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Olde Severna Park's float, which included a detailed Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse, was named Best Overall entry.

The motorized railroad was very cool and spoke to our history. ... And then Olde Severna Park's construction of the lighthouse was awesome. They did a nice job."

- Parade Judge Dianna Lancione, Publisher, Severna Park Voice



By Zach Sparks

ith increased community involvement this year and temperatures around 80 degrees, the Severna Park Fourth of July parade was enjoyable for families whether they were sprawled across blankets, standing in the shade or relaxing in lawn chairs.

The Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce was able to get roughly 110 floats to participate this year — up from 99 last year — and many of those took the theme "Celebrating Our Rich History" to heart, including Olde Severna Park Improvement

Continued on page 6

And The Winners Are! Best Overall

Olde Severna Park Improvement Association

Best Theme

Linstead on the Severn

Most Patriotic

Nathaniel McDavitt Memorial Flag and Cub Scout Pack 855

Best Commercial

- Kick Connection
- 2 Homestead Gardens
- Jing Ying Institute of Kung
 Fu & Tai Chi

Best Community

- Olde Severna Park
- 2 Linstead on the Severn
- **8** Round Bay

Best Nonprofit Organization

- Airman First Class Nathaniel McDavitt Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Orphan Grain Train
- 3 Cub Scout Pack 450

Community Engagement Made This Year's Parade Special



LB2-897



With historic trucks and a patriotic flower display, Homestead Gardens was named runner-up in the Best Commercial category.

Kick Connection's martial arts demonstration earned the top prize in the Best Commercial category.

Continued from page 5

Association (named Best Overall entry and Best Community entry) and Linstead (Best Theme).

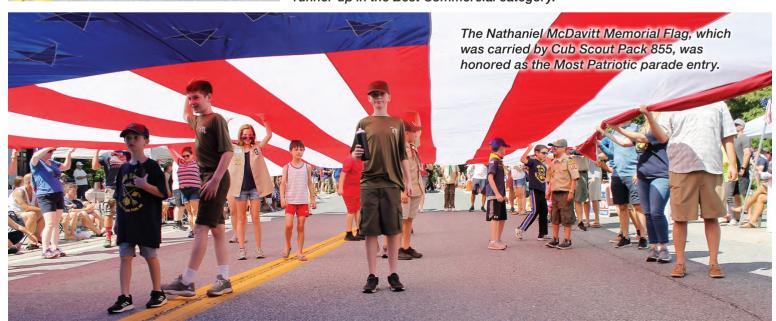
"The motorized railroad was very cool and spoke to our history," said one of the parade judges, Dianna Lancione, when asked about Linstead. "Round Bay kind of followed that theme with their own take on the railroad and then Olde Severna Park's construction of the lighthouse was awesome. They did a nice job."

All of the judges agreed that the addition of more community and small-business floats was a welcome sight.

"I think the effort communities put into making nice floats and following the parade theme was really appreciated," Lancione said. "The judges really appreciate the people who put in the extra effort."

A big crowd lined the parade route starting at Benfield Road

Continued on page 9









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Greenway Bowl

10 Pin 8246 Telegraph Rd Odenton, MD

410-551-7100

GoBowlingOdenton.com

Community Engagement Made This Year's Parade Special

Continued from page 6

and ending at Cypress Creek Road. On Evergreen Road, the Murphy family continued a family tradition that started with the parade in 1975.

Dr. Robert Murphy has lived in Severna Park for his whole life, 68 years, and has enjoyed watching the parade with his wife, Nancy, and extended family including Katie Murphy, Maggie Murphy, Patrick Murphy and their many nieces, nephews, husbands and wives.

"The parade has gotten bigger, louder and better." Robert said.

His daughter Jennifer Murphy quipped, "We have not missed one yet," as she stood alongside husband Doug Silber. "It's great to see old neighbors come out, getting together with the whole family and seeing people in the parade."

Continued on page 12



The float in honor of the Airman First Class Nathaniel McDavitt Memorial Scholarship Fund was the judges' top choice in the nonprofit category.



Jing Ying
Institute of
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Chi took
home third
place among
commercial
entries.

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- Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu & Tai Chi

- ★ Khelonev
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- LaToya Nkongola for Delegate
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Community Engagement Made This Year's Parade Special

Continued from page 9

Also along the route was Maggy Cullman, who distributed bookmarks on behalf of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Cullman said she has attended the parade for about 20 years and the AAUW has been involved almost every year since the parade started.

"Every year, we collect used books and take them off your hands — thank you very much," she said. "Around the first weekend of November, we have a big book sale in our donated space, and we sell books cheaply. I encourage people, especially young children, to come because they can buy books for \$1. And money goes to scholarships for women."

For some people, like Cullman, the event was a chance to spread a positive message about nonprofit work in the community. For others, it was about cherishing a special opportunity.

Ed Bannat, who grew up in New Jersey and has been attending the Fourth of July parade for 21 years, said there is nothing like the event in his Garden State hometown.

"Somebody said, 'Come down here and all you're going to see, this parade is Americana," Bannat recalled. "And to me, it is. This is old-time, like going up to one of those old towns in Pennsylvania like Gettysburg, Hanover or Lancaster."



Orphan Grain Train's entry, featuring a lifelike liberty bell, received second-place recognition from the judges in the nonprofit grouping.





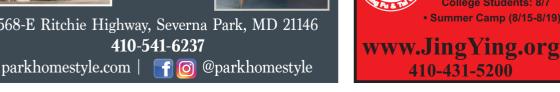




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Veterans Reflect On Military Service

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

n July 4, 1968, U.S. Marine helicopter pilot Joseph Scholle was shot in the neck while rescuing a man with a broken leg in Vietnam.

"This guy came out of a hidden tunnel with his AK-47 and started firing," Scholle said. "Then there was this sting. I felt like someone took a hot poker out and stuck me in the back of the neck."

Scholle lived to tell the tale, one of many stories the Severna Park resident shares with fellow members of American Legion Post 175. Two of those members, William Vincent of Arnold

and Post 175 commander Ambrose Cavean of Pasadena, also have vivid memories from their military days.

serves as a reminder that their sacrifices are not forgotten.

and it's nice to be out there because a lot of people salute us and there are other vets out there who salute us," Cavegn said. "It's our one day a year other than the Marine Corps birthday, Army birthday or Veterans Day."

From Enlistment To Deployment

Scholle and Vincent served in the Vietnam War. Cavegn joined the U.S. Army shortly after high school and served for 23 years starting in 1974. He spent most of his time as a combat medic after a few years as an instructor who taught skiing, mountain climbing, kayaking, hiking and rappelling.

Cavegn's father served in the Navy during World War II, but that was not the reason he enlisted. The military offered an alternative

to college.

He originally planned to join the Marine Corps, but when the recruitment office was closed for lunch, he instead went to the nearby U.S. Army office.

"It was a little intimidating with the drill sergeant at first," Cavegn said of his basic training, "but I enjoyed the camaraderie and the feeling of independence and achievement."

Vincent enlisted after college and later became a member of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division. He continued a proud family tradition that started when his grandfather served the U.S. Army during World



War I and continued when his dad served in the Navy during World War II.

"I got my flight orders and I went to Da Nang," said Vincent, who did two tours in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970.

Scholle entered the Marine Corps Platoon Leader Class program that placed him as a lance corporal.

"I saw 'Flying Leathernecks' with John Wayne a few times and I always wanted to be a pilot," Scholle said.

During his last two years in college,
Scholle spent his summer weeks at Marine
Corps Base Quantico in Virginia, attending
Officer Candidate School. After graduating
in 1965, the 22-year-old received his commission as a second lieutenant.

Flight school in Pensacola, Florida, presented new challenges.

"For six months, I would barf every morning because of the nerves," Scholle said with a laugh. "Especially with formation flying. I was terrible. I was the pits. Then, instead of having a death grip on the stick, all of the sudden, I started thinking, 'I can do this."

Two years later, in 1967, Scholle started a year-long tour in Vietnam, where he earned the nickname "Crazy Joe." Just before the start of the Tet Offensive, Scholle hung two microphones outside his hut to capture battles sounds on a reel-to-reel tape recorder. He then took refuge in a sandbag bunker. When he realized he forgot to turn on his recording device, he ran back to the hut to hit the record button. All around him, rockets and mortar rounds exploded on the base.

"When I got back, one of the captains, Joe Clark, said, 'That's one crazy Joe,'" Scholle recalled.

Crazy or not, all three Post 175 veterans were recognized for their vital contributions. Vincent was honored with four air medals and a Silver Star. Scholle was recognized twice with the Purple Heart medal and he also received the Distinguished Flying Cross in May 1968.

Writer Carlos Bongioanni detailed the May 1968 incident in a 2014 article in Stars and Stripes, a military newspaper.

As Bongioanni wrote, Scholle piloted the UH-34D Seahorse helicopter to a field near a demilitarized zone between north and south Vietnam to resupply troops engaged in heavy combat. Enemy troops were hiding in the tall grass and started firing. Despite the gunfire, Scholle stayed patient while the crew chief offloaded the supplies before taking off. But there was a problem: his copilot was wounded.

Scholle then realized that either bullets or shrapnel had severed a cord to his helmet, which provided communications on the aircraft. He learned later that the helicopter was also leaking hydraulic fluid. As his Distinguished Flying Cross citation explains, Scholle "lifted out of the hazardous area and skillfully maneuvered" to the nearest medical facility despite all of those severe obstacles.

Life After War

These memories and others sometimes provoke laughter and offer a sense of achievement, as Cavegn said, but not all memories are happy ones.

As a line medic with the 101st Airborne Division, Cavegn traveled with the infantry and tended to soldiers in their dire moments.

"I've seen my fair share of people who have died," Cavegn said. "To listen to their last words. it's something I keep with me."

Some scars are emotional. Some are physical.

"A lot of the Vietnam vets were exposed to Agent Orange," Vincent said. "I got it and I had prostate cancer. It makes the bones brittle."

Scholle suffered from ischemic heart disease, which can be caused by exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange.

All three of the veterans said they have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD will strike during routine activities, making it hard for them to finish projects, such as the restoration of Cavegn's two 1968 Cadillac

Coupe DeVille convertibles.

Therapy dogs sense their owner's anxiety and calm their nerves. That's not the veterans' only coping mechanism.

"American Legion is a way to vent,"
Cavegn said. "I call it a brotherhood, but it's
more like a family, because there are women
who served too. Just like Toby Keith says, I
love this bar."

Scholle attends occasional reunions organized by Pop-A-Smoke, formed by helicopter pilots who were curious about the whereabouts of their former Vietnam War comrades.

Beyond those events, they speak to high school students about their military escapades and give advice to relatives of deceased veterans.

During a Home Depot trip, Cavegn met a woman who was unsure what to do with her father's flag and awards, so he accepted the items on behalf of American Legion Post 175.

"It's our way of giving back to the fallen," Ambrose said, adding that the respectful action is to burn the flag after a flag ceremony if it is no longer fit for display. "To us, it means something."

The appreciation from strangers and fellow veterans — on the Fourth of July and throughout the year — means something too. Those moments remind them that their scars and trauma have empowered American citizens to enjoy their freedom back home.

"I know I made an impact," Cavegn said.
"I am a motorcycle rider, and I will go to
events where Gold Star moms will come
up to me and say, 'We love our combat medics.'"

Scholle said, "I thought it was good for society that you did your part for the country as a whole."





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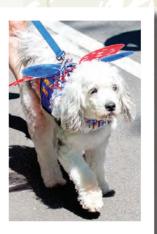




















YOUR CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN TEAM...

BRYAN SIMONAIRE

Senator Bryan Simonaire is the Senate Minority Leader and is focused on providing solutions in Annapolis. Bryan obtained his Bachelor of Computer Science and



his Masters in Computer Engineering in pursuit of his desire to travel the world and work for a top tiered defense company. At the age of 58, he has been married for over 35 years to his college sweetheart and has 5 daughters. 2 sons and 5 grandchildren.

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. His



wife Kristie of 20 years has a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy and works with Preschoolers in the Prince Georges County School System. Their son Ty is currently seeking a degree in Biomedical Engineering at Florida Tech in Melbourne, Florida. He is seeking re-election for his second term as a Maryland Republican delegate representing Severna Park, Pasadena, Millersville, Gambrills and Glen Burnie.

NIC KIPKE

Nic Kipke has served the people in district 31 for over a decade in the state legislature. He spent eight of those years serving as the Republican leader in the House of



Delegates. He loves representing the area where he grew up, and tries to not just fairly represent his constituents in the legislature, but to also provide excellent constituent services and to be a resource for the community. Nic is always going to be a reliable voice for lower taxes, limited government, and conservative values. In his private life, Nic works as a manufacturer's representative helping manufacturers and distributors grow their businesses and thrive. This connection to the real-world economy has shaped how Nic votes on issues related to the regulatory burden on small businesses, along with many other issues important to business and industry. In the legislature, Nic has served on the Health and Government Operations committee working on a wide variety of issues including helping ensure that independent pharmacies can continue to operate, and most recently securing funding to establish access to treatment for juveniles struggling with substance abuse and addiction. Nic and his wife Susannah married in 2014 and are raising their three children James, Evelyn, and Margaret in Pasadena.

RACHEL MUÑOZ

Rachel Muñoz is a fresh face and a new voice in the Maryland General Assembly. With a background working with the Anne Arundel Crisis Response Team and as a recent graduate of the University of Maryland School of Law, Rachel is excited and motivated to make a difference for our community. She proved herself in the 2022 legislative session by working on bills that impact our community and by speaking out for our values. Rachel and



her husband Andrew both grew up here and there is nowhere else they would want to be raising their five young children – Logan, Claire, Chloé, Luke, and Celine.

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Decorated Bike Contest Features New And Returning Contestants

By Lauren Cowin

articipants at this year's decorated bike contest, held outside the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce, ran the gamut from infants to preteens, all proudly displaying their shiniest red, white and blue accessories for the annual Independence Dav parade.

The youngest participant was 8-month-old Jackson Howard, who collaborated with his older sister, Haylee, for a wagon ensemble. The duo received third place in the Most Original category. Their older brother, Cameron, took home third in Most Beautiful.

Another tiny but mighty patriot was 18-month-old William Kellv. whose Captain America-themed outfit and tricycle earned him third place for Most Patriotic.

Four-year-old Justin Powers donned an eagle costume atop

Runner-Up

Most

Beautiful

Younes

his pinwheel and streamer adorned bi-

Congrats To All The Winners!

Most Original

- Justin Powers
- Avery Jackson
- Havlee and Jackson Howard

Most Beautiful

- Everleigh Dornblaser
- Maryam Younes
- **6** Cameron Howard

Most Patriotic

- Piper Allee
- Gemma Dornblaser
- William Kelly

make a similar costume for her brother back in the 1990s and this year passed the baton to Justin, who won first place for Most Original.

Sisters Everleigh (6) and Gemma (8) Dornblaser are no strangers to this event, with this being

Continued on page 24









Decorated Bike Contest Features New And Returning Contestants



Continued from page 23

their third contest. While they may have needed parental assistance in purchasing the supplies, the girls did the decorating themselves, a feat their mom said took the same amount of time it took her to make a trifle. Gemma took home second place for Most Patriotic, and Everleigh won first for Most Beautiful.

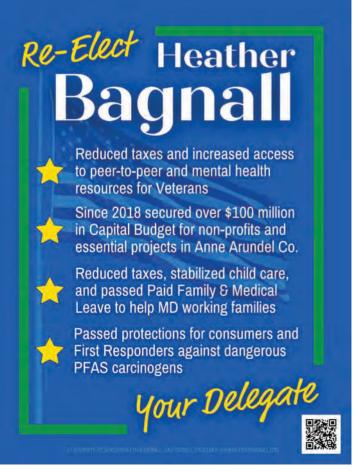
Piper Allee, a six-year veteran of the decorated bike contest, enjoyed her last hurrah. The 12-year-old, who ages out of the event after this year, said she always starts with elements from years past and adds on.

While she won't be in the lineup for this contest next year, Piper's fandom of both the parade and riding her bike will likely keep her off the sidelines.

"I might come back and just ride," she said.

Congratulations to all of the participants of this year's decorated bike contest, sponsored by Kheloney, Inc.







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SPENDING

- Pittman has inflated the county budget by \$300,000,000, with wasteful spending on unnecessary and ineffective programs.
- ✓ Herb will implement fiscally conservative policies to eliminate wasteful spending in the county budget. He has a strong record of voting against government waste.

BUSINESS CLIMATE-

- Pittman has harmed the business climate of Anne Arundel County and driven local businesses to close permanently.
- ✓ Herb McMillan will reduce burdensome regulations on businesses and lower taxes, so they can increase revenue and expand, creating more high quality jobs. An advocate for improving the business climate, he has a pro-business record.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION -

- Pittman made Anne Arundel County a sanctuary for illegal immigrant felons, putting the safety of our communities at risk.
- ✓ Herb will reinstitute the 287g program and work with the federal government to hold illegal immigrant felons until they can be deported. He has consistently voted against giving illegal immigrants expanded benefits and rights.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- As COVID subsided, neighborhoods began facing increased violent crime. Pittman did not show support for law enforcement, weakening their ability to best do their job.
- ✓ Herb has a record of increasing funding for law enforcement, and will be a strong advocate for providing support, funding, and equipment. Herb has a strong record of supporting tougher sentences for criminals, and, as County Executive, will work to limit police bureaucracy and instead utilize our officers to be in the community, making our streets safer.

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Parade Participants Get Creative With Floats

By Conor Doherty

very year, the Fourth of July parade is filled with dozens of creative and well-designed floats, but not many spectators see how each float is designed to represent the parade's theme. The theme for this year's parade was "Celebrating Our Rich History." Several nonprofits, communities and businesses put a lot of work into their entries this year. Here are a few.

To go along with their miniature train, the kids of Linstead decorated golf carts to transport their community members along the parade route.





Linstead on the Severn

A community that has created some great and award-winning floats over the years saw a changing of the guard as Nancy Rizzo, who helped create those winning floats, passed the torch to a new group of parents, led by Claire Vetter. When coming up with this year's design, Vetter and her fellow parents drew inspiration from an important and popular Severna Park institution, the B&A Trail. The trail carried trains from the late 1880s to 1969.

To honor the history of the trail, Linstead had a motorized miniature train that carried kids from the neighborhood, while parents followed in decorated golf carts.

"We felt that that was something that was worth celebrating, a working railroad right down the street," Vetter said. "And to bring it kind of full circle, every day there's people walking, using it. Neighbors are actively using it all the time and probably not necessarily remembering this huge chunk of history that's right there."



Unity Bands' truck hauled Louie, the Bowie Baysox mascot, and a large COVID ball that was later destroyed after the parade as a symbol that COVID will be defeated.

Unity Bands

Started during the pandemic as a nonprofit to help and support local COVID-19 health care workers and research efforts, Unity Bands took an interesting and novel approach to the parade theme this year.

"The theme of the float is making COVID history, as in bye-bye COVID," said John Schirrippa, the founder of Unity Bands.

The float featured guitarist Steven Boucher performing as he stood in the back of a truck. Behind the truck was the float, which had a large beach ball covered in papier mache to look like the coronavirus, along with the Bowie Baysox mascot, Louie.

"We feel obligated to help these folks with whatever they need," Schirrippa said. "Whether its offering catered meals, mental health improvements, yoga, things like that, that's why we exist."

EscapeTime Escape Rooms

While many floats honored the history of Severna Park, some people took inspiration from places farther away. Jose Matos of EscapeTime Escape Rooms lives on Kent Island, which has history relating to pirates, so he decided to use that as the theme for his company's float.

"We have a mobile escape room that we will be pulling, which is pirate themed," Matos said prior to the parade.

Spectators who snapped a selfie with the escape room in the background and posted it to Facebook with the hashtag EscapeTimeMD were entered into a drawing for 10 tickets to one of EscapeTime's locations.

"We really just want to do as much entertainment-wise that gives back to the community," Matos said. "We really love to see people recognizing us out in the community, telling their friends that they've done our rooms. That's what we really love to see."



You don't have to go far to find someone who has a heroic family member that has served this great nation. Our veterans served so we may be safe and free, and we will never forget.



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EscapeTime Escape Rooms created a float with a piratethemed escape room.





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John Grasso believes everyone must be brought to the table for a powerful and successful Anne Arundel County.



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- Frederick Community College Aviation Graduate
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- Professional Ice Carver, Two Silver Medals
- Lead Inspection Business
- Culinary Institute of America Graduate
- •Wholesale Meat Business (Chesapeake Foods)
- Property Manager
- •NRA Member



GRASSO

FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EXECUTIVE



















Volunteers Bring Parade To Life

By Lauren Cowin

erfecting the spectator experience for the Fourth of July parade requires thoughtful planning and execution — from scoping out seats along the route and placing chairs in the wee hours of the morning, to packing adequate supplies to keep young children content for the two-hour event.

If that much forethought goes into viewing the parade, one can imagine the time and manpow-

er necessary to bring the parade to life. In addition to the dozens of residents who plan entries for their organization, business or neighborhood, a cadre of volunteers serves as the "boots on the ground" to make sure the time-honored tradition goes off without a hitch.

"Our annual Independence Day parade is a massive organizational

undertaking, and there are many behind-thescenes volunteers who make it run smoothly. We have been so fortunate to count on these volunteers for years," said Liz League, CEO of the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce and official parade organizer.

Jim Fernen, Manhattan Beach resident and owner of Vertex Carpentry, has been involved with the parade for more than a decade. He's one of the first and last volunteers in action.

"I pick up cones at the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works and drop them off at Woods Church, then pick them up after the parade and take them back," Fernen said. "It's not a huge undertaking, but I guess you could call it my bit."

These cones are utilized to direct parade traffic and parking, allowing for a safe event.

Perhaps the most frenzied part of the parade is the staging, or the organizing of all the entries in the St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal and Our Shepherd Lutheran parking lots prior to takeoff. Tommy Sommers, owner of LogoZone Promotions, has led this effort at one of the parking lots for the past three parades, and tells League the

busier, the better.

"I usually run a parking lot pretty well. I told [League] to put me wherever she needs the most help, that is the busiest, and I'll handle that," Sommers said, adding, "It gets really crazy and it's a very tight and constricted area, so you need a lot of supervision for sure. Otherwise, I don't think things would move. It would be a big cluster jam."

Despite the stressful



It's a slice of
American pie here
that you don't see
in every community.
People just have a
sense of pride in this
community and they

— JIM FERNEN
OWNER, VERTEX CARPENTRY

love the parade!"



Volunteers like Tommy Sommers (left) and Earl Schaffer make the parade a crowd-pleaser year after year.

nature of this endeavor, Sommers enjoys his parade role.

"I love what I do — it's coordinating a nice, huge event for the neighborhood," he said. "I believe in the Eagle mentality — help lift others up and you can only be lifted higher yourself."

At the end of the route sits the

panel of volunteer judges, one of whom is Stacey Cassidy, owner of Savvy Consignment.

Cassidy has been judging for 12 years, and while the role was somewhat difficult to juggle when her children were younger, now she says, "What would I do if I didn't do it?"

Cassidy said the hardest part of the judging job is not having an award for everyone.

"Anybody that is doing something is working really hard; you feel bad having to say they didn't win," she said.

Tying it all together is longtime Severna Park resident Earl Schaffer, who has been the voice of the parade as the volunteer emcee for decades. While it can sometimes be challenging to make sure every parade entry gets its due attention, Schaffer lauds the work of everyone else involved over his own.

"My 'job' is an easy one," Schaffer said, "The volunteers along the parade route, the sound system supplier and operator, the folks who provide the online communications, the people who agree to judge the participants, and frankly the partici-

pants who take their time and efforts to plan, and actually walk, ride in the parade, are the folks who deserve the credit, and it is my job to attempt to provide it."

One thing all of these volunteers have in common, other than a will-ingness to serve, is an immense pride in the Severna Park community and its traditions.

"It's a slice of American pie here that you don't see in every commu-

nity," Fernen said. "People just have a sense of pride in this community and they love the parade!"

Judges rable Sponsor

The parade judges, (L-R) Stacey Cassidy, Jonathan Katz, Dianna Lancione, Lonnie Lancione, Tara Dean and Jill Rudiger, have the difficult task of naming the winners among all the great float entries.



Thank You To The Generous Sponsors Of This Year's Parade!

























































We truly appreciate all the sponsors for this year's Independence Day parade. The Chamber extends a special thanks to Our Shepherd Lutheran Church and St. Martin's in-the-Field Episcopal Church for use of their locations as staging areas. Because of all this generosity, we have the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!







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Republican Primary ★ July 19, 2022

Congratulations Severna Park Chamber of Commerce on a great Independence Day paradel



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