

2019 JULY FOURTH PARADE EDITION



Highlights Of The Morning

This year's parade featured nearly 100 floats and walking units. Find out which ones caught the eyes of the judges and received prizes for their patriotic designs.



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Bring It On: Severna Park Cheers On The Annual Fourth Of July Parade



By Dylan Roche

Those who have lived in Severna Park long enough know that the annual Fourth of July parade is a rain-or-shine event. And

even with thunderstorms ominously in the forecast and heavy pre-storm humidity hanging in the air, community members still gathered by the thousands on the morning of Independence Day as if to say,

“Bring it on!”

Such a greeting is only appropriate for this year’s installment of the 44-year tradition, which was themed “Let Freedom (B)ring

» Continued on page 4

Congrats To The Winners!

Best Overall

Olde Severna Park Improvement Association

Best Theme

Orphan Grain Train

Most Patriotic

Nathaniel McDavitt Memorial Flag

Best Commercial

- 1 Pedal Pushers
- 2 Garry's Grill
- 3 Chick-fil-A

Best Community

- 1 Carrollton Manor
- 2 West Severna Park

Best Nonprofit Organization

- 1 American Legion Post 175
- 2 Chartwell Foundation
- 3 **TIE** – Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church and – Toast of Severna Park Toastmasters Club

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Bring It On: Severna Park Cheers On The Annual Fourth Of July Parade



» Continued from page 2

— Celebrating America's and Our Community's Generosity." Just as Severna Park residents never fail to support good causes, give time and money to charitable organizations, and support small businesses by shopping local, those residents showed the same steadfast loyalty to the parade.

Organized by the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce, with hours of effort put in by CEO Liz League and operations manager Petra Ligmond, the parade highlighted all aspects of local life with nearly 100 floats and walking units entered by businesses, clubs, neighborhoods, civic groups, elected officials, sports teams and other organizations.

This year's grand marshal for the parade was Dianna Lancione, owner of the *Severna Park Voice*, who rode alongside her husband, Lonnie, in leading the procession. The Lanciones stepped up to run the

» Continued on page 7



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Bring It On: Severna Park Cheers On The Annual Fourth Of July Parade



» Continued from page 4

Severna Park Voice in 1996 following the death of Dianna's grandmother, Margueritte Mills, who founded the paper. In the years since, Dianna and Lonnie have served as a hub of community connectivity, celebrating good news around town while offering advertising opportunities to small businesses.

The morning's procession served as a great show of community pride and American patriotism with all of its entries, which were adjudicated by a panel of volunteer judges (see the list of winners on page 2). For a little over two hours, thousands of spectators cheered as they watched their friends and neighbors go past.

And as luck would have it, the rain held off just long enough for the entire duration of the parade.

**Happy Fourth of July,
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Decorated Bike Contest Offers Young People A Way To Participate



Three-year-old Goyo Ordonio rode along in the basket of his decorated bike.



Nine young cyclists were awarded in the decorated bike contest in the categories of most original, beautiful and patriotic.

Congrats To All The Winners!

Most Original

- 1 Nathan Griffin
- 2 Jonah Downey
- 3 Andrew and Isaac Shoemaker

Most Beautiful

- 1 Piper Allee
- 2 Grace Strzeyowski
- 3 Lola Rice

Most Patriotic

- 1 Carson Allee
- 2 Carter Campbell
- 3 Bannett Wallace



Nathan Griffin (right), who entered the contest with his sister Chloe Griffin, received first place in the category of most original.



Lola Rice, who won third place in the most beautiful category, said her favorite part of her design was the patriotic mane and horn on her unicorn.

While the nearly 100 entries participating in this year's parade were lining up at St. Martin's-in-the-Field and Our Shepherd Lutheran, a different type of lineup was forming on Holly Avenue right outside the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce office. A crowd of youth ages 3 to 11 had brought their patriotically festooned bicycles, unicycles and scooters to participate in the annual decorated bike contest. In addition to competing for the distinct honors of most original, most beautiful and most patriotic, the youngsters also had the chance to show off their creations by riding the last leg of the parade route with the rest of the



Avery Jackson, who painted her face to match her bike, was proud of the pinwheel she used to festoon her ride.



The Dornblaser sisters — Gemma, Isla and Everleigh — decked out their bikes with streamers and flags. They spent about two hours on their creations.

» Continued on page 12

Decorated Bike Contest Offers Young People A Way To Participate

» Continued from page 11

procession.

"Everyone loves watching the parade, but when you can be in the parade, it adds something more to the celebration," said Colette Barnes, who has helped organize and run the decorated bike contest for about 10 years.

The contest always brings out a star-spangled show of ingenuity, and this year was no exception. **Nathan Griffin** won the award for most original; **Piper Allee**'s bike was named the most beautiful; and finally, **Carson Allee** took the award for most patriotic. Prizes for the contest were donated by Franklin's Toys and Chick-fil-A.

Once again, a great time was had by all involved. "The kids have a lot of fun with it," Barnes added, "and I think the volunteers always seem to have fun too." ■





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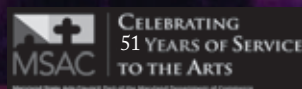
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Communities Continue Tradition Of Decorating Parade Floats



By Maya Pottiger

Before the cookouts and fireworks, Severna Park residents celebrate the Fourth of July by lining the streets to watch the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce's parade go by.

There are many staples of the parade: free candy getting tossed to spectators, antique cars taking a spin, and the decorated parade floats.

While many businesses register to have floats in the parade, residential communities often volunteer to put together floats as well.

This was the first time in three years that the Carrollton Manor neighborhood had a parade float. One afternoon, Kristin Bloom and her two daughters brought bags of art supplies to an open area in the neighborhood to start assembling the display.

"I just wanted to get something together that we could reuse every year," Bloom said.

Carrollton Manor's float boasted a canvas with handprints from community members, streamers and a handmade American flag skirt around the trailer. The float also featured karaoke, patriotic music and someone dressed as the Statue of Liberty.

The floats were all judged in a variety of categories. This year's theme was Let Freedom (B)ring — Celebrating America's and Our Community's Generosity.

For Carrollton Manor residents, the goal was just to have fun.

» Continued on page 21



Community members took a lot of pride in their Fourth of July parade floats and spent days assembling them.



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Happy 4th of July 2019



Communities Continue Tradition Of Decorating Parade Floats



» Continued from page 18

At Olde Severna Park, Dawn and DJ Gile have headed up the float decorating for the past three years. This year, the float was a Revolutionary War fort dubbed Fort Olde Severna Park. It was made of recycled planks

from the old pier at the beach. On July 3, community members gathered at the beach to help decorate and put the final touches on the float, which DJ constructed in the days prior. "It's a great way to meet new neighbors," said Shawn Wise, who has lived

in the community for five years. "The kids love watching the construction. It's good to have the kids watch the parents. This is going to be their beach someday, so it's good to set the bar high." Community members riding the

float were decked out in costumes featuring period pieces and powdered wigs. "So many people in the community come to watch this, and a lot of it is wanting to make it worthwhile for them to come out," DJ said. ■

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GSPACC Follows Up PARADE WITH STAR-SPANGLED RESTAURANT WEEK



By Maya Pottiger

After the Fourth of July celebrations wind down, add some flavor to your summer with the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce's Star-Spangled Restaurant Week.

Restaurant Week began on Sunday, July 7, and runs through Saturday, July 13. More than 10 local restaurants are participating: La Posta Pizzeria & Italian Kitchen, Founders Tavern & Grille, Cafe Mezzanotte, Park Deli, Cafe Bretton, Romilo's Restaurant & Bar, East West Bistro, Park Tavern, Garry's Grill, Hellas Restaurant and Lounge, Ledo Pizza, Adam's Taphouse and Grille, Car-

rabba's, and Cakes and Confections Bakery Cafe.

"Restaurant Week is very important as it is a way to drive traffic to our establishments during what typically is a slow period," said chamber CEO Liz League. "It also gives potential customers a chance to try a restaurant at a reduced price on a meal, and the experience may persuade guests to become repeat customers."

During Restaurant Week, establishments are offering a mix of prix-fixe menus and individual specials. The specials are not limited to breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Tommie Koukoulis, owner of Cafe Mezzanotte, said he is proud to participate in Restaurant Week and support the chamber.

"The Severna Park [and] Arnold restaurant community is perhaps small, but we are active and we are passionate," Koukoulis said. "Restaurant Week is an opportunity to remind local diners that we have plenty to offer."

At Cakes and Confections, customers will be offered a free dessert with any combo lunch special.

"It's a great opportunity not only to see some of our regular customers enjoy a free dessert but also to bring in new customers who didn't realize we serve breakfast and lunch," said owner Julianne Brown. "And we always like to support the chamber and encourage people to shop local."

Chris Johnston, director of operations at 206 Restaurant Group, which oversees Park Tavern, said his team is always looking for more ways to be involved in the community.

"Restaurant Week provides us an outlet to highlight some of our chef's specialties while giving our guests a little more variety when they dine with us," Johnston said. "It's a fun way to introduce some new items and highlight things we've been working on for possible upcoming menu items."

Eddie Conway, owner of Garry's Grill, said Restaurant Week provides another way to give back to the community.

"Restaurant Week is a way for us to say thank you to the guests who have patronized my establishment and

also allows us to gain new guests at the same time," Conway said.

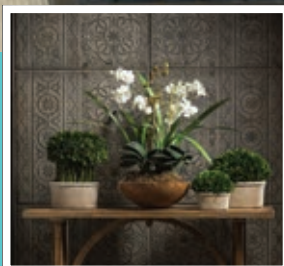
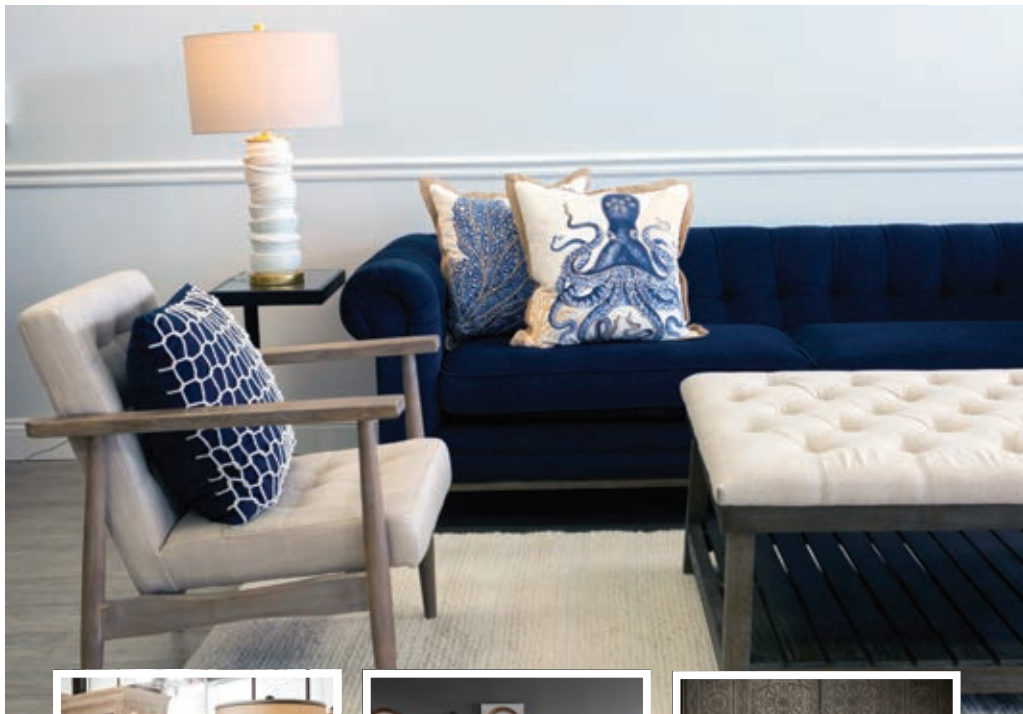
For those who might have forgotten, there is a 10-foot American flag that hangs in Founders Tavern & Grille year-round.

"We are Founders, so we are all about the Fourth of July and this country's rich history," said Janet Sumner, co-owner of Founders.

"What a great way to give our families in the community something to look forward to midsummer between school and vacation breaks, to heal the midsummer woes by having somewhere fun to take the family and experience this great food in our area, and at a discount."

With Severna Park's restaurant scene continuing to grow, League hopes Restaurant Week does, too.

"It is so exciting that our community has grown enough to attract high-quality eateries where we can have a Restaurant Week," League said. "Our goal is to make Restaurant Week a staple in the community and something people and the restaurant owners look forward to each year." ■



Park Home

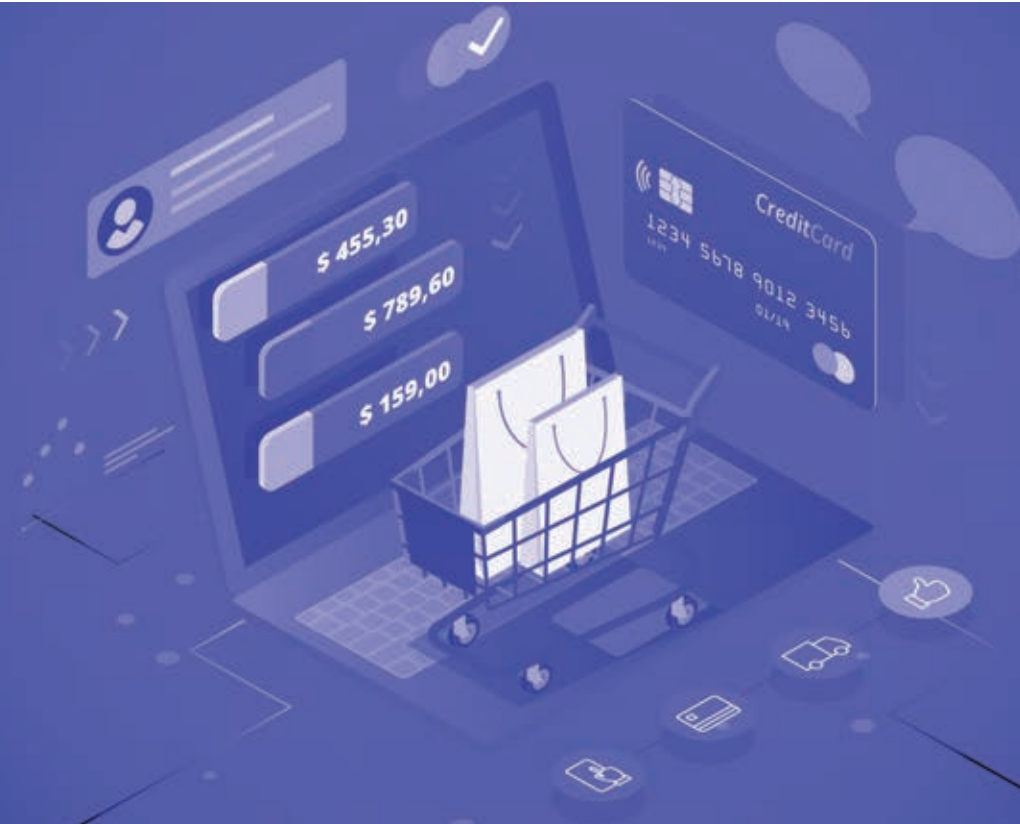
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Making It Happen: Thanks Goes Out To Sponsors And Volunteers

It's no easy task putting together a parade, especially one as big as this one. The Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce manages to make this annual event happen thanks to the generous sponsorship and indomitable volunteerism from people in the community. Here's a list of those who made this year's parade possible — if you see them, be sure to express your gratitude!

» Continued on page 32

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- Petra Ligmond





Making It Happen: Thanks Goes Out To Sponsors And Volunteers

We Asked The Volunteers, "What Do You Love About Being Involved With The Fourth Of July Parade?"

» Continued from page 29

The Fourth of July Parade is a great tradition in Severna Park. It brings the community together in not just a celebration of our independence but also a celebration of all our community has to offer. I have enjoyed volunteering in all different capacities for the parade. I have been a driver for several of the parade guests and some years have been on the grounds at St. Martin's-in-the-Field to help organize the parade entries. The energy and excitement in our great town on the morning of July Fourth is contagious.

— Christine Joyce

For me, the Fourth of July Parade in Severna Park is a great tradition because it shows how alive this community is. So many people line the streets to see this parade. And you also have plenty of businesses and organizations that participate in the parade. It just brings a good vibe to the community. Volunteering is great for the obvious reasons. There's the opportunity to meet new friends and you can't beat the feeling of knowing that you are helping out.

— Jim Fernen

I've been opening St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church for many years to allow those walking in the parade or preparing floats to have access to the bathrooms. The parade is important to me because as I see democracy being challenged in this country and around the world, I'm intent on showing the symbols of our country and its democratic traditions whenever possible.

— Mark Kellogg

I have volunteered to help with paperwork for parade participants behind Our Shepherd for the last five years. My children, now grown, loved watching the parade with friends when they were growing up and even participated in the parade as scouts. I am happy to help because the parade can't happen without lots of anonymous volunteers that are never seen but are vital to its success.

— Debra Staples

Mostly, it is the sense of community I feel each and every year. Just seeing the crowds lined up on each side of Benfield Road is very cool. The atmosphere of the parade feels very local and has a small-town vibe. It is a great tradition because many of the parents in attendance with their children likely attended the parade as children themselves. And finally, there is a sense of national pride as to who we are and that we are part of possibly the greatest nation on earth.

— Rick Sutton

I love the Fourth because it reminds me what is so good about all of us. Family and neighbors, playing and laughing together, and all of us proud of who we are: people from around the world, but each of us an American!

— Maggie Harris

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Theme Of “Let Freedom (B)ring” Celebrates Severna Park’s Charity



With “Let Freedom (B)ring — Celebrating our Country’s and Community’s Generosity” as its theme, this year’s parade highlighted all that Severna Park does to help those in need. In observance of this, we asked a few representatives from local charitable organizations how they see this sentiment reflected every day as they operate in Severna Park.

We love working with the Severna Park community. The support has been so incredible for our cause. I was in awe of the number of volunteers who came out not only for our May Burgers and Bands event but how many called afterward to see how they could help us.

Ann Brennan
Burgers & Bands for Suicide Prevention

Partners In Care would not be who we are without our volunteers, many of whom come from Severna Park. For two years, I have been blessed to be the one to lead Partners In Care into the future. Partners In Care is both grateful and honored to be part of this loyal community for the generosity and support it receives, allowing us to grow and pave the way for us to be here today.

Mandy Arnold
Partners In Care

The Severna Park community has been extremely generous to SPAN over the past three decades. While there



are many worthy charities in the USA, I think people enjoy donating to SPAN and volunteering for SPAN because they feel good knowing that whatever

they give is going directly to help a family in need in this area of Anne Arundel County. This is evidenced by the substantial financial pledges of lo-

cal churches; the outpouring of donations by civic groups, businesses and families; the abundance of sponsors for our holiday caring program and annual turkey trot 5K; and innumerable other acts of kindness. Shop local, give local.

Ellen Kinsella
SPAN (Serving People Across Neighborhoods)

Orphan Grain Train is dedicated to helping needy people in this country and throughout the world. Many people around the world do not have access to education or medical care, and we ship them life-giving, life-saving help. In addition to humanitarian aid across the globe, Orphan Grain Train provides natural disaster relief in this country. Shipments of supplies have been sent to the Carolinas, Florida, Maryland’s Eastern Shore and Puerto Rico, among others. We also operated a medical walkout program from the OGT warehouse in Millersville. Medical equipment like wheelchairs, walkers, canes and hospital beds are available at no cost to people in need in our community.

Linda Zahn
Orphan Grain Train

These and other charitable organizations are supported every day by members of the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce, and without the loyal patronage of our community, that would not be possible. Remember that shopping local leads to giving local — and making our community a better place. ■



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