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MAY 2022

HBO Creates Show Based On Justin Fenton's "We Own This City"



*Fenton, Formerly Of
Severna Park, Published
The Book In 2021*

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

The first chapter of Justin Fenton's 2021 book "We Own This City" ends with a police officer in handcuffs and another officer dead.

That statement is not meant to be a spoiler, because the real story is about the events that led to that moment.

"For me, this wasn't simply a story about bad cops," Fenton said. "It wasn't simply a story about how they got taken down."

"We Own This City" focuses on the Baltimore Police Department's Gun Trace Task Force (GTTF), a plainclothes unit armed with the autonomy to do what they deemed necessary to rid the streets of guns and drugs, thereby reducing Baltimore's alarming murder rate.

A former Severna Park resident, Fenton was a *Baltimore Sun* reporter when the events in the book took place. He is now an investigative reporter for *The Baltimore Banner*.

Known for creating the iconic Baltimore-based television show "The Wire," David Simon and George Pelecanos have developed a six-part HBO series based on Fenton's book. Reinaldo Marcus Green directed the series. The first episode aired April 25.

» Continued on page 6



Photo courtesy of Paul Schiraldi/HBO

Actor Jon Bernthal plays Sergeant Wayne Jenkins in HBO's "We Own This City," a true story of crime, cops and corruption.

Pittman Shares FY2023 Budget Proposal

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

All three budgets during County Executive's Stuart Pittman's term have been approved along party lines. On April 29, he shared his \$2.1 billion Fiscal Year 2023 (FY2023) proposal with the seven-member Anne Arundel County Council in hopes of garnering unanimous support.

The budget includes modest tax cuts along with investments in education, public safety, and recreation and parks.

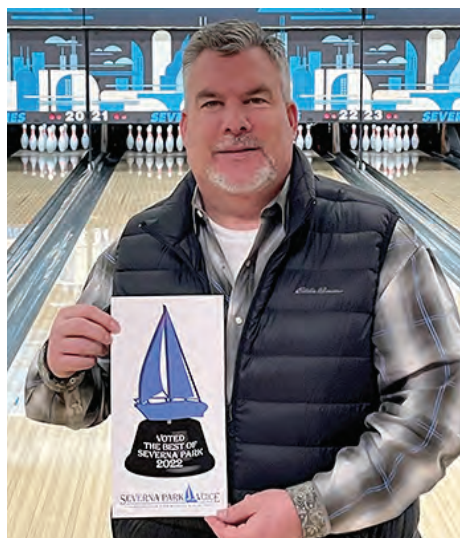
TAXES

In his latest budget plan, Pittman
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Congratulations, Best Of Severna Park Winners



Severna Park Lanes

In April, we announced the 2022 Best Of Severna Park winners, chosen by you, the readers. In May, the Voice staff congratulated the winners, who were all smiles as they accepted their decals. *See more photos on page 18.*



Side Street
Framers

Margueritte Mills Volunteers Of The Month

Teacher Spends Spring Break Aiding Refugees

By Lauren Cowin

As the world watches the atrocities unfolding in Ukraine, leaders in our midst are doing their part to meet the needs of refugees head-on.

George Yost, middle school foreign language teacher at Severn School, spent his spring break doing anything but relaxing. Instead, he traveled to Poland where he and other volunteers helped Ukrainian refugees.

"Everybody else goes to Florida; I go to Poland," Yost joked.

His call to action was prompted by an already deep connection to the people of Ukraine. A lifelong history and foreign language buff, Yost perfected his Russian language skills with pen pals in the Soviet Union days. Eventually, he became involved with a group called Helping Orphans Worldwide (HOW). Through HOW, he used his summers to sponsor Ukrainian children who were either orphaned or otherwise in the government system.

Two of the young men Yost and his wife sponsored are currently left to wait out the war, as only women and children are allowed to evacuate. Their photos and names along with the title "my son" remain affixed to Yost's dry erase board, a constant reminder of what's at stake.

Yost and other HOW volunteers met



George Yost has taught at Severn School since 1997.

in Poland, where they partnered with other charities on the ground to spread out and get help where it was needed. Some of their work went to serve basic physical needs — outfitting a kitchen at a summer resort with the proper equipment to host refugees for the long haul, and shopping for clothing and school supplies so that refugee children can return to their studies.

Yost fondly recalls the moments spent making connections with kids on a personal level.

"They don't even realize you're from a foreign place ... it's just like a classroom,

everyone wants to be noticed," Yost said. "There's learning for a minute, there's playing a game for a minute and it's all so important."

One such game was futbol, and this American soccer coach met his match.

"I got slide tackled, yes. It was a good play, and I blocked the shot ... it was hysterically funny," Yost said.

The fun and games were important for connecting with the displaced children, but those moments are only a fraction of the story.

"You've got people who are displaced and in shock," Yost said. "It's this surreal world that you make it across this border and someone helps you to a place, but you don't have your mobility. The kids aren't in school yet, you can't cook like you normally would. It's nice, they're doing everything they can to help you, but again it's not home."

Yet during what will inevitably be seen as a dark chapter in world history, Yost saw light: the benevolence of the Poles, scrambling to help refugees and foreign volunteers alike and the resilience and determination of the Ukrainians.

"The Ukrainians are determined. They're sad, but they're not going to give up. They don't want to give up," Yost said.

See more photos from each trip on page 5.

Rabbi's Trip To Poland Spurs Mission To Spread Message

By Lauren Cowin

With Passover inching nearer on the calendar, a group of rabbis, joined by Facebook, was in deep discussion of a mitzvah of global proportions.

The idea to somehow help Ukrainian refugees had been posited. Soon, a group of 27 rabbis, including Ari Goldstein of Temple Beth Shalom in Arnold, was planning a trip to Poland.

Wanting to involve their congregations in their mission, the rabbis divided a list of most needed items and held donation drives. In Arnold, the members donated over-the-counter pain medication and vitamins — and they did so in droves.

"It got to a point in which we were telling people to stop bringing them," Rabbi Goldstein said. "It was extraordinary — a mountain of bags from the rabbis."

When the group arrived in Krakow, Poland, and connected with the local Jewish Community Center (JCC) that would serve as their home base, it became clear that in the four days they had on the ground, they could best serve as messengers.

"We originally thought we were going to do volunteering, which we did a little, but really our biggest value was in the



Ari Goldstein is a rabbi at Temple Beth Shalom in Arnold.

money that we raised and the supplies that we brought but also in the number of people that we can reach in communicating what's going on over there," Goldstein said.

The JCC in Krakow, a relatively small building, had become an absorption center stocked with supplies for incoming refugees. Goldstein and his cohorts helped there as needed, boosted spirits as able, and listened to the stories of both the refugees and the Polish citizens who are literally opening their homes.

Goldstein recounted a discussion with one Polish man whose family had taken in three refugee families. "All of a sudden there are all these refugees and he and his wife are like, 'We have to do something,'" he said.

The rabbis also spent a day in the border town of Przemysl, where they welcomed Ukrainian refugees upon their arrival. Goldstein described this as an especially emotional experience, as most of the new arrivals were in tears — of relief, exhaustion, fear or grief.

"It was so sad. And I feel how lucky I am. It [was] hard to be [there] because I realize that humanity has gotten us to this place in which there are people who are just like me who are terrified, and who are running and who don't know what is the right decision for themselves," Goldstein said.

Before departing, the rabbis had the opportunity to host a Passover seder for the Jewish volunteers, many of them Israeli, who would miss spending the holiday with their families in order to help the relief effort.

Goldstein did make it home for Passover (barely), and while his bags were lighter than when he left with loads of supplies, his heart and message returned heavy and purposeful.

"I see my mission as to make sure to keep telling people about Ukraine," he said. "This is a horrible humanitarian crisis over there, and for us to just kind of forget about it is really a sin of commission, not omission."

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Yost, Goldstein Assist Ukrainians In Poland



Left: George Yost and other volunteers shopped for supplies.

Below Left: A cadre of rabbis arrived in Poland with two tons of supplies.



Above: Rabbi Ari Goldstein performed a magic trick for a child gathering supplies with his family in Przemysl, Poland, before being shuttled to their next destination.

The Start Line



Will Harding of The Gilded Lady is pictured with Broadneck sailing team members Jonathan Weed, Anabel Chambers and Aden Keithley on a J70 at nationals in Florida.

By Mary Marta Round Bay Sailing Association

With May underway, RB SA skippers have started with the first series of six Wednesday night races. As is typical for the Severn, conditions have been variable, with race one yielding light winds and race two yielding heavy air. Turnout is usually light during the late April, early May races, but most RB SA sailors are either already racing or just about to enter the fray. Many RB SA skippers are seasoned sailors,

but some are newer to the racing scene.

One new skipper, Colin Harding, is new to RB SA and new to racing. Harding has a Merit 22 named The Gilded Lady with a new sail number and boat rating. Wife Molly will drive, with Colin, son Ben, daughter Savannah and son Will as crew. Colin and Molly will rely heavily on Will given his experience with both dinghy and keelboat racing while at Broadneck High School. Will is a captain of the sailing team at Broadneck. While primarily dinghy sailors, Will and the Broadneck team placed fifth at the high school keelboat nationals in St. Petersburg, Florida, last December.

Colin was attracted to the RB SA group because he and family have observed the Wednesday races while fishing or boating on the Severn. He notes that the races, while competitive, are not overly contentious. He expects that

while sailing The Gilded Lady, he and family will be able to enjoy racing while gaining valuable experience on keel boats for Will, who wants to do offshore sailing.

RB SA takes pride in encouraging new racers to participate, while also allowing more experienced competitive racers to push their boats and crew. If you have an interest at whatever level, we encourage you to come over to Round Bay on a Wednesday eve. See us on the water or at www.roundbaysailing.com.

Breaking Into Racing



Photo courtesy of Tim Ford

Twelve hearty crews turned out for the first Wednesday night race of the Magothy River Sailing Association season on April 20.

By Maggie Burri Magothy River Sailing Association

The Magothy River Sailing Association (MRSA) is off to the races! We held our first Wednesday night round the buoys race on April 20. Twelve hearty crews turned out in moderate but chilly winds at our course off of Dobbins Island; it was a great way to knock off the rust. We skipped the following week since gale force winds were predicted, but as the season progresses, we're looking forward to our usual cadre of 20 or more boats.

We'd love to have you join us on Wednesday nights. There's nothing more exhilarating than harnessing wind, the tide, and your brain to be the first to get the gun. We're open to training new sailors and have set

up a boat/crew matching page on our website: www.magothysailing.org/racing/crew-boat. Whether you're an old hand at racing who doesn't have a boat, a new boat owner who wants to learn about racing, or a newbie who's watched sailing and wants to be part of the action, we want to hear from you!

We also offer junior training to youth ages 9 to 17. Registration is open for this summer's two-week program that will be held weekdays at the Grachur Club from Monday, July 11, through Friday, July 22. This affordable camp provides an educational and fun experience on the Magothy River. For more information, visit www.magothysailing.org/junior-training or contact us by email at juniortraining@magothysailing.org.

DPW Encourages Sustainable Spring Gardening

By Marsha
Anne Arundel DPW's official
"marshal" of waterways

To many of us, spring marks longer days and warmer temperatures, which means lawn and garden care and landscaping are back.

Much of our outside work uses a lot of water and can entail the use of harmful chemicals. All surface water in Anne Arundel County flows into our rivers and creeks and eventually the Chesapeake Bay. We all love and depend on the Chesapeake Bay, so let's learn how we can help the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works (DPW) teams reduce pollution in the watershed.

Car washing tips. We all love a clean car, but we love pristine, healthy waterways more! The next time you wash your car, use non-toxic and biodegradable soap, and wash your car on the lawn, not a driveway, to reduce runoff.

Create a rain garden. A rain garden is a sunken area with native plants that directs rainwater from a roof, driveway or street. It absorbs rainwater and breaks down pollutants naturally instead of letting pollution reach the bay. Not to mention, it makes an excellent habitat for bees and butterflies.

Read more at www.severna-parkvoice.com.

HBO Creates Show Based On "We Own This City"

» Continued from page 1

"These police officers we're talking about in the GTTF were doing home invasions, and most outrageously, they were seizing drugs and then selling them back out on the street," Pelecanos said, appearing on the show's official podcast, hosted by D. Watkins. "That's a huge leap from when we did 'The Wire.' The level of corruption. In fact, the level of corruption on the GTTF was unprecedented in policing."

Fenton's book was a culmination of his work at the *Sun*, as the book's events trace 15 years of the Baltimore Police Department's history, including unrest following the death of Freddie Gray.

Investigating these complex issues was no easy task.

"The public information laws sometimes feel like they're written in crayon," Fenton said when asked about the process of gathering public records to investigate the GTTF for *Baltimore Sun* articles and later for his book. "With the city, I would not say everything was a walk in the park, but once I got stuff, they turned over emails and body camera footage and things that helped me piece together the day-to-day activities of this unit. Disciplinary records, until like last year, were under lock and key in the state of Maryland. But I did have stuff leaked to me through sources and whistleblowers, so I was able to piece some things together."

What he learned was staggering. Several officers, including GTTF Sergeant Wayne Jenkins and police detective Daniel Hersl, were complicit in illegal

and unethical acts. In the HBO series, Hersl is played by Baltimore native Josh Charles. Jenkins is portrayed by actor Jon Bernthal, known for "The Punisher," "The Walking Dead," and "King Richard," among other roles.

Bernthal was tasked with portraying a man who committed many injustices but who was also a committed father and husband. To prepare, Bernthal did extensive research and participated in ride-alongs in every Baltimore district, from patrol to a plainclothes gun squad.

"There are no words for the victims whose Fourth Amendment rights were violated by this corruption and people who suffered far greater indignities than even that," Bernthal said on the HBO podcast. "But there's also something to say to the good men and women of the Baltimore Police Department who suffered by being in proximity to this guy."

"So I really wanted to hear from them. I wanted to hear from his best friends. I wanted to hear from the people that he grew up with. David Simon said from the beginning, 'This doesn't work if we just create a monster. It just doesn't work.'"

To accurately portray the events and real-life personas, Fenton was invited to the writers' room. He served as a "sounding board," offering details from his reporting and answering questions.

"For fans of 'The Wire,' it's sort of a companion," Fenton said. "It has a familiar feel, but it's based on real events and it feels fresh. The director, Reinaldo

Marcus Green, brought a great eye to it. I love the performances. I'm probably biased, but I think some of the actors did stellar work. It's been amazing to see and I'm glad we're able to tell this story on a bigger scale."

Even though the book is on shelves and the show has been filmed, police officers still face a monumental task: reduce violence without reverting to the heavy-handed approach that sometimes produced results.

"I think there's a lot of talk about police brutality and rightfully so," Fenton said. "This show explores the next level of misconduct and corruption that really did exist here, and I think there's been some similar scandals in other cities. Philadelphia had a whole squad like this charged not long before the Gun Force Task Force case was charged and a couple officers in Detroit were charged. There was this era of community policing that was introduced in the last couple decades. We've had these scandals since the '80s and '90s and it's a reminder that what we focus on, use of force, issues of trust and integrity, are very important as well."

Fenton plans to keep investigating any tip he receives about corruption.

"I want to keep telling these stories to the extent that this stuff is still going on," Fenton said. "Trying to hold people accountable and let them know that we're here, paying attention."

"We Own This City" airs on Mondays on HBO Max. Fenton's book is available in paperback, e-book and audiobook formats.

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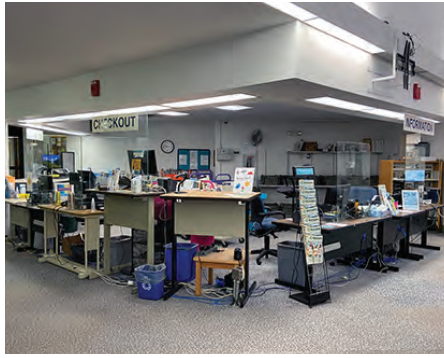
Broadneck Library Rolls Out The Carpet For Improvements

By Conor Doherty

A two-week closure has brought several much-needed updates to the Broadneck Library, which welcomed readers back through its doors on April 25. The updates, which the branch had been planning for about two years, included new carpeting in the main reading area and almost every room in the building, along with a new service desk and some new painting in the teen area to make it brighter.

According to branch manager Heather Ravanbakhsh, the reasons for the updates were multifold. "Our old carpet was light gray and very dirty and dingy," she explained. "It was definitely more than 10 years old, and it needed to be updated in its color, along with how dirty it was. Back in 2020, the old service desk was water damaged and the entire desk had to be pulled out. We had temporary tables set up and they were working OK, but they didn't look so nice and they weren't super functional."

While these updates were important for the branch, Ravanbakhsh said that, if money allows, several more upgrades



The Broadneck Library reopened on April 25 with new carpet, a new service desk and bright paint in the teen area.



could help the library.

"There are always things on our dream wish list," Ravanbakhsh said. "But we are always so grateful for what



we do get and what we've got now with the new carpet is just terrific. When you walk in now, it looks like a whole new building."

Enjoy Corks For A Cause

Featuring more than 90 point wines along with gourmet hors d'oeuvres and artisanal cheese tastings, Corks For A Cause will return to Homestead Gardens in Severna Park on June 15 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Hosted by Homestead Gardens and Fishpaws Marketplace, the event raises funds for the Baltimore Washington Medical Center Foundation, and more specifically, emergency department renovations, the Infant Safe Sleep program, and the healing garden.

Tickets are \$60 in advance or \$65 at the door. Business casual attire is recommended. Homestead Gardens is located at 522 Ritchie Highway.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.umms.org/bwmc/giving/corks-for-a-cause.

The 2022 Planet Walk Is Out Of This World

On Saturday, May 14, the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails, the Anne Arundel Community College Super Sciences Club, and the Solar System Exploration Division at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center will team up to offer a day of public programs

focusing on our solar system.

The events will include a "planet walk" on the B&A Trail and an illustrated evening presentation on Venus and NASA's plans to explore the planet. That program will be held at Anne Arundel Community College, followed by a stargazing party at

the AACC observatory. Attendance and parking are free for all events.

The events will kick off at 10:00am with a planet walk along a 4.7-mile segment of the B&A Trail between Glen Burnie and Severna Park. This segment of the trail features two sculptures and

eight planet stations representing the sun and the planets of the solar system, with a sculptural stainless-steel marker spaced at each planet's proportional distance from the sun.

Read more at www.severna-parkvoice.com.

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Three Must-See Getaways Within 75 Miles

By Lauren Burke Meyer

Safe to say, we all need a vacation (or at least a short escape) from our day-in and day-out routines. Whether it's a day trip, overnight, long weekend or even a week-long vacation, here are three destinations less than 75 miles away that surely won't disappoint. Because who really wants a long drive anyway?

Boonsboro, Maryland

My story and the inspiration for this article begins with my own trip to Boonsboro, Maryland, in April. Roughly 70 miles away from Severna Park, the town lies nestled at the foot of South Mountain in Washington County.

I read about Inn BoonsBoro in a travel article and was instantly intrigued by the fact that Nora Roberts, *New York Times* bestselling author and a longtime resident of nearby Keedysville, owned the inn with her husband, Bruce Wilder.

After researching, I learned from the website how each of the Inn BoonsBoro rooms "bear the names of literary lovers – who found their happy endings." For starters, Elizabeth and Darcy from "Pride and Prejudice," Marguerite and Percy from "The Scarlet Pimpernel," Titania and Oberon from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Roberts' own Eve and Roarke from her JD Robb "In Death" series. Each room reflects the style of the story's era and book theme.



Photo by
Lauren Meyer

Left: Inn BoonsBoro is a charming, historic bed and breakfast spot owned by *New York Times* bestselling author Nora Roberts.

I highly recommend perusing the inn's website (www.innboonsboro.com) to see the unique amenities that the beautiful historic boutique bed-and-breakfast has to offer. Luckily, my husband and I visited on a Sunday through Monday, so we were able to get the popular Jane and Rochester room from "Jane Eyre," which we highly recommend with its king-sized wooden canopy bed, classic fainting couch, fireplace, copper tub and private entrance.

The inn — with the complimentary happy hour, breakfast and fitness center access to Fit In BoonsBoro — is worth the trip alone. But don't just take it from me — you can check out the 185 five-star reviews on Tripadvisor for Inn BoonsBoro.

There are also many other delightful things to do while in town. For starters, wineries, like Big Cork Vineyards. This is where the wine comes from during the complimentary happy hours at the inn. Additionally, enjoy the charming shops such as Gifts Inn BoonsBoro, Josie's On Main or Turn the Page Bookstore, which is operated by Wilder.

Alexandria, Virginia

Clocking in at the closest distance from Severna Park at 42 miles, Alexandria was named a Top Three Best Small City in the U.S. 2021 by the *Condé Nast Traveler* Readers' Choice Awards and one of the South's Best Cities on the Rise 2022 by *Southern Living*.

"Historic Old Town Alexandria is an accessible and welcoming weekend escape next to our nation's capital," said Rebecca Doser, communications manager at Visit Alexandria. "Just five miles from Washington, D.C. on the Potomac River waterfront, Alex-

andria, Virginia, is connected to D.C. by water taxi, Metrorail, electric bike and more, and boasts more than 200 independent restaurants and boutiques alongside historic museums and new happenings at the waterfront."

Basically, if you want to embrace your nautical side, there's plenty to do including boat cruises, sailing, kayaking or paddleboarding. Take a riverside run or set sail with water taxis and river cruises by City Cruises anchored by Hornblower, offering scenic commutes between Alexandria and the National Mall, The Wharf, Georgetown, Nationals Park, George Washington's Mount Vernon and National Harbor.

With its centuries-old architecture, brick-lined streets and cobblestone alleys, the King Street Mile is one of the "great streets" of America and the No. 1 thing to do in Alexandria. Speaking of architecture, the Spite House is the skinniest historic house in America at just seven feet wide. A private residence located at 523 Queen Street, Spite House was built out of spite in 1830 to keep loiterers out of the adjacent alley.

Photo courtesy of Kristian Summerer/Visit Alexandria

Right: The Spite House is the skinniest historic house in America at just seven feet wide and was built out of spite in 1830 to keep loiterers out of the adjacent alley.



For someone looking for a reasonably priced hotel in Old Town where they can truly embrace the walkable city, they should look no further than:

The Alexandrian Old Town Alexandria, Autograph Collection: Within walking distance of the waterfront, new restaurants, historic attractions and more, the hotel embodies the spirit of the surrounding neighborhood with cobblestone streets and beautifully maintained historic buildings.

Hotel Indigo Old Town Alexandria: Nestled between Old Town's iconic cobblestones and the Potomac River, the hotel is one of the city's only waterfront properties and premier boutique hotels.

The Lorien Hotel & Spa: Alexandria's signature hotel and spa offers a comprehensive menu of spa treatments, the ever-popular BRABO Brasserie and accessibility in the heart of Old Town on King Street and conveniently situated just steps from Alexandria's Amtrak station.

St. Michaels, Maryland

Up next — St. Michaels, Maryland, a beautiful and quaint historic harbor town on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and only 56 miles away.

"St. Michaels is a beautiful historic waterfront town that has something for families, friends or a couple's getaway," said Kim Hannon, president of St. Michael's Business Association. "Between our award-winning restaurants, unique boutiques and shops, getting out on the water for a boat or kayak ride, strolling along the harbor or visiting one of our museums, you can make the most of how you want to spend your time, be it relaxing, learning history or going out on an adventure!"

For some water-themed adventure, the Sail Selina II boat tours are the perfect match. Sail Selina II offers cruises all day for two hours starting at 10:00am and also a romantic sunset champagne cruise starting at 5:30pm. Excursions include a mini harbor tour and then a trip out onto the scenic Miles River. They also offer half-day and full-day private charters, sailing lessons, beer tasting and wine tasting tours.

When not traveling by boat, St. Michaels visitors can enjoy traveling by foot and walking along the harbor or side streets to see the historical homes or eclectic range of shops offering jewelry, clothing and home décor. For museum lovers, the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum comes highly recommended.

Read the full story at www.severnaparkvoice.com.

Calendar

ONGOING

Through May 31: Arundel Federal Savings Bank collects food, clothing and hygiene products. Info: www.arundelfederal.com.

Through June 5: Toby's Dinner Theatre presents "Rocky The Musical." Info: www.tobysdinnertheatre.com.

MAY

May 13: Dublin 5 performs at StageOne at Maryland Cultural and Conference Center from 5:30-8:00pm. Info: www.mc3annapolis.org.

May 14: GSPACC Spring Shop Local Fun Fiesta in Park Plaza from 11:00am-3:00pm. Info: www.gspacc.com.

May 14: Chartridge community yard sale from 8:00am-1:00pm at 540 Benforest Drive. The rain date is May 15. Info: 301-440-6592.

May 14: Planet Walk on the B&A Trail between Severna Park and Glen Burnie. Starting at 10:00am. Info: 410-647-7220.

May 15: Burgers and Bands for Suicide Prevention at Severna Park Taphouse from 11:00am-7:00pm. Info: www.burgersandbands.org.

May 15: Meet the Kids at Kinder Farm Park from noon-4:00pm. Info: 410-222-6115.

May 15: Karen Collins and the Backroads Band perform at Hatton Regester Green at 4:00pm. Info: friendsofaatrails@gmail.com.

May 19: Anne Arundel County Food Bank Feeding Hope fundraiser at Homestead Gardens in Davidsonville. 5:30pm-8:00pm. Info: www.aafoodbank.org.

May 20: Oak Hill Elementary Race for Education at 9:00am. Info: 410-222-6568.

May 21: Saturday in the Park Family Fun Festival held by Severna Park Community Center from 10:00am-2:00pm. Info: 410-647-5843.

May 21-22: Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival at Sandy Point State Park for the final time. Info: www.bayblues.org.

May 24-25: Blue Angels rehearsal and then demonstration in Annapolis at 2:00pm. Info: www.blueangels.navy.mil.

May 31: Deadline for on-time registration for Green Hornets summer/fall sports. Late fee begins June 1. Info: www.greenhornets.org.

County Executive Pittman Shares FY2023 Budget Proposal

» Continued from page 1

suggests lowering the income tax rate on the first \$50,000 of taxable income for every taxpayer, from 2.81 percent to 2.70 percent. This will save each taxpayer up to \$50 and keeps Anne Arundel County's income tax rate the lowest in the Baltimore region, Pittman said.

He also called for a property tax rate that is 3 cents lower than the maximum level allowed, at 93.3 cents per \$100 of assessed value instead of 96.2 cents. He estimated that this decision will save the average homeowner \$100.

As county executive candidate Herb McMillan noted in a statement, the move comes after Pittman's first budget, for FY2020, in which the income tax was raised from 2.5 percent to 2.81 percent and the property tax rate was increased from 90.2 cents to 93.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value.

"Raising county income taxes by 12 percent and then giving back less than 1 percent of the increase is not tax relief; it's an election year gimmick," McMillan wrote.

Pittman claimed that the tax hikes were needed at the time but that the county is now in better shape.

"Three years ago, I said that this county had failed to deliver the infrastructure and services that its growth required," he said. "We stepped up that year and invested in teachers, first responders, and a new, permanent public improvements program."

EDUCATION

Pittman's budget fully funds the

Anne Arundel County Board of Education's capital budget request, which includes moving Old Mill Middle School North into the six-year schedule.

To show appreciation for all the employees who serve the public school system, the budget proposal restores back step increases and funds the Board of Education's request for pay increases for all teachers, staff and school bus drivers.

The budget also sets a new county record of \$50 million over the state maintenance of effort requirement, which is also \$50 million over last year's budget.

Some of those funds will be used to add 119 special education positions, 29 social and emotional learning positions, 48 pre-k positions to convert half-day programs to full-day pre-k classrooms, 20 English language development positions, three bilingual facilitators, and 140 classroom teacher positions.

"I am particularly thankful for the full funding of our compensation packages for our awesome employees and contracted bus drivers, the allocation of 424 additional positions, and the careful attention paid to providing more resources to address the social and emotional needs of our students," Dr. George Arlotto, superintendent of Anne Arundel County Public Schools, said in a statement. "I am also thankful that every item in our capital budget request is funded, ensuring we will continue to be able to enhance and upgrade the educational environments

for our students."

Despite that support, Pittman admitted that the budget won't solve every issue.

"I'm also concerned about school transportation," he said. "We still need more bus drivers, and I'm not confident that the Board of Education compensation request will attract them. If we expect parents to return to the workforce, we must provide reliable transportation."

PUBLIC SAFETY

The plan calls for the design and construction of a new 911 call center, combining police and fire call-takers into one unified operation under the Office of Emergency Management. It also asks for a replacement for the dilapidated firing range, a new forensics facility, and a new special operations facility.

To attract and retain the best officers in the region, the budget proposal provides cars to all officers, with a \$3.7 million investment in 55 new vehicles.

The budget proposal includes \$2 million to replace the county's oldest fire boat and \$4 million for nine new vehicles, including a tower ladder truck.

OTHER AREAS

Pittman said his budget also reduces borrowing for capital projects from \$170 million to \$160 million while growing the rainy day fund to the maximum allowable by law.

His proposal provides water access site improvements totaling a combined \$7.8 million in investments.

Also, under Pittman's plan, \$1.3 million would be set aside for the Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation's Inclusive Ventures Program to support emerging minority and small business operators.

The budget proposal invests \$10 million in the county's Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

One item that may cause some debate is the allocation of \$3.5 million to restore a building for the Crownsville Health and Wellness Center. Different groups have opposing views of how the property should be used. Pittman wants the site to house emerging nonprofits, offer services to residents of the treatment centers operating nearby, and be a temporary home for the county team that will manage the restoration of the site.

FINAL THOUGHTS

The county charter requires the county council to pass a balanced budget by June 15. The county's budget officer, Chris Trumbauer, feels good about the budget they will consider.

"This is the strongest, most responsible budget I have seen since I first became involved in Anne Arundel County government in 2010," said Trumbauer, a former county councilman. "The deliberate and careful planning in our last three budgets earned us a coveted AAA bond rating, and this proposed budget will help us secure that rating while investing in key county services and programs. It truly is the best budget — for all."

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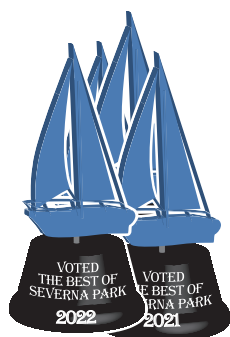
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CONNECTIONS

HAPPEN IN THE HEART

OSP Dedicates Beach Clubhouse To Newth Morris



The Olde Severna Park community celebrated the completion of a new beach clubhouse during a ribbon-cutting on April 23.

By Judy Tacyn

After a decade in planning, the Olde Severna Park neighborhood celebrated the completion of a new beach clubhouse on April 23 with a dedication of the building in the name of Newth Morris, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony with more than 75 community members present.

Morris, a longtime Severna Park resident and community activist, died unexpectedly on April 28, 2018. He had been president of Olde Severna Park Improvement Association (OSPIA) on three occasions and at the time of his death.

According to Jeff Johnson, current president of the OSPIA, the neighborhood thrived under Morris' leadership.

"During his tenure, Newth was instrumental in the planning and implementation of so many upgrades for our community," said Johnson in a 2018 interview with the Voice. "Everywhere you look, Newth had his fingerprints on the improvements of the beach and the community. He headed up the planning and building of a beautiful beach pavilion."

Johnson said the clubhouse was Newth's vision. He led the early efforts to bring together people involved in making the clubhouse a reality. The Morris family also made a significant contribution (in honor of Newth) to the funding of the construction project.

The concept of building the clubhouse began as early as 2012 with Morris leading the charge. In 2018, the community voted for concept approval and started the design and permitting process. Just as the OSPIA applied for county building permits, Anne Arundel County swore in a new

county executive and restructured the planning and zoning office. And then, of course, the pandemic happened.

The design of the building presented issues with Anne Arundel County permitting from the beginning, according to Johnson.

"In order to build the structure so that it did not impact the 100-foot tidal buffer and the 25-foot wetlands buffer, we decided to build below the flood line," Johnson explained. "In order to get approval,

we had to purchase flood barriers that can be installed if there is an impending flood. According to the county, this is their first time dealing with these barriers."

The 1,354-square-foot clubhouse includes two bathrooms, a climate-controlled storage space and

a meeting room, which means the building now allows OSPIA members to enjoy the beach year-round.

"This was a true community 'barn raising' with the architect and general contractor members of the community who donated their time and expertise to build the clubhouse," Johnson said. "Thank you to Roy Higgs and Mike Adams for their time and efforts to make this a reality."

Johnson added that the OSPIA is working with local landscape architects to design a plan to incorporate native plants and ornamentals, including Morris' beloved azaleas.

"The Olde Severna Park beach (Hatton Memorial) has been voted Best Community Beach by Severna Park Voice readers for many years running," Johnson added. "Our community activities are centered around this hidden treasure. The clubhouse allows us to enjoy the beach year-round now and into the future."

"This was a true community 'barn raising' with the architect and general contractor members of the community who donated their time and expertise to build the clubhouse."

— JEFF JOHNSON
OSPIA PRESIDENT

Maryland PrimaryCare Physicians

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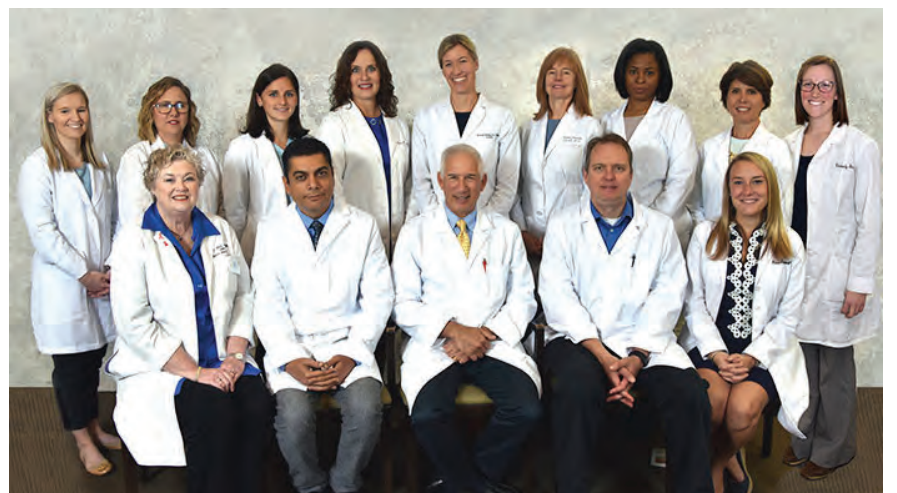
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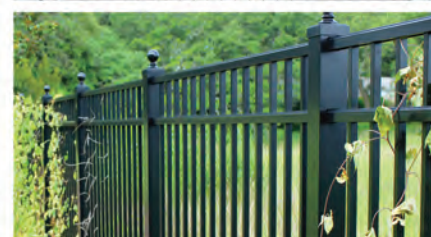
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Quaint Severna Park Community Awarded Unity Gardens Grant

By Desirae Martins

Severna Park's quaint and multi-generational community of Chartwood was awarded a Unity Gardens grant this spring, allowing residents to install native gardens at the community's two entrance signs over Earth Day weekend from April 30 to May 1.

Chartwood Community Association (CCA) president Lynnley Moore first heard about Unity Gardens and its generous grant program at a Greater Severna Park Council meeting in early 2022.

Unity Gardens, a nonprofit organization based in Anne Arundel County, supports community partnerships through its local grant program. The organization offers multiple grants twice per year to nonprofit community organizations, allowing them to purchase and install native plants for conservation landscaping.

After learning about the grant program and sharing the information with her community, Moore, along with CCA secretary Mary Fisher, other CCA board members, and master gardener and



native plant expert Alison Milligan, prepared CCA's application. The application required a well-researched plan for the native plants, including a detailed project budget, a planting and maintenance plan, a design plan and an explanation for why Chartwood should be a recipient.

Milligan assisted CCA throughout the grant application process. "Alison is a superhero volunteer," noted Unity Gardens executive director Joni Miller.

"She wants to see more native plants in Anne Arundel County and will help any organization who calls her."

CCA members discovered they would receive the grant shortly after they applied in March 2022.

"We knew this native planting project would be good for the community, good for the earth, and provide a habitat for birds, deer and other animals," Moore noted. "It also provides erosion control and makes our neighborhood signs look beautiful."

Once CCA's grant was approved, the community enlisted the help of residents to install the native plants. They deliberately planned for their planting to fall on Earth Day, which was an opportune time

for residents to come together and learn more about gardening while executing this important community project.

"My greatest hope is that our new native gardens flourish and inspire other communities to plant native gardens that contribute to the environment and natural habitat," Moore said.

CCA's project was one of 18 funded by Unity Gardens this spring, as its grant budget doubled from last year due to increased funding from the county. According to Miller, the organization has seen an increase in grant requests since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the demand signal was acknowledged by county purse-string holders. With the new \$20,000 budget, Unity Gardens offered grants worth up to \$3,000 per project this year, whereas in the past, grants were capped at \$1,000.

"Unity has funded twice the number of projects this year thanks to the budget increase," Miller said. "While it may not be a permanent change, we are certainly taking advantage."

Unity Gardens will open its fall grant application in June. "We highly encourage interested organizations to apply for a grant this fall because it is a great time to plant," Miller said. "We also hope to see more grant applications from underserved communities and communities with less access to nature."

New Rule Governs Judicial Declarations Of Gender Identity

By Lisa Bogan-Reohr and David V. Diggs

The Maryland Rules of Procedure govern the practice of law and procedure followed by the state courts in Maryland. Title 2 and 3 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure govern civil procedure, Title 4 governs criminal procedure, Title 5 governs evidence, and so on. Title 15 governs "other special proceedings," including topics as diverse as arbitration, contempt and mandamus (a judicial writ issued as a command to an inferior court or ordering a person to perform a public or statutory duty), not to be confused with Mundungus Fletcher (the shifty "Harry Potter" character).

And if you were born with the name Mundungus, wouldn't you want to change your name? Middle-schoolers would have a ball with that name, which means "foul-smelling tobacco." Fortunately for any Mundunguses among us, Rule 15-901 provides the rules and procedure for changing one's name.

However, for a person who has changed his or her gender identity, there are no rules or standard procedure for changing one's gender marker. This year, the proposed Rule 15-902 creates a new "action for judicial declaration of gender identity." The need for this rule arose out of cases where transgender and gender nonconforming individuals have petitioned the courts for a judicial determination allowing such a change. Maryland courts have equitable power to issue a declaration of gender identity for an individual, and they do rule on these petitions. See *In re Heilig*, 372 Md. 692 (2003) and *In re K.L.*, 252 Md. App. 148, 258 A.3d 932 (2021). "Under certain circumstances, a judicial determination of gender identity may

be necessary to change an individual's gender identity in legal, administrative, and other contexts." See committee note to proposed Rule 15-902(a).

For example, a transgender individual who still has their birth name and biological sex on their driver's license or government ID faces embarrassment and humiliation anytime they present their identification card. Such an individual is involuntarily revealing their transgender status anytime they apply for a job, go to a health care provider, get carded at a bar, apply for a passport, etc. For those individuals, their mental health and physical safety is at risk.

Modeled after Rule 15-901, Proposed Rule 15-902 addresses the applicability of the rule, the appropriate venue (where to file), the contents of the petition, the supporting documents, provisions related to minors, and the conditions for holding a hearing. Proposed Rule 15-902 was approved by the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure on March 11, 2022, with some amendments. When it is finalized, it will be submitted to the Court of Appeals for approval. It remains unclear when Proposed Rule 15-902 will go into effect, but it should be in the not-too-distant future.

Should you or a loved one need assistance with a name change or a declaration of gender identity, you will have questions. You should consult an attorney familiar with this area of the law who can assist you in making informed decisions. David V. Diggs is experienced in all aspects of family law. If you need further information, contact The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC, located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 302, in Millersville. Call 410-244-1189 or email david@diggsllaw.com.

Walking In Kinder Farm Park



A group of Annapolis Amblers and Freestate Happy Wanderers walked the trail at Kinder Farm Park.

By Bill Hassell
FoKFP Board Member

The Freestate Happy Wanderers Walking/Volksmarch Club has scheduled a walking event on June 11 in Kinder Farm Park, celebrating National Trails Day a week late. Volksmarch/walking is a wonderful way to discover historical and quaint places in Maryland at a slower pace. Check out www.ava.org or email wahasse1798@verizon.net for a brochure and join us for fun, fitness and friendship.

The Kinder Farm Park house will be open for tours on June 11 and we will have available information on all the trails other clubs sponsor in Maryland.

The Freestate Happy Wanderers Walking Club is based in Maryland. All of the trails are sponsored by local clubs belonging to the American Volkssport Association (AVA), a

national nonprofit organization, which promotes an awareness of physical fitness for people of all ages. A year-round walk in Kinder Farm Park is held at one of 14 trails Freestate sponsors. Others are Savage, Chesapeake Beach, BWI Airport Trail, Ocean City, Brookside Gardens, Fort Smallwood Park and several more that are available for you to walk anytime.

Our walks are non-competitive events (volksmarches) scheduled throughout the year, and mostly scheduled on weekends with several other walking clubs in Maryland. They are not a pledge walk, but are fun walks to do by yourself, with your family, friends and pets at your own pace. Adequate time is allowed to finish the event on the 5 kilometer or 10-kilometer trail.

Ask for Bill or Linda. I hope to see you there.

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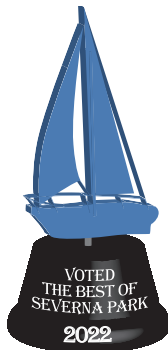
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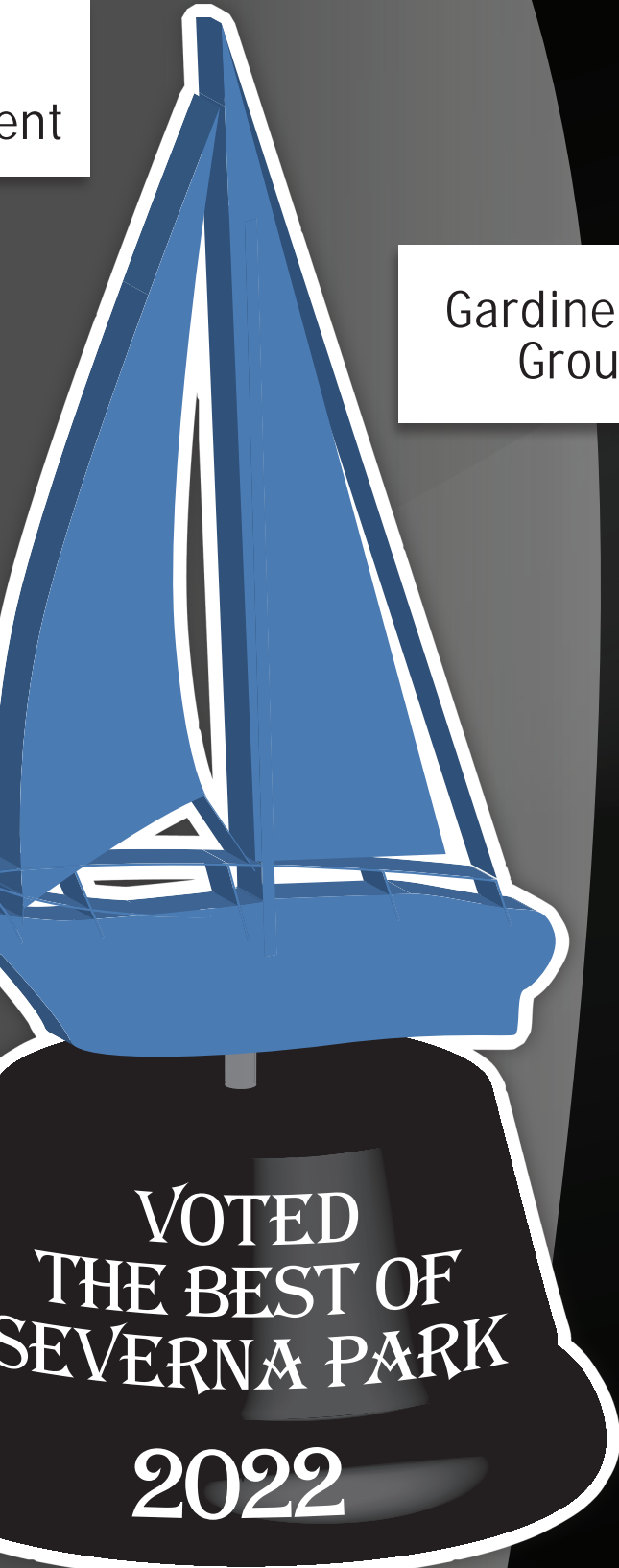
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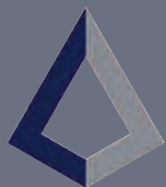
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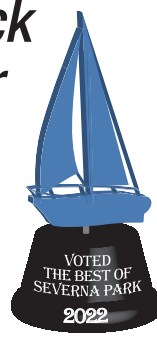
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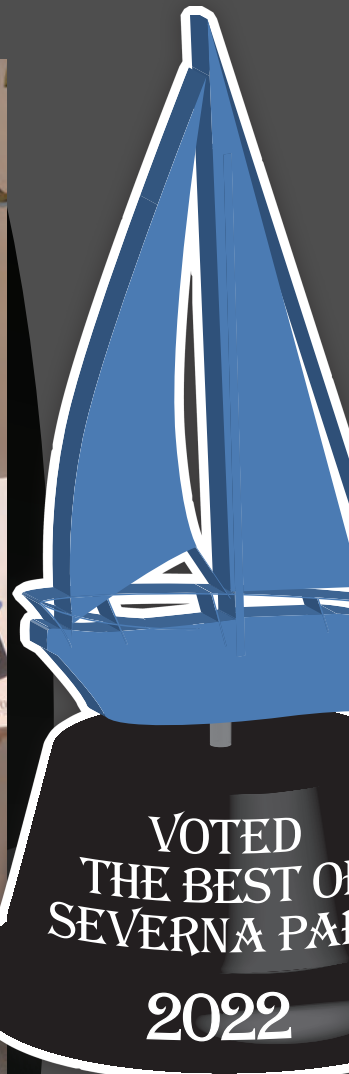
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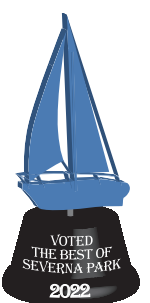


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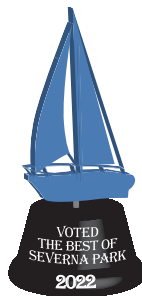
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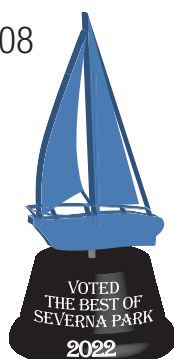
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Meet Your Election Candidates — 2022

Roughly two months remain before the primary election, with early voting starting on July 7 and Election Day arriving on July 19. Who are the candidates on this year's ballot? The *Severna Park Voice* asked each of them to submit a short bio to share their respective backgrounds and priorities.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Fernando Berra III

Berra is a father to four school-age children; a husband — for the past 14 years — to a dedicated mother and friend; and he is a lifelong devoted Catholic. He indicated that there is nothing more important to him than his family, and their privacy and safety are paramount, which is why there are no family pictures on his campaign website.

He has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering (BEEE) from City College of New York; his field of expertise: photonics/electromagnetics. Berra has a master's degree in systems engineering (MSESE) from Johns Hopkins University; his field of expertise: Systems of Systems (SoS) — to include socio-technical and sometimes socio-economic phenomena.

Professionally speaking, he is an advisory photonic systems engineer with 27 years of experience with many United States government agencies — including the Department of Defense — on matters of national security and military weapons systems.

Berra is running for Anne Arundel County executive because he is tired of the overreach of authority and abuse of power by county agencies — more specifically, the Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ) and the Office of Inspections and Permits (OIP).

He is concerned about the overspending, over-taxation and the waste of money that you and he have worked so hard to earn. However, he is most concerned about the violation to constitutional rights in the name of profit — by both the county and the state. He believes that we can do better.

Berra considers himself to be driven and innovative; he is a critical thinker preferring to use an "outside of the box" approach when searching for solutions to complex problems — whether technical or programmatic. "In my field, problems are opportunities waiting for the right solution," he said.

He also stated that "I have many proven successes in managing complex projects and delivering quality products within the constraints of schedule, technical complexity, and more importantly, within budget. I believe that together we can make a difference."

To learn more, go to www.friendsoftheusconstitution.com.

John Grasso

John Grasso is a moderate Republican and former county councilman who graduated from Glen Burnie High School. His priorities include defending parents' rights to raise their children as they see fit, reducing the size of government while increasing productivity, idolizing police and first responders, and getting overdevelopment under control.

For more information, visit www.electjohngrasso.com.



Jessica Haire

Jessica Haire is an engineer, attorney, wife and mom who has represented District 7 on the Anne Arundel County Council since 2018. She is running for county executive to bring commonsense, innovation and efficiency to county government.

Her priorities are reducing and eliminating taxes and fees, promoting quality infrastructure and reducing regulatory burdens.

Read more at www.jessicahaire.com.



Chris Jahn

County executive candidate Chris Jahn describes himself as the average middle-class husband and father. You are likely to run into him having dinner and a beer at any restaurant in the county. Always having an interest in politics, both local and national, he has grown

frustrated by politicians on both sides, who claim to work for the middle class but are unable to work together and leave nothing but empty promises.

As this is his first time running for any political office, Jahn is not a politician but a member of the middle class, knowing firsthand the tough decisions that citizens make daily. Living and working in Glen Burnie, Jahn decided to run for office in early 2021, seeing how the COVID policies of Anne Arundel County allowed more people into a casino than a restaurant or church. Instead of complaining, he decided to throw his hat into the ring.

Jahn sees the county executive office as a management position. With almost 30 years of management experience, he feels that he is uniquely qualified for this job, despite not being a politician. Working in retail multi-unit management has given him the needed experience to manage multiple departments and multiple department heads. Additionally, Jahn has a strong customer service background, so he will be dedicated to improving the quality of customer service that people receive from the county.

Instead of the same rehashed solutions, Jahn will bring innovative ideas to the issues facing county residents. A few of his primary areas of focus will be police relations, crime, strengthening the local business community, and transparency in education. In a Jahn administration, there will be no future COVID mandates. He will also end the tax increases that Anne Arundel County citizens have incurred over the past several years. Jahn believes the county needs a leader representing the middle class, not another politician.

For more information, visit www.chrisjahn4aaco.com.

Herb McMillan

A former state delegate, Herb McMillan is also a Naval Academy graduate and Annapolis resident. He is a fiscally responsible leader who will fight to lower taxes and cut wasteful spending. He believes that government exists to serve the people, not itself. That's why he has been a Republican leading the charge to safely reopen schools and businesses, while others remained quiet. As we restart our economy, he will focus on creating quality jobs by allowing small businesses to grow in an environment of less regulation and lower taxes.

To learn more, visit www.herbmcmillan.com.



Steuart Pittman

Steuart Pittman was elected county executive in 2018 with the endorsement of teachers, firefighters, police officers, the Sierra Club, and the League of Conservation Voters. Before that, he spent 35 years as a small-business owner and nonprofit executive in agriculture and community reinvestment.

In office, Pittman has protected open space with a revitalized forest conservation program, a green infrastructure plan, and written policy directives that limit development in environmentally sensitive areas.

He created a Permanent Public Improvements program that enticed the state to sign on to an agreement to fix traffic bottlenecks on Ritchie Highway.

He improved the county's fiscal condition in his first three budgets, getting the bond rating upgraded to a Triple A by Moody's for the first time ever, and delivering a fourth-year budget to the Anne Arundel County Council that lowers taxes, removes the structural deficit, reduces borrowing, and grows reserves while making record investments in education, public safety, parks, health and smart infrastructure.

Since taking office, Pittman invested heavily in our police department, fire department, education and public health. His investments led to serious crime dropping 11% from 2020 to 2021 while it was rising across the region; opioid deaths declined 17% over those two years and have dropped another 42% in 2022; county graduation rates at public schools surpassed the 90% threshold; and while we lost over 1,000 of our neighbors to COVID-19, our death rate was less than half that of jurisdictions that failed to act responsibly.

Pittman believes that government works best when communities are engaged and performance metrics are transparent. He created OpenArundel, budget town halls, the Land Use Navigator, and a new regional planning process driven by stakeholder groups in nine county communities to put communities first. He changed the county slogan to "The Best Place — For All."

To learn more, go to www.pittmanforpeople.com.

COUNTY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 5



Amanda Fiedler

Amanda Fiedler's family has lived in the county for four generations. After graduating from Broadneck High School, and earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from Salisbury University, Fiedler went on to a career in advertising and media buying, a profession she still enjoys. The sense of community and all that the fifth district has to offer is why she chose to raise her family here. It's important to her that our area continues to be desirable. A place other families can call home for generations.

A Republican, Fiedler has always given back to her community. Before elected office, she served and continues to serve on two councils at a local hospital and founded a nonprofit that has saved hundreds of lives. She's a member of a local chamber of commerce and served as PTO president for a local school.

Throughout her term on the council, Fiedler has been a champion for small business, successfully cutting red tape to create and expand job opportunities. She has worked tirelessly for upgraded pedestrian crosswalks, improved sidewalks, and extended bike trails to increase safety for pedestrians and bikers. She passed legislation that supports and protects local farmers and watermen, some of the historic professions in our area. Fiedler fought for increased mental health beds and additional partnerships with health care partners to help residents

» Continued on page 24

Meet Your Election Candidates — 2022

in crisis.

She believes in conservative spending, limited taxes, and fiscal accountability. Through legislation, Fiedler added oversight to the use of millions of dollars in grant funding to the county. She committed to giving the part-time council job her full-time attention, and she has delivered, providing responsive constituent service, sharing twice-monthly newsletters and making herself accessible to residents.

Fiedler is committed to serve this district with integrity and transparency. She will continue to work tirelessly for the future of District 5.

Learn more at www.voteforfiedler.com.



Carl Neimeyer

Carl Neimeyer is a business owner, veteran, and community volunteer who has been involved in building up and giving back to District 5 since he first moved here on orders with the United States Navy.

After graduating from Carnegie Mellon University, Neimeyer served his country in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps (Seabees). His military career included two tours to Afghanistan, leading and training thousands of sailors, and managing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal construction. His final tour was at the U.S. Naval Academy, during which time he volunteered to head the building committee at St. John the Evangelist Church, which oversaw large new construction and renovation projects for the parish.

After falling in love with Anne Arundel County, Neimeyer and his wife decided to settle down here to raise their growing family. However, too often in the civilian sector, he saw people seek a profit at the expense of their

workers or their integrity. For that reason, he founded Bernward Mechanical and Construction Solutions, headquartered in Severna Park. With only some modest equity in his home and his reputation, he built up a business that now employs over 75 people with good-paying jobs.

Adult involvement with youth is important, not just for his own children but for all of Maryland's future. Neimeyer has previously run STEM camps, participated in Severna Park High School's business capstone, and coached with Broadneck Baseball and Softball Club. He currently volunteers as cubmaster and merit badge counselor for Scouts BSA.

Neimeyer is a first-generation American, and he and his wife are raising their five children in Arnold. He is seeking political office to do his part to ensure dishonest partisanship, manufactured discord, and misguided government does not hinder anyone in this county from also pursuing the American dream.

For more information, visit www.carlneimeyer.com.

STATE'S ATTORNEY

Anne Colt Leites

Running unopposed, Anne Colt Leites is the current state's attorney for Anne Arundel County. She strives to fight violent crime and protect the rights of all.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Terry Gilleland Jr.

Terry Gilleland Jr. is a Republican running for clerk of the circuit court.



Scott Poyer

Scott Poyer was elected clerk of the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court in 2018, bringing over 30 years of government experience to the position.

He graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy and earned master's degrees from George Mason University and American College. In addition to 20 years of military service with the Coast Guard in a variety of leadership positions, Poyer also served in several senior roles in the federal government including as an associate administrator with the U.S. Department of Transportation. Poyer and his wife have lived in Annapolis for over 25 years. Their two children attended Anne Arundel County public schools and graduated from Annapolis High School.

As clerk, Poyer manages one of the busiest clerk's offices in Maryland. He oversees 128 staff members who collect over \$50 million and process over 250,000 documents a year, which include legal documents, deeds, business licenses, marriage licenses and other official records of Anne Arundel County. In addition to running the clerk's office for the county, he also helps set policy statewide as a member of judiciary committees including the Domestic Law Committee and two technology subcommittees. At the county level, he serves on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and the Anne Arundel County Immigrant Affairs Commission.

Poyer ran for office to bring new ideas and improve the efficiency of the clerk's office. He has done that by saving over \$350,000 a year in operating costs and increasing the

» Continued on page 26

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speed of processing legal filings over 80% among other accomplishments. His priorities for the next four years include further increasing efficiency by implementing new technology and other operational improvements, while remaining focused on customer service and access to justice for the public.

REGISTER OF WILLS

Erica Griswold

Erica Griswold is a Democrat running for register of wills.



Lauren Parker

As a lifelong resident of Anne Arundel County, Lauren Parker attended public school here and graduated from Anne Arundel Community College, University of Baltimore and University of Baltimore Law School.

As a local attorney, she drafted wills and trusts for 25 years and was the law firm managing attorney for the last five of those years. She needed no on-the-job training. As this county's register of wills since 2006, her office has achieved four perfect independent state legislative audits. She created a public website for case info and an online ordering system for case documents and instituted public credit card capability. She participated in lobbying the local delegation to the legislature for filing of small estates with no probate fees charged, becoming effective October 2022. She will be moving her office this summer to provide faster service, greater security, convenient ground level access and free parking for the public.

Under her guidance, her office provides county residents with fast, live, personal service in answering the phone and greeting them at the front desk. She has created outreach programs to inform churches and civic groups regarding wills and estates. She participates in legal education projects such as Law School for the Public, lecturing at the Maryland State Bar Association meetings and providing information to the Maryland legislature when requested.

Her priority is maintaining the well-trained, knowledgeable, compassionate, computer savvy staff and guaranteeing efficiency, availability and virtually no waiting time. She is deep into the transition to a paperless office to save the public storage costs. She is also working on the drafting of rules for approval by the legislature for e-filing estate paperwork. Her office is her passion and enables her to give back to the citizens of this county for a life here well lived.

To learn more, visit www.laureneparker.org.

JUDGE OF THE ORPHANS' COURT



Thomas Angelis

Thomas Angelis is seeking a position on the Orphans' Court because he believes his extensive professional experience, varied educational background and wide range of community involvement would enable him to be an excellent judge. As a former

college instructor, high school teacher in government and English, director of the Department of Recreation and Parks in Anne Arundel County, licensed real estate agent, sales representative for a major corporation for more than 20 years, legislative aide in the United States Senate, and sergeant on the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, he has displayed an ability to participate and succeed in numerous realms, and his diversified level of professionalism would serve him well.

He has achieved a Master of Arts degree in education from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; a

Bachelor of Arts degree in government and an Associate of Arts degree in law enforcement, both from The American University in Washington, D.C. Also, he was honored to have been nominated for a White House fellowship.

While having lived in Davidsonville for more than 48 years, he was involved in community and educational activities, including positions in government commissions, board service on public and private educational institutions, and activity in numerous local and political associations.

Angelis has been a personal representative or executor handling the probate estates of several family members. As a result of this past involvement with various aspects of the law, he believes he would use his judgment to correctly apply the probate process with Maryland law. Thus, because of his professionalism, education and maturity, he knows he would be a valuable asset to the Orphans' Court.



Maureen Carr-York

Maureen Carr-York is a nurse, an attorney, and, for the past six years, a judge of the Orphans' Court. That latter item came about because several people at the circuit courthouse, seeing an opening on the court due to a retirement, quickly thought of

Carr-York to join the court and "hit the ground running." Governor Larry Hogan agreed and appointed her to serve out the term. In 2018, the voters agreed, electing her to a full term.

She didn't need to think long before accepting. Carr-York saw a natural fit where she could use her experience as a nurse, helping individuals and families coping with a death in the family, as well as her decades of legal counseling and courtroom experience, to explain and apply the law.

Carr-York is a 1981 graduate of Georgetown Law, and before that of Catholic University School of Nursing. She first came to Anne Arundel County when her husband, Dr. Jim York, was assigned to Fort Meade as an orthopedic surgeon. The young couple decided to remain in the county when Dr. York left the service, in 1988, and raised their two daughters here. Daughter Kerry and her husband are continuing the tradition, raising their young son in Millersville.

Carr-York believes that an Orphans' Court judge must serve the public, meeting the needs of county families without reservation and despite hardships such as the recent pandemic.

Carr-York and her colleague, judge Nancy Phelps, continued working throughout the pandemic, coming into the courthouse to manage estates through processing the paperwork even when the courthouse was otherwise closed to the public. She sees meeting the challenges of assisting families as just part of serving the citizens of the county her family calls home. She asks for your support to continue doing the work of the Orphans' Court.

For more information, visit www.maureencarryork.com.



David Duba

David Duba is a teacher and public servant hoping to serve the people of Anne Arundel County as a judge on the Orphans' Court. He believes in the power of service and hopes to work alongside others to create positive changes in our community. He is a high school

teacher at Bowie High School, teaching government, history, criminal justice and law, and sociology. He works diligently to ensure that all students are prepared to be well-educated citizens upon graduation.

In addition to working as a teacher, Duba serves as an advocate and organizer in Anne Arundel and Maryland politics. He knows that democracy only works when all of us fight for it and has fought for change at the federal, state and local level. He understands the importance of our government institutions and the need to make them

effective and accessible.

His goal, if elected to the Orphans' Court, is to make the court accessible to all. He is hoping to collaborate with the other judges on the court to offer additional times and a virtual option for court sessions to make it more accessible for working people. He understands that people are often coming to the court after the loss of a loved one and Duba will work to ensure the court is a place where all people are heard and respected and to ensure the court is an institution that works effectively and efficiently.

Duba and his wife, an educator in Anne Arundel County Public Schools, live in Annapolis. He grew up in Indiana and earned his bachelor's degree in human and social development from the University of Miami in Florida before settling in Annapolis.

Vickie Gipson

Vickie Gipson is a Democrat running for the Orphans' Court.

Mark Knapp

Mark Knapp is a Democrat running for the Orphans' Court.



Tony McConkey

Alifelong Marylander, Tony McConkey, 58, moved to town in 2001 after marrying Severna Park native Susan Dill McConkey. They have three children, with the oldest starting college this fall, and are active at St. John's.

Tony McConkey is running for judge of the Orphans' Court and sees the office as "an exciting next step" in his career of public service after representing Severna Park and Arnold for 16 years as delegate in the Maryland General Assembly.

During that time, he was involved, up close, with the court system by serving for more than a decade on its issues, not only those of the Orphans' Court but also issues of the civil and criminal courts, law enforcement, victim rights and elder abuse. He was also a member of a six-person panel that oversaw the budgets and administration of the state judiciary, including the orphans' courts and register of wills. That experience gave him an education on the business side of the courts in issues of funding, staffing, modernization and reform.

He believes his experience makes him well qualified to serve on the court. Specifically, McConkey seeks to speed up the court modernization and reform started by state legislation in 2021. He said, "I believe, through technology, we can make the process of probate quicker and easier for grieving families in our state."

McConkey also believes his experience outside of government will make him a better judge. He has worked for 38 years in the real estate business as broker, owner and property manager. Real estate, its handling and disposition after death, is much of the subject matter of the court, an issue with which he has many years of experience.



Nancy Phelps

Nancy Phelps has been a citizen of Maryland and resided in Anne Arundel County for many years. She was appointed to be chief judge for the Orphans' Court by a governor of Maryland. She had the pleasure of serving the Orphans' Court for the past 24 years both in the capacity as an associate judge and the chief judge.

Phelps and her late husband, the Rev. Frank Phelps Sr., are faithful Christians. They were raised with the moral and ethical principles upheld and passed on within their families, as fidelity, honesty, truth, learning, wisdom, leadership, compassion and faith. Their family values will carry on through Brian Phelps, their son, and to Sarah and

» Continued on page 27

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Meet Your Election Candidates — 2022

He ran in 2018 on a platform to restore integrity to the sheriff's office, address outstanding county warrants and modernize the agency. To that end, he has engaged communities through outreach efforts and a new smartphone mobile application to enhance community awareness and transparency. Fredericks created the only online warrant database in Maryland, combined with his Safe Surrender program and a tip line for criminal activity, which has dramatically increased crime tips and self-reporting for wanted persons. Safe Surrender improves deputy interaction with citizens in the community and reduces the likelihood of negative interactions during warrant service. The office has been significantly modernized through improved courthouse security, upgraded and enhanced agency technology and communications, and a new facility for all sheriff's field operations.

The new facility near Annapolis Mall expands sheriff services to two locations and improves safety and security for office employees. This facility allows for new training opportunities for the office, provides enhancements to the canine program, and a gym for employee health and well-being. The sheriff's plan is to continue innovations in warrant service, expand security technology at the circuit court, and to continue improving the safety of deputies and citizens through even greater outreach.

James McNeill

James McNeill is a Republican running for sheriff. He is a small-business owner, and he has also worked for the Maryland Transportation Authority, Maryland Aviation Administration and Annapolis City Police Department.

To learn more, go to www.mcneillsheriff.com.



Warren Porter

Warren Porter, who brings 30 years of law enforcement experience, believes he is the choice for a safer Anne Arundel County. Growing up and raising his own family in Anne Arundel County, Porter knows the values we all hold.

Having worked the streets, air, and waterways of Baltimore City for 20 years and nearly 10 years with the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office, Porter is prepared to tackle the issues facing our sheriff's office today. Getting violent offenders off of our streets, establishing weekend coverage to eliminate more stress on our county police, and motivating the dedicated staff of the sheriff's office are a few of his priorities.

Porter is experienced, educated, highly decorated and a dedicated leader. He is committed to our county. He believes he is the safer choice for Anne Arundel County.

For more information on Porter and his campaign, visit www.porterforsheriff.com.

Everett Sesker

Everett Sesker is a Democrat running for sheriff.

REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DISTRICT 5

Bill Love, Susan McConkey, Andy Owen, Anne Rutherford, Daniel Smith and Peggy Williams are running to represent District 5 on the Republican Central Committee.

DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DISTRICT 30

Dylan Behler and Scott MacMullan are running to represent District 30.

DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DISTRICT 31

Conor Curran, Dan Glennon and Enie Nwankwo are running to represent District 31.

DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, DISTRICT 33

Chuck Cook, M. James Faison, Joe Franco, Priscilla Monroe and Samantha Zwerling are running to represent District 33.

STATE DELEGATE, DISTRICT 30A

Shaneka Henson

As an elected official since 2017, Shaneka Henson entered the Maryland House of Delegates after the passing of Maryland's beloved former speaker, Mike Busch. She believes her bold and passionate leadership is here to pave the way and change the narrative in Annapolis.

Learn more at www.shanekahenson.com.



Dana Jones

Dana Jones was born and raised in Maryland and attended Towson University, where she graduated in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science degree in sociology.

In 2020, just days after a statewide stay-at-home order was issued due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

Jones was chosen by the Anne Arundel County Democratic Central Committee and appointed by Governor Larry Hogan to represent District 30A. Immediately following her appointment, Jones began the hands-on work needed to help her constituents get through the global pandemic. This included handing out much-needed supplies at distributions, helping over 1,000 constituents receive their unemployment insurance, ensuring those who needed it could access SNAP benefits, and working with local officials to get broadband access to every student. Constituent services continue to be a main priority for her and her staff.

Jones currently serves on the House Ways and Means Committee, where she is a member of both the election law and education subcommittees. Following her first session in office, she was also appointed as chair of the Anne Arundel County delegation's education subcommittee. Over the past two years, she and her colleagues brought home nearly \$80 million for dozens of projects throughout the district. She has passed 12 bills through the House, eight of which have been enacted. This past session, she co-sponsored 33 pieces of legislation that included \$300 million in tax cuts. She helped pass landmark legislation that will provide \$2 billion of tax relief for retirees. Additionally, she was elected by her colleagues to serve on the executive committee of the Maryland Women's Caucus.

She and her family are active with numerous local community organizations in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, and most weekends, they can be found volunteering or at a youth sports event for their son, with their puppy, Annie Chesapeake.

For more information, go to www.danajones30a.com.



Doug Rathell

Doug Rathell is native Marylander looking to serve our community to the fullest. Professionally, he is a career fire lieutenant/paramedic, married to a nurse, and together they have three amazing children. His passion for serving the community led him to becoming a firefighter. He has always had an attraction to politics, but after completing the Leadership Anne Arundel

Flagship program in 2015, his interest was reignited. This organization's curriculum allowed him the opportunity to delve into the development and cultivation of Anne Arundel County, as well as the tools needed to improve the quality of life of those living in the community.

As a delegate, he plans to bridge divides, while facilitating resolutions for the benefits and interest for all. With his diverse background, he believes he has the resources and networks necessary to become a successful, proactive leader. His close connection with the community gives him greater insight compared to those who may not be directly involved in this capacity.

Rathell has seen, firsthand, the devastating effects of the opioid epidemic and provided countless individuals a second chance. He has endured the living conditions and struggles of those less fortunate in our community. Rathell doesn't sit behind a desk imagining or reading about these issues; he is out on the streets experiencing them. It's his job to protect our community, whether it's fighting fires or providing care to those in need. Now, he wants to give back in another way.

He is committed to aiding Anne Arundel County and his fellow citizens. It's time for a change. When elected, he intends to bring his hands-on experience and practical knowledge to the State House and make the difference our community deserves.

For more information, visit www.electdougathell.com or follow @electdoug on Instagram and @electdougathell on Facebook.

Rob Seyfferth

Rob Seyfferth is a Republican running for the House of Delegates.

STATE DELEGATE, DISTRICT 31



Kevin Burke

Inspired by former NFL player Pat Tillman, and others less well known, Kevin Burke joined the military after September 11, 2001. In the military, Burke volunteered to serve in Iraq and worked on the staff of the commanding general for the United States Forces in Iraq. He

has also served as a federal prosecutor, leading investigative teams and prosecuting criminal drug, gun, fraud and sexual assault offenses.

Burke currently works as a lawyer representing individuals, families and businesses in the areas of retirement, investment, tax and estate planning. He also volunteers as a baseball coach with the Green Hornets and as a member of the Anne Arundel Commission on Disability Issues, which reviews government spending and legislation for impact on the special needs and senior communities.

He is running for the House of Delegates to improve the quality of life of the residents of District 31. As your delegate, he would make your economic success and financial security his chief priority. Burke is also disturbed by a report from the Environmental Protection Agency that calls into question the safety of our drinking water and would monitor this situation like a hawk and correct it. He also believes his opponents have failed in the environmental protection and public safety areas. Specifically, he is concerned one opponent is a leading advocate for the private manufacturing of untraceable firearms.

Burke will genuinely put the interests of District 31 above any political party. He believes we need to focus on renewing our democracy. He will continue to fight against unethical gerrymandering, for requiring elections for political vacancies, and advocate to allow independent voters to vote in primaries to moderate our political discourse.

Burke resides in Severna Park with his wife, Megan; sons, Aidan and Griffin; and dog, Franklin ("Frank the Tank").

To learn more, visit www.votekevinburke.com.

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Meet Your Election Candidates — 2022



Brian Chisholm

Brian Chisholm is a lifelong Anne Arundel County resident who has entrenched himself into the fabric of the community as a steadfast and reliable friend, family member, neighbor, small-business owner and trusted leader. He is seeking re-election for his second

term as a Maryland Republican delegate representing Severna Park, Pasadena, Millersville, Gambrills and Glen Burnie.

Chisholm attended Folger McKinsey Elementary, Severna Park Middle and Severna Park High School prior to attending Clemson University. He excelled on the athletic fields in both baseball and football, retaining those immeasurable bonds built with teammates, coaches and friends that were forged in his young adult years. He takes tremendous pride in the friendships, connections and involvement he has bolstered within the community spanning several decades. He has consistently proven to be a faithful and reliable leader in supporting charities, small businesses, community members and colleagues without fail.

He currently serves on the Health and Government Operations Committee and was at the forefront of analyzing and disseminating a deluge of data throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. He worked relentlessly to help countless Marylanders who needed quick assistance with supplies, resources, unemployment insurance help and information. He stood strong to keep restaurants and small businesses open prior to the 2020 holidays by garnering national media attention. He was a key component of successfully keeping many of these indispensable members of our community employed and businesses operating

during these difficult and confusing times.

Chisholm has earned immense respect from his friends, family, community members and colleagues in Annapolis for his passionate dedication to serve his community and all Marylanders. He is often referred to as "Braveheart" by his colleagues for his fierce defense of individual freedom and liberty. He is unapologetic about his unwavering love of God, country and American citizen.

Delegate Chisholm would be honored and respectfully asks for your support in his 2022 re-election campaign to serve you and your family.

For more information, go to www.chisholmformaryland.com.



Nic Kipke

A lifelong resident of Anne Arundel County, Nic Kipke lives in Pasadena with his wife and three children, who all attend St. Jane Frances Catholic Church. Kipke is a businessman, working as a manufacturer representative for the last 23 years, and he and his

wife own a small business in Millersville. Delegate Kipke is known for dedicated constituent services and is always responsive and active in the community.

He is a caring and conservative legislator who is opposed to illegal immigration, fights for tax cuts, supports first responders, votes for tougher penalties for violent criminals, and received an A+ rating from the National Rifle Association for his support of the Second Amendment. This session, he authored legislation to expand school choice, expand charter schools, provide a tax credit to homeschooled students for educational expenses, and he is staunchly against the political agenda currently corrupting our public-school system.

Some of his legislative accomplishments on record

include cutting the cost of the Anne Arundel County permit fee for replacement wells by 50 percent, eliminating the statewide soda fountain tax, prohibiting welfare cards from being accepted at Maryland casinos, many pharmaceutical reform initiatives to support community pharmacies, reciprocity with other states in offering complimentary hunting licenses for former prisoners of war or disabled veterans, a law that will assist the prosecution of election fraud, as well as a law expanding access to oral health care in long-term care facilities, and this year he passed legislation to expand access to substance abuse treatment for adolescents. He was recently awarded the Maryland Military Coalition's Legislator of the Year award for his work to support active duty and veterans.

He will continue to be a respected conservative leader who cares about the community and works to solve problems in our community and state.

Learn more at www.kipke.com.



Travis Lerol

(Nominated by party to appear in the General Election only)

Travis Lerol grew up in rural Minnesota, attended college there, and joined the U.S. Air Force, which stationed him in Fort Meade, Maryland. As a software engineer working in defense

contracting, he is familiar with how our government works, and he'd like to see a lot less of it.

After living in the area for almost two decades, he has chosen to run for office for the first time because of the increased partisanship he's seen in politics. With thousands of bills considered in the Maryland government

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every year, and hundreds adopted, very few seem to help most citizens, despite this worsening partisan struggle. Lerol hopes to provide folks who feel similarly with a seat at the table, and to promote the Libertarian way of a smaller government that focuses on just the essentials. Lower taxes, fixing roads, and getting back to normal after COVID-19 all feature in his campaign, which he runs from his home in Pasadena, where he lives with his partner, two rabbits and one hedgehog.

He is currently canvassing to ask citizens what they would like to see change in government, and welcomes your answers, either via Facebook, or via the contact information on his website, www.travislerol.com.



Rachel Muñoz

Rachel Muñoz is a devoted wife, mother, and hard-working and caring legislator.

Muñoz was raised in Severna Park, where she and her husband, Andrew Muñoz, are blessed to be raising their four children with her fifth due any day. After graduating from Severna Park High School, she attended the University of Maryland, College Park, majoring in psychology with a minor in philosophy. Afterward, while studying counseling at Loyola University and working with the Anne Arundel County Crisis Response Team, Muñoz learned firsthand of the diverse issues that affect our residents.

Inspired by the need for advocacy in the community, Muñoz studied at the University of Maryland School of Law, where she explored, in depth, the issues Maryland is facing today. Muñoz had the opportunity, in her first year of law school, to work at the Anne Arundel Circuit Court with Judge Cathy Vitale. Muñoz has been active in her children's school, on her community homeowners association board, and as a board member of the Severna Park Republican Women's Club.

As a new delegate, Muñoz has more than proven to be an effective leader with helping hundreds of constituents, speaking out on the important issues and working to pass legislation. She is not someone to ever rest on her accomplishments. Her plans for the next session include holding the line against tax increases, repealing taxes that drive businesses out of Maryland, lowering the cost of living, helping small businesses that create so many local jobs, improving the environment, supporting constitutional rights, strengthening public safety, and protecting parental rights and the education of our children.

Muñoz would be honored to have your vote in the Republican primary on Tuesday, July 19, and in the general election on November 8.

For more information, visit www.voterachelmunoz.com.



LaToya Nkongolo

LaToya Nkongolo is running in the Republican primary for the Maryland House of Delegates, District 31. Nkongolo is a conservative and small-business owner with a history and expertise in addressing mental health and addiction issues. She has a strong

track record of community involvement in building overdose outreach programs in Anne Arundel County. She has used her leadership and expertise to serve thousands of residents while building relationships with local elected officials.

She is a graduate of the University of Maryland-Baltimore School of Social Work; a graduate of Springfield College with a concentration in organizational management and leadership; and also a graduate of Delaware State University. Nkongolo serves as an adjunct professor in the human services department at Anne Arundel Community College. She resides in Severna Park with her husband, Bamoyo, and their two children, Victoria and Solomon.

Nkongolo is often described by community members as being a bridge builder and gap filler. As a mental health therapist, she has the opportunity to hear from Anne Arundel County residents from all walks of life, and she

has found that many of us have the same goals: emotional stability, physical stability and financial stability.

In her daily work as a therapist and community advocate, she empowers individuals to strengthen their families, communities and businesses. As a state delegate, she would meet these goals by being a staunch and powerful conservative voice and advocate for supporting law enforcement to ensure that our communities are safe; lowering taxes for all residents, especially the forgotten working class; less bureaucracy for small businesses and entrepreneurs; addressing mental health and addictions, access to prevention, treatment and recovery; and empowering parents to make the choice for their children's education.

For more information, visit www.latoya4maryland.com.



Milad Pooran

Dr. Milad Pooran is a physician and veteran whose goal is improving the quality of life for all Marylanders. On the front lines of the COVID pandemic as a critical care physician and chief medical officer for PHI Healthcare, Pooran knows firsthand the critical

infrastructure gaps in our health care system that limit access to care, while driving up costs for all citizens.

Pooran knows that issues of childhood poverty and food insecurity within Anne Arundel County will only get worse with current economic pressures. The downstream effects of failing to cure these social deficits will result in stressed safety nets and impacts on the safety and welfare of all county residents.

A colonel in the Air National Guard and a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, with nearly a quarter-century of service in the United States Air Force, Pooran is a leader who has shown through action to be able to identify and solve problems, and not just to argue about ideological issues with little impact on the average family. A staunch advocate for individual liberties and freedoms, safe work environments, and quality public education from preschool through college and vocational programs, Pooran will work every day as a delegate for the families of Maryland and District 31.

STATE DELEGATE, DISTRICT 33



Heather Bagnall

In 2018, candidate Heather Bagnall, a theater maker, arts educator, nonprofit administrator, co-founding artistic director, and award-winning playwright, made two campaign promises — to ensure District 33 became a relevant voice in Maryland, and to keep showing up for her constituents.

Since her election, Delegate Bagnall has served as vice chair of the Anne Arundel County delegation, chair of the delegation for the capital budget and public health subcommittees, co-chair of the Crisis Bed Workgroup, legislative liaison for the Oral Health Task Force, and is a member of Veteran's Caucus, Latino Caucus, Transit Caucus and Waterman's Caucus.

She is second vice president of the Women's Caucus and was a recipient of the Department of Defense Citation of Achievement, Census Champion, Legislator of the Year for American College of Emergency Physicians and Maryland State Dental Association, and Maryland Association of the Deaf Distinguished Service Award.

Bagnall has brought in record funding for local projects, saved the Anne Arundel County Food Bank, ensured completion of essential shoreline restoration, advocated for Bay Bridge electronic tolling and gantries, ended sunny day flooding on Route 450, passed legislation for mental health services for adolescents and adults, and menstrual products for low-income Marylanders among a myriad of legislative accomplishments, and solidified funding for the Crownsville Memorial Hospital Park, but she remains

focused on building a world-class behavioral health system.

Bagnall is running again because she loves helping people, streamlining the process, and ensuring people have what they need when they need it. With the new subdistrict, the timing couldn't be more important given the recent federal determination, which makes way for a \$60 million Tier 2 study for a Bay Bridge replacement impacting Broadneck and the entire Route 2 corridor. Bagnall intends to establish the peninsula as an Impact Zone. In her words, "The Broadneck community derives no benefit from the bridge, only pain. We need someone fighting not only for better traffic options but for financial reinvestment in our community. That someone is me."



Kerry Gillespie

Kerry Gillespie is a proud mama bear of four children, a wife, the daughter of a veteran, a Christian and an American. As a military brat, she lived in eight states around the country and in Puerto Rico and has resided on the Broadneck peninsula for over a decade.

She graduated from Winthrop University in South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in integrated marketing communication. Throughout her professional career, she worked in media buying and planning, event coordination, design and distribution of marketing materials, and SEO (search engine optimization) research. She also used her marketing expertise in a volunteer capacity within the community.

But Gillespie's biggest, most challenging, and yet most rewarding job she has had is being a mother for almost 19 years. As a parent of children with rare health issues, she became an advocate for her kids with schools, doctors and in extracurricular activities. She further went on to advocate on Capitol Hill on behalf of the nonprofit Beyond Celiac, as they sought to pass legislation to protect those with celiac disease.

The last two years of government overreach and lack of real representation ignited a fire inside of Gillespie. She advocated to the county and state school boards and testified at the Maryland Senate for schools to reopen, for parental say in masking children and in curriculum content, and for the most important factor currently under attack in the country, parental choice.

Gillespie is not a politician. She is running for delegate to be a voice for all citizens in District 33C pertaining to the issues that are important to you and your families. The main issues she plans to tackle as your delegate are strengthening our education system and ensuring parental rights and choice, reducing crime and taxes, and smart development.

STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 30

Sarah Elfreth

Elected in 2018 to represent Annapolis and southern Anne Arundel County, Senator Sarah Elfreth is the youngest woman ever elected to the Maryland Senate.

A Democrat, she serves on the Budget and Taxation Committee, as chair of the Anne Arundel County Senate delegation, and as one of two senators representing Maryland on the multi-state Chesapeake Bay Commission.

For more information, visit www.sarahelfreth.com.



Stacie MacDonald

Stacie MacDonald is an animal lover and owner of a Maryland assisted living business, which accepts elderly residents and allows them to bring their pets to live with them.

She has over 30 years of professional experience as a Maryland business owner, legislative counsel, attorney, litigator and real estate broker. Her experience includes drafting and navigating passage of bipartisan laws within the legislature. She is living Governor Larry Hogan's vision, "Maryland is open for business." She achieved this by

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purchasing a failing business and growing its revenue to create over 100 new jobs.

Her extensive community involvement includes leading the successful movement to keep Anne Arundel restaurants open for dining in December 2020.

There is too much special interest money in politics and too many political favors. Therefore, she refuses all contributions from PACs, lobbyists and “special interest” groups!

Her approach is much like Governor Hogan’s: fair, thoughtful and pragmatic. She takes a commonsense, bipartisan and balanced approach to policies, and she is not going to vote merely because of a political party. Serving is not about a certain political party. Her decisions will be based on what is best for the people she serves.

We need legislators who understand the impact crime is having in our communities, the burden of constant tax increases, the educational challenges facing our students and the far-left policies that compound the cost-of-living challenges facing the people of District 30.

MacDonald is running for state senate in District 30 and pledges her full-time, year-round efforts to being a senator. The Annapolis area has been her home for 11 years because she loves the semi-rural lifestyle, boating and friendly people. MacDonald and her husband share their home with their 150-pound Boerboel, Vino, who is trained to comfort elderly dementia residents.

To learn more, go to www.electstaciemacdonald.com.

Bobbi Moore

Bobbi Moore is a Republican running to represent District 30.

STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 31



Bryan Simonaire

Bryan Simonaire has enjoyed the privilege of serving Pasadena as a state senator in District 31, which now includes part of Severna Park. On a personal note, he has been married for more than 30 years to his college sweetheart, who gave him seven beautiful children.

Community is important to him. As one example, he and his son started the annual Young Heroes Essay Contest that highlights positive activities of local youth.

Legislatively, Simonaire has focused on helping people and restoring their voice in Annapolis. He has successfully focused on solutions to problems, independent of party. Most people want solutions, not partisan bickering. His objective is to ensure the people have a strong representative who stands up for them independent of party, politics or power plays.

Learn more at www.simonaire.com.

STATE SENATE, DISTRICT 33



Dawn Gile

In addition to being a candidate for Senate in District 33, Dawn Gile is an experienced business attorney and an award-winning advocate for veterans and military families. She has long devoted her time to public service, including having served as president of Military Spouse

JD Network, an organization dedicated to serving the military and veteran community by expanding employment opportunities for military spouses and providing pro bono legal services for Gold Star families and veteran caregivers. Gile also serves as secretary of Vigilant Torch Association and Foundation, an organization that provides emergency relief assistance and scholarships to veterans and military families. Along with her nonprofit leadership, Gile serves on the board of trustees for Rockford University and is involved in strategic planning and financial oversight for the university. Gile is also active in her community and volunteers for the Severna Park Elementary School PTA.

Gile decided to run for office after seeing a need for more

effective representation on four key priorities: providing greater support for working families, strengthening environmental protections, helping local businesses thrive, and investing in our public schools. In particular, Gile is a supporter of paid family and medical leave as well as expanded access to affordable, quality child care. Additionally, as a mother of three, she cares deeply about ensuring that every child has the chance to learn and thrive in a safe environment, and she will work to provide resources that our schools and communities need. Most importantly, Gile is committed to serving with integrity and responsiveness to constituent needs.

Gile’s husband, Sergeant Major D.J. Gile, has been serving active duty in the U.S. Army for 23 years. They reside in the Olde Severna Park community of Severna Park, along with their three daughters. More information about Gile is at her website: www.dawngile.com.



Sid Saab

Sid Saab was born and raised in Lebanon. Having escaped a warzone, Saab immigrated to the United States at 19 years old for the freedoms, economic opportunities and human rights afforded by this great country. Every immigrant has their story that makes it an

American story — a dream that became reality and should not be given up on.

Delegate Saab has been the voice, eyes and ears in Annapolis for his constituents since 2015. For eight years, he has supported Governor Larry Hogan’s education funding plans and crime reduction initiatives. Saab has also opposed tax increases on working families; supported tax relief for retirees, veterans and disabled law enforcement; and supported environmental initiatives. He understands the challenges of being a small-business owner and has worked on improving the state’s business climate to provide good jobs for the people of Maryland. Saab has fought hard to improve government transparency/accountability and promote access to behavioral/mental health services. Further, he has been a champion against elder abuse and unequivocally supports our armed forces and veterans. He works hard to depolarize politics and reinvigorate civil discourse to ultimately find common ground for the benefit of Marylanders.

As a husband and father of three children, he knows the importance of good schools and safe neighborhoods. Marylanders are truly concerned about crime spilling over into their neighborhoods and how they’re going to sustain their families during serious inflation. More can be done. His office is known for its quality of constituent service, having helped resolve an array of issues from unemployment claims to filling potholes.

Saab is running for state Senate and is here to show you that the American dream is alive and well. Like every generation, the American dream faces challenges — even here in Maryland. He is not done giving back to the country that gave to him.

For more information, visit www.sidsaab.com.

CONGRESS, DISTRICT 3

Ben Beardsley

Ben Beardsley was born on July 26, 1997, at St. Joseph Medical Center in Towson, Maryland, and grew up in Havre de Grace. His father, William Beardsley, is a delivery driver for Frito Lay and his mother, Deborah Beardsley, is a postpartum nurse at MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center. Ben Beardsley’s parents instilled in him the values of faith, doing the right thing and helping people in need. He was raised in a middle-class household and attended Havre de Grace High School where he graduated in 2015 and then went on to study mechanical engineering at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, graduating in 2019. Beardsley currently works as an applications engineer at Havtech. He is proudly gay and part of the LGBTQ+ community.

Beardsley describes himself as a Bernie Sanders progressive Democrat. If elected, he would be one of the youngest gay U.S. congresspersons ever elected in

Maryland and America.

He believes no person deserves to live in poverty, and if elected, will work every day to help people who need it most. He believes it is the job of the government to ensure no one goes hungry or without shelter.

Beardsley is running for Congress to bring a working-class perspective to the U.S. House and to build a sustainable and equitable future for all Americans. He supports Medicare for all, the Green New Deal and ending systemic inequalities in our society.

He owns a home and resides in Columbia, Maryland, with his cat, Simon.

Thomas Harris

Thomas Harris is a Republican running for Congress.

Joe Kelley

Joe Kelley is a Republican running for Congress.



Yuripzy Morgan

Yuripzy Morgan’s interest in government began with her family. Her mother fled the civil war in El Salvador, and her father is from Mexico. She was born and raised in Texas several years after they met. They did not have much, but they did have a strong belief that

anything was possible in America. They instilled that belief in her and her four siblings.

Morgan attended the University of Texas at Arlington where she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies with a focus in biology and a Bachelor of Arts in history. She later moved to Maryland and graduated from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, and practiced law before joining WBAL NewsRadio and hosting her own daily talk radio show.

She became increasingly aware of how frustrated people were with government. While on the radio, she continued to focus on informing the public of how government is supposed to work, and her personal interest in constitutional law and trades.

Morgan married her husband in 2013. His experience as a captain in the U.S. Army infantry, to include leading soldiers in combat operations for a year and a half in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom, further influenced her interest in national security and protecting our military and veterans. They were blessed with two little girls, Elena and Chloe, who keep their parents’ schedules busy and their hearts full.

Morgan knows that opportunities in America are endless, but they can be stifled by politics and bureaucracy. She grew up in a generation that still believed in the American dream. Today, there are too many career politicians more interested in collecting a paycheck than making that dream a reality for all Americans. Morgan still believes in America, and she is determined to remind those in Washington who have forgotten.

For more information, go to www.ymorgan.com.



Antonio Pitocco

Antonio Pitocco was born in September of 1995 in Baltimore, Maryland, and grew up in Anne Arundel County. His parents instilled in him a great love for this country as his father served in the United States Air Force and his mother emigrated here from Italy.

Pitocco is a product of the Maryland education system all the way through his bachelor’s degree in communications marketing, which he received from Salisbury University in 2017. This experience in both private and public education has inspired him to place a large emphasis on school choice and commonsense education legislation. He is also a

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strong advocate for term limits for members of Congress, balancing the budget, supporting members of the law enforcement community, and cutting corruption out of the political process.

Like millions of Americans, Pitocco lost his job due to COVID in March 2020 and during this time decided it was time to take charge and run for Congress. Apart from running for public office, he is also a real estate agent in Maryland.

As a candidate to represent Marylanders in the next Congress, Pitocco believes it's time to raise the bar and usher in a new era of Congress made of, by and for the people. As a constitutional conservative and Catholic, he plans to preserve the values of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all Americans. Not only is it time to make the American dream the American reality, but it's also time for a new way forward, for the state of Maryland and the third congressional district.

Learn more at www.pitoccoforcongress.com.

Jake Pretot

Jake Pretot is an Army veteran running for Congress as a Democrat. His biggest priorities are fixing the health care system, addressing the basic climate environment problems in our schools, fighting for Maryland and the nation to offer a living wage, enacting campaign finance reform and protecting the environment.

For more information, go to www.jakepretot.vote.



John Sarbanes

Congressman John Sarbanes represents Maryland's third congressional district and is a lifelong Marylander. In Congress, he serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, as the vice chair of the House Subcommittee on Health, and he is a member of

the House Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change. He also sits on the House Committee on Oversight and its Government Operations Subcommittee.

Sarbanes is running to serve the diverse needs of his constituents, especially as we recover and rebuild our economy following the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Before he was elected to Congress, Sarbanes worked at the Maryland State Department of Education to make our school system the best in the country. As an attorney in private practice, he represented doctors, hospitals and other health care providers to build a high-quality health care system. And he worked with organizations like the Public Justice Center to protect the environment and ensure equality and opportunity for all Marylanders.

He is working hard to help families with rising costs, create good-paying jobs and strengthen our education system. He's also fighting to keep our government transparent and accountable, ensure access to affordable health care, preserve the Chesapeake Bay and protect our planet from the dangerous threat of climate change. He led the charge in Congress to limit the influence of big money in politics and strengthen the vote and the voice of every American. Whether it's the economy, energy and the environment, health care or any other critical issue, special interests and well-connected insiders are calling the shots in Washington. Sarbanes believes we need to return to a government of, by and for the people.

To learn more, go to www.johnsarbanes.com.

Amal Torres

Amal Torres was born in Mogadishu, Somalia. She came to the United States with her mother and siblings in the late '90s, fleeing from the civil war in Somalia. A proud citizen of Maryland, Torres is determined to save our country and ensure the American dream never fades away.

She is running for Congress as a Republican. Torres hopes to reinforce the "united" in the United States of America, to remind our adversaries they do not have the upper hand, and to restore our status in the world as a trusted and good faith leader.

For more information, visit www.amalforcongress.com.

U.S. SENATE

Chris Chaffee

Chris Chaffee is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

George Davis

George Davis is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.



Nnabu Eze

Nnabu Eze was born in Nigeria during the Nigerian civil war, which claimed the lives of more than 2 million people.

Eze's mother was an educator and his father was a civil servant. They wanted a better life for Eze and his four siblings and dreamed of coming

to the United States.

In 1977, Eze and his family were given the opportunity to immigrate to the United States to pursue the American dream. His father found work mopping floors in a local grocery store and he taught his children that being an American meant to be free, with equal opportunity but not equal outcomes.

He instilled in Eze that with hard work and determination, anything is possible in this great country, a lesson that inspires and motivates Eze to this day.

Eze's father worked his way up to be the grocery store manager before going on to earn his Master of Business Administration degree. His mother was a high school teacher who earned a master's degree in education and retired as a high school principal.

Eze pursued his own dreams at Rutgers University School of Business, earning his degree in 1996, before acquiring professional certifications as a project management professional (PMP), certified information security manager (CISM), certified information systems auditor (CISA) and certified scrum master.

He is driven to serve in the U.S. Senate by a strong desire to ensure that the American dream that he has been blessed with is preserved for future generations.

Eze believes career politicians have failed us, that the magnitude of the threat to individual liberty and opportunity from the federal government demands bold action and decisive leadership by everyday American patriots.

He takes great pride in being an American patriot and feels compelled to step up and serve the people of Maryland in the United States Senate.

Lorie Friend

Lorie Friend is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

Reba Hawkins

The COVID-19 pandemic is the catalyst behind Reba Hawkins' desire to run for the Maryland U.S. Senate seat. She has personally experienced a gamut of emotions from loss of family members due to COVID, as well as seeing businesses that were established 150 years ago being forced to close under the current administration. She feels the pain of the American people and is ready to help bring aid during this crisis. She is running as a Republican.

For more information, go to www.rebaformaryland.com.

Jon McGreevey

Jon McGreevey is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

Joseph Perez

Joseph Perez is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

Todd Puglisi

Todd Puglisi is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

Michelle Smith

Michelle Smith is a Democrat running for the U.S. Senate. Born and raised in Washington, D.C., she hopes to uphold the Constitution and permanently dismantle systemic and structural racism at the highest level of government. Smith works for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and owns a small business.

For more information, visit www.michellesmith-forsenate.org.

James Tarantin

Who is James Tarantin? He is the embodiment of the American dream — a teen who immigrated to the U.S. with no money, friends, family or college degree.

For 10 years, he lived in a tiny studio apartment with no health insurance and drove a \$1,500 car for five years.

Yet against those tough odds, from rags to riches, with no local investors, partners or loans, he became an author, a TedX speaker, and a multi-millionaire entrepreneur by the age of 29. Today he lives with his wife and two children in Maryland, where his U.S. companies are registered.

What is James Tarantin for? He is pro police, pro parents' rights, pro legal immigration (not illegal), pro products made in the USA, pro cutting taxes and excessive regulations, and pro reducing crime on our streets and the national debt.

Why James Tarantin? Most Republicans do not want copy and paste, greedy insiders: career politicians. They want something different and real. Career politicians with corrupt intentions are the greatest danger to our world.

We have no say in who our parents and children will be. But just like in marriage, we do have a say in who our leaders will be.

Learn more at www.jamestarantin.com.

John Thormann

John Thormann is a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

Chris Van Hollen

Chris Van Hollen is running for re-election to the U.S. Senate to continue working for the people of Maryland and address the critical issues facing our country today.

Since his first election, Senator Van Hollen has been a tireless advocate for working families and everyday people. Throughout the pandemic, he helped provide emergency relief for families, workers and small businesses. He has been at the forefront of efforts to lower health care and prescription drug costs, increase access to affordable child care, and boost the federal minimum wage. He also worked successfully to pass the infrastructure modernization bill and bring more than \$7 billion in federal funding to Maryland over five years to improve our transit systems, railways, drinking water, roads, bridges, tunnels, broadband, and other investments that will put more Marylanders to work in good-paying jobs.

Van Hollen has never been afraid to stand up to powerful special interests to protect the public good. He has been a guardian of Medicare and Social Security, a leader for commonsense gun safety measures, a champion for women's health and reproductive rights, a protector of the Chesapeake Bay, and trailblazer in the vital work to address climate change and accelerate our transition to clean energy.

He believes one of our greatest threats is our large and growing inequality in income and wealth and has put forward a comprehensive plan to build a more inclusive economy that works for all Americans, not just the mega-wealthy. He is also the original author of the DISCLOSE Act to end secret, dark money flowing into our elections.

Throughout his public service, Van Hollen has earned a reputation as a leader able to work across party lines to pass critical legislation that makes a difference in people's lives and advances solutions to address our biggest challenges.

For more information, visit www.vanhollen.org.

» Continued on page 35





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financial disclosure.

Franchot lives in Takoma Park with his wife of 40 years, Anne Maher. They have two children and three grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys watching soccer, taking walks around the community, playing with his grandkids and gardening.

Learn more at www.franchot.com.

Doug Gansler



Former Attorney General Doug Gansler has 22 years of experience fighting crime — first as a federal prosecutor, then as Montgomery County state's attorney, and

finally as attorney general. In addition to prosecuting some of the state's most high-profile cases, including the Beltway Sniper, Gansler has a record of launching innovative and successful programs to protect the public while instituting progressive reforms to the criminal justice system. As attorney general, he took on corporate polluters, securing historic settlements for clean air and clean water, and led 22 river audits to protect Maryland's waterways and the Chesapeake Bay.

Crime is exploding across Maryland, and

Gansler is running to bring crime down and justice up. His Safe Maryland plan addresses the police shortage by calling for better-paid and better-trained police, including police who are trained to de-escalate violent situations. The plan also calls for the hiring of 1,000 additional police officers across the state and 10,000 additional streetlights and cameras in Baltimore, and it sets an aggressive goal of solving every murder. Gansler will also target gun traffickers, get guns out of the hands of violent offenders, put every police shooting in front of a grand jury, and will fast-track funding for community infrastructure such as youth recreation centers to high-crime areas.

Gansler's running mate for lieutenant governor is Candace Hollingsworth, the youngest and first Black mayor of Hyattsville. After a combined nine years of service on the city council and as mayor, Candace founded the national organization Our Black Party to wake up folks and fortify a change-making relationship between the Black community and the political system. As mayor, Hollingsworth focused on making Hyattsville a safe and just community through expanding education, economic opportunities and civic engagement for young people while supporting the long-term sustainability of her city.

For more information, go to www.gansler-formaryland.com.

» Continued on page 37

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Ralph Jaffe

Ralph Jaffe has lived in either Baltimore City or Baltimore County for all of his 80 years. He believes he is the right candidate who knows and loves "Baltimore." He attended the University of Maryland where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science, earned teacher

certification at Towson University and did graduate coursework at Loyola University.

He prides himself on being a teacher, not a politician. He has taught in both the public and private school systems in Baltimore County. During his formal teaching career, he developed a unique teaching strategy, Student Activism In The Classroom, which has been the foundation of his philosophy and practice ever since. This new methodology took students out into the real world to brainstorm an idea, convert it into the language of a bill, seek the help of congressmen to introduce the bill into Congress, lobby for it across the country, and meet with congressmen to request their support. All of these activities resulted in the passage of the bill and signed into law by President Richard Nixon. This unique experience was documented in the 1970 edition of the Readers Digest.

By 1992, he came to a stark realization that moral bankruptcy not only entered but also overtook any trace of ethics in Maryland government. Hence, he started a movement to rid Maryland of corruption and bring in real, true ethical reform. He developed a platform consisting of five principles. His candidacy in six elections has demonstrated the principles and practices for which he stands: do not take any campaign contributions because they are disguised bribes, stay away from professional lobbyists, serve for one term only - elimination of career politicians, serve free and tell the truth all of the time.

To learn more, visit www.fedupwithcrookedpolitics.com.



Ashwani Jain

Ashwani Jain is a 32-year-old Maryland native, cancer survivor, son of immigrants and small-business owners, and product of Maryland public schools. He has experience working in the public, private and nonprofit sectors, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and President Obama's White House. He is currently program director for the National Kidney Foundation and ambassador for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Jain is running for governor to make politics inclusive and accessible because he believes decisions about us should not be made without us.

That's why the Jain campaign is fully accessible — with 100% of its events free and with Jain being the only gubernatorial candidate to personally go door to door in a different county every day of the week.

That's why the Jain campaign is fully accountable - being the first statewide campaign in the United States to be 100% run by residents from every age, background and county.

That's why the Jain campaign is fully transparent - having shared the most detailed policy agenda since January 2021. This includes the fully-paid-for "Maryland Now Plan," which will eliminate your state income tax; make public transit free; create the nation's first guaranteed jobs program; legalize marijuana while expunging records; and get money out of politics.

While Jain would be the nation's youngest governor, he has the experience and perspective needed to serve Maryland well. He has also built one of the largest grassroots campaigns in Maryland - and accomplished this without focusing on fundraising or polling numbers. Instead, he has focused on engaging more residents in the process, empowering volunteers

and one-on-one voter contact.

Learn more at www.jainforgovernor.com.



John King

John King Jr. is a lifelong educator and a former U.S. secretary of education under President Barack Obama. He lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, with his wife Melissa, and has two daughters who attended Montgomery County public schools.

King's family has deep roots in Maryland. His great-grandfather was enslaved just 25 miles from his home in Montgomery County — and the cabin where his ancestors lived still stands. His grandmother, Estelle Livingston Stansberry King, attended the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (then called Princess Anne Academy), where she was among the first Black graduates in 1894.

Deeply dedicated to public education, King serves as president of a national education civil rights organization that works to support students of color and those from low-income backgrounds, and he is currently a professor at the University of Maryland College Park's College of Education. King also founded Strong Future Maryland, a progressive advocacy organization that was instrumental in supporting the passage of over 20 pieces of progressive legislation.

King knows firsthand the power of public education and the important role educators play in creating a more just and prosperous future. King's own life was saved by public school educators after both of his parents passed away by the time he was 12. He has spent his entire career fighting for a more just and equitable future, and he is now running for governor of Maryland to ensure every kid has the same opportunities he did.

King holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in government from Harvard University, a Juris Doctor from Yale Law School, and a

» Continued on page 38

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Master of Arts in the teaching of social studies and a doctorate in education from Teachers College at Columbia University.

For more information, www.johnkingforgovernor.com.

David Lashar (Candidate for General Election only)

David Lashar is a family man and an IT executive who has served with distinction in both the legislative and executive branches of government at both the federal and state levels.

Running for governor as a libertarian, he believes that neither of the two established parties is representative of who we are and who we want to become. He is committed to expanding opportunity for all Marylanders, promoting accountability among both individuals and authorities, and extending civility to all fellow citizens.

Learn more at www.davidlashar.com.

Wes Moore

Wes Moore, a combat veteran, bestselling author, small-business owner, Rhodes Scholar and former CEO of one of the nation's largest anti-poverty organizations, has devoted his life's work to a basic principle: no matter your start in life, you deserve an equal opportunity to succeed — a job you can raise a family on, a future you can look forward to. He is running for governor as a Democrat.

For more information, go to www.wesmoore.com.

Tom Perez

As the son of immigrants from the Dominican Republic, a longtime resident of Takoma Park, and a civil rights attorney, Tom Perez has committed his life to protecting and expanding opportunity and ensuring justice for all Americans. Perez is running for governor because this is a moment of generational change that requires bold, proven leadership to

build a more just and equitable future for all Marylanders.

He served on the Montgomery County Council from 2002 to 2006; was appointed to be the Maryland secretary of labor, licensing and regulation in 2007; and was appointed by President Barack Obama to lead the Civil Rights Division, where he started his career, serving as assistant attorney general for civil rights in the Department of Justice.

In 2013, President Obama appointed Perez to become the United States secretary of labor. He led an agency with more than 17,000 employees, a multi-billion-dollar budget, and had a presence in every state and three territories.

To learn more, go to www.tomperez.com.

Kelly Schulz

Kelly Schulz is a mother, wife and successful small-business owner who served for seven years in Governor Larry Hogan's administration as the secretary of labor and secretary of commerce. She is running as a Republican.

Learn more at www.kellyschulzforgovernor.com.

Kyle Sefcik (Candidate for General Election only)

Born and raised in Maryland, Kyle Sefcik is a political outsider who will not be accepting donations from the big lobby groups and unions. He wants to get rid of wasteful spending, reduce government overreach and ensure that education funding is used adequately and effectively.

To learn more, go to www.kylesefcik.com.

Jerome Segal

For the last 57 years, in multiple venues, in multiple roles, Jerome Segal has been pursuing social, political and cultural transformation. He is an advocate of "bread and roses socialism."

For more information, go to www.segalforgovernor.org.

Joe Werner

A Republican, Joe Werner is running for governor because of his deep concern for the freedom, safety, success and welfare of every citizen of Maryland.

For more information, go to www.wernerformaryland.com.

Comptroller and attorney general candidates were not contacted, but here is a short description of each race.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Candidates include Michael Peroutka, Jim Shalleck, Anthony Brown and Katie Curran O'Malley.

Michael Peroutka is a Republican and former Anne Arundel County Council member. Jim Shalleck, also a Republican, was the president of the Montgomery County Board of Elections.

Anthony Brown currently serves in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties. A Democrat, he served as lieutenant governor from 2007 to 2015. Katie Curran O'Malley is a former assistant state's attorney and district court judge. She is running as a Democrat.

COMPTROLLER

Candidates included Barry Glassman, Timothy Adams and Brooke Lierman.

A fiscal conservative, Glassman has served on the Harford County Council, in the Maryland House of Delegates, in the Maryland Senate and as Harford's seventh county executive.

Tim Adams is a Democrat, an entrepreneur and a public servant with more than 30 years of experience in business, government and philanthropy.

Brooke Lierman is a mom, attorney, state legislator and community advocate. She is running as a Democrat.

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Woods Church Receives Award For Sustainability

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church is one of the 12 national Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) 2022 Cool Congregations Challenge winners receiving a runners-up award. The annual contest accepts applications from religious congregations across the United States that are doing work to reduce their carbon footprint and create models of sustainability within their communities.

Woods Church won the Energy Saver Award for reducing its energy consumption by 52 percent.

The church has engaged in a capital campaign called Renew to significantly reduce its energy usage through installation of ultra-high efficiency HVAC systems, upgrades to all LED lighting, installation of highly efficient windows and numerous building insulation improvements. The collective improvements yield an annual reduction in carbon emissions of over 400 metric tons of carbon dioxide, with a cost savings of \$30,000 per year.

"Receiving the Cool Congregations Challenge Award is exciting for us and we hope it will inspire greater emphasis on sustainability as a faith practice," said the Rev. Nancy Lincoln.

Teen Earns Herald Of Christ Award



During a ceremony on April 7, Seth Ratajczak (right) was joined by his mentor, Jacob Daniel, the only other Herald of Christ in his battalion unit.

Seventeen-year-old Seth Ratajczak earned his Herald of Christ award in April. The award is equivalent to the Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts.

A Glen Burnie resident, Seth is a junior leader in a Christian Service Brigade (CSB) at Severna Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church. CSB seeks to raise the future generation of godly men to serve Christ.

"We are similar to Boy Scouts in the way that we do camping trips, we have uniforms and patches, and we learn valuable life skills and lessons as we progress through the program," Seth said. "Tree Climbers is the youngest age division, Stockade is for middle-schoolers, and Battalion is for high-schoolers."

Battalion has an achievement program that is done alongside an assigned mentor. Seth just completed his 10-month Herald of Christ internship, which required Bible memorization, in-depth studies into multiple books of the Bible, essays on important topics as described in the Bible, study on Bible doctrine, review of CSB's seven points of valor, a 1,500-word essay on his personal faith journey, a ministry project and a three-month service project.

When he earned his Herald of Christ award in April, he became the second person in his brigade's 33-year history to receive that honor.

"This has been a very beneficial process for me and I'm so grateful for it," Seth said.

Meet The Pastor: Stephen Mitchell Trinity Bible Church

The *Severna Park Voice* is helping the community learn about the pastors at the many churches in the area. This month, we got to know Stephen Mitchell from Trinity Bible Church.

How long have you been at Trinity Bible Church?

I've been at Trinity Bible Church for almost 15 years. I originally came on-board as the youth pastor, but Pastor Martin (senior pastor at Trinity Bible Church for 26 years) sort of groomed me to be his associate pastor, and when he announced his retirement, the church voted me in to be his successor.

When did you decide that you wanted to be a pastor?

The funny thing is I really wanted nothing to do with being a pastor for many years. I was drawn to public speaking, and I felt a pull toward being a leader, but being a minister? No way! It was ultimately high school and getting deep into my faith and out of that, feeling a pull inside to help "shepherd" the spiritual walk of others that really cemented a calling I felt in my heart toward it.



The Rev. Stephen Mitchell

Can you tell me about a moment in your life where your faith grew?

Many moments. I must acknowledge the spiritual foundation my parents helped me have growing up that planted the seeds for it. At age 12, I personally trusted in Jesus Christ after watching a Billy Graham crusade on TV. My relationship with God began there, and through every chapter of my life since, my faith has grown in different ways.

Do you cook? What is your favorite meal?

(Laughs) Sorry, I had to laugh. Me cook? Sure, store-bought spaghetti, or anything that takes 20 minutes. But my wife is an incredible cook. Thank God for her.

If you're not at church or at home, where could we find you?

Well, I wish I were at the gym more; I sure need to be, but running errands, visiting people pastorally, etc. Ultimately, I have two full-time jobs, being a parent along with my wife to raise our two small children and being a pastor.

Do you follow sports? What is your favorite team?

I love watching basketball and my favorite team is the Boston Celtics. I like football too and we are unfortunately fans of the Washington whatever our name is team.

What's a fun fact about you that most people don't know?

I used to run three miles every day in

high school. I really originally considered a career in law or a run for political office before following my calling to pastoral ministry. Oh, and sometimes I can be shy around people I don't know.

What is an item on your "bucket list" that you haven't check off, but want to?

My wife and I would love to travel more, see more of our beautiful country and world. Honestly, though, I try to just enjoy every memory and moment God gives me.

What is your favorite type of music?

I love a wide variety of music. From Christian contemporary to some mainstream, from old school hip-hop to '80s music and classic rock and even some oldies and disco. I love a little bit of everything.

What is the best thing about Trinity Bible Church?

What I love about Trinity Bible Church most is that while many churches talk about being a loving church, Trinity is one. We preach the Bible to be sure, but we do it in love.

BHS Boys End Losing Streak Vs. Severna Park, Win 10-8

By Conor Doherty

For over seven years, the Broadneck Bruins boys lacrosse team has been unable to clear their biggest hurdle in the county, as they lost 11 straight games to Severna Park since beating them on April 17, 2015. Those losses ranged from close overtime games to double-digit blowouts.

But Broadneck looked like they were going to blow out the Falcons on April 29, as the Bruins jumped out to a 4-0 lead less than six minutes into the first quarter.

For a while, the Falcons were unable to close the gap to two goals as the Bruins responded with a goal of their own after the Falcons scored. **Jake Schroll** had five goals and an assist for the Bruins while **Jackson Shaw** scored his two goals about 10 seconds apart, both from point-blank range.

Joaquin Villagomez and **Nolan**

Zborai both had hat tricks for the Falcons, who were down 10-5 with about eight minutes left in the game, before scoring three goals, two of them by Zborai, to make it a 10-8 game with just over two minutes left. But Bruins goalie **Colin Gray** made two big saves in those final minutes to preserve the lead.

After the game, Bruins head coach **Jeff McGuire** said that the win was a long time coming. He then praised Gray for stepping up at the end of the game.

"Colin is the calmest, most chill kid you'll ever meet," McGuire said. "He watches a lot of film; he's a student of the game. And he had a doorstep save in the second quarter that was huge, and he always needs one of those saves and then he's hot."

While McGuire was happy with the way his team played, he said the team can still improve and keep from getting
» Continued on page 46



Photos by Conor Doherty

Above: Broadneck's Ryan Della looked to pass the ball after Falcons defender Brayden Flynn blocked Della's shooting lane. **Below:** Severna Park's Nolan Zborai scored his first goal of the night after Bruins goalie Colin Gray attempted to stop the bounced shot.



Severn Archery Prepares For Shot At Nationals



The Admirals' 3D archery team includes Taylor Boteler, Jack Hayman, Erik Maltz and Trey Dring, and is coached by Dan Mahoney

By Conor Doherty

The Severn School archery team will have a new target to aim at as members head to the NASP (National Archery in the Schools Program) IBO (International Bowhunting Organization) Eastern National Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky, from May 12-14.

Led by head coach **Dan Mahoney**, the team qualified to shoot at nationals, along with the team's top shooter, junior **Trey Dring**, who missed out on winning the top spot at the state bullseye tournament by just two points.

The team participated in eight tournaments this year, along with hosting one, the Admiral's Cup, held in April. The turnout for the cup was great, as both teams and individuals from 17 other schools participated, including one that traveled from Staten Island, New York.

Overall, the Severn School team has done well, and many students have seen improvements just by being able to spend more time with coach Mahoney and their teammates.

» Continued on page 46

“We need to continue to practice the process of executing the shot and not the outcome of the shot. By focusing on the process instead of the score, my archers will see more success”

— **DAN MAHONEY, HEAD COACH**
ADMIRALS ARCHERY



Severn School hosted the Admiral's Cup archery tournament on April 30.





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Severna Park Girls Lacrosse Takes Down Broadneck, 12-8



Photos by
Conor Doherty

Left: The Bruins' Lilly Kelley began her windup for a shot that would score.
Right: Severna Park fended off a Broadneck late-game rally by keeping possession of the ball.



By Conor Doherty

The Severna Park Falcons' level of confidence this season can be best summed up by what **Alyssa Chung** did early in the second half of her team's game versus the Broadneck Bruins on April 29. Running across the field in front of the goalie, Chung caught a pass that was slightly behind her and calmly shot the ball behind her back for a remarkable goal that gave the Falcons an 8-4 lead at the time. The Falcons would go on to win 12-8.

That was Chung's second time scoring

on a behind-the-back goal in a game, so it's not something she usually tries to do.

"I wasn't really thinking, 'I'm going to shoot it behind the back and score' because I don't really like being flashy like that," Chung said. "I had my hands going behind me, so I realized that if I shot it from behind the back, I'd have the most angle and the [best] percentile shot because the goalie wasn't expecting it."

Besides Chung's impressive goal, the Falcons were carried offensively by **Karli Kirchenheiter**'s hat trick. The Bruins were led by senior **Lilly Kelley**'s two goals.

The Lady Bruins were able to close their

deficit to 8-7 early in the second half after scoring three goals in three minutes, but after taking a timeout, the Falcons responded with a goal of their own to slow the Bruins momentum. The Bruins went the final 14 minutes without scoring while the Falcons tacked on three more goals in that time to end the Bruins' chances.

"We knew this was going to be a battle from the start," said Falcons head coach **Kaitlyn Hines**. "I'm so proud of everything that they accomplished out here. We stepped on the field knowing that we were going to take care of what we needed to take care of to get the

game done. We weren't going to worry about our opponent and what they did or didn't do, and I think that the players were able to really execute our game plan."

Despite the loss, Bruins head coach **Katie Kelley** said that it's just another game and that her players will be ready for what comes next.

"I think you come off the field humble," she said. "You come off with respect for the other team and you come off owning what you can do. My message to them is, 'Go home, analyze, think, grow.'"

Both the Falcons and Bruins were 10-2 heading into the final week of the regular season.

Spalding Celebrates Senior Night With Lax Battle Against Loyola

Cavaliers Follow With Win Over St. Mary's Heading Into Playoffs

By Kevin Murnane

Heading into the second week of May, the Archbishop Spalding boys lacrosse squad was the fifth-ranked team in Maryland, and their game against Loyola Blakefield on April 29 provided a good demonstration of why the team is regarded so highly.

Spalding celebrated senior night with a 9-4 victory over Loyola. The game featured many outstanding high school players, but Spalding combined great defense, outstanding goalie play by **Conor McMahon** and a 70% faceoff win percentage by **Blake Malamphy** to win the contest.

The Cavaliers beat a tough Loyola team and the game was much closer than the final score indicated. Spalding broke the game open late in the fourth quarter by scoring three goals in less than two minutes.

Loyola's game plan was to stop Spalding's high-octane offense by limiting its star players, **Michael Weisshaar** and **Nick Gutierrez**.

"It was a grind-it-out win for us, but in this league, anyone can beat anyone," said Spalding's head coach **Brian Phipps**. "Credit Loyola for taking us out of our offensive flow but they have two outstanding defensemen."

Those two defensemen are both 6-foot-3, over 200 pounds and agile. They are both five-star recruits. **AJ Larking** is going to Maryland and **Bill Dwan** is headed to Syracuse.



Photos courtesy of John Malamphy/Spalding Cavalier Club

Following their over Loyola Blakefield, Spalding went on to beat Calvert Hall and St. Mary's. Midfielder Nick Gutierrez (above left) and Ryan Schrier were both instrumental in the victory over St. Mary's.

The perfect night for lacrosse began as Spalding introduced its 15 seniors, and every player will continue his playing career at various colleges throughout the region. Some of those players are headed to Maryland universities such as All-American Michael Weisshaar and **Ryan Schrier** to Towson; Nick Gutierrez and Connor McMahon to UMBC; **Race Ripley** and **Jackson Roberts** to Navy; and Blake Malamphy and **Brenna Dennehy** to Salisbury.

These seniors were instrumental in lifting Spalding's lacrosse program to a new level over the last four years. The 2021 squad finished as the third-ranked team in the nation by USA Today.

Phipps acknowledged that the 2020 season could have achieved even a higher status if it wasn't for the pandemic curtailing that season.

"We had 25 seniors on that team who continued their college careers," said Phipps, who added, "That was a team that could have had great success."

It is the consensus of the high school lacrosse community that the last four years have been the most prominent in Spalding's history, and many of the current seniors have been four-year starters.

Phipps attributes their accomplishments to a change in culture and a complete buy-in to a team concept.

"This is my eighth season, and we try to recruit students for the Spalding academic and athletic experience," Phipps said. "We have a great school with talented students within every facet of the school. For the lacrosse players, we offer them a chance to play at the highest level of competition in the region and get

great exposure to college recruiters."

Phipps is a Severn School graduate who went on to play at the University of Maryland and still plays professionally for the Whipsnakes in the Premier Lacrosse League.

Spalding followed the win over Loyola with a loss against Calvert Hall and then a win over St. Mary's. The Cavaliers finished their regular season against Mount Saint Joseph on May 10, after the *Severna Park Voice* went to print. The MIAA quarterfinals are set to begin May 13, with semifinals on May 17 and the championships on May 20.

The MIAA tournament takes the top six teams, and Spalding lost a heartbreaking championship game to Boys Latin last year. This season's Cavaliers hope to avenge that loss and erase that painful memory of last year.

STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Chloe Rand

Broadneck Girls Lacrosse

By Conor Doherty

“I really just want them to keep having so much fun and doing all of these team activities. Because I think being a team on and off the field is one of the best parts of the sport.”

— CHLOE RAND

Standing in goal, Chloe Rand has been steadfast in helping lead the Broadneck Bruins girls lacrosse team to a 11-2 record to start the season. Having been the starter in net for the Bruins for the past two years, Rand has developed into a top goalie.

While the pandemic kept her and her teammates from playing in 2020, heading into her junior year, Rand finally got her chance to start and many were excited to see what she could do. In September 2020, Rand was named as one of 11 girls on Lacrosse Magazine's National Goalie Watchlist for goalie's graduating in 2022. It's not hard to see why she was on the watchlist when she's been a goalie since the third grade, along with being a member of the



Photo courtesy of Bill Baldwin
Bruins goalie Chloe Rand saved a shot on goal as a teammate looked on.

Maryland United Lacrosse Club since fourth grade.

One of two team captains for the Bruins, Rand enjoys the behind-the-scenes aspects of being a captain.

“I'm making sure everyone is on track, doing what they are supposed to be doing,” she explained. “I'm keeping everyone in order and also on defense, as a goalie, I'm the leader of the defense and that's when I do get loud, tell my defense what needs to be done. They can do the same thing for me. I really like to make sure everything is getting done how it's supposed to. A lot of communication is important for me.”

And Rand's leadership doesn't stop when she's off the field. She has helped organize team activities and, with the other team captain, choose the team's uniforms on gameday. She'll send reminders for when practices and games are happening, building off of her enjoyment in the organizational aspect of being a captain.

With just a handful of games left in her high school career before she heads to the West Coast to start her college career at California-Berkeley, Rand knows that her younger teammates will be ready to take over leading the team.

“I really just want them to keep having so much fun and doing all of these team activities,” she said. “Because I think being a team on and off the field is one of the best parts of the sport. Being able to spend time with everyone, you get so close with your teammates because you're spending two and a half hours every day with them, and I just want them to keep that excitement and energy during practice, along with the determination they have for the sport.”

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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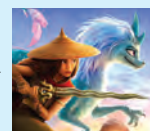
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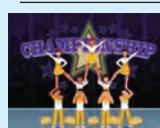
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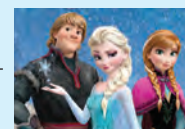
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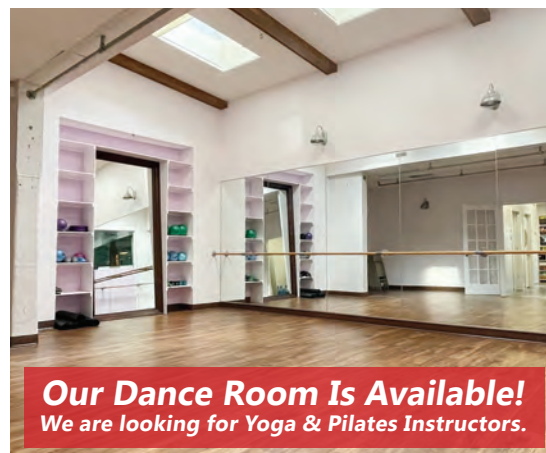
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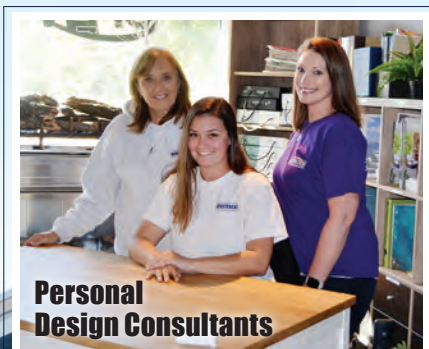
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Severna Park Girls Black 2010 Wins Two Rivers Tourney

Severna Park Girls Black 2010 dominated four straight games with a combined 25 goals and two against to win the Two Rivers Soccer Tournament in Pasadena on April 16. The team included (back row) Katelyn Williams, Edna McConkey, Rebecca Sullivan, Katelyn Cormier, coach Keith Cormier, Carlee Scott, Paige Klima, Claire Sweeney and (front row) Carmen Hubbard, Delaney Peiffer, Avery Fairbanks, Elly Davis and Sophia Lambert. Not pictured are coach Katie Sweeney, Lucy Ambro and Karrigan Shaffer.

Green Hornets 10U Baseball Team Wins Sports At The Beach Tournament

The 10U Severna Park Green Hornets baseball team went to the Sports at the Beach tournament in Delaware and went 4-1 on their way to the championship with three wins on May 1. The team beat MA Show from southern New Jersey in the championship, 8-4. Nick Kessler was named MVP for his three innings of scoreless relief. The 10U Green Hornets are (l-r, kneeling) Davis Balderston, Ben Chu, Jackson Dembik, Brock Crawford, Will Viera, Nick Kessler, (standing, l-r) Dylan Trias, Cooper Bullough, Nate Oehling, Ryan Buck and Smith Seidel. Coaches included (l-r, standing) Jim Viera, Mike Kessler, Paul Oehling, Tad Trias and Pete Buck.



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Sensational Spring Break In Spain

Three Severna Park Soccer Players Experience International Competition And Culture

By Kevin Murnane

For three fortunate Severna Park middle students, spring break involved nine days of international travel to Barcelona, Spain, while playing soccer against Spanish academy teams, and touring castles, stadiums and Mediterranean beaches.

These three Severna Park residents, **Jacob Massone, Zach Cielewich** and **Steven Bocho**, are part of the Olympic Development Program (ODP) and are teammates for the Maryland team. This prestigious soccer team held multiple tryouts to determine which athletes would make the final cut.

"We had over 100 players try out for this statewide team, and if you

made the first cut, you were called back for the final tryout," said Cielewich, a goalkeeper.

The team practices once a week in Gaithersburg and plays other state teams throughout their schedule.

There were memorable highlights of the trip for these three players as they all recounted the athletic competition, bonding with their new teammates, along with being tourists.

"I think the highlight for me was seeing the Barcelona-Frankfurt [soccer] game where we saw and heard 30,000 German fans chanting and rooting for their team," Cielewich said. "It was crazy."

Bocho, a central midfielder, called it an amazing experience.

"It was my first professional game and we had tickets in the 10th row," Bocho said.

In between playing six games against Spanish academies and gaining specialized instruction from the Spanish coaches, the players visited the Mediterranean beaches of Calafell, Tarragona and Sitges.

"The water is so clear," said Massone, a defensive wingback. "The water is also much saltier than in our area."

Massone also was glad he had some Spanish classes and was able to speak with the Spanish players after the game, exchange badges and take photos. It helped that the Spanish players knew some English as well.

The players also tried new food

and Massone tried Octopus for the first time. "We had American food as well and there are lots of American fast-food places there as well," Massone said.

Another memorable part of the trip was visiting the 500-foot La Sagrada Familia cathedral, which dates back to 1882, as well as football stadium Camp Nou, home of the Fútbol Club Barcelona.

"It was hard to come back from Spain, which is a six-hour difference from Maryland," Massone said. "So the first day back at school was rough."

The players quickly forgot about the jetlag as they shared their vivid memories with their families, friends and classmates.

BHS Ends Losing Streak Vs. SPHS

» Continued from page 40
too complacent.

"We seem to get to that nine, 10 goal mark and then our guys are kind of sitting, waiting," he explained. "We do need to execute and finish off all four quarters."

Falcons head coach **Dave Earl**, while understandably disappointed about the result, was proud of how his team fought back to make the game close.

"Effort is not a problem with this group," he stated. "It's a little bit of disci-

pline, a little bit of execution for why we were down. We still have some time left to hopefully correct a few things and we hope to contend."

Broadneck kept the momentum going with a 18-2 win over Old Mill on May 4 and a 18-6 victory against Southern on May 6.

Severna Park rebounded with a 19-1 win over Chesapeake on May 4 and a 13-3 win over Arundel on May 6.

Both teams are hoping to make a play-off run as playoffs get underway in May.

Severn Archery

» Continued from page 40

"I have improved my scores this season because we were able to resume practices in school due to COVID restrictions being laid back," senior **Taylor Boteler** said. "Having more practice time with coach Mahoney helped me improve and become a better archer."

Even with nationals approaching, Mahoney is ready to prepare his students for even greater improvement next year.

"We need to continue to practice the process of executing the shot and not

the outcome of the shot," Mahoney said. "By focusing on the process instead of the score, my archers will see more success. We also need to focus more time practicing on the 3D range and 15 meters on the bullseye range. I often tell my archers that the difference between a good and great archer is between those two distances of 10 and 15 meters. Next year, I foresee being able to regularly field a team to go and compete in local, state and national archery tournaments moving forward."



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“Newsies” At BHS Will Encourage Audiences To Seize The Day

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

For years they’ve delivered the papers.

Now they’re about to make the headlines.

Talented students at Broadneck High School will portray a dedicated group of newspaper salesmen when the school presents its spring musical, Disney’s “Newsies,” from May 12-14.

The story features Jack Kelly, a charismatic leader of teen-aged newsies in New York who go on strike after distribution prices are raised at the newsboys’ expense. Based on the Broadway musical and 1992 film, “Newsies” features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman.

Bringing the show to life is a cast of experienced actors.

Keely Sigler portrays Davey, a girl instead of a boy in the Broadneck version of the show.



Before this role, she performed in “Children of Eden,” “Into the Woods,” “Aladdin” and Broadneck’s 2021 fall musical, “White Christmas.”

“I wanted to audition because it’s a big cast and ensemble show,

a great community show, and my last high school performance,” said Keely, a senior. “In ‘White Christmas,’ my role was Rhoda, a very ditzy, funny relief character with no singing. This was a different challenge.”

“Newsies” has also offered fun challenges for junior Andy Rollins, a former Children’s Theatre of Annapolis standout who has performed in “Beauty and the Beast,” “Peter Pan” and “Tarzan.” In “Newsies,” he plays the lead role of Jack.

About 50 students make up the cast of Disney’s “Newsies” at Broadneck High School.



“For Jack, I’ve been watching other people, like Christian Bale in the movie and Jeremy [Jordan] in the Broadway show, seeing their mannerisms and how they played the character,” Andy said. “I also practiced a New York accent for about a week.”

A self-described method actress, sophomore Mia Novak has taken her preparation to another level to prepare for her role as Katherine.

“Katherine is an independent woman and she smiles a lot. I’ve been smiling at people and they think I’m insane,” she joked.

Mia has performed in middle school theater and in the community. She was the beloved orphan in “Annie,” Cinderella, Ariel in “The Little Mermaid,” and Martha Watson

» Continued on page 54

Spalding Robotics Team Builds Future Engineers



The CAVineers ranked 10th in the group stage before getting knocked out in the first round of the playoffs.

By Conor Doherty

For most people, 4541 is just a random, large number without significance. But to the members of Archbishop Spalding’s robotics team, that number is part of their identity.

Team 4541, also known as the CAVineers, competes annually in the FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics competition, along with over 3,200 other teams worldwide and 112 within the FIRST Chesapeake District.

“I want my students to be comfortable with failure. Dust themselves off and try again. Keep going until they get it right. That’s life.”

— AMY BRUNNER, TEAM 4541 INSTRUCTOR

The CAVineers were formed 10 years ago by facility member Amy Brunner to give her engineering students a fun extracurricular option. And in that time, the team has grown to include a lot more than just the robotics team.

“We are like a miniature corporation,” Brunner said. “We have a business/marketing team that manages our website, social media, pictures, brand, etc. We have a software team, a hardware team and four separate mechanical robotic teams. All these teams must communicate and work together as one, just as companies do in the professional world.”

Just as they would in the professional world, this team had a challenge to face. Every January, FIRST puts out to all teams a new and unique challenge and the teams have until March, when their first competition is held, to meet it. This year’s challenge was “Rapid React.” Teams had to design a robot to collect and deposit balls into goals, along with making their robot climb an ascending series of overhead rungs as a secondary source of points.

The CAVineers participated in two local competitions and were able to secure a spot in the FIRST Chesapeake District Championships, which were held April 7-9 in Hampton, Virginia. The top 60

» Continued on page 54



Photos courtesy of Chad Grant

Above Top: (L-R) Sophomores Lucas Bucht, Tristan Howell, Sadie Ceryes and senior Ryan Bode prepared for the beginning of a match.

Above Bottom: The Team 4541 robot competed in the FIRST Chesapeake District Championships, held April 7-9 in Hampton, Virginia.

Rock 'N' Revival Returns To Shipley's Choice After Two-Year Hiatus



Photos by Zach Sparks

This year's theme was "Golden Oldies" and the show featured songs both familiar and unknown to the young performers.



By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Rock 'n' roll: it's music for the neck downwards, as Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards once proclaimed. When Shipley's Choice Elementary students took to the auditorium stage for Rock 'N' Roll Revival on April 23 and 24, they showcased plenty of choreography and catchy tunes to get the audience clapping and tapping their feet.

This year's theme was "Golden Oldies" and the show featured songs both familiar and unknown to the young performers.

"I performed in 'Old Time Rock & Roll' [by Bob Seger] and I liked it because it had all of the boys, so I think it had more people than other songs," said fourth-grader Harris Moden.

For fellow fourth-grader Isabella Duckett, who sang Ben E. King's "Stand By Me" and other songs, it was a special moment.

"I remember just watching [the show] in other years and now I could be in it," she said with a smile, later adding that, "It seems really easy and fun to do, and it was fun, but you're afraid to mess up and go on the wrong pitch while you're singing or do the wrong dance move."

That sentiment was shared by fourth-grader Brianne Calvert.

"I was singing in '9 to 5' [by Dolly Parton] and 'Get On Your Feet' [by Gloria Estefan] and I was kind of scared, but I really liked it and it was fun," she said.

Harris had his own advice for future performers.

"If any of that stuff ever happens, just try not to worry about it," he said.

The students' confidence was bolstered by their parents, who offered help-

ful advice.

"My mom said to look at the light and blind myself so I don't know anybody is in the auditorium," Isabella said.

"My dad told me to pick a spot in the back of the room and look at that because I don't want to make eye contact with anybody," joked Brody Jones, a fourth-grader who was excited to perform. One of his two brothers lost that opportunity because of the pandemic.

The students enjoyed getting their chance to perform while also developing a new appreciation for classic rock and oldies.

"The beats are pretty cool and it's pretty cool also that [the musicians] created a type of music, and now it's harder to create a new genre," Isabella said.

Brianne said, "I feel like now it's mostly pop songs or whatever everyone hears and the songs are all similar."

The kids capped off the show with "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey, a song that combined the talents of the whole group.

Caitlan Bryant, music and dance teacher at Shipley's, made the show possible.

"They were all new to the process too because they were not in the grades that participated previously, and then during the pandemic, you never knew what was going to happen," Bryant said. "Sometimes we had classes that were virtual, so they couldn't come [to Shipley's], but they were practicing at home, so it was a lot for them to handle and I am really impressed."

"It's nice to have the younger siblings see what they can do when they get older because they are super excited about it every year."

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Middle School Student Wins Big At State History Contest



Jonah Kadlec was among the students who participated in a History Day competition on April 30 at University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

By Lauren Cowin

Severna Park resident Jonah Kadlec earned the Excellence in Maryland History Award at the Maryland History Day state competition, held at University of Maryland, Baltimore County on April 30.

Competing in the individual documentary category, Jonah produced a nine-minute video on the history of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

"One of the biggest obstacles to the state's unification has been a physical one — the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the United States," Jonah voices in his film. That history, along with recent local news as the Bay Bridge approaches its 70th anniversary this summer, prompted him to choose this topic.

"It got me thinking about my own family, because I grew up on the Western Shore and my mom's family is on the Eastern Shore, so when we go over there, we have to cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge," Jonah said.

Jonah said that one of the most interesting parts of his research was learning the political backstory and ramifications. Former Governor William Preston Lane Jr., who championed its creation and for whom the Chesapeake Bay Bridge is named, introduced a state sales tax in order for all Marylanders to help pay for the project, ultimately costing him his governorship.

Research on his documentary began in the fall, and his dad, Jeremy Kadlec, estimates that overall, Jonah spent hundreds of hours on

this project.

"Jonah worked extremely hard to get to this point," Kadlec said.

Tracy Alexander, Jonah's history teacher, agrees. "Jonah is a super kid!" she said. "He really worked hard on this project. Kids at the school, teachers and his family are so proud of his work."

This was Jonah's first foray into filmmaking.

"I'd like to do it again; it was really interesting, but I'd want to do it with other people instead of just myself," Jonah said, adding that recording the narration alone took approximately four hours.

Jonah is currently an eighth-grader at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School and will attend Archbishop Spalding High School next year.

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Educator Of The Month

Molly Fullerton Broadneck High School


By Zach Sparks
zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Choosing a career is one of the biggest decisions adolescents will make. For Molly Fullerton, whose mom spent time as an elementary school teacher, it was almost an afterthought.

"I didn't even consider something different," she said when asked about her career choice. "It was always ingrained in me. Then I really got involved in music in high school. Music got me to look forward to going to school."

Fullerton has been teaching for 24 years, with the last six at Broadneck — her own community — after working in Howard County. She teaches orchestra and AP music theory at Broadneck, which has a performing and visual arts magnet program.

Her childhood experiences shaped the teacher she would later become.

"I thought it would be cool to play the flute in second grade. I couldn't get a sound out of it," she said with a laugh.

In third grade, she practiced with the violin, which she still plays today.

She cited her choral teacher as an inspiration.

"She was really creative and fun, and she gave us the chance to be leaders," Fullerton said. "She would audition students to be conductors. I've adopted that."

Not only does she empower her students by allowing them to be conductors, but she also incor-

"I didn't even consider something different. It was always ingrained in me. Then I really got involved in music in high school. Music got me to look forward to going to school."

— MOLLY FULLERTON

 REGARDING HER CHOICE
 TO BECOME A TEACHER

porates their favorite music into lesson plans.

While she loves orchestra and the annual spring concert, her favorite course is the one she least expected to enjoy.

"I am a big music theory nerd," she admitted.

Fullerton has two daughters who are in their senior year at Broadneck. She has watched their development while also enjoying another perk of her job at Broadneck: getting students for all four years.

"I really get a chance to teach these kids who are amazing, and I get to watch them grow from scared freshmen to seniors," said Fullerton, who also serves as a senior class advisor. "I get to see music students go and get full scholarships for music, not because of me but because of their own hard work."

During the last weekend in April, she got to attend an orchestra concert at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, watching one of her former students from the audience. Encouraging her students is just one way she shows her appreciation for the support they have shown her.

"The parents are so supportive here, musically and also in every other way," Fullerton said. "From the students to the staff, everyone is great. The principal, [Rachel Kennelly], is probably our biggest cheerleader."

She plans to stay in touch with more students as they make their way through the halls of Broadneck and blossom into successful adults.

"We have a phenomenal music program here and it's not because of me; it's because of the kids," Fullerton said.



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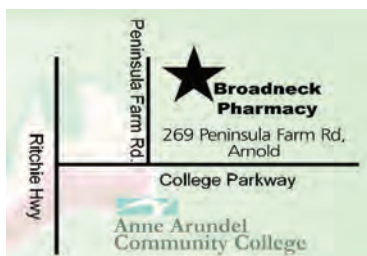
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Park Students Awarded Airman Memorial Scholarships

By Judy Tacyn

Nathaniel McDavitt, a 2011 graduate of Severna Park High School, enlisted in the United States Air Force in 2014 with the goal to be a crew chief responsible for maintaining fighter jets. He became known as Airman First Class Nathaniel McDavitt, an F-16 Fighting Falcon tactical aircraft maintainer with the 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

Stationed in Germany, McDavitt deployed to the Middle East on April 9, 2016. The following day he was working in a building when a severe windstorm caused it to collapse. He was immediately transported to a hospital but succumbed to his injuries on April 15, 2016, with his mother, father and wife by his side.

McDavitt's mother, Jeanette Middleton-Sudano, said that her son lived every day to the fullest. In 2017, she established the A1C Nathaniel H. McDavitt Memorial Scholarship Fund. Over the past six years, her family continues to be consoled by the stories recounted about McDavitt's "all in" service and commitment to his country, community, family, friends and fellow airmen.

On April 12, 2022, just days before the sixth anniversary of her son's tragic death, Sudano, along with the board of directors of the A1C Nathaniel H. McDavitt Memorial Scholarship Fund, announced three recipients of the Airman First Class Nathaniel H. McDavitt Memorial Scholarship Award, presented to graduating high school seniors who have demonstrated exemplary qualities of character, drive and service — qualities that defined the essence of her late son.

The recipients of the sixth annual scholarship awards are Severna Park's Sydney Rowe; Peter Monaco, a Severna Park resident from Mount Saint Joseph High School; and Daniel Mears of Maurice J. McDonough High School in Pomfret, Maryland. Each student received a \$2,000 scholarship.

Sydney Rowe did not have the honor of knowing McDavitt, but after reading about his accomplish-



ments during his short life, she was immediately inspired.

"I loved to hear that Nathan was 'all in' with everything he did, even when things were not easy for him," Sydney said. "I was inspired by his service and character. He volunteered in our community and enlisted to serve and protect our country. I have so much respect for those who serve in the military."

Sydney volunteers in several departments within Anne Arundel Medical Center, and Orphan Grain Train in Millersville.

"I think some [young] people may look at community service and volunteering as something they have to do to get into colleges or meet requirements for the honor society," Sydney said. "But I have learned

Photo by Judy Tacyn

Jeanette Middleton-Sudano was proud to provide two of this year's three Nathaniel H. McDavitt Memorial Scholarship Awards to Severna Park residents Sydney Rowe and Peter Monaco.

by volunteering in my community that service makes me happy, and I enjoy helping people. I try to make a difference, even if it is small because it can add up to bigger changes for a greater good."

Sydney will attend the University of Lynchburg in Virginia where she will play field hockey and study for a career in nursing.

Peter Monaco knew McDavitt's story through their common church, St. John the Evangelist. He has given back to his community through volunteering at church to teach religious education, and through his Boy Scout troop. Other volunteer efforts have included the homeless shelter Our Daily Bread in Baltimore through Mount St. Joseph and Giving Back, Linda's Legacy.

"I am humbled to be awarded this scholarship and I aspire to live up to Nathan's legacy of character, drive and service," Peter said. "What intrigued me the most about Nathan's life was the passion he exhibited in all of his pursuits in the way that he was always trying to help other people and make the world a better place, which is something we should all strive to do."

Peter will attend The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, where he will major in intelligence and security studies, and join the Marine Corps ROTC unit.

"Please join me in congratulating these outstanding young adults. Their character, drive and service are things we all can be proud of, especially my Nate," Middleton-Sudano said. "It's difficult to express in words all the many emotions of this journey, but my heart is lifted knowing my Nate continues to live on through them."

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Shipley's Choice Elementary School



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

What is your favorite school subject and why?

My favorite school subject is writing because it gives me a chance to show people what I am thinking, and I can teach people lessons through my writing. I also really like writing because I can be really creative and tell people about my life.

Ava W.

My favorite subject is math because I like problem-solving and want to be a scientist or an engineer. Math also has my favorite teacher, Ms. Benefiel, who teaches it.

Blakely P.

My favorite school subject is math. When I used to play with my toys, I would play with numbers and add them up. I also want to be an engineer when I grow up, and math can help me with that. Math is fun and calm; it lets you take your time and focus.

Brennan J.

My favorite subject is writing because it gives me a chance to express my feelings and life experiences. For example, when my classmate read his essay to the class in third grade, I realized he also liked physical sports and then we became friends.

Carson B.

My favorite subject is math! I think it is my strength in school. We also have a really nice and funny teacher, Ms. Benefiel.

Charlie K.

My favorite subject is social studies/history because I get to learn from the mistakes of others to make the world a better place. We learn about the U.S. government, which I like because I have a grasp on why or what our politicians are doing. I also get to see history repeating itself, which I find interesting.

Charlie P.

My favorite subject is math because it is easy for me, and I love to cook and bake. Something that I love to do in math is problem-solving because in life you will have to problem solve.

Charlotte G.

My favorite subject is math! I love math because my teacher is nice and I am good at it. It is also fun to learn new strategies that will help me later on in my life. Sometimes my teacher, Ms. Benefiel, does fun stuff and even made her own rap, which was funny.

Chase V.

My favorite school subject is writing because I really like writing stories. My teacher, Ms. Gehring, also makes writing class very fun and enjoyable. You can have more

thoughts and feelings in writing than speaking out loud. I want to be an author when I grow up, so writing helps me to practice.

Emily H.

My favorite subject is science because you get to do chemistry. I really like mixing different substances together to see what the solution comes out to be. I also like to watch the videos on new things that we haven't learned so you can see them in real time and hear them from a different perspective.

Ethan M.

My favorite subject is math because in my opinion it is one of the most useful skills in life because you will have to calculate a lot of things. I love when I get to do math that is far above grade level because when it is difficult then you get to do things that make you feel accomplished.

Gabe K.

My favorite subject is math because you get to learn how you can use it in everyday life. It is fun because our teacher Ms. Benefiel is really nice to everyone, and also because we get to learn new strategies with decimals, fractions and volume.

J.T. S.

My favorite school subject is writing because I get to write down what I feel and all my adventures. I don't

just have to write in school. I can write anywhere, and it does not need to be perfect. I love writing stories and listening to stories my friends write.

Juliana M.

My favorite subject is science because I just love experimenting and watching videos on new things. One experiment we are doing now is seeing what liquids clean a penny or destroy a penny. It is super cool to see what has happened to the pennies over the weeks.

Katelyn W.

My favorite school subject is math because it is challenging and we get to do it in groups with our friends sometimes. It is also really fun. Sometimes we get to work on really hard problems in a group.

Liam H.

My favorite subject is math because it is at the end of the day, it is not that hard and it's the only one that flies by fast.

Logan S.

My favorite subject is math because it is fun and I enjoy it. It is fun because sometimes you get a prize for getting the answer right, and I enjoy it because there are so many new things that I can learn. When I get to math class, I am happy that school is not over.

Maggie D.

My favorite school subject is math because you can use it in everyday scenarios. When I grow up, I will need to use different types of math for different things like money, baking and for shopping. My math teacher is super nice. She makes a lot of boring things fun and teaches us new strategies.

Mason W.

My favorite school subject is math because it can help me in life and it is fun. It can help me in life because whenever I buy something, I can add up the price. Also, if I need to cut up a cake for a certain amount of people I can.

McCaffery L.

Science and social studies, because I love learning about history, chemistry, nature and politics. I mostly enjoy science though and the reason is simple: I just love to learn new things!

Owen A.

My favorite school subject is math because it teaches me a lot of things I need to know in life, like you use math in baking. Math is really useful and I'm happy I'm learning it.

Skylar Z.

My favorite subject is writing because it is a way to express myself. For me it is easier to write my thoughts down because more people can understand what I am trying to say. My teacher, Ms. Gehring, is always trying to make us better writers so we can be proud of ourselves. I have set a goal for myself that is to write a book of my own.

Sophie C.

I love writing because I am able to express myself. I'm able to show my emotions and that can become really powerful. I am also able to write how I feel. I am excited to write my own answers and show people my personality and feelings with people through my writing.

Tessa N.

My favorite school subject is math because it is fun and calming. I also want to be an engineer because I have always loved building things and math is necessary to be an engineer. My math teacher makes the lessons fun and is an awesome teacher.

William A.

"Newsies" At BHS Will Encourage Audiences To Seize The Day

» Continued from page 47

in the fall musical, "White Christmas." She is also preparing for a role in "Happy Days" at Pasadena Theatre Company this July.

"Singing, this was very much out of my range, but I'm getting there," she said, a week before "Newsies" opened.

All three cast members are excited to show off their vocal chops, most notably in "Once and For All" and "King of New York," which will showcase talented tap dancers.

"For me, 'Santa Fe' is known as being one of the most challenging songs to sing in theater," Andy added. "I have been figuring out how to hit the notes and it's been a huge challenge."

The cast also includes Cole German as Les, Natalie Smith as Crutchie, Blake

Martin as Joseph, Gabriella Mills as Medda, and the following newsies: Caleb Rigsby, Kate Pass, Kailey Pritchard, Mackenzie Currie, Neal O'Shea, Michael O'Shea, Emma Titgemeyer, Erica Herdrich, Katie Thayer, Cate Weiss, Abby Conlon and Kiersten Frey.

The show promises to entertain while sharing a positive message with audiences.

"With power, energy and a will, people can accomplish anything they want," Keely said. "I hope they feel inspired and ready to seize the day."

Showtimes are May 12 and 13 at 7:00pm and May 14 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm. Tickets are \$8 for students and seniors and \$14 for adults. Purchase tickets at www.showtixqu.com.

Spalding Robotics Team Builds Future Engineers

» Continued from page 47

teams from the district competed in the championships, with the CAVineers ranking 10th in the group stage before getting knocked out in the first round of the playoffs.

Despite not winning, many members of the team are excited for next year and to rely on what they learned from one another. "Within our team, we have an excellent mentorship system where upperclassmen dedicate a significant amount of time toward training and teaching underclassmen," said senior Ryan Rich.

Meanwhile, younger members, like sophomore Michael Webb, have learned important lessons that will help them both within the team and in the outside world.

"My teammates have taught me that

working on a problem by yourself is hard," Michael said. "But with the help of the people around you, a solution can always be found."

And that is what Brunner hopes her students can take away from this team, that it's OK to not win and that they are able to come together and keep moving forward.

"I want my students to 'fail forward,'" she stated. "They need to know that in engineering, failure in design is inevitable. No one gets it correct the first time. Instead of giving up and saying, 'Oh well,' I want them to analyze, reflect and attack the problem again with a new perspective. I want my students to be comfortable with failure. Dust themselves off and try again. Keep going until they get it right. That's life."



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Troop 993 Celebrates Five Eagle Scouts

Five Boy Scouts from Troop 993 enjoyed an Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony in April at Severna Park United Methodist Church.

BENJAMIN NOCERITO



Ben began his scouting career in late 2011 when he joined Pack 855 at Benfield Elementary. He was hooked by the Pinewood Derby, as well as sleepovers at museums

and landmarks such as the Intrepid Aircraft Carrier (New York City) and the USCGC Taney (Baltimore). He earned his Cub Scout and Webelos ranks along with achieving his Arrow of Light award before bridging to Boy Scouts in 2015.

Ben's Eagle Scout project involved restoring the grounds in and around the Kinder family cemetery located within Millersville's Kinder Farm Park. The project removed the overgrown top layer of ground and replaced it with decorative rocks in addition to creating a border around the outside of the cemetery.

His time in Troop 993 flew by, especially when he was accompanied by his brother Nate. Ben is a senior at Severna Park High School and is active in soccer and lacrosse.



BENJAMIN HOWARD

Ben has been active in scouting since 2010 when he joined his brother, Erick, in Pack 855 at Benfield Elementary School. As a Cub Scout, he enjoyed camping, making and racing derby cars, "Gorilla Man" and being with his friends. He earned his Cub Scout and Webelos ranks along with achieving his Arrow of Light Award before bridging to Boy Scouts in 2015.

His Eagle Scout project involved building seating for an outdoor classroom in the memorial gardens of Severna Park United Methodist Church, his troop's sponsor church. He has been a member of this church his whole life and attended Sunday school, Vacation Bible School and youth group.

Ben has enjoyed spending his years in Troop 993. It's been fun for him to encourage younger scouts to join the troop and achieve ranks through his actions and leadership. Ben is a senior at Severna Park High School and will attend college next year at Virginia Tech in the Corps of Cadets, studying mechanical engineering.



CHRISTOPHER SABINS

Chris first entered scouting in 2014 when he joined BSA Troop 993. Scouting aligned well with Chris' interest in the environment. As he moved along the path to Eagle, Chris earned 31 merit badges, the World Conservation Award and the NOA Camping Gold Award, and he held several leadership positions.

Chris' Eagle project was to install a bluebird trail around the campus of St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church. The project included leading scouts and volunteers to construct 12 bluebird houses, mount them on posts and install them at planned locations on the St. Martin's school campus. Students at the school have since adopted the bluebird houses, preparing them for the new season of bluebirds.

In addition to scouting, Chris was an active member of St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church youth program. Chris is an accomplished pianist and also enjoyed swimming with SPRFC and Severna Park High School. Chris graduated with honors from Severna Park High School in 2021 and now attends Loyola University Maryland, where he is studying computer and electrical engineering.



JACOB SABINS

Jacob joined Troop 993 in 2014, when he was 11 years old. He earned 28 merit badges, the World Conservation Award and the NOA Camping Gold Award, and he held several leadership positions.

For his Eagle project, Jacob wanted to do something for his church, St. Martin's-in-the-Field.

He decided to install parking barrier posts along the entry drive in front of the church. Jacob's project included leading scouts/volunteers in removing old, rotted posts from the area, preparing new posts and post holes, then installing posts, chains, reflectors, and post caps for safety. Twelve posts were installed.

In addition to scouting, Jacob was an active member of the St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church youth program. Jacob was a pitcher with the Severna Park Green Hornets club team. He also played saxophone in the high school band. Jacob graduated with honors from Severna Park High School in 2021 and now attends Loyola University Maryland, where he is majoring in economics.



ZACHARY SABINS

Zach became a member of the Boy Scouts of America in 2014 when he joined Troop 993. He eventually earned 36 merit badges, as well as the World Conservation Award and the NOA Camping Gold Award. Throughout the years, Zach held several leadership positions.

Zach's Eagle project was to construct bullpens at a Severna Park Green Hornets baseball field. Zach, who is a catcher and has played baseball with the Green Hornets for many years, discovered that some baseball fields lacked proper bullpens for warming up pitchers before they are called to the mound.

The project included leading scouts and volunteers in building two complete bullpens, one on each side of the field, each with a pitching mound and a catching area. These bullpens are now in use for the second season.

In addition to scouting, Zach has been an active member of St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church youth program. Zach's athletic ability and love of playing ball made him a valuable asset on his Green Hornets baseball teams. Zach also played percussion in the Severna Park High School band. Zach graduated with honors from Severna Park High School in 2021 and now attends Loyola University Maryland, where he is majoring in chemistry.

From Folger To SPHS, Students Grow With Earth Day Festival

By Judy Tacyn

When Severna Park High School seniors Sarah Smith and Sophie Magyarosi needed to select their capstone project this year as part of the high school's Leadership Institute, their decision was a decade in the making. Sarah and Sophie have been friends since they first met at Folger McKinsey Elementary School and were active in the community's annual Earth Day Festival. The girls naturally chose to lead Severna Park High School's involvement in Earth Day 2022 activities.

"We've been involved with Earth Day as attendees and volunteers since elementary school," said Sophie, "so we were really excited to get a chance to be on the other side finally as part of the planning."

Sarah called it a full-circle moment. "We are both very passionate about the environment and this festival," she said.

"It's very gratifying to be part of Earth Day and helping to bring the community together and share education around taking care of our environment."

Festival co-organizer Chris Myers was thrilled to be able to work with Sarah and Sophie again. Myers works in the office at Folger McKinsey and first met the girls there. Myers also believes that the growth of the festival is due in part to the high school bringing more students and student leaders into the event.

Through the Leadership Program, students coordinate a group of underclassmen and help with the event as they learn aspects of project management, logistics and marketing.

"Student involvement has led to considerable growth of the annual event and embodies sustainability in that we continue to grow leaders and partners to bring the festival to fruition each year," Myers said. "[This year's student project

leaders] Sarah and Sophie are wonderful and dedicated. It's exciting because they were involved with the Folger Green School program way back when, and now I get to work with them again in this capacity — it's inspiring and gratifying."

Sarah and Sophie said that they had three goals for the Earth Day project. First, they learned how to market the event through social media but also through printed posters and signs in and around the high school. Second, they set a goal of recruiting at least 20 volunteers by offering service hours for participation. Third, they hoped to inspire other students to be as passionate about conservation and recycling as they are by managing a booth at the festival where people could donate used or unwanted books. They started their business plan in the spring of 2021.

Read the rest of this story at www.severnaparkvoice.com.

Photo by Judy Tacyn
Sarah Smith (left) and Sophie Magyarosi have been involved in the annual event since elementary school.



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Celebrating National Nurses Week

The American Nurses Association estimates that there are 4.3 million registered nurses working in every aspect of health care in the United States. Whether delivering care, driving innovation, evolving care delivery systems, or closing gaps in care disparities, nurses are

critical to keep our nation healthy and thriving.

To celebrate these amazing men and women and honor their contributions and sacrifices, National Nurses Week is celebrated annually between May 6 through May 12, the birthday of renowned nurse Florence Nightingale.

Danette Reading and Jean Duffy — Luminis Health

Jean Duffy (left) and Danette Reading are just two of the more than 1,030 nurses working in bedside clinical roles or the nearly 100 nurses in management positions at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis.

By Judy Tacyn

For two Severna Park residents, nursing is their first and only career choice. Danette Reading, clinical nurse educator/acute care for the elderly unit and flex pool, and Jean Duffy, staff nurse in the post anesthesia recovery unit, are just two of the more than 1,030 nurses working in bedside clinical roles or the nearly 100 nurses in management positions at Luminis Health



Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis. Reading is officially a first-generation nurse in her family, however, she witnessed

“It’s so rewarding to me to be with people at the worst times in their lives, to help them get through those challenges whether it’s to help them return to health or to feel comfortable at the end of their life”

— DANETTE READING

the love and kindness her grandfather exhibited when caring for his wife, Reading’s grandmother. This first glimpse into the role a nurse

plays in someone’s life profoundly affected Reading.

» **Continued on page 60**

Jamie Thiel — UM Baltimore Washington Medical Center

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Jamie Thiel has worked as a registered nurse at the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC) for three years, but she knew long before that which career she wanted to pursue.

She witnessed the compassionate care of nurses during a challenging time in her life. Her dad was diagnosed with lung cancer, despite never being a smoker.

“When I had my first child, my dad was in the same hospital at Anne Arundel Medical Center,” said Thiel, a Severna Park resident. “One of the nurses wheeled him over so he could meet his granddaughter. I was touched by that.”

Thiel spent time with the Red Cross before coming to UM BWMC. She currently works on the medical center’s fifth floor, helping patients who have cardiac issues.

“We get patients who have had serious heart attacks and we get patients with atrial fibrillation, congestive heart failure, and we recently had someone who had a stroke after



After witnessing the compassionate care of nurses during a challenging time, Jamie Thiel knew that it was the career for her.

[getting] a peacemaker,” she said. “We might have someone with a heart rate of 180 [beats per minute], so we try to keep that down.”

No matter the patient’s condition, Thiel wants to make sure he or she feels comfort and support.

“I tell people, ‘This is my every day, but this is your worst day.’ So I want to do anything I can to be comforting during such a bad time,” she said.

As much as she enjoys the job, it can be stressful. Everyone needs an outlet and hers is exercise.

“For me, the big thing is working out,” she said. “I also have three kids, so even a quick run to decompress can help.”

Helping patients is rewarding too, and Thiel said plenty of people have shown their gratitude by sending cupcakes, trail mix, flowers and thank you cards to the staff at UM BWMC.

That feedback is heartwarming and validates her decision to become a nurse.

“I want to feel like I’m making a difference,” Thiel said.

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How Supportive Care Can Help People Take Control Of Living With ALS

Ashley Kinnally

*Nurse Practitioner
Hospice of the
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and Chesapeake
Supportive Care*



With all the difficulties that come with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, losing control of one's body is perhaps the scariest. This progressive degenerative neurological disease destroys the motor neurons,

which power voluntary movements and muscle control. Over time, little by little, the patient loses control of all functions, taking away their ability to speak, eat, move and breathe.

Taking control of how to live with their disease is why ALS patients should seek supportive care from the moment of diagnosis. Also known as palliative care, supportive care is not hospice care, but rather a medical specialty that collaborates with a patient's primary care physician, neurologist and other specialists to help you manage symptoms. Supportive care will be by your side as you walk the journey of this rare and often rapid debilitating illness. As a nurse practitioner, I work with my care team and ALS patients to help manage pain, like muscle cramps and nerve tingling, and offer therapies and medicine

that can help maintain function and strength as long as possible.

ALS doesn't solely affect a patient but their loved ones, too. We help caregivers learn to feed, assist in physical therapy, and other help with daily activities. Caregivers can call us to ask questions and most importantly, talk with someone who will encourage them, give guidance and help them to know they are doing it right. Our social worker can connect caregivers with community resources like support groups or access to funds or resources.

The goals of care change frequently over the trajectory of the disease. As a nurse practitioner, I help families keep their advance directives and MOLSTs, or medical orders of life-sustaining treatments, up to date as the illness progresses. We guard the quality of life by being honest and building a trust with the patient and family by having frequent conversations as new symptoms develop. By being realistic about the disease and its trajectory, the patient and family can better decide what will help them meet their overall goals.

This is a rare disease that has no cure, but research specialists around the world are making new discoveries all the time. Supportive care is on the side of aggressively treating and participating in efforts to find a cure. We're here for the long haul to give you the support you need for both quality and quantity of life.

Celebrating National Nurses Week

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"I saw how comforted my grandmother was by my grandfather and how much that love lent to her healing," Reading said. "I wanted to give other people that same feeling."

Reading started working toward a degree in nursing right out of high school and will celebrate 30 years in the profession in June. She's been with Anne Arundel Medical Center for 20 years after also working at Howard County General Hospital and on the Eastern Shore.

"It's so rewarding to me to be with people at the worst times in their lives, to help them get through those challenges whether it's to help them return to health or to feel comfortable at the end of their life," Reading said.

She especially loves working with elderly patients because they are "appreciative, trusting and receptive" to care.

Duffy recalls attending the graduation of a nurse cousin when she was a young girl and knew that she, too, wanted to be a nurse. "Nursing is the only career I've ever wanted. I didn't consider anything else."

She's been at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center for 15 years, prior to which she worked in a New York City area hospital in the intensive care unit.

In surgical recovery, Duffy often sees people in pain, but she is rewarded in knowing that post-op is

the start of their recovery. Although a patient isn't typically in surgical recovery long, Duffy strives to get to know every person in order to quickly assess and address their needs to get them quickly on their road to better health.

Certainly, the last two years have been challenging for all frontline health care providers and first responders, but these Severna Park residents say the response from the community continues to amaze the AAMC nurses. Whether it's police cars serenading the hospital with sirens blaring, businesses, organizations and individuals dropping off meals and desserts, handwritten notes of appreciation, or the thousands of handmade masks and hats made just for them, nurses who provide comfort and care every day are feeling the love returned in spades.

Both Reading and Duffy expect to stay with Luminis Health until they retire. "I don't ever see myself doing anything else," exclaimed Duffy. "Nursing is a very rewarding career."

Numerous Nurses Week events are being planned at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center, such as food trucks on campus for nurses including Nicolette's Pizza, Glazy Days Dessert, and a funnel cake truck; performances by musicians from the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra; shoe fittings and giveaways from the Charm City Run Mobile Unit; and other giveaways and education opportunities.

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Recovered Alcoholic Channels Experiences Into Poetry Book



“My book puts words to the feelings that many have felt and don’t know how to explain.”

— LIZA ROE

Liza Roe, the author of “The Sober Poet: A Collection of Poems From A Recovered Alcoholic,” is pictured with her 6-year-old dog, Foster.

Following the terrible decision to get into a stranger’s car while under the influence of alcohol, Roe jumped from the vehicle. Thankfully, she was unharmed.

“It was my therapist who initially suggested I stop drinking and a part of me knew she was right, but I didn’t know how to be a 25-year-old American millennial without alcohol,” Roe said.

So Roe became a self-help junkie and started reading as much as she could.

“‘This Naked Mind’ by Annie Grace, was the book that helped me successfully cut alcohol out of my life and killed the craving I had,” Roe explained. “However, my attitude toward life itself was not the greatest. I became so depressed that I became angry. ... I used weed to cope with the feelings I didn’t want to feel.”

Exhausted from living her life this way, Roe sought guidance from a life coach, who encouraged her to start writing again. She hadn’t written anything since

» Continued on page 64

By Lauren Burke Meyer
Severna Park native and Annapolis resident Liza Roe is an open book. Not only during our interview, but in her recently released 90-page collection of poems titled “The Sober Poet: A Collection of Poems From A Recovered Alcoholic.”

Surprisingly, her first book is writing collected over her first year of sobriety — writing never intended for public consumption.

Roe’s poem titled “A Grateful Alcoholic” details what propelled her to sobriety from drinking in 2018:

“I’m grateful for that time I was escorted out of the bar

And then recklessly agreed to get into a strange man’s car”

Marty O’Neill Writes About Family, Music In EP

By Alyson Kay

Filled with twangy guitars and raspy vocals, Marty O’Neill’s new EP reflects on important events from the singer-songwriter’s life. He hopes listeners can resonate with some of the stories told in those four tracks.

O’Neill grew up in Pennsylvania in a large musical family with eight siblings.

“I was always surrounded at home by musicians,” O’Neill said. “I have a sister who is a really good piano player and I have a couple of sisters that are really good fiddle players.”

O’Neill grew up singing in choir and school, listening to a variety of artists from singer-songwriters, including James Taylor, to folk artists like Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young.

He also started writing.

“Even as a kid, I had written poetry and was kind of fascinated by the written word, stories,” O’Neill said. “Things

» Continued on page 62



Marty O’Neill (pictured) and Buddy Spier performed for 120 guests at Severn Auto Body on April 30. All proceeds went to Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake.

Dining Out

2 Bold Chefs Hits The Mark On Flavor



Photos by Mary Cobbler

Above: The 2 Bold Chefs food truck serves flavorful Mediterranean food, complete with great service and smiles.

Right: The chicken shawarma featured a warm pita wrap with veggies, cilantro lime and garlic sauce, which all combined for a burst of flavor.



Below: Warm with a tender, flaky dough with savory-sweet filling, the baklava was a big hit.



Above: The Mediterranean-style chili glazed salmon included a spicy sauce perfectly paired with the tender salmon. The dressing for the salad was a good mix of sweet and tangy.

By Mary Cobbler

I’ve had Mediterranean food several times over the past few years. While good, nothing compared to the experiences I’ve had at some famous Greek restaurants in Baltimore a few decades ago, but the food from 2 Bold Chefs hit the mark.

Following a busy workday, I rushed to grab dinner from the restaurant’s food truck in a park in the North Shore community, and wow, I was impressed! You’d never know food from the truck sitting alone in the far corner of the lot could be so scrumptious. Every bit of all that I ate exploded with flavor.

I can’t tell you about the ambiance that I always like to share — the music, lighting and exquisite furnishings because, hey, it’s a food truck. But the quality exceeded my expectations.

Perusing the white menu board, I chose one of the “specialties,” Mediterranean-style chili glazed salmon with rice and salad, and Middle Eastern grilled chicken shawarma. Then I added some baklava.

The staff was friendly and helpful, and the food was prepared quickly. Taking the proffered white bag, I headed to a nearby picnic table by the water and quickly unwrapped my goodies.

To be honest, I began with dessert. Why not? I’ve never been a baklava fan, but when I asked about dessert, the gentleman on the truck recommended the famous treat. I was craving a sweet,

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“Annie” Spreads Sunshine At CTA



Photo courtesy of Wendy Hickok Photography

(L-R) Amaya Shannon (Miss Hannigan), Addison Bartels (Annie) and Justin Porath (Warbucks) will perform in “Annie” from May 13-22.

Leapin’ lizards! “Annie,” one of the world’s best-loved musicals, is taking stage at Children’s Theatre of Annapolis from May 13-22. Based on the irrepressible comic strip heroine, and with equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone’s hearts, despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. She is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City orphanage that is run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan.

With the help of the other girls in the orphanage, Annie escapes to the wondrous world of New York City. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan’s evil machinations ... and even befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt!

“I have always loved Annie,” said CTA President Michelle Bruno. “It’s the classic story of the intrepid orphan, showing that with kindness, love and hope, the sun will indeed come out tomorrow.”

“Annie” features 26 local performers ages 8 to 14. In her first musical, Addison Bartels, of Bowie, stars as the plucky orphan, while Justin Porath, of Annapolis, takes on the role of the well-to-do Daddy Warbucks. Layla Bunch, of Washington, D.C., performs as Warbucks’ assistant, Grace, while Amaya Shannon, of Gambrills, plays the malevolent Miss Hannigan.

The show is directed by Atticus Cooper Boidy, who last directed “The Addams Family” in November 2021 at CTA. He is joined by veteran choreographer Jason Kimmell and new-to-CTA music director Matthew Garvey.

“Annie” opens May 13 at CTA’s theater, located at 1661 Bay Head Road in Annapolis. Performances will take place at 7:00pm Fridays, 11:00am and 4:00pm Saturdays, and 2:00pm Sundays through May 22. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for students age 12 and under, seniors and military. Group discounts are available. Purchase tickets at www.cta.ticketleap.com.

Blues Festival Comes To Annapolis For Final Time

The Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival, scheduled for May 21-22 at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis, will end a 24-year run showcasing approximately 300 bands while raising over \$1.4 million for local worthwhile causes.

Don Hooker, and his daughter, Sarah Petska, started the festival 24 years ago with the sole purpose of making a difference.

“We thought that meant raising money for charity, but we soon realized that we were also making a difference in the lives of our audience by giving them a respite from the outside world, and that was just as important,” Petska said.

Past headliners included James Brown, Bonnie Raitt, Aretha Franklin, Gregg Allman, John Lee Hooker and many others.

Outside of providing top-caliber en-

tertainment, the festival has also given all net proceeds to charity. In previous years, it supported Special Olympics Maryland; Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic; Camp Face, a summer camp for kids with facial anomalies; Special Love’s Camp Fantastic for kids with life-threatening illnesses; and We Care and Friends in Annapolis.

“We feel we have had a positive impact on many lives, not just the charities that we have supported over the years but also our audience,” Hooker said. “People have met their spouses there; children have grown up with the festival and are now bringing their kids; lifelong friendships have been cemented and many, many memories have been made.”

A full festival lineup is below. For more details, visit www.bayblues.org.

2022 Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival Lineup

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| • Joss Stone | • Danielle Nicole | • Gabe Stillman |
| • Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band | • Altered Five Blues Band | • Naptown Brass Band |
| • The Spinners | • Elektric Voodoo | • Chesapeake Bay Blues Band (with Patty Reese, Daryl Davis, Mark Wenner, Dave Chappell and Tommy Lepson) |
| • Samantha Fish | • Ally Venable | |
| • Bernard Allison | • Wayne Baker Brooks | |
| • North Mississippi Allstars | • Lil’ Jimmy Reed | |

Jump Into “The Sandlot”

Rewatch a favorite childhood film and benefit a worthy cause in the process on May 21 at Flagship Cinemas Eastpoint.

The event begins with a special meet and greet with “The Sandlot” stars Tom Guiry (Scotty Smalls) and Brandon Quintin Adams (Kenny DeNunez). Fans will be able to get “The Sandlot” jerseys, posters and other items autographed.

Afterward, guests will head into the FPX Theatre for an exclusive Q&A where they will be able to ask the questions they have always wondered about the baseball classic.

The evening will end with a private screening of “The Sandlot” on the big screen, as it was shown almost 30 years ago.

This event is sponsored by WesBanco, All Pro Home Improvement & Building LLC, Cummings & Co. Realtors, Weslow & Associates, and Tamara Thomson (State Farm Insurance).

The event starts at 6:00pm on May 21. Tickets can be purchased via Frestix or at www.great8smemorabilia.com. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Marty O’Neill Writes About Family, Music In EP

» Continued from page 61

that I see capture my interest and I felt like, ‘I have to find a way to express.’”

O’Neill stopped playing when he left school but turned back to music again when he was in his 30s.

“I just picked up the guitar and started fooling around,” O’Neill said.

He and some friends and neighbors formed a six- to seven-piece cover band called the 21012 band, named after the zip code of Arnold, Maryland. The current lineup is comprised of two guitarists, a saxophone player, a drummer, a fiddle player, a keyboardist, and a bassist. They mostly play during the spring, summer and fall months in the Annapolis area, and cover music from a variety of genres.

“It’s everything from kind of old rock and roll to current country music,” O’Neill said.

Years after he started playing in the band, O’Neill began writing music. He’d written four books about business and leadership and his writing evolved into telling stories through lyrics and songs.

“I always found the way to commu-

nicate was through stories,” O’Neill said. “So, I consider myself a bit of a storyteller.”

Although O’Neill plays the guitar, he doesn’t consider himself as primarily a guitarist.

“I think of myself as a singer,” O’Neill said. “The guitar is just sort of there to play along.”

He drew from songs from his childhood, along with more contemporary music from artists including folk singer Ray LaMontagne.

Four songs took shape: “Stand Right There,” “Play it Again,” “Irene” and “Rooms.” His first single, “Stand Right There” was about his mother, who he considers a foundation in his life.

“The matriarch, the rock of the family, was my mom,” O’Neill said. “Everybody that would visit would always have this image when they left of my mom standing in that doorway and sort of waving goodbye.”

O’Neill wrote “Stand Right There” to commemorate the loving, welcoming environment that his mother created.

The second song, “Irene,” named after the hurricane, started out being about the storm before evolving.

“There are sort of nuances in there about relationships and maybe a woman scorned,” O’Neill said.

The third song, “Rooms,” was inspired by a book written by a 15th century nun named Teresa, about spirituality and her view that the soul was like interior or castles.

“I started thinking in my mind, ‘Well, what’s heaven look like?’” O’Neill said. “Maybe in heaven, there’s a room for everybody.”

His second single and the last song on the EP, “Play it Again,” came from a yearly tradition. O’Neill’s oldest son, Jack, has a music business in Nashville called Yellow House Entertainment and works with up-and-coming artists in the city.

Every year, O’Neill and his family bring an artist from Nashville to play in his backyard with his neighbors and raise money for them. One year was particularly memorable. An artist named William Morrison and his band came to

Maryland and they all played well into the night.

“There were 10 musicians after everybody else went home, just jamming until 3:00 in the morning because we were there and just loving it,” O’Neill said.

The cover of the EP is an old painting created by his mother to depict O’Neill’s childhood home, digitized and looking like old wallpaper.

O’Neill performed a show at the Severn Auto Body garage bay in Annapolis on April 30 to celebrate the release of his EP. The vinyl records of his album were available for sale and proceeds went to Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake.

“We were looking for a sort of an industrial setting,” O’Neill said.

He does not plan to do other shows by himself, but he hopes to continue performing with the 21012 band, where he feels he can encourage older people to pursue their passions.

“I think it’s rewarding to me that I can encourage other people to keep being creative,” O’Neill said.



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Recovered Alcoholic Channels Experiences

» Continued from page 61

high school. When she put pen to paper, all that came out was poetry, and she couldn't stop.

"They are very private and personal poems that I have chosen to share because I feel strongly that they will help someone else," Roe said. "I find that every day I stay sober and help someone else is an inherently good day."

"The Sober Poet: A Collection of Poems From A Recovered Alcoholic" is available on Amazon in paperback for \$14.99. The book is also available in eBook and hard copy formats. Roe loves sending signed copies and anyone interested can email her at lroe1@live.com to have one sent with free shipping in the U.S.

"My book puts words to the feelings that many have felt and don't know how to explain," Roe said. "I hope it will help others like me, and unlike me, understand what it means to be an addict/alcoholic (as they are one in the same), and how life can be beautiful without depending on something outside of ourselves to feel something or nothing as it were."

2 Bold Chefs Hits The Mark On Flavor

» Continued from page 61

so I went for it. I figured I'd take a bite and give the rest to my awaiting hubby. But this baklava changed my tune on the Greek favorite. Each large piece had layered, flaky phyllo dough baked to perfection and filled with ground nuts, honey and other unidentified yummy goodness. It was the best baklava I've ever tasted — not overly sweet or sticky, but just right. It would go great with a strong cup of coffee, or even ice cream or whipped cream.

I then tasted the chicken shawarma. Having a preconceived idea from past experiences of what the chicken and vegetables in the pita would taste like (boring), I was pleasantly surprised. The spit-roasted chicken, overflowing from the pita, was tender and without fat or gristle. Nestled in the warm, soft pita with onions, lettuce and peppers, the whole package was savory with a refreshing tang, which I believe was partially due to the liberal use of homemade cilantro lime garlic sauce.

My Mediterranean-style chili glazed salmon with rice and salad was also a huge hit for me and my hubby. The chili sauce topping the salmon had a fabulous spicy kick, slightly sweet with a touch of garlic and enough

heat to please but not overpower. It permeated the salmon so that with every bite, I had a slight taste of the spice. The fish was cooked to perfection with the unique subtle salmon flavor that is so pleasing when it's fresh and prepared properly.

Surrounding the salmon, the side of salad with greens, cucumbers, tomatoes and onions was also surprisingly good, topped with homemade, creamy Italian dressing, slightly sweet and enough to season the vegetables without drowning them. Did you ever notice how cucumbers freshen up every dish? White rice also came with the meal, and it was soft and fluffy the way rice should be (which I never can seem to achieve at home).

All of the food was well seasoned, fresh, zesty and pleasing.

The two meals, plus two pieces of baklava, came to just under \$40.

If you think, 'Hey, Mary didn't criticize anything,' you're right. There was really nothing negative to report.

Check out the website at www.2boldchefs.com for more information, including the catering menu, and follow the company on Facebook at [2-BOLD-Chefs-a-Mediterranean-Truck-Catering](https://www.facebook.com/2-BOLD-Chefs-a-Mediterranean-Truck-Catering).



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"The Northman" Is A Brutal, Familiar Story

By Audrey Ruppert

After the first 15 minutes of "The Northman," I thought to myself, "Is this 'The Lion King' again?" Which is, of course, just "Hamlet" again. Afterward, I was intrigued to learn that "The Northman" is actually a telling of the Norse myth of Amleth — the story which Hamlet is based on (Shakespeare just moved the H!) — making this the original tale, one we are very familiar with by now.

A young prince (Alexander Skarsgård) witnesses his uncle murder his father and forcibly take his mother (Nicole Kidman) — he runs and vows to return, avenge his father and save his mother. On the way he meets a slave woman (Anya Taylor-Joy) who will bear the future, rightful heirs to the throne.

"The Northman" feels like the live action version of a magical myth from eons past. It is an interweaving of ancient religious practices, supernatural dream-like sequences, and surprising commitment to historical accuracy — a rarity in Hollywood. The story is set in the correct time period for Viking raids, the brutal fighting style of berserkers is true to life, the setting in Iceland would make sense (many exiles from Scandinavia spent time there), the costumes and architecture is in keeping with the time, and director Robert Eggers has a good understanding of the religious rituals of the ancient Norsemen.



Photo courtesy of Focus Features

"The Northman" feels like the live action version of a magical myth from eons past. It is an interweaving of ancient religious practice, supernatural dream-like sequences, and surprising commitment to historical accuracy.

The film is a startling reminder of our distant past (it is set in the 900s) when life was positively Hobbesian — nasty, brutish and short. It is gratuitously and uncomfortably violent. Everything and everyone is covered in dirt and blood, all the time — people back then lived in absolute filth. And all of this is set against a backdrop of stunning natural beauty, settings relatively untouched by man or industry. With lifespans so short, nature so beautiful yet unforgiving, and man so powerless, it's unsurprising our ancestors felt so strongly about the power of gods and the importance of an afterlife.

The real question, though, is did

we need this reminder? Humanity has outgrown this. Sure, the echoes remain — "Hamlet" was a modernization of this story and "The Lion King" was a modernization of this story. We still feel strongly about betrayal, family, loyalty and fate, and we can still be horrible to one another, but we have evolved beyond this iteration of ourselves.

This is not a fun film. It is a real slog to watch, just as I imagine life back then was a real slog to live. Long periods of absolute dreariness punctuated by bouts of severe violence, and only very occasional moments of tenderness. There is an egregious amount of testosterone flying around:

a lot of braying, shouting, fighting, killing and assault. Women have little importance beyond furthering man's violent, short-sighted goals, and to nobody's surprise, this film does not meet the Bechdel test.

And while that was the overwhelming reality of humanity for much of history, is that really something we want to watch for a couple hours? The violence doesn't even have a payoff the way "Game of Thrones" generally did, with its twists and turns. Generally, we know what is going to happen, and even with the "surprise twist" toward the end (which isn't much of a twist if you're familiar with "Hamlet" or other classics about fate like Oedipus Rex) we still basically know what's going to happen, and we have to suffer through it.

This story was, in the end, a savage but breathtaking retelling of an ancient myth, beautifully acted and well costumed — and I suspect, something nobody wants to watch. Its most redeeming feature is a reminder that longing for the "good old days" is foolish, and most Hollywood portrayals of the past are romanticizations — as troubled as the modern world is, we should be very glad we live in it.

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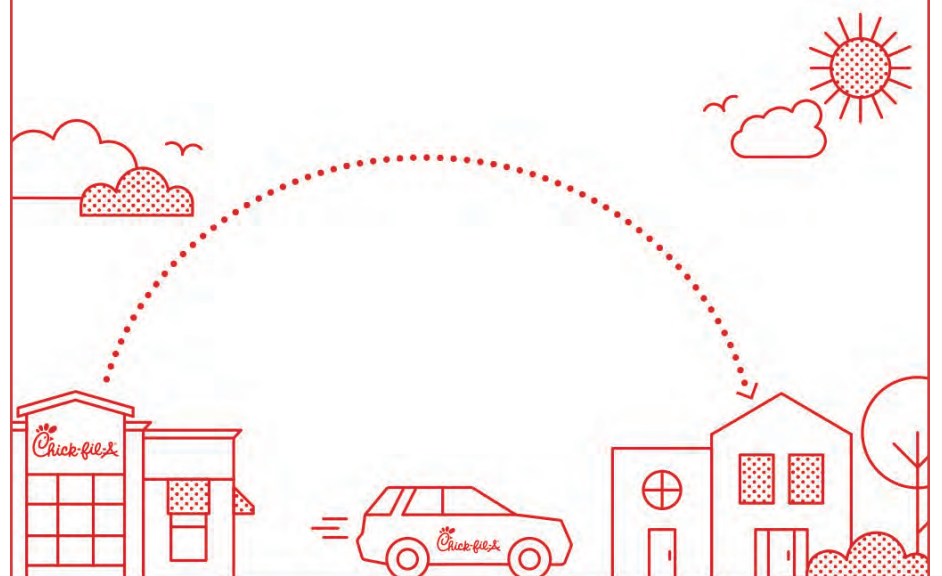
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Chamber Update

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business is currently undergoing a huge renovation to bring the best services to the community in a new and upgraded environment.

boydarc LLC – Winner of more than 50 awards and a long career with three major firms, architect Christopher Boyd is bringing his talents to the community to craft beautiful and long-lasting solutions.

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Macaroni KID Annapolis – Macaroni KID is your online source to find fun events, engaging activity ideas, resource guides and to connect with locally owned family-friendly businesses in the Annapolis area.

Riticolous Detail Cleaning – With years of experience, constant training, researching, developing, and taking cues from the best detailers on the international detailing scene, the team specializes in the art of automotive and watercraft detailing.

National Carpet & Flooring – National Carpet & Flooring has been serving Anne Arundel County and surrounding areas since 1991. Locally owned and operated, it is a family business run by Wesley

and Helen Sherman. They provide both commercial and residential flooring.

Chill Axes – If you're looking for a fun family activity, a few hours with friends, a date night or planning an event - throwing axes is an activity everyone loves.

Earth Radiance Simple Organic Holistic - Its treatments offer holistic modalities, vegan facials, advanced facial massage, warm oil therapies, brow threading, body waxing and henna body art.

Silesky & Company LLC – With a background in global branding and taking the same approach with local small business owners, Silesky Marketing treats every campaign the same: like a travel itinerary.

Angela Jacob, Disability Resource Navigator – As a person with a disability and a professional with experience in both the nonprofit disability sector as well as in the health industry, Angela Jacob would like to use her knowledge to help you and yours navigate through the many disability resources available, without the headache.

Wellness House of Annapolis - In 2007, with the help of the Annapolis Rotary Club, Dr. Kelly Sullivan founded Wellness House of Annapolis. The organization offers over 35 free programs and services to cancer patients and their loved ones, from diagnosis to survivorship.

Paychex – Paychex Inc. is a recognized leader in the payroll, human resource and benefits outsourcing industry, with a steadfast commitment to success and a record of achievement that continues a tradition of delivering excellence.

Fellowship Health and Wellness – A recent major scientific breakthrough in stem cell technology activates your own stem cells and resets them to a younger, healthier state. Stem cell activation patches may help you with pain manage-
» Continued on page 71

Recession Looming

Jason LaBarge
Financial Advisor
and President
LaBarge Financial



Each of us has our own way of defining what a recession is. Some of us have lost jobs and some of us have taken major hits within our portfolio. Others have had very little happen to them. Economists define a recession as "a period of temporary economic decline during which trade and industrial activity are reduced, generally identified by a fall in GDP into successive quarters."

In a report recently, Bank of America's chief investment strategist warned that recession shock is coming. Other analysts are suggesting the same, driven by inflation. Consumer prices surged 8.5% in March, the fastest pace since December 1981. These price hikes are hitting everything from used cars, men's clothing and baby food to salad dressing. "It's out of control," the strategist wrote in a CNN article titled "Inflation causes recessions."

The Federal Reserve has a primary function of regulating the money supply in our country. It is a private bank that loans money to our government to issue as our currency. The Fed functions to try and keep our prices stable, and interest rates at appropriate levels. Leadership has done a good job of this for several decades, and I don't think it will be any different this time, but it is increasing rates at the fastest pace in decades, and I don't think that's going to stop anytime soon.

In January, you could get a mortgage for 3.5% and here we are, four short months later, and a mortgage is 5.5% today. Chairman Jerome Powell announced last week that when the Federal Reserve governors meet again in May, another 0.5% rate increase is "on the table." In my opinion, he is telling us that a 50-basis-point increase is coming in May. As a result of this, the Dow Jones had its worst day April 22, 2022, since October 28, 2020. A rising interest rate environment is historically bad for tech stocks. The Nasdaq is coming off its worst four-week performance since December 2020, according to Nasdaq.

Most of my clients are attributing these market concerns to the crisis in Ukraine. I think inflation is the bigger threat. Vladimir Putin is a dictator, and according to President Joe Biden, is about to begin cyber attacks on the United States, and that also is a significant threat to the market. We need to take some time to thank our neighbors who work in the intelligence agencies like the NSA that protect us every day from these threats and receive little fanfare from doing so. We are unique here in Maryland that these folks live near us, our kids go to school together, and they protect us every single day. Thank you to all of you. If these folks weren't as successful as they are, we would see much bigger impacts to our economy from these threats. As a result, inflation is our primary concern.

Elon Musk mentioned in an earnings call recently that his company is experiencing as high as 30% increases from its suppliers. We all have experienced our own share of increasing costs on goods and services, so it's hard to determine what the actual
» Continued on page 68

Aldi Has Arrived In The Park



Photos by Lauren Cowin

After much anticipation, the Severna Park Aldi had its grand opening May 5. Aldi is located at 464 Ritchie Highway in the Robinson Crossing shopping center in the space previously held by Food Lion.





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Learn about the 3 Most Common Estate Planning Mistakes and how to avoid them by scanning the QR Code. You can also download the **Free Guide to Estate Planning**. To learn more, or to schedule a consultation, visit our website or scan the QR code.



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RIBBON CUTTINGS

Levin Eyecare Sees Potential In Severna Park



Severna Park's newest medical practice, Levin Eyecare, celebrated a grand opening on April 28. Levin Eyecare offers complete medical, surgical and routine vision services. The new medical practice is located at 454-A Ritchie Highway.

With New Location, Mike's Pharmacy Is In Good Health



Since 2013, Mike's Pharmacy has been serving the community, offering high-quality products and knowledgeable service. With a ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 20, the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce welcomed the business' second location, which is at 8125 Ritchie Highway, Suite L, in Pasadena.

Recession Looming

» Continued from page 66

inflation impact is. Several companies are announcing quarterly earnings and the result of these companies will ultimately indicate if a recession is looming or not. Company earnings are a big indicator of our current economic picture, so that is something I'll be watching.

The old adage of "buy low and sell high" is something we always need to keep in mind. "The best time to make money is when there is blood in the streets" is a poignant yet accurate way to describe Wall Street. While one can never time the market or know when you're buying low, but historically, if you can buy during a recessionary period, you earn better returns in the long run.

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

Severna Park Tutor Gives Students An Academic Boost

By Lauren Cowin

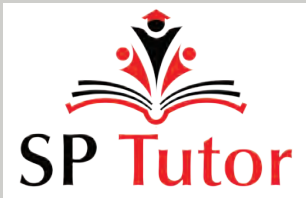
At a time when routines were off-kilter and normal seemed like a concept of the past, Sara Miller found her calling.

In the early days of the pandemic, Miller, a Severna Park resident and former teacher, sensed the need some families would have to offer their school-aged kids additional support in the newfound era of the virtual classroom. Having worked with students across the academic spectrum over the course of her career, she believed she could help.

"I thought there will be kids who benefit from one-on-one instruction during these challenging times," Miller said.

What began as a handful of individual tutoring clients has blossomed into Severna Park Tutoring and Educational Advocacy. The business' first anniversary in its new office on Benfield Road was in March, and two additional tutors have joined the team since.

"It's been really great. I think it's been helpful for parents and been a great opportunity for us to help build the skills of kids," Miller said, adding, "our local schools and our local

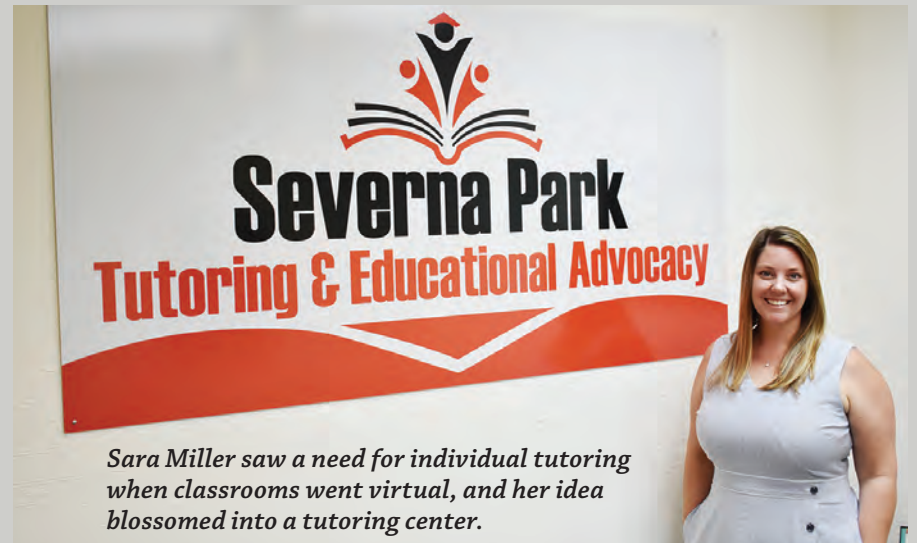


teachers are wonderful, but all children can benefit from extra individualized instruction, and we're really happy to be able to provide that."

Severna Park Tutoring and Educational Advocacy serves students from pre-K, where the major focus is kindergarten readiness and literacy skills, all the way through 12th grade.

While Miller and her team offer help in all subject areas in addition to executive functioning skills such as organization and time management strategies, there's one skill in particular that pulls at this educator's heart strings – teaching students to read.

"I had a student this year who I worked with and when she started with me, she didn't know letters, she didn't know sounds, and now she can read. She's a reader!" Miller said through misty eyes. "It's just an amazing process to see that their skills grow, and along with their skills, their



Sara Miller saw a need for individual tutoring when classrooms went virtual, and her idea blossomed into a tutoring center.

confidence. That's the best."

Miller, who has a master's degree in reading, has channeled her passion for the subject into more than tutoring. This summer, she will offer a book club for students between pre-K and fourth grade. In March, she hosted a National Reading Month event in conjunction with the Anne Arundel County Literacy Council, an event she hopes to grow year after year in an effort to promote literacy and a love of reading.

As for the tutoring center, Miller feels fortunate to have been embraced by the families and the business community in Severna Park.

"We've definitely grown a lot, and we're very, very happy. We would love to continue to grow and help as many students and families in the area that we can," she said. "A lot of families prioritize education [in Severna Park] and I feel very lucky that we are able to help provide those services to this community."

Need An Attorney? The Law Office Of David V. Diggs Offers Compassion And Clear Advice

By Zach Sparks

The law can be complicated and so can life. The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC helps people navigate through legal challenges whether it's an adoption, a divorce, or a personal injury caused by someone else's negligent behavior.

"In any area, it's about helping people get through a struggle, a dispute, through negotiation and litigation," said David Diggs, who has 35 years of experience as an attorney. "We're not a big cookie-cutter law firm, so we're able to meet their individual needs."

In 2017, Diggs opened the Millersville practice, which now has two lawyers and four paralegals. Over time, Diggs has acquired the necessary legal savvy while working hard to represent his clients and put them at ease during difficult times. He is a vigorous advocate in a complex and sometimes intimidating legal system.

"I talk on the phone all the time with people who say, 'I don't know where to start,'" Diggs said. "There's a lot to work through. In a divorce case, is the couple living together? Has there been domestic violence that needs the court's attention?"

Compassion and communication are key to effective representation. Not only is that important to Diggs but also to Barry Emdadi, who recently joined The Law Office of David V. Diggs. Emdadi has a bachelor's degree in family studies and a Master of Business Administration degree. He also spent time in the sales and hospitality fields.

"That well-roundedness allows me to empathize with different issues people may have," he said.

The law office treats every situation individually, handling sensitive family matters such as divorce,



(L-R) Lisa Bogan-Rehore, esquire; David Diggs, esquire; and Barry Emdadi, esquire, are experienced in all facets of family law, personal injury, and wills and estates.

adoptions and custody disputes. When it comes to personal injuries, The Law Office of David V. Diggs fights hard to get clients the compensation they deserve whether their injuries were sustained in a car accident, a slip and fall accident, or they were attacked by a dog.

In addition to family law and personal injury cases, the practice also prepares wills and other estate planning documents.

"You can create a real hassle for your family if you don't have a will," Diggs said. "It's important that you get to decide what happens to your estate upon your passing."

Family and community involvement are important



to Diggs, a father of three. He coaches girls soccer, basketball and lacrosse for Green Hornets. He previously served on the board of directors for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Maryland and was on the College-Bound Foundation's executive committee. Diggs also enjoys speaking to the next generation of lawyers seeking continuing education.

Over the last two years, his practice expanded 50 percent, something he feels thankful for because he knows the pandemic has been tough on businesses.

"We were lucky to be essential workers and we could socially distance," he said.

In addition to Diggs and Emdadi, the staff includes paralegals Tiffany Moore, Julieta Tord, Rachel Fabrizi and Lisa Bogan-Rehore.

The attorneys at The Law Office of David V. Diggs are experienced in all facets of family law, personal injury, and wills and estates. For more information, contact The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC at 410-244-1189 or email david@diggsllaw.com. The office is located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 302, in Millersville.

Regardless of a person's needs, the team will make sure that person has effective and compassionate representation.

"It's about being able to understand what that person is going through, making sure they understand the process is not going to be quick and easy but also making sure it's accommodating," Diggs said.

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Chamber Of Commerce Update

» Continued from page 66

ment and give you a level of health and vitality that you have not experienced since youth.

Pam Bannan, cabi Stylist – Celebrating its 20-year anniversary, the cabi concept is simple: by bringing a uniquely styled clothing line to a home setting, women receive an opportunity to hear about the hottest trends and discover their true style in the company of close friends.

Stella Maris Home Care and Hospice – Stella Maris is a leader in elder care with a long history of providing compassionate care. The dedicated team of skilled nursing experts believe in the person-centered care model, one that incorporates each long-term care residents' personal preferences and values and thereby en-

hancing their quality of life.

Committee to Elect Dawn Gile – An accomplished attorney, Dawn Gile is also a nonprofit leader and an award-winning military family advocate. She is also a wife and mother and is running on the Democrat ticket for Senate in District 33.

We held five ribbon cuttings over the last month. Three were grand openings in brick-and-mortar locations — **Neighborhood Barre** in Severna Park, **Mike's Pharmacy** in Pasadena (next to Founders), and **Levin Eyecare** in Severna Park. It is so exciting to have new businesses choose our area to bring jobs, desired goods and services, and tax dollars to support our local economy.

The other ribbon cuttings were grand reopenings: **Kelly Cornwell of Dream Vacations**, who opened her business

right before the pandemic, and **Minute-man Press of Crofton, Canton and Federal Hill**, which closed its business to the public during COVID.

Absolute Design Studio was the beautiful location for our Successful Women in Business First Cup Club networking event. Talented owner **Jessica Ford** told us all about her journey into the granite, stone and tile markets and how she started by selling products out of the back of her car. Now she operates in a 4,000-square-foot studio in Millersville filled with incredible products to bring your design vision to life.

The Wellness Coalition's monthly meeting was held at the **Severna Park Community Center** with keynote speaker **Jay Wenhold** of the **Green Home Solutions**. Jay delivered a scientific over-

view of mold and toxic substances and the importance of clean air to the health and wellness of all including pets.

Close to 100 people attended our Multi-Chamber Business Builders networking event at **Hellas Restaurant and Lounge** on April 7. As always, they did a great job and it was a fun event for speed networking.

Registration opened for the 2022 Independence Day parade, to be held in Severna Park on Monday, July 4, from 10:00am to noon. Start planning now and get your volunteers together for this beloved community event.

Please check out our website calendar (www.gspacc.com) for upcoming events and our Facebook page. You can reach me at ceo@gspacc.com or 410-647-3900. Thank you for buying local and shopping small!

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Jessica HAIRE

for **COUNTY EXECUTIVE** ★ **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**

Republican Primary ★ June 28, 2022

MEET JESSICA HAIRE

I'm running to be your next County Executive to bring **common sense solutions** to the challenges facing our County.

I am a civil engineer, attorney, wife, mom, the current District 7 Councilwoman – and your neighbor in our county! Our family is full of daily fun, work, school, sports and community. Like you, we embrace the challenges and opportunities of each day. I look forward to meeting with you on the campaign trail.

— Jessica

BACKGROUND & EXPERIENCE

★ **County Council - District 7**

It is a privilege to represent District 7 on the County Council.

★ **Attorney**

I represent companies that build vital infrastructure, such as water treatment facilities and public schools.

★ **Civil Engineer**

I graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and began my career working for a local engineering company.

★ **Volunteer, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)**

As a mother, I fully embrace CASA's mission to help abused and neglected children obtain safe, permanent housing.

★ **Former Commissioner, Anne Arundel Co. Women's Commission**

A resource and advocacy group dedicated to helping enrich the lives of women and families in Anne Arundel County.

★ **Former Legal Counsel, Maryland Republican Party**

I was responsible for all legal matters for the Maryland Republican Party. I successfully defended Governor Hogan's power to make vacancy appointments before Maryland's highest court.



FRIENDS OF JESSICA HAIRE

www.JessicaHaire.com ★ ElectJessicaHaire@gmail.com  [ElectJessicaHaire](https://www.facebook.com/ElectJessicaHaire)

P.O. Box 1782, Edgewater, MD 21037 ★ 443-607-2434 ★

Authority: Friends of Jessica Haire, Kelly Rosenthal, Treasurer.

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