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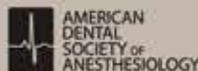
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- Handicap accessible bathroom in basement



**231 Love Point Ave. | Stevensville**  
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- Basement



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- Amenity rich Hunt Meadow in Annapolis
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DeeDee McCracken

- Convenient to downtown Centreville
- Many recent repairs
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- 4 Bedrooms, 2 full baths
- Attached 2 car garage
- .76 acres / Pole Barn



234 Chatham Ln. | Annapolis  
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- No HOA



159 Miles Cir. | Hurlock  
Destinee Blackstone

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Dee Dee McCracken

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DeeDee McCracken

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**JANUARY 2025**

◀ **On the Cover:** Our 2025 Private School Guide offers more than 80 schools to consider. Design by August Schwartz  
*What's Up? Eastern Shore* online at [whatsupmag.com](http://whatsupmag.com).  
♻️ Please recycle this magazine.

## Arts & Culture

**14 Events** highlights special celebrations and activities to enjoy this month BY MEGAN KOTELCHUCK

**20 Attractions: Washington Capitals** is a celebration of the team's 50th anniversary, plus we interview top draft pick Ryan Leonard BY TYLER INGLE AND BY TOM WORGIO

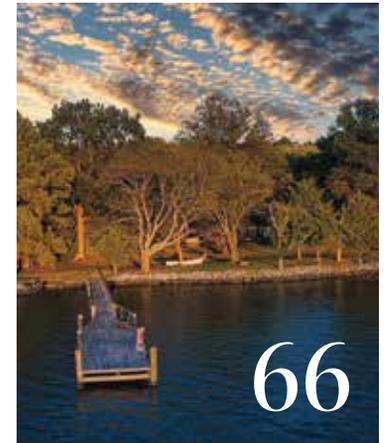
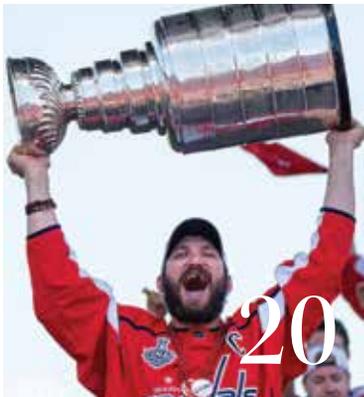
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**66 A Destined Dream Home** reveals why the market commanded nearly \$1.25 million in the recent purchase of this 1957 ranch-style home in St. Michaels BY LISA J. GOTTO



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**27 Best in Class: 2025 Private School Guide** is the definitive resource to aid your review of more than 80 local schools to consider for your child's education

**48 Bookends Meet** reveals the artistic insights and personalities of Maryland's outgoing and incoming Poets Laureate, Grace Cavalieri and Lady Brion BY JANICE F. BOOTH

▲ **54 The Blue Catfish Population Explosion** is the first of several articles in a new "Chesapeake Bay Species" series; this piece examines how the State, local watermen, and nonprofits are mitigating the threat of this invasive species BY LISA A. LEWIS



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**Grown, Locally Owned: This issue of What's Up? Eastern Shore employs more than 25 local residents.**

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# BEST OF 2025

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Ballots are open January 1 - February 28

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WHAT'S UP? MEDIA

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This young family's journey began with a stunning waterfront property, in a charming Annapolis community. But, as they would soon learn, critical area requirements would dictate the home's design and footprint. Learn more about their custom building journey and view an entire gallery of photos with the QR Code below or at: [MuellerHomes.com](http://MuellerHomes.com)



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**H**

appy New Year! Twenty-five to be exact since the turn of the millennium. Wild to think that we're already a quarter into this century, too. Where, oh where, does the time go?

Thinking back...

All those many, many moons ago, as the stroke of midnight approached the year 2000, many of my friends were celebrating in style at various clubs, concerts, and parties that 20-something-year-olds typically enjoy. I was not (though I was certainly envious).

My night was spent packing clothing, belongings, and books for a study abroad semester in the Dolomites of Italy, during what was my junior year of college. I had a plane trip the next day across the Atlantic—a nice tradeoff to the hangovers that, I'm certain, my friends woke up with. But it took a peculiar path for me to finally step foot in the Old World, for an education experience unlike any other.

First, I wouldn't have studied abroad had I not chased a girl I thought I loved. She was accepted into the program before I even knew of it, and said she'd be away for a whole semester. Cue my hot pursuit of studying abroad. I wouldn't have fallen for her—even met her—had I not gone to my first choice for college. And I wouldn't have gotten into that particular college if not for the amazing private high school I attended, in Annapolis, prior to it all. The college prep and guidance were instrumental to my development...so on and so forth.

**MAKING THE RIGHT SCHOOL SELECTION IS PARAMOUNT TO BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR LIFELONG PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES, AND PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENTS.**

**P.S.** There's plenty more in this issue for readers not particularly interested in private schools. We have pieces on the Invasive Blue Catfish, Maryland's Poet Laureates, the Washington Capitals, Polar Bear Plunge, Dinner Parties, dining out, and the Best of 2025 voting officially opens!

Yes, I'm making an unconventional link to the importance of childhood education—high school, middle, elementary—and how making the right school selection is paramount to building a foundation for lifelong personal development, memorable experiences, and proud accomplishments. One step always leads to another.

If you're leaning toward private school for your children, there's a lot of homework that goes into the evaluation and selection process. And we've done a bit of that work for you. In "Best in Class: 2025 Private School Guide," more than 80 regional private school profiles include costs, philosophies, enrollment numbers, program offerings, and much more to help steer your decision-making. A few

schools are more than a century established, while others are newly founded. It's actually pretty neat to compare them, side-by-side, so easily. Of course, this guide only serves as a first step in the long game of one's school choices, full education, and adjacent endeavors.

As for Italy, college, and ancient flames. Studying abroad was amazing. We graduated. She dumped me. Instead of remaining in our college town, I decided to return home, here in Chesapeake country, where I picked up a part-time job as an editorial assistant with What's Up? Media. A couple of years later, I met my future wife, and we began dating—*now* 22 years ago.

*Cheers to making good decisions in the year ahead!*



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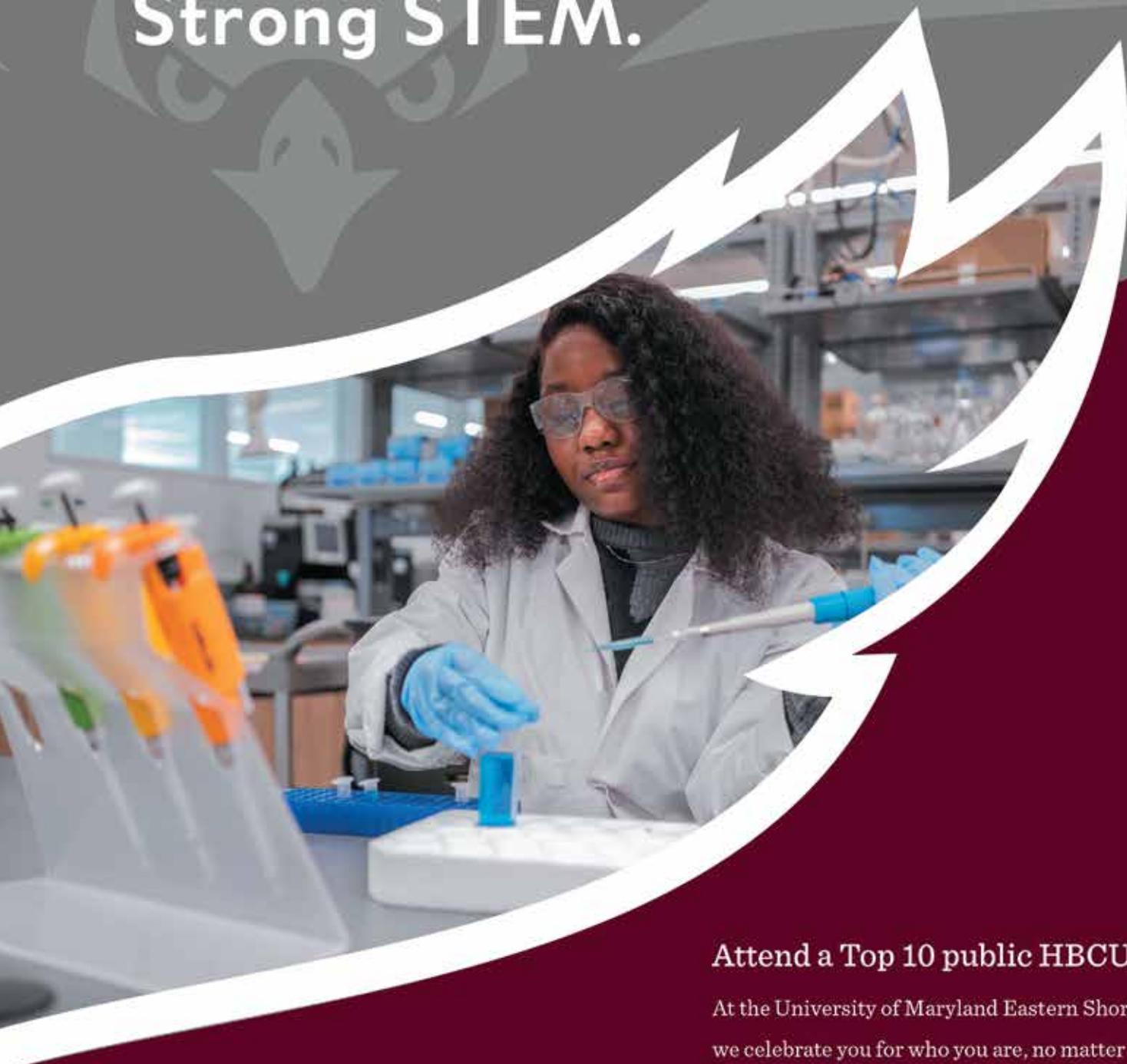
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# Arts & Culture

14 EVENTS

20 ATTRACTIONS

24 SOCIAL

HIGHLIGHTING  
ENTERTAINMENT,  
COMMUNITY,  
AND EVENTS

Bugatti  
Exhibition

PG. 14





Photo by Chris Parypa Photography

## Penguin Swim

Atlantic General Hospital's 31st Annual Penguin Swim is back to kick off the new year! On January 1st, plunge into the ocean in front of Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort in Ocean City to support our community's healthcare heroes. This event supports Atlantic General Hospital, a not-for-profit community hospital that provides care to the Eastern Shore. Find more information at [aghpenguinswim.org](http://aghpenguinswim.org).



## MUSIC IS HEALING DISASTER RELIEF SHOW

Kick off the new year in a special way. Music is healing, and there are many who need to be healed after Hurricanes Helene and Milton. A special benefit concert with Burnsie, Heather Britt, Madisun Bailey, and Joe Esham will be held on January 4th from 12 to 4 p.m. at Cult Classic Brewing Company in Stevensville. The goal is to raise money to benefit those affected in North Carolina and Florida. Music is healing! Learn more and get tickets at [cultclassicbrewing.com/events](http://cultclassicbrewing.com/events).

## BUGATTI

The Academy Art Museum in Easton opened its most ambitious exhibition to date, Bugatti: Reaching for Perfection, in December. The exhibition continues through April and will feature rare automobiles, sculpture, and furniture by the Bugatti family, along with other objects and ephemera related to the renowned marque. Highlights include two grand prix race cars, two Type 57 touring cars, and a miniature "Baby." Learn more at [academyartmuseum.org](http://academyartmuseum.org).



Photo courtesy of Academy Art Museum



## Cambridge Ice & Oyster Festival

Since a snowstorm in 2022, a weekend in January has been dedicated to ice and oysters in Cambridge. The 4th Annual Cambridge Ice & Oyster Festival will take over Downtown Cambridge January 17th and 18th with over 50 ice sculptures and an expected 8,000 visitors. Bring the whole family for golf, thrones, and an ice slide made of ice, sculptures showcasing Eastern Shore culture, ice bars with craft beer and local oysters, a s'mores fire pit, and, new this year, an ice rink at the Hyatt. There will be a shuttle between the Hyatt, Downtown, and the Packing House (where you can enjoy the Friday night kick-off event). Find more information at [iceoysterfest.com](http://iceoysterfest.com).



## MARYLAND YULE BALL CELEBRATION

The 2025 Maryland Yule Ball is the perfect time to celebrate the end of the holiday season in your finest 16th to 19th century garb. Eat, dance, and be merry in your Tudor-to-Victorian era dress on January 4th at the DoubleTree in Annapolis. Get your tickets at [mdyuleball.com](http://mdyuleball.com).

## MONSTER JAM

The Monster Jam tour is back in Baltimore January 17th through 19th. Get your adrenaline pumping with the most action-packed motorsports event on four wheels. Witness world-class driver athletes and the most recognizable trucks tear up the dirt and compete in intense competitions of speed and skill. The performances will be at 7 p.m. on January 17th and 18th and 1 p.m. on January 19th all at CFG Bank Arena in Baltimore. Get tickets at [cfgbankarena.com](http://cfgbankarena.com).





## **POLAR BEAR PLUNGE**

One of the most-anticipated Maryland traditions closes out January. Plunge into the icy waters of the Chesapeake Bay to raise money for Special Olympics Maryland. There are plenty of special plunges leading up to the official plunge on February 1st at Sandy Point State Park. The Cool Schools plunges will take place on January 29th and 30th, the Police Plunge will be on January 31st, Corporate Plunge on January 31st, and, of course, the Super Plunge (can you handle plunging 24 times in 24 hours?). Push yourself to the limit while raising money for Special Olympics Maryland. Sign up at [plungemd.com](http://plungemd.com).

Photography by Steve Ruark

A promotional graphic for a wedding expo. The background is a photograph of a bride and groom on a boat at sunset. The bride is wearing a white lace wedding dress and a tiara, and the groom is in a dark suit with a bow tie. They are embracing. Overlaid on the image is text and a QR code.

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Korean BBQ  
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New Restaurant  
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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

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Children's Fitness Class  
Chiropractor  
Cosmetic Injections  
Dance Studio  
Day Spa  
Dental Hygienists  
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Eyelash Care  
Facial  
Float Spa  
Gym  
Hair Color  
Hormone Therapy  
Hospice Care  
Hydration/IV Therapy  
Kickboxing  
Laser Hair Removal  
Laser Skin Treatment  
Manicure/Pedicure  
Martial Arts  
Massage  
Medi-Spa  
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Nutritionist  
Occupational Therapy  
Optician  
Optometrist  
Pain Management  
Permanent Makeup  
Personal Trainer  
Physical Therapy  
Pilates Class  
Prenatal Fitness  
Resort with Spa  
Speech Language Pathology (Speech Therapy)  
Spin Class  
Stand-Up Paddle Board Class  
Swim School  
Tanning  
Tattoo Parlor  
Teeth Aligner Specialist  
Urgent Care Facility  
Waxing (Body)  
Weight-Loss Program  
Women's Hair Cut/Styling/  
Blowout  
Yoga Studio

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Electrician  
Fence & Deck Contractor  
Flooring & Carpet Contractor  
Foundation/Structural Repairs  
Framing Shop  
Furniture Store  
Garden Center  
Gutter & Siding Contractor  
Hardscape Design/Build  
Hardware Store  
Home Appraiser  
Home Automation Services  
Home Design/Build  
Home Inspection Service  
Home Insulation  
Home Remodeling Service  
Home Security/Alarm Systems  
Home Watch & Concierge Services  
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  
Roofing Contractor  
Stone/Tile/Granite for Kitchen, Bath & Flooring  
Title Company  
Tree Service  
Water Treatment Service  
Waterfront Real Estate Team/  
Brokerage  
Waterfront Realtor  
Window & Door Contractor  
Window Treatments

## Retail & Services

Accountant/Payroll Services  
Auto Body Shop  
Auto Dealership  
Auto Repair  
Bank  
Beer, Wine & Liquor Store  
Bicycle Shop  
Boat Tours  
Boating/Sailing School  
Bookstore  
Car Wash  
Commercial Real Estate Brokerage  
Computer Services  
Customer Service  
Driving School  
Dry Cleaner  
Emergency Pet Care  
End-of-Life Services  
Financial Advisor  
Florist  
Growlers & Crowlers  
Handbags/Purses  
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 Event  
Nonprofit Gala  
Nonprofit Organization (Local or Local Chapter)  
Party Vendor (Balloons, Facepainting, Rentals)  
Pet Boarding & Daycare  
Pet Grooming & Services  
Pet Training (Dog)  
Pet Walking/Sitting  
Private School  
Professional Organizer  
Retirement Community (Active Living)  
Senior Living Facility (Assisted Living)  
Specialty/Organic Grocer  
Summer Camp  
Unique Gifts  
Veterinarian  
Women's Clothing Store

## Weddings

Bar Service  
Bridal Hair Cut & Styling  
Cakes  
Caterer  
Ceremony Venue  
Dance Studio  
Decor  
DJ/Entertainment Service  
Dress Shop (Wedding, Bridesmaids, etc.)  
Florist  
Food Trucks  
Hair Stylist  
Jeweler  
Live Band  
Makeup Artist  
Men's Attire  
Officiant  
Photographer  
Rehearsal Dinner Venue  
Rental Company  
Specialty Desserts  
Stationary  
Transportation  
Videographer  
Wedding Coordinator  
Wedding Planner  
Wedding/Reception Venue Indoor  
Wedding/Reception Venue Outdoor  
Wedding/Reception Venue Waterfront



Results will be published in our June 2025 issues of **What's Up? Annapolis and What's Up? Eastern Shore** and our July issue of **What's Up? Central Maryland**. **What's Up? Media** reserves the right to eliminate the least-voted categories, as needed, in the final published results.

# Washington Capitals

## CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

By Tyler Ingle

**T**here's something special in the D.C. air this winter, and it's not just the weather. The feeling of excitement and anticipation has been buzzing around the nation's capital for one of the most historic sporting years in ice hockey. The Washington Capitals are celebrating the organization's 50-year anniversary this season, while aiming to capture the elusive Stanley Cup, which they last won in 2018.

Alex Ovechkin is the definition of the Washington Capitals, a player whose impact on the team goes far beyond his historic goal-scoring numbers. The heart and soul of D.C., Ovechkin has been the face of the franchise since he was drafted in 2004. The Russian native brought global attention to the Capitals, transforming them from a struggling team into a perennial playoff contender. Individually, Ovechkin is continually chasing Wayne Gretzky's all-time NHL goal record of 894. Starting off the 2024–25 season, Ovechkin was only 42 goals away, but is now withing reaching distance, with only 27 goals needed to eclipse Gretzky (as of 12/2). While he has already solidified his legacy in the NHL, breaking the record in his 20th personal season and Capitals' 50th would be the perfect storyline.

With an ever-consistent focus on the fans, the Capitals have a strong slate of events, promotions, and giveaways for the special season on home ice at Capital One Arena. "This upcoming season presents our organization a unique opportunity

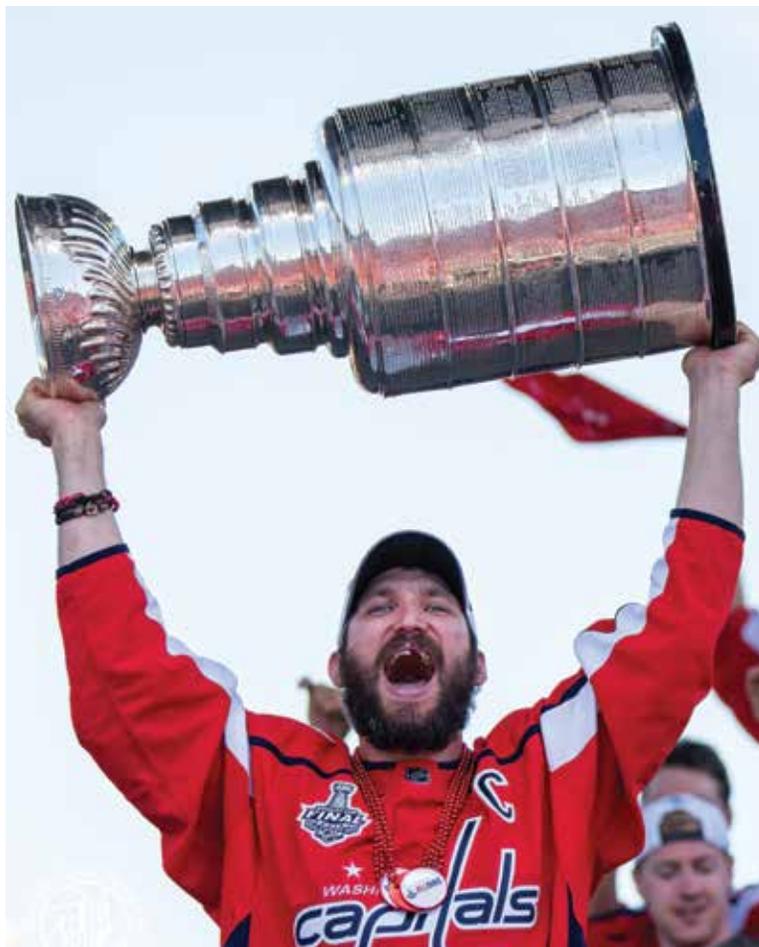


Photo by Alexandar Jones

to celebrate our history and the great contributions our alumni have made to the Capitals franchise," says Capitals Chairman Dick Patrick. "We are excited to welcome them back and recognize their achievements with our extraordinary fanbase." The franchise's "50 Fest" opened the season festivities on October 10th, with fans having quite the experience. Welcoming over 60 Capitals alumni, participants were able to meet 'n greet some of the organization's legends, in addition to receiving a commemorative 50th Anniversary Capitals t-shirt. Other promotional gameday giveaways this season include: Capitals Marvel Comic Book, Capitol Dome Pennant, Ovechkin & Backstrom duo Bobblehead, 50th Anniversary Photo Book, and more.

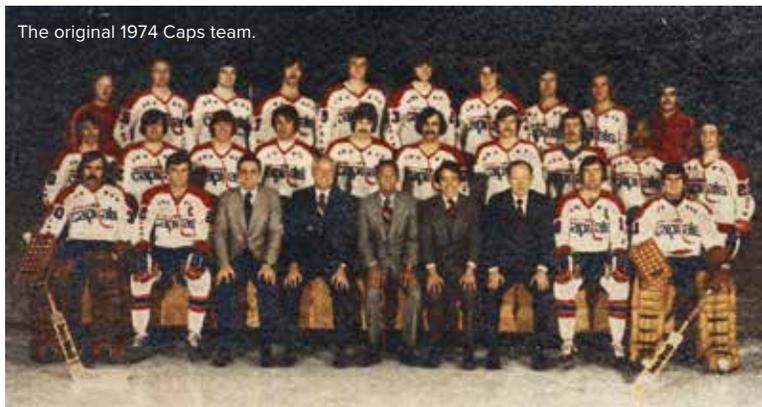
If you're at a home game, stop by Section 103 in the arena to view a special display of Caps memorabilia and game worn equipment. From the iconic 2015 Winter Classic skates worn by Ovechkin to gloves and pads used by Capitals players over the many years, this is an exhibition the history buffs won't want to miss. Celebrating the five different decades, the Capitals also are offering "Era Nights." Each night on the schedule will see alumni from the celebrated era in attendance for meet 'n greets and panel discussions. Attendance of the era nights includes pregame ceremonies, an area of the arena themed to the specific decade, and a limited edition 50th giveaway item, along with fun food and beverage items.



Looking to scope out the Caps' future talent? The Hershey Bears are the team's AHL affiliate, playing all their home games at the Giant Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The Hershey Bears regular season runs until April 2025, with playoffs commencing the following month. The team has won the coveted Calder Cup two seasons in a row. Tickets can be bought online and normally range between \$15 and \$110. Closer to

home at Piney Orchard Arena in Odenton, the Maryland Black Bears, a tier II minor league team, skate on local ice. This group of Bears tend to be on the younger side, playing in more of a developmental league rather than professional. Tickets can be bought online and range between \$12 and \$20. The season also follows a similar timeline to the pros, wrapping up in April 2025 ahead of the playoffs.

Whether you're a seasoned hockey fan or are a newcomer to the sport, there's no better time than this season to "Rock the Red" and attend a Caps game. To view the full 2024–25 schedule and to purchase tickets, head to the official Washington Capitals 50th anniversary website: [nhl.com/capitals/history/50th-anniversary](http://nhl.com/capitals/history/50th-anniversary).



The original 1974 Caps team.

Photo courtesy of Washington Capitals



# (Almost) Ready to Rock the Red

**WASHINGTON CAPITALS DRAFT PROSPECT RYAN LEONARD DISCUSSES HIS FUTURE WITH THE TEAM**

By Tom Worgo

**W**ashington Capitals prized prospect Ryan Leonard won't shy away from talking about playing in the NHL—and real soon—even though his sophomore season for the Boston College men's ice hockey team is midway. Athletes use the axiom often: one game at a time.

Leonard's first game in a Capitals uniform could be only months away. Drafted in 2023, Leonard was Washington's first top-10 pick since 2007 and he possesses the skills teams desire: physicality, grit, smooth skating ability, accurate and booming shot, and excellent leadership. ➤

The 6-foot-195-pound Leonard played in USA Hockey's National Team Development Program (51 goals in 57 games) before a stellar freshman year at Boston College (31 goals, 60 points).

In April of the 2023–2024 NHL season, Capitals General Manager Brian MacLellan told the 19-year-old he could play with the team in the playoffs' first-round against the Rangers. For many highly regarded players, that's probably a pipedream. But Leonard declined, to stay at Boston College for the team's own playoff run to the national championship game (ultimately losing to Denver).

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Leonard admits. "It was such a difficult thing to turn down knowing I could have made my debut at Madison Square Garden." We talked with Leonard ahead of the 2024–2025 season.

**How would you describe your style of play?**

I think I am a power forward and leader on the ice. That was a learning process once I got to the National Development Program. Coaches (Adam) Nightengale and (Greg) Moore were both very good to me and taught me the right thing: play two-way hockey. I attribute a lot of my success as a well-around player to those two.

**You played in the National Development Program with two NHL first-round draft picks, Will Smith and Gabe Perreault. Was it a lot of fun?** It was great. I think we took off as a line and it's really great to represent your country. I take a lot of pride in that. And there's a lot of connections you have in the National Development program when you are involved in it. They go a long way in your hockey life. USA Hockey has done a lot for me.

**How did you look at your freshman year at Boston College, after scoring 31 goals and playing in the college national championship?** It was really cool. I didn't care about individual success or breaking the rookie scoring record. Individual success can only go so far in life. We were one win away from a national championship. We just really wanted to get that win and that's the reason I am going back for my sophomore year.

**Talk about how participating in Capitals' summer rookie camp in both 2023 and 2024 aided in your development.** It really helps getting closer



with all the management and the coaching staff. You need to build those types of relationships. It's been a really good experience and it's important to ease your way in. I am looking forward to calling that place home soon.

**When the Capitals offered you a chance to play in the playoffs, how tough was the decision to turn it down?** I have trust in the team that they will one day get back to the playoffs. Maybe if it wasn't for that last loss in the national championship game, I would be a professional now. I talked to (Pittsburgh Penguins center) Kevin Hayes, who is from Boston and went to Boston College, about my decision after I made it. He said I made the right decision for sure.

**Talk about the relationship between you and your brother John, who has played professionally.** He is my biggest role model in life. We both went through the National Development Program. At the end of the year, when I had to face that tough decision of going back to BC or playing for the Capitals, he was the one I leaned on most. Brotherly love really goes a long way. I am very motivated—100 percent—to play professional hockey because of him.

**Will playing for the Capitals fulfill a dream for you?** Every hockey player's dream as a kid is to play in the NHL. When that day comes, hopefully it will be a very happy moment for the people that helped me get to that point. I hope to have a long and healthy career. I am really keeping tabs on them like they are keeping tabs on me.

**I HAVE TRUST IN THE TEAM THAT THEY WILL ONE DAY GET BACK TO THE PLAYOFFS.**



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## Rendezvous at the Farmstead

ShoreRivers recently held its highly anticipated fall fundraiser event, Rendezvous at the Farmstead, at Kent Island Resort on Sunday, October 20th. Guests enjoyed an autumn afternoon on Thompson Creek while celebrating the people and programs of ShoreRivers. A premium open bar, lively Americana music graciously provided by Easton-based music group Ampersand, and a thoughtfully curated seasonal menu were served. ShoreRivers also presented its annual Award for Environmental Stewardship to William A. Anderson, II in recognition of his influential role as a local leader. Learn more at [shorerivers.org](http://shorerivers.org).



**1.** Marian Fry, Chair of ShoreRivers' Board of Directors, speaks at the organization's Rendezvous event

**2.** ShoreRivers' Executive Director Isabel Hardesty presents at the organization's fall Rendezvous event

**3.** Chester Riverkeeper Annie Richards, ShoreRivers' Education Programs Coordinator Morgan Buchanan, and Maura Bollinger

**4.** From left: Isabel Hardesty, Executive Director of ShoreRivers; Jane Anderson; William Anderson, II, this year's winner of the ShoreRivers Award for Environmental Stewardship; Marian Fry, Chair of ShoreRivers' Board of Directors; and Matt Pluta, Choptank Riverkeeper and ShoreRivers' Director of Riverkeeper Programs



**5.** Lisa Marie Ghezzi, Joanne Shipley, and Keith Ghezzi



**6.** Janet Ruhl, Ted Carski, Kayla Rexroth, and Austin Pryor



# THANK YOU!

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FISH FOR A CURE 2025!**

We're grateful for the generous support of our sponsors, captains, anglers, volunteers, and community partners for making the 2024 Fish For A Cure Tournament, Paul C. Dettor Captain's Challenge, and Shore Party a success! Thanks to you, we raised more than \$1.1 million this year and have raised more than \$6.5 million over the last 18 years to support the Cancer Survivorship Program at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center's Geaton and JoAnn DeCesaris Cancer Institute.

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[www.fishforcure.org](http://www.fishforcure.org)



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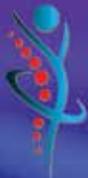


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# BEST IN CLASS

## 2025 PRIVATE SCHOOL GUIDE

Welcome to the definitive 2025 Private School Guide! Selecting a private school that plays a critical *and* fitting role in your child's education requires considerable time and research. The format of the guide allows you to easily navigate local private schools' vital information (tuition, student/teacher ratios, key contacts, etc.) and quickly learn about their education philosophies, affiliations, student clubs, extracurricular programs, sports offerings, and more.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This information is up-to-date as of our print deadline in mid-December. Because some schools have varying data points, you will see "N/A" (Not Applicable) for several schools' categories that do not apply. Some categories have varying data references because some schools have a specific number of programs, while other schools vary year to year. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the school directly.

FOR A MORE COMPLETE LIST OF REGIONAL SCHOOLS, PLEASE REFER TO OUR DIGITAL VERSION OF THE GUIDE AT [WHATSUPMAG.COM](http://WHATSUPMAG.COM).



# Private School

\*Most recent statistics provided  
Advertisers in RED

	DESCRIPTION	YEAR FOUNDED	RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION	PRINCIPAL/ HEAD OF SCHOOL	GRADE LEVELS	ENROLLMENT
CAROLINE COUNTY	<p><b>The Benedictine School</b> 14299 Benedictine Lane, Ridgely 410-634-2112; benschool.org</p>	1959	Non-Sectarian	Julie Hickey	K-12; Ages 5-21	55
DORCHESTER COUNTY	<p><b>Countryside Christian School*</b> 5333 Austin Road, Cambridge 410-228-0574</p>	1974	Christian	Beverly Stephens Herbst	K4-2nd grade	15
KENT COUNTY	<p><b>Chestertown Christian Academy</b> 401 Morgnec Road, Chestertown; 410-778-5855 chestertownchristian.org</p>	1979	Baptist	Lynn Poore	K4-12th grade	221
	<p><b>Kent School</b> 6788 Wilkins Lane, Chestertown 410-778-4100; kentschool.org</p>	1967	Non-Sectarian	Nancy Mugele	PreK-8th grade	150
	<p><b>Radcliffe Creek School</b> 201 Talbot Boulevard, Chestertown; 410-778-8150 radcliffecreekschool.org</p>	1996	Non-Sectarian	Peter Thayer	K-8	71
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY	<p><b>The Gunston School</b> 911 Gunston Road, Centreville 410-758-0620; gunston.org</p>	1911	Non-Sectarian	John A. Lewis, IV	9-12	250
	<p><b>Lighthouse Christian Academy</b> 931 Love Point Road, Stevensville 410-643-3034; lcademy.org</p>	2001	Christian	Kathleen Guerra	PreK-8th grade	123
	<p><b>Wye River Upper School</b> 316 South Commerce Street, Centreville; 410-758-2922 wyeriverupperschool.org</p>	2002	Non-Sectarian	Nicole Sophocles	8-12	46
TALBOT COUNTY	<p><b>Chesapeake Christian School*</b> 1009 N. Washington Street, Easton; 410-822-7600 chesapeakechristian.org</p>	1999	Christian	Deanna Phillips	K4-12	140
	<p><b>The Country School</b> 716 Goldsborough Street, Easton 410-822-1935; countryschool.org</p>	1934	Non-Sectarian	Jay Parker	PreK-8th grade	320
	<p><b>Saints Peter and Paul School</b> 900 High Street, Easton (ES); 1212 S. Washington Street, Easton (HS) 410-822-2251 (ES); 410-822-2275 (HS); ssppeaston.org</p>	1955 (ES) 1958 (HS)	Catholic	Sherrie Connolly (ES); Scott Wilson (HS)	PreK3-12th grade	415 (ES) 200 (HS)

	AVG. CLASS SIZE	RATIO	TUITION	OPEN HOUSE DATES	EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	ENTRANCE EXAMS	UNIFORMS	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	LANGUAGES TAUGHT	EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS	INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS	SERVICE/VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT
	5-7	3:1	Varies depending on services required	Tours and interviews available by request	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	No	Multiple	0	No
	15	8:1	\$4,800/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	Spanish, ASL	0	0	No
	16	15:1	\$4,190 (Pre-K and K) \$4,490 (1st - 5th) \$5,490 (6th - 12th)	Call for Information	Coed	Yes (grades 3-12)	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Varies year to year	Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Cheerleading, Baseball, Cross Country	10 hours per academic year (9-12)
	12	7:1	Little School 4 days: \$9,400 5 days: \$10,400 K: \$14,850 Grade 1-4: \$18,650 Grades 5-8: \$19,950	Contact School to schedule personal tour	Coed	Evaluation	Dress code	Yes	Spanish	1	9	No
	6	1:1 to 6:1	\$33,250/year for grades 1-8; \$29,925/year for kindergarten	Call to schedule a visit	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	No	60 minutes everyday with revolving topics	3	No
	10-12	9:1	\$29,850/year - Includes Lunch	Call for Information	Coed	No	Dress code	Yes	Spanish, others available online	20	20	45 hours
	10	6:1	\$7,990-10,800/year	January 15th, February 5th	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latin	4	2	No
	6-8	5:1	\$36,385/year	January 23rd, March 6th	Coed	No	Dress Code	Yes	Spanish	Music, theatre and clubs	Basketball and Cross Country	75 hours
	15	15:1	\$5,000/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	No	Spanish	0	6	100 hours
	15	9:1	PK \$11,890; K \$18,070; 1-8 \$20,970	email admissions@ countryschool.org	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish, Latin	10	5	Not required, but part of curriculum
	18 (ES); 12 (HS)	11:1 (ES); 13:1 (HS)	\$9,904/year (ES); \$18,407/year (HS)	Call for Information	Coed	Yes (HSPT for HS)	Yes	Yes	Spanish, Latin	13 (ES); 32+ (HS)	8 (ES); 16 (HS)	80 hours over four years (9-12) 20 hours per school year



# Private School

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## DESCRIPTION

## YEAR FOUNDED

## RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

## PRINCIPAL/ HEAD OF SCHOOL

## GRADE LEVELS

## ENROLLMENT

GREATER ANNAPOLIS

**Annapolis Area Christian School - Lower**

61 Gambrills Road, Severn  
410-519-5300; aacsonline.org

AACS is an accredited K – 12 private, co-ed, school with four campuses in AA county. We provide an excellent, distinctively Christian education.

1971

Christian

Karl Graustein

K–5

110

**Annapolis Area Christian School - Lower**

710 Ridgely Ave, Annapolis  
410-519-5300; aacsonline.org

AACS is an accredited K – 12 private, co-ed, school with four campuses in AA county. We provide an excellent, distinctively Christian education.

1971

Christian

Elizabeth Williams

K-5

151

**Annapolis Area Christian School - Middle**

716 Bestgate Road, Annapolis  
410-846-3505; aacsonline.org

AACS is an accredited K – 12 private, co-ed, school with four campuses in AA county. We provide an excellent, distinctively Christian education.

1971

Christian

Benjamin Peddicord

6–8

230

**Annapolis Area Christian School - Upper**

109 Burns Crossing Road, Severn  
410-846-3507; aacsonline.org

AACS is an accredited K – 12 private, co-ed, school with four campuses in AA county. We provide an excellent, distinctively Christian education.

1971

Christian

David Intlekofer

9–12

395

**Book of Life Academy\***

913 Cedar Park Road, Annapolis  
410-263-2600;  
bookoflifeacademy.com

Located in Annapolis, Book of Life offers a Christian education through various daily enrichment programs.

1982

Christian

Rebecca Lemus

K2–5

115

**Calvary Center School\***

301 Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis  
410-268-3812; calumc.org/ccs-about  
calvarycenter@calumc.org

Calvary Center School is a preschool for children ages 3 and 4, and also offers extended care options.

1986

Methodist

Claire Zarrilli

PreK 3-5

75

**Chesapeake Montessori School**

30 Old Mill Bottom Road North,  
Annapolis; 410-757-4740  
chesapeake-montessori.com

We believe that education is an exciting process of discovery that builds a foundation for critical thinking, self-discipline, and a life-long love of learning. We respect that children and adolescents should be encouraged to progress at their own pace, regardless of age or ability.

1977

Non-Sectarian

Robert Wirts

18 months–  
8th grade

150

**Chesterton Academy of Annapolis**

31 Rowe Blvd, Annapolis 410-855-3216;  
chestertonacademyofannapolis.org

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2018

Catholic

Thomas Thoits

9th-12th

43

**The Harbour School\***

1277 Green Holly Drive, Annapolis  
410-974-4248; harbourschool.org

The Harbour School, located in Cape St. Claire, has an individualized way of teaching, and adapts to the students' way of learning.

1982

Non-Sectarian

Linda J. Jacobs

1–12

189

**Heritage Learning Center\***

1740 Forest Drive, Annapolis  
410-263-6680 ext 105  
heritagelearningcenter.org

Quality early learning experience in a loving, safe, inclusive environment where children develop a love for learning

1985

Non-denominational

Vickie Whitley

2 years to  
PreK 4s and  
5s

50

**Indian Creek School**

1130 Anne Chambers Way, Crownsville  
410-849-5151; indiancreekschool.org

Indian Creek School is a premier college-preparatory school for students in grades Pre-K3 through grade 12, located on a beautiful 114 acre wooded campus just minutes north of Annapolis. At Indian Creek, kindness is currency, well-being is priority and excellence in education is relentlessly pursued.

1973

Non-Sectarian

Booth Kyle

PreK 3-  
Grade 12

580

**The Key School**

534 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis  
410-263-9231; keyschool.org

Key is renowned for its rigorous academic program, which emphasizes inquiry-based learning and interdisciplinary studies, and produces unparalleled student outcomes. Key is a diverse community where students are transformed through authentic connections with their teachers and peers.

1958

Non-Sectarian

Matthew Nespole

Key-Wee  
(2.5  
years)–12th  
grade

650

	AVG. CLASS SIZE	RATIO	TUITION	OPEN HOUSE DATES	EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	ENTRANCE EXAMS	UNIFORMS	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	LANGUAGES TAUGHT	EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS	INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS	SERVICE/VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT
	15-20	11:1	\$17,159/year	January 23rd, March 5th, April 11th, May 8th	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Yes	No	N/A
	15-20	11:1	\$17,159/year	February 20th, March 12th, April 23rd, May 19th	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Yes	No	N/A
	18-25	11:1	\$20,190/year	Visit aacsonline.org	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish, French	Yes	Yes	N/A
	18--25	10:1	\$25,625/year	visit aacsonline.org	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	French, Spanish, ASL	Yes	15	8 hours per year (encouraged, not required)
	12	6:1	\$5,000–6,000/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Yes	0	N/A
	12–15	6:1	\$340–760/month	Call for Information	Coed	No	No	No	N/A	Community Events/Service Opportunities	0	N/A
	Varies	Varies	\$14,700–\$20,600/year	Contact Admissions	Coed	No	No	Yes	Spanish	Multiple	0	72 hours per year (grades 7 and 8)
	11	11:1	\$11,700/year (Offer Sibling Discount)	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latin, Spanish, Italian	Yes	Soccer, Volleyball, Tennis, Baseball, Ultimate Frisbee	Elective
	8–10	2:1	\$41,726/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Dress code	No	No	5	4	75 hours for seniors
	10-15	6:1 to 10:1	See website for details	Call for Information	Coed	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
	16	8:1	\$21,400–\$32,300/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish, Latin, Arabic, Japanese	30+	18	75 hours recommended
	16–18	6:1	\$10,305–\$35,220/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	No	Yes	Arabic, French, Latin, Spanish	45	40	No



# Private School

\*Most recent statistics provided  
Advertisers in RED

DESCRIPTION	YEAR FOUNDED	RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION	PRINCIPAL/ HEAD OF SCHOOL	GRADE LEVELS	ENROLLMENT
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<p><b>Maryland Curiosity Lab</b> 461 College Parkway, Arnold 303-909-4958 marylandcuriositylab.org</p>	<p>We believe school should spark curiosity and ignite a lifelong love of learning. Our Acton Academy program has grown to ages K-8. It mixes real-world projects with online learning and Socratic discussions in a multi-age classroom. Plus an adventure trip every week!</p>	2022	Non-denominational	Roman Hardgrave	K-8	30
<p><b>Maven Academy*</b> 1908 Forest Drive Suite 2J 410-216-7070; themavenacaemy.com</p>	<p>The Maven Academy is unique among Annapolis Area private schools. We are a small school offering core subjects and electives to students in grades 6 through 12, Tuesday through Thursday. While we strive to adhere to biblical and moral principles, we do not teach religion and we are respectful to all faiths.</p>	2014	Christian	Gina Vogel	6-12	25
<p><b>Montessori International Children's House</b> 1641 North Winchester Road, Annapolis; 410-757-7789 montessorinternational.org</p>	<p>Recognized by the Association Montessori Internationale, Montessori International Children's House educates students ages 18 months to 12 years. Extended day available</p>	1985	Non-Sectarian	Kathy Sage - Educational Director	18 months-6th grade	160
<p><b>Naval Academy Primary School</b> 74 Greenbury Point Road, Annapolis 410-757-3090; napschool.org</p>	<p>Naval Academy Primary School is an independent, co-educational school with ties to the U.S. Naval Academy, serving civilian and military families alike.</p>	1949	Non-Sectarian	Robyn M. Green	PreK-8th grade	315
<p><b>Rockbridge Academy</b> 680 Evergreen Road, Crownsville 410-923-1171; rockbridge.org</p>	<p>Celebrating 30 years as a classical Christian school, Rockbridge Academy is ready to welcome K-12 students into a transformative learning community, where children grow to be the compassionate, thinking leaders of the next generation. Come tour our new campus!</p>	1995	Christian	Roy Griffith	Junior K-12th grade	445
<p><b>St. Anne's School of Annapolis</b> 3112 Arundel on the Bay Road, Annapolis; 410-263-8650 stannesschool.org</p>	<p>Our diverse and inclusive community celebrates each child's unique gifts and talents, educating students in Values of the Heart and Values of the Mind. Our families share our vision of delivering a challenging, high-quality academic, social, and emotional program.</p>	1992	Episcopal	Connie Coker	Twos-8th grade	300
<p><b>Saints Constantine and Helen Preschool</b> 2747 Riva Road, Annapolis 410-573-2078; sschs.school.org</p>	<p>Preschool that provides a safe and loving Christian environment dedicated to creating lifelong learners who are prepared for the next academic level</p>	2015	Greek Orthodox (welcome children of all faiths)	Emily Soeffing	Ages 2-5 (twos must turn 3 by December 1)	50
<p><b>St. Martin's Lutheran School of Annapolis</b> 1120 Spa Road, Annapolis 410-269-1955; smartinsonline.org</p>	<p>Saint Martin's Lutheran School provides private, Christian education in a safe, secure and inclusive environment with a focus on small class sizes.</p>	1963	Lutheran	Greg Whitley Lower School: Bobi Glava	PreK 3-8	138
<p><b>St. Margaret's Day School</b> 1605 Pleasant Plains Road, Annapolis; 410-757-2333 stmargaretsdayschool.org</p>	<p>St. Margaret's Day School is located on the Broadneck peninsula on the historic campus of St. Margaret's Church. The school is accredited by the National Association of the Education of Young Children and is Green Certified through MAEOE</p>	1995	Episcopal	Aleshia Marshall	2 years-K	132
<p><b>St. Mary's Elementary School</b> 111 Duke of Gloucester Street, Annapolis; 410-263-2869 stmarysannapolis.org</p>	<p>Explore our community, which is anchored in faith, rooted in tradition and committed to excellence. Our programs and continuous build lifelong learners ready for the life's challenges. Our students become positive contributing members of their communities through leadership and service.</p>	1862	Catholic	Megan Back	PreK-8	847
<p><b>St. Mary's High School</b> 113 Duke of Gloucester Street, Annapolis; 410-263-3294 stmarysadmissions.org</p>	<p>For over 75 years we have had a rich tradition of academic excellence. St. Mary's boasts a 100% college acceptance rate. In addition to a rigorous academic program our students have the opportunity to participate in 30+ clubs and with 36 athletic teams there is something for every student.</p>	1946	Catholic	Joseph Keenan	9-12	517
<p><b>Divine Mercy Academy</b> 8513 St. Jane Drive, Pasadena 410-705-0778; divinemercury.md</p>	<p>Divine Mercy Academy offers a Classical Liberal Arts Education in the Catholic Tradition to children in Kindergarten through Eighth grade. We are incredibly proud to provide this time-tested and highly successful curriculum paired with a thoroughly Catholic ethos at an affordable tuition.</p>	2019	Catholic	Patrick Sullivan	K-8	148

	AVG. CLASS SIZE	RATIO	TUITION	OPEN HOUSE DATES	EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	ENTRANCE EXAMS	UNIFORMS	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	LANGUAGES TAUGHT	EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS	INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS	SERVICE/VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT
	10	10:1	\$14,500/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
	13	7:1	\$5,900/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	No	Out-sourced	Varies	0	Encouraged, not required
	9-30	Varies	\$12,350 to \$14,600/year	Call to Schedule Tour	Coed	No	No	Yes	Spanish	Varies by year	0	No
	16-18	12::1	\$9,180–13,908/year	January 26th	Coed	Yes, In house assessments	Yes	Yes	French and Spanish	16	Cross Country, Basketball, Soccer, Cheer	Yes, for Middle School
	14	8:1	\$7,800–18,500/year	February 3rd	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latin, Spanish, Biblical Greek	31 (Excluding Mock Trial and Orchestra where students receive a grade)	8	Daily service duties, mentoring opportunities, school-wide service projects
	14	8:1	\$8,170–25,565/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	Yes (Pre-school–grade 8)	French (MS Only), Spanish (PK-8th)	15	6	10 hours (grade 8)
	8–10	1:10	Please go to website for latest tuitions	January 15th	Coed	No	Yes	Not at this Time	English and Greek	Music, STEAM, Visiting Reader Programs	No	No
	13	8:1	\$6,600–14,700/year	January 24th, March 14th	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	Spanish	12	6	Yes
	12–20	7:1	\$2,600–8,700 /year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Optional	Yes	Spanish	3–4	Soccer, Basketball, Cheer	No
	20-27	7:1 (PreK–K); 12:1 (1–4); 25:1 (5-8)	PreK–5: \$9,992/year (Catholic); \$11,484/year (Non-Catholic) 6–8: \$11,032 (Catholic); \$12,524 (Non-Catholic)	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish from PreK through Grade 8	Multiple	9 (Middle School)	Monthly service projects, community outreach, Saints in action
	24	24:1	\$17,720/year (Catholic); \$19,840/year (non-Catholic)	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish, French, Latin	30+	36	75 hours
	15	7:1	\$9,000/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	Latin	Dance and Self Defense	0	25 hours



# Private School

\*Most recent statistics provided  
Advertisers in RED

	DESCRIPTION	YEAR FOUNDED	RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION	PRINCIPAL/ HEAD OF SCHOOL	GRADE LEVELS	ENROLLMENT
	<b>Severn School - Chesapeake Campus (Lower)</b> 1185 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Arnold; 410-647-7700 severnschool.com"	1914	Non-Sectarian	Douglas Lagarde	Pre-school–5th grade	260
	<b>Severn School - Teel Campus (Upper)</b> 201 Water Street, Severna Park 410-647-7700; severnschool.org	1914	Non-Sectarian	Douglas Lagarde	6–12	651
	<b>St. John the Evangelist School</b> 669 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park 410-647-2283; stjohnspschool.org	1959	Catholic	Dr. Glenna Blessing	PreK–8th grade	557
	<b>St. Martin's In-The-Field Episcopal School*</b> 375-A Benfield Road, Severna Park 410-647-7055; smartinsmd.org	1957	Episcopal	Anthony Shaffer	Preschool 3s–8th grade	253
EDGEWATER	<b>St. Andrew's Day School</b> 4B Wallace Manor Road, Edgewater 410-266-0952; standrewsum.org	1985	United Methodist	Mark Wagner	PreK–8th grade	192
	<b>The Summit School</b> 664 East Central Avenue, Edgewater 410-798-0005; thesummitschool.org	1989	Non-Sectarian	Dr. Joan Mele-McCarthy	1–8	112
GAMBRILLS/ODENTON	<b>Odenton Christian School*</b> 8410 Piney Orchard Parkway, Odenton 410-305-2380; ocs.odentonbaptist.org	1977	Baptist	Pastor John Lacombe	K3–12th grade	181
	<b>School of the Incarnation</b> 2601 Symphony Lane, Gambrills; 410-519-2285 schooloftheincarnation.org	2000	Catholic	Nancy Baker	PreK4–8th grade	775
MILLERSVILLE	<b>Elvaton Christian Academy</b> 8422 Elvaton Road, Millersville 410-647-3224; elvatonacademy.com	1995	Christian	Pastor Dallas Bumgarner	PreK4–8th grade	84
SEVERN/GLEN BURNIE	<b>Archbishop Spalding High School</b> 8080 New Cut Road, Severn 410-969-9105; archbishopspalding.org	1966	Catholic	Brian J. Kohler	9–12	1,300
	<b>Calvary Baptist Church Academy</b> 407 Marley Station Road, Glen Burnie 410-768-5306 cbcaknights.org	1973	Christian	George Kirychuk, Administrator	K3 & K4 (Preschool) through 12th grade	350
	<b>Granite Baptist School*</b> 7823 Oakwood Road, Glen Burnie 410-761-1118; granitebaptistschool.org	1975	Baptist	Lou Rossi, Jr.	K3–12th grade	273

	AVG. CLASS SIZE	RATIO	TUITION	OPEN HOUSE DATES	EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	ENTRANCE EXAMS	UNIFORMS	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	LANGUAGES TAUGHT	EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS	INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS	SERVICE/VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT
	15	9:1	\$25,380/year; PS-K varies	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Multiple	0	No
	13	9:1	\$32,290/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	French, Spanish, Latin	50+	17 offered (54 total Middle school, JV and Varsity teams)	10 hours per year (grades 9-12)
	25	14:1	\$9,075/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	Spanish	26	6	No
	16	8:1	\$3,800-14,700/year	Call for Information	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	Spanish	20	8	Yearly class service
	15	6:1	\$10,565-\$15,450/year	Call to schedule a private tour	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Multiple	4	No
	Varies	5:1	\$36,7430/year	January 24rd, February 26th, March 18th, April 29th	Coed	No	Yes	Yes	No	5	6	Yes
	14	9:1	\$6,695/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	No	Spanish	Multiple	3	No
	30	16:1	\$8,950/year (Catholic); \$9,700/year (other faiths)	January 25th	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	35+	9	15 hours (grade 8)
	12	12:1	\$3,600-7,000/year	By Appointment Only	Coed	Yes	Yes (K-8th)	Limited	Spanish	Multiple	0	No
	20	16:1	\$20,400/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish, French, Latin	30+	30+	60 hours of community service
	22-24	22:1	\$7,100/year	Private, personalized family tours available. Schedule online	Coed	Yes	Yes	no	Spanish & American Sign Language	STEM team, Robotics Club, Sign Language Club	5	No
	Varies	Varies	\$4,860 - \$6,112/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	12; Little Braves (K5-6th)	No



# Private School

\*Most recent statistics provided  
Advertisers in RED

## DESCRIPTION

YEAR  
FOUNDED

RELIGIOUS  
AFFILIATION

PRINCIPAL/  
HEAD OF  
SCHOOL

GRADE  
LEVELS

ENROLLMENT

PRINCE GEORGES, HOWARD COUNTIES & BEYOND

**Monsignor Slade Catholic School**  
120 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie  
410-766-7130; msladeschool.com

Monsignor Slade is part of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, and is located in northern Anne Arundel County on a 10.5-acre campus.

1954

Catholic

Cameron Stehle

Pre-K2–8th grade

562

**St. Paul's Lutheran School\***  
308 Oak Manor Drive, Glen Burnie  
410-766-5790; stpaulsgb.org

Located near Route 100, St. Paul's Lutheran School focuses on a Christian-based curriculum.

1950

Lutheran

John Maxwell

P2–8

325

**The Boys' Latin School of Maryland**  
822 West Lake Avenue, Baltimore  
410-377-5192; boyslatinmd.com

At Boys' Latin, each student is known for who he is today, and all he can be tomorrow. Nearly two centuries of innovation in all-boys education have taught us what it takes to build a foundation of confidence, compassion, curiosity and character.

1844

Non-Sectarian

Christopher J. Post

K–12

635

**Calvert Hall College High School**  
8102 LaSalle Road, Baltimore  
410-825-4266; calverthall.com

Calvert Hall College High School is an independent, all-boys Lasallian Catholic college preparatory school attracting students from more than 125 zip codes.

1845

Catholic

Dr. Andrew Moore

9–12

1,275

**The Calverton School\***  
300 Calverton School Road,  
Huntingtown; 410-535-0216  
calvertonschool.org

The Calverton School is an independent school that serves Pre-K3 to 12th-grade day students, as well as 9th-12th grade boarding students. Boarding is available for 5 and 7 days a week. Calverton offers the prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma Program.

1967

Non-Sectarian

Dr. Allison Trentman

Pre-school–12

324

**DeMatha Catholic High School**  
4313 Madison Street, Hyattsville  
240-764-2200; dematha.org

DeMatha High School is a Catholic college preparatory school in the Trinitarian tradition that forms Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars.

1946

Catholic

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

9–12

850

**Elizabeth Seton High School\***  
5715 Emerson Street, Bladensburg  
301-864-4532; setonhs.org

Elizabeth Seton High School is an all-girls, college preparatory school, and is affiliated with the Archdiocese of Washington.

1959

Catholic

Dr. Lisa Grillo

9–12

550

**Holy Trinity An Episcopal School Primary School**  
13106 Annapolis Road, Bowie  
301-262-5355; htrinity.org  
The Daisy Lane School and High School  
Prep 11902 Daisy Lane, Glenn Dale  
301-464-3215; htrinity.org

Faithful to our values of academic excellence, spiritual and moral formation, and inclusiveness, Holy Trinity will apply new thinking and best practices in education. Inside and outside the classroom, we will nurture, teach, mentor, coach, and inspire boys and girls of diverse backgrounds and abilities to become their best selves.

1963

Episcopal

Michael S. Mullin

PreK–8th grade

452+

**McDonogh School**  
8600 McDonogh Road, Owings Mills;  
410-363-0600; mcdonogh.org

McDonogh School is a private, coeducational, PK-12, five-day boarding, non-denominational school located on an 800-acre campus in Owings Mills, Maryland

1873

Non-Sectarian

David J. Farace

PK-12

1,460

**Oldfields School**  
1500 Glencoe Road, Sparks Glencoe  
410-472-4800; oldfieldsschool.org

Oldfields is an all-girls boarding and day school located on 140 acres in Maryland's horse country

1867

Non-Sectarian

Ansley Smithwick

8-12

30

**St. Vincent Pallotti High School**  
113 St. Mary's Place, Laurel  
301-725-3228; PallottiHS.org

St. Vincent Pallotti High School is a college preparatory school in the Archdiocese of Washington, and serves students from Anne Arundel, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties.

1921

Catholic

Jeffrey Palumbo

9–12

450

	AVG. CLASS SIZE	RATIO	TUITION	OPEN HOUSE DATES	EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT	ENTRANCE EXAMS	UNIFORMS	FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	LANGUAGES TAUGHT	EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS	INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS	SERVICE/VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT
	23	14:01	\$8,398/year (Catholic); \$9,302/year (Other Faith); Full Day Pre-K2 \$11,115; Full Day Pre-K3 \$9,843	February 2nd	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish (grade 4–8)	17	5	12 hours/family
	17	8:1	Day Pre-K3 \$9,510; Half day Pre-K3 \$3,579; Half Day Pre-K4 \$4,132	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	7	7	5 hours per family
	13	7:1	\$25,100–\$37,400/year, boarding \$55,900	Go to <a href="http://boyslatinmd.com/admissions/admissionsevents">boyslatinmd.com/admissions/admissionsevents</a> for upcoming events	Boys	Yes	Dress code	Yes	Latin, Spanish, French	35+	14	40 hours
	17	11:1	\$20,500/year	Call for Information	Boys	Yes (HSPT)	Yes	Yes	Latin, French, German, Spanish	60+	40	Varies
	14	7:1	\$7,000–\$35,000/year	Call for Information	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	French, Spanish, German	Multiple	10	Yes
	19	9:1	\$22,700/year	November 2nd, 2025	Boys	Yes (HSPT)	Yes	Yes	Spanish, Latin, Mandarin, Greek, French	40	15	55 hours
	19	14:1	\$19,077/year	Call for Information	Girls	Yes (HSPT)	Yes	Yes	Spanish, French, Latin, ASL	31	23	Varies per year
	15 (Pre); 20 (K-4); 21 (5-8)	Varies	\$13,429 (3 & 4 yrs old) \$14,686 (K) \$13,901 (1-4) \$15,713 (5-8)	January 10th, February 7th, April 4th	Coed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spanish	Multiple	6 (Grades 5-8)	15 hours/year (7.5 hours for single-parent families)
			\$23,550-41,050	visit <a href="http://mcdonogh.org/admissions">mcdonogh.org/admissions</a>	Co-Ed	ISEE	Yes	Yes	Chinese, French, Latin, Mandarin, Spanish	Visit <a href="http://mcdonogh.org/asp">mcdonogh.org/asp</a> for more information	Visit <a href="http://mcdonogh.org/athletics">mcdonogh.org/athletics</a> for more information	Yes
	4	3:1	\$31,000/year Boarding-\$59,000	Visit website for open house dates	Girls	Test Optional Policy	Dress Code	yes	French, Spanish, Latin	3+	Athletics & Equestrian Program	80 hours required
	17	11:1	\$20,100–\$21,500/year	April 24th	Coed	Yes (HSPT)	Yes	Yes	Spanish, French, Mandarin	20+	20+	80 hours over 4 years

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Located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Benedictine carries on the legacy of supporting children and adults living with intellectual and developmental disabilities so they can achieve their greatest potential.

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Benedictine's Adult Services program offers Meaningful Day and job training services for transitional youth and adults, ages 22 to 70+, who live in the community, and in 18 Benedictine adult group homes in Caroline, Talbot, and Anne Arundel Counties.

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LEADERS IN

# *Education*





## QUICK LOOK

**Grades:**  
9-12

**Total Enrollment:**  
250

**Average class size:**  
10-12

**Year Founded:**  
1911

**24-25 tuition:**  
\$29,850/year,  
includes lunch

**Languages:**  
Spanish; other  
options online

**9:1** Student to  
Teacher Ratio

**20** Interscholastic  
Sports

# The Gunston School

911 Gunston Road | PO Box 200 | Centreville, MD 21617 | [gunston.org](http://gunston.org)  
Instagram & Facebook @gunstonschool | 410-758-0620



**The Gunston School offers an intellectually rigorous, highly personalized, and nurturing college preparatory educational experience.**

Established in 1911, the Gunston School is uniquely situated on 75 acres along the Corsica River and provides students with a personalized and rigorous academic experience, a strong sense of community, a focus on the balanced development of mind, body, and spirit, and an innovative curricular emphasis on global and environmental leadership. Gunston draws its student population from eight Maryland and Delaware counties as well as internationally from at least four countries.

Programs of note include Gunston's nationally-recognized environmental programs including Chesapeake Bay Studies and the study of climate science. Additionally, the fully accredited Chesapeake Watershed Semester (CWS) is a single-semester, place-based academic program that cultivates student leaders who can promote regional and global environmental sustainability through their understanding of scientific, social, cultural, and political systems. The program is open to any juniors and seniors from any school.

Other programs include a nationally competitive robotics and rocketry team, and a popular arts program that features a pottery studio, wood sculpture, performing arts, and more. Additionally, various student leadership programs begin from day one at orientation and continue through all four years. Gunston offers 20 sports teams, including swimming, sailing, crew, cross country, golf, volleyball, and triathlon, among others, competing in two conferences: the Eastern Shore Independent Athletic



Conference (ESIAAC) for girls and the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) for boys. The school day ends at 4:30 p.m. Gunston offers transportation from Annapolis, Arnold, Cape St. Clair, Chestertown, Easton, Grasonville, Kent Island and Middletown, Delaware.

Personal tours and shadow days are available by appointment with in-person open houses held annually in January, April, October and November.

## Open House Dates

**Sunday, January 12, 2025**

**11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 27, 2025**

**11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.**



## QUICK LOOK

**Year Founded:**  
1782

**Enrollment:**  
923

**Student to Faculty Ratio:**  
9:1

**Majors Offered:**  
50+

**Clubs & Orgs:**  
80+

**Tuition:**  
\$55,326

## CLASS OF 2028 NOTES

41 States Represented

58.5% of students from MD, Del., VA., & D.C.

26.4% of students who identify as students of color

21.1% of first generation students

3.66 GPA average

100% of students receiving institutional aid

\$39,440 average institutional aid awarded

10,000+ internship opportunities available in all disciplines

# Washington College

washcoll.edu | 800-422-1782 | Chestertown, MD



Washington College, Maryland's premier small college, offers a rigorous academic program taught by remarkable faculty. With more than 50 academic programs and nationally recognized centers of excellence, Washington's unique campus on the Eastern Shore—which features the 5,000-acre River and Field Campus—provides easy access to nearby urban centers.

Washington students take advantage of an array of opportunities that broaden their education and lead to successful careers. They engage in graduate-level research, participate service learning, and choose from among thousands of internship opportunities and a range of study abroad programs.

The focus is on academics, but we encourage students to get out and try new things. Washington's residential campus has everything you expect from a top-rated college—more than 80 clubs and organizations, 20 intercollegiate athletic teams, 14 of which compete in NCAA Division III, as well as club and intramural sports, live theatre, dance, and music performances, leadership roles, volunteer opportunities and more.

The Washington College experience empowers and motivates students within a community committed to diversity and inclusion. The expansive opportunities in and out of the classroom combined with strong outcomes for Washington College graduates, offers students and their families an exceptional value.



**91%** of the Class of 2023 were employed or enrolled in graduate or professional school within nine months of graduation

**95%** of students engage with the Center for Career Development in their first year



## QUICK LOOK

### Grades:

PreK-3  
to 12th

### Religious Affiliation:

Catholic

### Heads of School:

Scott Wilson -  
HS Principal  
Sherrie Connolly -  
ES Principal

### 2024-2025 Enrollment:

HS: 200  
ES: 415

### 2024-2025 Tuition:

HS: \$18,407  
ES: \$9,904  
Pre-K: \$8,000

# Saints Peter & Paul School

ES - 900 High Street, Easton MD 21601 | 410.822.2251 | es.sspeaston.org

HS - 1212 S. Washington Street, Easton MD 21601 | 410.822.2275 | hs.sspeaston.org



## Two Campuses - One School - One Mission!

From PreK3 through Grade 12, Saints Peter & Paul educates the mind, strengthens the body, and nurtures the spirit in a faith-based environment rich in the Catholic tradition, transforming students into young adults who think critically, creatively, and globally.

The elementary program includes individualized learning, integrated STEM, music, and Spanish. Our college preparatory high school offers 100+ courses, including an Honors Program, Advanced Placement, and global learning. Emphasizing critical thinking, independent and collaborative learning, Saints Peter & Paul students are well prepared for the challenges of higher education.

There are student life opportunities for every grade level, a robust athletic program that includes cross country, sailing, and ice hockey. With over 30 clubs and leadership activities, Sabre students have opportunities to get involved, participate, and make a difference.

Rooted in the Catholic tradition, Saints Peter & Paul encourages students of all denominations to grow in their faith through prayer, retreats, and service. Small class sizes, a dedicated and caring faculty, rigorous academics, diversity of student life, and a commitment to service are the hallmarks of a Saints Peter & Paul education.



## \$166,201

Average Scholarships for Graduates

## 12 (HS)

## 18 (ES)

Average Class Size



## QUICK LOOK

**Head of School:**  
Jay Parker

**Grades:**  
PreK-8th

**2024-2025 Enrollment:**  
320

**2024-2025 Tuition:**  
PK: \$11,890  
K: \$18,070  
1-8: \$20,970

**Open House Dates:**  
email admissions@  
countryschool.org

**Educational Environment:**  
(Co-Ed, All Boys, All Girls): Coed

**Uniforms:**  
Yes

**Financial Assistance:**  
Yes

**Languages Taught:**  
Spanish, Latin

**Service/Volunteer Requirements:**  
Not required, but part of curriculum

# The Country School

716 Goldsborough St, Easton, MD 21601  
410-822-1935 | countryschool.org



What makes The Country School what it is lies in our ethos:

### Do your best always.

From citizenship to academics, we expect this mantra to guide our students in everything they do. With a focus on character building, The Country School instills its 9 Core Values (honesty, respect, responsibility, compassion, generosity, commitment, cooperation, fairness, and moral courage) in students, nurturing confident and compassionate individuals poised to make a positive impact.

The backbone of The Country School is its exceptional faculty, committed to creating a nurturing environment where students thrive. Their passion for teaching extends beyond academics, inspiring a lifelong love for learning. With an average class size of 15, our teachers know every one of their students well and differentiate instruction strategically to bring out the best in them. The Country School is a close-knit community that values diversity and inclusivity. Students build lasting friendships in an atmosphere that encourages individuality and mutual respect.



Students graduating from The Country School have many options for high school, including local public schools, and boarding and day independent schools. With the help of our secondary school counselor who begins working with students in 7th grade, our recent graduates have been accepted into 32 different high schools.

Transportation is available to several areas from Stevensville to Cambridge, making The Country School accessible to children from all over the Mid-Shore. Learn more about us at countryschool.org and schedule a tour with our Admissions Director, Kristy Nkanza.



**9:1** Student to teacher ratio

**15** Average class size

**8** Transportation stops from Stevensville to Cambridge



## QUICK LOOK

**Year Founded:** 1967

**Head of School:**  
Nancy Mugele

**Grades:**  
Preschool - 8th Grade

**2024 - 2025 Tuition:**  
\$10,400 - \$19,950

**Tuition Assistance:**  
Awarded to Over  
40% of families

# Kent School

6788 Wilkins Lane | Chestertown, MD | [www.KentSchool.org](http://www.KentSchool.org) | 410-778-4100

Located on the bank of the Chester River in historic Chestertown, Kent School prepares students for active citizenship through joyful and rigorous academics, arts, and athletics in an inclusive community that fosters moral excellence.

Our School culture, built on trust, is one in which all individuals are seen, known and valued. We are committed to social emotional learning as well as academic growth to ensure these values are upheld. We foster inclusivity, enabling individuals with a range of traits to thrive, contribute and be respected for their unique abilities, perspectives and cultural experiences.



**140**

Students  
PreSchool - 8th

**6:1**

Student to  
Teacher ratio



## QUICK LOOK

**Year Founded:**  
2001

**Grades:** PreK - 8

**Religious Affiliation:**  
Inter-Denominational

**Enrollment:** 121

**Tuition:**  
\$7,990-\$10,800



# Lighthouse Christian Academy

931 Love Point Road, Stevensville, MD 21666  
[www.lcademy.org](http://www.lcademy.org) | 410-643-3034

Lighthouse Christian Academy on charming Kent Island is a Classical Christian school dedicated to nurturing students who embrace timeless wisdom and virtue. Offering a traditional curriculum centered on Truth, Goodness, and Beauty, Lighthouse prepares students for a life of purpose and service. Through the study of the Great Books and participation in the Great Conversation, our students develop a love for learning guided by traditional Christian values grounded in a Biblical worldview. Partnering with parents and dedicated faculty, we support academic excellence and foster authentic faith formation, equipping the next generation to flourish and lead with discernment and eloquence.



**7:1** Student to  
teacher ratio

**10** Average  
class size



## QUICK LOOK

### Grades:

K-12,  
Boarding: 9-12

### Religious Affiliation:

Non-Sectarian

### 2024-2025

#### Enrollment:

630

### 2024-2025

#### Day Tuition:

\$25,100 - \$37,400

### 2024-2025

#### Boarding Tuition:

\$54,900

# The Boys' Latin School of Maryland

822 W Lake Ave, Baltimore, MD 21210

410-377-5192 | [boyslatinmd.com](http://boyslatinmd.com)

The Boys' Latin School of Maryland is an independent school for boys in grades K-12, with boarding available in grades 9-12. Our small, close-knit community builds a foundation of confidence, compassion, curiosity, and character—values we've honed over nearly two centuries of all-boys education.

At Boys' Latin, we're redefining how boys learn, play, and connect through a School-wide initiative designed to help boys be more present, engaged and connected. Programs include an "away for the day" phone policy for middle and upper school students, an unstructured play space for lower school boys, and a digital citizenship curriculum for middle schoolers.

Boarding students are a vital part of the Boys' Latin family, finding the perfect environment to grow in confidence and independence. Learn more at [boyslatinmd.com/boarding](http://boyslatinmd.com/boarding).



**7:1**

Student to teacher ratio

**13**

Average class size

**42**

Athletic teams

**25**

Upper school clubs



## QUICK LOOK

### Year Founded:

1925

### President:

Dr. Carolyn Ringer Lepre

### Programs:

48 undergraduate majors, 17 masters and doctoral programs

### 2024-2025

#### Enrollment:

### 2024-2025 Tuition:

In State: \$11,084  
Out state: \$22,174

# Salisbury University

1101 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, Maryland 21801

410-543-6161 | [www.salisbury.edu](http://www.salisbury.edu)

Salisbury University sets success in motion with a community and culture where every student is heard, seen, supported and challenged. SU propels students forward to a better tomorrow in their lives and careers. In a warm and welcoming environment, students explore programs across business, education, health and human services, the liberal arts, and sciences. Professors mentor students in a way that sparks change by connecting ideas to real-world, hands-on experiences. Students study where their opportunities are endless, their cost is affordable and their return on investment pays back a lifetime of possibilities.

Nationally ranked among the top colleges and best values by *The Princeton Review*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Forbes*, *Money* and others.

**13:1**

Student to faculty ratio

**Top 25**

Best College Libraries



**Make Tomorrow Yours**



## QUICK LOOK

**Student to faculty ratio:** 5:1

**Students schoolwide:** 50

**Counties that students come from:** 11

**Average class size:** 8



# Wye River Upper School

316 S Commerce Street | Centreville, MD | 410.758.2922 | wyeriverupperschool.org

## Educating Students from Grade 8 through Grade 12

Founded in 2002, Wye River Upper School, changes the lives of students who think and learn differently through a flexible and individualized program, celebrating each unique student. The school serves students diagnosed with learning differences, ADHD, anxiety, or those who seek a small, caring environment. Our comprehensive program provides a tailored curriculum which recognizes and develops the strengths of each student. Wye River Upper School offers a holistic and positive approach that bolsters social, emotional, and executive functioning while focusing on authentic and experiential learning. Please call our Admissions Office to schedule a personal tour of our campus.



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## FOLGER NOLAN FLEMING DOUGLAS

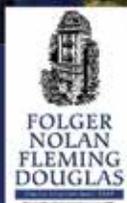
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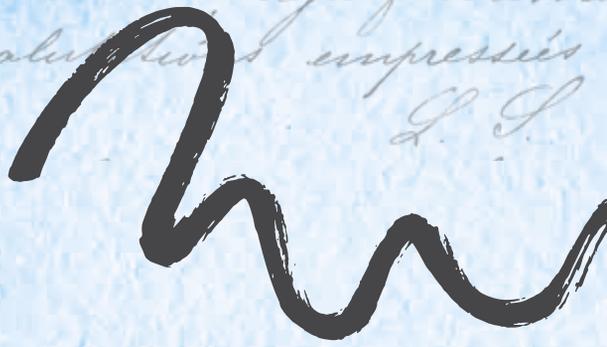


**Kevin Flaherty & Max Fryer**

Folger Nolan Fleming Douglas  
601 Locust Street, Suite 101, Cambridge, MD 21613  
kflaherty@fnfd.com • mfryer@fnfd.com  
Phone: 410.228.7430 • 800.221.7254 Fax: 410.228.7451

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*Veillez me faire parvenir, a  
l'application des nouveaux tarifs  
12 réveils quarantièmes à fr.  
expédiés franco en gare  
En attendant, agréés mes  
mes salutations empressées  
L. J.*



# BOOKENDS MEET



**MARYLAND'S OUTGOING AND  
INCOMING POETS LAUREATE**

Story by **JANICE F. BOOTH**

Photography by **TONY LEWIS, JR.**



*Marseille*



LADY BRION



GRACE CAVALIERI



M

aryland's 10th and 11th Poets Laureate stand together: oldest and youngest, White and Black, united in their commitment to support those who have been silenced and

to encourage those who have important things to say. The poems of Grace Cavalieri and Lady Brion embrace the spectrum of modern poetry, from the traditional "page poem" to "spoken word"—performance, or slam poems. Like bookends, their lives and their approaches to poetry support and embrace what is creative and powerful in the Arts.

**WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?**

Grace Cavalieri, 10th Poet Laureate, and Lady Brion, 11th Poet Laureate, come to this public role already accomplished and renowned as poets. They share a passion for performance. Cavalieri first as a playwright and later as a "page poet." Lady Brion as a performance poet from childhood. Both see the role of Poet Laureate as another avenue for supporting poetry and the arts, and as cultural ambassadors for and representative of Maryland's unique and complex history and culture. Both poets are activists—sharing their poetry and the poetry of others, shining lights on poetry through audio and video performances.

Let me explain the role of Poet Laureate. The title identifies a poet who is recognized by a state or the nation for outstanding creative and intellectual achievement. Maryland's first Poet Laureate was appointed in 1959, Maria B. Croker, who spoke of the impact of poetry on the human soul. Maryland's third Poet Laureate was Lucille Clifton, a recipient of the National Book Award and nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. Her powerful poems use clear and simple language to point out injustice and suffering and to bring about change in attitudes and express long suppressed viewpoints. Several of Clifton's collections of poems deal directly with social injustice and racism.

**WHAT HAVE THESE TWO POETS BEEN UP TO?**

And so, we come to our recent and current Poets Laureate. The oldest, Grace Cavalieri began her Laureateship at age 87 and stepped aside at 92. But long before her role as Poet Laureate, she was showing the State and the world how poetry can open doors and minds. In 1977 she helped found WPFW-FM, the renowned jazz and talk-radio station in Washington, D.C. Cavalieri brought to her radio listeners the works of poets, some of whom had been unrecognized and under-represented. Through her radio interviews, listeners came to hear and appreciate regional poets and thinkers.

Cavalieri continued her championing of poets with *The Poet and the Poem* broadcasts—recorded interviews with poets from across America. She has recently completed the 47th year of the interview program, now broadcasting from the Library of Congress. Every United States Poet Laureate has been interviewed by Cavalieri for *The Poet and the Poem*. In some instances, hers are the only extant recordings of renowned poets reading their own work.



Lady Brion, Maryland's 11th and youngest Poet Laureate, knows her way around the media and recording studio, too. Renowned as a spoken word or performance poet, often referred to as slam poetry, Lady Brion became the "Women of the World Poetry Slam *Champion*" in 2021.

Performance videos of her dramatic poetry presentations display her commitment to social justice and poetry's power to change for the better individuals and society. She intends that spoken word poetry reclaim its rightful place in our arts culture. She is a spokesperson for Black artists, particularly Black women, in Maryland and across America. Since her Slam Championship, Lady Brion has organized and brought to Baltimore three "Women of the World Poetry Slams." Since she was a ninth-grader she has performed her own poems at public functions including State events, in churches, and at gatherings of performance poets called Poetry Slams. She has organized poetry workshops in prisons and group homes across Maryland, and has managed teaching-artists who work with middle and high school students in the greater Baltimore area.

### AND WHERE DOES THE POET LAUREATE FIT INTO MARYLAND'S ARTS SCENE?

The September 16th ceremony announcing Lady Brion's appointment as Maryland's 11th Poet Laureate was held in the Lucille Clifton House & Museum. This setting honored the former Poet Laureate whom Lady Brion identifies as one of her greatest poetic influences. During the ceremony, First Lady Dawn Flythe Moore spoke about the Moore administration's commitment to the arts. "Wes and I understand the value of the arts. The arts create opportunity. The arts build community. And the arts boost the economy...This year, we're [the Moore Administration] investing over \$35 million into the arts through the Maryland State Arts Council." A touching coincidence was the attendance of one of Lady Brion's high school principals, now Maryland's Secretary of Appointments, Tisha S. Edwards.

Both Maryland's outgoing and incoming Poets Laureate have been accustomed, as artists and community organizers, to doing important work with very little money or support. Both poets have undertaken projects to encourage the under-represented and under-appreciated artists, even before Cavalieri and Lady Brion became official ambassadors for the State's artists.

"Voice As a Bridge" has been one of Grace Cavalieri's important projects for over a decade. She and poet-composer-educator Wing Chi Chan of Washington, D.C., organized annual poetry readings that brought together poets from different cultures, often writing in different languages. For many years Cavalieri's own publishing company, Forest Woods Media Productions, has brought hundreds of poets to the public's attention, often publishing collections of poetry by poets from diverse cultures. Most recently, Forest Woods published a collection of poems by Korean poets whom Cavalieri has been mentoring.

In 2019, Lady Brion established the *Black Arts District in Baltimore*. The district provides sponsorship and funding for arts projects and supports artists who might otherwise be silenced. Since 2013 she has curated *Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle*, "...a grassroots think-tank which advances the public policy interest of Black people, in Baltimore, through: youth leadership development, political advocacy, and autonomous intellectual innovation." In 2015 Lady Brion served as the program manager for *DewMore Baltimore* setting up programs in the public schools and training teaching-artists to engage with students. One of her commissioned spoken word poems is about the *Bill of Rights*. Lady Brion refers to the work she does as *artivism*, pairing *art* and *activism*.

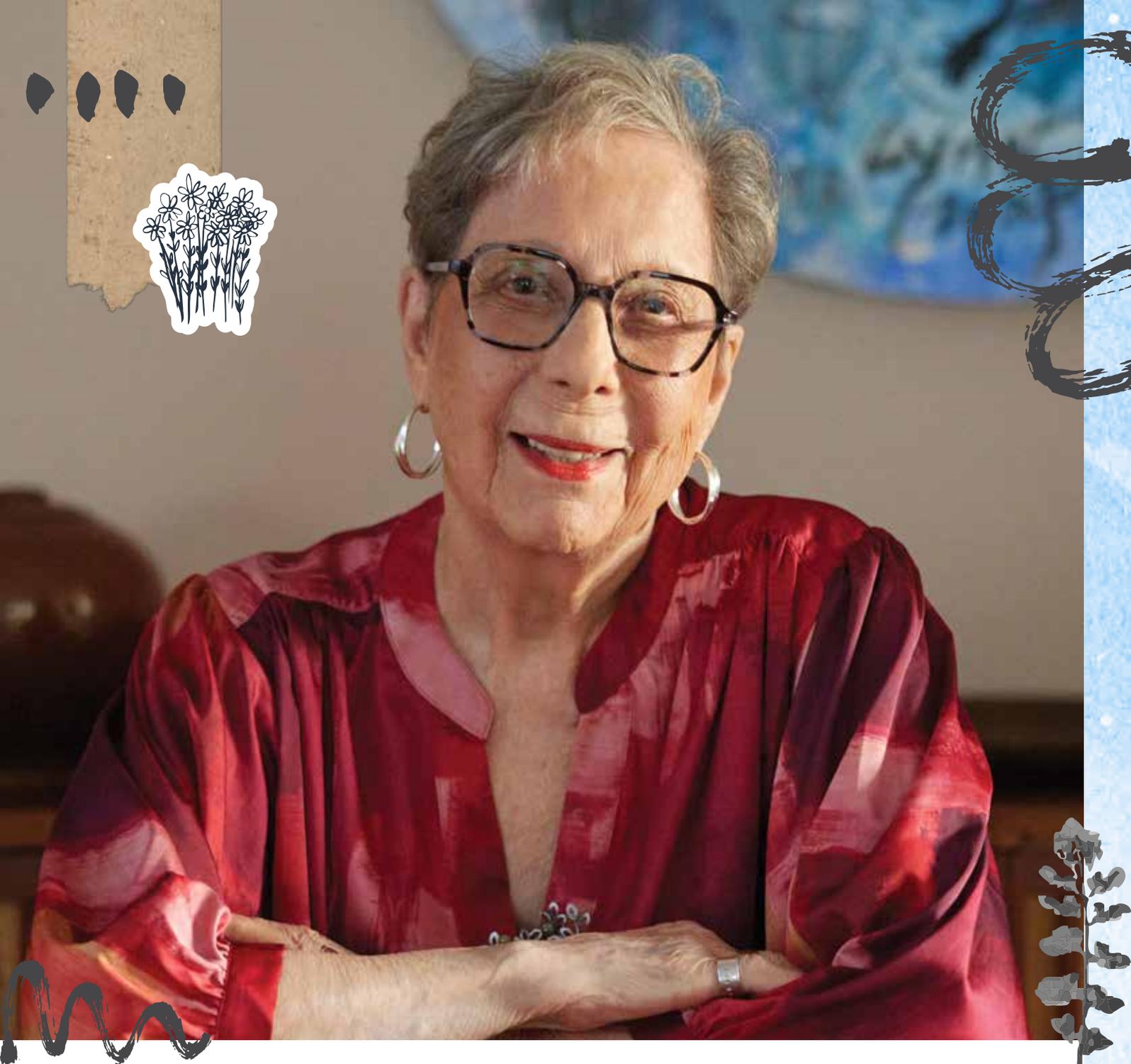
### WHAT HAS EACH ONE DONE OR PLAN TO DO AS POETS LAUREATE?

It's evident that these two women, 6 decades apart in age and experience, share a commitment to supporting poetry and poets. During Grace Cavalieri's tenure as 10th Poet Laureate she completed a collection of recorded interviews showcasing Maryland's poets, both the little known and those of renown, "Voices of Maryland's Poets." Another of Cavalieri's projects was taking poetry into schools, focusing on teenagers and encouraging them to try expressing their feelings in poetry. Another of her projects during her Poet Laureateship and beyond is "Women in the Room." Both Cavalieri and Lady Brion are determined that women poets receive the recognition their work deserves. Cavalieri has written extensively on under-appreciated women artists and thinkers, including Mary Wollstonecraft, Madame de Stael, and Anna Nicole Smith. Through Cavalieri's project "Women in the Room" she mentors poets, encouraging and guiding their development. Cavalieri helps women share and publish their poems.



**"THE ARTS CREATE OPPORTUNITY. THE ARTS BUILD COMMUNITY. AND THE ARTS BOOST THE ECONOMY."**





Lady Brion is setting out now with her amazing ardor and life experiences to put her mark on her Poet Laureateship. She notes, “Lucille Clifton [3rd Poet Laureate of Maryland] is my inspiration...I first read her poem ‘won’t you celebrate with me’ in 9th or 10th grade and was moved by Clifton’s powerful words.” Another important influence for Lady Brion has been nationally renowned muralist Ernest Shaw, Jr. “He gave me my first commission, to write a poem to accompany one of his paintings. He changed my attitude about what I was doing and could accomplish.”

Lady Brion wants to make a difference in the lives of young people too. She intends to carry her talent and experience as a performance poet into parts of Maryland that might be unfamil-

iar with spoken word poetry. As she’s done in Baltimore, she will encourage youth, particularly young Black students and artists across Maryland to raise their voices in beautiful and creative ways. On the State level, Lady Brion expects to be an advocate for poets and performance poetry. In the words of First Lady Dawn Moore, “She [Lady Brion] is an ambassador for those who need hope. She is an advocate for those who need a fighter. And she will be a champion for all Marylanders, no matter their background, zip code, or personal story.”



## AND WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

As poets and performers, both Grace Cavalieri and Lady Brion look to performance as a validation; the audience can see and hear and understand the world from a fresh perspective through the diverse forms poetry can take. For these two poets, poetry may be *page poetry* (traditional forms,) *performance* or *spoken word poetry*.

Lady Brion is intrigued by the “intersection of poetry and theater.” Her “Bucket List” includes acting on a stage, singing in a musical (she has a

rich and beautiful singing voice), and working with theater groups, as she has with Baltimore’s Center Stage, to adapt literature for performance poetry and create contemporary reimaginings of great literature as spoken word poems.

Let me bookend this brief encounter with our gifted Poets Laureate with Grace Cavalieri’s observation, “My life has been a life-long ribbon of poetry.”

To learn more check out the...**Poet Laureate page on the Maryland State Arts Council website:** <http://msac.org/programs/poet-laureate>. **Grace Cavalieri’s website:** <https://www.gracecavalieri.com/>. **Lady Brion’s website:** <https://www.ladybrion.com/>

# MARYLAND'S YOUTH POET LAUREATE

*I bend down to kiss the grass and call it prayer.*

This first line of **Tara Prakash's** poem, "On Erosion," reflects her maturity and love of the natural world. Prakash is Poet Laureate for Montgomery County and the first Youth Poet Laureate of Maryland. At 18, she is an award-winning author of short fiction and poetry as well as a busy senior attending Sidwell Friends School in D.C. Prakash works to expand poetry's appeal for young writers and to deepen her own writing. She participates in writers' workshops, including the Kenyon Review Young Writers Workshops and Youth Poet Laureate Institute Workshops.

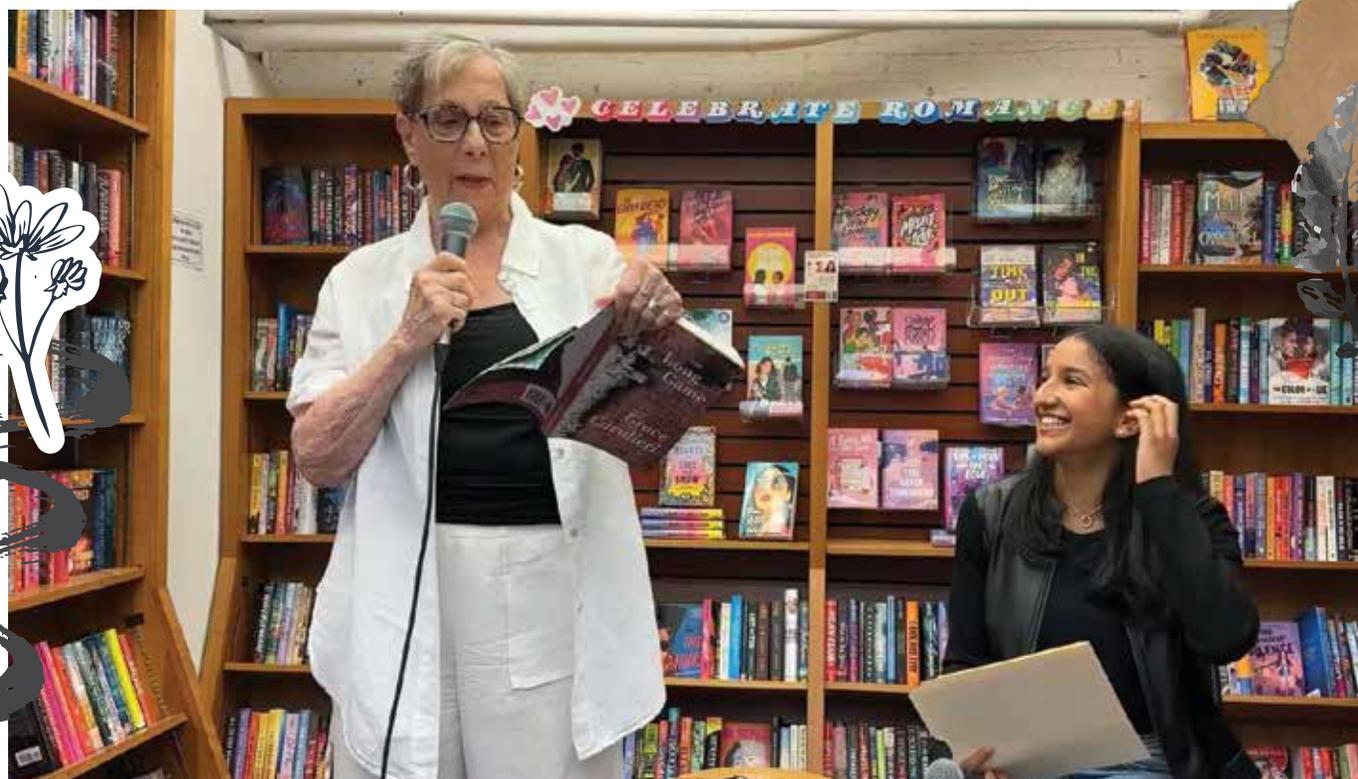
A serious student and poet, Prakash credits her grandmother Sarla Prakash with her love of language. "She [Sarala Prakash] gets me and my work." Tara's sixth grade teacher, Becky Farnum, helped Tara gain respect for her own poetic voice. In the larger world of poetry, poets whose work she admires and studies include Ocean Vuong, Keith Leonard, and Aimee Nezhukumatathil.

Tara Prakash has interned since 2022 with *Free Minds*, a nonprofit organization. One of her projects has been encouraging incarcerated poets and critiquing their work. Last summer she taught an on-line poetry workshop with teens in India. And as her Eagle Scout project, she designed a creative writing workshop for children, *Write to Right*. The program has grown in popularity, and children in 12 states and four countries now participate in the workshops Tara designed.

Prakash meets regularly with other youth poet laureates via Zoom. These *YPL Institutes* invite guest writers and teachers to discuss the craft of writing poetry with these young poets from across the country.

Recently, Tara has become interested in Performance Poetry. In April of 2024, she participated in the D.C. Youth Slam Team performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington. The team is overseen by *WBL* [Words, Beats & Life] a hip-hop-centric, art-based educational nonprofit. *WBL* works with *DewMore Baltimore*, a nonprofit whose focus is on the arts and activism. Overseen by Maryland's Poet Laureate Lady Brion, *DewMore Baltimore* works statewide to help young people experience the power of poetry and of their own voices as poets.

As Maryland's first Youth Poet Laureate Tara Prakash's dedication and talent both as artist and activist set a high standard for future Youth Poet Laureates. Learn more about Prakash at her website, [taraprakashwrites.com](http://taraprakashwrites.com).



Tara Prakash (sitting, right) listens to Grace Cavalieri at a recent poetry reading.

CHESAPEAKE  
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ARTICLE SERIES

# THE BLUE CATFISH



# POPULATION EXPLOSION

MITIGATING THE THREAT  
OF THIS INVASIVE SPECIES  
IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

By **Lisa A. Lewis**



**Waterman Rocky Rice fishing for blue catfish on the Potomac River near Fort Washington. Photograph by Edwin Remsburg, Maryland Department of Agriculture.**

**W**hen the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) introduced blue catfish into three tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay (the James, Rappahannock, and York Rivers) in the 1970s and 1980s to create a recreational trophy fishery, the resource managers couldn't have foreseen the impact that the fish would have on the Bay ecosystem. A popular recreational catch, blue catfish can grow large in size—providing a fun, challenging experience for anglers. Since coastal striped bass populations were declining throughout the Atlantic Ocean, the fishery was intended to offer new opportunities for recreational anglers.

The freshwater catfish, which are native to the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio River basins, were expected to remain in the tributaries in which they were stocked. However, since blue catfish can tolerate higher salinities than the resource managers originally thought, they were able to thrive in the brackish waters of the Bay. As a result, blue catfish expanded their range at an alarming rate. Today, they are found in nearly every tributary of the Bay.

“It seems that blue catfish may use periods when salinities decrease, like during years of high rainfall, to disperse and invade new habitats,” says Branson Williams, invasive fishes program manager for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). “This may have been the case during 2018 and 2019 when we began hearing about more reports of blue catfish in the upper Bay. While they can tolerate higher salinities than initially thought, they typically don't spend time in higher salinity waters, such as 17 ppt (parts per thousand), for very long because they can't handle it.”

The unintended consequences of the resource managers' decision to stock blue catfish in the Virginia tributaries shines a light on the risks of introducing an invasive species into the Bay. Since their initial introduction, blue catfish have greatly expanded their range and become so populous that they now pose a serious threat to the Bay ecosystem. According to the DNR, commercial harvesters removed 4.2 million pounds of blue catfish from the Potomac and Maryland waters in 2023—a more than 500 percent increase from 10 years earlier. In addition, they comprise as much as 75 percent of the total fish biomass in some portions of the James and Rappahannock Rivers.

Concerned about the spread of blue catfish, a diverse group of stakeholders, including state agencies, environmental organizations, educational institutions, commercial fisheries, watermen, seafood processors, and several other partners, are working together to help mitigate the impact of blue catfish. The management strategy is focused on science, research, policy, increased commercial harvest, and public awareness among consumers and recreational anglers.



**A blue catfish is caught during a river herring survey by staff from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources on the North East River in Cecil County on April 25, 2023. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program.**



**Fourth generation waterman Rocky Rice, right, and his fishing partner Brent Thomas check fish pots on the Potomac River in Charles County, Maryland. Rice can catch up to 1,200 pounds of blue catfish, an invasive species. Rice has increased the time he spends catching them—three days a week—as market demand has increased. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program.**

## BLUE CATFISH OCCURRENCES

According to the DNR, blue catfish were first reported in Maryland in the Potomac River in 1987. They became abundant in the Potomac in the 1990s and continued to expand their range in the 2000s. By the 2010s, the blue catfish population was identified as a bay-wide issue that required action. In response to the threat to the Bay ecosystem, resource managers adopted an Invasive Catfish Policy in 2012. The Chesapeake Bay Program's Invasive Catfish Workgroup was later formed in 2014.

“The Workgroup brings together members on a bay-wide scale to manage blue catfish and minimize their spread and ecological impact,” says Bruce Vogt, manager of ecosystem science and synthesis, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office, and chair of the Workgroup. “We’re a diverse group of partners committed to change—both on the ground and through the exchange of information. When we first formed the Workgroup, the blue catfish problem was new. We had to explore management strategies and create a roadmap to guide progress. Bringing together a group of talented people has greatly helped us accelerate our efforts and raise public awareness.”

Silvery-blue with a white belly, blue catfish have a flat dorsal fin, a deeply forked tail, and four pairs of black whisker-like barbels around their mouths. Their smooth skin lacks scales. Although adults are typically less than two feet long, they can grow up to five feet long and weigh more than 100 pounds. According to state records, the largest blue catfish caught in Maryland weighed 84 pounds.

Although blue catfish are omnivores, their diet consists mainly of native fish species, including menhaden, American shad, striped bass, American eel, and white perch, as well as blue crabs, plants, and insects. Not only are these species ecologically and economically beneficial, but many of them, such as the iconic blue crab, are also symbols of Bay history and culture.

“It’s difficult to quantify how many native species blue catfish are eating,” Williams says. “Diet studies are useful and have identified 30 to 40 different prey items in their stomach contents. This may have an impact on native fishes that are ecologically and recreationally significant, especially where blue catfish are well established.”

Opportunistic and generalist predators, blue catfish have a ravenous appetite and can outcompete other fish species for food and habitat. With the exception of osprey and bald eagles, they have few natural predators. According to NOAA Fisheries, blue catfish spawn once a year from late May to June—mostly in lower-salinity streams and smaller tributaries. Females produce 4,000 to 8,000 eggs per kilogram of body weight, which means that a 10-pound fish could produce more than 20,000 eggs.



**Joe Wright of Stafford, Va., catches a blue catfish while fishing off the end of the Port Royal Landing in Caroline County, Va., on May 9, 2016. Wright said he only fishes for an hour at a time—just long enough to finish a cigar. The new 200-foot pier also features a soft launch for paddlers and was funded by grants from the National Park Service, Friends of the Rappahannock, the Chesapeake Conservancy, and other organizations. Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program.**



**Above: Waterman David “Cornflower” Confair fishing for invasive blue catfish on Marshyhope Creek. Photo by Stephen Badger, Maryland Department of Natural Resources.**

**Left: At the 2022 Sharptown Catfish Tournament nearly 1,000 pounds of invasive blue catfish were harvested from the Nanticoke River and Marshyhope Creek. Blue catfish is delicious, nutritious and a whole lot of fun to catch! Photographs courtesy Maryland Department of Natural Resources.**



## A RELATIVELY NEW FISHERY

Since the vast population makes eradication of blue catfish impossible, the management strategy focuses on developing and expanding commercial fisheries in an effort to remove as many of them as possible from the Bay. According to NOAA Fisheries, commercial fisheries for blue catfish were limited during the early 2000s due to low market demand and lack of consumer awareness. So, the development of a commercial fishery management plan is relatively new. But thanks to increased public awareness, the commercial fishery for blue catfish is growing.

“A broad and diverse group of stakeholders, including environmental organizations, state agencies, seafood processors, watermen, and even the state’s Food System Resiliency Council, are working together to help facilitate as much harvest of blue catfish as possible,” says Allison Colden, Ph.D., Maryland executive director, Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). “The DNR also recently expanded the types of commercial fishing gear that could be used to target blue catfish, including bowfishing and catfish trotlines.

“On the federal side, blue catfish are in a unique regulatory position since catfish are the only fish inspected by the USDA rather than the FDA. This makes the inspection process expensive and cumbersome for processors. While mostly a federal

issue, efforts have been made in the Maryland General Assembly to help make processing blue catfish less burdensome.”

To further facilitate commercial harvest, the Workforce identified a need for population studies. Since blue catfish are highly productive and able to disperse throughout the Bay tributaries, monitoring programs to track their abundance through time (year to year) and population projection models to estimate future population size and distribution are critical.

“We are pleased that the DNR is working with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Eastern Ecological Science Center on a program to monitor the blue catfish population in Maryland’s portion of the Bay and to create population projection models,” Vogt says. “These models can estimate how the population will respond to different levels of commercial harvest—allowing us to develop harvest targets and determine how much biomass to remove.”

The overabundance of blue catfish in the Bay has not only reshaped the commercial fishing industry—leading to the development of a fishery for blue catfish—but it has also affected Maryland watermen. Due to the immense population, some watermen have moved away from other fisheries, such as crabbing, to focus on blue catfish. By pivoting to the harvest of blue catfish, watermen throughout Maryland are doing their part in the effort to remove as many of them as possible from the Bay.

“The blue catfish population has affected the way that independent watermen operate their businesses,” says Robert T. Brown, Sr., president of the Maryland Watermen’s Association. “They are bringing in good blue catfish harvests, but they may have had to change where they work or how they work. The fishery is new and affects Maryland watermen’s livelihoods, so they have had to adapt to meet the challenges to their way of life.”

## RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

During the past few years, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has launched several marketing campaigns to educate consumers about the benefits of incorporating blue catfish into their diets. Since adult blue catfish aren't bottom feeders, they don't taste "muddy" like some catfish species. A white, flaky fish with a taste that has been compared to striped bass, blue catfish are a good source of protein and Omega-3 fatty acids. A 4-ounce serving contains only 90 calories and 1.5 grams of fat.

"We have really ramped up our efforts to promote blue catfish," says Matthew Scales, seafood marketing director for the MDA. "By attending events, partnering with restaurants and chefs to provide cooking demonstrations—and free samples—and sponsoring giveaways, we're increasing consumers' interest in blue catfish, and the response has been great. We're definitely noticing more demand among consumers who are excited to learn where they can buy blue catfish—whether in their local grocery stores or at restaurants. Not only are the fish delicious and nutritious, but eating them is also a great way for the public to help reduce the population and protect the Bay."



**Maryland Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture, Kevin Atticks (left), and Department of Natural Resources, Josh Kurtz (right), hold blue catfish caught during a recent survey.**



**Ed Jones from Aloha, Oregon, caught a Maryland record blue catfish—weighing 84 pounds and measuring 52 inches long, with a girth of 36.5 inches—on August 13, 2012 in the Potomac River near Fort Washington. Jones and his guide, Captain Josh Fitchett of Montpelier, Virginia, kept the fish alive and took it into Fort Washington Marina to have it weighed and certified by a Fisheries biologist. Photo courtesy Maryland Department of Natural Resources.**

Launched in 2004, Maryland's Best, a website operated by the MDA's marketing department, connects Maryland farmers and watermen with consumers. The website provides a wealth of information about blue catfish, which are marketed as "wild-caught Chesapeake blue catfish." Not only does this appeal to consumers who prefer to "buy local," but it also differentiates the fish from other species of catfish and emphasizes that they are harvested in the Bay. Consumers can search for retailers, restaurants, recipes, and more. For information, visit [marylandsbest.maryland.gov](http://marylandsbest.maryland.gov).

In addition to engaging the public, several organizations are helping educate recreational anglers about the harm posed by blue catfish to the environment. Maryland offers several tournaments that not only encourage recreational anglers to help reduce the number of blue catfish in the Bay but also enjoy a fun day on the water.

Coastal Conservation Association Maryland (CCA Maryland) launched the Great Chesapeake Invasives Count in 2020 to help fishery managers collect data about where invasive fish, including blue catfish, are being caught and to support science-based management strategies. The event, which offers year-round opportunities for participants, is a fun way for anglers to support a great cause while competing for prizes.

“The Great Chesapeake Invasives Count allows recreational anglers to engage in the conversation about invasive species and their impact on the ecosystem,” says David Sikorski, executive director of CCA Maryland. “The event brings people together and offers a sense of community. It’s also a great way to help make a difference and have a lot of fun.” To learn more, visit [ccamd.org/the-great-chesapeake-invasives-count](http://ccamd.org/the-great-chesapeake-invasives-count).

The Rod & Reef Slam fishing tournament, co-hosted annually by CBF, CCA Maryland, and the Chesapeake Oyster Alliance (COA) is another popular event for recreational anglers. The tournament offers an invasive species division that awards prizes for the largest blue catfish or other invasive species caught.

In Maryland, since blue catfish are invasive, they cannot be overfished. However, catch and release is discouraged. Anglers should remove and kill any blue catfish they catch.

Although the blue catfish population may seem overwhelming, the partners engaged in the critical effort to reduce their numbers are optimistic about the future. They plan to continue to focus on growing commercial fisheries and minimizing harm to the Bay’s native species.

“We’ll never remove every blue catfish from the Chesapeake Bay,” Colden says. “However, by creating a lucrative blue catfish fishery, we could get their population to a sustainable level. The more demand there is for the species, whether it’s restaurants, grocery stores, or recreational fishing, the more we can mitigate their harm to our native Bay ecosystem.”



The Maryland Department of Agriculture has launched several marketing campaigns to educate consumers about the benefits of incorporating blue catfish into their diets. Blue catfish filets are a white, flake flesh with mild taste that can be incorporated into a variety of recipes.

**Special thanks to Kim Couranz, communications specialist, NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, and Valerie Keefer, Maryland communications & media relations manager, CBF**



## BLACKENED BLUE CATFISH & GRITS

*Note: All the recipes can be adjusted to the portion needed or even be altered to taste preference!*

### INGREDIENTS

Serves 4

#### CATFISH

- 1 Lb. Catfish cut into 3 in. strips
- 1/4 Cup Blackening/Cajun Seasoning
- Or seasoning of your choice
- 2 Ea. Garlic Cloves Minced.
- (Can substitute 2 tsp. Garlic Powder)
- 3 Tbsp Olive Oil/Vegetable Oil
- Black Pepper & Table Salt To taste

#### GRITS SAUCE

- 1/4 Lb. Bacon Chopped small (optional)
- 3 Sprigs Thyme (Substitute 1 Tbsp. Dried Thyme)
- 1 Qt. Canned Tomatoes Chopped
- 1 Yellow Onion Large diced
- 1 Bell Pepper Large diced
- 1 Tsp. red pepper flakes/ chili powder
- Blackening/Cajun Seasoning to taste
- 2 Cups Stock of Choice/Water
- 4 Ea. Garlic Minced (Substitute 4 Tsp. garlic powder)

#### GRITS

- 2 Cups Grits
- 4 Cups Stock of Your Choice or Water
- 5 Large White Onions Minced
- 4 Tbsp butter, unsalted
- Salt and Black Pepper to taste

### INSTRUCTIONS

**CATFISH:** Combine in a mixing bowl and let marinate for at least 1 hour. Cook in a cast iron skillet to blacken until just cooked through. **GRITS SAUCE:** Saute peppers, onions, garlic, bacon/oil, and spices until browned. Add stock, tomatoes, and thyme. Simmer until slightly thickened. Season to taste **GRITS:** Saute onions until aromatic. Pour in the stock and bring to a boil. Add the grits and stir well. Bring back to a boil and then reduce to a simmer. Cook until the grits are tender. Stir in butter and season to taste. **ASSEMBLY:** Serve grits in a bowl, top with the blackened blue catfish, and sauce.

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# Home & Garden

66 A DESTINED DREAM HOME

The Dinner  
Party Well-  
Planned

PG. 62





# The Dinner Party Well-Planned

## A SIT-DOWN DINNER FOR SIX

By Lisa J. Gotto

**T**raditionally, this is the time of year where we put our best foot, *and intentions*, forward. We look ahead to a fresh slate of days where anything is possible if we make the effort, and we usually aspire to do something new or better in the New Year.

So, with that intention in mind, we thought 2025 sounded like a great year to re-establish a longstanding, host-driven and home-based tradition...the dinner party.

While you, no doubt, have had various iterations of this gathering event out back around the grill, or inside with potluck themes, it is has probably been a while since you have gotten your genuine Martha Stewart on and created a real menu, sent proper invitations, and set an impeccable table—schedules and family life being what it is.

However, should you be up to challenge this year, we are here to help with a dash of inspiration and a sprinkling of ideas that we will edit for you throughout the year, starting with this one, the Sit-Down Dinner for Six.

### **START SIMPLE**

Six is a great number to start with; it's not overly ambitious and won't have you breaking the bank at the price club. This number, which includes the host(s), provides enough variety among guests for lively conversation, and allows for an embellished level of curation on the part of the host. It's also a great number, because in most cases, you will already have a table large enough for all to sit and enjoy the meal together as a shared experience.

### **LAYER IN SUBSTANCE SLOWLY**

Start with your menu. This will help set the tone and tenor for your evening. And don't get flustered thinking you need to be Julia Child to pull this off. Many of the best meals are not complex ones; they're the ones that offer flavors that evoke nostalgia and comfort. We suggest the following dishes as a well-rounded example that you can easily find recipes for online. (If you're still intimidated, keep in mind that our grandmothers had no such resource.)

#### **THE MENU**

**Appetizer:** Butternut Squash & Sage Soup

**Main Course:** Braised Short Ribs with Red Wine Sauce, Creamy Mashed Potatoes & Roasted Root Vegetables, Wild Mushroom Risotto

**Dessert:** Dark Chocolate Tart with Sea Salt



Start with a cozy, seasonal appetizer such as **Butternut Squash & Sage Soup**. Serve this savory soup in small bowls with a drizzle of crème fraîche, and a sprinkle of fresh herbs. You can also garnish with crispy sage leaves and a dash of nutmeg for added warmth and depth of flavor.

**Braised Short Ribs with Red Wine Sauce** is always a crowd pleaser. This slow-cooked and richly flavored dish is ideal for a winter evening and can easily be served with a side of creamy mashed potatoes and roasted root vegetables like carrots and parsnips for a comforting, yet elegant meal.

If you're feeling a bit more adventurous, add a side of **Wild Mushroom Risotto**. This earthy, creamy risotto pairs wonderfully with the short ribs, but can also serve as a main dish should you have a guest who doesn't partake in red meat.

Few guests will be able to resist a **Dark Chocolate Tart with Sea Salt** for dessert, and this rich chocolate pairs wonderfully with the winter theme. Serve with a dollop of whipped cream and a sprinkle of sea salt. You could also add a dusting of cocoa powder or even edible gold dust to enhance the presentation.



## SIGNATURE COCKTAIL

Thank goodness for Uber! If the dinner party can make a comeback, so can the nightcap. This time of year, we're thinking the Hot Toddy is a thoughtful option for guests soon to depart on a winter's night in January, and it is well-paired with our menu. Cheers! And here's to a successful dinner party!



## SPICED BOURBON HOT TODDY

### Ingredients:

2 oz bourbon  
1 Tbsp honey  
½ oz. fresh lemon juice  
1-2 dashes of bitters  
4 oz. hot water  
1 cinnamon stick  
Star anise and a lemon wheel for garnish

### Instructions:

In a heat-proof glass or mug, combine the bourbon, honey, and lemon juice. Add hot water and stir to dissolve the honey. Drop in a cinnamon stick and add a couple of dashes of bitters. Garnish with a star anise and a lemon wheel on the rim for an inviting look.



## LAYER IN STYLE UNAPOLOGETICALLY

Taking the time to curate a memorable tabletop presentation should be half the fun of creating this shared evening. Think ahead and plan, accordingly, leaving yourself with ample time leading up to the night of dinner to execute the evening, even if you need to do it in stages so you are less stressed. (Nothing says you can't have the table set earlier in the day or even the night before in most cases.)

Choose and theme a color palette that matches the mood of the season. Lean into deep, warm tones like rich forest green, moody charcoal, and soft ivory with accents of gold or brass. These colors will create a luxurious, inviting feel that's perfect for January.

Consider a charcoal or deep green tablecloth with ivory linen napkins. And you can add a dark table runner with a subtle winter motif or simple textured pattern for added sophistication. (Remember, the holidays are over, so the emphasis is on subtle.)

### TREND ALERT:

Bows in fashion and as a hair accessory are back and in a big way. If you're just not digging it, try this iteration, at the dinner table.

While long taper candles with holders are elegant, choose a simple centerpiece that does not obstruct the view of those you are dining with. Consider all low-profile blended groupings of classic ivory battery-powered pillar candles and add in some fresh greenery, such as eucalyptus, pine branches, and berries. A soft winter garland sprinkled with battery-powered fairy lights down the center of the table, is also a lovely option. This time of year, we love a table setting of rustic white or cream plates and silver or matte black flatware for a modern, contrasting look. Set each place with a linen napkin and tie it with a velvet ribbon in a deep color that complements the settings, and tuck in a small sprig of greenery.

Stemless glassware is still an elegant go-to and you can try some with a frosted touch and add in dark green or smoke-tinted water glasses for a chic, seasonal look.



**Photo credits:** Crystal Goblet courtesy of perigold.com. White stone dinner plate courtesy of crateandbarrel.com. Matte black flatware courtesy of lenox.com. Stemless wine glass set courtesy of perigold.com. Velvet bow napkin ties courtesy of sb-designstudio.com. Handmade floral table runner courtesy of Perigold.com.

# A Destined Dream Home

By Lisa J. Gotto

**T**his exceptionally well-located, waterfront, ranch-style home in St. Michaels is situated on a private lot along Harris Creek, where incredible sunsets are an almost daily event. There are 2,365 square feet of living space in its original footprint, which includes a large, cheery living room off the entry. An attractive wood-burning fireplace in the Shaker style anchors the room and gorgeous knotty hardwood floors flow from here and continue through most of the home.

The main level design offers a roomy dining area off the living room which leads to a galley kitchen with a charming eat-in breakfast nook that

**Primary Structure Built:** 1957

**Sold For:** \$1,249,000

**Original List Price:** \$1,249,000

**Bedrooms:** 3

**Baths:** 2  
Full, 1 Half

**Living Space:** 2,365 Sq. Ft.

**Lot Size:** 6.87 acres



provides exquisite creek views from its bay window. The kitchen includes an extended utility area that includes a handy utility sink, extra storage and countertops, and adjacent laundry facilities.

The main level also provides a convenient primary bedroom suite featuring those lovely hardwood floors, an *en suite* bath, and lots of storage and light streaming in from the room's large sliding glass doors. An additional room on the main level can serve as another bedroom or home office, with access to the home's second full bath.

The upper floor offers another large, light, and bright bedroom with double closets, and a half bath, plus an enormous storage room with the potential to become whatever the new homeowners need it to be.

Back downstairs, the floorplan extends from the kitchen out to a spacious sunroom with both outdoor access and access to the home's one-car garage.

Outside, the home benefits from the tranquility and partial shade from several mature trees and the landscape features a rip-rap shoreline with private dock and access to Harris Creek and beyond.



**Listing & Buyers' Agent:**

Cornelia C. Heckenbach, 109 S. Talbot St., St. Michaels, m. 410-310-1229, o. 410-745-0283, info@corneliaheckenbach.com, stmichaelsmdwaterfront.com



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# Health & Beauty

71 A HEALTHIER TYPE OF BODYFAT

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**Oil You Need  
to Know**

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# Oil/You Need to Know

## COMPARING COMMON COOKING OILS

By Dylan Roche

# S

ometimes you spend way too much time scanning the shelves of cooking oils at the grocery store, wondering, “How do I choose from all of these options?” We’ve all been there.

Calorically, all fats are relatively the same, with approximately 120 calories (give or take a few) per 1 tablespoon serving. But different oils offer different health benefits, and some will work better in different recipes based on their flavor profile and their smoke point.

Consider the four most popular oils—olive oil, canola oil, vegetable oil, and coconut oil—plus, the increasingly sought-after avocado oil, and how they compare with one another:

### OLIVE OIL

Olive oil has a great reputation as a heart-healthy option. That’s because it’s high in monounsaturated fats, which lower your LDL (aka “bad”) cholesterol and raise your HDL (“good”) cholesterol. Olive oil is also rich in antioxidants and vitamins like vitamin A and vitamin E. Olive oil has a relatively low smoke point around 375F, meaning it will start to produce smoke when heated any higher, so it’s not a great option for high-heat cooking methods like deep frying. However, olive oil works well if you’re doing low-heat cooking, such as sautéing or slow-roasting, or if you’re using it as part of a dressing, dip, or a finishing drizzle.

### CANOLA OIL

Canola oil has two big health benefits when it comes to its fat makeup: It’s lower in saturated fat than other vegetable oils, and it contains omega-3 fatty acids, which are good for your heart health and brain health. It has a high smoke point of about 400F, so it works well for high-heat cooking, and because it has a neutral flavor, it’s ideal for baked goods or other recipes where you don’t want the taste of the oil to be overpowering. Some consumers are wary of canola oil because of the processing used to extract

the oil from canola seeds, but most health experts, such as those at Harvard School of Public Health, say there is little reason for concern. There is also the option of cold-pressed canola oil, which is processed without heat or solvents.

### VEGETABLE OIL

Vegetable oil refers to a blend of any plant-based oils, most often soybean, corn, and sunflower oils. Because not all vegetable oils are made from the same blends, it’s hard to say what their exact nutritional profile is, but they are frequently high in polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fats, both of which are good for heart health. Vegetable oil has a neutral flavor and a high smoke point, though it is often more heavily processed than olive oil or canola oil.

### COCONUT OIL

Coconut oil isn’t as beneficial to heart health because it’s high in saturated fat, but it does contain medium-chain triglycerides, which some research has shown to boost energy and metabolism. Unlike most other plant oils, coconut oil is solid at room temperature, similar to butter, so it can work well in baking. Be prepared for a pronounced coconutty flavor and potentially a higher price tag.



## Avocado Oil

According to a 2019 cited study in the journal *Molecules*, the leading international, peer-reviewed, open access journal of chemistry, “avocado oil has established itself as an oil that has a very good nutritional value at low and high temperatures...it is characterized as a mainly monounsaturated oil, with an adequate proportion of polyunsaturated fatty acids, similar to olive oil.” Additionally, avocado oil has a high smoke point and can be used for sautéing, frying, and baking; it’s also ideal for salads, dips, or marinades, or use it as a replacement for most other plant oils.

### THE LEAST YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Your selection will depend on your needs and preferences, but in general, olive oil makes a safe choice for low to medium heat and canola oil is best for high heat or baking. Olive oil is the best for heart health based on its monounsaturated fat content, but when you need something with a more neutral flavor, canola or avocado oils are reliably healthy picks.



# A Healthier Type of Bodyfat

## THANKS, EXERCISE

By Dylan Roche

**Y**

ou could come up with a long list of benefits to exercise—it improves heart health, it wards off disease, it boosts your energy levels, and it puts you in a good mood.

Then there’s weight maintenance: When you expend energy through exercise, you burn (or avoid putting on) excess bodyfat. But new research published in the peer-reviewed journal *Nature Metabolism* earlier this year found that exercise has benefits for our body composition beyond *how much* bodyfat we have but also *what kind* of bodyfat we have. As it turns out, when we exercise, we store a healthier form of fat.

Our bodies have two types of fat. There’s what’s known as **subcutaneous fat**, which lies just under the skin. Then there’s **visceral fat**, which forms around our organs and is often linked to greater risk of disease. Researchers looked at two test groups—

one that was sedentary and one that did consistent aerobic exercise—and found that even when their levels of bodyfat were the same, the exercisers had fat cells that were more flexible, allowing them to expand and store fat subcutaneously. This meant less inflammation and lowered risk of conditions typically associated with obesity like high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, sleep apnea, and stroke.

Remember, bodyfat isn’t necessarily bad—it’s the body’s natural way of storing energy, among many other purposes. It’s only when bodyfat is especially high (or low) that there are health risks, and this research points to the idea that obesity is more complicated than “fat” or “thin.” A person’s overall health is determined by numerous factors.

*Add this to the long list of reasons to enjoy some exercise today!*



# No Booze, No Problem

By Dylan Roche

**S**lip happens—sometimes people drink a little more than they intend to, they say a few things they didn't mean to, and they feel less than their best the next day. Or maybe they didn't actually enjoy an evening with friends because they don't fully remember it.

At the center of it all: alcohol. Even when people don't necessarily have a problem with abusing alcohol, that doesn't mean alcohol is the healthiest choice.

It's a challenge, however, when so much of adult life revolves around alcohol. But now there's a growing trend of people choosing to be what's known as **sober curious**. It doesn't mean they're totally sober—they'll still drink on occasion. But they make a conscious decision to limit their drinking, or to abstain from it completely at certain times or in certain situations, as a way to challenge the norms of drinking culture.

**What does it mean to be sober curious?** That's a good question, because it looks a little different for everyone. Some people who are sober curious might:

- ◆ Choose to drink only on special occasions, such as someone's birthday or a holiday
- ◆ Avoid drinking on weeknights (or worknights, if they don't keep a Monday–Friday schedule)
- ◆ Make deliberate decisions not to drink around certain people or in certain situations, such as when they're in the company of sober friends (or when they are in the company of people who tend to overindulge)
- ◆ Take a prolonged period without alcohol, such as “Dry January” or “Oc-sober”
- ◆ Try drinking non-alcoholic beverages just for the sake of trying something different
- ◆ Limiting yourself to only one drink and then switching to water or club soda for the rest of a social activity

## BUZZ-FREE BENEFITS

It should come as no surprise that being sober curious brings plenty of physical and mental health benefits. Moderating your alcohol consumption prevents chronic disease in the long term, and in the short term, it means better sleep, more energy, and stronger cognitive function. You make fewer destructive decisions, and you avoid the dreaded *hangxiety*—the feeling of anxiety many people report feeling the day after drinking.

But one big factor is that sober curiosity can help show support for and solidarity with people who have an alcohol-abuse disorder and have to go completely sober. It sends a clear message: *Even for those of us who do drink, the social event doesn't have to be about drinking.*

## BUT WHAT ABOUT...?

In theory, going sober curious shouldn't be a big challenge—if you're not an alcoholic, it's not a huge deal to cut back on alcohol. But even though the physical dependency isn't there, sober curious individuals still face many of the same social challenges that a sober person would. Most activities involve drinking, such as going out to the bar or having happy hour on a friend's porch.

There will be peer pressure, lots of questions, and limited non-alcoholic drink options. But you might find that more people will be, well, curious about your sober curiosity if you tell them about it. Answer their questions. Offer up some exciting drink options that don't contain alcohol, and propose a central focus to a get-together that isn't drinks, such as game night or a group hike.

**Consider this:** There's a growing market for non-alcoholic beverages. Last year, sales of non-alcoholic beer went up by 32 percent, indicating that more people are trying to drink less. Additionally, JAMA Pediatrics reported that over a 16-year period between 2002 and 2018, the number of college-age young adults (ages 18–22) who abstain from drinking altogether went from 20 to 28 percent.

## **HOW DO I EVEN START?**

Because sober curious doesn't mean giving up alcohol altogether, there's no pressure to make every adjustment at the same time. Start by identifying a social event or a short period of time (one workweek, for example) when you're not going to drink. See how it goes. If you find that you're struggling, here are some tips that could help:

- ◆ Keep a log of triggers or motivations that make you want to drink, such as social anxiety or peer pressure.
- ◆ Try experimenting with different specialty mocktails that pair well with the food you're eating or the activity you're doing.
- ◆ Emphasize quality over quantity by savoring an expensive glass of wine you know you'll really like or pacing yourself with a fancy cocktail throughout the course of the night.

Enjoy the chance to raise the bar (but not a glass) and keep a clear head in everything you do. You just might find you enjoy things better when you're not making *pour* decisions.



## **RESOURCES FOR ALCOHOL ABUSE**

Being sober curious works great for people who don't have a problem with alcohol, but when a substance controls your life, it's not as simple as skipping it a few nights. Here is a list of resources that can help you determine if you might have an alcohol-abuse disorder and what steps you can take to get the help you need:

**National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism:** [www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohols-effects-health](http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohols-effects-health)

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration:** [www.samhsa.gov/find-help/atod](http://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/atod)

**Al-Anon Family Groups:** [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org)

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

**LifeRing Secular Recovery:** [www.lifering.org](http://www.lifering.org)  
Moderation Management: [www.moderation.org](http://www.moderation.org)

**SMART Recovery:** [www.smartrecovery.org](http://www.smartrecovery.org)

**Women for Sobriety:** [www.womenforsobriety.org](http://www.womenforsobriety.org)



## **Mocktails You'll Want to Try**

### **MOCK MULE**

3/4 cup ginger beer  
1/4 cup lime seltzer  
1 large piece of ginger (candied)  
1 lime

Chop the ginger into small pieces and slice the lime. Combine ginger beer and lime seltzer, and pour into a copper mug over ice. Stir in ginger and garnish with a slice of lime.

### **APPLE CIDER SOUR**

1 teaspoon sugar  
1 teaspoon lemon juice  
1/4 cup apple cider  
1/4 cup cranberry seltzer  
1 orange slice

Combine the sugar, lemon juice, apple cider, and seltzer in a tall glass and stir until sugar is dissolved. Add ice to chill and garnish with orange slice.

### **VIRGIN MOJITO**

1/4 cup lime juice  
1 tablespoon sugar  
2 tablespoons loosely packed fresh mint (plus sprig for garnish)  
1 cup seltzer water

Add mint leaves and lime juice to the bottom of a glass and muddle with the end of a spoon until the mint has released its oils and smells fragrant. Add the sugar and seltzer, stirring until the sugar is dissolved. Add ice to chill and garnish with a fresh sprig of mint.



# Feeling Rusty?

## IT MIGHT BE AN IRON DEFICIENCY

By Dylan Roche

**E**ven with access to plenty of healthy food, nutrient deficiencies can still be a first world problem. About one-third of American adults are iron deficient, making it the most common nutritional deficiency in the country. Most people don't even know they're iron deficient—health experts frequently describe it as “underrecognized”—but because iron is crucial for getting oxygen to every cell in your body, not having enough of it can affect everything from your energy levels to your mood.

Despite how common iron deficiency is, it's not something to take lightly. Low energy levels caused by anemia can affect your performance in professional and personal activities. You might not be at your peak for a big presentation at work, or you end up struggling in the gym.

**There's no one explanation as to why iron deficiency is so widespread, but common reasons include:**

**Blood loss:** Heavy menstrual periods or internal bleeding caused by ulcers or polyps could mean significant loss of healthy blood.

**Dietary insufficiency:** Foods like red meat, eggs, and leafy greens can often provide plenty of iron, but it's important to note that plant-based iron isn't as readily used by the body as animal-based iron and may require greater intake.

**Impeded absorption:** A gastrointestinal condition like celiac disease can prevent iron from being properly absorbed.

**If you have your blood tested and find your hemoglobin is low, you will likely be able to raise your iron levels by eating more iron-rich foods, such as red meat, poultry, beans, lentils, tofu, and spinach. In addition to improving your diet, consider:**

- ◆ Pairing iron-rich foods with vitamin C to improve absorption
- ◆ Limit coffee and tea, which can impede absorption
- ◆ Cooking in iron cookware, which can boost the iron content of your food
- ◆ Taking an iron supplement if necessary

**Being deficient in iron often leads to anemia—when your body does not have enough iron to produce hemoglobin, the protein in red blood cells that transports oxygen. Symptoms of anemia include:**

- ◆ Fatigue
- ◆ Pale skin
- ◆ Low body temperature
- ◆ Numbness or tingling
- ◆ Headaches



# Food & Dining

76 READERS' DINING GUIDE

**Detroit-style  
pizza at Ava's  
Pizzeria &  
Wine Bar in  
St. Michaels**





# Readers' Dining Guide



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

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## Queen Anne's County

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 500 Kent Manor Drive, Stevensville; 410-643-5757; [kentslandresort.com/dining](http://kentslandresort.com/dining) \$\$ ●●●●●

**Amalfi Coast Italian & Wine Bar**  
 401 Love Point Road, Stevensville; 443-249-3426; [amalficoastki.com](http://amalficoastki.com) \$\$ ●●●●

**Bark Barbecue Café**  
 371 Log Canoe Circle, Stevensville; 443-618-3676; [barkbarbecue.com](http://barkbarbecue.com) \$ ●

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 111 E. Water Street, Centreville; 410-758-3933; [bayshoresteamopot.com](http://bayshoresteamopot.com) \$\$ ● Seafood

**Big Bats Café**  
 216 St Claire Place, Stevensville; 410-604-1120; [bigbats.com](http://bigbats.com) \$\$ ●●

**The Big Owl Tiki Bar and Grill**  
 3015 Kent Narrow Way S, Grasonville; 410-829-9546; [thebigowl.com](http://thebigowl.com) \$\$ ●●●●● Seasonal

**Bridges Restaurant**  
 321 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville; 410-827-0282; [bridgesrestaurant.net](http://bridgesrestaurant.net) \$\$\$ ●●●●●

**Café Sado**  
 205 Tackle Circle, Chester; 410-604-1688; [cafesado.com](http://cafesado.com) \$\$ ●●

**Cult Classic Brewing**  
 1169 Shopping Center Road, Stevensville; 410-980-8097; [cultclassicbrewing.com](http://cultclassicbrewing.com) \$\$ ● Events, Beer

**Doc's Riverside Grille**  
 511 Chesterfield Ave, Centreville; 410-758-1707; [docsriversidegrille.com](http://docsriversidegrille.com) \$\$ ●●●●●

**Dock House Restaurant**  
 110 Piney Narrows Road, Chester; 443-446-4477; [dockhouserestaurant.com](http://dockhouserestaurant.com) \$\$\$ ●●●●

**Fisherman's Crab Deck**  
 3032 Kent Narrows Way S, Grasonville; 410-827-6666; [crabdeck.com](http://crabdeck.com) \$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**Fisherman's Inn**  
 3116 Main Street, Grasonville; 410-827-8807; [fishermansinn.com](http://fishermansinn.com) \$\$\$ ●●●●●

**Frix's Fire Grill**  
 1533 Postal Road, Chester; 410-604-2525; [frixfiregrill.com](http://frixfiregrill.com) \$ ●●

**Harris Crab House and Seafood Restaurant**  
 433 Kent Narrow Way N, Grasonville; 410-827-9500; [harriscrabhouse.com](http://harriscrabhouse.com) \$\$ ●●●●

**The Jetty Dock Bar and Restaurant**  
 201 Wells Cove Road, Grasonville; 410-827-4959; [jettydockbar.com](http://jettydockbar.com) \$\$\$ ●●●●●

**Libbey's Coastal Kitchen and Bar**  
 357 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-0999; [libbey-scoastalkitchen.com](http://libbey-scoastalkitchen.com) \$\$ ●●●●●

**Love Point Deli**  
 109 Main Street, Stevensville; 410-604-2447; [lovepointdeli.com](http://lovepointdeli.com) \$ ●

**Kent Point Marina, Bait House and Seafood**  
107 Short Road, Stevensville; 410-753-2330; kent-point-marina.square.site  
\$\$ ● Seafood

**The Kentmorr Beach Bar and Grill**  
910 Kentmorr Road, Stevensville; 410-643-2263; thekentmorr.com \$\$ ●●● Seasonal

**Knoxie's Table**  
180 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 443-249-5777; baybeachclub.com \$\$ ●●●

**Mamma Mia Italian Bistro and Sports Bar**  
219 E Water Street, Centreville; 410-758-2222; mammamia-centreville.com \$\$ ●●

**The Market Gourmet Cafe**  
180 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-5900; bay-beachclub.com \$, Locally Sourced

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114 State Street, Stevensville; 410-643-5536; mrbsseafood.com \$\$ ● Seafood

**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 \$ ●

**Pour House Pub**  
205 Tackle Circle, Chester; 443-249-3242; pourhouseki.com \$ ●●

**Rams Head Shore House**  
800 Main Street, Stevensville; 410-643-2466; rams-headshorehouse.com \$\$ ●●●

**Red Eye's Dock Bar**  
428 Kent Narrow Way N, Grasonville; 410-304-2072; redehyesdb.com \$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**Rolph's Wharf: The Sandbar**  
1008 Rolph's Wharf Road, Chestertown; 410-778-6347; rolphswharfmarina.com \$\$ ●●●● Light Fare

**Stevensville Crab Shack**  
116 Pier One Road, Stevensville; 410-604-2722; stevensvillecrabshack.com \$\$, ● Seafood

**Yo Java Bowl Café**  
800B Abruzzi Drive, Chester; 410-604-0000; yojavabowl.com \$ ●

## Talbot County

**Anthony's Italian Restaurant**  
26342 Oxford Road, Oxford; 410-226-1118; anthonyoxford.com \$\$, ●●

**Ava's Pizzeria & Wine Bar**  
409 Talbot Street, St. Michaels; 410-745-3081; avaspizzeria.com \$ ●●●

**Bas Rouge**  
19 Federal Street, Easton; 410-822-1637; basrougeeaston.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; theblumiles-restaurant.com \$\$ ●●●●

**The Blue Crab**  
102 S Fremont St, St Michaels; 410-745-4155; the-blue-crab-shop.square.site \$ ●● Daily Breakfast

**Bombay Tadka**  
508 Idlewild Ave, Easton; 410-746-2135; bombaytadkamd.com \$\$ ●●

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

**Capsize**  
314 Tilghman Street, Oxford; 410-226-5900; capsizexmd.com \$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**Carpenter Street Saloon**  
113 S Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-511; carpenterstreet-saloon.com \$ ●●

**The Coffee Trappe**  
4016 Main Street, Trappe; 410-476-6164; coffeetrappe.com \$\$, ● Daily Breakfast

**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 \$\$ ●●●●

**Eat Sprout**  
335 N. Aurora Street, Easton; eatsprout.com \$ ●

**Eat Sprout**  
114 S. Talbot Street, St. Michaels; eatsprout.com \$ ●

**The Fool's Lantern and Taproom**  
310 South Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-888-7379; thefoolslantern.com \$\$ ●●

**Foxy's Harbor Grille**  
125 Mulberry Street, St Michaels; 410-745-4340; foxysharbor-grille.com \$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**The Galley**  
305 South Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-200-8572; the-galleysaintmichaels.com \$\$ ●●●●

**Gina's Café**  
601 Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-6400; ginascafemd.com \$\$ ●●

**Hot Off the Coals BBQ**  
8356 Ocean Gateway, Easton; 410-820-8500; hotoffthecoals.com \$ ●●

**Hunter's Tavern**  
101 East Dover Street, Easton; Tidewaterinn.com; 410-822-4034 \$\$ ●● Daily Breakfast

**Limoncello Italian Restaurant & Wine Bar**  
200 South Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-3111; limon-cellostmichaels.com \$\$ ●●

**Lowe's Wharf**  
21651 Lowes Wharf Road, Sherwood; 410-745-6684; loweswharf.com/restaurant \$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**Marker Five**  
6178 Tilghman Island Road, Tilghman; 410-886-1122; markerfive.com \$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**Momma Maria's Mediterranean Bistro and Bar**  
4021 Main Street, Trappe; 410-476-6266; mommariasbistro.com \$\$, ● Daily Breakfast

**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 \$\$ ●●

**Piazza Italian Market**  
218 North Washington Street Suite 23, Easton; 410-820-8281; \$\$ ● Beer and Wine

**Ruse**  
209 N Talbot Street, St Michaels at the Wildset Hotel; 410-745-8011; ruserestaurant.com \$\$\$ ●●

**San Miguels**  
100 S Talbot Street, St Michaels; 410-745-8955; sanmiguel-md.com \$\$ ●●

**Scossa Restaurant and Lounge**  
8 North Washington Street, Easton; 410-822-2202; scossarestaurant.com \$\$ ●●●

**Sugar Buns Cafe**  
29137 Newnam Road, Easton; 410-820-4220; sugar-buns.com \$ ●

**Sunflowers and Greens**  
11 Federal Street, Easton; 410-822-7972; sunflower-sandgreens.com \$\$ ●

**T at the General Store**  
25942 Royal Oak Road, Easton; 410-745-8402; tatthegeneralstore.com \$\$ ●●

**Talbot St. Tavern**  
209 S Talbot St, St Michaels; 410-745-8005; Talbotsttavern.com \$\$, Full Bar, Live Music ●●

**Theo's Steak, Sides, and Spirits**  
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**Tiger Lily**  
206 N Washington Street, Easton; 410-690-4602; tigerlily-easton.com \$\$ ●●

**Tilghman Dining at The Tilghman Island Inn**  
21384 Coopertown Road, Tilghman Island; 410-886-1170; tilghmandining.com \$\$\$ ●●●● Seasonal

**Two if by Sea**  
5776 Tilghman Island Road, Tilghman; 410-886-2447; twofbysearestaurant.net \$●●

**Kent County**

**Blue Bird Tavern**  
512 Washington Avenue, Chestertown; 410-778-2885; Facebook \$●●

**Blue Heron Oyster House and Inn**  
20658 Wilkins Avenue, Rock Hall; 410-639-4374; blueheronosterhouseandinn.com \$\$\$ ●●●●

**Café Sado**  
870 High St, Chestertown; 410-778-6688; cafesado.com \$\$ ●●

**Chester River Seafood**  
4954 Ashley Road, Rock Hall; 410-639-7018; chesterriverschaeff.com \$\$ ● Seafood

**Deep Blue at Kitty Knight**  
14028 Augustine Herman Highway, Georgetown; 410-648-5200; deepbluerestaurant.com \$\$ ●●●●●

**Dockside Café on Rock Hall Harbor**  
21906 Chesapeake Avenue, Rock Hall; 410-639-2478; theblackduckinn.com \$, Seasonal

**Fish Whistle**  
100 George Street, Georgetown; 410-275-1603; fishhandwhistle.com \$\$ ●●●●●

**Flying Decoy Bar + Grill**  
21270 Rock Hall Ave, Rock Hall; 410-639-2000; flyingdecoy24.com \$\$ ●

**Ford's Seafood Inc**  
21459 Rock Hall Ave, Rock Hall; 410-639-2032; fordseafoodrockhall.com \$●

**Happy Chicken Bakery**  
215 Scheeler Road, Chestertown; 443-988-3955; happychickenbakery.com \$●

**Harbor Shack**  
20895 Bayside Avenue, Rock Hall; 410-639-9996; harborshack.net \$\$ ●●●●●

**Java Rock**  
21309 E Sharp Street, Rock Hall; 410-639-9909; Facebook \$● Coffee and Breakfast

**The Jefas Mexican Grill**  
100 West Cross Street, Galena; 410-648-7182; thejefas-mexican-grill.business.site \$●●

**The Kitchen at the Imperial**  
208 High Street, Chestertown; 410-778-5000; imperialchestertown.com \$\$\$ ●●

**Luisa's Cucina Italiana**  
849 Washington Avenue, Chestertown; 410-778-5360; luisasrestaurant.com \$\$ ●●

**Modern Stone Age Kitchen**  
236 Cannon Street, Chestertown; 410-996-4776; modernstoneagekitchen.com \$\$●

**Muskrat Alley Café**  
5877 Coleman Road, Rock Hall; 410-708-0057; carriagehousemd.com \$● Breakfast

**Osprey Point**  
20786 Rock Hall Ave, Rock Hall; 410-639-2194; ospreypoint.com \$\$\$ ●●●●●

**The Retriever Bar and Oysters**  
337 1/2 High Street, Chestertown; theretrieverbar.com \$\$ ●●

**Rock City Cafe**  
21356 Rock Hall Avenue, Rock Hall; 410-639-7916; Facebook \$\$●

**The Shanty Bar**  
21085 Tolchester Beach Road, Chestertown; 410-778-1400; tolchestermarina.com \$●●●●●

**Watershed Alley**  
337 High Street, Chestertown; 443-282-9797; thewatershedalley.com \$\$\$ ●●

**Dorchester County**

**Ava's Pizzeria & Wine Bar**  
543 Poplar Street, Cambridge; 443-205-4350; avaspizzeria.com \$●●

**Bay Country Bakery**  
2951 Ocean Gateway, Cambridge; 410-228-9111; baycountrybakery.com \$● Daily Breakfast

**Blackwater Bakery**  
429 Race Street, Cambridge; 443-225-5948; Blackwaterbakery.com \$●●

**Blue Point Provision Company**  
100 Heron Boulevard, Cambridge; 410-901-1234; hyattregencychesapeakebay.com \$\$\$ ●●●

**Blue Ruin**  
400 Race Street, Cambridge; 410-995-7559; blueruinbar.com \$\$●●

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413 Muir Street, Cambridge; 443-515-0853; bombaysocialmd.com \$\$●



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**Lil' Bitta Bull**

520 Race Street, Cambridge; 443-205-2219; Facebook \$\$ ●●

**The Neck**

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**Ocean Odyssey and Crab House**

316 Sunburst Highway, Cambridge; 410-228-8633; toddseafood.com \$\$ ●●● Seasonal

**Old Salty's**

2560 Hoopers Island Road, Fishing Creek; 410-397-3752; oldsaltys.com \$\$ ● Locally Sourced

**Paul's Deli On the Creek**

106 Market Square, Cambridge; 443-477-6630; Facebook \$ ●

**Paul's Pub**

1200 Goodwill Ave, Cambridge; 410-901-1212; choptankbowl-ing.com \$ ●●

**Portside Seafood Restaurant**

201 Trenton Street, Cambridge; 410-228-9007; portsidemaryland.com \$\$ ●●●

**RAR Brewing**

508 Poplar Street, Cambridge; 443-225-5664; rarbrewing.com \$\$ ● Beer

**River View at the Point**

1A Sunburst Highway, Cambridge; 410-228-0870; riverviewatthepoint-restaurant.com \$\$ ●●● Daily Breakfast

**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 \$\$ ● Light Fare

**Caroline County**

**Bullock's Deli, Grill, and Ice Cream**

422 N 6th Street, Denton; 410-479-0270; bullocksdeli.com \$ ●

**Caroline's**

406 Market Street, Denton; 410-490-4495; carolinesindenton.com \$\$ ●● Seasonal

**Craft Bakery and Café**

12 S 3rd Street, Denton; 410-934-7519; Facebook \$ ●

**Denton Diner**

42 Denton Plaza, Denton; 443-448-7258; dentondiner.com \$\$ ● Daily Breakfast

**Earth Tones Café**

5 N 3rd Street, Denton; 443-448-4355; earthtonescafe.com \$\$ ● Beer and Wine

**Market Street**

**Public House**

200 Market Street, Denton; 410-479-4720; marketstreet.pub \$\$ ●●●

**Ridgely Pizza and Pasta**

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# Where's Wilma?

**FIND WILMA AND WIN!**

Our fearless, flying mascot Wilma is soaring into 2025 with good tidings! She's taken to the chilly outdoor air, flying high in her single-prop plane and touching down in towns through the Chesapeake region to shop, dine, and service every whimsical want and need. 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](http://whatsupmag.com/promotions) for another opportunity to win a prize.

**Congratulations to Laura A.** of Cambridge, who won a \$50 gift certificate to a local business.

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