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# SEVERNA PARK VOICE

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SEVERNA PARK, MD

DECEMBER 13, 2018

A1

## STATE CHAMPS



Photo by Colin Murphy  
Both the Falcon boys and girls (pictured) captured 4A state championships in cross country at Hereford High School on November 10. Severna Park's boys captured their second consecutive state championship and fifth in the last seven seasons. Severna Park's girls won the state for the first time since 2009 and the sixth time in program history. **Read more on page C1.**

## PIC Celebrates 25 Years While Planning For Future



Partners In Care recently held its 25th anniversary celebration at Kurtz's Beach. (L-R) Sandy O'Connor, Mandy Arnold and Barbara Huston accepted a citation on behalf of the Maryland General Assembly.

By Judy Tacyn

Twenty-five years ago, friends Barbara Huston, Maureen Cavaiola and Sandy O'Connor wondered what support their parents would need as they aged. Together, gathered around a kitchen table, they founded Partners In Care (PIC).  
"The mission then was exactly as it is today," said president and CEO Mandy Arnold. "We are kind hands supporting seniors. We provide the kinds of assistant seniors might ask of a neighbor. We are the organization where all generations support the independence of older adults."  
PIC helps seniors navigate county and state agencies, resource referrals, form and application completion and home-from-hospital transi-

tions. The nonprofit also assists with caregiver support, activities and gatherings to address social isolation, home visits, phone calls, picking up groceries and prescriptions, home repair, transportation (including Mobility Bus coordination), and occasional cleaning and laundry.  
Every interaction between members is considered a "task," and more than 1,300 tasks are logged every month. Approximately 219 rides each week are provided by volunteers.  
Partners In Care has grown from its initial three volunteers to 80, and original 10 members to now more than 3,100. Anyone who provides a service, or anyone who receives a service, is called a member. In many cases, providers and receive-  
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## Night Of Double Tree Lightings Means It's Officially Christmas Season



Photos by Dylan Roche

**Above:** The chorus from Severna Park Elementary School couldn't wait to fill the crowd with the holiday spirit at the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce's tree lighting. **Inset:** Santa and Mrs. Claus put in an appearance at Park Plaza's Christmas festivities on December 7.

By Dylan Roche  
dylan@severnaparkvoice.com

There's some debate about when the Christmas season actually starts. Is it the Friday after Thanksgiving? The first Sunday of Advent? Maybe it has to be December 1?  
In Severna Park, however, there can be no question: It's the first Friday in December, when back-to-back festivities at the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce and at Park Plaza shopping center draw crowds of both young and old who are eager to get in the spirit of the season.  
"I was extremely pleased," said Liz League, CEO of the chamber, who organized the tree lighting for the first time this year after stepping into

her position in January. "It was almost magical. It was quiet here right up until 5:00, and then out of nowhere, hundreds of people showed up."  
The chamber's tree lighting ceremony started just as night was falling, and with Holly Avenue closed to vehicular traffic, families safely gathered to enjoy live holiday entertainment — bagpiper Michael Binnie, the chorus from Severna Park Elementary, and performers from Creative Force Dance Company — as well as visits from such characters as the Grinch and the Chick-fil-A Santa cow. Inside the chamber's meeting room, the Toast Masters of Severna Park and Bruster's Real Ice Cream provided refreshments.  
After attendees counted  
**>> Continued on A5**

## A Look Back At 2018



What will you remember most about 2018 in Severna Park? Popular events like the Fourth of July Parade and Fall Harvest Festival? The completion of the new Severna

Park High School campus? Instead of a year-in-review story, the Voice staff decided to put together a whole section on this year's happenings. **Turn to page B1 to revisit all your favorite stories.**

## Anne Arundel County's New Leadership

### County Executive Pittman Pledges To Make Government Collaborative



By Zach Sparks  
zach@pasadenavoice.com

Stuart Pittman won the county executive race with a D next to

his name, but he doesn't consider party affiliation to be the reason he overtook Steve Schuh to become Anne Arundel County's chief decision-maker after November's general election.  
"You can be a Republican and be popular, as Larry Hogan showed, or you can be a Democrat and be popular among the same voters," Pittman said. "People are, fortunately, looking at the issues."  
Pittman, a Davidsonville farmer and father of three, won the county executive's race with 52.3 percent of the vote to Schuh's 47.6  
**>> Continued on A8**

### Given A Second Chance, Amanda Fiedler Found A Bigger Purpose

By Zach Sparks  
zach@pasadenavoice.com

Amanda Fiedler almost didn't live to see the day when she would become the next county council representative for District 5.  
While giving birth to her third son, Zachary, in 2011, she suffered a hemorrhage and needed 11 units of blood and four platelet transfusions. That experience led her to start a fundraiser for Anne Arundel Medical Center, which saved the lives of her and her son. For seven years, the event has raised



money for the neonatal intensive care unit and given the hospital a network of blood donors.  
**>> Continued on A8**

Margueritte Mills  
Volunteer  
Of The Month

Barbara Buchleitner Brings Holiday  
Cheer To Kinder Farm Park



Barbara Buchleitner (right), the Volunteer of the Month, received her certificate from staff reporter Maya Pottiger.

By Maya Pottiger

Do you hear those sleigh bells jingling? The sound might be coming from Kinder Farm Park’s Jingle Bell Hayride.

For the last five years, Severna Park resident Barbara Buchleitner has worked to make sure the Jingle Bell Hayride has a smooth ride.

“For the Jingle Bell Hayride, [Buchleitner] works for months prior to the event, handling the reservations,” said Karen Haghighi, vice president of the Friends of Kinder Farm Park advocacy group. “She has volunteered to help decorate the pavilion and wagons the day before the event. And, on the day of the event, she will be quite active checking people in for their hayride.”

For Buchleitner, the six weeks between Kinder

Farm Park’s Fall Harvest Festival and the Jingle Bell Hayride are particularly busy. However, with the help of the other Friends of Kinder Farm Park board

“We have a family reunion every year at the park. I thought, ‘It’s time to give something back.’ That’s when I got started.”

— BARBARA BUCHLEITNER

members, people “just do what needs to be done. We fill ourselves in where things need to be taken care of,” Buchleitner said.

“Most of the people that are on the board have been on the board for a while. We sort of have it down

to a little bit of a science,” Buchleitner said. “But the week before an event, there’s always a lot to do.”

The Jingle Bell Hayride has roughly 700 spots to sell, all of which are typically sold out by Thanksgiving, Buchleitner said. Four of the park’s tractors pull six wagons during the ride, which is roughly two miles long and goes through the back of the park.

Buchleitner started volunteering with Kinder Farm Park about seven years ago.

“I’ve lived in Severna Park for 40 years, and my kids grew up around Kinder Farm Park, playing there,” Buchleitner said. “We have a family reunion every year at the park. I thought, ‘It’s time to give something back.’ That’s when I got started.”

Buchleitner started as a blue bird monitor, keeping track of the blue birds coming through the area and reporting back to the East Coast Flyway at Cornell University. Then, Buchleitner joined the Friends of Kinder Farm Park as a board member. For the last three years, she has served as the treasurer.

At one point, Buchleitner ran the kiddie games at the annual Fall Harvest Festival.

“I like the people,” Buchleitner said. “It’s a very diverse group of people on the board. We all get along well. We all work in our own lane.”

Editor’s Voice

Dylan Roche  
Editor



What is it that makes you feel as if it’s officially the holiday season?

Is it going to the community tree lighting?

Or maybe taking the kids to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus at one of the many events around town?

Or maybe it’s participating in some sort of charitable effort through your church or a nonprofit organization?

Stop and think about it right now. My guess is that it has something to do with being around the people you care about — your family, your friends, your neighbors, the people with whom you work or worship, or maybe a stranger you’ve never met but are suddenly and inexplicably linked by the mission of spreading peace and good will.

Every year, as the months of November and December approach, our team here at the Voice scrambles to collect information on as many of these events as we can to let our readers know about them, primarily through the Holiday Gifts & Events Guide, which you read last month, or else through our website, Facebook and Twitter. I will admit — it sometimes feels a little strange to be trying to research all of this so far in advance.

But then December arrives, and we get to experience all the activities that we’ve been promoting. Every year, it surprises me just how close the holiday season brings us together as a community. It’s a great reminder to me of why we do what we do here at the Voice.

As hard as it is to believe, this year is drawing to a close. The next time I sit down to write this column, it will be 2019. We decided this year to do one better for our annual year-in-review article, and expanded our look back at 2018 to a four-page section so that we could share more details, more photos, and even some social media posts that excited our readers throughout 2018. Turn to page B1 to check it out.

Now that our December editions are in your hands, our team will be taking a quasi-hiatus for the next few weeks to enjoy the holiday season and ring in the new year. Our next edition comes out January 17. Even though it will be a few weeks until you see us in print, we’ll still be around — follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, and if you have news, don’t hesitate to shoot an email to me at [dylan@severnaparkvoice.com](mailto:dylan@severnaparkvoice.com).

From our entire team here, we hope you have a happy, healthy holiday season and a great start to your new year. See you in 2019!

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The Severna Park Voice is published by  
**THE VOICE MEDIA INC.**  
Family owned and operated since 1981  
**Please send your news to:**  
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P.O. Box 608  
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Drop off toys (must be NEW), gift cards, or a monetary donation between now and Dec. 17th at our main office, located at 8585 Fort Smallwood Road in Pasadena.

## HOLIDAY WISH LISTS COMPILED BY AREA HOSPITALS

### Infants/Toddlers

- Baby brushes
- Baby socks
- Baby spoons and sippy cups
- Bath time toys and plastic books
- Bibs
- Blankets
- Books (cardboard and cloth)
- Cause and effect toys
- Crib Aquariums (Fisher Price)
- Crib mobiles
- Infant mirrors
- Little Tikes Piano
- Onesies
- Pajamas
- Pillow Pets (brand new)
- Play gyms
- Rattles (Sassy, Bright Starts, First Years, Oball)
- Sensory blocks by Fisher Price
- Small soft balls (no Nerf balls)
- Snap beads
- Stacking toys (ring stack, cups, nesting animals)
- Teething toys
- Wrist and foot "jingles"

### Toddler/Preschool

- Action figures
- Aquadoodles
- Baby dolls
- Books
- Soft Balls
- Bubbles
- Color Wonder kits
- Crayons & coloring books (toddler sized crayons)
- Duplo sets
- DVDs (G-rated)
- Fisher Price/ Playskool toy cars, trucks, school buses, etc.
- I Spy/Seek and Find books
- Play-Doh
- Pop-up books
- Puzzles (24 pieces or less, wooden w/pegs)
- Shape sorters
- Stuffed animals (brand new)
- Toy kitchen and tea sets
- Toy phones
- Toys with lights & noises
- Viewmaster and slides

### School-Age

- Action figures
- Barbies
- Baseball gloves
- Bionicles
- Books (pop-up, picture, chapter)
- Bubbles
- Craft kits
- Crayons/markers/colored pencils
- Coloring books/activity books
- Decks of cards
- Disney store items
- DVDs (G-, PG-rated)
- Fuzzy posters and markers
- Hair accessories
- Handheld electronic games
- Hot Wheels cars
- iTunes gift cards
- I Spy/Seek and Find books
- Kids' magazines
- Lego sets
- Model kits (snap)
- Model Magic
- Nail polish
- Paint sets
- Play Doh
- Puzzles (24-70 pieces)
- Silly putty
- Slinky
- Slipper socks with characters
- Stickers and sticker books
- Travel size and regular size Etch-A-Sketches, Magna Doodles, Connect 4, Operation, Sorry, etc.
- UNO
- Yo-yos

### Teenagers

- Art supplies
- AXE body care products
- Bath & Body items
- Blank journals/sketch books & pencils
- Board games
- Card games
- Compact mirrors
- Craft kits
- Crossword books/word search books
- Deck of cards & UNO
- DVDs (G, PG & PG-13)
- Gel pen sets
- Gift cards (iTunes, Walmart, Subway, Bath & Body, Target, Old Navy)
- Hair care items
- Hand held electronic games
- Headphones/earbuds
- Lounge pants
- Mad Libs
- Model kits (snap and glue)
- Modeling Clay
- Movie passes
- Nail polish
- Plain scrapbooks
- Plush Throws
- Sports apparel
- Teen coloring books
- Travel toiletry bags
- Watches w/ alarms
- White t-shirts w/ set of fabric markers
- Wood building kits
- Yo-yos

### All Ages

- Critter Pillers
- Neck Rolls
- Pillow Pets

## Featured Homes



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Amie Brady - (443) 506-8794



213 Meadow Rd, Pasadena - \$399,900  
Dori Savani - (410) 991-4988



8488 Laurel Rd, Pasadena - \$349,900  
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New Construction in Pasadena - under \$550,000  
Doug Smith - (410) 255-3690



8211 Doby Ln, Pasadena - \$389,800  
Doug Smith - (410) 255-3690



1707 Trents Way, Annapolis - \$574,900  
Maryann Pettie - (443) 618-9221



509 Owens Way, Severna Park - \$459,999  
Dori Savani - (410) 991-4988



432 S Rolling Rd, Catonsville - \$424,900  
The Schweigman Group - (443) 791-6995



808 Lynwood Lane, Severna Park - \$674,900  
Jaime Trevillian - (443) 306-3076



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## Night Of Tree Lightings

» **Continued from A1**  
down from 10 to watch the Holly Avenue tree light up for the first time this season, many worked their way over to Park Plaza for the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus on fire truck. The scene at the shopping center was equally lively with performances by choruses and bands from Severna Park High, Oak Hill Elementary, Broadneck High, South River High and North County High. Additionally, Creative Force Dance Company put on a crowd-pleasing show.

“Building on this event each year is fun to do,” said Nancy O’Meara, director of property management for Continental Realty, which handles Park Plaza. “We had more tenants involved this year, and the way we did it with the music groups spread throughout the center gave some of the tenants more exposure.”

At 6:00pm on the dot, a truck from Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company rolled onto the scene, carrying with it

Santa and Mrs. Claus, who stepped off at Honey Baked Ham and greeted an enthusiastic group of youngsters eager for a chance to visit.

In exchange for photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, youngsters were encouraged to bring a nonperishable food or monetary donation to SPAN.

“We had a very successful night,” said Ellen Kinsella, director of development for SPAN. “It was very rewarding seeing how people responded to our request.” In total, SPAN collected about 10 bags of food and \$51.

Attendees of the Park Plaza festival even had the chance to start their holiday shopping by participating in a scavenger hunt. After they collected all the necessary bingo stamps from participating businesses, they were entered into a drawing. Leo and Gwyn Moore were the lucky winners of a gift basket full of items donated by Park Plaza merchants.

What a successful start to the season it was. Happy holidays, Severna Park!

## PIC Celebrates 25 Years

» **Continued from A1**  
ers are one and the same.

“We are members serving members,” added Arnold. “The bonds we establish with each other are so amazing. We’ve heard and experienced the most beautiful stories of friendship. We really are family.”

PIC now services Anne Arundel, Caroline and Talbot counties.

To volunteer or to receive support, seniors must complete a member care application. Partners In Care screens every person who wants to come into the organization.

“We don’t want to be Uber or Lyft,” said Arnold of the transportation networks where a stranger appears at a doorstep. “Everyone deserves to be safe, and every family member wants to feel security in knowing that their loved ones are being taken care of by someone they trust.”

Partners In Care runs its Upscale Resale Boutique, now located at 8151 Ritchie Highway in the Festival At Pasadena shopping center near BJ’s Wholesale Club, which provides revenue to

cover 40 percent of the operating expenses for the entire organization. The boutique employs one full-time person and two part-time workers, and hundreds of volunteers provided more than 13,200 hours in 2017 alone. Other fundraising events are held throughout the year.

“In the future, we’d really like to expand our partnerships with the health care community,” said Arnold. “We are helping people get to hospitals, physician’s offices and other health care facilities. We’ve got 25 years of data that shows just how vital we are to seniors in our community. It would be wonderful to have strong partnerships with these providers.”

“Partners in Care isn’t just a business model, it’s what we do and who we are,” Arnold added. “I plan on doing this until I cannot do it anymore.”

To get involved with Partners In Care, donate to the Upscale Resale Boutique, donate a vehicle or a financial gift, visit [www.partnersincare.org](http://www.partnersincare.org) or call 410-544-4800.

## Former Workforce Housing Site Might Become The Sheridan At Severna Park

By Zach Sparks  
[zach@pasadenavoice.com](mailto:zach@pasadenavoice.com)

Rightview Severna Park, HeartLands, Sunrise of Severna Park, Spring Arbor and Kris-Leigh — several senior living options exist in Severna Park, but the team of Kaufman Jacobs and Senior Lifestyle believes there is room for one more.

During the Greater Severna Park Council’s November meeting, the two companies shared plans for a three-story, 102-unit senior facility at 134 Ritchie Highway. The property is 950 feet north of the Earleigh Heights intersection.

The facility would be built on 5.14 acres of land zoned R2, which is generally intended for low-density suburban single-family residential development. Although the site was previously approved for a special exception that allowed 143 units of assisted living, Kaufman Jacobs and Senior Lifestyle want to build a smaller community and need approval from the Office of Planning and Zoning.

Before that, in 2014, the property was the intended home of the proposed Earleigh Station Apartments, which caused an uproar among people in Severna Park and Pasadena who were weary of additional traffic and overcrowding in schools.

At the November GSPC meeting were employees



If approved, the Sheridan at Severna Park will have 84 assisted living spaces and 18 units for memory support. The three-story complex will have a maximum height of 35 feet and have a forest buffer.

from Kaufman Jacobs and Senior Lifestyle, and an architect from Wiencek + Associates.

Bob Gawronski, vice president of development for Senior Lifestyle, addressed potential criticism about there being too many senior living communities in Severna Park.

“The market is strong and deep,” Gawronski said. “We only go in markets if we can thrive and our competitors can thrive.”

According to Gawronski, the average age of expected tenants is 85.5 for the assisted living complex and 89.5 for the memory care

building. The average rent will be \$5,500 to \$7,000 a month for assisted living and about \$8,000 per month for memory care.

“They might need help with meals, they might need help getting dressed in the morning, they might need reminders to take their medication,” Gawronski said.

Because of the older age of residents, officials from Kaufman Jacobs and Senior Lifestyle don’t expect their facility to cause traffic problems. They will have a 14-passenger shuttle van onsite, and the 66 parking spaces might get used less frequently as

residents get acclimated to their new homes and abandon their cars.

Architect David Banta from Wiencek + Associates talked about the craftsman-style architecture and the tree cover that will make the building less visible from the sides. He also said the Sheridan at Severna Park will have just one entrance and exit, on Ritchie Highway.

An administrative hearing is set for 10:00am on December 6 at the Arundel Center in Annapolis. If the special exception is granted, the developers need to finish site plans and undergo construction, with an expected completion date about two years from now. For more information about the hearing, visit the “Planning and Zoning” section at [www.aacounty.org](http://www.aacounty.org) or call 410-222-1266.

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# David Uy Directs Opening Of Chinese-American Museum

By Jane Seiss

Severna Park resident David Uy has taken on a new project of personal significance. Uy, a first-generation Chinese-American, is executive director of the Chinese American Museum, which is set to open in Washington, D.C., in 2020.

Uy is half Chinese. His father is of Chinese descent and came to America from the Philippines in the 1960s. Uy has lived in Severna Park since 2009.

“My background is in non-profit management, marketing and public relations,” Uy said. “I headed my own PR firm for about 12 years.”

When he heard about the plans for a Chinese American museum in D.C., Uy contacted the organizers and pitched his services as a consultant. His thoughts on the future museum went over so well that in April of this year, he was hired to direct the effort.

According to Uy, there are eight prominent Chinese-American museums in the United States — in cities like New York, Chicago and San Francisco. They place emphasis on local or regional Chinese-American history. The new museum in D.C. will provide a national focus. “Having a presence in D.C. gives credence and significance to the group you represent,” Uy noted.

The museum will be housed in a five-story, 1907 Beaux Arts mansion about five blocks from the White House in the Embassy Row section of the city. “Our goal is to build this nonpartisan, nonpolitical, non-geopolitical museum that reflects the culture, history and spirit of Chinese-Americans,” Uy said. “The Chinese have been here since 1815, and 200 years later, most Americans have little awareness of



As the executive director of the Chinese American Museum coming to Washington, D.C. in 2020, David Uy wants people to understand how Chinese Americans and Asian Americans are an important part of the fabric of the United States.

the Chinese-American contributions to our country. “I’m excited about connecting people that don’t touch Chinese or Chinese-American or Asian-American culture in a personal way on a daily basis and helping them understand how Chinese-Americans are an important part of what makes up this country,” Uy added.

He hopes to engage some of the 22 million annual visitors to D.C. Uy sees the museum fortifying the great narrative of U.S. immigrant histories. The museum will appeal to all ages and will also feature contemporary Chinese-American culture.

For now, the museum’s small staff is focused on raising partnerships and input from stakeholders like the Chinese-American community and its leadership, as well as museum and historical experts. The museum mansion is undergoing renovations.

There will be a public call for submissions, and the museum will develop an intake process for items and loaned artifacts or collections. “The Chinese came with very little to this country, especially in the early years,” Uy said. “They lived simply and didn’t have a lot of personal belongings.”

Uy expects the museum to place more emphasis on story than on objects. “In the museum, we hope to integrate technology that will make it fun and interactive,” he added.

“This is a real dream job,” Uy said of his role at the Chinese American Museum. “It’s an opportunity to do something that has a lot of impact.”

For more information about the museum, visit [www.chineseamericanmuseum.org](http://www.chineseamericanmuseum.org).

# Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club Happenings



This past summer, the Rotary Club partnered with the Magothy River Association to plant trees in Beachwood Park.

Cheryl Queen

Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club

The Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club has partnered with the Freetown Village Boys and Girls Club of Pasadena. Over the last year, our partnership has grown strong and has become a community outreach commitment for our Rotary club. The Rotary chose the Boys and Girls Club because we wanted to make a difference in the lives of youth, who are in a productive, safe, secure and — most of all — fun atmospheres but would otherwise be at-risk. This group benefits from our club’s continual focus on youth opportunities. Our 70-year-old Rotary club started with this focus and has continued over the years. The Freetown Village Boys and Girls Club provides that focus.

The Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club originally got involved by giving the Pasadena Boys and Girls Club a makeover. The Rotary members worked with Ace Hardware Pasadena, PC Repair, Pasadena Floors and the Anne Arundel County Food Bank and gave the club a fresh coat of paint and new flooring, and cleaned and upgraded their laptops and computers with the latest Microsoft Windows and anti-virus software. We also brought in chairs and bookcases to provide an inviting space, ready for homework and after-school activities. A direct result of the food bank providing furniture was a food pantry being established in the Freetown Village Boys and Girls Club. The pantry is still

in operation today and has expanded the outreach to the residents of Freetown Village!

Working with the club’s director, Angela White, we sent nine boys to the Rotary District’s 2018 Junior Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) at the 4-H Club in Chevy Chase. Because the Boys and Girls Club has van transportation, it has allowed the youth to experience, through Rotary, activities that enhanced their individual characters. The boys thought they were going to have a school-like experience at RYLA, but instead, they had a great time learning leadership skills with approximately 75 other youth from other clubs in Rotary District 7620. Because of the positive experience, the Boys and Girls Club has already committed its youth to attend the 2019 RYLA.

When Rotary International president-elect Ian H.S. Riseley made the case that protecting the environment and curbing climate change are essential to Rotary’s goal of sustainable service, he challenged every Rotary club to make a difference by planting a tree between the start of the Rotary year on July 1, 2017 and Earth Day on April 22, 2018. Trees remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air, which slows global warming. This past summer, the Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club partnered with the Magothy River Association to plant trees in Beachwood Park.

We called the Boys and Girls Club to help plant trees. The tree planting project was a big success for youth from the Boys and Girls Club, many

of whom had never planted trees or shoveled before. They learned about tree planting from the Magothy River Association members and learned how the southern yellow pines (or similar trees) benefit the Maryland blue heron birds that use those trees for nesting sites. The kids were told to come back in 15 years, bring their families and be able to say ‘Hey, I planted that tree with the Rotary.’

Finally, because of the positive support we’ve gotten from Ms. White and the participation from Freetown Boys and Girls Club youth, our Rotary Club invited the members to our annual crab feast at Kurtz’s Beach. Again, exposure to an event like a crab feast was so exciting for

them. With all the crabs, food and desserts, they enjoyed themselves immensely. It was also a good time to meet other Rotary members from clubs in Anne Arundel County.

The Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club’s goal is to bring awareness of our motto “Service Above Self” to the Freetown Village Boys and Girls Club.

We are always looking for volunteers to continue our club’s vibrant efforts to provide service to our community. For more information, contact John Clark for an invitation to one of our dinners at Bella Napoli. He can be reached at [john@lakeshorerotary@gmail.com](mailto:john@lakeshorerotary@gmail.com). Additional information on Rotary is also online at [www.rotarycluboflakeshore.org](http://www.rotarycluboflakeshore.org).

# OGT Celebrates “Lights For The Holidays”

Orphan Grain Train recently sent two box trucks of supplies to people in the Carolinas who were impacted by Hurricane Florence. Volunteers also packed a container bound for South Sudan this month. The supplies in that container will help create an eight-room school for 600 students in the town of Panpandiar.

Now, with the holiday season underway, volunteers are excited about the Lights for the Holidays project to provide access to clean light for people in Liberia and South Sudan, in areas that have no electrical grid. Volunteers hope to accomplish this with a ship-

ment of Luci lights, solar lights that allow hospitals, health clinics and businesses to stay open past sunset.

A Luci light in a home means children can read, study and play longer. The elderly can move at night with greater safety.

The Maryland branch of Orphan Grain Train has a goal of supplying thousands of these lights to people in Liberia and South Sudan. A donation of \$10 buys a Luci light and allows a family to have clean, sustainable light in their home.

To help, send your check to Orphan Grain Train at 621 East-West Boulevard, Millersville, MD 21108.

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BLAST FROM THE PAST

By Zach Sparks    zach@pasadenavoice.com

Have you ever read a great novel, only to be dismayed at the discovery of a cliffhanger? Have you ever glanced over a news article, only to wonder what happened to the child prodigy with Broadway aspirations or the old lady who lived in a shoe? (OK, maybe that last example wasn't from a news story). The Voice staff is looking back at stories covered in past years to bring you an update. This month, we revisited articles on a community holiday drive and a young Michael Jackson impersonator.



Riverdale Reindeer Ride Again

Print Date: December 7, 2017

For more than a decade, teens who live near Riverdale Road have gathered toys and nonperishable food to help families in need of Christmas cheer. They call themselves the Riverdale Reindeer, and they give their bounty to the nonprofit Take Back Our Streets (TBOS).

The effort was originally spearheaded by Tim George, then an eighth-grader who lived in the Riverdale community, who collected food and toys along his paper route in the Riverdale Road area for a service project.

Through the years, the responsibility has been passed to relatives and friends. Last year, Jacquelyn Colangelo wore the lead reindeer antlers and many neighbors got involved. Some prepared the "sleighs," which are trailers decorated and pulled behind cars.

The group distributes flyers to more than 350 homes a week before they head out for the collection. This year, Jacquelyn's brother Andrew led the effort. Volunteers distributed flyers in late November, held a toy collection on December 2 and dropped off the toys at Michael's Eighth Avenue on December 5.

TBOS leaders usually transfer the gifts to members of Abundant Life Church in Glen Burnie, but this year, TBOS is working with Walk the Walk Foundation, whose volunteers are consulting parents to learn what specific gifts their kids want.

"If a family has two kids, sometimes a volunteer from one church might provide \$100 to a kid and someone from

another church might provide \$40 to the other kid," explained Mike Wagner, TBOS president. "We're trying to provide more equity this year."

The Colangelo family has been part of the Riverdale Reindeer family for about seven years.

"I've seen big trash cans full of canned goods, and I've seen big, expensive toys," Andrew said. "We just want to give back."

Wager said it's hard to quantify the number of toys or canned goods collected each year by the Riverdale Reindeer, but their efforts make a big impact.

"These guys are like elves, just showing up with stuff they collected," Wagner said. "Jacquelyn was a young go-getter and now she's passed the torch to her brothers. A trail has been blazed with these guys."

Nicholas Stohler Wows The Crowd With Michael Jackson Impression

Print Date: December 7, 2017

Local fourth-grader Nicholas Stohler raised more than \$1,200 and moonwalked his way into the hearts of his community in 2017 on his journey to raise money and awareness of the blood cancer that took the life of his grandmother.

Nicholas started with a personal concert for friends and neighbors, impersonating Michael Jackson to accrue funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

In years past, Nicholas had asked for donations to the LLS in lieu of birthday presents, so when he saw his first Michael Jackson music video, it came as no surprise to his mother, Angela Stohler, that he would use his interests for altruistic purposes.

"I thought maybe he would raise a couple hundred dollars," she said, adding that \$300 was the goal.

His concert raised \$879, which prompted the LLS to invite him to perform a 30-minute act during the Light The Night event in Baltimore in November 2017.

Since then, he has gained even more fame as a Random Acts of Light recipient in February 2018. Introduced by the LLS, the initiative is a movement to bring moments of light to people suffering from blood cancers who are feeling overwhelmed in the darkness that can come with a cancer diagnosis.

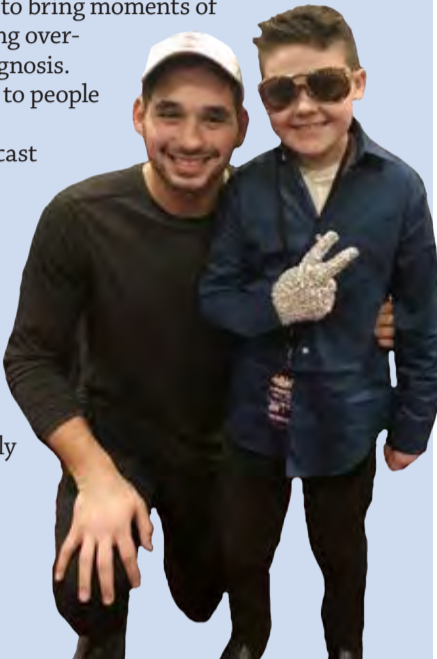
"It's a way to honor those who find ways of bringing joy to people with cancer," Angela Stohler said.

Nicholas was rewarded with a meet and greet with the cast of "Dancing with the Stars." He posed for a picture with dancer Alan Bersten, talked with dancers Jenna Johnson and Sharna Burgess, and he even performed one of his dance routines.

The last year has been a dream come true for Nicholas, who began entertaining at 5 years old, when he witnessed a friend of his, who eventually became one of his backup dancers, perform the dance from the "Thriller" music video.

Patiently examining dozens of YouTube videos, he slowly perfected each move, built a collection of costumes and eventually choreographed a 45-minute performance.

Nicholas also performs magic and is a YouTube personality. Asked about his goals, he said, "It's more about how I make people happy. I love going onstage and making people happy."



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## Pittman Wants Collaborative Government

» **Continued from A1**

percent. Although Schuh had over 3,000 votes more than Pittman on Election Day, Pittman had an 11,000-vote lead from early voting.

During his grassroots campaign, Pittman heard from county residents who lobbied for better pay for teachers, police and firefighters. He heard from advocates of smaller class sizes. But the most common feedback he heard was an outcry to stop overdevelopment.

“They see it in traffic and overcrowded classes in the schools,” Pittman said of his new constituents. “The fact that I am a farmer and a small-business person gives me credibility on those issues that I’m clearly not coming in here to pave the county over.”

Whereas Schuh fought overdevelopment with legislation to draw a rural conservation line, Pittman plans to hire an environmental policy director to oversee smart growth.

“We’re going to strengthen the Forest Conservation Act in the county so that it drives development into the areas that do not have trees and make it tougher to develop in sensitive areas that do,” he said.

Other priorities will be funded in the budget, which is proposed by the county executive’s administration each May and amended by the seven-member county council by June. Pittman plans to meet with each department supervisor to determine not only what they need to survive but what they need to accomplish the requests of voters.

“What would it cost for one step increase? What would it cost for 10 teachers?” Pittman said. “The taxpayers can look at the options, almost like walking into a store.”

That information will be presented online and shared again during two budget hearings, which are mandated by the county charter.

“The last administration did two meetings where you met with department heads, but there were no numbers to talk about and no public hearing,” Pittman said. “We’re going to confront those issues of how to spend our resources and whether or not people want to pay more resources.”

As for other priorities, Pittman wants to form a gun violence prevention commission, he wants to end the county’s participation in the 287(g) program and leave immigration enforcement to federal authorities, and he wants to see more workforce housing in the county.

“We’re going to end up like California where people come here for jobs but live in a tent or in their car or on the street while working if we don’t address that concern,” he said.

Janet Owens, who served as county executive from 1998 to 2006, co-chaired Pittman’s transition team. Although Pittman has never held political office, Owens sees many similarities between herself and the Davidsonville farmer.

During Pittman’s inauguration ceremony at Maryland Hall in Annapolis on December 3, Owens said, “He listens. He advocates for education, public safety and the environment. But most importantly, he wants all of our communities to prosper. And he wants everyone to have a voice in sharing the decisions that guide that prosperity.”

With less than a month between Election Day and their respective inauguration ceremonies, Pittman and the six new members of the county council had little time to plan. But the new county executive foresees a smooth transition with the council, which just shifted from a 4-3 Republican majority to a 4-3 Democratic majority.

“There are seven of us kids in my family, two boys and five girls, same as the county council,” Pittman said. “Four from my dad’s first marriage, three from his second marriage, so two different moms. Four to three, just like the county, and we all get along great.”

Regardless of the D or R next to someone’s name, Pittman is looking for partners, on the county council and in the community, to make government more transparent.

“The Republicans all said there is overdevelopment in the county and something needs to be done about it,” Pittman said. “They all said we need more civic engagement, community input into the General Development Plan, and they all said Small Area Planning was a great thing. And they all said we needed more teachers, firefighters and police. What we campaigned on wasn’t that different, so I think you’re going to see a lot less division.”

## Amanda Fiedler Found A Bigger Purpose

» **Continued from A1**

That experience also compelled her to run for political office — a successful campaign after defeating incumbent Republican Michael Peroutka in June’s primary and Democrat Dawn Myers in the general election on November 6.

“I wanted to serve a better and larger and bigger purpose than what I was doing before,” Fiedler said. “So it started little with the nonprofit I created under the umbrella of Anne Arundel Medical Center, and I just really was fulfilled by the feedback I was getting from the community. People were coming to me with problems as I expanded my leadership in our county, and it just evolved from there very organically.”

Fiedler believes in conservative spending, limited taxes and small government. But, as the PTO president for Broadneck Elementary, she wants to see better pay for teachers and the hiring of more educators and mental health professionals.

“When you have young children and they unfortunately aren’t able to get the attention that they need in the classroom because of the class size, that’s not the families’ fault, that’s not the teachers’ fault. It all comes down to numbers,” said Fiedler, a Broadneck High School alumna. “I think people are willing to be OK with a ceiling tile missing in a gymnasium if they have a decent size class-student-teacher ratio.”

People won’t be OK with more overdevelopment and a heavier burden on the county’s current infrastructure. Fiedler expects the General Development Plan to be preceded by an “intensive and collaborative process” that is transparent. She hopes it will include Small Area Plans. Each rezoning request, she said, should be handled on a case-by-case basis.

“I have committed to my constituents, as I’ve been knocking on doors, to personally walking any of those properties that are in District 5, and I’m even open to walking properties outside of District 5 if necessary, to get an idea of what that property looks like, what the upzoning request is, how that will impact the community,” she said. “It’s talking to the landowners as well to see if there’s a compromise that they are able to still develop their land that they want to but the impact is not there for existing communities.”

What kind of impact will Fiedler make on Severna Park and the Broadneck peninsula? If it’s as widespread as her work with education, the community will be in good hands.

“Amanda is extremely dedicated to strengthening not only the Broadneck Elementary School community but the entire community on the Broadneck peninsula,” said the school’s PTO treasurer, Emily Van Oudenaren. “Day in and day out, she juggles her work, family and life just to make a difference in my children’s life. It is truly commendable.”

Following the election in November, the council underwent major changes. Only one member, Andrew Pruski of District 4, is entering a second term. The council features five women after having none since the departures of Cathy Vitale and Tricia Johnson in 2010. The council also has a 4-3 Democrat majority after having a 4-3 Republican majority the last eight years.

Fiedler doesn’t see the changes as an obstacle to prosperity. She’s lucky to be alive and fortunate to represent District 5.

“I think it’s pretty telling when you look at the makeup of the council, there is not I don’t think between the seven of us — Mr. Pruski excluded because he’s an incumbent — there’s not a career politician in the mix in my opinion,” Fiedler said. “We all have such diverse backgrounds and diverse levels of involvement in the community. I’m excited to see where we go. And normal, everyday people ran for office and ran elections and that’s pretty powerful.”

“Normal, everyday people ran for office and ran elections and that’s pretty powerful.”

— AMANDA FIEDLER

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# Collaborative Law And Divorce



Collaborative law is gaining in popularity, particularly as a means to resolve family law disputes. The fundamental precept of collaborative law is that the parties and their counsel contractually bind themselves to pursue a non-adversarial resolution. This means that if the collaborative process breaks down, both attorneys must withdraw, for they have agreed that they will not pursue contested litigation. It is undeniably preferable for children if parents resolve differences as civilly as possible. Most people, being reasonably minded, may recognize the ample benefits of addressing divorce issues in a manner that avoids nasty, expensive and time-consuming lawsuits.

A collaborative, problem-solving approach also has the potential to reduce the impact and stress of the divorce on children, both during the process and going forward, after legal agreements have been established. By engaging in solution-focused interactions, the emphasis is on the children's best interests. The practical challenges of how to allocate parenting time and sharing child-related expenses may be worked out in detail so there is less uncertainty and conflict going forward. The children benefit by having the details spelled out. They should never serve as the messenger for these types of issues. The parents may develop their own successful methods to tackle future issues more quickly and effectively, further reducing the negativity that could impact the kids. The sooner everyone knows what to expect, the faster the adults and the children can enjoy a new normal.

Despite these advantages, collaborative law remains

somewhat controversial, particularly among divorce lawyers. More traditional practitioners muse that they collaborate all the time. They talk to the other attorney. They exchange documents. They negotiate. Being old-fashioned litigators, however, they reserve the right to file suit, pro-pound extensive discovery and preserve their client's day in court. Some family law attorneys feel restricted by a process that would bar them from the courthouse.

When considering a collaborative approach to a family law dispute, it is important that a client be fully advised regarding the risks and benefits involved. Essentially, the collaborative attorney is limiting the scope of his or her representation of the client. One can imagine that added cost is a possibility if the attorney who has worked toward a collaborative resolution must withdraw so that litigation may be filed. For the right parties, collaborative law is a reasonable — even civilized — approach to divorce.

Not all cases are suitable for collaborative law. Litigation might be necessary, particularly in situations involving domestic violence, dissipation of assets and/or when one spouse has been kept in the dark regarding the family finances.

*Collaborative law is one way to resolve disputes when a marriage falters. If you find yourself contemplating separation or divorce, you will have many questions. You should consult with an attorney who is familiar with this area of the law and who will assist you in making informed decisions. David Diggs is experienced in collaborative law and litigation. If you need further information regarding this subject, contact him at The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC, located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 204, in Millersville. Call 410-244-1171 or email david@diggsllaw.com.*

# Fourth Annual Taylor Wild Memorial Golf Tournament Was A Huge Success



In November, the fourth annual Taylor Wild Memorial Golf Tournament was held at Compass Pointe Golf Course in Pasadena. The event honors Wild, a Marine from Severna Park who was killed in 2013. With a large turnout, this may have been the best memorial golf tournament yet. Event organizers were grateful and humbled by the amount of support, players and donations they received for the tournament. As with any great event, organizers are already prepping for next year and hoping to have that same great turnout. If you missed out on playing or sponsoring this year and are interested in claiming your spot for the fifth annual Taylor Wild Memorial Golf Tournament, email Alexis Lindsay at alexisbroder@gmail.com.



# Local Boys Win Medals At Thanksgiving Throwdown

Residents of Severna Park and Gambrills were medal winners at the Good Fight Thanksgiving Throwdown submission-only jiu-jitsu tournament in Millersville on November 10. Mitchell and Patrick Smith of Severna Park and Dominic Lagana of Gambrills were the competitors. They are martial arts students at Md Ultimate Martial Arts Academy in Pasadena, where they learn kickboxing, hapkido, and RCJ Machado Brazilian jiu-jitsu. Their coach was James "Jay" Elbourn, who trains under professor Carlos Machado.

A 14-year-old, Mitchell won two gold medals in the intermediate 140-pound division, in gi and no-gi matches. He submitted his

opponent with kimura and armbar in gi matches. In the no-gi match, he finished with a rear-naked choke to armbar submission for the win.

Twelve-year-old Patrick competed in beginner no-gi matches and received a gold medal in the 98-pound division. He submitted his opponents with americana key locks.

Dominic, in the intermediate 117-pound division, competed in gi and no-gi matches. In gi, the 14-year-old got a silver medal and submitted his first opponent by rear-naked choke. He lost to his second opponent by an americana key lock. In no-gi, he won his match for third place with an armbar submission.



(L-R) Dominic Lagana, coach Jay Elbourn, Mitchell Smith and Patrick Smith celebrated after a successful day at the Good Fight Thanksgiving Throwdown.

# Send us your news

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# HOMESTEAD GARDENS

## NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE MONTH

## Stewart's Landing



Neighborhood of the Month takes an in-depth look at the unique communities that make up Severna Park as a whole. Each has its own history, its own special amenities and its own people who are happy to call that place home. Want to share with our readers all about your neighborhood and what sets it apart from others? Email [spvnews@severnaparkvoice.com](mailto:spvnews@severnaparkvoice.com) and let us know!



## Community Events Keep Stewart's Landing Residents Active Year-Round

By Judy Tacyn

How has a community of 261 houses, 20 of them on Old Man Creek of the Magothy, been able to fly under the radar since 1984? Perhaps it's because Stewart's Landing is off the beaten path and hidden from the main section of Severna Park. It may be quiet, but the water-privileged community is active, bustling with excitement of children playing year-round.

The Stewart name comes from Stewart Greenebaum, a Baltimore-based real estate developer who now has his name on the cancer center at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore. He was also the developer of Shipley's Choice.

The community comes together to make pine swags at Christmastime and sing holiday carols. The numerous events throughout the year include the Penguin Plunge; sock burning; dinner clubs; new neighbor socials; an Easter egg hunt; a cornhole tournament; movie nights at the tot lot; Oktoberfest in the fall with fun rides and crafts for the kids; adult happy hours; Halloween fun; and the popular Around the World Party, which covers five different blocks, each one representing a different country, and once, even the moon.

The community boasts two large wooded areas, a tot lot with a basketball court, a marina, a gated dog park and a wooded walking trail.

**SHERRY LEIKIN**  
RESIDENT FOR 13 YEARS

Larry and Sherry Leikin were drawn to Stewart's Landing because they wanted a family-oriented neighborhood for their three young children that included waterfront and good schools.

"The sidewalks are key!" said Sherry. "Few neighborhoods in this area had them, and I believe it adds to the friendliness of our community. Lots of folks have dogs and it's safer to push a stroller on a sidewalk. Everyone waves and says hello and you do feel a real part of the community."

As for what makes Stewart's Landing unique, Sherry said it's her neighbors. "The people are the most genuine folks you will ever meet," she said. "They are truly the best friends I have ever made."

All three of the Leikin children attended Folger McKinsey Elementary.

"I like to call Severna Park the biggest-smallest town in America," said Sherry. "Most places have six degrees of separation, but in Severna Park, it's only two degrees of separation. Everyone knows each other!"

Sherry said the community comes together one Thursday a month to make more than 200 sandwiches for the homeless. And, when the Leikins suffered a sudden and tragic loss, it was those same neighbors who came to their side.

"It was our neighbors in Stewart's Landing that organized meals for us for almost two

months, and when I said I was having difficulty being at home in the evenings, we were welcomed to break bread at so many dinner tables with other families as we were healing," added Sherry. "It really made a difference to be in this community, and I was so grateful to be in a community that cares."

Sherry is on the homeowner's association board, and she is the social chair.

“

*There is pride in and love for our community and its wonderful residents. We help each other out and work together to keep the community looking great and running well.*

— BECKY FOX

**LISE CHAISSON**  
RESIDENT FOR 16 YEARS

Dave and Lise Chaisson had been living in Anne Arundel County and knew they wanted their children to go to school in Severna Park.

"We had been searching for homes for a few years but put the search on hold because I was pregnant with our third child and didn't think moving was realistic," said Lise. "A realtor we had been working with sent us an open house email and we thought, 'Why not take a look?' We came to the open house

and fell in love with the layout of the house, the quiet street, mature trees, the community and, of course, our desired school district."

Like the Leikin family, all of the Chaisson children attended Folger McKinsey and loved their experience. "Our younger two were even bused to Pasadena during the renovation, but it was worth it for a new school," said Lise.

Lise calls Stewart's Landing a "hidden gem," and she wouldn't hesitate to recommend the community to anyone looking in Severna Park.

"Severna Park has a great sense of community, with like-minded people where the kids come first; excellent schools and teachers; great shops and restaurants," said Lise.

We have met some of the best friends we could ever ask for, in Stewart's Landing," she continued. "They are kind, generous and willing to lend a helping hand without question."

Dave Chaisson served on the homeowners board for four years, and he also started the sock-burning event.

**BECKY FOX**  
RESIDENT FOR ALMOST FOUR YEARS

Stephen and Becky Fox wanted to purchase a home before their oldest son started school. "We drove around Severna Park for several months until we found Stewart's Landing," said Becky. "We knew that this would be where we would buy our for-

ever home."

The Fox family was looking for a community in Severna Park because of the great schools, but they also wanted something that was water privileged, with a fun playground and plenty of community events that offered opportunities to build friendships with neighbors.

"Stewart's Landing checked all of our boxes," said Becky. "Our community is a great mix of young families, original residents and everyone in between. Everyone gets along and looks forward to spending time together. There is pride in and love for our community and its wonderful residents. We help each other out and work together to keep the community looking great and running well."

About a year and a half ago, Becky had a major surgery. She said her neighbors were like family.

"It was a long recovery, but some amazing friends that just happen to be my neighbors put together a meal train for my family of six," said Becky. "We had full, hot dinners hand-delivered to our house. This occurred every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for six full weeks. Some of the people in the meal train we knew, however, there were others that I met for the first time. We are blessed to have so many incredible neighbors and friends!"

Becky decorates the community and is a member of the garden club. Stephen is the secretary for the HOA board.

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Celebrating 32 Years

# Anne Arundel County: The Best Place



**Stuart Pittman**  
County Executive

On December 3, I took the oath of office to be your county executive. That oath represents my commitment to you. I want to thank county voters for sharing my vision and putting your trust in me to lead. Serving as county executive is an incredible honor — and a tremendous responsibility.

Throughout the campaign, we focused on a responsive government committed to transparency and community engagement. Since the day following the election, I have worked to bring that focus into reality in this administration.

We formed a transition team of highly experienced individuals with a vast knowledge of the county, its key issues and knowhow to get things done. These individuals have volunteered to help me follow through with my promises from the campaign. Our transition teams are full of talent and include people from all walks of life. We have Democrats and Republicans, urban folks and rural folks, environmentalists and developers, retired government officials and new up-and-comers with fresh ideas.

The transition is built on the same framework on which I based my campaign: with a focus on communities. Our transition teams are structured around making our communities safe, healthy, empowered, thriving, educated and sustainable. I tapped two veteran county government officials to be transition co-chairs, former County Executive Janet Owens and former Councilmember Chris

Trumbauer.

If you attended the inauguration or read my speech, you know I have ambitious plans. Working with our transition leadership, we have begun to assemble an incredible team that will help to organize our plans and coordinate the steps to reach our goals. We want Anne Arundel County to be, simply, “the best place.” And we’re going to need the best people to help us get there.

I would like to thank Chief of Staff Jennifer Purcell and Chief Administrative Officer Benjamin Birge for guiding us through this transition and creating the solid foundation we will need to follow our vision.

A centerpiece of my administration will be public and community engagement. I encourage county residents to get to know their representative from our community liaison team. This team will help residents learn about the resources, services and programs that are available through our county agencies and community partners.

We have a lot of work to do, but I would like to take this time to focus on this special time of year and what it means. The holidays are a time for gathering with family and friends, a time of giving to our loved ones and those less fortunate, and a time to reminisce about cherished memories we have experienced over the years. We celebrate our faith, our love and our tradition.

During this holiday season, I will reflect on the many people who helped me become the county’s 10th county executive and look forward to the many tasks before my new administration. I am both thankful and excited. I wish all of you a very happy, healthy and fortunate holiday season.

**Amanda Fiedler**  
Councilwoman  
District 5



The 2018 elections are behind us. For the last year, our county has learned about and listened to candidates on both sides of the aisle, candidates with a variety of backgrounds and experiences. The hard work now begins for our new county council and county executive. With that work, we can anticipate some change.

Change can be good, if our county thrives and grows while preserving the characteristics that make it desirable to so many families. Finding common ground among councilmembers and the new administration is key to our goals moving forward. With a quick look back at the various campaigns, one can quickly identify common areas of intended focus: education, growth, public safety, infrastructure, traffic, constituent services.

The new council is a

diverse group that brings unique perspectives to the table, with expertise in education, engineering, law, community leadership and advocacy. It is anticipated that each councilmember will work hard to fulfill the goals of their campaign.

My goals for our district have remained. As a wife and mom, I want safer streets, low taxes, and high-paying jobs. As a lifelong county resident, I know we must improve the local infrastructure and provide adequate roadways and walkways. I believe we need a responsible, transparent development process that preserves the quality of existing communities while providing more opportunities for local residents, without infringing on property rights. As a long-time education advocate, I know we need appropriate class sizes and competitive teacher pay.

Local infrastructure has much to be improved upon, from pothole repair and county road resurfacing to adequate walkways and bike trails. From our schools to

our police, fire, and detention officers. Our infrastructure should be maintained and operated at a pace equal to that of our growth.

Growth has been a common focus this campaign season. Why? It is simple. Growth impacts every area of our lives. The General Development Plan is one of the most important pieces of legislation that this council will collaborate on and enact. It will require careful input from the Citizen Advisory Committee’s (CAC’s), review of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) report done by the outgoing county council, site visits for zoning applications, and careful considerations based on county land use laws.

The fifth district continues to grow due in part to the success of our schools, and that should not be something that we take for granted. This year, renovations of Arnold Elementary will be completed. A healthy learning space is important for our students to thrive. Adequate class size and retaining our educators is also

critical to student achievement. It is through reducing class sizes that we enable educators to focus on individual needs, and identify students who may need extra attention, or are struggling with social and/or mental health needs.

Each of these areas has great importance within our community, but all issues are important. If it is of concern to you, it is of concern to me. Transparency, collaboration and constituent services are, I believe, going to be a hallmark of the new council. From town halls, listening sessions and e-newsletters, communication between county government and residents was a staple of every councilmember’s campaign. I encourage every resident to remain engaged on the issues and continue to reach out to your elected representatives.

This is our community, and I am honored to be your councilwoman. I am eager to work on the issues that you have shared with me and work toward our common goals that will continue to make our district so special.

# A New Era Of Civic Engagement

**Heather Bagnall**  
Delegate  
District 33



It’s the most wonderful time of the year. We are all filled with anticipation of the upcoming season; song, food, family, celebration and a new legislative session. At least, I am filled with anticipation. Some might think apprehension as the, quite literally, newest elected delegate to the Maryland General Assembly, having waited until November 16 for a determination of

my district race, but I am not apprehensive; I am excited.

When I started this campaign, I wanted to make people’s lives better, to bring new ideas and approaches, to get in the room. I learned a great deal on the campaign trail about myself and about our community. Today, as I work to put together my team, as I get to know my fellow delegates, learn about my committee assignments, gather information on legislative priorities, and cull my schedule to ensure I haven’t missed an orientation, inauguration or opportunity for community engagement, I am filled with excitement.

This may seem unimportant but that enthusiasm, that sense of something greater than ourselves, is not unique to me. I see it in the faces of other first-time representatives and in the faces of the community advocates and volunteers,

organizers, and activists who dedicated hours of sweat equity to help so many of us to victory. Perhaps every freshman delegate feels this excitement, but I want to build upon it, because our race in particular was entirely community driven.

I mention this because our job has just begun, but for our constituents, now is the time to celebrate and to hold us accountable to the commitments we made during the campaign. I have much I would like to accomplish, but if I can be proud of one thing, it is that I have contributed to a new era of civic engagement, something I want to foster and build upon for the future.

I recently went to the swearing-in ceremony of our newest orphans’ court judge, Vickie Gipson. Among the other attendees were many members of the community who had contributed to campaigns at every level, and they

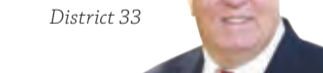
were so thrilled to be a part of this moment. We all got misty-eyed at the shared experience and that feeling of belonging, that sense of our government being a constant conversation is a healthy and welcome deviation from the current polarization in our politics.

I know that we are not going to agree on everything but I truly believe that “we the people” are the fourth branch of government, and to that end, I want to encourage this community to bring your concerns to me. I will hold monthly open-door listening sessions and will write a monthly column to try to stay engaged and keep you as informed as I can. I wish you all a joyous holiday and a prosperous new year.

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”*  
-Margaret Mead

# Recent Traffic Concerns

**Ed Reilly**  
State Senator  
District 33



As we close the calendar on 2018, I’d like to express my thanks for once again allowing me to represent District 33 in the state Senate. It is a position I am humbled to accept and one that I take seriously, as I realize that the issues addressed in Annapolis impact your lives.

Below, I’m offering updated information on a couple of traffic safety concerns that many constituents have contacted me on. Feel free to contact me for further discussion on these or other issues.

I wish you all a wonderful and blessed holiday season!

**Crosswalk at Evergreen Road And Cedar Road:** A great deal of concern has been shared by Severna Park residents with regard to safe use of the crosswalk at Evergreen and Cedar Roads. Evergreen Road has become a heavily traveled cut-through from Benfield/Robinson Roads to Baltimore-Annapolis Boulevard (MD 648). The Evergreen and Cedar crossing serves the community children who walk to three local schools, as well as many others who cross Evergreen Road as they head toward the B&A Trail.

The pedestrian danger in this crosswalk occurs as a vehicle traveling on Evergreen Road toward Severna Park High School moves into the right lane (at Cedar Road) to pass a vehicle that has stopped to allow pedestrians crossing in the crosswalk. Multiple near-miss hits of pedestrians

has propelled Anne Arundel County to trial-test two safety changes. You will notice the following changes in January 2019.

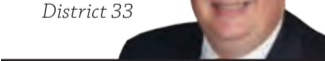
First is the installation of lighted pedestrian-crossing signs. To alert drivers of pedestrians in the crosswalk, the sign’s flashing red lights will be activated by pressing a button located on the sign posts. Signs will be installed on both sides of the Evergreen Road crosswalk.

Second, a “choker” will be installed near the Evergreen Road crosswalk, on the Severna Gardens side of Cedar Road. Placement of this choker is designed to affect only one traffic pattern at the Evergreen/Cedar intersection. As a vehicle travels on Evergreen Road toward the high school, the choker is placed so that a vehicle traveling in the right lane (as it approaches Cedar), may not proceed straight and link back into Evergreen Road. The right lane vehicle must turn right onto Cedar Road.

**Southbound Route 2 at Severna Park Marketplace:** Another road safety concern is the southbound Ritchie Highway (Route 2) crossover into the Severna Park Marketplace (Giant/AC Moore). There is a great deal of movement going on in this section of roadway. Vehicles navigate from southbound Route 2 to cross into the marketplace or to proceed northbound on Route 2; other vehicles are pulling out of the marketplace onto northbound Route 2, and all this goes on as the northbound Route 2 traffic travels through. After multiple accidents, I have requested a safety study of

this area by the State Highway Administration and look forward to receiving their findings. Also, prior to leaving office, County Executive Steve Schuh made a request of State Highway Administration for a comprehensive study of Route 2, which will include this area.

**Michael Malone**  
Delegate  
District 33



On November 7, the day after the General Election, a three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court for Maryland issued a landmark opinion in *Benisek v. Lamone*, finding that partisan gerrymandering in western Maryland violated voters’ constitutional rights to representation and political association. Remarkably, both sides — the state of Maryland and the voters — agreed that the state in 2011 had drawn Maryland’s congressional districts with the overarching dual goals of incumbent protection — keeping the same six Democrats in Congress — and redrawing one of the two Republican districts so that it would elect a Democratic congressperson, and the only question before the court was whether such intentionally drawn partisan districts violated the U.S. Constitution.

Personally, I found the recitation of fact after fact showing such naked Machiavellian intent by so many persons in power disturbing, offensive and chilling. Demo-

cratic powers in Annapolis deliberately and openly chose to crack the 6th District, some of which had been an intact district since the late 1800s and had comprised the five most northwestern counties since 1966. Statistically, it was the most Republican in Maryland. The state moved about 360,000 voters — about half the voters in the former 6th District — into other districts, so that a net of 66,000 Republican voters, more than 30 percent of them, were moved into other districts and replaced with 24,000 Democrats. According to the opinion, this caused “the single greatest alteration of voter makeup in any district in the nation following the 2010 census.” (The results of the 2010 census required redistricting — but only about 10,000 people needed to be shifted from the 6th District.) This drastic upheaval, engineered by a computer program used here exclusively to politically gerrymander, was designed to and did unseat Roscoe Bartlett, a Republican congressman representing the 6th District since 1993 who had won and kept his seat by significant margins, replacing him with a Democrat.

Fortunately, the court

agreed with the voters, finding that the state specifically targeted 6th District voters who either were registered Republicans or tended to vote Republican, deliberately diminishing those voters’ ability to elect the candidate of their choice by moving them into other districts and, by doing so, violating their First Amendment rights to representation and free association.

The right to representation basically means a citizen’s right to vote and fully and effectively participate in the political process, which in this case occurred because the voters were targeted because of their political views. The right to free association refers to a person’s right to associate with others to advance beliefs and ideas, including political ones, which was here infringed by the negative impacts to the Republican Party and its members in the former 6th District.

Within days of the opinion, Attorney General Brian Frosh announced his intent to appeal this judgment to the Supreme Court. (While the U.S. District Court is a trial court, and appeals from it would usually first go to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, this appeal goes

directly to the U.S. Supreme Court because it was decided by a three-judge panel). A few days later, after Attorney General Frosh requested a stay, the parties agreed to stay enforcement of the District Court’s order, so that the redrawn maps need not be submitted to the U.S. District Court until the earlier of a decision by the Supreme Court or July 1, 2019.

There is, of course, no guarantee that the Supreme Court will uphold the federal District Court’s decision or otherwise order that Maryland’s Congressional districts be re-drawn in time for the 2020 election. Any lawyer can tell you that a case won on summary judgment, granting an injunction, and finding specific intent is both an amazing work of jurisprudence and vulnerable on appeal, especially given the Supreme Court’s historic reluctance to act in political arenas. Governor Hogan has therefore announced a two-pronged attack on gerrymandering in Maryland. He has created a bipartisan emergency commission tasked with redrawing the 6th District by March 4, 2019, followed by a three-week comment period, for finalization and

» Continued on A12

# Gerrymandering Update

# Maryland's Business Scene



**Peter Franchot**  
Comptroller

It's the time of year for giving thanks, and with the election now over, which we can all be thankful for, I want to express my deep and sincere gratitude to the voters of Anne Arundel County and all of Maryland for once again placing their trust in me to continue serving as your comptroller. It is an honor and a privilege to hold this office and I pledge to continue making sure your hard-earned tax dollars are being spent wisely.

I've always said there's no such thing as a Democratic tax return or a Republican tax return, and my top priority is making sure my office respects the taxpayer, responds to the taxpayer and gets results for the taxpayer. After all, you pay my salary.

During my tenure as comptroller, I have been fortunate to travel across Maryland, visiting civic leaders, elected officials and business owners.

These conversations have given me a firsthand perspective of the economic challenges and opportunities Marylanders face on a daily basis.

Maryland is home to some of the most innovative and prominent companies in the nation. They are small start-ups, independent retailers and large corporations; they are creating jobs, building strong communities and transforming lives. They are the lifeblood of our economy and they should be lauded for their contributions.

That's why I've created the Cornerstone Award for Local Business Excellence. I'm looking to recognize and celebrate businesses that strengthen Maryland's economy, generate jobs and tax revenue, develop innovative ideas that more effectively deliver services and products within the marketplace, and lead by example in their local community. One business will be selected from each of Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. Businesses of any size and sector are eligible for the award.

Nominations are being ac-

cepted through the end of December. Just fill out the form at [www.marylandtaxes.gov](http://www.marylandtaxes.gov) (look for the link near the top of the page, over the light-house) and explain why the business is deserving of the Cornerstone Award. Nominations should be emailed to [abrody@comp.state.md.us](mailto:abrody@comp.state.md.us) or faxed to 410-974-2045.

Speaking of great Maryland businesses, let me make one final plea to shop local as you check off your holiday gift wish list. I've had the opportunity to check out a number of great retailers from Cumberland to Leonardtown in the last few weeks. Shopping at these bookstores, clothing boutiques, chocolate manufacturers and gift shops keeps revenue in the state and supports jobs and investment in your community. And it's just a good feeling to purchase something from a local business and experience real customer service, as opposed to keyboard shopping.

Thank you once again for your support at the ballot box. I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year.

# The Role Of The Sheriff's Office



**Jim Fredericks**  
Sheriff

Happy holidays from the Office of the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County! It is truly my pleasure to be your newly elected sheriff and the 120th sheriff in the history of the county.

The Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office dates back to 1650 and plays several important roles in the law enforcement community. Its responsibilities include service of warrants, courthouse security at the Circuit Court, service of civil court documents, and domestic violence court orders, to name a few. In the few weeks I have had to learn and understand the knowledge and capabilities of the employees in the Sheriff's Office, you can rest assured that they are a talented group

of people who carry out their duties proudly on behalf of the citizens of our county.

As for me, I retired as a lieutenant from the Anne Arundel County Police Department on November 30 so I could be sworn in on December 3. I bring 26 years of law enforcement experience to the Sheriff's Office, and I am excited for the challenges and leadership opportunities that lay ahead.

My staff and I have gotten immediately to work to identify needs and set priorities for the office. There is much to be done with budget and administrative procedures, personnel and staffing demands, improvements in technology, security enhancements, warrant reduction, community outreach, and the delivery of services.

I plan to bring a fresh approach and new ideas to the Sheriff's Office and look forward to working with

the new county administration to keep our communities safe.

I hope the holiday season so far has been a safe one for all, and I would like to remind everyone about good holiday safety practices. During this busy shopping time, always be cognizant of your surroundings, keeping packages and valuables with you while in stores. Keep your vehicle locked and parked in well-lit areas when possible. Try to keep items out of sight or in the trunk of your vehicle. Practice good home safety inside and out. Start by replacing batteries in smoke detectors, and make a plan to have someone retrieve delivered packages from outside the home to deter theft.

Exciting times are on the horizon for the Sheriff's Office and I look forward to serving the citizens of Anne Arundel County as sheriff.

## Letter To The Editor

### ST. MARTIN'S CONSTRUCTION

I was raised an Episcopalian. Both at home and at church, I was taught the golden rule from Luke: "Do to others as you would have them do to you." It is unfortunate that St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School has chosen not to consider the surrounding communities. For years, they have ignored county noise regulations, concerns about runoff and zoning permits. With new construction, the school limited access from an entrance on Benfield Road to construction vehicles. They instructed parents that the community requested cars proceed on Tewkesbury Lane and make U-turns at the intersection of Tewkesbury Lane and Lymington Road. That is not the case. Why would we ask for dozens of cars to make U-turns into our neighborhood? The

neighborhood did *not* request this. We have children walking to public schools. They and their parents have repeatedly been placed in harm's way when cars dangerously pass within inches.

At school drop-off and pick-up times, St. Martin's drivers have blocked Tewkesbury, so residents must wait for school traffic before leaving the community or returning home. The St. Martin's drivers have driven in the exit to the community, they have created their own access points by driving over a curb and private property, blocked residents from exiting driveways and they have driven onto lawns, causing damage. I could list many other instances where the drivers have decided to do what is best for them and not for others. This is not a good lesson to teach children. These drivers ignore school rules and com-

mon courtesy.

Although many drivers follow the instructions issued by the school, numerous drivers don't. What can be done? People who call the school are told, "That is the way it is." There are solutions. The Benfield entrance should be reopened so cars can enter and exit from Benfield. Years ago, non-church members donated money to expand the Benfield access points so that would happen. In addition, drop-off and pick-up times could be lengthened to lessen traffic at specific times.

People have refrained from writing to the *Severna Park Voice* because they are concerned about adverse impact to them individually. Silence does not mean that the surrounding communities are pleased with the project.

**J. Krause**  
**Severna Park**

## Gerrymandering Update

» **Continued from A11** submission to the General Assembly before the end of session in April.

Governor Hogan appointed Judge Alex Williams, a Democrat, federal District Court judge nominated by President Clinton, and former state's attorney for Prince George's County; Walter Olsen, a Republican and senior fellow at the CATO Institute Center for Constitutional Studies; and

Ashley Oleson, an independent voter and administrator of the League of Women Voters. Six more commission members will be selected from the public. Governor Hogan also plans to introduce the Redistricting Reform Act of 2019 as emergency legislation when session opens on January 9, 2019.

The governor has proposed anti-gerrymandering bills four times, and I have also

proposed anti-gerrymandering legislation, which the General Assembly has yet to bring out of committee, killing them in back rooms rather than in the light of the public's eye.

Partisan gerrymandering used to rig an election is wrong. Maryland voters should choose their own representatives, not the powers in Annapolis. Let's stop GerryMaryland.

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# HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS

Coming January 16!

The *Severna Park Voice* will publish a Health, Beauty & Fitness Guide in the January issue. This glossy special edition will feature insight from local experts on the latest in health, wellness, fitness and beauty.



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# What You Should Know About Flu Shots

Marcus LaChapelle  
Broadneck Pharmacy



Lately at the pharmacy counter, I have been talking about flu shots. I recommend and give flu shots every year, and every year I encounter more than a few people who resist a flu shot. Once a patient declines a flu shot, I have never been able to convince them to change their mind. Well, I am going to share what I feel is the most convincing reasons to get a flu shot. If you have not received a flu shot yet, I hope you'll reconsider or finally get it done. If you already got the flu shot, maybe you can use these facts to help convince a resistant family member or co-worker. Last year, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimated that 80,000 people died of the flu. Of those, 180 were children and CDC estimates that 80 percent of those children did not receive a flu shot. In the general public, only 46 percent of adults received a flu shot. A large percentage of those deaths last year could have been prevented.

Vaccines have been able to wipe out diseases in the United States like polio and measles because of widespread vaccination. With only 46 percent of adults getting flu shots, we don't stand a chance. According to the CDC, if vaccination rates increased by just 5 percentage points across the entire population, another 483,000 illnesses, 232,000 medical visits and 6,950 hospitalizations associated with influenza could be prevented. If vaccination rates improved to the Healthy People goal of 70 percent for all age groups, another 1.89 million illnesses, 822,000 medical visits and 17,300 hospitalizations could have been prevented during the 2016-2017 influenza season. It is up to the people who never or rarely get flu shots to change the numbers. Like the surgeon general recently warned, you get the flu from someone else. Anyone who doesn't get the flu shot is a potential carrier and/or transmitter of the flu to someone else, the dreaded spreader. You may unknowingly spread it to someone else who is not as strong to fight it. Don't be that guy.

# Nine Reasons To Call A Dentist Now

Dr. Jeffrey Cranska  
Family Laser Dentistry



You should call a dentist if you experience any of these nine symptoms: pain when biting, a swollen face, broken teeth, sensitive teeth, jaw pain, bleeding gums, bad breath, dry mouth, or mouth sores or growths. However long it has been, you need to see the dentist for a thorough examination. You need to learn what you need to do to have a healthy mouth and get back into a regular oral care routine. See how modern dentistry can help you. **Q: What would a dentist do to my teeth?** **A:** A dentist will thoroughly examine the patient's teeth and diagnose any issues to determine the best treatment. This includes a review of health history, taking blood pressure and pulse information, doing an oral cancer screening and examining the

patient for oral diseases. A comprehensive examination includes dental radiographs (X-rays) to check for abscesses, dental decay, oral pathology and periodontal disease. Collected information will be used to plan treatment. **Q: What is tooth decay?** **A:** Dental decay (caries) is a bacterial disease. In their mouth, everyone has bacteria, which cause caries. These bacteria form a plaque on teeth (sticky bacterial deposits); sugar from the diet is turned into acid by these bacteria, which causes decalcification of the tooth, destroys the tooth enamel and produces decay. Dental caries is not completely preventable. No vaccine is available to prevent this common disease. Without a cure, use modern dental technology for maximum prevention, and limit destruction with early treatment. Decayed teeth need to be treated. **Q: What are gum dis-**

**ease, periodontitis and periodontal disease?** **A:** Periodontal disease is an infection of the tissues that surround teeth. It is caused by the accumulation of bacteria (long-term plaque). It's progressive, causing the structures that support teeth to break down (gums, jaw bone and attachment to the roots). As gums are damaged, pockets develop around the teeth. When untreated, more gum is destroyed and infection spreads down the roots to infect bone. Even healthy teeth become loose, fall out or need to be extracted. Periodontitis is the primary cause of adults losing their teeth. Gingivitis is the milder and reversible form of periodontal disease. No bone loss yet. If untreated, gingivitis can progress to periodontitis. Take advantage of the advances in dentistry and your dentist's experience. Call today. It's never too late for help.

# Mantra Fit Moves To Larger Location

By Sharon Mager  
Mantra Fit recently expanded, moving just a few suites down to a larger location at 760 Ritchie Highway, Suite W11, behind Café Mezzanotte in Severna Park. Owner Carleen Birnes emphasized that Mantra Fit isn't just a gym — it's a holistic approach to fitness. Sure, visitors will find strength and conditioning machines, a variety of fitness classes and a yoga studio, but there's much more. Birnes said she wants people to hit "all pillars of health." "We're not just for exercise and burning calories," she said. "It is really about the whole person. That's the vision of Mantra Fit." At an open house on December 2, the studio gave visitors a sample of what to expect, and it was a lot. Visitors enjoyed Reiki healing treatments, aerial yoga using brightly colored hammocks, and sound bowl meditation. Dry needling, massages and nutrition classes were also available. One young woman smiled shyly as she had her bare head decoratively painted by local artist Christalene Karauskakis, who started the program



Healing through Body Art, adorning cancer patients' crowns with professional body paint or natural henna tattoos. While all of these services — and many others at the open house — will not be at the studio permanently, they'll be available at designated times or by appointment. Several fitness classes will be offered, including rowing, Pilates, Barre, ropes, rowing, a boot camp and more. Mantra Fit also provides unique fun spins on various classes to take fitness to a new level, such as "Surfset," utilizing surfboards for balance, cardio and strength intervals. Mantra Fit also offers the community a chance

to connect with local farms for pasture-raised animals and fresh eggs. Birnes became a personal trainer in 2012 and began considering how to get started in the fitness industry. She found what she didn't like, including climbing on the "dreadmill" in front of multiple television screens. "What I did enjoy were the group fitness classes, when led by a motivational instructor, because I loved being in a community and feeding off each other's energy," Birnes said. She began Mantra Fit in 2012, leading outdoor boot camps at Severna Park Community Center near Woods Church, and in 2015 moved to a stu-

dio in Severna Park. She opened a second studio in Nabbs Creek in 2016. "Our community of members quickly bonded, and everyone loved being in the fresh air," she said. "Then I decided we needed to get on the water in the summer months, and I became certified in standup paddle. We took our workout to the water, and it was bliss!" "We had three important aspects of health covered: social connection, getting outside in nature, and movement. But clients were still struggling with their weight," Birnes said. "That's when I realized I had to dig into food. Once I immersed myself in functional health, I realized that's it's not just about calories in and calories out. The quality of calories is more important than quantity. And if your diet consists mostly of high-quality protein (grass-fed beef/pork/pasture eggs), healthy fat (avocado oil/coconut oil/ghee) and nutrient-dense carbs (veggies and fruit), you would not only upgrade your health, you would experience significant fat loss - without obsessing over calories." Birnes believes that people are becoming sick from their lifestyles and environment, and she wants to help. "The goal is not to be skinny," she said. "Our goal is to be strong and healthy, so we feel empowered to live the life of our dreams!" The studio offers classes for children, youth and adults of all ages. For more information, go to [www.mantrafit.com](http://www.mantrafit.com).

## UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center Dedicates Expanded Psychiatric Unit



University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC) recently dedicated its new expanded psychiatric unit. Attendees included hospital board members and local officials. UM BWMC President and CEO Karen Olscamp; Dr. Sandeep Sidana, chair of UM BWMC's Department of Psychiatry; and other dignitaries participated in the cutting of the ribbon, and Sidana spoke about the hospital's expanded inpatient psychiatric unit.

# News From The Anne Arundel County DepartmentOf Health

**SHARPS DROP-OFF BOXES ARE NOW AT ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND DISTRICT STATIONS**  
The Anne Arundel County Department of Health has placed sharps disposal boxes for public use at the Anne Arundel County Police Department's district stations and its headquarters. County residents can discard lancets, needles, syringes and other home health care sharps at any time daily at the following four district stations: Eastern District, 204 Pasadena Road, Pasadena; Northern District, 939 Hammonds Lane, Baltimore; Southern District, 35 Stepneys Lane, Edgewater; and the Western District, 8273 Telegraph Road, Odenton. A drop-off box is also available

from 8:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays, except holidays, at the Anne Arundel County Police Headquarters, 8495 Veterans Highway, in Millersville. The goal of the sharps disposal program, a partnership between the Department of Health and police department, is to provide safe drop-off locations for individuals and families who may administer injectable home medications, including insulin. The boxes are not intended for business use. By providing this safe disposal option, the county helps to reduce the risk of medical waste contamination and promotes a cleaner, safer community environment. For more information about the sharps drop-off boxes and preparing items for disposal, visit

[www.aahealth.org](http://www.aahealth.org) or call 410-222-7095. **DOH OFFERS FREE OPIOID OVERDOSE RESPONSE TRAINING AND NARCAN KIT**  
The Anne Arundel County Department of Health is offering free training to community members on the use of intranasal naloxone, a medicine to reverse an opioid overdose, and a free naloxone (Narcan) kit. December training sessions will be held at Department of Health sites in Annapolis and Glen Burnie on the following dates: **Behavioral Health Building** 122 North Langley Road, Glen Burnie - Friday, December 14, from 10:00am to 11:00am **Health Services Building** 3 Harry S. Truman Park-

way, Annapolis (Use Front Entrance) - Thursday, December 27, from 10:00am to 11:00am To register and for more information, call 410-222-1937 on weekdays. **DOH OFFERS HEALTHY HOLIDAYS TIPS AND FREE INFORMATION KITS FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS AND BABIES**  
The Anne Arundel County Department of Health is working to promote healthy pregnancies and healthy babies by offering tips on travel safety, home safety and healthy eating during the holidays. Tips are available on the "Healthy Moms and Healthy Babies" webpage at [www.aahealthybabies.org](http://www.aahealthybabies.org) or by calling 410-222-7223. **Travel Safety:** Always use a child car safety seat that is installed correctly and is appropriate for the child's

height and weight. By Maryland law, all children under 8 years old must ride in a car safety seat unless they are taller than 4 feet, 9 inches. **Home Safety:** Always provide a safe sleep environment for infants and young children. Infants should never sleep on a chair, sofa, adult bed or with other people. Infants should be placed on their backs in a crib or portable crib without blankets, stuffed animals or pillows. Remember the ABCs of safe sleeping — Alone, on their Backs, in a safe Crib. Closely supervise children at all times when visiting other people's homes. Make sure that poisons, medicine and household cleaners are secured and out of children's sight and reach. Avoid secondhand

smoke, which is dangerous for pregnant women and infants. **Healthy Eating:** Pregnant women and other family members should maintain a healthy diet. Eat fruit and vegetables, and cook with fat-free or low-fat substitutes. Drink plenty of water, 100 percent juice and low-fat milk. Avoid sugary drinks. To avoid foodborne illnesses, check expiration dates on all food. Do not eat foods that have been sitting out more than two hours and use leftovers within four days. The Department of Health offers free Healthy Pregnancy and Baby Care Kits to Anne Arundel County residents. Kits can be ordered at [www.aahealthybabies.org](http://www.aahealthybabies.org) or by calling 410-222-7223.



TAVERN

Sunday - Thursday 5:00pm - 9:00pm  
Friday - Saturday 5:00pm - 10:00pm

Starters

- House-Cut Pub Fries 6
- Maryland Crab Dip 15
- Local Lamb Meatballs 11
- Seared 4oz Ahi Tuna 12
- Porcini Mushroom Ravioli 12
- Korean Beef Wontons 9
- P.E.I. Steamed Mussels 13
- Calamari "Steak Fries" 13
- Carne Asada Fries 14
- Crab "Popcorn" 18
- French Onion Soup 7
- Cream of Crab 9/14

Salads

- Pascal House Salad**  
BABY FIELD GREENS, BEEFSTEAK, TOMATO, ENGLISH CUCUMBER, PICKLED RED ONION, SHAVED CARROT, BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE 11
- Pascal Caesar**  
HERB CROUTONS, GRANA PADANA, BABY RED & GREEN ROMAINE, CREAMY CAESAR 12
- Grilled Romaine Wedge**  
BACON LARDON, GORGONZOLA CHEESE, MIXED GRAPE TOMATOES, TOASTED PINE NUTS, BLUE CHEESE DRESSING 14
- Black & Blue**  
GRILLED STEAK TIPS OVER BABY FIELD GREENS, DRIED CHERRIES, GORGONZOLA, PINE NUTS, BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE 18
- Grilled Sea Scallops**  
OVER BABY SPINACH SALAD WITH GRAPE TOMATOES, GORGONZOLA, PINE NUTS & WARM BACON DRESSING 17
- Ahi Tuna Salad**  
SPINACH & MIXED FIELD GREENS, CARROTS, FENNEL, MANDARIN ORANGES, SWEET CHILI SIRACHA DRESSING 18

GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST 6 | GRILLED SHRIMP 8  
GRILLED YELLOWFIN TUNA 8 | STEAK TIPS 8  
FRIED OYSTERS 12 | 3 OZ CRAB CAKE 15  
CRAB POPCORN 18  
FRESH CRAB MEAT 18 | 8 OZ PRIME NY STRIP 21  
4 OZ GRASS FED FILET 19

Sandwiches

- SERVED WITH HOUSE CUT PUB FRIES. OLD BAY FRIES +1  
SMALL HOUSE OR CAESAR SALAD +2.50
- Chicken & Waffle Sliders**  
SIRACHA HONEY 13
  - Fish Tacos**  
ACADIAN REDFISH FILLET, FLOUR TORTILLA, SLAW, SMOKED CORN AVOCADO SALSA & CHILI AIOLI 12
  - 8 oz. Angus Burger**  
SOFT BRIOCHE ROLL, BUTTER LETTUCE, BEEFSTEAK, TOMATO, RED ONION 13  
ADD CHEESE 1      ADD SMOKED BACON 1
  - French Dip**  
SHAVED TRI-TIP ON CIABATTA ROLL WITH BOURSIN CHEESE, SAUTEED ONION & AU JUS 15
  - Crab Cake Sandwich**  
SOFT BRIOCHE ROLL, BUTTER LETTUCE, BEEFSTEAK, TOMATO, RED ONION & SPICY AIOLI 21
  - California Turkey Burger**  
PEPPER JACK CHEESE, AVOCADO, SPINACH, TOMATOES & RED PEPPER AIOLI 14

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DINNER

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Appetizers

- Local Lamb Meatballs 11
- P.E.I Steamed Mussels 13
- Crab "Popcorn" 18
- Calamari "Steak Fries" 13
- Local Fried Oysters 14
- Blistered Shishito Peppers 9
- Seared 4oz Ahi Tuna 12
- Porcini Mushroom Ravioli 12
- Daily Oyster Selection 14

Soup & Salad

- French Onion Soup**  
GRUYERE & HERB CROUTON 7
- Grilled Romaine Wedge**  
BACON LARDON, CHAPELS BAY BLUE CHEESE, SUNGOLD TOMATOES, TOASTED PINE NUTS, BLUE CHEESE DRESSING 8/14
- Cream of Crab**  
A MARYLAND TRADITION 9/14
- Pascal Caesar**  
HERB CROUTONS, GRANA PADANA, BABY RED & GREEN ROMAINE, CREAMY CAESAR 7/12
- Tuscan Harvest Salad**  
KALE, FALL SPICE ROASTED KABOCHA SQUASH, PUMPKIN SEEDS, GOAT CHEESE, MAPLE DRESSING 8/14

Entrees

- Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes**  
TASSO HAM & CORN SALSA, HONEY GLAZED BABY CARROTS, OLIVE OIL SMASHED YUKON GOLD POTATOES MP
- Pan Seared Duck Breast**  
DUCK CONFIT, GNOCCHI, BRUSSELL SPROUTS, BACON LARDONS, CIPPOLINI ONIONS, BRANDY & CHERRY PAN SAUCE 28
- Rack of Lamb**  
MEDITERRANEAN COUS COUS, BROCCOLI RABE, GREMOLATA 39
- Wild Norwegian Atlantic Salmon**  
BARBEQUE SPICE, MASCARPONE & HERB RISOTTO, BABY VEGETABLES 28
- Steak Frites**  
FLATIRON STEAK WITH VEAL DEMI, CHIMICHURRI, HOUSE CUT PARMESAN, HERB FRITES, MIXED GREEN & HERB SALAD 28
- Bell + Evans Organic Chicken Breast**  
CITRUS BRINED WITH BUTTERNUT & POTATO HASH, BRAISED GREENS, FRIED SAGE & CHICKEN JUS 28
- Pan Seared Day Boat Scallops**  
BUTTERNUT SQUASH PUREE, MELANGE OF BABY VEGETABLES, ORANGE GINGER MISO BEURRE BLANC 29
- Slow-Cooked Angus Beef Short Rib**  
WITH GARLIC MASHED POTATOES, HARICOT VERT & COOKING JUS 27
- Pasta of the Day**  
ASK YOUR SERVER FOR CHEF'S DAILY PREPARATION MP

Steaks and Chops

Wet Aged Steaks

- 6oz Filet Mignon 32
- 8oz Filet Mignon 39
- 16oz Rib-Eye 38
- NY Strip 39

Grass Fed

- 8oz Filet 38  
BACON ONION RELISH

Dry Aged Steak  
1-2 Daily Selections

Chop of the Day  
MP

Accompaniments

- 3 oz Crab Cake Mkt Price
- Oscar Mkt Price  
2 OZ JUMBO LUMP CRAB MEAT WITH BEARNAISE
- 2 oz Foie Gras 17
- 6 OZ Butter Poached Maine Lobster Tail 21

Sauces

- Bearnaise
- Port Wine Demi Glaze
- Red Horseradish Steak Sauce
- Worcestershire Reduction
- White Horseradish Steak Sauce
- Garlic Rosemary Compound Butter
- Au jus

Sides

- Haricot Vert
- Thyme Braised Greens
- Caramelized Curry Cauliflower
- Creamed Spinach Au Gratin
- Roasted Butternut Squash
- Loaded Mashed Potatoes +3
- Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Fried Brussel Sprouts with Balsamic Honey Reduction
- Cheesy Macaroni
- Grilled Broccoli
- Sauteed Mushrooms with
- House Cut Pub Fries 6  
WITH OLD BAY 8  
DUCK FAT FRIES WITH PARMESAN & PARSLEY 10

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# Year in Review 2018



## LOOKING BACK ON ANOTHER GREAT YEAR

By Dylan Roche

Does it feel as if 2018 just whizzed right by you? You're not alone — we're sure many of our readers in Severna Park would say the same thing. But despite how fast it went, 2018 still brought with it many major news stories, especially at the hyperlocal level here in our community. So, let's take a look back at the past four seasons and what everyone was talking about at the time. We've also got a few of our favorite photos we're sure you'll be excited to see again, as well as some of our Facebook posts that were popular among our followers.

### WINTER

With the beginning of January came the start to the Maryland General Assembly, and because 2018 was an election year, District 33 representatives convened with expectations of divisiveness and — more importantly — debates on key issues. Budgets cuts, taxes, paid sick leave, immigration sanctuary, a new bridge crossing the Chesapeake Bay and other issues were all expected to be sources of controversy.

January also marked a transition for the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce as Linda Zahn retired from her role as CEO after 27 years with the organization. Zahn stepped up with the chamber back in 1980 at the encouragement of a friend, Meg Anderson, who then was the president of the chamber's board. Up until then, the chamber had not had an executive director, and Anderson saw that Zahn would bring "stability and growth," as she put it, to help the chamber expand its presence.

"It turned out to be a great job and far more creative than I thought it would be," Zahn said. Throughout the years, Zahn was responsible for expanding the chamber from 100 members to more than 600 members, developing new programs such as the Business Bites lunches, and creating new events, such as the popular Taste and Sip of Severna Park.

Stepping in to fill Zahn's shoes was Liz League, who came from an extensive volunteer background and who raised four children in Severna Park. "I know many business owners through patronage, kids going to school together, and

### Special Olympics Maryland — Polar Bear Plunge



having them as neighbors," League said in anticipation of beginning her new role. "I have great admiration for those who have taken the risk to start and run a business. And it's wonderful to see that the entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in Severna Park."

The community said goodbye to a local leader with the passing of Marjorie Holt, Maryland's first female representative in Congress. Despite facing opposition as a woman running for political office, Holt surprised everyone in 1966 when she defeated longtime political stalwart Louis Phipps Jr. in a race for clerk of the Anne Arundel County Clerk. She later ran for Congress to represent Maryland's newly formed 4th Congressional District, and served seven successive terms in the House of Representatives. "She wanted to represent people honestly," recalled Holt's daughter, Rachel Tschantre. "She really wanted to make a difference so that things that were neglected could be attended to. She always wanted to leave something better and leave it healthy."

On the same day as Holt's funeral, thousands of people also gathered on the beach of Sandy Point State Park to jump into the 35-degree waters of the Chesapeake Bay and show their solidarity with Special Olympics Maryland, the

beneficiary of the annual fundraising event known as Polar Bear Plunge. This year, the tradition raised \$2,451,931.

Throughout the winter, construction continued on the new stadium, athletic fields and parking lots at Severna Park High School, and students who drove to school struggled to find parking with limited options at the school. The lack of parking



forced many students to park in nearby neighborhoods, much to the frustration of residents.

Some students had to get resourceful to find a place to park. "I offered to pay \$25 a semester to park at a couple's house," remarked Severna Park senior Mason Kelly. "They took the offer, so I park there every other day, as I only have classes on A days."

### SPRING

The spring season sprang with the announcement of a major project to replace a culvert and remove the Shipley's Choice dam. Although the project was scheduled to begin in June — and ultimately wouldn't start until October — residents were advised well in advance that a portion of West Benfield Road would be closed for four to five months.

Department of Public Works spokesman Matt Diehl called the dam's removal a safety issue, an

assessment shared by Sheri Lott, an engineer manager for DPW's Watershed Protection and Restoration Program. "Even if we weren't taking the dam out because of a found soft spot, we would be looking at modifying what we call a best management practice because it is so outdated and ineffective," Lott said.

The announcement of the \$5.4 million project preceded the relocation of BGE, Comcast and Verizon lines throughout early March, followed by an assignment of the construction contract by the end of spring. The segment of West Benfield Road between Pixie Drive and Severnside Drive ultimately closed on October 8 for culvert replacement, the first phase of the project.

As spring continued, changes were also happening at the Severna Park Community Center. Sarah Elder joined the team as the center's new executive director, bringing 25 years of leadership experience to a place that she described as being a little bit different every day.

"The motion of this place, the rhythm of this place is so much fun," she said. "One thing that really attracted me was the opportunity to be front and center, out there interacting with people."

Elder's experiences with many nonprofit organizations have helped her develop skills in budgeting, strategic planning, staffing, operations, fundraising, marketing, retail, tourism and communications, all of which she saw as being relevant in her new role at SPCC.

Just in time for the start of spring sports, the new Severna Park High School stadium and athletic fields got their finishing touches and opened up for student use. The stadium, fields and parking lots were the last facilities to be completed on the SPHS campus, which was the site of much construction work since 2014 while the new

» Continued on B2



### LOOKING FOR THAT PERFECT GIFT IDEA?

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During the the days leading up to Christmas, purchase a \$100 gift card for only \$85!

\*Limited time offer. Promotion ends December 24, 2018.

# Our Facebook Followers Let Us Know What They Care About!



But not all was well in school news this spring. Following the February 14 tragedy in which 19-year-



old Nikolas Cruz shot and killed 17 victims at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, students at Severta Park High School and Broadneck High School joined their peers across the country in expressing their concerns about gun violence by participating in a 17-minute walkout. "I think more people are worried

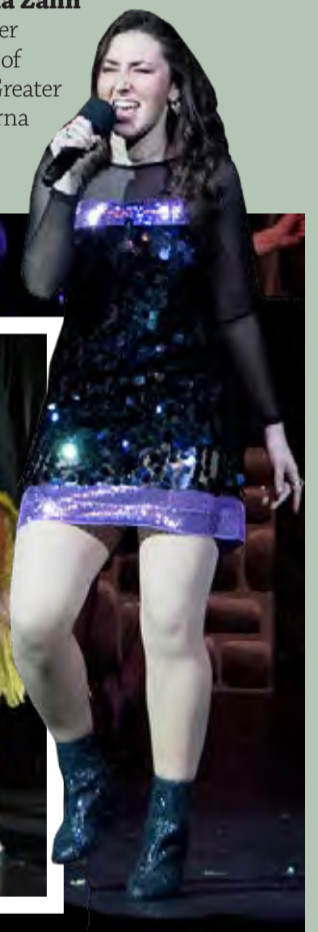
Another major tradition took place this spring when the Association for Severna Park Improvement, Renewal and Enhancement (AS-PIRE) held its Leadership and Heritage Awards presentation, where a group of volunteers nominated by local clubs, civic groups and other associations were honored for making Severna Park a better place:

• **Warden W. Bailey**  
Severna Park Elks Lodge #2642

- **Barbara Huston**  
founder of Partners In Care
- **Pat Troy**  
founder of Bay Media and Ne  
Wave Group
- **Linda Zahn**  
former  
CEO of  
the Greater  
Severna  
Park  
and

A woman with long dark hair is shown from the chest up, singing into a black microphone. She has her mouth open and eyes closed, appearing to be in the middle of a performance. She is wearing a dark-colored top. The background is a plain, light color.

## A group of performers in elaborate costumes, including a man in a tuxedo and a woman in a purple dress, posing on a stage. The costumes are colorful and theatrical, with some featuring large red pom-poms. The performers are arranged in a group, with some standing and some kneeling or crouching. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the performers.



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## KOGEN DOJO

Looking Back On Another Great Year



Arnold Chamber of Commerce Two major figures of the Severna Park community were lost in spring 2018. First was the passing of Detective Sergeant Wilbur Wells, a longtime volunteer, lifelong Anne Arundel County resident, and a U.S. Navy veteran. Wells served more than 34 years as a Maryland state trooper, and for 18 years, he was the Annapolis barrack sergeant. His leadership style was to be on the front lines with his troopers, taking care of them (fondly called "Wells warriors").

Severna Park also said farewell to Newth Morris, whose many years of community service were highlighted most recently by his role as president of the Olde Severna Park Improvement Association — a position he held on three separate occasions and at the time of his death — and as executive director of the Severna Park Community Center, which he filled from 2013 to 2016.

"I think he knew he was able to make a difference in the lives of many, many people," said his widow, Alice Morris. "He had a ripple effect. His energy and passion were infectious. Newth had a way of connecting with people that made them want to try harder even when they initially didn't really want to. His energy drove motivation."

As spring began the transition into summer, Anne Arundel County commenced the General Develop-

"I think he (Newth Morris) knew he was able to make a difference in the lives of many, many people."

— ALICE MORRIS  
WIFE OF NEWTH MORRIS

ment Plan (GDP) process, working with citizen input it gathered throughout the fall and winter, and which, upon adoption by the county council in late 2019, will guide land-use decisions for the next 20 years. This past spring, the seven-member council made short-term strides to control growth and make the planning and zoning process more transparent by unanimously passing a temporary moratorium that will halt the acceptance of rezoning applications. Steve Schuh, then the county executive, proposed making the Small Area Plans a mandatory part of the GDP process, starting not with this cycle but the following cycle. That bill passed 7-0, as did legislation to notify property owners within 300 feet of a pending administrative hearing.

Severna Park High School had plenty to celebrate in late May as two teams captured state championships. With a thrilling 8-7 victory over Churchill on May 23, the boys lacrosse team won its third consecutive state crown. Equally impressive was the softball team, which thrashed Northwest 13-0 in 4.5 innings to end the year 24-2 overall and win the program's first state title since 2003.

SUMMER

Summer commenced with great honors for both business owners and students. The Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce saw five of its nine nominees in the Small Business Administra-



tion's annual awards get recognized at the state level:

- **Susan Gauthier**  
The Cottage  
Entrepreneurial Success of the Year
- **Whitney and Scott Kerridge**  
Admiral Cleaners  
Family-Owned Business of the Year
- **Kim Lank**  
Waly Wag  
Home-Based Small Business of the Year
- **Louben Repke**  
Repke Fitness  
Minority-Owned Small

**Business of the Year**

- **Andrew Hines**  
The Bank of Glen Burnie  
Financial Services Champion of the Year

Finally, the 2017-2018 school year concluded with two important rites of passage. Seniors from Severna Park High and Broadneck High dressed up and danced the night away at their respective proms, and then accepted their diplomas and switched the tassels on their caps at their respective graduation

ceremonies.

Summer heated up with the annual Fourth of July parade, which this year honored Linda Zahn for her work with the chamber of commerce. "It feels great — being grand marshal is a great honor," Zahn said. "The parade is a nice memory, but it's nice to be on the other side of it."

The parade featured nearly 100 entries, including floats and walking units, from civic groups, businesses, neighborhoods, school

» Continued on B4

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# LOOKING BACK ON ANOTHER GREAT YEAR



groups, sports teams and political candidates.

The summer was also a milestone year for the Olde Severna Park community, which celebrated its 100th anniversary. The neighborhood was founded in 1918 by some businessmen from Baltimore City who saw an opportunity to develop the pristine land at the Boone train station along the mostly untouched Severn River. On August 25, 2018, hundreds of residents gathered at Hatton Beach to celebrate the neighborhood's roots and close out the 100th summer with some revelry.

With summer drawing to a close and students returning to school,

many supporters of the SPSHS football program were eager to see the first home game played in the new stadium after spending four years without one. Playing the first varsity football game on the school's newly constructed stadium field, the Falcons overcame a lightning postponement at halftime of their season opener with North County and a stiff challenge from the Knights to secure a 34-28 win.

## FALL

Now that the lazy days of summer had drawn to a close, the community of Severna Park

hustled and bustled with activity again. In advance of the next GDP, County Executive Schuh and Planning & Zoning Officer Phil Hager started a Citizen Advisory Committee to complement the feedback accrued during the public listening sessions.

Two residents of Severna Park and Arnold — Amy Leahy from the Greater Severna Park Council and Elizabeth Rosborg from the Arnold Preservation Council — joined 15 other residents on the committee. "The people who are on the CAC are plugged into their communities," Hager said. "If the CAC differs opinion-wise from the feedback

we received during the listening sessions, we would be surprised because we felt like we were well represented, but we would certainly have to take that into account. We think this is a valuable tool and will produce a document that expresses the wants, needs and desires of the citizens of Anne Arundel County."

Fall brought with it a lineup of outdoor activities, the biggest of which was the annual Fall Harvest Festival at Kinder Farm Park. For nearly 10 years, the festival has grown in popularity. What initially started as a simple day for local families to enjoy the park has developed into a festival drawing up to 14,000 people in attendance. Every year, the entire park is decorated with fall-themed décor, ranging from pumpkins to ornate straw sculptures created by park rangers, and children enjoy seeing cows, pigs, goats, chickens and rabbits.

Election Day arrived on Tuesday, November 6, bringing a host of new faces to public office for Anne Arundel County and the Severna Park and Arnold area in particular. Voters elected Amanda Fieldler to represent District 5 on the Anne Arundel County Council, and incumbent Steve Schuh lost the race for county executive to Stuart Pittman. Ed Reilly retained his office as state senator for District 33, as did Michael Malone and Sid Saab in the House of Delegates, but a surprise eleventh-hour total of absentee and provisional ballots showed that Heather Bagnall took 16.1 percent of the vote to claim the third delegate seat over incumbent Tony McConkey.

Also celebrating a huge win in the weeks before Thanksgiving were the Severna Park High School cross country teams. Both the Falcons boys and girls teams captured 4A state championships, the second consecutive one for the boys and the fifth in the last seven seasons. This marked the first time for the girls team since 2009 and the sixth in the program history.

The next day, the Severna Park girls soccer team's hot season came to a frosty end on November 11 as the Falcons were outplayed ever so slightly by a very strong Walt Whitman team in bitter cold and wind in the 4A state semifinals. Although



they lost the state championship, the girls played an outstanding season as they exceeded outsiders' expectations, gained momentum while tearing through the regular season, won the county championship, slayed the defending state champs in the region final, and subdued teams near and far with a smothering brand of defense and a balanced offense.

Finally, the first week of De-



cember ushered in the start of the holiday season, signaled in Severna Park by the tree lighting ceremony in Park Plaza. After gathering at the office of the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce for live entertainment and refreshments, a crowd of revelers worked its way over to the nearby shopping center to greet Santa and Mrs. Claus as they arrived by fire truck.

And that's a wrap for 2018, Severna Park — we expect 2019 will be just as exciting!



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» Page C8



SEVERNA PARK, MD

DECEMBER 13, 2018

C1

# Double Crown: Severna Park Girls, Boys Win Cross Country State Championships

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

One program extended its reign over Maryland cross country while another reached a long-pursued goal.

The Severna Park cross country teams began the day with strong races and ended the day sharing the stage and beaming for photos as both the Falcon boys and girls captured 4A state championships at Hereford High School on November 10.

Severna Park's boys captured their second consecutive state championship and fifth in the last seven seasons. Severna Park's girls won the state for the first time since 2009 and the sixth time in program history.

Falcon runner **Cara Vandemeulebroecke** said the girls have watched the success of the Severna Park boys over the years and were primed to join their peers atop Maryland. "We're one big team, so now we can just share it together," said Vandemeulebroecke.

Severna Park's girls progressed steadily in recent



The Severna Park cross country teams made a joint ascent to the top of Maryland this fall as both the boys and girls teams claimed 4A state championships at Hereford High School on November 10.

seasons before reaching the state's pinnacle, taking sixth in Maryland in 2015, fifth in 2016 and second in 2017.

At this year's state meet they had to overcome separate instances of in-race adversity to capture the crown. The Falcons were 200 yards into the race and had emerged from the treacherous bottleneck near the starting

line with a race-leading pack when a false start was called, and the entire field was called back to the starting line.

On the restart, the Falcons' pack was pinched and separated at the bottleneck. No. 2 runner **Kelsie O'Neill**, a major contributor to the Falcons' successful season, had to drop out midway through the race.

Still, the Falcons persisted and put together a winning total of 102 to eclipse Howard (125) and rival Broadneck (128) in the 21-school, 149-runner field. **Alyssa Combs** fronted Severna Park's effort, placing fourth in 19:22.34. **Kamryn Eveleth** (16th), **Bella Dowdell** (23rd), **Cameron Zaniker** (24th) and Vandemeulebroecke

(35th) contributed to the winning total, with **Caroline Gage** (41st) also running a strong race.

South River's **Bronwyn Patterson** was the individual 4A champion in 19:06.19 and helped the Seahawks to eighth place. Broadneck's **Anna Janke** (seventh), **Mollie Fenn** (ninth), **Madison Palmer** (27th), **Brooke Quillen**

(37th), **Grace Denius** (49th) and **Lilah Sage** (62nd) gave the Bruins a solid team finish.

But the Falcons owned the day.

"The big thing was having the girls believe they can do it," said head coach **Josh Alcombright**. "We knew that we could do this all season, and it took them just believing it."

O'Neill admitted that the Bruins' victory at the county championship on October 24 was a motivating factor for the Falcons to come back and win the 4A East region championship over Broadneck at Arundel on November 1 and the state on November 10.

"It's really nice to win the state championship, but it was a battle throughout the championship season with Broadneck, and we kind of underestimated them at the county meet," she said. "Now, beating them is great. I'm glad they did well too."

Eveleth said the state title is a culmination of her running career, which aligned with the program's year-over-year ascent.

"I've been running for all four years, I'm a senior, this » Continued on C3

## Park Girls Fall Shy Of State Final, Finish 17-2 In Proud Season



Photo by Colin Murphy

Severna Park's 17-2 season included a county-championship win over South River and a 4A East region-championship victory (above) over Broadneck on November 5.

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

It was a team that exceeded outsiders' expectations, gained momentum while tearing through the regular season, won the county championship, slayed the defending state champs in the region final, and subdued teams near and far with a smothering brand of defense and a balanced offense.

It just wasn't quite enough to get to the state final.

The Severna Park girls soccer team's hot season came to a frosty end on November 11 as the Falcons were outplayed ever so slightly by a strong Walt Whitman team in bitter cold and wind in the 4A state semifinals at Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr. High School in Upper Marlboro, where the Vikings engineered a second-half goal to claim a 1-0 victory.

"The girls battled like they did all year. A little unlucky on the one goal, but those things happen, and credit

to [Whitman], they put it away," said Severna Park head coach **Brian Morgan**. "We fought all game, and it was just one of those things where they end up with one more."

A berth in the state final was right there for the taking, and Severna Park (17-2) looked for much of the night to be employing the formula that had carried them to 13 straight wins entering the semifinals and a preposterous 16 shutouts in 2018: stay cool under pressure, finish a scoring chance or two, and leave another opponent frustrated and defeated. The back line foursome of **Kiersten Crowley**, **Emily Knight**, **Lena McLaughlin** and **Chase Campbell** handled pressure in front of goalkeeper **Katie Byrd**, dispossessing Viking buildups and passing calmly out of the back. Midfielders **Kaitlyn McCulloch**, **Madeline Altman**, **Toni Fiocco-Mizer**, **Lauren Campbell**, **Rachel Spilker** and **Chloe Nagel** and

forwards **Sam Cremmins**, **Bella Espinoza**, **Ella Raines** and **Abby Parkison** rotated to help on defense and mounted threats of their own.

Tied 0-0 into the second half, the Falcons nearly took the lead on a corner kick by Altman, but McLaughlin's header rang the crossbar of the goal and was booted away to keep the game scoreless.

The Vikings took the lead moments later, as a shot by **Matilda MacKay** ricocheted high off the crossbar and fell to **Morgan Riso**, who headed it back across Byrd for a 1-0 lead with less than 20 minutes remaining.

Severna Park sent everyone forward to try for a late equalizer, but chances were few, and the season came to an early end.

The semifinal loss was a bittersweet end point for a program making its 15th state tournament appearance and angling for a sixth state crown all- » Continued on C4

## Green Hornets 14U's Win County, State Championships



The 14U Green Hornets didn't have the strongest regular season in the win column, but they started playing their best football come playoff time. In the postseason, Severna Park reeled off four straight victories to claim an Anne Arundel Youth Football Association championship and an All-Pro Youth Football state championship.

By Colin Murphy  
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When the Severna Park Varsity U (14U) football team entered the Anne Arundel Youth Football Association National division playoffs with a record of 2-5-1, a county championship was possible, though far from a safe bet.

But the Green Hornets possessed confidence: all their games throughout the season had been close, and three of their four losses were by a one-score margin. Severna Park knew it had the ability to beat any opponent in its way.

The Green Hornets didn't merely justify their confidence — they went a step further. Severna Park reeled off three straight county playoff victories,

including a 30-12 rout of Old Mill in the final, to win the AAYFA championship, then went on to claim a state title by defeating the Hereford Bulls, 30-0, in the All-Pro Youth Football State Championship game.

Severna Park's players, who will enter high school football next season, finished out their youth careers on a four-game win streak, freshly minted as county and state champs.

"I could not be more proud of a group of young men than I am of this group," said Green Hornets 14U head coach **Jason Shipman**. "It was a perfect way to end their youth football careers."

The team of **Rudy King**, **Jake Nesbitt**, **John Choi**, **Evan Stroble**, **Lex Hayes**, **Ben Hayes**, **Jackson Elms**, **Ron Ron Manning**, **Daniel Eckroad**,

**Caden Brunatti**, **Talan Livingston**, **Max DeMella**, **Kevin Bredeck**, **Jack Gunther**, **Bobby Howe**, **Nick Sotiropoulos-Lawrence**, **Seamus Patenaude**, **Ashby Shepherd**, **Daniel Stack**, **Dave Fitzgerald**, **Joshua Hong**, **Tyler Woodward**, **Kellen Curtis**, **Dillon Torggler**, **John McCone**, **Jason Shipman** and **Brett Boeskin** didn't have the most successful regular season by won-loss standards, notching wins only over the Pasadena Chargers and Crofton Cardinals, and tying the Pasadena Bucs.

In the final week of the regular season, the team lost a close matchup to the Panthers, 14-8, solidifying their seeding and ensuring a first-round playoff » Continued on C6

# 13U Galaxy Finish Atop NCSL Division

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

The Severna Park 13U Galaxy girls soccer team had a successful fall season playing in the always competitive National Capital Soccer League.

The Galaxy went undefeated at 5-0-4 to finish atop the 11-team NCSL Division 4 and earn promotion to NCSL Division 3 for the spring 2019 season.

In addition to the team's league finish, Galaxy were tournament finalists in Columbia Fall Classic,



The U13 Galaxy went undefeated with a 5-0-4 record in National Capital Soccer League play.

notching a highlight victory over A3 in the semifinals on a last-second game-winning goal.

The team of **Hannah McLaughlin, Jordan Shriner, Annabelle Wellschlagel, Rowan**

**Schneider, Riley Panuska, Sarah Kelly, Natalie Pace, Lena Slade, Arianna Eggleston, Kaylee Gerber, Taylor Denton, CJ Kelliher, Audrey Denton, Kendall Scalley, Ellie Ballard and Eleni Puzas** was coached by **Larry Denton**.

"Their team-first attitude, work ethic and dedication are unmatched," said coach Denton of the Galaxy.

Severna Park's Galaxy will play outdoor soccer through the winter in preparation for spring NCSL play and several tournaments in 2019.

## Green Hornets 9U Baseball Team Goes Undefeated



The Green Hornets posted an overall record of 14-0 this fall.

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

Look out for Green Hornets 9U baseball.

Severna Park had an outstanding fall season, going 11-0 in Chesapeake Baseball Association league play and 3-0 in tournament play for an overall undefeated record of 14-0.

In addition to running the league table in the CBA, the team of **Greyson Bal, Brayden Kiernan, Jonathan Bullough, Derek Grossi, Brandon Matta, Dillon Autry, Chase Goldman, Eli Ferguson, TJ Viera, Tyler Bowerman, Riley Buck, Seth Henson** and

**Zach Edwards** won the United States Specialty Sports Association One Day Challenge in Annapolis, going 3-0 and beating Damascus 7-4 in the tournament's championship game.

"I am really impressed with these kids' desire to get better every practice, and it shows in the games," said head coach **Tim Bowerman**, who coached the team with assistant coaches **Kyle Autry, Scott Grossi** and **Jim Viera**.

"We have come a long way this fall, and we look forward to seeing them improve over the winter to get ready for our spring season."



The Severna Park 2009 Premier Green boys soccer team went 4-0 at the Virginia Beach FC Tournament.

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

The Severna Park 2009 Premier Green boys soccer team participated in the Virginia Beach FC tournament over Columbus Day weekend and came away with the tournament championship.

Playing in beautiful sunny weather, Severna Park won all four of its games, taking home the championship in the most competitive division. The team's 11 gifted and team-oriented players are **Benjamin Montgomery, Brody Feldmaier, Caden Morris, Carter Moden, Christian D'Amico, Colin McDonald, Collin Denton, Conner Hall, Gavin Cliffe, Liam Kinslow**

and **Alvaro Dominguez-Calix**. Severna Park is coached by **Andy Moden, Kennedy Cliffe** and **Larry Denton**.

Severna Park's win in Virginia Beach came on the heels of a successful fall league season win which the 09 Premier Green finished in first place in Division I of the Central Maryland Short-Sided League.

"They are ready and eager to carry on the great tradition of excellence in Severna Park soccer," said coach Moden. "I have been impressed with the boys commitment and willingness to improve, and it has shown on the field not only with our results but with the high quality of soccer we play."

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SPXC Wins Two State Titles



The Severna Park girls cross country team claimed its first state championship since 2009 and sixth in program history.

» Continued from C1  
is my last states, we came in second last year, and it just feels great to know that we won,” said Eveleth. “I’ve been wanting this for years.”

On the boys side, the Falcons continued their superb season and rebooted a dynasty. Severna Park won three straight titles from 2012 to 2014 before runner-up finishes to Dulaney in 2015 and 2016.

With titles in 2017 and 2018, Severna Park is back on top of Maryland, and the Falcons did it again this year in dominant fashion.

The finishes of **Garrison Clark** (fourth place in 16:02.63), **Sam Martin** (fifth in 16:20.41), **Jake Gelfand** (eighth), **Nick Engelman** (16th) and **Nathan Vandemeulebroecke** (19th) ensured a team total of 45 that far outpaced runner-up Northwood (105) and third-place Dulaney (157). The finishes of **Matthew Bateman** (23rd) and **Nick Benedict** (28th) would have still ensured a team championship for the Falcons in the 25-school, 177-runner field.

Northwood’s **Obsaa Feda** won the 4A race in 15:44.05. **Sam Keeny** of South River was the county’s top finisher, taking third in 16:02.39. **Spencer Tate** was Broadneck’s top finisher, taking eighth in 16:27.57.

Gelfand extolled the depth of the Falcons, who boast 20 runners who regularly achieve sub-18-minute times on 3.1-mile courses.

“It’s great for the team,” said Gelfand. “Our depth, we go probably 20-deep sub-18, and it’s just that kind of

pushing that goes all the way up and makes us a better team overall.”

Engelman said the group benefits from a culture of inclusion and accountability, where no one is above the group.

“Coach A has done a really good job of making everyone feel like they’re just as important as another,” Engelman said. “Just because you’re first on this team, you’re not treated any differently. That’s what I love about it. No matter what place you are, you still feel just as important.”

Martin said the Falcons run with a mentality focused on team-wide performance.

“I think it’s the fact that we’re all together,” Martin said. “It’s one team. From the bottom up, everyone is pushing each other. You’re not just out there running for yourself. You’re running for the person next to you, the person behind you, the person in front of you, the person who may not even be in the same race as you, you’re just running together as one team, and you’re not doing it for yourself, you’re doing it for the next person on your team.”

Alcombright praised the combined efforts of coaches **Justin Marvel**, **Jane Herschelman**, **Brian Szydlak**, **Krista Fisher** and now-retired **Elmer McPhail**, the latter of whom was in attendance for the state championship races.

Alcombright also credited support of his family as well as the parents and families of the students in helping the success of the program.

Said Alcombright, “It’s a big family, and it takes everyone to do it.”

Student-Athletes Sign College Letters Of Intent



Severna Park athletes (above left) including Ronni Binstock (below right) and Broadneck athletes made their college commitments official this November with Signing Day ceremonies.

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

Severna Park and Broadneck student-athletes made their dreams official on November 14 by signing National Letters of Intent to play college sports.

Signing-day ceremonies were held at both campuses, and the student-athletes celebrated with family, coaches, teachers and friends.

Both the Bruins’ and Falcons’ list of college-bound athletes came from a variety of sports. For the Falcons, five girls lacrosse players signed their

letters of intent: **Hailey Blachley** (Jacksonville), **Hunter Chadwick** (Northwestern), **Alex Miller** (Johns Hopkins), **Rachel Spilker** (Penn State) and **Kayla Minton** (Longwood). Also signing were softball standout **Campbell Kline** (Maryland) and boys lacrosse player **Shane Carr** (Michigan). **Ronni Binstock** signed to compete in gymnastics on a full scholarship at Western Michigan University.

The Bruins’ celebrated a class of 15 student-athletes making their college commitments. Broadneck

girls soccer players signing their letters included **Talia Gabarra** (Central Florida), **Anna Moyer** (Frostburg State) and **Caleigh Fletcher** (Dickinson). Bruin field hockey signees included **Megan Munley** (Maryland), **Emily Eckels**, (New Hampshire) and **Sophia Hartman** (Lehigh). Broadneck boys lacrosse players signing letters included **Keegan Houser** (Naval Academy), **Vinny Facciponti** (York) and **Jack Bragaw** (Coast Guard Academy). Girls lacrosse players **Olivia Abe** (Wofford) and **Kaala Puglisi**, (Florida) made their commitments, as



did Broadneck football players **Ethon Williams** (Boston College) and **Caelan Shepard** (Buffalo), Bruin baseball player **Nick Gattton** (Stevenson) and softball player **Ryan Finazzo** (Converse College).

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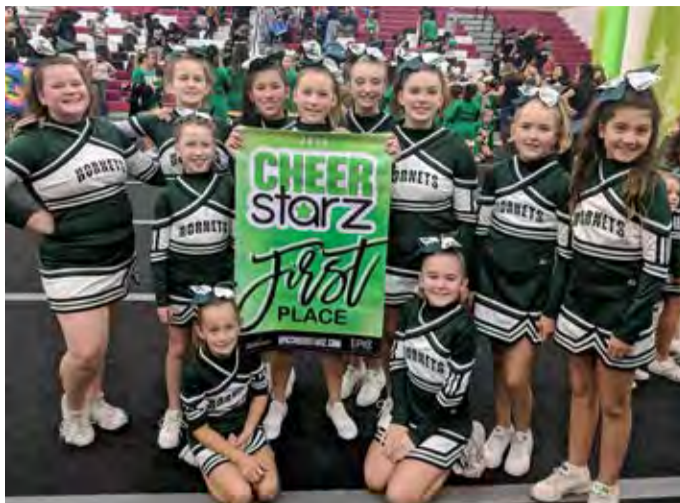
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# Green Hornets Cheerleaders Finish Successful Fall Season



The Green Hornets 6U/8U Bumblebees (left) and 12U/14U Stingers (right) earned first-place finishes at the Retro Rock cheerleading meet in November. Along with the 10U Honeybees, Green Hornets cheerleading squads competed at multiple meets this fall.

By Colin Murphy

colin@severnaparkvoice.com

Green Hornets cheerleaders of all age levels had a successful fall season, and three teams competed for Severna Park and performed well in a pair of regional competitions.

The 6U/8U Bumblebees, 10U Honeybees and 12U/14U Stingers all represented Severna Park proudly at the Kick Off Classic meet in October as well as the Retro Rock cheerleading competition in November.

After a second-place finish in October, the 6U/8U Bumblebees came back to take first place at the Retro Rock meet in November. The Green Hornets Bumblebees are **Addalynn Chapman, Alice Collins, Charlotte Degnan, Akari Duncan, Olivia Gardner, Audrey Jenkins, Katherine Kelly, Kaylee Kendle, Sophia Lebowitz, Reese Reineck, Kendall Rhames, Khloe Rhames, Paige Shushan, Lyla Stohler** and **Piper Welch**, and the team is coached by **Carol Collins**,

**Bridget Kelly, Nicole Reineck** and **Mary Seeley**.

"I am so proud of these girls! They worked so hard and they learned so much, and they were such a fun group to work with," said coach Collins, who is the interim Green Hornets cheerleading commissioner. "This younger age group always has a lot of new athletes, and it was incredible to watch as they learned and grew and fell in love with the sport."

The 10U Honeybees team of **Rachael Blizzard, Kayla Camacho, Cailyn Cortez, Miley Fitchet, Kenzie Glasgow, Skylar Greenleaf, Lilly Hittle, Gabriella James, Sophia Listman, Allison Moran, Cassidy Morris** and **Madelyn Suhar** took runner-up at both meets. The Honeybees are coached by **Hailey Dove, Muntana Hittle, Lindsay Morris** and **Michelle Comacho**.

Coach Dove said the organization was welcomed her as a new coach, and the athletes rounded into form and grew in confidence as the season went on.

"Being a new coach to this

organization, I came in very nervous about this season, but these girls welcomed me with warm arms, and it couldn't have felt more like home," said Dove. "They worked so incredibly hard this season and I am so proud of them. I am looking forward to the future with the Green Hornets! The parents are amazing and my assistant coaches rocked it. I am forever grateful for this team! They will always have a special spot in my heart!"

The Stingers improved from a third-place finish in October to win the Retro Rock meet in November. The Stingers cheerleaders are **Abigail Chase, Megan Dottellis, Isabella Fellows, Victoria Gardner, Jenevieve Ghahhari, Savannah Gibson, Kaylie Greenleaf, Sophia Leon, Truleigh Monroe, Riley Morris, Kelly Moy, Brooke Pastine** and **Alexis Puckett**, and the team is coached by **Bridget Jacobs, Jamie Nelson, Wendy Greenleaf** and **April Morris**. In addition to taking first place at the Retro Rock, the Stingers

also won the Best Tumbling team award.

Coach Nelson extolled the focus of the Stingers for their successful end to the season.

"I was amazed by this hardworking group of girls!" said Nelson, saying the team went through late struggles with synching its routine before coming together when it was time to perform. "They then had only three practices to clean it up before going into our next competition, and they nailed it, bringing home a first-place trophy! They made us coaches and parents very proud!"

Interim commissioner Collins praised the efforts of the parents and families that helped ensure a successful year for the cheerleaders.

"The group of volunteers we had this season was incredible," said Collins. "They each put in so much time and effort to make sure this was a great season for our athletes, and it really paid off. It was such a privilege to work with such dedicated women, and I'm so grateful to all of them."

## SP Girls Soccer Finishes 17-2

» **Continued from C1**  
time, but it also marked the return to prominence for the Falcons in the 4A East, a region largely dominated by Broadneck and South River in the past six seasons.

Severna Park's season gained steam as it went. The Falcons avenged their only regular-season defeat by topping the Seahawks on penalties to win the county championship on October 23, and they ousted their rivals and the reigning state champs in a shootout win over the Bruins to claim the region crown on November 5, the program's first region title since 2011.

En route to the state tournament, the Falcons manufactured success in a somewhat unconventional way: Severna Park was a team without a superstar. They didn't benefit from any singular overpowering talent, no tour-de-force blue chipper that championship teams often rely on to drive success.

Instead, Severna Park was a team in which everyone fit their role perfectly, and the Falcons leveraged their teamwork to become greater than the sum of their individual parts.

"That's how I've looked at it this year," said Morgan. "They're a special group."

Nowhere was this more apparent than on defense, where the Falcons were dominant. Crowley, McLaughlin, Knight, Chase Campbell and Byrd were the state's most impenetrable defense, communicating effectively and operating almost flawlessly throughout the year. Even Whitman can't claim a season of 16 shutouts and only five goals surrendered in 19 games.

"A lot of it is being in the program for the last three years," said Morgan. "They've all got a pretty good grasp on what we're trying to achieve. A lot of it is that communication and the understanding that the game is going to dictate players moving around. Once you realize

your partner is in a different spot, it's about how can you support them or replace them."

On offense, the Falcons took turns playing hero. Raines (nine goals), Lauren Campbell (six goals, four assists), Espinoza (six goals), Fiocco-Mizer (four goals, five assists), Cremmins (two goals, eight assists), Altman (four goals, four assists) and Knight (six assists) racked up numbers, but tallies were spread evenly throughout the team, as 21 different players scored or assisted.

Together with the underclassmen, this year's senior class turned the program around from a five-win season in 2016 to a berth in the region final last year to a breakthrough into the state tournament this year.

"I'm happy that we could help this program, and when we were here, get even better than [before] we were here," said Cremmins, a senior captain. "They've told us so many times we've made an impact on this team, and that's what really matters to me, no matter how far we go."

McCulloch, a senior and captain, spoke beyond the game itself when describing her pride for the season and the program.

"I'm happy for the times we've had, and not only on the soccer field," she said. "We've grown closer as people. We laugh. We laugh a lot together. We find ways to laugh at ourselves when we make mistakes. On the field, we push each other. We've grown not only on the soccer field, but as people as well, and I feel like everyone on the team has made me a better person and taught me something new. I'm happy for the times we've had and sad that it's over, but it all has to end at some point."

Cremmins said a renewed standard is established at Severna Park, and the remaining Falcons will look to take another step in 2019. "Next year," Cremmins said, "they'll be back."

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# U10 Pride Girls Win Capital Fall Classic



The Severna Park U10 Pride went 4-0 against all Virginia teams in winning the Capital Fall Classic tournament championship.

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

The Severna Park Pride U10 girls soccer team followed up its strong league season with a tournament championship this fall. The Pride, who are **Avery Billmyer, Izzy Burleson, Claire Farley, Molly Koistinen, Rilynn Kusiak, Ella McLaughlin, Lilly Mosher, Brooke Nobleza, Audrey Smith, Harper Wallace and Keira Wittlinger**, went 6-1 in the 10-team Central Maryland Short Sided League 2009 Red Division, losing only to rival Pipeline Black, which won the league at 7-0 and defeated Severna Park 3-2 on a last-minute goal; the Pride finished as league runners-up.

Severna Park's encore to its league campaign came at the Capital Fall Classic, where the team went 4-0 and won the tournament championship. The Pride defeated four Virginia-based teams in winning the title, getting goals from McLaughlin, Farley, Koistinen, Mosher and Wittlinger and three by Burleson in outscoring the opposition by a combined 8-2 count. After winning their first two games, the Pride came from 1-0 down in the tournament semifinals against the Richmond Strikers Elite Orange, getting second-half goals by Koistinen and Mosher, with Mosher's coming off an assist by McLaughlin, to advance to the final with a 2-1 win. In

the championship game against FC Richmond 09 Navy, Burleson beat a defender and sent a shot into the net at the far post, and Wittlinger scored on a long blast to seal a 2-0 win for Severna Park. "I think we gave it our all, and the results showed it," Wittlinger said of the Fall Classic title. "I am very proud of us." The team is coached by the father-daughter duo of **John Brady and Kiley Kusiak**, who spoke highly of the Pride's efforts. "We stress work rate and effort all the time to these girls, and they worked extremely hard against tough teams from Virginia," said Brady. Coach Kusiak believed the team's winning ways began

on the defensive end. "I think our constant pressure from the backline not allowing players to turn and playing good balls to our forwards helped us out this weekend," Kusiak said. McLaughlin said the team rose to the occasion of playing in a competitive tournament. "The Capital Fall Classic tournament has been one of my favorites," McLaughlin said. "Most of the time the whole team was filled with energy. I think we did a good job connecting passes in the championship game. Everyone played really hard and deserved our win."

# 2011 Boys Go 4-0 At Arundel Cup



The Green Hornets were successful in their first venture into competitive tournament play, going 4-0 and winning the seven-versus-seven Arundel Cup.

A collection of Severna Park's top boys soccer players from the 2011 cohort came together to form a tournament team that went on to go undefeated against county competition. The Severna Park Green 2011 boys soccer team went 4-0 at the Arundel Cup and outscored the opposition 18-6 in four victories. The team of **Blakely Polvani, Jacob Coleman, Brody Makowski, Henry Agee, Braedon Burnam, Benjamin Montesana, William Viera, Chase Connell, Angelo Coppola, Ryan Buck and Nicholas Kessler** trained throughout the fall with Coerver United, and the Arundel Cup was the boys' first seven-on-seven

competition together. Viera led the team in scoring and was named the tournament's MVP. "We were proud of the boys for utilizing the skills that they learned in training this fall and playing together as a team in their first external seven-versus-seven experience," said **John Coppola**, who coached the team with **Matt Agee**. "The model that we have created for the 2011 select player pool, through our partnership with Coerver, was on full display during the tournament. The boys are learning to play the beautiful game the right way and having a lot of fun at the same time. All of the boys played tremendously hard with and for each other."



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# 11U Green Hornets Go 10-2



The 11U Green Hornets went 10-2 and reached the championship of the AAYFA Central division, and the team will move up to the top division of AAYFA football next fall.

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

The 11U Green Hornets football team followed its impressive regular season with a strong playoff run, reaching the championship game of the Anne Arundel Youth Football Association Central division playoffs.

Playoff wins over the Pasadena Panthers and Harundale Rebels preceded Severna Park’s loss to the Pasadena Bucs in the final, and the Green Hornets finished the year 10-2 overall.

The team of **Will Garzon, Tim Gasque, Caleb Gremillion, Mason Keegan, Benji Beisler, Lukas Emrich, Mitch Murray, John Paul Miller, Brayden Murphy, Joey Tramontana, Teddy Evans, Connor Kemezis, Chris Pagan, Zachary Tambascio, Gabe MacRobbie, Will Campbell, Landon Zawartka, Andrew Volkov, TJ Morgan, Quinn Briggs, Connor Woodward, Brandon**

**Beall, Reid Caughy, Julian Murphy and Gavin Hall** mixed experienced players with first-year players and produced a season to be proud of, said head coach **Chris Kunkel Jr.**

“I am proud of our team for plenty of reasons,” said Kunkel Jr., who coached the team with assistant coaches **Chris Kunkel Sr., Scott MacRobbie, Dean Tramontana, Aaron Martin and John Gremillion**, with game and practice assistance from team mom **Heather Woodward**.

Kunkel Jr. noted the players’ collective ability to fill their roles—no one on the team started on both offense and defense—and achieve the goals they set forth at the beginning of the year.

“This team consisted of 10 first-year players out of the 25 total players on the team, and those new players were able to learn the game, contribute to the team, and have enough fun doing so that they all told me that they will be

back to play again next season. Second, our team definitely epitomized the team concept. Finally, we achieved all three of our goals that we set out for the boys at the first practice. The first goal was to have fun, and they did that. The second goal was to play safely, and aside from one player sustaining a broken finger in the championship game, no other player sustained more than the normal bumps and bruises that come with playing the sport of football. And finally, our third goal was to make it to the championship game, because in the past four years, our team had lost in the semifinals of the playoffs. Our motto for the season was ‘One more game!’ and we did in fact get that one more game. Despite losing in the championship game, our season was a huge success and something that all of the coaches are looking to build upon as we move up to the D1 level in the AAYFA next season.”

# Green Hornets 14U’s Win County, State Titles

» Continued from C1

rematch with the Panthers. That’s when Severna Park took off. The Green Hornets rebounded to oust the Panthers in the first round of the playoffs, defeating Pasadena convincingly, 24-6.

In the AAYFA semifinals, the Green Hornets squared off with the General’s Highway Tigers, who they had lost to 19-16 in the regular season when the Tigers had methodically gained yards inside the red zone to score a late winning touchdown. This time, Severna Park’s defense shined and shut out the Tigers, 14-0.

A highlight came when the Tigers, trailing 8-0 at the time, progressed deep into Severna Park territory, but the Green Hornet defense held strong. When the Tigers had third-and-goal on the one-foot line, Woodward blitzed through the line of scrimmage and made a critical tackle, spearing the Tiger ball-carrier for a 2-yard loss. Despite having trouble with the Tigers’ team speed in the regular-season loss, the Hornets made a fourth-down stop by preventing a Tiger runner from getting space on the outside, smothering him for an 8-yard loss and a turnover on downs.

“It was just a key moment not only in our season but in these players’ careers,” said coach Shipman. “They were able to learn and grow from their past experiences and make the play when it mattered most. “[It was] one of the best defensive stands I have witnessed.”

Once into the final against Old Mill, the Hornets’ momentum couldn’t be stopped. Having suffered their worst loss of the regular season to the Patriots in a 14-0 defeat, Severna Park exploded in the championship for a 30-12 rout.

Already leading 16-6 in the second quarter against the Patriots, Torggler, a team captain, intercepted a pass with a minute left before halftime, and the Hornets perfectly executed a two-minute drill to take a 24-6 lead into halftime. Patenaude, the quarterback, connected on passes to Bredeck and Brunatti, and Sotiropoulos-Lawrence gained yards on a run, setting up a 40-yard touchdown pass from Patenaude to Torggler.

“I think the touchdown right before halftime really gave the players a lot of confidence and allowed our team to come out to start the second half playing really inspired football,” said Shipman. “They really wanted to win this game, and it showed in their level of intensity and how they played from start to finish.”

Newly crowned county champions, the Green Hornets turned around and pummeled Hereford 30-0 in the All-Pro Youth Football State Championship final two weeks later to add a state title to the season.

The team finished 6-5-1 and was coached by Jason Shipman, defensive coordinator **Ed Brunatti** and assistant coaches **RJ Weddle, Dave Fitzgerald, Rob Shepherd, Brian Golson and Paul Hayes**. The team mom is **Heather Woodward**.

In four postseason wins the team averaged 22 points per game and allowed an average of only 6 points per game. Boeskin, Gunther, Manning, Sotiropoulos-Lawrence and Patenaude each had rushing touchdowns in the playoff run. Stroble

and Sotiropoulos-Lawrence each had a receiving touchdown, while Torggler had two receiving touchdowns and Patenaude threw four touchdown passes.

The kicking unit also played a crucial role in the team’s success during the season and playoffs. At the 14U level, kicks after touchdowns are worth two points instead of the traditional one, so the kicking unit of Sotiropoulos-Lawrence (kicker), Shepherd (long snapper) and Bredeck (holder) gave Severna Park an important x-factor weapon over opponents.

Woodward, Bredeck, Stack, Gunther and Shepherd have been the consistent core of the team since they began playing Green Hornets football seven years ago as 70-pounders.

Coach Shipman said a key for the players was keeping their confidence despite close losses during the season.

“I am extremely proud of this group of players because they never got down on themselves during the regular season,” Shipman said. “We as coaches were really tough on them throughout the year, and I think it ultimately paid off in the end. The players never let the close losses affect how hard they worked. They just kept showing up and allowing themselves to be coached. Our coaching staff knew how good of a team we had, we just had to get the players to believe it. Once they did, we started to click at the right time of the year, and our ‘road to redemption’ took off from there.

“To come back and beat three teams in the playoffs that we lost to during the regular season is a credit to our players and their work ethic. I could not be more proud of a group of young men than I am of this group. To finish out their youth football careers this way is an awesome achievement, and I am going to miss coaching these young men.”

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Team Fireball Wins Rec Championship



Team Fireball defeated the Cool Ranch Sharks 3-1 on November 17 to win the Green Hornets seventh/eighth grade rec soccer league championship at Kinder Park. Goals by Fireball's Sophia Errera, Rachael Zabko and Regan McDonnell helped the team close the season with a championship. The team of Errera, Zabko, McDonnell, Ruby O'Neill, Cecelia Bonney, Madison Davis, Ashley Dziepak, Emily Ford, Emmy Kline, Rylie Laughon, Chloe Marron, Trystan Matuszewski, Jaeda Raup-West, Delanie Robertson, Jenna Stephan and Trisha Wallace finished the season undefeated at 9-0-1. Team Fireball is coached by Heath O'Neill and Jenny O'Neill.

Green Hornets U11 Boys Take First In CMSSL



The Greens Hornets U11 White select boys soccer team won the Central Maryland Short-Sided League White Division with a perfect 8-0 league record. The U11 White are Stephen Bacho, Davis Bates, Max Bibeault, Noah Cerny, Myles Goger, Chase Griner, Dash Havens, Connor Hill, Tucker Kelly, Colin King, Brody O'Brien, Jaiden Proctor, Teddy Uy and Tanner Wedlake. They are led by head coach Kurt Cerny and assistant coach Jason King.

Warriors Outlast Foes For Green Hornets Club Championship

By Colin Murphy  
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

The Warriors boys soccer team put together a fairytale run to avenge their only losses of the season and win the Green Hornets seventh/eighth-grade club soccer championship in November.

The team of **Collin Brazil, Kenneth Brazil, Neal Brierley, Nathaniel Cortez, Ryan Crowley, Louis Gehring, Ryan Graves, Kevin Hall, Brady Jones, Sawyer Knapp, Adam Marsella, Ryan Osborne, Galen Richardson, Kiernan Robinson, Joey Tomar, Alexander Villegas** and **Charlie Wilemon** went 6-2 in regular-season play. A turning point in the season came when the Warriors were 2-0 and played Doug Mules' Black team in the third game of the year. The Black crushed the Warriors 9-2, spurring the Warriors to focus on defense. "Something had to change, so we committed to defense and didn't give up more than two goals in any game the rest of the year," said Warriors coach **Kirby Knapp**. After a first-round playoff bye, the team had another chance at Mules' Black team. Black led 1-0 at half, but a second-half goal by Brierley tied the game, and Wilemon scored the game-winner 30 seconds into overtime to



The Green Hornets Warriors avenged their only two losses of the season in a championship playoff run to win the seventh/eighth-grade club crown at Kinder Park on November 3.

send the Warriors to the championship.

In the championship game at Kinder Park on November 3, the Warriors faced the undefeated Gray team coached by John Zaniker and Matt McGaughey; Gray had outscored opposition 38-4 in going undefeated at 8-0 during the regular season, and they had defeated the Warriors 2-1 in the lead-up to the playoffs. Gray took an early 1-0 lead in the final, but Wilemon tied it 1-1. Again Gray went ahead 2-1, but Wilemon scored once again to tie the game at 2-2. After a scoreless overtime, the teams went to penalties. In the seventh round of penalties with the teams tied 2-2, Crowley scored to put the Warriors up, and Gray couldn't convert their chance to extend, sealing the championship for

the Warriors.

Offensively the team was led by forwards Wilemon, Knapp, Graves and Osborne. Kenny Brazill, Cortez, Crowley, Gehring, Hall and Robinson dominated the midfield. Marsella, Brierley, Collin Brazill, Jones, Richardson and Villegas provided lock-down defense, with Tomar doing the bulk of the goalkeeping.

Coach Knapp, who coached the team with **Chris Richardson**, said he kept practices lighthearted and enjoyable, and the boys focused on having a good time.

"We knew we'd have fun this season but no one expected this team to win it all," said Knapp. "[They're an] enthusiastic and fun-loving group of boys. They prioritized being with one another more than winning."

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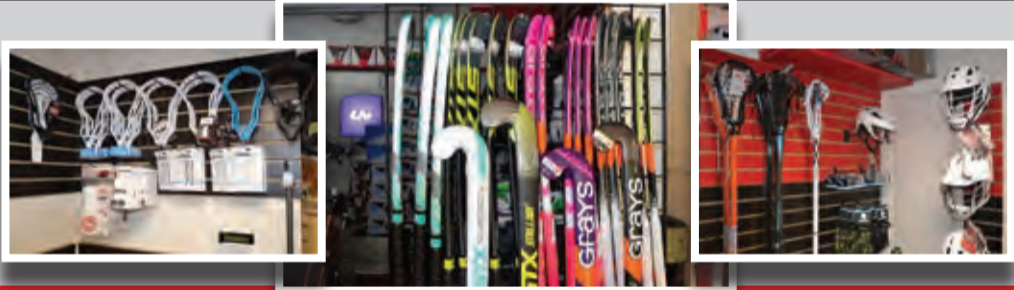
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## Brandon Taub Operates Successful Milk Delivery Business

By Maya Pottiger

Thought of as a thing of the past, the desire for a door-to-door milkman is still alive, a fact proven by Brandon Taub.

Taub, a 14-year-old, currently spends his Saturday mornings delivering dairy products — milk, eggs and yogurt — to families in Severna Park and Arnold neighborhoods. His business, which is roughly one year old, is called Flying Cow Organics.

"I heard stories about the milkman and stuff, and one day it popped in my head," Taub said. "I thought it would be a convenient thing for people to still have, it just wasn't around anymore. That was the driving factor."

Taub partnered with South Mountain Creamery in Frederick to get the dairy products. He currently delivers to 25 families, but has had nearly 40 families rotate in and out of his delivery service



Brandon Taub started Flying Cow Organics to deliver milk, eggs and yogurt to households in Severna Park and Arnold.

since it started.

"Saturday mornings, we go deliver to people," Taub said. "They have coolers out, and we swap for the empty container."

To start, Taub did a trial month with the neighbors in his cul-de-sac. Before the month was up, his business spread through word of mouth, and he was

already getting calls from more customers.

"It happened really rapidly," Taub said. "It was two weeks in, and we had phone calls from other people."

What sets products from South Mountain Creamery apart from grocery store products is that they're really fresh, Taub said.

"I've seen the operation; it's really fast," Taub said. "They get it out, and within three days, you're drinking the milk."

Flying Cow Organics has been so successful that Taub was able to buy himself a Mini Cooper.

"It was pretty beat up, but I've been working on it," Taub said. "By the time I'm 16, it'll be perfect. That was the whole idea of getting it younger: so I can work on it."

Taub, an eighth-grader at Severn School, said he plans to study business in college. He attributes his interest in running a business to his dad, who owns R2integrated.

"I've always looked up to him," Taub said. "I like running a business because I get to make the decisions, so that's pretty freeing."

Email [flyingcoworganics@gmail.com](mailto:flyingcoworganics@gmail.com) to learn how to get Flying Cow Organics products delivered to your door.

## Meet Polar Plunger McKenna Chadwick



Before McKenna Chadwick can jump into the Chesapeake Bay 24 times over 24 hours, she must raise \$10,000 for Special Olympics Maryland by hosting fundraisers.

By Monica Resa

Fifteen-year-old Shipley's Choice resident and Archbishop Spalding student McKenna Chadwick is not afraid of getting her feet wet, literally. Last year, with the support of her family and the inspiration of a former Special Olympian, Jimmy Myrick, she became a Super Plunger and raised more than \$10,000 for Special Olympics Maryland.

The Polar Bear Plunge is a series of January events that challenge people to charge into the wintry water at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis. These plunges are Special Olympics Maryland's biggest fundraising events of the year.

The first event, the Super Plunge, has only 38 participants but will account for more than 10 percent of all the money raised. The final event the following week is the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge, which attracts more than 10,000

Marylanders who raise money to support Special Olympics.

"My dad and brothers did the plunge when I was little," McKenna shared. "The Super Plunge was one of my favorite things because although I wasn't plunging, it was so much fun for me. I would make posters and cheer for them as they ran out of the water, and because I was there every year, I made many friends."

The Chadwicks took a break for a few years, but McKenna pushed her family to get involved again after Myrick's death in 2016.

"Last year, I wrote a letter to my parents about how badly I wanted to get involved," McKenna said. "I have a special place in my heart for Jimmy, as do my parents, and he was a big motivation for me. They agreed last year, and I reached my goal of \$10,000."

This will be McKenna's second year as a Super Plunger. Her family has

» Continued on C12

## Boy Scout Seeks Assistance To Complete Eagle Project Benefiting U.S. Military



Fletcher Port (right) is trying to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout by building shelves at a USO warehouse and by sending care packages to members of the military. He is pictured with his mom, Amy, and sister, Zoe.

By Judy Tacyn

In just shy of four years as a Boy Scout, Pasadena resident and Severna Park High School

freshman Fletcher Port has quickly worked his way up the ranks and is already zeroing in on his community service project required to earn the rank of

Eagle Scout. Fletcher will support the United Service Organizations (USO) by building shelves at their Ft. Belvoir warehouse and creating care packages for service men and women deploying through Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI) in late January. To accomplish his two-fold project, Fletcher is asking the community for financial assistance.

"The USO is very important to me because my father was in the military," said Fletcher. "I've always wanted to give back to our troops and give them my thanks, so when I was thinking about what to do for my Eagle Scout project, I thought about all the organizations and military bases we live by and decided that I would pick an organization that I really supported what they stood for."

Fletcher hopes to raise \$5,000, which will fund the purchase of wood and supplies to construct shelves on for much-needed storage space at a USO warehouse on January 5. After the cost of build-

ing materials, Fletcher has an ambitious goal of creating care packages for soldiers deploying through BWI airport.

"Members of my scout troop will join me at BWI to hand out the care packages to military members as they travel from BWI to wherever they may be being deployed," explained Fletcher. "The packages will include treats and shaving kits, which will hopefully make their flight more comfortable and

» Continued on C9

## Brooke Hodges Continues Fifth Annual Dental Drive

By Maya Pottiger

It took Brooke Hodges and her mom 20 minutes to check out at the Dollar Store. Their cart was filled to the brim with dental supplies.

A woman in line asked what the supplies were for.

Since Christmas 2014, Brooke, now 14 years old, has done a dental drive to help the less fortunate. During her second year volunteering with Giving Back, Linda's Legacy, Brooke noticed that there was a need for dental items. She asked her mom if they could help.

"We [thought], 'Why don't we do a collection drive and see what we can get,' thinking we would just get a handful of stuff," said Antoinette Hodges, Brooke's mom. "It ended up being thousands of items."

Now running her fifth annual dental drive, Brooke has a network of dental offices and donors, including Dr. Ryan Gens of Bay Hills Family Dentistry and Michelle Tate of Pediatric Dental Specialists.

"I'm really, really impressed with her being so motivated to help out the community and being so driven," Gens said. "She came in on her own last year and, rather than being led by her mom, she was very forthright



At 14 years old, Brooke Hodges is running her fifth annual dental drive, which benefits Giving Back, Linda's Legacy; Blue Ribbon Project; Winter Relief; and other groups.

in telling me what she wanted to do. I think she's doing a fantastic job."

Tate said she continues to "be impressed by Brooke's heart and determination to help others."

"It is a rare thing to find a person that dedicated to seeing to the needs of others, and especially one so young," Tate said.

Brooke donates her dental items to numerous organizations in Anne Arundel County: Giving Back, Linda's Legacy; Blue Ribbon Project; Winter

Relief; as well as schools, women's shelters and family shelters.

This year, Brooke is focusing on dental items for children.

"There are many children in homeless shelters, and I'm trying to give enough dental items this year," Brooke said.

Brooke starts collecting items in October and continues through December 21. Any donations she receives after that date will be donated to Winter Relief in January and February.

"My favorite part is the look on people's faces when they receive something they don't have," Brooke said. "Homeless people are in need of these necessities and they are very thankful for any help. I like meeting the children a lot and connecting with them."

In addition to her dental drive, Brooke volunteers with the Thrive youth group at Centerpoint Church Kent Island. She plans on volunteering at the Animal Welfare League of Queen Anne's County. In May, Brooke was recognized as one of *What's Up Magazine's* Super Kids.

"I feel it is important [to give back] because we should all help those in need, and I want to inspire anyone and everyone to do what they can to help," Brooke said.

## New St. Martin's Learning Center Slated For Fall 2019 Completion



St. Martin's staff members and area residents are looking forward to construction of the 7,000-square-foot Snyder Learning Center, which will have four new classrooms, a large art room and a science classroom with a lab.

By Judy Tacyn

After more than a decade of planning, St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School recently broke ground on a new building, which will house its expanding school. The

building will be known as the Snyder Learning Center, named after the Snyder family, which offered a generous leadership gift to the project.

"There is great excitement about this project, one that is long overdue

for our beloved school," said Jamey Hein, head of school. "The new building will not only enhance the campus and bring vibrancy to our grounds; it will allow St. Martin's to advance its student-centered mission

» Continued on C10

# Boy Scout Seeks Assistance

» **Continued from C8**  
leave them with a little memory of home while they are away.  
“Please join me in helping complete this incredible task,” said Fletcher. “Our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines deserve the best we can give them. Every penny will go into this project.”  
Fletcher said it took him about a month to plan the building of the shelves after determining the USO’s need, shelf sizes and materials required.  
“For me, the Boys Scouts is an organization that teaches so many life skills,” said Fletcher. “As someone in my troop once told me, ‘If you can lead a group of 60-plus guys all aged 11-18, you can certainly lead people that work for you when you’re older.’ So, whether it’s leadership, CPR training or how to build different types of fires, scouting has taught me so many lifelong skills.”  
Fletcher said he’s also learned important first-response skills like first aid, reacting to venomous snake bites and CPR, but there is one important safety tip he would like to share: bring your own food.  
“I’ve learned that most teenagers stink at cooking in the outdoors,” said Fletcher.  
Whatever comes next for the Pasadena teen, his scoutmaster, Scott Macallair, believes he will have success because he pos-

“As someone in my troop once told me, ‘If you can lead a group of 60-plus guys all aged 11-18, you can certainly lead people that work for you when you’re older.’ So, whether it’s leadership, CPR training or how to build different types of fires, scouting has taught me so many lifelong skills.”  
— Fletcher Port

sesses an ability to lead.  
“He has shown an understanding of the value of people-centric leadership, focusing on the needs of the team to accomplish the task,” Macallair said. “Fletcher does not avoid difficult decisions and embraces new challenges with the unwavering desire to accept the burden, especially when others won’t. I believe that Fletcher has great potential as a transformational leader and look forward to his continued success.”  
To support Fletcher’s projects, visit his GoFundMe page by searching for “My Eagle Project For The USO” at [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com). He also plans to host a Chick-fil-A spirit night soon.

# Severna Park High Students Use Makerspace To Engage With Literature



Students in honors English use the Severna Park High School makerspace to create something that demonstrates what they learned from reading an assigned book.

**By Jane Seiss**  
Juniors at Severna Park High School are working in the school’s new makerspace to design and make conceptual projects that demonstrate their understanding of abstract ideas they studied in literature. After reading “The Scarlet Letter,” students analyzed main characters from the book and are now creating a physical item that is an interpretation of one of those characters.  
“It’s pretty cool idea,” school librarian Marianne Fitzgerald said. “They had to connect ‘The Scarlet Letter’ with today’s current news — cyberbullying, slut shaming, etc.”  
During the unit of study, English teachers and the librarian led lessons about the themes of the book and related them to relevant modern-day behaviors. Students are using the makerspace to create a final project using what they learned. They are making scrapbooks, portraits on canvas, sculptures, and even a podcast for the assignment.  
Last year, Fitzgerald and English teacher Valerie Earhart came up with the idea of using the makerspace for classwork. They wanted to encourage students to activate their imaginations and use their hands to create something that demonstrated some of what they learned from reading an assigned book. At the time, Earhart’s students were reading “Their Eyes Were Watching God.”  
“It’s a great book, but it’s a hard book,” Earhart explained. She admitted

that many times students are busy and distracted and not reading assigned books, instead accessing online resources to get the information needed to do classwork related to the literature. “They’re missing out on the best part of what I have to offer, which is immersing themselves in a novel,” Earhart said.  
The makerspace idea is a solution designed to encourage students to read and enjoy it. “This kind of project allows them to engage with the literature,” Earhart said.  
The makerspace is housed in the high school’s state-of-the-art media center. The collaborative workspace offers the latest technology and even low-tech materials like paper and glue. The makerspace concept is popular in education. It is an idea that emerged from STEM education. Makerspaces allow for project-led instruction that promotes thinking and learning in new ways.  
“Our makerspace is equipped with a 3D printer, 3D pens, crafting supplies, fabrics, yarn, a vinyl cutting machine, etc.,” Fitzgerald explained. “We have a green screen, video cameras, MacBooks, and podcasting equipment.” Parents have donated plenty of crafting supplies, and there are also Legos and K’Nex for building.  
“Project-based learning lends itself to almost any subject matter but especially literature,” Fitzgerald said. “It gives the students a creative way to look at the author’s message and theme and then interpret and express their own view on it. It’s a different way to assess students learning, growth and understanding.”  
For “The Scarlet Letter” project, students also have to write a paper, which counts for half of their project grade. When they finish their makerspace items, they will present their work to the class and explain how it represents ideas they learned from the novel.  
The SPHS makerspace is available for students’ personal use as well. With permission from Fitzgerald, they may use the space during lunch breaks or after school. In the coming weeks, the library hopes to offer makerspace activities and invite students to try out this resource and all it has to offer.



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Isabella is a freshman at Archbishop Spalding High School. She is an Irish dancer at Broesler School of Irish Dance and loves spending her free time at the beach.

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# St. John Wins Maryland Chess Severn Scholastic Tournament



The St. John the Evangelist School chess team has a new trophy for its case. The team defeated players from five other middle schools and one high school to take first place in the Maryland Chess Severn Scholastic Tournament. Hosted by the Maryland Chess Association, the tournament is an all-day event that draws players from all over the state.

The St. John team was composed of students from the school's chess club, an extracurricular activity available to students in grades three through eight. Players included **Jamison Beck, Lincoln Boyle, Alexander Johnson** and **John O'Connell**. Johnson led the way with an undefeated sweep for all five rounds and took first overall in the class. Every point was critical, and the students earned the victory as a team, with two players scoring an 8.5 of 10 points.

The team's chess club coach, Greg Acholonu of GCA Children's Chess, provided guidance and encouragement. Acholonu leads multiple sessions of chess club throughout the year at St. John, teaching the game to students of all abilities. About the student's experience on Saturday, Acholonu remarked, "The team's passion for the game was quite infectious, and most of all, they had a great experience. This passion is always evident at St. John the Evangelist, whenever I come to the school."

Jamison Beck has been participating in chess club at St. John for three years. His mother, Renee Beck, enjoys the tournaments and learning about a culture she was previously unaware of. She has seen her son's game improve.

"Chess has been an amazing adventure for my son," she said. "He has learned critical thinking skills and embraced friendly competition. We look forward to continuing to play at St. John." She particularly enjoyed seeing the students working together, providing support for each other and cheering their teammates on.

The tournament also meant a player rating increase for Alexander Johnson, who was excited to be able to move up a level in play. Johnson said he loves chess because it is "one of the most skill-based games out there." His teammate Lincoln Boyle also enjoyed the tournament experience and said, "There were a lot of players that were really good, and we met a lot of new friends."

Acholonu said that the team's success was rooted in skills that are the essence of chess improvement, including concentration and thinking ahead. He also emphasizes the importance of learning from mistakes, studying the games of better players and practicing as much as possible. Finally, he observed that the skills the children are learning through the game will be applicable not just in chess but in all areas of life.

# SPHS Impresses Audiences With "Mamma Mia!"



Photos by Stephanie Mennell Photography  
*Severna Park High School's lively fall musical, "Mamma Mia!," had audiences cheering as they watched students perform the biggest hits of ABBA woven into a story of a mother who gets a second shot at love during her daughter's wedding weekend.*



# New Learning Center Slated For Fall 2019 Completion

» Continued from C8  
of educating students of confidence, compassion and character."

St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School opened in 1957 — three years after the church was founded — as an outreach to both the Severna Park and church family communities. The school has grown and expanded over the years, with an elementary school added in 1998 and a middle school in 2004. The first eighth-grade class graduated to high school in 2007.

"We are proud to have instilled the core values of the Episcopal church of inclusion, welcome, confidence, character and compassion into literally thousands of students over the history of our school," said the Rev. Matthew Hanisian, rector at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church. "Our middle school is currently housed in temporary learning cottages hidden toward the rear of our property. With the completion of this project, we will now have a beautiful new building that mirrors the quality and

excellence of the Episcopal education our students receive here at St. Martin's."

The 7,000-square-foot Snyder Learning Center is slated to open in fall 2019 and will offer students and faculty a modern and bright facility with four new, large and modern classrooms; a separate space for a large art room; and a science classroom with a lab. There will be new administration offices, teacher workrooms and a single common entrance. All of the classroom space will be multipurpose use, doubling as classroom space for the community's growing Sunday school program.

"The entire school will benefit from a new and secure entrance, lobby, and reception space for artwork and displays," said Hein. "We are excited that our school will include a visible Benfield Road entrance. While St. Martin's has existed as a school for 60 years, a major challenge has been a lack of visibility. That there will be a focal point is symbolic, but it's important to our ability to

market ourselves and be seen by the community."

Hanisian said both the church and school had to make many considerations during the planning of this project and consider input from multiple stakeholders from both parts of the St. Martin's community.

"First and foremost was how does this building help advance the mission of both the church and school?" said Hanisian. "As a whole community, we examined how this new space would enhance our mission as a church and school and were deliberate about ensuring that the needs of both our growing church and school were taken into account."

Hanisian said much time was spent thinking about the impact to neighbors of St. Martin's and to the environment, as 50 percent of the St. Martin's property is designated "critical."

"We have put a portion of our property into easement with [Anne Arundel County] and will be planting dozens of new trees

as a result of this project," added Hanisian. "As a portion of our property sits within the critical area of the watershed, we had to navigate and were sensitive to all of the environmental concerns our location brought. We have always strived to be both good neighbors and good stewards of the resources we've been entrusted and our new building is the latest example of St. Martin's taking that commitment very seriously."

Hanisian added that the design of the building is intentionally more modern than other structures on the St. Martin's campus.

"The design is a continuation of our original church building built in the colonial style in the 1950s to our parish hall and current church building, which are both design evolutions, to this new project, which is even more modern and contemporary," said Hanisian. "Each phase of growth of our church and school has its own feel, and our new middle school building is no exception."

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Q.  
Question  
of the month

Each month, the *Severna Park Voice* poses a question to a local fifth-grade class. This month, students from Ms. Grandt’s class at Benfield Elementary School answered the question:

“If you had an unlimited budget, what gifts would you buy your family for the holidays?”

I would buy another dog. I would also get a bigger house and a phone for my dad because he needs one for work. Also, a bigger boat.  
**Austyn L.**

I would buy a dog, a house, a new car. Also, I would buy paint to finish painting some of the rooms. Also, I would buy a pool, and I would buy a new computer for my mom.  
**Ava E.**

I would buy a mansion, a boat, a new car, a ton of candy, a lot of food, a lot of new phones, 10 TVs, big beds, cool clothes, shoes, a party bus, an elevator for my house, a movie theater screen and super good Wi-Fi.  
**Bodie I.**

I would buy a private jet for my mom. I would also buy my parents a trip on a cruise.  
**Connor W.**



Students from Ms. Grandt’s fifth-grade class answered the question, “If you had an unlimited budget, what gifts would you buy your family for the holidays?”

Benfield Elementary School

I would buy my mom a dress because she loves dresses. I would buy flow-ers for my sister Muriel’s grave. Then I would buy my sister Ariel a laptop. I would buy my brother a pack of soda. My sister Gabby would get makeup. Lastly, I would get my dad a new car.  
**Dani W.**

I know my mom has always wanted a golf cart, so I will get her that. I would also buy my whole family ski passes and a vacation to the Caribbean.  
**Dash H.**

I would get a Porsche Mis-sion E, and I would buy a private jet so I can go wherever I want.  
**Gabriel S.**

For my brother: A chance to meet all of the Washing-ton Capitals players and play with them. For my mom: A plane ticket to go

wherever she wanted for two weeks! For my dad: A house on the Severn River and a new boat!  
**Gracie C.**

I would get a Ferrari and a Buggati Chiron for my dad. Also, a mansion. Lastly, a yacht. For my mom and Heath, I would be to get them a private jet and beach house.  
**Gray G.**

I would get the best pic-ture camera money can buy, put my house under renovation, move to a small house when renovat-ing, get tickets to “Satur-day Night Live,” and get a private jet and a car.  
**Hal C.**

I would buy my family a huge house for the holi-days, with a lot of food. I would buy them this be-cause I love them so much.  
**Jackson F.**

I would buy my fam-ily whatever they want-ed the most.  
**Jacob B.**

If I had an unlimited bud-get, I would buy my family a private jet so our whole family can go on vaca-tions far away, like Italy or Europe.  
**Jacob M.**

If I had an unlimited budget, I would buy skis, a computer and a season pass to all the skiing places in the world, gardening things for my brother, the best mountain bike and a season pass to any moun-tain biking place, and a trip to the Alps for my mom and dad.  
**Lily R.**

I would buy my family a mansion. I would buy my sister a horse. And the mansion would have a big field for the horse. And separate rooms for

all my pets.  
**Lindsay N.**

I would buy my family a mansion. I would also buy my family a new car.  
**Logan C.**

I would buy my sister a jet ski and my brother a yacht. I would get my dad a house in Colorado for ski-ing, and I would give my mom a house in Hawaii for the beach.  
**Lynn B.**

I would buy a new dog and house. And whatever they want.  
**Max C.**

I would buy my brother some “Sonic Dash” figurines and my sister singing lessons. I would get my mom a VIP pass to a Justin Timberlake concert and my dad three tickets to whatever sports games he wants.  
**Mia P.**

If I had an unlimited amount of money to spend for my family, I would get them lots of money so they wouldn’t have to work and they could spend more time with me and Evan (my brother). I would give Evan a water park in the backyard.  
**Mia S.**

I would buy my family, including my dog, a trip to Disney World. Then, after Disney, we would go on a Disney cruise. I love my mom, dad, Lucy, Max and Harvey, my dog!  
**Millie K.**

I would get my mom a new Jeep, my dad a house, and my stepdad a new car. Also, I would get my sister a lollipop and my dad a boat to share with me.  
**Natalie A.**

First, I would get my sister a new sketchbook and some books. I would get my mom a new laptop because her other one is getting kind of old.  
**Penny D.**

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

# St. John Confirmation Candidates Share Holiday Joy With PearTree Residents

Sixteen members of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church's 2019 confirmation class spent an afternoon with the residents of PearTree House Assisted Living Facility in Pasadena on December 9 as part of their confirmation preparation.

"I can vividly remember Christmas parties at a nursing home where I volunteered through my parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society," said Judy Tacyn, confirmation coordinator at St. John the Evangelist Church. "When I saw the *Pasadena Voice's* posting for the PearTree Assisted Living Facility in September, those wonderful memories came flooding back and I knew we could come up with a great service project for the kids."

Each of the 13 PearTree residents were paired with a teen who brought gifts, fruit, sweets and a handmade Christmas card for their resident. The teens decorated their resident's bedroom door with festive decor and got to know them better. The residents were thrilled to have someone to talk to or to watch the Ravens



Photo by Judy Tacyn

*Each of the 13 PearTree residents were paired with a teen who brought gifts, fruit, sweets and a handmade Christmas card for their resident.*

game with. Some of the residents enjoyed playing bingo with the St. John's teens. After an ice cream sundae social, Bob Cohn, a member of St. John's exalt choir, lead the group in caroling around the Christmas tree.

"As part of the confirmation preparation with our youth, we try to instill in them that they have been blessed with so many wonderful gifts that they can share through service," Tacyn said. "I hope that by seeing the residents' faces light up

through simple conversations, in a shared love of football, through a kind gesture or a shared laugh, the Holy Spirit inspires them to really change someone's day. Kindness, love and respect have such strong ripple effects, and they can be the conduit."

Anna McAllister, a freshman at Severna Park High School, learned firsthand about the importance of helping someone in her community. "I really enjoyed spending the day with these wonderful people and learning about

their lives," she said. "I hope to do it again."

Archbishop Spalding freshman Lauren Niccolini called enjoyed the opportunity to talk with the residents and learn their stories. "I met someone who was in the Navy during World War II, and someone from the Yankees," Niccolini said. "I know I'll never forget them."

Peter Monaco, a freshman at Mount St. Joseph High School, was paired with Charlie, a sports fan who enjoyed having a group of like-minded ath-

letes with whom to watch the Ravens game.

"It was really nice to be able to bring joy to these elderly people during this holiday season," Monaco said. "Many of them are alone and it was really nice to give them some company today. I really liked hearing their stories."

Joyce Aiello, whose son Logan was in the St. John's group, helped choreone the event.

"This nursing home experience was amazing for the kids. It showed them a side of life they may not have gotten to see before," said Aiello. "The residents were so touched that the kids were there. The kids got to experience kindness, patience and some understanding of the elderly. Everyone got to experience something special today."

After the final Christmas carol was sung, one resident, Maryanne, called the teens to attention. "I just want you all to know how much we appreciate you coming to visit us today. We really enjoyed it," she said. "You can come back anytime."

The group included Arianna Camper (Archbishop Spalding); Bridget Donovan (Archbishop Spalding); Marian Guilo (Severna Park High); Logan Aiello (Calvert Hall College High School); Anna McCallister (Severna Park High); Lauren Niccolini (Archbishop Spalding); Cassidy Weeks (Severna Park High); Kylee Emrich (Severna Park High); Keenan Kopf (Chesapeake High); Sydney Meilstrup (Severna Park High); Chloe Dardick (Severna Park High); Sydney Bear (Severna Park High); Ronan Byrne (Severna Park High); Eddie Sullivan (Severna Park High); and Peter Monaco (Mount St. Joseph).

Eighty youths will receive the sacrament of confirmation at St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church on Saturday, January 12. The sacrament will be conferred by the Rev. Adam J. Parker, auxiliary bishop of Baltimore, who is Severna Park native and graduate of Severna Park High School.

## Meet Polar Bear Plunger McKenna Chadwick Of Severna Park

» Continued from C8

passed her the baton and she's not slowing down. What exactly will she do this January?

"A Super Plunger jumps in the Chesapeake Bay 24 times over 24 hours," McKenna expressed. "There are 38 of us this year, including many athletes. We start on Friday, January 18, and finish Saturday morning. Our goal is to raise money and awareness for Special Olympics Maryland."

The bravery of the Super Plungers draws TV and radio coverage that raises awareness, McKenna said. "We hope people see us jumping in around the clock and say, 'Wow, if they can do that, I can jump in once,'" she added. "We want to get people motivated to participate and support Special Olympics."

In the past, the Chadwick family put thousands of flyers on neighbors' doors.



*McKenna Chadwick was inspired to become a Super Plunger after her friend, Special Olympian Jimmy Myrick, passed away in 2016.*

McKenna and her siblings have been fortunate to receive donations from family, friends and neighbors. Businesses have been kind, especially the Safeway in Severna Park and Gina's

Cantina in Millersville. This year, McKenna and her family are sending hundreds of emails, using social media and contacting local businesses. They have already received a gener-



*Last year was McKenna Chadwick's first as a Super Plunger. She raised more than \$10,000 and entered the frigid Chesapeake Bay 24 times in 24 hours.*

ous donation from Dawson's Liquors.

If readers want to make a contribution, they can go to [www.plungemd.com](http://www.plungemd.com), click on the "Event Info" drop-down link, click on

"Super Plunge," scroll down the page until they see "Search Participants," type in McKenna Chadwick and hit enter.

"It can be tough sometimes," McKenna said. "The

water is freezing and icy and the air is so cold; it only makes you colder. There's this excitement, though, that I've felt since I was a kid at the Super Plunge, and it helps me to easily get through every plunge. Everyone at the event knows just how special this is and there's something in the air that's easy to feel. It's full of love and excitement that keeps me warm, even in the frozen water.

"Everyone there is like a big family, the love of everyone is inspiring," McKenna continued with a smile. "It is our hope that we motivate people to participate in the Polar Bear Plunge and support Special Olympics Maryland. But if jumping into the icy Chesapeake in January isn't your thing, I will jump in for you. We just ask for your help in getting to our \$10,000 goal. Thank you for your support!"

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Chamber Update



Liz League  
CEO, GSPACC

We are excited to announce our newest members of the chamber: **About Smiles Dentistry, Hollywood Tans, and Heart and Home Organizing.**

November was filled with great events, including our holiday trade fair and Holiday Taste and Sip at Homestead Gardens in Severna Park. The holiday trade fair was held at the Earleigh Heights Fire Department in Severna Park in November, with 48 local businesses participating in the event, which offered food, entertainment and more. The event was sponsored by the Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu & Tai Chi, whose students gave us an amazing performance.

The annual Holiday Taste and Sip event was held at the gorgeous Homestead Gardens in Severna Park on November 14. Our event sponsor was the amazing Matt Wyble and **the Matt Wyble Team of Champion Realty.** Matt is the founder of Taste and Sip, having worked at a restaurant before entering the real estate world. With Matt and his team's support, we celebrated our ninth year of the event. We also want to thank **Homestead Gardens** for providing its beautiful facility, and our numerous Bronze sponsors: **Kogen Dojo, Chesapeake Think Tank, Cherry Family Dental, AT&T, Melanie Wood, Coldwell Banker Real Estate Brokerage, Southern Trust Mortgage and About Smiles Dentistry.** We had the best food and drinks ever thanks to our vendors: **Adam's**

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Thanks to the many donors who provided many wonderful things for our silent auction table. Thanks to **Spring Arbor** for the shuttle service to and from Woods Church, and thanks to **Woods Church** for allowing us to use the parking. Thanks to our entertainers, which include **Jeff Harding** on the keyboard, **Chesapeake Harmony Chorus**, and the wonderful **Severna Park High School** chorus.

We started the month of December with our annual holiday tree lighting on December 7 at the chamber location. We had entertainment, refreshments and an open house. Sponsors were **Wright Orthodontists, Severn Bank, Pam Negron of Farmers Insurance, Trinity Bible Church, Chick-fil-A, and the Law Offices of Elmore and Throop.**

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Can You Beat The Clock? EscapeTime Offers Thrilling Challenges

By Zach Sparks

Most horror fans are familiar with the deep and patronizing voice of Jigsaw, who commands people to play a death-defying game as retribution for their crimes or personal shortcomings. EscapeTime in Severna Park has its own control master who invites guests to play games, but this one is more forgiving and family friendly.

Jose Matos and Russell Paterno opened EscapeTime in March 2018. "We invited a group of realtors to experience it with us and decided that it would be a great atmosphere for team-building activities that we could bring to the Severna Park community," Matos said.

That experience was so



(L-R) Russell Paterno, Jose Matos and Jasmine Torres preside over EscapeTime, which challenges teams to solve various puzzles, riddles and codes within 60 minutes.

enjoyable that the duo decided to start their own business, with Jasmine Torres serving as the

supervisor.

The concept is simple: Each team has 60 minutes to solve various puzzles,

riddles and codes. Those who work well with their friends, teammates and colleagues will have the best chance to escape.

"Our rooms are generation three level," Matos said. "A lot of places are generation one, which are just locks. Generation two's are locks and regular puzzles. Generation three, the level of technology here and props ... we have a command center where someone is watching, giving clues."

"We've had customers as young as 6 years old and as old as seniors," Matos added.

EscapeTime offers four rooms, each with its own level of difficulty. Arabian Nights is the "easiest" room, with a difficulty rating of six out of 10.

» Continued on C14

Founders Tavern Celebrates Five Years



Founders Tavern & Grille may have an old-fashioned interior, but it's all part of the charm — from the American flag to the wooden décor.

By Maya Pottiger

After opening five years ago, Founders Tavern & Grille has become a staple of the community.

"We've become a part of the community rather than just a new restaurant," said co-owner Steve Sumner.

The Founders staff commemorated the anniversary with a party in November, featuring all-day happy hour and a bunch of giveaways.

"I felt very lucky to have all the support of friends and family and regulars show up," Sumner said.

New at Founders this month is the debut of the fall/winter menu. During the year, Founders switches up the food menu twice and the drink menu three times.

"I love seeing some of the old regulars — the chicken pot pie coming

back, the pot roast. Those hearty winter meals are always fun," Sumner said. "Comfort food is always a lot of fun to see back on the menu and have again."

With the seasonal menu changes, Founders is able to use the freshest in-season ingredients.

"Our job is much easier when we're using the freshest ingredients in-season," Sumner said. "We look like geniuses because it tastes good, but it's really the fact that it's in season."

The ingredients are sourced locally whenever they can be, Sumner said. During the summer, Founders' chef visits Papa John's to get jalapenos, green tomatoes and regular tomatoes, as well as watermelon for the watermelon caprese, Sumner said. In addition, the chicken is sourced from a farm on the Eastern Shore.

"Wherever we can get the best product, that's led to our success," Sumner said. "It's real food and we don't have to do a whole lot to make it better."

A bourbon fan, Sumner has enjoyed adding bourbon to the menu. With two currently available, Sumner is looking to visit

Louisville and hand-select another barrel to be served at Founders.

"We have two already, so we're looking forward to picking our third barrel and having our own Founders flight," Sumner said.

Founders also does a lot of philanthropic work, including donating to the food banks at local churches. Sumner doesn't talk about the work too much because "you do it because it's the right thing to do, not because you're looking for recognition," he said.

"To be honest, I feel like that's where we get our most satisfaction," Sumner said of giving back to the community. "Having the ability from having a successful business and being able to do that is probably the most rewarding out of all of this."

Founders Tavern & Grille is located at 8125 Ritchie Highway in Pasadena. It is open from 11:30am-10:00pm Tuesday through Thursday, from 11:30am-11:00pm Friday and Saturday, and 11:30am-9:00pm on Sunday. Founders is closed on Mondays. For more information, call 410-544-0076 or visit [www.founderstavernandgrille.com](http://www.founderstavernandgrille.com).

Hate Annuities? You're Not Alone



Jason LaBarge  
Managing Partner, Premier Planning Group

Part 1 Pensions sound great!

Work for a company for 20 or 30 years, contribute to its defined benefit pension plan, and receive guaranteed monthly income during your retirement. This financial peace of mind in retirement is what some people dream about! Unfortunately, with more and more companies no longer offering a pension, retirees need to find other guaranteed income.

Pensions used to be prevalent. According to the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, at one time, 88 percent of private sector workers who had a workplace retirement plan had a pension. The center estimated that only 33 percent have a pension now. By other accounts, the discrepancy between full-time federal, state and local government employees with a defined benefit pension plan and those in the private sector is even larger at 87 percent and 19 percent, respectively.

I often talk about PAYchecks and PLAYchecks when planning for re-

tirement; the PAYchecks should cover your necessities each month: housing, food, clothing, etc. Your PLAYchecks cover everything else. It's our practice to try and find guaranteed sources of income to be your PAYchecks in retirement, but if you don't have a pension, or your pension doesn't pay enough to cover everything, how do you do that? I propose you consider an annuity.

I can hear what you're likely thinking right now, "I hate annuities!" Annuities take a lot of heat, and I've had my own clients tell me they "hate annuities, but love that American Equity thing." That "American Equity thing" they mentioned is an annuity! Many people spout these types of statements without considering what an annuity really is, and they are usually unaware that there are more than 15 types of annuities, each providing its own unique benefits. To say you hate all annuities would be as broad a statement as saying you hate all mutual funds, so if you fall into the "I hate annuities" camp, read on and keep an open mind. Annuities aren't for everyone, but you may be surprised in how useful a tool they can be when planning for consistent retirement income

similar to a pension.

WHY PEOPLE LOVE ANNUITIES - TWO BROAD BENEFITS

1. Guaranteed income for life. With more pensions going away, it is becoming increasingly important for retirees to find their own sources of lifetime income. You can think about shifting longevity risks to an insurance company as similar to shifting your home, car or life's protection to an insurance company in the form of auto, home and life insurance.

2. Annuities provide for tax-deferred growth of non-IRA money. IRAs already have this benefit, but using non-IRA money in annuities provide the same tax-deferred growth, which means any investment growth you enjoy is not immediately subject to taxes, but will be taxed later instead.

An annuity can provide probate avoidance, because you decide your beneficiaries when you first buy your annuity.

WHY ANNUITIES AREN'T FOR EVERYONE

Although annuities can be an effective tool in planning for your retirement, there are some things you need to consider and plan for if you are » Continued on C14

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS

STRIKE OUT COLORECTAL CANCER DOUBLES ITS FUNDRAISING SUCCESS OVER LAST YEAR

Among the local business owners working to help others this season was Mike Hall of Severna Park Lanes, who held the second annual Strike Out Colorectal Cancer concert, featuring Nashville artist Chad Bearden and Baltimore-based duo Case & Barley. Through sponsorship, silent and live auctions, tickets and donations, the event raised \$20,500 — essentially doubling last year's number — for the Fight Colorectal Cancer Organization, which undertakes research and clinical trials. Sponsors for the event were Landmark Roofing, Outback Steakhouse, Tree World Tree Experts, ServPro of Annapolis, University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center, AM Gable LLC, DynaSprint Systems Inc., Gardiner & Appel Group, Huff Insurance, Maple Family



Severna Park Lanes



David Orso Group

Bowling Centers, Savvy Consignment and Lauer's Supermarket & Bakery.

SERVICES FROM THE HEART RECEIVES DONATION

The David Orso Group

made a one-year commitment to donate \$150 for each home sold to Services from the Heart, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization based in Severna Park. Services from the » Continued on C14

My Experience Shopping Local

LANDMARK ROOFING

I was awakened during the night with water dripping on my head. Having experienced this a few years ago, I felt sure it was caused by a defective collar that surrounds the bathroom vent pipe on the roof. Early the next morning, I called the plumber I had recently used. I was told they did not do roof repairs. Next, I tried my handyman, who, because of his age, declined. Knowing that roofing companies do not care for small jobs, I was at a loss as to what to do next. I happened to pass Landmark Roofing here in Severna Park, so I stopped in seeking advice. I met Rob Calhan, co-owner and president of sales. He acknowledged they do not take small jobs, but he did ask about the problem. He agreed that the collar had failed. Then, out of pure compassion for a senior in distress, he said he would send someone to the house before the next rain. Three days later, a Landmark truck was in my driveway. Two men got out, and as I talked with one, the second was on the roof and quickly replaced the failed collar plus one for the second bath. I believe Rob’s act of kindness reflects the values of a company that cares for our community. **Ken Tschantre Severna Park**

Hate Annuities? You’re Not Alone

» Continued from C13

going to have an annuity as a part of your portfolio. The biggest issue is liquidity. Most annuities that offer the benefit of lifetime income come with the stipulation that you give up liquidity for a certain period of time. It could range from seven years to 10 years, so when considering an annuity, look at all your options and make sure you understand these limitations before you buy. Your financial professional should clearly state all limitations before purchasing any financial product. Maintaining the proper liquidity amount outside the annuity is critical; you want to have enough available to you in non-annuity funds to avoid any early withdrawal penalties and that withdrawals will not decrease your future monthly payments so much that you can no longer cover your necessities. To summarize this point, I advise that you never have all your eggs in just one basket, and the same applies for annuities. Annuities are just one tool to consider when creating your retirement plan, since they can certainly come in handy when paired with a pension and your Social Security benefits to create a dependable monthly PAY-check in retirement that will cover your monthly budget needs. Any guarantees offered are backed by the financial strength of the insurance company, not an outside entity. Investors are cautioned to carefully review the annuity product for its features, costs, risks and how the variables associated with the benefits reference are calculated. Opinions expressed are that of the author and are not endorsed by the named broker dealer or its affiliates. All information herein has been prepared solely for informational purposes, and it is not an offer to buy or sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any security or instrument or to participate in any particular trading strategy. For a comprehensive review of your personal situation, always consult with a tax or legal advisor. Neither Summit Brokerage Services Inc nor any of its representatives may give legal or tax advice. Premier Planning Group is an independent firm with securities offered through Summit Brokerage Services Inc., Member FINRA, SIPC. The firm is located at 115 West Street, Suite 400, in Annapolis.

EscapeTime Offers Thrilling Challenges

» Continued from C13

“For Arabian Nights, some of our clues and puzzles are out in the open,” Paterno said. “Some of the more difficult rooms, what you see is not what you get.” Arabian Nights participants are “prisoners” who were captured after stealing bread. In their dungeon, they uncover a secret wall compartment that contains directions to the fabled Cave of Wonders. After trekking through sand and storms, they find the cave, but there is more to the cave than meets the eye. The newest room, Ghost Ship, is the most challenging at EscapeTime. Matos and Paterno consider it their greatest creation so far. “It took three months to build,” Matos said. “It’s the most immersive room we have. It feels like you are actually in that environment.” When asked about the story behind the room, Paterno teased, “The captain has run into a rock wall in the middle of the night ... and Davy Jones wants your soul.” The other two rooms are Hangover Vegas Suite — an exercise in uncovering the events of the wild night before — and Area 51, where players are tasked with sorting alien rumors from truth while infiltrating a military installation. Each room is made from scratch, and EscapeTime has beta testers who try new rooms before they become available to the public. “We come up with a theme that we want,” said Paterno, who used to work at the gaming department at Best Buy, where he would run tournaments. “I’ll draw up the room design and I’ll have Jose build crazy puzzles.” The co-owners plan to keep each room going for eight months to a year and then flip them to offer new challenges. Arabian Nights will have three more months before being replaced by a room inspired by “Beauty and the Beast.” “We want to keep it a novice-type difficulty and keep it Disney themed because those are very popular,” Paterno said. EscapeTime as a whole has become popular with families, corporations, sports teams and other groups. The business partners with Brian Boru Irish Restaurant and Pub to do birthday parties, which can be planned by calling EscapeTime. The Severna Park escape room can accommodate 40 people at once. For corporations, the staff members will often challenge them to complete different rooms in a race against the clock, seeing which team will finish first. To even the difficulty, the team with the harder room can get more clues. Matos and Paterno hope to expand to a second Anne Arundel County location in 2019, but they are thrilled with the success of their Severna Park business. “We both grew up and lived in Anne Arundel County,” Paterno said. Matos said, “We want to bring new entertainment to Severna Park.” EscapeTime is located in Severna Park Market Center at 487 Ritchie Highway, Suite 102. To see if you can flee one of the EscapeTime rooms within 60 minutes, book your visit on [www.escapetimed.com](http://www.escapetimed.com) or call 410-544-1188. Hours are Monday through Wednesday 5:00pm-10:00pm, Thursday and Friday 3:00pm-10:00pm, Saturday 11:00am-10:00pm and Sunday 11:00am-8:00pm. Players won’t find Jigsaw, but they will encounter a fun and challenging experience.

Community Contributors

» Continued from C13

Heart provides weekly food backpacks to 100 children attending three Title 1 schools in Anne Arundel County (Eastport Elementary School in Annapolis, Hilltop Elementary School in Glen Burnie and Belle Grove Elementary School in Brooklyn Park). Donna Wilson-Johnston (center), founder and president of Services from the Heart, accepted the check from David and Dawn Orso, owners of the David Orso Group of Century 21 New Millennium. The David Orso Group donated more than \$15,000 to Services from the Heart’s Backpack Buddies Program. For more information about Services from the Heart, visit [www.communityservicesfromtheheart.com](http://www.communityservicesfromtheheart.com). Vida Taco Bar To Host Touch-A-Truck Holiday Event Vida Taco Bar of Severna Park will host a free holiday Touch-a-Truck event on Sunday, December 16, from noon to 6:00pm. The family-friendly fiesta will benefit SPAN (Serving People Across Neighborhoods), a Severna Park-based food pantry. Attendees who make a donation of one canned good will get the unique opportunity to climb aboard and explore fire vehicles and meet first responders from the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company until 2:00pm. Bands from Priddy Music Academy, a Millersville-based music school, will provide live entertainment, playing sets throughout the afternoon. “We wanted to create a warm, inviting experience for the community and our first responders, while also brightening the holidays for families who are in need this season in our own backyard,” said Andrew Fox, partner at Vida Taco Bar. The restaurant is offering a cinnamon apple sangria specialty cocktail for \$7, with \$1 from each drink donated to the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. Additionally, Vida Taco Bar’s full menu will be available in the restaurant during the event.

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## Sarah Wade Takes On Father's Production Of "A Christmas Carol"



"A Christmas Carol" returns to The Colonial Players of Annapolis, this time directed by Sarah Wade. She met her husband, Eric Hufford, while acting in the show six years ago.

By Maya Pottiger

In 1981, Richard Wade wrote the script and lyrics for "A Christmas Carol" to be specially produced by The Colonial Players of Annapolis. This year, his daughter Sarah is directing it for the first time.

"It's super surreal," said Sarah, a Severna Park native who has been in the production 11 times since she was 10 years old. "There's a little bit of that feeling of responsibility. Also, it's extra personal because it's my dad."

However, Richard has completely stayed away from this year's production.

"She will call me and talk to me about it. I have not offered one single suggestion," Richard said. "She tells me about something, and I say, 'Oh, that's interesting.' I want her to feel completely free to do this. I know Sarah's going to do a good job with it, but I purposefully didn't want her to think I was watching over her or any of that."

Something new Sarah is bringing to the stage is her take on the costumes.

"We're looking to make a different statement so it doesn't look like the 'Christmas Carol' you Google and everything looks the same," Sarah said. "I wanted to give all of the ghosts really different looks. The Ghost of Christmas Future isn't going to look like a Dementor from 'Harry Potter.'"

"A Christmas Carol" will be Sarah's first time directing a show on the main stage. Fortunately, it's a show she knows inside and out, but she is learning new things about the show from the directing process.

"I'm looking at it from the perspective of every character; I'm not looking at it just coming onto the stage and doing stuff," Sarah said. "You really do learn about its strengths. It's not that there are any weaknesses; it's the interesting ebb and flow of the show."

The show is 75 minutes  
» Continued on D4

## Readers Spend The Holidays With Ridenour's "The Magical Mrs. Claus"

By Sharon Mager

Santa's wife — with a neat bun, little glasses and an apron — is always seen standing and holding cocoa and cookies as Santa heads out with the reindeer, right? Perhaps, but it seems there's a bit more to Mrs. Claus.

Arnold resident Maureen Ridenour, along with her lifelong friend, Chicago resident Karen Lyons, wrote a book about St. Nick's helpful wife that might start a new tradition. "The Magical Mrs. Claus" tells the story of the sweet, loveable "Tidy" Claus, who partners with her spouse to get the annual Christmas Eve trip going. After all, the elves have to be supervised to make sure they clean up after they make the toys, and the candy canes must be counted — that's Tidy's job!

There's another job Tidy has that most people don't know about: bringing gifts to neat and tidy children on New Year's Eve.

The book, rich and whimsically illustrated, is a heartfelt tribute to Ridenour's mother, Elizabeth Saba, who died 10 years ago on New Year's Eve. After Saba's death, Ridenour avoided any New Year's fun as she mourned her



Maureen Ridenour and her friend Karen Lyons wrote "The Magical Mrs. Claus" to pass on the family story told by Ridenour's mom, Elizabeth Saba.

loss. "About four years ago, I thought, 'This is ridiculous,'" Ridenour said. "My mother wouldn't want me to be sad." That's when she got the idea of writing "The Magical Mrs. Claus."

"Every Christmas, my mother told us a story

passes down the same story to her daughter. "It's about a little girl who knows her mother's story and tells it every Christmas Eve," Ridenour said.

"My mother saved the best present for Tidy," she explained. It was special because when a wished-for gift wasn't under the tree on Christmas morning, Saba would often say, "Well, don't give up hope, maybe Tidy will bring it." And usually, she did.

Ridenour shared the first draft of the book with Lyons and asked her opinion. Her friend truthfully, as only a good friend can do, said, "This is awful!" Ridenour recalled with a laugh, but she knew it was true. The two friends attended a writers and illustrators conference in New York where they were told it was going to take time and revisions to complete the book. They didn't agree but found the experts were right.

"We must have revised it another 100 to 150 times," she said. Ridenour secured an illustrator, David Pfendler, then published the book, and introduced it in October 2017.

Last year, she announced the book release on Facebook and placed it in Arnold Pharmacy, and she  
» Continued on D3

## Severna Park Artist Robyn Hagedorn Creates Handmade Christmas Decor

By Maya Pottiger

When she moved to her new house after getting married, Robyn Hagedorn couldn't find home decor in the colors she was looking for.

Frustrated, the Severna Park resident decided to make the furnish-

ings herself.

"My mom always sewed, but I didn't. I just didn't think I had the knack for it," Hagedorn said. "I think what can happen is people don't realize they could do it themselves. I turned around and started making the home decor, found out that I loved doing it and I have a passion for it."

In 2011, Hagedorn opened her Etsy shop, Pillowscape Designs, after racking up requests from friends and family members who saw her homemade decor.

"Etsy's a great way to get your homemade items available, not just to local customers but throughout the United States and even other countries," Hagedorn said. "I just think it's a great way to get exposure, and it's affordable for a small business."

During this time of year, Hagedorn is popular for her Christmas decor. She offers a variety of options: Santa trios, glass wine charms,



Severna Park resident Robyn Hagedorn opened her Etsy shop, Pillowscape Designs, in 2011 after she received inquiries about her homemade decor.

wreaths, reversible pillows, table runners, placemats and napkins.

Of the Christmas items, the Santa trios are the most popular, Hagedorn said. She always has some of the glass wine charms in stock because "they're really nice for gifts, stocking stuffers, hostess gifts. They're good to have on hand for unexpected

gift giving," Hagedorn said.

To ensure her products are as custom-made as possible, Hagedorn works with clients when deciding on color schemes and fabrics. In the last year, Hagedorn said 80 percent of her orders were custom requests. To make a custom request, customers can message Hagedorn  
» Continued on D2

## "Widows" Nearly Lives Up To The Hype, But Not Quite



Photo courtesy of 20th Century Fox

In "Widows," the characters are strong women in very different ways, and they each have very different struggles they have to overcome.

By Audrey Ruppert

The highly anticipated "Widows" nearly lives up to the hype, but not quite. Packed with a superstar cast - Viola Davis ("The Help"), Liam Neeson ("Taken"), Michelle Rodriguez ("The Fast and the Furious"), Daniel Kaluuya ("Get Out"), Colin Ferrell ("Miami Vice") and Elizabeth Debicki ("The Great Gatsby") — directed by the legend-

ary Steve McQueen ("12 Years a Slave"), and written by thriller queen Gillian Flynn ("Gone Girl"), I'm not sure it was even possible for this film to live up to the hype.

"Widows" tells the story of three women not only widowed by their career-criminal husbands, but left in severe debt by them. Together they team up to commit one last heist in order to settle their husbands' debts to a crime lord

and keep themselves and their families off the hit list.

The script has Gillian Flynn written all over it. As in "Gone Girl," her most famous work, "Widows" features a completely unforeseen twist that had the entire theater gasping out loud, and centers on the idea that men in relationships are not to be trusted by default and can be incredibly deceitful, hypocritical and selfish (who hurt you, Gillian?). The three female leads are all strong women but in different ways, and they each have different struggles they have to overcome. Viola Davis' character must overcome grief and betrayal, Michelle Rodriguez's character must overcome financial ruin and Elisabeth Debicki's character must overcome physical abuse.

As the title suggests, the film is primarily centered around women, but focuses on their previously (or even currently)  
» Continued on D4

## Festive Drinks For The Holiday Season

By Maya Pottiger



The Christmosa is easy and quick to put together, and makes a great addition to any holiday gathering.

Happy holidays! It's that time of year where there seems to be a get-together or party every weekend. If you don't want to show up empty-handed, or if you're the host, impress your company with these easy holiday drinks.

### CHRISTMOSAS

**Ingredients** (adjust amount based on reader's serving size)

- 2 green apples, chopped
- 1 cup fresh cranberries, whole
- 1 cup green grapes, halved
- 1 cup pomegranate seeds
- 1 cup sparkling grape juice
- 1 bottle champagne or prosecco

Not too much to this one. In a pitcher or punch bowl, add all of your fruit. When ready  
» Continued on D3

## Organize To Entertain So You Enjoy Your Party As Much As Your Guests

**Terry L. Cooch**  
TLC Home



The holidays are the time to gather with friends and family. We enjoy conversation, laughter and togetherness. Planning this can offer great satisfaction and appreciation. At the same time, planning, executing and cleaning up after such gatherings can be overwhelming! It doesn't need to be.

### EFFICIENCY MATTERS

The simpler entertaining is, the more likely you will do it. Reduce stress and protect your energy level by decluttering your kitchen and dining room. Is the apple peeler or the hot dog cooker worth the space they take up? If not, move them. Reorganize what remains to reduce the time and frustration of inefficient preparation, serving and cleanup. Set up so helpers don't cross into your work zone.

### ENJOY THE PROCESS

Once the kitchen is ready, determine what you love about entertaining. What do you enjoy and do well?

Consider your time, budget and energy level. Design a party around all of these considerations. You're a talented cook, but not into details? Then skip the flowers and feed your guests well - *that* is what they'll enjoy and remember. If making your house look its best is important to you, then focus on decorations and lighting and keep the menu and bar simple.

### PLAN TO PARTY!

Pick a date, make guest list, and decide on the mood and menu. If cooking, plan plenty of make-ahead recipes and keep to your comfort and talent level. Prepare a shopping list and schedule time to clean and decorate. Tip: Guests have a great time when they feel they are being treated. Oversized candy bowls or glasses of champagne are just the signal that your mission was to please.

### DO, DELEGATE OR DROP

Manage your to-do list by first evaluating your plan. Prioritize by importance - place tags add an elegant touch, but the evening can go on without them. If the ice is never picked up, *that* could put a damper on the

fun. Entertainment is about sharing your home. Sharing the work can help you achieve that experience. Decide when, where, how and who will carry out all of your to-do's. Plan early and communicate the help you will need. Be specific, assume nothing.

### SHORTCUTS ARE THE NEW PERFECTION

Knowing how to entertain simply is in. Having a friend who makes favors and place settings can set you free from more tasks. It can be just as impressive to know where to buy something new and delicious as to prepare it yourself. Take advantage of that to enjoy the evening as much as your guests. Overlook what you spilled, forgot or burned and everyone else will.

Hosting a successful party is enormously gratifying. But entertainment does require considerable organizing skills. Moderate goals and expectations and liberal use of list-making are instrumental in creating an atmosphere that both you and your guests will enjoy.

For more information, email [terry@mytclhome.com](mailto:terry@mytclhome.com) or call 410-562-1087.

## "The Lighthouse Man" Marks Severna Park Author's Third Release

Severna Park author Simon Smith recently released his third novel, "The Lighthouse Man," now available on Kindle and eBooks. In the tradition of his first two books, 2016's "Bubbles Always Burst" and 2017's "Stealing Office Supplies," this latest work follows an underdog who gains a new lease on life by taking a chance on a relationship he never expected he would find, all told in Smith's signature stream-of-consciousness style.

With "The Lighthouse Man," Smith's protagonist

is Drex, a guy still battling demons from his past, still trying to figure things out, still trying to cast off doubt as to whether or not he's a complete bum. Into his life comes Quincy, the 11-year-old daughter he didn't even know he had — and she's facing a life-altering situation that's turning her life upside down. Quincy's mom — Drex's tough-as-nails ex — is terminally ill. And now is the time for Drex to step up and be the dad he never knew he could be.

For Smith, writing

this latest book was the most personal of his three so far. "Being a dad defines me, and that's what I was trying to get at with this one," he said. "There's nothing more meaningful, and that's why this one was so special. It's a simple story, but it goes deep into who I am."

"The Lighthouse Man" and Smith's other novels are available for all handheld reading devices — such as Nook, Kindle, iBook and others — from Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

## Hagedorn Creates Christmas Decor



*"It's a hobby for me, but it's great when I get feedback," said Robyn Hagedorn of the Christmas decorations she creates. "It makes you feel good that you can turn around and make something that somebody can use in their home."*

» Continued from D1  
rn on Etsy.

"It's a great way for me to express myself. I like working with the clients because they inspire me and they give me great ideas," Hagedorn said. "I'm passionate about it. It's a hobby for me, but it's

great when I get feedback. It makes you feel good that you can turn around and make something that somebody can use in their home."

In addition to Christmas decor, Hagedorn makes home decor for other seasons or yearly use.

Hagedorn, who works part-time, said she spends at least three days a week sewing. Having an artistic pastime is something relatively

new, Hagedorn said.

"Growing up, I wasn't really artsy," Hagedorn said. "I didn't do painting or anything like that. This is really my only creative avenue that I have."

To view Hagedorn's Etsy shop, visit [www.etsy.com/shop/pillowscapedesigns](http://www.etsy.com/shop/pillowscapedesigns). All of her products are displayed there, and customers can contact Hagedorn through the shop.

## Join Encore Chorale For Holiday Concert

Two Encore Chorale groups will perform a holiday concert on December 15 at 3:00pm at Anne Arundel Community College's Pascal Center for the Performing Arts (101 College Parkway in Arnold).

This free concert is perfect for all ages and will include members of the Encore Chorales of Anne Arundel Com-

munity College and Southern Maryland. Enjoy holiday classics and seasonal favorites sure to get you in the holiday spirit including "Variations on Jingle Bells," "Hallelujah" chorus, "S'vivon" (The Dreidl), "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and more. Led by professional conductor Jeanne Kelly, the singers, all ages 55 and up,

have been entertaining audiences for more than a dozen years. These concerts are a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays and the truly gifted older adult encore singers.

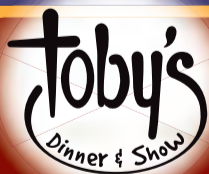
For more information, visit the Encore website at [www.encorecreativity.org](http://www.encorecreativity.org), call 301-261-5747 or email [info@encorecreativity.org](mailto:info@encorecreativity.org).

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## Coming January 16

Along with its January edition, the *Severna Park Voice* will publish a special magazine all about the 23rd annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Maryland. This guide will include coverage prior to the event to highlight the annual tradition and those who take the frigid plunge in support of children and adults with intellectual disabilities.



**SEVERNA PARK VOICE**  
SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1981

# Dining Out

## Enjoy The View And Food At Donnelly’s Dockside

By Mary Cobbler

Location, location, location! This place has it. Donnelly’s Dockside, at 1050 Deep Creek Avenue in Arnold, offers diners spectacular water views, inside and out. Choose from seating in the bar or in the bright, airy restaurant area. Or, if it’s a beautiful day, take advantage of the large water-front deck. This cozy spot is a neighborhood favorite.

On a Monday afternoon, just a few folks were eating lunch, but the restaurant began to fill up within a short time. The excellent wait staff chatted amiably, apparently familiar with many of the diners.

Our waitress, Jess, was a perfect server — friendly, knowledgeable and proficient. We ordered the stuffed avocado for our starter, and it was an excellent choice. I don’t really care for avocados, but I read it’s a favorite item, so we gave it a try, and I’m glad we did. Beautifully presented and perfectly ripe, the fruit made an ideal bed for the generous portions of crab meat with chopped red pepper, onions, tomatoes and jalapeno cream filling. It was

light and tasted healthy, with just a touch of heat.

My dining companion ordered a cup of cream of crab soup, soothing for a chilly day, with a moderate amount of backfin crab meat. The proffered bottle of sherry at the table added a nice touch.

I had perused the menu online before arriving at the restaurant and immediately gravitated to the sugar cane sea scallops. My companion chose jumbo shrimp steamed with Old Bay, with Vidalia onions and red potatoes.

My scallops, skewered on sweet sugar canes, were seared and slightly crisp on the outside and tender on the inside, and they paired wonderfully with the soft, creamy citrus rice and vegetables with pina colada butter. Though the sauce was excellent, there was not the slightest pina colada flavor. The dish came with green beans that were a bit too crisp for my taste.

The shrimp were steamed to perfection, and spicy. The potatoes and onions were cooked to the right consistency; they just needed more flavoring. With good-sized portions, this was a nice,

filling lunch.

We finished off the meal with coffee and key lime pie, topped with whipped cream and a slice of lime. The generously portioned pie had the consistency of cheesecake, with a strong lime flavor that wasn’t overly sweet. It was excellent.

Everything tasted fresh. The creams and sauces were light — not overwhelming.

The menu offers a large selection of seafood, as well as a few beef and chicken entrees and plenty of sandwiches.

Some items that looked tantalizing included the Magothy River club sandwich (which features fried crab cake, shrimp salad, bacon, lettuce, tomato and herb aioli served on Texas Toast), the seafood penne, or the salmon BLT.

Though we stuck to soft drinks, those who prefer something stronger can choose from a nice selection of beer, wine and cocktails.

Put this on your list of restaurants to visit, enjoy the food and drink in the view.

*Clockwise from top left: The stuffed avocado, filled with crabmeat, veggies and jalapeno sauce, was beautifully presented and perfectly ripe. Sugarcane scallops, served on a bed of citrus rice, were seared and crispy on the outside and tender on the inside. Jumbo steamed shrimp were spicy and served with potatoes and Vidalia onions.*

Photo by Mary Cobbler



### Ridenour’s “The Magical Mrs. Claus”

» **Continued from D1** quickly sold 40 copies. She was thrilled. Within a few months she had sold more than 700 books.

She has expanded this season, offering copies once again at the pharmacy and also at Nail Station in Glen Burnie and at Local by Design in Annapolis. Books also available at [www.themagicalmrsclaus.com](http://www.themagicalmrsclaus.com).

Ridenour said this year she wants to give back. She created a “Magical Mrs. Claus” tree, which sold for \$300 at Kennedy Krieger’s annual Festival of Trees fundraiser, and she donated books to the Ronald McDonald House, which supports programs that

improve the health and well-being of children and their families.

In addition to promoting her book, Ridenour currently works as a flight attendant for Southwest Airlines. Previously, she taught first-graders in the Hudson and Milford, New Hampshire school system for 23 years.

Lyons works with children with learning disabilities and served as the director of special education in private schools in New England and has been an instructor of Teachers for the Slingerland Institute for Literacy for more than 35 years.

The book comes in hardcover or paperback.

Ridenour will sign copies of “The Magical Mrs. Claus” books from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at an open house on December 12 at Studio 24E, 206 New Jersey Avenue, in Glen Burnie. The open house is sponsored by the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC) Foundation and Studio 24E, and proceeds will benefit UM BWMC’s Tate Cancer Center. For more information, visit [www.themagicalmrsclaus.com](http://www.themagicalmrsclaus.com).

Ridenour is excited about the project. Her mom, she thinks, would be happy. The magical Mrs. Claus rescued New Year’s Eve — at least for one little girl.

### Festive Drinks For The Holiday Season

» **Continued from D1** to serve, pour the grape juice and champagne/prosecco over top of the fruit. Serve.

**IRISH EGGNOG COFFEE**

**Ingredients**

- 2 cups eggnog
- 1 cup coffee (brewed)
- Sugar (to taste)
- ½ cup Irish cream liqueur
- ¼ cup brandy (or White Christmas, which is mixed brandy and rum)
- Ground nutmeg (optional topping)

Brew your cup of coffee and stir in the sugar. Let stand for one to two minutes to slightly cool. Combine with eggnog. Stir in Irish cream and brandy.

Garnish with nutmeg, and serve.

**NUTELLA HOT CHOCOLATE**

**Ingredients**

- 4 cups milk
- 2 tbsp Nutella
- 2 tbsp cocoa powder
- 2 tbsp sugar
- Optional toppings: Marshmallows, Crushed hazelnuts, Chocolate chips

Heat milk in a saucepan on medium-high until it gets warm and starts to steam. Add the Nutella, cocoa powder and sugar, and whisk until it all combines. Bring to a simmer while continuing to stir. Serve with chosen toppings.

**CUSTOM, FESTIVE MARSHMALLOW TOPPINGS**

**You will need:**

- Cookie cutters
- Marshmallows (big and flat)

Do you have your holiday cookie cutters sitting around? Make a festive treat with custom marshmallows. Take the flat marshmallows, and use the cookie cutters to create whatever shapes you want: Santa, tinsel, personal monogrammed letters, snowmen, you name it. Now, plop your custom marshmallows into hot chocolate (or use it for fondue!), and you have a custom twist on an easy dessert.



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