



Severna Park
Boys, Girls
Compete
At Bull Run
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Art In The Park
Showcases
Local Talent
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OCTOBER 2023

Welcome To The Hall Of Fame Part II

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

A five-time high school state champion, a Major League Lacrosse All-Star, a coach who nearly went undefeated in her career. These are just a few members of the Severna Park Athletic Boosters Hall of Fame class of 2023.

An 11-person committee chose eight inductees from a field of 17 candidates who were nominated. These individuals were honored during a Severna Park home football game against Annapolis on September 14.

Learn about five Hall of Fame members in the second part of the Voice's series.

ROBERT "BOB" FELTS

Class of 1970

Credentials

- Batted .516 with 15 stolen bases for Severna Park baseball
- Severna Park varsity assistant coach from 2005-present (head coach during 2012)
- Played minor league baseball with York White Roses
- Helped build stadiums and dugouts across Anne Arundel County

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By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

In Purcellville, Virginia, a skeleton with an orange bow-tie, a top hat and a pinstripe suit roams a 10-acre property.

Known as the Madhaunter, this character is the brainchild of Jeff Keiling, who designed a haunted attraction that is brought to life every October with the help of Arnold resident Steve Wheatley.

This year's attraction runs for 13 nights, mostly on weekends, starting October 6.

Madhaunter's Madhouse is not a run-of-the-mill haunted house.

"It's a madhouse of nightmares," Wheatley said. "You won't see Freddy Krueger or monsters. We created a lot of characters you won't see at other haunted houses."

The variety of characters runs the gamut.

"A lot of houses are clown-

Madhouse Of Horrors

Arnold Resident
Co-Organizes Attraction
That Opens October 6



themed or zombie-themed," Keiling said. "Ours has insects, murderers and evil stuff. It has parts for people with claustrophobia. If there is a fear people have, we are tapping into it, so everyone is included."

Keiling transitioned from pumpkin carver to set creator in 2005 when he and his wife, Amy, opened their Las Vegas home to visitors. The front of their house gave way to a "graveyard," with tombstones that Keiling hand-carved from concrete. The couple eventually added their garage, driveway and hallways to the display, recruiting 15 actors for the spectacle at its peak.

"It started as a 10-minute attraction in front of our house," Keiling said. "We had so many people. It was more than we could handle."

Wheatley joined the haunted tradition in 2010 after Keiling moved to the East Coast.

Together they worked on

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Finding Gifts From Grief At The Sweeney Center

By Mark Patton

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McGeady and Samantha Bushnell were living a dream script last November.

The Severna Park High School graduates moved back to the area a couple of years prior and bought their first home.

» Continued on page 6

Severna Park residents McGeady and Samantha Bushnell showed memories of their son, Miles, at The Sweeney Center on September 25, 2023.





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.

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Arnold EMT Recognized For 30 Years Of Service

By Zach Sparks

While many kids and parents are getting ready to dress up for Halloween, Alicia Blake-Hall will don a uniform like the one she has worn for 30 years as an emergency medical technician.

Blake-Hall was recently recognized by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for three consecutive decades of emergency medical service (EMS) certification. To maintain her status as a nationally registered EMT, she had to complete a recertification program on a biennial basis.

She was nationally registered as an EMT in 1993 and has been serving the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department for 15 years.

"This is family, hands down," she said of the Arnold fire department. "It's a very small station, but we're mighty."

Prior to joining the Arnold unit, she spent eight years in Pasadena and seven in Prince George's County.

Life at the Arnold station has been relatively calm compared to Prince George's County, where she responded to many calls stemming from traffic accidents.

"There was much more blood and guts in PG County," she said.

Blake-Hall took a circuitous route to that position after graduating from the University of Maryland as a



After stints in Prince George's County and Pasadena, Alicia Blake-Hall came to the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department.

dietician.

"We tell a heart attack patient to eat low salt ... but what happened to make you have the heart attack medically?" she said, citing one example of the health issues she examined.

Combine that dietician experience with training as a certified diabetes education specialist and insulin pump and continuous glucose monitor (CGM) product trainer and she has a

unique clinical background.

"All these things made me a unicorn," she said.

Blake-Hall has worked in hospitals and helped adult day care facilities develop menus. She also started Eat Healthy to B-Healthy, a mobile service specializing in diabetes education.

She feels fortunate to be part of the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department, which pays nurses and paramedics, and encourages continuing education. She advanced her education with a degree in nursing from Anne Arundel Community College in 2020.

"Most stations don't say, 'You should go back to school,' [like Arnold Volunteer Fire Department does]," she said. "There's no drama here. It's professional."

Professionalism is a trait that fellow volunteers admire about Blake-Hall.

"Alicia dedicates her life to her daughters and shares her time with the community," said Debra Hopkins, an officer with Arnold Volunteer Fire Department. "She is knowledgeable, smart, funny and, above all, compassionate. She selflessly gives her time to help others."

"When she isn't running calls with the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department, she is educating others. She teaches CPR and provides one-on-one diabetes and nutrition counseling. Any community would be blessed to have her. We got lucky."

The Unintended Consequence Of Low Interest Rates

David Orso



of homes an incentive to homebuyers. Sales of homes in Anne Arundel County soared for four years in a row with more than 10,000 homes sold per year.

To put that into perspective, there has never been a year in recorded history where that has occurred, and the 25-year average in Anne Arundel County for homes sold is 7,500. We have seen record-breaking sales, high demand from buyers, and the average sales price rising by 20% per year.

Most homebuyers in the greater Severna Park area are move-up buyers, which means they live locally and are

purchasing a home that is more expensive than the one they currently reside in. The lower interest rates afforded them the ability to trade up in house for a similar payment. This mathematical reality, combined with increased work-from-home scenarios, has pushed more buyers into a price range they had never dreamed of. Affordability created movement, and movement created record-breaking sales. There is no magic marketing formula or new employer in town to explain the explosion of values. This is easily explained by the payment-driven society we live in.

But there was an unintended consequence to these incredible rates. Once you get a 3% mortgage rate, you never want to give it up. It is common to think interest rates are all about homebuyers, but what about all the homeowners who refinanced and now have a spectacular rate and payment? Those are the sellers who are saying they would love to list their home because of its worth, but they don't want to buy a house with a 7% interest rate.

The rates have caused a stagnation

in sellers willing to list and make their move. To quantify this phenomenon of sellers clutching onto their interest rate, new listings are down 44% in Severna Park in 2023 versus 2022. Without listings, we are seeing sales dip in direct correlation to the anemic listing stats.

The low interest rates were an incentive-based marketplace. An incentive-based market is when there is an increased amount of buying and selling because of a stimulating factor like a liquidation event. We have fully transitioned into a need-based marketplace where only the sellers who need to sell will list their home and only buyers who need to buy will do it. The backdrop for residential real estate has always been driven by the need for state change such as job relocation, marital changes, families growing, downsizing and other factors that we call life.

Life happens and normal buying and selling will occur, but in my opinion, the days of incentive-based movement are over. The fundamentals of a normal market are to rely simply on the simplest economic factor: supply and demand.



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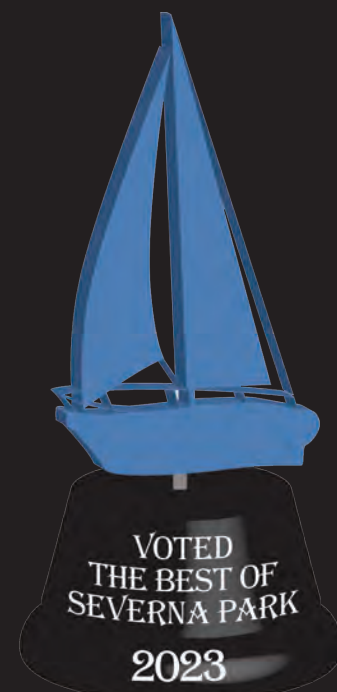
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Turning 30: Partners In Care Helps Aging Residents Be Independent

By Kevin Murnane

An idea in 1993 to help local seniors stay independent has morphed into a vital program, Partners In Care, that allows thousands of area residents to remain in their homes.

Thirty years ago, three friends from Severna Park — Sandy Jackson, along with sisters Barbara Huston and Maureen Cavaola — were in different graduate school programs and wanted to develop a way to help seniors stay in their homes.

“We went to the county’s Department of Aging, and they said that transportation was the biggest need in the senior community,” Jackson said. “Seniors really needed help going to their doctor’s appointments, grocery stores and picking up prescriptions.”

With that guidance, the trio went to work on writing grants for funding as well as locating a site they could secure as their headquarters.

“We sent out 10 grant proposals, and the France Merrick Foundation gave us a \$50,000 grant over three years and that was a major milestone to develop the program,” Jackson said.

The start-up project still needed multiple components, but its priority was a local company to partner with in its development and outreach to the community.

“One of my neighbors in Whitehurst was Jim Walker, who was then the chief executive director of North Arundel Hospital,” said Jackson, referring to the hospital that is now University of



Founding member Sandy Jackson (left) of Severna Park viewed the latest display at Partners In Care Upscale Boutique with finance manager Terry Riddle.

Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center. “He went to his board of directors, and they agreed to match the grant with an in-kind donation which included office space and great support from the information technology staff as well as the public relations and marketing team.”

Another Whitehurst neighbor of Jackson’s was Bill Englemeyer, who was the hospital’s information technology director. He assisted with databases and computer systems. The hospital’s public relations director created the name of the program and helped design the logo and collateral package that is still used today.

The new program, dubbed Partners In Care, had to concentrate next on recruiting volunteers to provide these services to enable seniors to stay in their homes.

Partners In Care promoted a service exchange plan to entice area residents. The plan asks volunteers to provide community service hours in exchange for those services being provided to them when and if they are needed.

“Everyone has some skill to give back to the community,” Huston said. “Our volunteers provide an array of services from driving seniors to their appointments, to handyman services, to working in our boutique.”

Partners In Care currently has more than 2,600 members and volunteers, with Huston estimating that about 400 to 500 steady volunteers participate.

The program has expanded over the years to include a wellness-check program, which has volunteers calling seniors who may live alone to see if they need anything, and a birthday card project that has volunteers sending cards so that members get a warm greeting on their birthday. Partners In Care also added a veterans helping veterans entity as well as an upscale boutique on Ritchie Highway in Pasadena. The boutique’s revenue provides nearly 50% of its budget that complements their continuous fundraising efforts.

A major addition was given to Partners In Care when North Arundel Hospital purchased its first mobility van from the proceeds of one of its golf tournaments.

“That really helped us meet the needs of seniors who were wheelchair bound as well as their family members who had to be with them for doctor visits and eye appointments,” Jackson said.

Huston turned over the CEO reins to Mandy Arnold six years ago after spending a year with Arnold on the transition to ensure the program’s original principles were carried on.

“We all brought different skills when we started this program,” Huston said. “It was fortuitous for us to find one another, and we were able to be part of someone’s life in a positive way and to help thousands of seniors stay independent.”

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Shoptoberfest Returns With A Twist

Halloween and Oktoberfest will come together during the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce's shop local festival on October 21 from 11:00am-3:00pm. Dubbed Shoptoberfest, the event will make its first appearance at Severna Park Racquetball & Fitness Club in Millersville after several years in the Park Plaza shopping center.

A free, family-oriented event, Shoptoberfest will feature music, shopping opportunities, trick-or-treating, a costume contest and other activities. To learn more about Shoptoberfest, visit www.web.gspacc.com.



Finding Gifts From Grief At The Sweeney Center

» Continued from page 1

McGeady Bushnell was finishing his master's degree and preparing to join the civilian workforce as the conclusion of his stint as a Naval officer was nearing an end. Samantha Bushnell was busy with her trifecta of roles as working business logistics for an international moving company, doing freelance American Sign Language interpretation, and coaching field hockey and lacrosse at Severn School.

Samantha Bushnell was also pregnant, and bloodwork in the first trimester revealed the couple's son had complete Trisomy 18, a rare chromosomal abnormality with a high mortality rate. They were handed a card of somebody who could help them — Heather Silver, the founder and president of The Sweeney Center, based in Arnold.

"We were living in this, what to us felt like, a living nightmare, and we didn't know how to navigate anything," Samantha Bushnell said.

The Bushnell family kept hearing Silver's name brought up in those first days following the diagnosis, and they went to The Sweeney Center, which is composed of SilverLeaf Counseling and SilverLeaf Kids. The center also operates the Bill Sweeney Perinatal Care Fund and is the only dedicated and specialized practice for perinatal palliative care in Maryland.

Silver's motivations to help parents and kids are an example of a phrase that comes up often in her circle — gifts from grief.

"All of my children are rainbow babies, which means a baby born after a loss," said Silver, who has had 11 pregnancies and three biological children, including her youngest son, who is a surviving twin, like his mother. "The weird, twisted mind bend that happens when you look at your family and think, if one of my prayers had been answered to keep one of those babies, I would not have my family."

So, it's no surprise that she decided not to pursue her thoughts of being an attorney but shifted gears to focus on social work instead. A choice that paid off as, among other recognitions, she was the 2021 recipient of the Innovation in Social Work Award from her alma mater, the University of Maryland.

"I wanted to make sure that every mom has the choices that I didn't get the first time, because I hadn't realized how much I had not grieved or even thought about them as babies," Silver said. "They were called fetuses and tissue and things like that."

An important father figure and mentor to Silver, and the namesake of the center that she founded, also had a part. After being laid off at the Hospice of the Chesapeake, Silver wasn't sure her private practice could go ahead.

"This is something that you need to be doing; you have to do this for the community. They need you. They need us. We are their layers of support," Silver recalled the late Dr. William "Bill" Sweeney, a former perinatologist at Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center, telling her that same night.

Silver, who now has four perinatal specialists at The Sweeney Center, along with a diverse set of other staff, stresses that parents facing a difficult diagnosis should seek services right away.

"The human brain can only take so much, and when it receives traumatic news, your brain can't function properly for two weeks," said Silver, noting that those 14 days are often the timeframe patients have to make difficult decisions such as carrying to term or terminating a pregnancy.

Silver can not only guide patients through familiar ground in therapy but she's also at the hospital with the patients, texting, coordinating proper nurse coverage and taking care of the bureaucratic side of health care that grieving or stressed patients may not be up for.

"As soon as you find out the diagnosis, that's all you're thinking about," McGeady Bushnell said. "As a couple, you're in this dark cloud, and then you're in your own dark cloud, but I think what coming here does is Heather provided us with so many different resources that we didn't have

the mental capacity to even think about."

McGeady Bushnell also revisited his past with Silver. The former surface warfare officer, one of 10 children in his family, lost a sister to sudden infant death syndrome in 2004. At the time, as the oldest son, he felt he had to put up a guard.

"I think probably a lot of husbands or fathers in situations, whether it's a miscarriage, or a stillbirth, or you lose a child early on, you just put up blockers," McGeady Bushnell said. "I think maybe those are some of the things that lead to issues personally or within a marriage."

Silver equips patients with bumper sticker phrases that are ready responses to questions from others that can be awkward to respond to, such as not seeing somebody for five months and they ask about the baby.

"It's a weird thing, so being able to navigate that, especially with Heather's help, it's huge," McGeady Bushnell said.

Heather Silver's daughter, Morgan, is a sophomore at Penn State University. She's also a double rainbow baby.

"I think I mostly felt lucky," Morgan Silver recalled. "I felt very blessed that I was the one who made it."

Morgan Silver said her mother is the strongest person she knows and one of her future ambitions, serving with a mobile crisis team, reflects admiration for her.

"My mom worked in mobile crisis, and I want to do the same thing," said Morgan Silver, who also has an interest in criminology.

Morgan Silver spoke at last year's Bill Sweeney charity gala event where she informed the crowd, from a sibling's perspective, on parents including kids in the bereavement process.

"It gives kids building blocks for healthy grief," said Heather Silver.

Morgan Silver talked about her sister, Sloane.

"The weird, twisted mind bend that happens when you look at your family and think, if one of my prayers had been answered to keep one of those babies, I would not have my family."

— **HEATHER SILVER**
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT
OF THE SWEENEY CENTER

"If she were alive, my brother would not be alive," said the college student who stressed the ability to celebrate the siblings no longer physically here, while also acknowledging the gift they created.

Miles McGeady Bushnell was delivered on March 28, 2023, after five months of gestation. He was stillborn. Heather Silver's advocacy and knowledge helped ensure the parents of top-notch care, and they got to hold and meet baby Miles.

"It made a little bit of lightness in all of the darkness we were living in," Samantha Bushnell said.

A week after Miles was delivered, McGeady knew he had to do something and interned at a private equity firm for six months. But he couldn't shake the knowledge he learned about the human heart from studying some of Miles' ventricle complications, and he now serves as a cardiac ablation specialist with a medical device company where he has opportunities to serve alongside pediatric heart surgeons in the operating room.

"His job is his gift from grief," Silver said.

Samantha Bushnell is not discounting a rainbow baby of their own.

"We're hoping to grow our family," she said.

October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month, and the Bushnell family will be speakers at this year's annual Bill Sweeney charity gala on October 7 at the Blackwell Barn & Lodge in Gambrills.

Heather Silver stressed the need for community support for the Sweeney Center so they can add more personnel, among other things, to assist more parents and siblings, whether it's by donations, sponsorships or through volunteering in various programs. The center does not turn anybody away for an inability to pay or being underinsured.

"When you lose your pregnancy, you're losing your future, not your past," Heather Silver said. "It's such a different grief."

More information on the charity and center is available at www.billsweeney-charity.org.

"It's not a community you ever wish to be a part of, but we're glad that we have the people that we have in our community that have gone through something similar," Samantha Bushnell said.



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College Parkway Traffic Study Offers Safety Plans

By **Steven Jacobs**
Student Intern

The Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works has completed a traffic study for a 4.8-mile stretch from the end of Ritchie Highway to Cape St. Claire Road. Those findings for the Major Intersections/Important Facilities Study (MIIF) were shared on September 19 during a community meeting at Broadneck High School.

Data in the study included the 16 intersections of College Parkway. The Bay Dale Drive intersection totaled 59 crashes in the summer and fall of 2022 combined, with two of them being pedestrian/bike crashes.

In summer 2022, the west of Jones Station Road intersection accumulated around 22,500 vehicles per day, while east of Jones Station Road accumulated around 22,200. In fall 2022, the intersection west of Jones Station Road accumulated around 30,000 vehicles per day, while east of Jones Station Road accumulated around 23,800.

This traffic study monitored the seasonal congestion and trip diversions from Maryland Route 2 and U.S. 50 heading into College Parkway, and the recommended mitigation measures to reduce multi-modal crash risk. This collaboration was completed with help from the Maryland Department of Transportation and consultation by A. Morton Thomas and Associates Inc.

The meeting consisted mostly of residents of the Broadneck peninsula,

as well as members of the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works. Led by project manager Adam Greenstein, the meeting provided possible solutions to the issues presented in the traffic study, and answered questions from residents who were eager to hear ideas that will make College Parkway a safer drive for everyone in the community.

"Today we just really wanted to go over some updates of what we have done since we last met," Greenstein said. "... Present the key findings we have discovered that

would pertain to the public, updates on some recommendations, and just a little bit more detail on everything so that the general public today can be transparent on what's currently happening and still in the works regarding how to fix the issues present in the study."

With the study, the Department of Public Works and the Maryland Department of Transportation are addressing the inability of pedestrians to safely walk or bike on College Parkway. The short-term (zero to five years) solution is the implementation of Broadneck Trail additions, which will span from Peninsula Farm Road to Bay Dale Drive. That phase of the trail is currently under construction and will immediately combat the high pedestrian crossing volume issue.

A new pedestrian crosswalk will allow for safe crossing across Shore Acres Road to limit any more problems that may arise getting back onto the Broadneck Trail.

Another cause of the constant traffic during peak and rush hours is the insufficient green time given by traffic signals on Jones Station Road and Shore Acres Road. The long turn queues, as well as long delays, force seasonal congestion on College Parkway.

The Department of Public Works' short-term solution to this issue is new traffic signal equipment at Jones Station Road, Shore Acres Road and Bay Dale Drive intersections. They will also provide upgrades to the signal phasing/timing at those intersections, as well as upgrades at Bellerive Road, Green Holly Drive, and College Drive/Anne Arundel Community College Road off of Ritchie Highway.

A detailed map outlining all of these implementations with labeling and a display key can be found on the county website. The collaboration team also created a PowerPoint presentation detailing all of the issues found in the study, as well as their ideas for improvement found on the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works website.

The total budget cost for the proposed plans is \$166,292.

The Bay Dale Drive intersection totaled 59 crashes in the summer and fall of 2022 combined.

St. Martin's Plans Mental Health Walk

Members of the community will gather at St. Martin's-in-the-Field on October 8 at 11:15am for a one-mile walk aimed at raising awareness about mental health and reducing the stigma associated with mental health conditions.

This initiative is organized by the Severna Park-based church and will benefit NAMI Anne Arundel County, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by mental illness.

Organizers believe mental health has long been a topic that carries misconceptions and stigma, causing many individuals to suffer in silence. The upcoming walk is a step toward changing that narrative. Community members are joining together to create a more compassionate and understanding environment for those living with mental health symptoms.

NAMI Anne Arundel County, the beneficiary of this event, has free programs and resources that have offered support to individuals and families dealing with mental health challenges. The funds raised from this walk will further strengthen NAMI's mission to provide education, support and advocacy.

All members of the community are invited to join the walk. All donations will benefit NAMI Anne Arundel County.

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AACC Professor Tapped For Environmental Award

By Mark Patton

mark@severnaparkvoice.com

Before she added the titles of doctor and professor in front of her name, Susan Lamont had a transformative moment after finishing her undergraduate studies.

At the time, saving the rainforests was a slogan that was on the lips of most young adults, including Lamont. She joined the Peace Corps and went to the Philippines to work with farmers doing agriculture in poor soil.

"It's much more complicated than I thought," Lamont recalled thinking about that slogan and the reality of effecting change.

After going back to school to study the issue, a trip to the Peruvian Amazon to work with the indigenous population to research and study how they interacted with the rainforest changed her thoughts on how to make a positive environmental impact.

As part of the study, Lamont also had to teach.

"As soon as I started teaching, I was like, 'Oh, this is how you make a difference,'" she said.

On October 10, Lamont will become the recipient of the 2023 Jan Hollmann Environmental Education Award during a ceremony at the Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center in Millersville. Lamont, a Kent Island resident, is a biology professor at the Arnold-based Anne Arundel Community College, or AACC, a school that she's been with for 21 years. She currently teaches botany,

plant taxonomy and ecology.

In what could arguably be the best compliment an educator can receive, she was nominated for the award by former AACC student Evann Magee.

"Dr. Lamont has been a key factor in my career in environmental science," said Magee, who now works for Scenic Rivers Land Trust, stewarding conservation easements. "She taught me so many amazing things about the natural world, and even though she could be anywhere in the world doing research in some exotic place, she chooses to educate the next generation."

The Jan Hollmann Environmental Education Award was established in 1994 and is an annual award that provides recognition to an individual or organization that has been especially effective in achieving environmental education in Anne Arundel County.

Lamont's students at AACC have opportunities to be part of research projects that she conducts each year in Corcoran Woods Experimental Forest at Sandy Point State Park. During the fall, her students can study the effectiveness



On October 10, Susan Lamont will become the recipient of the 2023 Jan Hollmann Environmental Education Award during a ceremony at the Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center in Millersville.

of invasive species removal that was undertaken by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in 2015. In the spring, she leads students in monitoring biota and water chemistry in vernal pools.

"The thing that inspires me the most is to get students out in nature that haven't experienced it, that sometimes are afraid," Lamont said. "To see them so comfortable, to see them in awe

of nature for the first time, to really observe. That, to me, is the best because that changes people's lives too."

Sally Hornor was the recipient of the environmental award in 2003, so it's fitting that the person who considers Hornor a mentor would receive the same award 20 years later. Hornor currently serves as the vice president of the Magothy River Association and served on the search committee that brought Lamont to AACC.

"We can provide a field experience that students in a four-year college may not get until their junior and senior years," said Hornor, who retired from teaching in 2015.

Magee, who currently resides in Washington, D.C., said Lamont's ecological principles and environmental assessment course changed his life.

"She treated students like adults in the real world," Magee said. "We conducted scientific research in multiple environments and wrote scientific journal articles for assignments."

Lamont is familiar with the grounds where she'll receive her recognition. She spent time at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center while she went through the Watershed Stewards Academy, whose mission is "to train and mobilize community leaders to drive change for sustainable landscapes and clean waters."

"That gave me a lot of tools, educational support," Lamont said. "I connect people in the community that want problems solved with what I'm doing with my students."

Lamont said she's humbled by the recognition.

"To be recognized for Jan Hollmann, who left such a legacy and had such a positive impact, I mean that's a huge honor," Lamont said. "I'm very humbled by that."

Hornor hopes it drives Lamont to continue her passion.

"[I am hoping it makes her] feel a little more empowered to continue with this philosophy of helping her students learn skills and ecology in a way that they can carry on with them," Hornor said.

To RSVP for the October 10 ceremony, which runs from 6:00pm to 8:00pm and is open to all, visit www.signupgenius.com/go/20foe45a9ae2aa5f85-janhollmann1.



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Welcome To The Severna Park Athletic Hall Of Fame: Part II



Bob Felts is a longtime assistant coach for the Severna Park High School varsity baseball team.



Jim Ledsome enjoyed the ceremony with his father, Roger Ledsome, a Severna Park class of 1973 graduate.



Although **Becky Molloy** played soccer, softball and basketball as a kid, field hockey was always her top sport.



Kathie Zingler lost one match her first year and then went undefeated for seven years later.

Credentials - Erin Kindy

High School Soccer

- State champion during freshman season
- As a senior, finished with her team as state runner-up. She made All-County first-team, and All-State second-team

High School Lacrosse

- Won three state championships
- Three years as first-team All-County, first-team All-Metro and first-team All-American
- First-team high school All-American

High School Indoor Track

- State champion in 4x800-meter relay

Loyola Lacrosse

- First team All-American and team captain in 1998

» Continued from page 1

Robert “Bob” Felts played only seven or eight games in center field during the early history of Severna Park High School baseball, but those were enough to make an impression.

“We used to play sandlot ball in Hollywood on the Severn, behind Millhausen’s Tavern,” he said. “Back in those days, there was not anything to do other than fishing, crabbing and playing sports.”

Following his Falcons’ playing career, he tried out for the Hearst All-Stars — now known as the Brooks Robinson All-Stars — which played at Memorial Stadium and featured the best players from Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.

He then went to the York White Roses, an affiliate of the Washington Senators, which later became the Texas Rangers.

His passion for the game never wavered. He was selected to lead Severna Park as the varsity baseball coach in 2012 after serving as a longtime assistant coach with Jim McCandless, who died earlier that year. McCandless had been the head coach for 12 years.

“One of the biggest things I have ever done was helping these kids through that tragedy,” Felts said.

As a building contractor, Felts has helped construct many dugouts, press boxes and facilities throughout Anne Arundel County, including Joe Cannon Stadium in Hanover.

For a man who married his high school sweetheart and just did what he loved for a living, the Severna Park Hall of Fame recognition came as a surprise.

“I haven’t done anything that anyone else wouldn’t do,” he said, before reflecting on the honor. “There are a little bit of emotions. It’s just cool.”

ERIN WYLDE KINDY

Class of 1994

Erin Wylde Kindy started playing sports in fourth grade, following in the footsteps of her sister, Amy, who was inducted into the Severna Park Hall of Fame in 2011.

“It’s fun for the community to bring this back,” Kindy said. “Those were great days.”

Most of all, she values the friendships she made at Severna Park High School.

“I’m very close with my lacrosse teammates from high school,” she said. “Working with people when you have the same views on everything, it carries into everyday life.”

When reflecting on what helped her

excel as an athlete, she pondered the challenge of always pushing her body to reach the next level. She would tell current athletes that determination applies not only to sports.

“I think working hard in class is No. 1 when you have sports ... keep working hard and it all pays off in the end,” she said. “There’s lots of lessons.”

BECKY SHANK MOLLOTT

Class of 1996

Although Becky Shank Molloy played soccer, softball and basketball as a kid, field hockey was always her top sport.

“I caught on quickly because it was a lot like basketball,” she said. “The way you set up your offense, play defense, pick and rolls, draw and dump. Scoring in transition. You play on the same angles.”

She always loved the camaraderie and the competitive nature of sports.

“You have a purpose; you have a goal,” she said.

That purpose led her to four consecutive county, region and state titles as a member of the Falcons.

She also won a title at the University of Maryland, but her athletic experience was not all fun. She tore her ACL twice, once in high school and once in college.

“Her athletic career at Maryland is a story of courage and determination,” said Molloy’s mom, Maggie, who nominated her for the award. “It was marked by pure grit, and more grit, as she battled back from two season-ending injuries and overcame adversity when many athletes would have given up, to regain her starting position on the field.”

That’s not all she learned during her time at Severna Park and the University of Maryland. She has fond memories that she can share with her daughters.

“Most of the lessons I had in life, I can translate to something I did or experienced at Severna Park High School,” she said. “Resilience from overcoming injuries. Coaching, it’s there to build you up and make you stronger. And being a team.

“My family is my team,” she said. “People I work with are my team. It’s an investment, and you can be part of a team in every facet of life.”

JIM LEDSOME

Class of 2004

For Jim Ledsome, the most humbling aspect of the Hall of Fame honor was being nominated by a peer, former Severna Park point guard Danny Reagan.

“We weren’t the most talented team — I can guarantee you that — but we were hardworking,” Ledsome said of his team, which won a county championship in 2004. “We had a very powerful defense. It wasn’t about scoring a bunch of points. We basically had a team of hard workers who played fundamental defense.”

That was precisely the style of basketball Ledsome admired.

“Rebounding, outthrusting people for a ball on the court,” he said when explaining his style. “I’m not going to come down and shoot 3s, but I’m 6-foot-8 with a 40-inch vertical.”

Following his days at Severna Park, Ledsome redshirted at the University of Nebraska and transferred to Delaware after two seasons to round out his playing career.

Now that his playing days are over, he enjoys being a father to his 8-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter, and coaching Green Hornets athletes.

Ledsome credited former North County coach Mike Francis and the Amateur Athletic Union organization, along with former Severna Park head coach Paul Pellicani and current head coach Pete Young, for developing him as a player.

Young attended the ceremony. So did Ledsome’s father, a Severna Park High graduate who attended all of his son’s games, and Ledsome’s wife, who came to his games when the couple dated in high school.

“It was pretty neat to have that basketball community come out 19 years later,” Ledsome said.

KATHIE ZINGLER

Coach through 2011

Kathie Zingler lost one match her first year and then went undefeated until she stepped down as coach seven years later.

Tyler Deitrick cited his experience as a player for Zingler when nominating her for the honor. Her impact, Deitrick said, was about more than wins and county championships.

“Coach Zingler taught me and many other student-athletes about mental toughness, perseverance, sportsmanship and respect,” Deitrick wrote on a nomination form. “Without a doubt, coach Zingler helped shape me and many others into the individuals we are today.”

Zingler died in 2020 after a long battle with cancer.

Read the full story at www.severnaparkvoice.com

Credentials - Becky Molloy

High School Lacrosse

- County, region and state champion in 1993
- Two-time honorable mention All-American in 1994 and 1995
- First-team All-County in 1996

High School Field Hockey

- Led field hockey team to four consecutive county, region and state championships
- Helped guide field hockey to 16-0 record three consecutive years

University of Maryland Lacrosse

- National champion in 1997
- Earned the President’s Cup Award for academic achievement by an athlete in 1999 and 2000

Coach

- Coach for Maryland United Lax

Credentials - Jim Ledsome

- Played on Severna Park basketball’s first county championship team
- Capital Gazette All-Star game MVP
- First-team All-County 2004
- Averaged about 14 points and seven blocks per game as a senior



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Round Bay Raises Funds For Earleigh Heights VFC



The Round Bay Open committee raised \$7,000 on September 15 during its third annual community golf tournament to benefit Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. Committee members included (l-r) Korky Onal, Carrie Gruver, Erin Gruver, Margi Davis Norrholm, Howard Carolan and (not pictured) volunteer Raquel Kondracki. The group presented the check to Joe Angyelof, the fire company's president, and Mike Sohn, the vice president.

New Law Governing Divorce In Maryland

By Lisa Bogan-Reohr and
David Diggs

The Law Office of David V. Diggs

Maryland's first statute regarding divorce was enacted in 1957 and amended seven times over the years. Until this October, to obtain a divorce, a spouse had to allege and prove a fault-based ground for the divorce — such as adultery, desertion, criminal conviction, insanity, cruelty of treatment and excessively vicious conduct — or the parties had to have been separated for 12 months. Additionally, the parties could divorce by mutual consent if they submitted a written agreement that resolved all issues of alimony, property distribution and the care, custody, access and support of minor or dependent children, which was approved by the court.

Much of that has changed with the Maryland state legislature's new legislation concerning family law. To obtain a divorce as of October 1, a spouse must allege irreconcilable differences or show the couple have been separated for six months. The provisions for divorce by mutual consent remain the same.

Under the previous law, the parties had to live separately and apart from each other during their 12-month separation. Under the new law, a six-month separation may occur with the couple residing under the same roof, provided they have pursued separate lives. This change alleviates the financial impediment that existed for spouses who could not afford separate households until their assets had been divided.

No longer having to prove a fault-based ground will help many people by prevent-

ing them from having to produce evidence of painful experiences, evidence that can also be difficult to obtain. The elimination of these grounds should streamline the process of getting divorced, reducing the time and expense of a contested divorce, as well as the amount of the parties' rancor and divisiveness. Negativity might be reduced without accusations being made to each other and couples can work toward a mutual resolution of the issues needing their attention.

A more efficient process will reduce the backlog of cases in court. Evidence of fault-based grounds, however, are still relevant to establishing other issues, such as custody, alimony and the division of property. For example, if a spouse spent marital funds on an extramarital affair, such evidence would be admissible regarding the division of assets or an award of alimony.

Irreconcilable differences, or the irretrievable breakdown of a marriage, is the basis for divorce in some other states. While there is no definition in the new law, the spouse filing for divorce must feel that the marriage cannot be saved. The courts will have to determine that reconciliation is beyond hope. Because the law is new, there is no case law in Maryland explaining this term.

If you find yourself contemplating separation or divorce, you will have many questions. David Diggs is experienced in family law litigation and mediation. If you need further information regarding this subject, contact The Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC, located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 204, in Millersville. Call 410-244-1171 or email david@diggsllaw.com.



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Sunflowers For Sallie Plants Seeds For Families In Need

Millerville-based nonprofit Sunflowers for Sallie is gearing up for its annual Thanksgiving fundraiser on November 18.

The nonprofit's goal this year is to create 250 "baskets of hope," complete with all the fixings needed for a traditional Thanksgiving feast, so that 250 needy families will be nourished with great food and memories to treasure forever. To identify those families, volunteers are partnering with Ruth Parker Eason School in Millersville, Central Special School in Edgewater, Lansdowne Elementary School in Baltimore, the Anne Arundel County Department of Aging, Lighthouse Church in Glen Burnie and Serenity Sistas in Annapolis.

More than 600,000 Marylanders are facing hunger. Sunflowers for Sallie's mission and passion is to reduce these figures, to battle food insecurity in its community, and sow the seeds of kindness one at a time so that sunflowers of love may stand proud and tall and inspire others.

Sunflowers for Sallie is collecting donations via PayPal, Venmo, Zelle and by check. For more information or to volunteer, visit www.sunflowersforsallie.org or email sunflowersforsallie@gmail.com.

Madhouse Of Horrors: Attraction Opens October 6

» Continued from page 1

the Track of Terror at Laurel Park in Maryland in 2011. Two years later, they branched out to Sterling, Virginia. Later, they expanded to Lorton, Virginia, and then Purcellville, about 86 miles from downtown Severna Park.

"What's special about this is that we have the permits and property to control the space," Wheatley said of the Purcellville location.

A year-round effort makes Madhaunter's Madhouse a frightful destination for people across Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Throughout the year, the Madhaunter's Madhouse team scours areas for items. Casting calls for actors are held in July, August and September.

Madhaunter's Madhouse features 35 to 40 actors per night.

"We have all walks, sizes and shapes," Wheatley said. "Moms and dads, individuals, and college-age kids."

Offseason team-building trips inspire ideas. One trip this summer led the group to an old mansion in Southern Virginia.

Through Wheatley's Arnold-based company, 50 East Remodeling, he and Keiling secure items from homes to make the Madhaunter's Madhouse structures more authentic. Recycled barnwood. Wood paneling. Metal roofing from a homeowner's shed.

"We have footings and structured beams," Wheatley said. "We're not a couple guys screwing things together."

One piece, a ghost, is so large that it cannot be moved without equipment.

"We are using Hollywood-style props," Wheatley said. "You're not going to go into your local Halloween store and find these things."

Beyond actors and terrifying scenes, Madhaunter's Madhouse adds other features to induce fright.

"You're going to see a lot of animatronics, a lot of lighting," Wheatley said. "You're going to hear loud, scary noises, and you're going to hear silence too. There are differences with the paths, with gravel and mulch."

Keiling and Wheatley attribute the haunted attraction's success to many people.

"A lot of blood, sweat, tears and volunteer hours go into this," Wheatley said. "Volunteers have to build every wall, every board. You have people working in extreme heat, doing a lot of digging and a lot of framing."

"It's a work of art," he said. "People who come the first night will probably see something completely different from what people see the second night."

If they are fortunate, or unfortunate, they may even spot the Madhaunter.

The outdoor trail takes approximately 35 to 40 minutes to complete. To see hours and ticket information, visit www.madhaunter.com.

First Responder Night

First Responder Night on October 14 will allow one free entry for each police officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, active-duty and military veteran, and kindergarten-through-grade-12 teacher. Attendees must present a valid county or military ID for free entry.

Participants will get a coupon for Manhattan Pizza, one of the sponsors.

Woods Church Events

Open Dance Classes

Woods Church has teamed up with local dance teachers to offer a variety of dance styles on select Sundays this fall. Register using the QR code on the Facebook page. For information, email Alyssa Barlis at alysabarlis@gmail.com.

"The Secret Garden" Auditions

November 5-6 with callbacks November 8

"The Secret Garden" is a compelling tale of forgiveness, belonging and renewal. Woods Church is looking for a cast of all ages, races and gender identities. To register for an audition, visit www.wmpcauditions.com. For more information, email David Merrill at dmerrill@woodschurch.org.



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Grant, Collaboration Enable A New Native Plant Garden

A community effort has given curb appeal to Our Shepherd Lutheran Church with a landscaping makeover of native plants. The Bayside Bloomers Garden Club of Severna Park, a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland and National Garden Clubs Inc., and its community partners, gathered with shovels, rakes and dozens of native trees and shrubs on the front lawn of the church on September 30 to execute the final steps in Operation Plant Native.

The project was made possible by a grant awarded by Unity Gardens, a non-profit that funds volunteer-led projects that use the power of native plants to address issues like stormwater runoff, pollution and habitat loss.

"When the Bloomers discussed ideas for a community service project, choosing Our Shepherd was an easy decision," said Suzanne Lewis, a club member and project lead.

Our Shepherd Lutheran is a founding church of Serving People Across Neighborhoods, or SPAN, the local food pantry and emergency assistance network, which helps residents through critical and emergency situations. The church also supports a preschool, and it opens its doors to groups such as garden clubs and Boy Scouts. The Bayside Bloomers has met monthly at the church since 2015 at no charge.

For an expert garden blueprint, The Bayside Bloomers consulted with Alison Milligan, a nationally known expert



The club faced the daunting removal of invasive vines and stubborn stumps connected to thick, deep roots.

and champion of native plants, who serves as a Maryland Master Gardener, Master Naturalist and an Anne Arundel County Watershed Steward. This collaboration resulted in a landscape design of 70 native shrubs and trees selected specifically for the front foundation site conditions, a critical consideration when installing any plant. To prepare the plant beds encompassing approximately 1,400 square feet, the club faced the removal of invasive vines with roots embedded in weed-barrier fabric and stumps connected to thick, deep roots.

The Bloomers reached out to other

passionate native plant advocates to form a project team, including volunteers from the Good Neighbors Group and Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, along with landscapers from the Maryland Reentry Resource Center and individual native-plant devotees. Individuals and commercial donors have also contributed numerous gardening supplies. Anne Arundel County Farm, Lawn, and Garden Center LLC, Homestead Gardens, and Patuxent Nursery have donated compost, fertilizer and mulch. The church and garden club also kicked in additional funds, and

Boy Scout Troop 918 dug holes and planted shrubs as they worked toward their community service and conservation badges.

"It is truly heartwarming to witness the coming together of dozens of committed individuals from six nonprofit organizations and three local businesses to create a lovely garden that provides habitat and food for local wildlife and pollinators," Lewis said. "... We are passionate about restoring the character of our county's natural history through the diversity and genetic heritage of its native plants."

Native Planting

By Janet AlJunaidi

According to the National Wildlife Federation, the percentage of people planning to transform a portion of their lawn to wildflower native landscape spiked from 9% in 2019 to 19% in 2021.

This increase is due to many factors, including easier maintenance, resistance to insects and less use of pesticides, and creation of beneficial wildlife habitats. Native plants also absorb and filter stormwater that feeds into our waterways and the Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the United States.

But how can a person start a native garden? Hiring an expert is one way, but if that is not an option, how can someone weed through all the botanical information and figure out how to even begin? Fortunately, many local and online resources are available. With some reading and trial and error, creating a native habitat is possible.

First, select a small area to try out in your yard, maybe a section where you want to replace turf grass. Maybe you want to create a butterfly habitat around your mailbox or replace an area that has invasives, like English ivy.

Then, determine how much sunlight your area gets and whether it is full sun (direct sunlight for at least six hours a day), partial shade (three to six hours) or shade (less than three hours). Also check if the soil is dry, moist or wet.

If needed, you can also find out the type of soil and its pH level. The

University of Maryland Extension's website provides a table of labs that test soil and the "Ask Extension" tool answers questions about the results of soil tests and other garden concerns.

Then, based on sunlight, soil and moisture, make a rough plan or sketch with possible plants selected. It's best to have backup choices because the supply of some native plants may be limited or not available.

How do you know which plants to select? A National Wildlife Federation online tool is being beta-tested with research partner Dough Tallamy at the University of Delaware. Simply plug in a zip code, and the site provides a list of plants and rankings by number of butterflies and moths that are native to that zip code.

Not all plants listed have photos, but if you have a list of plants and want to know what they look like, you can access the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's online guide, "Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping, Chesapeake Bay Watershed."

The University of Maryland Extension recommends some natives and also identifies plants for specific areas like shady slopes, sunny slopes and for other situations like deer-resistant natives.

When you have selected some plants and are ready to make a purchase, the Maryland Native Plant Society lists more than 50 regional native plant vendors, about half of them in Maryland.



Black-eyed Susans are one plant loved by pollinators.

One caveat when selecting plants — if possible, do not pick cultivars or hybrids of native plants. More research is needed, but these plants may not have the traits of their wild relatives so that native insects may not be attracted to these plants or may not get the same benefits from feeding on them.

Some favorites that worked well in our yard — plants that butterflies, hummingbirds and bees loved — are cardinal flower, Joe-Pye weed, wild bergamot, bee balm and black-eyed Susans.

Once your additions are planted and you are watering and weeding, there are apps that can photograph and identify a plant from your phone, providing information about the plant. This

was helpful when first maintaining our native garden to be sure we were pulling weeds and not our native plants.

The Maryland Master Gardeners are another great free resource and are happy to answer questions at their booth at the Severna Park Farmers Market every Saturday morning.

Hopefully, by starting small and seeing the beauty and wildlife that results, you might expand and convert even more of your area to natives.

As the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service said, "Every action helps, no matter what size."

Janet AlJunaidi is a Watershed Steward candidate with the Anne Arundel County Watershed Steward Academy.



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Dawn Gile
Senator
District 33



With the crispness in the air, we're all reminded of the changing of the seasons and the holidays that will be here before we know it. It's also a reminder that the next legislative session in Annapolis is

right around the corner.

Earlier this year, and due to being a new senator, I had limited time in office to hear from constituents and make decisions about which bills I wanted to sponsor before the first of many procedural deadlines passed in the fast-moving session. I'm proud of the work we were able to do together, having passed seven of the 10 bills I introduced. This time around, I've benefited from months of listening to constituents, meeting with stakeholders, and researching the issues facing our district in order to prepare for the next session.

When I ran, I promised to be accessible and to be your voice in Annapolis. I also promised to be transparent, so I'm going to fill you in on a little secret: the vast majority of bills that pass the Maryland General Assembly get written before the session starts. Because the session ends 90 days after it begins, legislators have to set the stage before it starts. Because of this, I've worked with my team and my House colleagues to provide accessible opportunities for District 33 residents to voice their concerns and get plugged into the legislative process when it matters most. Please consider coming out to one of our upcoming town halls:

33C town hall: Wednesday, November 8, 7:00pm-8:30pm at the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse (1223 River Bay Road in Arnold)

33B town hall: Thursday, November 16, 7:00pm-8:30pm at Baldwin Hall (1358 Millersville Road in Millersville)

If you can't make it, but have a question or concern, please do not ever hesitate to reach out to my office.

Additionally, my office is seeking applications for legislative bond initiatives, which are opportunities for legislators to advocate for funding for community projects. In the last session, my office secured funding for the following: the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds, the Chrysalis House therapeutic nature trail, Elks Camp Barrett improvements, the Pascal Crisis Stabilization Center, the Severna Park train station, South Shore Recovery Club, Swann Park and Willows Park playgrounds, and Village Commons in Gambrells. This year, my office is hosting an online informational session to break down the process. Interested organizations should email my office at dawn.gile@senate.state.md.us to receive the registration link.

Leaving No One Behind



In September, the streets at City Dock in downtown Annapolis flooded as a result of Tropical Storm Ophelia.

Steuart Pittman
County Executive



Editor's note: This letter originally appeared in the county executive's weekly letter on September 28.

Dear Neighbor, The word resilience is in vogue. We

were told we needed it to recover from the stresses of the COVID pandemic, and we're told we need to build it into our economy, our electric grid, our business plans, and our personal lives. In fact, everything we value should be resilient, so that when it's threatened it can survive.

As the elected leader of 600,000 people who live on land called Anne Arundel County between the Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay, my obligation is not only to defend against direct threats during my eight years in office. I must also act to prepare for future attacks.

That's why two days after taking a photo of a flooded City Dock, I got on an airplane and flew to Newport, Rhode Island, with the director and board chair of our new Annapolis and Anne Arundel Resilience Authority, the organization that was recently awarded \$20 million to raise City Dock, restore Jabez Creek, and use dredge material to protect county shorelines.

We spent the next two days with Throwe Environmental — the country's pre-eminent thinkers on the topic of planning and financing projects that protect public infrastructure from the impacts of climate change — and some 30 peers from Atlantic coastal jurisdictions and military installations, including Annapolis and the Naval Academy.

Military installations were included because they're in the business of protecting against threats, and they are leaders in this work. We learned all about the military installation resilience work at the Naval Academy and elsewhere, and how essential it is that local governments collaborate in that work. They walked us through the process of identifying assets and assessing how they would fare under various scenarios — things like roads, bridges, water treatment facilities, electric grids,

and homes. Things that really matter.

We talked about how to finance projects that prevent damage, whether it be efforts to stop the encroachment of water or reconstruction and relocation of assets. Some of it was borrowed from the world of private finance — putting assets to work in the marketplace to create revenue that has historically been left on the table. It was cutting-edge stuff, thinking outside the box by people who have many decades of state and local government experience. I was impressed. Impressed but not sure.

How far do we go? Where does this work fit into other priorities? We have so many current and future challenges to confront, and this one seems so hard.

I even considered for a moment that maybe we were just a group of privileged leaders protecting our assets while families whose paychecks don't cover rent, health care, and food are suffering today because dark money funded politicians and media moguls figured out how to convince the American public that cutting anti-poverty and education programs to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy was a good idea?

Shouldn't we be addressing the housing crisis, the child care shortage, and the opportunity gap in our schools?

Yes. We should.

And that's where that word resilience is so useful. Resilience is a lens to look at all of our challenges. Resilience is about collective action. Resilience is about confronting — rather than ignoring — threats.

The Anne Arundel County Childcare Summit that I called into on Monday morning was about making families and children and our economy resilient. It was 200 providers, employers, and government leaders from economic

and the Maryland General Assembly identifying obstacles to expanding affordable child care, and planning strategies to remove them.

The meeting I had Thursday morning with housing developers asking them to support our forthcoming Essential Worker Housing Access Act was about making our families and our economy resilient.

Governor [Wes] Moore reminds us that "leave no one behind" is a commitment he learned in the military. That's not just on the battlefield. The military takes better care of its people than most public and private employers. They get housing, health care, and food. The military also leads our country in combating racism and confronting the impacts of climate change. Pretty forward-thinking folks. They even have a resiliency center at Fort Meade.

What's important about the work we did in Rhode Island was the act of identifying threats and working to prevent them. We were practicing survival, using the tools that every generation of humans inherits from the one before it to ensure that another generation can thrive.

Of course, we should make choices about where to spend our limited resources, and of course we should address the suffering that exists today. But if we're serious about leaving no one behind, about providing housing, child care, health care, and a good education to all of our people, about maintaining the ecosystems that make our planet habitable, reducing the carbon emissions that warm our planet, and protecting the infrastructure that we rely on, we better do our resilience planning and financing now.

Got An Opinion? Share It With Us!

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Letters to the editor can be emailed to spvnews@severnaparkvoice.com and may be edited for space, clarity, grammar, spelling, etc. We encourage you to express yourself, but please be brief — letters should be limited to 350 words, though we do on occasion run longer letters. We look forward to hearing from you!

Severna Park Girls Soccer Still Perfect One Month In

Photos by David Bashore

Left: Severna Park captain Francesca Dunoyer (24) leads the team in assists. **Right:** Severna Park midfielder Izzy Burluson (14) has two goals on the season, including the opening goal against Broadneck.

By David Bashore

Two decisive moments in Severna Park's 2-1 win over Broadneck in a September 26 girls soccer tilt showed the Falcons had the skill. The rest of the game proved they had the savvy.

So far, so good for the girls in blue.

Through their first six matches this season, Severna Park had a perfect record: six games, six victories, and just two goals conceded.

While the team has a large dose of seniors to help with managing situations and stretches of games, the experienced team has been given a shot in the arm with some youthful freshman and sophomore talent.

Winning makes things easier in the adjustment process, but the time is coming where the experience of the older heads will be needed as they seek



to go one step further than in previous seasons.

"It takes the pressure off of those players because they know they don't have to overachieve; they just have to play how they can," said Severna Park coach **Rick Stimpson**. "We go back to the last couple of seasons where we've played well and haven't gotten over the line. That disappointment of falling

short a couple of times, this is [largely] the same group, so they know what it feels like and that helps us keep moving forward."

Entering October, **Maria Bragg** led the team with four goals scored, while **Ryn Feemster** and **Izzy Burluson** each had two. Eleven Falcons had scored so far this season, giving proof
» **Continued on page 30**

"We don't want to rest on any result. We have a preparation day and it's into the next game."

— **RICK STIMPSON, HEAD COACH SPHS GIRLS SOCCER**

Falcons Boys Soccer Keeps Up Unbeaten Run



Photo by David Bashore

Severna Park's Evan Campbell (13) advanced the ball against the Bruins.

By David Bashore

The last three games have had razor-thin margins, but the Severna Park boys soccer team remained undefeated at the end of September.

The Falcons won their last three games by one goal, against Chesapeake (3-2), Broadneck (2-1) and Glen Burnie (3-2), to head into October with a 7-0-1 record.

Severna Park opened the season with a 1-0 win over Urbana, followed

by a 4-0 win over St. Mary's Ryken. A scoreless draw with Tuscarora preceded two-goal wins over Liberty (3-1) and South River (2-0).

Against rival Broadneck, the Falcons withstood an early test as goalkeeper **Matt Schisler** saved a penalty kick and a rebound shot in the first 10 minutes of the game, before **Andrew Campbell** and **Nathan Parkison** found the net at the other end to snag yet another precious win.
» **Continued on page 30**

BHS Volleyball Optimistic At 7-1 Despite Arundel Setback

By David Bashore

One blemish doesn't ruin a season. In fact, a loss can reveal far more about a team than an easy win.

That's the mindset the Broadneck volleyball team has carried through a successful start to the season, winning all but one match to position themselves well for a strong stretch run.

The Bruins have gotten contributions from all corners of their roster as they closed September with a three-set rout of Glen Burnie on September 28 to finish the month 7-1.

"We emphasized at the start of the season, if you made the team, you're an equal on the team and nobody should step on the court not feeling confident," said Broadneck coach **Tracey Realbuto**. "We're happy with where we're at, but we still have things that we haven't

worked on, so we are looking to get better before playoffs start. I'm ready to see how far we can go this season."

Broadneck opened the season with a four-set win over Huntingtown on September 5, then added a four-set victory over St. John's Prep and straight-set wins



Photo by David Bashore

Broadneck setter Sydney Lawrence (7) was active.

over Old Mill, C.H. Flowers, Maryvale Prep, and South River.

Through early October, **Brin Chesnut** led the Bruins with 120 total kills, putting balls away at a clip of 3.2 kills per set.

Kennedy Smith came next with 2.3 kills
» **Continued on page 26**



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Runners Take Bull By The Horns At Cross-Country Meet

Photos by Naptown Studios
 Severna Park runners stood out at the Bull Run Invitational at Hereford High School on September 30. The girls varsity elite team placed first while the boys varsity elite team came in third. Kathryn Murphy (sixth place), Jocelyn DiAngelo (eighth) and Josephine Kamas (15th) led the way for the Falcon girls. On the boys side, Severna Park's top finishers included Taylor Jarvis (eighth), Caden Lazzor (13th) and Ty Maddox (17th).



Powerlifting During The Golden Years Severna Park Man Sets Sights On Records

By Lauren Burke Meyer

“Rest/Rust.”

That’s what 75-year-old powerlifter Cecil Woodward’s original weightlifting coach, Murray Levin, always said.

“Human bodies and brains that rest too much will rust,” Woodward added about his now 96-year-old coach’s advice. Rust is a metaphor for physical atrophy. “Said another way, use it or lose it.”

The Severna Park resident broke three records at the 2023 USA Powerlifting Maryland State Bench & Deadlift competition that took place on September 2 in Rosedale, Maryland.

Woodward set records in the bench press with 187 pounds, deadlift with 330 pounds and push-pull total of 517 pounds. The push-pull event includes bench press and deadlift weight totals. In that event, Woodward exceeded the previous record from 2019 by 44 pounds. He won all three events in the 75-79 age group in the 198-pound weight class.

“Old lifters never die, we just keep on lifting,” Woodward said.

He also noted the importance for continued weightlifting, no matter the age.

“There is a lot of emphasis on cardiovascular fitness, but weight-bearing exercises are necessary to maintain and increase bone density,” Woodward said.

When preparing for the competition, Woodward trained twice a week on the bench press and deadlift, gradually reducing the number of repetitions from 10 a set to just one over a three-month period.

“Repetitions should decrease as the weight lifted increases,” Woodward explained.

According to Woodward, one to five repetitions is recommended for strength training large muscle groups.

“I enjoy the discipline needed for training and the increase in muscle mass and strength from pushing and pulling heavy weights,” Woodward said.

After seeing an article in the August edition of the Severna Park Voice about 80-year-old Chuck Mulligan, who bench pressed 286 pounds and works out at the Y in Arnold, Woodward was inspired to get back into powerlifting. In the last few years, Mulligan overcame leg sarcoma and prostate cancer.

“The fact that we are both cancer survivors and still competing after age 75 encouraged me to compete again after 40 years away from competition,” Woodward said, who also lettered in gymnastics in high school and has enjoyed cycling and body surfing over the years.

Additionally, Woodward was encouraged to get back into competition by his former training partner, 76-year-old Richard Landry, and his current training partner, 53-year-old Martin Wolfe.

Woodward is in good company. Landry, his high school classmate, currently holds several New York state powerlifting records. Wolfe won the 50-54 age group in the 198-pound weight class in the same competition and is on track to break the bench press record for his age group.

“Martin is one of my tax clients that I recruited to enter his first powerlifting competition,” Woodward said.

Woodward worked for the U.S. government, starting in 1970 as an IRS revenue agent and retiring as an assistant inspector general at the National Security Agency in 2004. He was also a senior financial analyst for L3Harris from 2004 to 2010.



Cecil Woodward, a 75-year-old Severna Park resident, broke three records at the 2023 USA Powerlifting Maryland State Bench & Deadlift competition in September.

Since 2010, Woodward has been a self-employed certified public accountant. He’s in the process of transitioning his business to his daughter, Corrin, who is also a CPA.

Even though Woodward turns 76 on October 10, there are no plans for letting up on his fitness efforts. He’s currently training to break the American deadlift record of 401.5 pounds by September 2024.

STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



JED PELLICANO

Broadneck High School
Football

Whether interrupting a teammate's interview with the local newspaper just to praise his fellow player, whooping and hollering on the sideline to get the fans and his teammates riled up, or hitting the books with the same fervor he uses to hit people on the

football field, **Jed Pellicano** brings the juice to the full high school student experience.

"I put 100% of whatever I have into everything that I do, into school and into sports," said Broadneck's senior middle linebacker.

Pellicano is a state championship winner, having participated on the Broadneck boys lacrosse team. But football is his first love, and the joy he feels between the lines is the same joy he tries to bring to his teammates, Broadneck sports fans, classmates and everything else he touches.

That starts with hitting people from a position that, while not as glamorous as throwing or scoring touchdowns, is the linchpin in a defense of any caliber.

"It's not the sexiest position, but it's something that I love to do," Pellicano said. "I fill holes, I plug the line. We have a saying on the team about bringing the juice, and I bring juice to the defense. I yell, I whoop it up. When I bring them energy, it gives me joy.

"Even if we're down by 42 by half, I'd try to get us to win the next play. We need juice to do that, and if it's going to start, it's going to start with me."

Spend just one night patrolling the Broadneck sidelines, and Pellicano's effect on his teammates becomes evident. His coaches have taken note too, and more than Xs and Os, or even intangibles.

Broadneck football coach **Rob Harris** described Pellicano succinctly: "He's a good player and a great student." The type of person people

"I came to a spot [this month] where I had a situation with life and football and school started getting tangled up. When it's tangled up, it's hard to bring that juice in practice. It's the person that can get above that, that's huge. When you come out here, reset. This is where you're supposed to have fun."

— JED PELLICANO

like to be around.

Putting his whole self into everything can sometimes blur the clear boundaries athletes try to set for themselves between school life and athletic life.

Nevertheless, juggling a rigorous academic schedule and the demands of an in-season sport, on top of life as a teenager, is simply part of the growing experience, Pellicano said.

"I came to a spot [this month] where I had a situation with life and football and school started getting tangled up," he said. "When it's tangled up, it's hard to bring that juice in practice. It's the person that can get above that, that's huge. When you come out here, reset. This is where you're supposed to have fun.

"It's hard to be able to overcome it sometimes, but once you do, you just feel so much better."



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Local Gymnast Travels To Hungary For International Competition

By Lily Saunders
Student Intern

Gianna Calo, a freshman at Broadneck High School and an acrobatic gymnast of seven years, traveled to Budapest, Hungary, to compete in the Budapest Acro Cup from September 1-3.

The Budapest Acro Cup featured acrobats from around the world, including the United States, Austria, Moldova, Belgium, Germany and the Czech Republic, all competing in hopes of getting the gold. The event hosts competitors at the Gerevich Aladár National Sports Hall in Budapest.

Calo competed with her two partners, Emelise Sarria and Dakota Martin, at the international 11-16 level and represented International Elite Acrobatics, located in Crofton, Maryland. International Elite had three groups competing

in Hungary, all of which were newcomers to the Budapest Acro Cup.

Being a veteran in overseas travels for competitions and having previously competed in countries such as England, Switzerland, Portugal and Azerbaijan, Calo has gotten comfortable with the environment of being far from home, and was most excited to watch her new teammates, who were all first-timers in international competitions, do well out on the floor. Regardless, all seasoned athletes still have nerves.

"I was nervous, but I was also excited to be able to compete in a new place with my teammates," Calo said.

Due to the competition being three days long, Calo and her two partners completed one routine per day and repeated one routine on two separate days. Calo's trio performed their "dynamic" routine on the first day of the compe-

tion, with pristine execution, which allowed them to finish in second place for the day.

Dynamic routines in acrobatic gymnastics are focused on action movements such as lifts, throws and tosses, as well as tumbling passes. On the second day of competition, their balance routine was performed, which helped the trio confirm their second-place spot for an extra day. For additional context, balance routines are more focused on strength, flexibility and composure, and include skills that are held for several seconds at a time to show stability and energy.

Both dynamic and balance routines are also judged by their artistry skill, meaning their physical synchronization to the music of a routine, facial expressions and creativity in choreography.

On the final day of the Budapest Acro Cup, Calo and her trio performed

their dynamic routine for a second time to determine their final place in the competition. After receiving a lower score on their second dynamic routine performance, her group secured fourth place out of 14 competitors total in their group division.

Besides time spent preparing for the competition, Calo, her teammates and coach had three days to see historic monuments, sites and chapels. Calo got to try Budapest gelato, "which was very good!"

Calo's favorite memory was, "watching [her] teammates compete and being able to celebrate after the competition at a banquet event hosted by the Budapest Acro Cup."

Calo will remain with her trio and progress to the 12-18 group division, which will be more advanced in terms of skill difficulty and the number of routines.

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Broadneck Field Hockey Remains Perfect

By David Bashore

Broadneck remained unbeaten entering October, and the team is working to stay that way.

The Broadneck field hockey team closed September with a 10-0 win over Arundel on September 28, pushing the reigning 4A champions' record to 7-0 on the season.

A large part of Broadneck's mindset has been competing against itself in order to do well against opponents, and that held up in September.

The Bruins opened the season with an 8-0 win over Hereford on September 9, backing that up with non-league wins McDonogh (7-0) and River Hill (9-1). In county play they've beaten Chesapeake 4-0, Southern 9-1 and Severna Park 6-2, capped by Thursday's win over Arundel.

Though the score lines haven't been close, the team remains as grounded as ever, knowing there is more work to do.

"We're trying to take everything day by day, and I'm happy with how we're doing that," said Broadneck head coach **Shannon Hanratty**. "We're in a nice rhythm with our schedule, so you get to tweak things yourself and then test them against different opponents until you find what works. But we're making good progress, and we're hoping that we'll peak at the right time."

Through the first seven games, Broadneck allowed only six goals, while the Bruins scored 53. **Raleigh Kerst** led the team in both goals and points (goals plus assists) with 12 and 17, respectively, through that stretch. **Katelyn Kearns** had seven goals and 11 points, while **Faith Everett** had seven goals and 13 points. **Chloe Page** led the team with seven assists, while Page and **Alyssa Lewis** each had four goals. **Abbie Morris** vaulted up the team leaderboard with five goals, courtesy of a hat trick against Arundel. Goalkeeper **Mia Moody** posted four shutouts entering October.

In the win over Southern, Everett had three goals and three assists, in one of the Bruins' standout individual performances of the season.

"It's really easy to work with this team because we connect really well. I'm able to help them when they have an advantage, and they'll help me when I have that advantage as well," Everett said. "Our mindset is that a game is a game. Every game is a learning opportunity and an opportunity to grow, so we're focusing on the pieces that we need to improve on so that we're able to do well in the bigger games."

With every win added to the streak, now 27 and counting, the Bruins know their goal of a repeat title is growing larger in front of them. But so is the target on their backs as they navigate the rest of the season, especially with a showdown looming against Archbishop Spalding on October 12.

While other teams are insistent on giving Broadneck their best shot, the Bruins have survived thus far, and they feel like there is still more to do for this team to hit the heights of their potential.

"We definitely are gaining confidence, but we need to make sure that we aren't overlooking anyone," Kearns said. "We always have a mindset — it's a lot of pressure — but we can't let that get to our heads. We just need to compete. The next month will definitely show us some things so that we can work on them to be better at the end."



Photos courtesy of Elizabeth McGrail Imber

Above: During Broadneck's victory over the Falcons, the Bruins put pressure on Severna Park's defense. **Below:** Faith Everett has seven goals and 13 points for the 7-0 Bruins.



With Win Over Severna Park, BHS Keeps Rolling

By Tom Worgo

The Bruins received their toughest test of the season when playing visiting Severna Park (5-2) on September 26. Still, Broadneck controlled the play and posted a 5-2 victory.

That's 26 consecutive victories with the Bruins looking like a state championship caliber team again.

"I think they are going to win the state championship," Severna Park head coach **Shannon Garden** said. "I think they are phenomenal. I can imagine them not winning the state championship in 4A. There is nobody out there in the state in the public school system that will beat them."

Garden's squad started slow against Broadneck as the Bruins jumped out to

a 3-0 lead in the first quarter. **Katelyn Kearns**, **Faith Everett** and **Chloe Page** scored during that span.

Severna Park's goals came from junior **Ava Zimmerman** and freshman **Ryleigh Connell**.

Everett, a senior midfielder, led Broadneck with two goals and boosted her season total to a whopping 11.

Abbie Morris, Kearns and Page each had a goal and assist apiece.

It's hard for any team to slow Broadneck down this season.

"We are really good offensively," said Page, a junior whose team held a significant advantage in shots (22-6) and corners (9-2). "We connect really well in the circle."

AACC Elevates Its Athletic Program To NJCAA Division II

College Will Offer Scholarships In 10 Sports

By Kevin Murnane

Starting this academic year, Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) will offer some athletes financial assistance to better compete with other area community colleges as well as season-ending tournaments.

"We've had this conversation of elevating our athletic program for the last five or six years," said **Duane Herr**, athletic director at AACC. "Other regional community colleges who were in the National

Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III were downsizing some of the teams, and the majority of Maryland community colleges were already in or transitioning to Division II."

By going to the NJCAA Division II level, the college can now offer athletic financial aid to an additional six sports at the Arnold campus. The additional sports are men's and women's soccer, volleyball, men's and women's basketball, and golf. Baseball and softball were already in NJCAA Division II and men's and women's lacrosse remain non-division scholarship sports.

The scholarships will be merit based

but will offer local and regional athletes needed financial resources to enroll or remain in school.

"Many of our athletes have to work part-time jobs to pay for their tuition," said women's soccer and lacrosse coach **Jim Griffiths**. "At least half of my players have some type of part-time job to pay for school and books. Some have to choose between playing sports and working for their tuition. Having these financial opportunities will help our athletes stay in school and worry less about how to pay for next semester's tuition."

Community colleges surrounding AACC are already in NJCAA Division II and

recruit Anne Arundel County athletes.

"This will level the playing field with our neighboring community colleges, and hopefully by offering financial assistance, it will convince some of our county athletes to stay at home," Griffiths said.

Griffiths is looking forward to scheduling practice and not having some of his players leave to go to their part-time jobs.

"We have dedicated student-athletes and many of them make the NJCAA all-academic teams, but between class, homework, practice, games and getting treated for injuries, they have a packed schedule," Griffiths said.

Read the full story online.

Young Falcons Spikers Showing Growth In Early Season

By David Bashore

For a Severna Park volleyball team working with a mix of experienced seniors and fresh-faced youngsters, an up-and-down start was expected. But after a 4-3 run to start the season, the team is in high spirits about what it can achieve.

The Falcons opened the season with a straight-set win over Archbishop Spalding on September 5, then followed that with a five-set win over McDonogh. They finished the month with a straight-set win over Chesapeake Science Point and a four-set win over South River. In between were three straight losses, in straight sets to Maryvale Prep and in four sets to Arundel and Crofton.

In those league losses, though, Severna Park did something no team had yet done to that point in the season: the Falcons ended both Arundel's and Crofton's straight-set streaks.

For a team with a few veterans but young players producing all over the court, the early season schedule was always going to be challenging, and the performances uneven. But Severna Park hopes that trial by fire will stand the team in good stead as the playoffs loom.

"I thought we had some good performances. We just need more games," Severna Park coach **Tim Dunbar** said after the September 19 game against Arundel. "We had a good game plan [against Arundel], and for the most part we stuck to it well. Little things here and there that you want to get on them about, but we're inexperienced. They just need to play more."

Through seven matches entering October, senior outside hitter **Perry Stevenson** led the Falcons with an impressive four kills per set and with 75 digs. Senior libero **Annabelle Mora** led the team with 3.1 digs per set, while senior **Jackie Ball** had 16 service aces. The setters, freshman **Jennifer Hong** and sophomore **Gena Willis**, combined for 185 assists.

Severna Park's next match came against Broadneck on



Photo by David Bashore

Kathryn Rojek passed the ball during a loss to Arundel.

October 5. The Falcons wrap up county play against Old Mill and Meade.

The progression has the team about on track where Dunbar expected it would be prior to the season, with so much youth getting their first varsity experience.

"You're seeing good things and you're thinking you want to get upset at some other things, but they don't have that much experience," Dunbar said. "You've got a 13-year-old as a freshman on the court — she's hanging in there — [and] our other setter is a sophomore. Our other outside hitter is a sophomore. It's a growing thing and a progression. We look better every match than the one before, and if we keep doing that, we'll be fine."

BHS Volleyball Optimistic

» Continued from page 18
per set and 79 overall. Sophomore setter **Sydney Lawrence** dished out a little more than 10 assists per set, 377 overall. Brin Chesnut and **Allie Chesnut** were neck-and-neck for the team lead in digs, each pulling about three digs per set.

September gave many ups and one major down for the Bruins program. They've dropped only five sets in eight matches, and only three in county play — all to Arundel in a five-set loss on September 26.

Realbuto and multiple players expressed their opinion that the team wasn't at its best that night, but they're hoping to get another shot at the perennial championship contending Wildcats in the county championships later this month.

"We love playing them; the rivalry gets us prepared. It's competitive and always a good game every time," Lawrence said. "The first two sets were inconsistent for us, and that's what we need to work on. We're just excited to keep playing competitive teams and hopefully go far."

The competitive schedule doesn't let up from this point on. Broadneck's next two games are against Severna Park and Crofton on October 5 and October 10, respectively.

"Every game that's coming up is going to be a tough game. In the long run, if we do make it to states, these matches will make it pay off for us," said Brin Chesnut. "I think we have a lot of grit and resilience, and I think that's hopefully going to be what sets us apart."

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Broadneck Wraps 4-1 Season Start With Rout Of Severna Park

By David Bashore

After a tight season-opening loss to McDonogh, it's been all systems go for the Broadneck football team.

The Bruins rebounded from that early setback by winning the next four games, capped with a 56-0 shellacking of Severna Park on September 29.

During that game, the Bruins scored eight times on nine possessions — they took a knee on fourth down on the ninth. Broadneck's featured back, **Ian Mauldin**, hit the end zone four times on just eight touches, piling up 228 yards from scrimmage. He's now at 96 total touches (87 rushes, nine receptions), 616 yards (463 rushing, 153 receiving), and 10 touchdowns for the season.

"Ian's been the key — we haven't been 100 percent [healthy on offense], and everyone's been keying on him, so that's been tough," said Broadneck coach **Rob Harris**, who picked up his 100th win at the school in the Severna Park win.

For the season thus far, **Eli Harris** leads the Bruins with 201 receiving yards and a touchdown, despite missing two games due to injury. **Joey Smargissi** and **Aaron Foote** each have two touchdown catches, while **C.J. Watkins** has rushed for 178 yards and two scores, and **Mari Hayes** also has two scores.

Passing, Watkins and **Patrick Doyle** are splitting duties. They have combined for 489 passing yards and five touchdowns to just one interception.

After losing 21-14 to McDonogh on September 1, the Bruins played well but had some unexpected interruptions and hiccups along the way.

Their 28-7 win over Arundel went viral when it was briefly delayed by a prank in which a YouTuber disguised himself as a referee and stole the game ball.

Broadneck's 37-21 win over Meade was stopped for 20 minutes due to a neck injury suffered by a Meade player, who was taken to the hospital as a precaution.

Their 21-14 win over Glen Burnie was deemed subpar, whether by overlooking the Gophers and looking ahead to Severna Park, or for some other reason.

But as September ended, the Bruins



Photo by David Bashore

Jed Pellicano (7) and Eli Harris (5) led the Bruins onto the field against the Falcons.



Photo by Dennis McGinley

Linebacker Albie Palsa and the Broadneck defense stymied Severna Park's passing attack.

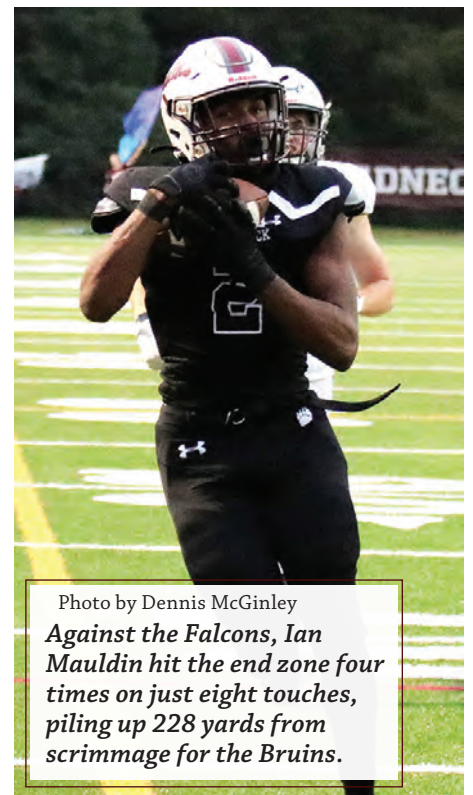


Photo by Dennis McGinley

Against the Falcons, Ian Mauldin hit the end zone four times on just eight touches, piling up 228 yards from scrimmage for the Bruins.

woke up, and a near-complete performance over Severna Park has the Bruins thinking big things could be in store.

The defensive effort has stepped up in recent weeks, with Harris stating that the team is on the verge of "figuring it out."

"Practices have been on point, and we watch film nonstop," said senior defensive end **Tyler Hicks**. "We try to build

momentum — defense builds it, offense carries it through. As soon as we get that momentum, we're tough to stop."

Defensively, the Bruins have piled up eight sacks, 13 turnovers and one defensive touchdown, scored by Doyle. **Tyrin Chinn-Thompson, Jed Pellicano** and **Logan Gilbert** are the team's leading tacklers.

That momentum and growth is the mindset for Broadneck as players seek to get past the early rounds of the playoffs and get the opportunity to play for it all.

"We just stay hungry. We don't worry about the past," Mauldin said. "We start off the second half of the season 0-0, starting with Old Mill, so we've got to get back to work."

Falcons Looking Forward After Loss

By David Bashore

After losing 56-0 at Broadneck on September 29, the Severna Park football team's collective mood was understandably at a low ebb.

The Falcons fell to 1-4 on the season with the loss, but some causes for optimism remained despite the losses piling up. This was the first game the Falcons were never truly in, but Broadneck was also the best team they've played so far.

After hanging with a quality Meade team in the season opener, a 46-25 defeat, Severna Park beat South River 20-10, before falling to Annapolis 42-30 and Chesapeake 21-14.

"The county is good this year, and that's a great thing," said Severna Park head coach **Nick Marks**. "There's a lot of quality teams: Meade's very good, Annapolis is good, Chesapeake is on the rise. Lots of opportunities for us, and that starts again with Northeast for homecoming [October 6]."

Through five games, **Vince Nguyen** has completed 57% of his passes for 814 yards and three touchdowns. **Jack Fish** has caught 17 passes for 301 yards and a score, while **Cole Cavanaugh** has 17 catches for 166 yards. **Isaiah Green** has caught two touchdown

passes and **Joey Tramontana** has one. **Demetrious Jones** has rushed for 204 yards on 54 carries and two scores.

The main issues for Severna Park have stemmed from showing flashes on offense, but not being able to sustain drives consistently, either because of turnovers or simply not being able to move the chains. That has put pressure on an undersized defense tasked with stopping bigger offensive attacks. That challenge reared its head particularly against Meade and Broadneck, both of which stacked up around 500 yards of offense.

Still, there are glimmers of what the coaches hope to see from a young squad using the beginning of the year as a learning experience in the hopes of stacking some wins at the end of the 2023 campaign.

"We've seen flashes and glimpses of what we're trying to do," Marks said. "But this is a pretty young group of guys, so it's going to be tough [right now]. We just have to keep working and look forward, because there's a lot of football left to be played."

Home Sweet Home

The Falcons are gearing up to play a homecoming football game against Northeast on Friday, October 6, at 6:00pm. Community attendance is encouraged.

Photo by David Bashore

Severna Park's leading receiver, Jack Fish returned the opening kickoff during the Falcons' recent loss to the rival Bruins.



Effort, Consistency Propel BHS Soccer To Strong Start



Photos by David Bashore

Above: Severna Park's Eneko Allen and Broadneck's Tanner Boone fought for possession. **Below:** Broadneck senior forward Patrick Robillard had three goals to start the season.



Falcons Boys Soccer

» Continued from page 18

"You just have to save it," Schisler said matter-of-factly about his mindset approaching the penalty kick. "You make the save and then the second one. It pumps the team up."

The Falcons have had a steady approach to games this season: start quick, dictate, ideally score first, and settle into the game from there. Campbell has helped with that effort, leading the Falcons with eight goals.

That approach led to unqualified success this season, but the Falcons are keen to keep a level head

as the business end of the season approaches.

"At this point of the year, is one win more than another? I don't think so. Everything's building toward the end of the season," said Severna Park coach **Ryan Parisi**. "I still think the last couple of weeks have been tough from a training perspective, with all of the weather-related things. We've done a good job competing in those games, but I'd love to get a little more time on the practice field and refine the things we're looking to improve upon for later in the season."

By David Bashore

With a healthy mix of senior leadership and young talent, Broadneck has cause for optimism after a strong start to the 2023 boys soccer season.

The season started with a bang for Broadneck as the Bruins beat reigning 4A champion Bowie 2-1 in the opening game September 1, courtesy of an overtime winner from freshman forward **Wilson Banwell**, the first of his team-leading five goals on the season.

The Bruins had a 6-2-0 record this season through the end of September, as they backstopped the Bowie victory with a 3-1 win over Chesapeake and consecutive 5-0 victories over St. Mary's, Chesapeake Science Point, and Southern. Their most recent win came September 28 over Arundel, 3-1.

Along with Banwell, sophomores **Braeden Kelley**, **T.J. Remson** and **Brady Miller** have established themselves as starters and key impact players for the Bruins over the first month of the season.

"I feel a little old," quipped senior midfielder **Harlan Welsh**, one of the team's captains. "I think every time I step on the field, I know what I have to bring to the table, and if I bring what I know I can bring and they continue to play at the level they're playing at, then we're going to be in good shape.

"They're talented players, so I think the main thing is leading by example, showing them the work rate — Wilson and B.K. have great work rates — but the best thing is to work hard and have them follow your example, because they are talented players."

Kelly and Welsh each had four goals to start the year, while **Ethan Colton** and **Patrick Robillard** each had three. Banwell and **Zach Madairy** each contributed three assists.

In goal, **Matt Tetterer** made 22 saves and conceded eight goals

through September. In total, Broadneck's defense has posted three clean sheets.

Broadneck's two defeats came to quality opposition, a 2-1 loss against rival Severna Park on September 26 and a 4-0 setback to Archbishop Curley in the first half of their Public-Private Challenge series. The second game, against Mount Saint Joseph, was postponed due to Tropical Storm Ophelia.

In the loss to Severna Park, Broadneck had a chance to seize the initiative with a penalty kick in the opening minutes, but Welsh's spot-kick was saved, and the Bruins didn't get another real chance at goal until the final minutes.

"The effort and consistency, we can work with. We want to keep going forward and continue to play consistently," said Broadneck head coach **Sean Tetterer**. "We want to continue to improve and develop, but this has been a good measuring stick of where we are right now."

Though they have several solid performances strung together, the setbacks and losses may help more in setting the Bruins up for a run when county championships and regionals roll around later this month.

"It's partly motivation and partly I have the confidence that I know every time I step out there, I'm going to have the opportunity to score that penalty," Welsh said. "I missed mine and they scored theirs — that's the way the game works sometimes, but it's not going to stop me from going out there with confidence.

"Teams like those also help us prepare and get emotionally to give 100 percent for the entire game. They're very talented teams and they play a high level of soccer, and if you make a mistake, they're going to capitalize. That's how it's going to be in the playoffs."

Severna Park Girls Soccer

» Continued from page 18

of what oftentimes is a superior level of depth and skill.

Right back and captain **Francesca Dunoyer** had five assists, while **Abby Cover** and **Erin Hussey** had two helpers apiece.

The Falcons' success so far has been in their skill and its depth, as the young players get acclimated to an experienced core that gives Severna Park a tough defensive spine through which their talent can shine without a great deal of risk.

"We didn't graduate anyone in our defense, and our chemistry in the defense is awesome. Our midfield helps us out a lot, and they make the work a lot easier for us because they're so good," said Severna Park senior center back **Caitlyn Boucher**. "Coach Stimmo is always telling us that if we see space to take it, and our midfielders read the game so well that I don't even have to tell them, they just see it and cover for me when I'm going forward."

Boucher netted one of the team's six goals in a season-opening shutout of Arundel, which was followed by a

1-0 victory over Severn School, with Feemster scoring the winner. The Falcons also beat South River 3-0 and Chesapeake 3-1, before following up the Broadneck victory with a 3-0 win against Glen Burnie.

With the traditional Tuesday-Thursday game grind hitting full swing, Severna Park can lean on their depth, but the team's mentality might be more important: whether the Falcons win, lose, or draw, the next game is never more than five days away, so there's little time to dwell on anything good or bad. They simply must go again.

"We don't want to rest on any result. We have a preparation day and it's into the next game," Stimpson said. "Consistency is the key for us because it helps us keep that standard high. We have 22 field players, and everyone obviously wants to compete for minutes, but they're all working toward the same goal."

Boucher said, "We play Tuesday, we go again Wednesday (in training), and we play again Thursday. We just keep going, because the goal is to make it all the way to the end."

Bruins Girls Soccer Is Undaunted Despite Late-Month Setbacks



Photos by David Bashore

Left: Through the first nine games, Kyleigh Bland made 57 saves for Broadneck. **Right:** Mia Orso (15) started her season with three goals and three assists through her team's first nine games.

By David Bashore

Until September 21, things were looking rosy for the unbeaten young Broadneck girls soccer team.

Despite successive losses late in the month, there's still plenty of optimism coming out of Cape St. Claire.

Broadneck opened the season September 2 with a doubleheader victory over

Middletown (2-0) and Urbana (9-0). They wrapped up non-league play undefeated after a pair of 1-0 wins over Saint Timothy's and Dulaney. In league play, the Bruins drew Chesapeake 1-1 and beat Chesapeake Science Point 7-0, before successive losses to Southern (1-0) and Severna Park (2-1). They wrapped up the month with a 4-0 win over Arundel.

In the game against Southern,

Broadneck had plenty of possession and scoring opportunities, but just couldn't convert. Against Severna Park, the Bruins gave fierce resistance against a quality opponent but eventually conceded two second-half goals and their rally came up short.

Still, the tests are giving the team some opportunity for growth as a young team comes to grips with the rigors of a

challenging county schedule.

"We just, not for a lack of effort, we've just [sometimes] given the ball way too easily, and kind of in bad spots," said Broadneck coach **John Camm**. "Once we get a little more in sync and on the same page — we're a little bit on the younger side — we'll be fine."

In the first nine games, senior midfielder **Maddie Capps** paced Broadneck with seven goals and three assists, while freshman **Mia Orso** had three goals and three assists. **Olivia Orso** added two goals and two assists, while **Sienna Miller** and **Natalie Crooks** also had two goals. **Susanna Moore** had two assists.

In goal, **Kyleigh Bland** contributed 57 saves, to go with six clean sheets. Nine of those saves came in the loss to Severna Park.

Having one of the best goalkeepers in the state has given the Bruins plenty of opportunities to stay in games early in the season, and that has yielded success when Broadneck could score and play at its best. But the challenge with younger players is consistency, which is something the team is working for as the season progresses toward county and region championships.

That's a challenge the youthful squad is relishing.

"They've got a really good mindset. I'm not worried about them at all. They're going to be fine. These are games in late September," Camm said. "[Severna Park] is a rivalry game, so you want to win it, but we've got a lot of good soccer left to play."

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Broadneck Third-Graders Leave Their Legacy



Gayle Mangan Kassal (right), the mural artist who oversaw Broadneck Elementary School's legacy project, added final touches to the hundreds of flowers students painted over the course of three weeks. The completed mural was unveiled in early September.



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Amendolar Photography

By Elizabeth Harwood

Broadneck Elementary School has a unique tradition for third-graders. Each year, students participate in what's known as a legacy project, an opportunity to make a lasting impact.

In 2018, the school enclosed what used to be an indoor courtyard-like area used as the school library, which created a corridor with two new walls centrally located inside the school. Stephanie Walsh, a Broadneck art teacher at the time, was immediately inspired.

"We had these massive blank walls with nothing on them," Walsh said.

Walsh knew who she would reach out to — Gayle Mangan Kassal, a mural artist who worked on a past project with Walsh.

While discussions of installing a mural at Broadneck Elementary School began in the 2019-2020 school year, COVID-19 interrupted the planning until October 2021 when Walsh applied for funding with an Arts Council of Anne Arundel County grant. The grant was awarded and, with a Broadneck parent teacher organization contribution, a mural design for one of the two walls commenced in January of last year.

"I really wanted to focus on our mascot,

» Continued on page 37

Broadneck Student Publishes Debut Children's Book



Rachel Spitzer published her debut children's book, "Tiny Kindness," in August. The book is meant to show readers the power of friendship and good deeds.

By Lily Saunders
Student Intern

Broadneck High School junior Rachel Spitzer published her debut children's book, "Tiny Kindness," in August. Written and illustrated by Spitzer, the book is centered around the value of kindness, promoting friendship and mental health.

The inspiration behind the book came from the Tiny Kindness Campaign Spitzer created in middle school for her Girl Scout troop. For the campaign, she illustrated brochures for schools and groups in her community in hopes of encouraging kindness and positive mental health. This project was continued in her high school troop, which sparked the interest in creating a book similar to the theme of the Tiny Kindness Campaign.

More specifically, Spitzer's decision to



cater the book toward children was due to the lack of mental health inclusion found in most children's books she had read growing up. Spitzer hopes the entire book resonates with adolescent readers in some way, but she especially hopes the end of the book does the most. In that section, the animal characters learn about the impact of small acts of kindness from the main character, Tiny. She hopes to emphasize how much even small acts of kindness can impact people.

The production of "Tiny Kindness" began during Spitzer's freshman year, when she came up with the idea and began working on the storyline. The book was then written and illustrated over the

course of her sophomore year. Each illustrated page in the children's book took about two to three hours to create, and images were originally sketched on paper and pencil and then transferred to Adobe to digitally create the illustrations.

Spitzer remarked that designing illustrations was the most difficult part of the production process of "Tiny Kindness," but she also said, "It was a really fun process and I really enjoyed doing them."

She plans to write and illustrate more books about the adventures Tiny embarks on, as well as his small acts of kindness toward others. She plans on creating new storylines, towns and different animal characters, along with finding a new online website to help digitize future illustrations.

When asked why the idea to publish her children's book was so important to her, Spitzer responded with, "I just thought it was a really cool thing to do. You don't see a lot of kids writing these kinds of books."

"Tiny Kindness" is available for purchase on Amazon, and proceeds of all purchases will go toward the Mental Health America nonprofit organization.

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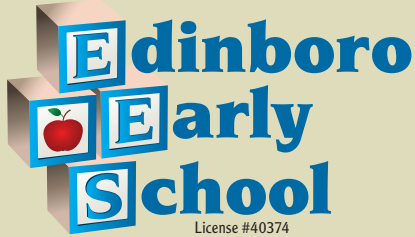
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Educator Of The Month

Sue Myers Benfield Elementary School



By Lauren Burke Meyer

For Benfield Elementary School Principal Sue Myers, parent involvement is a key ingredient in the school's recipe for success.

"For me, I view my most important job as a principal is to ensure a safe, supportive, enriching environment for teachers to teach, children to learn, and for parents to be welcomed and involved," Myers said.

Before starting at Benfield in 2019, Myers had previous assistant principal stints at a pair of schools plus principal roles at three institutions based in Maryland's capital, including Monarch Academy Annapolis.

In 2014, Myers was selected as the National Distinguished Principal for Maryland through the National Association of Elementary School Principals. She also served as the president of the Maryland Association of Elementary Principals for 2021 and remains active in the organization.

Now in her 29th year as an educator in Anne Arundel County, Myers, who will oversee 460 students at Benfield this year, believes that educating children is a team effort between the school and home.

"There are so many involved families who support our school, and this makes a difference for our staff and students each day," Myers said.

Myers noted the parent teacher organization (PTO) is actively engaged and proactively supports teachers and students. The organization created a nature center on the playground for children to explore and learn through play. Additionally, the PTO sponsors assemblies and after-school events such as the variety show.

"Their involvement truly helps to provide a more well-rounded school experience for the students," Myers said.

Benfield PTO co-presidents Beth

Karsner and Elizabeth Somerset shared how Myers is supportive and collaborates closely with the organization on all initiatives.

"Mrs. Myers is the kind of conscientious, caring educator whose vivacious energy and keen eye enables her to see the potential in individuals and the community, to create a nurturing environment where students are encouraged to be their best selves," Karsner said.

Both ladies noted qualities of Myers, including how she's a great listener, fair, consistent and approachable. Myers strives to get to know the children's interests, personalities, strengths and learning styles.

"She is the person who gets kids out of the cars in the morning car line, visiting all the classrooms throughout the day, being the lunch monitor and then sitting down for meetings in the afternoon," Somerset said. "She does it all."

Myers praised the work ethic of Benfield's teachers in supporting each of their students and involving their families.

"Benfield teachers amaze me every day with their knowledge about teaching and ensuring that the lessons meet the needs of all learners," Myers said. "They are a motivated group and inspire their students to always put their best foot forward and engage in learning."

Myers values opportunities to encourage children to ask questions about learning, and she believes lessons should be connected to real life, with opportunities to engage in critical thinking.

Myers has degrees from the University of Maryland, Loyola University Maryland and Gocher College.

"When working with teachers, it is so important to provide them [with] resources, time and feedback so that we are able to grow our students social-emotionally and academically," Myers said.

Myers knows what it's like to be on the teacher's side of things too. She began her career as a teacher in Pasadena at Riviera Beach Elementary School and later served as a behavior specialist at Brooklyn Park Elementary.

The principal has a new mathematics curriculum that will be a large part of professional development for teachers.

The school is also expanding writing instruction to provide students the opportunity to write on demand. This entails creating a written piece outside the normal literacy classes to explain their thinking.

"This will help them develop their skills even more in writing to become proficient writers across all subjects in school," Myers said.



C A F E M E Z Z A N O T T E

The Educator of the Month is proudly sponsored by Cafe Mezzanotte.

Broadneck, Severna Park Named Unified Champion Schools

By **Mauricio Palmar**
Student Intern

In recent years, the administrations at both Broadneck and Severna Park High School have worked to make their school communities more inclusive. Those efforts culminated in national recognition this September when both schools were among the Anne Arundel County schools to be named Unified Champion Schools by the Special Olympics.

The group, which included a state-best six schools, also included Crofton, Northeast, Southern and South River.

The Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools program aims to promote social inclusion throughout America, usually through highlighting schools that effectively implement opportunities for students with disabilities to become active members of the community. These schools make students with disabilities feel welcome and actively involve them in various activities.

Broadneck and Severna Park earned this recognition by meeting 10 standards of excellence, which include components of unified sports, inclusive leadership and schoolwide engagement.

Both schools have incorporated several unified sports into their varsity catalog, including unified tennis, unified bocce and unified bowling, which gives both general and special education students an opportunity to compete for regional, county and state championships.

Off the field, Broadneck has also provided students with the opportunity to

participate in other activities to become more involved in the school community. Through an effort led by Melissa Quigley and Jennifer Trout, the physical education and special education department chairs, respectively, Broadneck introduced unified physical education and dance programs, becoming a pilot school for the county in the process. The staff at Broadneck has also established unified Bruin Blocks, which provide opportunities for special education and general education students to work together to learn new skills in a variety of areas, such as art, music and yoga.

Each Friday, special education students at Broadneck get the chance to operate a coffee cart, as they sell coffee to teachers around the building, allowing them to interact with new staff members and helping them develop valuable skills for the workforce. In another display of the school's commitment to inclusion, Broadneck was able to host its first Unified Day last spring, with several high schools in the county participating in the event.

"It is a great honor to earn this distinction," said Melissa Pfisterer, an assistant principal at Broadneck High School. "This means we are moving toward the all-inclusive way ... Broadneck students are not just considered Bruins; they are unified Bruins."

She added, "It is the best feeling to walk into a unified class or unified match and see the friendships being made and the teamwork among players. Students are learning from each other."

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

1. Unified sports are offered in at least two seasons throughout the school year.
2. Unified sports participation occurs regularly over the course of each sport season or school term and includes competition.
3. Each sport has an adult coach who has received training in Special Olympics unified sports.
4. Unified sports is officially recognized by the school in a similar style as other athletics/activities.
5. A unified club or student group offers leadership opportunities/training for students with and without intellectual disabilities.
6. The inclusive club/group meets at least once per month throughout the school year.
7. The inclusive club/group has an adult liaison and is officially recognized by the school in a similar style as other clubs/activities.
8. At least two whole-school engagement activities are implemented per school year.
9. Students with and without disabilities are involved with planning and leading the awareness activities.
10. The school is currently self-sustainable or has a plan in place to sustain the three components into the future.

Pfisterer also credited Clay White for his role in promoting inclusion throughout his time at Broadneck. White, who retired in 2019, coached unified bowling for several years during his 33-year tenure as the Bruins boys lacrosse coach. The school now has an athletic award in his name, given to seniors who show

dedication, leadership and commitment to Broadneck's unified programs.

"Coach White was a huge advocate for inclusion throughout his career," Pfisterer said. "His dedication and commitment to making Broadneck a more inclusive school influenced others to want to continue the initiative."

College Fair Invites Students From All Schools

Broadneck High School will hold its 39th annual college fair on October 18 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. A financial aid presentation at 6:00pm will precede the main event.

Students from all schools and grades are welcome to attend. More than 120 colleges and military institutions nationwide will be represented.

Broadneck High School is located at 1265 Green Holly Drive in Annapolis.

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Question
of the month

FOLGER MCKINSEY ELEMENTARY



Each month, the Severna Park Voice poses a question to a local fifth-grade class. This month, students from Mrs. Lepovsky's class at Folger McKinsey Elementary School answered the question:

What is something you used to be afraid of and why?

I used to be afraid of if there were monsters under the bed or in the closet because I thought they would come and attack me.

Aanya G.

I was afraid of forks because when I was younger, I bit a fork and it broke. My mouth started to hurt, but then I realized after not using them for a while [that] I just have to be careful, and I started to use them again.

Addy C.

I used to be afraid of the dark cause I would hear weird noises in my room.

Aedan K.

Middle school.

Ava M.

I used to be afraid of tests because I was afraid that I would get the tests wrong. Now I know that if you get it wrong, you can ask the teacher to help you after the tests so you can know that information, so you can get smarter.

Blake M.

I used to be afraid of catching a basketball or football because I got

hit in the head with a basketball and it really hurt.

Cate W.

I used to be afraid of heights. When I was little, they seemed so humongous to me because I was so small. I just couldn't tolerate heights.

Clara P.

The dark and night crawlers.

Cole F.

I used to be afraid of being alone in the dark. I was not afraid of the dark. I was afraid of what is in dark.

Ella A.

I used to be afraid of dogs, but now I love them.

Henry J.

I was scared of the dark when I was 5 years old.

Jake H.

Dogs and cats.

Jakob G.

I used to be afraid of heights because it's scary to be in air or on a building. You think you are going to fall.

James V.

I used to be afraid of big spaces that were dark. I was afraid of them because I didn't like being out of control. Since I couldn't see anything, I couldn't control anything.

Katherine M.

I used to be afraid of fourth

grade. I was not really a fast worker, but I realized that it really was not that hard.

Kylie F.

Bedtime because of my bad dreams, like ghost bark.

Layla V.

I used to be afraid of going too deep in water and drowning in the water, because I was not that good at swimming when I was younger.

Lucia F.

I used to be afraid of bees because they kept flying around me. I was the worst when they would land on me, and I didn't know until I looked down. Also,

when they got in my food and I thought that I couldn't eat that food ever again until my mom made it again and I forgot about the bees, and I was fine.

Lucy M.

I used to be afraid of staying home alone because I would always think of my what ifs, like what if there was something upstairs. That is why I was scared of staying home alone.

Noah M.

I used to be afraid of spiders because they just creeped me out.

Quinn M.

I used to be scared of the decorations at my cousin's house. There's this werewolf that was on the porch of the front door, and every time you passed it, it would howl at you. It always scared me, but now I'm not scared anymore.

Sam Y.



The Question of the Month is proudly sponsored by Just-in-Time Renovations
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Broadneck Third-Graders Leave Their Legacy

» Continued from page 32 which is the bee," Walsh said. "[Bees are] just so important to the planet, and they are nature's way of showing what teamwork and community can do."

Where there are bees, there are flowers and, for Mangan Kassal, relevant symbolism.

"The garden flourishes with the help of the bees working together as a community surrounded by the Magothy River and the Chesapeake Bay," Mangan Kassal explained.

After the vision had been cast, 274 third-graders, along with fourth-graders who missed out the prior year due to the pandemic, met in March 2022 to leave their legacy. Creative juices inspired students with ideas, teaching them it's OK to make changes. Students also learned about making mistakes.

"There are never really mistakes," Mangan Kassal said. "Sometimes we just want to change it or work with something else ... I think they

also learned you don't have to be exact and sometimes you just got to roll with it."

Or, as Mangan Kassal shared, "like little life lessons all the way through."

Installing the first wall in January inspired a vision for the remaining wall — and a second legacy. Another grant was awarded, courtesy of Maryland State Arts Council, which allowed the next batch of 152 third-graders to begin their legacy tradition, as well as their spin on the second wall.

"They wanted a boat, they wanted a pirate ... [they] wanted someone reading," Mangan Kassal said.

Keeping to the bee concept, the second wall shows caricatures of bees having an adventure on a boat that's a book. Framing the bottom of both walls are book pages that lead the eye to the entrance of the library. The concept was then pulled together by adding a hive and some sun.

"The sunshine comes out of the library [door] saying this is where great ideas are," Mangan Kassal said. "This is our hive, and this is how it all comes together. Read. Learn. Grow together. The whole thing just made sense finally."

Walsh's original vision was passed down to her successor, Jaclyn Cockcroft, who noticed students were not only learning about themselves through the value of art but also about working with others on a project that requires teamwork.

"Collaboration is a very big part," Cockcroft said. "In the art room, it's very individualized."

This school year was kicked off with an unveiling of the mural and a small ceremony, earmarking a legacy for more than 425 students.

"They have a legacy," Mangan Kassal said, "... that stays for generations to come and hopefully inspires other students."

For more details, visit www.gaylemangankassal.com/educational.

Calling All High School Artists

The Severna Park Voice's second Community Resource and Business Directory cover contest is underway, exclusively for high school students.

The Rules

- Submit art on an 8.5-by-11-inch sheet
- The main composition must fit in 8.25-inch-wide by 6.25-inch-tall frame to accommodate the magazine's title
- The composition should be vertical
- Artwork cannot use copyrighted material
- Art must be submitted in original format
- The cover art will become property of the Severna Park Voice

All submissions must be received by the *Voice* before January 1, 2024. Submissions must be the artist's original artwork. Include your name, grade and phone number. Send mail to this address: Severna Park Voice P.O. Box 608, Severna Park, MD 21146. Contact our office with any questions by calling 410-647-9400 or emailing spvnews@severnaparkvoice.com. The cover artwork contest is sponsored by Benfield Gallery.

Stef Ripple Continues To Make Waves



Photos courtesy
of Nana Sue
Photography

More than 450 people attended the annual Stefanie Ashdown Memorial “Do Your Best” 5K and 1-Mile Walk at Belvedere Elementary on September 16, raising \$36,000 for the nonprofit Stef Ripple. The organization was founded to honor Stefanie Ashdown, who lost her life to ovarian cancer in 2017, and to provide awareness, hope, encouragement and support for ovarian cancer patients and their families.

Surprising Facts About Breast Cancer

Laura Amodei
Bay Radiology



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Here are 10 things you might not know about breast cancer:

1 You may know that one in eight women in the U.S. will have breast cancer in their lifetime. But did you know that 75% of women with breast cancer have no or distant family history or other obvious risk factors?

Whatever is causing these breast cancers seems to be related to the environment and is hard to avoid. Even those of us who are trying to exercise, eat healthy and not smoke are still being diagnosed. The good news is that we can find most of these cancers while they are small and curable if we are screening.

2 Early detection still matters. If breast cancer is found when it is a centimeter or less and contained completely within the breast, the five-year survival rate is 99% and the treatment needed is more minimal. But once the cancer has spread beyond the breast and lymph nodes to other parts of the body, such as the lungs, liver and bones, the five-year survival rate is only 30% — even with modern

treatments available. Most one-centimeter cancers cannot be felt on a physical exam, even in retrospect, so screening is vital to find breast cancer this small.

3 There are different types of breast cancer. In situ vs. invasive. Ductal vs. lobular. ER+ (luminal A and luminal B) vs. Her2+ vs. triple negative. The type significantly influences treatment and prognosis. Triple negative is the most aggressive, but 91% are curable if it is small.

4 Not all breast cancers make balls. Many grow like roots or vines. Fortunately, even though we can't feel these cancers, we can often see them on the mammogram.

5 White women have a slightly higher incidence of breast cancer, but Black women are more likely to have aggressive triple negative cancer and are more likely to be diagnosed at an early age. Black women are also more likely to die from their breast cancer. Work is needed to decrease this disparity. Annual mammographic screening beginning at age 40 is recommended for all women.

6 Why do we squeeze like that on a mammogram? Yes, it is partly to spread things out so that we can see better. But there is another important reason: the thinner we get the breast, the lower the radiation dose. Radiation doses from current

mammograms are low-equivalent to about seven weeks of the normal low background radiation we get every day.

7 Dense breasts are normal. About 40% of women have breasts that look dense, or cloudy, on their mammogram. Mammograms aren't useless for these women, but they are more limited. Three-dimensional mammograms and whole breast ultrasounds help, but more is needed. New technologies, like abbreviated breast MRI and contrast-enhanced mammography, are being studied.

8 Screening is no longer one-size-fits-all. Women are now divided into average, intermediate and high-risk groups. The women in the high-risk group have the option to have additional screening with breast MRI, and some qualify to take medication for five to 10 years to decrease their risk of developing breast cancer.

9 Genetic testing has advanced. In the past, we could test for only two genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2. It was a blood test, and it was expensive. We can now test for more than 100 genes related to breast cancer and other cancers. This is done by a saliva test, and for many women, it is now covered by insurance.

10 There is a new law in Maryland for diagnostic coverage. Starting in January 2024, Maryland-regulated insurers can no longer charge copays, coinsurance or deductible payments for diagnostic mammograms and breast ultrasound.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Art In The Park 2023 Was A Smashing Success



During Art in the Park on October 1, some artists displayed their works while others held live exhibits using oils and watercolors. The event sold out with over 250 tickets to support vendors and musicians while treating attendees to culinary arts. Cafe Mezzanotte and the Severna Park Voice co-sponsored the festival to benefit Providence of Maryland.



“A Haunting In Venice” Is A Frightless But Fun Take On An Agatha Christie Tale

Photo courtesy of 20th Century Studios

The film is the third installment in a series starring Kenneth Branagh as detective Hercule Poirot. The plot is standard Agatha Christie fare — someone was murdered, and Poirot must find the perpetrator.

By Audrey Ruppert

At first glance, “A Haunting in Venice” looks like a horror film — between the title and the promotional poster, which features a skull against a black background, one could be forgiven for mistaking it as such. I was delighted to discover it is an adaptation of an Agatha Christie novel, “Hallowe'en Party.”

“A Haunting in Venice” is the third installment in the series starring Kenneth Branagh as a famous detective, Hercule Poirot. While the film is rated PG-13 and does feature a few jump scares and gory scenes, “A Haunting in Venice” is not what I would call horror — it is more a detective story with a spooky flavor, perfect for the season.

The plot is standard Agatha Christie fare — someone was murdered, and Poirot has to figure out who did it. He must choose from an ensemble of suspects who are all staying in the same location for the duration of the tale. In this case, a famous opera singer believes her daughter was killed, and the cast of characters assembles on Halloween night: an author (Tina Fey) who bases her writings off Poirot's real-life feats, a mentally unwell doctor (Jamie Dornan) and his precocious son, a spiritual medi-



um (Michelle Yeoh) and her two sidekicks, and the former fiancée of the deceased.

Like Holmes, Pym, and other fictional detectives of note, Poirot uses his outstanding powers of ra-

tionality and observation to see things others overlook. It is recommended to bring a friend to these films and sit a few rows away from others, so you can whisper and guess who the culprit is. As with most of Agatha's stories, you will likely be unable to guess the murderer — or, as in my case, you might guess correctly but not know the criminal's motives or be able to prove your suspicion until Poirot lays it all bare. It is always fun to watch incredulously as he pieces together clues that were there the whole time for the audience to see.

Other than the opening and closing scene, the entire film takes place in a creepy palazzo in Venice, with lots of shadows lurking in the flames. It is the perfect atmosphere for a Halloween film, spooky in a fun way, but never overly gruesome or unnecessarily dark. You are left wondering whether the supernatural elements are real and if there are spirits meddling with our characters, or whether Poirot's stark rationalism will prevail.

My only criticism would be the rather mixed acting — Branagh is solid, and Michelle Yeoh is excellent as always, but Tina Fey cannot act and her script is not great either. Her expository dialogue at the beginning is stilted and heavy handed; it was a bit jarring. Jamie Dornan takes a while to warm up as well, but eventually you find yourself easing into the story and being taken for a ride. While “A Haunting in Venice” is not groundbreaking or even particularly memorable, it is great for a fun evening with friends during the season, and I would

certainly recommend it. It is especially good for those who have weaker stomachs but still want to partake in the festivities, since there's only one gory scene throughout, and it's not an intense one.

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Severna Park Lanes Revamps Arcade

Guests at Severna Park Lanes can find a new and improved redemption center and arcade. The new setup utilizes a card system instead of coins, and it offers new games, like a virtual reality “SpongeBob SquarePants” roller coaster.

“It’s similar to what you might see at Dave & Buster’s, but on a smaller scale because we have a smaller room,” Severna Park Lanes owner Mike Hall said when describing the upgrade.

The SpongeBob virtual roller coaster can accommodate one or two players. Other new games and activities include “Cruis’n Blast,” “Super Bikes 3,” “NBA Game Time,” a Fun Zone crane machine and the “Show-time” crane game.

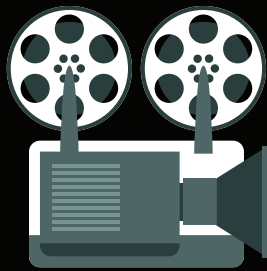
“We are looking forward to enhancing our birthday and corporate party packages along with the guest experience with this new and enhanced arcade,” Hall said.



The improved arcade area features a “SpongeBob SquarePants” virtual reality roller coaster and arcade cards to keep track of points, replacing the need for players to insert coins. The prize redemption center makes it easy for visitors to collect rewards.



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Bohemian Black Festival Brings Food, Fashion To Earleigh Heights

Photos courtesy of Charlie P Windsor
The Bohemian Black Festival, presented by House of Design & Co, celebrated the transformative power of community, creativity, art and connection from September 16-17 at Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company. Activities including styling workshops, music by DJ Blackberri and Ryan Collins, laser tag and other games for families, a fashion show and more. Because September was Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month, a portion of ticket proceeds was donated to Life of Joy Foundation, a Millersville-based nonprofit.



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Annapolis To Host Jazz And Roots Festival In November

Event Includes Seven Shows Over Two Weekends

Maryland's capital will host a world of music in the second year of the Annapolis Jazz & Roots Festival on two weekends from November 3-12. The historic port will come alive with music from many countries and cultures performed by international and regional artists.

Some events require admission; others are free. They are held at four sites in Eastport, the maritime heart and soul of Annapolis.

Weekend One: November 3-5

The 2023 festival kicks off on November 3 with Halley's Hot Gumbo Swingtet at the historic Peerless Rens Club in Eastport. Halley Shoenberg performs and records with numerous ensembles on clarinet, saxophone and flute. She has led concerts at Blues Alley and Strathmore, appeared at Carlyle Club and The Kennedy Center and entertained crowds of swing dancers at Glen Echo, Mobtown Ballroom and Potomac River Jazz Club events. Annapolis shows are at 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

Two entertaining and educational events will be held at Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library. The first is on November 4 at 11:00am. Nyame Nti will perform traditional West African drumming. Its rhythms are considered foundational elements in the development of American jazz. Listeners will hear traditional rhythms such as Kou Kou, Jondon/Wolosodon, Balanta, and Kakilambé and begin to understand their cultural and historical significance.

Grammy-nominated lutenist Ronn McFarlane returns to Annapolis at Eastport United Methodist Church on November 5 at 4:00pm, performing music of the British Isles with Ayreheart and guest vocalist Heather Aubrey Lloyd. McFarlane founded Ayreheart to bring the lute, the most popular instrument of the Renaissance, into the 21st century. The musicians combine traditional roots music with modern compositions in a festive program.



Weekend Two: November 11-13

A trio of virtuosos will dazzle audiences on November 10 at 7:00pm when international stars of the fusion group Melodic Intersect perform at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Tabla player Enayet Hossain, keyboardist Greg Hatza and sitar player Hidayat Khan will fuse classical Indian music with American jazz, as they have on high-charting albums.

On November 11 at 11:00am, Mary-



Left: Halley Shoenberg will lead Halley's Hot Gumbo Swingtet on opening night, November 3. Dancing is allowed and encouraged. **Right:** Washington, D.C. jazz singer Hazel Mitchell-Bell will perform on Veteran's Day.

land state archivist, actor and writer Chris Haley will give a presentation on indentured servitude and slavery from implementation for early settlers in the 1600s to the abolition of slavery with the passage of Maryland's 1864 state constitution. Hear the remarkable story of Mathias de Sousa. One of the original settlers to arrive aboard the Ark and the Dove in the 1600s, he rose from indentured servitude to become a member of the Maryland General Assembly. Haley will also address how slavery and indentured servitude affected the life and legacy of famous Marylander Benjamin Banneker. This is the second festival event being held at Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library.

At 4:00pm on November 11, a Veteran's Day concert will feature jazz singer Hazel Mitchell-Bell. Her band will welcome a special guest from Anne Arundel County: Annie Award-winning saxophonist Terry Koger. Mitchell-Bell's blend of jazz, R&B, and show tunes is featured on two albums and each passing year takes her to more distant points in the U.S. and abroad. She will return from a South American tour just in time to appear at Eastport United Methodist Church for the Annapolis Jazz & Roots Festival.

The festival concludes November 12 with a program entitled "Bossa Nova and Beyond." The show takes place at 4:00pm at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Amoro-so features Annapolitans Dick Rausch on guitar/vocals and vocalist Elizabeth Melvin. They will be joined by pianist and educator Harry Appelman and two special guests: Brazilian brothers Leonardo Lucini (bass) and Bruno Lucini (percussion).

Left: Sitar player Hidayat Khan will appear with Melodic Intersect on November 10 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.



Funding

Annapolis Jazz & Roots operates under the umbrella of the Annapolis Community Foundation. The organization is grateful for support from the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County and Visit Maryland, and Anne Arundel County Public Library Foundation. Venue and presenting partners Alkebulan and Jazz Beyond Borders are major in-kind contributors along with All About Jazz and Jazz Near You. Business sponsors include Palate Pleasers, Colony Liquor Mart and Irish Restaurant Company, comprised of Galway Bay in Annapolis, Killarney House in Davidsonville, Brian Boru in Severna Park, and Pirates Cove in Galesville.

Reservations are required for all events. Visit www.annapolisjazzandrootsfestival.com for tickets and information about artists, music and venues.

Freedom Choir Welcomes New Members

The Freedom Choir launched a new fall session in two locations beginning the third week of September. The goal of this community choir, meant to be welcoming and unique, is to "liberate your voice."

No audition or prior experience are required. Organizers said the choir, led by Annie Award-winning musician and vocalist Elizabeth Melvin, welcomes singers of all levels to experience the joy of singing in a friendly, supportive community.

The repertoire of songs is eclectic and uplifting, drawing from a wealth of traditional and contemporary sources. Easy chants, rounds, layer and harmony songs are all taught by rote with no score, with lyrics and recordings provided on the choir website for practice. The stress-free musical atmosphere is designed to leave singers feeling restored, peaceful and energized.

The seven-week session began September 21 in the Founders Room at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Severna Park. With registration, participants can choose from one of two locations and days (the group is also meeting on Wednesdays at 11:00am at St. Luke's Church in Annapolis), but sing-

ers are welcome to attend either one at any time. The cost is \$135 for the session, with registration online at www.thefreedomchoir.com.

Drop-ins are welcome any time for \$20. To reserve a drop-in space, email contact@thefreedomchoir.com and put "Drop-In" in the subject line.



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Severna Park High School To Host County Concerts



Photo courtesy of Jay Mallin/Jay Mallin Photos & Film

Critically acclaimed concert pianist Brian Ganz will perform on March 20.

The Anne Arundel Community Concert Association, or AACCA, has released its 2023-2024 concert schedule, with four shows scheduled for Severna Park High School.

Eastport Oyster Boys will kick off the season on October 4. This quartet has been deemed Musical Goodwill Ambassadors of the Chesapeake by the city of Annapolis, and they weave stories of the Chesapeake Bay into their genre-crossing tunes.

Award-winning guitar and clarinet duo Jaca comes to the Severna Park stage on November 2. Jaca fuses the sounds of multiple genres and continents to provide audiences with a unique musical experience.

The February 28 show, featuring vocal quartet The Suits, will be the only one in this series not performed at Severna Park High School, but at the Byzantium at SS Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Annapolis.

The Suits' set spans music from four genres and four decades — the 1950s through 1980s. The group's interactive performance is described as showcasing smooth choreography and tight harmonies.

Critically acclaimed concert pianist Brian Ganz will perform on March 20. Ganz has appeared as a soloist in the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the National Philharmonic, and other renowned orchestras.

Wrapping up the series on April 15 is Key of G Live!, a tribute to country music star Garth Brooks. Led by AJ Bis-to on lead vocals and backed by a six-piece band, this show features an array of Brooks' greatest hits.



Jaca fuses the sounds of multiple genres and continents to provide audiences with a unique musical experience.



Wrapping up the concert series on April 15 is Key of G Live! The act is a tribute to country music star Garth Brooks.

All shows are slated to start at 7:30pm on their respective dates, and doors open one hour before the concert begins. Season memberships cost \$70 per adult, with no cost for accompanying children through grade 12. Non-members will pay \$30 at the door.



Holiday Shopping, Dining & Entertainment Edition

Be sure to check out the Voice's annual Holiday Shopping, Dining & Entertainment Edition for great information on holiday events, shopping, dining & catering, local traditions, gift ideas, Santa appearances and more.



IN HOMES NOVEMBER 17

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“Glory To Ukraine” Mural

Andrew Hudyma, a Ukrainian American and Millersville resident, held a ceremony on Ritchie Highway in Pasadena on September 28 to reveal the mural “Glory to Ukraine,” created by artist Michael Rosato.

The building with the mural is owned by Andrew’s wife, Yvette. Andrew commissioned the mural because he wanted to represent his culture and history.

His parents immigrated to the United States in 1950, fleeing their beloved homeland.

“I decided an outdoor work of public art could help to educate others about the historical significance of Ukraine and our proud culture,” he wrote in an email. “The 40-foot-long mural, painted by renowned artist Michael Rosato, is stunningly beautiful.”



The “Glory to Ukraine” mural was unveiled during a ceremony on September 28.

Enter The Haggis Brings Signature Brand Of Celtic Rock To Annapolis



Photo courtesy of Lee Hetherington

(L-R) Rose Baldino, Brian Buchanan, Tom Barraco, Caroline Browning, Trevor Lewington and Craig Downie are the band members behind Enter the Haggis.

Enter the Haggis will continue their fall tour with an appearance at Rams Head On Stage in Annapolis on October 18.

Caroline Browning of Asheville, North Carolina, has joined on bass guitar, adding energy to the lineup. Her musical talents include keyboard, mandolin and vocal harmonies.

Craig Downie, founding member of Enter the Haggis, is looking forward to another concert on the Rams Head stage.

“We are excited to return to the Rams Head in historic Annapolis,” Downie said. “It’s such a class venue with great food and their own brewed beer. What’s more, it’s close to Annapolis Harbor in case we need a quick dip. We’ll have to remember our swimming kilts, though.”

Downie is a cornerstone to the band’s multi-instrumental prowess, switching between bagpipes, trumpet, Irish whistle

and harmonica. Front and center are lead vocalists Brian Buchanan (fiddle, guitars keys) and Trevor Lewington (guitars, songwriting). Tom Barraco’s drum kit adds a hard-hitting percussive drive. Rose Baldino (fiddle, vocals) and Browning balance out the group.

The trajectory of the Canadian Celtic rockers spans two decades since a 2003 PBS special, “Live at Lanigan’s Ball,” brought them into an American orbit.

Rams Head On Stage is a seated nightclub featuring national and regional touring musicians and comedians. Food and beverages are served before and during shows, with house brewed beer and weekday happy hours. Showtime for Enter the Haggis is 8:00pm with doors opening at 7:00pm. Poehemia is the opening act. Call 410-268-4545 or go to www.ramsheadonstage.com for more information.



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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Park Pharmacy Fills Needs For Neighbors



Andrew Muñoz and Steve Wells are two of the pharmacists at Park Pharmacy.

By Mark Patton

mark@severnaparkvoice.com

The phrase “shop local” may conjure up images of gifts, clothing and produce for many consumers, but Park Pharmacy in Severna Park aims to expand those thoughts to include pharmaceutical needs.

“They’re keeping that tradition of the independent pharmacy still intact in this day and age where all these bigger chain pharmacies try to take over,” said Andrew Muñoz, pharmacy manager at Park Pharmacy.

Muñoz is referring to the Professional Pharmacy Group, a collection of independent pharmacies of which Park Pharmacy is a part of. Muñoz served in the same role at another of the group’s pharmacies, Annapolis Professional Pharmacy, until his recent move to the Severna Park location.

The pharmacist could not be more excited to be in Severna Park, an area he and his family call home.

“It’s really cool to live and work in the same town,” Muñoz said. “We’re serving the people that we live next to.”

It is customer service that Muñoz hopes will attract new faces to the pharmacy in Park Plaza shopping center. He also works to ensure existing customers continue to receive personalized and top-notch care, whether that’s filling a prescription, discussing side effects, providing vaccines, finding accessories for mobility devices or just chatting.

“If I’m able to put a smile on a face or shed some light through the way that we present, or give service, talk to them — then I feel like I’ve done my job,” Muñoz said.

Park Pharmacy staff members



stress that they offer benefits that go far beyond being local. Because the pharmacy is independent, it doesn’t face some of the supplier constraints that some pharmacies do, such as not letting the pharmacist see the pricing or only offering one or two vendors to secure products from.

With high-profile medication shortages plaguing the U.S. — such as medication for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder as well as some antibiotics — Park Pharmacy is not constrained from reaching out to multiple vendors and sources to secure what a patient is seeking.

“I will go above and beyond, and I have the flexibility and independence,” Muñoz said. “It’s the customer service to really try to take care of the customer’s needs.”

The Howard University College of Pharmacy graduate credits many mentors on his journey from a young kid in Baltimore to working at a pharmacy in the state of Washington and ultimately becoming pharmacy manager at Park Pharmacy.

Steve Wells is one of those men-

» Continued on page 54

Chamber Update

Liz League
CEO
GSPACC



Please give a warm welcome to our newest members, and please support them. Find them in our directory at www.gspacc.com.

JZ Power
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— In operation for years and run by a Severna Park High School student with a passion for business, JZ Power Washing ensures all customers are satisfied and every job is completed thoroughly and to a high standard. The company uses soft-washing techniques to make sure your property does not get damaged from high pressure. Owner Zachary Yeatman is the 2023 winner of the Small Business Administration’s Rising Star Student Entrepreneur Award for Maryland.

Severn View Custom Woodworks LLC — Jon Bullough is a skilled carpenter in Severna Park who designs and builds custom cabinetry and furniture.

Let him design the built-ins and furnishings of your dreams.

Touchstone Crystal by Swarovski/Kathy Walker — In 1891, Daniel Swarovski’s vision was to create a diamond for everyone. Today, each piece of Touchstone Crystal jewelry is still uniquely designed with Swarovski crystals and innovations and is sold exclusively through independent sales consultants.

Good Hair Collective — Get stunning hair artistry tailored to your needs courtesy of this talented team. The artists’ hourly rates reflect their vast education, experience, specialties, unique skill sets and high demand. The company keeps it simple: pay by the hour and receive all-inclusive services, with a minimum of one hour. They also offer hair extensions, top-ers, VIVIDs and specialty treatments.

Club Pilates, Severna Park — Pilates exercises stand out among other forms of exercise as they focus on equal pressure and symmetry for a healthier body. Unlike gym exercises that concentrate solely on building muscle strength, Pilates aims to improve core strength, balance and

» Continued on page 54

Lessons From The Other Buffett

Jason LaBarge
LaBarge
Financial



Everything you need to know about money, you can learn from a Buffett. Just not the Buffett you might be thinking — Jimmy Buffett, not Warren Buffett.

I would be lying if I told you that I am a huge Jimmy Buffett fan. I am not. I am a fan of being successful at doing what you love and clearly Jimmy Buffett had that part down. As I heard about his passing, I wanted to write a column about some of the things we can learn from the musical Buffett. Another advisor friend of mine, Gregory Ostrowski, wrote an article like this a few years ago, and I really liked it. Now that Jimmy Buffett has passed away, I thought it would be a good idea to remember the financial gems he sang about.

One of the real masterpieces Jimmy Buffett wrote about money is a song called “I Used To Have Money One Time.” Now the title alone should be a forewarning of something you never want to say to yourself, especially right before retirement.

A few things to think about for those who are familiar with the song. The first verse lays down some great life lessons by reminding all of us that what goes up will eventually come down. What’s down will eventually come up. That is at least how things have been historically. It is

always important to keep that in mind.

The last verse has perhaps the wisest message: take care of your needs and watch out for your greed. Having some sort of budget to live on is one thing, but sticking to it is another. Ask yourself, is this a want or a need?

The last point to consider falls in the chorus, “But who’s gonna tell a fool.” Clearly, here he is talking about regret and that it’s difficult to accept once you have realized a mistake has been made.

Many of us have benefited from the good vibes and wonderful songs Jimmy Buffett wrote and sang about. It’s a real artist who can turn those songs into action and have a real message. Warren Buffett is obviously the more established Buffett when it comes to the market, but Jimmy also has provided some great lessons to live by. Rest in peace, Jimmy.

Jason LaBarge, financial advisor and president of LaBarge Financial. 7 Riggs Avenue, Severna Park, MD 21146 443-647-4321.

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All investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. There is no assurance that any investment strategy will be successful.

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5 Things To Consider for Newly Engaged or Recently Married Couples

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Getting engaged or married is a time of great excitement, but it is also a time when couples need to start thinking about their future together. It may not be the most romantic topic, but it is essential for couples to create a will or estate plan to ensure that their wishes are respected and their loved ones are taken care of, in any crisis.

New Couples with Blended Families

If you have a blended family, or children from a previous relationship, you'll want to make clear your wishes. When you get married, your spouse automatically becomes your legal heir. If they die, their children receive their assets, and so on.

If you have children from a previous marriage, or other family members that you want to provide for, it is important to make sure that your estate planning documents clearly outline those wishes.

Protecting Your Children

If (or when) you have children, it is important to create an estate plan that provides for their care and well-being in the event that you and your spouse die or become incapacitated. You can name a guardian for your children, set up a trust to provide for their financial needs, and ensure that their education and other expenses are taken



care of. Planning ahead helps to avoid family disputes and allows you and your spouse to outline your wishes clearly.

Health Care Directives

Healthcare directives are important for engaged or married couples, because they can designate the person that you choose to make important medical decisions if you are ill or unable to communicate your wishes.

Avoiding Probate

If the unthinkable happens, probate can be a lengthy and expensive process that may subject your family to taxes that could have been avoided with a proper estate plan.

Looking for a Thoughtful Gift You Can Give?

Friends and family can provide the gift of estate planning to an engaged or married couple. It's a thoughtful gift that will help establish the foundation for your lifetime together. In most cases, a basic estate plan costs about the same as a weekend getaway. It can provide peace of mind and guidance for you and your family to prepare for, and hopefully avoid, any future crises.

Download your *Free Guide to Estate Planning* or schedule a consultation with one of our local experienced estate planning attorneys at **FrameAndFrame.com**



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RIBBON CUTTINGS



Lash Lounge Brings Luxury Service To Annapolis

The Lash Lounge Annapolis – West Street has set up shop, prioritizing lash and brow health, safety and quality. During a September ribbon-cutting event, attendees saw how The Lash Lounge owners Fayth and Vinnie Ribeiro, and their team, provide a comfortable, customized experience.



Park Hardware Nails Grand Opening Celebration

A large crowd convened for the Park Hardware and Zeskind's showroom grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony in September. Guests were treated to live music and several food options. Rick Miller, a third-generation owner of Zeskind's and longtime Arnold resident, purchased the business, formerly known as Clement Hardware, at 500 Ritchie Highway earlier this year.



People Rise Provides Human Resources Help

People Rise president and founder Susan Mahaffee shared her company's mission to empower clients through practical and shareable tools, exercises, processes, and advice relating to human resources in September. A ribbon-cutting and cocktail reception was held at Chartwell Golf & Country Club.



Make It Five Years For Face It! Spa And Wellness

Face It! Spa and Wellness marked five years in business in September by holding a ribbon-cutting event at 790 Ritchie Highway in Severna Park. Attendees were treated to a signature cocktail and cupcakes.

Avoid These Investment Mistakes

Brian Conrad
Edward Jones



We all make mistakes in many areas of life. These mistakes are usually fairly harmless — we took a wrong turn while driving, used the wrong

ingredients in a recipe and so on. But sometimes, our mistakes can be costly — especially those connected to investing.

Here are some of the most common investment mistakes:

Too much buying and selling — Some people find it exciting to constantly buy and sell investments in the pursuit of big gains. Yet, frequent trading can work against you in a couple of ways. First, it can be expensive — if you're always buying and selling investments, you could rack up taxes, fees and commissions. Perhaps even more important, excessive purchases and sales can make it difficult to follow a unified and cohesive investment strategy. Such a strategy requires, among other things, careful construction and management of an investment portfolio that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. Heavy trading can disrupt this strategy.

Failing to diversify — If you only owned one type of asset, such as growth-oriented stocks, your portfolio could take a hit when the financial markets go through a downturn. But not all investments will respond the same way to the same forces — for example, stocks and bonds can move in different directions at any given time. And that's why it's usually a good idea to own a mix of investments, which can include domestic and foreign stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit (CDs) and government securities. Keep in mind that while diversification can help reduce the impact of market volatility, it can't guarantee profits or protect against losses in a declining market.

Trying to "time" the market — Buy low and sell high might be the original piece of investment advice, but it's hard to follow because no one can really predict when an investment will reach low or high points. Trying to time the market in this way can lead to bad decisions, such as selling investments whose price has dropped, even if these same investments still have good business fundamentals and strong prospects.

Not understanding what you're investing in — If you don't know the nature of investments when you buy them, you could set yourself up for unpleasant surprises. For example, some companies, by the very nature of their business and the type of industry they're in, may consistently pay dividends to their investors even though their stock prices may only show relatively

modest price gains over time. If you bought shares of this stock thinking it had the potential to achieve substantial appreciation, you might end up disappointed.

Making the wrong comparisons — You're no doubt familiar with some of the most well-known investment benchmarks — the S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average and the Nasdaq Composite. But it might be counterproductive to compare your results against these

indexes. If you have a diversified portfolio, you'll own an array of investments that won't fit into any single index or benchmark, so you won't get an apples-to-apples comparison. You're better off comparing your portfolio's performance against the only benchmark that really matters — the progress you need to make to help achieve your goals.

Investing will always have its challenges, but you can help make it easier for yourself by staying away

from as many mistakes as possible.

Brian Conrad is a financial advisor with Edward Jones. His office is located at 479 Jumpers Hole Road, Suite 202, in Severna Park. To learn more, call 410-544-8970, email brian.conrad@edwardjones.com or visit www.edwardjones.com/brian-conrad.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones financial advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Hague Quality Water Turns 30



Hague Quality Water of Maryland celebrated 30 years of business in September at Chartwell Golf & Country Club. Retired U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Ronald Edwards (center) enjoyed the celebration with his children and their spouses. Edwards is a longtime Severna Park resident and founder of Hague Quality Water of Maryland.



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Chamber Update

» Continued from page 48

flexibility. The business offers multi-level group classes and state-of-the-art personal training.

Joy of Play LLC (coming soon to Severna Park) – Joy of Play is an interactive children's museum and indoor play area purposefully designed to encourage a young child's sense of independence, exploration and creativity. By narrowing the focus of our children's museums and indoor play areas to the interests and imaginations of children 8 and under, young explorers will discover educational exhibits and activities in a world specifically crafted just for them.

Severnside Marketing LLC – Marketing strategist Christine Hickey works collaboratively with her clients to develop and execute marketing strategies that align with their business goals and budgets. The aim is to help clients grow their business, increase brand awareness, and drive sales or other desired outcomes.

We held five ribbon-cutting celebrations in September. The first was to celebrate the five-year anniversary of **Face It! Spa and Wellness** in Severna Park. Owner Ashley Reed has grown the business to include more stylists, skin care products, nail services and more. Her salon also features a salt room for relaxation and detox.

Next, we celebrated the grand opening of **Organic Facial Experience Day Spa** in Pasadena. Owner Towanda Mo-

ses has created her own line of products and performs everything from facials to weight-loss management for healthy skin, bodies and minds.

More than 200 community members attended the grand opening of **Park Hardware in Severna Park**, formerly known as Clement Hardware. Gordon Clement was there to pass the torch and support new owner and lifelong resident Rick Miller, a fourth generation Zeskind's owner.

The Lash Lounge held its grand opening in Annapolis to great fanfare. Owners Fayth and Vinnie Ribeiro purchased the franchise and plan to open four more locations. The company offers professional lash and brow services in their beautiful space.

The last ribbon-cutting in September was held at the Chartwell Golf & Country Club for **People Rise LLC**.

Owner Susan Mahaffee is a professional in the human resources field and has an impressive clientele, providing outsourced HR support, consulting, training and more.

Our Driving Force for Business Golf Tournament was held at the gorgeous Chartwell Golf & Country Club and was a great time. Many thanks to tournament sponsor **Live! Casino and Hotel**. Other sponsors included **Chick-fil-A Severna Park, Moran Insurance, Emerald Financial Partners, Fellner Legal Services, Brightview Senior Living, People Rise LLC, Golden Consulting, SERVPRO Annapolis/Severna Park, Passanante's Home Food Services, Landmark Roofing, Griswold Home Care, BeBalanced Hormone Center, Matt Wyble of Next Step Realty, M&T Bank, Bank of Glen Burnie, Severna Park Lanes, Severna Park Community Center, Jennifer L. Harrison Design/Consulting, Barranco Funeral and Cremation Services, Phronesis Wealth Management, Team Alpha Charlie, Alexander Animal Hospital, The Voice Media and What's Up? Media.**

Our last TGIF cookout at the chamber was generously sponsored by The Chesapeake Think Tank. This fun event featured burgers, an ice-cream bar from Bruster's Real Ice Cream and fresh popcorn from The Negron Farmers Insurance Agency.

Our shop local extravaganza, known as **Shoptoberfest**, will be held October 21 from 11:00am to 3:00pm in the parking lot at the **Severna Park Racquetball and Fitness Club** in Millersville. The family-friendly event features fun, music, entertainment, shopping, trick-or-treating, a costume contest and much more.

For more information about the chamber and our events, please visit www.gspacc.com.

Park Pharmacy Fills Needs For Neighbors

» Continued from page 48

tors. Wells owned Park Pharmacy until November of last year. Although he sold the pharmacy after 36 years at the helm, visitors can still find Wells behind the Park Pharmacy counter a couple of days a week.

What keeps Wells coming back to the same counter even after selling the pharmacy to another local resident?

"The hometown feel, competitive prices and quick service," Wells said.

With a mural spanning the top of its walls — depicting scenes from the area, and for an astute eye, a depiction of Wells himself — and a long counter gracing the open space, it's a scene at Park Pharmacy that may look more familiar on the streets of European cities than it does for somebody only used to pharmacies that are part of a bigger entity, such as a grocery store.

"Our bread and butter is the pharma-

cy," Muñoz said. "The pharmacy plus the service we provide is really the key for us to do well."

Muñoz touched on flu vaccines, something that Park Pharmacy offers by appointment. He plans on getting his in October as he noted that some chain pharmacies, years ago, were trying to get flu vaccines administered earlier to get ahead of competition.

"They're not really getting that six-month coverage; it's too early," Muñoz said of receiving a flu shot too early in the year.

As Muñoz spoke of Severna Park, it is with a reverence of appreciation. His mom grew up in poverty in the Philippines and later served as a nurse in the operating room. She urged him to pursue an interest in the health care field by telling him that he'd always have a job. He knew he wanted to do something different than his mom, but he didn't ignore

her maternal wisdom. His interest in pharmacy — and a Chartridge resident by the name of Rachel, now Andrew's wife and a District 31 delegate — ultimately led him to Severna Park.

Muñoz recalled the couple buying their first home within the 21146 zip code.

"This was the dream," Muñoz said. "To finally be blessed to live in this city is amazing."

It is that same pride that he transfers to Park Pharmacy.

"We're just trying to do good in this community," Muñoz said.

Park Pharmacy is located at 580 Ritchie Highway, Suite N. The pharmacy's hours are currently Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 6:00pm and on Saturday from 9:00am to 3:00pm. More information is available at www.professionalpharmacygroup.com/severna-park-office or 410-544-7275.

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