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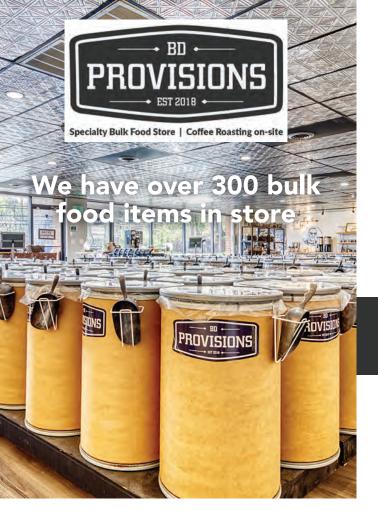


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DINING GUIDE 2023 5

Art In The Park And Other **Events Showcase** ear-Round Entertainment

The Annapolis Songwriters Festival aims to give music lovers a chance to get to know the names and faces behind the industry's biggest and most famous songs. Photo courtesy of Amanda Daubert/Front Rail Photography

There's no shortage of offerings that encourage Anne Arundel County residents to go outdoors and enjoy happenings in the area. Here's a sampling of events taking place this summer and beyond.

By Sharon Mager

Art in the Park

Cafe Mezzanotte and the Severna Park Voice are teaming up to host the third annual Art in the Park, coming October 1 to the Severna Park restaurant. Great music,

intriguing art, and the smells and tastes of Mediterranean cuisine will be available to attendees.

"The event will be a sensory experience," said Jonathan Katz, Severna Park Voice vice president of business development and sales manager. Cafe Mezzanotte owner Kosmas "Tommie" Koukoulis said Art in the Park flowed out of the success of his restaurant's Jazz at the Mezz events that featured professional acts touring Washington, D.C., and Annapolis.

Koukoulis wanted to transition the popularity into more of an outdoor festival with multidimensional art and jazz. The inaugural Art in the Park was a hit.

This year, the event will feature local and regional talent. Multiple musicians are booked, at least six local artists will showcase and sell their work, and the restaurant staff will serve Cafe Mezzanotte's classic Mediterranean fare. Painters and potters will do live demonstrations throughout the event.

"We are lucky to have our own outdoor patio and courtyard, which will be used for the musicians," Koukoulis said. "Plus, we'll open up the double doors that connect to the private banquet rooms for an art gallery with up to 100 pieces of art for sale."

Whether window shopping or adding to a collection, everyone can find something that suits their level of interest in the arts. Koukoulis said. Both he and Katz are excited about the music, which includes musicians Sweet Leda and Lower Case Blues

Sweet Leda offers a blend of newschool funk, psychedelic rock, soul and pop. The group describes itself as "a female-fronted, soul-based, Zeppelin meets Chili Peppers."

The group has been the recipient of numerous awards and has shared the stage with Galactic, 311 and Jefferson Starship.

Katz praised lead singer Julie Cymek's abilities not only as a blues artist but also her talent to utilize multiple musicians

Continued on page 8

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Photo courtesy of Ryan Photography



CAFE MEZZANOTTE

grazie for voting us **BEST OF** for best restaurant, dinner, Italian and special occasion join us for indoor and **OUTDOOR DINING** on our covered organic garden patio thoughtfully curated **SEASONAL MENUS** that change every six months for freshness and creativity we proudly work with **LOCAL PARTNERS** for the area's best chemical-free and organic ingredients experience our old world meets new **ITALIAN CUISINE** with a focus on simple, exceptional ingredients

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Art In The Park And Other Events Showcase Year-Round Entertainment

Continued from page 5

in different ways to create the group's signature sound.

Lower Case Blues are inductees into the Delaware Blues Hall of Fame and are known as a tri-state area blues, rock and funk band. The group has shared the stage and worked with industry heavy hitters such as Buddy Guy, Marcus King, Blues Traveler and Grand Funk Railroad.

Attendees will also be able to partake in Cafe Mezzanotte's popular food offerings.

"We'll have a little mobile kitchen and bar set up in the courtyard to add a festival feel, and there will be those wonderful smells of food cooking outdoors," Koukoulis said. "Folks can also get beer and wine from an outdoor bar."

Though the menu has not been set, Koukoulis plans to add festival-style "playful items," like meat, veggie skewers and fried desserts.

Some of the event proceeds will benefit Providence Center, a nonprofit that supports people with disabilities to live their best lives.

More information, along with ticket sales, will be available in early August.

Annapolis lis Arts Day Arts Day

Annapoon June 1Ó includes festivities offering

multiple art forms in and around the city.

The Maryland Federation of the Art will host a two-hour "Paint Annapolis" exhibition opening reception at 5:00pm at its pop-up gallery at 4 Church Circle.

Maryland Hall will have several exhibits throughout the day, including the "Sound + Light Project" by artist Craig Colorusso and the "Community23" exhibit by AND Creative.

The Banneker Douglass Museum, located at 84 Franklin Street, will open for visitors to enjoy a current exhibit, "The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy."

Kids-n-Kaboodle is a free fair for children at the Weems-Whelan Field featuring arts and crafts, face painting and a book giveaway.

The Art Stroll down West Street offers visual art, music and some theatrical performances.

End the evening with dinner under the stars. Many Annapolis restaurants plan to offer romantic al fresco dining.

Visit www.annapolisartsweek.com for times, costs and other details.

Paws

If you're a craft beer Pints 4 fan, check out The Annapolis Homebrew Club's seventh annual Pints 4 Paws from

2:00pm-6:00pm on June 10. Tickets include samples of more than 50 home brews, a silent auction, raffles, more than 30 local vendors, food and more. Children, as well as dogs, are welcome. Funds will benefit the Anne Arundel County SPCA.

The event will be at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis. General admission is \$55, but check out the various options, including discounted tickets for designated drivers.

Get tickets and more information at www.annapolishomebrewclub.com/ pints4paws.

Hayride in Hayrides aren't just for Halloween the Park

fun, Kinder Farm Park in

Chris Gives

Foundation

is kicking off

its inaugural

fundraiser at

the Millers-

Millersville offers hayrides one Saturday a month during the warmer seasons. The next is on June 17 from 9:00am-11:30am. Kids and adults can catch a ride, offered every half hour for \$5. Gate fees apply also.

You can also visit the Kinder Family Farmhouse on various days this summer. More information is available at www.kinderfarmpark.org.

Barbecue, Music and Auctions

ville-based Baldwin Hall from 4:00pm-6:30pm on June 17. Enjoy Witt's Barbecue, a cash

bar, music by DJ Lionel, a silent and live auction, and raffles throughout the evening.

Prizes include a weekend for two in Ocean City, goose hunting in Talbot County for up to four people, and a NASCAR outfit signed by Brian Vickers.

Chris Gives Foundation is a nonprofit charitable organization that provides free vehicle repairs for individuals and families in need.

Fourth ofJuly Parade

The Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce's annual Fourth of July parade is a tradition unlike many others.

Each year, floats from neighborhoods, sports teams, youth clubs, civic groups, businesses and other organizations display patriotic spirit and vie for the title of Best Overall, Best Theme and Most Patriotic.

This year's theme is "Broad Stripes, Bright Stars and Big Hearts." The parade starts at 10:00am, after the decorated bike contest for kids. That contest is held at the chamber office, and the parade begins at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal and Our Shepherd Lutheran churches on Benfield Road. Next, the route turns onto Evergreen Road and then Riggs Avenue, B&A Boulevard and Cypress Creek Road.

To learn more about participating in the event or sponsorship opportunities, visit www.gspacc.com.

Summer & R&B on at the Soul Funk Festival at Anne Festival

Get your soul Summer Soul Funk Arundel County Fairgrounds on July 22. National

artists and groups include Lakeside, Klymaxx, Brick, Clones of Funk, DC Vibe and more. Comedian Lawrence Owens will be the host. Various vendors, along with wine tastings, will be at the event.

Gates open at noon. Visit eventbrite for more information or to buy tickets.

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Photos courtesy of John Bildahl Photography

Cafe Mezzanotte will have up to 100 pieces of art and many wares for sale during Art in the Park, scheduled for October 1.



Maryland Renaissance Festival

The Maryland Renaissance Festival begins its 47th season August 26 and runs Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day Monday through October 22 for nine weekends of thrills, feasting, handmade

crafts, entertainment and merriment at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville. Learn more at www.rennfest.com.

Annapolis Songwriters Festival

Modeled after the Key West Songwriters Festival, this event debuted in Anne Arundel County in 2022, bringing musicians to venues around the area. This festival aims to give music lovers a chance to get to know the names

and faces behind the industry's biggest songs in an up-close and personal setting. This year's event runs from September 14-17. Learn more at www.annapolissongwritersfestival.com.



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Music Matters: Catching Up With Two Acts Coming To Rams Head On Stage

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

A nnapolis is no stranger to local and national musical talent. To preview their upcoming shows at Rams Head On Stage, two acts spoke with the *Severna Park Voice*.

For tickets or more information, visit www. ramsheadonstage.com or call 410-268-4545.

The Arcadian Wild

June 3 at 8:00pm

N ashville trio The Arcadian Wild is coming to Rams Head On Stage with a new 12-song album, "Welcome," set to be released July 21. The record follows the band's self-titled debut in 2015, a 2019 follow-up called "Finch In The Pantry" and the 2021 EP "Principum," which reached No. 3 on the Billboard Bluegrass Chart.

The new album from guitarist Isaac Horn, mandolinist Lincoln Mick and fiddler Bailey Warren blurs the lines between chamber folk and progressive bluegrass, drawing on everything from country and classical to pop.

Mick discussed the new album and the trio's growth.

C: How would you describe the songwriting process?

A: Isaac and I do most of the songwriting. Historically, we've naturally gravitated toward this multi-step process that starts with individual ideation. The two of us usually work through new ideas off in our own little worlds, and then once we land on a lyric and a general structure that feels nice, we'll move on to a phase of peer review. After that, we start arranging with the full band, and we make collaborative choices about the instrumental conversation arc of the song, vocal part writing, etc.

I think for our music, the identity of each song is inextricable from its arrangement. It's not necessarily this core idea that can then be dressed up and executed in lots of different ways. What the fiddle's doing feels as essential to its DNA as the lead vocal. Q: You have mentioned that The Arcadian Wild does not have a drummer because you want to create something that feels natural and conversational. What is the conversation you want to have?

A: I actually think we do have a drummer; it's just that the drummer hat gets passed around amongst all four members of the band. And to be lovingly clear to all our percussionist friends, ensembles with full kits, of course, make all kinds of natural and conversational music, some of our favorite music. I do think

that part of how we have musical conversations as a group lies in the process of that percussive baton pass.

One of the singles we released fall of 2022, "Give It A Rest," is a great example. That one is really different for Bailey because she's laying down the pocket for probably 75% of the song, and the fiddle doesn't really get to be the fiddle until the bridge, and only for a moment, and then she's back on chops to finish. That tune is a mid-tempo slow-burn, with a little boiling-over moment just before the end. That banger of a fiddle ride hits that much harder because she's been

playing a supportive role in the background in the minutes prior. You're ready for her to finally come out and burn it up.

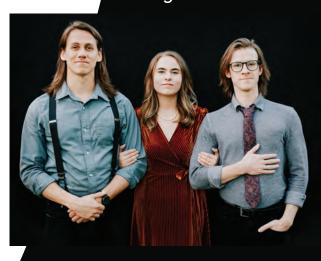
Cone of the singles on "Welcome" is "Dopamine," which presents an interesting juxtaposition because the instrumentation

Continued on page 12



Photo courtesy of Jeff Fasano Marc Broussard will bring his blend of soul, R&B, funk and rock to Rams Head On Stage from June 23-24.

Photo courtesy of Shelby Mick The Arcadian Wild is a trio comprised of mandolinist Lincoln Mick, fiddler Bailey Warren and guitarist Isaac Horn.



Music Matters

Continued from page 11

and overall sound is cheerful and upbeat, but the lyrics document the sobering reality of smartphone and social media overreliance. Was it a conscious decision to write the song in a way that is encouraging to the listener rather than being grim?

A: Definitely a conscious decision. There are probably several different ways to write any given song. I'm sure there's an alternative version of this that's a seven-layer salad of cynical sarcasm and moral superiority. Maybe that's somebody else's story to tell, but it wasn't the right and productive one for us to chase down. I think warmth and empathetic humor is a subversive and effective way to forge connections with people.

Q: Your music is a blend of folk, bluegrass, classical, pop and other genres. Some first-time listeners may be visiting Rams Head On Stage in Annapolis to hear you for the first time, so with that in mind, do you feel like this musical blend gives fans of all genres something to enjoy?

A: That's definitely our hope. We often meet people after shows who tell us, "I didn't know I liked this kind of thing, but now I'm totally in." It's fun to feel like we get to function as a backdoor into acoustic music for some folks. Isaac and I are just a couple of goons who grew up listening to punk-pop and alt rock, stumbled into choir in high school and college, and then ended up playing excessively arranged songs in a bluegrass-adjacent string band. The Arcadian Wild just sort of feels like this little river of accidents and miracles, and I'm really grateful to get to float and paddle along.

Marc Broussard

June 23 and June 24 at 8:00pm The king of bayou soul — that's one moniker bestowed upon Louisiana native Marc Broussard, who also incorporates R&B, funk and rock into his music. His 2023 album "S.O.S. 4: Blues For Your Soul" features covers and one original song that were produced by guitar virtuoso and songwriter Joe Bonamassa and Broussard's longtime collaborator, Joe Smith.

Broussard made his major-label debut with "Carencro," which featured the breakout hit "Home." He has released four charitable cover albums via his S.O.S. Foundation, short for Save Our Soul.

C: In an interview with Live at the Print Shop, you talked about the original version of the song "Home" and how you hate the original version because that guy (yourself, I assume) was trying so hard to sound different than he was. How did that song and debut album help you find your musical identity?

A: "Home" is definitely the best first foot forward I could've dreamed of. I was so young, though, and my conceptions about my role in this business have changed since then pretty dramatically. Ultimately, I just learned to engage more so than just showing up and opening my mouth. Marshall Altman (producer) would say, "Sing the lyric," but I didn't know what he meant then. I do now.

Q: You've had plenty of tour dates since releasing "S.O.S. 4: Blues For Your Soul." Are there songs you feel the audience has engaged with the most?

A: We're only playing two songs from the new album, and both have been received well. So well, in fact, that I'm working on an original blues album as we speak. You've got Joe's team ready to go at it again, and I couldn't be more excited.

Q: Joe Bonamassa's team suggested Guitars Over Guns as the beneficiary for this album. You've had friends with run-ins with street violence. How could music make a difference for some of these youth in the lowermiddle class?

A: I have friends that were headed by being in the studio instead of on the street. Many are no longer in the music business, but those days of grinding it out in the laboratory are what kept them from a lot of trouble. It's also a way for someone to feel heard because their words and notes go down for posterity. I don't know where I'd be without music, but it'd probably be nowhere good.

Rams Head Calendar

JUNE

June 3: The Arcadian Wild at 8:00pm June 4: Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers at Maryland Hall at 7:30pm

June 4: All Star Purple Party Tribute to Prince at 8:00pm

June 5: Apex Commercial Band at 7:00pm

June 6: Dave Mason Band at 8:00pm **June 7:** Robert Randolph Band at 8:00pm

June 8: Blue Miracle (Dance Floor) at 8:00pm

June 9: Little River Band at 8:00pm at Maryland Hall

June 10: Marcus Miller at 6:30pm and 9:30pm

June 11: Nancy Wilson's Heart at 8:00pm June 13: Suede at 7:30pm **June 13:** Toad the Wet Sprocket with Pressing Strings at 8:00pm at Maryland Hall

June 14: Pat Travers Band at 8:00pm

June 16: The Bacon Brothers at 6:30pm and 9:30pm

June 17: The Bacon Brothers at 6:30pm and 9:30pm

June 18: Billy Bob Thornton & The Boxmasters at 8:00pm June 19: AMFM Presents In the Vane of Chuck Berry at 7:00pm

June 20: Jimmie Vaughn and the Tilt A Whirl Band at 8:00pm

June 21: Justin Hayward with Mike Dawes at 8:00pm

June 22: Spyro Gyra at 8:00pm

June 23: Marc Broussard at 8:00pm June 24: Marc Broussard at 8:00pm June 25: Alan Cumming & Ari Shapiro: Och & Oy! at 7:30pm

June 25: Tyler Bryant & The Shakedown & Davy Knowles 8:00pm

June 26: Sergio Mendes at 8:00pm at Maryland Hall

June 28: Ally Venable 8:00pm

June 29: Malina Moye at 8:00pm

noted. For the full summer calendar or for tickets, visit www.ramsheadonstage.com. Ran- June 13: Toad the Wet June 19: AMEM Broussard at 8:00p

Shows are at Rams Head On Stage unless otherwise





06.09 LITTLE RIVER BAND



06.13 TOAD THE WET SPROCKET W. PRESSING STRINGS



06.25 ALAN CUMMING & ARI SHAPIRO OCH & OY: A CONSIDERED CABARET



06.26 SERGIO MENDES





07.20 BRIAN McKNIGHT 4



07.27 LOS LOBOS



RAMSHEADPRESENTS.COM





06.06 DAVE MASON BAND



06.23 & 06.24 MARC BROUSSARD





06.25 TYLER BRYANT & DAVY KNOWLES



06.08 BLUE MIRACLE



07.15 COMEDIAN COLIN QUINN



RAMSHEADONSTAGE.COM

Dockside Food And Activities To Enjoy From Your Boat

By Alyson Kay

hether you're looking for fun activities and delicious food you can get to by boat or a chance to take in the sights of the Chesapeake Bay from the water, there are plenty of places along the shore for dockside entertainment and cuisine.

Donnelly's Dockside

Formerly Deep Creek Restaurant, this friendly, upbeat family restaurant in Arnold was started by former Cantler's Riverside Inn General Manager Dan Donnelly and former Pratt Street Ale House Owner Don Kelly in 2017. The restaurant offers 15 slips for free to boaters, dock tables and a downstairs bar. The crab cakes are breaded with gluten-free breadcrumbs and the crabs are caught locally. Try the restaurant's crush drinks with fresh orange, grapefruit, pineapple, or lemon juice made in-house.

Mike's Crab House North

Musicians take the stage at this redroofed restaurant in Pasadena. Try its Maryland crab soup and enjoy a drink at the indoor bar or tiki bar. Mike's North also has regular all-you-caneat steamed crab specials. Check the restaurant's Facebook and Instagram pages for more information on specials and musical performances.

The restaurant is located at White Rocks Marina, which has 375 permanent slips and can accommodate boats between 21 and 45 feet. Call 410-255-3800 for more information on services, slip availability and rates.

The Point Crab House and Grill

This Arnold restaurant features live steamed crabs sourced from the Chesapeake Bay and live music. Check the crab board or ask your server about crab availability and prices. You can also try the award-winning Maryland crab and cream-of-crab soups. Check the restaurant's website for information on music performances. The Point is located at the Atlantic Marina at Ferry Point, which has up to 106 wet slips for boats up to 50 feet. Visit *www.atlanticmarinasmd.com* or call 410-544-6368 for more information on services, slip availability and rates.

Severn Inn

If you're looking for a waterfront restaurant with an elegant yet fun vibe, Severn Inn is the restaurant to visit. Known for its fresh seafood, this restaurant at the eastern side of the Naval Academy Bridge uses seasonal ingredients sourced locally as much as possible. Try the cornmeal crusted Virginia flounder with baby carrots, broccolini, cauliflower puree and fennel salad and pair your meal with one of the inn's multiple wine offerings.

Reservations are recommended for seating in the dining room. Deck seating is first come, first served. Severn Inn has a dock that accommodates boats up to 65 feet. It has no dockhands or boat slips and the draft is 8 to 12 feet. Dock space is first come, first served.

Jimmy Cantler's Riverside Inn

Known for its Maryland blue crabs, this Annapolis mainstay has been serving fresh seafood for more than 40 years. Crabs are priced daily on the restaurant's chalkboard. Order by the dozen, half dozen, or by the crab. Cantler's does not reserve crabs. Crab opening tutorials are available by request. Free docking is available on a first come, first served basis. Enter Whitehall Bay and pick up flashing channel marker 320 NW to Cantler's.

Watermark Cruises

Enjoy the sights on a variety of cruises around Baltimore and Annapolis. Choose from trips including a 90-minute sunset cruise with live music and a full day trip to St. Michaels. Watermark also features special event cruises, including an Independence Day fireworks cruise near the historic Annapolis harbor and Sherwood Forest/Severn River. Cruises generally offer alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages for purchase at a full bar. Some cruises also offer food. To learn more, go to www.watermarkjourney.com.

Pirate Adventures on the Chesapeake Bay

Set sail on the Sea Gypsy for a family friendly cruise in Annapolis. Adults can relax and take in the sights while the kids learn the rules of the sea, search for treasure and work to defeat the rotten Pirate Pete.

The ship sets sail up to six times a day for 90-minute cruises from 311 Third Street. Tickets for public cruises are \$30 for full price tickets or \$25 for pre-sale tickets. For kids 2 years old and younger, \$14 tickets are available. Arrive 30 minutes before the start of your cruise for face painting and dress up. Check www. chesapeakepirates.com for trip details, tickets and directions.

Annapolis Fourth of July Fireworks

Watch the city's annual fireworks display from your boat at Annapolis Harbor. The display is launched from a barge in the harbor, so you'll have one of the best seats in the house for this patriotic show. Fireworks start at 8:00pm and conclude around 9:45pm. For up-to-date information on the event, including rain dates, go to www.visitannapolis.org/events/ annual-events-and-festivals/4th-of-july.

Rates for the city dock are \$3 per foot on weekdays and \$4 per foot on weekends. Hail the Annapolis harbormaster on VHF 17 or call 410-263-7973 for dock space.

Annapolis Maritime Museum

If you're looking for an interactive and educational indoor activity in Annapolis, sail to Eastport's Annapolis Maritime Museum. Visitors can learn about a variety of topics focused on the city's long maritime history, bay health and

DINING GUIDE 2023 15

The Harbor Queen set sail on a Watermark cruise around Annapolis Harbor. Photo by Rick Brady

HARBOR OUEEN

Photos by Hamilton Photography Passengers danced to music performed by Naptown Brass Band aboard the Harbor Queen at a Watermark cruise event.

the oyster industry by interacting with a holographic waterman, completing one of the museum's three virtual reality boat activities. Guests can also view the new aquarium exhibit that shows how the water quality in the bay has changed over time.

A variety of tours are available for booking on the Wilma Lee, one of the few remaining Chesapeake Bay skipjacks. Tickets start at \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 3 to 12 years of age, seniors over 65, military personnel and students. Children under 3 can visit for free.

To book tickets and learn more about events and programs, go to www. amaritime.org. The museum is near the Horn Point Harbor Marina, which offers 56 slips from 30 to 70 feet in length. Reserve a slip on the Horn Point Harbor Marina website or contact the marina at 410-263-0550 or info@hornpointharbor.com. ■





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Thursday - \$6 Signature Cocktails

Saturday & Sunday - Brunch Menu 10am-3pm featuring Bottomless Mimosas, Bellinis, and Bloody Marys





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Summer Day Trips Worth The Drive



By Lauren Cowin

iving in Severna Park and the surrounding communities comes with the benefit of having endless entertainment possibilities within an hour in all directions. Here's a list of a few ways to spend a summer day.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

While throngs of travelers fly in every year to visit our nation's capital, we have the ability to explore some of the top tourist attractions in the country with just a quick car or train ride. The options are endless when it comes to spending a day in the District. Here are a couple of ideas.

MONUMENTS AND MUSEUMS

Get your steps in as you spend a day taking in the sights at the National Mall.

Baltimore

There's no shortage of activities in Baltimore.

ORIOLE PARK AT CAMDEN YARDS

For families planning to cheer on the hometown team with children in tow, the Orioles offer free upper deck tickets for children ages 9 and under.

BEYOND THE BAY BRIDGE

TERRAPIN NATURE PARK

Just beyond the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in Stevensville, nature lovers will find 276 acres to explore at Terrapin Nature Park.

Whether you are working up a sweat along the threeplus-mile trail or basking in the sun along the shoreline, this park can easily fill a day with It's easy to alternate indoor and outdoor activities by popping into one of the many Smithsonian Institute museums that line the National Mall.

If you're planning to tour with young children, consider visiting the National Museum of American History. This museum offers Wegmans Wonderplace, an interactive, hands-on area where wondering minds and wandering hands have a safe space to play and learn. www.si.edu/museums

www.mlb.com/orioles/fans/ kids/cheer-free

Fans can level up their Baltimore and baseball history knowledge with a stop at the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum, located a few blocks from the stadium.

216 Emory Street Baltimore, MD 21230 www.baberuthmuseum.org

exercise, wildlife sightings and Chesapeake Bay views.

191 Log Canoe Circle Stevensville, MD 21666 www.qac.org/Facilities/ Facility/Details/ Terrapin-Nature-Area-97

Nestled along the Choptank River, historic Cambridge provides outdoor adventures, local shopping and a dose of history.

MOUNT VERNON

Pay homage to the first U.S. president and take in views of the Potomac (and Maryland, from the Virginia side) at George Washington's Mount Vernon in Alexandra, Virginia.

Visitors can tour the mansion where Washington lived and perished, explore the expansive estate and brush up on history at the museum and education center. A grounds pass also includes admittance to George Washington's Distillery and

Edgar Allan Poe House

Literary buffs may enjoy learning about another famed Baltimorean and author of "The Raven" at the Edgar Allan Poe House Museum. Reservations are required.

203 North Amity Street Baltimore, MD 21223 www.poeinbaltimore.com

History buffs can visit the Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center, located in downtown Cambridge and roughly 10 miles from her childhood home.

424 Race Street Cambridge, MD 21613 www.harriettubman

museumcenter.org

For a full day of fun in the sun, the Hyatt Regency Chesa-

Gristmill. Tours of these facilities are available Saturdays and Sundays from April to October, and whiskey tastings are available on Saturdays in May, June and September.

Outside food and drinks are not permitted at Mount Vernon, but visitors can enjoy a meal at Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant. Purchase tickets in advance.

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Toby's Dinner Theatre Offers Summer Fun

Photo courtesy of Toby's Dinner Theatre

The cast of "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville" has started rehearsal for the June 16 to August 20 run at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, Maryland.

By Mark Patton

mark@severnaparkvoice.com

here are certain things associated with the sunny season for many – a nap in a hammock, the sound of children in the water, the glow of fireflies in a backyard and the slurp of frozen drinks.

Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, Maryland, is hoping to add to those summer memories as "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville" appears onstage at the venue from June 16 to August 20.

"We're calling it the perfect summer party," said Mark Minnick, associate producer at Toby's.

While the name Jimmy Buffett is synonymous with Parrothead culture and the fellowship of booze, tropical attire and gatherings at shows that often comes with it, "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville" isn't a concert. It's a full-on, onestop shop for an evening out with easy and free parking, no stress and some good island vibes - food, a full bar, fellowship and theater.

The musical is a boy meets girl love story involving an island, drinks, fun, laughs and the lounge "Margaritaville." Buffett tunes provide the musical landscape to the show, including recognizable hits such as "Cheeseburger in Paradise," "Fins," "Volcano," and "Margaritaville."

Howard County native and Salisbury University graduate Patrick Gover — coming off a run at Toby's playing Danny Zuko in the theater's production of "Grease" — is once again in a leading role at the dinner theater, set to play Tully Mars this summer. Mars is the singer at "Margaritaville" and the musical's portrayal of Jimmy Buffett.

The Toby's experience offers another unique twist. During the pre-show meal, the actors from the production double up as waiters. Minnick said this allows for a mutual admiration society, in a sense, as guests can interact with the folks they will soon applaud onstage.

Minnick said the menu for the show's meal hasn't been finalized yet, but he added that some things shouldn't come as a surprise to Buffett admirers.

"You can bet it's going to be themed toward some of his music," Minnick said.

The food won't be the only thing that ties in a Buffett theme.



Minnick noted that Toby's will look and feel like a tropical resort during the production's run.

"Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville" is expected to bring a lot of folks to Toby's, including the flocks of fans who regularly see the iconic performer at the nearby Merriweather Post Pavilion.

"We want to make sure if you want to see this show, which has never been produced in this area, then you should get your tickets early because it will sell out," Minnick said. "It's got the name, it's got the fun, the music, the story."

Tickets can be purchased by calling Toby's box office at 410-730-8311. More information, including ticket prices and box office hours, is available at www.tobysdinnertheatre.com/ box-office/tickets. Tickets are also available on Ticketmaster, but that option adds service fees.

Minnick said the show is appropriate for ages 13 and up and contains some adult humor and language.

Whether you're seeking to down a Hurricane before you go insane or just looking to nibble on sponge cake, Toby's has you covered this summer.

"It's a guaranteed good time," Minnick said.





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22 2023 DINING GUIDE

Farm-To-Table Dining

Restaurants Partner With Local Growers, Purveyors

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

any restaurants claim to offer fresh food. But what exactly is on your plate?

Some establishments around Severna Park take the farm-to-table concept seriously.

Cafe Mezzanotte owner Kosmas "Tommie" Koukoulis used to peruse farmers markets, searching for ingredients. He has built enough connections that he now has a network of growers and purveyors.

His preference is to work with farmers that are certified organic, without genetically modified organisms or GMOs.

"I'm getting a non-GMO, cleaner product," he said. "I can assume it's been raised in a healthier manner. The grower cares a little more."

For vegetables, he tries to stay within a 100-mile radius to buy local as much as possible. That radius includes Lancaster, Pennsylvania. For meat, Cafe Mezzanotte wants products from animals that are grass-fed.

One of Koukoulis' business partners is Green View Hydroponics, a Queen Anne's County family farm that opened in April 2022. Green View Hydroponics grows lettuce, greens and herbs in a 24,000-square-foot greenhouse.

Hydroponics is a soil-free growing method that utilizes less water, energy and fertilizer than field-grown crops. Also, with lettuce being grown indoors, it is not exposed to outdoor conditions like weather and pests.

"As the water flows, it goes back to a tank ... and we're able to recycle that water," said Alan Eck, who grew up as a grain farmer and a livestock farmer on the Eastern Shore before Green View Hydroponics opened. "In the greenhouse, we're able to control the temperature so lettuce grows in optimal stages."



Left: Founders Tavern & Grille grows its own herbs for its strawberry basil gin. **Right:** Starting in June, patrons at Founders can try this lavender gin sour with ingredients grown by the restaurant's owners, Steve and Janet Sumner.

Garten owners Jeremy and Michelle Hoffman have their own garden onsite for growing culinary herbs. Jeremy said it's Michelle's passion project to grow basil, sage, sorrel, thyme and edible flowers that can be incorporated into menu offerings.

The Hoffmans are also particular about finding local partners. Some of their food and beverages come from Chesapeake Smokehouse (Annapolis), Binkert's German Meat Products (Baltimore), Lyon



Garten co-owner Michelle Hoffman started a beekeeping operation. Bees are great pollinators for her garden.

Bakery (Hyattsville) and Pherm Brewing (Gambrills).

"The most important thing is that the product is spectacular," Jeremy said. "We are very fortunate to have so many local businesses providing the restaurants with beautiful sausages, bread, smoked salmon and beer."

Another couple, Steve and Janet Sumner from Founders Tavern & Grille in Pasadena, also grows their own herbs. Their bar menu features a strawberry basil gin drink, and they are growing lavender for a gin sour that patrons can enjoy starting in June.

On the kitchen side, the Founders staff purees their own watermelon, and makes their own bread and apple pie crust in-house.

"For us, when you buy seasonal ingredients, you are getting fresh ingredients," Steve said. "It definitely comes through on the plate. You don't have to doctor everything."

None of the restaurant owners claim to be completely local or seasonal, but it is a priority. If local is not an option, regional ingredients like North Carolina strawberries and Georgia tomatoes are ordered. Diehl's Produce in Severna Park offers some of that produce.

"They say 75% of the taste of any dish comes from the ingredients, independent of who prepares it," Koukoulis said. "With ingredients that are much fresher comes more nutrients and flavor."

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BTM Looks Ahead To 2023-2024 Season

ith the Spanish ballet "Don Quixote," Ballet Theatre of Maryland wrapped its 2022-2023 season at the end of April. Now, the company is anticipating big shows next season.

The upcoming 2023/2024 season includes "The Firebird" in October, "The Nutcracker" in December, "Momentum: A Mixed Bill" in February and "The Sleeping Beauty" in April. All performances will take place at Maryland Hall.

Season subscriptions are on sale now and single tickets will go on sale in August. For more information, visit www.balletmaryland.org or call 410-224-5654.



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and boys! We had ages 9-11, some athletic and some that needed a little helping when needed. They ran fun games, and were excellent with crowd control. The kids can't stop talking about how much fun it was to team up with and print their first of the





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et ready to sample 75 wines from around the world, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, restaurant specialties and artisanal cheese during Corks for a Cause at Homestead Gardens in Severna Park on June 14 from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

The Next Generation of University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC), Homestead Gardens and Fishpaws Marketplace team up each year to organize the annual fundraiser, which will benefit UM BWMC's healing garden. The garden provides a convenient place for patients and their families to relax, meditate or take a break from treatment.

Registration is \$70 in advance or \$75 at the door. Business casual attire is recommended. For tickets, visit www.umms.org/bwmc/giving/ events/corks-for-a-cause. ■



Corks for a Cause offers attendees the opportunity to socialize and sample wine and cheese while supporting UM BWMC's healing garden.

ASGT Invites Audiences To Shows

or more than 50 years, Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre has provided unique entertainment as an outdoor community venue. This season, the company will delight audiences with two shows.

XSG

Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre

"First Date"

Show Dates: June 29–July 22

When blind date newbie Aaron is set up with serial-dater Casey, a casual drink at a busy New York restaurant turns into a hilarious high-stakes dinner. As the date unfolds in real time, the couple quickly finds that they are not alone on this unpredictable evening. In a delightful and unexpected twist, Casey and Aaron's inner critics take on a life of their own when other restaurant patrons transform into supportive best friends, manipulative exes and

protective parents, who sing and dance with them through icebreakers, appetizers and potential conversational land mines. Can this couple turn what could be a dating disaster into something special before the check arrives?

"Footloose"

Show Dates: August 3–September 3 When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, he is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school. But he's not prepared for the rigorous local edicts, including a ban on dancing instituted by the local preacher, who is determined to exercise control over the town's youth. The heartfelt story that

emerges pins a father longing for the son he lost against a young man aching for the father who walked out on him.

To the rockin' rhythm of its Oscar- and Tony-nominated Top 40 score, augmented with dynamic new songs, "Footloose" celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people while guiding them with a warm heart and open mind.

For more information about either show or to order tickets, visit summergarden.showare.com.

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Annapolis Arts Day And The Addition Of Anne Arundel Arts Month 2024

A Broader Vision For 2024 And A Celebration Of The Arts On June 10

nnapolis Arts Week, the week-long celebration of the arts, will be abbreviated this year to Annapolis Arts Day as its organizers prepare to launch a larger-scale program in 2024.

On June 10, the festivities will include ways to celebrate and engage with the arts in and around the Annapolis Arts District — from Maryland Hall to Church Circle and beyond.

The Maryland Federation of the Art will host its "Paint Annapolis" exhibition opening reception from 5:00pm-7:00pm at its pop-up gallery at 4 Church Circle, where awards for the public and student artists will be announced.

Maryland Hall will host an outdoor exhibit opening of the Sound + Light Project by Craig Colorusso. In its Chaney Gallery on the second floor will be an installation by Colorusso, while the Martino Gallery hosts the "Community23" exhibit presented by AND Creative from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Moving down West Street, Inner West Street Association will present Art Stroll, a feature of performing artists along Inner West Street, from 2:00pm-5:00pm, as well as its event Dinner Under the Stars beginning at 5:00pm. The Banneker Douglass Museum will have its doors open from 10:00am-4:00pm for the viewing of its current exhibit "The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy."

Looking for another kid-friendly arts activity? Join Kids-n-Kaboodle, the free fair for children, at Weems-Whelan Field from noon-4:00pm. Activities include arts and crafts, face painting, a book giveaway and more.

While the week-long festivities of Annapolis Arts Week get shortened to one day in 2023, event organizers want Anne Arundel County to know that this is only a small break that leads to a bigger vision in 2024.

"After a tumultuous personal year for our team, we've decided to take this year to slow down and reset," said Arts Week co-director Darin Gilliam. "In the process, we've expanded our vision for how Annapolis Arts Week can have a bigger impact in our city and community. This led to partnering with the Anne Arundel County Arts Council and the creation of Anne Arundel Arts Month, which will launch in June 2024, led by Annapolis Arts Week and then followed by North County Arts Week and South County Arts Week."

Receive further information about Annapolis Arts Day and the expanding vision for Anne Arundel Arts Month at www.annapolisartsweek.com.



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