like snowflakes, no two pulls are exactly the same.

CARING FOR YOUR Investment

With a few moments of care every week you will ensure that the look and luster of your hardware will endure for many years to come. Nearly every type of metal employed in the design of hardware responds well to a gentle cleaning using warm water with a mild soap and a soft cloth like microfiber for cleaning. Dust prior to cleaning and then the trick is also dry the hardware by hand with a dry cloth. Otherwise, you may end up with a streaky or spotty surfaces.

Another gentle cleaning option you can try is a solution of white vinegar or lemon juice mixed with water, especially if you have any tarnish you'd like to banish. The standard measure is one Tablespoon of vinegar or juice to 4 cups of water and mixing in a teaspoon of salt.

There are also many commercial cleaners available for every specific type of metal, but most involve cleaning with chemicals and should be used sparingly after consulting the product's instructions and conducting a "swatch" test on a small, less noticeable part of the hardware first. To avoid scratching, never use harsh cleaners or abrasive tools such as steel wool or scouring pads on metal surfaces.



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Garden Design Trends for a Fresh Look in 2024

By Janice F. Booth

It may be cold outside, but it can be fun beginning plans for our spring gardens. Perhaps you're happy with last year's display and there's nothing you want to change. But just maybe you're a bit tired of that over-zealous cluster of rose bushes and the now-too-tall ornamental cherry tree.

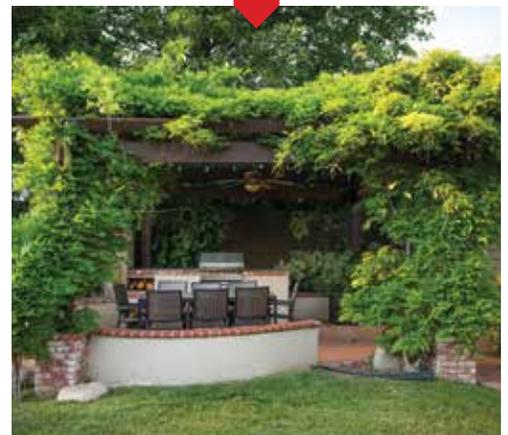
Let me offer you a few inspirational suggestions for ways to update your garden and (dare I say it?) transform your garden into a trendy Eden. Yes, I know *there's nothing new under the sun*, especially when it comes to gardening. But here are four fresh looks gaining popularity among landscape designers.

They are (1) Pleaching, (2) Mixed Planting, (3) Maximalism, and (4) Xeriscaping.

Pleaching:

I'll begin with pleaching because, if you like the idea, you'll want to set aside this magazine and rush right outside and start pleaching! Dating back to the Middle Ages, this creative approach uses your garden's trees and shrubs to create an environment, a space created from woven branches. Begin by tying and weaving pliant branches of shrubs and/or trees together to form a tunnel, roof, or hedge of greenery. Pleaching is particularly lovely when used in combination with arbors, trellises, and pergolas.

You'll need: (a) cotton garden twine, (b) a stepladder, and (c) patience. After you've decided where you're going to pleach and which trees or shrubs will lend themselves to the training, it's time to work. (Pleaching works best with deciduous trees.) Winter is the best time to do the weaving and tying of branches. In the spring, when those secured branches send out new shoots, they'll begin to intertwine with the neighboring tree or shrub. The new shoots are easy to train by gently tying them to mature branches. By early summer, you may already see lacy boughs shading your path or patio area. Throughout the summer trim the occasional random shoot or branch heading off in its own direction. By autumn next year, there'll be a lovely sculpture of vining branches overhead.





Mixed Planting:

Mixed Planting is a practical and sometimes challenging approach to garden design. Traditionally, one creates a flower garden and/or a vegetable garden. Mixed planting is a garden designed to mingle flowers, fruits, and vegetables. The two types are not customarily mixed because the vegetables are grown in quantities to be harvested, while flowers are raised for beauty and occasionally for bouquets.

The problems faced by this combined garden are (1) *location*: how to harvest the carrots without harming the daisies blooming nearby, or how to control the pea vines so they don't strangle the lilies growing majestically beside the vines. (2) *Maintenance* can be difficult too, if your asparagus needs to be treated for beetles with a spray the foxglove can't tolerate, or your tomato plant needs generous watering but it's drowning the dahlias. So, lots of planning is essential. A great project for the snowy days ahead.



Maximalism:

As a reaction to the Minimalism of the last decade, there's a trend now to Maximalism in garden design. One type of Maximalism is known as "*meadow scaping*." The New York City High Line, designed by Piet Oudolf, exemplifies this approach—a profusion of wildflowers loosely interspersed with ornamental grasses. Another type of Maximalism is the *Romantic Garden* popularized in the 19th century. Romantic gardens use a plethora of plants and bright, lush colors to create a panoply of sensory

experiences. There's lots of room in this design style for one's personal mark—applying color, texture, and volume to planting. To some degree, the Maximalist Garden responds to the deepening concern for pollinators in our gardens. The variety and lushness of plantings are exactly what bees, hummingbirds, and other pollinators enjoy.

Xeriscaping:

The term "xeriscape" refers to planting with the intent of little or no artificial irrigation. The trend to decrease or eliminate lawns is an example of this movement's impact. Recently, there are two new approaches to xeriscaping: (1) Gravel Gardens and (2) Industrial Gardens.

Gravel gardening uses layers of pea gravel to provide a well-drained setting for sturdy, well-established plants. Laying down layers of small, clean pebbles is critical. Into this bed of gravel, reasonably mature, healthy perennials are settled—holes dug in the gravel allowing the established plant-roots to get deep enough to reach the ground beneath the gravel. While it takes careful planning, including clean, differentiated borders to hold the gravel in place, once established the gravel garden needs little attention—it looks after itself.

Industrial Gardens is an unusual direction in garden design. As the name implies, items we think of as used in industry are repurposed in the garden. For example, cement blocks can be filled with soil and used as planters. Metal rods and beams may provide interesting vertical designs and supports for vines. The challenge for the gardener is to see materials for their color, texture, and versatility. The garden becomes a modern, or even post-modern assemblage.



Whichever of these trends captures your imagination, you'll surely adapt them to your particular vision of a garden. And that is the true beauty of gardening, harmonizing the natural world with our cultivation and care of that world.



A Home of Historic Import

By Lisa J. Gotto | Photography by Thru the Lens

A truly special home in a truly special place on Tilghman Island awaits the new owners of this period charmer circa 1885.

Registered with the Maryland Historic Trust, this property has had Home Sweet Home status for more than 135 years. Lovingly cared for and updated periodically, this home's old bones start with its gracious front porch and side, screened-in porch door, and continues inside along original, knotty hardwood floors that no doubt squeak in just the right places.

A handsome staircase with an exquisitely carved balustrade greets visitors in the entry, as does a stained-glass transom above the front door and rich wood beams overhead that continue into





Primary Structure Built: 1885
Sold For: \$1,105,000
Original List Price: \$1,199,000
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 3 Full, 1 Half
Living Space: 3,300 Sq. Ft.
Lot Size: 2.57 acres



the formal living room on the right. This room has a feature wall of built-ins on either side of a charming fireplace with cherry wood façade. Large period-standard casement windows with inserts provide welcoming natural light.

Gorgeous wood and glass pocket doors lead dinner guests to the spacious informal dining room and open-plan family room space. This is an exceptional area for entertaining with its old-time, wood-burning stove and the light of many convenient access points to the exterior through three sets of French doors overlooking the waters of Black Walnut Cove.



The down-home country kitchen comes equipped with custom white wood cabinetry adorned with farmhouse pulls and topped with sleek, black granite. This room is outfitted with all stainless-steel appliances including a large gas range situated next to a prime window with views to a majestic mature tree that is perhaps older than the home.

A formal dining room with period-era, wood-burning fireplace and original wainscoting is located adjacent to the kitchen and makes an occasion out of any meal.

An end-to-end screened in porch off the back of the house provides direct views out to the waterfront, and refuge from seasonal insects.

The main home's four bedrooms are located on the second floor and feature a romantic primary suite with a full bath and claw foot soaking tub, and access to a private deck overlooking the water.

Guests can be accommodated on this floor, or in the property's cozy studio apartment above an outbuilding out back within eyeshot of the property's private pier and the cove.

The location of this home situated on farmland just a short distance from the water is what living on Maryland's EastSern Shore is all about; there is just no place on Earth quite like it.

Listing Agent: Wink Cowee; Benson & Mangold Real Estate; 211 N. Talbot St., St. Michaels; m. 410-310-0208; o. 410-745-0415; winkcowee@gmail.com; bensonandmangold.com **Buyers' Agent:** Tom Crouch; Benson & Mangold Real Estate; 211 N. Talbot St., St. Michaels; m. 410-310-8916; o. 410-745-0415; tcrouch@bensonandmangold.com; bensonandmangold.com

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The Golf-by-Day, Home-at-Night Life

By Lisa J. Gotto

Play 18 holes and then retire to the sanctity of this open and airy updated home set on just over an acre of lush landscaping overlooking the golf course and water in Grasonville.

The epitome of “living the dream” is clearly evident in the footprint and vistas of this 3,200-square-foot home made for quality family time and entertaining.

Lovely, honey-colored hardwood floors flow from the entry into an open, modern living area with architecturally slanted ceiling detail and a wealth of natural light streaming in from the foyer and a series of windows in the contemporary styled living room. This more formal gathering space extends into a cheery, open-plan dining area, and then spills out to the home’s two-level deck and gorgeous, stone paver outdoor entertainment area with firepit.



The large kitchen is equipped with warm, wood-tone cabinetry with modern hardware finishes and all stainless-steel appliances and range hood. Tons of counterspace provides the perfect buffet space and a series of large windows above the sink overlooks the golf course, and keeps the natural light filtering in.

The opposite side of the kitchen flows into a large, sunken family room with restorative, lush views of the property’s extended landscaping that can be taken in beside an attractive gas fireplace with wood accent mantle. This space also offers a convenient wet bar and access to the outdoors via two sets of glass patio doors.

Listing Agent: Biana Arentz; Coldwell Banker Realty; 3 Church Circle, Annapolis; m. 410-490-0332; o. 410-283-8686; biana.arentz@cbmove.com; coldwellbanker.com **Buyers’ Agent:** Jen Denney; eXp Realty; 8375 Jumpers Hole Rd., Millersville; m. 410-271-5346; o. 888-860-7369; jendennyhomes@gmail.com; exprealty.com

Primary Structure Built: 1988
Sold For: \$827,000
Original List Price: \$839,000
Bedrooms: 4
Baths: 2 Full, 1 Half
Living Space: 3,210 Sq. Ft.
Lot Size: 1.03 acres



Along with three additional bedrooms, this residence offers a luxurious primary suite with access to two separate decks, one with water views! The large room provides plenty of space for an adjacent seating area, and features a gorgeous, spa-like bathroom with a dual, marble-top vanity, oversized tile floor treatment, and a large, glass panel shower and bathtub offset by a feature wall of tranquil mosaic tile.

This home is super energy efficient with its extended solar roof panels and brand-new HVAC unit, and convenient with its built-in golf membership for homeowners.

The course at Prospect Bay is a premiere, 18-hole course with a community that offers a marina, boat ramp, private restaurant, tennis and pickle ball courts, pool, and playground area.

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Mushroom and Pea Risotto

INGREDIENTS

1 1/2 cups rice
 2 cups cremini mushrooms
 1 cup green peas, shelled
 1 small onion
 2 cloves garlic
 4 cups vegetable broth
 1 cup dry white wine
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 2 tablespoons salted butter
 1/2 cup grated parmesan
 1 teaspoon dried thyme

In a large skillet, warm the olive oil over medium heat. Chop the onion and mince the garlic, then add to the oil and allow to cook until soft and fragrant. Slice the mushrooms and add to the skillet, allowing them to release moisture and brown slightly. Add rice and stir, allowing the rice grains to toast lightly. Pour the white wine into the skillet and allow the rice to cook in it. Once the wine is absorbed, add the vegetable broth 1 cup at a time, stirring and allowing the rice to absorb the liquid before adding the next cup. Once the rice has absorbed the broth, stir in the peas, and allow to simmer for approximately 10–15 minutes or until the peas are soft. Add in the butter and grated parmesan, stirring until the risotto becomes creamy. Remove from the heat and keep warm until ready to serve.

Fresh Take

GREEN PEAS

By Dylan Roche

Give peas a chance. No, really—it will give you some peace of mind to know that peas are a great source of protein and complex carbohydrates, so adding these versatile legumes to your menu is a healthy choice you'll be glad you made, whether you decide to steam them, boil them, or add them to a soup, salad, or casserole.



Because of their versatility and nutrient density, peas have been a dietary staple for cultures throughout history, including ancient civilizations as far back as 10,000 years ago. Today's green peas come in many different varieties, including garden peas, sugar snap peas, and snow peas, though garden peas are what most people think of when they think of green peas, where the edible peas grow inside a non-edible pod. (By contrast, sugar snap peas and snow peas both grow inside edible pods.)

Peas may not be as rich in plant-based protein as other legumes, such as black beans or lentils, but they still deliver a hearty 8 grams per 1-cup serving. They are also full of complex carbohydrates to deliver long-lasting energy for your body, with 21 grams of carbohydrates per cup, including 8 grams of fiber for healthy digestion. Although peas do have a mildly sweet flavor thanks to their natural sugars, the fiber content slows down your digestion, making them a low-glycemic food and a good choice for people watching their insulin levels.

Active individuals will want to take note of the minerals in peas, which can help improve physical performance and recovery from intense training. Peas have iron, which your body uses to form hemoglobin and transport oxygen to all the cells in your body, plus potassium, an electrolyte mineral your body uses to maintain proper fluid balance and healthy muscle function.

Peas are also rich in vitamins C, K, and A, as well as several types of B vitamins. The vitamin C content will help your body absorb some of the iron content that peas contain, and vitamin K will benefit your bone health and blood health. Vitamin A, in the form of the compound beta carotene, benefits your immune function and skin health.

As for those B vitamins, peas specifically contain thiamin (B1), riboflavin (B2), niacin (B3), vitamin B6, and folate (B9), all of which are important if you're going to convert food to energy to fuel daily activities.

Although canned peas and frozen peas are popular options for many consumers, fresh peas—either still in their pods or shelled—will have the best flavor and texture. Look for peas or pods that have a vibrant, medium green color. Avoid any peas that are yellowish or dark green, or have splotches of gray on them. Ideally, the pod should feel smooth and firm, with the peas nicely filling out inside so there's no rattling sound when the pod is shaken. If you're buying shelled peas, you should use them as soon as possible (ideally, the same day). Peas still in their pod can be stored in a perforated bag in the refrigerator for up to five days.

Although peas make an appetizing side dish all on their own, you can make them the star of an enticing dish, such as mushroom and pea risotto or a type of curry known as aloo matar.

Aloo Matar

INGREDIENTS

2 cups green peas, shelled
2 large potatoes
1 large onion
2 cloves garlic
1-inch segment of ginger
1 can (14 ounces) diced tomatoes
1 can (14 ounces) coconut milk
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon cumin seeds
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon ground coriander
1/2 teaspoon turmeric
1/2 teaspoon paprika
1/2 teaspoon garam masala (Indian spice blend)

Begin by peeling and dicing the potatoes. Chop the onions and mince the garlic and ginger. Set aside. Warm the olive oil in a large skillet over medium

heat. Add the cumin seeds and let them sizzle before adding the garlic, onion, and ginger. Cook for a few minutes until soft and fragrant. Add ground cumin, ground coriander, turmeric, paprika, and garam masala to the skillet and stir to combine with the garlic, onion, and ginger. Slowly add the diced potatoes and coat thoroughly with the spiced oil. Let them cook for about five minutes so they lightly brown. Pour in diced tomatoes with their juice. Cover the skillet and allow the potatoes and tomatoes to cook for about 10-15 minutes. Remove cover and add the green peas. Allow the vegetables to cook for another 10 minutes, adding small amounts of water if necessary. Peas and potatoes should be tender but not mushy. Add the coconut milk and allow to simmer for five minutes. Serve hot alongside rice or toasted naan bread.





Fitness Tips

TEST YOUR BALANCE WITH SLACKLINING

By Dylan Roche

If you've ever thought about running away with the circus to test your talents as a tight-rope walker, then slacklining might be the trendy new workout you need to try. Beneficial for improving your balance as well as strengthening your joints and tendons, slacklining involves walking along a flat, flexible stretch of material pulled taut between two anchor points.

It's important to recognize that although slacklining sounds similar to tightrope walking (and maybe looks similar at first glance), these practices are not the same thing. According to the International Slacklining Association (ISA), slacklining is properly done on a piece of webbing—not a rope—about 2 to 5 centimeters wide and made from synthetic fiber. This

webbing stretches under weight, which means the slackliner has to react dynamically to the movement by constantly balancing themselves.

Slacklining is a fairly recent invention, with early recorded instances going back only to the early '90s on college campuses. Today it's done by people of all ages and abilities, and it can safely be done in a backyard or park. In addition to being fun, it provides more health benefits than you might expect.

SOUNDS COOL. BUT WHY?

Slacklining will engage your core muscles—including your abs, obliques, and lower back—to keep you steady, but you might not realize how much leg and foot strength is required to hold your balance on the slackline. You will need to use lower-body strength to maintain stability as you move from one point to another. You'll also put your motor skills to the test and, in time, you can enhance your proprioception, or your perception of the position and movement of your body in a certain space.

But on top of these physical benefits, slacklining can also be a great exercise for you mentally. You'll concentrate on your body's movements and be present in the moment. This type of focus helps teach mindfulness and improves your mental clarity. There's also a healthy social aspect to it, as many people who slackline seek out community from others who enjoy the practice.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

When slacklining gained popularity throughout the early 2000s, slacklining kits quickly became available, making it easy for people interested in trying the activity to get the webbing material they need, as well as ratchets and straps to stretch the webbing between anchors—usually two trees will make the best and easiest option. Slacklining tends to be an activity that carries little risk, but safety is always smart to consider—depending on your comfort level, you might opt to try it with a helmet and knee pads, and seek somebody to spot you for your first few attempts.

Keeping the slackline only a foot or two above the ground will keep risk to a minimum as well. Once you've anchored the webbing, you can begin by standing on the line until you're able to comfortably maintain your balance. Engage your core to help you stay steady. Once you are able, go ahead and take a few steps.

When you've mastered walking from one end of the slackline to the other, you can start to add different moves, such as turning around, jumping, or bending. The more you practice, and the more you challenge yourself, the better your balance will become.



Breathe Fresh

MAINTAINING GOOD BREATH
(AND WHY IT MATTERS)

By Dylan Roche

It's the classic checklist of things you might worry about when you want to make a good impression on someone: "Do I have a pimple on my nose? Is my hair out of place? Does my breath smell good?"

That last one might be more important than you realize, because even though it's completely normal to have bad breath from time to time, according to the American Dental Association, having chronic bad breath could be an indication that there's something bad going on inside your mouth.

SO, THAT LEAVES YOU
WITH A BIG QUESTION:

HOW CAN I MAINTAIN
GOOD BREATH,
AND WHAT SHOULD I
KNOW IF MY BREATH
ISN'T SMELLING
SO GOOD ON A
REGULAR BASIS?

Your mouth is home to all kinds of bacteria. These bacteria feed on food residue leftover in your mouth after eating (aka plaque), ultimately creating smelly waste in the process. This same plaque that causes bad breath can also cause other bad oral health problems, such as cavities and gingivitis. So, a person who always has bad breath may not be doing a good job of controlling the plaque and bacteria in their mouth—and it could be taking a toll.

If you're unsure, there's one self-test you can try: The Oral Health Foundation recommends licking your wrist and smelling it. If it smells bad, then it's very likely your breath smells bad too. You can schedule an appointment with your dentist, who will assess your breath—potentially going so far as to scrape the back of your tongue—to determine the most likely cause of the bad smell.

Barring any serious health conditions that need to be addressed, there are three main ways that the average person can maintain good breath:

1. PRACTICE GOOD ORAL HYGIENE.

That's right—all those healthy habits your dentist would encourage you to do anyway will go a long way in controlling the plaque and bacteria in your mouth. Brush your teeth twice a day (ideally in the morning and at night) and floss regularly to remove any food particles or plaque trapped between your teeth. An alcohol-based mouthwash can kill the bacteria in your mouth as a temporary fix, but it shouldn't be used as a substitute for regular brushing.

2. AVOID A DRY MOUTH.

The inside of your mouth is naturally a moist environment, and that's a good thing—this wetness helps rinse away bacteria and keeps everything clean. While saliva can often do a good job of keeping your mouth from getting too dry, staying hydrated will go a long way in boosting the moisture factor at the very start of your digestive system. You can also try chewing gum or sucking on hard candies—not only do these give your mouth a pleasant scent, but they can stimulate the production of saliva.

3. DON'T NEGLECT MENTAL HEALTH

In many ways, your mental health is tied to your oral health. Using substances, such as cigarettes or chewing tobacco, will pollute the inside of your mouth, making it smell bad. Chronic stress can upset your digestive tract, which can send gas and odors up through your esophagus into your mouth. Taking time to enjoy some deep breaths and relax (without the aid of a smoke break, of course) can cut back on some of the unpleasant smells in your mouth.

Still struggling? Even taking good care of your oral health sometimes isn't enough. You could still be stuck with bad breath, so schedule an appointment with your dentist to rule out any underlying health problems and get professional guidance on what you can do.



Noteworthy Knitwear

WINTER IS THE TIME OF KNIT CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES, SO STYLE IT UP!

By Dylan Roche

It's timeless. It's stylish. It's *warm*! Knitwear always makes the perfect addition to your winter wardrobe because it's as practical as it is attractive. It feels cozy and has character to it. Plus, there are so many ways to wear it, and so many articles of clothing and accessories that can be made from knitwear. Is it any wonder that the Fashion Institute of Technology offers knitwear as a course of study and even has it as a category in its annual signature fashion show?

When it comes to knitwear, every person might have a different reason for liking it. They might like the unique texture it provides, or the way it layers nicely to add so much interest to an outfit. They might like the comfortable softness of the natural fibers used for knitwear—cotton, wool, or even cashmere—or the variety of patterns that can be created through knitting, such as cable stitch, a rib stitch, a stockinette stitch, or many others.

So, if you want to incorporate knitwear into your winter wardrobe, what are some of the best ways to do it?

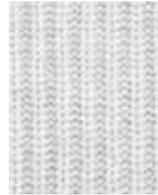
HERE ARE SOME TRIED-AND-TRUE CLASSIC IDEAS:



A classic sweater is the easiest piece of knitwear to pull off. A crewneck or turtleneck sweater, especially a thicker one with heavier stitch, can be worn over a simple T-shirt; if you go with a cardigan, you can layer it over an Oxford button-up shirt or a blouse.



Winterize a lighter outfit with a knit scarf or a knit beanie. A simple flannel shirt and jeans or a thermal henley with corduroys feel more autumnal than wintery, but as soon as you add knit accessories, they look and feel much cozier.



Let the texture speak for itself. If you want to pair your knit piece with articles of clothing the same color—whether it's black, white, gray, navy, etc.—the distinctive texture of the knitwear will break up the singularity and add interest, so you don't look too matchy-matchy.

Those are some classic options, but maybe you're interested in trying something a little more daring, something with an element of surprise that will make you stand out. **IN THAT CASE, YOU CAN TRY...**



Try an oversized cardigan for an especially cozy look. Just remember to pair it with a well-tailored pair of trousers to avoid looking sloppy.



A knit poncho or cape is good for achieving a bohemian look, especially if you incorporate statement jewelry into your outfit.



Mix the cozy factor of knitwear with something sleek, such as leather or silk, for an element of contrast.

Finally, invest in high-quality knitwear, as poorly made knitwear can unravel or lose its shape easily. Inspect all knitwear closely before buying to ensure that the stitching is all consistent and even, without any snags or pilling. All cuffs, collars, and hems are neatly finished, and seams are reinforced so there's no risk of unraveling. Finally, look for natural yarn—such as cotton, wool, alpaca—rather than synthetic materials such as acrylic.

Now bundle up, stay warm, and look good!

Dining

74 THE TASTE | 76 READERS' DINING GUIDE

Alcohol
Selections at
The Winery



WHAT'S UP? READERS'
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REVIEW

Calling All Food Critics!

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Fine Wines, Scotch & Everything Else

By Tom Worgo

Photography by Stephen Buchanan



THE WINERY

116 South Piney Rd, Ste. 104, Chester

410-643-9466 | thewineryki.com

JENNIFER DIDONATO KNOWS QUITE A FEW FOLKS on Kent Island. DiDonato owns and runs the island's The Winery and she spends most of her time helping customers and shooting the breeze with them. That's what she likes most about her job.

"It's so much fun to work the floor and see everybody you know," she explains. "I am catching up with people. I have a hard time with that because I talk too much. I say, 'I am sorry, I can't talk anymore. I have other customers.'"

The store can meet all your entertainment needs. The business—which opened in 2008—offers more than 500 craft beers, and nearly 5,000 different wines as well as a large number of gourmet foods including cheeses, meats, crackers, olives, preserves, and honeys.

"Because we have everything, people don't have to go to the grocery store," says DiDonato, who owns The Winery with her husband Jim and sister-in-law Victoria Hoffman.

The store also features a cigar room, and there are beer and wine tastings on Thursdays and Fridays. There's even a bubbly room with more than 500 bottles of champagne and sparkling wines.

For whiskey lovers, there's also a wide selection: five private bourbon barrels and a wide variety of scotches. At the top end, a bottle of 25-year-old Ardbeg scotch bottle is yours for a mere \$1,000.

To learn more, we sat down with the DiDonato, a Queenstown resident, to talk about The Winery.

Why did you decide to open The Winery? It was really the baby of my father-in-law's (Pasquale). He really wanted to bring some of his Italian heritage to Kent Island. I wasn't involved when they first opened. My father-in-law and husband built it. When my kids went to kindergarten, I started working there (2009). I worked a lot less when the kids were little. I would only go in there when they were in school. Part-time then, full-time now.

How would you describe your business? We are a full-service liquor store, and a wine store, too. We are more of a wine store. We have a wine specialist. A lot of customers are people getting ready to go out on their boats. We get an influx of people who keep their boats in the summer here (Kent Island). They come down on the weekends. They can come in and get everything they need. They can get beer, wine, soda, all their mixers, cheeses, and meats to make their charcuterie. We also do a lot of weddings and estimating for brides. We tell them how much they need of this and that, and we deliver it to their venue anywhere in Queen Anne's County.

Tell me about the food specialty items that you sell? What we carry is mostly from the DiBruno Brothers. They are a cheese vender out of Philadelphia. When we first started bringing that food into the winery, no one else had it. We have a lot of Italian cheeses and gourmet meats—anything you would need to make a beautiful charcuterie board. That's what people are really into right now. We have olives, truffles, honey, preserves, and crostini.

What are top-selling gourmet items? Prima Donna cheese. It's such a nice, sharp cheese and it goes so well with our truffle honey that we carry. It pairs well with a lot of our wines, too. Manchego cheese is also popular. It's a Spanish cheese. It's more of a mild cheese and a little softer. The taste is unbelievable. I love Manchego cheese. These cheeses are real quality products.

Explain how you have the wines sectioned off. When you walk in, we have two sides: domestic and imported. The domestic is by state—most are from California, and bridal type of wines. We have wines from Maryland, Oregon, Washington, and New York. The imported side is all organized by country. I would say we have wines from 20 countries. You have the old wines from Italy and France. Then you have the new wines that are coming from Portugal, South Africa, and Chile. They are much less expensive. Our favorite part of the store is the 90-plus section. It's 90-points or above by the wine experts. You know something there is going to be good. There are a couple hundred wines in that section.

Talk about the beer and wine tastings. How popular are they? We do beer tastings on Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. and wine tastings on Fridays from four to seven. On any given night it can be up to 25 people that show up. People get excited to see what the tastings are that week. I send an email blast every Wednesday, and I think people can't wait to get it.

Please explain what your cigar room. We started with a two-by-four-foot countertop. Then we graduated to a piece of furniture with a humidor on the ground. It was like a hutch with all kinds of drawers. You can't smoke in the store. You can only buy them. We went small to mid-size and now we have an entire room. It's like a fairly large walk-in closet. The things that sell best are pre-packs of five. It's grab and go. It has become a huge success because of the golfers and boaters.

“
Because we have everything, people don't have to go to the grocery store.”

What does the Kent Island community mean to you? We are a small island. Everybody knows everybody. My husband grew up in the county. He knows everybody and that's why they know me. I love that it is small. You can easily get to someone or reach out to them. People really help each other and that's nice. It does have a small-town feel.

What local causes do you devote your time to? I am on the board of Bosom Buddies. It's an all-volunteer breast cancer charity. We didn't have a lot of mammogram machines on Kent Island.

We had to go to Annapolis for all these services. That's how it really started. I really wanted to get some quality services on the shore, and we have done that. Now, you don't have to go across the bridge to get a mammogram. I also support Haven Ministries, our Compass Regional Hospice, and Homes for our Troops, among a lot of others. We have all of them listed on our website.



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 or editor@whatsupmag.com and let us know! And for the full guide, visit whatsupmag.com.

Average entrée price

\$ 0-14

\$\$ 15-30

\$\$\$ 31 and over

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371 Log Canoe Circle, Stevensville; 443-618-3676; bark-barbecue.com \$ 🍷

Bay Shore Steam Pot

111 E. Water Street, Centreville; 410-758-3933; bayshoresteampot.com \$\$\$ 🍷

Big Bats Café

216 St Claire Place, Stevensville; 410-604-1120; bigbats.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷

The Big Owl Tiki Bar and Grill

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Bridges Restaurant

321 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville; 410-827-0282; bridgesrestaurant.net \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷 🎵 ☀️

Café Sado

205 Tackle Circle, Chester; 410-604-1688; cafesado.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷

Doc's Riverside Grille

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Fisherman's Crab Deck

3032 Kent Narrows Way S, Grasonville; 410-827-6666; crab-deck.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷 ☀️

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433 Kent Narrow Way N, Grasonville; 410-827-9500; harris-crabhouse.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 ☀️

Hunter's Tavern

101 East Dover Street, Easton; tidewaterinn.com; 410-822-4034 \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷

The Jetty Dock Bar and Restaurant

201 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville; 410-827-4959; jettydockbar.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷 🎵

Libbey's Coastal Kitchen and Bar

357 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-0999; libbey-coastalkitchen.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 ☀️

Love Point Deli

109 Main Street, Stevensville; 410-604-2447; lovepointdeli.com \$ 🍷

Kent Point Marina, Bait House and Seafood

107 Short Road, Stevensville; 410-753-2330; kent-point-marina.square.site \$\$\$ 🍷

Kentmorr Restaurant & Crab House

910 Kentmorr Road, Stevensville; 410-643-2263; kentmorr.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 ☀️

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

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The Market Gourmet Cafe

180 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-5900; bay-beachclub.com \$

Mr. B's Seafood Market

114 State Street, Stevensville; 410-643-5536; mrbseaeat.com \$\$\$ 🍷

The Narrows Restaurant

3023 Kent Narrows Way, Grasonville; 410-827-8113; thenarrowsrestaurant.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷 ☀️

Phat Daddy's BBQ

205 Spring Avenue, Chestertown; 443-282-0028; phatdaddybbq.com \$ 🍷

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Rams Head Shore House

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Red Eye's Dock Bar

428 Kent Narrow Way N, Grasonville; 410-304-2072; reduyeyesdb.com \$\$\$ 🍷 ☀️ 🎵

Rolph's Wharf: The Sandbar

1008 Rolph's Wharf Road, Chestertown; 410-778-6347; rolphswharfmarina.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 ☀️ 🎵

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116 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-2722; stevensvillecrabshack.com \$\$\$ 🍷

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800B Abruzzi Drive, Chester; 410-604-0000; yojavabowl.com \$ 🍷

Talbot County

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409 Talbot Street, St. Michaels; 410-745-3081; avaspizzeria.com \$ 🍷 🍷 ☀️

Bas Rouge

19 Federal Street, Easton; 410-822-1637; basrouge-aston.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷

Bistro St. Michaels

403 South Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-9111; bistrostmichaels.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷

Blu Miles Seafood and Grill

305 Mulberry Street, St Michaels; 410-745-8079; theblumilesrestaurant.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷 🍷 ☀️

The Blue Crab

102 S Fremont St, St Michaels; 410-745-4155; the-blue-crab-shop.square.site \$ 🍷 🍷 🎵

Bombay Tadka

508 Idlewild Ave, Easton; 410-746-2135; bombaytadka.md \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷

Café 401

401 S Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-3323; thecafe401.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍷



Capsize

314 Tilghman Street, Oxford; 410-226-5900; capsizexmd.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

Carpenter Street Saloon

113 S Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-511; carpenterstreetsaloon.com \$ 🍷 🍴

The Coffee Trappe

4016 Trappe Street, Trappe; 410-476-6164; coffetrappe.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Corah's Corner

105 N Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-8008; corahs.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

Crab Claw Restaurant

304 Burns Street, St Michaels; 410-745-2900; thecrabclaw.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

Doc's Downtown Grille

14 N Washington Street, Easton; 410-822-7700; docs-downtowngrille.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

Doc's Sunset Grille

104 W Pier St, Oxford; 410-226-5550; docssunsetgrille.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

Foxy's Harbor Grille

125 Mulberry Street, St Michaels; 410-745-4340; foxysharborgrille.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

The Galley

305 South Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-200-8572; thegalleysaintmichaels.com \$\$, 🍷 🍴 🌞

Gina's Café

601 Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-6400; ginascafemd.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Hammy's Hideout

209 S Talbot Street, St. Michaels; 410-745-4044; hammy-burgers.com 🍷 🍴

Hot Off the Coals BBQ

8356 Ocean Gateway, Easton; 410-820-8500; hotoffthecoals.com \$ 🍷 🍴

Limoncello Italian Restaurant & Wine Bar

200 South Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-3111; limoncellostmichaels.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Lowe's Wharf

21651 Lowes Wharf Road, Sherwood; 410-745-6684; loweswharf.com/restaurant \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞 🎵

Marker Five

6178 Tilghman Island Road, Tilghman; 410-886-1122; markerfive.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴 🌞

Momma Maria's Mediterranean Bistro and Bar

4021 Trappe Street, Trappe; 410-476-6266; mommamariasbistro.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Osteria Alfredo

210 Marlboro Street, Easton; 410-822-9088; osteriaalfredo.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Out of the Fire

111 South Washington Street, Easton; 410-205-2519; outofthefire.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Ruse

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29137 Newnam Road, Easton; 410-820-4220; sugar-buns.com \$ 🍷

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206 N Washington Street, Easton; 410-690-4602; tigerlily-easton.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

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Dockside Café on Rock Hall Harbor
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Ford's Seafood Inc
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Happy Chicken Bakery
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Harbor Shack
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Java Rock
21309 E Sharp Street, Rock Hall; 410-639-9909; Facebook \$ 🍷

The Jefas Mexican Grill
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Rock City Café
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The Shanty Bar
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Uncle Charlie's Bistro
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Watershed Alley
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543 Poplar Street, Cambridge; 443-205-4350; avaspizzeria.com \$ 🍷 🍴

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2951 Ocean Gateway, Cambridge; 410-228-9111; baycountrybakery.com \$ 🍷

Blackwater Bakery
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Blue Point Provision Company
100 Heron Boulevard, Cambridge; 410-901-1234; hyattregencychesapeakebay.com \$\$\$ 🍷 🍴

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Ocean Odyssey and Crab House
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Old Salty's
2560 Hoopers Island Road, Fishing Creek; 410-397-3752; oldsaltys.com \$\$ 🍷

Paul's Pub
1200 Goodwill Ave, Cambridge; 410-901-1212; choptank-bowling.com \$ 🍷 🍴

Portside Seafood Restaurant
201 Trenton Street, Cambridge; 410-228-9007; portside-maryland.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

RAR Brewing
508 Poplar Street, Cambridge; 443-225-5664; rarbrewing.com \$\$ 🍷

River View at the Point
1A Sunburst Highway, Cambridge; 410-228-0870; riverviewatthepointrestaurant.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Snappers Waterfront Cafe
112 Commerce Street, Cambridge; 410-228-0112; snapperswaterfrontcafe.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Suicide Bridge Restaurant
6304 Suicide Bridge Road, Hurlock; 410-943-4689; suicide-bridge-restaurant.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Vintage 414
414 Race Street, Cambridge; 410-228-4042; vintage414.com \$\$ 🍷 🍴

Caroline County

Bullock's Deli, Grill, and Ice Cream
422 N 6th Street, Denton; 410-479-0270; bullocksdeli.com \$ 🍷

Caroline's
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Craft Bakery and Café
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Denton Diner
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Earth Tones Café
5 N 3rd Street, Denton; 443-448-4355; earthtonescafe.com \$\$ 🍷

Market Street Public House
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Ridgely Pizza and Pasta
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Where's Wilma?

FIND WILMA AND WIN!

Brrr! Frigid February is here, but our faithful flying mascot Wilma still takes to the skies above in her single prop plane. She's busy shopping for her loved ones (Valentine's Day!), dining out at cozy restaurants, and enjoying many select services that dot the region. Where will she land next?

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

Congratulations to **George J.** of Stevensville, who won a \$50 gift certificate to a local business.

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



Please Print Legibly

I FOUND WILMA ON PG. _____ Advertiser _____
 _____ Advertiser _____
 _____ Advertiser _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

What is your age bracket? (Circle one) <25 25-34 35-44 45-54 55+

Would you like to sign up for our weekly eNewsletters, which brings you each weekend's best events and dining deals, as well as online-exclusive articles! Yes, please! _____ No, thanks _____

Entries must be received by February 29, 2024. Winner will receive a gift certificate to a local establishment and their name will appear in an upcoming issue of What's Up? Eastern Shore.

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