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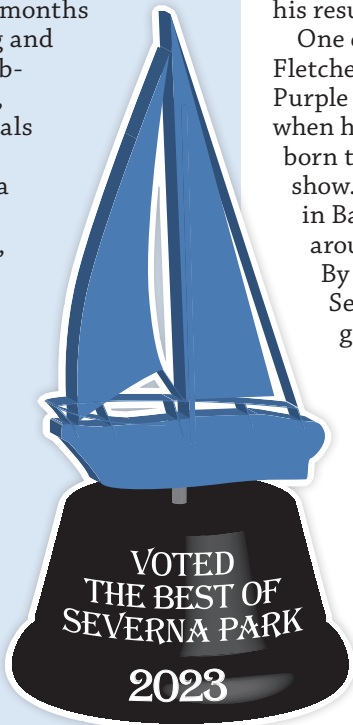
Our Readers Have Spoken: The Best Of Severna Park 2023 Winners

After two months of voting and 4,000 submitted surveys, we have the totals for this year's Best Of Severna Park contest.

To be eligible, each business must have a commercial address within Severna Park, Arnold or Millersville except where otherwise noted. Nominees also needed at least five votes to qualify. We had only a few categories that lacked enough votes to qualify, and we are listing both the winner and the runner-up in each qualifying category.

Congratulations to all of the following winners, chosen by our readers.

Turn to page 10 to see the complete list of winners.



Area Teacher And Pro Wrestler Plays Perfect Game On "Wheel Of Fortune"

By Mark Patton

mark@severnaparkvoice.com

Red Fletcher-Jackson is a theater teacher and actor who also happens to be a professional wrestler. Now, the 2011 Severna Park High School graduate can add "Wheel of Fortune" winner to his resume.

One could argue that Fletcher-Jackson — or "The Purple Parrot" Colin Sheen when he's in the wrestling ring — was born to be on the long-running game show. Fletcher-Jackson was born in Baltimore and his family moved around a lot when he was young. By the age of 8, he had settled in Severna Park with his dad and grandmother. Family lore states that his first words were "buy a vowel," and Fletcher-Jackson said he's been watching "Wheel of Fortune" ever since that first utterance.

Fletcher-Jackson saw advertisements to audition for the show's WWE week, where a contestant pairs up with a wrestler. "This has to be the moment — I love 'Wheel' and I love wrestling," Fletcher-Jackson said of what prompted him to send in an audition tape after toying with the idea for years.

Although he wasn't selected for

>> Continued on page 8



Gala Honors Unsung Heroes

By Kevin Murnane

Karen and Bob Royer are living examples of being true hearts of a community.

The Royers will be honored at the Severna Park Community Center's annual gala on April 29 at Chartwell Golf & Country Club for their long-standing volunteerism and involvement in numerous Severna Park organizations.

Sarah Elder serves as the executive director of the Severna Park Community Center, and she said the Royers are the unsung heroes of the center.

"They do so, so much around the center as Bob has led the renovation of the Boone Station Hall, and Karen has worked tirelessly on the grounds to make it part of the Maryland Pollinator Pathway," Elder said.

The Pollinator Pathway is corridors of public and private properties that provide pesticide-free native plant habitat and nutrition for pollinators.

Karen is a lifelong resident of Severna Park and began volunteering in 1987 with the Berrywood community

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Karen and Bob Royer will be honored during the Severna Park Community Center's gala on April 29 at Chartwell Golf & Country Club.

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Margueritte Mills - Volunteer Of The Month

Every month, the *Voice* recognizes the good work of a local volunteer to honor *Voice* founder and lifelong Severna Park resident Margueritte Mills.

The Margueritte Mills Volunteer of the Month is proudly sponsored by Heidler Plumbing.



Concessions Manager Elevates Falcons Snack Game

By Lauren Cowin

Attending a Severna Park High School sporting event often comes with the sweet taste of victory. Thanks to one dedicated parent volunteer, win or lose, fans can also enjoy a hot pretzel when they come for a game.

"They've a little bit become famous," said Jennifer Roberts, concessions manager for the school's Falcon Athletic Boosters Club, of her popular addition to the menu.

Roberts was recruited to take the helm of concessions ahead of the 2021-2022 school year, when a friend and fellow booster member suggested that her background in food service made her uniquely qualified for the role.

Not one to shy away from a challenge, Roberts accepted the all-seasons position and readily put her career experience to use for the high school.

Roberts said she went in with two main goals.

"Number one [was] to not make anyone sick, and number two [was] to raise money for the sports teams at the high school, so everything that I decide is based on those two things," Roberts explained.

One could argue that, now in her second year as concessions manager, Roberts has far exceeded those goals.

"I love the idea of coming into something and finding a way to make it better," Roberts said, adding that she hoped to get a system in place that could be handed off in the future to someone without her background.

Roberts has implemented a slew of changes to streamline the concessions operation. For starters, she



Jennifer Roberts volunteers as the concessions manager for the Falcon Athletic Boosters Club.

overhauled the purchasing process by ordering food through a delivering distributor versus relying on shopping at wholesale stores. Additionally, she implemented Square technology, both to make it a more user-friendly experience for customers and to track data from year over year to anticipate product and volunteer needs.

"Very frequently, volunteers from other schools will come up and ask questions on products we offer, suppliers we use, how we set up electronic payments, etc.," said Karen Fox, treasurer of the Falcon Athletic Boosters Club. "This happens 100% because of Jennifer's efforts, energy and organization."

Roberts hopes that her efforts will attract more volunteers. In a typical year, approximately 200 parent and student-athlete volunteers are needed to keep the concession stand up and running.

"It sounds like a lot of work, but the sessions, even the ones at a football

game where we are so busy the whole time, everyone ends the night with, 'Wow that was crazy, but fun,'" Roberts said. "The whole idea is I've tried to make it to where it's fun and easy, and it's not something where you go in and feel like you're unprepared."

As for the "famous" pretzels, Roberts credits crowdsourcing and a well-placed tip.

"I am always, and probably to the point of being annoying, asking my friends, their kids, anybody who's a customer at the concession stand, what they think in terms of what do they want us to serve," Roberts said.

One day, she received a text from the child of one of her friends. The student sent Roberts a picture of what she described as the "best pretzel [she'd] ever had," and thought they needed to be added to the concession stand.

"With that picture and that description, I tracked them down and got my distributor to bring them in, and now people rave about the pretzels," Roberts said. "It should be a community effort — I want them to think of it as their concession stand."

The money raised from concessions is split between the general boosters account and those of the individual teams. These funds are used for events, stadium and gym music, uniforms, equipment and other various needs of the athletic programs.

"Everyone assumes that everyone has enough money to just send a big check for their kids to play, but that's not the case," Roberts said. "I like that what we do helps to financially support to level the playing field."

Groups Deploy Reef Balls In Magothy River

Approximately 175 oyster reef balls made by area residents, Eagle Scouts, and students participating in Coastal Conservation Association Maryland's Living Reef Action Campaign (LRAC) were placed on an existing reef site in the Magothy River in March.

LRAC is the Coastal Conservation Association's flagship habitat and education program that engages students and communities throughout the Chesapeake Bay. Since 2014, LRAC has engaged thousands of students and community members across 15 counties in Maryland and Virginia in hands-on, educational experiences that improve the health of the bay and its rivers while inspiring stewardship of marine resources.

Reef balls help restore the Chesapeake's marine habitats, improve water quality, and benefit recreational fishing. The three-dimensional structures resemble small igloos and were built by Cape St. Claire community residents, Carroll County fourth-graders, Eagle Scout candidates, and Broadneck High School

students participating in LRAC. Volunteers with the Annapolis Busch Library also contributed time and energy to the project.

"This reef ball deployment is the culmination of nearly two years of hard work," said David Sikorski, executive director of CCA Maryland. "Partners from throughout the region have come together to support this project that enhances the Magothy River and connects many Marylanders to the grassroots habitat restoration efforts that are a major focus of CCA's work in the Chesapeake region."

Since the death of 14-year-old Broadneck resident Noah Anderson in 2019, the Dobbins Island reef site has been affectionately known as Noah's Reef because of his deep love for being on the water with his family and Cape St. Claire, the waterfront community in which he lived. The reef site was originally about 50-by-50-feet when it was first loaded with reef balls in 2003. Since then, the reef site has expanded to measure 400-by-800-feet and is managed under a multi-year permit held by the Magothy River

Association, which ensures that CCA Maryland has the flexibility necessary to continue to work with area students to build more reef balls that can be added to the reef. Maguire Marine Construction and Cypress Marine provided logistical expertise, the barge and other equipment necessary to deploy the reef balls onsite in a safe and effective manner.

"Oyster reef balls provide excellent fish habitat and will provide an excellent return on our investment and effort," said Paul Spadaro, president of the Magothy River Association. "This is a win, win, win. A win for CCA's LRAC program, a win for MRA efforts to restore oyster and fish habitat, and a win for recreational fishermen in the upper [Chesapeake] Bay."

Mike Maguire of Maguire Marine Construction in Pasadena said, "The Magothy River holds tremendous memories for me. It's where I grew up [and] developed my passion for the Chesapeake Bay and working on the water. I want my children to have a chance to build similar memories. It's amazing to be a part of such a meaningful restoration project."



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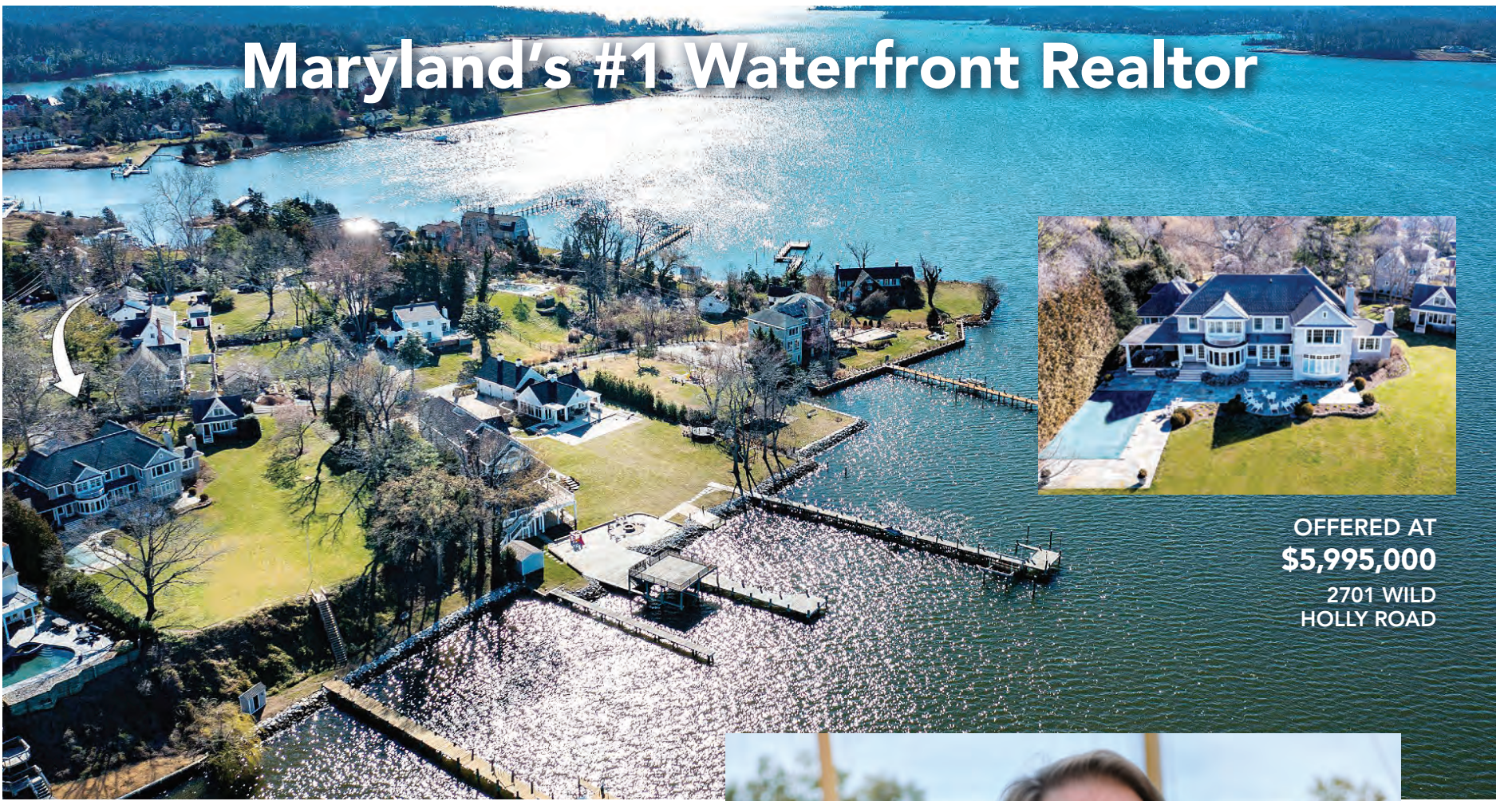
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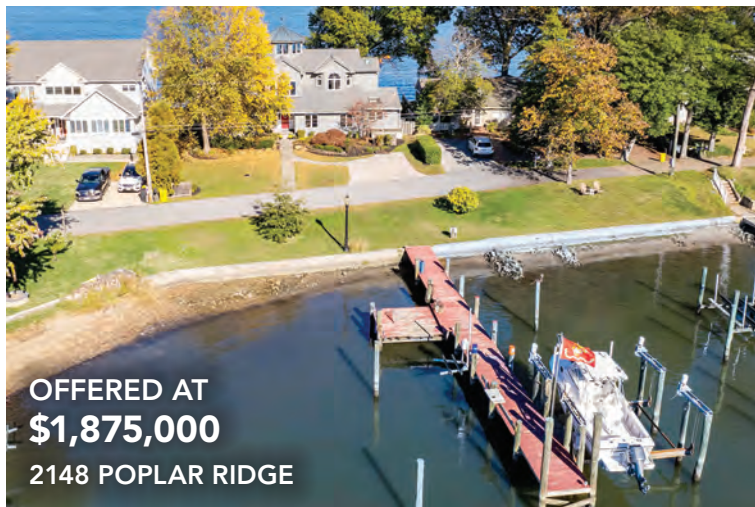
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MILITARY SPOTLIGHT

Severna Park Native Serves With The Next Generation Of U.S. Naval Aviation Warfighters

By Yeoman 1st Class
April Copeland, Navy Office
of Community Outreach

Ensign Kaleigh Molinari, a Severna Park native and 2017 Archbishop Spalding High School graduate, joined the Navy about a year ago because he wanted to do something fun and interesting.

Blocks checked.

Molinari now serves as a student pilot with Training Squadron 27, a primary flight training squadron, located at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi in Texas.

"I enjoy being around dynamic people," Molinari said. "Growing up, I learned that people will help you if you help them."

The air training program Molinari is going through focuses on modern aircraft, and after completion of the program, naval aviators earn their "Wings of Gold."

"Maintaining the world's best Navy is an investment in the security and prosperity of the United States, as well as the stability of our world," said U.S. Navy Admiral Mike Gilday, chief of naval operations. "The U.S. Navy, forward deployed and integrated with all elements of national power, deters conflict, strengthens



Photo by Stephanie Fox, Navy Office of Community Outreach
Kaleigh Molinari serves as a student pilot with Training Squadron 27, a primary flight training squadron in Corpus Christi, Texas.



our alliances and partnerships, and guarantees free and open access to the world's oceans. As the United States responds to the security environment

through integrated deterrence, our Navy must continue to deploy forward and campaign with a ready, capable, combat-credible fleet."

With more than 90 percent of all trade traveling by sea, and 95 percent of the world's international phone and internet traffic carried through fiber optic cables lying on the ocean floor, Navy officials emphasize that the prosperity and security of the United States is directly linked to ready sailors and a strong Navy.

"The Navy is important to national security because of power projection," Molinari said. "My proudest accomplishment is getting to flight school and staying in flight school."

Memorial Golf Tournament To Pin Scholarship On Wrestler

By Judy Tacyn

Compass Pointe Golf Courses in Pasadena will be the site of the third Youngblood Eveleth Memorial Golf Tournament honoring former Old Mill High School wrestling coaches Dan Youngblood and Matt Eveleth. Proceeds of the May 8 tournament will go toward a scholarship for a wrestler.

After Dan, a Severna Park resident, died in a boating accident in 2018, his sister, Terri Youngblood-Savage, wanted to create a legacy for her brother to pass down to wrestlers in need with a scholarship toward higher education. The Dan Youngblood Wrestling Scholarship was established, and the first golf tournament was held in 2019.

Matt was also raised in Severna Park, where he attended Chesapeake High School, and died of pancreatic cancer in 2021. When Matt passed away, Terri approached the Eveleth family about adding Matt to the foundation and making the tournament a memorial tournament in both Dan and Matt's names.

The expanded tournament was a befitting tribute to the two friends, who together in 2009 coached Old Mill High School to a wrestling state championship.

"Dan worked with junior league and high school wrestling teams and enjoyed giving back," said Asahi Eveleth, Matt's sister-in-law. "Dan and Matt coached together for years, and it was a natural idea for the foundation to give a scholarship to a young athlete."

Matt is remembered by friends as outgoing, full of energy and life, and fiercely loyal to his friends and family. Always willing to help anyone in need,



Dan Youngblood (left) and Matt Eveleth, friends and wrestling coaches, will be honored at the Youngblood-Eveleth Memorial Golf Tournament on May 8.

Matt was generous with his time and helping youth.

Dan poured his life into coaching in Anne Arundel County and developing young boys into men through the sport of wrestling. He was a mentor and a friend. He loved his friends and family, was outgoing and easygoing, and would do anything for anyone he considered a friend.

Family, friends, colleagues and former students will gather to share memories, laughs and friendly competition at the May tournament with a 9:00am shotgun start following breakfast.

A catered dinner and a silent auction will take place after the golfers return to the clubhouse. And, for very good or very lucky golfers, there is a chance to win a Volvo with a hole-in-one.

To support the foundation's goal of raising money for a more substantial scholarship and to remember Dan and Matt, go to www.danyoungblood.com/2023-golf-tournament. Golfers, sponsors and donations are all needed.

High school students and wrestling coaches may request an application for the Youngblood-Eveleth wrestling scholarship at www.danyoungblood.com. Wrestlers are nominated by their coaches.

High School Plans Paint Night Fundraiser

Severna Park High School's National Art Honor Society (NAHS) is hosting a paint night April 14. The NAHS students will lead the painting sessions. Participants can choose from three options: magnolia branch, cone flower and impressionistic landscape.

Parents are invited to bring their children from 3 to 10 years old. Four crafting stations will be set up for kids to enjoy. Those include a Monet's bridge painting, a flower thumbprint painting, a birch tree painting and a rock photo holder. Kids' pictures will be taken while they are crafting. The arts and crafts activity cost \$10 and all materials and an apron to wear are provided.

All painting options can be viewed online.

NAHS will provide all materials needed for the paint night. The cost is \$40. Light refreshments are included for all to enjoy.

To register for the fundraiser online, visit osp.osmsinc.com/annearundel and search for "paint night" under Severna Park High School.

Paint night participants can choose a cone flower as one of three options.



Program Allows Anonymous Tips About School Safety Concerns

By Mark Patton

mark@severnaparkvoice.com

Safe Schools Maryland is a free and anonymous reporting system designed for students, teachers, school staff members, parents, and the public to report school or student safety concerns.

The system allows reports to be filed through an app, website, or over the phone at 1-833-MD-B-SAFE. Information on all options is available at www.safeschoolsmd.org.

There's not a limit to the types of concerns that can be shared through the system as reports have varied from bullying and cyberbullying, planned school attacks, drugs, guns, assaults, building safety, bus safety, child abuse and neglect, smoking and more.

The reporting system, which was launched by then Governor Larry Hogan in 2018, is overseen by the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS). The MCSS serves as an independent unit within the Maryland State Department of Education that provides grants, training and support to schools and special education throughout Maryland.

"We really want to use this system as a prevention tool," said Sandra Caldwell, a school safety analyst with MCSS.

School safety, particularly bullying, has become a focal point for some area schools and residents following a viral video taken in the cafeteria of Severna Park High School (SPHS) that showed a student with special needs being threatened and bullied by another teenager. Some parents and students have ex-

pressed frustration on how bullying incidents have traditionally been handled, or dismissed, at the school.

SPHS Principal Lindsay Abruzzo pledged her school won't tolerate bullying moving forward, and she's spearheaded initiatives, such as a shoe design contest, in response to the recent high-profile incident. School officials said anti-bullying and kindness seminars have been taking place at the school over the past couple of months. A request to the school from this publication to attend one of the seminars was denied.

As of March 12, SPHS has fielded eight reported cases of bullying in its hallways this school year — the most for SPHS in a single school year since at least 2018. Broadneck High School has taken in four reports so far this school year. According

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said. "The 24% aspect of this system makes it more convenient."

Caldwell said that bullying and cyberbullying tips are the most received this school year, although there has been a sharp increase in suicide threats and mental health concern reports since December.

Planned school attacks were the most reported category through the Safe Schools Maryland system last school year. Caldwell said social media challenges were a major reason, with one being a copycat school attack template that was the culprit for 50 tips alone at a single school.

"A lot of our tips do relate to what's happening in the world," Caldwell said.

A U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Secret Service report titled "2021 Averting Targeted School Violence: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Plots Against Schools" reports that 84% of averted school attacks and 77% of completed school attacks were communicated about with others before the incident occurred, or was thwarted, based on a study of 43 select plotters and 35 select attackers.

Caldwell said traditionally bystanders have decided to not make a report because they didn't know who to report it to, how to report it, or were scared for fear of retaliation. Safe Schools Maryland officials aim to alleviate each of those factors.

"Nobody is going to look into who's making the tip," Caldwell said. "Their focus is on solving the problem."

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Teacher And Pro Wrestler Plays Perfect Game On “Wheel Of Fortune”

» Continued from page 1

WWE week, he did get an email that informed him he’d be taping as part of a Hawaii-themed show. The email arrived just five days before the taping was slated to take place on the other side of the country.

Not only did Fletcher-Jackson win a puzzle or two on “Wheel of Fortune” last month, but he played the show’s first perfect game of the year. The game show’s Twitter account announced his rare feat shortly after it was aired on March 21.

“PERFECT GAME ALERT: You can throw away your broom, Fred already swept everything up,” read the show’s tweet.

With that sweep, Fletcher-Jackson left Los Angeles, where the show is taped, with \$75,800 in cash and prize winnings, including a trip to Costa Rica. That’s a bit more than he was originally aiming for. Fletcher-Jackson’s goals going in were twofold — not to embarrass himself and to earn more than the \$1,000 each contestant on the show is guaranteed to take home.

“I felt like I had a decent shot at winning — I absolutely did not expect to sweep the game,” Fletcher-Jackson said. “I had done awful at toss-up puzzles in my practicing. I thought for sure my opponents would beat me to the buzzer on at least a few of them.”

During toss-up rounds, letters are revealed randomly and one at a time until a contestant buzzes in

and attempts to solve the puzzle. Fletcher-Jackson also dominated the main game puzzles and locked in on the correct answer during the bonus round, a solve that added \$40,000 to his total winnings.

Fletcher-Jackson, who teaches at the Suitland, Maryland-based Benjamin D. Foulois Creative and Performing Arts Academy, credits an unlikely ally for his bonus round success — attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD. The answer to that round was “His mind is wandering” and Fletcher-Jackson said it was something he felt was catered to him with his ADHD symptoms. That clue wasn’t the only one that seemed tailor-made for the teacher and wrestler. A trifecta of toss-up puzzles tapped into Fletcher-Jackson’s acting chops: “Nonspeaking role,” “Supporting role” and “The starring role.” With the last answer, Fletcher-Jackson was able to solve it with just the letter G exposed.

As Fletcher-Jackson’s final tally was revealed at the end of the show, he grasped his head, knelt down and then triumphantly pumped his fists before his father, Rich Jackson, joined him onstage and lifted up one of his son’s arms to signify victory.

It was what happened next that changed the results of what a Google

search with Fletcher-Jackson’s name reveals. As the cameras were still rolling, game show host Pat Sajak placed a wrestling move on “The Purple Parrot.” It was a move that went viral.

“I was very surprised,” Fletcher-Jackson said. “I think [Sajak is] great at spur-of-the-moment bits. He had me pretty tight in that hammerlock.”

“Wheel of Fortune” hostess Vanna White asked Fletcher-Jackson how he was feeling following his win. After stammering a few words out, White said, “You’re speechless.” He then started a spiel about how he can’t usually stop talking or keep his thoughts succinct.

“So, you took 20 seconds to tell us how speechless you are,” Sajak quipped.

With his fatter wallet, where did Fletcher-Jackson go for his celebratory meal?

“We went to In-N-Out Burger after taping,” Fletcher-Jackson said of the iconic California-based joint.

Besides the Severna Park connection between the show’s host and Fletcher-Jackson, there’s another one that caused the contestant to reflect.

A few years ago, his father underwent emergency surgery for a ruptured appendix. Rich Jackson’s post-op treatment was done at Anne Arundel Medical Center’s Sajak Pavil-

ion, where he made a full recovery.

“The Sajaks’ contributions to our family extend beyond an entertaining game show,” Fletcher-Jackson said.

While Fletcher-Jackson must contractually wait a year to appear on another game show, he’s hoping to toss his name in the hat for another show once he’s able.

“I want to be on all of the game shows,” said Fletcher-Jackson, listing some of the recent revivals he’d like to try before adding a pair of established game show heavyweights. “I’m not good at ‘The Price is Right,’ but I’d love to go just for the experience and to meet Drew Carey, another showbiz idol of mine. Same with ‘Jeopardy’ — love it, not great at it, but I’d love to share a stage with Ken Jennings.”

Fletcher-Jackson urges folks to send in an audition tape for a game show, especially “Wheel of Fortune.”

“They were a class organization,” Fletcher-Jackson said. “The producers, Pat and Vanna, the contestant team, the stage manager, the makeup folks, everyone treated us like stars.”

Fletcher-Jackson said appearing on a game show he’s been watching since his diaper days hasn’t tampered with his love of “Wheel of Fortune.”

“If anything, it made it stronger,” Fletcher-Jackson said.

Highlights of Fletcher-Jackson’s appearance on “Wheel of Fortune” can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLFuueXFEGM.

“I felt like I had a decent shot at winning — I absolutely did not expect to sweep the game.”

— FRED FLETCHER-JACKSON

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ANAGRAMS

An anagram is made by rearranging the letters of a word, using each letter only once, to create a new word. Give it a try!

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- INCH _____
- NAILS _____
- BOLT _____
- STONE _____
- PEAKS _____
- RULED _____
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- PARAPET _____
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UMD Student From Severna Park Promotes Out Of The Darkness Walk

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

During Ryan Sullivan's senior year at Severna Park High School in 2021, a fellow student committed suicide. Now a sophomore at the University of Maryland, Sullivan wants to help those who battle depression and anxiety.

As a member of the fraternity Lambda Chi Alpha, Sullivan is gearing up for an Out of the Darkness Walk to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). The walk will be held on the University of Maryland campus in College Park on April 2 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

Sullivan's mom is a psychiatric nurse practitioner and works in mental health, so it's a topic that has always been important in his family. He is trying to raise \$5,000 as a walk participant and has set up an AFSP fund-raising page.

The *Voice* caught up with Sullivan in advance of the walk.

Q: The Out of the Darkness Walk is a big event for Lambda Chi Alpha. What is your personal connection to the cause?

A: I've been blessed enough to be surrounded by a family that is in health care and particularly mental health, so it's really been a gigantic part of my life since I can remember. I've also dealt with depression and anxiety myself since middle school and know how hard

it can be sometimes to get out of bed and just get going. The lows feel so low, and I can really relate to a lot of those who've gone through the same thing.

Also, while I was in high school, I've seen what suicide can do to friends, family and an entire community. It's truly heartbreaking and I wish I had a bigger platform to make a difference, and now I finally feel like I have a platform to try and help.

Q: Were you involved with the Out of the Darkness Walk last year?

A: I was not involved in the walk last year. The walk happens every spring, and I joined my fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, this fall. Actually, a gigantic part of me joining was the philanthropy, and having it be related to mental health gave me a direct connection to the fraternity.

Q: For this event, what are your responsibilities as philanthropy chair?

A: So, I am actually one of two philanthropy chairs, and me and my other chair, Ethan Glennon, split a lot of the duties and responsibilities. This event is obviously our biggest, and there's a lot of logistics that go into it.

We have to get permits to walk on campus from the College Park police and fire department, plan a walk route, reach out to guest speakers and other



Ryan Sullivan graduated from Severna Park High School in 2021. His mom, a psychiatric nurse practitioner, was among the family members in attendance.

stuff of that sort. We also are in charge of advertising, so making and distributing flyers, reaching out to other organizations on and off campus, and overall, just facilitating the event and getting the word out to as many people as possible.

Q: Your fraternity's walk raised \$40,000 last year. What would you consider a success this year, not only financially but also for the event's mission?

A: I feel like this year has already been a success. Any awareness that is spread is a gigantic achievement, and that's what this is really about. If more people are aware of how prominent of an issue this is, then that's what truly matters.

Financially, we are also doing very well. Last year, we were the fourth-largest walk in the country while we were still under some COVID restrictions and still did very well. Our goal this year is \$50,000 and we're trying our best to reach it, but in the end, just spreading awareness is what really matters.

Q: What else have you been up to since you left Severna Park?

A: I'm currently a sophomore public health science major at the University of Maryland. A lot of what I've been doing has been related to my career path, as following in my family's footsteps, I want to be a doctor and work in psychiatry. I worked as a physical therapy technician this summer to gain some clinical hours and that was an awesome experience.

On campus, I'm heavily involved with my fraternity and I'm also a peer mentor for my life sciences living learning program. A lot of what I do is based around my future career, and having a cause like this align with what I want to do really makes this event all the more important to me.

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And The 2023 “Best Of Severna Park” Winners Are...

COMMUNITY

- Most Desirable Community To Reside:** 1. Chartwell
2. Shipley's Choice
- Best Community Beach:** 1. Olde Severna Park 2. Round Bay
- Best Community Pool:** 1. St. Andrews Swim & Tennis Club at Chartwell 2. Severn River Swim Club
- Best Club/Organization:** 1. Green Hornets
2. Chartwell Golf & Country Club
- Best Nonprofit Organization:** 1. SPAN
2. Severna Park Community Center
- Best House Of Worship:** 1. St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church 2. Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church
- Best Pastor/Church Leader:** 1. The Rev. Erik Arnold - St. John the Evangelist 2. The Rev. Ron Foster - Severna Park United Methodist Church
- Best Preschool:** 1. Woods Child Development Center
2. Severna Park United Methodist Church Nursery School
- Best School:** 1. Severna Park High School
2. St. John the Evangelist School
- Best Business To Open In 2022:** 1. Garten 2. Neighborhood Barre

KIDS' ACTIVITIES

- Best Activity Center:** 1. Rolly Pollies 2. Severna Park Community Center
- Best After-School Program:** 1. Creative Force Dance Center
2. Eco Adventures
- Best Children's Dance Company:** 1. Creative Force Dance Center
2. Severna Park Community Center
- Best Day Care:** 1. Vineyard Child Care Center
2. The Goddard School of Arnold
- Best Music Instruction Program:** 1. Music & Arts
2. Theater in the Park
- Best Educational Services:** 1. Park Books & LitColab
2. Severna Park Tutoring & Education Advocacy
- Best Party/Special Occasion Venue:** 1. Rolly Pollies
2. Eco Adventures
- Best Playground:** 1. Kinder Farm Park
- Best Summer Camp:** 1. Creative Force Dance Center
2. Eco Adventures
- Best Sports Facility:** 1. Kinder Farm Park 2. API
- Best Youth Sports League:** 1. Green Hornets
2. Broadneck Area Youth Sports (BAYS)

BEAUTY & FITNESS

- Best Fitness Club:** 1. Park Fitness 2. RockWell Fitness
- Best Hair Salon/Barber Shop:** 1. Image Creators
2. The Park Salon & Barber
- Best Martial Arts Program:** 1. Kwon's Taekwondo 2. Kogen Dojo
- Best Place For A Massage:** 1. Massage Envy 2. Image Creators
- Best Nail Salon:** 1. Top Nails 2. BellaLuxe Nail Care & Spa
- Best Spa:** 1. Image Creators 2. Face It! Spa and Wellness
- Best Weight-Loss Program:** 1. Park Fitness
2. Weekend Warrior Fitness

HEALTH

- Best Medical Practice:** 1. Maryland Primary Care Physicians
2. Inspire Integrative Medicine
- Best Physician:** 1. Dr. Victor Plavner - Maryland Primary Care Physicians 2. Courtney Milne-Krohn - Inspire Integrative Medicine
- Best Women's Specialty Practice:** 1. Bay Radiology
2. Inspire Integrative Medicine
- Best Chiropractic Practice:** 1. Kennard Chiropractic and Physical Therapy 2. Back And Neck Care Center
- Best Dental Practice:** 1. McCarl Dental Group
2. Russell, Deasey, Wright & Zitofsky DDS
- Best Orthodontic Practice:** 1. Wright Orthodontics
2. Spivak Orthodontics
- Best Eye Care/Ophthalmologist:** 1. Severna Park Eye Care
2. Rutzen Eye Specialists & Laser Center
- Best Audiologist:** 1. Hearing Solutions Audiology Center
2. Chesapeake Hearing Centers
- Best Pediatric Practice:** 1. Gvozden Pediatrics 2. Annapolis Pediatrics
- Best Pharmacy:** 1. Park Pharmacy 2. Giant
- Best Physical Therapy Practice:** 1. Patterson Physical Therapy
2. Arpella Physical Therapy

Notice: We Do Not Sell Plaques!

Unfortunately, we find it necessary to print this notice. We do not sell plaques or any other products in conjunction with the Best Of awards. Every year, we announce the Best Of Severna Park winners in the April edition and the awardees are proud to display their accomplishments in the form of a plaque. Many third parties know this and make their living off selling plaques, trophies or other items to awardees. While we have no problem with a reputable company making money in this way, we have a problem with them representing themselves as the *Severna Park Voice*. Please beware of any company that calls to sell you a Best Of product and pretends to be affiliated with the *Severna Park Voice*.

If you would like to purchase a plaque, we recommend that you shop local and support a reputable company that cares about our community.

- Best Mental Health Care:** 1. Waypoint Wellness Center
2. Park Wellness Group
- Best Speech Therapy:** 1. Budding Voices
2. Kid Connections Therapy
- Best Veterinary Practice:** 1. Severna Park Veterinary Hospital
2. Bayside Animal Medical Center
- Best Senior Living Facility:** 1. Brightview Severna Park
2. Sunrise of Severna Park
- Best Home Health Care:** 1. Griswold Home Care
2. Lean on Dee Senior Care Advocates
- Best Health Care Provider Outside Severna Park:** 1. Annapolis Internal Medicine 2. Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Best Accountant:** 1. Gardiner & Appel Group 2. Joanna Kouvaras CPA
- Best Insurance Agent:** 1. Alex Schwab - Allstate 2. Moran Insurance
- Best Investment Adviser:** 1. Jason LaBarge - LaBarge Financial Group
2. Cassilly Financial Group
- Best Lawyer:** 1. Paula Darrah - Warfield & Darrah, P.C.
2. Andrew DiBlasio - Roper & DiBlasio LLC
- Best Mortgage Lender:** 1. Main Street Home Loans
2. Coastline Mortgage
- Best Real Estate Agent:** 1. David Orso - The David Orso Team of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty
2. Matt Wyble - Wyble Team, Century 21 New Millennium

BEST HOME SERVICES

- Best Fence/Deck Contractor:** 1. Fence & Deck Connection
2. W.R. Flater General Contractor
- Best Cleaning Service:** 1. Molly Maid
- Best Home Improvement Contractor:** 1. Landmark Roofing
2. W.R. Flater General Contractor
- Best HVAC Contractor:** 1. Cornett Heating and Cooling
2. Barstow & Sons Heating & Cooling
- Best Interior Designer:** 1. Karen Renee Interior Design
2. Laura Bauer - Ivory Stone Interiors
- Best Kitchen/Bath Remodeling Service:** 1. Severna Park Kitchen and Bath 2. W.R. Flater General Contractor
- Best Landscape/Lawn Service:** 1. Boucher Lawn and Landscape
2. Bear Landscaping Inc.
- Best Pool Service:** 1. Goudy Pools
- Best Plumbing Contractor:** 1. Dwyer Plumbing

BEST COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Best Auto Repair:** 1. Severna Park Automotive
2. Magothy Auto Service
- Best Bank:** 1. M&T Bank 2. Truist Bank
- Best Car Wash:** 1. The Great American Car Wash
2. Mighty Spray Carwash
- Best Dry Cleaner:** 1. Admiral Cleaners 2. New Cleaners
- Best Marine Repair:** 1. South Shore Marine
- Best Pet Care:** 1. The Pup Camp 2. Mutt & Joe

RETAIL/SHOPPING

- Best Overall Customer Service:** 1. The Cottage 2. Park Fitness
- Best Art/Photography/Frame Shop:** 1. Side Street Framers & gift gallery
- Best Bicycle Shop:** 1. Pedal Pushers 2. Bike Doctor
- Best Consignment Shop:** 1. Savvy Consignment
2. Honeysuckle Quality Consignment
- Best Clothing Store/Pop-Up Shop:** 1. The Cottage
2. Savvy Consignment
- Best Florist:** 1. Severna Park Florist (*also known as Severna Park Flowers and Gifts*) 2. Peaceful Petals Flower Shop & Truck
- Best Garden Center:** 1. Homestead Gardens
2. A.A. Co. Farm, Lawn & Garden Center
- Best Gift Shop:** 1. The Cottage 2. Park Books & LitColab
- Best Grocery Store:** 1. Giant 2. Harris Teeter
- Best Hardware Store:** 1. Clement Hardware
2. Rommel's Ace Home Center
- Best Home Decor:** 1. The Cottage 2. Park Home
- Best Jeweler:** 1. Marc Todd Jewelers 2. The Cottage
- Best Liquor Store:** 1. Dawson's Liquors 2. Cheers & Spirits
- Best Toy Store:** 1. Franklin's Toys

ENTERTAINMENT

- Best Place For Family Entertainment:** 1. Severna Park Lanes
2. Park Books & LitColab
- Best Live Music Venue:** 1. Severna Park Taphouse
2. Sullivan's Cove
- Best Happy Hour:** 1. Severna Park Taphouse 2. Park Tavern
- Best Place To Watch The Game:** 1. JB's, Severna Park
2. Severna Park Taphouse
- Best Place To Take Out-Of-Towners:** 1. The Point Crab House
2. Park Tavern
- Best Entertainment Venue Within 25 Miles:**
1. Rams Head On Stage 2. Merriweather Post Pavilion

FOOD/DINING

- Best Restaurant Overall:** 1. Cafe Mezzanotte 2. Park Tavern
- Best Wait Staff:** 1. Garry's Grill 2. Severna Park Taphouse
- Best Breakfast:** 1. The Breakfast Shoppe 2. Garry's Grill
- Best Lunch:** 1. Garry's Grill 2. Park Tavern
- Best Dinner:** 1. Cafe Mezzanotte 2. Park Tavern
- Best Kids' Menu:** 1. JB's, Severna Park 2. Park Tavern
- Best Barbecue:** 1. Adam's Taphouse and Grille
2. Severna Park Taphouse
- Best Burger:** 1. Severna Park Taphouse 2. Park Tavern
- Best Coffee:** 1. The Big Bean 2. Dunkin'
- Best Crab Cake:** 1. The Point Crab House
2. Hellas Restaurant and Lounge
- Best Bakery/Cakes:** 1. Cakes and Confections Bakery Cafe
2. Kirsten's Cakery
- Best Dessert:** 1. Park Tavern 2. CW pies
- Best Ice Cream/Frozen Treat:** 1. The FroYo House
2. Bruster's Real Ice Cream
- Best Pizza:** 1. Little Carmine's N.Y. Pizza Kitchen
2. Squisito Pizza and Pasta
- Best Salad:** 1. Park Tavern 2. Garry's Grill
- Best Sandwich/Sub:** 1. Jenos Steaks 2. Jersey Mike's Subs
- Best Seafood:** 1. The Point Crab House 2. Donnelly's Dockside
- Best Wings:** 1. JB's, Severna Park 2. Severna Park Taphouse
- Best Fast Food:** 1. Chick-fil-A 2. Chipotle
- Best Asian:** 1. Thai Paradise 2. Bei Jing Chinese Restaurant
- Best Italian:** 1. Cafe Mezzanotte 2. La Posta Pizzeria
- Best Mexican:** 1. Mi Pueblo II 2. Senor Chile
- Best Gluten-Free Menu:** 1. April's Table 2. Sullivan's Cove
- Best Vegetarian Menu:** 1. April's Table 2. Garten
- Best Caterer:** 1. April's Table 2. Be My Guest Catering
- Best Bar:** 1. Severna Park Taphouse 2. Park Tavern
- Best Food Truck:** 1. Greek on the Street
2. Pura Vida Bowls & Java
- Best Special Occasion:** 1. Cafe Mezzanotte 2. Park Tavern
- Best Outside Seating:** 1. Severna Park Taphouse
2. The Point Crab House
- Best Restaurant Outside Severna Park/Arnold:**
1. Two Rivers Steak & Fish House 2. Vin 909 Winecafé

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There Is A Surprising Need In Severna Park And Beyond

Michele Sabean
Director of
Development
SPAN Inc.



SPAN is known primarily for being a food pantry. Our shelves are full thanks to this generous community. So many individuals and groups make what we do possible.

food is a big help. Some of our clients are on fixed budgets and the food is a blessing.

In addition to food, SPAN has always helped with emergency financial assistance for people facing evictions, utility turn-offs and medical expenses. Recently, that part of what we do has shifted to become a major focus. In the last couple of months, we have helped twice as many households with emergency financial assistance as we have helped households with food. In January and February, SPAN helped clients with a total of \$55,000 in emergency financial aid. We have helped with as much financial assistance in the first six months of this fiscal year as SPAN typically does in an entire year. In the last year, since the pandemic supports have ended, the amount of financial assistance SPAN provides has been

higher than the value of food we have given each month. Other faith-based groups and nonprofits are seeing similar trends.

A lot of different pieces are making these especially difficult times for those struggling. Prices are higher. All of the pandemic supports are finished or will end in the coming weeks. Additionally, some of our clients, or their family members, have health issues that impact their ability to work a full-time job and they have additional medical expenses.

On March 1, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits reverted to their pre-pandemic amounts. We had a client with five children tell us that her assistance dropped from \$850 to \$150. The extra emergency allotments have ended, with families losing at least \$95 per month. Some

households, including larger ones with children, have lost an average of \$223 per month. Food prices have increased in those three years. These higher prices impact all of us, especially those who are stretching a fixed set of dollars.

Some, as they stretch dollars for food, also need to make tough decisions on how to prioritize and pay their bills. The pandemic supports, which, for example, gave more time with utility turn-off notices, are all ending. Eviction bans are finished, rents are high, courts are back to running full speed and the federal rental assistance is running out.

This community has been a wonderful support for SPAN for so many years. You make our work possible. Your financial donations are especially appreciated these days. Thank you for helping us help others.

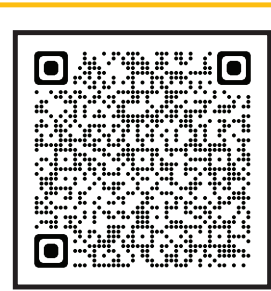


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Maryland Therapeutic Riding To Host Derby Day May 6

By Kevin Murnane

It may not be the same as watching the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, but Maryland Therapeutic Riding's (MTR) panoramic pastures in Crownsville will offer another great option.

MTR will host its 14th annual Derby Day on May 6 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. This is the nonprofit's largest fundraising event of the year and includes dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions, hat contests and a live broadcast of the Kentucky Derby.

"We will utilize our indoor arena for the event, and it can hold 400 people," said MTR Executive Director Kelly Rodgers. "It's truly a fun event with so many things to do and just having it on the farm showcases our services."

Those services include therapeutic/adaptive riding; physical, occupational and speech therapy; and equine-assisted psychotherapy.

"Our goal is to provide equine-assisted programs that help our participants drastically improve their lives," Rodgers said. "We help children, adults and military members who have physical, developmental and/or emotional challenges."

MTR has had participants from 2 years old to 101. The nonprofit works in partnership with Ten Ten Counseling, which is on the Crownsville site, to develop care plans for the participants. The site assists participants with autism, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression.

The 25-acre property features numerous buildings within the green pastures including facilities for the horses. "We have over 200 volunteers, and

caring for 16 horses is a big job," said Jessica Mitchell, an Arnold resident and volunteer manager. "They care for the animals, help with mounted sessions, and act as horse leaders and side walkers for the participants."

Mitchell started as a volunteer eight years ago and transitioned into an employee two years ago and that has helped with training and maintaining the volunteer staff.

"We could not run our programs without our great volunteers," Rodgers said.

The horses are also specially selected for the therapeutic programs as they go through a 90-day evaluation period to ensure they have the personality for the MTR's expectations.

"Only about one of 10 horses meet our qualifications," Rodgers said. "We have had great success stories from our equine-assisted programs," she added. "We had one young lady who had a stuttering issue, but once she started riding, her stuttering issue went away when she was on the horse."

Also, with the equine-assisted programs, MTR participants have shown improvement with balance, strength, muscle tone, communication skills, self-image and confidence.

MTR supplements 80% of all program costs, and 100% of the care is covered for military veterans and active military members.

"It's really heartwarming to see our participants connect with the 1,200-pound animal, and see the happiness on their faces," Rodgers said.

For more information on advertising, sponsorships or tickets to this event, contact donor engagement manager Lisa Zehring at 443-494-3015 or lisa@mtrinc.com.



Photos courtesy of Chelsea Spear Photography

Derby Day is Maryland Therapeutic Riding's largest fundraiser of the year and includes dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions, hat contests and a live broadcast of the Kentucky Derby.



Advice From Earleigh Heights: Have Enough Smoke Detectors

Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company Chief Dave Crawford said the average house should have 10 or more smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Many older homes have fewer than this recommended amount. That's a gap the fire company is trying to highlight, and Crawford wants Anne Arundel County residents to make sure their detectors work.

"It may not be intuitive [that] a home needs so many detectors. But it makes sense," Crawford said. "A house needs one on every level. In addition, you should have a smoke detector inside every bedroom. And you need a smoke detector in the common area outside the bedrooms. It's important to have one in the laundry area, one in the den and one in any other corridors. In a big house or multi-level house, 10 might not be enough."

Modern smoke detectors are devices with batteries that last 10 years. They fill a need for people living in older homes that have outdated detectors powered exclusively by nine-volt batteries, homes that don't have smoke detectors inside bedrooms or homes that don't have detectors on every level.

"Any older smoke detectors that aren't hard-wired should be replaced with

"It sounds like a lot of detectors, but it's the key to life-saving early detection of deadly smoke or carbon monoxide."

— **DAVE CRAWFORD**
EARLEIGH HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER
FIRE COMPANY CHIEF

detectors having a 10-year battery life," Crawford explained. "It's a requirement of a relatively new state law, and it's a big change from years ago. This new type of detector, self-powered for 10 years, is perfect for older homes that lack smoke detectors inside bedrooms or on lower floors."

Many people can relate to the annoying low-battery beeping that echoes throughout the home. New smoke detector technology eliminates that beeping. It's a big relief for family members looking after relatives living in older homes.

"I can't count the number of homes I've seen the batteries removed because of low-battery beeping," Crawford said. "It's important to have proper coverage. Older residents, especially, need as much time as possible to make their way out."

In addition to smoke detectors, Crawford recommends installing a carbon monoxide detector on every level.

"It sounds like a lot of detectors, but it's the key to life-saving early detection of deadly smoke or carbon monoxide, especially when you're asleep," Crawford said. "I'd like to see all detectors tested annually."

Daylight savings time is a great time to test your detectors, and it's a good time to clean all of your detectors using your vacuum cleaner's brush attachment.

Newer homes, and homes that have been renovated, have hard-wired, 120-volt smoke detectors with battery backup connected, so if one activates, they all sound the alarm.

"That's the best arrangement," Crawford said.

As a reminder, if your detector alarms, call 911. Anyone needing routine assistance with a smoke alarm or carbon monoxide detector can call the station at 410-647-1990.

"We're a busy station, but if we're here, we're happy to answer questions," Crawford said.

Additional information on smoke detector laws and requirements can be found on the Anne Arundel County Fire Department's website.



Dave Crawford, chief of Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company, said people should have 10 or more smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in their home.

Broadneck Elks Donate To Shore Acres Playground



On March 11, the Broadneck Elks presented a check for \$6,000 to the Shore Acres Improvement Association (SAIA) for the upgrade of its playground. This donation was made possible via the Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant program. The Beacon Grant is an opportunity for lodges to start a new, ongoing, Elks-led charitable project. Broadneck Elks Exalted Ruler Jolinda Murray presented the check to SAIA president Johns Bahn during a happy hour hosted at Broadneck Elks 2608. Also present were (left to right) Valerie Weber, Johns Bahn, Steve Murray, Jolinda Murray, Bill Robison and Ken Chapman.

Racing For Cruisers On The Magothy River

From the last Friday in May through the last Friday in September, Yacht Club of Cape St. Claire (YCCSC) organizes friendly Friday night races on the Magothy River.

The races are geared to cruisers and beginning or casual racers as YCCSC aims to keep a laid-back attitude. YCCSC

also wants to keep it easy, so headsail changes are not allowed (in particular, no spinnaker).

Knowledge of racing rules is not required, and YCCSC does not entertain protests. Event organizers said the races are open to everybody, including parents with children.

Every boat is different, so YCCSC uses handicaps based on the performance handicap racing fleet system to make it more equal, from an 18-foot pocket cruiser to a cruising yacht. YCCSC has even entered an occasional Hobie 16 or another dinghy. The goal for YCCSC is not so much to win as it is to have another reason to go sailing with friends of the yacht club.

There is no cost to YCCSC members, including Magothy River Sailing Association and Gibson Island Yacht Squadron.

Non-members may join YCCSC with membership dues of \$45. The application is on the group's website.

Directions are included in the "Committee Boat Information" document on the "Friday Night Racing" page at www.capeyachtclub.org.

Races start at 7:00pm (6:30pm in September) and last an hour typically. Check in with the race committee, learn about the course and prepare for the start. Results are published weekly on the website.

Walking In Kinder Farm Park



The Freestate Happy Wanderers and the Annapolis Amblers gathered at Kinder.

**By Bill Hassell
FoKFP Board Member**

The Freestate Happy Wanderers Walking/Volksmarch Club has scheduled a walking event on June 10 in Kinder Farm Park, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the club and National Trails Day.

Volksmarch/walking is a wonderful way to discover historical and quaint places in Maryland at a slower pace. Visit www.my.ava.org or email wahasse1798@verizon.net for a brochure and join for fun, fitness and friendship.

The Kinder Farmhouse will be open for tours on June 10, and more information will be available about trails and clubs.

The Freestate Happy Wanderers Walking Club is a locally based club in Maryland. All of the trails are sponsored

by local clubs belonging to the American Volkssport Association (AVA), a national nonprofit organization that promotes awareness of physical fitness for people of all ages. A year-round (YRE) walk in Kinder Farm Park is one of 14 trails Freestate sponsors. Other walks are in Savage, Chesapeake Beach, the BWI Airport Trail, Ocean City, Brookside Gardens, Fort Smallwood Park.

Club 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 they are fun walks to do by yourself or with your family, friends and pets at your own pace. Adequate time is allowed to finish the event on trails that are five or 10 kilometers.

Gala Honors Unsung Heroes

» Continued from page 1

swim team. "It was so much fun volunteering with the swim teams and the meets over those years," Karen said. "I really got to know everyone's kids."

Karen also was involved with Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church as she taught Sunday school and served on the board for the annual Christmas bazaar.

Over the years, Karen became highly involved with the community center and did all the "worker bee" assignments with the galas, special dinners and breakfasts along with the array of projects that she was asked to help with.

Her latest project is to change the center's landscaping to native trees and plants of the region. She orchestrated a grant to Unity Gardens and received full funding to replace the existing landscaping and purchase new landscaping.

"Karen is an extraordinary gardener," Elder said. "She worked with Master Gardener Alison Milligan so we could become part of the Maryland Pollinator Pathway, and now we see beautiful butterflies, birds and bees coming to our grounds."

The Royers met at the Benfield Pines Ice Rink at a Westinghouse-sponsored employee ice skating party. Bob is originally from New York, but he relocated to Maryland after being offered a position at Westinghouse.

Once the couple was married and settled in Berrywood, Bob began to volunteer at Woods Church doing handyman chores, and then he began a club that helped with bigger projects and routine maintenance.

"We started 30 years ago and remem-

ber meeting at 6:00am during the week to work on and plan projects," Bob said. "Then some of us retired and we started a club called the Rehabbers, and it stands for Retired Handy Person and Breakfast Society. We meet every Thursday, and we do our projects and then have breakfast."

His work has extended beyond Woods Church.

"Bob has renovated the Boone Station Hall and remodeled the entire kitchen among the other major projects to really make Boone a new facility," Elder said.

Bob and Karen were also involved in Berrywood's living shoreline and the Magothy River Association's efforts in upgrading the Magothy River.

Both Bob and Karen come from parents who grew up on farms and that Midwestern spirit of helping one another to achieve a common goal is still paramount in their community spirit.

"You meet the nicest people volunteering," Karen said. "You get so much more back when you work together to help a community. These people really get how important a community is."

Bob loves volunteering and working together with people of all backgrounds and skills.

"I like building teams," Bob said. "Coming together with people of different talents and finishing a project is pretty rewarding."

Both Karen and Bob subscribe to the practice of leaving a community better than you found it.

"One of the great aspects that everyone loves about the Royers is that they are so humble," Elder said. "They just come to the grounds and work to make the church and center more beautiful."

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Easter Worship Services

Easter Sunday is quickly approaching. Here is a list of local Holy Week services for those who celebrate.

Anchor Baptist Church

320 West Pasadena Road, Millersville
Easter Sunday: 10:30am
Info: 410-647-9614

Broadneck Evangelical Presbyterian Church

235 Bay Dale Drive, Arnold
Easter Sunday: 9:30am
Info: 410-626-8122

Gloria Dei! Lutheran Church

461 College Parkway, Arnold
Maundy Thursday: 7:00pm
Good Friday: 7:00pm
Easter: 6:30am ecumenical sunrise service (Cape St. Clair), 10:00am
Info: 410-544-3799

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

400 Benfield Road, Severna Park
Maundy Thursday: 7:00pm
Good Friday: 7:00pm
Easter Sunday: 7:00am and 9:45am
Info: 410-647-1658

Severna Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church

110 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena
Good Friday: 7:00pm
Easter Sunday: 6:45am and 9:30am
Info: 410-544-5013

Severna Park Baptist Church

506 Benfield Road, Severna Park
Good Friday: 7:00pm
Easter Sunday: 9:00am and 10:45am
Info: 410-647-0765

Severna Park United Methodist Church

731 Benfield Road, Severna Park
Maundy Thursday: 7:00pm
Good Friday: 7:00pm
Easter Sunday: 6:30am, 8:00am, 9:15am, 10:45am
Info: 410-987-4700

St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church

375 Benfield Road, Severna Park
Good Friday: noon and 7:00pm
Holy Saturday: 10:00am
Easter Sunday: 6:00am, 8:00am and 10:30am
Info: 410-647-6248

St. John the Evangelist

689 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
Holy Thursday: 7:00pm
Good Friday: 3:00pm liturgy with communion
Holy Saturday: 8:00pm Easter vigil mass
Easter Sunday: 6:30am, 8:30am, 8:45am, 10:30am, 10:45am, 12:30pm
Info: 410-647-4484

Trinity Bible Church

99 Truck House Road, Severna Park
Good Friday: 7:00pm
Easter Sunday: 7:30am, 11:00am
Info: 410-647-4561

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church

611 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park
Maundy Thursday: 7:30pm
Good Friday: 7:30pm
Easter Sunday: 6:30am, 9:30am, 11:00am
Info: 410-647-2550



Events At St. John The Evangelist

Community members are welcome to join St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church for the following events. For tickets or more information, visit www.stjohnsp.org/events.

Marriage Enrichment Series — Virtues of Marriage — Temperance & Justice

Couples will come together on April 22 from 6:30pm—8:30pm for fellowship and to reflect on the virtues of marriage as presented by guest speakers Matthew and Shannon Kilmurry. Matthew is a Catholic speaker and author of “You Are the Catholic Brand” and “What Angels See.” As living examples of God’s mercy and proof that

miracles still exist, Matthew and his wife Shannon will discuss the virtues of temperance and justice in marriage. They use storytelling and personal experience to encourage married couples to never give up, even when all hope seems lost.

Garden & Gala Fundraiser

On May 5, Larsen Field will be transformed into a botanical garden for the first open-air gala and fundraiser to be held in several years - all in support of St John the Evangelist School and parish. Attendees will have the opportunity to mingle with friends, faculty and the parish community under the stars while enjoying fresh fancy fare, an open bar, a signature cocktail, live music, dancing, live and silent auctions, and more.

St. Martin's Prepares For Field Party Gala

On April 29 at 7:00pm, St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School will transform into an island paradise for a Caribbean beach field party gala and fundraiser. Guests will mingle with friends and faculty members under the stars while enjoying tropical island fare, an open bar, a signature cocktail, live music, dancing, the chance to win live and silent auction items, and more.

All funds raised will help St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School, supporting enhancements beyond what is funded with tuition dollars. This fundraising allows St. Martin's to invest in improving its facilities, programs and overall student experience.

For tickets, go to www.stmartinsmd.org/event/field-party-gala.

Temple Beth Shalom Holiday Dates

Passover begins with the first seder on April 5 and ends at sundown on April 12.

Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) begins at sundown on April 17 and ends at sundown on April 18.

Yom HaZikaron begins at sundown on April 24 and ends at sundown on April 25. The occasion is meant for remembering Israel's fallen soldiers, as well as victims of terror attacks.

Yom HaAtzmaut begins at sundown on April 25 and ends at sundown on April 26. It is traditionally a time for celebrating Israel.

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Council Update

Amanda Fiedler
Councilwoman
District 5



The Anne Arundel County Council has been busy with legislation. There are two bills that will reach the end of their legislative life, and the council will take a vote on each of them.

Bill 6-23 would allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in the county. Currently an ADU is only permitted if the ADU is located inside the primary residence of a property. Garage apartments and separate structure apartments on the same property as a residential home are not permitted by county law. The sponsor has expressed a need for residents to have affordable housing, housing for aging family members and options for income (short- and long-term rentals).

Under Bill 6-23, a detached ADU would be permitted but limited to 50% of the floor cover area of the primary residence, or 800 square feet, whichever is less. A lot of discussion has focused on the removal of an off-street parking requirement, and the potential of more short-term rentals than affordable housing units. I was happy that the council passed my amendment that prohibits the waiver of setbacks to adjacent residential lots for new construction. This means that someone could not build a new ADU closer to their neighbor's lot than is currently allowed. However, a property owner could turn an existing structure into an ADU, regardless of setbacks.

The idea of detached ADUs is not new, as they are permitted in other Maryland counties. Ensuring this bill considers all areas of our county and each neighborhood's unique characteristics is important. Currently, community covenants and bylaws would supersede any county law regarding ADUs. While the Maryland General Assembly has considered legislation in the past to remove the authority of community covenants and bylaws with respect to ADUs, that legislation did not pass.

Bill 13-23 will require a special event permit for gatherings of 50 people or more that would have the exclusive use of public streets, alleys or rights-of-way, county water or other public property. The requirement for a permit would also apply if the event creates a physical impediment to the safe flow of traffic or blocks access to part of a roadway. If the use of county personnel exceeds normal limits for a special event, a permit would be required.

The intent of this bill is to ensure the life and safety of the public for those events that have the potential for safety emergencies. The details that would necessitate a special events permit limits the number of potential events that would fall under the bill, however, there are concerns from those who would be impacted, as the bill gives the county the

authority to reject an event application under certain conditions that may seem subjective.

As I consider this legislation with my colleagues, I want to ensure that we are balancing the life and safety of residents and the general public without deterring some of our most beloved events from returning each year to our county. Permits are cumbersome. Safety of the public is critical. Getting this bill right is important for everyone.

Public safety was also the impetus for Bill 15-23, which I introduced in February. This bill came after years of communications with the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company (EHVFC), touring their building and understanding the efforts they have made to raise enough money to build a new station. EHVFC has been a part of our community for more than 100 years with generations of volunteers living right here in the fifth district. The volunteers own the land, the building, the fire apparatus inside, and they support our fire department.

Firefighters work out of EHVFC daily, living there for their shifts. The building is old; the repairs are just Band-Aids. Every year, EHVFC holds events to pay bills and save for a new fire station. It is an unattainable goal, as the cost of building a fire station is roughly \$25 million to \$30 million.

For years, EHVFC has attempted to change its zoning from "residential" to "commercial" to coincide with the other three corners of the Route 2 intersection where the station is located. In 2021, the county council supported my amendment in the General Development Plan to grant EHVFC commercial land use, setting the stage for a zoning change. Since 2021, the volunteers have invested nearly \$200,000 in repairs to the building, but those repairs do not extend the station's life.

Most recently, volunteer leadership has identified promising funding opportunities — both state and grant funds — that will help make replacing their fire station more affordable. Partnering with a commercial business for the partial use of their land makes a new fire station possible. Without Bill 15-23, a zoning change through comprehensive zoning could come too late, and an uncertain future in the existing building would loom.

EHVFC is one of the most central fire stations in our county and a critical piece of the emergency response system. Ensuring their longevity in our community, and continuing their rich history, serves our district now and for generations to come. Bill 15-23 passed unanimously.

The county executive will present his proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget at 11:00am on May 1.

I always welcome your thoughts on legislation and issues in the community. It is an honor to serve you and your family. Do not hesitate to reach out to me at amanda.fiedler@aacounty.org and be sure to visit the council website for more information. The website address is www.aacounty.org/departments/county-council.

Impressive SPHS Students

Dana Schallheim
Board of Education
District 5



Spring is always a busy time for Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) students. You could literally attend events seven nights a week if you wanted. For this month's column, I'd like to highlight a couple

recent events to showcase some of the incredible students in our community.

First, a huge shoutout and high-five to the Severna Park High School (SPHS) mock trial team. This very skilled troupe battled 13 public and private schools during their regular season, the top four of which then competed for two spots in the Circuit 3 playoff versus the top Howard County and Carroll County teams.

SPHS was victorious, achieving the county champion title with a record of 6-0 in the regular season and a win in the championship match. Crofton High School is this year's county runner-up.

Severna Park High School's winning streak continued in the Circuit 5 playoff, defeating teams in both Howard and Carroll counties as well as in the Elite Eight in Maryland. SPHS made it to the Final Four in Maryland. Massive congratulations to these incredible students! Whether or not the winning streak continues, know how proud your community is of your accomplishments.

Next, let's talk about "RNR XXXIV Goes to the Movies." There is no better substitute for the actual musicians and bands our students are honoring with their vocal stylings than the annual Rock 'N' Roll Revival at SPHS. The experience begins before the show even starts, with a red carpet entering the auditorium right down to popcorn kernels hanging from the ceiling.

From "It Must Have Been Love" by Roxette, featured in the film "Pretty Woman," to "You Should Be Dancing" by The BeeGees from "Saturday Night Fever" to "Danger Zone" by Kenny Loggins from "Top Gun," there was something for everyone during what felt like a

professionally produced concert. Music for each of the 29 songs was performed by students in the Rock 'N' Roll Revival band. These musicians were fabulous, and I will be seriously disappointed if some of them don't pursue further musical study. The performance of "Viva Las Vegas" was my husband's personal favorite of the evening. That costume was legit Elvis.

My favorite, which should surprise no one, was the mind-blowing performance of "Where is My Mind" by The Pixies from "Fight Club." Not only were the vocals spot on, but performer Nick Stohler also nailed the guitar solo. I am quite sure Joey Santiago and Black Francis of The Pixies would be equally impressed.

Additional fangirl moments for me were Parijita Bastola's beautiful rendition of Celine Dion's "My Heart Will Go On" from "Titanic" and Ben Cangelosi, Reed Estep and Paul Okparaocha's ruckus performance of "I'm Shipping Up to Boston" by the Dropkick Murphys from "The Departed."

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the dancers and backup singers who accompanied almost every performance. Stunning doesn't capture it. While it was near impossible to choose a favorite, I have to go with Grace Daly and Reilly Miller, whose dance during "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing" by Aerosmith from "Armageddon" left me speechless. A triple threat, Reilly Miller later performed "It Had to be You" by Harry Connick Jr. from "When Harry Met Sally." Simply fantastic.

The final number was a stunning performance of "(I've Had) The Time of My Life" by Bill Medley and Jennifer Warnes from "Dirty Dancing." The highlight was the lift scene, made even funnier for me because the "Danger Zone" performer, Brandon Chisolm, executed it perfectly while still wearing a flight suit from his performance. The crowd went wild.

While AACPS staff keep me and my colleagues abreast of larger events, it's impossible to know or attend all that occurs in our county. If there are events you would like Board of Education members to know about or attend, please drop a line to Diane Howell, executive assistant to the board, at boardoffice@aacps.org. As always, I can be reached at dschallheim@aacps.org or 443-534-2660.

Pittman Names New Executive Director To PAB

Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman appointed Moyah Panda as the new executive director of the state-mandated Police Accountability Board (PAB).

"Moyah has the ideal legal expertise and community involvement background for this role," Pittman said.

Panda is an attorney with experience handling jury and bench trials as well as dozens of cases before administrative charging bodies, and she has conducted numerous mediations and arbitrations.

"The Police Accountability Board and the Administrative Charging Committee are an important tool in building public trust around police accountability," Panda said. "I am eager to begin working with the dedicated members of the PAB and the ACC to ensure that they are both successful in their work. Equally important, I am prepared to meet with the various law enforcement agencies and community members here in Anne Arundel County, with a focus on communication and transparency."



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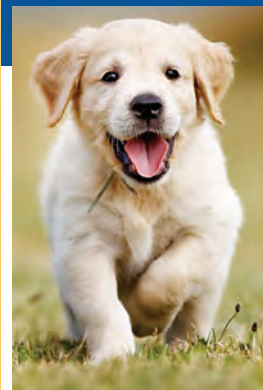


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Falcons Play Complementary Baseball To Start 6-0



Angel Santiago-Cruz is one of the offensive leaders. He crushed two home runs in Severna Park's first three games this season and followed that effort with multi-hit games against Mount Saint Joseph, Broadneck and Arundel.

By Tom Worgo

Severna Park baseball coach **Eric Milton** can't complain about a lack of pitching.

Three of his four starters will play in college next season: seniors **Seamus Patenaude** (Shenandoah University) and **Nathan Clarke** (Lebanon Valley College) and junior **Nathan Murphy** (George Washington University).

With those three and junior **Sean Williams**, this team is well-armed for the 2023 season.

And the 6-0 Falcons could have the best rotation in the county.

Williams and Clarke combined to throw a shut-out in the season opener at Annapolis on March 21. The next day against South River, Murphy surrendered only one run on one hit over five innings, striking out eight. Williams then hurled five scoreless innings against Broadneck on March 27.

"We have four top-of-the-line guys," said Milton, who is in his 11th season. "I think we have a couple of Division I arms. They have good

velocity and command."

Patenaude, a right-hander, struck out 33 batters in 23 innings last year while giving up 19 hits and posting a 3.00 ERA.

On the mound, he started his 2023 season against Mount Saint Joseph, surrendering two runs in four innings.

Murphy, a left-hander, gave up only four hits in 10 innings a year ago and fanned 17 batters.

"He has really good velocity and a really good breaking ball," Milton said of Murphy. "He has three pitches he can go to."

The right-handed Williams worked as the closer last year and had a 0.80 ERA, pitched 16 innings, yielded 11 hits and struck out 11.

Clarke, a right-hander, was just as impressive, giving up just nine hits in 23 innings and striking out 20.

Whoever stands on the mound should have plenty of support. Severna Park batted .293 last year, but the lineup certainly has the potential to be better.

The proof? The Falcons averaged nearly 14 runs per game through their first six matchups this year.

"I think it's a very strong lineup," Milton said. "It's one of the best lineups that I have had as a whole. I think one through nine, we

» **Continued on page 28**

Severna Park Softball Program Soldiers On Under New Coach

By Tom Worgo

The Severna Park softball program ranks as one of the county's best.

The Falcons went to the Class 4A state championship game last year before losing to Sherwood, and several of those players returned for 2023.

Another thing that sets Severna Park apart is its coaching staff.

You can call it one of a kind – or four of a kind. Four members of staff played for former coach **Meredith McAlister**.

Two coaches from varsity and another two on the JV team run the program now.

This all happened after McAlister took an assistant softball coaching job in February at Franklin & Marshall College in Pennsylvania after coaching Severna Park's varsity team for 15 years. She also won a state title in 2018.

She's elated that four of her former players, including three of them who coached in the program last year, will keep Severna Park headed in the right direction.

"It's incredible when your coaches want to come back to the school and help your program," McAlister said. "For one, I think it speaks to the program's tradition and culture."

Bailey Benedick serves as the new varsity head coach. She worked as the JV coach the past two seasons. Varsity assistant **Robin Buxton** was a JV assistant last year. The two played club softball at the University of Maryland and were



Photos courtesy of Fincham Photography

Above: Junior catcher **Sally Trent** (right) batted .553 with eight home runs and 34 RBIs last year. **Right:** **Christina Ballagh** won 11 games and pitched 114 innings last year as the team's ace.

"We have the talent, but it's the drive and passion of each kid that got them to the state championship last year. They immediately carried it back. They were part of last year's deep run, and they want to get back there."

— **BAILEY BENEDICK, SPHS SOFTBALL HEAD COACH**

roommates.

"Robin and I have played together since we were 12," said Benedick, noting they got their start in the Green Hornets' program.

Darby Fein was the pitching coach for both teams last year and is now the JV head coach. **Hailey Shipley** joined the program this

spring as a JV assistant.

"I think it's a huge advantage because we are all familiar with the program," Benedick said. "It's not like a brand-new coach is coming in."

The coaching staff includes two others: **Roger Simones** (varsity) and **Ali Caulkins**. Simones' daugh-



ter, **Haley**, pitched for Severna Park and **Caulkins** will serve as the program's pitching coach.

Of all the coaches, Benedick will get the most attention. She was an outfielder/first baseman for Severna Park and graduated in 2015.

"Bailey was young [26], like me, » **Continued on page 28**

STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



BELLA VAN GIESON

SEVERNA PARK HIGH SCHOOL
LACROSSE AND SOCCER

By Mark Patton

mark@severnaparkvoice.com

Bella Van Gieson is a dual-sport athlete at Severna Park High School, with the sophomore suiting up for both the Falcons' lacrosse and soccer teams. It wasn't an easy path to traverse for Van Gieson, though, as she battled a back injury that ultimately required surgery about a year ago.

"I knew I was going to play again," Van Gieson said.

"I just didn't know if I could catch up and get back into it."

Thanks to long hours rehabbing, training, working on offseason drills and a remarkable sense of determination, not only did Van Gieson battle back, but she earned a spot on a pair of varsity squads.

When she stepped on the soccer pitch for the first time after surgery, she knew the road to recovery was worth it.

"That's exactly what I needed to come back," Van Gieson said. "Just to be surrounded by such a great coaching staff and group of girls and have that confidence boost."

Severna Park varsity girls soccer coach Rick Stimpson praised Van Gieson's ability to absorb instruction and execute on the pitch.

"She's incredibly intelligent and coachable," Stimpson said. "It's kind of rare that somebody would step into that position and make it their own as a sophomore."

Van Gieson has ambitions of playing college lacrosse and following in the footsteps of her sister, Sam, who plays for William & Mary. The younger Van Gieson not only suits up as a middie for her high school team, but she also plays with her club team, Maryland United.

"Our coaching staff is impressed by her leadership and while she is only a sophomore, we expect big things from her this season and in the years to come," said Annie Houghton, Severna Park girls varsity lacrosse coach. "She will definitely be a leader on this team."

But it's not just accolades or highlights that Van Gieson cares about. She credits her family for shaping her tendency to advocate for people and give back to

the community.

She grew up with her mother, Melissa, being a special education teacher and she had a pair of uncles with special needs.

"Growing up around that, I feel lucky because I got to experience that at such a young age," the younger Van Gieson said.

Her older sister got her interested in working with Paws4People and she helped Sam raise puppies that would be trained to assist veterans with disabilities. She's since gone on to be an officer with the Best Buddies program, which is a nonprofit dedicated to ending social, physical and economic isolation of people with emotional and developmental disabilities. The high school program pairs students with disabilities to those without.

"Bella has the personality and drive that is unique," said Bethany Fish, special educator and co-advisor for the Best Buddies club at Severna Park High School. "Her ability to be an active leader in Best Buddies and be a leader on the field is admirable. Her passion to improve on the field is just as strong as her passion to make others better too. She is a team player that wants everyone to feel important."

Academically, Van Gieson excels just as equally as her athletic prowess and empathetic inclinations. She's currently sporting a 4.4 GPA.

"I think that's the biggest thing about sports, about clubs — what you take away from it, and not necessarily what you're doing on the field or in school, it's just how you actually use these strategies in society," Van Gieson said. "There's like a whole world here and I can help out."

Read more at www.severnaparkvoice.com.

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Spurs Capture Seventh/Eighth Grade Crown

With a win over the Bulls, the Spurs took the crown in the Green Hornets seventh/eighth grade boys basketball championship. Head coach **Nate Hill** credited point guard and leading scorer **Conner Hall** as the glue that kept the team together. "Conner is a great kid, and he can shoot from anywhere on the court," Nate Hill said. "Charlie Cavanaugh was a force and definitely one of the vocal leaders. He frequently drew double teams in almost every game because he is that good off the dribble." **Colby Evans** was one of the team's top scorers and defenders, and "his attitude is what all coaches look for in a teammate," Nate said. **Connor Hill** outrebounded some of the biggest kids in the league, **Patrick Cornwall** added a high shooting percentage, **Brady Howard** single-handedly iced several games with his offense, and **Victor Vazquez** and **Henry Stein** added great defense. "They were not the loudest players on the team, but they led the team with some very impressive blocks," Nate said of the two defenders. "They made life pretty hard for all shooters in the paint." The coach also praised **Nicholas Martins** and **Roman Clevin** for always hustling and scoring clutch baskets. **Declan Sprinkel** rounded out the team.



Grizzlies Claw Their Way To Scrub League Championship



Scrub basketball provides a venue for competitive, spirited, and sometimes raucous basketball, and while all players benefited from the Green Hornets winter season, the Memphis Grizzlies finished on top. While the regular season provided an ample supply of close games, buzzer-beaters, upsets and emotion, it was the playoffs where the season quickly turned upside down. After two weekends and four rounds of playoff play, only one of the top eight seeds remained standing in the winner's bracket. Like March Madness, underdog after underdog rallied to win. Uneasiness crept into the bracket as game outcomes became more and more uncertain. With a dynamic draft full of sleeper picks, the Memphis Grizzlies rolled to an 11-1 regular season record. Motivated by little respect in the scrub Instagram power rankings, the team fired off six straight playoff victories to claim the title. The Grizzlies were led by playmakers **Jackson O'Brien** and **Gunner Foote**, but in the end, aggressive defense down the stretch emerged as the key to victory. Filling out the team were **Ben Champion**, **Avery Landis**, **Kody Phillips**, **Doug Schwartz**, **Eric Benner**, **Jake Smulow** and **Fletcher Warner**. Second place went to the Utah Jazz under the tutelage of **Jon Fleisher**. After a regular season on the brink, the Jazz rallied in the playoffs, producing upset after upset to grind their way to the championship game. Despite several close playoff wins and an exhausting number of minutes on the court, the Jazz ultimately fell short in the finals. The Grizzlies were led by head coach **Kevin Champion** and assistant **Brian Landis**.

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Teamwork And Grit Power Nets To Boys Hoops Championship



This year's third/fourth grade boys spent the season focusing on basketball fundamentals and the importance of teamwork. "All season long, Coach Bryan [Karsner] and I told the boys, 'If you work as a team, success will follow,'" said coach Jim Zapf. "They never backed down from any challenge. Their hard work paid off with winning the championship. We couldn't be prouder of the grit they showed in every game. But more importantly, they had fun all season long." Coaches Zapf and Karsner had an explosive lineup of Tighe O'Brien, Jack Zapf, Jack Somerset, Ben Karsner, Jake Hunter, Henry Hines, Jackson Stern, Carter Arnwine, Jack Bueter and James Corona. They put all aspects of teamwork and sportsmanship to work throughout the playoffs. They focused on defense to pull off an upset in the final seconds of the semifinals against the undefeated Knicks. The scrappy Nets held nothing back in the championship game against the Cavaliers. The lead went back and forth the whole game. The Nets pulled off a 14-10 championship win. "The boys played with heart and left everything on the court during the championship game," Zapf said. The coaches said the boys grew all season. Somerset emerged as a top-notch point guard. Jack Zapf and Ben Karsner were outstanding in the low post. O'Brien, Hines and Hunter brought toughness to the offense. Stern, Bueter, Arnwine and Corona had key rebounds and defensive plays in the playoffs.

Lakers Earn Division Title



The Lakers, of the Green Hornets fifth/sixth grade boys division, finished their perfect season with a big win in the championship game, led in scoring by Bryson Scott. Coached by Lee Scott and John Reed, the Lakers enjoyed a great season with almost every player ending with double digits for total individual points for the year. The team was led by a strong group of sixth-graders, specifically Nick Reed, Bryson Scott and Owen Roberts. Other contributors included Liam Bernard, Sebastian Boyle, Edvards Butkevics, Ryan Gallicchio, Logan Hall and Brody Trutenko.

Bucks Finish As B Bracket Champs



The third/fourth grade Bucks were led by head coach Aaron Burleson and assistant Chad Moran. Leading the team to victory were players Maadhav Aggarwal, Logan Blair, Jacob Burleson, Carson Corey, Evan Depasquale, Charles Gursel, Declan McCluskey, Caleb Missimore, Mason Moran and Case Morris.

Bucks Win Fifth/Sixth Grade B Bracket

The fifth/sixth grade Bucks won their championship thanks to coaching from Brian Wintermyer and Scott Rooney. Bucks players included Jackson Blough, Sean Brunner, Liam Gibson, Kingston Hendricks, Declan Kohler, Eli Price, Jack Rooney, Daniel Sysko, Conor Were and Nicholas Wintermyer.



SPHS Hall Of Fame Seeks Nominees

After a brief hiatus, Severna Park High School is inducting honorees into its Athletic Hall of Fame. Eligible athletes must have graduated a minimum of five years ago. For coaches to be eligible, they must have coached a minimum of five years and have left the school a minimum of two years ago. Candidates must exemplify high standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and moral character, as well as a significant contribution to the school's athletics.

For more information or to fill out the nomination form online, visit www.spsboosters.org/forms.



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A Shooting Star

Severna Park's Davis Balderston Qualifies For Hoop Shoot Finals In Chicago

By Kevin Murnane

Most high school and college basketball players are content to shoot around 80% from the free-throw line.

But in a regional free-throw shooting competition in Charlottesville, Virginia, Benfield Elementary fifth-grader **Davis Balderston** shot 92% to capture the crown and advance to the Elks Hoop Shoot National Finals tournament in Chicago.

"It's pretty amazing," said the school's physical education teacher, **Emily Clark**. "It's a great accomplishment, and he's stayed very humble about his achievements."

The national competition is sponsored by the Elks and begins at elementary schools across the nation. Each school selects two boys and two girls in three age groups: 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. Davis will compete in the 10-11 age category.

Davis qualified at his school and then won a pair of competitions in Maryland at Towson and Fort Washington. He added another one in Charlottesville.

A Green Hornets select basketball player, he displayed his keen shooting stroke in those events. In the state tournament, he made 20 of 25 free

throws and sank 23 of 25 free throws in the regional competition in Charlottesville. The participants use the standard free-throw line of 15 feet from the basket.

"The tournament has the competition in two rounds," Davis said. "The first round, you have 10 free throws and then in the second round, you have 15 shots."

The competition was fierce in Charlottesville and Davis made eight of 10 free throws in the first round. Davis shot a perfect second round by hitting all 15 free throws, enough to punch his ticket to Chicago for the nationals.

The national tournament will take place April 20-23 at Chicago's Wintrust Arena, where the DePaul Blue Demons host college basketball games, and the Chicago Sky of the WNBA play their home games.

"It's pretty cool that the Elks are flying my parents and I to Chicago and the hotel," Davis said.

It's a partnership that makes the Elks proud.

"**Amy Hicks** from the Severna Park Elks has been a pleasure to work with, and they supplied numerous volunteers and trophies to the contest," Clarke said. "This is the sixth year the Severna Park



In a regional free-throw shooting competition in Charlottesville, Virginia, Davis Balderston, a fifth-grader at Benfield Elementary School, shot 92% to capture the crown for boys ages 10-11.

Elks have been helping our contest."

That weekend will have numerous activities for the participants, including a Friday Night FunFest, an opportunity to be involved with a service activity for veterans, and every player gets a personalized trading card.

To stay ready for the contest, Davis shoots about 50 free throws, four days a week, at home. In addition to basketball,

he plays baseball, tennis and golf.

Davis looks forward to the national contest but will miss school and his classmates on those days in Chicago.

"I know when I get back, I'll have a lot of homework waiting for me," Davis said.

Davis knows he'll come back to Severna Park with valuable memories, and he aims to also have good news for his school and classmates.

Green Hornets Names 13U All-Star



Xavier Marshall was chosen by Mark Merolla, Green Hornets 13U head coach, to participate in the 2023 Anne Arundel County A Division All-Star game. This was the first time that Anne Arundel County has organized All-Star games for the girls and boys in the A, B and C divisions.

Liam Kinslow Receives Anne Arundel County Sportsmanship Award

In honor of National Sportsmanship Month in March, youth sports organizations are encouraged to recognize an athlete who treats other players, coaches, officials and parents with respect. For Green Hornets basketball, that player is **Liam Kinslow**.

His 13U head coach, **Mark Merolla**, said he always seems to be the first person to help anyone off the floor, regardless of what team they play for, and he is quick to encourage teammates during games and practices.

"What that is obviously important, what really impresses me the most about him is how much he exemplifies the term sportsmanship with his respect for the game and playing the right way," Merolla said. "I am continually impressed by Liam's superior dedication to being the best player and athlete that he can be. At practice, he listens intently during instruction and attempts to replicate what we discuss as closely as possible."



Green Hornets basketball commissioner Kurt Cerny (left) and Green Hornets 13U head coach Mark Merolla (right) presented Liam Kinslow with the Anne Arundel County Sportsmanship Award following the winter basketball season.

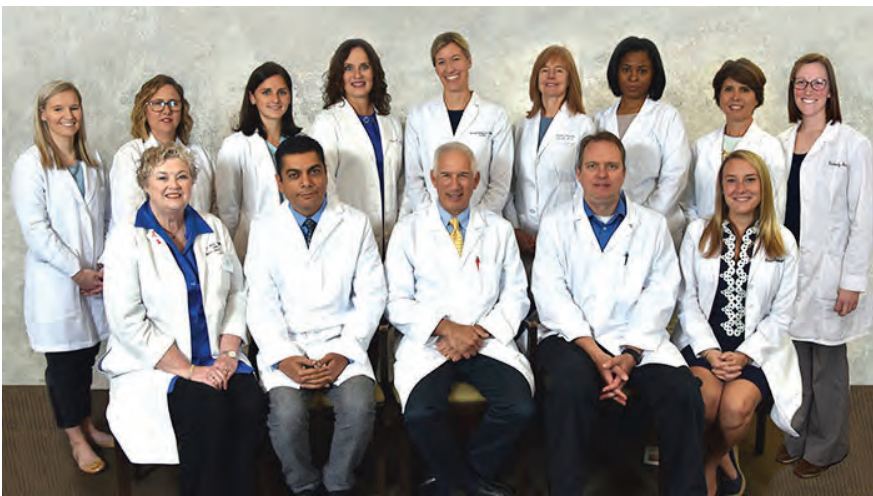
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Severna Park Softball Program Soldiers On Under New Coach

» Continued from page 21

when I took over," McAlister recalled. "She will probably be better at relating to kids than I was. She is very used to the emotions of her players and helps them play their best softball. She will get the most out of her players."

Benedick inherited a team loaded with talent, and she returned two key players – junior catcher **Sally Trent** and junior pitcher **Christina Ballagh**. Six starters overall returned.

The team's ace, Ballagh won 11 games last year and pitched 114 innings.

"She is very consistent," Benedick said. "And she can still hit her spots even in most pressure situations."

Benedick called Trent the best catcher in the county. Trent has committed to play softball at the

College of Charleston in South Carolina. She batted .553 with eight home runs and 34 RBIs last year.

Seniors **Savannah Drummond** (shortstop/centerfield), **Olivia Edwards** (left field) **Skyla Hailey** (first base) and sophomore **Addison Bianco** (centerfield/shortstop) also return as starters.

Senior **Krissy Testerman** plays right field; sophomore **Ryleigh Smith**, promoted from last year's JV team, mans third base; and senior **Alexa Jimeno** (second base/designated hitter) completes the starting lineup.

"We have the talent, but it's the drive and passion of each kid that got them to the state championship last year," Benedick said. "They immediately carried it back. They were part of last year's deep run, and they want to get back there."

Softball Schedule

Severna Park started the season with a 15-2 win at Annapolis on March 21 and a 6-3 home victory against South River on March 22. A 2-1 loss to Broadneck and a 24-11 loss to Arundel followed. The Falcons rebounded with a 5-2 win over Old Mill on March 30.

Here is the upcoming schedule, with all games slated to start at 4:45pm:

April 11: Away at Meade

April 12: Away at Southern

April 14: Home vs. North County

April 17: Home vs. Glen Burnie

April 19: Home vs. Broadneck

April 20: Away at South River

Falcons Start 6-0

» Continued from page 21

are really good. One of our better players, [**Charles Hartman**], is a sophomore and he'll hit ninth in the lineup."

Patenaude, who plays third base when he isn't on the mound, spearheads the lineup.

He batted .365 with 17 RBIs last year. He got off to another hot start this year, with multi-hit games against Annapolis and Broadneck.

Junior shortstop **Angel Santiago-Cruz** is also one of the offensive leaders. He hit .371 last year with three home runs and 14 RBIs.

Santiago-Cruz crushed two home runs in Severna Park's first three games this season and followed that effort with multi-hit games against Mount Saint Joseph, Broadneck and Arundel.

But no player may be more important to the offense than senior **Michael Carparelli**, a first-year starter in left field. He began the season with three home runs and nine RBIs in the Falcons' first three games.

Hartman (outfield), Williams (outfield), junior **Kody Philips** (catcher), seniors **Brooks Harris** (outfield), **Nick Dinunzio** (second base), **Matt Fleisher** and **Ethan Rodriguez** (first base), are also a big part of the lineup.

Severna Park lost in the Class 4A state final the past two years. The Falcons were impressive in 2021, going 17-1. They return five starters from a team that went 18-4

last year.

Anyone thinking Severna Park will show signs of decline will probably have to wait for another season.

"We have good pitching depth and I think it's a staff that can compete with any team in the area," Patenaude said. "We also have a lot of guys who have shown good power with the bats."

Racking Up The Wins

March 21: Win at Annapolis, 16-0

March 22: Win at home vs.

South River, 10-4

March 23: Win at home vs.

Mt. St. Joseph, 14-2

March 27: Win at Broadneck, 11-3

March 29: Win at home vs.

Arundel, 16-6

March 31: Win at home vs.

Old Mill, 16-0

Upcoming Schedule

April 6: Away at Huntingtown, 9:00am

April 11: Away at Meade, 4:45pm

April 12: Away at Southern, 4:45pm

April 14: Home vs. North County, 4:45pm

April 17: Home vs. Glen Burnie, 4:45pm

April 19: Home vs. Broadneck, 4:45pm

April 20: Away at South River, 4:45pm



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Over-60 Men's Softball League Begins Its 30th Year



In 2022, the team from Severna Park Taphouse finished the season as champions in the over-60 men's softball league.

By Kevin Murnane

“Laughter is timeless, imagination has no age, and dreams are forever” is a quote often attributed to Walt Disney.

To fulfill one of those dreams of defying Father Time, the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks offers an over-60 slow-pitch softball league. Dozens of players who are trying to rekindle their youth and can still hit, catch, throw and run are reliving a childhood pastime of playing softball with their friends.

The over-60 men's softball league is entering its 30th season and currently has six teams. They play Tuesday night doubleheaders at Bachman Sports Complex in Glen Burnie. Before the season, the coaches of the league hold a tryout to evaluate new players, and everyone is graded on a scale of one to three. Then the coaches draft players so the league is fair and everyone gets playing time.

“Our philosophy is to have fun, have great camaraderie, but still have competitive games,” said league commissioner **Mike West**.

The league also boasts of having three players in their upper 80s who still play every year. One of those players is **Dick Baker**, who recently turned 88. Baker has been playing softball since 1970.

“I look forward to playing every year,” Baker said. “Once we get to late March, I say, ‘Let’s go play.’”

To stay in shape for the season, Baker will go to the gym three times a week to work on his upper body strength and cardiovascular endurance.

Baker was once a speedy high school outfielder in Pennsylvania and had hopes of being scouted by the major leagues. But the Korean War interfered with those plans, and he served his country for three years. When he came back, he tried out for Maryland semi-professional baseball teams, but the travel was too overwhelming for a new husband.

Baker's speed has been reduced by Father Time and one knee replacement surgery, yet he remains dedicated to the sport.

“I’ll get the other knee replaced in October, but I wanted to play this season,” Baker said.

Baker, as well as the other players who are 88, **Ken Kline** and **Al Hunter**, enjoy being around the “younger guys” and enjoy the banter of the dugout.

After the games, the players continue their revelry at local bars that sponsor the teams. Last year, sponsors included Severna Park Taphouse, Sideline Sports Bar & Grill, Glory Days Grill and Pappas Restaurant & Sports Bar in Glen Burnie. Heroes Pub in Annapolis, Port Tack Wine Ltd. Wine & Spirits in Arnold and KDF Screenprinting & Embroidery in Landover also sponsored teams.

The league is always searching for new players. Baker said as long as he can swing a bat, he’ll keep stepping up to the plate.

“It keeps me young, and I have a lot of fun with my teammates and everyone in the league,” Baker said.



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Motivational Speaker David Flood Comes To SPHS

By Sarah Sternhagen
Student Intern

David Flood, a youth motivational speaker who has spoken to more than 400,000 students, came to Severna Park High School (SPHS) on March 20 to speak about dignity, respect and kindness.

Flood previously spoke at the school in 2018 and was invited back by Principal Lindsay Abruzzo after a video taken at SPHS showed a student bullying another student with special needs with threatening, obscene and racist language. Flood is the first speaker the school has hosted since the COVID-19 shutdown and, in many students' eyes, was a great choice.

"Having the speaker David Flood was amazing; he hit on a lot of great topics like inclusivity and being kind to others," senior Sierra Lane said. "He is a really great person and had a lot of great insight about special education."

When asked about SPHS' specific problem, Flood replied, "It's very common for schools to go through that, [just] maybe not to be known for a negative reason nationally."

He said he knew the problems at SPHS were not specific to the school, but rather a bigger problem everyone faces.

"It's just a general malaise and lack of understanding and lack of kindness to others," Flood said.

Flood spoke about the three main

traits he believes are important to have for others: dignity, respect and kindness. He shared many anecdotes about himself, his family and other schools he visited, often bringing in a sarcastic wit that kept students laughing and engaged.

Flood believes it is instrumental to

connect with kids and talk to them in a way they can identify with, which is why he shares stories about his family — his wife, Mary; his youngest child, Sarah; and his oldest, Justin, who is diagnosed with autism.

"Some kids don't identify with Justin,

but some girls might identify with my daughter's anxiety that she had," Flood said. "I'll do anything to connect with a kid."

A major part of Flood's message is the effect of loneliness. Not just for people

» Continued on page 37



Photo by Sarah Sternhagen

Several teachers gathered after the assemblies at SPHS to show their support for David Flood's message of kindness.

St. John Students Showcase A Whole New World During "Aladdin Jr."



Photos by Zach Sparks

Above: Nicolas Linares (left) played Aladdin, the "street rat" turned prince, in the St. John production held in March. Right: Rowman Layman, as Jafar, and Cara White, as Iago, gloated as they apprehended Aladdin and Jasmine.



By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Audiences did not need a magic carpet to visit Agrabah from March 24-26. The magical world came to St. John the Evangelist during the school's production of "Aladdin Jr."

Twenty-six kids made up the main cast. The show also featured numerous kids in the genie ensemble, several genie dancers and a group of Agrabahns.

Alexa LaChapelle played Jasmine, the free-spirited and independent daughter of the sultan.

"What I love about drama club is how close you get with everyone," she said. "By tech week, we are all one big family having so much fun putting on a show. This year was exactly like that."

» Continued on page 37



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Educator Of The Month

Amy Wong *St. Martin's -in-the-Field Episcopal School*



By Lauren Cowin

Amy Wong didn't set out to become a teacher, but when the stars aligned, she heeded the call.

The former corporate human resources professional turned stay-at-home mom of twins received an unsolicited observation from a family member who thought she would make a good preschool teacher. Days later, two good friends asked if she would be interested in an open teaching assistant position at a local preschool.

"It was one of those moments where I was like, 'Wow, someone is trying to tell me something,'" Wong said.

Wong enrolled in the classes required to teach preschool in her then home of Austin, Texas, and began work at the preschool. Three years later, her family relocated to Severna Park. She began looking for another preschool position, but instead was offered a role as an assistant kindergarten teacher at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal School.

Now in her sixth year of teaching kindergarten at St. Martin's, and third year as a lead teacher, Wong described the age as "magical."

"Such a bonus of kindergarten is everything is new and everything is exciting and they're just usually really engaged in all the learning," she said.

Wong explained that she especially enjoys the project-based learning that occurs in kindergarten, and that teaching at a small school allows her the flexibility to make changes on the fly based on

her students' needs and interests.

She gave a recent example of leprechaun traps. It's one of her favorite projects, but leading up to it, her class also explored rainbows and kaleidoscopes, for which the kids "went bonkers." Wong switched gears and asked the class if they'd rather make kaleidoscopes than leprechaun traps.

"They were over the moon," she said as she pulled a kaleidoscope out of a bag to proudly display, adding "they were just so much darn fun."

Aside from creative projects, Wong's favorite lessons are those regarding diversity, equity and inclusion. For Women's History Month in March, she incorporated Ruth Bader Ginsburg and candy for an activity about pay equity.

"That sounds like a big topic, but 5-year-olds can understand that," she said.

Tony Shaffer, St. Martin's head of school, praised Wong's approach.

"Everything in her classroom is simultaneously age appropriate and connected to big skills and ideas," Shaffer said. "When I walk through the room and she asks on the spur of the moment if it's OK to use a chain of paper clips to measure my tie, the students get to giggle at the head of school holding paper clips up under his chin. At the same time, they learn that units of measure are invented by people, that the units can be added together or divided up (a tie is 14 and a half paper clips long), and that some units are better than others for making a particular measurement. It's just magic."

Wong appreciates the opportunity to teach in a small, nurturing setting.

"We are constantly working on kindness and sharing and how to get along and interact with peers. That's tricky business as they get older," Wong said. "I feel lucky to teach in an environment where we can talk about those things and make it a big part of their everyday."

The feeling is mutual.

"Amy creates a caring classroom where everyone feels like they belong and that everyone is important," said colleague Aleigh Vancaster. "We just adore Amy Wong."

Wong suggested that prior to kindergarten, parents should work on social skills with their children — such as putting their backpack on and off and opening a lunchbox — but the mom of teenage twins believes that the best kindergarten readiness comes from letting kids be kids.

"Just enjoy them while you can, because it goes quick."



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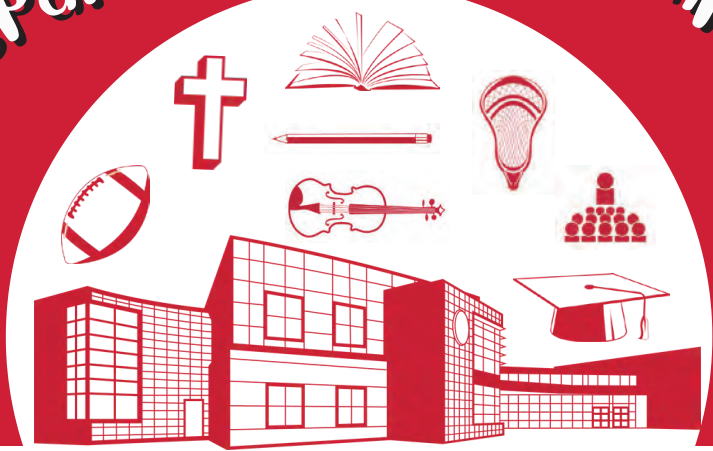
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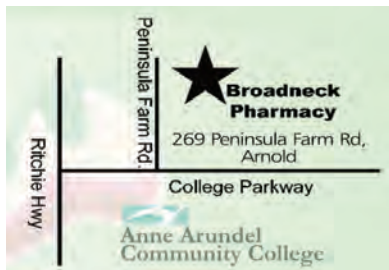


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Q

Question of the month

Each month, the *Severna Park Voice* poses a question to a local fifth-grade class. With some St. John the Evangelist kids performing "Aladdin Jr." in March, we asked students from Mr. Moeller's class this question:

If you found a genie in a bottle, what would be your three wishes?

If I had three wishes, I would wish for \$1.99 quadrillion so I could be like Mr. Beast and give money away. For my second wish, I would wish for super knowledge because then I would be a pro at school. Lastly, I would wish to fly so I could go anywhere anytime.

Adam F.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be \$1 billion, 10 free puppies and that I could own a Chipotle restaurant in my house.

Aliyah D.

The obvious one would be climate change is solved forever. Two, my selfish wish, to have a pet giant panda cub. Anyone who knows me knows I love pandas. And third, a \$100 million to donate to various charities over the course of my life (and for other uses such as paying off a car or a house or something. Maybe to buy bamboo for my panda?)

Amelia K.

The wishes would be to have unlimited money, so I can buy anything. Then I would wish to be the smartest person in the world, so I don't get lazy and can start my own business that sends people to space. For my last wish, I would ask that my money is sent around the world, so that no one is homeless or starving.

Anna S.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be to own a

St. John The Evangelist School



horse, to have unlimited free food/water for my horse, and an indoor riding arena.

Audrey H.

To become the greatest basketball player of all time. Second, I wish if I don't become an NBA player, I would like to become a PGA tour golf player and make millions. If I don't, I want \$100 trillion.

Ben B.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be to be a professional lacrosse player, \$1 trillion, and to be a professional soccer player.

Braedon B.

My first wish is to have world peace, my second wish is to end world hunger, and my third wish is to have a long life and enjoy the moments that I have.

Charlotte Y.

My first wish would be to be the best football player in the world. Then for my cousin to move right next to me. Then for my YouTube channel to blow up.

Cormac S.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, I would wish for a pencil, an eraser, and for my final wish, a paper that anything I write on it becomes true.

Declan G.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be a lot of money, for my teacher to stay at school, and that everyone was treated the same way as the rich are treated.

Emily C.

If a genie granted me three wishes, I would want another dog, a free cruise and another genie.

Emily L.

I would have \$100 trillion so I could buy anything I want (and for college). Another thing I would wish for is to be very good at art so I can draw so much and put it on my walls without it looking off and weird. Lastly, I wish for world peace and for all people to be considered equal by all other people.

Emmaline R.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be to have world peace and to end wars. My second wish would be to end world sickness and starvation. My third wish would be to end world poverty, and that everyone has a home.

Erin Q.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be seeing my idol, Kevin De Bruyne, going to the World Cup with the Korean Republic, and my final wish would be to make the Premier League with Manchester City.

Ethan C.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be to get unlimited money, to end world hunger, and to be able to try every flavor of ice cream.

Francis M.

If I was granted three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be to have all my dead family members and pets back; to see my idol, Manny Machado; and to make it to Major League Baseball.

Garrett D.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be having an A+ in everything, have \$5 million to give away to the poor, and lastly to have a beautiful world with no bad people or pollution.

Grace Q.

If I had three wishes, they would be a huge house, becoming a billionaire, and a fighter jet.

Ian C.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be \$5 billion to start off my business, infinite smarts and supplies for my company.

Isaac L.

If I had three wishes, they would be to have all the cool superpowers like flight and invisibility. I would also wish to have infinite money so I can help the poor and donate to charity. It would also be very fun to be rich. My last wish would be to make the school day shorter or make the

weekend longer.

Isla B.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, I want \$100,000 to help my mom, I'd like to be able to tell the future and I'd want to have clear skin.

Ivy G.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be an infinite notebook, whatever I put in the notebook comes true (I can't ask for wishes), and all sicknesses and viruses to go away.

JJ N.

One, to be able to have a food plate that could serve whatever I want when I'm hungry, so when my mom makes Brussels sprouts, I could pull out the platter and eat some sushi or pizza. For the second wish, I'd wish for a superpower, and for the third wish, I'd want to have all the luck in the world. For example, if I was playing a carnival game completely based on luck, I'd win every time.

Joe S.

My first wish would be to have my family alive forever. My second wish is to be rich, and my last wish would be to have no one get sick ever again.

Kenzie M.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be not to fight with my family because we don't always get along very well. Get all the books I ever wanted because I love to read. And lastly to get a puppy or a kitten because I really like pets.

Lily F.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be to be rich, to be super intelligent, and to have a great, healthy family (that includes me too).

Olivia M.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be for world peace, an end to dog racing/animal abuse, and for family healing for all families that need it.

Rose D.

I had three wishes from a genie bottle, they would be good fortune/health, a cat and to be naturally smarter.

Sophia S.

If I had three wishes from a genie bottle, I would wish the Holocaust never happened. I also would wish racism to end. Last, I would wish for world peace.

Zach B.

St. John Showcases "Aladdin Jr."

» Continued from page 32

Alexa credited the cast and crew for putting in "so much effort" to make the show a success. One of those actresses was Casey Boyle, who portrayed Genie with plenty of charisma.

"It's unbelievable that just a few months ago, we were dancing on the gym floor, and now we danced in front of an auditorium," Casey said. "I had so much fun dancing and singing with my friends. It was a great way to spend my last year at St. John."

Nicolas Linares was charming as Aladdin, the "street rat" turned prince. Cara White's playful banter with Rowman Layman, as Iago and Jafar, respectfully, caused the crowd to erupt

in laughter several times.

The director of the show, Cindi White, was especially proud of the middle-schoolers because "Aladdin Jr." was a student-led production.

"Our lighting, sound, microphones, acting — every piece of the show was designed and implemented by students, and this gave them an amazing sense of accomplishment and pride," White said. "As they produced their musical production of Disney's 'Aladdin Jr.' for the younger St. John students, they were able to be both entertainers and role models. The joy, accomplishment and pride on their faces was worth every minute of the hours we put into this production."

David Flood Comes To SPHS

» Continued from page 32

with special needs, but for anyone who feels left out.

After hearing his son's confession about struggling with loneliness, Flood heard three words that he could not stop thinking about.

"Loneliness is toxic," Flood repeated to the students. "It doesn't take too long for someone who lives in social isolation to equate loneliness with danger. Introverted and shy, no problem. It is if you build a wall around yourself."

He gave students three challenges to help against social isolation: to look on the inside, to thank two adults in the building and to make sure no one ever eats alone.

"No one should have to eat alone," Flood said. "If you want to eat by yourself and study, read, listen to music or anything else, that's great, more than great. What I'm really not OK with is someone not offering to sit with that person."

After the assemblies, Flood had lunch with several students and had a parent talk later that evening.

No student in the building had heard Flood talk before, but the staff remembered his message, and knew it was important for students to hear.

"My talk is not about autism, guys. It's not. It's about inclusion," Flood said. "It's about how do I get closer to other people, and maybe more importantly than that, how do I bring people together."

Gavin Henry Named Medical Director Of Tate Cancer Center At UM BWMC

Gavin Henry, a thoracic surgeon and chair of thoracic surgery at the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC), has been appointed the new medical director of the Tate Cancer Center.

Henry's appointment comes as the Tate Cancer Center celebrates its 20th year of providing multidisciplinary cancer care to more than 20,000 patients.

Henry joined the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS), parent organization of UM BWMC, in 2017 as the director of clinical operations for the division of thoracic surgery. He is also an assistant professor of surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Henry specializes in treating conditions of the esophagus and lung and performing minimally invasive robotic surgeries for most thoracic procedures. He also leads the lung cancer screening program at the Tate Cancer Center at UM BWMC.

In his new role, Henry will aim to grow the academic and clinical missions of the Tate Cancer Center through its affiliation with the University of Maryland Cancer Network and make the benefits of discovery-based medicine more accessible to people in Anne Arundel County and the surrounding communities.

"Dr. Henry brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the Tate Cancer Center," said Kathy McCollum, president and chief executive officer of UM BWMC. "With his expertise, we'll continue to cement the reputation of the Tate Cancer Center and UM BWMC as a leader in cancer care and create greater access to clinical research across the state and in our communities."

Named for community philanthropists Creston and Betty Tate, the Tate Cancer Center provides a full spectrum of cancer care services that combines



Gavin Henry

clinical expertise and innovative treatments with supportive services to create the best treatment plans for each individual patient.

Key to the Tate Cancer Center's success has been its multidisciplinary approach to treating cancer — bringing together surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, diagnostic radiology, pathology and other cancer specialists to develop individualized treatment plans for each patient. The center also connects patients to support services, including genetic counseling, nutritional services, financial counseling and palliative care.

The center also offers clinical trials designed to find new and better ways to treat patients with cancer, and it trains the next generation of cancer care providers. Last year, the Tate Cancer Center received its reaccreditation from the Commission on Cancer as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program. To earn the designation, the Tate Cancer Center provides post-graduate medical education, diagnoses or treats at least 500 new cancer cases each year, offers a full range of diagnostic and treatment services, and participates in cancer-related clinical research. Only 13% of all cancer programs in the nation have achieved this status.

"The future is in clinical research," Henry said. "In order for us to get ahead and defeat cancer, clinical research is going to be increasingly important. I'm confident that together with the clinical and non-clinical teams at the Tate Cancer Center and UM Cancer Network, the next two decades are going to be even better, with more innovations and breakthroughs to come."

Scientists Reveal Potential New Approach To Treating Liver Cancer

Scientists at the National Institutes of Health and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston have uncovered a potential new approach against liver cancer that could lead to the development of a new class of anti-cancer drugs.

In a series of experiments in cells and mice, researchers found that an enzyme produced in liver cancer cells could convert a group of compounds into anti-cancer drugs, killing cells and reducing disease in animals.

The researchers suggest that this enzyme could become a potential target for the development of new drugs against liver cancers, and perhaps other cancers and diseases as well.

"We found a molecule that kills cells in a rare liver cancer in a unique way," said translational scientist Matthew Hall, one of the leaders of the work at NIH's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS). "It emerged from a screening to find molecules that selectively kill human liver cancer cells. It took a lot of work to figure out that the molecule is converted by an enzyme in these liver cancer cells, creating a toxic, anticancer drug."

Hall, Nabeel Bardeesy — a liver cancer specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital — and their colleagues reported their results March 13 in *Nature Cancer*.

The finding stems from a collaboration between Massachusetts General Hospital and NCATS researchers. Bardeesy was originally studying cholangiocarcinoma, a type of liver cancer that affects the bile duct. The cancer is characterized by mutations in the IDH1 enzyme. Bardeesy's team wanted to find compounds and drugs that might be effective against the IDH1 mutation. Through a collaboration with NCATS, Hall and other NCATS scientists rapidly tested thousands of approved drugs and experimental cancer agents for their effectiveness in killing cholangiocar-

cinoma cells, with IDH1 as a target.

They found several molecules, including one called YC-1, could kill the cancer cells. Yet, when they looked to see how YC-1 was working, they discovered the compound wasn't affecting the IDH1 mutation.

The Massachusetts researchers showed that the liver cancer cells made an enzyme, SUL1A1. The enzyme activated the YC-1 compound, making it toxic to tumor cells in cancer cell cultures and mouse models of liver cancers. In the animal models treated with YC-1, the liver tumors either had reduced growth or shrank. Conversely, the researchers found no changes in tumors treated with YC-1 in animals with cancer cells lacking the enzyme.

The researchers examined other databases of drug screening results in compound and drug libraries to match drug activity with SUL1A1 activity. They also looked at a large National Cancer Institute database of anticancer compounds for additional possibilities to test for their activity with the enzyme.

They identified several classes of compounds that relied on SUL1A1 for their tumor-killing activity.

"Once we found SUL1A1 activated YC-1, it led us to ask, 'What other compounds are active and can kill cells by the same mechanism?'" Hall said. "Can we identify other compounds that were being developed and demonstrate that they were also active because of SUL1A1 activation? The answer was yes. We found other compounds with the same mechanism of action as YC-1."

The scientists suggest these findings have broader implications for developing new anticancer drugs.

"We think these molecules have the potential to be an untapped class of anticancer drugs that depend on SUL1A1 for their activity against tumors," Bardeesy said.

Update For Medicaid Recipients

Shared by the Anne Arundel County Department of Health

Starting in May 2023, some individuals on Medicaid may no longer be able to continue receiving benefits.

When the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, Marylanders who were eligible for Medicaid continued to be covered, even if they were no longer eligible.

Medicaid renewals will not be automatic this year. Starting this month, Maryland will begin making eligibility reviews again. Not everyone will be up for renewal at the same time. Renewals will take place over 12 months.

If you are no longer eligible or need to renew coverage, you will receive a notice in your Maryland Health Connection ac-

count or the mail when it's time to renew.

It is important to make sure your contact information is up to date to receive and respond to important messages about your health insurance.

What you need to do now:

Update contact information

Contact the Medical Assistance Eligibility and Enrollment Program to update your current mailing address, phone number, email or other contact information.

Call 443-510-7784 or visit in person at one of the following locations:

- Annapolis Health Center, located at 3 Harry South Truman Parkway in Annapolis. Open Monday through Friday from 8:00am-4:00pm.

- North County, located at 791 Aquahart Road, second floor, in Glen Burnie. Open Wednesday from 8:00am-3:30pm.

- Lula G. Scott Community Center, located at 6243 Shady Side Road in Shady Side. Open every other Thursday from 8:00am-4:00pm.

You can also call Maryland Health Connection at 855-642-8572. Help is available in more than 200 languages.

Watch for communications from Maryland Health Connection

Not everyone will be up for renewal at the same time. You will receive a notice in the mail or in your online account (if you chose paperless) when it's time to renew.

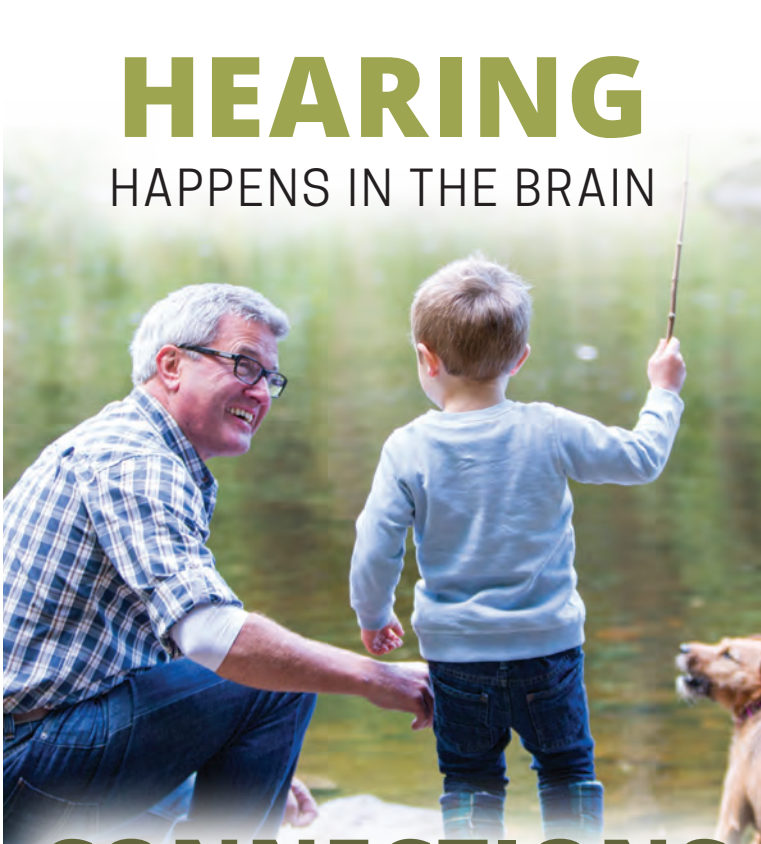
When you get your notice, you will have 45 days to respond.

Renew coverage or enroll in a private plan when you receive a notice

Read your notice carefully. This notice will tell you to complete your renewal or let you know if you are no longer eligible for Medicaid coverage.

If you are no longer eligible, low-cost health insurance options, such as private plans from CareFirst, Kaiser Permanente and UnitedHealthcare are available.

You can enroll by calling Health Care Access Maryland at 410-500-4710 or through Maryland Health Connection within 60 days of losing your health coverage.



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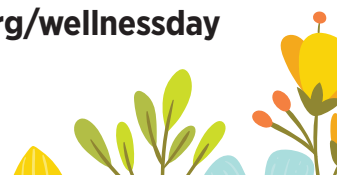


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Theater AACC Brings Shakespeare To Life In “Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead”

By Alyson Kay

Anne Arundel Community College’s community theater program, Theater AACC, will hold performances of the tragicomedy play “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead” at the Robert E. Kauffman Theater in Arnold starting April 14.

The production features a unique spin on the story of “Hamlet” by focusing on the two minor characters as they plot against their childhood friend, Prince Hamlet, and plan to discover his motives.

“It’s not a typical, American-style comedy,” said Cameron Walker, a second-year AACC student who plays Guildenstern. “It’s really dry and sarcastic. There are a lot of puns in the wordplay and stuff like that.”

The environment in the program tends to be friendly and supportive.

“Everyone is picking each other up and encouraging each other and it’s really great,” said Eliza Geib, who plays Rosencrantz and graduated from AACC last summer. “It makes it easier to explore the material and push yourself to your limit because you have a team of people behind you, supporting you.”

The encouraging and cooperative atmosphere fostered by the program provides an intentional lesson for the students working and performing in its productions.

“It’s setting a precedent for students

» Continued on page 44



Photo by Maggie Urban

Cast members gathered at a rehearsal for their upcoming presentation of “Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead.”

Dining Out Around The Park

Photos by Mary Cobbler

Left: The shrimp and grits meal included large gulf shrimp, topped with South Carolina grits and covered with chicken gravy, with bacon bits and scallions. **Top Right:** Fish and chips seem boring, but not at Founders. The tender cod hit the spot, especially with the po’ boy dressing, which ratcheted up the taste. **Middle Right:** Founders is known for its crab soup. The satisfying appetizer has homemade seasonings, tomatoes, potatoes, green beans, and crab. **Bottom Right:** For dessert, the apple crumb pie had a crispy shell and a soft, tender dough underneath, all topped with caramelized apples.



Founders Tavern & Grille Offers Fresh Food And A Nod To History

By Mary Cobbler

Founders Tavern & Grille is a modern tavern in Pasadena. It’s not like heading to Williamsburg, Virginia, but it has that vibe, with wood floors, exposed beams, hanging lights, and lots of old-timey decor — a prominent U.S. Cowpens flag, copies of ancient maps, antique bottles, photos and an Indian chief bust.

Diners may eat inside or outdoors under covered tables with twinkle lights.

My father and I arrived between lunch and dinnertime when the place was pretty chill, and Bob Dylan and The Eagles were

playing in the background.

Our waitress, Kearsten, was polite, knowledgeable and efficient. We chose Founders’ Maryland crab soup for appetizers, and we were both pleasantly surprised. While there wasn’t a ton of crab meat, it was bursting with flavor. The soup was satisfying with the homemade seasonings, tomatoes, potatoes, green beans, other vegetables and crab. I didn’t read ahead of time that Founders is known for its award-winning crab soup, but I can see why. It’s one of the best soups I’ve had in some time, and I could quickly grab a

» Continued on page 44

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“There There” By Tommy Orange Is 2023 One Maryland One Book Selection

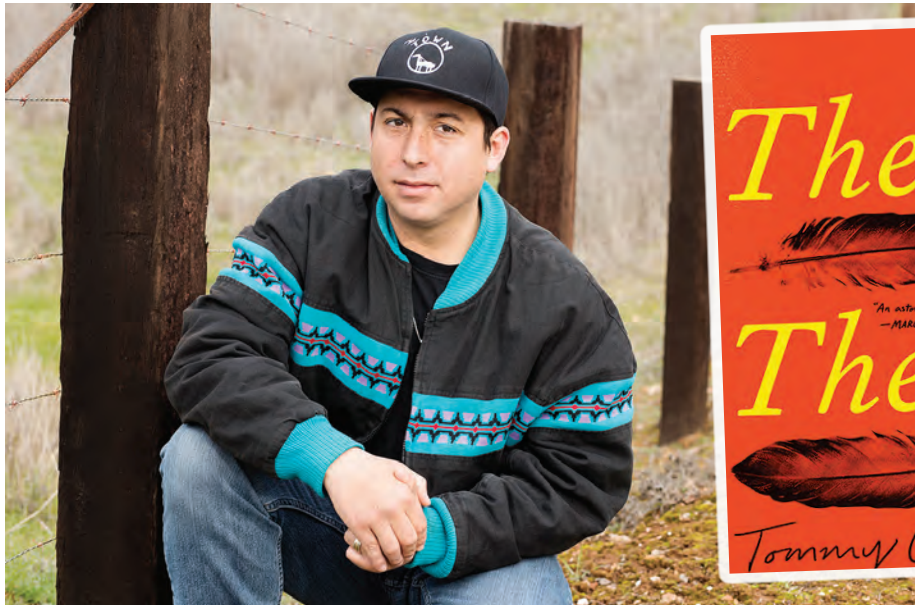
Maryland Humanities' Statewide Reading And Discussion Program Marks 16 Years

Maryland Humanities has selected “There There” by Tommy Orange for the 2023 One Maryland One Book program. Released in 2018, the novel tells the interconnected stories of a cast of 12 native characters from across generational lines, as they converge toward the Big Oakland Powwow. Together, the stories give a riveting portrait of the urban Indian experience.

“There There” was one of The New York Times Book Review’s 10 Best Books of the Year, and won the Center for Fiction’s First Novel Prize, as well as the PEN/Hemingway Award.

“There There” was chosen as this year’s One Maryland One Book by a selection committee of 20 Marylanders, including teachers, scholars, librarians, writers, book-sellers, and community workers representing 10 counties and Baltimore City. A public call for books under the theme of “Connection” garnered nearly 300 titles, from which the committee then made its selection.

“There There” provides us an opportunity to connect with several Native American lives that feel immediate and relevant to the world today,” said Lindsey Baker, executive director of Maryland Humanities. “These characters are deeply rooted in their rich, often traumatic histories, yet are instantly recognizable to any reader. Tommy Orange shares with us their triumphs and their



struggles, creating fully rounded characters and journeys to follow.”

In the fall, Maryland Humanities will collaborate with partners across the state, including libraries, schools, universities, book clubs and local Native/Indian organizations to conduct programs where readers can connect with one another and discuss the book’s themes. Maryland Humanities will distribute free copies of “There There” to partners. Tommy Orange will also visit Maryland for an in-person author event where he will discuss the book with an audience. All events are free.

“Wandering Books”:

Where Will You Find “There There?”

Copies of the 2023 One Maryland One Book se-

lection will be dropped off in public spaces in counties across the state as part of “Wandering Books,” a campaign that introduces readers to “There There” and the One Maryland One Book program. Anyone can receive clues about where to find books via Maryland Humanities’ Maryland Center for the

Book Facebook page or by following @MDHumanities on Instagram. This year, libraries in Maryland will distribute books throughout their communities. After finding a copy of “There There,” readers can log on to www.bookcrossing.com and register their book’s ID number. Then, they can post a comment or review when they’ve finished reading. Following that, readers can then leave the book somewhere public for another reader to find and enjoy.

Instructions are located inside the book cover. Participation is free. Those who register books will be automatically entered to win a \$25 gift certificate to www.bookshop.org and must include their name and email to be eligible.

Photo courtesy of Elena Seibert
Released in 2018, “There There,” written by Tommy Orange tells the interconnected stories of a cast of 12 native characters from across generational lines, as they converge toward the Big Oakland Powwow.

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www.BalletMaryland.org/Don-Quixote



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British Flick Explores The Other Side Of Heartbreak

By Audrey Ruppert

“Rye Lane” might be the quintessential break-up film, good medicine for a broken heart. Quirky, low budget and utterly charming, it tells the story of Dom and Yas — two south Londoners who meet in the unisex toilets of an oddball art exhibit and have quite an adventurous day.

The film is named after the street in Peckham, a south London borough with a large African British community that is still resisting gentrification. As a south Londoner myself, it was refreshing to see the real London on the silver screen, not the polished London most people think of from the Bond films or “Love Actually.” It’s unkempt, diverse and full of “explosion shops” as I call them (shops selling home goods with no organization and wares all over the floor — it looks like a bomb went off inside).

Depressing playgrounds, graffiti, piles of rubbish, tiny market bazaars and merchants of all sorts (I saw the tiny corner shop where I haggled over a pasta roller — I got it for 10 quid!) — are the norm. The characters discuss heartbreak on the very bench I spent much time crying on after my last breakup, in Brixton’s Brockwell park. None



Photo courtesy of Searchlight Pictures

In the film, Dom (David Jonsson) and Yas (Vivian Oparah) get acquainted, talk about their pasts and get into some hilarious hijinks including an impromptu moped ride.

of the locations are famous, but they’re a slice of the real thing. It’s home. It felt like a real story I might hear down at the pub.

Dom and Yas have both just gotten out of relationships. Dom is a sweet natured, kind and mild-mannered accountant whose ex cheated on him with an old school friend. Yas is a vivacious and bombastic woman who aspires to work in costume design — her loudness masks a fear of vulnerability. Most of the film takes place in one day. The two get to know each other, talk about their pasts, and get into some hilarious hijinks including an impromptu moped ride and a break-and-enter. Dom learns a bit about standing up for himself, and Yas learns about the importance of being honest,

even when it’s painful.

I could see the film gathering the same attention for this part of London that “Notting Hill” did for West London in the ‘90s. The Colin Firth cameo was hilarious. “Rye Lane” is witty, charming, rough around the edges and full of hope — there’s lessons to be learned from heartbreak, and there’s always a new and exciting romance around the corner if you open yourself up to it.

An Evening With Ron Canada At AACC

Theater AACC will host an evening with actor, director and producer Ron Canada on April 20 at 7:00pm

in Anne Arundel Community College’s humanities building, room 112.

Canada’s acting credits include Iago to Patrick Stewart’s Othello, Troy Maxson in August Wilson’s “Fences,” Emmet Tate in “Zooman and The Sign,” Simon in



Ron Canada

“The Whipping Man,” and originating the role of Duncan Troy in “Headstrong,” which earned him an Audelco Award nomination as Best Supporting Actor. Off Broadway, he played Azell Abernathy during “In Old Age.”

He has guest starred on scores of television series. Most recently, Canada completed episodes of “The Orville,” “Seven Seconds,” “Jack Ryan,” “Madame Secretary” and “The Good Fight.” Canada’s film credits include “The Discovery” with Robert Redford and Rooney Mara, “Wedding Crashers,” “Cinderella Man,” “The Human Stain,” “The United States of Leland,” “The American President” and “The Hunted.”

Canada has worked twice with director Chris Columbus in “Adventures in Babysitting” and “Home Alone 2.” His directing credits include the world premiere of “Spin Off” by Bernard Pomerance, “The Invested,” “Lights Up on the Fade Out,” “The Maids” and “Bus Stop.” Canada is also an Emmy-winning television newsman.

The event is free, but registration is required. For preregistration information, sign up on Eventbrite.

Toby’s Features The Timeless Musical “Grease”

A wop ba-ba lu-bop and wop bam boom. Grease is “the one that you want.”

Join Danny, Sandy, Rizzo and the rest of the Greasers and Pink Ladies live onstage at Toby’s Dinner Theatre in Columbia, Maryland, now through June 11. The coolest gang of students from Rydell High are taking audiences back to the 1950s when drive-in movies, sock-hops and tough talkin’ Pink Ladies defined a generation.

The musical is hitting the stage in a high-octane production featuring the songs “Summer Nights,” “Greased Lightning,” “You’re the One That I Want,” and “Hopelessly Devoted To You.”



Key School To Host 20th Annual Annapolis Book Festival

The 20th annual Annapolis Book Festival is set for April 29.

Now in its 20th year, the Annapolis Book Festival brings together nationally and internationally renowned authors with thousands of book fans for author talks, panel discussions, book signings and other activities. Interactive, multi-generational and free of charge, the festival has something for book lovers of all ages. Combining entertainment, children’s activities, and food trucks with compelling author panels, the festival attracts more than 3,000 attendees each year.

To honor the memory of the Capital Gazette employees who lost their lives nearly five years ago in the mass shooting on June 28, 2018, the festival will present an all-day photo exhibit featuring the work of Capital Gazette photographer Paul Gillespie and a panel discussion of gun violence in America. The discussion will feature Andrea

Chamblee, the widow of slain Capital reporter John McNamara; David Elfin, coauthor “The Capital of Basketball,” McNamara’s book; and JJ Janflone, producer and co-host, of the award-winning educational podcast, “Red, Blue, and Brady (RBB).” Brady is a leading advocacy organization working to prevent gun violence.

The Annapolis Book Festival will be held on the campus of Key School at 534 Hillsmere Drive in Annapolis on April 29 from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

Meet The Distinguished Speakers

Michael Fanone — Former Washington D.C. police officer who battled the January 6 rioters at the Capitol
Keith Boykin — TV and film producer, author and co-founder of the National Black Justice Coalition
Anthony Marra — Bestselling author and award-winning novelist
Elizabeth Williamson — Feature

writer for the New York Times

Cody Keenan — Chief speechwriter in the Barack Obama White House

Michael Nelson — Professor and award-winning author

Peniel E. Joseph — Internationally recognized scholar, writer and historian of the Black Freedom Struggle

Thomas E. Ricks — Military history columnist for the New York Times Book Review

Scott Higham and Sari Horwitz — Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalists

Mahnaz Afkami — Founder of Women’s Learning Partnership and former minister for women’s affairs in Iran

Mari K. Eder — Retired U.S. Army Major General, renowned speaker and author

Lewis M. Simons — Pulitzer Prize-winning foreign correspondent

Kerri K. Greenidge — Historian

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Founders Tavern & Grille

» Continued from page 40

bowl for a delightful lunch treat.

For entrees, I chose the shrimp and grits, and my dad picked the Lenten special — fish and chips.

Kearsten quickly delivered the food, which was nicely presented. The large gulf shrimp was topped with South Carolina grits, covered with chicken gravy, with bacon bits and scallions. The shrimp were tender and tasty, making a good combo with the grits. I wasn't a fan of the chicken gravy on top and would have preferred more cheese. The scallions add a nice sharp contrast to the blander taste of the grits. This dish would have appealed to someone who likes chicken gravy more than I do. It's a matter of preference.

As often happens, I really liked my companion's fish and chips more than my meal, and that was surprising because, well, fish and chips seem boring, but not here. The crispy fried (not greasy) tender cod hit the spot, especially with the po' boy dressing, which ratcheted up the taste. The dressing tasted like a combination of Cajun and tartar sauce. My dad and I were both fans. The dressing had a zing.

The fish came with warm homemade French fries, cut thin and fried crisp. My dad oohed and ahed over them.

The finale was an apple crumb pie that reminds me of an old-fashioned apple fritter you get at fall festivals. It had a crispy shell and a soft, tender dough underneath, all topped with caramelized

apples. But the best part was the bourbon whipped cream. You need to ask for more — probably triple the amount would do it!

The menu offers many great possibilities: bourbon salmon, meatloaf, baby back ribs, pasta, fried chicken, pizzas and sandwiches — including hot roast beef — and shrimp tacos.

The restaurant owners strive to connect with local family farms to provide sustainably grown fresh food. Founders' "declaration" on its webpage states that sauces, dressing and desserts are all made fresh. Pizza dough and bread are made in-house every morning.

Founders offers Sunday brunch, lunch and dinner options, and cocktails to match the tavern's nod to history — The Founders Manhattan, Jefferson Mule, Revolutionary Vieux Carre, Washington Cherry Tree and seasonal drinks.

Other specialties included Rhubarb & Rosemary, a historic cocktail from the 1930s called "The French Quarter," and other specialty drinks and craft beers.

Keep Founders in mind as you travel the Pasadena/Severna Park roadway. It's worth a trip.

Where To Find FOUNDERS

8125 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena
410-544-0076

AACC Brings Shakespeare To Life

» Continued from page 40

that this is the way you should be treated and this is what you need to know to be professional," said Madeline Austin, AACC adjunct professor and director of "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead."

The club started in 1972 under the name "Moonlight Troupers." Since it was created by college students who often had jobs, most of the participants joined at night or "by moonlight." The second part of the name refers to both the word "troupe" for a group of theater performers and recognizes the students as "troopers" for their dedication and hard work on the productions they were working on.

In 2003, the club changed its name to Theater at AACC as part of a rebranding process and stayed as a single club with that name until 2022, when the Student Engagement Office decided to separate the student-run club and the faculty-run community program into two distinct entities.

In order to coordinate the change, a few theater club students, including the incoming theater club president for last year's fall semester, met with AACC theater program coordinator Sean Urbantke to come up with ideas for how to create two separate programs, including the names for the two programs.

"I don't remember who made the suggestion, but someone said, 'What about taking the Troupers name again,' and everybody around the table really liked that idea," Urbantke said.

Since 2022, the two programs have existed separately and are funded separately. Moonlight Troupers is funded by the Student Engagement Office through student activity fees, and its budget is decided on by the Student Government Association.

Some of the Moonlight Troupers' ticket revenue goes back into the club's fundraising account. The group is working on improv shows and is looking to put on a fully produced show sometime in the spring or fall.

Theater AACC, which dropped the "at" in its name following the split, is funded by the college's liberal arts school through academic sources. Ticket revenue for the program goes into the college's general fund.

Theater AACC is open to the community, but in the rare case of a tie, casting can favor students.

Both programs allow students a high degree of involvement in the production. Urbantke and Austin solicited several students and alumni about ideas for this spring play. "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" was one of the options that the students wanted to work on. Urbantke and Austin plan to continue using student ideas and feedback when looking for plays going forward.

"We want the students to feel like they're not being just dictated what shows that they do, and that's definitely been the case in the past," Urbantke said.

Friday and Saturday performances are set for 8:00pm April 14-23. There will also be Sunday matinees at 2:00pm. General admission tickets are \$15. Tickets for AACC staff and faculty, seniors and military personnel are \$10 and tickets for Anne Arundel Community College/Anne Arundel County Public Schools students with a valid ID are \$5. To purchase tickets, email boxoffice@aacc.edu, call 410-777-2457 or purchase online at www.eventbrite.com/cc/rosencrantz-and-guildenstern-are-dead-1730349.

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Bank Failures And The FDIC

Jason LaBarge
LaBarge
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You might have heard a lot of stories in the news about bank failures and the FDIC. This government corporation, also known as the Federal Deposit Insurance

Corporation, is what insures deposits in financial institutions. responds immediately to protect the depositors. Luckily, whenever the FDIC needs to get involved, it almost always is seamless from the customers' point of view. The most common fix is for the FDIC to sell the deposits and loans of the failed institution and transfer to another institution.

What do banks invest in? How do they make money? Most of the time, they invest in real estate, commercial or consumer loans, government securities, and other public companies. Commercial banks tend to make most of their income through interest fees. They also make money by borrowing money at lower interest rates, then charging higher interest rates to their borrowing customers.

So why did Silicon Valley Bank fail? Basically, it failed because it traded in short-term investments for long-term investments, not considering a major change in interest rates. The leadership seemed to get more aggressive, and ultimately started to miss quarterly earnings,

» **Continued on page 48**

Corporation, is what insures deposits in financial institutions.

The FDIC insures \$250,000 per depositor, per insured bank, for each account registration category. The FDIC was created in 1933 in response to the Great Depression when thousands of banks failed. Since the first day the FDIC was put into place on January 1, 1934, no depositor has lost insured funds as a result of a bank failure. It is important to keep in mind that it only insures deposits — not securities, mutual funds, or similar types of investments. Whenever a financial institution fails, the FDIC

Chamber Update

Liz League
CEO
GSPACC



Please give a warm welcome to our newest members (find them in our directory at www.gspacc.com):

Lifetime Client Group — (new bronze member)

Lifetime Client Group's mission is to lead the industry in knowledge and service, assisting with its clients' housing needs, starting with the dream of home ownership and every place they call home during their lifetime.

Bowie Baysox Baseball — The Bowie Baysox are a Minor League Baseball team located in Bowie, Maryland. The Baysox are the Double-A affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles and play in the Eastern League. Their home ballpark is Prince George's Stadium. In addition to fun events for all ages, the Baysox support many charitable endeavors.

» **Hearing & Balance Solutions LLC**

— This business is an audiologist owned and operated private practice with a combined 34 years of clinical audiology experience. The company provides hearing, tinnitus and balance services to a wide patient population and accepts most insurance. It has two convenient locations (Severna Park and Edgewater) to serve you.

Great Oak Roofing LLC — This is a local, family-owned company offering a comprehensive range of services including full roof replacement, roof repair, gutter installation and gutter guard installation. The company's personnel are certified GAF installers with more than 40 years of experience, receiving specialized training from leading roofing materials manufacturers. It also offers affordable financing options.

Ms. V. Training Center — Veronica Williams has been an independent Red Cross certified instructor since 2008. In 2013, she began providing American Heart Association classes for health care providers. She is also

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Here's Johnny: Meet The Carpet & Air Duct Man

By Zach Sparks

Not many 12-year-olds know their future career path, but Johnny Fendlay had a good idea.

At 12, Fendlay spent much of his free time helping his dad, who owned a cleaning truck. By 16, Fendlay had his own truck and business. Within 10 years, he had almost 50 vehicles in his fleet.

Although he now runs a smaller operation, he remains focused on reliable service and providing high-quality products at an affordable rate.

Fendlay's business, The Carpet & Air Duct Man, assists customers with all their flooring needs, carpet sales and installation, luxury vinyl plank sales and installation, air duct services and mold abatement. The business does free next-day flooring estimates and is available for 24-hour emergency services.

"If Ms. Jones called because there's water in her basement, I will get the message in less than an hour," said Fendlay, who lives close to his company's Pasadena showroom. "When someone calls, there is nothing we don't have an answer for. We don't refer to anyone we don't use ourselves."

Customer service is at the forefront of everything Fendlay does, and no job is complete until the customer is happy.

"We're not like [Gene] Siskel and [Roger] Ebert, with our men giving two thumbs up when we're done working,"



Johnny Fendlay is focused on reliable service and providing high-quality products at an affordable rate.

Fendlay said.

He recommends that people get their carpets cleaned at least twice per year. While there are several benefits, the most important is health. By getting carpets cleaned, homeowners limit their exposure to soils, gases, animal dander and other pollutants.

The Carpet & Air Duct Man uses truck-mounted hot water extraction, or "steam cleaning," along with the latest in detergent technology to clean carpets and upholstery.

"Carpet cleaning takes care of dust mites, pet accidents and everything else," Fendlay said. "... with the hot

stream extraction, we don't leave the carpet soaked."

Air ducts should be cleaned once every two years, with filters changed once per month. Warning signs include breathing problems, a musty or stale odor when the furnace runs, a lack of airflow from vents, or dust collecting on furniture shortly after cleaning.

"It can cause itchy eyes and a scratchy nose [if you don't get air ducts cleaned]," Fendlay said.

The business is also active in the community, supporting schools across Severna Park and Pasadena through sponsorships. A father of three girls,



Fendlay feels it is important to give back.

He also supports men and women in recovery by speaking at churches and facilities like Evolve Life Centers, Elevate Recovery Centers and Grace House Recovery Services.

"It lets them know there is hope," he said.

Whether he's serving families through his business or through philanthropy, he wants people to know he is trustworthy.

Fendlay said, "My dad and I had a saying: We don't cut corners. We clean them."

The Carpet & Air Duct Man is open six days a week but available by phone 24/7 for emergencies. Main hours are 7:00am-5:00pm from Monday through Friday and 7:00am-noon on Saturday. A new showroom is located at 8461 Fort Smallwood Road, Suite A, in Pasadena. For more information, call 443-452-6003, email thecarpetman.jf@gmail.com or visit www.thecarpetandairductman.com.



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Bank Failures And The FDIC

» Continued from page 46

which concerned depositors.

The FDIC is there as a backstop to protect depositors against banks making bad investment choices. The problem occurs when depositors have more than \$250,000 in each investment category. An investment category differentiation is, for instance, a CD and a savings account. Both would be protected up to \$250,000. If you are looking at your bank assets and wondering if you are protected, simply ask yourself if you have more than \$250,000 in each investment category. If you have below this amount, you are protected by the FDIC.

In the case of Silicon Valley Bank, however, those who had over 250,000 in each investment category were fully protected based upon the Biden administration. That is great news for Silicon Valley depositors, but if you have more than \$250,000 at your local bank, do you think the

government would bail you out?

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Jason LaBarge, financial advisor and president of LaBarge Financial

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Chamber Update

» Continued from page 46

a training site coordinator with more than 70 instructors. She is providing Red Cross certified babysitting classes at the chamber.

Jiselle Burkhalter, Licensed Life/Health/Accident Insurance Agent

— **The MWE Partnership** is a dynamic, experienced voluntary benefit agency with comprehensive insurance solutions to meet the needs of your business. It can help you attract and retain quality employees with diverse supplementary insurance and voluntary insurance benefit packages.

We had an abundance of ribbon-cutting celebrations this month to celebrate grand openings and milestones. Here they are:

- Ribbon-cutting celebrating the **grand opening of Annapolis Aesthetics in Severna Park**. The business provides skin care treatments and services.
- Anniversary celebration of **JK Organizing's three years of business success**. The team will help you get organized and create sustainable systems.
- Launch of **Carrie Baquie's Well-being Empowerment Coaching business**. She can help you navigate the journey through chronic illnesses.
- Ribbon-cutting celebrating the **grand opening of Skinlogic in Severna Park**. Skinlogic provides hair removal and skin care treatments and has its own line of products.
- Ribbon-cutting celebrating the **grand reopening of National Carpet and Flooring in Crofton**. This is under new ownership and has expanded.
- Anniversary celebration of **Bike Doctor Arnold's 35 years of business success**. Bike Doctor has six locations in Maryland.

group held a multi-chamber luncheon at the **Walden Country Club** in Crofton, celebrating Women's History Month. Nancy Greer of the **Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu & Tai Chi** sponsored well-known actress Mary Ann Jung, who portrayed Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Stanton wrote all of the speeches for Susan B. Anthony and worked with her for 50 years on women's rights.

Member Rose Walker of the **House of Design** sponsored a mixer at **The Social**, where she displayed her wonderful line of clothing. Come see her at our Shop Local Fun Fiesta on May 6 at Park Plaza from 11:00am-3:00pm.

The Wellness Business Coalition held its monthly meeting at **The Social**. The meetings are open to wellness practitioners and are held on the third Thursday of each month from 4:30pm-6:00pm.

Booth space is filling up for our Shop Local Fun Fiesta. Attendees can enjoy exhibitors, entertainment, a DJ, food and more. Our gold sponsors will donate 50% of their sponsorships to charities. Gold sponsors are **Landmark Roofing, Dodgebow Annapolis, SERVPRO of Severna Park/Arnold, the Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu & Tai Chi, and Kogen Dojo**. Silver sponsors are **Kwon's Taekwondo** and the **Lash Lounge Annapolis**. Bronze sponsors are **CertaPro Painters of Severna Park** and **Neat Wall TV**.

Registration is open for our Independence Day parade. The parade will be held in Severna Park on July 4 from 10:00am-noon. The theme of our parade is "Broad Stripes, Bright Stars and Big Hearts." The grand marshal is Wayne Gerst, a lifelong resident and philanthropist.

We love to see floats and have created a special contest to award \$500 in three categories: Best Overall, Most Patriotic and Most Original.

For more information about the parade, events or membership, please visit www.gspacc.com.

Our Successful Women in Business

EnviroProjects Named SBA's Maryland Home-Based Business Of The Year



Aaron Keel

EnviroProjects LLC in Severna Park has been named the 2023 Maryland Home Based Business of the Year, by Stephen D. Umberger, district director of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Baltimore District Office.

Aaron Keel, principal of EnviroProjects, along with 13 additional award winners from Maryland, will be honored at the 37th annual Maryland Small Business Week Awards Luncheon on June 8 at Martin's West in Woodlawn, Maryland.

The company assists clients with advanced environmental compliance needs through strategic, cost-effective, accurate and productive solutions. Since 2009, EnviroProjects has specialized in providing natural resource services and regulatory and cultural services while conducting due diligence and contamination assessments. Keel has more than 25 years of experience working with both private development and public infrastructure projects throughout the mid-Atlantic region. He is a member of numerous environmental and civic organizations, most recently serving as chair of Urban Land Institute (ULI) Baltimore District Regionalism Committee, and volunteers with local restoration efforts of the Severn Riverkeeper and Patuxent Riverkeeper organizations.

Each year since 1963, the president has issued a proclamation calling for the celebration of National Small Business Week. This year, the dates are May 1-5, with national events planned virtually and in select cities across the country.

For information on the 2023 Maryland Small Business Week Awards Luncheon or for tickets, visit www.mdsbwawards.org or contact rachel.howard@sba.gov.

Zeskind's Acquires Clement Hardware

Severna Park Landmark To Become Park Hardware



Clement Hardware has been a staple of Severna Park since it was founded in 1969. In homage to its location, the new store, located at the corner of Robinson Road and Ritchie Highway, will be named Park Hardware.

Zeskind's Hardware and Millwork, a fourth-generation, family-owned business founded in 1925, has acquired Clement Hardware in a deal that settled on March 31. Zeskind's legacy business is in retail hardware, but in the last 15 years has grown to become one of Maryland's leading manufacturers and wholesale distributors of windows, doors and custom millwork products.

"This acquisition means a lot to me personally, having grown up in Severna Park," explained Rick Miller, Zeskind's owner and president. "I can't emphasize enough the amount of respect I have for Gordon Clement, his family, and the amazing team of people at Clement Hardware. Having the opportunity to carry on the legacy

of this store is a responsibility we do not take lightly."

Clement Hardware has been a staple of Severna Park since it was founded in 1969 by David Clement and is known for having knowledgeable staff who know their customers by name. These same faces will remain, as all current Clement employees will have the opportunity to continue on as employees of Zeskind's. In homage to its location in Severna Park, the new store will be named Park Hardware.

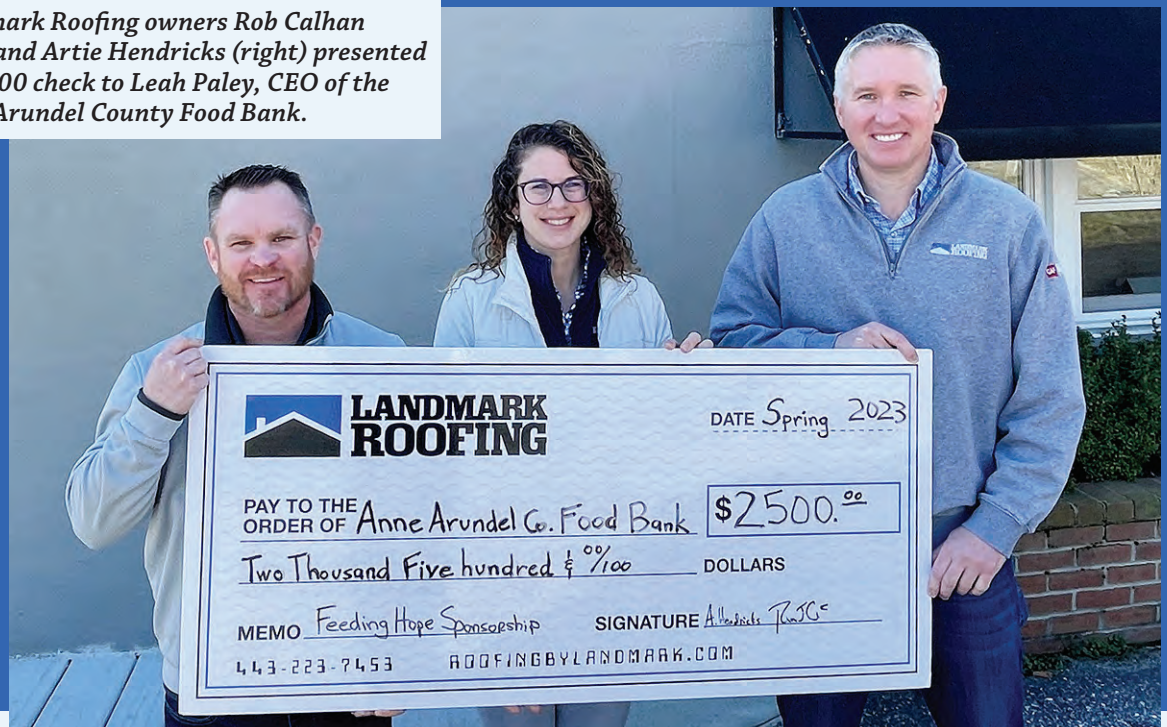
"It would not feel right putting my family's name on such a Severna Park icon," Miller said. "This store belongs to the people and the town of Severna Park, and so Park Hardware is the only option in my opinion."

In addition to a full exterior and

interior store remodel, Zeskind's will change the retail affiliation to Do It Best and move its current Arnold door and window showroom inside the retail store. Clement Hardware is already known for its decorative/architectural hardware showroom, which includes brands such as Baldwin, Emtek and many others. By combining Zeskind's door and window showroom with the existing signature offerings, the result aims to be a combination of doors, windows and decorative hardware all in a sleek showroom, with designated staff to assist designers, builders and homeowners. On display will be major brands such as Andersen, Jeld Wen, Masonite and Therma Tru, as well as offerings from Zeskind's own in-house custom shop.

Landmark Roofing Supports Food Bank

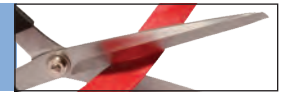
Landmark Roofing owners Rob Calhan (left) and Artie Hendricks (right) presented a \$2,500 check to Leah Paley, CEO of the Anne Arundel County Food Bank.



For the second year in a row, Landmark Roofing is a supporting sponsor for Anne Arundel County Food Bank's upcoming Feeding Hope Gala that will be held May 18 at Homestead Gardens' Davidsonville store from 5:30pm-8:00pm. Last year, Anne Arundel County

Food Bank supporters raised more than \$75,000 at the event. Funds raised support the work of ensuring that food-insecure neighbors have access to free and nutritious food. To learn more or donate, go to www.aafod-bank.org/feeding-hope.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



New Business Offers Skin Care Services In The Park

Meredith Baker welcomed the community to the grand opening of her new business, Skinlogic, in March. Skinlogic offers research-based, medical-grade cosmetic treatments. The new business is located at 770 Ritchie Highway, Suite W19, in Severna Park.

National Carpet And Flooring Reopens In West County

The Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting in March to celebrate the grand reopening of National Carpet and Flooring. Located in Crofton, the newly renovated showroom includes a variety of products designed to meet all flooring needs.



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