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# SEVERNA PARK VOICE

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1981

SEVERNA PARK, MD

JULY 2021

## Lacrosse Teams Earn State Titles



**S**everna Park boys lacrosse and Broadneck girls lacrosse celebrated state championships on June 19 at Loyola University's Ridley Athletic Complex in Baltimore. It was the fifth straight title for the Falcons, who beat Catonsville 11-3. A 12-11 win over Anne Arundel County rival Arundel gave the Bruins their first state championship win since 2013. **To read about their seasons, flip to page 19.**



## Earleigh Heights Carnival Returns Through July 10

By Zach Sparks

[zach@severnaparkvoice.com](mailto:zach@severnaparkvoice.com)

**I**f you're traveling on Ritchie Highway during an early July evening, you're bound to spot the Ferris wheel towering over the midway. You're likely to smell the aroma of fried dough and powdered sugar. The Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company's annual carnival, which returns this year from July 1 to July 10, is a tradition that dates back to 1945.

"One of the log books from Earleigh Heights company meetings [described how] they had the carnival for two weeks and then the church on Earleigh Heights Road borrowed the carnival stands, and the guys from the firehouse carried them to the church so they could have a carnival for a few days," said Joe Angyelof, president of the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. "It was a neighborhood thing."

Many things have changed in the last seven decades, including the firehouse moving to its current location at the **>> Continued on page 12**



## Eddie Conway Named Fourth Of July Parade Grand Marshal

By Haley Weisgerber

**T**he Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce (GSPACC) is celebrating Independence Day and the reopening of the economy with the annual Fourth of July parade, led this year by Eddie Conway, the owner of Garry's Grill. Conway is being recognized for his charitable efforts during the pandemic.

Conway was surprised when Liz League, the CEO of the GSPACC, asked him to be the grand marshal. Although he was honored, Conway said he was just being himself.

"I might be the face, but they're the reason that I'm the grand marshal, because of all the hard work they put in throughout the years," Conway said of his staff.

**>> Continued on page 12**



*The Garry's Grill owner is being honored for his philanthropic efforts.*

Grab your picnic blanket or beach chair on July 5 at 10:00am to watch the parade move from Benfield to Evergreen to Cypress Creek Road.

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Margueritte Mills  
**Volunteer  
 Of The Month**

## Arnold Veteran Dedicated To Serving Community

By Haley Weisgerber

When Arnold resident and Navy veteran Edgar Parker looks back on his life, he is proud of many things but especially his volunteer efforts.

Parker, who is originally from Massachusetts, graduated from the Naval Academy in 1956. He served until 1960 and settled down in Cape St. Claire in June of 1974 to be near the water and so his children could attend Severna Park High School.

In 1985, Parker began to represent his community at the Eastern District Community Relations Council. He was asked to volunteer as the recording secretary, where he took meeting minutes.

"Some people had a problem, some community members, and this was a good chance for them to come and actually talk to the district captain," Parker said. "Then we kind of straightened it out or told them what they could and couldn't do."

He continued to volunteer for 15 years, but remains a member to this day, representing Woodfield Village off of College Parkway. After retiring from work in 1997, Parker continued his work with the county police by giving his time to the Volunteers in Police Service on Wednesday. For 20 years, Parker assisted in non-enforcement roles with the police department.

After being inspired by a neighbor who ran frequently, Parker joined the Annapolis Striders.

"I eventually got to where I could run 10 miles fairly comfortably," Parker said. "I really do have a bureau full of T-shirts."



Edgar Parker is the Voice's July Volunteer of the Month. He previously won an award for his work on Anne Arundel County trails.

When he could no longer run, he volunteered to assist with parking and managing the finish line at longer races.

From 2009 to 2018, Parker belonged to the Anne Arundel County Public Library Foundation. A self-proclaimed "reader," Parker served a nine-year term where he attended meetings and library events, donated money and helped with fundraising efforts.

Parker was nominated for Volunteer of the Month by the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails (FOAACT.) His involvement with the trail began when he lobbied to Councilman Cliff Roop and Wayne Gilchrist for a trail along College Parkway by Anne Arundel Community College.

"I thought you shouldn't have to have a car to go to the community college," Parker said. "You should be

able to walk or ride a bicycle."

His efforts were successful, and a study was launched to assess the area by College Parkway. Around the same time, he had learned that the Friends of the B&A Trail had changed its name and established the FOAACT. He reached out to get involved to continue working on the Broadneck Trail. He joined the board of directors and administered a boating safety course for 16 years. When the boating course was discontinued, he stayed involved as a representative of the Broadneck Trail and as a Trail-blazer, a group of volunteers who monitor the trails and help people along the way. He continues to make monetary donations and is currently working to install a special water fountain along the trail.

After the first section of the Broadneck Trail was completed in 2012, Parker donated money to build a rest area by the Broadneck Library in memory of Allan and Edie Segree. He has also donated to build a large rest area by Jones Station Road and Peninsula Farm Road in memory of his wife, Jean, and himself.

In 2007, Parker lost his wife to Alzheimer's. This inspired him to help run a monthly Alzheimer's caregivers support group from 2009 to 2018 on top of his other volunteer efforts.

There is no question that Parker has made a substantial difference in this community. He said that he wants people to remember him for the good that he did.

"You have an obligation to help people," Parker explained. "I like to help people, but I feel you have an obligation to help people."

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 SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1981

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Dianna Lancione  
 Lonnie Lancione

### V.P., Operations

Brian Lancione

### V.P., Business Development

Jonathan Katz

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Petra Roche  
 Larry Sells

### Editor

Zach Sparks

### Editorial Assistant

Haley Weisgerber

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Emily Allgair  
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### Columnists

Mary Cobbler  
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 Audrey Ruppert  
 Michele Sabeau

### Contributors

Lisa Bogan-Reohr  
 Brian Conrad  
 Allison Holtz-Caspar  
 Jason LaBarge  
 Sara Miller  
 Stephen Mitchell

### Photographers

Maddy Fangio  
 Wornden Ly

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Please send your news to:  
[spvnews@severnaparkvoice.com](mailto:spvnews@severnaparkvoice.com)

P.O. Box 608  
 Severna Park, MD 21146  
 410-647-9400

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## Calendar

### ONGOING

**Through July 18:** McBride Gallery hosts "Spring Inspirations...A Feast for the Eyes" from 10:00am-5:30pm. Info: 410-267-7077.

**Through Aug 22:** "Elf: The Musical" at Toby's Dinner Theatre. Info: [www.tobysdinnertheatre.com](http://www.tobysdinnertheatre.com).

### JULY

**July 1-10:** Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company carnival from 6:00-11:00pm daily except for July 4. Info: 410-647-1990.

**July 3-11:** Restaurant Week at participating establishments. Info: [www.web.gspacc.com](http://www.web.gspacc.com).

**July 4:** Happy Fourth of July!

**July 5:** Decorated bike contest for kids at the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce office at 1 Holly Avenue. 9:15am-10:00am. Info: [www.web.gspacc.com](http://www.web.gspacc.com).

**July 5:** Independence Day parade from 10:00am-noon. Info: [www.web.gspacc.com](http://www.web.gspacc.com).

**July 6:** Anne Arundel County Council meeting at the Arundel Center in Annapolis at 7:00pm. Info: [www.aacounty.org](http://www.aacounty.org).

**July 7:** Saturday with the SPCA 11:00am-noon via Zoom. Info: [www.aacpl.librarycalendar.com](http://www.aacpl.librarycalendar.com).

**July 9-25:** Colonial Players presents "Love, Loss and What I Wore." Info: [www.thecolonialplayers.org](http://www.thecolonialplayers.org).

**July 12:** Anne Arundel Community College — information session for

adult learners from 4:00-6:00pm. Info: [www.aacpl.librarycalendar.com](http://www.aacpl.librarycalendar.com).

**July 13:** Greater Severna Park Council meeting at 7:30pm via Zoom. Info: [www.gspcouncil.org](http://www.gspcouncil.org).

**July 16-17:** Let's Go! Music Festival at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds from 5:00-11:00pm. Info: 443-822-5871.

**July 18:** Jazz Beyond Borders presents Coniece Washington at Cafe Mezzanotte. 5:00-7:30pm. Info: [www.jazzbeyondborders.com](http://www.jazzbeyondborders.com).

**July 19:** Anne Arundel County Council meeting at the Arundel Center in Annapolis at 6:00pm. Info: [www.aacounty.org](http://www.aacounty.org).

**July 20-22:** Family VBS Fun Fest at Severna Park Baptist Church. 6:30-8:30pm. Info: [office@spbcmd.com](mailto:office@spbcmd.com).





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# Severn River Lions Club Celebrates 65th Anniversary



**Above:** The Severn River Lions Club's board of directors attended an anniversary celebration on June 13. **Right:** The original charter letter from 1956 was placed on display. **Below:** King Lion Chris Werth held up a letter from Governor Larry Hogan.



**By Judy Tacyn**

Since 1956, the Severn River Lions Club has diligently served the community through outreach activities and given generously in time and financial assistance to needy individuals, families and organizations. The club held a celebration on June 13 to commemorate the anniversary while looking



toward the future. It was attended by community leaders, public officials and Lion leaders from several districts.

Officially chartered on March 8, 1956, the Severn River Lions Club was launched by 26 men dedicated to serve the areas bounded by the Magothy River, Severn River, Routes 3 and 50, and Earleigh Heights Road. The new organization was sponsored by the Lions clubs of Catonsville, Brooklyn and Glen Burnie. Women were inducted in 1997 and four have since held the highest honor of King Lion.

Some of the club's accomplishments — according to the anniversary celebration program — include aiding the Maryland School for the Blind, Maryland School for the Deaf, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Severna Park Health Center, Meals on Wheels and SPAN (Serving People Across Neighborhoods). The organization has provided eyeglasses, hearing aids and artificial eyes, installed safe driving signs, organized a civil defense group, sponsored Little League baseball teams, given first aid kits and fire extinguishers to local churches, supplied flags to local scout troops, sponsored Cub Pack 688, and provided financial scholarships to graduating seniors of local high schools.

The Severn River Lions Club is also active internationally. In May 1993, it became a model club for the Lions Clubs International Foundation's (LCIF) Campaign SightFirst. Their goal was exceeded and Campaign SightFirst received a two-year total of \$23,000. The example was broadcast to all U.S.-based clubs as a template and recommendation. In 2006, the group again became a model club in the Campaign SightFirst II initiative.

Other accolades include spearheading a pilot program for the Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP), which was adopted by LCIF to bring information and education to the local citizens in search of help in sight conservation and related programs. The club has assisted Habitat for Humanity, district projects, Lions Association for Sight and Hearing (LASH), contributed to the building of an outdoor pavilion at the Maryland School for the Blind, and supported the Lions Vision Research Foundation at the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute.

Over the years, one member has literally seen it all. Ray Smith joined the Severna Park Lions in 1963 after an invitation from a neighbor to attend a meeting. Smith holds the honorable distinction of being the longest-serving Lion. Smith is proud of the many ways

the Lions can support the community. He has held numerous roles in his 58 years of service, but he most enjoyed serving as the scholarship chairman.

"I thoroughly enjoy learning about and working with the young people," said Smith. "I love to watch them progress in their education and into fine adults who also serve their communities."

Severn River Lions Club President Chris Werth, a member since 1984, is excited about the club's future. After a year of quarantine, "I am very hopeful that we will be back to actively serving our community and neighbors in need through our various service projects," Werth said. "Of course, our hallmark is sight and hearing, and glasses and hearing aids. That's what we are known for," he continued, "but we are always open to new projects and new members."

To learn more about the many initiatives and fundraising activities of the Lions, or to get more involved by sharing your time and talent as a member, visit [www.severnriverlions.org](http://www.severnriverlions.org).

Starting in July, members will once again gather in person for their monthly dinner meeting at the Severna Park Legion Post 175 in Manhattan Beach. To attend, contact [SRLC@severnriverlions.org](mailto:SRLC@severnriverlions.org).

## SPAN: Watching The Community Work Together

**Michele Sabean**  
Director of  
Development  
SPAN Inc.



*No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it.* ~Halford E. Luccock

A month ago, I started working at SPAN, and daily I am reminded of the many people who do

something, no matter how small, to help others and how all those little actions are combined to form something truly amazing. At the quiet moments at the end of the day, I like reflecting on the number of people who were here at some point and played a part in the help that SPAN provides to local families with eviction prevention, utility turn-offs, medical bills and food.

We have incredible volunteers who consistently give a few hours at a time to talk with our clients to understand

their needs or who keep our food pantry well stocked and organized. There are also community members who stop by with donations — and as our volunteers unpack and sort the food, I can see how each set of bags adds up to fill our shelves.

It is fun to think of all the ways the community works together to make things happen. Many mornings when we arrive, there are food donations in our storage bin behind the building. The bin is available 24-7 to receive food donations. Recently, someone

came by with collard greens from their garden and one of our clients later left with fresh produce in addition to his family's boxes of food. This is a great opportunity for any extra vegetables from your garden to find a good home. If you are dropping off fresh food, please do

so during our hours Monday through Thursday 10:00am-12:45pm.

Later, a car came by with several boxes of food that their church congregation, one of our 13 member churches, had donated. At another point, a car pulled up with a bag of donations including items I had just posted on our Facebook and Amazon wish lists. The day's mail brought beautiful handmade cards, with inspirational sayings, from a local high school student. These cards are packed with the food to let our clients know that someone

is thinking of them.

These daily contributions are combined with food drives, fundraisers and other donations from the community. One of the great aspects of my job is seeing how all these pieces come together to make a big impact. The support

“The support has been amazing during the pandemic and that continued support will be very helpful in the coming months in the transition out of the state of emergency.”

has been amazing during the pandemic and that continued support will be very helpful in the coming months in the transition out of the state of emergency.

I look forward to being out in the community during the Severna Park Independence Day Parade on July 5! Look for SPAN in the parade. We will be collecting food and financial donations.

SPAN (Serving People Across Neighborhoods) is an independent nonprofit food pantry and emergency services provider that has been helping local families with eviction prevention, utility turnoffs, medical/prescription bills, and food since 1990. SPAN serves 14 zip codes in Anne Arundel County and is located behind Our Shepherd Lutheran Church at 400 Benfield Road in Severna Park. Hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:00am-12:45pm. For more information, call 410-647-0889, email [spanhelps@yahoo.com](mailto:spanhelps@yahoo.com) or visit [www.spanhelps.org](http://www.spanhelps.org). Financial donations may be dropped off 24-7 using the storage bin behind SPAN's building. Please “like” SPAN on Facebook!



## Restaurant Week Supports Neighbors In Need

Community members are invited to support participating restaurants during the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce's Star-Spangled Restaurant Week from July 3 to July 11. The restaurants will donate a percentage of the proceeds to ACAN, a local food pantry. These restaurants are participating:

- Adam's Taphouse and Grille
- Café Mezzanotte
- Donnelly's Dockside
- East West Bistro
- Founders Tavern & Grille
- Garry's Grill
- Hellas Restaurant and Lounge
- Ledo Pizza
- Park Tavern
- Pats Select Pizza
- Romilo's Restaurant & Bar
- Sofi's Crepes
- Steak 'n Shake

## How To Navigate Being Pulled Over By The Police

By Lisa Bogan-Reohr, Esq.

The Law Office Of David V. Diggs

School's out, summer jobs are starting, vacations are planned, and your teenager is on the road! Traveling to a new job or to explore new places is exciting; being pulled over by the police is not. Perhaps your relatively new driver was paying attention to a podcast or playlist, not the speed limit, or perhaps the vehicle he or she is driving has a defect, such as a broken taillight. Seeing flashing blue lights in one's rear-view mirror will cause anyone to become nervous and begin sweating. It's never too early to have a conversation with your teen or young adult about what to do. Here are the basics:

- Try to remain calm and find a safe place to pull over.
- Turn off the car and roll down your window. If it's nighttime, put on your interior light.
- Place your hands on the wheel.
- Let the police officer speak first and follow her or his directions.
- Be polite and follow the officer's instructions. Do not argue.

Finding a safe place to pull over is important for your safety, as well as the safety of the police officer. If you cannot find a safe place immediately, put on your hazard lights and slow down until you find one so that the officer knows that you are trying to find a safe place to pull over. Always pull over to the right side of the road, never to the left. If it is nighttime, find a

well-lit area if possible. When you find a spot, use your turn signal to communicate that you are pulling over.

Turning off the car will indicate to the police officer that you are not going to take off. Roll down your driver's side window, as well as any other tinted windows. If it's nighttime, put your

“

*Keep your emotions in control, and likely you will be back on the road to adventure without incident.”*

interior light on so that the officer can easily see you. Place your hands on the steering wheel. Remember that the police officer may be nervous because he or she will not know if you have a gun or not; placing your hands on the wheel will reassure the officer that you are not reaching for a gun. A patrol officer at the Anne Arundel County Eastern District Police Station advised to “stay cool, calm and relaxed. Don't make any furtive movements with your hands.”

When the officer approaches you, wait for him or her to speak. Look at the officer and answer politely with “yes, ma'am” or “no, sir.” You will need to produce your driver's license, car registration and proof of insurance. Wait for the police officer to ask for these documents, and then request permission to get them. For example, if the documents are located in your

glove box, specifically ask, “May I get the registration certificate out of the glove box?” If you have proof of insurance on your mobile phone, let the officer know, and he or she will give you time to find it. Wallet in your back pocket or purse? Let the officer know before moving to get it.

Know that you have the right to remain silent, and you do not have to consent to a search of your car. The police need probable cause to search your car or open your trunk. Don't be rebellious, however, as you don't want the officer to feel he or she has to use force. Follow every order and be polite. Even if the officer is rude, be kind — he or she may be having a bad day. Don't argue with the officer even if you disagree with his or her decision; you can always contest a ticket in court. Keep your emotions in control, and likely you will be back on the road to adventure without incident! Life is a highway — here's to smooth travels.

*If you find yourself in a legal entanglement emanating from a police stop, you will have many questions. You should consult with an attorney who is familiar with this area of the law and who will assist you in making informed decisions. David Diggs is experienced in this facet of the law. If you need further information regarding this subject, contact **The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC, located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 204, in Millersville, by calling 410-244-1171 or by emailing david@diggsllaw.com.***



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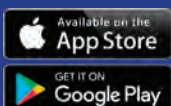
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# SPCC Gala Honorees Are Dedicated To Founders' Mission

**Part 3:** *Jeff Norris  
and John Strange*



**By Haley Weisgerber**

*In 2020, the Severna Park Community Center (SPCC) planned to honor Andy Borland, Mark Corneal, Carl Gutschick, Charlie Kreter, Lee Marston, Jeff Norris, Terry Schoener, John Strange and Joan Tiernan at the annual fundraising gala before it was canceled. These nine honorees are considered founding members of the SPCC and dedicated countless hours to establishing the community center that has served the community for over 25 years.*

**J**eff Norris and John Strange were both members of Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church when they became involved with the SPCC.

Norris moved from Reston, Virginia, to Severna Park with his wife and children to be closer to the water. He joined Woods Church and wasn't there long before members of the church explored the possibility of buying the YMCA.

"We were not very active in the church and then the community center came up," he explained.

"Terry Schoener asked some of us to go to a brainstorming session, and as Terry is one to do, he pretty soon reeled us in and got us committed to supporting the community center."

Norris was asked to sit on the original board of directors for the SPCC. One of his main tasks was chairing the program committee, which sought activities that were welcoming for everyone in the community, not just Woods Church members, but that also aligned with the center's Christian values.

"We were not exclusive," said Norris. "Anybody could come, but we just wanted the programs to be something we could be proud of. We were very



**John Strange (left) and Jeff Norris were chosen to be honored at the 2020 SPCC gala. They will instead be honored at the next gala, hopefully in fall 2021.**

careful in selecting organizations that would rent from us."

Some of the original programs included an after-school middle school program in the Holy Grounds building, Alcoholics Anonymous and other support organizations, and an intergenerational program where children would spend time with residents at Sunrise Senior Living on West McKinsey Road.

Norris served two terms on the board of directors before he turned his volunteer efforts to Woods Church.

"I think it was a valuable investment of my time and effort, and I'm glad I did it," said Norris.

He is proud to have been a part of the team that worked so hard to bring the vision to life. He credits two people, specifically, with leading the project.

"I think anybody who enjoys the community center these days owes a debt of gratitude to Terry for his vision in seeing the possibilities for a vibrant community center," said Norris. "I think they also owe a debt of gratitude to Barbara

Birkenhower, who was the first executive director and who worked tirelessly to do the administrative responsibilities of the community center."

John Strange is a partner at Council Baradel Attorneys at Law, located in Annapolis. He moved to Severna Park in the summer of 1986.

"I've always said living in Severna Park is like living in Camelot to me," said Strange. "I mean, we have the library, we have the churches. You can do everything you want in Severna Park."

Strange and his family became members of Woods Church, where they first heard about the possibility of the church buying the YMCA. Strange said that Mark Corneal and Charlie Kreter were the visionaries, and pitched the idea to Terry Schoener, the church's minister. He pitched the idea to churchgoers, and they voted in favor of the purchase. Strange became involved in the initial purchasing to assist with paperwork from a legal standpoint.

The process began in the spring of 1995, and the date on the deed was October 2, 1995. Strange was amazed by how quickly the process went. Many parties were interested in purchasing the property.

"There had to be some inspiration from God into this whole process because it worked," said Strange. "It went relatively smoothly and quickly."

He said the group involved in purchasing the SPCC was dedicated.

"I was very fortunate because it introduced me to many of the members of Woods Church, and Severna Park activists who were buying into this idea," said Strange. "I was able to sit at the table with all these great individuals."

Strange recently accepted the position on the board and is looking forward to working again with many of the people who established the SPCC.

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## Broadneck Teacher Claims \$40,000 VaxCash Prize



Katie Limbacher claimed a \$40,000 prize as the June 4 winner in the \$2 million VaxCash promotion.

Katie Limbacher was teaching a class at Broadneck High School when a representative from the Maryland Department of Health left her a voicemail to inform her that she had won a \$40,000 prize in the \$2 million VaxCash promotion. The Anne Arundel County school teacher and Broadneck alum listened to the message later in the day.

"I didn't know whether to believe it or not," said the 31-year-old Elkridge resident. "I called my husband to see what he thought about the message."

Her husband, Jordan, was busy at work when Katie called, and told her that he didn't have time to talk about it, all the while remaining skeptical about the

phone call.

Katie's mom lives near the high school, so after work, Katie stopped by to talk about the prize.

"My mom didn't believe it either," she said.

But Katie and Jordan did some more checking, and eventually they received the confirmation they needed: the good news was the real deal.

The \$40,000 win in the June 4 drawing wasn't the only exciting thing to happen to Katie during the past year. In September, Katie and Jordan got married, and last summer, they got a new puppy.

The newlyweds plan to save most of the prize money to use toward a new house in a few years. They also would like to take a trip to Europe in the future.

Both Katie and Jordan feel strongly about the COVID-19 vaccine.

"And not just for the chance to win \$40,000," Jordan said. "It will be nice to get back to normal life."

The VaxCash promotion, announced by Governor Larry Hogan on May 20, is a collaboration of the Maryland Lottery and the Maryland Department of Health, aimed at incentivizing Marylanders who have not yet received their COVID-19 vaccinations while rewarding those who have. All Maryland residents 18 and older who have received a COVID-19 shot at a non-federal facility in Maryland at any time are automatically entered into daily drawings being held through July 4.

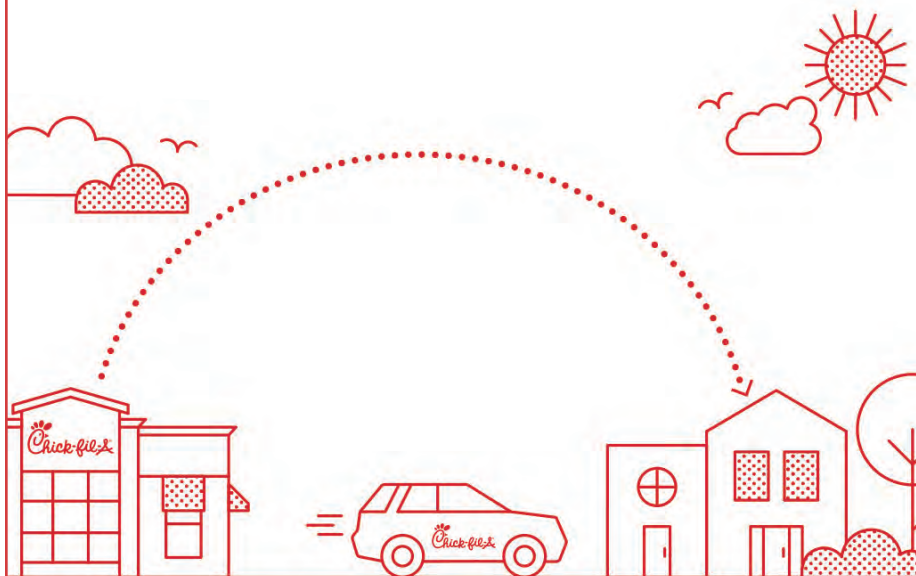
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## Does Spinach And Artichoke Dip Really Need Spinach And Artichokes?

Lauren Burke Meyer



It was the first spontaneous get-together with my sister when we were both fully vaccinated. This called for sparkling rosé and an unhealthy appetizer. I decided on the tried and true standby: spinach and artichoke dip. A classic recipe passed down from my mom and now poorly written on an index card.

Five ingredients. This was an easy choice or so I thought.

My Instacart shopper, Kerilyn, was flying through my weekly order until she refunded me for the frozen, chopped spinach. Hmmmm. Given the appetizer's name, I don't think I could forgo spinach. Kerilyn was already at checkout. There was no time for a last-minute addition of a seven-layer dip or potato skins.

So, the next morning I found myself at Safeway. After grabbing a bag of spinach and an impulse *People* magazine purchase, I was checking out.

Once home, I began to prep the dip. I thawed the spinach in the microwave and drained it in the colander. I grabbed one cup of mayonnaise, followed by one cup of parmesan cheese. Check, check, check. Next, a can of chopped, green chiles.

Last ingredient — the artichoke hearts. Strange, I didn't remember putting those away when I unpacked my Instacart order. Searching my pantry, I realized they weren't there. Kerilyn forgot them. Correction. I forgot to put them on my order. Whoops.

My husband took pity on me and ran out to the grocery store so I could complete the nearly finished appetizer.

The morals of this story? Spinach and artichokes are strongly recommended when preparing spinach and artichoke dip. Go figure. Plus, always have ingredients for a quick appetizer on hand. I could've saved three trips to the grocery store from three people. Anyhow, here is the recipe for your next social gathering — enjoy!

### Spinach & Artichoke Dip Recipe

#### Ingredients

- 10 oz. frozen, chopped spinach, drained
- 1 small jar (6.5 oz) marinated artichoke hearts, chopped
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup parmesan cheese
- 1 small can (4.5 oz) chopped green chiles

#### Instructions

**Step 1:** Mix together all five ingredients in a casserole dish

**Step 2:** Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes

**Step 3:** Serve with tortilla chips or crackers



# Lynching Marker Now Located At Severna Park Library



Photos by Emily Allgair

The June 15 event at the Severna Park Library featured speakers from the Anne Arundel County Public Library and the Student Member of the Board of Education, the Caucus of African American Leaders, and County Executive Steuart Pittman.

By Emily Allgair

Between 1865 and 1950, 4,000 Black Americans were victims of racial terror and violence in the form of racial lynchings. Of the approximated 40 victims of whom were Marylanders, five were from Anne Arundel County. On June 15 of this year, Connecting the Dots Anne Arundel County in partnership with the Equal Justice Initiative hosted Remembrance and Reconciliation, an event devoted to the rededication of the historical marker of the lynchings that occurred in Anne Arundel County.

Previously near the Civil Rights Foot Soldiers Memorial, the marker was located on Calvert Street in Annapolis until mid 2020 when it became damaged after getting hit by a bus. Because of its highly trafficked location and small chance of being damaged, the memorial has now been moved to

the Severna Park Library.

The June 15 event featured speakers from all types of organizations - from the Anne Arundel County Public Library and the Student Member of the Board of Education, to the Caucus of African American Leaders and County Executive Steuart Pittman - who came together to prove the importance of the recognition of a piece of Anne Arundel County's history.

Elliot Spillers, a representative from the Equal Justice Initiative and a member of the team that helped organize this enterprise, also spoke in front of the 100-plus person crowd.

"Silence for too long has facilitated the erasure of victims in Anne Arundel County," said Spillers, breaking the moment of silence that preceded his speech.

Emphasizing the importance of the process of truth before reconciliation, Spillers stated that the recogni-

tion of this truth is the only way to true justice in terms of beginning to change the narrative surrounding this nation's history of racially motivated lynchings.

After the bus accident in 2020, Connecting the Dots and the Equal Justice Initiative decided to relocate the marker, signifying that the history of this county extends beyond the boundaries of Annapolis.

When asked why the Severna Park Library was chosen for the next permanent home, co-chair of Connecting the Dots Monica Lindsey said, "A prominent place where people can learn and see shouldn't go to waste." Her comment added onto the speech given by Skip Auld, the CEO of the Anne Arundel County Public Library, in which Auld stated that the hope of the library leadership was that generations of people would be inspired to educate themselves on the true

history of our county.

Appreciative of all who attended, Lindsey, Spillers and all other members of this event urged the public to remind themselves that this venture is only the first step. This historical marker will serve as a touchstone of reflection on the promise of the community to be active participants in the journey to true justice, not just on a local level but also on a state and national level.

The Anne Arundel County victims of racial lynchings are listed below:

- John Sims, Annapolis (March 23, 1875)
- George Briscoe, Jacobsville (November 26, 1884)
- Wright Smith, Annapolis (October 5, 1898)
- Henry Davis, Annapolis (December 21, 1906)
- King Johnson, Brooklyn (December 23, 1922)

## For Third Straight Year, County Budget Passes Along Party Lines

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

When the Anne Arundel County Council passed County Executive Steuart Pittman's Fiscal Year 2022 budget by a 4-3 vote on June 14, it continued a trend that started when Pittman took office. Each year, Pittman's budgets have garnered support from the council's Democrats while drawing criticism from the council's Republicans.

While most of that criticism stems from what Republicans call unsustainable growth, Pittman defended the budget as "thoughtful and deliberate."

"We listened carefully to residents, departments and financial experts, and created a budget that is fiscally responsible and fair," Pittman said in a statement.

The budget expands the county's crisis intervention team and constructs new evidence and forensics and special operations facilities. The budget also provides additional staffing support for the fire department, including training 42 new paramedics and funding for the land acquisition for a fire training academy.

In the education sector, the bill adds 53 new positions in the Anne Arundel

"Some of my colleagues have criticized this budget, but we are still the county with the fourth-lowest income tax in the state and the seventh-lowest property tax."

— COUNCILWOMAN LISA RODVIEN

County Public Schools system while delivering on a full step increase and an \$8 million back step investment for teachers.

Parks and recreation were other areas of investment. Initiatives supported in the budget include turning the idea of a county-wide trail network from concept to reality, increasing water access project funding, and taking the next steps with projects like the Brooklyn Park Athletic Complex, the new Deale Community Park, the design of the West County Swim Center, the Severn Center, the Stanton Center and the Brooklyn Park Teen Center.

Councilwoman Jessica Haire said based on the budget recommended by the county's spending affordability committee, this budget "exceeds that wildly."

"I can't support it," Haire said. "The overall growth of about 18 percent in the last three years to the county budget is just not sustainable."

Allison Pickard said her colleagues need to focus more on the positives.

"We need to tell the story of how we can now send a firetruck out to a rescue mission with three firefighters instead of two," Pickard said. "We're still behind many of our jurisdictions who have four and five firefighters on those trucks ... We're able to tackle school construction at a greater clip, which is greatly appreciated in my area. But we have to talk about the investment."

Lisa Rodvien challenged her colleagues to find unnecessary projects or positions to cut.

"I would ask my colleagues what exactly would they cut?" Rodvien said. "Would they cut the new community services bureau in our police department? Would they cut the new paramedic training? Would they cut the new four fire stations? Would they cut the two new sheriffs to monitor a growth in our court system?"

District 5 Councilwoman Amanda Fiedler mentioned how 20 amendments were introduced to make cuts and "there was not a single firefighter, teacher

or police officer proposed to be cut in this budget."

"For the third year in a row, the county and the county's expenses are outpacing revenue," Fiedler said. "This budget increases and grows government while we are carrying a \$20 million structural deficit while going above the constant yield to increase revenue by \$8 million."

The council Democrats argued that the budget keeps the income tax rate the same, lowers property taxes slightly and adds \$11 to the rainy day fund, which the council's Republicans supported.

"I am thrilled that we have been able to come out of a pandemic with such a strong budget," Rodvien said. "Some of my colleagues have criticized this budget, but we are still the county with the fourth-lowest income tax in the state and the seventh-lowest property tax."

"When I came to office, we had a \$2 billion backlog in capital spending in our schools. We have made significant progress in updating our schools and replacing outmoded and crumbling buildings. Investments in resources for our seniors and to improve and expand our public parks and water accesses are part of this budget. This budget makes great strides toward making our county the best place for all."



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# Community College Professor To Retire After 48 Years

By Haley Weisgerber

After 48 years of educating and mentoring students, psychology professor Don Orso is retiring from Anne Arundel Community College (AACC).

A Susquehanna University graduate with bachelors degrees in psychology and mathematics, Orso served as a naval officer from 1968 to 1972.

"I was really proud to be able to give back something to the country that I so love," he said. "And I had two exciting tours of duty, and really grew up a lot personally and professionally."

During his service, Orso pursued a master's degree in counseling from the University of Virginia. Orso knew he wanted to go into education and counseling, so he sent out 50 or more resumes before he heard back from AACC. It was the first job he heard back from.

"It allowed me to do two things that I really cared about and was passionate about," said Orso, who went on to obtain his doctorate from American University in counseling in 1979. "It was an absolutely ideal job description for what I wanted to do."

The son of a preacher and a religious educator, Orso said it was always in his nature to help people.

"Valuing people and supporting people has always been part of my core values," said Orso. "And I certainly tried to have



Don Orso has been a mentor to many students in his 48 years with Anne Arundel Community College.

“

*If there is a single thing in my legacy that I am most proud of, it is that children can now start to expose themselves to college and can learn some pretty cool things.”*

— DON ORSO, PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR  
ANNE ARUNDEL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

both of my kids share those values.”

He took these values into his own career and made it a point to connect with his students. He sent emails, made phone calls and gave every student a chance to succeed.

"I have tried to be as positive and encouraging to all students as much as possible by giving lots of both verbal and

written feedback, above and beyond what might be expected," Orso said.

He is renowned for his dedication to students. He stood by his values and passion and is leaving behind a powerful legacy at AACC.

Orso and a colleague, Joan Doolittle, designed the first online psychology course. In 2010, the duo was the first to conduct research on online learning from the perspective of the student. The research was presented at 13 national and international conferences, published in four articles and caught the attention of many professionals.

Orso was also involved in writing a job description for and hiring the first deaf American Sign Language professor at AACC. The course has become popular amongst students.

"Somebody will dabble in it, just as an elective, and decide that it is really a meaningful thing to do," Orso said. "It's just something I'm lucky to have been a part of getting it going."

In 1979, Orso created the Kids in College program, a skill-building opportunity for children. In its first year, some 20 classes were offered including Calligraphy, Cake Decorating, Introduction to Computer Programming, Typing and more. Orso wrote all of the course descriptions and even led programs in the first five years. The program is designed to teach children

life skills in a fun and relaxed setting, while also getting them familiar with a college campus.

"If there is a single thing in my legacy that I am most proud of, it is that children can now start to expose themselves to college and can learn some pretty cool things," he said.

Orso served as the chair of the education department from 1978 to 1987, the human services department from 1983 to 1990, the sociology department from 1988 to 1990 and the psychology department from 1999 to 2008. After a long and successful career, he is ready to hang up his many hats.

"It's time for the next generation to get a chance," Orso said.

Orso is looking forward to traveling with his wife and spending time with his children and grandchildren. He said that he is grateful for the time he spent at AACC and the people he met along the way.

"I have been lucky to work with a lot of very dedicated and very bright faculty people that have stood out," he said. "This community is really lucky to have the quality faculty that works at AACC."

Although he is ready for the next chapter in his life, he will look back fondly on the past 48 years.

"If I had the opportunity to go for orientation as a first-day employee again, I would," Orso said. "I would redo most of every single moment I've had during the past 48 years. If a person can say that when they retire, they should certainly have a smile on their face."

## Earleigh Heights Carnival

» Continued from page 1

intersection of Ritchie Highway and Magothy Bridge Road. What hasn't changed? The carnival remains family focused, delivering fun for all ages.

Run by Jolly Shows, the carnival has an array of entertainment. Adults and kids can glide or spin with high-intensity rides midair or they can enjoy the leisurely merry-go-round or super slide. Games include the duck pond, water race and hoop shoot. Guests can also stroll around the midway to sample the concessions: corn dogs, chicken fingers, pizza, ice cream, funnel cakes, cotton candy and popcorn.

"We're having the snack wheel, our

snowball stand, and we sell sodas and drinks to keep people hydrated," said Andy Price, who has overseen the carnival for more than 20 years. "We're one of the last firehouses to still do a beer garden, so come on out. We have a big-screen TV because you have the [Major League Baseball] All-Star game played and the Home Run Derby. So, parents who don't want to walk around with their kids until their kids are big enough to walk around, they come back and sit and enjoy themselves. We have fans to keep them cool."

Families can pay per ride or get a \$30 bracelet to get access to all rides for the whole week. Carnival proceeds will help the firehouse purchase vehicles and equipment that keeps the community safe.

"A new squad truck is \$1.2 million, and you have to outfit it with all the new tools, which aren't cheap," Price said. "We just ordered a new fire engine, and old ones were \$300,000 or \$400,000 when we bought them. Now you're talking \$800,000. That's a lot for a piece of gear to go up and down the street, but we need it to take care of the community."

The carnival will run every night from 6:00pm to 11:00pm except July 4.

"We want our families to enjoy the holiday with their family, so we are not operating on the Fourth of July," Price said.



## Eddie Conway Grand Marshal

» Continued from page 1

The staff at Garry's Grill have always been active in the community, but this year, Conway said, it became increasingly important.



Eddie Conway

"It was a tough year, but at the same token, it kind of gave me my 'why,'" Conway said. "I always knew that I was the type of person who loved helping people. This year allowed me and my staff to show our customers who we are and how we care so much about people."

Most recently, Conway showed his appreciation to his staff, whom he affectionately refers to as his "extended family," by putting a portion of the night's profits on their checks.

"With COVID kind of slowing, I wanted my extended family to know I still have their backs," Conway said. "And we're still moving forward together. But also, I want the community to know that it's about them. It's not about me."

Conway went all out this year for the virtual Polar Bear Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Maryland. After it was announced that the plunge would be virtual in 2021, Conway was listening to his car radio when the broadcasters said, "Just because we can't plunge like we normally do doesn't mean we can't still raise money in a fun way."

This inspired Conway to set up a dunk tank that he had used for a previous fundraiser and recruit other businesses to take one slot each and compete to raise the most money. The winner would earn a dinner catered by Garry's Grill.

"That was probably, honestly, one of the top three moments of my entire life," Conway said of the fundraiser's success. Garry's Grill raised over \$35,000 for the Special Olympics Maryland and was ranked in the top four for money earned by businesses. The three companies ahead of it were Aerotek, Xfinity, and Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE.)

"Those three companies are gigantic," Conway said. "They're huge, and then you've got Garry's Grill."

Garry's Grill has hosted fundraisers for Partners in Care, SPAN, Harvest for the Hungry, Tucker's Teddies, various schools in the area, first responders, and donated 1,000 meals to people in need. The total donations, including the Polar Bear Plunge, are over \$60,000. Conway said he has always considered Garry's Grill to be more than a restaurant. He not only considers his staff to be family but also his customers and the community. He hopes that the community will continue to join together to make a difference.

"It's a big deal to know that when you do something for the greater good, people are going to assemble and we'll do it together," Conway said. "You never feel alone. It's pretty incredible."



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## Constituent Services Keeps Pace

**Amanda Fiedler**  
County Council  
District 5



“The questions generated by citizens lead me to a deeper understanding and working knowledge of county government problems and interplays with state and federal agencies.”

As your councilwoman, I learn new things every day, many times because of constituent inquiries. The questions generated by citizens lead me to a deeper understanding and working knowledge of county government problems and interplays with state and federal agencies. My job is to investigate and solve these problems, or at the very least, get answers and keep citizens apprised.

I have learned a lot in the last two years. While 2020 was different in almost every way, constituent concerns and questions continued, and at a record pace. What seems like a simple problem to solve can often be more complex than one would think. While constituent cases can range from potholes to challenges contacting a department, and everything in between, there are some regular areas of concern.

Recently, I have received communications from residents on the use of reusable yard waste bags. To give background, in 2017 the waste management division ceased the acceptance and use of a handful of items to improve efficiency and cost. Plastic bags (think grocery bags) were no longer accepted in the recycling program as bags had been saturated with various liquids in the receptacle trucks and were jamming the machines used in the recycling process. Recycling and yard waste were no longer accepted in plastic garbage bags. What was not clear to many residents was that reusable yard waste bags were never an accepted part of the waste removal program. According to the Department of Public Works, these bags are difficult for contracted agencies to recognize, are difficult to empty, and often cannot be fully emptied. In addition, they can blow away become litter themselves.

Community traffic calming is another top constituent subject that I often respond to. Speeding issues, pedestrian crosswalks, stop signs, and more. Each of these scenarios requires the same process through the traffic engineering division of the county. The starting point is a request from a group of community members to initiate the review of a particular area. Potential solutions must meet established neighborhood traffic control guidelines and certain volume thresholds depending on the technique considered (islands, speed bumps, etc.) Of course, the length of time it takes to

identify and implement a solution can vary depending on the problem and the scope of the solution.

Vehicular access to and from communities has also taken a front seat in recent years, especially during the summer months when Bay Bridge traffic can cause backups from Annapolis City to Severna Park and Pasadena. Contraflow, or the use of three lanes in either the east or west direction, is a critical tool to keep traffic moving. But safety concerns prevent the Maryland Transit Authority from opening the third eastbound lane on the westbound span in certain weather conditions. An event with police activity, a car accident, or a disabled vehicle can cripple commuters for hours in one direction, and these do not always take place on the bridge but oftentimes the approaching corridors. The domino effect creeps quickly onto local roads.

The need for an additional crossing over the bay has been discussed for decades. In 2016, Governor Larry Hogan took the first step to make this necessity a reality by funding a \$5 million Bay Bridge crossing study. In 2018, when the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) prepared the purpose and needs statement of the study, it was narrowly focused on moving traffic only over the Bay Bridge, not including the approaches. This insufficient purpose

and needs statement carried the remainder of the study as the possible locations for a third span were reduced from 14 potential locations to three locations, all existing in Anne Arundel County.

At the county council meeting on June 21, my resolution, 32-21, passed with bipartisan support. This resolution does not request a “no build” option, as I think most will agree that we need additional infrastructure to the Eastern Shore somewhere. This resolution does not request a “do over” of the entire study. The state has already invested the dollars and time. MDTA and federal agencies should not scrap the information collected to date. This resolution does state that the county council is opposed to rendering a final environmental impact statement and record of decision for a location of a third span, without considering the extremely critical components of this corridor, the infrastructure of the eastern and western approaches, and the residents and commerce entities who use this section of state road for daily essentials of living and working in Anne Arundel County.

As always, for any constituent concerns or questions on legislation, please reach out to me at [amanda.fiedler@aacounty.org](mailto:amanda.fiedler@aacounty.org) I am always available to you and your family.

## Governor Hogan Appoints New Leadership Of Opioid Operational Command Center

Governor Larry Hogan has named Robin Rickard to serve as executive director of the state’s Opioid Operational Command Center (O OCC). Rickard, the center’s deputy director, has served as acting director since April, when Steve Schuh was named deputy secretary of health care financing and Medicaid for the Maryland Department of Health.

The O OCC facilitates collaboration between state and local public health, human services, education, and public safety entities to reduce the harmful impacts of opioid addiction on Maryland communities.

“Here in Maryland, we have been shining a spotlight on the heroin and opioid crisis, which has become even more acute during the pandemic,” Hogan said. “This is more than just a health care crisis; it is tearing apart families and communities. Robin has

dedicated her career to solving these problems, and she is passionate about public service. At this critical moment in the fight against the opioid epidemic, we are fortunate to have Robin coordinating our frontline efforts to save lives.”

Rickard said she is honored to continue the work of Schuh.

“Anyone who knows me either personally or professionally knows that saving lives of individuals who suffer from substance use disorder has been a passion of mine for over a decade,” Rickard said. “I am looking forward to working with all of our state and local partners to take on a more aggressive approach in bringing our fatality numbers down. One life lost is too many.”

In addition, Marianne Gibson, the center’s director of planning and state partner coordinator, will succeed Rickard as deputy director.

## Redistricting Changes Are Coming

**Ed Reilly**  
Senator  
District 33



Redistricting. I’m sure you have heard or read about redistricting when it comes to political boundaries. I’d like to explain how redistricting will take place here in Maryland in the

next few months, and its impact on the 2022 primary and general election.

Everything starts with the census. The United States Constitution stipulates that a census takes place every 10 years to count the population. One of the main reasons for this count is to determine representation for the populous at the national (congressional districts) and state (legislative districts). Maryland’s governor decides how these district maps are determined.

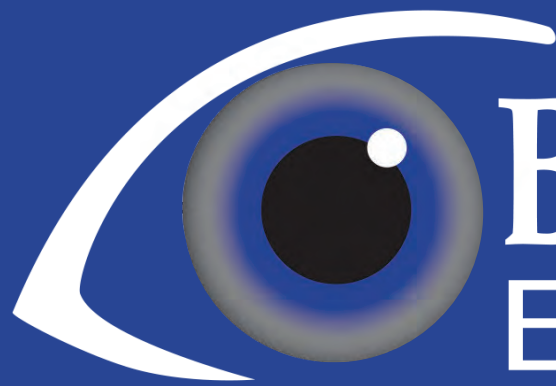
The Democrat party is the majority party in the General Assembly and may offer their own versions of the maps. During the legislative session, the entire General Assembly will review these two maps and others submitted by other legislators and approve one of these maps. They should be reviewing maps, considering ethnic diversity, natural boundaries, political boundaries, and other information taken from the census before drawing the political lines for the new districts.

Ten years ago, the congressional maps were gerrymandered so drastically by former Governor Martin O’Malley and the state legislature that Maryland has been held up as an example of the most gerrymandered state in the union. Gerrymandering is a term used when districts are drawn to give one political party more voters over another political party. The boundaries do not follow natural land areas but instead where voters live. This will help one party maintain its political dominance. In other words, the legislators are picking the voters. Maryland has eight congressional districts. In 2010, Democrats represented six of these congressional districts. Republicans represented the other two districts. By the 2012 election, the Republicans had lost one of their congressional districts. It has remained this way until present day.

In January, Governor Larry Hogan appointed a nine-person independent commission to come up with nonpartisan redistricting maps. There was an open application process for people to submit their names for consideration to sit on this commission. It is made up of three Democrats, three Republicans and three independent registered voters. They may

» Continued on page 16





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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**A**s this public school year ends and thoughts of proms and graduation become a memory, we would be remiss not to acknowledge all of the students and parents who participated in the eight proms we were so fortunate to host.

What began in our minds as a way to give back to these students who were going through a tough year, soon became a very clear blessing.

The kids who entered our gates were so elated and grateful for being allowed to have a sense of normalcy, some seeing their friends for the first time in months. Race, orientation or economic status played no role here. All of this as a result of the love and commitment of parents, just wanting their children to experience that rite of passage in completing their high school education.

Bravo to all of you and thank you for allowing us to be a part of that.

Sincerely,  
**John Mason**  
President, Kurtz's Beach  
— Pasadena

**T**o all Anne Arundel County school faculty and staff, thank you.

I wanted to share my heartfelt thanks to all the hard-working teachers and school support staff! We greatly appreciate your dedication to our children. Thank you for rising to the occasion and doing your best for students during these unprecedented times. I admire your patience and creativity as you learned to work with new technology and adapted to different platforms. I wouldn't doubt that all the hard work you have provided for our children brought on some stress and frustration. Summer is your time to recover.

Times remain challenging for many, especially for all school staff. Many school staff reached out to our office with their shared concerns and troubles. During the pandemic, education leaders had to evaluate their preparedness plans, identify technical needs and inventory, and assemble Chromebooks for checkout. They worked with school staff to develop school-specific strategies for remote learning.

Please know that you are appreciated and making a difference in the lives of our students. I am aware that not being physically present with your students has created challenges while navigating the online platform. While traditional education that comes in the form of in-person learning cannot be replaced, you have proven that the learning is not restricted to the walls of our schools. Your ability to reach students from a distance while adapting to new changes shows your passion and dedication.

As you know, my office always appreciates when you reach out. If my office can assist you or your friends or family, please do not hesitate to contact us. My office email is [sid.saab@house.state.md.us](mailto:sid.saab@house.state.md.us) or call 410-841-3551.

Sincerely,  
**Delegate Sid Saab**

## Redistricting Changes

» Continued from page 14

not consider where a current politician lives, or how citizens have voted in the past. This commission hopes to bring more transparency to the redistricting process, instead of the districts being drawn up behind closed doors in Annapolis. However, the state legislature may choose to not use the recommendations from the redistricting commission and use its own maps.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this process has been delayed. The new district maps are usually released in spring the year after the census concludes. Now they will not be available until mid-September. This gives politicians little time to campaign for the 2022 election in their new district. There is uncertainty of where the boundaries of their districts actually will be, and even if they will reside in the district that they plan on representing. Maryland's primary election starts with early voting on June 16, 2022.

There will be a lot of discussion in the months to come about this redistricting process. Certainly, there will be changes with every district in Maryland. You need to be aware of these changes, and possibly the changes in the people who will be representing you. At this time, I have filed to run for re-election as your senator in District 33. Time will tell what the boundaries for the new District 33 will look like. As always, you may contact me by emailing me at [edward.reilly@senate.state.md.us](mailto:edward.reilly@senate.state.md.us).

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## St. Martin's-In-The-Field Organist Featured In COVID-19 Tribute Video

By Haley Weisgerber

The Annapolis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) recently premiered "Grief, Comfort, Hope: When Words Fail, Music Speaks," a video featuring prayer and organ music for people who have experienced grief or hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. HyeSung Hwang, the director of music ministries at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church, was featured in the tribute with a beautiful rendition of "It Is Well With My Soul" by Philip Paul Bliss and arranged by Robert Lau.

Hwang chose this song because of the story behind the lyrics. Horatio Spafford tragically lost his four daughters in a shipwreck, after losing his 4-year-old son to an illness a few years before. He penned the lyrics to the popular hymn on his way across the ocean to meet his grieving wife, who survived the wreck. Hwang said his faithfulness in times of trouble reminded her of the pandemic.

"We are all victims of COVID," she said. "Whether we lost our friends or family, our work, we couldn't go to school, our daily life was changed. I thought that these lyrics and this piece will give some people comfort and hope."

Hwang, who was born in South Korea, has been playing the piano since she was about 6.

"I went to an art middle school and high school in Korea," she explained. "So, I have been playing the piano for my whole life."

After completing her undergraduate degree in South Korea, Hwang completed her masters and doctorate degrees at the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

She met her husband at Peabody

"We are all victims of COVID. Whether we lost our friends or family, our work, we couldn't go to school, our daily life was changed. I thought that these lyrics and this piece will give some people comfort and hope."

— DR. HYESUNG HWANG

and settled down in Maryland. After working for a few years at an Episcopal church in Baltimore, Hwang joined the team at St. Martin's.

As the director of music ministry, she is tasked with all things music related, including the choir, bell choir, weekly services and any musical events. She is also an adjunct professor of piano at York College of Pennsylvania. She learned to play the organ in 2009 while she was completing her graduate degree.

"They have different feelings," she said of the difference between the piano and organ. "When I'm playing the piano, I would say that I could create more expressive sounds, but, of course, the organ is located usually in the church, and then we can create more Godly or glorious sounds."

Hwang became a member of the Annapolis chapter of the AGO in 2019 and is now an executive committee member. She originally learned about the video from Betsy Lord, the dean of the Annapolis chapter of the AGO.

"We were all searching for creative and practical ways to contribute during this pandemic," said Hwang. "And it made us think about what we

» Continued on page 18



Dr. HyeSung Hwang has played the piano for the majority of her life and took up the organ in 2009 while studying at the Peabody Institute.

## Cicadas And Our Children

By Pastor Stephen J. Mitchell  
Trinity Bible Church

It was a hot summer day, and I was getting dressed and ready to head out to embark upon my daily routines, when all the sudden, I started hearing this odd sound coming from outside of my house. I remember thinking it sounded like a loud truck of some kind, and I wondered what in the world was going on. Then, I stepped out, and was awestruck by this eerie chorus of sounds that was reminiscent of the voyager probe's sound files from Saturn's rings, only this was not an alien invasion; it was the cicadas. I finally realized that the East Coast's underground insect army had emerged, right on schedule.

My small children have enjoyed playing with the cicadas, although I do not believe the cicadas have enjoyed playing with my children. I'm not a big fan of them to be honest. Maybe it's seeing their shells everywhere, or getting headaches from the noise outside or the dive bombing they keep doing on my windshield as I'm driving; yet there is one thing the cicadas did for me this

summer, one thing they reminded me about that I am especially grateful for: they reminded me about how small my window is to be the primary foundational voice of influence for my children. My wife and I were talking about how fascinating it is to think that the cicadas come out for a few weeks every 17 years, and that is when my wife and I realized something astounding to consider: the next time the cicadas emerge to make eerie noise, my small children will be college-age young adults.

Reflecting on this truth has really impacted me, convicted me, and caused me to reassess the degree to which I am intentionally influencing, nurturing, and focusing on my time with my children. It is too easy to get distracted by the phone in my hand, or the work tasks that cloud over me or to allow exhaustion to keep me from taking advantage of this window of opportunity all of us parents have, where our children desperately seek and want our complete and undivided attention, and where our voice is the loudest one they hear. As a Christian father, my

» Continued on page 18

## Pasadena United Methodist Welcomes New Pastor



Reverend Sarah Elliott

Bishop LaTrelle Eastering and her cabinet have appointed the Rev. Sarah Elliott to Pasadena United Methodist Church at 61 Ritchie Highway. Her appointment

began July 1.

Elliott brings a heart of advocacy for the marginalized, a passion for sharing the gospel, and a commitment to building relation-

ships in the community. She most recently served congregations in Harford County, Maryland.

Elliott earned a Bachelor of Science in law and society from American University in 2003 and a Master of Divinity in 2016 from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

She is married to Patrick Elliott, an associate vice president at Harford Community College, and they have three children.

Everyone is invited to join Pasadena United Methodist for worship each Sunday at 10:00am in person or virtually at [www.pasadenaumchurch.com](http://www.pasadenaumchurch.com).



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## News From Temple Beth Shalom

The Jewish calendar is lunar-based, which means that we start a new month on every new moon. The Hebrew month of "Av" occupies the majority of July, and our tradition notes that, coincidentally, it was on the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av that first temple (586

BCE) and second temple (70 CE) were both destroyed. As a result, many Jews observe this day, which corresponds to Sunday, July 18, as a fast day.

At Temple Beth Shalom, sabbath services are on July 2, July 9, July 16, July 23 and July 30, all at 7:00pm.

## Organist Featured In Tribute Video

» Continued from page 17  
can do as musicians."

All of the music featured in the video fit in three main categories: grief, comfort and hope. Hwang's rendition of "It Is Well With My Soul" is featured in the "comfort" portion of the video.

Hwang encourages everyone to watch the video and support the musicians who worked hard to bring the project to life.

"It's better to do the live performance, but the good thing about recording is that people can always

watch, like people who live away from us," said Hwang. "Like my parents in Korea or my brother living in Canada. They can all watch and that's really nice."

"Grief, Comfort, Hope: When Words Fail, Music Speaks" featured six organists and included messages and scripture from church leaders from all over the area, including a prayer of hope from Reverend Matthew Hani-sian of St. Martin's-in-the-Field. The video is available on the Annapolis AGO YouTube channel.

## Cicadas And Our Children

» Continued from page 17

highest calling in life, most humbling experience, greatest responsibility, and most rewarding role I get to have in life is to impact my children to lead productive lives in our society, to have a biblical foundation of faith and morality, and most importantly, to know and follow Jesus Christ.

Yet sadly, many Christian parents have abdicated this responsibility, and as a result, other voices and forces are working hard to have the primary influence over what our children believe and how they should live. I have become increasingly concerned in the last few years at the strategic and intentional indoctrination campaign that is underway, targeting elementary-age children to be influenced by the mantra of culture on topics that I never dreamed of hearing about when I was in elementary school. My kids are at an age where their primary concern in life is convincing my wife and I to give them a favorite snack, not who they are attracted to sexually or coming to terms with their gender.

Children are innocent and should be permitted to keep civilian status in the culture wars, but that is no longer the case. Parents are losing their rights and sway over policy in public schools that impact their children, and the reality is, as culture continues to get louder with its messaging, we can no longer afford to be so casual with imparting our faith and our morals to our children. The world is doing all the talking, and we are already beginning to see the detrimental effects that this generation raised with handheld screens and social media is experiencing because of the emotional and spiritual disconnect that seems to be growing between parents and their children. If this past year of pandemic and lockdowns has had any benefits, it was that we were all forced to pause our lives and be together in our homes.

As parents who have the potential to lay the foundation for our children and

to provide a biblical lens through which they view the world around them, it is past time for us to step up our game. We do that first and foremost by being an example. The Bible says in Deuteronomy 6:6, "These words that I command you today shall be on your heart." This passage would go on to talk about the ways we can impart our faith to our children and grandchildren, but first, scripture reminds us that God's word needs to be on our hearts, our faith needs to be real in our own life and our relationship with Christ needs to be active. We cannot have a "do as I say, not as I do" mentality; authenticity and integrity is the most effective messaging we can do with our kids.

In addition, we are implored to use every chance we get to share our faith with our children and to be willing to talk about the issues they will be confronted with (earlier than ever before) and to cultivate an open, honest, and safe line of communication with them that will pay dividends in the future. We must nurture our relationship with them, be willing to listen to them, and to be engaged with them. And most importantly, we need to pray for them. Like, really pray. Because there is a spiritual war for the hearts and minds of this generation, and when we drop to our knees to pray, we go into the heart of the battlefield.

Let us resolve to influence, impact, and impart a strong foundation for our children and grandchildren, so that when the cicadas come back, we will have no regrets.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." – Deuteronomy 6:7

Stephen Mitchell is the senior pastor of Trinity Bible Church. He also is the host of a weekly podcast, "Real Christian Talk with Pastor Steve," available on all major podcast platforms.



## FIVE STRAIGHT: Severna Park Boys Are Crowned Champions

Following their 11-3 victory over Catonsville in the boys lacrosse 4A state championship game, the SPHS players triumphantly raised the state championship trophy.

Photos by Zach Sparks



**By Zach Sparks**  
zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Despite a dominant regular season, there were times during the playoffs when the Falcons could have faltered. Broadneck put up a battle during a 6-5 Falcons win in the regional playoffs. Severna Park faced another tight contest on the road against No. 1 seed Sherwood, who stayed within one goal of the No. 4 seeded Falcons almost the entire second half before Severna Park prevailed 11-10 in the state semifinal.

The Falcons never flinched, and during the 4A state championship at Loyola University's Ridley Athletic Complex on June 19, they peaked at the right time for a 11-3 win over Catonsville.

It was all Severna Park as **Charlie Evans** scored a Class 4A state championship record seven goals, **Colin Shadowens** won 14 of 15 faceoffs, and the defense kept Catonsville off the board for nearly three quarters.

"It speaks to everyone buying in," Evans said after the win. "The coaches kept preparing us, the younger guys kept stepping up."

Everyone stepped up to deliver Severna Park boys  
» Continued on page 33



Photos by Zach Sparks

With a hard-fought 12-11 win over Arundel on June 19, the Broadneck girls lacrosse team captured their first state championship since 2013. During the victory, Mary Moore, who scored two goals for the Bruins, battled with Wildcat defenders for a loose ball.

**By Zach Sparks**

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

The Broadneck girls had a young squad in 2021, so other teams in the county may have been surprised to see the Bruins rack up wins during an undefeated season. After winning the 4A state title 12-11 over Arundel at Loyola University's Ridley Athletic Complex in Baltimore on June 19, Broadneck proved that selfless play can trump inexperience.

"No one is out for the glory," said Broadneck head coach **Katy**

**Kelley**. "They're out for the win, and to be together and to have fun."

Broadneck's brand of balanced play was on full display in the championship game. After Arundel's Morgan Gore put her team up early, Broadneck sophomore **Mary Moore** took advantage of an interception, tying the score 1-1. The back and forth continued as senior **Tobin Chambers** and Gore both scored, and then **Lexi Dupcak** and Gore added free position goals, knotting the  
» Continued on page 32

## Bruin Girls Capture Lacrosse State Championship





# Despite Painful State Title Loss, SPHS Sees Season As A Win

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

In a battle of undefeated baseball teams, Severna Park (17-0) and Sherwood (14-0), one championship-worthy team had to lose on June 18. Unfortunately for the Falcons, it was not their night, as Sherwood seized a 5-4 lead in the eighth inning of the 4A state championship at Regency Furniture Stadium in Waldorf to earn the title.

After the game, the Severna Park players and coaches were upset, but they refused to view the season as anything other than a triumph.

"It's been nothing but positive the whole season," said Severna Park head coach **Eric Milton**. "It's been a blast. Going into the season not knowing where the end game would be — there was no playoffs at the start of the season — but look at where we are. It's just been a lot of fun this year. Tough way to end it, but it's been outstanding."

It was an outstanding season for Severna Park, from a 15-5 win over Chesapeake on May 7 to start the season, to a 20-0 rout of Laurel in the state semifinals. The Falcons dominated their schedule and some players set personal records in the process. **Jackson Merrill** slugged 12 home runs, one short of a state record set by Brunswick hitter Kevin Goode in 1999 and tied by Hammond's Brian Brewer in 2000, although Merrill got his in just 15 games.

A shortstop committed to Kentucky University, Merrill may be picked in the Major League Baseball draft during July 11-13. This last season with the Falcons boosted his draft stock as he made memo-

ries with his teammates.

"I think the season was amazing," Merrill said. "The team got along well all throughout the season. That playoff game against Broadneck, there were so many fans and scouts there, the atmosphere was incredible."

After that 4-0 win over Broadneck on June 9, Severna Park added playoff victories over Leonardtown, Howard and Laurel.

The Falcons were seeking to win their first state title since 2009, and for the coaches, soothe the sting from the 2018 4A state championship game when they lost on a 5-4 walk-off against Howard at Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen.

The 2021 game seemed destined to end better for the Falcons, yet it left them

with a familiar feeling.

Pitcher **Nick Carparelli III** had a flawless first inning, getting a groundout and two strikeouts. A double play eliminated a scoring threat in the second, and a successful pickoff erased a Sherwood baserunner in the third. Warriors pitcher Brett Seils matched Carparelli's strong start until the Falcons' offense came alive in the third inning.

**Robert Weaver** drew a leadoff walk and stole second base on a wild pitch. **James Henson III** got a bunt single down the first-base line, moving Weaver to third. Henson stole second. After a strikeout, an intentional walk to Merrill and another strikeout, the Falcons got two-out hits by **Luke Herz** and **Daniel Key** to go ahead 2-0.

Sherwood struck back in the fifth inning, getting two base hits. After a sacrifice bunt, the Falcons dropped a fly ball to give up the first Sherwood run.

"You can't make mistakes against a good team like that," Milton said. "They didn't make many mistakes and we did."

A steal and an infield hit tied the score at 2. Carparelli got a much-needed strikeout, but then a Nico Pernie double put Sherwood ahead 4-2 before Carparelli struck out another Sherwood batter to end the inning.

"That truly was a turning point in the game," Carparelli said. "We had so many opportunities to get out of that inning, but Sherwood capitalized on the opportunities they were given. You're going to have nerves and butterflies going into a game like that, so the team that can limit that and play more loose is going to have the best chance to win."

There was no quit in the Falcons. In the same inning, **Nick Marsella** got a base hit. Merrill walked. **Tucker McDonough** singled and Herz drove a pitch into center field for a two-RBI double, tying the game at 4. Merrill relieved Carparelli on the mound and pitched two scoreless innings, but Severna Park could not regain the lead. They stranded a leadoff runner on third base after Drew Crowley's double to right field in the sixth inning, and they left McDonough at second base in the seventh. In the eighth, Sherwood got an infield single from Pernie and a sacrifice bunt by Jake Becker before Ryan Bouma smoked a pitch up the middle for the 5-4 lead.

The Falcons had their chance in the bottom of the eighth inning, but Warriors pitcher Steven Tameris sealed his team's win.

"I thought it was going to be a good ball game, and it was," said Sherwood head coach Sean Davis. "It was two solid ball clubs, well coached, and they just went blow for blow."

The 2021 season is over, but it won't be forgotten.

"Every day, I wanted to practice. I wanted to play with the guys," Carparelli said. "We had a bond between us. We'll be teammates for life."

Read the full version of this story at [www.severnaparkvoice.com](http://www.severnaparkvoice.com).



Photos by Zach Sparks  
**Left:** Nick Carparelli had six strikeouts over five innings against the Warriors. **Below:** Following a leadoff walk in the third inning, Robert Weaver stole second base and later scored the Falcons' first run on a base hit by Luke Herz.



## Severna Park Yankees Take Second-Place Honors



The Severna Park Yankees went 14-3 this season, making it to the Anne Arundel County Majors championship game. They lost to the Harundale Rebels 5-2 in the county title game.

The Severna Park Green Hornets 11- to 12-year-old Majors baseball division was wrapped up on June 5 with the Severna Park Yankees taking the championship game over the Severna Park Pirates 15-6. The Severna Park Yankees went undefeated this year in the Severna Park league (5-0). The team then moved on to the Anne Arundel County Baseball COOP tournament, which included 24 11- to 12-year-old Major rec baseball teams throughout Anne Arundel County. The Severna Park Yankees worked their way to the Anne Arundel County Majors championship game, but fell just short, losing to the undefeated Harundale Rebels 5-2. The Yankees finished their season with a 14-3 record.

After a year of COVID and no baseball in 2020, the boys came together with a lot of new things thrown at them. With none of the boys having played in the Majors division before, they had to jump into full Major League Baseball rules this year, which included base stealing, dropped third strikes, and balks.

"To see the boys grow this season, come together as a team and support one another, all while still battling through a pandemic, speaks a lot of these young men," said Severna Park Yankees head coach **Nick DeAngelis**. "It truly has been a team effort with everyone contributing to the success of the team."

The Severna Park Yankees are **Dorsey Berlin, Jake Tarsi, Evan Chojnowski, James Clifford, Marek Daccarett, David DeAngelis, Ricky Turner, Ethan Shinnamon, Ben Sepp, Evan Tarsi, Rhodes Opalinsky** and **Matthew Lindquist**. The coaches are **Nick DeAngelis, Chris Turner, Adam Tarsi** and **Don Shinnamon**.





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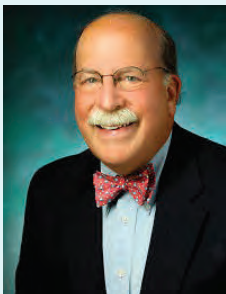
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# STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

## Alexis Abe

Broadneck High School  
Girls Lacrosse

By Kevin Murnane

**B**roadneck's girls lacrosse team was crowned the Maryland 4A champion over rival Arundel High School in a hard-fought 12-11 battle on June 19. The victory culminated in an undefeated year for the Bruins, and the championship game was played in front of a raucous and capacity crowd at Loyola University.

The Bruins had a young squad coming into this year and Coach Katy Kelley relied on a handful of seniors to get the talented young players ready for the competitive county league.

"We only had four returning seniors on this squad, so I knew I had to be a leader and help any way I could," Abe said. "Not having a season last year because of the pandemic really hurt our momentum because we had amazing seniors last year and could have won the state championship last year."

It was a difficult year for Abe and her teammates last year as they missed the esprit de corps of practices and games.

"Coach Kelley is an amazing coach," Abe said. "We're extremely lucky to



Alexis Abe was an instrumental part of the state champion Bruins this season.

have all of our coaches. Last year with the pandemic, she arranged Zoom calls to keep us inspired, and then this fall, we had motivational speakers to help us focus on lacrosse and the upcoming season."

Kelley recounted how Abe stepped into the 2021 season as one of the Bruins' most experienced players.

"She truly embraced this opportunity in all aspects of the game: in her play, her discipline and her willingness to lead and grow her younger counterparts," Kelley said. "Her mature play, alongside the fact she has fun on the field, has allowed her to thrive this season as a player and has been integral for our success and in maintaining the culture and mindset of our Broadneck lacrosse program."

Abe started playing lacrosse in first grade and developed her skills and leadership ability playing club lacrosse in the competitive county leagues. Abe credits her many coaches who have instructed her along the way, but one coach, Mark Allgaier, made his mark with her in the Pure club team. "He taught me toughness and never quit no matter what the score may be," Abe said.

Abe answered the challenge that Kelley posed to her this year.

"I love it," said the gregarious Abe when asked about being a leader for her younger teammates. "I respect my younger teammates and they are all so talented. I just lead by example and focus on doing the drills correctly and taking them seriously."

Broadneck accomplished a perfect record this year and Abe contributes that to how they approach each game.

"We respect every opponent, and

we really support one another on the field," Abe said. "I also believe that our camaraderie is one of our strengths and we have amazing trust in each other to make the correct pass or shot."

One of the other aspects of this tight-knit squad is that the players are friends off the field as well. They have traditional team breakfasts after Saturday morning practices and help one another with assignments and advice.

"I'll miss many things about Broadneck, but one of the things I'll miss most is the bus rides home after games with the singing and dancing on the bus," Abe said.

One of the games Abe will remember the most was the thrilling double-overtime game with Severna Park in the playoffs. The Bruins fell behind 6-1 and clawed their way back to eventually beat the Falcons.

"We fought so hard that game, it was ridiculous, how we slowly came back and won at the end," Abe said. "The celebration after that was incredible."

Abe has received a lacrosse scholarship from UMBC and will take her leadership skills and talents to the Catonsville campus. Abe will help a young and talented Retriever team strive for a NCAA championship.

In partnership with The Matt Wyble Team of Century 21, the Voice's Student-Athlete of the Month series recognizes the many student-athletes in our area who make an impact not necessarily by way of statistics or stardom, but by their unique contributions. Contact Zach Sparks at zach@severnaparkvoice.com to nominate a young person in our community making a positive impact through sports.

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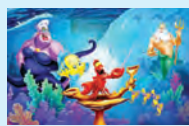
### Week 7 August 9 - August 13 Trolls Tour

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# SPHS Boys Tie For Second In Track And Field Championships

## Broadneck Girls Finish Eighth

By Zach Sparks  
zach@severnaparkvoice.com

The Severna Park boys had a strong showing at the Maryland state track and field championships, tying for second place with Howard at the event, held June 18-19 at Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex in Landover. Broadneck's girls finished eighth while the Severna Park girls came in 22nd. The Broadneck boys finished 14th.

Here is the full list of results:

## SEVERNA PARK BOYS

In the boys 4x800 meter relay, Severna Park claimed first at 7:53.71. The team was senior **Jack Muldoon**, juniors **Edward Sullivan** and **James Glebocki**, and senior **Jake Gelfand**.

For the boys 1600-meter run, senior **Carson Sloat** finished second (4:16.67) and junior **Tyler Canaday** (4:20.26) came in fourth.

In the boys 3200-meter run, Gelfand came in second (9:34.59). During the boys 400-meter dash, junior **Jack DeBaugh** was third with a time of 49.86. Sloat finished fourth (1:58.45) in the boys 800-meter run.

Severna Park placed sixth in the boys 4x200 meter relay. The team of sophomore **Michael Singleton**, junior **Declan Gentile**, senior **Graham Snyder** and junior **Casey Grindle** had a time of 1:31.82.

In high jump, fourth place went to junior **John Tyler**, who cleared 6 feet, 2 inches. Junior **Ryan Laughlin** came in second for pole vault, clearing 11 feet, 6 inches.

With all events calculated, the Severna Park boys tied Howard for second place with 58 points through 18 events. Walter Johnson was first.

Photos by Zach Sparks

**Right:** SPHS junior Casey Grindle was a member of Severna Park's 4x200 meter relay team, which took sixth place. **Below:** The Falcons' Tyler Canaday (second from right) and Carson Sloat (right) finished fourth and second in the 1600-meter run respectively.

## SEVERNA PARK GIRLS

In the girls 4x800 meter relay, Severna Park placed fourth with a time of 9:54.06. The team was comprised of seniors **Abby Weist**, **Cara Vandemeulebroecke**, **Caroline Gage** and freshman **Taylor Denton**.

In triple jump, senior **Claire Kintzley** came in sixth.

With eight points, the Severna Park girls finished 22nd.

## BROADNECK GIRLS

In girls pole vault, junior **Kate Donnelly** took first, clearing 11 feet. Junior **Mollie Fenn** finished second in the girls 3200-meter run with a time of 11:12.70. Senior **Molly Wilson** placed fourth in the girls 400-meter dash with a time of 1:00.13.

Sophomore **Safiya Stimely** earned fourth place in discus throw (86 feet, 10 inches).

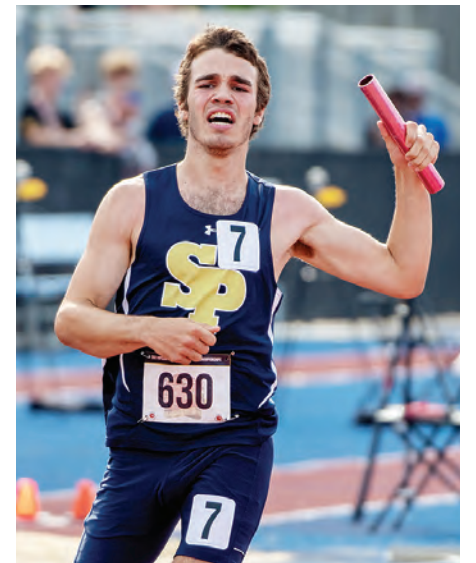
The Broadneck girls finished eighth with 28 points through 18 events.

## BROADNECK BOYS

In shot put, Broadneck junior **Ayden Wheless** came in fifth (45 feet, 3.5 inches). Wheless was also seventh in discus throw (105 feet, 7 inches).

In the boys 4x400 meter relay, Broadneck came in seventh at 3:30.99. The team included senior **Henry Taylor**, sophomore **Bryce Clark**, and seniors **Jack Collier** and **Zephyr Crestwell**.

With 18 points, Broadneck was 14th on the boys side.



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# First Season Is A Success For 2009 Green Hornets Falcons

The 2009 Green Hornets Falcons completed their inaugural season with a hard-fought 2-0 victory over the Harundale Punishers on June 4. With the win, the Falcons finished the season on top of their division in the Anne Arundel Youth Soccer Association Girls U12 League with a record of 6-1-1.

The Falcons were led by players at every position including:

- The stifling defense of **Samantha Stefancik, Taylor Roventini, Clara Wall, Brooke Perchinsky** and **Mary Winship.**
- The outstanding midfield play of **Josie Kamas, Brianna Knutsen, Ava Thomas, Kristy Wilson, Zoey Kang, Stella Miller** and **Brianna Flynn.**
- The dynamic attacking of **Harmony Maples, Claire Fath** and **Liv Kules.**

The team was coached by **Steve Kamas** and **Nicole Roventini.**



The Falcons finished the season on top of their division in the Anne Arundel Youth Soccer Association Girls U12 League with a record of 6-1-1. "Our girls really embraced their first opportunity to play together and compete in AAYSA," said coach Kamas. "Their success on the field was a testament to how hard they worked to improve each week. It was so much fun to see how well they complemented and supported one another throughout the season."



## SP SandStorm Blows Through Sand Duels Tournament

SP SandStorm returned from Ocean City, Maryland, as champions of the 2011 Boys competitive division of Sand Duels, a tournament held by OC BeachSoccer on the weekend of June 12. The team went 4-0 on the day, scoring 15 goals and conceding three, and was made up of members of the Severna Park Premier Green 2011 boys team. Pictured from left to right are Colin Darcy, Chase Connell, Nick Reed, Angelo Coppola, Ryan Blain, Easton Fox, Ryan Buck and coach John Coppola. This was a fun ending to a soccer year where the team competed in the top division of the CMSSL in both the spring and fall (finishing the spring season at 5-1-2 and at the top of the standings) and also the top flights of four premier tournaments, finishing as finalists in two, and semi-finalists in one, along the way. Players unable to attend Sand Duels were Henry Agee, Cooper Bullough, Everett Gerig, Andrew John and Nate Oehling.

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# Former Falcons Make Special Memories As Terps Teammates

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Josh Coffman and Chase Cope reached the pinnacle of high school lacrosse as three-time state champions with Severna Park High School. This year, with the University of Maryland, they came up one goal short of winning an NCAA title.

The 17-16 Virginia win over Maryland on May 31 tied a record for highest-scoring NCAA Division I men's lacrosse championship. In 1975, Maryland beat Navy 20-13, and in 1983, Syracuse defeated Johns Hopkins 17-16.

A crowd of 14,816 fans packed Rentschler Field in Connecticut for the 2021 final.

"It was unlike any game I've played in before," Coffman said. "The atmosphere, the back and forth. Being up and down. It was unreal."

When it was over, the two Terps midfielders had each other to lean on, not only as teammates but as close friends.

Coffman and Cope grew up together, from Benfield Elementary to Severna Park Middle to Severna Park High School, where they continued to hone their craft after playing on club teams together.

"It was very rewarding, looking back," Coffman said. "Whether it was Trent Bellotte or Chase, all the work we put in, shooting, dodging on each other, all the stuff we did in our free time to push each other."

The bond between Cope and Coffman has continued to grow during college. The friends are roommates, and they drive together to practices.

"Josh had a semester ahead of me, so he helped me with all sorts of things and showed me the way," said Cope, who just completed his junior year along with Coffman.

After starting 5-1 in 2020, their season was ended prematurely because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The last season getting cut short was a heartbreak for all of us, so coming back this year, we had the goal to do something special," Coffman said. "We kept reminding each other to do this for the other guys, not for ourselves. There was a lot of sacrifice — we couldn't see family and friends for the duration of the season — and we were playing with a purpose."

That passion and purpose carried Maryland to a 15-0 start leading up to the championship game. The regular season included wins over ranked opponents Penn State (twice), Johns Hopkins, Rutgers (twice) and Ohio State (twice). During the NCAA tournament, the Terps beat Vermont, No. 6 Notre Dame in overtime and No. 2 Duke, setting up a championship final against No. 4 Virginia.

Early in the match, Coffman scored on an assist from Jared Bernhardt to put his team up 3-2.

"We got the ball on the clear. The look they were in, it was a 10-man,"



Photos courtesy of University of Maryland Athletics

Josh Coffman and Chase Cope have played lacrosse together since they both attended Benfield Elementary School. They are currently teammates on the University of Maryland men's lacrosse team, which lost to Virginia in the 2021 NCAA title game.

Coffman said. "A middie on the field was ball-watching, so I cut up the backside and dumped it in."

Despite the loss, Cope said it was a gift to step on the field this season.

"It was an incredible season from where we started and not knowing whether we would be able to get there," Cope said. "We had great leadership from guys like Jared, Logan [Wisnauskas] and Anthony [DeMaio] who knew what it took to get there."

Cope believes the Terps have the right leadership to get back to the NCAA tournament. So does Coffman.

"We have a strong core," Coffman said. "Losing Jared and some of the other guys, that is going to hurt, but we are confident in our guys. We won't sleep until we get back next year and finish this time."

Coffman finished the season with five goals, two assists, 23 ground balls and eight caused turnovers. Cope had one goal and two ground balls.

Now with their season over, both players enjoyed hearing about Severna Park's 4A state championship win over Catonsville. Cope has a brother on the team, and both he and Coffman were seniors when some of the younger guys — Colin Shadowens, Kyle Griffith, Rory Sullivan, Kurt Klaus and others — were new to the team.

The friends are also cherishing a season that "will be remembered forever," according to Coffman.

"Getting to the Final Four and championship weekend was a first for me," Cope said. "To be able to do that was unbelievable. Being able to make those connections with guys on the team, I'll never take that for granted."

“

*It was very rewarding, looking back. Whether it was Trent Bellotte or Chase, all the work we put in, shooting, dodging on each other, all the stuff we did in our free time to push each other.”*

— JOSH COFFMAN, JUNIOR, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

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# BAYS Middies A Team Secures Girls Lax Championship



The Broadneck Middies A team won the Anne Arundel County championship after going 6-0 for an undefeated season. Due to COVID-19, no championship game was played; division winners were instead chosen based on

season record. They were coached by **Jen Trout, Meghan Frye, Mark Frye and Lou Facciponti**. The team was led by sixth-graders **Hadley Booker, Mackenzie Burrows, Samantha Collins,**

**Ceci Facciponti, Lola Fresty, Jillian Gross, Avery Katzen, Molly Robison, Noelle Salamandra and Ella Trout**. The rest of the team was comprised of **Alexis Britton, Scarlett Burrows, Madelyn Collins, Shea Fitzpatrick,**

**Harper Frye, Lily Habashi, Samantha Johns and Laurie O'Leary**. "The girls really learned the importance of teamwork and worked great together," said **Lauren Burrows**, the commissioner of BAYS girls lacrosse.

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Photo courtesy of Flynn Prengaman

# Undefeated Green Hornets U11 Boys Are Regular Season Champs

The Green Hornets beat the archrival Arden Diamondbacks 2-1 early in the season and tied them 1-1 on the last game of the season to secure the championship.

The Green Hornets boys U11 (fourth and fifth grade) select lacrosse team won the Anne Arundel County regular season championship. Head Coach **Mike Archer** said the team came a long way from their first spring practice and showed great effort all season, playing as team, not as individuals.

The team went undefeated with a 6-0-1 season, beating the archrival Arden

Diamondbacks 2-1 early in the season, and tying them 1-1 on the last game of the season to secure the championship. Anne Arundel County did not hold playoffs this year due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

**Brody Pugh** anchored the defense between the pipes, and fourth-grader **Mason Sipe** backed him up. The defense was the team's identity and included **Dominic Biello, Leo Sobocinski** and

**CJ Callaway**, a fourth-grader. The attack was patient and took care of the ball, and all attackmen contributed to the scoring, including fourth-grader **Evan Archer** at left attack, and fifth-graders **Miles McGuinness, Grant Accinelli** and **Cole Ramsey**. The midfield controlled the ball in every game and was led by **Van Lighthizer**, who scored key goals in both Diamondback games, and also

included speedsters **Liam King** and **Connor Perry**, additional fifth-grader middies who also played some defense, **Emmett Williams, Ben Greenlee** and **Evan Catrambone**, as well as talented fourth-grade two-way middies **Mark Hansbrough** and **Michael Mihoces**.

Assistant coaches included **Adam Williams, Dave McGuinness** and **Jim Lighthizer**.

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## Broadneck Comes Up Short In Playoff Loss To Severna Park



Photos by Maddy Fangio

*The No. 2 seeded Broadneck boys lacrosse team played eventual 4A state champion and No. 1 seed Severna Park to the wire on June 11, coming out on the losing end of a 6-5 game. Kyle Pierce had two goals for the Bruins in the rivalry matchup. Aiden Doyle, Sam Kelley and Mitch Murray each had one. Goalie Colin Gray had a strong game in goal.*



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# Girls Lacrosse Has Strong Season For Severna Park

Photos by Wornden Ly

*SPHS battled Broadneck in a thrilling 10-9 overtime Falcon loss. The Bruins ended the season as state champs.*

The Severna Park girls varsity lacrosse team lost only one game during the regular season, to Broadneck, so it was fitting that the two teams met again in the 4A East Region II final during the playoffs on June 11. The Falcons fought hard, taking the game to double overtime before losing to the Bruins 10-9.

"The girls played a tremendous game," said Severna Park head coach **Kaitlyn Hines**. "They fought hard, and I could not be more proud of them."

During the game against Broadneck, Severna Park was led offensively by junior **Emma Marsh** and sophomore **Regan McDonnell**, who each scored two points. Junior **Delanie Abere**, sophomores **Charlotte Diez** and **Sophia Miller**, and junior **Theresa Bragg** each scored one point.

Goalie **Sarah Krause** made several saves including one that forced the second overtime period.

The Severna Park girls can reflect on a stellar season that included a 19-0 playoff win over Leonardtown on June 9. Seniors **Hailey Betch** (four goals) and **Kaila Stasulli** (three goals) led the scoring in that game.



“

*The girls played a tremendous game. They fought hard, and I could not be more proud of them.”*

— **KAITLYN HINES, SPHS GIRLS LACROSSE HEAD COACH**

*REFERRING TO THE FALCONS' 10-9 LOSS TO BROADNECK IN THE THE GIRLS LACROSSE REGIONAL PLAYOFFS*

## Bruin Girls Beat Wildcats, Capture Lacrosse State Championship

» Continued from page 19

game at 3-3. With 6:05 left in the half, yet another Broadneck attacker got involved. Junior **Julia Sokolowski** approached from the wing, dodged two defenders and flicked the ball into the cage for the lead. After the Wildcats again evened the score, Moore tossed a pass over the cage and into the stick of sophomore **Lilly Kelley**, who found the net to give Broadneck a 5-4 lead heading into halftime.

Arundel's Caroline Keane tied the game 50 seconds into the second half, but Broadneck began winning draw after draw to create scoring opportunities. Dupcak flicked one in and then Sokolowski fed Moore for another score. **Junior Sam Lavorini** piled on, running around the crease and then firing a shot into the bottom of the net, just beyond the extended reach of Arundel goalie Kylie Sharpe and another defender. Moore then found Dupcak for a goal, Kelley scored on an assist from **Alexis Abe**, and Abe found the net on an assist from Lavorini.

Over a six-minute stretch, the Bruins scored six unanswered points, increasing their lead to 11-5. Just like Broadneck's state semifinal against Dulaney on June 16, though, the opponent refused to surrender. Malia Walker, Madison Barber and Keane brought Arundel's deficit to three points at 11-8. Broadneck junior goalie **Chloe Rand** then made two big saves, one on a free position shot. Not to be denied, Arundel scored again as Walker sunk a shot while drifting to her right. With the advantage at 11-9 Broadneck, Lilly Kelley found the net for a key goal with 3:39 remaining.

"We know until the time is up, we need to fight," Lilly Kelley said after the game.

Arundel's Nikki Seven scored with 38 seconds and then 21.3 seconds left, but Dupcak secured the final draw, preserving the lead and Broadneck's first state championship since 2013.

"Lexi is calm and composed, and she's very skilled on the draw, on the offensive end," coach Kelley said. "So I was nervous, but I had



**Above:** Sam Lavorini had a goal and an assist in the state championship win over Arundel.

**Below:** Goalie Chloe Rand had several key saves to preserve the Broadneck lead.



faith that she would do what she had to do, and she did it."

Katy Kelley was an assistant coach on the 2013 Broadneck team. Not only did she win her first title as a head coach by beating Arundel, but her daughter, Lilly Kelley, had a hat trick. Dupcak and Arundel players Gore and Keane also finished with three goals apiece.

The win capped an impressive playoff run for the Bruins, who finished the season undefeated after beating Leonardtown 28-2, Severna Park 10-9 in double overtime, and Dulaney 11-8.

Coach Kelley said her team had the support of many former alumni, who motivated her players throughout the "magical" postseason run.

"I've never been so honored to play on a team ... having faith in each other and having fun every single day," Abe said.

The girls shared unity and a love for one another, Lilly Kelley explained, and that helped the girls win a special championship that she and the coaches will savor. The 2021 title marks Broadneck's fourth championship after previous wins in 2002, 2003 and 2013.

"They know this doesn't come around every year or even every 10 years, so it's huge," coach Kelley said.

The 2021 Broadneck girls lacrosse team was coached by Katy Kelley and assistant coaches **Stephanie Jones, Ali Flury, Shannon Harratty** and **Jess Williams**. Suiting up for the Bruins were **Sophia Facciponti, Olivia Orso, Lilah Sage, Chloe Boteler, Kate Lindsay, Lily Trout, Tobin Chambers, Mason Smargissi, Makenna Quigley, Mary Moore, Skylar Smith, Alexis Abe, Ella Phillips, Kelsey Raymond, Abi Kerr, Peyton Baldwin, Reagan Baldwin, Julia Sokolowski, Lauren Peters, Carly Johnston, Lexi Dupcak, Lilly Kelley, Nellie Gownley, Sam Lavorini, Arden Huntman, Ella Killian, Molly Yeomans, Caitlin Alperstein** and Chloe Rand.



## Severna Park Boys Are Champions



» Continued from page 19

lacrosse its 10th state championship, tied with Hereford, which won the 2A title this year, for most in Maryland history.

Evans bounced a shot into goal and then scored another for the early 2-0 lead. **Kyle Griffith** found the net and then Evans scored two more, the second on a feed from Shadowens.

"When I'm on a fast break, he's the one I'm hitting," Shadowens said of Evans. "... he's burying the ball wherever he is on the field."

An underhand shot from Evans pushed the lead to 6-0. Shadowens won the ensuing faceoff and took it the distance himself, burying it for the 7-0 lead as Falcons fans erupted into applause. **Connor Koistinen** added his first score to give Severna Park an 8-0 lead at the half.

Severna Park was firing on all cylinders, playing confident and loose.

"I felt like the last game we were playing not to lose instead of to win, so we tried to loosen the mood," Falcons head coach **Travis Loving** said.

That loose style of play continued in the third quarter. Evans earned a wraparound goal and Koistinen notched his second goal. Catonsville scored with 11.9 seconds left in the third on a goal from Tyler Mikalaski but it was too little, too late for the Comets. Evans added his seventh score of the game and Catonsville found the net two times late. As the clock ran out, the final score remained 11-3 in favor of the Falcons.

Evans' seven goals eclipsed the prior Class 4A record set by Damon Scordo of Dulaney in 1991, Mike Haertel of Arundel in 1995 and Ben Chisholm of South River in 2011. Sean Dougherty of Centennial set the record for most goals in any Maryland state public school championship game

with nine in 2002.

Severna Park's relentless attack was key to the win. Catonsville head coach KR Schultz said that although Severna Park's 10-man ride posed a challenge for opposing teams all year, he thought he had prepared a good counter strategy.

"I just didn't put them in the right position," he said of his players, adding that his team respected but was not intimidated by the Falcons. "They're a confident bunch. They don't fear anyone."

The Falcons were an experienced team with 15 seniors, but it was no given that they would return to the finals. Several of the top scorers from the last state championship team in 2019 had graduated (the 2020 season was lost to the coronavirus pandemic). Loving stepped into the role of head coach for the first time after working as a defensive coach under previous head coach Dave Earl.

Shadowens called it a blessing to have a season and to end the season as a champion.

"It's surreal," he said.

This year's state champion Falcons were **Jack Blumenberg**, Kyle Griffith, Charlie Evans, **Bryce Stevenson**, **Tommy Haskell**, **Joaquin Villagomez**, **James Ruppert**, **Ashby Shepherd**, **Anders Hansen**, **Chad Brown**, **Carson Barrett**, **Connor Koistinen**, **Ethan Gaige**, **Colin Shadowens**, **Brock McCubbin**, **Will Bray**, **Ryan Gosewisch**, **Brayden Flynn**, **Will Morgan**, **Liam McNulty**, **Patrick Murray**, **Kevin Bredeck**, **Sean Ladas**, **Jack Gunther**, **Matt Dryer**, **Logan Heydt**, **Rory Sullivan**, **Evan Stroble**, **Nolan Grizzle**, **Nolan Zborai**, **Mark Durling**, **Drew Smith**, **Kurt Klaus**, **Talan Livingston**, **Alex Soliman**, **Paul Isenberg**, **Parker Sealey** and **Ganon Cope**.

## SPHS JV Girls Lax Goes Undeclared

Not only did Severna Park High School's JV girls lacrosse team go 9-0 in 2021, but they outscored opponents 130-23. That included shutouts over Chesapeake, Old Mill and Northeast.

The Falcons opened the season with an 11-3 win versus Broadneck. **Sarah Stefancik** led the team with four goals and the team dominated on the circle, winning eight of 12 draw controls. They played Broadneck a second time the following week (in lieu of Annapolis not fielding a JV this year) and won 10-6. Five Falcons scored in the rematch and another three assisted.

"Our girls played unselfishly and combined for 13 caused turnovers that game," said Severna Park head coach **Annie Houghton**. "For a young team, composed of eight sophomores and 16 freshmen, I was very proud of how well they jelled so early on in the season."

**Samantha Koppe** and **Sara Kreis** both had a great offensive game against Chesapeake, scoring three goals each, while **Katie Griffith** led with three assists. **Amelia Goger** thrived in the midfield with five draw controls and **Ryn Feemster** tallied three caused turnovers.

Severna Park played rival South River on May 21. The Falcons were up 9-0 at the half and won by a final score of 12-5. **Allison Schiavone** played solid in cage with seven saves.

"Seven players scored, showing the depth of our team and the willingness to pass and move the ball around, waiting for the right shot on cage," Houghton said. **Emma Boyle** caused two turnovers and **Francesca Dunoyer** nabbed four draw controls."

The Falcons beat Southern 15-2. **Berit Isenberg**, who transitioned from defense to midfield, had one goal, one assist and three draw controls.

"Berit was a versatile player who was always willing to step up and play wherever I needed her," Houghton said. "From a coach's perspective, nothing says 'teamwork' more than this. All of our girls were willing to play any position if it brought the team success."

Freshman **Kate Evans** was a leader on the Falcons' attack. She had a season-high four assists in both the Southern and Arundel games. "Kate did a great job settling the ball, calling plays and feeding from behind the cage," Houghton said.

Crofton jumped out to a 1-0 lead against Severna Park, scoring off of the first draw and play of the game, but the

Falcons team answered right back. Evans scored minutes later, and from that point on, Severna Park held the lead for the remainder of the game. They led 6-2 at halftime and won with a final score of 10-5. Evans led with four goals, while Dunoyer had three and Kreis, Goger and Koppe had one goal apiece. The team collectively caused 10 turnovers and held the Cardinals to nine shots on goal.

"This was a really fun game to coach and for our fans to watch!" said Houghton, noting that it was Severna Park's inaugural game against the new Crofton High School. "I look forward to this friendly rivalry and good competition for years to come."

**Maddie Sullivan** had a season-high five assists against Northeast. "She is poised behind the cage and can thread the ball into the eight meter and find our cutters," Houghton said.

**Bella Joyce** had four assists and one goal during the final game of the season versus Arundel, leading the offense in total points that game. "Bella is by far the most motivating person on our team," Houghton said. "Ask anyone, if you want to get hyped up before a game, she's your go-to!"

Joyce served as a team captain in 2021 along with **Abbigal Goodman** and **Emily Prenskey**, who was injured for the season.

A first-year goalie, Schiavone had a 54.9% save average. She converted from defense to goalie this year and did a tremendous job, according to Houghton.

"She communicated with our defense, was poised in cage and cleared the ball well," Houghton said. "She was an asset to our team, and we owe much of our success to her!"

Houghton credited parents for their support and flexibility getting the girls to practices and games this season. She also praised her assistant coaches, **Jenn Edwards** and **Paige Thumel**, for making the season great.

Above all, Houghton was grateful to have a season.

"As a coach I am proud of our record and gameplay, but even more so of the relationships that our girls built and the support that they showed one another, both on and off the field," Houghton said. "Our team came focused and ready to work hard at every practice and that transpired into great play during games. Great success doesn't come easy, but they were willing to put in the effort every day and it paid off."

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## Future Physicists Top Broadneck's Senior Class



Photo by Judy Tacyn

Broadneck's class of 2021 valedictorian George Witt (right) and salutatorian Andrew Kille both have a strong interest in computer programming.

**By Judy Tacyn**

Friends since middle school, George Witt and Andrew Kille had no idea that seven years later they would thrive despite navigating a global pandemic to earn valedictorian and salutatorian honors, respectively, as part of Broadneck High School's class of 2021. A mere .05 separated their weighted GPAs.

Undeterred after Maryland schools moved to virtual learning in March 2020, these scholars quickly adjusted

and found that COVID-19 provided more opportunity than restriction.

Kille reached out to Witt last spring to find out how to get more involved in computer programming. He discovered he had a strong interest in computational modeling and using computer programming in physics.

"After I was exposed to physics in my junior year, I researched the field and really wanted to go out and learn more and more outside of high school," said Kille, who completed on-

» **Continued on page 41**

## SPHS Valedictorian Has Big Dreams

*Ryan Khan worked hard to earn the title of valedictorian by taking as many AP courses as possible in his high school career.*

**By Haley Weisgerber**

The class of 2021 walked across the stage at Crofton High School on June 9 and bid farewell to Severna Park High School. Among those students was Ryan Khan, who was named this year's valedictorian.

Khan moved to the United States from the Middle East when he was in the eighth grade. He lived in Crofton for the summer and started school at Crofton Middle School before transferring to Severna Park Middle School after a few weeks.

"I started at Crofton Middle School and graduated at Crofton High School," he said. "It's kind of symbolic."

While he was living in the Middle East, Khan said he was not considered to be a good student. During his time at Severna Park High School, he began taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses and started to take his education seriously.

"It's humbling to know that I was not a great student there, and then I gradually worked my way up," said Khan. "I worked hard, I took all AP classes and then I ended up doing well."

He said that one lesson from the first semester of his freshman English class inspired him along the way. His teacher, Jake Vickery, challenged the students to write about who they are, who they want to be, and who they want to be four years after graduating. Before graduation, Vickery sent Khan an email congratulating him on being named valedictorian.

"He emailed me, and he basically referenced that lesson that he taught us four years ago," said Khan. "That was great because during those four years, I had that in the back of my mind. I want to thank Mr. Vickery for that."

Khan was enrolled in four AP courses in his sophomore year, seven courses in his junior year and seven in his senior year. After he realized that he was taking all of the possible AP courses, Khan started asking around to find out about his



class rank.

"Sophomore year, I realized that it was possible that I was ranked one," said Khan. "During junior year, I was ranked around 11. By the end of junior year, I was ranked five, and then at the beginning of senior year, I was rank one and then I just held on to it."

Khan said that aside from his family, his friends in the Middle East were his biggest support system.

"I remember one time, it was late at night and I was struggling to do an assignment and I was procrastinating," said Khan. "They said, 'No, you have to keep your rank one.' They convinced me to go do my assignment."

This was not the senior year Khan expected to have. He may have missed out on many important traditions and being in the classroom for much of the year, but Khan is making the most of the situation.

"The actual positive thing that came out of this whole distance learning thing was it really challenged our abilities to adapt to something new," said Khan. "It's going to help us prepare for future challenges and changes in the future."

He is attending the University of Maryland College Park in the fall to double major in economics and math with a minor in Spanish. He is » **Continued on page 41**

## Troop 450's Colin Gillespie Tackles Solution To Autoimmune Disorders

**By John Singleton**

Autoimmune disorders are rising sharply in the United States, with young people ages 12 to 19 showing the most dramatic increase according to the National Institute of Health. When Colin Gillespie of Boy Scout Troop 450 in Severna Park noticed his sister struggling with inflammatory responses to certain foods, he made it a part of his Eagle Scout project.

"Food allergy is not a very accurate description of what people suffering from autoimmune disorders go through," explained Gillespie, who attends Mount Saint Joseph High School. "When the immune system is not working properly, it can lead to many serious conditions including pancreatitis, lupus and early onset arthritis."

Digestive disorders like Celiac, Crohn's and ulcerative colitis have also skyrocketed among young people in recent years. The root cause of these gastrointestinal conditions has been linked to processed foods containing gluten, vegetable oils

» **Continued on page 42**



As part of his Eagle Scout project, Colin Gillespie collected 495 pounds of gluten-free items for the Anne Arundel County Food Bank.



# Passionate Educators Address Math Fluency Gap

By Judy Tacyn

Anne Arundel County Public Schools educators Rachel Amstutz and Mary Mouring refuse to accept “learning loss,” either after summer break or from last school year’s virtual learning.

“We know there will be gaps this fall due in part to last year’s curriculum and the condensed way in which it was taught,” said Amstutz, alluding to virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year. “Research is pretty clear; we need to be talking about acceleration rather than learning loss. We need to move forward. [AACPS] has a plan, and those gaps will be addressed.”

Throughout their education careers, Amstutz and Mouring have seen a negative change in students’ attitudes toward math starting around fourth and fifth grades, and the trend only gets worse in middle school.

“It should not be acceptable to say, ‘I don’t do math, or I’m not good at math,’” Mouring said. “You don’t hear that about English! And we shouldn’t hear it about math.”

For the last two years, these friends and colleagues have comprehensively pondered the root cause of math aversion in young students and how to address it. As educators, they have repeatedly seen students struggle in the classroom after summer break if they had not practiced math facts at home. To help students heighten their math skills, enthusiastically prepare for a full return to in-person learning in the fall, and instill a lifelong love and curiosity of mathematics, Amstutz and Mouring have launched a summer math intensive program, through A to Z Education Consulting, founded by Amstutz.

In collaboration with Park Books and Literacy Lab in Severna Park, this dynamic math duo will help rising fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders in two facets: math fluency and core content.

Math fluency sessions provide children with the tools and skills to become fully fluent in their basic math facts. With no



Photo by Judy Tacyn

(L-R) Mary Mouring and Rachel Amstutz are teaching math lessons at Park Books & Literacy Lab this summer.

more than eight students per small group, children will sharpen their math skills so that when September rolls around, they are confident and eager to learn, building upon this positive learning experience.

“It is critical that students are fully fluent in multiplication facts by the end of third grade to be successful with all math content,” Mouring said.

The core content sessions will address grade-level math content in key math topic areas (place value systems, operations and algebraic reasoning, fractions, problem solving) to strengthen math skills, extend mathematical thinking, and

set children up for success in the coming school year.

“Math learning no longer relies on memorizing algorithms. Students are now required to explain the how and why algorithms work,” Amstutz said. “Once children understand the ‘why’ beneath core math content, they get excited to build upon those concepts.”

Math fluency sessions will be held July 5–9, July 12–16 and August 2–6. The core content sessions are scheduled for July 19–30 and August 9–20. All sessions will be held at Park Books, located at 555 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, next to

Garry’s Grill.

For more information on the Summer Math Intensive, A to Z Education Consulting, or Amstutz and Mouring, visit [www.atozeducationconsulting.org](http://www.atozeducationconsulting.org). To learn about Park Books and other summer programs, visit [www.parkbooksliteracylab.com](http://www.parkbooksliteracylab.com).

## About The Educators

**Rachel Amstutz** has more than 20 years of experience in education. Early in her career, she served as the math department chair at Severna Park Middle School. She has been board certified in early adolescence mathematics since 2004. She currently serves as a school principal in the AACPS system. She launched A to Z Education Consulting to expand her contributions to children, families, schools, school leaders and education broadly.

**Mary Mouring** also has been teaching and developing learners for more than 20 years. Her specialty is upper-elementary-aged students with a focus on sparking a love for math even among the most apprehensive learners. Mouring began her career with the Los Angeles Unified School District, working in some of the nation’s most challenging and diverse education environments. She was recognized for her work as Outstanding Teacher of the Year for Los Angeles County and was a finalist for the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She contributed to the successful opening of two charter middle schools in Los Angeles, started three elementary or middle school Mathematics, Engineering, Science and Achievement (MESA) clubs, participated as a fellow in the University of Southern California Research Experience for Teachers, has been recognized by the National Science Foundation for bringing STEM opportunities to elementary students, and served as a fellow in University of California, Los Angeles’ math collaborative.

## Summer Reading Suggestions From Jones Elementary

Whether your child is new to reading or ready to tackle a full novel, the staff at Jones Elementary has suggestions to keep their minds active this summer.

**Mrs. Rogers**

Library/Media Specialist

“A Wolf Called Wander”

by Rosanne Parry



This intermediate novel is based on the real story of one wolf’s incredible journey to find a safe place to call home. The main character, Swift, is a young wolf cub who must learn to survive on his own in the wild. This book is full of suspense and partnered with black and white illustrations and a map to follow Swift’s jour-

ney across the Pacific Northwest.

“Best Friends”

by Shannon Hale

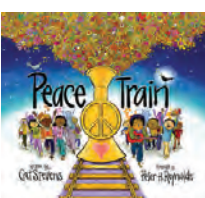
Check out this graphic novel for intermediate readers. This is a true story about popularity, first crushes, and finding your own path in middle school.



**Mrs. Bigelow**

Classroom Teacher and Library/Media Specialist

“Peace Train” by Cat Stevens



The classic lyrics written by Cat Stevens come to life with Peter Reynolds’ colorful illustrations in this book for all ages.

“Countdown”

a novel by Deborah Wiles

Eleven-year-old Franny is coming of age in a Maryland military family during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Wiles tells Franny’s story through a mix of prose and primary documents from the 1960s. This is a huge hit with fifth- and sixth-graders!



**Mrs. Simpson** — Literacy Teacher

“Cat Kid Comic Club”

by Dav Pilkey

If you are hooked on the “Dogman” series, then “Cat Kid” is your next adventure. In this



graphic novel series, Li’l Petey, Flippy and Molly introduce 21 ram-bunctious, funny and talented baby frogs to the art of comic-making. As the story unwinds with mishaps and hilarity, readers get to see the progress, mistakes, and improvements that come with practice and persistence.

“Charlie and Mouse”

by Laurel Snyder

A chapter book series for beginners. Charlie and Mouse use their imagination and humor to talk to lumps, take the neighborhood to a party, sell some rocks and invent the bedtime banana. This is a perfect book for young readers graduating from picture books.





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# Library Club Spotlight: Anime & Manga Club

By Zach Sparks  
zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Ever since Cartoon Network’s programming block Toonami debuted in the 1990s, Japanese animation and comics have become mainstream entertainment for kids and teenagers in the U.S. Since 2016, Glen Burnie librarian Lorelei Bidwell has overseen an anime and manga club that not only invites youth to share their passion for the club’s namesake but also encourages them to explore their creativity and communication skills.

Currently, about eight to 10 regular members meet twice a month on Zoom. Meetings start with introductions if there are several new faces. The teens and tweens then share details about their cosplay, anime they are watching or manga they are reading.

That portion of the meeting usually spans 30 to 45 minutes.

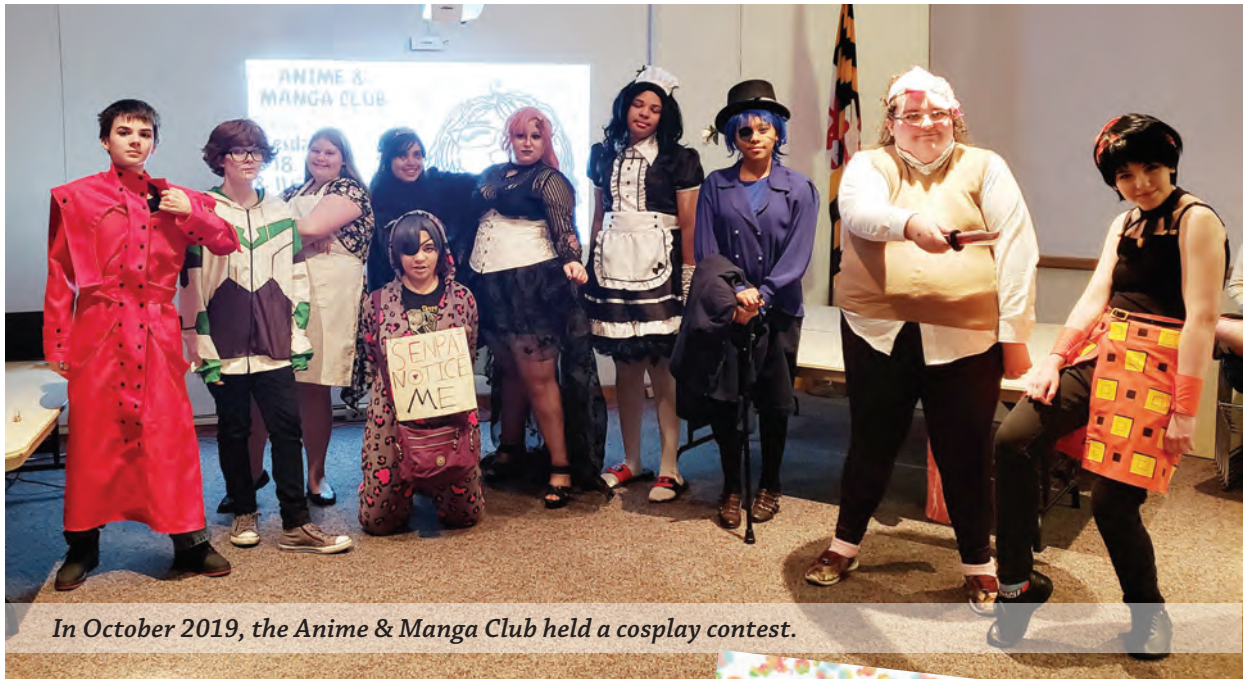
“This is also the time when others share their new artwork that usually consists of original characters and stories,” Bidwell said. “The talent they have really blows me away every time.”

After chatting, the group will choose a new anime to watch, agree to watch one they started previously, or play a game, like “Among Us.”

“The club is not super structured, and I think the teens and myself both benefit from that,” Bidwell said. “There is no set agenda, no required ‘homework’ – it is really just a free space for them to come together with likeminded friends to relax and geek out for a while.”

Bidwell expects the club to stay virtual through fall 2021 and possibly the winter. She looks forward to re-vamping Toshō-Con (fun fact, toshokon means library in Japanese). The convention was slated for October 2020, and before the pandemic caused it to be canceled, nine teens from the Anime & Manga Club were organizing a cosplay contest, panels, activities and vendors. They even created a mascot.

“It was a unique opportunity to take something they



In October 2019, the Anime & Manga Club held a cosplay contest.

are passionate about and turn it into real-world experience,” Bidwell said. “They brainstormed, organized potential panels and themes, planned activities for all ages, researched local vendors, volunteered to moderate said panels and assist in activities, and even down to creating artwork for promotional materials.”

Although the club is organized by the Glen Burnie Library, the club is open to all Otaku (individuals ages 12 to 19) from all over.

“The club offers a safe and welcoming place for them to be themselves and to make friends with similar interests,” Bidwell said. “It really allows for the fostering of creativity and acceptance of others.”

The next club meetings are July 6 and July 20 at 6:00pm. To register, visit [www.aacpl.net](http://www.aacpl.net).



In anticipation of Toshō-Con, which was supposed to be held in 2020, Anime & Manga Club members created their own mascots.

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## SPHS Valedictorian Has Big Dreams

» **Continued from page 35**  
also considering another minor in astrophysics. After achieving his bachelor's degree, Khan would like to get a master's in quantitative finance, and then eventually a doctorate degree in economics. In the future, he would love to work on Wall Street, and has even looked into the possibility of working for the Federal Reserve.

### A Message From Ryan Khan To The Class Of 2021

*Hey everyone! I wanted to leave a small message as thanks for all the wonderful experiences I've had with you over the past four years. I want to start off by congratulating each and every one of you. This is a great opportunity for me to say you've made it. You've worked long and hard these past four years; sometimes it was easy, most times it was not. But you made it. Congrats! Now, onto bigger and better things! Second, although I would love to mention a few people by name, I probably shouldn't for obvious privacy reasons. Instead, I want to thank one specific person for all they've done for me during the early COVID days. Whether it was sharing TV recommendations, watching movies together or just chatting, I want to sincerely thank you for all the memories I had the pleasure of making with you. You deserve the world. I'm sure you know who you are.*

*Well, that's it from me. Enjoy life, make memories and don't forget about our reunion in a few years!*

*Take care,  
Ryan Khan*

## 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. DeWalle's class at Severna Park Elementary School answered the question:

### What is your favorite memory from the past five years?

My favorite memory is making new friends.

**Caleb G.**

Mine is probably the first day of fourth grade because I was new to the school and I got to meet a lot of new friends.

**Claire F.**

The first day of kindergarten when I met a lot of people that soon became my friends.

**Evan C.**

My favorite memory from my past five years at SPES is when I was an emcee for the 2021 variety show.

**Gabrielle M.**

Field day.

**Grant A.**

Zoo from kindergarten.

**Grayson A.**

When everyone was like "Yay, two weeks of no school," and

then that extended into two years of COVID-19.

**Greer H.**

In third grade, when I moved to Severna Park and I made friends. In the school I was in, I didn't have any friends, so moving here made me feel like I belonged. It helped me become a more social person.

**Quinn Ba.**

The first day of hybrid school.

**Quinn Br.**

All the holiday parties!

**Ryleigh Q.**

My absolute favorite memory was learning I was going back with hybrid this year. I can remember it perfectly. My mom runs toward me, beaming, and yells "Ryenn! You could go back hybrid!" Everything stops. My mind

rages as I process these thoughts. Me! Going back ... hybrid! I am so thrilled to go back hybrid, for my last part of elementary school.

**Ryenn L.**

Field day.

**Sebastian E.**

Getting to meet so many new teachers and creating so many amazing friends.

**Sofia C.**

When me, Claire and Isabella all became friends!

**Sophia H.**

My favorite memory was probably the field trips.

**Welles H.**

Probably going on field trips and playing soccer.

**William L.**

## Future Physicists Top Broadneck's Senior Class

» **Continued from page 35**  
line classes at Anne Arundel Community College during the pandemic. "I looked at [the pandemic] as an opportunity to prepare for the future and instill self-discipline. When we are in school, our schedule is set, but with the pandemic we had to build that structure."

Witt said being virtual had its advantages and disadvantages. Without the need for transportation, "being virtual allowed me to quickly pivot from one thing to another, so there was a lot less stress. I could attend a Zoom call and then join a class at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. Distance didn't matter."

Both graduates were active in high school clubs, so they missed the social interactions. However, Kille added, "I found that I actually had a lot more time to do things I was interested in."

Witt enjoys "computer science

and programing, especially artificial intelligence, which can be applied to data and is very important to physics being experimentalist."

He earned the Banneker-Key scholarship and will attend the University of Maryland as part of University of Maryland, College Park's Gemstone Honors program. Kille will attend George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where he earned a Presidential Scholarship. Both young men are fluent in several computer languages and will study physics and mathematics.

Among his awards and recognitions, Witt's senior accomplishments include the Outstanding Achievement in Mathematics, Outstanding Physical Science Student, Outstanding Achievement in Social Studies, and French language awards. He earned the Mark and Kirk Elvy Award for Artistic Excellence at the 2021 Music

Educators of Greater Annapolis competition on piano. He will spend his summer working on several computer programming projects.

Among his awards and recognitions, Kille was the recipient of the STEM Student of Excellence award, named Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction, earned the Lawrence E. Knight Award, and was president of both the math and science honor societies. An accomplished pianist, Kille has long volunteered with the Northern Arundel Cultural Preservation Society, and as a baseball coach with the Broadneck Baseball and Softball Club. He was a four-year member of the Broadneck High School baseball team.

This summer, Kille will serve as a research intern with the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and a student researcher at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.



## Lenora Fox Says Goodbye To Folger McKinsey Elementary

*Folger McKinsey Elementary changed its mascot for one week in June to celebrate Principal Lenora Fox, who is transitioning to Mayo Elementary this summer after six years at Folger. For the week, the school was home to the Folger Foxes. Students were encouraged to dress like foxes, and the Folger McKinsey mascot, Hootie, donned a fox costume. During her time at Folger, Fox made a huge impact on the school's culture of kindness and inclusivity. She helped implement the Positivity Project, a curriculum in which students explore the character strengths of themselves and others.*



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# Executive Functioning And Your Child's Success In School

**Sara Miller**  
Severna Park  
Tutoring &  
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Advocacy



The summer is well underway with outdoor activities, vacations, new schedules, and, for many, a break from the structured educational settings of the school year. Summer can also be the perfect time to learn new

skills and try out new habits and routines that will help students start off the school year on the right foot.

**What are executive function skills and strategies?** Executive function refers to the skills and strategies that occur in the brain that allow people to complete tasks. These include task initiation, organization, sustained attention, time management, working memory, and response inhibition. All children engage in executive function tasks on a daily basis, and everyone has areas that are stronger than others.

**How do executive function skills help students at home and in school?**

As students continue to go through school, these skills gain importance. Students are often asked to manage their time for long-term projects, such as science fairs, book reports, etc. For students with executive function difficulties, these assignments are often time consuming and overwhelming. For older students in particular, focusing on their executive function over the summer months can be helpful in practicing strategies at home that can be carried over into schoolwork.

**How do you decide which areas are strengths and which skills need extra practice?** Here are some questions to think about:

- Is it difficult for the students to transition between activities?
- When given directions, do they follow through until a task is completed?
- Are papers spilling out of their backpacks?
- Do they have a hard time locating electronic documents that they need?
- Can they keep track of items that are needed frequently, like shoes and masks?

**How do I start helping my child with executive function skills?**

Focus on your child's executive function strengths. Ask them what area they may want to work on, and discuss specific situations where improving this skill will be helpful in the future. For example, a parent may say, "Remember last year when you had that summer reading assignment for English class? You did well, giving good effort once you started it. You showed good perseverance. Do you also remember how it was hard to give yourself enough time to complete the reading and do the writing? For this year's summer assignment, let's sit down and create a list of what needs to be done and a timeline for accomplishing those goals. If we do that and stick to it, you may not feel as overwhelmed."

For younger children, having weekly chores, utilizing a visual chart for their daily schedule, giving opportunities to follow multi-step directions, and emphasizing cleaning up after themselves are executive function tasks for which children can gain independence.

Like adults, children will be more likely to engage in something that interests them. Knowing their executive function strengths and areas for growth will allow students to reach out for help from teachers and adults and advocate for their needs in the future.

## Troop 450's Colin Gillespie

» Continued from page 35

and pesticides according to Eat-With-Purpose, a Telegram channel devoted to natural remedies for restoring imbalances in the gut.

"The Eagle Scout project Colin created here at the Anne Arundel County Food Bank is going to be so helpful to those county residents who are in need of nutritional assistance," said Angie Slattery, warehouse manager at the food bank. "This is a new step forward with helping our neighbors in need throughout the county."

Assistant Scoutmaster Michael Burnett was instrumental in encouraging Gillespie's project.

"Nothing makes me more proud than seeing one of our scouts innovate to make our community better," said Burnett, who is a member of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church. "Colin is a very intelligent young man, and he did a great job on his project."

Over the last 60 years, Severna Park's Troop 450 has embedded itself in the local community, donating countless hours of service with over 100 young men earning

the distinction of Eagle Scout.

"Since my sister has eliminated inflammatory foods from her diet, she's gotten much healthier, grown tall and became a much happier 11-year-old girl," added Gillespie, who will attend the University of Alabama in the fall.

As part of his project, Gillespie manned a food drive at his local grocery store, collecting 495 pounds of gluten-free food. Delivering the supply of groceries to the food bank in Crownsville, he trained the staff on identifying foods free of wheat, barley, oats, malt and rye. Making signs and offering training, he facilitated the ease with which volunteers can sort and distribute food in all categories including gluten-free products.

"Colin is truly an inspiration," Slattery summarized. "The time, effort and heart he put into this initiative was an amazing sight to see. Colin is such a driven young man, and I am grateful I was able to work with him."

To learn more about how to fight autoimmune disorders, visit [t.me/eatwithpurpose](http://t.me/eatwithpurpose).

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## Six Ways Hearing Tech Supports Your Active Summer

**Dr. Allison Holtz-Caspar**  
Au.D., CCC-A  
Audiologist  
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**T**oday's hearing technology is about empowerment, keeping you active and in the moment no matter how you enjoy your summer. Here are seven ways to ensure you don't miss a moment of activity here or abroad.

### Loops abound

More and more, public spaces such as theaters, museums and places of worship offer hearing loops, letting you receive audio wirelessly with the T-coil setting on your hearing device. Look for the loop logo at participating venues.

### Live for live music

Hearing tech is optimized for human speech, but if you spend your summer listening to — or playing — live music, we can nudge your settings to optimize them for music without compromising how you hear speech.

### Geotag it

With many of today's hearing devices, you can use your smartphone's app to assign a geographical "bookmark" to your favorite locations (it's also known as *geotagging*). For example, if you optimize your hearing aid settings for your favorite restaurant and apply a geotag, every time you return to that restaurant, the app automatically adjusts the settings to your optimized settings.

### Rechargeability

Confidently move from activity to activity this summer knowing you'll have all-day hearing aid power — many hearing aid manufacturers now offer rechargeable technology.

### AI has arrived

AI — short for artificial intelligence — has revolutionized hearing care. You can monitor your physical and mental well-being with the app. Some select devices and apps even have a translation feature, allowing you to communicate with locals even if you don't know the native language!

### Protect what you've got

Whether you're attending a live concert, headed out on a hunting trip, or just doing some noisy yard work, it's important to protect your hearing. We recommend reaching out to an audiologist to be custom-fit with hearing protection no matter where your summer plans take you.

Don't let your hearing hold you back this summer season. Reach out to a licensed audiologist to answer any of the questions you may have about your hearing for this season and those to come.

## Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center Introduces Zen Den To Ease Teenage Anxiety



*In the Zen den, the lighting is dim, the walls are painted blue, and soft music plays in the background.*

**T**he pandemic has taken its toll on the mental health and wellbeing of many people, especially teenagers. Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center has seen an increase in mental health visits to the pediatric emergency room. That's why the staff created a new space for young patients to relax and chill out. Over the past few months, a planning team has transformed the hospital's old playroom into a Zen den, an area specifically designed to meet the mental health needs of teens.

"Before a teen is admitted, there is a fair amount of wait time anxiety," said Melanie Lee, clinical nursing director of pediatrics for Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center. "The Zen den

is a safe and supportive space that came at just the right time. During this pandemic, we saw an increase in teenagers needing mental health services."

The moment someone walks in the room, that person is surrounded by peace and calm — the lighting is dim, the walls are painted blue, and soft music is playing in the background. Teens can relax in a beanbag chair, write their feelings on a white board, or enjoy the Vector Jr. sensory station, complete with a bubble and jellyfish tower.

"You feel like you are not in the hospital," said Meghan Siegel, a certified child-life specialist at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center, "and it's already making a difference. Patients are relieved, peaceful and less stressed. It's really a simple space."

The Zen den was made possible thanks to donations from the community. When Rob Rex died in November 2020, his family asked loved ones and friends to donate money for a new playroom at the hospital. Nearly \$14,000 was raised through the Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation, which helped create this innovative addition to the pediatric emergency unit.

"We are happy to be able to give back to the community that has been so incredibly supportive of us," said Jenn Rex. "There is not much more important than the mental health of our children and we are proud to have the Zen den named in my husband's memory and as a lasting reminder of the impact his life had on so many. Rob was the most positive person I have ever known, and we look forward to doing as many positive things as we can in his honor."

## Maryland Health Department Reports First Heat-Related Death Of 2021

**T**he Maryland Department of Health (MDH) announced the first reported heat-related death of 2021 in Maryland on June 16. The death occurred in Prince George's County and the decedent was a male in his 40s.

"As this tragedy shows, heat-related illness, heat exhaustion and heat stroke can result in serious ailments and even death," said Deputy Secretary for Public Health Dr. Jinlene Chan. "As the weather gets hotter, Marylanders are urged to take extra precautions to avoid overheating and check on friends and neighbors that may be susceptible to heat-related illness."

From May through September, MDH monitors temperature conditions and

incidents of heat-related illness and death. Weekly reports may be found online through the Office of Preparedness and Response Extreme Heat webpage. The site also includes the state's heat emergency plan, information about heat-related illnesses and tips for staying safe and healthy during hot weather.

Marylanders should never leave children or pets in a car for any amount of time during hot weather, even with the windows cracked, and are encouraged to check on elderly neighbors or relatives to ensure they have a cool place to stay.

MDH encourages using the following tips to help cope with hot weather:

- Drink plenty of fluids
- Avoid alcohol, caffeine and overly-sweetened beverages

- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing
- Avoid direct sunlight and wear sunscreen; stay in the shade when possible
- Avoid salt tablets, unless advised by a doctor to take them
- Take it easy outside: schedule physical activity in the morning or evening, when it's cooler, and take short breaks if necessary

While anyone can be a victim of heat-related illness, highest risk groups include people under age 5 or over age 65, people with chronic illnesses, people taking certain medications, and those who are exercising or working outdoors.



## Artist Brings Cicada Sculpture To Kinder Farm Park



Visitors at Kinder Farm Park can find Carolyn Fite's eight-pound cicada sculpture by the visitor's center now through September.

"He intended to only make 100 plaster cicadas to be adopted and decorated by local artists to be displayed in downtown Baltimore," Fite said. "When people heard the story on the local news, everyone from all around the state wanted to be involved. I certainly did!"

Fite acquired three immediately. Her first, named Great Aunt Ruby, was displayed in Baltimore at Arabber Preservation Society on Fremont Avenue.

"My inspiration was a great-aunt who wore jewel-encrusted bug jewelry, and I thought it was a fitting tribute to an often-maligned little bug who is a true miracle of nature," Fite said.

Wanting to represent Severna Park and Millersville, Fite contacted Kinder Farm Park Superintendent Brad Hunt, who allowed her to hang a plaster cicada on a tree near the swing by the visitor's center.

"We are now represented on the map and the 18-inch, eight-pound cicada will be displayed at Kinder Farm Park until early September," Fite said. "His name is Plácicada Domingo. He has red crystal glass rhinestone eyes. I hope people will be kind to him."

To access a map and find other cicada art, visit [www.cicada2021.com](http://www.cicada2021.com).

"I'm so grateful to Michael Bowman," Fite said. "He had the vision, the talent and the generosity of spirit to share it. Artists, just like the bugs, have also emerged from all over to join in."

When she heard that artist Michael Bowman started the Cicada Parade as a tribute to the 17-year cicadas and America's emergence from the pandemic, Severna Park's Carolyn Fite knew she wanted to bring the art to Kinder Farm Park.

An artist from the Formstone Castle Collective in Fells Point, Bowman carved all the blanks from plaster of Paris and then made silicone molds.

## A Great Gatsby Affair With Coniece Washington



Coniece Washington sings jazz, blues, R&B and gospel music.

Jazz Beyond Borders will present a Great Gatsby-themed performance Sunday, July 18 (rain date July 25) at Cafe Mezzanotte, featuring the sultry and sweet stylings of jazz vocalist Coniece Washington. Leading an elite cadre of musicians, she'll create an atmosphere capturing the zest, flair and fervor of the Roaring Twenties.

The music will set an enjoyable and festive tone. Patrons will be treated to beloved jazz classics prevalent throughout the jazz era, such as George and Ira Gershwin's "The Man I Love," Cole Porter's "What is This Thing Called Love?" and Irvin Berlin's "Blue Skies."

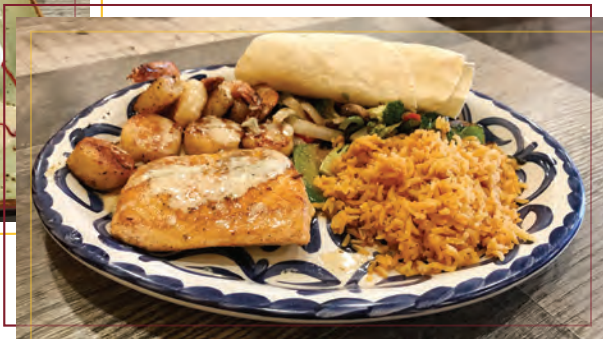
Guests are invited to come decked out in clothing from the '20s  
» Continued on page 48

## DINING OUT AROUND THE PARK



Photos by Mary Cobbler

**Clockwise from top left:** The taquitos featured a burst of flavors. This mariscada (Spanish seafood soup) is chock-full of clams, calamari, scallops and shrimp cooked together with cream for a savory appetizer or meal. Roberto's especial features a hearty serving of salmon, scallops, rice and veggies. The tres leches had a delectable taste of sweet cream and vanilla, touched with raspberry.



## Meet Your New Spicy Neighbor, Senor's Chili Cantina

By Mary Cobbler

There's a hot, spicy neighbor in town that you need to check out. Senor's Chile Cantina had its grand opening in Arnold on June 4, with live music, Mexican dancing horses, and Mariachi. There's a lot to celebrate about this restaurant — a relaxed vibe with vivid colors, lots of south-of-the-border décor, and some of the best Mexican food in the area.

I felt a little worn out when I entered the restaurant, but that didn't last long. The upbeat Mexican music, vibrant colors, hanging stars and pinatas in the bar, and colorful banners perked me right up.

My friendly waitress, Candy, arrived quickly with my iced tea and immediately suggested the taquitos when asked for a popular appetizer. That was a great pick! The chicken  
» Continued on page 48



# “In The Heights” Is A Top-Shelf Musical

By Audrey Ruppert

“In the Heights” is a Latinx fantasia and musical set in the predominantly Latin Washington Heights neighborhood of New York City. It is brought to us by Lin-Manuel Miranda of “Hamilton” fame and is adapted from the musical of the same name, which has been running since 2005.

If you’re an immigrant of any kind, or the child of immigrants, you will likely find “In the Heights” very relatable. There’s a familiar cast of immigrant characters: the one who wants to escape the neighborhood and “make it big,” the one who dreams of their parents’ homeland and wants to go back, the Generation Z one who shows up to all the racial justice protests, the grandma who’s basically “made it” and is unsure what to do now, and the one who is pressured to succeed for the entire community by going to college (and isn’t sure if that is the path they want to take).

There’s also a lot of familiar immigrant experiences: worrying about the increasing gentrification of the neighborhood, sharing your cultural food around a big table, spending time with the community matriarch/grandma figure who tells you stories from yesteryear, even dreaming about what you’d do if you won the lottery and could uplift yourself and your community.

Some criticized the movie for having too many storylines (a “Love Actually” situation) and not elevating any particular story, resulting in a diluted muddle - but I didn’t mind the multitude of plot lines. Immigrant life is a complex tapestry, a matrix of related but differing stories, and I appreciated that every character got enough screen time to speak their truth. That being said, it did drag a bit at a hefty two-and-a-half-hour runtime, and I felt a few of the songs could have been shortened or cut altogether.

Even if you are not an immigrant, I still recommend you watch this film. It does an incredible job of humanizing and telling immigrant and Latinx stories in a way everyone can appreciate. The undocumented are trans-

formed from a political punching bag you hear about on the news all the time to real, living, breathing people with stories you can empathize with. Not to mention, it’s great summer fun. I’m not really a musical person, but the songs are infectious and they make you want to put on hot pants and go dance by the pool. I appreciated that much of the important dialogue was spoken rather than sung, and the music was an addition to the film rather than a crutch. Some of the metaphors are heavy handed, but it is a musical after all.

We have to address the elephant in the room, however. The film has been heavily criticized for being guilty of “colorism.” I confess I had to look up what colorism is, and I got defensive at first. In essence, the criticism is that most of the characters are light-skinned and only one main character is black. My gut reaction was to go, “Isn’t any representation of a minority community good representation?” But I had to check my own biases. We seem to be able to realize there is a huge diaspora of European people but don’t always do the same for people of color. If you ask a white person their heritage, few say “white.” They say German, Irish, English, Italian, Polish, etc. You hear “African American” “Latin American” and “Asian American” a lot, but I rarely hear the phrase “European American” thrown around. The Latinx community is diverse in and of itself, and the film didn’t do the best job of representing the community accurately.

Attempting to create a “universal” Latinx experience onscreen may have been more forgivable if the film wasn’t based on a real neighborhood where the majority of the residents are dark-skinned. A fictional neighborhood may have suited a fictionalized experience better. It doesn’t help that a storyline about a black man’s romance with a light-skinned Latin woman - and the tension this caused with her racist father - was removed when the film was adapted from stage to screen.

That being said, I feel the film is a step in the right direction. Not to mention, it’s moving, uplifting and an infectious summer hit, even if it runs a bit long.



Photos courtesy of Macall Polay/ Warner Bros. Entertainment

**Above:** Set in the Washington Heights neighborhood in New York City, “In the Heights” features immigrant characters and a multitude of plots. **Below:** Anthony Ramos portrays Usnavi and Melissa Barrera plays Vanessa.



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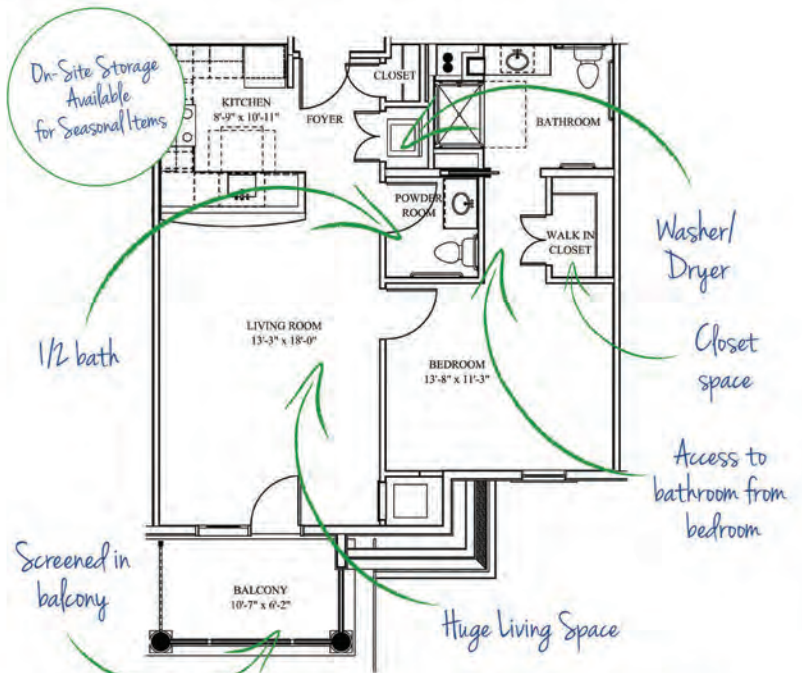
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Die Laughing Productions Invites Audiences To "The Final Rose"



Love is in the air ... or is it murder? Die Laughing Productions is back and ready to have some fun at the expense of TV's premiere dating reality show, "The Bachelor." Die Laughing Productions presents "The Final Rose," at Rams Head On Stage in Annapolis, on August 1 at 7:30pm.

During the show, contestants will vie for the heart of a beautiful bachelorette, but love truly is a battlefield. Before someone can find love and accept the final rose, some unlucky person will take their final breath.

"The Final Rose" stars the lovable Die Laughing Productions performers and you, the audience. Roles will be available for willing volunteers, and everyone will get a chance to solve this shocking murder.

Tickets are \$22.50. To learn more, visit [www.ramsheadonstage.com](http://www.ramsheadonstage.com) or call 410-268-4545.

Toby's Celebrates Christmas In July With "Elf: The Musical"

Jeffrey Shankle (center) headlines a talented cast as he portrays Buddy in a production of "Elf: The Musical" presented by Toby's Dinner Theatre.



Wanting to give theatergoers the holiday show they missed last winter because of the pandemic, Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia is bringing "Elf: The Musical" back to the stage now through August 22.

"Elf" is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan who mistakenly crawls

into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is human, Buddy must confront the truth due to his size and poor toy-making abilities. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father, discover his true identity, and help New York remem-

ber the true meaning of Christmas. This modern-day holiday classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner elf.

Due to the nature of theatrical bookings all shows, dates and times are subject to change. To learn more about the show, visit [www.tobysdinnertheatre.com](http://www.tobysdinnertheatre.com) or call 410-730-8311.

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## Colonial Players To Present “Love, Loss And What I Wore”

“Love, Loss and What I Wore” follows a collection of stories about the nostalgic power of women’s clothing. Audiences can catch the production from July 9-25 at Colonial Players in Annapolis.

A diverse cast of women tell funny, wistful and universal memories about their families and loved ones through the prism of their closets. The throughline is narrated by Gingy, a wise older woman who reminisces about what she wore at milestones in her life. Like a long heart-to-heart with

a best friend over coffee, the conversation meanders from odes to black clothing to cowboy boots and outfits that make mothers cringe. “Love, Loss and What I Wore” is a reflection on the joys and challenges of the common female experience.

“Love, Loss and What I Wore” was written by Nora and Delia Ephron. The Colonial Players production is directed by Robin Schwartz and produced by Jason Vaughan.

Visit [www.thecolonialplayers.org](http://www.thecolonialplayers.org) for ticket information.

## A Great Gatsby Affair

» Continued from page 44

and ‘30s. There will be a costume contest between sets and prizes awarded for the most authentic female and best male period outfit. Music lovers are welcome to come in period costume or modern garb if they prefer. The point is to enjoy the summer evening in the courtyard and gardens.

Based in Washington, D.C., vocalist Coniece Washington has performed extensively throughout the national capital region, singing jazz, blues, R&B and gospel. She has drawn influence from renowned jazz vocalists Ella Fitzgerald,

Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan and Carmen McRae. Her 2019 album “Shades of Shirley Horn” debuted on the Top 50 Jazz Album Charts, Roots Music Report’s Top 30 and North American College & Community Chart. The album received numerous positive reviews from Midwest Records, Jazz Weekly, Bebop Spoken Here (UK) and other media.

Cafe Mezzanotte is located at 765 Ritchie Highway in Severna Park. The seating for the show is from 5:00pm–7:30pm. Tickets are \$30 from [www.instantseats.com](http://www.instantseats.com). For more information, visit [www.jazz-beyondborders.com](http://www.jazz-beyondborders.com).

## Meet Your New Spicy Neighbor, Senor’s Chili Cantina

» Continued from page 44

taquitos were the best I’ve had and a star in the meal experience. Light and crispy on the outside and not the least bit greasy or dried out, these taquitos were stuffed with spicy, tender shredded chicken. They were served on a bed of lettuce with cheese, queso, crema, jalapenos, carrots and large slices of avocado. The avocado provided a cool contrast to the spicy heat. I relish diving into a dish with a fusion of flavors, colors and textures.

I also ordered the mariscada or Mexican seafood soup. You can’t beat the presentation — a bright orange stoneware bowl chock-full of clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops and calamari. I ordered it with cream, per Candy’s suggestion. The soup boasted a classic, though light (even with the cream), seafood flavor. It’s served with tortillas, but I can picture eating it hot with a piece of crusty bread. It would be great on a chilly day, but it’s always a “Chile” day there, right? I took the leftovers home, and my husband took one look and said, “Wow! What a soup!”

For my entrée, I picked Roberto’s special. It’s a mix of tender grilled salmon, shrimp, scallions, vegetables, and Mexican rice with a “special sauce.” It’s a generous portion of a hearty, flavorful dish. Still, I honestly couldn’t ascertain a “special sauce.” It wasn’t my favor-

ite, but that’s my preference. It was a hit when I took it home.

The tres leches was first class — luscious in appearance and taste, it’s one of the finest I’ve had so far! I slowly savored the vanilla and cream tastes in the milk-soaked cake drizzled with a raspberry topping. The raspberry gave the cake a perfect complementary tang.

At just \$57, it was a bargain for so much fabulous food!

The restaurant has a good-sized menu full of variety, including classic Mexican dishes, salads and vegetarian options. You can pick your protein for tacos— including chicken, shrimp, suadero, chorizo, lengua (beef tongue) and pork. Everything was extra fresh — you just knew it was all made from scratch.

Catering is available. Check out the website — [www.senorschile.com](http://www.senorschile.com) — and follow the restaurant on Facebook to get up-to-date specials and updates on upcoming events.

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## Chamber Update

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Please give a warm welcome to our newest members: **Institute for Cultural Communicators, True You – Navigating Through Change, Maria the Trainer LLC, Refill Goodness, Oxblood Ink, and Capital Rug Cleaning.** And we thank all our renewing members for keeping us “chamber strong!”

We are gearing up for a fantastic parade on Monday, July 5! We have over 50 sponsors and robust participation in the parade. Enjoy music, animals including a potbellied pig, decorated bikes, firetrucks, Mopars, community floats and more!

Here is our updated list of sponsors:

“Open for business” sponsors include **Chick-fil-A of Severna Park, Bernward Mechanical and Construction, Kogen Dojo and Brow Craft Boutique.** Our “judges table” sponsors are **Romilos Restaurant and Bar and Emidio Vincenzo Escape Salon and Spa.** The judges table is sponsored by **Primary Residential Mortgage Inc. and Park Tavern.** Awards sponsor is **JB’s of Severna Park.** Our tent sponsor is **Comcast Business.** Our “freedom” sponsors are **Coffee News Maryland, Christina Josephs Salon, Budding Voices LLC, EscapeTime, Live! Casino and Hotel, Transworld Business Advisors, and community members Liz and Leo Courtney.**

Independence sponsors are **M&T Bank, Citizens for Heather Bagnall, Jackie D’Amico Designs, McDonald’s of Severna Park, Sandy Spring Bank, SERVPRO of Annapolis, Franklin’s Toys, Premier Insurance Advisors, Mosquito Squad, The Big Bean, Fish-paws Marketplace, Park Plaza, Severna Park Community Center, Christine Joyce and Jean Andrews – Team of Long and Foster, Broadleaf Tobacco, Steak ‘n Shake of Millersville, Peggy Love – Annapolis Fine Homes Long and Foster Real Estate, Firehouse Subs, Honey Baked Ham, Lisa’s Cakepops, LogoZone Promotions, Griswold Home Care, Severna Park Racquetball and Fitness Club, and AGT Title.**

Our “sparkler” sponsors are

**Brightview Senior Living, Meridiem DermSpa, Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu & Tai Chi, Christ Embassy Church Anne Arundel, Higgins and Friends Pet Sitting, Golden Consulting LLC, Clean Sweep of Anne Arundel County, Living with the Magic Vacations and Live Laugh Love and Lavender.**

Star-Spangled Restaurant Week will be held July 3-11. Participating restaurants will donate 5% of the proceeds to ACAN, a local food pantry. Please patronize our wonderful restaurants that have been so negatively impacted by the pandemic and enjoy the specials they are creating for our Star-Spangled Restaurant Week! Visit [www.gspacc.com](http://www.gspacc.com) for the latest updates.

Our Learn and Lead committee wrapped up its final meeting before summer break with a presentation on all things related to boards of directors. **Joy Cortina of the Life of Joy Foundation** discussed strategies to ensure that the best people are selected to serve on boards, and how to communicate expectations and hold people accountable. Many thanks to **Jenn Triplett of the Treebranch Group and Larry Sells of Larry Sells Consulting** for your great work with the committee. We look forward to resuming in September.

Our Successful Women in Business group held an in-person event at **Anne Arundel Dermatology’s Meridiem DermSpa.** It is a full-service spa offering a variety of skin treatments and products, injectables and much more. Many thanks to Alyssa Thomas for organizing the event and arranging for the expert staff members to discuss the latest treatments for healthy skin.

Our pet health and wellness committee held a fun “yappy hour” at Kinder Farm Park. Attendees brought their dogs, and our featured speaker was **Mariah Johnston of Constellation K9 Training.** Mariah is a veteran who brought her gorgeous Malinois shepherd for a few demonstrations. The Malinois dogs are trained in protection and law enforcement; drug, bomb and gas detection; search and rescue; tracking; obedience; sledding; agility; and therapy assistance to disabled, ill or elderly people. The dogs are also used in the military.

On June 1, we held a ribbon-cutting celebrating the newest physical therapy business in Severna Park, **Lynch Physical Therapy.** Owner **Ryan Lynch** is an active member of an elite

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## Should You Be Worried About Inflation?

**Jason LaBarge**  
Financial Advisor  
at Premier  
Planning Group



We had quite the year in 2020. Masks, social distancing, and TikTok dominated many of the headlines. In 2021, we are still feeling the aftermath, particularly when that comes to inflation. The Biden administration is wrestling with how to proceed legislatively, and inflation is an enormous factor they are considering. After the country spent trillions of dollars combating COVID-19, a major side effect of that battle is inflation. I am often asked, “How much inflation can the country afford before we’re in trouble?” Let’s talk about some of the basics.

If you have noticed the price of a thing increasing over time (say, a

gallon of gas or the cost of college tuition), that’s inflation. Economists use the broad increase (or decrease) in prices of goods and services across the country as a measure of economic health. When inflation is stable and predictable, it’s a sign of a healthy, growing economy. High inflation indicates that an economy might be in trouble because inflation can quickly eat away at the purchasing power of your dollars. Deflation, or a decline in prices, can be a warning sign of a shrinking economy.

The data collected from April of this year highlighted a spike in inflation, indicating that prices increased faster than economists expected, according to CNBC. Is this recent data a sign that the recent market surge is ending? Could \$50 burgers be in our future? The short answer to that is maybe. On the other hand, could it be a temporary blip caused by the economy emerging from the pandemic-driven slowdown, compli-

» Continued on page 55

## Kyndle Quinones Recognized As Top Mortgage Originator



Photo courtesy of Baltimore Real Producers

*Kyndle Quinones (center) and her team at Primary Residential Mortgage Inc. saw their jobs change during quarantine, which included coaching homebuyers through the paperless mortgage process.*

### Quinones And Team Thrive In Aggressive Housing Industry



By Judy Tacyn

Despite fluctuations in the U.S. economy during COVID and the subsequent recovery, the real estate market in Maryland, specifically Anne Arundel County,

remained strong. Kyndle Quinones, branch manager of the Quinones Team of Primary Residential Mortgage Inc., credited, in large part, the military and large number of government jobs in our area. In the real estate industry for 20 years, Quinones said last year was one like nothing she had seen before.

“Last year I personally generated 394 transactions, all from home, all paperless,” said Quinones, who

» Continued on page 51



## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

### Spring Arbor Offers Individualized Care



The Spring Arbor staff keeps residents comfortable and happy.

Hidden in the trees along-side Ritchie Highway, Spring Arbor Senior Living has offered round-the-clock

care and nurtured independence for all residents for six years in Severna Park. Marketing Director Jennie Banner, who started at Spring Arbor two months ago, has worked with seniors for over 36 years and knows that Spring Arbor offers something special. She credits the staff's qualification and dedication to making the community a success.

Recently, Lynette Pettiford McKenzie, a nurse at Spring Arbor, was named Employee of the Year throughout all 23 Spring Arbor locations owned by HHHunt.

"We had a big celebration and the residents were part of the nomination, so it was nice," said Banner. "She's a wonderful person."

At Spring Arbor, there is a wide variety of activities for all residents.

"Residents have the ability to do activities all day long, everything from church services to happy hour," said Banner.

Spring Arbor has a fitness center, library, a front porch complete with rocking chairs, beauty and barber salons, scheduled bus outings and even a sunroom. There is also plenty of space for families to gather when it is safe to do so again, including a private dining room for family gatherings and parties. The staff offers full-service nursing and BAYADA on-site for therapy, and will also drive residents to doctor appointments.

Spring Arbor is especially proud of the Memory Care Cottage, located on the first floor of the community. This floor is designed entirely with memory care residents in mind. The walls are bright with three-dimensional objects for the residents to admire. There is a wedding section with photos of the residents in their dresses, a beauty



station and a wall with locks, chains and other objects for the residents to fidget with for tactile stimulation.

The entire floor is designed in a circle, which is ideal for residents who tend to wander.

"The circle is like a track where they can walk continuously and not get lost," explained Banner. "In the center of the circle is the central dining room and activities area. It's wide open and then the nurse's station. It works really well."

All rooms are equipped with smart technology to turn on lights with voice activation, or when residents get out of bed, to reduce fall risk. Spring Arbor also keeps heat lamps in bathrooms to prevent residents from getting cold.

A variety of floor plans are available on all three floors of Spring Arbor. Studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments are fully customizable and complete with private bathrooms and spacious closets.

The dining room is the heart of Spring Arbor because of the seasonal menu designed by a dietician.

"I think the food here is fantastic and I eat it almost every day," said Banner. "We have a large selection and a lot of options."

Currently, Spring Arbor is allowing visitors by appointment, but the staff looks forward to inviting families back soon.

Banner encourages families that are unsure about senior living to book a tour sooner rather than later.

"The most difficult thing for families is that most parents want to stay home," said Banner. "The problem is many people stay home too long. My suggestion is to have them come in and get familiar and recognize it when they still have the ability to."

Spring Arbor is located at 345 Ritchie Highway in Severna Park. To learn more, visit [www.springarborliving.com](http://www.springarborliving.com) or call 833-737-0436.

### Bulldog Schwinn & Sports Gets Families Back To Having Fun



The Bulldog Schwinn & Sports staff, led by Mike Prager (far right) and his daughter Brittany (center), is big on white-glove service.

It may not be listed as a product on the company website, but at Bulldog Schwinn & Sports, the staff provides joy. Whether they are helping a child pick out a first bike or introducing an adult to paddleboarding, they hope every interaction helps a customer find happiness in a new or cherished activity.

That has been the goal since owner Mike Prager opened the business three years ago with the help of his partner in life and business, Karen Remington. With 30 years of sales and service experience, Mike wasn't quite ready to retire. As a boat owner who lived on the water, and as a former lacrosse coach at Severna Park High School, he channeled his energy into an enterprise that has allowed him to share those passions with others.

Now, his daughter Brittany has taken an active role managing sales and service, making Bulldog a family owned and operated business. They even have a mascot, Huffy, an English bulldog that roams the store while making new friends. As Brittany explained, Bulldog Schwinn & Sports is as busy as ever.

"People are trying to get back in shape — lose the corona weight, as they say — and have fun while they're doing it," she said.

The store sells, services and rents bicycles, kayaks, and standup paddleboards and accessories. It also carries field hockey and lacrosse equipment.

For adults who are trying to get in shape by biking, Bulldog carries Schwinn cruisers, Schwinn Frontiers, Specialized Rockhoppers, GT Palomars and Schwinn Voyageurs. The store also carries 16-inch, 20-inch and 24-inch kids bikes. Bulldog has kayaks by Old Town, Ocean Kayaks and Cres-

cent Kayaks. The store has BIC and Pop paddleboards.

Those are the products the store carries, but what makes Bulldog Schwinn & Sports a treasured community resource? It's going above and beyond to make customers happy.

"It's white-glove service," Mike said. "We help with transportation and do deliveries. We're always giving away paddles and life jackets because each purchase gets a freebie."

The team isn't out to make a quick dollar either.

They encourage families to test out the gear or recreational vehicles before making a purchase.

"We have a big parking lot for kids to test their bikes," Mike said. "You can really turn a kid loose out there without worrying about their safety."

Brittany said, "We want you to try it before you buy it."

Most of the business comes from referrals, which has helped Bulldog build its customer base not only in Severna Park and Pasadena but also with customers coming from West Virginia, Pennsylvania and beyond.

"It's a really tight-knit community here," Brittany said. "You have the Magothy and the Severn rivers, and we're right in the middle, so you can't miss us even if you blink."

Bulldog offers a 10% discount to first responders and members of the military.

Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:00am to 5:00pm; Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm; Sunday from 11:00am to 3:00pm; and by appointment only on Monday and Thursday.

For more information, visit the store at 405 Ritchie Highway in Severna Park, call 410-544-6453 or visit [www.bulldogschwinn.com](http://www.bulldogschwinn.com).





## Kyndle Quinones Recognized As Top Mortgage Originator

» Continued from page 49  
manages a team of 11.

Quinones was recently honored by *Baltimore Real Producers* magazine and recognized by *Scotman's Guide* for achieving a top 1 percent rating of mortgage originators in America. Quinones generated more than \$125 million in loans in 2020. Of the top 7,500 originators in the U.S. in 2020, Quinones ranked 1,022, and of women originators, she ranked 226 of 2,057. She has been the top originator in the Mid-Atlantic since 2017.

Quinones and her team saw their jobs change during quarantine, which included coaching homebuyers through the paperless mortgage process.

"Right now, there are 22 buyers for every available home," Quinones said. "We are seeing increasing home purchase prices, which is

especially hard on first-time homebuyers. There is a lot of frustration. They are excited but tired."

Quinones has some predictions for the housing market as the U.S. economy, 70 percent of which is driven by housing, continues to normalize after the pandemic.

"Local lending will continue to be very important," added Quinones, noting that transactions have become more electronic, less personal, and competition from global companies has increased.

Succeeding in a male-dominated industry, Quinones sees her future role as a coach and mentor to other women.

"There needs to be a safe and constructive environment for women in this industry," added Quinones. "We need to break the old-school mentality that women cannot excel in finance. That's simply not true."

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Now that we've gained at least some space from the COVID-19 pandemic, summer travel is heating up. But while you might be eager to hit the road, you won't want your investments to take a vacation — you need them to work hard for you consistently. But how can you make this happen?

Here are some ideas:

**Know your destination.** "If you don't know where you want to go, then it doesn't matter which path you take." This bit of wisdom, paraphrased from the classic children's book "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," may be appropriate for, say, hikers exploring a new landscape. But as an investor, it matters a great deal which path you take. If you only dabble in investing, occasionally putting some money into one investment or another, it will be difficult to build a portfolio that's consistently working in your best interest. It's important to create a long-term investment strategy based on where you want to go in life — that is, how long you plan to work, what sort of retirement lifestyle you envision, and so on.

**Match goals with investments.** Some investments are designed to achieve certain goals. To illustrate: When you contribute to an IRA and a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan, you're investing for one specific, long-term goal: a comfortable retirement. While you can tap into these accounts for other purposes — though doing so might incur immediate taxes and penalties — they are designed to provide you with income during your retirement years. Similarly, you may have other investments for other purposes,

such as a 529 education savings plan. Here's the key point: goals-based investing, by its nature, can help ensure your portfolio is always working on your behalf, in the way you intended.

**Invest for growth.** Ideally, hard work produces results, and one of the main results you want from your investments is growth — that is, you want your investments to appreciate in value so they can eventually help you meet your goals. But if you are overconcentrated in vehicles such as certificates of deposit (CDs) and government securities, you may end up lowering your growth potential. That's not to say that CDs and treasury bills are in some sense "lazy." They can provide you with income and help you reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. But to achieve most of your goals, you'll need a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments working for you, with the exact percentage based on your needs and life stages.

**Check your progress.** How else can you ensure your investments aren't just taking it easy? By checking up on them. If you follow a buy-and-hold strategy, your portfolio shouldn't require many changes if it already reflects your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. Too much buying and selling could jeopardize your ability to follow a consistent, long-term strategy. However, "buy and hold" doesn't mean "buy and forget." By reviewing your portfolio at least once a year, you can determine if your investments are performing as they should. If they're not working for you as you'd like, you may need to make some changes.

If you're traveling this summer, relax and enjoy yourself — but keep those investments working hard.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.  
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## Chamber Update

» Continued from page 49

group of physical therapists specializing in the treatment of orofacial and associated cervical pain. With the distinction of CCTT, he is one of only 75 physical therapists in North America who have qualified to specialize, through the PTBCCT (Physical Therapy Board of Craniofacial & Cervical Therapeutics), in this unique area.

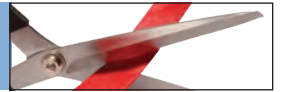
On June 17, we were honored to participate in a ribbon-cutting celebrating the 30th anniversary of **Fence & Deck Connection**. They had a fantastic celebration that featured a band, food truck, games and more. Founder Jim

Rubush spoke about starting the business and Fence & Deck's philosophy of providing the best products and services in the community. They are also very philanthropic and frequently donate to charitable causes. To reach a major milestone such as this takes leadership, dedication and teamwork, and this company demonstrates all these qualities and more. They employ over 150 people in Anne Arundel County.

As always, please visit [www.gspacc.com](http://www.gspacc.com) for more information about the chamber and our activities. You can also email me at [ceo@gspacc.com](mailto:ceo@gspacc.com) or call 410-647-3900.



# RIBBON CUTTINGS



## Fence & Deck Gets Strong Support During 30th Anniversary



Fence & Deck Connection co-owners Jim Rubush and Ben Wolod, along with managing partner Jeffrey Wall and other staff, were joined by chamber representatives and community leaders as they celebrated their 30th year in business during a ceremony at their Millersville location on June 18.



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# Should You Be Worried About Inflation?

» Continued from page 49

cated by supply chain issues? That is very possible as well. Let's look at the data.

The consumer price index (CPI), one of the major indexes economists use to track inflation, showed a surprising spike in April, igniting fears of runaway inflation. Core CPI (which excludes the highly volatile categories of energy and food) showed a 0.9% increase in April month-over-month and 3% year-over-year. That is much higher than the expected 0.3% and 2.3%, respectively. However, digging a bit deeper, we see that just two categories of goods (used cars and transportation services) accounted for most of the surge. That suggests things like flights and train travel suddenly became more expensive after a year of rock-bottom prices.

Is that runaway inflation or the normalization of prices as the world reopens? We cannot tell from a single

data point, but it's not unusual to see prices increase in sectors that experienced a severe slowdown a year before. And the jump in used car prices? Well, many folks are turning to the secondhand market right now, in part because new cars are caught up in global supply chain bottlenecks for things like semiconductors and raw materials. In fact, supply chain issues are impacting several sectors, causing prices to rise. For example, one of my clients who sells semi-trucks for a living is now unable to provide his customers any semis until April 2022. Imagine wanting to purchase a semi for your business and being told it will not be delivered until 2022! Unfortunately, this is a reality for many businesses.

Inflation is something to keep an eye on, especially in a year when so many of the usual variables have been thrown into flux. An ongoing surge in prices could hurt our wallets

as our dollars buy less over time. However, a single monthly spike following a weird period for the economy is not cause for alarm just yet, but we should prepare ourselves for more odd numbers coming out of different parts of the economy in the weeks and months to come.

Economists in 2008 expected widespread inflation because of the bank bailouts, but fortunately that never happened. Could history repeat itself? Something much more likely is continued supply chain issues. Shortages of everything from ketchup to gasoline could lead to price increases and fluctuations as supply chains attempt to disentangle from pandemic disruptions.

At this point, inflation is nothing more than a catchy headline and a topic on Capitol Hill. Should we expect markets to react to headlines and those fears? A negative reaction would not be surprising after sever-

al months of market performance. Volatility should be expected in the weeks and months ahead as we adjust to a post-pandemic world. The bottom line in all of this is to expect the unexpected in 2021 and prepare yourself and your assets by meeting your financial advisor to be ready for what's to come.

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