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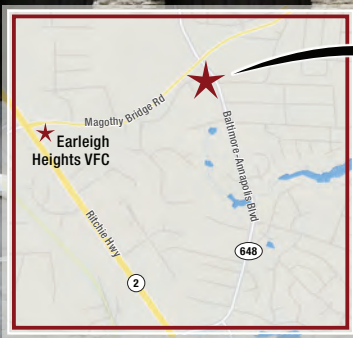
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- 1800 SILVER TEQUILA 40⁹⁹ 1.75 Ltr
- JACK DANIEL'S 37⁹⁹ 1.75 Ltr
- JIM BEAM 28⁹⁹ 1.75 Ltr
- ELIJAH CRAIG 25⁹⁹ 750 ml

- WINTER EVERYDAY SPECIALS**
- FIREBALL 21⁹⁹ WHISKEY 1.75 Ltr
 - CAPTAIN MORGAN RUM 24⁹⁹ 1.75 Ltr

- THREE FINGER JACK CABERNET SAUVIGNON 12⁹⁹ 750 ml
- CAYMUS CABERNET SAUVIGNON 59⁹⁹ 750 ml

- WINTER EVERYDAY SPECIAL**
- DECOY 17⁹⁹ CABERNET SAUVIGNON 750 ml

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**GIFTCARDS CAN BE USED ACROSS
ANY OF OUR LOCATIONS!**

(Park Tavern, JB's, Donnelly's Dockside, Pratt Street Ale House)

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410-647-9400

Give the Gift of Dance This Season

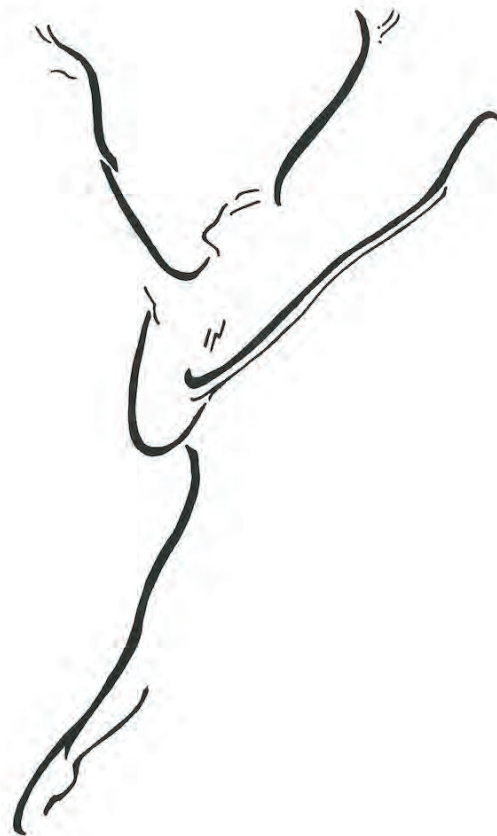
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December 16 at 10:30 am

December 20 at 7:00 pm

December 21-22 -1:00 pm & 4:00 pm

chesapeakeballetcompany.ludus.com

Tickets start at \$15



Discover Dazzling Holiday Light Displays Around The Region

You don't have to be a modern-day Clark Griswold to enjoy captivating holiday lights this Christmas season. Upcoming tree lighting ceremonies, drive-through experiences and walking adventures all offer festive opportunities for the family to take in the awe and wonder of thousands of twinkling bulbs arranged in creative displays. Below are several fun options for viewing holiday lights in the greater Severna Park area and beyond.

Lights On The Bay

Sandy Point State Park

November 24 - January 1

Sunday through Thursday from 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Friday and Saturday from 5:00pm to 10:00pm

Celebrating three decades of illuminating the Chesapeake Bay, this beloved local holiday tradition invites kids and kids at heart to drive through brilliant light displays at Sandy Point State Park. Experience the joy and wonder of the season while supporting furry friends who need a home - proceeds benefit the SPCA of Anne Arundel County. Lights on the Bay is open every evening, even on holidays, and offers nightly kids' scavenger hunts.

Info and tickets: www.lightsonthebaymd.org

Annapolis Grand Illumination

25 Market Space, City Dock, Annapolis

Sunday, December 1

from 4:00pm to 5:30pm

On the heels of Thanksgiving, the City of Annapolis will illuminate the town Christmas tree with the help of Santa, Mrs. Claus and Elfie to ring in the holiday season in the state capital. The Grand Illumination will kick off with dancing and carols by local groups and culminate in the tree lighting. Hot cocoa, candy canes and kids' crafts will be available. The event is free and open to all.

Info: www.visitannapolis.org/events

GSPACC Annual Tree Lighting

Greater Severna Park And Arnold Chamber Of Commerce

1 Holly Avenue, Severna Park

Friday, December 6

from 5:00pm to 6:30pm

The first Friday in December will be a magical evening in the heart of Severna Park. Community members are invited to gather at the chamber of commerce office for entertainment, cookies, cocoa and ice cream, and visit with Santa and the Grinch. Attendees can visit the neighboring model train club depot. A countdown will lead to the big event — illuminating the tree to kick off the holiday season.

Info: web.gspacc.com/events

Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade

Annapolis Harbor

Saturday, December 14

from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

A beloved Annapolis tradition will celebrate its 42nd anniversary of delighting onlookers and spreading Christmas cheer: the Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade. This year, dozens of boats creatively decked out with holiday lights will again cruise the waters of the Annapolis Harbor. The lights parade is free and will be visible from Annapolis City Dock, the Spa Creek Bridge, pocket parks in Eastport and Murray Hill, and many downtown Annapolis streets that end at the water.

Info: www.eastportyc.org/lights-parade



Left: Thirty-five festive, decorated boats lit up waterways in Arnold on Saturday, November 16, during the second annual Deep Creek Lighted Boat Parade.

North Pole Lights Walk

Willow Oak Flower & Herb Farm

8109 Telegraph Road, Severn

Select dates, November 29 - December 29

from 4:30pm to 8:00pm

Enjoy a self-guided adventure to the North Pole at this annual holiday trail that features festive lights and many stops along the way to meeting Santa in the Garden Cabin. The North Pole Fairy will send you on your way, through garden flowers and arctic animals to the North Pole Palace. After meeting Santa, take photos in his magical sleigh. Pets are not allowed, but service dogs are welcome.

Info and tickets: www.willowoakherbs.com

Other Maryland Light Displays Worth The Drive

Winterfest Of Lights

200 125th Street, Ocean City

November 21 - December 22

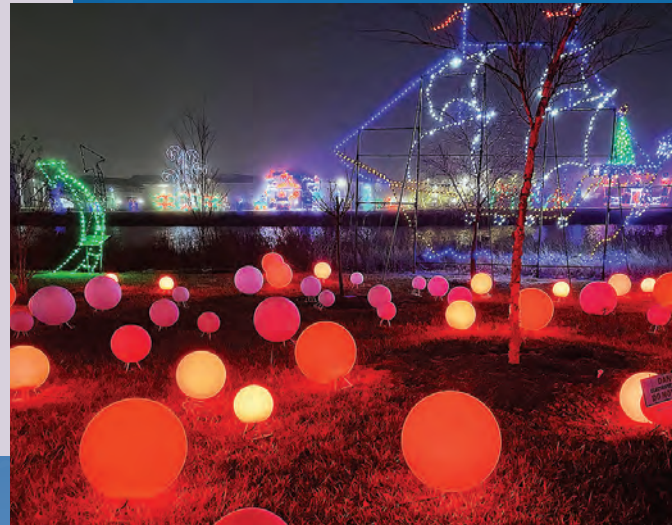
Wednesday through Sunday, from 5:30pm to 9:30pm

December 23-31

Daily, from 5:30pm to 9:30pm

Entering its 32nd season, Ocean City's Winterfest Of Lights is a walk-through holiday wonderland spanning the 58-acre Northside Park along the bay side of the beach town. Stroll through hundreds of light displays and enjoy hot chocolate, a bonfire, interactive games, visits with Santa, family crafts and a holiday gift shop. Pets are welcome on Wednesdays.

Info: www.ococean.com/winterfest



Winter Festival Of Lights

• Watkins Regional Park

• 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro

November 29 - January 1

from 5:00pm to 9:30pm nightly

For nearly 40 years, this three-mile lights experience, enjoyed from the comfort of vehicles, has enchanted audiences in nearby Prince George's County. Last year's event featured dazzling displays with more than 2.5 million lights. The festival will open early, on November 24 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, for Bikes and Lights, a unique opportunity to enjoy the whimsical holiday displays while riding through on your bicycle. Helmets and registration are required.

Info and tickets: www.pgparcs.com

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Everyone's
Favorite
Breakfast
Treat
For The
Holidays!**





Santa Claus Is Coming To Town

By
Lauren
Cowan

W

hether you're hoping for that perfect family photo, to drop off a wish list or simply to catch a glimpse of jolly old Saint Nick this season, there will be many opportunities nearby. Here are a few.

Himmel's Landscape and Garden Center

**Saturdays and Sundays
through December 22**

4374 Mountain Road, Pasadena

Santa and his magical unicorn will visit Himmel's Landscape and Garden Center on Saturdays and Sundays during its five-week Himmel's Holiday Village experience. Families are invited to enjoy crafts, music and hot cocoa as they visit local vendors onsite. The Rumor Has It food truck will be open throughout the Holiday Village run, and Santa will be available for photos.

Homestead Gardens

**Weekends, November 30
— December 22**

522 Ritchie Highway,
Severna Park

Once again, Homestead Gardens will host Santa Claus in its store, where families can visit and take photos with him for free. Register for a time slot at www.homesteadgardens.com. There is no photographer onsite for this event; visitors must bring their own camera or phone.

Santa Paws: On Thursday, December 4, Santa will make a special stop at

Homestead Gardens from 4:00pm-7:00pm specifically for four-legged friends. Pet photos will not require registration, and they will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Santapolis: A Magical Holiday Experience at Annapolis Mall

Through December 24

2002 Annapolis Mall Road,
Annapolis

Annapolis Mall will be decked out for the holidays and hosting Santa for photos through December 24. Registration is available, though not required, and walk-ups will be accepted as space is available.

Santapolis is located next to Crate & Barrel. Learn more and register at www.shopannapolis-mall.com/events.

Sensory-friendly experience: On Sunday, December 8, from 9:00am-10:30am, Santapolis will offer a quieter, calmer opportunity to meet Santa before the mall opens to the public for those who may find the typical atmosphere to be overwhelming. Guests should enter the mall through the entrance nearest The Container Store.

VCA Calvert Veterinary Center Hot Cocoa with Santa

Thursday, December 5

4100 Mountain Road,
Suite C, Pasadena

Families are invited to VCA Calvert Veterinary Center for games, crafts, beverages, vendors and the opportunity to get pet photos with Santa. The event runs from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting

Friday, December 6

1 Holly Avenue, Severna Park

Join your neighbors outside the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce and count down to the annual tree lighting on Friday, December 6, at 5:00pm. Both Santa and the Grinch will be onsite for photos, and refreshments will be served. Guests are invited to visit the model train club depot next door as well.

Fence & Deck Connection's Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Saturday, December 7

8057 Veterans Highway,
Millersville

Fence & Deck Connection in Millersville is hosting its 18th annual holiday clothing drive on Saturday, December 7, from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Santa will be on hand for photos, and guests can enjoy waffles, train rides, roller skating and a moon bounce (though Santa may sit those activities out). Admission to the event is free of charge, though guests are asked to bring a new-with-tags clothing item to be donated to the Blue Ribbon Project.

Kinder Farm Park Jingle Bell Hayride

Saturday, December 7

1001 Kinder Farm Park Road,
Millersville

Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit Kinder Farm Park for the annual Jingle Bell Hayride on Saturday, December 7. Refreshments will be served, and the farmhouse will

Continued on page 11



**Great Selection of Beer, Wine,
Liquor and Special Occasion Gifts**



**Under new ownership and
management as of May 7, 2022!**

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**WANT TO EARN POINTS AND
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of wine; mix & match

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item

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Happy Holidays to you & your Family!



Who should get a Hearing Test?

Cardiac Patients • Diabetics • Cancer Survivors

Cardiac Patients - Inadequate blood flow from heart disease can contribute to hearing loss.

Diabetics - High blood glucose levels can damage the small blood vessels in your inner ear, diminishing the ability to hear.

Cancer Survivors - Damaged hair cells in your inner ear do not grow back, and can lead to hearing loss, ringing in the ear and dizziness.



Happy Holidays

Hearing Solutions

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www.toasttab.com/senor-chile-cantina

410-421-1010

1264 Bay Dale Drive
Arnold, MD 21012

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town

Continued from page 8

be decorated for the occasion. Guests should register online, which will remain open until Thursday, December 5, or until all slots are filled. The approximately 20-minute rides are \$15 per person, and children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Children under 2 are free. Gate fees at the park will apply.

Nonperishable food items will be collected for SPAN to help those in need this holiday season. Reserve your spot at www.kinderfarmpark.org.

Brunch with Santa at Twain's Tavern

Sunday, December 8
8359 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Pasadena

Enjoy a brunch buffet with the man in red at Twain's Tavern on Sunday, December 8, from 10:00am-1:00pm. Along with food and photo opportunities, there will be free face painting, a pajama contest, and stocking and cookie decorating. This is a ticketed event, with proceeds benefiting the Krueger Hat Trick Foundation to support families of children with congenital heart disease. Check www.twain-stavern.com/events for ticket information.

EHVFC Cookies and Cocoa with Santa

Sunday, December 8
161 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park

Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company (EHVFC) is hosting

a free cookies and cocoa with Santa event at the firehouse on Sunday, December 8, from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Refreshments and children's activities will be available for free, and photos with Santa are \$5.

Severna Park Community Center Cookies And Cocoa With Santa

Friday, December 13
623 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park

Gather for evening refreshments and snap a photo with Santa at the Severna Park Community Center's Cookies and Cocoa with Santa. There will be festive crafts for children, and adults can check gifts off their list at the holiday marketplace featuring local vendors. This free event runs from 5:00pm-8:00pm.

Cookies and Cocoa With Santa & Storytime at Park Books

Friday, December 13
555 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park

Santa will visit the Park Books community space on Friday, December 13, at 5:00pm, where he will read a story before posing for photos in front of a festive backdrop. This is a ticketed event, with options to add a book to your purchase. All tickets include the storytime and photos with Santa, refreshments and a craft.

Pets are allowed, given they are leashed and respond well to other dogs and children. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.parkbooksmd.com/events.

Sip N' Sit with Santa at Cheers & Spirits

Friday, December 13
1460 Ritchie Highway, Suite 115, Arnold

Humans and pets alike are invited to visit Santa for photos at Cheers & Spirits in Arnold Station

on Friday, December 13, from 4:00pm-7:00pm.

Santa on the B&A Trail Saturday, December 14

December is a busy time for families and Santa alike. For those who prefer a quick hello on the go, you'll find Santa traveling the B&A Trail on Saturday, December 14, from 10:00am-3:00pm. Santa and his helpers will pass out candy canes and collect nonperishable food items for the Anne Arundel County Food Bank. They will start at Arnold Station and work their way north, concluding at Sawmill Creek Park. In the event of rain, this event will be held at the Earleigh Heights Ranger Station from 10:00am-1:00pm.

A Sweet Time with Santa at Play Street Museum

Saturday, December 21
560 Ritchie Highway Unit 560, Severna Park

An hour-long play slot at Play Street Museum comes with the added benefit of time with Santa — and unlimited photos — on Saturday, December 21, beginning at 10:00am. This is a ticketed event that includes a craft, milk and cookies, and a special gift delivered by Santa himself. For more information or tickets, visit www.severnapark.playstreetmuseum.com/events#play.

Brunch with Santa at O'Loughlin's Restaurant

Sunday, December 22
1258 Bay Dale Drive, Arnold

There will be entertainment and, of course, food for adults and children alike at O'Loughlin's annual Christmas brunch, taking place from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Santa will be onsite to share in the fun, and NFL games will be on starting at 1:00pm. Cost varies by age. Purchase tickets at www.oloughlinspub.com/events. ■



Shop Local This Holiday!

Spoil Your Loved One With Monthly Service

Hours of Operation: Monday - Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
 825 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, MD **410-544-9009**

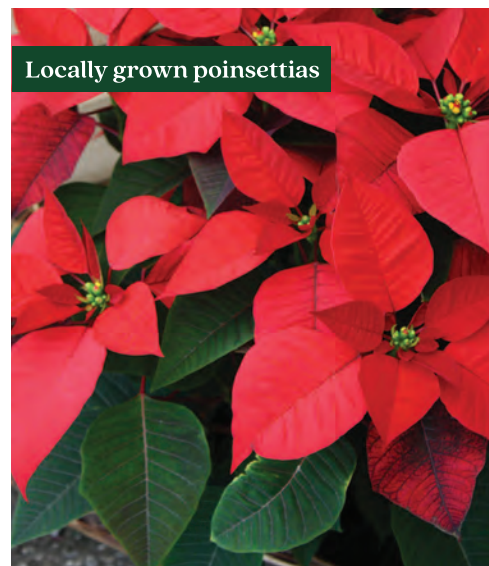
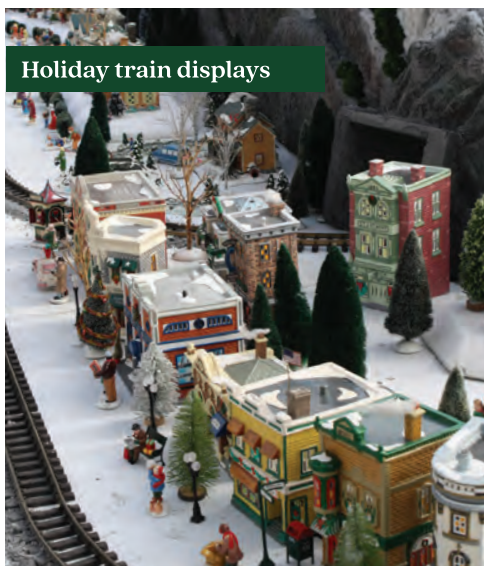
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Scan here for more info & to view our full line-up of events



Franklin's Toys

BLACK FRIDAY SALE
 Friday, November 29th
 20% OFF Everything
 9am-1pm ONLY
Cannot be combined with other offers or coupons.
 Not valid on Lego or Jelly Cat Products.

November 18th-24th
ANNUAL SCHOOL FUNDRAISER WEEK

Receive a 10% discount and the school receives 10% of the purchase. Visit our website for participating schools.

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Park Plaza
 Severna Park
 410.544.1844

www.franklinstoystore.com



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Accepting New, Unwrapped Toy Donations!
 (At All 5 Branches)

November 4th - December 10th



Music & Events



- Sat Nov 16 George Evans 8 PM
- Thurs Nov 21 Alaina Tamash 8 PM
- Sat Nov 23 Red Betty & the Ruckus 8 PM
- Wed Nov 27 Thanksgiving Eve Party
- Mon Dec 2 Trivia 7:30 PM
- Thurs Dec 5 New Trail Tap Takeover 6 PM
- Sat Dec 7 Cookies with Santa 11 AM - 1 PM
- Sun Dec 8 Santa Claws & Paws, Pup Pictures with Santa 12 PM - 3 PM
- Fri Dec 13 - Red Betty & the Ruckus 8 PM



Scan for Online Ordering
severnaparktaphouse.com

58 W Earleigh Heights Road Severna Park, MD 21146





Shops Around Severna Park Share Gift Ideas For All Hobbies And Needs

By Zach Sparks

As the proverb goes, “Giving is better than receiving,” but what if you’re not sure where to start? Several stores in Severna Park, Pasadena and Annapolis shared their gift suggestions.

Benfield Gallery

485 Jumpers Hole Road
Severna Park
410-544-2299

Specializing in original works by local artists, custom framing and gifts, Benfield Gallery has plenty to offer. The gallery is stocked with pottery, handcrafted metalwork, fine crafts and quality giclee prints. The shop also has new tumblers.

“They are multi-purpose: suitable as drinking vessels, vases, standalone art pieces,” explained Sarah Wardell, custom frame designer at Benfield Gallery. “Additionally, we’ll have a new show

in the gallery, ‘Winter’s Palette,’ which will include some smaller, more affordable pieces.”

When in doubt, consider a gift card for custom framing services. “Since the cost can often be prohibitive, a gift card is a great way to give a personalized gift of art or preserve a memory,” Wardell said.

BD Provisions

844 Ritchie Highway
Severna Park
443-625-2323

This zero-waste store carries hundreds of bulk food options. Create a customizable gift basket with items including gingerbread cookies, candy-cane crunch popcorn, Christmas nonpareils, snowflake pretzels, snow-flurry gummies and chocolate peppermint bark. Baskets can also be filled with all the regular treats that are in the store year-round.

Franklin’s Toys

558A Ritchie Highway
Severna Park
410-544-1844

Looking for a popular toy to gift this season? Franklin’s Toys has the following recommendations, with product descriptions provided by the manufacturers.

Genius Square (\$29.99): Introducing a smart battle game with more than 60,000 puzzles to solve over five difficulty levels. Roll the dice, place the seven blockers on the game board accordingly, and then race to complete the square using your colorful pieces before your opponent. The game’s small size makes it ideal for entertainment on the go, and it develops skills of concentration and problem solving. For one to two players.

Sort, Stock, Select Vending Machine Play Set (\$59.99):

Satisfy hungry imaginations with the push of a button. Open the back of the wooden vending machine and stock it with nine double-sided play food packages. On the front, select an item, insert a color-matching play coin or bank card, press the corresponding letter and number button, and the snack drops into the collection drawer. This hands-on, screen-free gift is for girls and boys ages 3 to 6.

SpinAgain (\$34.99): This oversized corkscrew pole twirls each colorful disc down to the wobbly base. Lots of movement provides visual stimulation while encouraging hand-eye coordination. For ages 1-3.

Houck’s Menswear

1382 Cape St. Claire Road
Annapolis
410-757-5500

If you’re in need of a gift for a husband, father, brother, son or other man in your life, you can find a range of menswear at Houck’s. The store carries Schott, Turtle-son, Tidal Range, Palm Beach, Fox River Socks and other brands.

Park Hardware

500 Ritchie Highway, Suite A
Severna Park
410-647-4611

The knowledgeable staff at Park Hardware is available to help anyone with their home and garden needs. The store is stocked with Weber grills, from classic kettles to advanced Genesis models, along with grill gloves, wood chips, wood chunks, mats, covers, brushes and thermometers. Also at Park Hardware, the Big Green Egg is an outdoor cooking system



Play Street Museum



BD Provisions

renowned for flavor, versatility and durability. Whether someone is grilling, roasting, smoking or even baking, this grill does it all.

Park Hardware is stocked with firewood and firepits, and it has Black Friday deals on a range of products: power tools and hand tools, lawn and garden items, decorations and supplies, houseware, light bulbs and extension cords, and more.

Play Street Museum

560 Ritchie Highway, Suite F
Severna Park
443-393-9663

Play Street Museum carries toys and is planning several special events designed to help people make homemade ornaments, aprons and candle holders.

Sand & Silo Marketplace

8567 Fort Smallwood Road,
Pasadena
443-812-5665

This market offers locally made jewelry, art and ornaments. New items include stained glass snack cakes from Steps Into Madness, nautical charts and maps, Euforia Jewelry items, coastal ornaments, and wood ornaments featuring characters from "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

Savvy Consignment

553 B&A Boulevard
Severna Park
410-647-1636

Known for brand-name clothing
Continued on page 17

1. 2022 Census Bureau information as reported by Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation
2. Capital One Shopping
3. SCORE, free business mentorship

WHY Shop Local? Shop Small?

SMALL BUSINESSES CREATE JOBS IN THE COMMUNITY...

12,174

Establishments with fewer than 20 employees

50,187

businesses without employees (i.e. sole proprietors)

96.2%

of all businesses are small businesses with fewer than 20 employees

IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY ⁽¹⁾

\$68

\$68 out of every \$100 spent at local stores remains in the local economy ⁽²⁾

Dollars spent at independent businesses may recirculate in the local economy an average of 6-15 times ⁽²⁾

DOLLARS STAY LOCAL...

250%
small businesses donate 250% more than larger businesses to nonprofits and community causes ⁽³⁾





Mon – Fri
9am-9pm
Saturday
8am-9pm
Sunday
9am-8pm

JOIN OUR
f b i n

HOLIDAY EVENTS!

Saturday, November 23
4-7 – Brown Forman Bottle Etching

Friday, November 29
12-6 – **All Store Bottle Etching**
Debra, a calligrapher, engraver, and lover of all things lettered, will be here engraving any wine or spirit. This is an opportunity for a one-of-a-kind gift. If you can't make the event, then you can preorder the product. Please speak to the manager on duty. All preorders must be paid for in advance.

Friday, December 6
3-6 – Beam Portfolio Bottle Etching featuring Beam products, Knob Creek, Basil Hayden, Makers Mark

Friday, November 29
12-6 – **All Store Bottle Etching**

Fishpaws Marketplace
954 Ritchie Highway, Arnold, MD | 410-647-7363
Order Online for Delivery
www.fishpawsmarket.com



Gift Cards Make Perfect Stocking Stuffers!

savvy
women, children + home
consignment

553 Baltimore-Annapolis Blvd. Severna Park, MD 21146
410.647.1635 savvyconsignment.com



CAFE
MEZZANOTTE
REAL FARM TO TABLE
REAL ITALIAN
WWW.CAFEMEZZ.COM

HOLIDAY CATERING & BANQUETS

There is still time to make Mezzanotte a part of your holiday season! On-Premises Banquet Rooms for up to 100 guests, and Off-Premises Catering Packages for any size...
Email banquets@cafemezz.com

GIFT CARDS

Give the Gift of Taste with a Cafe Mezzanotte Gift Card this holiday season... available in person, via phone, and online!

NEW FALL MENUS

New Fall Menus featuring over 30 New Food and Drink Creations, Available for Dine-In, Carryout and Online Ordering at www.cafemezz.com



now booking!

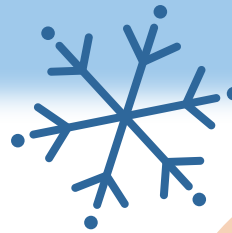


BEST OF SEVERNA PARK

GRAZIE for voting Mezzanotte Best Restaurant, Dinner, Italian and Best Special Occasion



Shops Around Severna Park Share Gift Ideas For All Hobbies And Needs



Continued from page 15

ing, handbags and shoes, Savvy Consignment also offers gift cards in any denomination. On the home side, Savvy is accepting holiday Christmas items for consignment.

Side Street Framers & gift gallery

558-B Ritchie Highway
Severna Park
410-544-9050

8220 Ritchie Highway, Suite 6
Pasadena
410-315-9660

A staple of the Severna Park community for over 30 years, Side Street Framers & gift gallery has handcrafted holiday jewelry created by Cathy Kelly. Shoppers can also visit Side Street Framers & gift gallery for a sea glass, wire-wrapped angel ornament by Jessica Graves or glass Christmas tree windows by Sandy Ershelman.

The Cottage

562-B Ritchie Highway
Severna Park
410-647-6742

149 Main Street, Annapolis
410-650-9009

With locations in Severna Park and Annapolis, The Cottage boasts an array of products that work well as gifts. Browse the store for apparel, jewelry, décor, Maryland-themed items and more. The Cottage also has stocking stuffers, from lip balm to mixers and treats. Not sure what to get? The store also sells gift cards.

The Sugar Shoppe

4 Riggs Avenue
Severna Park

New to the Severna Park community, The Sugar Shoppe offers holiday candy and party items, candles, accessories, hostess gifts, toys and crafts.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY IS 11/30

\$17 BILLION

U.S. spending on Small Business Saturday in 2023 ⁽¹⁾

1. www.sba.gov

2nd Chance Toyz

6 South Ritchie Highway, Suite E
Pasadena
410-582-8398

This Pasadena shop is home to modern and vintage toys. Shoppers can browse 2nd Chance Toyz for Transformers, Legos, "Star Wars" items, G.I. Joe and Funko Pop figures, and more. ■



Franklin's Toys

Sand & Silo Marketplace



Side Street Framers & gift gallery

Fence & Deck Connection Gives Back With 18th Annual Holiday Drive

Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree

Since 1991, Fence & Deck Connection has installed fences, decks and screened porches in Anne Arundel County. Helping homeowners make backyard memories is the business' greatest strength, but giving back to its neighbors in need has and will continue to be a significant cornerstone of the company.

As the season of giving gets underway, Fence & Deck Connection is excited to announce its 18th annual holiday drive, Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, taking place on December 7 from 4:00pm-7:00pm at its Millersville location (8057 Veterans Highway). This joyous holiday event, also sponsored by Fence & Deck's industry partners Trex, Yellowood, Culpeper and Snavelly Forest Products, will directly benefit the Blue Ribbon Project. This Annapolis-based organization offers several programs directly serving children who are the victims of child abuse

and neglect, as well as adult survivors of child abuse.

Admission to the holiday drive is free, although the team will collect new children's toys (with tags) and clothing items at the entrance. Currently, the Blue Ribbon Project's greatest needs are infant boys' clothing, pants with elastic bands and no-fleece pajamas for toddlers and kids to adult sizes, sippy cups, and bottles. Donations are highly recommended and will directly support local children in need during the holiday season.

This community event will take place the first weekend of December and encourage families to get in the holiday spirit. All attendees will be able to receive a free photo with Santa; enjoy free sweet treats and hot cocoa from T & J Waffles, a Laurel, Maryland, food truck and carry-out storefront specializing in homemade waffles; and take a ride in a polar express. Outdoors, guests will also enjoy the rock n' roll roller rink, moon bounce, disco car ride, face painting, crafts and more. Guests can bring their dancing shoes

and jingle bells to sing along to holiday classics with a rock n' roll twist and watch performances by the Archbishop Spalding High School dance team.

In addition to working with local organizations such as Warrior Events, the Anne Arundel County Food Bank, Anne Arundel County SPCA, and many local sports and church groups over the years, Fence & Deck Connection has been proud to closely partner with the Blue Ribbon Project for more than a decade. Both the Annapolis and Millersville sites are drop-off locations for the organization's Backpacks of Love program, targeted toward children of all ages entering the foster care system. Donated backpacks include toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, children's soap and body wash, children's shampoo, changes of clothing for the child's age, personal clothing (underwear, socks, pajamas), and age-appropriate books and toys. To donate a filled backpack, visit Fence & Deck Connection in Annapolis (1544 Whitehall Road) or Millersville (8057 Veterans Highway). ■



Please Join Us For Our 18th Annual Holiday Clothing Drive

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024

4:00pm - 7:00pm



8057 Veterans Highway, Millersville, MD 21108

Bring a Donation
& Enjoy Free Family Fun!

- Free Photo with Santa
- Music & Rollerskating
- Polar Express Train Rides
- Disco Car Kids Ride & Moon Bounce
- Hot Chocolate & Sweet Treats
- Face Painting + Much More!

This Event Directly Benefits
THE BLUE RIBBON PROJECT
& Their Programs That Support Victims of
Child Abuse & Local Youth in Foster Care.

We are collecting new toys
& "new-with-tags"
children's clothing for all ages:
Greatest needs are infant boy's clothing,
pants with elastic bands, no fleece
pajamas for toddlers and kids up until
adult, sippy cups, and bottles.

Please visit our website at www.fenceanddeckconnection.com or call 410-757-5511 for more details.

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OVER \$1,100


IN FREE TREATMENTS & PERKS EVERY MONTH!


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SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 24 3-6pm

568 Ritchie Hwy F. Severna Park, MD

Join Us! - RSVP TODAY

 410-553-9444

 410-554-8852

- Free to Attend
- Free Treatments
- Amazing Catering
- Signature Cocktails
- Live Entertainment
- Raffles & Prizes
- Early Black Friday Specials





Give The Gift Of An Experience

By Zach Sparks

Sometimes, the best gift is an experience or a new skill that will last a lifetime. With that in mind, these businesses are offering fun and unique gift options.

Christina Josephs Salon

8268 Veterans Highway, Millersville
410-987-7700

A full-service hair salon, Christna Josephs provides facials, shampoos, haircuts, manicures and pedicures, extensions, creative color, waxing and more. To make the most of what is offered, consider getting a gift card, which can be used anytime and with any service provider. Shoppers can also print gift certificates or email the information to the recipient by visiting www.christinajosephsalon.com.

Consider these holiday packages:

- **Holly Jolly package:** retouch color, haircut, conditioning treatment and style for \$120.
- **Santa's Sleigh package:** Full set of eyelash extensions, manicure and pedicure for \$120.

Cruise the Chesapeake

700 Mill Creek Road
Arnold (home port)
443-223-1290

Cruise the Chesapeake operations started in 2022 with the purchase of its boat, the Samantha Belle. Since then, the crew has provided visitors and locals with lasting memories. The crew also values safe, fun and positive experiences for people of all ages. To provide a boat tour for the special people in your life, visit www.cruisethechesapeake.com. Click "Book Now!" in the upper-right corner of the website to see the gift card option.

Image Creators Salon and Spa

568F Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
410-544-8852

Just in time for the holiday gift-giving season, Image Creators Salon and Spa is partnering with Pure MedSpa to launch its Platinum Passport program. For a monthly fee of \$198, anyone can give the gift of a luxury membership experience. Help someone unlock unparalleled beauty, well-



This holiday season, Tidy Nest is offering the gifts of comfort, time and joy provided by an organized space.

ness and style with exclusive benefits designed to elevate their confidence and transform their look.

Members receive over \$1,100 in free treatments and perks every month. Image Creators will also offer a gift card promotion. With the purchase of a \$100 gift card, receive a \$20 bonus card. Both the Platinum Passport and the gift card special will launch at a special event at Image Creators on November 24 from 3:00pm-6:00pm. Learn more at www.imagecreators-salonandspa.com.

Play Street Museum

560 Ritchie Highway
Suite F, Severna Park
443-393-9663

This engaging and educational neighborhood children's museum has activities for toddlers and children up to 8 years old. Play Street Museum transports kids to The Town Square, where they can explore interactive exhibits based around life in the city. Kids can also give their friends a checkup at the doctor's office, care for animals at the pet shop, or prepare to save the day at the fire station.

Encourage a trip to Play Street Museum by gifting a play pass this holiday season. Passes are available at the online shop at www.severna-park.playstreetmuseum.com.

Priddy Music Academy

1514 Jabez Run, Suite 1010
Millersville
443-988-3870

With the gift of music lessons, you can offer someone access to a lifelong skill. Priddy Music Academy

offers lessons for youth and adults, in all genres, for drums, bass, vocals, guitar and ukulele, keyboard and songwriting. Details are online at www.priddymusicacademy.com.

Rolly Pollies

476 Ritchie Highway, Unit D
Severna Park
410-544-9002

Rolly Pollies offers gym access and hosts birthday parties for kids 6 months old to 8 years old in a safe, nurturing environment. At Rolly Pollies, the team has an overarching goal: to develop children physically, intellectually and socially in order to build the self-esteem and confidence needed for a healthy and successful life. With a gift certificate from Rolly Pollies, you can give that experience to a child in your life. Purchases can be made online at www.rollypolliesmaryland.com/gift-card.

Severna Park Lanes

840 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
410-647-0811

The 32-lane entertainment center is a great place for family fun and making memories. With a gift card, a recipient can enjoy tenpin, duckpin and galaxy bowling, along with an arcade. Learn more at www.gobowl-ingsevernapark.com.

The Blended Essentials

562 Baltimore Annapolis
Boulevard, Severna Park
410-544-2050

For a gift that is interactive and hands-on, try The Blended Essentials. A gift certificate will allow your family member or friend to craft their own candles, wax melts, soaps, bath bombs or other items. Certificates are available at www.theblendedessentials.com/shop.

The Dance Academy

479 Jumpers Hole Road
Severna Park
410-544-3220

Give the gift of dance this season. The Dance Academy is enrolling new



Rolly Pollies offers gym access and hosts birthday parties for kids 6 months old to 8 years old in a safe, nurturing environment.

students in ballet, tap, jazz, acro and adult classes. For more information, visit www.danceacademyweb.com.

The Great American Car Wash
825 Ritchie Highway
Severna Park
410-544-9009

Spoil your loved one with monthly service from The Great American Car Wash, which has full-service and exterior express car washes, along with auto detailing services. The Great American Car Wash uses soft-wash cleaning technology and Earth-friendly soaps and washes. Learn more at www.thegreatamericancarwash.com.

Tidy Nest
858-254-3901 (Kelly)
571-214-5754 (Ashley)

What if you could give someone the gift of time? With a gift certificate from Tidy Nest professional organizing, you can. This is the perfect gift for a busy loved one who would delight in having a helping hand to organize a pantry, closet, garage, or any other area of the home. The co-owners of Tidy Nest, Kelly and Ashley, will create custom, functional solutions designed to make living an organized life easier.

This holiday season, you can give the gift many people cherish — the comfort and joy of an organized space and more time to do the things they love. For more information on Tidy Nest's services, visit www.yourtidynest.com.

Woolf Eye Lab
2446 Mountain Road
Pasadena
410-255-8056

Woolf Eye Lab has a few ideas for holiday shoppers. One gift is a light-and-lift dry eye spa day complete with dry eye treatment, a facial and skin tightening. Another gift option is to stock a family member's stocking with MacuHealth vitamins for muscular strength and visual clarity. For more information, visit www.woolfeyelab.com. ■

Holiday Decor

SEVERNA PARK STYLE

by Katie Melynn

It's time to deck the halls. Homestead Gardens in Severna Park has several tips for bringing the bounty of the Chesapeake to your holiday decor.

BRING NATURE TO YOUR HOLIDAY DECOR

"Visiting our store, you'll see nature blended into everything that we do despite the gardening season being over," said Haley Bush, marketing manager with Homestead Gardens. "A lot of our trees have silks and stems that connect back to nature with things like berries and leaves. Our ornament collection features many options that are reminiscent of the garden and being outdoors. Plus, you'll notice a foraged and whimsical theme throughout our entire collection."

Don't be afraid to combine items picked up from the local nursery with those you find in your own backyard.

"Customers can purchase the bulk

of their fresh decor from Homestead Gardens, and then forage some of their own greens to mix in as well," Bush said. "Things like magnolia branches, cedar, hollies and more can be mixed in, creating a unique homemade feeling. Toss on some lights and you'll surely have something magical."

LOCAL THEMES AND ARTISANS

"We have a ton of stuff from Kim Hovell of Annapolis, offering her signature designs in candles, ornaments and a ton of giftware. Annapolis candles, of course," Bush said. "We also have a ton of local goods in our pantry collection for seasonal recipes. Not to mention, all of our poinsettias are locally grown in Davidsonville by Tidal Creek Growers."

You can also bring in local elements from nature, either those you find yourself or pieces crafted by local artisans. Oyster shells and crab mallets make fun themed decorations for your holiday tree. Leaves, branches, and acorns from towering oak trees, especially for those in Severna Park, bring in an element of nature. Driftwood from the Chesapeake Bay, as well as pinecones, are fun to craft with and make unique holiday decor.

CRAFTING A COLLECTION

The holidays are the perfect time to start a treasured collection.

"We also have a hand-painted ornament (that) features O'Brien's (Oyster Bar & Seafood Tavern) in Annapolis for those who collect this ornament each year," Bush said. ■

ABOVE: This hand-painted ornament features O'Brien's Oyster Bar & Seafood Tavern in Annapolis.
LEFT: This red, white and blue tree is one of many unique displays at Homestead Gardens.



Take The Cooking Burden Off Your Plate With Catering

Whether you could use a hand with your holiday meal or you are looking for a spacious restaurant to host your gathering, these spots are sharing their services to make your event special.

Cafe Mezzanotte

760 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
410-647-1100

This Severna Park restaurant has locally sourced Italian and seafood dishes. On-premises banquet rooms can accommodate up to 100 guests, and the restaurant offers off-site catering packages for events of all sizes. Menus can be viewed at www.cafemezzanotte.com/catering. To learn more, email banquets@cafemezz.com.

Chick-fil-A

511 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park
410-647-6232

Chicken nugget and chicken strip trays are a popular party item. Place catering orders through the Chick-fil-A app. See the full menu at order.chick-fil-a.com/get-started/catering.

Donut Shack

497 Ritchie Highway, Suite 2E, Severna Park
410-544-0278

Place an order online for pickup or delivery. In addition to doughnuts, pastries and other treats, Donut Shack offers coffee in a variety of sizes. View options at www.theshackisback.com.

Garry's Grill

553 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park
410-544-0499

A community favorite, Garry's Grill provides holiday catering from its extensive menu of appetizers, salads, sandwiches and wraps, entrees, pastas, sides and desserts. Learn more at www.garrysgrill.com/catering.

Park Tavern

580 Ritchie Highway
Severna Park
410-793-5930

Park Tavern provides meat and vegetarian offerings for onsite and catered events. The tavern has tables for groups of six or more. It also offers delivery and setup for offsite events, ranging from small functions to large gatherings.

The tavern does not have a private space for parties, though it can separate private parties from other customers. Party size limits are conditional on the day. Call the restaurant or contact the staff via www.parktavernsp.com/contact-us.

Señor Chile

594 Benfield Road, Severna Park
410-431-3000

1264 Bay Dale Drive, Arnold
410-421-1010

Authentic Mexican dishes at Señor Chile are crafted from traditional recipes. The restaurant offers customizable menus, ensuring a memorable dining experience for guests. To see the menu, visit www.senorschile.com/catering.

Severna Park Taphouse

58 West Earleigh Heights Road, Severna Park
410-793-5759

Severna Park Taphouse provides private dining events for 30 to 300 guests. Buffet options include popular dishes from the Severna Park Taphouse menu and can be customized. Severna Park Taphouse has two full-service bars, including a heated beer garden bar and pavilion, offering an outdoor event option year-round.

Party trays are available for pickup for offsite events. Delivery is not available currently. The restaurant asks that catering or event orders be placed a week in advance. For more information and to review banquet options, go to www.severnaparktaphouse.com/banquets-rentals. Contact severnaparktaphouse@comcast.net to inquire about availability.



Blackwall Hitch Annapolis

400 Sixth Street, Annapolis
410-263-3454

The Blackwall Barn & Lodge

329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills
410-317-2276

The Farmhouse Gambrills

2383 Brandermill Boulevard, Gambrills
410-451-7544

The Lodge Annapolis

177 Jennifer Road, Annapolis
410-266-7474

These four restaurants feature farm-to-table dishes and can accommodate private parties. The Blackwall Barn & Lodge can hold up to 175 people. The Lodge Annapolis and The Farmhouse Gambrills have private rooms that can hold up to 40 people. All four restaurants are taking reservations for Christmas and New Year's.

The restaurants also offer a to-go option for Christmas and New Year's. For \$90, it is a three-course

meal for two. That meal includes two Caesar salads, two 10-ounce prime rib entrees served with Tuscan potatoes and farmhouse vegetables, and two slices of white chocolate raspberry cheesecake. Meals are available to order online and then pick up in the store the day before the holiday, and then easily reheat.

Lastly, Titan Hospitality now has its short ribs available for sale in prepackaged gift boxes: two short ribs for \$22 and four for \$40. ■

BOWLING

It's Great Family Fun for the Holidays - Join Us!!

Family New Year's Eve Celebrations December 31st

Severna Park Lanes	Annapolis Bowl	Greenway Bowl
4:00-6:00pm	7:00-9:00pm	7:00-9:00pm
7:00-9:00pm	<i>Call for more details.</i>	

New Year's Eve 2024 Gala Celebration

December 31st • 9:30pm-1:00am

Includes: unlimited bowling, shoes, galaxy bowling, party favors, noise makers & door prizes.

Call for more details. Make your reservations now!

Includes: unlimited bowling, shoes, galaxy bowling, party favors, noise makers & door prizes. Valid at Severna Park Lanes, Greenway Bowl & Annapolis.

HOLIDAY FAMILY PACK

Two hours of bowling, shoe rentals, large cheese pizza & pitcher of soda for up to five people per lane for one value-bowl price.

\$119.95 per lane for all this fun. Limited to available lanes

For Up To 5 People. One Lane. INCLUDES Shoes. Cannot Be Combined With Any Other Offer. Valid When Lanes Are Available. Not Valid During Galaxy Bowling. Expires 12/31/24. SPV



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UP TO FOUR FREE GAMES!

When an identical number of games are purchased at regular rates.

Limit One Coupon Per Visit Per Group. Valid Only When Open Play Lanes Are Available. Not Redeemable For Galaxy Bowl. Not Valid On Weekends And Holidays. Valid At Annapolis Bowl, Greenway Bowl & Severna Park Lanes. Expires 12/31/24. SPV

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Great Stocking
Stuffers**

**Book Your
Holiday
Party NOW!**



Annapolis Bowl
10 Pin
2057 Generals Hwy
Annapolis, MD
410-266-0700
GoBowlingAnnapolis.com



Greenway Bowl
10 Pin
8246 Telegraph Rd
Odenton, MD
410-551-7100
GoBowlingOdenton.com



Severna Park Lanes
Duck Pin & 10 Pin
840 Ritchie Hwy
Severna Park, MD
410-647-0811
GoBowlingSevernaPark.com

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who has everything.
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We're Kelly and Ashley, professional organizers and owners of Tidy Nest. We love to help our clients organize closets, rooms, and whole homes. We work with them to declutter and then we organize what remains using personalized and easy-to-maintain solutions. We even responsibly get rid of what's no longer wanted or needed.

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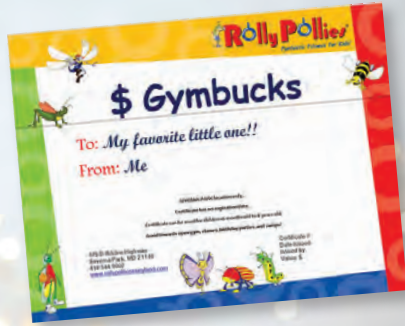


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Artistic Director: Nicole Kowach

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December 14-22, 2024 at Maryland Hall

www.BalletMaryland.org



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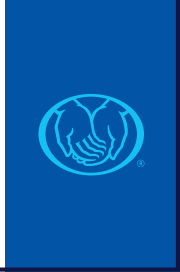
Alex Schwab
 410-255-3200
 517 Benfield Road Suite 202
 Severna Park
 aschwab@allstate.com

Allstate

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You love living in Severna Park as much as I do. But, are you doing everything you can to protect the life you've built here? As your local Allstate Agent, I can help you make informed decisions to help ensure that everything you love is well protected. Contact me to get covered.

Voted Best Insurance Agent by the readers of the Severna Park Voice.



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chocolate

scoop
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Healthy
Healthy
Coffee
Healthy
beans
High quality
scoop
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We have over 300 bulk food items in store



· HAPPY ·
Holidays



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Give The Gift Of Music!



\$15 OFF
For NEW Students
Must present coupon at the time of purchase. Cannot be combined with other offers. Must mention the Severna Park Voice Holiday Edition.
Offer valid through December 31, 2024

Christmas Eve Worship Services Around Town

Churches of various denominations across the greater Severna Park area will host Christmas Eve worship services to celebrate the birth of Jesus. All services below are scheduled for December 24 unless otherwise noted. For more information about a particular church or its services, visit that church online.

Anchor Baptist Church

320 West Pasadena Road, Millersville
7:00pm - Christmas Eve service

Antioch, The Apostolic Church

1535 Ritchie Highway, Arnold

Sunday, December 15

2:00pm - Christmas worship service

Asbury Town Neck United Methodist Church

429 Asbury Drive, Severna Park

Sunday, December 22

9:00am - Christmas musical cantata

Asbury United Methodist Church

78 Church Road, Arnold

4:30pm - Children's interactive service

8:00pm - Family candlelight Christmas Eve service

Broadneck Evangelical Presbyterian Church

235 Bay Dale Drive, Arnold

6:30pm - Family Christmas Eve candlelight service

CrossPointe Church

365 Jones Station Road, Arnold

6:00pm - Christmas Eve candlelight service

Elvation Baptist Church

8422 Elvation Road, Millersville

7:00pm - Christmas Eve candlelight service

Gloria Dei! Lutheran Church

461 College Parkway, Arnold

4:00pm - Family worship service

8:00pm - Candlelight worship service

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

400 Benfield Boulevard, Severna Park

4:00pm - Christmas Eve worship service

7:00pm - Candlelight Christmas Eve worship service

Saints Baptist Church

160 Truck House Road, Severna Park

5:00pm - Family candlelight service

Severna Park Baptist Church

506 Benfield Road, Severna Park

6:30pm - Christmas Eve candlelight service

Severna Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church

110 Ritchie Highway, Pasadena

6:00pm - Christmas Eve service

8:00pm - Christmas Eve candlelight service

Severna Park United Methodist Church

731 Benfield Road, Severna Park

3:00pm - Children's service

5:00pm - Family service and pageant

7:00pm - Festival service

9:00pm - Festival service

St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church

689 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park

3:30pm - Mass, Severna Park High School auditorium

4:00pm - Children's Mass, parish activities center

6:00pm - Mass, parish activities center

8:00pm - Mass, parish activities center

Midnight - Mass, parish activities center, caroling at 11:30pm

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

375 Benfield Road, Severna Park

4:00pm - Christmas Eve service and pageant

9:00pm - Christmas Eve service

The Potter's House Christian Fellowship Church

836 Ritchie Highway, Suite 13, Severna Park

6:30pm - Candlelight service

Trinity Bible Church

99 Truck House Road, Severna Park

6:00pm - Christmas Eve party

7:00pm - Christmas Eve candlelight service

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church

611 Baltimore-Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park

4:00pm - Family Christmas Eve pageant

6:00pm - Contemporary service

8:00pm - Traditional Christmas Eve service

10:00pm - Communion and candlelight service ■

Celebrate Chanukah With Menorah Lightings

Observed with a nightly menorah lighting, prayers and special foods, the eight-day Jewish holiday of Chanukah begins this year on the eve of December 25 and concludes on January 2.

The holiday will be celebrated in Annapolis with a menorah parade and lighting on Sunday, December 29. Hosted by the Chabad of Anne Arundel County, the car parade will proceed beginning at 5:30pm from the Safeway on Housely Road into downtown Annapolis, concluding at City Dock. Menorahs will be attached to the cars,

and a giant menorah will be kindled immediately following the parade at approximately 5:45pm.

To participate in the parade, or to learn more, go to www.chabadaac.com/chanukahparade.

Menorah candles will also be lit daily during Chanukah at the Annapolis Town Center. Look for more information at www.annapolistowncenter.com/events.

Those attending shabbat service at Temple Beth Shalom in Arnold on Friday, December 27, are encouraged to bring their menorahs. ■

The Gift We All Need

By Stephen Mitchell
Trinity Bible Church

As my wife and I were recently at the grocery store, getting into the Christmas spirit with all the décor and lights that were out, we were talking about what makes Christmas so magical, so special and so exciting. I came to the conclusion, “Well, it’s got to be the gifts!” Did you think I was going to say something more spiritual?

As a kid growing up, I was all about those presents and the excitement and joy of opening the gifts to see what I got. I was blessed with a childhood of wonderful memories of many Christmas mornings where I received my heart’s desire with the gifts that “Santa” would give me, but I will never forget one year where I thought I missed out and it taught me a lingering lesson about missing out on the best gifts.

One year for Christmas, I was going through a “musician phase,” where I really wanted musical instruments to be a one-man band. On this Christmas morning, I woke my parents up very early, ran down the steps, and couldn’t wait to see if Santa came through. I opened one gift after another, and with each present being unwrapped came another piece for my band. I got a toy guitar and a microphone stand, but I was missing the biggest instrument of the band that I wanted the most: the drum set. I really wanted that drum set, and when I realized I didn’t get it, I started crying.

As an adult now, I really regret what I put my parents through that Christmas morning. They asked me what was wrong, and I said, “Santa didn’t bring me the drum set!” crying crocodile tears. “Oh, sweetheart,” I was told, “Santa dropped off your drum set at your aunt’s house!” Sure enough, when we arrived at my aunt’s house to celebrate Christmas, there was my drum set.

What’s truly sad? I barely ever used that drum set. It sat downstairs for years, unused, and eventually, it got thrown out. I was so upset when I thought I didn’t get what I wanted, then I got it, and then I wasted it. I think back to that Christmas lesson often as an adult, because I believe we all do the same thing in different ways. We pursue things we think we want, only to be dissatisfied with them when we get them, incomplete, still empty and often wasteful.

Sometimes we think we want accolades, wealth or the American dream, and we wonder why we wake

up one day having everything we could want but failing to see what we need. And we wonder why we still feel like we are missing something. The reason we have that feeling is because we are still missing something. Or rather, we are missing someone.

Every day is a gift, and throughout every day, we are given many gifts. The daily tragedy is our tendency to do what I did with that drum set: waste those gifts, waste precious time on things that aren’t important, take for granted our loved ones, fail to utilize our potential and even fail to learn the lessons that perhaps we are meant to learn from inconveniences and difficulties we must deal with. And the greatest gift of all that is often unopened, is the gift that Christmas is all about: **“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)**

Christmas is about love. We feel the love that, as the Grinch said, “makes us all warm and toasty inside,” that love that comes with a gift that is given to us by a family member, loved one or friend. Why do we love getting gifts? Maybe part of why is because we feel loved when we know someone had us on their mind. The Bible tells us God very much has you in his mind and heart. Out of love, God did something: He became one of us, lived among us, and died for us.

Christmas is about giving, because God gave us something. He gave us the most valuable present imaginable: himself. His son died for your sins and mine so that we could be forgiven, healed, whole and free. Think about the most valuable or important gift ever given to you. No matter what it is, Jesus Christ being sent to die and rise again for you is far more valuable.

Finally, Christmas is also about hope. Because of the gift of Christmas, we have the hope of eternal life. We sure could use some hope in this world. Maybe you need some hope in your life right now. Maybe you’re facing what seems like a hopeless diagnosis, a hopeless marital crisis, or a hopeless challenge, or maybe you feel hopeless because Christmas is just a reminder of what you don’t have or who you’ve lost.

I’ll never forget being invited to speak at a psychiatric hospital at Christmastime years ago and seeing how sharing the hope of Christmas transformed the atmosphere there. Because of the gift of Christmas, we have hope. This Christmas, in addition to the many gifts you will find wrapped under the tree that may be things you want but don’t need, be sure to unwrap the greatest gift of all, the gift you do need. You will find him wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger, ready to live in your heart, forever.

Stephen Mitchell is the senior pastor of Trinity Bible Church in Severna Park. He also is the host of a regular podcast, “Real Christian Talk with Pastor Steve,” available on all podcast platforms. ■

“The Bible tells us God very much has us in his mind and heart. Out of love, God did something: He became one of us, lived among us, and died for us. Because of the gift of Christmas, we have the hope of eternal life.”



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Across Anne Arundel County, Shows And Concerts Encourage Holiday Spirit

By Zach Sparks

Whether it's the Nutcracker defending Clara from the Mouse King or a songwriter strumming a guitar while singing about a winter wonderland, plenty of local performers are entertaining audiences during holiday-inspired events this season. Check out these upcoming shows and concerts, listed by date.

"A Christmas Carol"

Presented by Pasadena Theatre Company at Anne Arundel Community College

Playing November 15-24

Tickets: www.ptcshows.com

The ghosts of Christmases past, present and future appear in hopes of helping Ebenezer Scrooge change his miserly ways in this Pasadena Theatre Company adaptation of the classic Charles Dickens story.

"White Christmas"

Presented by Classic Theatre of Maryland

Playing November 29-December 29

Tickets: www.classictheatremaryland.org

Based on the 1954 film, this musical adaptation features the music of Irving Berlin. Audiences will be treated to a heart-warming tale that is full of love and laughter.

"A Christmas Carol"

Presented by Classic Theatre of Maryland

Playing December 5-29

Tickets: www.classictheatremaryland.org

Charles Dickens' story was created to inspire a spirit of charity toward the less fortunate. This Helen Hayes Awards-recommended original production of this story has become an annual holiday tradition, delighting patrons of all ages.

"Celebration of Christmas"

Presented by Live Arts Maryland at Maryland Hall

Playing December 6 at 7:30pm

Tickets: www.liveartsmd.org

Yuletide carols being sung by a choir — that's the theme of this holiday event featuring the talents of J. Ernest Green, the Annapolis Chorale, the Annapolis Chamber Orchestra, Broadway star Derrick Davis and pianist Mark Berman.

DFC's Holiday Cabaret

Presented by Children's Theatre of Annapolis

Playing December 7 from 2:00pm-5:00pm

Tickets: www.childrenstheatreofannapolis.org

Showcasing performances from past and present Children's Theatre of Annapolis talent, along with games and a visit from Santa, this holiday cabaret is a celebration for kids and parents.

Handel's "Messiah"

Presented by the United States Naval Academy and Annapolis Symphony Orchestra

Playing December 7-8 in the USNA chapel

Tickets: navyperforms.showare.com

Continuing a long-standing tradition, the United States Naval Academy (USNA) Glee Club is partnering with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra and world-class soloists to present selections from Handel's beloved "Messiah" on this Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. Conducted by Aaron Smith, USNA director of musical activities, this concert has been broadcast on public television stations nationwide.

Baroque By Candlelight

Presented by Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church

Playing December 7 at 7:00pm

Tickets: www.woodschurch.org

Together, the Woods Church adult choir and a professional orchestra will offer Christmas music of the Baroque and Renaissance eras, surrounded by candlelight. With works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Antonio Vivaldi, George Frideric Handel, Heinrich Schütz, Dieterich Buxtehude, John Rutter — and some standard Christmas favorites — the concert is free, and no ticket is required. A livestream will be shared at www.woodschurch.org.

"Holiday Pops"

Presented by the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra

Playing December 13 at Maryland Hall and December 14 at Severna Park High School

Tickets: www.annapolissymphony.org



Join the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra and 70 world-class musicians as they bring the joy, beauty and warmth of the holidays to life with a dazzling mix of classic carols and heart-warming holiday tunes. Native Annapolitan soprano Katherine Sanford Schrock is this year's guest artist, and she will help her fellow musicians usher in the holiday season. She returns to Annapolis at the height of her successful career as an opera singer and concert vocalist.





“The Nutcracker”

**Presented by The Dance Center
at Severna Park Community Center**

Playing December 13, 15 at
Severna Park High School

Tickets: www.spcommunitycenter.org/events

Visit the magical world of sugar plum fairies and toy soldiers with this enchanting adaptation of “The Nutcracker.” According to The Dance Center, “This timeless classic will spark your imagination, touch your heart, and transport you to a winter wonderland like no other.”

Handel’s “Messiah”

**Presented by Live Arts Maryland at
St. Anne’s Episcopal Church**

Playing December 13-15

Tickets: www.liveartsmd.org

The acoustics of St. Anne’s in downtown Annapolis are expected to provide a clear sound for performances of Handel’s “Messiah” and the “Hallelujah” chorus.

“A Jolly Holiday 2024”

**Presented by The Talent Machine
Company at Indian Creek School**

Playing December 13-23

Tickets: www.talentmachine.com



A family tradition for Anne Arundel County audiences, “A Jolly Holiday” features Rudolph, Frosty, Santa, dancing bears and elves as part of an evening of music and holiday spirit. The show will feature a cast of 42 talented children, ages 7-18. From classic carols to contemporary favorites, the production promises a mix of joyful tunes, delightful dance numbers and colorful sets including a magical toy room that comes to life.

“The Nutcracker”

Presented by Ballet Theatre of Maryland at Maryland Hall

Playing December 14-22

Tickets: www.balletmaryland.org

This annual show delights audiences with its whimsical story, entertaining characters, and festive sets and costumes. To extend the joy of the holidays, Ballet Theatre of Maryland will offer a family friendly sugar plum party before every Sunday show.

“The Nutcracker”

**Presented by Chesapeake Ballet Company
at Children’s Theatre of Annapolis**

Playing December 14-16, 20-22

Tickets: chesapeakeballetcompany.ludus.com



Under the direction of Noelle Reese, the Severna Park-based Chesapeake Ballet Company will bring together the talent and expertise of local dancers with the artistic direction of Dmitri Malikov and Ninel Cherevko.

The 20th anniversary season of ‘The Nutcracker’ will feature a blend of tradition and innovation, inviting audiences to experience the enchanting story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince with fresh choreography, beautiful costumes, stunning set designs and a bit of holiday magic.

“An Annapolis Christmas”

Presented by Rams Head On Stage

Playing December 16-17

Tickets: www.ramsheadonstage.com

The 26th annual show features Anne Arundel County artists playing holiday originals and classic tunes. ■

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A Season For Giving Back

By Meredith Winter

Bouyed by volunteers who give of their time and donors who give of their resources, dozens of nonprofits in the greater Severna Park area work tirelessly to serve those in the community who are experiencing various hardships. While coming alongside neighbors in need is critical year-round, the holidays bring unique opportunities to bless children, adults and families with gifts, necessities and a spark of holiday cheer. Below are several ways to give back locally and perhaps even inspire a spirit of generosity in younger family members this Christmas season.

Sponsor Christmas Gifts For Children

Walk The Walk Foundation

The heart of the Millersville-based Walk The Walk Foundation (WTWF) is the nonprofit's Christmas For Children program, which began in 2005. Since then, donors have enabled WTWF to sponsor more than 10,000 children at Christmastime in the last 19 years. In 2023, 625 Anne Arundel County kids from 250 families received gifts.

WTWF Executive Director Nicole

Dolan shared that the faith-based organization hopes to provide gifts for about the same number of local kids again this year. WTWF is looking for 200 sponsors from the community and will provide each child's clothing sizes and gift requests at signup. Dolan noted WTWF recommends that sponsors spend about \$50 to \$65 per child.

Many children ask for bikes for Christmas, and WTWF also collects purchased bicycles and helmets, or donations of \$150 for those who would rather let WTWF do the bike shopping. In addition to gifts, each family also will receive a

card, an ornament, and a book for each child that shares the true meaning of Christmas.

"One of the components of the program is that families send pictures and thank-you cards and messages, and a lot of these families, if it wasn't for them getting the support, their children wouldn't have anything for Christmas," Dolan said.

Gifts will be collected the week of December 6-13 and distributed to recipients on December 18. Volunteers are needed to help organize and distribute the gifts. To sponsor one or more children or to volunteer, go to www.wtwf.org.

Provide A Holiday Meal

St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry

Combating hunger year-round, the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry at St. John the Evangelist is collecting donations to provide Christmas meals for roughly 75 local families. Items needed include canned sweet potatoes, instant mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, canned green beans, canned sweet corn, applesauce, cranberry sauce, canned fruit, gravy, cookie mixes, stuffing mix, muffin/quick bread mixes and hot cocoa. Monetary donations or Giant or Safeway gift cards are requested to

help offset the cost of fresh meat and perishable foods.

The pantry also welcomes donations of staple items including cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned soup, canned pasta, spaghetti sauce, pasta, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner and body wash.

Donations can be dropped off Mondays between 5:00pm and 7:00pm, or Tuesdays and Fridays between 10:00am and 1:00pm before December 19 at the pantry, which is the blue barn at St. John's Cypress Creek Road entrance behind Gary's Gardens. For more information, email svdp@stjohnsp.org or call 443-261-0109.

Support The Homeless

Phronesis Wealth Management Drive For Giving Back, Linda's Legacy

For the fifth year in a row, Phronesis Wealth Management is partnering with Giving Back, Linda's Legacy as a collection site for its annual coat and toiletry

drive to support people experiencing homelessness.

Through noon on December 13, community members can bring donations to the Phronesis Wealth Management office, located at 529 Benfield Road, Suite 250, in Severna Park during business hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm. Clean and new or gently worn clothing items needed are

winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, thermals, sweaters and socks. Hotel-size toiletries are requested too: deodorant, hand soap, body wash, hand sanitizer, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner and lotion are needed. Donors can also provide personal care items such as ChapStick, pocket packs of tissues, combs, diapers, baby supplies and feminine hygiene products.

Help Those Struggling Financially

SPAN Financial Assistance And Food Pantry

The Holiday Caring program is well underway at SPAN, Serving People Across Neighborhoods, but the Severna Park-based nonprofit is still in need of year-end monetary donations to help SPAN provide emergency financial assistance to families facing utility turn-offs and/or eviction this winter. Providing financial aid is roughly half of what SPAN does, according to Director of Operations Maia Grabau, and donations this year are below budget.

The food pantry at SPAN is currently low on pasta sauce; canned pasta; canned vegetables; tea; coffee (small bags or cans); cleaning supplies; laundry detergent; dish liquid; and brownie, cake and cookie mixes. To make a donation or find drop-off times, go to www.spanhelps.org.

Give The Gift Of Winter Warmth

Orphan Grain Train

Millersville-based nonprofit Orphan Grain Train is collecting winter coats and jackets for those in need in Baltimore and surrounding communities. New or gently used coats and jackets for men, women and children can be dropped off at the warehouse at 621 East-West Boulevard by December 14. Drop-off hours are Mondays, 9:00am to noon; Tuesdays, 9:00am to noon or 5:00pm to 7:00pm; and Saturday, December 14, from 9:00am to noon. ■

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Holiday Markets Offer Unique Local Finds And Tasty Treats For Gifting

The holidays are a great time to shop local and support small businesses in the community, and area holiday markets provide gift-givers the opportunity to shop especially small and local by sup-

porting neighborhood artists and vendors. There are many vendor markets coming up around town that will showcase the one-of-a-kind creations of local artisans, as well as delicious food, baked

goods, holiday décor, visits with Santa and so much more. Check out a few of the area's upcoming holiday markets for a chance to discover unique gifts for everyone on your list this season.

Advent Market Celebration

St. John The Evangelist Catholic Church

689 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park

Saturday, November 23, 11:00am to 4:00pm

Now in its fourth year, St. John the Evangelist's Advent Market Celebration will not only showcase a line-up of vendors but also a variety of food trucks, photos with Santa, live music and caroling, free pony rides, a petting zoo and more. Attendees can shop dozens of handmade crafters and artisans. Pony rides begin at noon, and the petting zoo will open at 1:00pm.

Holiday Vendor Fair

Park Books – Community Space

555 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park

Sunday, December 1, 11:00am to 2:00pm

Kick off your December festivities with a holiday vendor fair at Park Books. Peruse handmade items created by over 20 vendors, artisans and crafters. Enjoy a free taste of Park Books' new special blend coffee, check off some holiday shopping and discover local treasures.

Holiday Craft Bazaar

Broadneck High School

1265 Green Holly Drive, Annapolis

Saturday, December 7, 9:30am to 3:00pm

Supporting student-led clubs and organizations at Broadneck High School (BHS), the Broadneck Holiday Craft Bazaar typically draws over 2,000 shoppers annually. This year, the 40th annual event will feature handcrafted items from over 150 vendors, a bake sale, a raffle, concessions for breakfast and lunch items, and more. A \$2 entry fee will directly support BHS athletics.

Vintage Christmas Market

Wildberry Farm & Market

1047 St. Stephens Church Road, Crownsville

December 7 and 14, 2:00pm to 6:00pm

More than 120 small businesses will come together for an outdoor Christmas market over two Saturdays in December (about 60 each date). Shop local among the vendors and creators, and stock up on limited seasonal produce, farm fresh eggs and other goods. Food and beverages will be available for purchase, Santa will be roaming the market, admission is free, and leashed dogs are allowed.

Annapolis Holiday Market

Annapolis City Dock

1 Dock Street, Annapolis

Thursday, December 12, 4:00pm to 10:00pm

Friday, December 13, 11:00am to 9:00pm

Saturday, December 14, 11:00am to 9:00pm

Sunday, December 15, 11:00am to 5:00pm

Admission is free to the third annual Annapolis Holiday Market, which will take place along the waterfront in the heart of downtown. More than 120 vendors will offer a wide range of unique local finds spanning art, crafts, food and handmade gift items. Bring your camera for free photos with Santa Thursday through Saturday. On Thursday evening, the shopping will extend beyond the market and across downtown as stores stay open late for Midnight Madness. Saturday evening shoppers can also enjoy dazzling decorated boats during the Eastport Yacht Club's lights parade.

Severna Park Farmers Market Christmas Market

Severna Park Park & Ride

Intersection of Ritchie Highway and Jones Station Road

Saturday, December 14, 8:00am to noon

The Severna Park Farmers Market regular season ended in late October, but the annual Christmas Market is just around the corner. Over 20 vendors will be present, offering Christmas décor, baked goods, unique gifts and handmade socks, hats and scarves, as well as a variety of fresh foods including jam, pickles, vegetables, eggs, meat, wine and liquor.

Holiday Market At The Station

45 West Earleigh Heights Road, Severna Park

Sunday, December 15, 9:00am

Shop local for gifts from among a variety of vendors and bring the kids for photos with Santa, holiday face painting and more. The Station is a local market spot along the B&A Trail, home to Yoga Barn and The Coffee Trailer. ■



Helpful Holiday Hints For Purchasing Beer, Wine And Spirits

By Kevin Murnane

Even though Marylanders experienced warmer than average temperatures in November, they are changing their buying habits from warm weather beverages to winter favorites.

“Right now, the cooler is still king,” said Lacey Barry, general manager at Cheers & Spirits in Arnold. “Because of the unseasonable warm weather, people are still buying the heavier beers, porters and IPAs, but we’re starting to see an increase in wine sales, especially the white wines.”

New customers are also asking Barry what she recommends for gift-giving for the traditional family gatherings this holiday season.

“For Thanksgiving, I like to recommend the cabernet and riesling wine selections,” Barry said. “Cabernets are a full-body red wine that will go well with Thanksgiving and/or Christmas, and the riesling is a very sweet wine that folks love at their Thanks-

giving gatherings.”

Barry also mentioned that eggnog is popular at holiday gatherings and area residents will add their favorite bourbon or other liquors to this holiday staple.

For New Year’s, a variety of champagnes and sparkling wines are in great demand the week after Christmas.

“Bubbly, bubbly and bubblier are the themes for those days in late December,” Barry said, noting that November and December are her store’s busiest months.

Down Ritchie Highway in Severna Park, Fishpaws Marketplace owner Kim Lawson is preparing for a busy holiday season and has added some novel ideas for shoppers seeking a unique gift.

“For the beer enthusiasts, we have an advent calendar with a variety of German beers as well as having 12 beers in a Christmas-themed package,” Lawson said.

Fishpaws has been part of the

Severna Park community since 1935 and has evolved into a shop where area residents can purchase a variety of gourmet cheeses, freshly baked baguettes, charcuterie boards and non-alcoholic beverages, while also enjoying wine tastings.

“We have a very knowledgeable staff that will help any customer with gift-giving ideas and meal pairings,” Lawson said. “We even have staff members with restaurant experience to help with catering questions.”

This year, Lawson has added a festive Christmas tree in the center of the store with numerous gift sets and ideas for the holidays. On December 21, from noon until 6:00pm, Fishpaws will host an artist who will etch holiday greetings on bottles for unique, personalized gifts.

Both establishments are known for greeting customers and assisting in their holiday shopping needs. If a customer gets stymied by all the choices offered, gift cards are always a safe solution. ■



Cheers & Spirits General Manager Lacey Barry showed off the wine selection at the store, which is in the Arnold Station shopping center on Ritchie Highway in Arnold.



Fishpaws Marketplace offers an advent calendar with a variety of German beer.

ELVES FOR ELDERLY FUNDRAISER AND STOCKING DRIVE IS UNDERWAY



For Elves for Elders founder Sue Origlio, kindness has been in no short supply over the last 10 years.

Origlio started the fundraiser and stocking drive 10 years ago to support Partners In Care and elderly adults during the holidays.

The response has been “unbelievable,” she said. At least 60 businesses have donated gift cards or gift baskets for this year’s event, set to take place at Brian Boru Irish Restaurant and Pub on December 7 from 2:00pm-7:00pm.

“The holidays can be a particularly challenging time of the year,” Origlio wrote in a Facebook post. “Those who live far from family don’t have anyone to share a special day with. They can no longer do many of the things associated with getting ready for the holidays. They’ve been used to doing things for others, and now they have to depend on others more than they would like to. The past can be perceived as happier than the present.”

With that in mind, she is once again calling all “elves” to assist her in spreading holiday cheer.

WAYS TO HELP: VOLUNTEERING, STOCKING-STUFFING AND DONATIONS

Origlio is seeking volunteers to deliver Christmas stockings and gift bags to those in need. Current Partners In Care volunteers can help by contacting Anner Jennings at 410-544-4800. To become a volunteer, contact April Stup

at 410-544-4800. The volunteer application is available at www.partnersincare.org/volunteer-application.

Those who want to participate but don’t have the time to put together a Christmas stocking or gift bag can make a financial donation at partnersincaremd.salsalabs.org/e4e2024.

Checks are accepted and can be made payable to Partners in Care Maryland Inc. In the note section of the check, write “Member Care.”

For stockings and gift bags, all items must be new. If items are edible, they should be store-bought and not expired. Origlio asks that donations do not include CDs/DVDs, books, alcohol or home-baked items. Do not include items that promote businesses or include political or religious material.

Suggested items include night lights, small flashlights, small umbrellas, manicure kits, nail clippers and files, magnifying glasses, stamps, batteries, notepads, pens, pencils, socks, gloves, lip balm, Band-Aids, sewing kits, self-care products, deodorant, back scratchers, jar lid opener, key-chains, crossword or word search puzzles, kitchen towels, cosmetic bags and assorted greeting cards. Gift cards to grocery stores and lotto tickets are also appreciated.

Stockings and gift bags are needed by December 7. “Elves” can attend the Brian Boru event, drop off items at Partners In Care on select dates, or make arrangements for delivery by contacting sueoriglio@partnersincare.org.

For more information and for more guidelines, visit fb.me/1Wyi8QkOIHngz8Z. ■

“WHEN YOU HELP OTHER PEOPLE, YOU ALSO HELP YOURSELF. IT’S IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO FEEL GOOD WHEN YOU SHOW KINDNESS AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS. YOUR SMALL GESTURE MAY JUST MEAN THE WORLD TO SOMEONE.”

— SUE ORIGLIO, ELVES FOR ELDERLY FOUNDER

Christina Josephs
Salon Studio

Christmas "Spa"rkle Packages



Photography
2 Headshot Photos
Makeup
Hair Styling
\$125

Christmas Wish
Manicure/Pedicure
HC Condition Treatment
Color Glaze
\$299

Twinkle Toes
Pedicure with Parrafin Wax Treatment
\$55

Xmas Treats
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Spray Tan
Eyelash Maintenance Kit
\$175

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\$50

All Christmas "Spa"rkle package offers expire January 2, 2025.

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12/24 – 6:00pm
Christmas Party

12/24 – 7:00pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



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Severna Park High School | Saturday, December 14 at 3pm

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FOR THE STUDENT RATE CALL OUR **BOX OFFICE 410-263-0907**
VISIT ANNAPOLISSYMPHONY.ORG/EVENTS FOR MORE INFO

DOMESTIC SHIPPING DEADLINES

Tis the season of giving. If you are sending gifts by mail, consider these dates to make sure items are delivered before December 25.

USPS (Excluding Alaska and Hawaii)

Ground Advantage:

December 18

First-Class Mail:

December 18

Priority Mail:

December 19

Priority Mail Express:

December 21

UPS (Domestic)

Ground: Check ups.com/ctc for details

3 Day Select:

December 19

2nd Day Air:

December 20

Next Day Air:

December 23

FEDEx

SameDay:

December 24



Ground Five-Day:
December 17

Ground Four-Day:
December 18

Ground Three-Day:
December 19

Ground Two-Day:
December 20

Ground One-Day:
December 23

First Overnight, Priority Overnight, Standard Overnight, Extra Hours:
December 23

2Day and 2Day am:
December 20

Express Saver:
December 19

Home Delivery Five-Day: December 17

Home Delivery Four-Day: December 18

Home Delivery Two-Day and Three-Day:
December 20

Home Delivery One-Day: December 23

Ground Economy:

December 13

1Day Freight:

December 23

2Day Freight:

December 20

3Day Freight:

December 19

Freight Priority Five-Day:

December 16

Freight Priority Four-Day:

December 17

Freight Priority Three-Day:

December 18

Freight Priority Two-Day:

December 19

Freight Priority One-Day:

December 20

Freight Economy:

December 11 ■

Woods Church To Host Holiday Bazaar

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church is inviting the community to its holiday bazaar on November 23 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Offerings will include the following:

- Holiday greens and a Christmas shop
- Homemade baked goods, candies and nuts
- Handmade quilted and knitted items
- Costume jewelry
- Books • Toys
- Board games and puzzles
- Artwork and crafts
- Small sporting goods
- Musical instruments
- Dishes, glassware and kitchen utensils
- Small appliances
- Lamps • Antiques
- Linens • Tools ■

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Annapolis, MD 21409 **10 am - 6 pm**
(410) 757-5500 **Saturday-Monday** **10 am - 4 pm**

www.facebook.com/Houcks-Menswear-307142346007108/

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410-582-8398 2ndchancetoyz.com

Arundel Federal Launches Annual Holiday Toy Drive

Arundel Federal Savings Bank kicked off its 22nd annual holiday toy drive on November 4 and will continue that effort through December 10. All five Maryland branch locations are accepting new, unwrapped toy donations for distribution to less fortunate children.

The toy drive is open to all: customers, employees and everyone in the community who wishes to donate. Collection boxes are in the lobbies of all five branches: Severna Park, Annapolis, Brooklyn, Glen Burnie and Pasadena. The Severna Park branch is located at 50 West McKinsey Road. ■

“*There’s nothing better to help celebrate the holidays and uplift spirits than to be in a position to give back and put smiles on hundreds of children’s faces this holiday season. This is our 22nd year hosting the Arundel Federal Savings Bank annual toy drive, and I am always amazed at the outpouring of generosity. All donations will benefit local, deserving children and their families. Thank you to our customers, communities, and employees for their willingness to help provide brightness and cheer to those who need it most this holiday season.*”

— TOM HERPEL, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF ARUNDEL FEDERAL

Downtown Annapolis Prepares For Midnight Madness

Shop local during Midnight Madness on December 5 and 12, from 4:00pm until midnight, and on the Eleventh Hour on December 19 until 11:00pm at 90 stores and 80 restaurants in downtown Annapolis.

The downtown Annapolis area — including West Street, Maryland Avenue, Main Street and the City Dock area — will be filled with traditional holiday decorations including garland, wreaths, holiday lights, a snowflake alley, light canopies, a large Christmas tree and a menorah. This will create a fun, safe, outdoor environment

for late-night shopping and dinner for families.

On-street entertainment will fill downtown Annapolis. For the second Midnight Madness (December 12), guests can also enjoy the Annapolis Holiday Market opening night at City Dock from 4:00pm to 10:00pm.

Free parking is available at the Calvert Street Parking Garage (19 St. Johns Street) from 6:00pm to 6:00am, and \$2 all-evening parking from 4:00pm to 6:00am is available at the Whitmore Parking Garage (25 Clay Street). Also, two-hour free parking on commercial streets is offered for anyone who uses the ParkMobile app.

For additional information on Midnight Madness, lodging, shopping, restaurants, and other downtown Annapolis events, visit the Downtown Annapolis Partnership’s website at www.midnight-madnessannapolis.com. ■

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Midnight Madness

Visit Downtown Annapolis during the holiday season and enjoy extended shopping hours during Midnight Madness!

Your favorite local shopping district will transform in to a winter wonderful with festive decor, Free entertainment, plenty of cheer and the infamous snowflake alley!

DECEMBER 5 & 12
STORES OPEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT

DECEMBER 19
STORES OPEN UNTIL 11 PM

Annapolis Holiday Market
DECEMBER 12-15

EYC Light Parade
DECEMBER 14

For Full Event Details Visit
MIDNIGHTMADNESSANNAPOLIS.COM

Holiday Calendar

ONGOING

Through Nov. 23: Landmark Roofing is collecting cereal, pancake mix, pasta and other food for the Marshall Hope Corporation. Donations are welcome. Info: www.marshallhope.org.

Through Nov. 30: Admiral Cleaners is collecting seldom used and outgrown coats for people in need. Info: 410-267-8381.

Through Dec. 10: Arundel Federal Savings Bank is collecting new, unwrapped toys for the holidays. Info: 410-544-9600.

Through Dec. 13: Phronesis Wealth Management is collecting coats, winter accessories and toiletries. Info: 410-647-6762.

Through Dec. 18: Severna Park Tap House is collecting new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. Info: 410-793-5759.

Through Dec. 24: Himmel's Holiday Village featuring Santa, games and local vendors at Himmel's Landscape & Garden Center every Thursday through Sunday. Info: www.himmelsholidayvillage.com.

Through Dec. 24: Santapolis: A Magical Holiday Experience at the Annapolis Mall. Register for photos with Santa at www.shopannapolis-mall.com/events.

Through Dec. 30: The Fire Museum of Maryland's holiday train garden in Timonium is open on weekends through December 22, and daily from December 26-29. Info: 410-321-7500.

Through Dec. 30: Holiday train garden daily at Homestead Gardens in Severna Park. Info: 410-384-7966.

Through Jan. 1: Lights on the Bay at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis. Info: www.lightsonthebaymd.org.

Through Jan. 4: Holiday train garden on Saturdays at Marley Station Mall in Glen Burnie. Info: 410-760-8900.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 21: Tree-lighting ceremony at Annapolis Town Center from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Nov. 22 – Dec. 24: Photos with Santa at Santa's Cottage at Annapolis Town Center. Info: www.annapolistowncenter.com/events.

Nov. 23: Holiday Bazaar at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church at 9:00am. Info: www.woodschurch.org.

Nov. 23: Advent market celebration at St. John the Evangelist. Market from 11:00am-4:00pm. Info: www.stjohnsp.org/events.

Nov. 23-27: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com.

Nov. 29: Classic Theatre of Maryland presents "White Christmas" through December 29.

Nov. 29: The Baltimore & Ohio Ellicott City Station Museum's holiday train garden through January 5. Info: 410-313-1945.

Nov. 29-30: The Polar Express Train Ride at B&O in Baltimore. Info: www.borail.org/events/polar-express.

Nov. 28: Thanksgiving.

Nov. 29 – Dec. 1: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com.

Nov. 30: Small Business Saturday.

Nov. 30: Nutcracker story time and preview featuring The Chesapeake Ballet Company at the Severna Park Library at 1:30pm. Info: aacpl.net/events.

Nov. 30 – Dec. 22: Homestead Gardens in Severna Park hosts Santa on select dates. Register at www.homesteadgardens.com.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: Grand Illumination Annapolis, located between Zachary's Jewelers and the Annapolis Market House. Festivities begin at 4:00pm, with a tree lighting at 5:30pm.

Dec. 1: Holiday vendor fair at Park Books at 11:00am. Info: www.parkbooksmd.com/events.

Dec. 1: The Polar Express Train Ride at B&O in Baltimore, select dates through December 22. Info: www.borail.org/events.

Dec. 4: Santa Paws at Homestead Gardens in Severna Park from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Pet photos with Santa on a first-come, first-served basis. Info: 410-384-7966.

Dec. 5: Wreath-making the Homestead Way at Homestead Gardens at 1:00pm. Register at www.homesteadgardens.com.

Dec. 4: Pasadena's official Christmas tree lighting is scheduled for 5:30pm at Lakeshore Plaza. Info: www.pasadenabusinessassociation.com.

Dec. 4: Ladies Sip & Shop with local vendors at BD Provisions from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Dec. 5: Classic Theatre of Maryland presents "A Christmas Carol" through December 29. Info: www.classictheatremaryland.org.

Dec. 5: Midnight Madness in Annapolis from 4:00pm to midnight.

Dec. 5: VCA Calvert Veterinary Center's Hot Cocoa With Santa from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Info: www.vcahospitals.com/calvert.

Dec. 6: Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce tree lighting from 5:00pm-6:30pm. Santa and the Grinch will be available for photos. Info: www.gspacc.com.

Dec. 6: "Celebration of Christmas" presented by Live Arts Maryland at Maryland Hall at 7:30pm. Info: www.liveartsmd.org.

Dec. 6-8: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com.

Dec. 7: Santa Cow at Severna Park Chick-fil-A from 8:00am-10:30am. Info: 410-647-6232.

Dec. 7: Jingle Bell 5K Run/1 mile walk benefiting DeCesaris/Prout Cancer Foundation at Quiet Waters Park at 9:00am. Info: www.dpcancer-foundation.org/jingle-bell-runwalk.

Dec. 7: Holiday craft bazaar at Broadneck High School from 9:30am-3:00pm.

Dec. 7: Kinder Farm Park Jingle Bell Hayride from 10:00am-1:00pm. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in attendance from 10:15am-12:45pm. Info: www.kinderfarmpark.org.

Dec. 7: Breakfast with Buddy and Jovie at Park Books at 10:00am. Info: www.parkbooksmd.com/events.

Dec. 7: "A SQRRL! Holiday" at Rams Head On Stage at noon. Info: www.ramsheadonstage.com/events.

Dec. 7: Children's Theatre of Annapolis presents DFC's Holiday Cabaret from 2:00pm-5:00pm. Info: www.childrenstheatreofannapolis.org.

Dec. 7: Elves for Elders stocking drive and fundraiser at Brian Boru Irish Restaurant and Pub from 2:00pm-7:00pm.

Dec. 7: Vintage Christmas Market at Wildberry Farm & Market in Crownsville from 2:00pm-6:00pm. Info: www.wildberryfarmmarket.com.

Dec. 7: Children's Theatre of Annapolis holiday cabaret with Santa from 2:00pm-5:00pm. Info: www.childrenstheatreofannapolis.org.

Dec. 7: Fence & Deck Connection hosts Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree clothing and toy drive at its Millersville location from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Info: 410-757-5511.

Dec. 7: Live nativity at St. John the Evangelist at 6:15pm. Info: www.stjohnsp.org/events.

Dec. 7: Baroque by Candlelight Christmas concert at Woods Church at 7:00pm. Info: www.woodschurch.org.

Dec. 7-8: Handel's "Messiah" presented by the United States Naval Academy and Annapolis Symphony Orchestra in the USNA chapel. Info: navyperforms.showare.com.

Dec. 8: Chesapeake Harmony Chorus presents "Candy Cane Lane" at Historic Baldwin Hall at 2:00pm. Tickets and info: www.chesapeake-harmony.org.

Dec. 8: Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company hosts Cookies and Cocoa with Santa from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Info: www.ehvfco.org.

Dec. 8: Mindi Abair's "I Can't Wait for Christmas" tour at Rams Head On Stage at 7:30pm. Info: www.ramsheadonstage.com/events.

Dec. 9-10: Classic Theatre of Maryland presents "Holiday Swing: Christmas Cabaret." Info: www.classictheatremaryland.org.

Dec. 12: Midnight Madness in Annapolis from 4:00pm to midnight.

Dec. 13: Sip N' Sit with Santa at Cheers & Spirits from 4:00pm-7:00pm. Info: 410-571-3486.

Dec. 13: Cookies and cocoa with Santa and holiday market at the Severna Park Community Center from 5:00pm-8:00pm. Info: www.spcommunitycenter.org/events.

Dec. 13: Cookies, cocoa and storytime with Santa at Park Books at 5:00pm. Info: www.parkbooksmd.com/events.

Dec. 13: The Dance Center at Severna Park Community Center performs a condensed version of "The Nutcracker" at Severna Park High School at 6:30pm. Info: www.spcommunitycenter.org/events.

Dec. 13: "Holiday Pops" with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra at Maryland Hall at 7:30pm. Info: www.annapolisymphony.org.

Dec. 13-23: The Talent Machine Company presents "A Jolly Holiday." Info: www.talentmachine.com.

Dec. 13-15: The Magic of Christmas at Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds. Info and availability: www.aacountyfair.org.

Dec. 13-15: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com.

Dec. 13-15: Handel's "Messiah" presented by Live Arts Maryland at St. Anne's Episcopal Church. Info: www.liveartsmd.org.

Dec. 14: Christmas Market at Severna Park Farmer's Market from 8:00am-noon.

Dec. 14: Santa Cow at Severna Park Chick-fil-A from 8:00am-10:30am. Info: 410-647-6232.

Dec. 14: Santa will travel down the B&A Trail and collect nonperishable food for the Anne Arundel Food Bank from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

Dec. 14: Vintage Christmas Market at Wildberry Farm & Market in Crownsville from 2:00pm-6:00pm. Info: www.wildberryfarm-market.com.

Dec. 14: "Holiday Pops" with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra at Severna Park High School at 3:00pm. Info: www.annapolisymphony.org.

Dec. 14: Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade from 6:00pm-8:00pm along Annapolis Harbor. Info: 410-267-9549.

Dec. 14-16: The Chesapeake Ballet Company presents "The Nutcracker" at the Children's Theatre of Annapolis. Info: www.chesapeake-balletcompany.com.

Dec. 14-22: Ballet Theatre of Maryland presents "The Nutcracker" at Maryland Hall. Info: www.balletmaryland.org/nutcracker.

Dec. 15: Holiday Market at The Station at 9:00am.

Dec. 15: The Dance Center at Severna Park Community Center performs a condensed version of "The Nutcracker" at Severna Park High School at 1:00pm. Info: www.spcommunitycenter.org/events.

Dec. 16-17: An Annapolis Christmas at Rams Head On Stage at 7:00pm. Info: www.rams-headonstage.com/events.

Dec. 19: Midnight Madness in Annapolis from 4:00pm to midnight.

Dec. 20-22: The Chesapeake Ballet Company presents "The Nutcracker" at the Children's Theatre of Annapolis. Info: www.chesapeake-balletcompany.com.

Dec. 20-24: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com.

Dec. 21: Santa Cow at Severna Park Chick-fil-A from 8:00am-10:30am. Info: 410-647-6232.

Dec. 21: A Sweet Time with Santa at Play Street Museum from 10:30am-4:00pm. Info and reservations: www.severnapark-playstreetmuseum.com/events/play.

Dec. 22: Christmas brunch at O'Loughlin's Restaurant from 10:00am-1:00pm. Info: www.oloughlinpub.com/events.

Dec. 25: Christmas.

Dec. 25: First night of Chanukah.

Dec. 26: First day of Kwanzaa.

Dec. 26-31: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com.

Dec. 27: A Miracle on West Street featuring the Budweiser Clydesdales. Info: www.militarybowl.org.

Dec. 28: 2024 Military Bowl at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis. Info: militarybowl.org.

Dec. 29: Parade of Light car parade and menorah lighting at City Dock in Annapolis at 5:30pm. Info: www.chabadaac.com/chanukahparade.

JANUARY

Jan. 3-5: Emmanuel Lutheran Church holiday model train garden and fundraiser at Marley Station Mall during mall hours. Donations are encouraged. Info: ms.train.garden@gmail.com. ■



HIMMEL'S HOLIDAY VILLAGE



EVERY THURSDAY–SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 21–DECEMBER 24, 2024

Family-Friendly Holiday Events & Artisanal Shopping!

- Over 70 Local Vendors
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