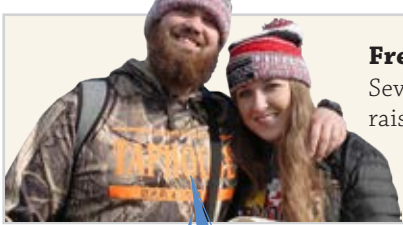




Get tips and advice from local experts on everything you need to improve your home and garden this spring.
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Local Female Artists On Display
Bay Radiology exhibits work in variety of media.
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Freezin' For A Reason
Severna Park Taphouse raises \$8,720 for Special Olympics Maryland.
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MARCH 6, 2019

A1

30th Rock 'N' Roll Revival Boasts A "Hall Of Fame" Lineup

By Dylan Roche
dylan@severnaparkvoice.com

When the first-ever Rock 'N' Roll Revival took the stage at Severna Park High School in 1989, it started a tradition that — 30 years and about 800 songs later — would be one of those signature events that defines the community. Every year, the show brings together hundreds of student singers, dancers, musicians, technicians and stage hands, as well as countless parent volunteers, to recreate the hits songs of decades past. As the March 7 opening of 2019's production draws closer, cast and crew alike are looking forward to sharing this milestone year with audiences.

"It's something Severna Park is known for," said Lauren Carlson, one of the student directors of Rock 'N'

Roll Revival XXX. "When I say I'm in Rock 'N' Roll, people from other schools know what that is. It's a great way to bring everyone together."

In honor of its anniversary, Rock 'N' Roll Revival XXX takes a "Hall of Fame" theme, meaning that each number in the show's lineup will be by an artist inducted into the Rock 'N' Roll Hall of Fame, and none of the songs will be repeats that were performed in a prior year. This will make the show extra special for those audience members who never miss a production of what's colloquially known as RNR.

"I know a lot of people in the audience look forward to this every year," said Erin Bast, a student dance choreographer. "They all go with family and friends, and they always love it and tell me how great they thought the show was. They're always

amazed every year by the talent in the show."

It's hard to say whether the show is more rewarding for those who are in the audience or those who are involved, as each of the student leaders in this year's production raved about how the show brings students together in a way nothing else at the school does. Abby Burns, one of the student directors, said the people involved are her favorite part of RNR. "They're incredible people," she said. "They're the most energetic people you'll ever meet, and everyone's so nice. We're like one big family."

The tradition encourages many students to cross social barriers. Megan Currie, a student producer, forwent playing basketball for the opportunity to be a part of RNR. "I remember I was so

>> Continued on A5



Pittman Introduces New Budget Hearing Format

Town Hall Scheduled For March 26 At Severna Park High School

By Zach Sparks
zach@pasadenavoice.com

"Like walking into a store" — that's how County Executive Stuart Pittman described the new town hall budget meeting process, which had its first installment at Southern High School in Harwood on February 27. Instead of choosing between a new pair of athletic shoes and a crockpot, Anne Arundel County residents can voice their preference between salary raises, community amenities and road improvements while also supporting or opposing the tax hikes that may fund those items.

Voters opted for a referendum in 2016 that required the county executive to hold at least two public budget hearings prior to finalizing the initial proposal on May 1. Pittman is expanding that requirement so that each council district will have a meeting. Severna Park High School will host the District 5 event on Tuesday, March

26, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Each town hall features opening remarks from the county executive and the host councilmember, followed by a brief budget presentation. Attendees are then encouraged to pose questions.

"Rather than having the citizens come in and talk to the department heads and pick up their brochures in a gymnasium with a bunch of tables, it's going to be a hearing, and there is going to be information provided to people before they come to that hearing," Pittman said prior to the first meeting. "People are going to stand up, just the way they do at the county council meetings, and argue for what they believe and I'm going to listen. And then we have to go back and come up with a plan."

The Anne Arundel County website will allow people to review last year's spending,
>> Continued on A7

Michelsen Honored With Ron Bowen Environmental Award



Photo courtesy of Anna Haley Photography

As Anne Arundel County Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP) administrator, Erik Michelsen oversees the construction of projects that aid the health of local waterways.

By Zach Sparks
zach@pasadenavoice.com

Ron Bowen was not a construction worker, but he spent much of his time breaking barriers as an advocate of cleaner

waterways, so it was fitting that a similarly minded environmental steward, Erik Michelsen, was honored with the first Ron Bowen Environmental Legacy Award during a ceremony at
>> Continued on A4

Golden Achievers: Tony Dokoupil

By Maya Pottiger

This is the third installment in a series of local celebrity success stories about people who were either raised in Severna Park or Arnold, or people who moved to the area and continued to achieve lofty goals. The first story featured "Wheel of Fortune" host Pat Sajak and the second story was on Jamie Bragg, the vice president of team sports for Under Armour.

A submarine to the bottom of the Pacific Ocean. Astronaut training. Sleeping on a glacier in Alaska. Digging for artifacts outside of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Before CBS News correspondent Tony Dokoupil told these stories as a journalist, he was a student at Severna Park High School.

But, even before that, Dokoupil attended a fancy private school in Miami. His dad drove a Mercedes, and the family owned a boat and went on luxurious vacations.

All of that disappeared when Dokoupil moved to



Photo courtesy of CBS News
Tony Dokoupil

Severna Park as a fifth-grader.

Dokoupil's parents were major drug dealers in Miami. After his father went to prison, the family was forced to flee when his stepfather cooperated with the feds. Dokoupil wrote about his childhood in his autobiography, "The Last Pirate: A Father, His Son, and The Golden Age of Marijuana."

"I didn't know about that crazy reason for why we moved and what had actually happened in Miami or where my parents were getting their money," Dokoupil said.

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State Of The Magothy Shows River's Resurgence

By Zach Sparks
zach@pasadenavoice.com

Even when a batter has two strikes in baseball, he always has the chance — however unlikely

— of battling back, and that's the same way Magothy River Association (MRA) President Paul Spadaro sees the watershed.

It's not dead. It's not forgotten. It's not be-

yond saving.

When Dr. Sally Hornor shares the annual State of the Magothy presentation at Anne Arundel Community College on March 15, she will echo that sentiment. This

year's Magothy River Index, a water quality assessment compiled by the MRA, grades the Magothy at 30. That mark is higher than last year's 22 and the previous
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Margueritte Mills
Volunteer
Of The Month

By Zach Sparks

The pitch was simple but convincing: follow in his footsteps. Those were the words that convinced Lynne Rockenbauch to transition from Severn River Association treasurer to president, the same role held by her father, L. Marshall Dowling, from 1970 to 1972.

Rockenbauch grew up on the Severn and moved back to the Ben Oaks neighborhood in 1982. “I remember really thick seaweed under the Route 50 bridge getting tangled in the motor,” she said. “You don’t see that anymore.”

She soon got involved with the SRA as a volunteer, later becoming a director in 2011, treasurer in 2013 and president in 2015. “I believed in bringing the river back to people, helping them understand that it’s in trouble,” Rockenbauch said.

Having attended a few SRA meetings as a youth, she was familiar with SRA’s history as perhaps the oldest organization in the country dedicated to the preservation of a river.

Formed in 1911 by 32 residents, the SRA was originally focused on protecting and promoting fish and game while also developing public water access. Today, the group monitors

SRA President Navigates The River
Group’s Path To Public Awareness



Severn River Association President Lynne Rockenbauch received her Volunteer of the Month award from Voice Assistant Editor Zach Sparks.

those and other committees to dedicated volunteers in leadership positions.

Being a mostly volunteer organization, SRA relies on homeowners to get involved. “We’re trying to get residents around the river to find something they are interested

in and contribute,” Rockenbauch said. “In the spring, we’ll do trash pickups and tree plantings.”

She has been an example of that involvement herself. As a Master Watershed Steward since 2012, she has planted rain gardens, conservation landscapes, and living shorelines. She is also a county “weed warrior,” working with a group that removes invasive plants, mostly from public land, about six days per year.

Rockenbauch has been the treasurer of the Ben Oaks Civic Association since October 2014, and she has served as the community’s delegate to the Greater Severna Park Council since January 2015.

As for the SRA, she is proud to be just one volunteer working to preserve and restore the Severn River. “Our vision has changed to being a bigger, well-known organization,” she said.

Editor’s Voice

Dylan Roche
Editor



As I write this, I’m looking out the window at snow-laden trees, slushy pavement and a misty gray sky. I guess it’s true what they say about March coming in like a lion. Winter weather always has to have one last hurrah, especially here in the Chesapeake Bay region, or so it would seem. I don’t know about all of you, but I’m ready for spring.

In fact, you’ll probably notice that this March edition of the *Voice* is pretty spring-centric, most notably in the annual special editions that are included with it. In our spring Home & Garden Guide, you can read up on the latest tips and advice from local experts on how to get your property ready for warm weather. Then there’s our Camp Guide, which might seem a little early, but summer will be here before you know it, and registration at some of these camps is filling up quickly. It’s time for you to make your plans now!

Then there’s the news from around the community. We’ve got the details on annual spring activities like Rock ‘N’ Roll Revival or the State of the Magothy presentation; we’ve got an explanation of the county executive’s new town-hall-style

budget hearings; we’ve even got feel-good stories from students who are undertaking service learning projects and scouts who are achieving Eagle status.


It’s also a time when spring sports are starting up, nearly every school is mounting a theater production, and many nonprofit organizations are gearing up for their annual fundraiser galas. What a time to be a part of a community like this! I hope you’ll enjoy reading all these stories as much as our team did covering them.

Don’t forget that March also means we’re halfway through our annual Best of Severna Park contest. The ballot is still live at www.severnaparkvoice.com/bestofsevernapark through March 22, so if you haven’t done so yet, log on and vote for your favorite businesses, services and organizations that deserve recognition. Remember that you can vote only once, so be sure to make it count.

As I sign off on this column for the month, it’s with the hope that the next time I write to you, it will be with March heading out like a lamb – mild temperatures, sunny skies and blooming plants. Until then, help distract me from the last of the wintery weather by emailing me your feel-good news stories at dylan@severnaparkvoice.com. I always enjoy hearing from you.

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Cast Your Vote For The Best Of Severna Park

Last call, Severna Park — don't forget to send us your votes for the Best Of Severna Park contest. We want to know which businesses and organizations you consider the best of your community. The ballot ran in the February 7 edition of the *Severna Park Voice*, and we're still collecting your votes up until Friday, March 22.

If you have not yet cast your vote, be sure to visit www.severnaparkvoice.com/bestofsevernapark to cast your vote online. You can also track down your copy of last month's paper and fill out a print ballot. Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors to do the same! Please note that all ballots, whether digital or print, must have your name and contact information and should be filled out with at least 10 categories. Print ballots can be mailed directly to *Severna Park Voice*, P.O. Box 608, Severna Park, Maryland, 21146, or hand-delivered to our office at 1511 Ritchie Highway, Suite 304, in Arnold. Votes will be counted and the winners will be published in our April 4 edition.

Hospice Celebrates 40 Years

By Maya Pottiger

In 1979, four individuals met in a kitchen in Chartwell. Together, they founded Hospice of the Chesapeake. Known then as Arundel Hospice, the organization brought hospice care to Severna Park and the surrounding communities. "At that time, most doctors were not making house calls. When a patient no longer comes to the doctor's office, what do they do?" said Martha O'Herlihy, one of the four founding members. "They don't get much care, or they go to the emergency room. Hospice was the exact vehicle to take care of that problem and to visit people until their death." O'Herlihy and the other three founding members — Fran Grauch, Mary Ellen Blondell and Norman Lambert — went to see Elisabeth Kübler-Ross speak at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Kübler-Ross was leading the hospice movement in the United States, and she inspired the four of them to take matters into their own hands. "When we first heard her speak, we came up with the idea: If I were dying, I would want her there," O'Herlihy said. "If not her, I would want someone just like her to be there with me." Not everyone was as excited about hospice care. In the beginning, the founders had to educate doctors and nurses about hospice care, and only had medical professionals working on a volunteer basis. "We used a book called 'The Hospice Movement' in the very beginning," O'Herlihy said. "We used that to educate doctors about what hospice care was, that we weren't just another organization coming between them and their patients." At the time, O'Herlihy's husband worked at Baltimore Washington Medical Center, so he was instrumental in helping them get volunteers for hospice. "I used to say that you're only as financially stable as your next fundraiser, al-

though it's not quite that bad anymore," O'Herlihy said. Fundraising has and always will be part of Hospice of the Chesapeake, O'Herlihy said. Though most insurance covers hospice care, not all does. "There were times when we didn't have enough money to pay our rent, but we managed to get by," O'Herlihy said. "I don't know how you thank all the people. There have been so many people through the years that have come and helped us and lavished money on us and did fundraisers." To celebrate its 40th anniversary, Hospice of the Chesapeake is hosting a gala on March 16. The gala is Hospice of the Chesapeake's largest fundraiser of the year. For 2019, the theme is "40 Years of Caring for Life." The event features dinner, drinks, auctions and dancing. The gala will be held at Live! Hotel in Hanover from 5:30pm-11:00pm. For tickets, visit www.hospicechesapeake.org.

Erik Michelsen Honored With Award

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Northeast High School on February 23. Much like Bowen, who always sought outside-the-box solutions and collaboration between government and citizens, Michelsen, the Anne Arundel County Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP) administrator, has operated beyond his job description to enact real change. "Not only does Erik help build infrastructure around the restoration movement in Anne Arundel County, but he helps connect the pieces to make the movement work on a large scale," said Kate Fritz, executive director of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and Master Watershed Steward. The Anne Arundel County Watershed Stewards Academy created the award in honor of Bowen, the former director of the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works and co-founder of the Watershed Stewards Academy. Michelsen fit the criteria as someone who exemplifies visionary leadership and fosters environmental action through connecting government and private resources. A Severna Park resident, Michelsen entered the field in 2005 as a project manager for Underwood & Associates, an ecosystem restoration firm. As executive director of the South River Federation from 2008 to 2014, he led the organization's advocacy efforts and participated closely in its ecosystem restoration projects. When Department of Public Works director Chris Phipps was looking for someone to lead the newly formed WPRP in 2014 following the passage of the stormwater management fee, he looked to Michelsen as a potentially unorthodox yet effective candidate. "With Erik coming from an advocate and activist perspective, we weren't sure how that would fit with county projects and the bureaucracy to work within constraints," Phipps said. "Now that we're here, it was the exact spark we needed to get the watershed program off the ground." As one example, Phipps identified a partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Trust in which the county invests \$1 million and gets supplemental grant funding to solicit competitive proposals from riverkeepers and community organizations. As another example, Phipps highlighted how the Department of Public Works has allocated \$5 million per year for three years to have organizations put forward their best pollutant load reduction projects. "Those are just two examples of how Erik's creativity and innovative spirit demonstrated themselves," Phipps said. When Michelsen took over the WPRP, he was tasked with helping the county meet its obligations under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit and the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Much of that work has come in the form of stream restoration, fixing failed or outdated dry ponds and infiltration basins, and enhancing storm drains where stormwater is discharged into erosive soils. Outreach was another core part of his job, informing taxpayers how funds from the stormwater management fee were being wisely spent and why stormwater is a major problem. "A lot of the public outreach has really been focused on explaining that our problems in the Magothy River [and] the Severn River aren't mostly driven by sewage overflows in Baltimore City or chicken farms on the Eastern Shore," Michelsen said. As a show of transparency, the Department of Public Works lists watershed restoration projects online so county residents can track nearby projects and see progress by number of projects completed and anticipated. Michelsen and his team have also encouraged community organizations and nonprofits to get involved by helping them get grants and matching funding provided by the state. Michelsen said some progress has been made, and even though the focus is improving water quality, some people are seeing improvements by the community features. "We're trying to focus on water quality," Michelsen said, "but to the extent that we're improving some perception of quality of life or other kinds of features in these communities, that's what we hope to do as well because frankly that's a lot more tangible for people throughout the county as opposed to nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment reduction." Michelsen said the WPRP is on pace to undergo about 25 projects annually, and he thinks that is a sustainable number for the next 10 or 15 years. Reflecting on his career as WPRP administrator so far, Michelsen has been pleased so far and he praised Bowen for serving as a model of someone who could bring multiple county departments together. "Having known him personally and having known what he was able to get accomplished made it even more meaningful with the award because he was somebody I really looked up to and somebody who made a career in local government look a lot more palatable," Michelsen said. "I was able to see the things he was able to do and how he was able to be effective and use that as a model for my own career."



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30th Rock ‘N’ Roll Revival

» Continued from A1

scared when I made it in the show,” she said of her first year. “I thought, ‘I don’t know anyone. This is a completely different thing.’ But once rehearsals started, I felt so welcome and just fit right in with everyone.”

As much fun as they have, the students acknowledge that they all do have to work hard, particularly in the last couple of weeks leading up to opening night. “Every year, tech week is its own set of challenges because it’s the first time we’re all together,” said Josephine Horrell, a student producer. “Up until tech week, we all practice separately. I’m a student producer and I don’t even know what’s going on with some of the songs until I see them for the first time during tech week.”

The same goes for the students who are working behind the scenes, as Dana Brant, the student technical director, explained. “When we’re building the set, we only know bits and pieces, so when we get to tech week, you finally get to see this big set you’ve been working on 13 hours a week,” she said. “You see it with lights, sound, people dancing and singing, and you’re just like, ‘Wow, that’s the final result. This is what it looks like and this is what it’s meant to be.’”

As the cast and crew put the finishing touches on this year’s production, the student leaders agreed that it will be a memorable one. “Everything just comes together,” summarized Gen Sampson, a student dance choreographer.

As for the lineup of songs that will be performed, that’s kept secret — so audiences will have to wait and see for themselves. But the student leaders agreed the “Hall of Fame” theme promises plenty of good numbers. “The playlist is one of the biggest of all time,” said Mary Fitzell, a student dance choreographer. “It’s got hit after hit that every generation knows.”

Although each of the seven scheduled performances sold out weeks before opening night, a wait list will be available at will call one hour before show time so that any turned-in tickets can be resold. Those who are interested in trying to see the show should visit www.sphs-drama.com for dates and show times.

Even those who have seen Rock ‘N’ Roll Revival many times before will not want to miss this 30th anniversary. “It’s such a major focal point for the community,” Burns said. “It’s not just us that love it. It’s the people who come to the show, and that’s who we do it for.”

10th Crab Soup Cook-Off Expected To Be The Rotary’s Best Yet

By Zach Sparks
zach@pasadenavoice.com

How many 3-ounce cups of crab soup does it take to help send six students to college and to provide more than 1,700 third-graders with dictionaries? The answer: a whole lot.

The Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club is inviting the public to its annual crab soup cook-off, where they can taste the area’s best cream of crab and Maryland crab soups, vote for their favorites, and support Pasadena and Severna Park’s youth.

This year’s event is set for Sunday, March 24, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at Kurtz’s Beach, located at 2070 Kurtz Avenue in Pasadena. Confirmed restaurants are Baha-ma Mike’s, the Greene Turtle, Kim Ward of Angel’s Food Market, Bella Napoli Italian Restaurant, and Founders Tavern and Grille.

Ten years ago, Rotarian Larry Sanders coined the idea for a Rotary crab soup cook-off as a replacement for the club’s pancake breakfast, which yielded minimal profits. “You can’t do much with \$300,” he said.

The event’s current chair, John Clark, added, “Nobody was trying to do a soup competition that time of year. It was more in the fall when crabs were plentiful.”

What started out as an event with about 135 attendees and a few thousand dollars now draws crowds that exceed 400 people and collects \$8,000 or more annually. Clark has an even more ambitious goal this year:



Giuseppe’s Italian Restaurant took people’s choice for best cream of crab during the 2018 crab soup cook-off.

\$14,000. That amount would fund the scholarships and dictionary project, but the Rotary’s previous record from any Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary crab soup cook-off is \$10,000 and the highest attendance was 586 in 2013. “Our focus went from being just scholarships to also being dictionaries,” said Clark, who counted 20 elementary schools throughout Pasadena, Severna Park and Arnold that benefit from the program. “The dictionaries are actually gazetteers because they have geography information in them.”

With the now 71-year-old Lake Shore Rotary Club merging with the Severna Park affiliate in 2014, annual dictionary costs increased from about \$2,000 to \$5,200, Clark said.

This year’s event will have

lower ticket prices and a lower registration fee for participating restaurants, yet Clark hopes to make up the difference with corporate sponsor donations and with added enthusiasm for the event, which is even more family friendly this year.

“We’re going to have face painting, balloons, photography with the Rotary sign in the back, nautical clothing, and painted crab shells,” Clark said. “So it’s not just tasting soup.”

But, of course, the appeal for many people is the soup, and the event has plenty of it. The recipes are always interesting and varied.

“Some people put pork in the Maryland crab and some people will keep it to vegetables,” Clark said. “I think the spicier ones are some of the best. For the cream of crab, some people are OK with that clam chowder consistency while others want the thickness. It just depends on your preference.”

Angel’s Food Market General Manager Kim Ward has thrown “everything but the kitchen sink” in her award-winning soup, which features beef, bacon, beer and barley among other vegetables and seasonings. One year, Founders Tavern and Grille mixed broccoli into its Maryland crab soup.

Meanwhile, repeat winner Bella Napoli sticks to a straightforward yet succulent recipe that goes heavy on cream and crab meat — with

small doses of Old Bay, celery, onions and Sherry.

Judges selected Mutiny Pirate Bar & Island Grille for best cream of crab soup and Sam & Maggie’s Dockside Grill for best Maryland Soup last year. Founders Tavern & Grille earned people’s choice for Maryland crab and Giuseppe’s Italian Restaurant took people’s choice for best cream of crab. Other past winners include Gourmet Pizza and Subs, Two Rivers Steak & Fish House, Honey Bee Diner, Fifer’s Seafood, Garry’s Grill and The Pit Stop Pub.

Three yet-to-be-determined judges will do a blind taste test to determine winners. Business owners, politicians, chefs, retired fire chiefs and culinary teachers have all served as judges over the years.

“I’ve tried hard to get people of note and I try to have someone different every year,” Clark said.

Kurtz’s Beach will have other food on hand for kids, and an open bar will service anyone 21 and over.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and free for children 5 and under. Advanced adult tickets can be purchased at Sanders Diamond Jewelers, located at 31 Magothy Beach Road in Pasadena. To learn more about the event, call Clark at 410-320-3145.

“It’s a win-win,” Clark said. “We’re going to raise money for scholarships and dictionaries and we’re also going to promote the restaurants. Outside of helping [high school] seniors, I cannot express a greater joy than handing dictionaries to third-graders.”

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“Red Flag” Law Is Designed To Curb Gun Violence And Save Lives



Gun violence has reached epidemic proportions in the United States. Maryland has proven no exception to the scourge. Even before the tragic mass shooting at *The Capital Gazette* on June 28, 2018, which took five innocent lives, the Maryland state legislature enacted new gun law changes, including a ban on bump stocks and a law making it easier to remove guns from people adjudged responsible for domestic violence.

Perhaps most controversially, the General Assembly also passed a “red flag” gun law. House Bill 1302, which went into effect on October 1, 2018, is titled “Public Safety — Extreme Risk and Protective Orders.” The statute allows judges and court commissioners to order the temporary removal of guns from people who are judicially deemed a risk to themselves or others.

The process to remove firearms begins with a petition filed in the District Court or, if after regular business hours, with a District Court commissioner. The petition should enumerate the specific reasons the person in question might harm himself or another individual. Factual information, including the number and location

of guns, should also be included in the petition. If approved, a judge has the authority to have law enforcement officers remove guns within hours of the filing. During a subsequent court hearing, the gun owner could seek to retrieve his or her weapons.

Under the new law, petitions can be filed only by certain individuals: law enforcement officers, health care professionals, spouses, family members, persons involved in an intimate relationship or persons having a child in common, and current or former legal guardians.

The law seeks to protect gun owners from wrongful accusations. Petitioners who have made false claims could face perjury charges, which would include the possibility of imprisonment.

According to Catherine Rentz’s *Baltimore Sun* article dated January 7, Maryland’s new “red flag” gun safety law drew 114 requests to remove firearms during its first month. Those filings in October 2018 included 19 requests each in Anne Arundel and Harford counties, the jurisdictions with the most requests. Anne Arundel County judges granted eight orders, the most of any county. Whether or not these judicial actions saved any lives, we will never know.

Of course, the statute is controversial among certain gun owners who

decry the law as an encroachment upon their constitutional right to bear arms. Proponents of the legislation counter that “red flag” laws are a measured way to save lives and expedite legal action to remove weapons only after dangerous behavior becomes apparent.

If you are concerned about a loved one who may present a danger to himself and/or others, you should seek legal advice regarding Maryland’s “red flag” law.

David Diggs is an experienced family law and personal injury attorney. If you need further information regarding this subject or any other legal issue, contact him at The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC, located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 204, in Millersville, by calling 410-244-1171 or emailing david@diggsllaw.com.

Rotary Foundation Opens Grant Season

The Rotary Club of Parole (Annapolis) Foundation is receiving grant applicants for nonprofit organizations in Anne Arundel County that serve the needs of children in the areas of education, health and the arts. The deadline is March 8, 2019.

The Parole Rotary Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization and was established by the Rotary

Club of Parole (Annapolis) to support programs that focus on the needs of our local community in light of the club’s vision: “We will make a positive difference for youth today, so they will make a difference tomorrow.” The foundation is primarily funded by member donations and club fundraising activities. For more information, visit www.parole-rotary.org and click under “Grants Foundation.”

Rotary is an international organization of business and professional leaders united through a shared commitment to humanitarian service. Rotarians are dedicated to fostering goodwill and peace around the world while upholding high ethical standards in the conduct of their vocational and professional endeavors.

Community To Carry On Jake Listorti’s Joy

By Maya Pottiger

On January 26, 2019, Severna Park native Jake Listorti passed away in his sleep.

The 25-year-old was described by many people as “the biggest personality in the room.”

“He was always the life of the party, funny guy. He would always talk to everyone,” said Emily Aderhold, Listorti’s girlfriend of more than five years. “He was just super charismatic and charming.”

At the time of his passing, Listorti was a teacher at Meade High School. He taught Foundations of Technology, as well as classes in the Homeland Security Signature Program. Through the program, Listorti was able to attend the FBI Citizens Academy.

“He was so into it. He’d come home and be like, ‘Oh, my God, guess what I got



Jake Listorti, 25, was a Severna Park native and teacher at Meade High School. He taught Foundations of Technology, as well as classes in the Homeland Security Signature Program.

to teach in class today.’ It would be something neat,” Aderhold said.

Listorti spent a lot of time at Meade, so much time that he and Aderhold would drive to school separately even though they lived together and both worked at Meade.

“I wouldn’t see him until 8 at night because he was at the school chatting with the custodial staff, doing his work, walking around, watching the basketball game,” Aderhold said. “He really lived at Meade. He built a lot of really positive relationships here with students, as well as staff members.”

Outside of the classroom, Listorti previously coached the JV baseball and JV wrestling teams. He also served as the faculty adviser for the Cyber Patriots Club, which placed first and second in their last two competitions.

Though he loved his teaching job, Listorti had big aspirations. He wanted to be the youngest principal in Anne Arundel County. He wanted to be a sketch writer for “Saturday Night Live.” He wanted to start his own business and be an entrepreneur.

“I always told him I could look at him and see his gears going in his head because he was always planning for his next big adventure,” Aderhold said. “He had crazy goals in life.”

Listorti loved “anything that you could get fired up about,” be it sports, music

or comedy. Since Aderhold started dating Listorti in 2013, she went to more than 200 concerts with him. Last year, Listorti was a season ticket holder for the Baltimore Orioles. He and his younger brother Andrew often conversed with each other in movie quotes, as they were both movie buffs.

“Jake was all about having a good time and having a smile on his face,” Aderhold said.

Aderhold often made fun of Listorti for being a “mama’s boy.” Listorti would have daily hour-long phone conversations with his mom, who lived 15 minutes away.

Overall, family was important to Listorti, who had four siblings: a half-sister, a brother, a stepbrother and a stepsister.

“He really didn’t waste a moment to let people know that he cared and was thinking about them,” Aderhold said.

Aderhold is a special education teacher at Meade, and she is helping the school community grieve.

“I tell [our students] that now that he’s gone, our job is to bring as much joy into the world as he did and live our lives in a way that he would be proud of us and as impressed with us as we all were of him,” Aderhold said.

Donations can be made in Listorti’s name to Sarah’s House in Fort Meade, which serves underprivileged women and children.



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Budget Hearing Format

» **Continued from A1**

and see the cost of adding services and county employees.

“We’ve asked for basic information: how much a police officer and car costs, how much a teacher costs, how much a school costs,” Pittman said. “If we want to fund those things, then we look at sources of revenue. There’s the property tax, the income tax and impact fees from developers.”

Councilwoman Amanda Fiedler is eager to attend the District 5 budget hearing to learn more about her constituents’ priorities.

“For me personally, it’s a much more beneficial scenario so that the same question is not being asked by multiple people and you really get the one-on-one opportunity to hear from not only the county executive in this circumstance and also the councilmember,” Fiedler said.

According to a January report issued by the Spending and Affordability Committee, Anne Arundel County should receive \$57.2 million more than Fiscal Year 2019 due to an income growth rate projection of 3.75 percent. Pittman said roughly \$40 million of that total will be earmarked for mandated requirements like pensions.

Salary increases might mean reversing course on recent tax cuts under former County Executive Steve Schuh and the former county council, but Fiedler would like to fund county priorities without raising taxes.

“There has been a lot of discussion about a loophole for the property tax cap,” she said. “That’s concerning

to me to use a loophole on a charter that was passed by the voters. I think that undermines what the voters felt that they were voting for, that this was a property tax cap that cannot be changed unless five members of the council vote to put it out to the ballot again.

“And I have concerns about tax increases in general,” she added. “The county executive did say ... that revenues for the county were increasing from tax rates that we currently have and that we need to prioritize our spending without raising taxes. So it’s alarming to me that we’re now talking about raising taxes, because we were increasing our revenue.”

Remaining town hall dates include Glen Burnie High School on March 7, Northeast High School on March 12, Lindale Middle School on March 20 and Annapolis High School on March 28. Pittman’s administration plans to live-stream each meeting.

Pittman will announce his budget on May 1. The county council will have 45 days to deliberate changes. In a statement, Pittman emphasized the importance of citizen input.

“We want our residents to be involved in our county budget decisions and we want direct citizen input to help inform us,” Pittman said. “The county charter requires us to have two meetings, but that’s not enough. We are going out into the communities in each council district to share information about what things cost and what our revenue projections look like. Information is power.”

Hospital Treasures Salvaged By Orphan Grain Train



Orphan Grain Train volunteers traveled to Washington, D.C. every day for a week to pick up truckloads of supplies and bring them to the Millersville warehouse where items would be sorted for shipment to Liberia, India, Ethiopia and Baltimore.

By Judy Tacyn

The doors of the District of Columbia General Hospital closed to patients in 2001, only to reopen as a homeless shelter for the capital’s most vulnerable population. Established in 1809, this venerable structure has literally and figuratively taken care of thousands of people. In 2016, Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington, D.C., announced plans to relocate the approximately 270 sheltered families to smaller facilities located throughout the district. By October 2018, the building stood empty and crumbling, but it wasn’t yet done taking care of the less fortunate.

George Taylor, a homicide detective for the D.C. police, and an Orphan Grain Train volunteer, was investigating a case that required him to

enter the weary building. As Taylor roamed throughout the myriad rooms, offices and labs, he noticed that there was a large array of tables, chairs, beds, cabinets, gurneys and other durable equipment that was in excellent condition, though the building was set to be demolished.

As an Orphan Grain Train volunteer, Taylor has an eye for more than crime scenes and evidence – he knows good stuff when he sees it.

The Millersville-based all-volunteer Christian charity provides humanitarian aid to the needy in the United States and around the world. Its mission is to enable people who have more than they need to share their abundance with those in need. Donations to this charity could

wind up in South Sudan, Liberia, Ghana, rural India, the inner city of Baltimore, or U.S. cities devastated by natural disasters. The eagle-eyed detective knew that there was more life in aging D.C. General.

Taylor approached the superintendent of the company tasked with razing the massive building to ask whether OGT volunteers could salvage anything that may be of use before the implosion or wrecking ball hit. To Taylor’s delight, the superintendent agreed.

“We were immediately excited when we realized the veritable treasure trove of humanitarian aid,” said Ron Phipps, an OGT volunteer. “We had a wonderful time looking through the cracks and crannies and realizing there was a lot of usable things left in the building.”

Inside the former D.C. General Hospital were hundreds of stacking chairs that the Orphan Grain Train would send to several schools in Liberia; beds to be sent to clinics and hospitals in South Sudan; mattresses that would go to a hospital in India; shelving and bookcases would be destined for a seminary in Ethiopia; and home goods that could help improve homeless facilities in Baltimore.

Supervised by OGT volunteer Norman Giguere, volunteers traveled every day for a week to pick up truckloads of the hospital’s contents and bring them to the Millersville warehouse where items would be sorted for shipment. In its final act of nurturing the most vulnerable of people, and thanks to Taylor and OGT volunteers, D.C. General surrendered its trash for another’s treasure.

Gilbane’s superintendent wrote in an email to the Orphan Grain Train, “It is a great pleasure to assist you all with your mission, to repurpose useful items for the improved quality of life for others.”

Phipps said that he hopes the OGT team can get back into the building a couple more times before it is imploded, which could be any day. “We are waiting on an asbestos abatement team to give us the all clear to enter additional parts of the building,” he said. “We are hoping we have time to salvage even more. It’s an absolute joy knowing we can give this equipment new life.”

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Recreation And Parks Recognizes Kinder Park Volunteers And Others



Recreation and Parks Director Rick Anthony and County Executive Stuart Pittman presented the Friends of Kinder Farm Park Organization of the Year award to FoKFP president Carrie Fielder and board members Kirk Platt and Rich Tambascio.

From docents to youth coaches, a variety of volunteers were honored during a Department of Recreation and Parks awards ceremony in the Blue Heron Center at Quiet Waters Park on January 23. Nominations were accepted year-round.

Organization of the Year awards went to Pasadena Soccer Club and the Friends of Kinder Farm Park.

Established as a nonprofit in 1999, the Friends of Kinder Farm Park supports the Millersville site by fundraising, constructing small structures, and with special

events like the Fall Harvest Festival, Jingle Bell Hayride and Meet the Kids Day.

Visitors young and old especially like meeting the goats, pigs, sheep and alpacas that are fed as part of the Friends' livestock program. "It's a place where kids can learn about the farm history without it being overwhelming," said Friends of Kinder Farm Park president Carrie Fielder, who has held that role for the last three years. Fielder has also served as treasurer during her 10-plus years with the nonprofit.

Along with her fellow volunteers, Fielder was "thrilled to death" to be honored by the Department of Recreation and Parks. She also praised the historical society for helping to fund and supervise the renovation of the 1925 Depression era farmhouse on the property.

"The farmhouse was the original home of the Kinders, so the historical society refurbished and re-established it," she said. "Before, it was a park office and it wasn't in great condition. Now people can

come to the museum and see things that would have been part of a home in the 1930s."

Those things are not just artifacts but also farm equipment and tractors displayed as part of the ongoing historical interpretation of Anne Arundel County's rich farm heritage.

Outside of the Greater Severna Park area, several volunteers took home Ron Blake Outstanding Volunteer Awards, which are named in honor of a former Recreation Advisory Board member and community volunteer. Those honorees included **Dave Farley** of Havenwood Community Girls Softball, **Jim and Susan Morrison** of the Friends of Hancock's Resolution, Pumphrey Community Center volunteers **Geraldine Bates** and **Jacquelyn Langford-Winchester**, Friends of Jug Bay treasurer **Jim Harle** and Quiet Waters Park volunteer **Gary Scaggs**.

Aidan Rand was named Youth of the Year for his efforts with the Youth Summer Serve program at Mayo Beach Day Camp. Earning the Director's Commitment to Excellence Award, which is akin to a lifetime service award, was **Albert "Al" Tucker**, who for 33 years has supported the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary.

State Of The Magothy

» Continued from A1 year's 28.

Both Spadaro and Hornor attributed some of the improvement to an explosion of dark false mussels, which filter pollutants and sediment out of the Magothy, giving underwater grasses enough sunlight to grow.

"The mussels helped keep algal growth in check and that helped the grasses grow," Hornor said. "We not only had more grasses but a greater diversity of grasses this year."

She named wild celery and redhead as two grasses that were more common this year. Wild celery is a native grass, and redhead is good for habitat and waterfowl, Hornor noted.

Grasses provide dissolved oxygen and food for fish and crabs to thrive. Yet the acreage of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) is just one component that factors into the river's overall grade. MRA volunteers also consider the clarity of the water and the dissolved oxygen level.

MRA compares its data with county findings and with SAV measurements that the Virginia Institute of Marine Science produces with aerial photography.

Even though the MRA is optimistic about the river's health, members see room for improvement. It's been more than a decade since the Magothy River Index exceeded a 40-grade C rating. Contrary to public perception, most of the pollution is coming not from the Chesapeake Bay but from the creeks and coves.

"Our opening to the [Chesapeake] Bay is only about a mile wide," Spadaro said. "A lot of the pollution, depending on the tide, bypasses the Magothy. And this isn't an industrial area, so most of the

pollution we have is residential. Most of the issues we have relate to stormwater."

During the State of the Magothy, Chris Victoria, a water quality compliance specialist with the Anne Arundel County Watershed Protection and Restoration Program, will talk about research on non-tidal streams that feed into the Magothy.

Berrywood resident Bob Royer will highlight a stream restoration and living shoreline project in his neighborhood. That Cattail Creek area and the North Cypress Branch portion of Cypress Creek are the two spots with the poorest water quality on the Magothy, Hornor said.

"North Cypress Branch serves as drainage for all the shopping centers, so it's the most impacted area in the watershed," Hornor said. "We can't expect one project to offset the many acres of impervious surface we see in that shopping district."

That won't deter the MRA. Yellow perch are producing at a low rate. Grasses are growing. Community efforts are making an impact.

"The greatest way people can help is to manage the stormwater — reducing impervious surface, planting native trees and shrubs, and using rain gardens," Hornor said. "These are small things, but all of these have a big impact when put together."

State of the Magothy will be held in Room 100 of the CALT building at Anne Arundel Community College on March 15. Doors open at 6:30pm and the presentation will begin at 7:00pm.

"Nature has a tendency to come back," Spadaro said. "If you give it an opportunity to come back, things will start swinging the other way."



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» **Continued from A1**
“I didn’t know any of that until I was much older.”
The family landed in Severna Park because Dokoupil’s stepfather was familiar with the Chesapeake Bay area from marijuana drops. His mother specifically chose Severna Park because she believed in the public school system. The family lived in the Round Bay neighborhood.
In Severna Park, Dokoupil struggled.
“It was hard because we had a lot of money when I was in Miami. When [my father] went to prison, the money disappeared,” Dokoupil said. “By the time we arrived in Maryland, my mom’s teaching salary was our primary income, and a public school teaching salary doesn’t go that far.”
Dokoupil graduated from the SPHS class of 1999. He played baseball and basketball, and Dokoupil earned a scholarship to play baseball at the George Washington University.
“At the time, I didn’t know what journalism was,” Dokoupil said. “I thought I was going to do something in athletics.”
Dokoupil’s path to journalism wasn’t straightforward: He graduated first in his class from GWU’s business school, took a job at a public affairs company in San Francisco and attended a Ph.D. program at Columbia University.
While Dokoupil was in the Ph.D. program, his professors noticed that Dokoupil liked communicating and writing, so he took an unpaid internship at *Newsweek*, where he was later hired.
“I stayed through the great collapse of print — all the layoffs, the bails, the hand wringing, all the convulsion,” Dokoupil said. “I ended up in TV because I had done a number of stories for *Newsweek* that became broadcast in one form

or another.”
Dokoupil got his start in television as a writer at NBC. He was a senior writer for NBC Digital in the enterprise unit, and then he became a reporter for the investigative unit off-camera. After NBC, Dokoupil became a correspondent for MSNBC. Then, in July 2016, Dokoupil moved to CBS.
“What I’ve come to realize is that the voice is the original medium; writing is secondary. Writing exists as a replacement for voice,” Dokoupil said. “The great thing about television is you write for the human voice.”
Recently, Dokoupil had a profile on Dolly Parton that aired. Though he has interviewed many people during his career, this interview stuck out to him as a memorable one.
“Sometimes you sit down with an individual and, for some reason, everything clicks. It’s like you knew them in a different life, and the conversation flows as though you’re old friends,” Dokoupil said. “Whenever that happens, it’s really magical. There are lots of interviews that I’ve loved over the years, but that’s a recent one which stands out as having been special.”
Now, Dokoupil lives in New York with his family. He is married to MSNBC anchor Katy Tur.
Though Dokoupil likes to travel in his spare time, he said he has been able to experience incredible things through journalism.
“The wonderful thing about journalism is that a lot of the stories I’ve done are things I think other people would pay to do,” Dokoupil said. “It’s been incredible, the outings and the individuals that you meet in this line of work the way I’ve been able to experience it. It’s what I do for a profession, but a lot of it I would want to be doing in my free time, too.”

Kiwanis Club Collects Baby Supplies For County’s Needy

By Judy Tacyn

The Kiwanis Club of Severna Park is more than 60 years old and is proud to still be creating new programs that improve Severna Park and surrounding communities. Its latest project is a collaboration with Anne Arundel County Public Schools and the Judy Centers to create the Kiwanis Kids Closet, which launched March 1.
“We are excited to be working with AACPS and the Judy Centers to provide diapers, Pull-Ups, baby food and other baby supplies to families in the Belle Grove and Hilltop elementary school catchment areas,” said Nadine Jacobs, Kiwanis Club of Severna Park board member and Kiwanis Kids Closet program chair.
Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Family Education Centers (Judy Centers) provide a central location for early childhood education and support services for children, from birth through kindergarten, and their families who reside in specific Title I school districts in Maryland, including Hilltop Elementary and Belle Grove Elementary schools in Anne Arundel County.
“The Kiwanis Club of Severna Park has worked with the Hilltop Elementary Judy Center for several years,” said Jacobs. “When the Judy Centers director mentioned the need for a baby pantry, we were happy to create this project.”
Several local businesses are now collecting supplies. The goal is to have 12 locations collecting supplies for a one-month period each to keep the “closet” supplied for one year. Jacobs and other Kiwanis members will deliver the supplies to Belle Grove Elementary, where the closet is located.
“There are obviously many wonderful community service organizations and nonprofits,” Jacobs added. “One of the unique aspects of Kiwanis is that we have groups at the elementary, middle and high schools, and college levels, to encourage community service by our youth. Our Key Clubs (Kiwanis at the high school level) are particularly active. Kiwanis in Severna Park sponsors Key Clubs at Severna Park, Old Mill, Chesapeake and North County high schools.”
Several high school Key Club members will soon paint a mural to decorate the basement location where the Kiwanis Kids Closet supplies will be stored at Belle Grove Elementary. The Kiwanis Club of Severna Park and Key Club members will also provide supplies for a commu-



The Kiwanis Club of Severna Park is donating disposable diapers, baby food and formula, and baby and toddler clothes to Hilltop Elementary and Belle Grove Elementary schools.

at 305 Crain Highway in Glen Burnie. People may donate supplies or money at that dinner and speaker meetings and we’d love new members,” said Jacobs. “As a Kiwanis member, you can evaluate both children’s issues and community needs on an ongoing basis, and conduct service projects to respond to those identified needs. Together we can accomplish great things that individuals alone could not do.”
Kiwanis International is a global community of clubs, members and partners dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time. To learn more or to get involved, visit www.kiwanis.org.

“As a Kiwanis member, you can evaluate both children’s issues and community needs on an ongoing basis, and conduct service projects to respond to those identified needs.”
— NADINE JACOBS, KIWANIS CLUB OF SEVERNA PARK BOARD MEMBER AND KIWANIS KIDS CLOSET PROGRAM CHAIR

nity baby shower to be held on March 30 at the Brooklyn Park Library.
A public Kiwanis Kids Closet collection box is located at the Howard Bank

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NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE MONTH

Fair Oaks



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 and let us know!

Above: (L-R) Mary Casciano, Stella Kootsikis Angelucci and Gail Condon all consider Fair Oaks to be a great place for living and raising a family. Left and right: Fair Oaks has 55 homes, a community pool, a pavilion, playground and marina.



Fair Oaks Residents Bond Over Pool Events And Family Activities

By Judy Tacyn

Development in the wooded and quiet area known as Fair Oaks began in earnest in the mid to late 1960s. At that time, there were just 29 families in the community, three of which still call Fair Oaks home today. There are now 155 homes in Fair Oaks.

The hub of the community is the pool, where residents really get to know one another. Many of the games, sporting events, and parties are held around the pool and pavilion. The Fair Oaks swim team, known as Frogs, helps kids from different schools make life-long friends. The Fair Oaks team is in its 20th year and is a charter member of the East Severna Park League.

In addition to the community pool, which has a pavilion, playground, marina and dock directly on Cattail Creek of the Magothy River, Fair Oaks residents have just a short walk to Folger McKinsey Elementary, a National Blue Ribbon school.

Summer starts with a Memorial Day event that begins with runs, a parade, first swim, a baseball game, and musical performances.

Community events are scheduled throughout the year, including a crab feast, lobster feast, and "the wassail," where residents gather to sing carols and

meet Santa Claus. In the summer, residents of all ages participate in the always competitive and entertaining Community Olympics.

MATT AND MARY CASCIANO
RESIDENTS FOR THREE YEARS

Living within walking distance of Baltimore Harbor was perfect for Matt and Mary Casciano; that is, until the birth of their second child. It was then that they started looking for a suburban community to raise their family.

"When we drove through Fair Oaks, it just felt different, in a way we couldn't put our finger on," Mary recalled. "As we passed the pool, Mr. Rob and his snowball truck pulled up and what seemed like a thousand kids came pouring out. We looked at each other and knew this was where we were going to live. It was like something out of an old movie."

Their oldest child currently attends Folger McKinsey Elementary School. "Every child walking in and out of that school does so with excitement and an eagerness to learn, which we think is truly special," Mary said.

Matt served two years as the neighborhood association's treasurer, and Mary is a member of the strategic asset committee, which was set up to help manage community assets for future planning.

SHANNON AND JEANNE BYRNE
RESIDENTS FOR 15 YEARS

Both of Shannon and Jeanne Byrne's families moved to Severna Park in the mid-1960s. After they married, they too wanted to put down family roots in the community they both loved.

The sports-minded, active family chose Fair Oaks because of the access to the Magothy River and the beautiful community pool. "Growing up, we both enjoyed time on the Severn River and were members of Severn River Swim Club," said Shannon.

"Besides the amenities, the actual neighbors in Fair Oaks make it unique," he added. "The proof is in the pudding; everyone is always willing to go out of their way to help each other. We have many great families who care about their children growing up to be successful."

Shannon and Jeanne have both coached for the Greater Severna Park Athletic Association (Green Hornets). They have four children.

GAIL CONDON
RESIDENT FOR 40 YEARS

"Our family moved to Maryland from Louisville, Kentucky, in 1979 when my husband became the General Electric regional manager for major appliances," said Gail Condon. "We had three sons who

were teens at the time, and finding excellent schools was our No. 1 concern, followed by proximity to water. And we love trees."

Condon believes that Fair Oaks is unique for many reasons, including that "it is an amazingly social community in which people of all ages party together, play very competitive sports together, and generally help their neighbors in any way they can," she said. "For most of my 40 years here, I knew the names of every resident."

Condon's son, Craig, has returned to Fair Oaks to raise his family, and Condon could not be happier.

"Perhaps the most unique thing about Fair Oaks is the number of children who return to buy a home and raise their kids here - 12 returnees at last count," Condon said.

She is continually amazed at the kindness of her neighbors. When someone has cancer or delivers a new baby, people make meals, drive to doctors, babysit, paint rooms, do laundry, or whatever they can.

"I have lived in six different neighborhoods in my life," said Condon, "but this one is really special."

STELLA KOOTSIKAS ANGELUCCI
RESIDENT FOR 48 YEARS

Stella Kootsikis Angelucci and her husband were taking a Sunday

drive with their children when they saw a house-for-sale sign on Ritchie Highway and Arundel Beach Road, and decided to explore the "country" road that led them to Fair Oaks.

"There were maybe only 50 homes then," Kootsikis Angelucci said. "We found our rancher in a waterfront community near Folger McKinsey Elementary School. Even before we moved into our new house, the future neighbors reached out to watch our children during the move."

A child care system was developed, which allowed members to watch other children to earn compensatory care of their own children.

"We had a secretary who kept track of the houses to be exchanged," she remembered. "Babysitters were then charging 50 cents an hour and were hard to find during the day!"

As her children grew, Kootsikis Angelucci said the summer swim team was an inclusive activity for them. She also noted that the Fair Oaks Frogs summer swim continues to bring the families together.

"My children have wonderful memories of playing at the beach and boating [on the] Cattail Creek-Magothy River to Chesapeake Bay," she added. "Also, in the early days, water skiing was allowed off our pier."



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What Do We Want From Government?



Stuart Pittman
County Executive

Information is empowering. I want county residents to be informed and engaged. And I'm not the only one.

We just released our transition report and one of the things woven through many of the recommendations is the desire among county residents for access to information, more opportunities for public participation and a chance to help shape decisions.

I think this is great news. I was elected on a promise to engage citizens and to listen. Putting communities first is more than a slogan – it's a framework for how this administration will approach governing. In fact, we organized our entire transition team around committees based on communities: safe communities, healthy communities, thriving communities, empowered communities, educated communities, sustainable communities and responsive government.

More than 200 volunteers invested more than 5,000 hours of time creating the report. There are 63 broad recommendations and 298 action items. Recommendations included adding some key management positions within county government, increasing staffing

levels for teachers and public safety personnel, adopting new technologies to improve efficiency, increasing community engagement and instilling better collaboration among departments and partners.

You can find the 20-page summary report, and all of the subcommittee reports, on our county website at www.aacounty.org/departments/county-executive/transition/index.html.

I'll be considering these recommendations when I put my first budget together, which will be introduced on May 1. I also want to hear from you. For the first time, the county is holding a series of town hall budget meetings to hear from citizens before budget decisions are made. These meetings represent your opportunity to tell me about your budget priorities and what's important to you.

The county budget is large — more than \$1.6 billion — and complex. To help citizens understand the components of the budget, we have created a webpage that gives you some tools to help you prepare your testimony. You can see the approximate costs of certain county personnel, like teachers, firefighters and zoning inspectors. The budget tool also shows you how much an ambulance, a senior center or an elementary school costs.

Everything has a cost, and

» Continued on A12

Priorities In The County Budget



Amanda Fiedler
Councilwoman
District 5

On February 18, the Anne Arundel County Council voted to ban polystyrene foam in a 4-3 vote that split down party lines. I was one of three votes to oppose the ban. This vote was not a reflection of my environmental awareness but a reflection of my commitment to responsible spending. Hard decisions are part of my job.

My family's household recycles weekly, and I take pride that we have more yellow cans than actual trash at our curb on trash day. I kindly decline polystyrene foam take-home containers and choose places with paper cups for my coffee on the go. I repurpose products and am conscientious of the natural resources I use. I'm also conscientious of how I vote to spend your tax dollars.

Your dollars deserve no fewer considerations than I make with my own finances. When deciding to add an expense, such as a home improvement, family vacation or new vehicle, I know how I am paying prior to making the commitment. I use this same approach with county decisions. This ban could potentially cost as much as \$676,000 because of the need to replace the lunch trays used in all of our county schools. Where is the money coming from? Increased

school lunch prices? Probably, but that's not certain.

With roughly 32 percent of the student population receiving free and reduced meals, the increased lunch price will fall disproportionately on the remaining 68 percent of the student population. No estimated cost calculation was provided for what that would mean for the 68 percent of county students and their families. While the county executive's administration expressed willingness to help mitigate the cost, the details are still unknown. Are we using projected increased revenue? Are we cutting an unknown item from the future budget? A reoccurring expense of more than \$500,000 should have a clear funding plan, and that is why I chose to oppose this ban.

I will take this approach

into the budget season, which is quickly approaching. On May 1, the county executive will present his Fiscal Year 2020 budget to the county council. The council will then have 45 days to adjust and finalize the budget. The input from the residents of District 5 is critical. Shortly after taking office, I met with the county executive and shared with his staff my priorities for the fifth district. After 18 months of meeting voters on their doorsteps, there were consistent concerns and needs that I would like to focus on, including but not limited to roads improvements, safer pedestrian walkways and crosswalks, education, mental health and the opioid crisis.

You can share your funding priorities with me again along with the county executive at his budget town hall

on Tuesday, March 26, at 6:00pm at Severna Park High School. I encourage every resident of our district to attend and either voice their priorities or hear the priorities of their community. There will be a brief presentation on budget data before the floor is open to the public. We want the county executive to know exactly what our priorities are. Would you like to see a future with increased spending, investments and higher taxes or conservative investments with lower taxes? Are your priorities focused on infrastructure? Education? County parks? Don't let your voice be left out of the conversation.

As your councilwoman, my job is best executed when you are engaged. I look forward to hearing from you throughout the budget process.

Decriminalizing Attempted Suicide



Heather Bagnall
Delegate
District 33

It is easy to forget that politicians are people, that we have lives, and families, and that sometimes we are messy. I was a messy candidate; I didn't come from money, I didn't come from politics, I entered the legislative body with a vertical learning curve. My background is in theater, and oftentimes the arts attract people who have not been accepted by the community at large, yet in the arts they find a home and a family who accept them as they are. This is the world from which I emerged when I ran for office.

I am a compartmental-

izer, so when I'm working in the General Assembly, I leave that world at the door; however, the impact of this work is always with me. In February, my political world and my theater world came crashing together as one of our own from my theater world took his life. It was a humanizing moment and I was left unsure of what to do. I ran to solve the mystery of behavioral and mental health care, to try to sort out the puzzle and understand why some people turn to violence, why some turn to drugs, why some turn away from the world and why some are able to turn things around.

The same week my friend took his life, we as a body voted to decriminalize attempted suicide. It was a difficult vote for me, not

because I doubted for a moment how I would or should vote, but because I was witness to all the people who were willing to call my friend a criminal rather than see the act as a tragedy.

They say politics is personal, and this was personal to me. I know some people who would disagree with my vote and might even say I voted against the will of my constituents, but I think we have to vote not necessarily as they would but in the best interest of their futures. I do not want my constituents, my friends, and neighbors or even my dissenters to ever have to experience what I have repeatedly, and then to have to qualify their friends or family in crisis

» Continued on A12

Another Bay Bridge



Michael Malone
Delegate
District 33

If you live or work in central Anne Arundel County, chances are you've spent significant non-quality time sitting in traffic jams surrounding the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. The good news is that the existing spans across the Chesapeake Bay, one built in 1952 and the other in 1973, are structurally sound and are expected to remain so for another 50 years. The bad news is no surprise: rising traffic levels.

More than 70,000 vehicles cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge on an average day, or about 25.6 million vehicles per year, with ever-higher numbers of vehicles seeking to reach the Delmarva beaches and other tourist destinations during summer and holiday weekends. According to a 2015 study, by 2040 the number of vehicles crossing the bridge is expected to average more than 90,000 per day, and

the weekend gridlock is projected to escalate by more than 35 percent into regular 14-mile backups by 2040.

Alleviating the impact of bay bridge traffic has been a cause for concern for years. In 2016, Governor Larry Hogan instigated an environmental impact study under the National Environmental Policy Act, which is required before the Federal Highway Administration can commit federal funds to a major project, to explore the best locations for another bridge crossing, the results of which should be announced next year. Last month, the Maryland Transportation Authority released maps of potential bridge crossings.

Of the 14 potential bridge crossings, five originate in Anne Arundel County. Three originate in Baltimore County or Calvert County each, two in Harford County, and one in Saint Mary's County. The potential bridges would land in the Eastern Shore counties of Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's Talbot, Dorchester or Somerset. Costs for the various alternatives range from \$7.8

billion to widen the east-bound span to three lanes, to more than \$25 billion to demolish the existing spans and replace them with a single eight-lane bridge.

Given that Anne Arundel County bears the brunt of bridge gridlock, and that more of the proposed building sites originate here than anywhere else, you would think that Anne Arundel County would have a significant say in whether and where another Chesapeake Bay Bridge span would be. Sadly, however, that is not the case.

Since the early 1970's, under Maryland law, no toll bridge, highway or road that affects the Eastern Shore can be constructed without the consent of a majority of the nine Eastern Shore counties (Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester). Therefore, no new bay bridge span can be built without the consent of the majority of the Eastern Shore counties. There is no parallel law that requires

» Continued on A12

You'll Need To Update Your ID



Ed Reilly
Senator
District 33

The Real ID Act of 2005 is a federal law that mandates your state issued ID card (such as a driver's license) to be acceptable for federal purposes, such as boarding an airplane or accessing federal facilities. If you have a Maryland-issued ID card, you will need to update this card by **October 2020**. You can apply for the REAL ID when you renew your driver's license, or you may renew your license early by making an appointment and providing the needed documents.

If you chose to apply for the

REAL ID prior to your driver's license expiring, it is essential that you make an appointment with an MVA of your choice. The MVA website can walk you through a checklist of the required documents. Once you have checked off the documents you chose to bring, you electronically schedule your appointment.

First, you will need **one** proof of age and identity. This can be a certified copy of your birth certificate or a valid U.S. passport. Please note — documents issued by a hospital, notification of birth registration, birth registration cards, and foreign birth certificates are not accepted as your proof of identity! If your birth document is not certified, you must get a "certificate of record" from the Division of Vital Records. Visit this website to find out how to get a certified copy of your birth

certificate: www.ahealth.org/birth-certificates. This certified copy of your birth certificate will cost \$20.

Second, you will need **one** proof of Social Security. This can include your original Social Security card, a W-2 form, or a Social Security Administration benefits statement, SSA-1099. The document must show your name and full Social Security number.

Third, you must provide **two** proofs of Maryland residency. Examples are an insurance card, vehicle registration, credit card bill, utility bill, bank statement or mail from a federal, state or local government agency.

Fourth and finally, if your current legal name is different from what is on any of these requested documents, you will need to provide a government-issued

» Continued on A12

A Reckless, Costly And Unnecessary Proposal



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

On February 22, committees in both the House of Delegates and the Senate held hearings to consider legislation sponsored by Senator Ben Kramer (Democrat-Montgomery County) and Delegate Warren Miller (Republican-Howard and Carroll counties). If their legislation is successful, my agency's Field Enforcement Division (FED) — which is charged with enforcing and regulating the state's alcohol, motor fuel, and tobacco industries — would be transferred to a new, inexperienced commission composed of political appointees.

To be clear, this legislative proposal is nothing more than political retribution for my efforts to advocate Maryland's craft brewing industry. Without providing any evidence that the FED has performed unsatisfactorily, Kramer and Miller have put forward a legislative proposal that can be summed up as unnecessary, costly and reckless.

First, this bill is unnecessary. The Field Enforcement Division, composed of 64 dedicated agents, inspectors and public servants who are among our state's unsung heroes, consistently deliver unblemished records of service and results on behalf of Maryland taxpayers. They go after fraudulent tax preparers, ensure that the fuel we put in our tanks is

safe and complies with quality regulations, and protect our kids and our families from contraband alcohol and tobacco products. Even the sponsors of the bill have acknowledged that the FED is performing well.

Second, this bill is costly. The independent Bureau of Revenue Estimates conducted a comprehensive review of the legislative proposal, taking into account every element of the bill, and members of the bureau are estimating this legislation would cost Maryland taxpayers \$50 million over the next five years, not to mention that it will put at risk the \$750 million in tobacco settlement money due to a reduction in aggressive enforcement and regulation.

Additionally, should this

legislation pass, the taxation function and the regulatory and enforcement functions would be separated, with the former remaining within the Office of the Comptroller and the latter being transferred to this proposed commission.

The Office of the Comptroller's tax administration and compliance functions would suffer without the law enforcement capabilities and institutional knowledge of the FED, while FED would suffer from a lack of access to sensitive taxpayer information that has been critical to their successful efficient enforcement. This would lead to two agencies with duplicate functions, and neither would function as well as they did when they were together.

In a time when the legisla-

» Continued on A12

Robotics For All



Dana Schallheim
AACPS Board of Education
District 5

Beyond lengthy discussion and voting on Fiscal Year 2020 budget amendments covering topics from teacher make-up steps to 21st century wireless infrastructure, the Board of Education considered a tiny budget amendment that leveled the playing field for our students interested in robotics. Aptly named Robotics for All by the dozen or more students who attended the February 25 Anne Arundel County Public Schools Board of Education meeting, Amendment 52 set

up a recurring pool of \$40,000 aimed to create or expand robotics-centered, high school-sponsored clubs countywide. Until now, only two high school clubs, South River and Chesapeake, were supported by the school system beyond standard teacher stipends.

Robotics is one area under the STEM umbrella that has taken off in recent years and created opportunities unrivaled by other areas of study. Encompassing every component of STEM, participation on a robotics team also builds soft skills such as teamwork, problem solving, and leadership. Students who participate on a competitive robotics team at any level can

» Continued on A12

Robotics For All

» **Continued from A11**
earn millions of dollars in college scholarships, putting them on a track for cutting-edge careers in the field. For teams that compete at the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) level, that figure can reach up to \$80,000,000 in scholarships and career opportunities.
Building just one robot can cost thousands. Adding development costs coupled with entry fees, travel and uniform expenses, some clubs can spend upward of \$20,000 per

year. Because of the high costs involved with participating on a competitive robotics club, some high school clubs have become 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and regularly fundraise, including soliciting local businesses for sponsorship. At Broadneck High School, students are involved in all aspects of their robotics club including its administration and fundraising. The Robotics for All amendment will take some of the fund-raising burden off students at Broadneck and other high schools, allowing students

to purchase supplies, build robots and enter competitions quicker.
I am delighted that my colleagues on the board joined me in taking this first important step to create tech equity for all it students, living up to its mantra that "all means all." I can't wait to see this money distributed and to witness our students' successes in robotics.
An application process to access these funds is forthcoming and will be developed by the AACPS superintendent, Dr. George Arlotto, and his staff.

What Do We Want From Government?

» **Continued from A11**
we have to figure out how to pay for it. To add something to the budget, do we make cuts elsewhere, or find reasonable ways to raise additional revenue? The tool gives you the ability to make these choices as well.
And we have some tough choices to make. Our county population has grown by 10 percent in each of the most recent decades, and our student population has grown even faster. Fire and EMS calls are growing by 5 percent each year. Despite years of

promises to hire more police, we have the same number of sworn officers that we had four years ago.
In parts of our county, traffic is unbearable. We have road and infrastructure needs far beyond what we have funding to support. In 2009, developer impact fee rates were set artificially low and we have since lost \$107 million of funding for road improvements. We can't afford to continue that.
Anne Arundel County is the best place, but to stay that way, we need the best schools and the best government services.

As a community, we must decide what we want from our government and how we want to pay for it.
Please use our budget tool to consider our needs and then consider the revenue sources. Compare us with neighboring counties. And then tell us what you think. I hope to see you at one of our upcoming budget town hall meetings.
District 5 - County Councilwoman Amanda Fiedler
• Tuesday, March 26, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm
• Severna Park High School auditorium

Need To Update Your ID

» **Continued from A11**
marriage certificate, divorce decree, or other court-issued documents that explain why your name has been changed. In addition to the proper certified birth document, people have reported that they have been rejected because of an incomplete name on their passports. If your passport does not have your complete first, middle and last names, you will be required to provide a certified birth certificate with your complete name on it instead of using your passport.
It is highly recommended that you make an appointment when you go to apply for your REAL ID. The best way to make this appointment is to go to the MVA website at www.mva.maryland.gov/realid/index.htm. This site is user-friendly and will take you step-by-step through the documents you will need. As you check off the documents, the website will create a checklist for you to

print as an organization aid of the documents you chose for your appointment. At the end of the checklist process, the website will direct you to the next available appointment at the MVA of your choice to apply for the REAL ID. If you walk through the steps on this website, you should be prepared for your appointment.
Once again, this is a federal law and it will have to be done prior to October 2020. If you do not have REAL ID at that time, you will not be able to process through airport security for commercial air travel, or enter into any federal building. It's a process that all of us will have to go through. Properly prepare yourself for the application process by using the checklist and making an appointment, and the process hopefully will go smoothly. If you have any questions pertaining to the process, contact my office at edward.reilly@senate.state.md.us.

Decriminalizing Attempted Suicide

» **Continued from A11**
as criminals. I said I would change the narrative, but we can't do that if we don't talk about it.
This is the challenge of being an elected official. We must consider not only the legislation but also the consequence of our vote, we must be accountable to the anger and pain, and need, and we should and must shoulder that responsibility with an open heart, a thoughtful mind, and a

steely resolve. We have to see a bigger picture; how increasing wages, decreasing costs and expanding access are all part of addressing quality of life for Marylanders, and take a longer view to how every piece of legislation impacts every other. I know we have many more challenging pieces of legislation that will come across our desks and I will not have the luxury of distance because I must vote with my heart and my

conscience. I do not have the answers to solving the crises of health care, but I am uniquely positioned to speak to the inadequacies that exist and to work to address them. I acknowledge that this is not easy, but I didn't run because it would be easy; I ran to do the hard work. I am listening, while keeping an open mind and an open door. My office is messy but welcoming, because we can't solve these issues alone.

Reckless, Costly And Unnecessary Proposal

» **Continued from A11**
ture is looking to find ways to fund critical public priorities - from the Kirwan Commission, to environmental protection, to public safety - it's perplexing that some legislators are willing to put millions on the taxpayer's credit card for no good reason.
Third, this is reckless. Plain and simple. To transfer

regulation and enforcement over these three critically important industries from a high-performing, nationally renowned division to a first-of-its-kind commission composed of inexperienced, political appointees makes no logical sense whatsoever. There's a reason tax departments in 20 states regulate alcohol, 33 revenue departments regulate tobacco, and 36 revenue departments

regulate motor fuel.
Tax enforcement is a critical mission of effective and responsible regulation, and the current location of field enforcement in the Comptroller's Office has enabled the division to execute its duties flawlessly and effectively.
Please help defeat this proposal by contacting your legislators. You can find their contact information on www.mdelect.net.

Another Bay Bridge

» **Continued from A11**
the consent or even the input of Anne Arundel County residents for the building of a bay bridge span.
This year I have introduced House Bill 212, cross-filed in the Senate as SB 107, which would change the existing law to include Anne Arundel County in the list of those counties whose majority consent is required to build another bay bridge span. Anne Arundel County should have at least an equal voice in whether and where additional bay bridge spans are constructed. A hearing in the House of Delegates on this bill is currently scheduled for March 7 at 1:00pm before the House Environment and Transportation Committee. In the meantime, keep checking the MDTA's Facebook, Twitter and website posts for traffic advisories, or call 1-877-BAYSPAN.



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Chamber Update

Liz League
CEO
GSPACC



We are excited to announce our newest members of the chamber: **Ransom Construction, Jim Procaccini of US Health Advisors, Hamilton Bank, Reliant Management Consulting, Sir Speedy printing and Severna Park Handyman.**

In February, we held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of **Vintage Vinyl by “Yesterday’s Fish.”** Vintage Vinyl is a wonderful store that brings back the days of vinyl and turntables where you could thumb through record collections and score a treasure. On the day of the celebration, the store was packed with enthusiastic purchasers of records, turntables, handmade jewelry and collectables. Visit this goldmine at 1244 Ritchie Highway in Arnold, located in the back of the building.

Later in February, we held a ribbon cutting during **KW Landscaping’s** anniversary party to celebrate 26 years in business. KW Landscaping is owned by Kevin Wengernuk, a native of Severna Park who proudly operates his business locally and in surrounding areas.

On February 13, the Successful Women in Business Committee held a valentine mixer and wine tasting at **Mix & Marble in Severna Park.** We enjoyed a variety of wines from Kevin Sosnoski of **Goska’s Liquors,** and made beautiful scarves using a tie-dyed technique. On March 13, we will hold a joint Women in Business luncheon with the Pasadena Business Association and the Northern Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce.

Plans are underway for our two large signature

events — the **Shop Local Fun Fiesta** and our **Fourth of July parade.** The committees have been meeting and are excited about the events.

The **Shop Local Fun Fiesta** will be held at Park Plaza on May 4 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. We will have local businesses exhibiting from a wide range of professions, face painting, a photo booth, games, demonstrations, performances, food, giveaways, K-9 demos, fast pitch, pedal cars, a cake walk, and more. This is a fun day for any age, and you will meet business owners who make our community great. We are encouraging members of the community to bring donations (cash, gift cards or food) for SPAN, a service organization that helps needy families in our neighborhoods. Your donation gets you a free photo in the photo booth.

Our **Fourth of July parade** has been a cherished tradition for decades, and this year will not disappoint. Our theme is **“Let Freedom (B)ring – Celebrating America’s and Our Community’s Generosity.”** Along with patriotism, we are highlighting philanthropic organizations such as the Orphan Grain Train, SPAN, and other wonderful support groups. We are encouraging communities, churches and nonprofits to get together and create floats to bring attention to their hard work. Our grand marshal this year is **Dianna Lancione, owner of the Voice newspapers.** Dianna’s grandmother founded the community newspaper out of her house, and now it is distributed to tens of thousands of households each month.

We would love to have you as a member of our chamber, as we believe that your success in business is everyone’s success. Call us at 410-647-3900 or visit www.gspacc.com.

Servpro Of Annapolis/Severna Park Takes Ownership Of Pasadena Location

By Dylan Roche

After years of garnering a reputation for dependability, the team behind Servpro of Annapolis/Severna Park is expanding its reach north with the purchase of the Pasadena/Gibson Island/Lake Shore location.

“I’m really excited about where this expansion can take us,” said owner Diane Whittles, who last year was hailed first runner-up by *Restoration & Remediation* magazine as a leading woman in restoration. “We have been able to help so many property owners and we have seen so much growth. We selected this area years ago but never had the opportunity to move forward with the purchase of Pasadena.”

But that opportunity to move forward has finally come. With this purchase, Whittles – who also owns Edgewater/Deale/Churchton – serves most of Anne Arundel County.

Whittles, as she explained, “married into the business.” When her husband, Mike, who founded the Severna Park location, passed away in 2012, she found herself faced with a decision to sell the busi-



With its reputation for dependability and trustworthiness, the team at Servpro of Annapolis/Severna Park looks forward to expanding its reach into the Pasadena community.

ness or to get the training she needed to keep it going. With the support of Servpro’s Tennessee-based corporate headquarters, she got all the training she needed, and today, she oversees all of Servpro’s many operations: water and fire damage repair and restoration, storage, mold remediation, biohazard cleanup, and soda blasting.

The purchase of the Pasadena location was in development for about a year before coming to fruition. Whittles would also like to open a second location in Pasadena and hire about 10 more people to serve the area. “I think it will be

good for the community, in particular, that Mountain Road area.”

Servpro’s community service extends beyond its 24-7 business operations to remediate disaster for its customers. Whittles and her team are active philanthropists, undertaking everything from American Red Cross blood drives to lunch deliveries for first-responders. “Our business has been blessed with wonderful customers and appreciates the support we have been given throughout the community,” Whittles said. “We like to show that gratitude by giving back to the community in different

ways. We have sponsored countless chamber events, school programs, food banks, U.S. Naval Academy alumni, Anne Arundel Medical Center and Hospice of the Chesapeake and colorectal cancer.”

To learn more about Servpro’s services and credentials, visit the franchise’s website at www.servpropasadena.com. Those with an emergency can call 410-255-1110.

“Our mission is truly to help people and businesses recover after what is often a very unpleasant event,” Whittles concluded. “I look forward to being able to do that in Pasadena as well.”

I’d Love To Retire, But Health Insurance...

Jason LaBarge
Managing Partner
Premier Planning Group



As a retirement planner, I frequently talk to clients about their dreams and their retirement goals. A fair amount of those clients would love to retire early. If you’re one of those people who love your job, you’re fortunate, but many people would like to retire tomorrow! Several of my clients keep an accurate

countdown to retirement and have started a meeting with me by announcing, “Only 465 days to go!”

When considering early retirement, there are numerous factors to consider, and one of those factors is health insurance. This is not something to sweep under the rug. You need to carefully consider all of your options and choose what makes the most sense for your situation.

Medicare coverage starts at age 65 and is composed of four parts: A, B, C and D.

MEDICARE PARTS A, B, C AND D EXPLAINED

Medicare Part A (hospitals) is **required** when you turn 65 years old. It covers hospital admittance and skilled nursing facilities, among other things. There is no cost, because, in essence, you have been paying for Medicare Part A when you were paying your FICA tax your entire working life. This covers 80 percent of expenses.

Medicare Part B (medical) is **optional** and covers everything outside of hospital admittance, such as physician services and tests. Like Part A, it covers 80 percent of expenses. The Part B premium used to be \$104 per month, but as of 2016, your premium is now based on your income.

Medicare Part C (advantage plans) is **optional.** These plans are “all in one plan” and an alternative to the original Medicare plans. It includes the Part C drug coverage and has lower out-of-pocket costs than original Medicare but does not eliminate cost and are not supplemental plans or Medigap. They are generally HMO or PPO plans with network restrictions.

Medicare Part D (prescription drugs) is your prescription drug plan and is **optional**; however, if you choose not to enroll and need coverage later, there is a late enrollment penalty. The premium you’ll pay is determined by the plan you choose and your income.

MEDICARE IS REQUIRED FOR AMERICANS 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER NOT COVERED BY AN EMPLOYER-BASED PLAN

If you are 65 years or older, you most likely have Medicare as your health insurance. In fact, more employers are requiring their employees who are age 65 or older to go on Medicare, instead of their employer-based health insurance plan. This, in effect, makes Medicare your primary insurance covering hospitals and prescription drugs, and your employer-based plan becomes your supplemental insurance, usually covering your doctor appointments and the 20 percent not covered by Medicare.

HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS AND RETIREMENT PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Once you’re 65, it’s an easy decision to retire, because you know you have health insurance through Medicare. If your employer provides health insurance through retirement, you’re fortunate, because your options open up. If you’re not 65 yet and you don’t have an employer-based insurance plan that will carry into retirement, but you want to retire early, what are your options?

The easy answer is that you buy it. Most people don’t realize that health insurance is a commodity that you can pay for. Individual plans are offered by all health insurance providers for purchase. Your age and sex will determine what your premiums will be. Go to an insurance provider’s website, put in your basic information, and you’ll get a premium quote; buying health insurance is as easy as buying a stick of gum or a bottle of wine.

Another option is COBRA. If you retire or leave your job, you can elect COBRA and continue to have your same health insurance plan under your employer; the only catch is that you’re now paying the full cost of that plan, which includes both your and your employer’s premium payments. This can be a great option, as it allows you to keep your same coverage and doctors, and it is available for two years. The downside to this option is that COBRA is expensive. Nevertheless, in some cases, it’s the best option and will allow someone to retire at 63 with health insurance until they can sign up for Medicare at 65.

If you are considering this option, you should compare the premiums for COBRA with the premiums for a new plan through www.maryland-healthconnection.gov. This is the health insurance exchange for Maryland, created in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The marketplace is offered to individuals and families who are not covered through their employers, and it lists several health insurance

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COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS

Severna Park Taphouse Exceeds Ambitious Fundraising Goal For Maryland Polar Bear Plunge



Severna Park Taphouse raised \$8,720 this year, led by Jessica Tinordi with \$2,245. The Tinordi family had set a goal of \$6,000.

By Zach Sparks

Severna Park Taphouse is known for its food and craft beer, Wednesday trivia nights and occasional cornhole tournaments, but the restaurant had something else on tap during the winter. In support of the Maryland State Police’s annual Polar Bear Plunge, Severna Park Taphouse held several fundraisers.

On January 11, the staff threw a pre-plunge party with karaoke by JenEric Entertainment and \$5 Polar Bear Plunge shooters. On January 25, \$1 from every Flying Dog beverage sale was

donated to Special Olympics Maryland.

“It’s really important to us to raise money for such a good cause and to raise awareness,” said Jessica Tinordi, manager at Severna Park Taphouse and wife of the restaurant’s owner, Mark Tinordi.

Severna Park Taphouse raised \$8,720 this year, led by Jessica Tinordi with \$2,245. The Tinordi family had set a goal of \$6,000.

When they started supporting the plunge four years ago, they raised \$1,700. Support from customers has grown every year since. That was especially evident dur-

ing the pre-plunge party.

“We’ve done that every year the weekend before the plunge to bring in extra fundraising dollars at the last minute and to let people know how much we’ve raised,” Jessica said.

Fifty people packed a bus that drove to Sandy Point State Park on January 26, with about 36 employees doing the plunge.

“Folks are always asking if we do the plunge, and Mark and I have plunged the last four years since we started this,” Jessica said. “It ends up being a fun day for our team members to celebrate an achievement they

have reached.”

Severna Park Taphouse also supports other community events and organizations including the Greater Severna Park Athletic Association (Green Hornets), the Strike Out Colorectal Cancer event at Severna Park Lanes, and Zack Fest, the annual barbecue, golf scramble, and cornhole tournament at Bay Hills Golf Club in Arnold. The event honors Zack Night, a 2006 Severna Park High School graduate who died in 2010 of injuries sustained after being struck by a car.

The restaurant will host a

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SP Couple Launches Mobile Bar



“You bring the view, we’ll bring the bar.” That’s the promise of Severna Park’s Brooke and Joe Mihoces, who are introducing Maryland’s first mobile bar.

It’s the hottest wedding trend: a bar on wheels. The young couple has converted a 1964 Shasta camper into an instant party. The adorable retro caravan — complete with the signature Shasta wings — is a full bar, serving draft beer, wine and cocktails from two windows.

In addition to the elevated bartending service, Vintage Views — the name on the side of the camper — offers customized menus with craft

beers, interesting wines and craft spirits.

Brooke Mihoces’ background is in the beverage industry, and she not only helps clients select beers and wine, but she also helps create signature cocktails to make any event memorable.

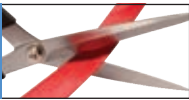
This bar on wheels can travel anywhere in Maryland and surrounding areas and it is perfect for an event location that is off the beaten path, like a park or a backyard. The couple promises to bring the fun to you.

“We’re for people who take drinks seriously,” Brooke said. “As much focus as your caterer puts on the food, that’s what we will bring to the beverages.

“We want to create an epic party,” she added. “Every event should have a killer bar.”

For more information on the Vintage Views mobile bar, visit www.vintageviewsbar.com.

Ribbon Cutting



Vintage Vinyl Opens In Arnold

Music collectors, rejoice! At a recent ribbon cutting ceremony, members of the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce, along with other community well-wishers, celebrated the opening of Vintage Vinyl, which brings back the days of vinyl and turntables where you could thumb through record collections and scare a treasure. The shop is located at 1244 Ritchie Highway in Arnold.



I’d Love To Retire, But Health Insurance...

» **Continued from A13**
companies and their available plans along with their associated premiums.

HEALTH INSURANCE IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN

When to retire is not an easy decision; you have many

factors to consider, and if you’re contemplating retiring before 65, health insurance is one of the most important factors you must plan for. Health insurance is expensive – that’s a fact – but it’s also a necessary and essential element in your retirement plan.

Weighing its expense and

how it affects your retirement budget will play a big part in deciding when you retire. A properly built financial plan can mitigate these expenses and help you decide how you’ll pay for the premiums until you turn 65 and can transition to Medicare. The last thing you want is for health insur-

ance to derail your retirement before it’s even really gotten started.

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SP Taphouse

» **Continued from A13**
cornhole fundraiser for Green Hornets 12U baseball on April 5, and Burgers and Bands, a fundraiser for suicide prevention, on May 19. Follow Severna Park Taphouse on Facebook for details about these and other community events.

Are your retirement accounts a mess?



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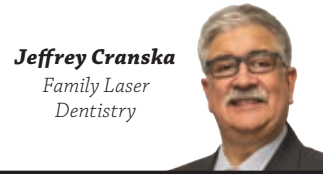
Heartbeat For Health Celebrates The Benefits Of Wellness



Photos by Judy Tacyn

Heartbeat for Health, sponsored by University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical (UM BWMC), kept attendees at The Y in Arnold engaged with their bodies and minds on February 23. Families enjoyed free smoothie samples; an obstacle course for kids; dance and exercise demonstrations by the Kangaroo Kids, Old Mill Middle School South, and Dancer's Dreams Dance Studio; educational displays; and blood pressure, chiropractic spinal, and posture screenings.

Tech Talk With Dr. Cranska



Modern dentistry is dynamic. Changes to improve patient comfort and quality of care are always being developed. The use of improved dental materials, modern delivery systems, lasers, computer-generated imaging, and computer management software systems are just some of the changes.

In this column, I will answer questions on high-technology dentistry. Please direct inquiries to my website at www.cranska.com or email me at familylaserdentistry@outlook.com.

WHY DO I NEED A CROWN ON MY TOOTH?

Modern technology has given dentists more materials that restore cracked, decayed, worn, discolored or broken teeth. Instead of using metal in the mouth, the trend is now to use tooth-colored ceramics.

Q: What is a crown?
A: A dental crown is a res-

toration that completely caps and covers a tooth. Crowns are used to improve the form, function, strength and appearance of a damaged tooth or to cover a dental implant. Crowns originally were made entirely of gold. Technology in the 1960s and 1970s gave us porcelain-covered gold crowns and all porcelain crowns. This improved cosmetics, but porcelain is not as durable as a natural tooth or solid metal.

Twenty-first century CAD/CAM (3D printer) technology has developed a chip-proof, solid, all-ceramic crown. Computers are used to design these restorations, which are milled by a machine using a solid block of ceramic. These crowns meet the dentist's requirements for fit and high-strength, and are tooth colored. There is no metal sensitivity or allergies with these ceramics.

Q: How can I have a broken tooth repaired to look like my original tooth?
A: A dentist is responsible for a thorough examination and proper diagnosis to determine the best treatment for the patient. The dentist will evaluate the

benefits versus the risk and determine what treatments are necessary. Fillings are designed to go inside a tooth. Worn, broken and cracked teeth, and weakened teeth with large restorations with excessive decay, may not leave enough healthy tooth structure to support a replacement filling. Root-canaled teeth need crown coverage to protect against tooth breakage. Crowns are needed to restore the tooth back to its original size and shape, so it can function. There are many choices using the new materials developed over the past two decades.

Q: How long will the tooth restored with a crown last?
A: With an indestructible crown covering the tooth, the expectation is for it to last many years. Proper maintenance is important to prevent decay around the crown. Like any tooth, the tissue around it can get gum disease.

Dental crowns are one of many items that can restore your teeth to proper function. The patient and dentist will determine how to restore teeth.

Anne Arundel County Releases 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment Report

The 2018 Anne Arundel County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was recently released. The comprehensive, data-driven report, which identifies the health needs of the community, is a collaboration between the Anne Arundel County Department of Health; Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC); University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC); Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency; Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County; Anne Arundel County YWCA; and Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families. The CHNA report can be viewed at www.aa-health.org/CHNA2018.

As a mandate under the

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the assessment presents data and key factors impacting the health of county residents and serves as the foundation for strategic planning for local hospitals and public health agencies.

"Improving the health and well-being of our communities is the driving force of every organization involved in this report," said acting Anne Arundel County Health Officer Billie Penley. "The information from the CHNA helps us to guide our efforts to address the health needs and disparities in our county."

The CHNA examines a variety of health and behavioral indicators, including social determinants of health (such as poverty, housing and education),

mortality rates, high-risk behaviors (alcohol and tobacco use), and chronic health conditions such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease. The 2018 report identified mental health, substance abuse, access to care, and chronic disease as health priorities for the county. The report also shares principal findings such as an increase in county residents classified as obese, the growth of the Hispanic population, the lack of public transportation, homelessness, and the impact of social media on mental health.

"The CHNA provides critical insight into the health needs and concerns of county residents," said Becky Paesch, vice president of physician services at UM BWMC. "Its find-

ings have led to increased focus on areas of highest need in our community, such as mental health and the opioid use. We will continue to use the findings identified through the CHNA to make sure we are moving in the right direction."

Deneen Richmond, vice president of population health and clinical improvement at Anne Arundel Medical Center, agreed that the assessment furthers the mission of enhancing the health of patients.

"The last assessment prompted us to solidify our palliative care program and work on better care coordination for patients," Richmond said. "This important assessment impacts real change to better health care in our community."

The Pain Of Change



I'm writing this column on a beautiful Sunday morning and I'm sitting at the kitchen table, replying to emails. The aroma of coffee fills the room.

As I sit here in the same spot, I notice I want to stand up and change my body's position to a more comfortable one. It's funny how that works. When we first sit down, we feel relaxed and content, but after some time, our position becomes less comfortable. And finally, when that discomfort rises beyond a certain level, we feel the need to change how we are positioned.

This is an interesting phenomena sometimes referred to as the pain of change. When the pain or level of discomfort of any particular situation rises beyond what we believe the pain of change will be, we make a change.

Sitting in this comfortable chair seemed great a while ago. I was comfortable sipping coffee, and the idea of getting out of the chair seemed like something I didn't want to do on this lazy Sunday. But as I sit here and start feeling a stiff and antsy, sitting has become a bigger "pain" than getting up.

The same could be said of cutting the cord with your cable service. One minute you have a low introductory rate, lots of channels at your fingertips, and everything you think you could ever want. The idea of getting rid of it, learning new channels or even losing channels, seems like a pain too great to endure.

But suddenly, one day, your cable bill is creeping up in price and along with the feeling that nothing good is ever on TV, it becomes a new pain. And that pain, for some, becomes greater than the pain of changing providers.

It can be like a persistent back pain. Some days it's manageable, so we deal with it because the perceived pain of what it might take to fix it seems overwhelming. But

when that back pain gets to a point where it is no longer manageable, we do something about it. Suddenly, the idea of change goes from a burden to a welcome relief.

Fitness, for many, is no different. We may delay getting started with some form of exercise for any number of reasons. Yet, ultimately, lots of people don't get to it and that's often because we think the change is going to be too hard. We get this idea that the pain of change is going to be too much and so we don't move forward.

So how do we make this work in our favor? How do we take advantage of the benefits of exercise (living longer, living better, feeling better and even looking better), knowing our minds work this way? There are a few things we can do.

SHRINK THE CHANGE

Change is easier if we do it in small and easy steps. Something we say often is, "How did the elephant eater eat the elephant? One bite at a time."

Losing 30 pounds can sound like the biggest challenge. But starting with drinking more water, eating more lean protein or even eating more slowly are all smaller and, pun intended, more digestible items.

Running a 5K can seem challenging. But walking at lunch can be a great actionable step we can start today.

IT'S NOT GOING TO BE AS BAD AS YOU THINK

Many of our members surprise themselves everyday by seeing how much more they can do than they ever thought possible. Whether it is an exercise, a few more reps or a little more effort, our perception of what we can do is often far below what we are capable of.

In fact, we can't count how many people have told us they never thought of themselves as exercisers before they worked with us. Now, they couldn't imagine not working out.

A FORM OF EXERCISE YOU ENJOY

If you are like me, the idea

of running for hours to just end up in the same spot you started doesn't sound terribly enjoyable. I'd much rather do sprints on a bike, lift weights or even listen to nails on a chalkboard than do long-distance running.

If you are similar to me, joining a running group might not be the best idea. If you cannot tolerate it, it's probably going to be a constant uphill battle.

But if you happen to enjoy swimming, for example, or at least don't hate it, you are going to have a much easier time showing up to swim.

Find something that you do not despise, perhaps a workout where the organizers make it fun and deliver results.

A PROVEN SYSTEM

So it has to work, as in deliver results, for most people. We may enjoy playing a video game. We may even enjoy playing soccer in a video game. But that's probably not going to get us in shape.

And just because it worked for one person doesn't mean it's going to work for you. But if it has worked for lots of people, chances are it can work for you too.

Look for recommendations and social proof that many people have done this form of exercise safely to get in shape. On a side note, doing something safely is also important. The fastest way to get out of shape is to get hurt.

A SUPPORT NETWORK

Whether it's a workout buddy, a great gym community or a proven system that makes you want to show up, a support network is paramount. Finding one that not just fits you but also gets you to show up can be a game-changer.

And there you have it: the beginning steps to minimizing the pain of change and attaining all the amazing benefits of exercise. Remember, you don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great!

Now I'm off to find a more comfortable chair and more coffee.

AA Trails Group To Host BWI Race

By Maya Pottiger

For the first time, the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails is hosting a run that will specifically benefit beautification projects along the trails.

"We were trying to find an event that would bring more awareness to the trails in Anne Arundel County and

the Friends' efforts to support their mission, which is to promote trail use and trail development and beautification projects along the trails," said Barb Smalls, the chairman for this event.

This new run, called Run for the Trails, will be held March 17 around the BWI Trail. The 10-mile run around the circular trail will offer good practice for anyone training to run a half or full marathon.

"There's a lot of interesting artwork and rest areas the Friends have established around the BWI Trail, and I don't think a lot of people realize that's a great trail to either walk on, bike on or run on," Smalls said.

For the inaugural run, the Friends volunteers are trying to raise \$10,000 to fix the pond at Hatton Regester Green. There's a leak, and

the water feature needs to be refurbished, Smalls said.

"Anything left over will be divided in the manner in which any other project needs to be addressed," Smalls said.

To register for Run for the Trails, visit www.active.com and search for the run. Registration fees increase as the date approaches. Regular registration is \$75, and race day registration is \$100. T-shirts and medals will be given to participants.

To sponsor the run or volunteer on race day, email friendsofaatrails@gmail.com. If you would like to make a donation to the Hatton Regester Green project but are unable to participate in the run, you can mail a donation to P.O. Box 464 in Severna Park. Make a notation on the check that the donation is for the Hatton Regester Green project.

UM BWMC Enacts Restrictions Due To Flu

Due to an increase in the numbers of influenza cases throughout Maryland and Anne Arundel County, the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center is implementing a hospital-wide visitor restriction policy for the safety of patients, visitors and staff. No one under age 18 (except parents of a

patient) is permitted to visit inpatient units. Children under 18 are not to be brought to outpatient or doctor visits, unless the appointment is for the child. Only two adult visitors are allowed per patient at a time. Visitors exhibiting flu symptoms — runny nose, fever, cough — are not permitted to visit hospital patients.

Artwork By Local Women Goes On Display At Bay Radiology

By Jane Seiss

About a year ago, not long after assuming ownership of Bay Radiology Breast Imaging Center, Dr. Laura Amodei began thoughtfully seeking out local artists whose work she could display at her office in Severna Park.

"To the extent that I can, I am trying to fill my breast imaging center with art and décor from local artists and stores," Amodei explained. "We have 10,000 patients, so I thought it would be a great opportunity to showcase local artists and artisans."

In search of creative pieces, Amodei posted messages on the Annapolis Moms and Bay Radiology

Facebook groups, announcing her goal of adorning the walls of her facility with local works of art. Within a day, she had 97 responses directing her to area artists.

Amodei shared that the selected artists have varying stories and are at different places in their creative paths. "I'm open to artists at all stages in their careers. It is especially fun to showcase artists at the beginning of their careers," she said.

One of the artists, Annapolis-born Chavela Bell, is launching her career. She creates under the VelaRae name and is currently studying at the School of the Art

Institute of Chicago. Two of her painted boxes are positioned near the entrance to Amodei's breast imaging center.

Pasadena artist Laura Laird's prints are displayed in the mammogram room. Laird creates magazine collages often inspired by nature. They are cheerful pieces, purposely placed in the space to provide comfort or inspire conversation. Pam Sanders has provided fluid abstract art created using acrylics. Painting is a hobby for her, and the work at Amodei's office is the first that Sanders has publicly displayed.

Also featured at Bay Radiology are prints from Annapolis-based painter Kim Hovell. Amodei



has commissioned an oyster with pearl painting from the celebrated local artist, and it will soon be added to the Bay Radiology collection.

"Patients have enjoyed the art," Amodei said. "We're trying to choose soothing pieces."

Amodei is also proud to feature décor from Park Home, a shop in Park Plaza, just around the corner from her practice. The large compass in the waiting room has received much interest. "A lot of our patients come from an hour or more away, and they never would have shopped at Park

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Stitchers Group Knits One, Friends Two



The Sit & Stitchers often take on projects where the knitters will all knit the same thing, such as the exact hat or sweater. Some members make hats, blanket squares or blankets for charities.

By Judy Tacyn

Ten years ago, friends Teri Kepner and Lyn Class answered a meet-up ad seeking knitters and crocheters in the hopes of creating a stitching group. The crafty friends stopped into a former Borders bookstore at Marley Station Mall, liked the group and brought more friends. Over the past decade, meeting locations have changed, and members have come and gone, but the group, now the Anne Arundel County Sit & Stitch, is more active than ever.

"We primarily knit and crochet, but most of us are multi-crafters," Kepner said. "Some of us are quilters, some are painters. Some create pottery, some create with multiple media. We are just all-around crafty people!"

The group meets Tuesday evenings from 5:30pm and 8:00pm, and Saturdays from

9:30am to noon in the café at Lauer's on Edwin Rayner Boulevard in Pasadena.

"We also like to go on field trips to local yarn stores and yarn fairs," Kepner added, "so if we're not at the store, we're most likely on a field trip."

The Sit & Stitchers often take on projects where the knitters will all knit the same thing, such as the exact hat or sweater. Some members make hats, blanket squares or blankets for charities.

"Everyone is welcome to work on whatever their heart desires," Kepner said. "People are also welcome to come ask for help with a project, or even receive help with learning to crochet or to knit. We have quite a few experts who are more than willing to help others."

Meetings might include three to 20 crafters, and members are welcome to attend as their schedule al-

» Continued on A17

Not Worth The Chase: "Cold Pursuit"



Photo courtesy of Summit Entertainment

"Cold Pursuit" felt overly ambitious, attempting to make social commentary with a rather scatter-gun approach.

By Audrey Ruppert

"Cold Pursuit," Liam Neeson's newest blockbuster, has been met with controversy due to his comments while promoting the film. The central theme of the movie is revenge, and Neeson infamously commented that he related to his character because he once wished for revenge after a black man sexually assaulted a friend of his (he later realized he had made a stupid mistake). Intrigued, I decided to watch "Cold Pursuit" and see if the weight of such a statement was backed by an equally weighty film. Unfortunately, I was rather disappointed.

"Cold Pursuit" had so much potential. It follows Nels Coxman (Liam Neeson), a snow plow driver who recently won an award as Citizen of the Year. Coxman lives a rather mundane, everyday existence

plowing the streets of Kehoe, a snowy ski town, until his son is caught up in a drug deal and is killed. Driven mad with revenge, Coxman embarks on a one-man mission to kill those responsible, but he accidentally sparks a war between two rival drug gangs, one white and one Native American, and inadvertently causes the deaths of several dozen people.

The film is an adaptation of the Scandinavian film "In Order of Disappearance," and is directed by the original Norwegian director. Scandinavian media is famous for being dark, crime-oriented and punctuated with black comedy (think "Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"). " Fargo" proved that some American media can capture this aesthetic, but "Cold Pursuit" felt like a clumsy translation. At times, the dialogue was stilted and underdeveloped, particularly that

of Kehoe's two (utterly useless) police officers; I found myself wondering if the nuances of the original didn't quite make it into English. The landscape and scenery was certainly cold but not quite as chilling as last year's Native American crime drama, "Wind River." The "funny" notes just don't land and often come off as bizarre rather than humorous. The film, while dark, doesn't nearly reach the depravity of other drug dramas like "Breaking Bad." We're left with wish-wash that falls somewhere between black and comedy while missing both marks.

"Cold Pursuit" felt overly ambitious, attempting to make social commentary with a rather scatter-gun approach. We are presented with one drug gang of Native Americans who feel wronged by the white ski-travelers and businessmen who have taken over the town, but their plight doesn't receive enough focus to leave a lasting impression. We have one bumbling, clueless old cop and another ambitious millennial cop who (in a rather non-millennial fashion) wants to arrest everyone who uses drugs — was this supposed to be some sort of commentary on the war on drugs? If so, it wasn't clear.

Heavy-handed metaphors continually slap us in the face and feel forced and contrived rather than powerful. Worst of all is the fact that this film had serious potential to show the true devastation of hatred, revenge and bigotry, and vindi-

cate Neeson for his comments. So many people die unnecessarily due to hate and prejudice, but the deaths in "Cold Pursuit" don't leave enough of an impact for a modern, desensitized audience to care. We are presented with the opportunity to learn something, or at least walk away with some kind of resolved message at the end of the movie, but

» Continued on A17

Author To Share Mid-Life Roadmap At Broadneck Library

By Judy Tacyn

Approaching the "big 5-0" has been known to trigger a panic attack for even the most accomplished, successful and fulfilled people. In her fourth book, "50 After 50: Reframing the Next Chapter of Your Life," Maria Leonard Olsen shares an intimate look into her own collision course with this life milestone. On Thursday, March 14, at the Broadneck Library, the Bethesda-based lawyer and author will remind the audience that there is a lot more living to do once we can get our mind past the number.

"In our society, 50 is a reckoning point for most people," Olsen said. "Our children, if we have them, are usually launched or



Maria Leonard Olsen

nearly adults, we have a greater sense of self and our careers and financial situations are more likely to be stable. Actuarially speaking, we are in the third-third of our lives once we pass 50. Increased access to good health care has increased longevity, so people are starting new careers and other exciting ventures in mid-life."

At 49, Olsen was in the midst of a divorce after drinking away her problems during a 25-year marriage. The recently sober empty-nester realized she had to change almost everything about her life. For her 50th birthday, she challenged herself to try 50 new things to design how she would like to live the next chapter in her life. The challenge would be the best birthday present she ever received.

"I experienced much pain in my life but found ways of moving beyond it and thriving after setbacks that included sexual assault, racism, addiction and divorce," Olsen said. "I derive joy and purpose by sharing my hard-fought lessons with others and seek to help others and to spread hope."

The author will share concrete ways to drink fully from the cup of life. For the younger set, this book and poignant conversation may serve as a compendium of things to know earlier in life.

"At my book events, at least one or two people approach me in tears about things I have said that have helped them," Olsen said. "I tried 50 new things to help me become the best version of myself."

Many people of all ages have bought this book for friends who need a boost in life or encouragement with specific tips on how to improve their lives."

Olsen will share how she made her 50-to-do list — which included physical challenges, travel and adventure, and the rewards of each new activity — in the hopes she might help readers spark a passion to find joy in their life and treasure themselves.

"There will be something for everyone," Olsen said. "It's your life and it's up to you what you do with it. Come learn how to be intentional with one of our most precious and uncertain commodities: time."

Olsen's conversation will begin at 6:30pm. For more information, visit the Anne Arundel County Public Library website at www.aacpl.net.

Visit www.marialeonardolsen.com for more on the author and her previous three titles: "Not the Cleaver Family:"

» Continued on A17

Maryland Hall Celebrates 10th Annual ArtFest

By Maya Pottiger

Maryland Hall is hosting a hands-on, interactive one-stop shop to showcase all of its programs: the 10th annual ArtFest.

ArtFest features demonstrations, performances and activities for all ages.

"You can come and get a taste of everything we offer in terms of classes and performances and our galleries all in the same day," said Katie Redmiles, the digital marketing and communications specialist at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts.

New this year, the United States Naval Academy Band is capping off the day with a concert at 4:00pm.

"We're really excited about that. They are, too, because



Photos courtesy of Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts

The 10th annual ArtFest open house features hands-on demonstrations and interactive activities for all ages.

their performances are usually at the Naval Academy, so we're lucky to have them here," Redmiles said. "They're going to start doing a series of concerts here, so this will be their first

one of the year with several more to follow."

ArtFest is a free event that's open to the public. While it is a standalone event, ArtFest also ties into the Four Rivers

Heritage Area's Maryland Day weekend celebration. This means the circulator bus will have a stop at Maryland Hall to make it easier for people to access the open house.

Guests will be able to watch demonstrations by the Ballet Theatre of Maryland, as well as try their hand at a variety of Maryland Hall's classes: digital drawing, pottery and block printing, to name a few. "Our own teachers will be here demonstrating what they teach on a regular basis," Redmiles said.

The Cafe at Maryland Hall will offer free samples, and there will be a variety of food trucks out front so no one gets hungry.

In addition to ArtFest, BIG INK will be at Maryland Hall on both Saturday and Sunday

» Continued on A17

Artwork By Local Women

» **Continued from A16**
Home, but now, they know about it,” Amodei noted. “We have four artists right now. It is a bit of a work in progress.”
The artists featured at Bay Radiology include Chavela Bell (www.velaraedesigns.com), Kim Hovell (www.kimhovell.com), Laura Laird (www.lauralairdartist.com), and Pam Sanders (www.instagram.com/pamsandersfluidart). “I’m interested in adding more art from other local artists as well,” said Amodei, who also noted that the pieces are affordable.
In the coming weeks, Amodei will develop a flyer that provides more information about each of the artists. In the meantime, visitors at Bay Radiology may inquire with staff to find out more about the works on display.
For more information about Bay Radiology and its breast imaging services, visit www.bay-radiology.com. Although remaining space at the small office is limited, local artists interested in sharing their work at Amodei’s office may reach her by email at lamodei@bay-radiology.com.

10th Annual ArtFest

» **Continued from A16**
working with artists to create “almost life-sized woodblock carvings,” Redmiles said.
“They travel around the country working with artists,” Redmiles said. “They will be doing demonstrations, as well, and people can come watch that, which is really neat.”
BIG INK will be at Maryland Hall from 11:00am-4:00pm on Saturday, March 30, and Sunday, March 31. ArtFest is Sunday, March 31, from 1:00pm-4:00pm. During ArtFest, Maryland Hall will run special offers for those who want to become members.
For more information, visit www.marylandhall.org or call 410-263-5544.

Not Worth The Chase

» **Continued from A16**
are instead left with a directionless mess.
It wasn’t all bad, though. Tom Bateman, who plays “Viking,” the white drug lord, is compelling and hate-worthy, the living embodiment of entitled, misogynistic, racist smarminess. Brock Coxman (William Forsythe), Nels’ brother, is married to a small angry Asian woman with a pink suitcase who positively channels my mother and is probably the only funny part of the film. The relationship between Viking’s son and Nels is oddly satisfying to watch. The problem with “Cold Pursuit” was not the acting; it was the direction.
Despite my criticisms, the film is a thoroughly entertaining watch, even if it isn’t memorable. This is definitely worth watching once the Netflix release comes out.

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“Hunchback” Premieres At Toby’s Dinner Theatre

From March 21 to May 19, Toby’s Dinner Theatre will present a lushly scored retelling of “The Hunchback of Notre Dame,” Victor Hugo’s epic story of love, acceptance and what it means to be a hero.
Based on the Hugo’s novel and songs from the Disney animated feature, the production showcases the film’s Academy Award-nominated score, as well as new songs by Alan Menken (“Beauty and the Beast,” “The Little Mermaid,” “Little Shop of Horrors”) and Stephen Schwartz (“Wicked,” “Godspell,” “Pippin”). Peter Parnell’s new book embraces story-driven theater and features verbatim passages from Hugo’s gothic novel.
The musical begins as the bells of Notre Dame sound through the famed cathedral in 15th century Paris. Quasimodo, the deformed bell-ringer who longs to be “out there,” observes all of Paris reveling in the Feast of Fools. Held captive by his deviant caretaker, the archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo, he escapes



Photo courtesy of Jeri Tidwell Photography

Samuel Kobren makes his main-stage Toby’s debut in the title role of Quasimodo for “The Hunchback of Notre Dame,” playing March 21 to May 19.

for the day and joins the boisterous crowd, only to be treated cruelly by all but the beautiful gypsy, Esmeralda. Quasimodo isn’t the only one captivated by her free spirit, though — the handsome Captain Phoebus and Frollo are equally enthralled. As the three vie for her attention, Frollo embarks on a mission to destroy the gypsies — and it’s up to Quasimodo to save them all.
A sweeping score and powerful story make “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” an instant classic. Audiences will be swept away by the magic of this truly unforgettable musical.
Under the expert eye of director Toby Orenstein, co-director/choreographer Mark Minnick and musical director Ross Scott Rawlings, the team at Toby’s Dinner Theatre with their intimate in-the-round setting is creating a beautiful, unique work of art.
Featuring a cast of 24 talented local artists, the show is led by four Helen Hayes Award nominated performers: Russell Sunday (Frollo), Jessica Bennett (Esmeralda), Jeffrey Shankle (Phoebus) and DeCarlo Raspberry (Clopin). Emerging from Toby’s CCTA program, Samuel Kobren makes his main-stage Toby’s debut in the title role of Quasimodo, the hunchback of Notre Dame. The creative team also includes David A. Hopkins (scenic design), Lynn Joslin (lighting design) Janine Sunday (costume design) and Corey Brown (sound design).
“The Hunchback of Notre Dame” is produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (www.mtishows.com). For more information, go to www.tobysdinnertheatre.com.

Stitchers Group Knits One, Friends Two

» **Continued from A16**
lows. Members come from all over Anne Arundel County, including Pasadena, Severna Park, Arnold, Glen Burnie and Waugh Chapel, and occasionally the Eastern Shore. Friend and family duos are common in the group.
When asked how people can join, Kepner said that’s easy. “All you have to do is show up at one of the meetings,” she said. “If you’re timid about doing so without contacting someone first, we have a Facebook group called Anne Arundel County Sit & Stitch.”
As for showing off their creations, Kepner said, “We’re all much too modest to do something like that. But

we do crank out amazing projects, beautiful articles of clothing, some plain but some with amazing color work. Everyone should come check us out.”
For more information, email Kepner at teri.m.kepner@gmail.com or visit the Anne Arundel County Sit & Stitch Facebook page.

Olsen

» **Continued from A16**
The New Normal in Modern American Families,” “Healing for Hallie” and “Mommy, Why’s Your Skin So Brown?”
Olsen also hosts writing and empowerment retreats for women, and is a co-host of the “Inside Out” radio show on WPFW-FM, 89.3, in Washington, D.C.

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Dining Out

Classic Menu, New Interior Design At Romilo’s

By Mary Cobbler

Feeling hungry and in the mood for something *delizioso*? Check out the newly renovated Romilo’s Restaurant & Bar — located in the Robinson Crossing shopping center — for scrumptious Greek, Italian, American and seafood cuisine.

I was intrigued when I heard that the new owner had renovated the facility. When my family and I showed up for a dinner around 7:00pm on Monday night, I immediately noticed the modern beiges and light grays on the walls and seating, the brighter lighting, and the updated window treatments designed to allow natural light to flood into the restaurant. My kids happily

settled into the clean, roomy booths and began coloring. Our waiter, Alex, showed up almost immediately to take our drink orders.

The restaurant specializes in several types of food, so I’d determined that I wanted to try something Greek, something Italian, and some kind of seafood when I arrived. I asked Alex for some recommendations and he offered a few fan favorites for us to choose from, including a crab pretzel. I’m a sucker for a good crab pretzel, so I went with that. The crab pretzel was thick and warm, chewy on the outside and soft on the inside, smothered in a thick layer of creamy crab dip, jam-packed with crab meat, topped with melted cheeses and dusted



Photo by Mary Cobbler

Romilo’s Restaurant & Bar has an extensive list of pizza choices.

with Old Bay. What a delicious start to the meal.

It can be hard to find a good gyro sandwich in Severna Park, so my husband was excited to order the gyro platter. I remembered having some great pizza here in the past, so

I ordered a pizza to share. It was hard to choose our entrees, however, because there were so many to choose from!

The gyro was the real star of the show. Thick slices of tender, savory meat lay nestled inside a thick,

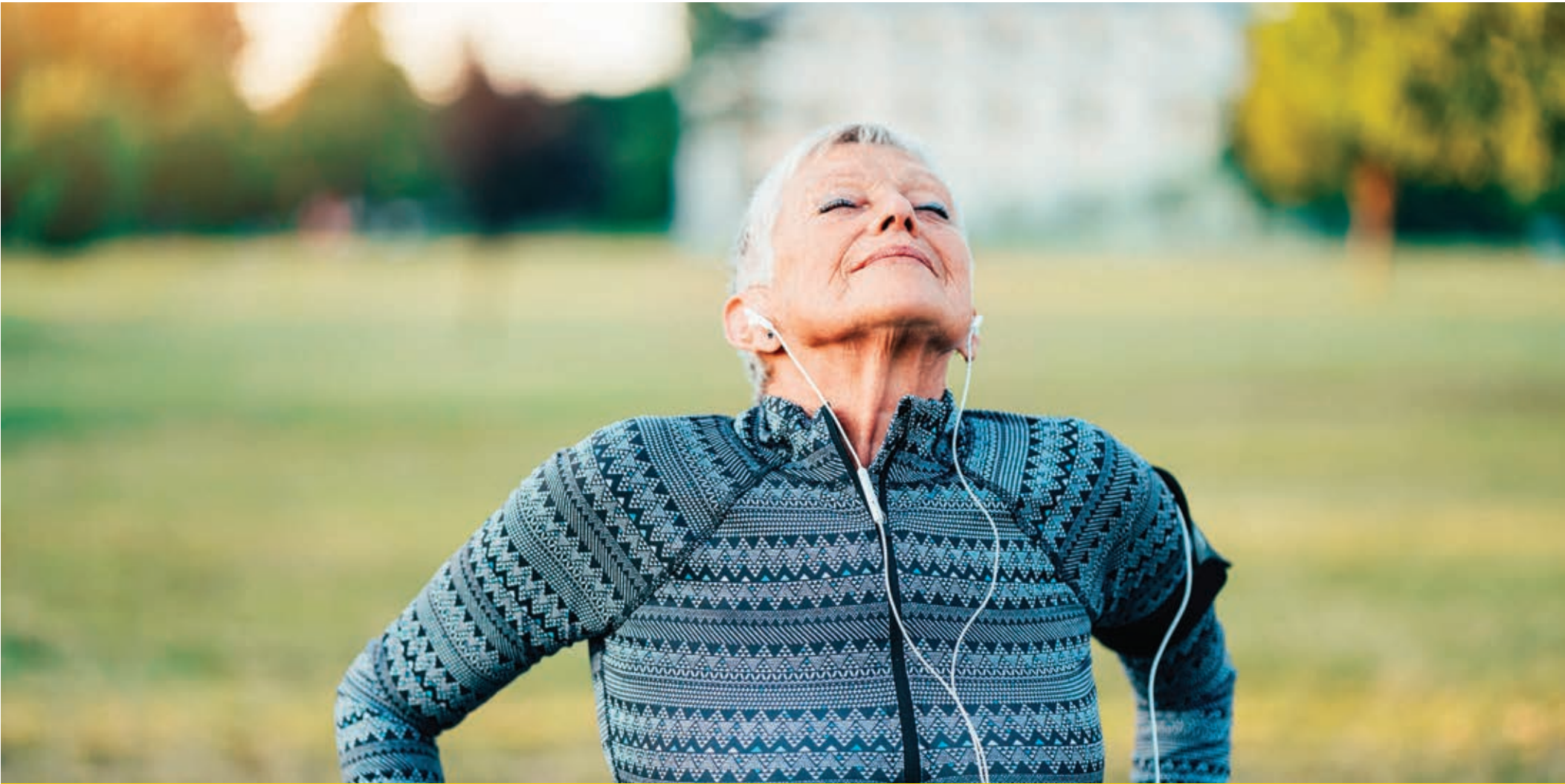
toasty pita, drizzled with a cool cucumber-yogurt sauce. The sweetness and chill of the sauce mingled with the warm, spiced meat like a flavor-packed work of art. This was technically my husband’s meal, but I couldn’t resist sneaking bites off his plate.

I was thrilled when I tasted the pizza and realized it was just as I remembered from years ago — a thick, chewy crust and a gooey layer of melded cheeses. Romilo’s really nailed the crispiness of the crust edges along with the thicker, softer interior of the pizza overall. The only real criticism I could offer would be on the sauce — there wasn’t a lot of it, and it could have used more flavor. More

seasoning and more sauce would have gone a long way. The freshness of the dough, however, along with the hearty toppings, still allowed me to give this pizza a solid A and enjoy it for dinner and breakfast again the next morning.

We wrapped up the meal by enjoying a large cannoli filled with a delectable, fresh cream filling and chocolate chips.

You may have already tried Romilo’s, but with the variety of dishes it offers, I bet you can find something new and delicious to have for dinner this week. Check out the new interior, and take a trip to Greece, Italy, or just stay here in Severna Park. Whatever you choose, you won’t be disappointed.



SEMINAR SPEAKER



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SPHS Service Learning
Junior class pens books for
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» Page B11



Severna Park Boys Basketball
Falcons follow buzzer-beating win
with playoff victory over Arundel.
» Page B2



SEVERNA PARK SPORTS

SEVERNA PARK, MD

MARCH 6, 2019

B1

Hornets Wrestlers Cap Outstanding Comeback Season



Green Hornet wrestlers **Josh Taylor** (left) and **Leo Wheeler** both placed first in their brackets at the Anne Arundel County youth wrestling championships in February.



By Colin Murphy
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

The Green Hornets wrestling program took a year off from competition last winter, but they returned with success this season.

Severna Park's season concluded on February 20 as Green Hornet wrestlers competed in the county championships at Arundel High School. Severna Park had six wrestlers place in the competition, highlighting a strong weekend by the entire organization.

"We had all first-year kids, and it was amazing to see their progress over the course of the season," said Green Hornets wrestling commissioner **Tom Wheeler**.

There were many standouts this season for Severna Park, which rostered about 30 wrestlers,

most all of whom were first-year wrestlers under the age of 10. Leading the pack for Severna Park were **Leo Wheeler** and **Josh Taylor**, who both took the top step on the podium this winter. Leo Wheeler took first place at the Anne Arundel County Youth Wrestling Tournament as well as first place at the Southern Youth Wrestling Tournament earlier this season, and Taylor took first place at Southern. **Sawyer Latchaw**, **Parker Housel** and **Oliver Seely** all took second place in their brackets at the Anne Arundel County tournament, while **Landin Dewald** placed third and **Landon Goller** placed fourth. **Henry Bell** took third place at Southern.

The Green Hornets also had strong seasons by **Axel Cornett**, **Max Cornett**, **Paxton Fowler**, **Liam** » Continued on B6

Severna Park JV Girls Win County Championship Over Meade, 51-29

By Colin Murphy
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

A year ago, when Anne Arundel County held JV county championship games in basketball for the first time, the Severna Park girls JV basketball team finished third in the standings and missed out on a chance to win the county.

"Our goal as a team this year was to get into the county championship," said sophomore **Sydney Nwuli**. "This year, everybody was really striving for it."

The Falcons earned a berth in the title game at North County High School on February 23, and once there, they left no doubt over who deserved the crown.

Severna Park unleashed an overpowering performance to throttle Meade, 51-29, and achieve the season's championship objective in a dominant all-around display.

Jillian Murphy came off the bench to score a team-high 12 points on 4-of-5 shooting from behind the 3-point line, while Nwuli and **Theresa Bragg** scored 11



Photo by Colin Murphy

The Severna Park girls capped a 20-2 season with an overpowering win over Meade in the county championship game at North County High School on February 23.

points apiece for the Falcons, who finished the season a county-best 20-2 overall.

The victory came on the 100th day of the season, as noted by sophomore **Ella Ryan**, who scored 6 points and led the Falcon offense from the point guard position.

"We had a lot of energy

coming into this game," Ryan said. "This is the 100th day of the season, so we wanted to come in here and win."

The energy showed from the opening tip as the Falcons race out to a lead. Ryan went coast-to-coast for a layup for the game's first basket, and the Falcons

set up a full-court press to agitate talented Meade guards **Emya Huggins** and **Laleh Black**.

After a basket by Nwuli, Murphy entered the game and shook loose for a left-corner 3 on her first touch, and the Falcons were up 10-2, having clogged up Meade's » Continued on B8

Falcon Superfan Kenny Elgert Among SPHS Athletics Hall Of Fame Inductees

By Judy Tacyn

Kenny Elgert was attending a Severna Park girls basketball team dinner when he heard the news that he was going to be inducted into the Severna Park High School Athletics Hall of Fame. They may not know his last name, but the recognition comes as no surprise to the hundreds of athletes, coaches and fans of Falcon

athletics who consider Kenny an integral part of every Falcon team. The one person who was surprised? Kenny himself.

"He was surprised when I told him," said **Barbara Elgert**, Kenny's mother. "He wanted me to tell the coaches and the players that he was being inducted into the HOF. Even at the JV girls championship game on Thursday, he wanted me to tell some of the parents. He is proud to be recognized."

Though Kenny is non-verbal, his actions always speak louder than words could. Whether

he is behind a players' bench sharing high-fives, enjoying a team dinner, or attending an Orioles or University of Maryland basketball game with Falcon athletes, the joy Kenny has for the Falcons is evident and infectious.

"Kenny is a proud supporter of the Falcons and I appreciate the energy and enthusiasm he shares with our players, coaches, administration and Severna Park community," said SPHS Director of Athletics **Dave Lanham**. "I look forward to seeing Kenny at our games as he always brings a smile » Continued on B9



Photo by Colin Murphy

A regular at games, **Kenny Elgert's** devotion to Falcon sports has earned him a spot in the Severna Park Athletics Hall of Fame.

10U Severna Park Girls Win County League Title



The Green Hornets went 10-1 and defeated GORC on February 16 to clinch the county title.

With a 31-24 victory over GORC at Central Middle School in Edgewater on February 16, the 10U Severna Park Green Hornets girls basketball team clinched the Anne Arundel County league championship. The Hornets overcame an early deficit against a well-coached GORC team to complete the victory and secure the league title with a 10-1 over-

all record.

"This was such a great group of competitors and teammates who were really fun to be around and coach," said coach **Alex Vandiver**. "I've never seen a group cheer for and care about each other more, which certainly helped elevate their play on the floor."

The Green Hornets team of **Jordan Foote**, **Maggie**

Goodman, **Annabel Williams**, **Kelsey Griffith**, **Hope Wagner**, **Alexandra Vandiver**, **Maggie Deegan**, **Maria Bragg**, **Abby Kelliher** and **Rowan Laughon**. The team is coached by **Alex Vandiver**, **Adam Williams** and **Brandon Goodman**.

The Hornets' 10-1 record included wins over Lake Shore, Crofton, General's Highway and others.

12U Green Hornets Boys Beat Millersville For HYSL Crown



The 12U Green Hornets went 22-9 overall and won the Harundale Sunday league championship.

The 12U Green Hornets boys basketball team stayed busy in the weeks following its

Basketball Coaches Without Borders tournament win in Frederick in late January, and the team

capped its season with a closely-fought championship win over Millersville » Continued on B9

Severna Park Boys Notch Playoff Victory Over Arundel, 44-36

By Colin Murphy
colin@severnaparkvoice.com

Having already beaten Arundel twice this season, including most recently on the Wildcats' senior night on January 23, the Severna Park boys basketball team faced the always-treacherous third meeting for its 4A East playoff opener on March 1.

The host Falcons were not about to let any Wildcat confidence bring an end to the season.

Severna Park jumped out to an early lead, staved off an Arundel comeback in the second half and sank their free throws down the stretch to oust the Wildcats, 44-36, and advance to the 4A East Section I semifinal on March 4 against Old Mill.

Senior **Colin Wolfe** led all scorers with 15 points, including seven free throws in the final four minutes, as Severna Park improved to 8-14 on the season and got an all-important playoff win to punctuate its season.

Senior **Jordan Hallet** said the home playoff win is a fitting accomplishment for a Falcon team that has faced its share of trials.

"We've had a lot of adversity, but us seniors, working through it all, there have been Saturdays that have been hard, weeks that have been hard, but getting this one was really worth it," Hallet said.

Early, the Falcons looked as though they might run the Wildcats out of the gym. After Arundel took a 2-0 lead and the Falcon offense played a few fruitless possessions, senior **Josh Horgan** banked in



Photos by Colin Murphy

Severna Park seniors (l-r) Josh Horgan, Jerry Jennings and Colin Wolfe helped the Falcons to a playoff victory over the visiting Arundel Wildcats on March 1. The Falcons advanced to the section semifinal against Old Mill.

a 3-pointer at the end of the shot clock to put the Falcons up 3-2.

The play broke the ice, and the Falcons started playing loose. Horgan slashed to the hoop for a layup, and Wolfe got free for a baseline layup and another on a fast break. Horgan made a steal and fed **Jacob Goodman** for a score, **Jerry Jennings** drove the middle of the lane for a layup and the foul (he made the free throw), and **Evan Dill** scored on a press break to make it a 16-6 Severna Park lead after the first quarter.

The Wildcats began clawing their way back into the game. They held the Falcons to just two points in the second quarter and opened the third quarter playing a zone defense, giving Severna Park a

different look. Dill answered a Wildcat 3-pointer with a 3-pointer of his own, and the Falcons led 21-16, but Arundel rattled off six unanswered points to take a 22-21 lead midway through the third.

The zone initially gave Severna Park problems, but the Falcons continued attacking the gaps. Hallet ran the baseline for a left-handed layup, then fed a cutting Horgan for a basket that gave the Falcons a 25-24 lead after three.

Said senior point guard **Matt Simms** of Arundel's defensive schemes, "They're a good team, they're long and athletic, and I knew if we stuck together for the whole game, we were going to find an answer, and that's what happened in the second half."

After Arundel took a 27-25 lead, Wolfe hit a corner three to put the Falcons ahead 28-27, passed to Hallet for a layup, and Hallet scored inside again to make it 32-29.

Holding a precarious 32-29 lead, Wolfe attacked the basket off the dribble and had his shot blocked, only for the referee to call a foul on Arundel. The offending Wildcat was assessed a technical foul for arguing, giving Wolfe four free throw attempts.

The senior hit all four attempts, turning a one-possession game into a three-possession game by making it 36-29 in favor of Severna Park.

Arundel never recovered. "I knew that it was a close game and we had to capitalize off their

mistakes," said Wolfe. "Those free throws were important, so I had to sink 'em."

Wolfe, Simms, Horgan, and Hallet all made free throws in the waning minutes to end Arundel's winter and advance to Monday.

Horgan had 8 points, 5 assists and 5 rebounds. Wolfe finished with 5 rebounds to go with his 15 points. Hallet scored 7 points, and Dill had 5. **Orion Young, Joe Harrington** and **Ethan Mills** all played minutes in the victory.

The win was the second in a row for Severna Park, which banked the memory of a basketball lifetime just eight days ago. On February 21, Severna Park's senior night, the Falcons rallied from deficits of 10-0 and

16-5 to defeat Glen Burnie 53-52 on Horgan's game-winning shot at the buzzer.

Horgan said coach **Paul Pellicani** drew up a play to get the ball in his hands.

"Coach P just told me to get the ball and go to the hoop and make sure I got a good shot up," he said. "I dribbled down to the baseline and got a floater. On senior night, it was awesome to go out like that with all the other seniors."

Hallet concurred, noting the program's improvement over the past three years and how much enjoyment the team has gotten out of playing and growing together.

"That's why we don't play scrub," Hallet said, referring to the Severna Park's casual weekend league that in the past has drawn potential players away from the varsity program.

With consecutive wins, Severna Park has played better and better as the season has progressed. The Falcons are 8-14 overall but 7-10 against county competition and 6-5 in their last 11 games.

Pellicani echoed sentiments expressed previously this season, praising the team's work ethic and commitment.

"This group all year has just been so coachable and so willing to do whatever it takes," said Pellicani. "They bought into the system. I think the fact that we don't have a star actually helps the guys in practice and in games knowing that, hey, everyone's a contributor," he said.

"And that's actually a fun way to play."

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Mean Green Machine Girls Go 12-0, Win Club Title



The Mean Green Machine went 9-0 in the regular season and 3-0 in the playoffs to win the Green Hornets third/fourth-grade club championship.

The Green Hornets third/fourth-grade girls club basketball team Mean Green Machines coached by **Michelle Quill, Brian Quill** and **Brian Fellner** posted an undefeated record in its first year of play together. The team was powered by fourth-grade talents **Laurel Coard** and **Kaylie Montagne** and third-graders **Ryleigh Quill, Natalie Lawhorne, Abby Lawhorne, Olivia Blackstone, Claire Sweeney** and **Zoe Fellner**. Following a 9-0 regular season, the team battled through the single-elimination playoffs to end up 12-0 overall and champions of the third/fourth-grade club playoffs. “We very proud of the girls’ overall team effort and commitment,” said coach Brian Quill. “They had to overcome losing two players to season-ending injuries early in the year. Every girl on the team worked hard to improve their foundational skills and learn to play effectively with each other. For some of the girls, it was their first year playing Green Hornets basketball, and they made tremendous progress throughout the three-month season. One player was quoted as saying, ‘One of the secrets to [our] success was being able to run screen plays to get open shots.’” The coaches collectively thanked “the league organizers and referees for volunteering their time, the parents for modeling excellent sportsmanship and dedication to getting the girls to games and practice, and the girls for their commitment and perseverance.”

Warriors Take Down Thunder In Fast-Paced Scrub Classic

By Judy Tacyn

If the Thunder were tired from their triple-overtime win on February 16 to earn a spot in the Green Hornets boys scrub finals on February 17, they certainly didn’t show it. Like they had all season, the league’s second-seeded regular-season team fought every game until the final buzzer. They faced off against the league’s No. 16-seeded team, the Warriors, for a classic scrub thriller — but it was the Warriors who claimed the championship with a 40-39 win over the Thunder at Severn School before hundreds of fans. The Thunder poured on the offense for the first 16 minutes and held an 8-point lead at halftime. The Warriors’ high-scoring best-friend tandem of **Chris Flynn** and **Collin Taylor** helped their team battle back to within one point after three quarters, 29-27, to remind the Thunder that in scrub basketball there is no such thing as a comfortable lead. The fourth quarter was a blur of fast-breaks and back-and-forth scoring chances. With just one minute left in the game, the Warriors, who had trailed the entire game, took the lead. With just seconds remaining, the Thunder went to the free-throw line, needing to sink both shots of a one-and-one bonus to tie the game, but they could only come



The No. 16-seed Warriors defeated the Thunder 40-39 in the Green Hornets scrub league championship game at Severn School on February 27.

up with one. The scrappy Warriors won the game 40-39 with persistence. Flynn, a senior at Mount St. Joseph High School, said this was his first year playing scrub. “Collin [Taylor] and I are best friends and we’ve played basketball together since we were kids,” said Flynn. “I wanted to play scrub so I could play one more year with him. We’re so glad we could win!” After the game, Taylor said, “We knew [the Thunder] had a really tough game yesterday to get to the finals. They came ready to play, but so did we.” Flynn led all scorers with 14 points. **Nate Carey** had 12 points, and Taylor had 11 for the Warriors. **Addison Garrett** and **Garret Taylor** also contributed points. **Daniel Carey, Ryan Harrington, Matthew Macantoni** and **Tyler Pfisterer** rounded out the roster. **Jim Taylor** is the Warriors head coach. **Alec Foxen** lead the Thunder with 10 points. **Jake Hillard** added 8 points, **Jackson Dearing** had 7 points, and **Chris Roth** and **Daniel Seeman** each added 5. **Aiden Byrd, Dylan Hanson,** and **Parker Cummings** and **Ty Cummings** completed the squad. The Thunder were coached by **Chris Seeman**. **Barry Herman** has been the boys scrub league director for the last two seasons, and he has been a head coach in the league for the last five seasons. “We had a really great season this year with lots of parity,” he said. “The 28th seed (out of 32 teams) made it to the Final Four, and the champion was the 16th seed. I think the coaches and players all had a lot of fun, which is what scrub is all about.”

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Suns Win Green Hornets Third/Fourth Title



The Suns are Green Hornets third/fourth-grade champs after a 20-13 win over the Nets at Severn School on February 23. On the season, the Suns had the league's best defense.

The Suns captured the Green Hornets boys third/fourth-grade championship with a 20-13 win over the previously unbeaten Nets at Severn School on February 23. The Suns roster of **Tyler Smulow, Max Gilman, Liam Kinslow, Ian Ambro,**

Solomon Nkongolo, Benjamin Sepp, Caden Morris, Finley Mullervy and **Louie Renick** worked together to avenge their only loss of the season and win the championship. For the season, the Suns were the league leaders in defense, allowing

an average of 9 points per game. In the championship against the Nets, they were led by Kinslow (10 points) and Morris (6 points), while getting key contributions from everyone. Sepp's play stood out for his screen-setting, rebounding and

hustling on fast breaks. Renick and Smulow contributed crucial baskets in the fourth quarter, while Gilman provided great picks to keep the Suns' offense flowing. Nkongolo had a block and a steal, and Mullervy had several rebounds as both contributed to the Suns' excellent team defense. Ambro, who was a big part of the team all season, was recovering from an illness but still cheered his team from the sideline. The Nets' **Benjamin Simoncic** hit a 23-foot jump shot at the buzzer to create the final margin. "It was truly a team effort by the Suns, which made me proud," said head coach **Colin Renick**, who coached the team with **Bryan Ambro** and **Christine Ambro**. "Having fun, playing with great teamwork, and learning help defense were the main goals for the season, and all of these goals were achieved."

Gators Girls Are Hornets Club Champs



The Gators team of (l-r) Amy Jacobs, Sydney Holmes, Kara Hartley, Abby Goodman, coach Brandon Goodman, Amelia Smith, Katie Griffith, Ruby Ondatje, coach Brack Williams, Sophia Kramer and Meghan West were champions of the Green Hornets seventh/eighth-grade rec league with an 11-0 record.

The Gators are champions of the Green Hornets seventh/eighth-grade girls basketball league after a 20-14 victory over the Lightning in the championship game at Folger McKinsey Elementary School on February 24. The Gators finished the season 11-0. The Gators, who are **Amy Jacobs, Sydney Holmes, Kara Hartley, Abby Goodman, Amelia Smith, Katie Griffith, Ruby Ondatje, Sophia Kramer and Meghan West**, were able to win the championship in a defensive battle over **Daniel Stoudt** and **Drew Mutch**'s Lightning squad of **Montine Mutch, Elisabeth Stoudt, Cecilia Bonney, Mallory Trutenko, Cynthia Cohen, Aubrey Lautenschlager, Hannah**

Lautenschlager, Gwyneth Yi and Victoria Nkongolo. "All season, the Gators played as a team on offense and defense and really enjoyed competing together," said Gators coach **Brandon Goodman**, who coached the team with **Brack Williams**. Defense and rebounding were led by Griffith, Ondatje and Smith. Off-ball guards Hartley, Jacobs, Kramer and West led the way with sharing the ball and helping to break the press. Point guards Goodman and Holmes led the team with their ball handling, passing and steals. "Each girl came to practice and worked hard to get better, and it paid off with an undefeated season," said Goodman. "[The coaches] enjoyed all of it and want to thank the parents for all of their time and support throughout the season."

Boys Scrub League Sends Off Seniors



Approximately 30 seniors from the Green Hornets boys scrub basketball league participated in the annual "seniors game" on Sunday, February 17, at Severn School just prior to the boys league championship game. As is tradition, the game was filled with hijinks, mayhem, trick shots and plenty of laughter. The scrub basketball league is one of the most popular of all Greater Severna Park Athletic Association leagues, with 320 boys from 11 different high schools and homeschoolers represented. Players from Annapolis Area Christian School, Archbishop Spalding, Broadneck, Calvert Hall, Indian Creek, McDonough, Mount St. Joseph, Old Mill, Severn, Severna Park and St. Mary's high schools come together for what is believed to be the only recreational league for high school boys in the county. The coaches in the seniors game were **Dave Colborne, Joe LaRocque, Chris Van Vliet and Jason Alton**.



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Dream Topple Mercury To Win Girls Scrub Title



The Dream won the girls scrub league championship on February 17 by defeating the Mercury 40-22.

By Judy Tacyn

Familiar foes met to shake hands at center court on February 17 for one last battle to determine the Green Hornets girls scrub basketball season's champion. The Mercury won the opening tip, and **Ella Ryan** quickly put up the first two points of the game for the women in purple. But **Madison Brady's** response was an immediate and resounding 3-point shot, and Brady's Dream never looked back en route to a 40-22 championship win.

Dream's strong defensive tandem of **Hunter Chadwick** and Brady held the Mercury to just 10 points through three quarters. Despite

a strong fourth-quarter offensive effort led by **Julia Ryan**, the Mercury could not catch the scrappy Dream, who took the 2019 girls scrub championship 40-22.

The Dream's swift-footed center, **Paige Gunning**, led all scorers with 15 points, followed by Brady's 12 points, which included a pair of 3-pointers, and Chadwick with 9 points. **Jessica Johns, Julia Clifford, Marissa Van Lill, and Mary Grace Zucco** all contributed with key steals and solid defense.

Julia Ryan led the Mercury team with 8 points. **Lyla Toomey, Abigail Parkison, Emily Knight and Olivia Driver** all put up points for the Mercury. **Emily Caffiero**

and **Grace Knight** played strong defensive games in a losing effort, as did **Carolina Drummond and Gabrielle Diggs**.

"I've said it all year," said Dream head coach **John Brady**, "these girls come to the court ready to work hard and compete, and they always stay positive. They are all good athletes."

Gunning said her team was ready to take on the two-time defending champions. "We played them earlier in the season and won in two very tough games," said Gunning. "We knew if we continued to play our game, we'd be fine."

The Mercury were coached by **Stephanie Edmonston** and assistant coach **Stacey Ryan**.

Emme Sayers Earns Joe Gillespie Sportsmanship Scholarship

By Judy Tacyn

Multi-sport scholar-athlete **Emme Sayers** has been named the 2019 winner of the Joe Gillespie Award. The award is given annually to a college-bound Green Hornets scrub girls basketball senior player to recognize her dedication, loyalty, hard work and integrity both inside and outside of athletics. Sayers received a check for \$1,000 from Green Hornets scrub girls coordinator **Tim Fisher** at halftime of the league's championship game on February 17 at Severn School.

Sayers is a scholar-athlete at Severna Park High School, where she plays on both the field hockey and lacrosse teams. She has played in the scrub league for four years and was the second-highest scorer in the league this season. Off the court, Sayers is a Green Hornets basketball referee, a peer leader for Rise for Autism, and was recommended to participate in the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland Youth Leadership Program. She enjoys photography, fly fishing, and chess. She will study computer science in college.

"Emme's essay on sportsmanship was praised for the way that she demonstrated sportsmanship as a player and referee," said Fisher. "The judges felt she did the best job of capturing the spirit of sportsmanship exhibited by Joe Gillespie."

"The judges saw in Emme's application what many others who have seen her



SPHS student Emme Sayers received the Green Hornets' annual Joe Gillespie Scholarship on February 17 from scrub basketball coordinator Tim Fisher.

on the court already knew," continued Fisher. "Emme is one of the finest young adults I've ever coached in my 25 years of recreational sports. She exhibits integrity, sportsmanship, and a love of the game that is infectious."

Sayers called scrub basketball one of the highlights of her sports career. "It's a place where girls of all ages can come together to play and have fun without the stress of tryouts or practices," she said. "I applied for this scholarship because sportsmanship is something that is very important to me. Through this league, I have learned the importance of always

playing fair, being a good teammate and overall just loving the game. I am honored to be recognized by the family and friends of coach Joe Gillespie."

Gillespie was a Greater Severna Park Athletic Association (Green Hornets) volunteer for more than 40 years. He was the driving force behind getting girls in the Severna Park community involved in basketball and softball. Gillespie started the Green Hornets girls' basketball program in 1972.

Two of Gillespie's adult children and four GSPAA board members or officials served as judges. The award has been given since 2004.

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Celtics Hold Off Magic For 12U Club Crown

The Celtics completed an undefeated 11-0 season with a championship by defeating the Magic 23-20 in the Green Hornets 12U boys basketball club final at Severn School on February 23.

League-leading scorer **Devlan Collier** had a team-high 13 points in the victory as the Celtics rallied from an 11-10 halftime deficit and got clutch free throws from Collier, **Stevie Degnan** and **Reese Davis** in the closing moments to earn the win.

The team of Collier, Degnan, Davis, **Tom Brockett**, **Harrison Sudano**, **Merric Warren**, **Andrew Rutherford** and **John Caswell** capped a memorable season with their final win.

"I'm extremely proud of this group of boys," said head coach **Sean Degnan**, who coached the team with assistant coaches **Jerry Collier** and **Mark Davis**. "They came together as a team, had a ton of fun, were willing and able to learn some pretty advanced concepts and sets, and everyone had a unique role to play on this team."

The Celtics had earned their spot in the final with a 22-13 win over the Bulls in the semifinals behind Caswell's 12 points. That was preceded by 36-10 first-



The Celtics capped an 11-0 season by defeating the Magic 23-20 in the championship game of the Green Hornets fifth/sixth-grade club basketball league at Severn School on February 23.

round win over the Clippers in which Rutherford, Brockett, Sudano and defensive MVP Warren dominated defensively.

There were also many memorable and close wins during the regular season. In Week 2, the Celtics rallied from five points down for a two-point win over the Lakers. The following week, the Celtics rallied for a one-point win over the Cavaliers. Two weeks later they survived a grueling and physical battle with Pelicans to win, 15-11. The next week,

Rutherford led the attack and defense as the Celtics closed their game with the Spurs on a 12-0 run to win, 26-14.

Collier led the entire league in scoring, but the Celtics were balanced offensively, with Caswell, Reese Davis and Stevie Degnan all scoring at least 30 points total. No other team had four such scorers. The Celtics also excelled on defense, allowing only 12.2 points per game, second only to the Bucks, who gave up just 11.9 points per game.

Said assistant coach Collier, "I feel honored and privileged to be a part of something this special. Not everyone bought in 100 percent initially to what we were trying to do. But these boys sacrificed and put the work in and became a cohesive unit, a close-knit family. I'll never forget them. What a blast it was to coach these kids."

Assistant coach Davis said, "The individual development of each and every player was remarkable to watch as the season progressed. Learning such things as a motion offense, drop steps, proper footwork on layups, free-throw technique, breaking a press, ball/deny/help defense, was not easy. Kudos to these eight boys for buying in, putting in the work and executing. It was a pleasure to be part of this experience."

Coach Degnan said the team embodied its rallying cry.

"We broke every timeout huddle, post-game talk and practice by chanting 'Together,'" said Degnan. "And they really lived it. We won together, we learned together and we enjoyed and savored our success together. I hope these memories and lessons last a lifetime for them. They earned it."

Green Hornets Wrestling Caps Outstanding Season



Green Hornets wrestlers Oliver Seely (left) and Sawyer Latchaw both placed second in their tournament brackets at the youth wrestling county championships.

» Continued from B1
Hawse, Dylan Jones, Gavin Keefer, Noah Keefer, Lincoln Latchaw, Tristan Mackey, Ryan Maher, Ares Mason, Charlie Peery, Emmett Polansky, Joel Porcher, Nathaniel Porcher, Joel Proulx, Jorge Rodriguez, Jack Seely, James Switzer, Memphis Utz and **Matthew Wilson**, and coach Wheeler credited the support of the parents and the community in helping the kids thrive as a team and individuals.

"Our families have been nothing less than outstanding," Wheeler said.

Following a season away as the organization lacked a commissioner, the Green Hornets made an impact this season in their return. The kids made huge strides on the mat and likewise reaped the many off-the-mat benefits of participating in wrestling, all while re-establishing the sport at the youth level in Severna Park.

"They went from their initial introduction to the sport to scoring points and

winning matches," said coach Wheeler. "This was all due to our kids' hard work and determination and due to the tremendous support from their families. This year wasn't about wins and losses as [much as] it was about getting better from practice to practice or match to match. We tried to preach getting better each and every day. Whether in school, at home or on the mat, we wanted our kids to take strides forward."

"We definitely saw our team buy into this concept as the year went on," said Wheeler. "We saw them become better wrestlers, but more importantly, better people as the season progressed. And that's what our program is all about. Hopefully the momentum that we built over the course of the season will carry on for years to come. We need to continue to see the support from the community to help us build our program into a feeder program for the high school."

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SPark U12 Girls Capture Gold At USA Field Hockey NIT



The SPark U12 Blue team went 4-1 to win the USA Field Hockey National Indoor Tournament over the weekend of February 22-24 outside Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The SPark Field Hockey U12 Blue team had a successful weekend at USA Field Hockey's National Indoor Tournament over the weekend of February 22-24, going 4-1 overall and winning the gold on February 24 at the Spooky Nook Sports Complex outside of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The U12 age group had 84 teams from up and down the East Coast and as far west as Chicago and Texas. Each team was assigned to a pool of six teams and played each team in their pool for a total of five games; two Friday, two Saturday and a final game on Sunday. The number of teams, fans and venue all combine for an electric atmosphere, and the SPark U12 Blue team came

ready to make the most of the weekend.

After starting the weekend with a win and a close loss on Friday night, the team rallied for two wins on Saturday to set up a shot at gold on Sunday.

The girls were focused and aggressive from the start on Sunday, earning a 5-0 win to close the weekend 4-1, having surrendered just two goals in five games.

The team of **Olivia Boyle, Clare Donovan, Cali Eckenrode, Grace Frankl, Madeline Lancione, Grace Moran, Grace Morris, Hannah Pope, Kelsey Rowe, Emma Weber** and **Ryleigh Osborne** all shared in SPark's winning weekend, said head coach Meredith Weber.

"Of all the teams at this weekend's NIT, I

don't think any club had more fun than ours, whether it was cheering on other teams or dancing between halves," said Weber. "Success at NITs was the team's goal from the very first practice in late November. They worked hard each and every time out on the court and showed dramatic improvement as the season wore on. I was most proud of the fact that every girl on the team contributed to our weekend success — whether it was unrelenting pressure on our opponents, timely goals or stout defense — it was a total team effort."

Weber coaches the U12 Blue team and is assisted by SPark club coaches **Jesse Larson, Jonathan Roberts** and **Ashley Dalisera**.

Cyclones Blaze Through All Stars For Hornets Club Crown



The Cyclones defeated the All Stars 16-5 on February 24 to win the Green Hornets fifth/sixth-grade club basketball championship at Folger McKinsey Elementary School.

The Green Hornets fifth/sixth-grade girls club basketball league crowned its 2018-2019 champion on Sunday, February 24, at Folger McKinsey Elementary School, with the No. 2-seed Cyclones defeating the No. 1-seed All Stars, 16-5.

The Cyclones, whose two regular-season losses came at the hands of coach **Kevin Barstow's** All Stars, avenged those losses to finish the season 10-2 overall.

The Cyclones comprised girls from seven schools in Severna Park and the surrounding area. The team included sixth-graders **Olivia "OJ" Nardone, Isabella**

Adams, Anna Wall and **Drew Snyder**; and fifth-graders **Sydney Davis, Maya Kirshtein, Penny Lascola, Katie Mentasana, Millie Knoepfle** and **Giuliana Newton**.

The team was coached by **Ed Davis** and **Josh Kirshtein**.

Leading 8-5 at halftime, the Cyclones shut out the All Stars in the second half and got a team-high

6 points by Nardone and 4 points from Wall.

"Every girl worked hard to become a better player at every practice and each of them contributed to this victory," coach Davis said after the game. "They came from different schools and experience levels but came together and played as a team, with every member finding a role and performing that role to the best of their ability."

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8U Green Hornet Girls Go Undeclared

The Green Hornets 8U select girls basketball team wrapped up its inaugural season as county champs with a record of 11-0.

The team of **Riley Buck, Chelsea Coward, Presley Davis, Claire Farley, Cate Gage, Ella Hartman, Alex Murray, Finley Silk** and **Carly Weeks** employed a well-balanced offense and a suffocating defense to outscore the opposition by a whopping 205-22 margin in 11 wins.

"I was a little concerned prior to the season as this would be the first year most of the

girls would be playing on a 10-foot rim as well as being allowed outside the lane for defense, but they far exceeded my expectations," said head coach **Stephanie Hartman**, who coached the team with **Eric Silk** and **Darby Davis**. "The girls came to every practice eager to learn and brought intensity to every game they played. Even though it was their first year playing together as a team, the girls were always positive and encouraging with each other and were unselfish on offense, with multiple girls scoring each game."



The Green Hornets went 11-0 on the season to win the county title in their first season playing together.

Severna Park JV Girls Win County Championship



Photos by Colin Murphy

(L-R) Severna Park's Theresa Bragg, Jillian Murphy, Ella Ryan, Sydney Nwuli and the entire Falcon squad led an unstoppable assault against Meade in the county championship on February 23.

» Continued from B1

attack at every turn and moved the ball efficiently on offense.

Bragg said the defense set the tone for Severna Park, who suffered one of their two losses this season to Meade, a 52-42 defeat on January 23. Bragg, Nwuli, **Cat Cleary, Emersyn Kelter** and **Kylie Milton** helped to clog up driving lanes and protect the basket, while Ryan, Murphy, **Reagan Clark** and **Peyton Sullivan** played great on-the-ball perimeter defense.

"Our plan was to lock down their two main girls," Bragg said, "because last time they both scored 20."

Murphy hit another 3-pointer in the second quarter, as did Sullivan, who also fed Nwuli inside for a basket as Severna Park stretched its lead to 26-10 by halftime.

The Falcons were hustling to every rebound and loose ball, limiting Meade to difficult shots and no

second chances.

"We worked so much in practice on rebounding, because we were not rebounding [well] at one point this season," said Sullivan, who finished with 8 points and described the Falcons as complementing each other on the court. "We played together, played as a team. We knew what each other could do, and each other's strengths and weaknesses."

Any prospect of a Meade adjustment and a second-half rally was quickly doused by the Falcons, who got baskets by Ryan, Sullivan and Bragg to open up a 32-10 lead at the start of the third quarter, forcing a Mustang timeout and pushing the Severna Park crowd, which included the face-painted varsity Falcons, to further levels of thunderous cheering.

Murphy entered the game again and swished two more 3's, both from the left corner, on consecutive possessions, putting Severna Park up 38-12 and bringing the house down with a frenzied eruption of applause from the Falcon bench and fan section.

"When I go in the game, it's to do that play and shoot the ball," said Murphy, whose teammates serenaded her postgame interview with her on-court nickname,

Jill Kill. "I just tell myself to focus on the basket and put it in."

There was no Meade comeback forthcoming. The Falcons got quality minutes from reserves **Genevieve Mullervy, Delanie Aberie, Julia DiMarsico, Sarah Smith** and **Sofia Williams** and kept the pedal to the floor to finish the Mustangs.

Ryan said the team benefitted from its midseason stumbles. The Falcons got off to an 11-0 start, and there was talk of an undefeated year. They then lost consecutive games to Southern and Meade in late January, spurring refocused efforts to improve.

"Even though you lose, that's something you learn from," said Ryan. "We learned from those two games, and that really helped us."

Murphy said the home loss to Meade on January 23 fueled a fire.

"We were so mad," said Murphy. "It was on our home court. After that, every practice, every time we played, it was a goal in the back of our minds: Beat Meade."

Nwuli even said throughout the season they jokingly referred to the county championship as their "national championship," playfully

pushing up their goals every practice.

"We knew what we wanted since the beginning of the season," said Nwuli. "Every practice, we called it a national championship just to hype it up."

Falcon head coach **Pat Carr**, who coaches the Falcons with **Donny Williams** and **Brooke Austin**, spoke highly of Meade as an opponent and was naturally proud to see the Falcons execute as planned.

"Our ladies came out and did an excellent job of executing the game plan," said Carr. "[Meade is] a really awesome team ... but our girls performed, and it was really awesome to see."

He likewise was proud that the Falcons achieved their stated potential.

"First day of tryouts, 100 days ago, I told them, 'This team is good enough to be in the county championship.' They really took that to heart," said Carr, noting that, as JV players, they still have new heights to reach as they move up to varsity in future seasons. "The growth I've seen from them has been great," he said. "I've seen some of them since the summer of eighth grade, so it's going to be really cool to see them over the next two years as well."

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The Severna Park Voice will publish its Real Estate Guide in the April edition. Join us as we highlight everything our readers need to know about homeownership, including area real estate for sale, new developments, realtors and agents, home remodelers, home financing options and much more, with information provided by local experts.



SEVERNA PARK VOICE
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Kenny Elgert Into SP Athletics HOF

» **Continued from B1** to my face.”

Severna Park girls basketball head coach **Kristopher Dean** said “it means the world” for the players and coaches to have the support of Kenny.

“We all look up to him and his accomplishments,” said Dean. “Our coaches look forward to the ‘Kenny fist bump’ before every game. He’s the first one to congratulate us after a win or pick us up after a loss.”

Kenny loves all Severna Park sports. He attends most of the volleyball, football, soccer, basketball, softball, baseball and lacrosse games. His mother said that if two games are played at the same time, Kenny will go between them. Arriving at least 40 minutes before the games, Kenny enjoys watching warm-ups.

“I really believe he is very proud of being selected into the HOF,” said Barbara. “SPHS is the best thing that ever happened to Kenny. He counts down the days until fall sports once school is out for the summer.”

As an athlete, Kenny participates in Special Olympics in duck- and 10-pin bowling, softball and bocce. He works part-time at Giant, but his mother said his absolute pleasure in life is attending the Severna Park games.

“Kenny loves [all sports], but I would say his favorites are basketball, volleyball and softball only

because he can sit right behind the players,” said Barbara. “Plus, he has the ability to give the players and coaches a high-five.”

The Falcon Athletic Boosters Club Hall of Fame Class of 2019 also includes **Katie Pumphrey**, M.D. (SPHS Class of 2004) and **Julie Shank Obringer** (Class of 1999).

Pumphrey ran indoor track, cross country, and played varsity lacrosse for the Falcons from 2000 to 2004. Named an All-American in her senior year of lacrosse, Pumphrey went on to play the sport at the University of Maryland. While in medical school at Virginia Commonwealth University, Pumphrey organized the Richmond Angels, an inner-city lacrosse league for elementary and middle school girls.

Julie Shank Obringer played both field hockey and lacrosse at SPHS and continued as a standout lacrosse player at University of Maryland, where she attended on scholarship and won two national championships and earned the University of Maryland MClub President’s Cup Award for academic achievement.

The trio will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at halftime of the boys varsity lacrosse game versus Annapolis High School on Friday, April 5. The game and ceremony are open to the public.

COACHES’ CORNER

Mere McAlister, *SPHS Varsity Softball Head Coach, SPHS Varsity Girls Basketball Assistant Coach* ~ “Kenny being inducted into the Hall of Fame just makes sense. He is quite possibly the biggest supporter of all time for Severna Park athletics. He is the first to bring a smile to your face when you show up to the gym or ball field, and is a fixture at every competitive event we have. We are blessed to have the support of Kenny and the Elgert family. I am just thankful we have a way to honor him for his unwavering support.”

Eric Milton, *SPHS Varsity Baseball Head Coach* ~ “I look forward to seeing Kenny not only at my games but at all the games. He always takes the time to come and say hello, not only to myself but to my family and so many other people. Severna Park sports are lucky to have the support of such a passionate and caring person.”

Leo Latonick, *SPHS Girls Basketball Assistant Coach* ~ “We wouldn’t know what to do if we didn’t see Kenny in the stands supporting us. He is literally at everything we do. The girls love him, he’s part of our team, and our seasons wouldn’t be the same without him.”

Arden U11 Girls Go Unbeaten In Anne Arundel Play



The Arden U11 Jumpers went 10-0 in Anne Arundel County C division play.

The Arden U11 Jumpers girls basketball team completed play in the Anne Arundel County C league with a perfect 10-0 record and a league championship.

The team of **Ava Baselga, Parker Collins, Lily Diedrich, Annie Gage, Nora Gerig, Becca Jimeno, Sophia Procaccini, Jessi Ricci, Lacey Toth** and **Ava Zimmerman** comprised girls mostly from Severna Park Middle School.

“The girls demonstrated that they were able to win

in many different ways,” said head coach **Greg Jimeno**, who coached with assistant coaches **Doug Toth** and **Anthony Ricci**. “In some games they jumped out to big leads and kept pressure on the other team the entire game. In their tightest game, they were able to win with a last-minute comeback.”

Fierce guard play by Baselga, Jimeno, Ricci and Toth complemented strong interior defense by Collins, Diedrich, Gage, Gerig, Procaccini and

Zimmerman.

“Our team was defined by two things: tenacious defense and unselfish play,” said coach Jimeno. “The entire team can aggressively trap the ball handlers, create turnovers, and turn those turnovers into points. The girls also excelled at making the extra pass to find an open teammate. The players always put the good of the team ahead of themselves. This is a terrific group of girls who played hard every game.”

12U GH Boys Win HYSL League Crown

» **Continued from B1** in the Sunday Harundale Youth Sports League.

Severna Park defeated Millersville 29-27 at Glen Burnie High School on February 17 to avenge a pair of regular-season losses and win the HYSL championship.

The 12U Green Hornets are **Brandon Tenenbaum, Nick DiNunzio, George Vandiver, Brady Fox, Anthony Harris, Brendan Abell, Nathan Murphy** and **Sean Williams**. They are coached by **Sean Abell, Todd Tenenbaum** and **Alex Vandiver**.

“The boys really stood tall in a pressure-packed environment to come away

with a close win against a talented and physical team,” said head coach Sean Abell. “We had to battle from the tip, started slowly and had to climb back into the game by getting contributions from everyone on the roster.”

The team finished the season 22-9 overall, including 9-1 in HYSL play and 10-4 in Anne Arundel County play with in-season wins over GORC, Millersville, Maryland 3D, Glen Burnie, Lake Shore, St. Mary’s, Harundale, Linganore, Brunswick, Bowie and Bucs. The team also won the aforementioned tournament championship in Frederick in

late January.

The HSYL championship win over Millersville was particularly satisfying for the Green Hornets based on their league history and their deliberate practice this season.

“The boys have come a long way since two years ago when we were just getting started in the County B league and struggling to compete in the HYSL league,” said Abell. “We have been working on situational basketball as we’ve been getting later into the season and tournaments, and it paid off as the moment was not too big for us this time to close it out.”



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Lakers Defeat Bucks 13U Boys Hoops Championship



The Lakers rallied with a win over the Knicks before defeating the previously unbeaten Bucks to win the Green Hornets 13U boys basketball championship at Severn School on February 23.

On February 23, the No. 2-seed 13U Lakers came from behind in the second half to beat the previously undefeated and No. 1-seed Bucks 41-39 in the Green Hornets boys seventh/eighth-grade league championship game at Severn School.

The exciting game featured feverish offensive runs by both teams, with the Bucks (19-1) jumping out to a 24-14 halftime lead, and the Lakers (18-3) outscoring the Bucks 27-15 in the second half.

The Lakers team of **Zach Lundfelt, Joshua Sartalamacchia, Kyle Reinecke, Kevin Bredeck, Alex Stroble, Joshua Hong, Josh Scott, John McCone, Mourtada Fall** and **Matthew Fleisher** made timely baskets and key defensive stops down the stretch to prevail in the closing seconds.

Having lost twice before to the Bucks, including just two days before in the 17-team, double-elimination tournament, the Lakers had to first defeat the No. 3-seed Knicks (16-6) by a score of

38-24 in the semifinals just to reach the final. The Lakers turned around on the same day to avenge their previous loss to the Bucks in the championship.

"I am so proud of the boys," said head coach **Walter Hong**, who coached the team with assistant coach **Brett McCone**. "They took their lumps against a strong Bucks team just days before but didn't let it affect their mindset on championship Saturday. The ultimate difference was that each boy came out with a super aggressive attitude and just would not be denied."

Leading the way for the Lakers were season-leading scorers **Fleisher** (16 points, including 10 free throws), **Bredeck** (9 points), **Sartalamacchia** (8 points) and **Stroble** (10 assists). Defensive stoppers **Scott**, **McCone**, **Lundfelt** and **Fall** slowed the Bucks' potent fast-break offense. Rounding out the team effort were **Hong** and **Reinecke** brought great energy on the boards and played solid, tenacious

defense in the championship and throughout the season.

The Bucks team of **Andrew Handen, Allen Gottlieb, Blake Hoyt, Cole Fairweather, Brady Jones, Caden Brunatti, Conor Mahan, Donald Horgan, Preston Marburger** and **Hayden Warren**, coached by **Bob Fairweather** and **Eric Marburger**, likewise had an outstanding season to finish 19-1 overall and league runners-up.

Said Wong of the Lakers' opponents, "[The Bucks] were a strong unit that presented a matchup nightmare for the entire league with league scoring leader **Hayden Warren** leading the way and a very talented supporting cast."

Wong also knew the Lakers could challenge anyone in a winner-take-all final.

"Our boys just knew it was a 'one-game season' in the title game, and even though they fell behind early, they stuck with the game plan and played with tremendous heart all the way to the final buzzer."

SP Stingrays Excel At USA Swimming Meet



Left: SP Stingrays swimmers (l-r) **Court Barrett**, **Caden Mahl**, **Lucy Feliz** and **Charlotte Hale** all placed in the 9-10 age group at the USA Swimming IMX Challenge. Right: **Eden Whiteman** (left) and **Mary Feliz** placed in the 13-14 age group.

The Severna Park Racquetball Stingrays swim team had a strong showing at the USA Swimming IMX Challenge in College Park in late January.

Swimmers earn entry to the challenge, which draws hundreds of swimmers from as far north as Maine and as far south as North Carolina, by accruing points throughout the winter

season in five events. Nine- and 10-year-olds swim the 200 free, 100 back, 100 breast, 100 fly and 200IM; 11- and 12-year-olds swim the 500 free, 100 back, 100 breast, 100 fly and 200 IM.

The performances in the events throughout the meet combine for each swimmer's total placement, and the Stingrays had several standouts win placement

plaques for their efforts.



Caden Mahl placed third among 9-year-old boys, while **Charlotte Hale** placed 13th for 9-year-old girls. **Court Barrett** placed second among 10-year-old boys, while **Lucy Feliz** placed 13th among 10-year-old girls. **Mary Feliz** placed 14th among 13-year-old girls, and **Eden Whiteman** placed 17th for 14-year-old girls.

SP 14U Girls Capture Premier Cup



The Green Hornets Girls U14 soccer team won the APC Premier Cup Girls 2019 Spring Showcase U15 Copa at the Delaware Turf Complex on February 24. The team included coach **Bill Hoffman**, **Tatum Sale**, **Lilly Spilker**, **Savannah Sparenberg**, **Olivia Tramontana**, **Alyssa Dougherty**, **Lily Murray**, **Coach Brian Ensor**, **coach Melissa Murray** and **Lexi Ensor**, **Sloane Andrulis**, **Mia Hoffman**, **Kristin Falk**, **Julie Wheeler**, **Gracie Papson**, **Danielle Gargano** and **Claire Ferguson**. Not pictured are **Madison Tryon**, **Nevaeh Dowell** and **Layla Washington**.

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SPES Teacher Rich Wiles Wins Mabel Lee Award



Rich Wiles, a physical education teacher at Severna Park Elementary School, earned the Mabel Lee Award this year.

By Maya Pottiger

Rich Wiles is making waves in his field. A physical education teacher at Severna Park Elementary School, Wiles is now in his 14th year of teaching. In April, he will accept the Mabel Lee Award. “It was very nice to pick up an award after working for so many years on different things,” Wiles said. “Sometimes you go against the grain of what other people consider what’s standard and normal, and the award is nice because it recognizes at a young age your contributions to your profession and means you’re doing the right thing and hopefully it will continue.” The Mabel Lee Award is given through SHAPE America. It “recognizes younger members who have

demonstrated outstanding potential in scholarship, teaching, and/or professional leadership.” The award features two categories — “college and university” and “non-college and university” — and there are a maximum of two winners in each category every year. This isn’t Wiles’ first award. In 2010, Wiles received the Simon McNeeley Award through SHAPE Maryland, and he was nominated for Teacher of the Year in 2011. Something unique about Wiles’ position is he gets to spend six years building relationships with students. “It’s nice because you get to see the kids grow at different stages. You get to see them hit different developmental milestones,” Wiles said. “You can develop a different relationship with students. The social and emotional pieces are so important in education, and it’s kind of the area we need to focus a little more on sometimes.” Outside of school, Wiles is involved in the physical education field. In 2015, Wiles wrote the Physical Education Digital Library, which has since been adopted by a “good amount” of school systems. He started working with U.S. Games, which then announced OPEN, the Online Physical Education Network. “For OPEN, it’s been a game changer. Part of what I’ve done with the award is

» Continued on B13

SPHS Juniors Connect With Community For Service Learning Projects



Juniors at Severna Park High School pair with elementary school buddies to interview and write a book for them.

By Maya Pottiger

Throughout February, the 400-person junior class at Severna Park High School traveled to three elementary schools to complete their service learning project. The project was to connect with students at Park, Brooklyn Park and Hebron Harman elementary schools and write books for their buddies. “It is probably one of the most meaningful things that I get to be part of at

Severna Park,” said Valerie Earhart, an English teacher at SPHS. Each February, SPHS students visit the elementary schools and interview their individual buddies. They ask a series of ques-

tions about their favorite cartoon character, favorite color, etc. Then, in class, students spend time studying children’s books: the illustrations, the vocabulary and the sentence structure. Finally, they are

given a blank, hardbound book so they can write a story to hand-deliver to their buddy in May. The only requirements for the book are that they must be handmade and

» Continued on B14

Nguyen, Duncan Earn Prestigious Eagle Rank

By Judy Tacyn

Aaron Nguyen and Dominick Duncan first met at Oak Hill Elementary School and were both first-graders when they joined the school’s Boy Scout troop. Now freshmen at Severna Park and Northeast high schools, respectively, the longtime friends stood together to receive their Eagle Scout pins at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church on Benfield Road on February 23 as the newest members of Boy Scout Troop 857 to earn the coveted Eagle Rank. Scoutmaster Schelly Taylor announced the call to order before more than 100 friends, family members and fellow scouts gathered to honor the teens. There was likely no one at the ceremony more proud of Aaron’s accomplishments in scouting than his father, Vincent Nguyen, who spoke about communistic restrictions against scouting that prohibits similar organiza-



Photo by Judy Tacyn

For their Eagle projects, Aaron Nguyen (right) built and installed a wheelchair-accessible table for the Cisco Center, and Dominick Duncan installed benches outside Magothy United Methodist.

tions from assembling in his native Vietnam. Wearing his Troop 857 leader uniform, Vincent beamed with pride when he cloaked his son with the Eagle neckerchief. “Starting as a Cub Scout, becoming a Boy Scout, completing all of the required merit badges, and ranking up as Eagle Scout,

have taught me a lot,” said Aaron. “My scout journey has taught me perseverance, hard work, planning, giving back to the community, leadership skills, friendship, trust, courage, how to have fun, and how to prioritize activities. It has helped me build confidence and become

» Continued on B15

A Little Letter Goes A Long Way For One Green Hornets Player

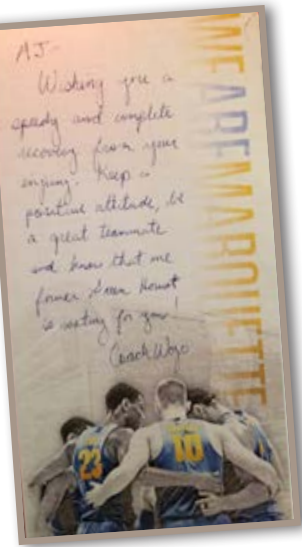
By Dave Topp

Seven-year-old A.J. Kirchner was having a great start to his basketball season until a fall on the court ended things prematurely this winter. After a come-from-behind victory for A.J. and his White Hornets teammates, who play in the Green Hornets basketball league, A.J. slipped on the court and broke his wrist, ending his season. Before his injury, A.J. was averaging 16 points per game and his team had a 5-1 record. “This break hit him pretty hard, because he was having a good season,” said Jessica Kirchner, A.J.’s mom. “He was down in the dumps.” That was until A.J. received a special letter in the mail on February 10. It read, “A.J. — Wishing you a speedy and complete recovery from your injury. Keep a positive attitude, be a great teammate and know that one former Green Hornet is rooting for you!” That letter was from former Green Hornets player and current Marquette University men’s head basketball coach Steve Wojciechowski. “Wojo,” a nickname that the coach picked up during his playing days, grew up in Severna Park and attended Cardinal Gibbons School in Baltimore before going on to star for the Duke University basketball team from 1994 to 1998. The mom of A.J.’s teammate contacted

» Continued on B14



White Hornets shooting guard A.J. Kirchner was down in the dumps after losing his basketball season to a broken wrist, but then he received a supportive letter from former Green Hornets player and current Marquette University men’s head basketball coach Steve Wojciechowski.



Regan Graves Named Chick-fil-A Kids Correspondent

By Zach Sparks
zach@pasadenavoice.com

Benfield Elementary student Regan Graves worked at a different desk earlier this school year when she broadcast live from Fox45 in Baltimore as a Chick-fil-A kids correspondent. The 9-year-old was one of 12 kids selected to film a public service announcement after being selected from a random drawing and then acing an audition process. Once the field of contenders was narrowed to 42 children, Regan said she had 15 seconds to impress a panel of four or five judges. “I’m bright, I’m energetic and I would be a great kids correspondent,” she



Regan Graves was one of 12 kids to broadcast a segment on Fox45 after winning the Chick-fil-A kids correspondent contest.

remembers saying. After getting the chance to record a segment promoting the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Regan was thrilled. “I was happy and excited because basically there were a lot of people

[who auditioned]. I felt special,” she said. In her spot, which aired in January, she said, “There’s something fishy at the Inner Harbor: the National Aquarium.” She continued to highlight the diversity of animals from

“I want to be a broadcaster. I feel like it might be my dream.” — REGAN GRAVES

the sea, the rainforest and the outback. Being on TV wasn’t the only perk of being a contest winner. Regan also got to tour the Fox45 studio with her mom, Cathy Graves, and she received a punch card for 52 free chicken sandwiches or chicken strips and a red jacket that identifies her as a Chick-fil-A kid correspondent. But the best part of the experience was meeting anchor Shelley Orman, who took a selfie with

Regan after offering some advice. “She gave me some tips, like making sure you look at the camera, and make sure you smile big,” Regan said. “She also said there’s nothing to be nervous about.” Cathy was grateful for the opportunity. “It was a great experience being able to go there with the 42 other kids,” she said. “I was able to go with Regan on the tour, and it was a great experience seeing what happens behind the scenes.” Now that she is off the air, Regan has her mind set on getting back to the anchor desk. “I want to be a broadcaster,” Regan said. “I feel like it might be my dream.”

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. Weiss' class at Folger McKinsey Elementary School answered the question:

If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be?

I want a new holiday: National Friendship Day.
Aiden P.

The Kids Yes Day Holiday. Every kid gets what they would like and there is no school.
Bella K.

Lazy Monday. You know how everybody's always tired and lazy on a Mon-



Ms. Weiss' fifth-grade class at Folger McKinsey Elementary School answered the question "If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be?"

Folger McKinsey Elementary School

day morning? Every Monday is a day off! So stay in your pajamas and be lazy!
Conner W.

Pet Day where you do something for a pet or a pet shelter. For example, donating money to a pet shelter or getting your pet a new toy!
Ella B.

World War I Day should be on the day World War I ended, and we could celebrate World War I day annually.
Fletcher W.

I think Son Day because all sons should be appreciated by everyone! I think that so we will have assistants and we can

tell our assistants to get something.
Isaac G.

Children's Appreciation Day where adults appreciate children.
James G.

Children's Day U.S.
Jimmy C.

Baby Day. I would make a

Baby Day to celebrate all the babies in the world.
Lilli H.

If I could create my own holiday, it would be Play Outside Day.
Lilly W.

Fun Day! Everybody has fun, and if you're not having fun, go have some fun!
Linnia W.

If I could create a new holiday it would be Fall Day. I choose this because the first day of fall is my birthday, and who wants to have school on your birthday?
London H.

My holiday would be State Day! Celebrate your state's features.
Madeline J.

National Labra-

doodle Day.
Maggie D.

I think that there should be a new holiday called Fifth-Grade Day. I think that because fifth-graders are amazing.
Paul B.

No School Week. There are only two breaks in the year.
Rachel R.

I would make a present day when everybody comes in and gives everyone presents.
Reese D.

Pay Day, a week off before school and two weeks off after Pay Day. You get to give people gifts, but the gift is \$5 and you give a note telling the person why you chose them.
Seth M.

Well, there has to be a Harry Potter holiday!
Shannon Z.

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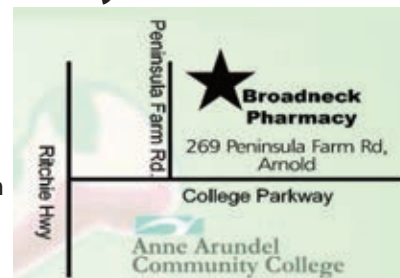
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Jones Elementary To Delight Audiences With “Willy Wonka Jr.”

The delicious adventures of Willy Wonka’s chocolate factory will light up the stage during Jones Elementary’s captivating adaptation of Roald Dahl’s fantastical tale from March 15 through 17.

Featuring the enchanting songs from the 1971 film in addition to a host of fun new songs, Dahl’s “Willy Wonka Jr.” is a scrumdilious musical guaranteed to delight everyone’s sweet tooth. “Willy Wonka Jr.” follows enigmatic candy manufacturer Willy Wonka as he stages a contest by hiding golden tickets in five of his scrumptious candy bars. Whoever finds these tickets will win a free tour of the Wonka factory, as well as a lifetime supply of candy. Four of the five winning children are insufferable brats, but the fifth is a likable young lad named Charlie Bucket, who takes the tour in the company of his equally amiable grandfather. The children must learn to follow Mr. Wonka’s rules in the factory — or suffer the consequences!

Twenty-eight students are cast, with nearly 15 stage crew members, dozens of volunteers, and faculty making the ambitious production possible. Tommy Engstrom stars as Willy Wonka, Destiny Felder as Charlie Bucket, Stevie Degnan as Grandpa Joe, Lila Patton as Veruca Salt, and Brooklyn LaBrier as Violet Beauregarde. The

cast has been rehearsing, acting, singing and choreographing three times a week since November. The set will consist of two designs — one at Jones Elementary for the first three performances, and a multi-dimensional version for the fourth and final performance at Stage & Screen Studios in Millersville, which will present an exceptionally unique educational experience for the cast and crew, and a mesmerizingly entertaining one for the audience.

The show is directed by longtime television and theater veteran Pete Garvey, owner of Stage & Screen Studios, with musical direction from Jones music teacher Charlene Beyerlein, and choreography by Abbie Smith, an SPHS ninth-grade theater phenom and Jones alumnus. Producing the show are three fifth-grade parents: Jen Degnan, Kim LaBrier and Eloise Patton.

“Willy Wonka Jr.” is fun for all ages. Four shows are offered, with the first three at Jones Elementary — March 15 at 7:00pm; March 16 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm; and March 17 at 2:00pm at Stage & Screen Studios. Tickets go on sale to the public on February 26: \$7.50 for adults; \$5 for children under 10. Purchases can be made by contacting joneswonkaplaytickets@gmail.com or at the door. For more information, contact Jen Degnan at jendegnan13@gmail.com or 773-251-6026.

Broadneck High School Pays Tribute To ABBA With “Mamma Mia”



Broadneck’s talented music students took the stage the weekends of February 21-23 and March 1-2 with an upbeat production of the musical “Mamma Mia,” inspired by the hit songs of ABBA. A cast of nearly 50 singers, dancers and actors appeared in the show, which told the story of a bride-to-be who accidentally stirs up trouble when she invites three of her mom’s old boyfriends to the wedding with the hopes of finding her father.

Photos courtesy of Mark Owens

SPES Teacher Rich Wiles Wins Award

» Continued from B11

we’re giving away free curriculum to any school system, and we’re making it equitable for every school system,” Wiles said. “We’re giving the same high-class curriculum that Anne Arundel County pays a good amount of money to, to we now have 54,000 educators using it.”

Through OPEN, Wiles

travels around the country to present in front of districts and implementation centers of physical instruction.

Wiles said his favorite part of being a physical education teacher is working with the next generation.

“I like trying to prepare your community for another generation of students, and

hopefully they want to be physically active and want to continue being physically active, which is definitely needed in the United States right now,” Wiles said.

Wiles will accept the Mabel Lee Award on April 11 at the SHAPE America National Convention, which will be held in Tampa, Florida, this year.

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Midshipmen Help Build Relationships At SPES

By Maya Pottiger

As part of its School Improvement Plan, Severna Park Elementary wanted to focus on building relationships with students.

The school implemented numerous practices to develop relationships: all classes now begin the day with a morning meeting; a handful of students have faculty mentors to eat lunch and touch base with during the school day; and now, on Thursdays, four midshipmen visit designated fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms.

“We really wanted them to work with the fifth grade and the fourth grade because we’ve been having some respect concerns,” said school guidance counselor Katie McCord. “There’s something about when these guys come in the room and they sit next to you that makes kids straighten up and really think about what they say before they say something. It’s pretty awesome.”

The four midshipmen — Scott Tanner, Ethan Wheeler, Evan Doe and Jack Bambury — volunteered for the program through the Naval Academy.

Doe said he heard about the program from his classmates, and he heard only great things.

“It sounded like a great way to experience something outside the campus, especially as an underclassman,” Doe said. “It sounded like a fun way to



Left: Midshipman Scott Tanner worked with a small group of students on a math lesson. **Right:** Midshipman Jack Bambury served as a helping hand while a student worked on a project.

volunteer and to get to see the community outside the Naval Academy a little bit more.”

All four midshipmen agreed that the program adds a breath of fresh air to their hectic schedules and allows them to connect with the community in ways they can’t through the academy.

“You’re in a bubble at school. Volunteering with kids gives an opportunity to give a positive reinforcement of somebody in a uniform,” Tanner said. “When you wear a uniform, people mostly see the uniform, so it could give them something to work toward or give them a positive reinforcement and maybe some inspiration.”

In the classroom, the midshipmen help however the teacher decides is necessary for the day. Sometimes they are helping hands during activities, and other times they work with small groups of students who may be strug-



gling with the lessons. During the first visit, students asked the midshipmen a lot of questions.

“Almost immediately after you introduce yourself, they become really comfortable,” Wheeler said.

Now students look forward to the midshipmen’s visits.

“To be able to come out here on a weekday and see normal life and interact with kids, it’s a nice break.”

— MIDSHIPMAN JACK BAMBURY

The midshipmen are helping students to rise above, be respectful and feel connected, McCord said.

However, the experience is also helping the midshipmen feel connected, as well.

“At the Naval Academy, you’re totally in your own bubble, and it’s totally easy to forget that normal life happens sometimes. It’s so unique over there,” Bambury said. “To be able to come out here on a weekday and see normal life and interact with kids, it’s a nice break.”

SPHS Juniors Connect With Community

» Continued from B11 their buddy must be a character in the story.

“This project often brings out the best in our students, and showcases how thoughtful, responsive, kind and creative they can be,” said Brigid Harrington, an English teacher at SPHS.

Though the project is beneficial to the elementary school students, it also has an impact on the high school students.

“We are fortunate in Severna Park in that many of our students are members of families that are financially secure; this isn’t the case, however, even just a few miles up the road,” Harrington said. “It’s good for our students to gain a broader perspective of the challenges that some folks face and deepen their feelings of empathy.”

After visiting the schools, students noticed that these facilities weren’t guaranteed to have all the same resources, like school supplies.

A Letter Goes A Long Way For Green Hornets Player

» Continued from B11 Wojciechowski, who responded by sending A.J. the letter. In the days since, coaches and teammates have praised A.J., a St. John the Evangelist second-grader, for the enthusiasm and excitement he brought to the court even though he couldn’t play ball.

“He came to every game after that,” said Bill Trevillian, A.J.’s basketball coach. “Every game after that, he showed up with his cast on and was involved with the scoreboard and making sure the other kids on the team were following their assignments.”

While the team lost a player, it gained an assistant coach from the injury. “He’s a really enthusiastic kid about basketball, that’s for sure,” Trevillian said of A.J. “He would’ve played with his cast on if we would’ve let him.”

A.J., who played shooting guard for the White Hornets, said his favorite basketball player is Chris Paul of the Houston Rockets. The Kirchner family loves to watch college basketball and the NBA as well.

“He took to basketball on his own. We put a court in the backyard for him and it kind of came natural to him,” said A.J.’s dad, Greg Kirchner.

The White Hornets season may be over, but that won’t deter A.J. from his love of basketball. If a broken wrist couldn’t slow him down, an offseason won’t either. He’ll be back on the court in no time.

Through a spokesman for the Marquette University men’s basketball team, Wojciechowski declined to comment for this article because he didn’t write the letter to receive any recognition.

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SPHS Seniors Flaunt Their Fashion During Fundraiser



Photos by Stephanie Mennell Photography

Given the theme “Once Upon A Time,” Severna Park High School seniors impressed with their prom dresses and tuxedos during the Key Club’s annual Prom Fashion Show in February. The event raised money for March of Dimes, an organization that aims to improve the health of mothers and babies, and would have not been possible without help from David’s Bridal, Men’s Wearhouse, Image Creators, Face It! Spa and Wellness, and Fabu’ Salon and Spa.

Do It For The Kids: Bruin Dance-A-Thon Supports Johns Hopkins

By Jillian Amodio

Students and teachers at Broadneck High School are busting a move, but they’re not looking to get attention for themselves. To raise funds for sick kids, Broadneck is hosting the second annual Bruin Dance-A-Thon on March 15 from 4:00pm to 10:00pm in the main gym.

Proceeds from the event will go to the Children’s Miracle Network, which will deliver the funds to Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Baltimore. That money will be invested in critical treatments, health care services, pediatric medical equipment and charitable care.

Broadneck alumna Emily Taylor developed the idea last year as a high school senior. She consulted Broadneck High health, physical education and dance department chair Melissa Quigley, and together they discovered that their zip code’s Children’s Miracle Network hospital was Johns Hopkins Children’s Center.

After touring the facility, Taylor and Quigley saw firsthand how their



Last year’s Bruin Dance-A-Thon raised \$13,239 for Children’s Miracle Network, which gave the proceeds to Johns Hopkins Children’s Center in Baltimore.

fundraiser could help children at Johns Hopkins. The inaugural dance-a-thon invited donors to an evening of games, friendly contests and, of course, dancing. The year-long effort raised \$13,239.

“Starting [the] dance marathon was a challenge, but it was something I really wanted to bring to our school, so I never gave up,” Taylor said. “It was the best experience I had in high school and something I am very proud of. There were lots of bumps in the road and tears shed to my mom behind closed doors, but once it was over, I couldn’t have been happier with the results!”

The goal for the second Bruin Dance-A-Thon is \$15,000. This year, a dedicated committee of students is working throughout the school year to do monthly fundraisers. They actively strive to recruit students, teams and clubs to sign up on the donor drive to raise money for the fundraisers. As an incentive to get involved, prizes are awarded to individuals and teams who collect the most money. It becomes a good-natured competitive way of supporting a good cause.

The night of the Dance-A-Thon is a true celebration of all the fundraising efforts that have gone on throughout the school year. Participants are encouraged to be on their feet. Whereas traditional college dance-a-thons that inspired this event typically last 12 to 24 hours, this is considered a mini-thon and runs for only six hours. A variety of free events and activities are planned for the night of the dance-a-thon: instructor-led Zumba classes, a lip sync battle, Hungry Hippo game, Minute to Win It games, limbo contest, tug of war, cornhole and more. The Broadneck Dance Company will perform and lead the morale dance every hour. The morale dance was choreographed specifically for this event by the Broadneck dance company. The morale dance is traditionally led at the top of every hour and includes everyone in attendance. All food provided at the event is free courtesy of donations made by community members and businesses. These donations ensure that all money goes to Johns Hopkins.

Nguyen, Duncan Earn Eagle Rank

» Continued from B11

a better person.”

For his Eagle project, Aaron built and installed a wheelchair-accessible outdoor table for the Cisco Center, which specializes in working with students diagnosed with autism, developmental disabilities, speech or language disorders, and learning disabilities.

Cisco Nochera, executive director and founder of the Cisco Center Foundation Inc., met Aaron as a 3-year-old. “He was always a very sweet and caring child who always looked out for others,” Nochera said. “This characteristic has continued to this day. He reached out to me on his own and offered to give back in the form of a wheelchair-accessible picnic table. The table is wonderful and will be put to good use throughout the year, especially in the warmer months.”

Aaron said the table will allow children using wheelchairs to join in the outdoor activities. “Now all children will be able to sit together at an activity table,” he added.

Dominick shared a story of seeing an elderly man at his church, Magothy United Methodist Church on Mountain Road in Pasadena, who had difficulty walking the campus grounds. For his Eagle project, Dominick built and installed two sitting benches along a pathway to the church’s chapel.

“I thought it would be helpful for people who couldn’t walk as easily as I can to have a place to sit, relax and just kind of enjoy the outdoors,” said Dominick. “With the help of my troop, we were able to build the benches in one day and carry them to their installation spot the next day.”

Sitting in the front row, Dominick’s great-grandparents dabbed tear-filled eyes for their grandson. “I am the first person in my family to achieve this honor,” said Dominick, “so it’s pretty special.”

For Renee Burton, Dominick’s great-grandmother, the recognition followed years of supporting Dominick’s scouting goals. “I am just so proud of him. He’s overcome so much,” said Renee.

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Local Teens Soar To Eagle Scout Status With Local Projects



For his Eagle Scout project, C.J. Snyder helped build a patio and picnic benches where Orphan Grain Train volunteers can relax and enjoy meals outdoors.

By Jillian Amodio

Boy Scouts nationwide are taught to be prepared and to help other people at all times, and that’s exactly what Troop 993 members Conrad Welle and Curvin “C.J.” Snyder did in advance of earning their Eagle Scout honors on March 30.

Snyder’s Eagle Scout project supported Orphan Grain Train on East-West Boulevard in Millersville. He wanted to help the countless volunteers who offer their time and efforts

there daily. He organized a group of about 15 volunteers who together completed more than 70 hours of work to build a patio and picnic benches where volunteers can relax and enjoy meals outdoors.

The teen has always loved the outdoors and got involved in scouts in middle school. Besides his Eagle Scout project, the highlight of his scouting career was his time at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

Conrad Welle graduated from St. Martins-in-the-Field Episcopal School in

2015. The school provided a positive influence in his life and he knew he wanted to give back. Welle conceived the idea of building a “mud kitchen” and two child-sized picnic tables after headmaster Jamey Hein mentioned a need for playground equipment. After Hein showed Welle an idea of what the school needed, Welle expanded the concept and brought it to life.

“The project was tough but enjoyable,” Welle said, “and in the end, it benefited my community, and holds a special place in my heart.”

Welle started his scouting journey at 6 years old, progressing through the ranks of Cub Scouts until “bridging over” to Boy Scouts at the age of 11. “I was able to achieve my life goal of earning the rank of Eagle, which is something only 2 percent of scouts ever achieve, and it is a very self-fulfilling journey, and one that taught me to be a confident leader,” Welle said.

When asked how he plans to carry lessons learned in scouts into his future, Welle responded, “All of the traits and ideals that scouts has instilled in me will have a lifelong impact. Scouts taught me to be myself and to be bold and take whatever life throws at you in



Conrad Welle conceived the idea of building a “mud kitchen” and two child-sized picnic tables at St. Martin’s-in-the-Field Episcopal School.

stride. With what I have taken from scouts, I hope to take that into my years in college.”

Welle plans to attend Anne Arundel Community College and then obtain an auto mechanics certification from the Community College of Baltimore County, a plan that will allow him to pursue his love of cars as a career.

Troop 993 has a long history of encouraging its scouts to be the best they can be. More than 70 scouts have emerged as Eagle Scouts under the guidance and support of this troop.

Girls Joined Linked Troop 995



In February, Troop 995 from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Arnold celebrated a historic moment: the creation of a linked troop for girls. The seven girls who founded the new linked troop, which is part of the program now called Scouts BSA, are Aubrielle Campbell, Mia Chapman, Zoe Clarke, Heather Doyen, Lela Humphrey, Allie Michaud and Meghan Myers, all from the Broadneck peninsula. Four of the girls have brothers in the troop and are excited to join them in earning merit badges and ranks and learning leadership skills. Bill Doyen, who has served as an assistant scoutmaster of Troop 995 for the past four years, has assumed the role of scoutmaster of the new linked troop.

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SPRWC
Seeks
Scholarship
Applicants

The Severna Park Republican Women's Club is accepting entries for its annual essay contest for the Marjorie Holt Scholarship of \$1,000. Senior girls who reside in and attend high school in Anne Arundel County and who plan to attend college in the fall of 2019 are invited to participate in the scholarship award contest.

Contestants are asked to submit an essay of 750 words or fewer on following quote: "No problem of human making is too great to be overcome by human ingenuity, human energy and the untiring hope of the human spirit." — George H. W. Bush, 41st president

Write an essay of your opinion of the above quote and how you believe the Republican Party is responding to the elements of the statement. The guidelines for the essay are as follows: font size 12, Times New Roman font, double spaced, PDF documents. Include your name, address, telephone number, the high school you attend and the college you plan to attend in the fall of 2019 with your essay.

Email your entry to sprepublicansmd@gmail.com on or before March 20. Late responses will not be accepted.

SPMS To Present Family Musical “James And The Giant Peach Jr.”

Sometimes big adventures get a little sticky. But that's what you should expect from an international voyage inside an exceptionally large piece of fruit. Severna Park Middle School will present "James and the Giant Peach Jr.," the latest musical adaptation based on the renowned Roald Dahl children's story, during four family-friendly performances from March 29-31.

Follow James and his crew of invertebrate characters as they cross oceans, soar in the sky, and encounter a series of sweet encounters and outrageous pit-falls. The adventure begins in the south of England, but you won't believe where it ends.

Sixty-three students are cast, with nearly 20 tech



crew members, and dozens of volunteers and faculty members making the ambitious production possible. **Andrew Kessler** stars as James, **Parijita Bastola** as the Earthworm, **Olivia**



Making the production possible are 63 students in the cast, nearly 20 tech crew members, and dozens of volunteers and faculty members.

Blake as the Ladybug, **Joseph Schroeder** as the Centipede, **Annabelle Wellschlager** as the Spider, **Lainey Ordakowski** as Sponge, **Paige Davis** as Spiker, and **Gianna Dicks** as Ladahlord.

"It's a very family friendly show," said Gianna, who believes that her voice, acting and dance lessons have prepared her well for her part. "I like that my character is kooky and spooky."

Her fellow actors are also embracing their roles.

"I like that I'm a father figure to James, just very optimistic," said eighth-grader **Jack Miller**, who plays the Grasshopper. Jack's experience includes musical workshops at Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore.

Lainey said, "It definitely pushes me out of my comfort zone. I have to yell at people and push people out of my

way, which is weird for me. [To prepare], I took other people's flaws and things I didn't like seeing in people."

Olivia has one of the more cheerful roles as Ladybug. "I usually play younger characters, but I get to be mature and play the mother figure to James."

More than 100 singers and dancers auditioned for the musical in early January, with the cast diving immediately into a grueling schedule of more than 40 rehearsals. A creative set design project also began later that month.

SPMS's Spartan Lyrical Society, the nonprofit organization that supports vocal, drama, and musical theater at the middle school, presents a unique twist on the Dahl story with a classic, vaudevillian circus theme integrated into the set design and costumes.

The show is directed by

theater veteran **Atticus Boidy**, with musical direction from SPMS chorus teacher **Sara Metcalfe**. **Morgan Gingerich** is the choreographer, and **Kathy Falk** is the producer.

"James and the Giant Peach Jr." is fun for all ages. Four shows are offered — Friday, March 29, at 7:00pm; Saturday, March 30, at 2:00pm and 7:00pm; and Sunday, March 31, at 2:00pm. Tickets go on sale to the public on March 15 for \$10. Group sales are offered. Purchases can be made at www.spmssings.org or at the door (subject to availability). Last year's performances were sold out.

Severna Park Middle School is located at 450 Jumpers Hole Road.

"Overall, it's a happy show, but some parts of it will make you cry," said Andrew, an eighth-grader.

Shipley's Choice PTA To Hold
First Beads & Bids Benefit

The Shipley's Choice Elementary School PTA will hold its inaugural adult social fundraiser, the Beads & Bids Benefit, on Saturday, March 9, from 7:00pm to 11:00pm at Kurtz's Beach (2070 Kurtz Avenue in Pasadena). The Mardi Gras soiree and silent auction will bring parents, teachers and the general community together for an exciting evening in support of the PTA's student

enrichment endeavors.

Join the PTA for creole-inspired cuisine, jazzy jams and dazzling dance moves, rousing raffles and awesome auction items, Bourbon Street specialties and, of course, beads! Tickets start at \$65 for non-PTA members and are sold online, not at the door. Visit www.shipleyschoicpta.member-shiptoolkit.com for more information.



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March 15th Red Dirt Revolution	March 30th Bad w/ Names	April 19th It's All Good
March 16th Bye Felicia	April 5th Square 1	April 20th Amish Outlaws
March 22nd Radio Graffiti	April 6th Trilogy	April 26th Reagan Years
March 23rd Under the Covers	April 12th New Romance	April 27th Sonic Daze

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Tuesday



HAPPY HOUR
3-7PM
CHARM CITY TRIVIA
7pm-9pm

Wednesday



Happy Hour
3-7pm, 10c Wine Up 5-9pm, Craft Beer Night (All craft beers happy hour prices all day), \$10.99 Prime Night (10oz Prime Rib w/ mashed potatoes), Live Acoustic Music w/ Justin Ryan 5-9pm

Thursday



Happy Hour
3-7pm, \$2 Domestic Drafts, 1/2 Price Bottles of Wine, \$6 Burger Night 30 Second Rocks Bingo 7-9pm \$5 Crushes ALL Day, Ladies Night \$2 Drink Specials

Friday



HAPPY HOUR
11am-7pm
LIVE ACOUSTIC MUSIC 5-9PM, LIVE BAND ON STAGE AT 10PM

Saturday



HAPPY HOUR
11am-7pm
LIVE BAND ON STAGE at 10pm

Sunday



Happy Hour ALL Day
(Drinks Only), 50c Mimosas, \$4 Bloody Marys