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JULY 2026



Severna Park Prepares For Historic Fourth Of July

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

As America celebrates 250 years of independence this Fourth of July, the festivities will look quite different than those enjoyed by the founding fathers.

Instead of salmon and turtle soup, hot dogs are the preferred choice of meal. Across the country, the occasion will be marked by military flyovers, airshows and block parties. Severna Park will celebrate as it does every year, with its annual Independence Day parade, organized by the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce.

This year's festivities will include patriotic displays, vintage cars and other floats as participants vie for several awards: Best Overall, Most Patriotic, Most Original, Best Community, Best Nonprofit/Club and Celebrating the 250th Anniversary.

The 2026 parade grand marshal is

Bob Quigel, who served with the U.S. Army's 4th Infantry Division during the Vietnam War. He has a Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge from his time in the military, from 1968-1971.



Bob Quigel

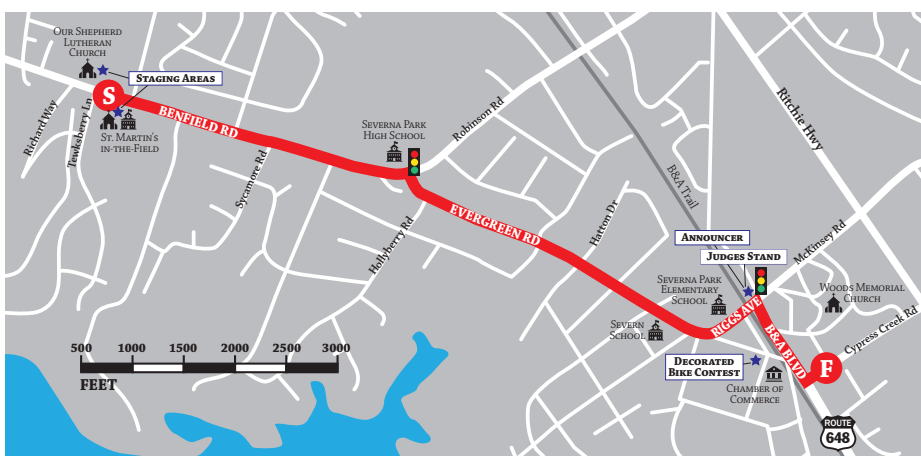
As he told the Severna Park Voice last April, his time in Vietnam was filled with adventures but also the horrors of war. An encounter in November 1969 gave him a head wound and other injuries.

"I was holding an M16 machine gun when I got hit," Quigel said. "It went through my helmet. My helmet didn't do much."

Quigel spends much of his time at American Legion Post 175, which often enters a float in the parade. But there are plenty of other floats to admire and activities to enjoy.

Maggy Cullman has lived in Severna Park for 45 years and has seen almost every parade. As she told the Voice

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Dutchy Poofs Founder Receives SBA Student Entrepreneur Honor



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Small Business Administration

(L-R) SBA Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator James Spencer, Maryland Small Business Week Award Program Inc. Chair Bryan LePage, Dutchy Poofs' Isabel Maly and SBA Baltimore District Director Bryce Besaw celebrated Maly's accomplishment.

By Abby Fontz

In May, Severna Park High School class of 2026 graduate Izzy Maly received recognition for a business she has been building since middle school.

Maly, founder of Dutchy Poofs, was recently named the U.S. Small Business Administration's Rising Star Student Entrepreneur of the Year for the Maryland district. The award recognizes young entrepreneurs who have demonstrated innovation, leadership and business success.

For Maly, the honor represents years of work introducing customers to a snack many had never heard of before: poffertjes, traditional Dutch mini pancakes.

"Poffertjes are traditional Dutch mini pancakes that are light, fluffy, or I should say puffy, and served warm with butter and a dusting of powdered sugar," Maly said.

Her connection to the treat began while living in the Netherlands for four years. During that time, poffertjes

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Charlie Phelps' Legacy Honored At 108th Birthday Celebration

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Charlie Phelps is old enough to remember a time before circular saws, microwave ovens and sliced bread. The Severna Park resident celebrated his 108th birthday on June 27.

His friends and family members gathered to honor him during a June 25 meeting of the Retired Handy-Persons Breakfast Society (REHABS) at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church. The group has met weekly for 34 years to enjoy fellowship and perform maintenance around the church and its grounds, saving Woods Church thousands of dollars in costs each year.

Into his early 100s, Phelps served as the REHABS leader.

"All of us who know Charlie recognize that this was truly

» Continued on page 9



Photos by Zach Sparks

Charlie Phelps (right) spoke with Colonel Ed Rothstein, secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families, at the celebration.



Margueritte Mills - Volunteer Of The Month

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

Simon Anders Fills Whitehurst With Patriotic Pride

By Zach Sparks

Ten-year-old Simon Anders has been doing community service since he was in diapers — well, almost.

At 6 years old, he participated in an Anne Arundel County Public Library diaper drive. By 9, he started his own fundraiser.

"My mom suggested a flag business," Simon said. "On that Fourth of July, I made a video and I put flags around the front of people's yards."

Simon posted the video in a neighborhood group chat last year, asking his Whitehurst neighbors for a suggested donation of \$20. That call to action raised over \$420, with a portion going to the Maryland Food Bank via cash donation and the rest going to the community pantry at Discoveries: The Library at the Mall in Annapolis through purchased goods.

Simon learned about hygiene products and that even adults need diapers.

"People need to stay clean, and diapers are super expensive," said Simon's mom, Megan.

He added a Veterans Day service last year, a Memorial Day one this year and has already surpassed the 2025 total with a combined \$675 from 28 customers this summer.

"I made a package and it's kind of a bargain," he said with a smile, noting that his neighbors opted for a slightly larger donation to receive flags for both Memorial Day and Independence Day. "For the Fourth of July, I am lining the yards (with flags). For Memorial Day, I decorate the mailboxes."

The Anders family collects donations through the Venmo app, and the 2026 total will be split between two causes: the community pantry at Discoveries



Photo by Zach Sparks

Above: Whitehurst resident Simon Anders is filling his community with American flags this Fourth of July for the second year. **Below:** During a Costco trip, Simon filled a cart with hygiene products to donate to the community pantry at Discoveries: The Library at the Mall.



and Leveling the Playing Field, which provides new and gently used sports and playground equipment to under-resourced youth groups, community programs and schools.

Simon swims and plays baseball, which made him aware of the ex-

pense kids and families take on even to play at the rec level.

Until June, Simon partnered with his friend Owen Swenor, whose family just moved from Severna Park. Simon will continue as a solo operation, with guidance from his parents, and even hopes to expand next year to the neighboring communities of Cape Arthur and Oakleigh Forest.

Simon's mom, Megan Anders, is happy to see her son's continued drive for community service since his first diaper drive in 2022. She hopes his 7-year-old sister will find her own volunteer passion.

"There are not a lot of volunteer opportunities that 6-year-olds can do, but we want them to learn about being part of the community and learn about people's needs," Megan said, referring to her kids' first volunteer experiences.

Simon expects service to take another form when he gets older. He wants to enlist in the military and fly F-35 fighter jets. His dad was a helicopter mechanic in the Army National Guard, and the Anders family sponsors midshipmen, so the military is a big component in their lives.

When considering what makes Simon so intrigued in the military outside of those factors, Megan told her son, "You have a connection to traditions and stuff that spans generations."

In fifth grade next year, Simon will serve as a flag ambassador for Folger McKinsey Elementary School, raising and lowering the flag.

No doubt, the lessons learned during his flag enterprise will aid him in the future. He has learned to use Google forms and track data in spreadsheets.

Just as important are the life lessons of leadership and giving back.

"I like knowing there's something I can do to make things look better and more joyful," Simon said, adding, "I want people to be inspired."



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Unity Gardens Offers Grant Opportunity

The fall grant cycle for Unity Gardens is open for community groups in Anne Arundel County, and groups can apply for up to \$3,000 for native plantings.

Unity Gardens is a small nonprofit in Anne Arundel County that awards grants to community groups to plant native trees, shrubs and plants. Its mission is "Cultivating Communities, One Native Garden at a Time."

Last year, Unity Gardens awarded grants to 34 diverse community groups, congregations, libraries and schools across Anne Arundel County for native perennials, shrubs and trees to control stormwater runoff and to create pollinator and rain gardens that foster thriving ecosystems.

The grant application deadline is August 1. For more information, visit www.unitygardens.org.

EHVFC Carnival Returns

A hallmark of summertime in Severna Park for over eight decades, the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company's carnival is slated to run from July 9-18 this year. Long summer nights invite kids and kids at heart to brave dozens of dizzying rides, win prizes playing games, enjoy classic carnival treats and more. The carnival will be open from 6:00pm-11:00pm daily and closed on Sundays. Weather updates and ticket information can be found at www.facebook.com/ehvfc12.

SPHS Class Of 1976 Reunion

The Severna Park High School class of 1976 is having a 50th reunion from 6:00pm-10:00pm on September 12 at the Severna Park Elks Lodge, located at 160 Truck House Road in Severna Park. For more information, contact Lawrie (Martin) Gardner at severnapark76reunion@gmail.com. To get updates, find the event Facebook page by searching for "Severna Park HS Class of 76 Reunion."

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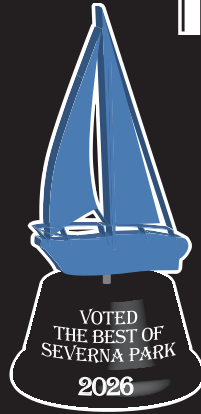
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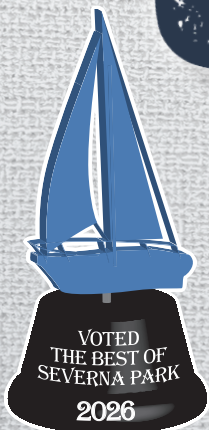
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HOMETOWN HEROES

Chief Warrant Officer Lee Currier • U.S. Coast Guard

By Meredith Winter

Lee Currier spent his childhood years in Glen Burnie and moved to Severna Park with his family when he was in middle school. After he and his twin sister graduated from Severna Park High School in 2002, Currier spent time at Anne Arundel Community College and worked in construction.

Neither was a perfect fit, and at his parents' recommendation, Currier joined the United States Coast Guard (USCG) in October 2003. Growing up near the Chesapeake Bay, he had early introductions to the Coast Guard. His family accessed the Patapsco River from the same creek where the Coast Guard Yard is located. Currier recalled a fishing trip in the southern Chesapeake where father got a hook stuck in his hand and they visited Coast Guard Station Cape Charles in Virginia for assistance.

His 23-year career in the USCG has taken Currier around the world — to more than 30 countries — and back home to Baltimore this summer for Sail250, a celebration of the country's 250th birthday.

His journey began on a high endurance cutter before Currier went to training school to become a boatswain's mate. From there, he completed his first of three tours on the USCGC Eagle (WIX-327), a 295-foot, three-masted barque used as a training vessel for future USCG officers.

"It's known as 'America's Tall Ship,'" Currier said, explaining the 90-year-old ship was given that moniker during the country's bicentennial celebration in 1976. "It is one of two active tall ships within the U.S. fleet, the other one being the USS Constitution — that's up in Boston, 'Old Ironsides' — but we are the only actively sailing ship within the American maritime fleet."

In 2008, Currier was stationed near home, at Aids to Navigation Team Baltimore, then Aids to Navigation Team Crisfield. He went on to Training Center Yorktown, where he taught on Aids to Navigation before returning to Eagle as a chief boatswain's mate in 2020. During his second tour aboard the tall ship, he served as chief of the deck department and unit command chief.

Prior to his current tour aboard Eagle, Currier went to Atlantic Beach, North Carolina, to serve on the USCGC Maple, a buoy tender. He was promoted to chief warrant officer (CWO) in 2024 and returned to America's Tall Ship in June of the same year.

His specialty within the CWO rank is a boatswain, and aboard the Eagle Currier serves as



Photo courtesy of PA3 Cheyenne Basurto

Above: Chief Warrant Officer Lee Currier serves as first lieutenant and sailmaster aboard the USCGC Eagle. Right: Known as "America's Tall Ship," the Eagle is a 295-foot, three-masted barque used as a training vessel for future Coast Guard officers.



first lieutenant and sailmaster. In those roles, he is in charge of maintenance and preservation of all exterior surfaces of the ship, from the hull to the masts, rigging, small boats, deck equipment and more. As sailmaster, he oversees setting and dousing of the sails and advises the ship's captain on what sails to set, how to sail, and more.

Eagle's mission is twofold: training future USCG officers in seamanship, leadership, followership and everyday life at sea; and public affairs and public relations at home and abroad. This summer, Eagle and its crew are participating in Sail250, America's 250th anniversary maritime celebration.

Currier shared that Sail250 included celebrations in New Orleans and Norfolk prior to Baltimore's event that ran June 25 – July 1, and Eagle will continue on to New York City and Boston this month.

Reflecting on highlights of his service in the Coast Guard, Currier listed traveling to over 30 foreign countries on the Eagle, being a part of tall ship events like Sail250, transiting the Panama Canal, participating in the Deepwater Horizon cleanup, and training thousands of cadets who are now senior officers. He shared that some cadets he

trained in 2005 were executive officers aboard the Eagle when he returned to the ship in 2020.

"When I was stationed in Maryland, I had the opportunity — the privilege — to work on every lighthouse within ... the confines of Maryland, which is a cool thing to say that I've been able to touch every lighthouse that people see up and down the coast of the Chesapeake Bay within Maryland waters," Currier added.

A husband and father to two sons, 6 and 9 years old, Currier is grateful to his wife, Alicia — a Severna Park High School class of 2003 graduate — and his parents and in-laws for their support throughout his career.

Currier admits that he didn't know what he was signing up for when he joined the Coast Guard 23 years ago; he was just following a path that seemed interesting at the time.

"Over the years, however, I've come to realize that my true motivation is to serve the American people to the best of my abilities," Currier said. "Whether I'm ensuring a buoy is in the correct position, supporting commercial shipping, or training future officers in ship handling, I find fulfillment in knowing that my work contributes to public safety. I continue to serve because I genuinely enjoy what I do and take pride in helping others, even if my role isn't always in the spotlight."



Hometown Heroes is proudly sponsored by LaBarge Financial.

Severna Park Prepares For Historic Fourth Of July

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last July, "It's the way a Fourth of July parade should be — it's small town, it's the locals, everybody waves at their neighbor on the float. I'm on the Olde Severna Park Improvement Association and our float is outstanding every year, and we always win; sometimes Linstead wins."

Following those remarks, Cullman and the rest of the town learned that Linstead on the Severn won Best Overall and Best Community honors for a Chessie the Sea Monster entry.

Olde Severna Park and other communities will look to reclaim those

prizes and bragging rights during the holiday weekend.

Where To Watch The Parade

The parade steps off from two churches, St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal and Our Shepherd Lutheran, at 10:00am on July 4. After moving along Benfield Road, floats will turn onto Evergreen Road at the Severna Park High School intersection. Spectators on Evergreen Road and Riggs Avenue will see the entries go by before the final leg of the route ends at Sunrise Senior Living on Cypress Creek Road.

National Night Out Set For August 4

Annual Event Aims To Enhance Relationships Between Law Enforcement, Community

Across the country, National Night Out (NNO) takes place on the first Tuesday in August each year and is designed to enhance the "relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community."

Locally, members of the Anne Arundel County Police Department Eastern District invite the community to join them for NNO on August 4 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Kinder

Farm Park in Millersville.

The rain-or-shine event is free to the public and will offer games for kids, contests, community booths, demonstrations, police and fire vehicles on display, snacks, beverages and other entertainment throughout the evening.

The Eastern District NNO website states, "The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out triumphs over a culture that isolates us from each other and allows us to rediscover our own communities."

Learn more at www.national-nightouteasterndistrict.org.

Making Dignity Visible: Bello Machre Raises Over \$215,000

By Elizabeth Harwood

Being part of a community includes a home with neighbors, local employers, family and friends. According to its website, Bello Machre, a non-profit organization serving Anne Arundel and Carroll counties, offers people with developmental disabilities the services, opportunities, and support they need to live full, independent, rich lives.

Nestled within residential areas, Bello Machre offers people with developmental disabilities a community that is rooted in loving homes. As the 35th annual Every Step Counts walk and bike fundraiser kicked off at Anne Arundel Community College on June 13, Bello Machre President and CEO Robert Ireland shared an important reminder.

"I often realize it's not just the people we support that we serve. We serve their families — their moms and dads and grandmas and grandpas," Ireland said.

Event volunteers David and Pat Menzel, parents of a Bello Machre resident, wanted to find permanent and thriving care for their son as they aged, yet they struggled to mobilize a plan.

"It's a slow process because we don't want to let go, but it's inevitable that we (had) to," David said as he shared how Bello Machre involved them in their son's plan, especially during the transition into his new family five years ago. David fondly remembers the moment he could finally exhale.

"We were doing FaceTime with (our son) ... and he says, 'I am happy' — and that ... that alone is powerful. That is powerful stuff," David said with a tear in his eye.

Stephanie Walder, another event volunteer, said she and her children have been treated like VIPs over the years despite having no family members with developmental disabilities.

"I've learned so much about how to treat and respect people with disabilities," Walder said while sharing how Bello Machre emphasizes how important visibility is for human dignity.



Photo by Elizabeth Harwood

The first of the over 450 participants crossed the finish line for Bello Machre's 35th annual Every Step Counts walk and bike fundraiser in Anne Arundel County.

The participation of volunteers, the support from local employers, the welcoming of neighbors, and the commitment of Bello Machre staff bring home a relatable point Ireland made about what community is — feeling seen.

"Visibility just makes people feel accepted," Ireland said. "Isn't that what we all want? It's really that simple."

Together with its sister event in Carroll County the same morning, Every Step Counts was made possible thanks to 35 volunteers who assisted staff members as they helped and greeted more than 450 attendees who came to walk, run, ride (even with motorcycles) or bicycle each route. Bello Machre and its 30 event sponsors raised more than \$215,000 total. The non-profit currently has 44 homes located in Anne Arundel County and four located in Carroll County. To learn more, visit www.bellomachre.org.



David and Pat Menzel joined their son, David Jr., as the family participated in this year's annual fundraiser at Anne Arundel Community College on June 13.



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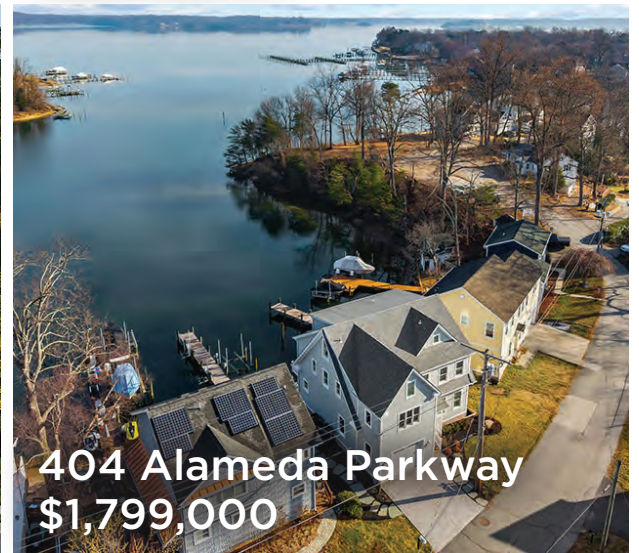
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Learn About AACC's Peer Learning Partnership

Join a group that loves learning just for the fun of it! Anne Arundel Community College's (AACC) Peer Learning Partnership (PLP) is a community of lifelong learners that meets year-round for noncredit classes, discussion groups, and cultural and social events.

PLP will preview its fall 2026 courses and upcoming activities at a fall term open house from 10:00am-11:30am on Monday, July 13, in the CALT Building (Center for Applied Learning and Technology), room 100, at the AACC Arnold campus and via Zoom simultaneously.

PLP allows members to share learning experiences with peers in a college setting. The members manage the educational program and volunteer their time and talents to share knowledge on a variety of subjects. Open to ages 16 and up, the PLP program has no academic requirements for membership, but participants must join the program to partake in weekly discussion groups, monthly social and cultural events, and PLP classes.

Light refreshments will be served before the program during registration beginning at 9:30am. There is no charge for the event. Those seeking to attend in person or via Zoom can register at www.aacc.edu/plp.

For information about PLP's open house, email plp@aacc.edu.

Student Entrepreneur

» Continued from page 1 became one of her favorite snacks. When she returned to the United States, she quickly realized most people around her had never heard of them.

"I wanted to share a piece of Dutch culture that meant a lot to me," she said.

That desire eventually became Dutchy Poofs, a business whose name reflects both the product and its origins. Maly said "Dutchy" references the Dutch roots of poffertjes, while "Poofs" comes from the way the batter puffs up as it cooks.

Getting started required much more than learning how to make pancakes.

Maly acquired her original cart from a man in the Netherlands who was retiring after a career selling poffertjes. Along with the cart came his recipe, but she spent months refining it through trial and error. Family members became taste testers as she worked to perfect the product.

She also had to research locations, purchase equipment and learn the logistics of operating at markets, festivals and private events.

"One of my biggest challenges was convincing people to try something they had never heard of before," Maly said. "I learned that storytelling was just as important as mastering the product itself."

Building the business while balancing school responsibilities was another challenge. Maly launched Dutchy Poofs during middle school and continued growing it throughout high school while participating in activities like Key Club and Model United Nations.

The experience taught lessons she said could not be learned in a classroom.

"Time management was crucial," she said. "My business hasn't simply been a side gig. It has built a community that I cherish and taught me lifelong lessons."

That sense of community became one of the first signs that Dutchy Poofs had evolved beyond a hobby.

"My business hasn't simply been a side gig. It has built a community that I cherish and taught me lifelong lessons."

— IZZY MALY

At first, many of her customers were friends and family members. Over time, unfamiliar faces began making up the majority of sales. Customers started returning to events, sharing recommendations online and bringing friends to try the miniature pancakes.

"I began to see faces return and heard stories of learning about my business from a customer's Facebook post," Maly said.

Some families even stopped by after moving away because their children kept talking about the pancakes.

Maly's most frequent location is The Station near the B&A Trail, where she has partnered with neighboring businesses to host markets and seasonal events. She believes that community involvement helped Dutchy

Poofs stand out when she was considered for the SBA award.

"I think what makes Dutchy Poofs unique is that it combines entrepreneurship with culture and community," she said. "Every customer gets to experience a tradition from another part of the world."

Maly knew she had been nominated for the award by her busi-

ness teachers, Annie Houghton and Heather Barnstead, but receiving the official congratulations email was still a surprise.

"To have that effort recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration was an incredible honor," she said.

This fall, Maly plans to study international business in college with a focus on entrepreneurship and innovation. She credits Dutchy Poofs with sparking her interest in how businesses can connect cultures and communities.

Whether she continues growing Dutchy Poofs or pursues new ventures in the future, Maly said the lessons she learned as a young entrepreneur will stay with her.

For students who have business ideas of their own, her advice is simple.

"Start before you feel ready," she said. "Most of what I've learned came from taking action, making mistakes and improving along the way."

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Charlie Phelps' Legacy Honored At 108th Birthday Celebration

» Continued from page 1

a calling for him, a way to serve his church and community in a very special way, doing what many would consider really impossible," said REHABS member Bob Royer.

Being of service is one of five principles to which Phelps attributes his longevity. The other four principles are staying active, having good nutrition, maintaining a positive attitude, and connecting with friends and family members. Beyond those five, there are even more.

"It's almost impossible to name them all," Phelps said of his tenets.

During the June ceremony at Woods Church, Colonel Ed Rothstein, secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families, shared remarks. Former Woods Church Rev. Nancy Lincoln Reynolds recited a poem. The REHABS and gardening groups presented Phelps with a plaque that member Jim Luck handcrafted from a solid cherry plank.

As a surprise, the Woods Child Development Center ushered in a group of young singers, including two of Phelps' great-grandchildren, Luke and Charlie.

Fellow REHABS member, or "rehabber," Bill Brooks took the podium to share facts about Phelps' life.

Phelps was born in Philadelphia in June 1918. As a student at Doylestown High School in Pennsylvania, he got involved in several extracurricular activities including the football team, camera club and Benzine Ring, a club for chemistry and physics students.

"As all of you know, or maybe not many of you know, benzine plays a prominent role in gasoline performance," Brooks told the crowd. "This might explain why Charlie was always so comfortable carrying an open container of gasoline in the back of his Subaru."

In 1938, Phelps applied and gained acceptance into the National Farm School, an innovative school for scientific and practical farming in Pennsylvania, which is now Delaware Valley University.

Phelps' draft number was pulled during World



The Retired Handy-Persons Breakfast Society (REHABS) shared their love for Charlie Phelps at Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church.

War II, and he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1944. He had basic training in Miami Beach, followed by a stint at Amarillo Army Air Field in Texas, before being transferred to Douglas Aircraft Company in California.

"These troops were trained by factory engineers on advanced field maintenance, hydraulic system troubleshooting and engine replacement," Brooks said. "This allowed them, in addition to normal procedures, to repair aircraft on the front-line dirt runways in Europe and the Pacific."

He served as an advanced multi-engine maintenance specialist until the end of the war and married Helen Glenn. Eventually they would have four children, five grandchildren and more than five decades together before Helen died in 2008 at the age of 89.

Following the war, Phelps started a tree-cutting and removal company with his brother, Alvin. He was

in his late 60s or 70s when he started his second career as a commercial and residential real estate agent.

Seemingly every family member and friend can recall seeing Phelps with a leaf-blower in his late 90s.

"He loved using a leaf-blower at the West Severna Park community beach," said his daughter Susan.

Royer closed out the ceremony with thoughtful words for his friend.

"Charlie, there are some people whose lives are measured not by the titles they've held but by the lives that they quietly touched. You've been one of those people," Royer said. "For decades, your steady hands built, repaired, planted and cared for this church. More importantly, your humble heart and kindness have been an example to all of us."

Reflecting on the day and the surprises planned by his friends and family, Phelps said, "It's amazing. I can't say enough."

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Severna Park Native Julia Downing Completes Six Marathons At Venues Across The World

Events Took Place In Germany, Japan, England And United States

By Kevin Murnane

Similar to Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers' hit song "Runnin' Down a Dream," Severna Park native Julia Downing's dream of running six marathons in six years became a reality when she crossed the finish line in the Tokyo Marathon in March.

Downing accomplished this running feat by completing the Boston, New York, London, Berlin, Chicago and Tokyo marathons, each 26.2 miles. This earned her the distinction of the Abbott World Marathon Six Star medal at the age of 30.

Downing, who grew up in Chartridge, began running with her mom at Kinder Farm Park when she was in elementary school. Her mom was part of the Annapolis Striders running club and Downing would run as an activity with her mom.

"My good friend Sierra Knoch talked me into joining the indoor track team at Severna Park High School and I started to run sprint competitions for the team," Downing said. "I was shocked by how much I liked being on the team; I definitely drank the Kool-Aid."

Downing then joined the cross-country team and continued participating in indoor and outdoor track, culminating in being selected as co-captain of the cross-country team.

"I have such great memories of those high school days; using the B&A Trail for our training runs and our team dinners at Squisito's," reminisced Downing, a 2013 graduate of Severna Park High School.



Severna Park native Julia Downing crossed the finish line at the Tokyo Marathon in March. She ran the 26.2-mile course in 3:14:24. By completing this event, Downing earned the distinction of the Abbott World Marathon Six Star medal by finishing six marathons all over the world.

While at Northwestern, she continued training and completed the Chicago Marathon in 2018. Then during the COVID-19 pandemic years, road races were halted. Downing stayed with her training regimen throughout the pandemic to stay in shape for future marathons.

In the spring of 2021, Downing began her gauntlet of running six marathons in six years by finishing the Boston Marathon. In 2022, Downing ran the New York City Marathon, and in 2023, she ran the London and Berlin marathons. Then came the Chicago Marathon in 2024, and running in the Tokyo Marathon in March 2026 completed her running journey.

"I took a break in 2025 because that international travel is really hard on your body," Downing said.

Downing is fortunate to have a supportive family, as her mom, dad and fiancé accompany her to these events.

"It's really fun to share these memories with my family and fiancé," Downing said. "My dad loved London because of the history and landmarks, and my mom loved Berlin because of the sightseeing and where the Berlin Wall was. I couldn't have done these marathons without them."

Her family also helped during those grueling miles pounding the asphalt

as they were positioned at certain mile markers to hand out fluids and/or energy packs during the race.

"I pre-mix my fluids before the race so I get my electrolytes I need as well as I have eight energy gel packets I take at specific mile markers," Downing said.

Her marathon training begins 16-18 weeks before each event. She runs 20-30 miles a week at the beginning, then ramps up to 40-50 miles a week a few weeks prior to the marathon.

"I love to run at sunrise and it's easier to train with a group of friends," Downing said. "I also added weight training to my training ritual as I do deadlifts and squats to strengthen my lower body and curls and presses for my upper body."

Downing shared that the New York Marathon was the hardest of the six because of how many bridges connect the five boroughs, and Heartbreak Hill in Boston was challenging as well. Her favorite marathons she has completed are the Chicago, B&A Trail and London events.

With the recent marathon in Tokyo, Downing raised \$5,000 for the Dare2tri charity, which helps eliminate barriers in sports and fitness for all athletes by supporting individuals with physical disabilities and visual impairments.

Downing also uses a nutrition plan leading up to races but celebrates completing these taxing events with food that's not always on her dietary plan.

"After a race, I like a big burger," Downing said. "In Chicago, we go to Small Cheval restaurant, but we may also get a Chicago hot dog on the way home."

Downing is currently training for the Chicago marathon this October.

What started as a way to spend time with her mom at Kinder Park became the catalyst for achieving a feat that only about 25,000 people have accomplished worldwide, as well as raising money for charity.

New Law Affects Maryland Child Support Payments

David V. Diggs, Esq. and Lisa Bogan-Reohr, Esq.



The Maryland legislature recently passed a bill that adjusted the calculation for child support under Maryland's child support guidelines. Maryland Family Law Code Annotated Title 12 sets forth the guidelines,

which encompass a comprehensive set of considerations.

The guidelines are mandatory if the combined adjusted monthly income of both parents is \$30,000 (\$360,000 per year) or less. For parents earning more than that amount, the guidelines are not mandatory but may help to determine the amount of child support. "Actual income" is defined by Section 12-201 as income from wages, commissions, dividends, interest, unemployment insurance benefits, alimony received, etc. "Adjusted actual income" is defined in Section 12-201 as actual income minus alimony paid and "pre-existing reasonable child support obligations actually paid."

The new law, which became effective on October 1, 2025, allows for a "multifamily adjustment." Section 12-201 now provides "an allowance for support for each child living in a parent's home to whom the parent owes a legal duty of support if the child is considered to be spending more than 92 overnights in the parent's home in a year and not subject to the support order." In other words, should you have additional children living in your household at least 25% of the

year from a new relationship or remarriage, or from a prior relationship, the guidelines now allow a deduction that accounts for the cost of supporting them.

The amount of the allowance per each additional child is determined by using "only the actual income of the parent entitled to the deduction" multiplied by 0.75. Before the law, one could argue that other children in the household should be accounted for in a child support determination. Now, the amount determined "shall be subtracted from the parent's actual income before the court determined the amount of a child support award."

Since their original enactment in 1989, the guidelines have lent much needed uniformity to child support disputes. Payment obligations are set according to the formula, which considers each party's gross income and allots responsibility proportionately. For example, if we assume the following facts:

1. The mother of a 14-year-old daughter earns \$106,645 annually, working as a registered nurse
2. The father earns \$128,765 as a defense contractor and has the child for 27.4% of the overnights or 100 times during the year
3. It costs the father \$253 per month to add his child to his employer-sponsored health insurance coverage

In this hypothetical, the father's child support payment would have been \$985 per month, prior to October 1, 2025.

Fast forward and now assume the father has remarried and has two younger children by his more recent marriage. The multi-family adjustment reduces his monthly income by \$1,827 and his child support is now \$750 per

month, or \$135 less than prior to the statutory change.

Of course, the court has the discretion to disallow the allowance if, "after considering the evidence and the best interest of the child for whom support is being determined, the application of an allowance would be unjust or inappropriate," according to Family Law Section 12-201(c)(3).

Maryland courts always retain the power to modify child support, based upon a showing of a material change in circumstances. Typically, a change in circumstance, which allows a court to revisit child support, involves job loss, significant changes in income and/or substantial changes in a minor child's financial needs.

It is unclear if the new statute itself constitutes a change in material financial circumstances that would prompt a modification of existing child support orders since the bill was silent on that issue. It will have to be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Child support is but one of many issues to address when a marriage falters. Certainly, if you find yourself contemplating separation or divorce, you will have questions about support and other issues. You should consult with an attorney who is familiar with this area of the law and who will assist you in making informed decisions.

If you need further information regarding this subject, please reach out to the Law Office of David V. Diggs LLC, located at 8684 Veterans Highway, Suite 302, in Millersville. Call 410-244-1189 or email david@diggsllaw.com.

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Republican

Dan Cox

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Democrat

Allison Pickard

Republican

Dave Crawford

COUNTY COUNCIL

DISTRICT 5

Democrat

Natalie Ogilvie

Republican

Amanda Fiedler

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

(Voters could pick two)

Democratic Candidates

Sidney Butcher

Ginina

Jackson-Stevenson

Republican Candidates

Elizabeth Adams

Sidney Butcher

STATE'S ATTORNEY

Democrat

Anne Colt Leitess

Republican

No candidates are running

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Democrat

MK Fowler

Republican

Douglas Finbar Graham

Maryland's primary election took place in June, as Democrats and Republicans voted for the candidates they hope to support in the general election. Below are results from the Maryland State Board of Elections, indicating candidates you can expect to see on the ballot in November. Results are unofficial until all mail-in and provisional ballots are tallied.

REGISTER OF WILLS

Democrat

Jasmine Jackson

Republican

Jason Lambert

JUDGE OF THE ORPHANS' COURT

(Voters could pick three)

Democratic Candidates

Loni Moyer

Matt O'Connell

Stacey Scott

Republican Candidates

Maureen Carr-York

Tony McConkey

Alan Rzepkowski

SHERIFF

Democrat

Everett Sesker

Republican

Jim Fredericks

STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 30

Democrat

Shaneka Henson

Republican

Jessica Haire

STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 31

Democrat

Brent Mulrooney

Republican

Nic Kipke

STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 33

Democrat

Dawn Gile

Republican

Amy Leahy

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

DISTRICT 30A

(Voters could pick two)

Democratic Candidates

Dylan Behler

Dana Jones

Republican

No candidates are running

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

DISTRICT 31

(Voters could pick three)

Democratic Candidates

Joan Barone Cole

Heidi Schmidt

Ryan Shaban

Republican Candidates

Brian Chisholm

Mike Jacobs

LaToya Nkongolo

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

DISTRICT 33B

Democrat

Chuck Cook

Republican

Stuart Schmidt Jr.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

DISTRICT 33C

Democrat

Heather Bagnall

Republican

Kristin Norris

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

DISTRICT 3

Democrat

Sarah Elfreth

Republican

Berney Flowers

Letter To The Editor

Severna Park Voice And The Importance Of Local Politics

I am Matt Redmond, a lifelong resident of Severna Park and reader of the Voice. I write to thank you. Thank you for the Voice's important work in acting as a platform for varied voices in the greater Severna Park area.

I think this newspaper's work is especially important in politics. Our modern world is full of groups attempting to divide us further for monetary gain, while the Voice lets both Democrats and Republicans express their opinions on important local issues.

However, I do sometimes find myself a bit annoyed with my local representatives, both from the Democratic and Republican parties. While I appreciate their work on important issues such as education, I believe that affordability has been neglected. I haven't seen much explanation on how my representatives want to decrease prices. I believe that regardless of ideology, nearly all Americans, nearly all Marylanders, nearly all Severna Parkers are concerned of the rising price of living.

This is especially true of young people like myself. I just graduated from Severna Park High School, which has led to me thinking of my future. I know that one day in the future, I want to settle down and start a family, hopefully around here. I love Maryland, but current housing prices are obscene.

Hypothetically, let's say that I want to have a house and start a family in 15 years. I will probably want to own a single-family home, in that case. Fifteen years ago, the average price of a single-family house was roughly \$250,000. Now, it's roughly \$430,000. That is 172% of former costs, and an average of a roughly 11% year-on-year increase. Housing prices have outpaced inflation and wage increases.

If current trends continue, a single-family house will be a median of \$740,000 in 15 years. This may be great for current homeowners, but young people like me are, quite frankly, getting screwed over. Even though I am going to college and come from a well-off background, I'm not sure if I will ever be able to afford a home.

Representatives, politicians and legislators: What can you do to ensure that young people such as myself will have the opportunity to buy a home and have families in the future? What are you doing to make our lives more affordable and prospects less tenuous? If you can propose a plan that can ensure my future, you certainly will have my vote.

I hope our representatives continue using the Voice as a medium to communicate their messages to constituents. And I hope that they put forward concrete ways to make housing, life and supporting a family affordable in the long run.

Thank you for everything.

Best,

Matt Redmond

Severna Park High School class of 2026 graduate

Severna Park resident

Concerned citizen

Do you have an opinion you'd like to share about the happenings in our community?

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Broadneck Grad Reveals His Identity As School Mascot

By David Bashore

Near the end of his sophomore year at Broadneck High School, **Sammy Hargrave** was perched in the school's media center, watching the onscreen announcements. One popped up for an interest form in becoming Broadneck's costumed mascot for the following season.

Already entrenched in the unified sports community and eager to express his school spirit even further, he applied.

He wasn't selected initially, but at a football game in the fall of 2024, he noticed the mascot missing, so he asked about it again.

Persistence paid off: the original selection hadn't panned out as hoped, so the role was open. Hargrave leapt into the opportunity with both feet.

From then on, the Bruin appeared at football, basketball and lacrosse games, as well as anything else Hargrave thought it would be good to participate in to foster school spirit and fan enthusiasm.

"If it was something other than a football and basketball game, that I knew the cheerleaders would be at, it would be at my discretion whether I wanted to go. I mostly looked



Sammy Hargrave, pictured with family on basketball senior day, was revealed as the Bruin after two years of serving as the school's mascot.

at what I thought would be sort of the most fun and what would make sense to go to," Hargrave said. "Especially anytime we played Severna Park in the main sports, I'd try to go to that. When we played them at home in basketball this year, it was a nail-biter, and then we beat them

in overtime. Stuff like that melds together into a great experience for everyone."

Hargrave would truck around in full costume, being energetic and high-fiving students, fans, sometimes media reporters, and occasionally posing for photos with

"One of the main payoffs is being right there when all the action is happening and having such a close role in supporting all the different teams we have at Broadneck, and seeing the fans. Being able to finally take the head off and see everyone's reactions and appreciation was really cool."

— SAMMY HARGRAVE

children at their parents' behest.

The cardinal rule of mascotry is simple: don't ruin the magic. That means that even if someone suspects the mascot's identity, it should never be confirmed. And above all else, never lose your head as the mascot, which happened to the Oregon Duck when he tripped running out for a football game last summer and the head went rolling. The student within the costume immediately sprinted for the tunnel

» Continued on page 18

Scott Sisters Among 80 Local Athletes Headed Off To College

Falcons Ava and Emerson Scott will continue their soccer careers at Flagler College and Florida Atlantic University, respectively.

By David Bashore

For 18 years, twin sisters **Ava** and **Emerson Scott** have done virtually everything together.

They played soccer on the same teams, standing out on their individual merits but tag-teaming leadership to push forward. That ended with three straight high school state championships at Severna Park, some recognition through their club team at Maryland United, and the attention of college scouts.

Then, knowing their time of playing together was growing short, they took on a couple more endeavors and picked up a bit more hardware. They teamed up in girls doubles to help the Falcons tennis team win a state championship this spring.

"We love high school sports, and we're so grateful to be at a school that has a multitude of great programs," Ava said. "We loved playing basketball and we had a bunch of players on the tennis team. Our mom played tennis, we have tennis rackets and we hit the ball around a lot, but we had never played organized tennis. We like being active, we like high school sports, club (soccer) is winding down, (so we thought) let's just do it and have more time together and with our friends."

The "twin telepathy" certainly helped, as the instinct of having a twin in competition with you adds the so-called sixth sense in many cases.

On the soccer field, it was certainly no exception.



Emerson helped hold down Severna Park's defense at fullback, while Ava drove forward through the mid-field. As much as the Scotts worked well together, the differing positions allowed them to grow as their own players and as people.

"We've been playing together our whole lives, so being able to do that and do club (soccer), and play in high school together, and have such a great experience and be put in an environment where we have been able to grow as a unit and to grow individually has been awesome," Ava said. "We've had coaches who don't lump us together and we can be recognized as individuals. I love being a twin, but we also

both enjoy being our own people and bringing our own stuff to the table."

That ultimately has led their paths to finally diverge, as Emerson will play soccer at Florida Atlantic University, while Ava will head to Flagler College, a few hours up the highway from her sister.

"We play different positions, so not everyone was going to have a need for both of us, and our parents told us early on not to let that limit us," Emerson said. "If Ava comes with me or if I go with Ava, that's great, but we tried to attack the process as individuals. I think having that ingrained in us early on made it less difficult to do that, but I feel that when we get there, it's definitely going to be an adjustment from where you've spent every waking moment with someone and played sports with them your whole life. Nothing can prepare you for something like that."

The Scotts have a few more weeks together, as they both tried out for and made the Annapolis Blues women's roster for the semi-pro club's second summer season. They're soaking in as much as they can for college prep and relishing the fact that they have squeezed every ounce out of their shared athletic journey: They head off to their respective colleges with club travels, semi-pro experience, and several high school titles in tow.

"Playing together became second nature, and I'll miss that connection and the type of environment we can create together," Emerson said. "Severna Park has been such a great environment for high school sports and high school soccer, and I'm so lucky I got to experience that with a family member. We're so sad that the experience had to come to a close, but that goes both ways; we got the very maximum we could have gotten out of it, and you can't ask for more than that."

The Scotts are just two of 80 local athletes whose plans to continue their athletic careers at the collegiate varsity level were reported to the Severna Park Voice.

» Continued on page 18



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STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Devlan Collier was a two-sport starter for the Admirals and is signed to play lacrosse at Marist University.

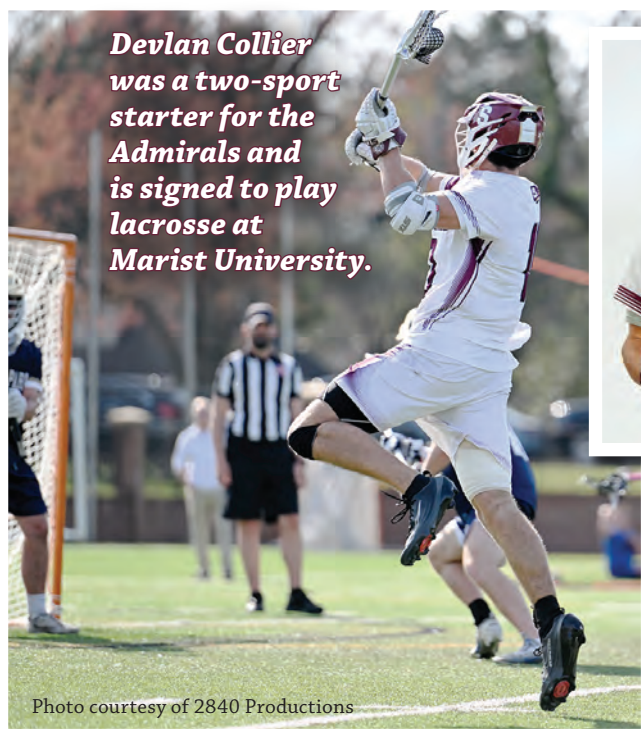


Photo courtesy of 2840 Productions



Photo courtesy of Severn School

DEVLAN COLLIER

Severn School | Boys Lacrosse, Football

By David Bashore

Devlan Collier wanted to leave a mark on Severn School, and he was able to do that in more ways than one.

and picked up 11 wins, including a series of impressive victories over Boys Latin, St. Paul's, Severna Park, and Gilman.

"We had a bunch of like-minded guys as captains, and when we saw the guys around us and what it could be with this group of guys who were leading," Collier said. "I feel like more than anything, even the guys on the bench who rarely get into the game, with those guys the culture we brought to the team, they were showing up every day, were 100% bought in to everything. I think that was special about this group."

"We had a whiteboard in the locker room with 'Little Admirals' on it; before we played all the big schools with hundreds of guys in the school, we'd always say they think they're playing the Little Admirals with

A two-sport starter for the Admirals, Collier also featured in multiple clubs, moonlights as a guitarist in part from his time at Severn, and graduated from the school with honors.

All of that has combined to keep him on the path he wants most.

Collier stood out as a captain on Severn's boys lacrosse team, which made the MIAA A Conference playoffs

about 200 guys, and only 35 guys on the team. We let them think that, and we leaned into it instead of looking at it as a disadvantage."

Collier graduated with honors from Severn, where he played lacrosse and football. He also participated in math and investment clubs, in addition to Jam Band.

That's a space in the music department where students can jam out together and form both friendships and musical skills. He used that to hone his guitar skills, and plays in a group called After August alongside some classmates. They play gigs in the summer both locally and in Ocean City.

When he's not doing that, he's on the water or in the gym.

"Growing up on the water, I'm on the boat, or surfing, boogieboarding, anything with the water. That and physical fitness are really important to me," Collier said.

Collier is signed to continue his lacrosse career at Marist University in Poughkeepsie, New York, which ironically is where current Severn boys lacrosse coach **Keegan Wilkinson** was coaching before taking over with the Admirals.

"I hadn't committed to a school my junior year, and during the summer I was talking to a few different schools. I played in a tournament for Severn and Marist was there, and they started talking to me after that," Collier said. "I went up last summer and thought it was one of the coolest places I'd ever seen. (Wilkinson) didn't say a single word about it to me through the whole process, but when I told him I thought (Marist) was the place, he was pretty fired up."

Collier will participate in the honors college at Marist and plans to study finance.

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Severna Park Resident Alyssa Chung Named Finalist For Tewaaron Award

Prestigious Honor Is For The Top Women's Lacrosse Player In America

By Kevin Murnane

Navy sophomore **Alyssa Chung** placed her name in the storied Naval Academy women's lacrosse record book this spring by being the program's first female lacrosse player to be named a finalist for the distinguished Tewaaron Award.

The annual Tewaaron Award goes to the top male and female lacrosse players in the nation. The process begins with a watch list of outstanding players and then is whittled down to the top 25 players. After the season,



five finalists are chosen and then the top male and female players are selected by the Tewaaron Foundation Committee. The 2026 award ceremony was held in Washington, D.C. in late May.

Chung had a remarkable year, highlighted by a luminous NCAA tournament where she scored the winning goal in overtime against Syracuse and scored six goals versus Maryland in the NCAA quarterfinals.

For the 2026 season, Chung led Navy with 118 points, with a team-high 84 goals and 34 assists. Chung had 20 multi-goal performances as well as 15 hat tricks (three or more goals in a game). Chung is the sixth player in Navy's history to record 100

or more points in a season.

"Being named a Tewaaron finalist is a reflection of who Alyssa Chung is every single day — fearless, creative, relentless, and completely committed to her teammates," Navy women's lacrosse head coach **Cindy Timchal** said in a press release after the season. "Alyssa plays with joy, toughness, and a deep love for the game. What makes her truly special is that her impact goes far beyond points and goals. She elevates everyone around her and represents Navy women's lacrosse with heart, humility and competitive greatness. We are incredibly proud of her."

Navy finished 20-2 in 2026 and was ranked as high as fourth in the

Photo courtesy of Naval Academy Athletics
Severna Park's Alyssa Chung dodged a pair of defenders as she attempted a shot on May 10 versus Syracuse. Chung scored the winning goal in overtime as Navy beat the Orange 11-10 to advance to the NCAA Elite Eight.

nation by Inside Lacrosse and USA Lacrosse publications before finishing seventh.

A left-handed attacker, Chung relies on quickness, positioning, and a strong and accurate shot for her impressive statistics.

Chung's humility was evident as she described the year the Mids had.

"We had a great deal of pride for our accomplishments this year, but our success goes to the senior leadership of my teammates. I'll miss those players very much," Chung said.

One of Chung's memorable moments was scoring the overtime goal versus Syracuse that enabled the Mids to get into the NCAA Elite Eight.

"It was a great celebration as I was tackled at midfield and everyone was jumping and yelling," Chung said.

That victory advanced the Mids to play Maryland in the NCAA quarterfinals, but the Terps prevailed 14-10 in a closely contested game in College Park. It was only the Mids' second loss of the season.

Next year, Navy returns many of their vital players and Chung is anxious to begin fall practice in mid-August and begin preparing for a run at next year's national championship.





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Eastport Project

Scott Sisters Among 80 Local Athletes Headed Off To College

» Continued from page 14

FALL SPORTS

FIELD HOCKEY

Alyssa Lewis, Broadneck - *Messiah (Pennsylvania)*

FOOTBALL

Jack Anders, Severna Park - *Lycoming (Pennsylvania)*

Roy Bowerman, Severna Park - *Lebanon Valley (Pennsylvania)*

Jonah Brown, Broadneck - *Slippery Rock (Pennsylvania)*

Kamari Brown, Severna Park - *Salisbury*

Cole Cavanaugh, Severna Park - *Brown (Rhode Island)*

Kemarri Collison, Broadneck - *Morgan State*

Noah Croghan, Severna Park - *Frostburg State*

Gavin Fetty, Severna Park - *Morgan State*

Aaron Foote, Broadneck - *Albright (Pennsylvania)*

Dash Havens, Severna Park - *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Blake Howell, Severna Park - *Salisbury*

Sean Johnson, Archbishop Spalding - *Maryland*

Cam Jones, Broadneck - *Stevenson*

Kendall Jones, Broadneck - *Salisbury*

Asher Knickerbocker, Severna Park - *Salisbury*

Jonathan Wark, Severna Park - *Lebanon Valley (Pennsylvania)*

MEN'S SOCCER

Quinto Barrett, Broadneck - *St. Mary's College*

Jacob Broadwater, Severna Park - *Randolph Macon (Virginia)*

Zach Cielewich, Severna Park - *Maryland*

Braeden Kelly, Broadneck - *Mary Washington (Virginia)*

Brady Miller, Broadneck - *Frostburg State*

Garrett Moden, Severna Park - *Gettysburg (Pennsylvania)*

Townsend Neher, Severna Park - *Millersville (Pennsylvania)*

TJ Remson, Broadneck - *Massachusetts-Dartmouth*

Charlie Samples, Severna Park - *Lycoming (Pennsylvania)*

Ascanio Satta, Broadneck - *Massachusetts Maritime Academy*

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Ellie McGilvray, McDonogh - *Hofstra (New York)*

Ava Scott, Severna Park - *Flagler (Florida)*

Emerson Scott, Severna Park - *Florida Atlantic*

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Ashlee Overley, Archbishop Spalding - *Mary Washington (Virginia)*

Genevieve Willis, Severna Park - *Alaska-Fairbanks*

WINTER SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ashton Sellman, Broadneck - *Shenandoah (Virginia)*

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Rhys Garrahy, Severna Park - *Catholic University (Washington, D.C.)*

Kohl Hanes, Broadneck - *Miami (Ohio)*

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Mikayla Kropfelder, Broadneck - *Pace (New York)*

Alexandra Vandiver, St. Mary's - *Richmond (Virginia)*

WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Masie Rider, Broadneck - *Salisbury*

SPRING SPORTS

BASEBALL

Robbie Ballagh, Annapolis Area Christian - *Stevenson*

Eric Benner, Severna Park - *Davidson (North Carolina)*

Evan Boucher, Severna Park - *Roanoke (Virginia)*

Reese Davis, Severna Park - *Frostburg State*

Dylan Phillips, Severna Park - *Scranton (Pennsylvania)*

Bodhi Samson, Broadneck - *Anne Arundel Community College*

MEN'S CREW

Dylan Lunsford-McBride, Broadneck - *Washington College*

MEN'S LACROSSE

Renzo Angeles, Severna Park - *Montevallo (Alabama)*

Brayden Arnold, Severna Park - *York (Pennsylvania)*

Davis Bates, Severna Park - *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*

Sean Burkhardt, Severna Park - *Rhodes (Tennessee)*

Devlan Collier, Severn - *Marist (New York)*

Ben Dryer, Severna Park - *Hampden-Sydney (Virginia)*

Jack Fowler, Severn - *Gettysburg (Pennsylvania)*

Chris Fraser, Broadneck - *Randolph Macon (Virginia)*

Kevin Gattie, Severn - *Saint Bonaventure (New York)*

Aiden Gillette, Broadneck - *Randolph Macon (Virginia)*

Dash Havens, Severna Park - *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Cooper Johnson, Archbishop Spalding - *Flagler (Florida)*

Ben Kreis, Severna Park - *Roanoke (Virginia)*

Tyler Lawhorne, Severna Park - *York (Pennsylvania)*

Will Mazcko, Severna Park - *Utah*

Carson Pierce, Broadneck - *Mercer (Georgia)*

Connor Rayburn, Severna Park - *McDaniel*

Duke Sealey, Severna Park - *Salisbury*

Matthew Shafer, Broadneck - *Kean (New Jersey)*

Wyatt Shaw, Broadneck - *Harvard (Massachusetts)*

Joey Viskocil, Severna Park - *York (Pennsylvania)*

Keaton Walker, Broadneck - *Randolph Macon (Virginia)*

Colin Whitacre, Severna Park - *Salisbury*

Eli Wilkens, Severn - *York (Pennsylvania)*

Landon Williams, Severna Park - *York (Pennsylvania)*

RUGBY

Brody Kelly, Archbishop Spalding - *Belmont Abbey (North Carolina)*

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Maria Bragg, Severna Park - *Florida*

Gracie Ciuba, Severna Park - *American (Washington, D.C.)*

Addison Ensor, Severna Park - *U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (New York)*

Cate Futch, Archbishop Spalding - *Florida Tech*

Riley Gillins, Broadneck - *Oberlin (Ohio)*

Nora Lopes, Broadneck - *Louisville (Kentucky)*

Bella Mazzola, Severna Park - *Davidson (North Carolina)*

Charlotte Robertson, Broadneck - *Gettysburg (Pennsylvania)*

Anna Claire Tilghman, Broadneck - *Washington College*

Lizzy Thompson, Severna Park - *Massachusetts-Lowell*

Nya Williams, Broadneck - *Cincinnati (Ohio)*

Broadneck Grad Reveals His Identity As Mascot

» Continued from page 14
so as not to be identified.

Hargrave, fortunately, had no such close calls. The closest he came was overheating at the Bruins' football game at St. Mary's last fall, but according to Hargrave, it was nothing a quick trip to an enclosed area didn't fix, although he did have to trudge exhausted through the opposing students' section for the Saints.

"You just sneak into the bathroom and go into a closed stall, just to pop the head off and cool down for a few minutes," he said. "As long as I kept the head on outside, it was fine. With the newer suit you have a mesh screen, so when it's dark out

people can't really peer in and see me anyway."

The one exception to this rule is on basketball senior day, when the mascot's obligations are typically complete. Some of his friends knew, but when the "highly guarded" secret was revealed, he was able to take in the appreciation of two years of relative anonymity.

"One of the main payoffs is being right there when all the action is happening and having such a close role in supporting all the different teams we have at Broadneck, and seeing the fans," Hargrave said. "Being able to finally take the head off and see everyone's reactions and appreciation was really cool."

A mascot has a known entourage — at Broadneck the mascot is part of the cheer and spirit squad — but there's also the unseen support.

There was getting to road games out of county, where the cheer squad doesn't always go, so he had to rely on family and friends to get him to Paint Branch and Quince Orchard for football this year, and Charles H. Flowers for the state basketball quarterfinals.

Then there's his right-hand man, **Sam Harvey**, a friend and team-mate in all three unified sports in which Hargrave participated at Broadneck, on hand to help navigate walkways and to keep the Bruin hydrated.

Though his time as the Bruin is done — the next mascot's identity remains a mystery — Hargrave relished the fact that he had undertaken such an interesting journey. And if there were ever a time that the University of Mississippi, Hargrave's college choice, resurrected its sideline mascot, he would be first in line to volunteer.

"I like to keep myself busy, so whether it was unified sports or clubs in Bruin block, it was filling out my schedule and having as much fun in the limited four years as possible," he said. "I like showing school spirit and having fun, so that was a great thing. I have to thank coach (**Dakota Richardson-Lau**) and the rest of the cheer staff and squad for that."

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Severna Park 9U Teams Advance To Banana Ball Final

Both Severna Park 9U Green Hornets travel baseball teams advanced to the championship game of the Broadneck Banana Ball Classic after entering the final undefeated over the weekend of June 6-7.

Unlike traditional baseball, Banana Ball awards one point for each inning won. In the championship game, the White team claimed the first two innings to take a 2-0 lead before the Green team rallied to even the score at 2-2. The White team then captured the fifth inning to regain a 3-2 advantage heading into the sixth and final frame, where every run scored counts as a point. With the bases loaded and two outs in the top of the sixth, the Green team held off a White team rally to keep the deficit at one. In the bottom half of the inning, **Nathaniel Clause** had a base hit to score **Jacob Lewis** and **Jack Logue**, providing the tying and winning runs as the Green team completed a dramatic comeback for a 4-3 victory.

In true Banana Ball fashion, both Severna Park teams embraced the entertainment side of the game. The Green team wore ice cream-themed jerseys and an assortment of hats, including a hot dog hat, coonskin cap, crab hat, and yellow cowboy hat, paired with colorful chains, yellow wristbands, and sunglasses. Their coaches sported matching teal banana-print button-down shirts.

Throughout the tournament, the Green team entertained fans with hot dog races, crab shuffles, the Chicken Dance, individual dance routines, and the "Peanuts" dance.

The White team took the field in Green Hornets-themed tuxedo jerseys featuring bananas and yellow bow ties, complemented by custom neon green hats and socks. Their performances included dances and skits like "The Lion King," bowling, "Shrek," the Backstreet Boys, "Pop See Ko" and the "Macarena." During the championship game, the two Severna Park teams staged a mock coaches' argument that turned into a dance-off when the music dropped, drawing cheers from the crowd.

For the Green team, **Kit O'Dell** hit an impressive .800 for the tournament, while **Carter Carroll** drove in nine runs. Jacob Lewis and Jack Logue each



The Green and White teams battled to a tie before the Green team broke through for the win during the Broadneck Banana Ball Classic in June.

blasted home runs, and **Padraig Murray** and **Nathan Anderson** consistently reached base with hard-hit balls and key walks. Defensively, **Asher Kunkel**, **Cooper Wallace** and **Jay Watson** each made game-saving catches in the outfield. On the mound, **Rhodes**

Metzger, Nathaniel Clause and **John Bass** each pitched at least three innings and combined to limit opponents to less than one earned run per inning.

The Green team's staff includes head coach **Steve Metzger** and assistant coaches **Scott Clause**, **Ryan Logue**, **Mark O'Dell**, **Matt Anderson** and **Matt Lewis**.

For the White team, **Harrison Karsner** led the offense with eight hits, six runs scored and nine RBIs. **Wesley O'Connor** and **Lincoln Thierer** each added five RBIs, while **Gray Bickel** contributed five hits, five runs and four RBIs. **Lucas Woody** reached base consistently, drawing seven walks and scoring five runs.

On the mound, **Landon Ladd** struck out six batters, while **Brody Pierson** and **Kellan Goan** each provided at least two strong innings of pitching. **Colin Giles**, **Wyatt Autry** and **Nolan Roberts** also contributed offensively, while **Jackson Jones** and **James Wheeler** anchored the defense behind the plate with outstanding work at catcher.

The White team's staff consists of head coach **Dave Thierer** and assistant coaches **Andy Bickel**, **Mike Giles**, **Chris Goan**, **Kyle Autry**, **James Woody** and **Bryan Karsner**.

"I am extremely proud of our organization, players and coaches for getting both of our 9U teams to the championship game," Steve Metzger said. "Both teams have worked incredibly hard all season and earned this opportunity. Coach Dave and his players are outstanding competitors who display great camaraderie and sportsmanship. I'm especially proud that both teams fully embraced the spirit of Banana Ball with their dances, costumes and skits while also playing exceptional baseball throughout the weekend."

Slugfest Ends With The Mets As Green Hornets 10U Rec Champs



Left: The Mets prevailed 16-13 over the Yankees during an exciting 10U baseball rec championship played at Kinder Farm Park on June 15. **Right:** The Green Hornets 10U baseball all-stars competed on June 17 along with the top players from the 12U and 8U teams.



The Green Hornets held 12U, 10U and 8U baseball recreational championships on June 15, followed by all-star games on June 17. The 10U title came down to a thriller, with the Mets defeating the Yankees 16-13 in the championship game of the Minors division at Kinder Farm Park on June 15.

Jace Coale pitched two scoreless innings for the

Yankees, who had the bases loaded with no outs in the sixth inning. But the Mets shut down the scoring threat thanks to some key defensive plays by **Chris Comegys** and **Jack Dever**. Coale and **Tristen Schelfe** combined for four hits for the Yankees. It wasn't enough as the Mets slugged their way to the win.

Mets players included (left to right) **Rocco**

DiBitetto, **Paul DiIunno**, **Curtis Dabbs**, **Wesley Johnson**, **Hudson Miller**, **Zeke Beauchamp**, **Fitz Murphy**, **Mav Ziebell**, **Chris Comegys**, **Carson Rayburn**, **Jack Dever**, **Carter McGuire** and **Alex Zakour**.

The team was coached by **Rusty Ziebell**, **Steve Neal**, **Drew Johnson** and **Alyse Dever**.

Giants 12U Baseball Pulls Off Perfect Spring Season, Wins Championship

The Green Hornets 12U Giants ended the spring season with a 12-0 record, which continued into the playoffs. They won the championship game 19-10 against a strong Cubs team at Kinder Farm Park on June 15. The team included (left to right) coaches **Sean Murphy** and **Jon Wendall**, **Luca Kohlmiere**, **Jack Sperry**, **Max Gronowski**, **Andrew Shoemaker**, **Sterling Murphy**, **Max Wilser**, **Luke McClain**, **Kyle Fink**, **Teddy Wilser**, coach **Chris Sperry**, **Calvin Schwabenbauer**, **Tucker Wendall** and **Joseph Brutvan**.

The Green Hornets 12U Giants defeated the Cubs 19-10 to capture the rec league title on June 15.



Green Hornets 2035 Boys Win Out In Two Summer Tourneys



The Severna Park Green Hornets 2035 boys lacrosse team finished the summer tournament season with consecutive championships at the Summer Aloha Cup on May 31 at Troy Park in Elkridge, Maryland, and the Apex Coastal Classic in Ocean City, Maryland, on June 14.

Coaches **Garrett Wells**, **Brent Hardie**, **Keith Baker** and **Gary Clipp** led the team to a 5-0 record in the Summer Aloha Cup, beating the Annapolis Hawks Black in the championship game 9-3. The Hornets played up an age group in Ocean City and went undefeated, beating the 2034 South Carroll Select team 7-4 in the championship game.

The attack group of **Mitchell Baker**, **James Hardie**, **Julian LaBarge** and **Landon Van Dyke** (tournament MVP) controlled the ball and pumped in plenty of goals. The midfielders scored plenty as well in addition to dominating faceoffs and transition play. Midfielders **James Wells**, **Patrick Cassilly**, **Grant Locher**, **Rhodes Metzger**, **Luke Obringer**, **Jack Logue**, **Gavin Wong**, **Lucian Hogan**, **Max Reineck** and **Von Plikuhn** all ran hard in the summer heat. **Ham Ostrosky** contributed as the long-stick midfielder. The stingy defense was manned by **Francis Cassilly**, **Tucker Nichols**, **Jaxson Rites** and **Grayson Rex**. **Maverick Moorhouse** and **Jameson Chalmers** shared goalkeeping duties in the undefeated summer tournament season.

The Hornets celebrated after beating the 2034 South Carroll Select team 7-4 in the championship game of Apex Coastal Classic held in Ocean City.

Girls Green Team Excels At Sand Duels Soccer Tournament

The 2013 Severna Park Green Hornets girls Green team brought home a championship over the weekend of June 6-7 at the Sand Duels Beach Soccer Tournament in Ocean City, Maryland.

Sand Duels is one of the largest beach soccer events in Ocean City, featuring youth teams from across the region competing in a fast-paced five-on-five format played directly on the sand. The tournament emphasizes skill, teamwork and endurance while providing a unique beach soccer experience.

The girls Green squad dominated division play, posting a 3-0 record while outscoring opponents 18-2. Their strong performance earned them a spot in the championship match.

The title game tested the team's resilience. After falling behind 2-0 at halftime, the Green Hornets refused to quit. They mounted an impressive second-half comeback, scoring three unanswered goals to take a 3-2 lead. The game-winning goal came with less than two minutes remaining, completing a dramatic rally and securing the championship.

The victory capped an outstanding weekend for the team, showcasing not only their talent but also their determination and teamwork. The championship run was a memorable achievement for the players, coaches and families who made the trip to Ocean City.

The girls Green squad posted a 3-0 record while outscoring opponents 18-2 on their road to the championship during the Sand Duels Beach Soccer Tournament in June.



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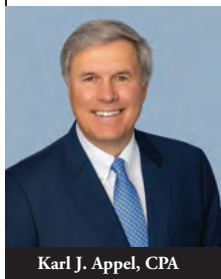


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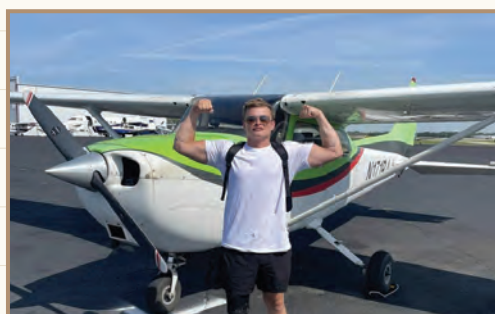
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A Heartfelt Thank You to Severna Park

Kyle grew up in Severna Park, where he attended Severna Park High School and played football and lacrosse. Although our family later moved to Florida, Severna Park has never stopped feeling like home.

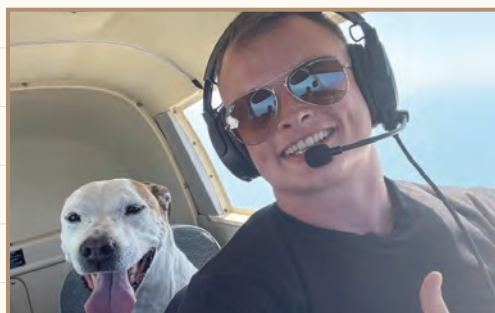
On August 24, 2018, Kyle's life changed after a serious accident resulted in the loss of his leg and knee. Nearly eight years later, we have never forgotten how Severna Park picked us up when we needed it most — even though we were no longer living there.

In those early days, the community helped raise funds for Kyle's first prosthetic leg, giving him



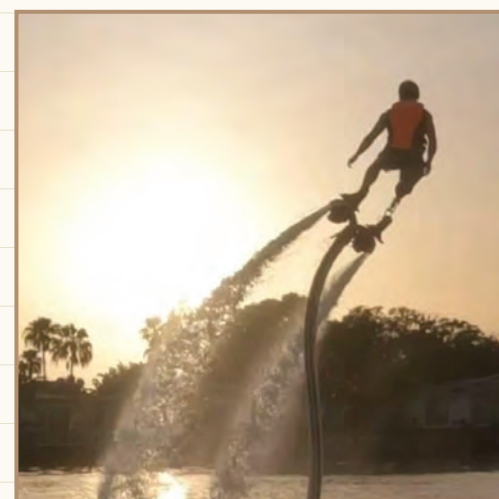
mobility, independence, and hope. We are especially grateful to Leyla Phillip for her heart and hard work, and to Steve Chamberland and the 50 Legs charity, which continues to support Kyle's prosthetic needs.

We also thank Alex Schwartz, former Severna Park resource officer; Staci Cassarino, Kyle's guidance counselor, who still checks in on him; and Andy Grabus, a graduate from Broadneck High School, who helped Kyle secure a scholarship to flight school in Marathon, Florida.



With that support, Kyle has achieved things once hard to imagine. He is believed to be the only known amputee in the world without a knee who can Flyboard, was invited to compete in the World Championships of Flyboarding in San Diego, and has earned his commercial pilot license.

To everyone who donated, encouraged, prayed, shared, and believed in Kyle, thank you. Your kindness continues to shape his future.



Follow his journey on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok at @Yourfavoriteamputee

Valedictorians And Salutatorians Make Their Mark

Stories and photos by Judy Tacyn

Severna Park's Valedictorian, Salutatorian Thrive In STEM



Shannon Zheng (left) and Nora Devine are part of the movement of women scholars in STEM.

Severna Park High School's (SPHS) class of 2026 valedictorian and salutatorian, Nora Devine and Shannon Zheng, are top scholars in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and are ready to learn all they can in college this fall. Devine will study at the University of Maryland, College Park, while Zheng prepares for New York winters in Ithaca on the campus of Cornell University.

Devine will study mechanical engineering, while Zheng will explore computer science. Friends since their middle school years, Devine and Zheng recognize they are part of a growing trend of women in STEM and are excited to be part of the movement.

"There were more male students in our high school classes," said Devine, noting that she expects that to continue at Maryland. "But I am really excited to be a part of the growing number of women in STEM."

Zheng said she is excited for the female friendships she will make in college as women bond in what she hopes to be an equalitarian industry one day.

The budding engineers thrived in their high school's STEM Advanced Placement (AP) classes, and they credit the Project Lead the Way and Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE) programs for allowing them to explore STEM. Devine excelled in AP math and chemistry, while Zheng flourished in AP computer science and math.

Devine credits Geoff Bernstein, department chair of career and technical education, for supporting and challenging her in engineering classes and clubs. Zheng said that Eric Kilby, the SPHS music director, pushed her to further her musical abilities, while her counselor, Lindsay Brown, introduced

her to new opportunities and helped her think through her pathway.

Both scholars felt COVID was the hardest part of their academic careers but joked that if they had to choose grades to miss, it would be their middle school years. The class of 2026 is the second class to have spent all four years in high school following the pandemic.

"It was a strange transition going from home school to immediately thinking about college," Devine recalled.

Devine served as a math instructor and math and chemistry tutor, and volunteered at the Severna Park Community Center, Severna Park Library and with Kits to Heart. She's a two-time ACE Mentor Program Best Project Award winner and held offices in the Math Honor Society; National Technical Honor Society; space exploration, environmental and book clubs; and was a member of numerous others.

Her academic awards are extensive, including U.S. Presidential Scholars semifinalist in career and technical education; Charlee E. Witsel Award for Proficiency in Mathematics; Major General John E. Morrison Award for Excellence in STEM Education and Innovation; National Merit Scholarship Corporation — Commended Student; Distinguished Service Learning Award for 250-plus hours of community service; Spanish Seal of Biliteracy; College Board national recognition; and Anne Arundel County Bar Association - essay contest winner, among others.

Zheng devoted many hours to tutoring math, served as a music camp leader by guiding large group ensembles, served as Anne Arundel County Public Schools summer teaching assistant, and volunteered extensively. She was a member of the SPHS orchestra, served as orchestra concertmaster, and earned the highest rating of one in Maryland state solo and ensemble.

Among her achievements, Zheng earned a National School Orchestra Award, National Recognition Program Award, was accepted into the Maryland all-state orchestra, and was an AP scholar of distinction. She also earned the Seal of Biliteracy in both Chinese and Spanish.

As for landing in the tops spots of their class, both graduates feel honored and humbled. "I just concentrated on doing well myself and didn't focus on class rank or comparing myself to others," Devine said.

Zheng concurred. "There are a lot of people who are going to do some amazing things in their careers," she said. "All I could do was focus on myself."

Shaw, Van Andel Earn Top Bruin Scholar Honors



Wyatt Shaw (right) and Mattias van Andel were the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

For the first time in the last four years, Broadneck High School (BHS) valedictorian Wyatt Shaw and salutatorian Mattias van Andel find themselves going in opposite directions. The two friends didn't meet until high school, but after sharing most of their classes together, they earned top spots in their graduating class, not by competing against each other, but because they've supported each other.

After sharing the journey to graduation, they will find themselves at opposite ends of the country this fall. Shaw will depart for Cambridge, Massachusetts, to attend Harvard University and play lacrosse, while van Andel will head west to Walla Walla, Washington, to attend Whitman College and continue his music career.

Shaw hadn't thought a lot about where he wanted to go to college until his sophomore year when he realized his academic accomplishments, paired with his success on the lacrosse field, might just give him a shot at one of the most prestigious institutions in the country. He was taking numerous advanced placement (AP) classes and excelling academically, while also attracting the attention of Harvard coaches for his tenacious play on the lacrosse field. Shaw will study economics.

Salutatorian van Andel also excelled in the classroom while balancing his time playing cello with the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Naptown Philharmonic Orchestra, and earning all-county orchestra awards and recognitions in both solo and ensemble. A competitive swimmer for more than eight years, van Andel will continue his musical career at Whitman College, while exploring courses in his areas of interest.

"I think it was about our junior year

when we started thinking together that we both have a shot at the top five of our class," Shaw said. "There were amazing students doing remarkable things. It wasn't ever a thought of who was going to 'beat' whom, but rather, where we are going to land with all these awesome peers."

The application process for valedictorian and salutatorian takes a holistic look at the entire student, which includes not simply grade point average but also diversity in learning, leadership, service, extracurriculars and club involvement. Shaw and van Andel were strong in all areas.

Shaw was a National Honor Society member, co-president of the investment club, member of the Broadneck Athletic Leadership Council and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and numerous social awareness groups including One Love, Morgan's Message, and the Travis Manion Club, among others. His extensive community service included volunteering at Paul's Place, Downs Park, Habitat for Humanity, Orphan Grain Train, and serving in many capacities as a peer minister in his church, St. Andrew by the Bay Parish.

Van Andel was a member of the National Honor Society and the National Society of High School Scholars, including earning the Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish. He was a member of the high school chamber orchestra, physics club treasurer, Model UN president, the National Honor Society's Rho Kappa history fraternity member, and participated in the Student Government Association.

He also served as a peer minister at St. Andrew by the Bay Parish and was involved in Scouting America. He will soon add the rank of Eagle Scout to his resume following his Court of Honor. Because of his love of the outdoors and hiking with his brother, he chose to build an information kiosk along the trail between Bacon Ridge Natural Area and Crownsville Memorial Hospital Park for his Eagle Scout project.

The sound of the final buzzer and throwing sticks into the air will be Shaw's fondest high school memories along with playing in county and state championships with Broadneck lacrosse. Van Andel will remember the experiences in his music circles, including traveling to perform in Spain, Portugal and at Universal Studios.

The friends insist they will keep in touch despite the soon-to-be 2,900 miles between them, even joking that they just might keep their Friday literature discussion group going cross-country.

Young Swimmer Excels At First Special Olympics

By Judy Tacyn

Fourteen-year-old rising Severna Park High School freshman Ellie Ochalek stood atop the Olympic podium not once but four times on June 12 at the Special Olympics Maryland Summer Games, held at Towson University's Burdick Pool. At her first Special Olympics competition, Ellie earned gold medals in relay and two freestyle distances, as well as a bronze medal in backstroke.

"We put her in the pool at 6 months old, and she's been swimming ever since," said her mother, Lauren Ochalek, adding that Ellie so loved the water that she began private lessons at 3 years old.

"Swimming makes me feel really good. I like to learn strokes, my teachers, and swimming with friends," Ellie said. "And I like to go fast."

And fast she is! The petite swimmer led in her races from the moment her head popped up from the water after her initial entry dive. Her reaction to winning was her classic Ellie response. She "smoked 'em!"

Ellie first started working on stroke technique at a young age with her father, Aaron, a former all-American swimmer at the United States Naval Academy. She also swam for the Oakleigh Forest swim team before participating in the SEALS program at Severna Park Community Center.

The SEALS is a unique program offering adaptive aquatic lessons for children and adults with special needs to

promote water safety, physical fitness and emotional health via basic swimming lessons through a competitive team. Last summer, the group formed and began training a Special Olympics team to represent Anne Arundel County. The always-competitive Ellie was all in.

"The SEALS coaches are phenomenal. For one straight hour, they've got the swimmers doing drills to improve stroke technique," Lauren said. "Ellie thrives in competition and discipline. We could not ask for better coaches."

Maile Johnson is one of the SEALS coaches. A former competitive swimmer and Severna Park High School alumna, Johnson recently completed a doctorate in physical therapy, a discipline that enhances the swim experience for adaptive individuals.

"But most of all, she's the one supporting her teammates the loudest, clapping and yelling encouragements."

— MAILE JOHNSON
SEALS COACH

"It's people like Ellie that make me love coaching. She's the perfect athlete and teammate," Johnson said. "She is disciplined and competitive. She comes to the pool ready to work hard and ready to learn and improve. But most of all, she's the one supporting her team-

mates the loudest, clapping and yelling encouragements."

Ellie admitted that she was a little nervous before her Olympic debut, but once she was at the pool, her jitters were replaced with excitement, her trademark smile, and confidence. With four races back to back, any athlete would be exhausted, but not Ellie. "Zero!" was her reply when asked how tired she was after her big day.

The fact that she was swimming at all was remarkable. "Ellie has overcome an enormous number of medical issues this year," Lauren explained. "She spent a week in the Johns Hopkins pediatric intensive care unit in October, so for her to compete and be so successful was truly nothing short of a miracle."

Ellie and her family celebrated her achievements and the beginning of summer with a family vacation in Cape Cod, where she traded lane dividers and chlorine for jumping in salty waves. If there is water nearby, Ellie is there.

The reigning Olympic champion loves musical theater when not in the water. She will spend her summer training with the SEALS to prepare to defend her titles next summer at the Special Olympics Maryland 2027.

To learn more about the SEALS program at Severna Park Community Center, visit www.spcommunitycenter.org/s-e-a-l-s. For questions about the program or to support the program, contact Shelly Beigel at 410-647-5843 or sbeigel@spcommunitycenter.org.



Ellie Ochalek wore Special Olympics Maryland medals that she earned June 12 at Towson University.



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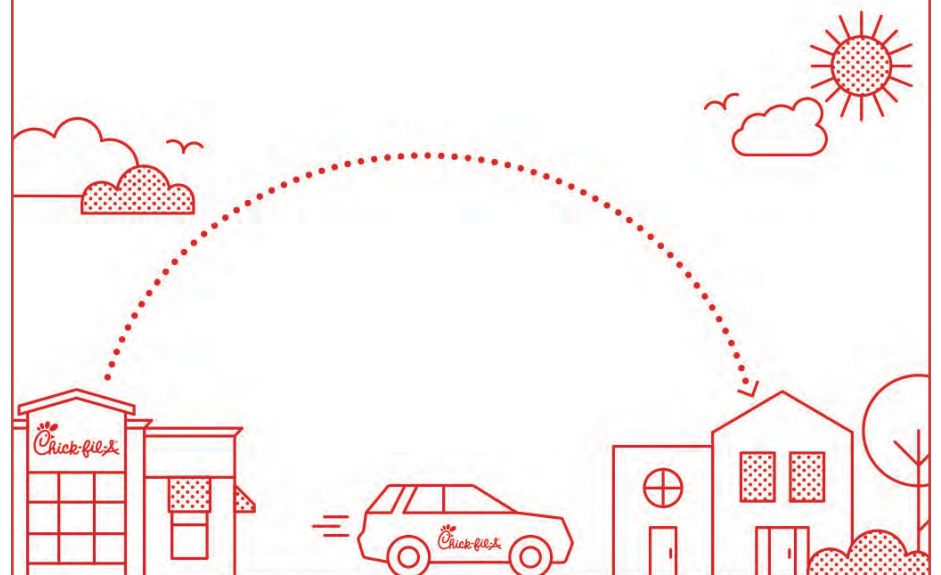
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Scout Earns “Golden Eagle”

By Dan Baldwin

Severna Park teenager accomplished a rare double achievement in Scouting, receiving the Girl Scouts’ Gold Award and Scouting America’s Eagle Scout rank, a triumph she refers to as the “Golden Eagle.”

Only about 5% of eligible Girls Scouts earn the Gold Award, the organization’s highest honor, and only 4% to 6% of eligible Scouting America (formerly known as Boy Scouts of America) Scouts receive the rank of Eagle Scout. Seventeen-year-old Abigail Dugenske’s feat is so uncommon, an official number of Scouts to achieve both honors has never been recorded but is believed to be in the low hundreds.

Dugenske’s interest in Scouting developed when she was about 4 years old.

“My grandma was always involved in Scouting,” Dugenske said. “I would hang out with her as a daycare program with my parents and she would take me to this thing called Scouting for Food where you stand in front of a grocery store and basically recruit for food.”

In 2020, COVID-19 restrictions limited all Girl Scout activities to be held virtually and shut down all summer camps. Because camps were her favorite part of Scouting, Dugenske looked into other options and decided to join Scouting America, which began allowing girls to join and was still offering in-person campouts.

When Dugenske first joined Scouting America, she immediately set her eyes on reaching Eagle Scout because she knew how rare the achievement would be for a girl. Only about 8,000 girls have earned

the rank in Scouting America’s first five years. But the goal didn’t seem reachable until November 2025 when she earned the Gold Award.

For her Gold Award project, Dugenske drew inspiration from her grandmother and her early memories of Scouting and opted to help fight food insecurity in her community by constructing a Little Free Pantry outside of the Severn Library.

“It’s a really important part of my life because I know the stressors of balancing school, family life, and sports and not having a meal to come home to,” Dugenske, a rising senior at Severna Park High School, said. “I know it has to be stressful for some families; that’s one thing I know I can help make a difference within households.”

The new Little Free Pantry is large enough to hold about two months’ worth of food, but it is usually emptied out within a day. Anyone who would like to contribute to the pantry should donate canned vegetables and soup, cups of fruit, pasta, ramen packets and tuna packets.

Following the completion of her food pantry, Dugenske didn’t have to look far for inspiration for her next project to complete her Eagle Scout requirement. At the same location, she began to plant a succulent garden.

Dugenske’s work and dedication paid off in February 2026 when she completed the second milestone for her “Golden Eagle” by earning her Eagle Scout rank.

“It feels pretty great,” Dugenske said of her achievement. “It’s a really great accomplishment, but it is definitely some-



Dual Scout Abigail Dugenske stood with her completed Girl Scout Gold Award project, a Little Free Pantry, located outside of Severn Library. Dugenske later added a succulent garden to complete her Eagle Scout project.

thing you cannot do alone. I definitely had a lot of family and friends help me to get to where I am because obviously you cannot do this alone.”

A Court of Honor ceremony to recognize Dugenske’s achievements was held June 14. While she is one of the first to get “Golden Eagle,” Dugenske knows she won’t be the last. But for future young women looking to follow in her footsteps, they too will need to branch outside of the Girl Scouts and join

Scouting America.

“Don’t be afraid,” Dugenske said. “It’s definitely something if you want to do, you have to put your heart into it. Don’t let anyone disregard you or push you off your path. Because there will be people who will tell you that you can’t do it. You just have to keep pushing and trying.”

Dugenske is also an accomplished cheerleader and recently made the Maryland Top Gun MAVA (Maryland/Virginia) level 6 non-tumble team.

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Severna Park Team Strikes Gold At SkillsUSA Championships

By Zach Sparks

zach@severnaparkvoice.com

Three students are viewing their high school experience through a new lens after winning a national competition with their photography business.

Severna Park High School (SPHS) students Jackson DuPee, Tiiu Nomm and Holly Braughton won their competition category at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta in early June. That result marked the first gold won by a team from SPHS in program history.

Through SkillsUSA, student teams use their course of study as the basis of a project that will benefit their class, school, community or industry. The annual championships include 115 competitions.

"There are endless competitions," Braughton said. "Anyone could find an interest. There's everything from welding to culinary to engineering — every skill and trade that you can think of."

The trio of Severna Park students competed in the Career Pathways: Business, Management, and Technology category. A fourth student, Rome Jones, served as a key member of the team throughout the year but missed the event at nationals.

Severna Park also had two top-10 finishes from the American Spirit and Community Action teams.

"To have three of our four teams achieve those results on the national stage is something we're incredibly proud of," said Roxanne Angerer, SkillsUSA co-advisor at Severna Park High School. "The students represented SPHS exceptionally well all week, and their hard work truly paid off."

After winning bronze in the Entrepreneurship competition last year, DuPee and Nomm teamed up this time with a goal to do even better. A new recruit became their third member.

"Throughout the year, I really wanted to win the gold, being a senior," said DuPee, who took the lead on the project. "Rome was into photography and we thought, 'Why don't we come together and combine our talents?'"

Last year for the SkillsUSA national Entrepreneurship competition, the group created a fake business called EcoEssence, which offered a can to clean recyclables and educated consumers about materials that are recyclable.

For the project this year, they made a real business: Bright Bee Photography. They scheduled photo shoots at their school and took pictures for a daycare and the SPCA of Anne Arundel County. By partnering with the Annapolis-based Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, they received an immediate emotional payoff as three of the 15 dogs photographed were adopted following the campaign.



(L-R) Holly Braughton, Tiiu Nomm and Jackson DuPee took gold in the Career Pathways: Business, Management, and Technology category this June thanks to their business, Bright Bee Photography.

"We really just sat down and brainstormed a hole in the market that we could fill," Nomm said. "The SPCA was a good fit, and it was so hard not to adopt the dogs on the spot."

At school, they organized a Christmas event with a student dressed as the Grinch, followed by a meet-and-greet with the Easter Bunny in the spring. They also took student headshots.

"We really wanted to focus on creating events people would come to," DuPee said. "A lot of photographers go to weddings or birthday parties. We wanted people to come to us."

SkillsUSA also encourages participants to connect with industry professionals. Jones contacted Chris Fincham from Fincham Photography for help. The group also had to keep a project journal, log events, and write a business plan.

The group needed three members, and Jones could not make it to nationals in June, so they recruited a familiar face as Braughton came onboard. Less than 12 hours after DuPee and Nomm graduated, the group flew to Atlanta.

Before making their presentation to three judges, the trio had a moment to view competing projects.

"When we looked at the other projects, there was a wooden bench with solar panels to charge a phone to put in the park," DuPee said. "There was an app to track your service hours. ... These were advanced projects that students presented."

When the time arrived for the SPHS team to explain



Above: Bright Bee Photography held a photo shoot for the SPCA of Anne Arundel County last winter to help dogs get adopted. **Below:** Stephen Agboli took his picture with the Grinch.



their project, each member gave part of the presentation.

"We gave Tiiu the role of lead photographer, I was in charge of finance, and Holly was in charge of marketing," DuPee said.

Group members believe they gave a moving overview of their work and the partnerships they made. They finished ahead of a second-place team from Erie, Pennsylvania, and the third-place entry from Lexington, Massachusetts.

"We found out one of the judges teared up at the end of the presentation," DuPee said. "We never found out why ... but getting called for gold was exciting."

Nomm said, "It's definitely super rewarding to see the outcome. I was confident in our project after all that work we put in this year and after coming in third last year."

DuPee said the competition honed his workplace, technical and personal skills. He credited his teammates and SPHS SkillsUSA co-advisors Roxanne Angerer and Michelle Dugans.

"Developing my technical skills and learning to work with different kinds of people has shaped me and will help me in the workforce," he said. "It's really important to try it if you're in high school. The teachers spend a lot of time, and they don't get the recognition they deserve. They don't get to go onstage or get any fancy medals."

All three winners plan to study business or a related field in college, though Braughton has another year at SPHS. Armed with a new set of abilities and a new perspective, they would recommend the SkillsUSA program to students who will work hard.

"It's really exciting to compete," Braughton said. "It also shows that success comes from consistent effort. To win a gold medal, it takes a lot of time."

"I will take away persistence," she added. "When your schedule is busy and you have a lot of homework, practice your scripts and work on your business plan. The more effort and practice, you can only go up."

Benfield Elementary's Little Library Replaced After Vandalism

By Judy Tacyn

Fifth-grader Ben Carlin asked the question every Benfield Elementary School student wanted answered: "Why the heck did you do that?" In May 2025, the school's security camera caught five teenagers crossing through the playground area before two of the teens kicked the students' little library from its post and broke the glass. Installed in 2017 by Benfield's Parent Teacher Organization, the library served students who chose to read a book during lunch or recess.

"Our students were concerned that the vandalism had left them without books to read," said Susan Myers, principal of Benfield Elementary School. "Many students asked questions about why the incident occurred and expressed confusion and disappointment. Students love being able to read at recess. Not all like to run around, or sometimes a child has a broken limb and cannot play in games and they need something quieter to do."



Benny the Bulldog, the Benfield Elementary School mascot, is featured on the new little library, designed and painted by Ben Carlin.

Bob Sartwell, community outreach chair and incoming president of the Rotary Club of Lake Shore — Sever-

na Park, routinely connects with area principals before new school years to offer assistance. The club was established in 1947 and has served the Severna Park and Pasadena area ever since. Myers let Sartwell know about the vandalism and noted the timing of their correspondence was perfect.

"After being informed of the problem, we ordered a replacement library, treated the components with weather proofing and a coat of primer," Sartwell explained, adding that after the new library received its custom paint job, he returned to the school for its installation.

Ben, a student artist, was asked to transform the primed little library into something "cool."

"I wanted every section of the library to be different," he explained. "I made one side the Maryland flag because we live in Maryland. I made another panel of popular children's book characters for the pre-K to third-grade students, and then my last panel was for everyone

and had Benny the Bulldog, who is our school mascot."

With its vibrant design, the new Benfield Elementary little library was installed mid-June, just in time for students to enjoy during the waning days of the school year. Myers said the students were especially excited to see the new library because they knew one of their peers designed and painted it just for them.

"The finished library makes me feel good because I am proud of it," Ben said. "The students think it's very cool and are excited to read a book (outside) again."

Sartwell said, "Literacy is a primary focus of our club. This is even more important now with the increase in social media in kids' lives. We offer any school in our area a little library that wants one."

To learn more about the Rotary Club of Lake Shore — Severna Park or inquire about a little library for another school, go to www.rotarycluboflakeshore.org.

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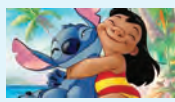
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Educator Of The Month

Magdalena Stanulescu

Severn River
Middle School



By Judy Tacyn

On the day Severn River Middle School Principal Michael McCann announced his school's 2026 nominee for Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) Teacher of the Year, he stood before the faculty with a bouquet of flowers in hand and started to describe the qualities of the candidate. As he spoke, Spanish teacher Magdalena Stanulescu looked around the group and tried to put the clues together to guess who he might be referring to, not realizing that she was the one he was describing.

"I honestly couldn't believe it was me," Stanulescu recalled. "I work alongside amazing professionals who are deeply dedicated to the profession, their students, and the community, so it was both unbelievable and very humbling to be the one selected."

Stanulescu has been in education for 27 years, the last 11 in AACPS. Her career began in Romania and then England. In the early 2000s, she taught in North Carolina and Virginia, and in Argentina from 2008—2011. She came to Northeast Middle School in 2015 before settling at Severn River Middle School in 2018. She has taught Latin, Ancient Greek, English as a Second Language, and Spanish, at sixth grade through college levels. Eighth grade has been her favorite.

"At that stage, students are still absorbing the language in a very natural way, but they are also motivated and capable of having more mature conversations," Stanulescu explained. "It's that balance that makes teaching them especially rewarding, and it is also gratifying to see them flourish into independent learners."

Stanulescu cannot remember wanting to be anything other than a teacher. She finds her greatest joy in a classroom when every student is talking with friends in Spanish.

"There is something special about that moment, hearing them use the language together. I also love seeing them take the language further and become independent learners," Stanulescu said, adding that her students love to tell her when they overheard a Spanish speaker outside of school and could understand what was being said.

"Language is a tool for learning about other cultures. The cultural piece is a huge component of every lesson, and students learn about how people in Spanish-speaking countries live, how they think, what technology they use, the apps they use, and the celebrations they take part in, to use just a few examples," she explained. "This cultural component helps build cultural bridges. Students also have opportunities to reflect on what is similar and what is different between their own culture and the cultures we explore. We do multiple virtual field trips to different countries, which helps students become more familiar with those cultures, compare them to their own, and develop open-mindedness."

She shared that learning a language is an enriching experience like no other. In addition to supporting brain development, learning a language builds confidence in students' own abilities, but mostly, language is a window into the world.

"In the global society we live in, knowing another language is becoming essential," Stanulescu stated. "Language is not only about mastering the language; it's about how it changes students' perspectives on the world and the other cultures they come into contact with."

Stanulescu's approach to teaching is to be a facilitator, with students speaking in Spanish more often than she does, and aiming for 90% of the lesson to be conducted in Spanish. Her focus is interaction over teacher-centered instruction, and students learning not just language but also culture.

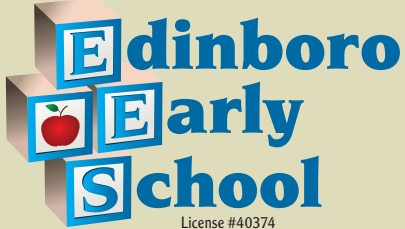
"I try to pass on to students my passion for languages, as well as for traveling and exploring other cultures and getting to know people from all over the world. I also like to help students reflect on language itself, how languages evolve, how they differ, and how the same language can vary from country to country," Stanulescu said. "I want them to see the variety and beauty of culture, and how the evolution of a language also preserves traces of how a culture and country has developed over time."



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Benfield Elementary Bids Farewell To Teacher, Principal



Benfield Elementary School said goodbye to kindergarten teacher Sheridan Honarvar (left) and Principal Susan Myers after 66 collective years in Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

By Judy Tacyn

Sheridan Honarvar covered some serious miles over her trek of 35 years in education, all within Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS). Her career began at Severna Park Elementary School in 1991 and included time at Four Seasons, Solley, Lake Shore, Belvedere and Eastport elementary schools before Honarvar arrived at Benfield Elementary School in 2002.

After a long career, she is retiring from Benfield, her longest tenure. Though her commute took more than a few county backroads along the way, her career path was mapped out when she was young.

"I have known that I wanted to teach since I learned to read in first grade. I had an amazing reading resource teacher who unlocked the mysteries of reading for me," Honarvar said of Judy McCorkle at Bodkin Elementary School. "I wanted to do that for other children. I also love kids and working with them. I never had any doubt that I would teach."

Honarvar recalled a time in 1995 when she applied to transfer to the then "new" Solley Elementary. She and more than 100 other teachers gathered in the auditorium at Northeast High School in Pasadena while awaiting an interview with the principal, who had to hire staff. Thinking the transfer was a "long shot," she got the job and now considers being selected as a high point of her career.

"When I joined the Benfield family, I was amazed at how everyone looked after one another in our little schoolhouse. We have since doubled in size and brought in some amazing educators along the way," Honarvar said. "The faculty is always striving to do their best for and with students. I have been lucky to work with some amazing teachers here."

Honarvar will miss watching children grow year to year and grade to grade. And yes, she will miss those overnight trips to Arlington Echo with the first-graders.

Her early teaching days using blue copies made by hand-cranking a ditto machine, chalkboards, and overhead projectors are long gone, replaced by technology that seemed like it was integrated into the classroom at warp speed. But it's the excitement of the youngest learners that stayed consistent over 35 years. Watching kindergarteners grow and mature in her classroom will be her greatest memory.

"My goal at the beginning of every

school year was to form a community of learners who felt safe, cared for and accepted in my room. I wanted them to be themselves and be kind to others, and that they be friends and look out for one another," Honarvar explained. "After that is established, I wanted them to learn, and I hoped to foster a love of learning. I hope former students remember feeling safe and cared for."

After an amazing career, Honarvar has no plans to slow down just yet. She will add her name to the AACPS substitute list, travel, and volunteer more in the community. On the "horizon," she hopes to go to Norway to see the northern lights and take family vacations to California and Maine this summer.

Susan Myers' career began in 1995 when she taught second and fifth grades at Riviera Beach Elementary School, where she once was a student. After a few years in a classroom, Myers moved to Brooklyn Park Elementary School as a behavioral specialist. A move to Crofton Woods Elementary School was her first assistant principal assignment, followed by Park Elementary School. Before joining Benfield Elementary School as principal seven years ago, she was the principal of Annapolis, Walter S. Mills-Parole, and Monarch Academy Annapolis elementary schools. Since childhood, she knew she wanted to pursue a career in education, and once in the classroom, Myers discovered she really wanted to be a principal. She arrived at Benfield just before the pandemic.

"I remember being so happy at Benfield and the beginnings of building relationships with students and families, but that became so difficult when it was behind screens (during COVID)," Myers said. "I really missed the people! Being in the building with just a handful of people was lonely."

During those months, the entire staff at Benfield showed flexibility, dedication and resourcefulness — traits that were evident every day for the last seven years.

"When I think about my years at Benfield, I am amazed by what our staff accomplished," Myers said. "There were more changes in education in these last seven years than in my whole 31-year career."

Myers added that she will forever remember the staff's professionalism and dedication to the students. "They work tirelessly to plan and teach students and are so dedicated to growing each of their students to be their best academically, socially and emotionally," she said.

She will miss the day-to-day happenings in a busy, thriving school. Myers believes that being part of a child's education is the most important job one can have.

"I have much gratitude to the people I have worked with during my career. They've shown incredible dedication to children and their success. It's the people who have made my career so wonderful and fulfilling," she added.

Myers plans to spend more time with her family, attend her grandchildren's activities, and volunteer at their schools. She and her husband are avid campers and hope to spend many relaxing hours traveling the country in their camper.

Two Shipley's Teachers Retire Together



By Judy Tacyn

Jill Derlink and Pamela Karr-Dawson began their Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) careers in 1992 — Derlink at Crofton Woods Elementary School and Karr-Dawson at Tracey's Elementary School. In the early 2000s, they started at Shipley's Choice Elementary School and became best friends. They shared a wall between their classrooms, often completed each other's sentences, raised their children at the same time through Shipley's, and have even been known to dress alike.

So, it's not surprising that when they walked out of their classrooms through the front door on June 16 after 21 years together, they would share the "last, last day of school," and are now officially retired together after 34 years in education, all within AACPS.

Derlink and her husband moved from Pittsburgh to Maryland right out of college in search of teaching positions. She was hired at Crofton Woods just one week before the start of school. She also spent time at Eastport and Crofton Meadows elementary schools, teaching kindergarten through second grade, before settling in at Shipley's as a second-grade teacher for the last 21 years.

Second grade was Derlink's favorite grade to teach and where she devoted most of her career. She said she loved teaching reading and sharing novels with her class.

"My parents encouraged me to be a teacher," Derlink said. "My dad said teaching would give me a great start toward any career. He was right, but I loved it so much that I never left the classroom."

One of her fondest memories occurred every spring when she introduced her second-graders to eastern bluebirds, the only bluebird species native to Maryland. The Shipley's Choice Eastern Bluebird Trail was established 20 years ago to teach children about the birds and how to identify different nests, calls and suitable habitats. Students monitor birdhouses and record data on what they find. Derlink said the students get excited when they find a nest and ultimately a tiny blue egg.

"The absolute best thing in the world is when I get to see the amazement in their eyes when they each get to stand up on the stool and peek in to see a

Shipley's Choice bid farewell to two longtime teachers, Pamela Karr-Dawson (left) and Jill Derlink, after 68 collective years in Anne Arundel County Public Schools, 45 at Shipley's Choice Elementary School.

newly hatched tiny little bluebird up close and in person," Derlink explained. "That moment is just so incredible."

For the last 34 Septembers, Derlink has been in the classroom, but she is ready for a change of scenery. "September seems to be when we have the absolute best weather. The ridiculously hot and humid days are gone, and the sky is that beautiful cornflower blue," Derlink said. "It always seemed like the perfect time to relax at the beach ... and that is exactly what I can't wait to do!"

Karr-Dawson arrived at Shipley's Choice in 2002 after a decade at Tracey's Elementary School. She has taught kindergarten and first grade, with first grade being her favorite. Although education wasn't what she thought she wanted to pursue, after working in a preschool while she was in college, she was clear where she wanted to be.

"I realized I wanted to work with kids for my career, but it was too late to change my major, so I got my master's degree in education right after graduating college," she said.

Karr-Dawson couldn't choose a single event in her 34-year career to call a favorite, but she feels the June 10 farewell assembly at Shipley's perfectly summed up years of individual special moments.

"The farewell assembly will be forever etched in my mind as the happiest and proudest moment in my career," Karr-Dawson said. "So bittersweet but feeling proud of the impact I had on so many little lives."

"During my time teaching at Shipley's, I have always felt like I was one part of something bigger," she said. "My colleagues have been incredibly supportive through some very hard things in my life. I feel surrounded by friends here!"

Derlink echoed the sentiment and said, "This building is filled with the most caring and supportive staff. I could walk into any classroom at any time, and they would stop and offer to help with anything that I needed. I have made the best lifelong friends, and parents who have become family to me. I will miss that every day is filled with fun and excitement, curiosity and discovery, and being reminded that the little things are the big things when you're a 7-year-old."

Karr-Dawson, forever to be remembered as the teacher who was afraid of snakes, plans to return to Shipley's as a substitute teacher, spend more time with her family, and travel.

"I am so thankful for my colleagues and will miss the daily interaction. Thank you for supporting me along this journey," she said. "For my students, I am not OK with saying goodbye. You are like my family after spending all the years getting to know how special you are. This is not goodbye! It's just 'see you later!'"

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Fashion For A Cause Raises More Than \$300,000 For Community Health Programs

Hospice of the Chesapeake's annual Fashion for a Cause event drew a sold-out crowd ready to celebrate community, style and families who depend on the nonprofit's services. When the night was over, more than \$300,000 had been raised for community health programs.

The event, held June 4 at the Fluegel Alumni Center in Annapolis, treated guests to a red-carpet experience complete with bites from local restaurants, food trucks, and a moving celebration of compassion and community care.

For the fifth consecutive year, WBAL NewsRadio's Bryan Nehman, cohost of "C4 and Bryan Nehman," served as emcee, keeping the evening moving with warmth and wit. The milestone didn't go unnoticed. Hospice of the Chesapeake marked the occasion by inducting Nehman into its "five-timers" club," presenting him with a branded jacket and commemorative pin. The moment took on deeper meaning when event committee member April Boera — whose late husband was Nehman's college roommate — helped him into the jacket.

The highlight of the evening was a runway show featuring dozens of looks from 15 Annapolis-area retailers and designers. Returning to the runway for



Photos courtesy of Mike B. Photography

Left: A model showcased an outfit from Craig Coates Couture. Known for fashions featured at New York and Los Angeles fashion weeks, Coates returned to Fashion for a Cause for a second year, once again delighting the audience with his collection. **Right:** Many models were community members with a personal connection to Hospice of the Chesapeake's community health programs. Among them was Terri Hussman, of The Hussman Foundation, who facilitates grief support groups and serves on Hospice of the Chesapeake's board of directors.



Ashley Calo, Cintia Castaneda, Jacqueline Coche, Megan Cooper, Liz Gillette, Terri Hussman, Alice Lao, Cierra Ploof, Challie Samaras, Caroline Shoults, Dana Smith, Rose Walker and Amy Wise.

Men's fashions were modeled by Mike Baldwin, Jeremiah Batucan, Doug Beaver, Brian Berger, Joseph Calo, Aaron Gaskins, John Hussman, Craig Johnson, Mike Mayfield, Jarret Simpson, Alex Strachan and Patrick Wergin.

Fashion for a Cause was made possible at the Haute Couture level by John and Cathy Belcher and the Brian & Patricia Giese Foundation.

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The organization also thanks its event underwriters, including bar sponsor Georgie Clark and entertainment sponsor The Jennifer Wells & Taylor Wells Family Trust.

Proceeds from the event directly benefit the organization's comprehensive community care offerings, with special emphasis on grief support services that ensure no child or family has to walk the journey of serious illness or loss alone.

Signs Of Heat-Related Illnesses In Children

Dr. Lauren Fitzpatrick

Luminis Health
Anne Arundel
Medical Center



The dog days of summer are here. While there are plenty of opportunities for outdoor fun, the season also brings higher temperatures that can put children at risk for heat-related illnesses. July and August are typically the hottest months of the year, so it is important to know the warning signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke to keep children safe.

Causes of heat-related illnesses

Spending long periods in hot, humid weather without enough water or opportunities to cool down can lead to heat-related illnesses in children. They

are at greater risk because children and adolescents generate more body heat and do not cool themselves as efficiently as adults, making it more difficult for them to adapt to high temperatures. They don't sweat efficiently, and they ignore thirst signs when playing.

Signs of heat exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is the most common heat-related illness in children and can cause the following symptoms:

- Elevated body temperature
- Excessive sweating
- Cool, pale, clammy skin
- Nausea or vomiting
- Dizziness or weakness
- Muscle or stomach cramps
- Extreme thirst

If a child develops these symptoms, move them to a shaded or air-conditioned area, remove excess clothing, encourage them to sip fluids (electrolyte-containing) slowly, and apply cool, wet cloths to the skin.

Signs of heat stroke

If left untreated, heat exhaustion can turn into heat stroke, a life-threatening emergency that requires treatment immediately. Signs of heat stroke in children include:

- Hot, dry skin
- Little or no sweating
- Confusion or disorientation
- Seizures
- Severe headache
- Rapid breathing and heart rate
- Fainting or loss of consciousness
- Fatigue or weakness
- Body temperature of 104 degrees Fahrenheit (40 degrees Celsius) or higher

With heat stroke, a child's skin may appear flushed, red, hot and dry. If you suspect heat stroke, call 911 or seek emergency care immediately.

Heat safety tips for children

The best way to prevent heat-related illnesses is to take precautions before children head outdoors. Encourage them to drink water or sports drinks frequently throughout the day, even when they do not feel thirsty. Schedule outdoor play

and sports during cooler morning or evening hours whenever possible and make sure children take regular breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas, or under a covered area like an umbrella. Dress them in lightweight, loose-fitting, light-colored clothing and apply sunscreen to protect their skin from harmful ultraviolet rays. Never leave a child alone in a parked vehicle, as temperatures inside can rise rapidly and become dangerous within minutes.

One last important tip

If your children are attending summer camps, talk with them about the dangers of heat-related illnesses. Because you can't always be there to monitor them, children should know the warning signs and tell an adult right away if they start to feel unwell in the heat.

Dr. Lauren Fitzpatrick is the medical director of Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center's pediatric emergency department.

This branded content is brought to you by an expert in his or her respective field.

Broadneck Grads Reflect On Performing With Naptown Philharmonic Orchestra



Photo courtesy of Kathy Swain

Above: Vivienne Newburger, a recent Broadneck graduate and Apex Arts student, began playing the violin when she was 5 years old. **Right:** Bruins class of 2026 graduate Gabe Noon played double bass with the Naptown Philharmonic Orchestra for over two seasons.



By Meredith Winter

On June 6, the Naptown Philharmonic Orchestra (NPO) performed the final concert of its 2025-2026 season, and for five members of the ensemble it was their last time playing with the NPO.

During a break in the program, themed “American Voices: United Through Song,” NPO Music Director/Conductor Anna Binneweg celebrated five young musicians in the orchestra who had just graduated from high school and would soon head off to college. Two of them, violinist Vivienne Newburger and bassist Gabe Noon, received their diplomas from Broadneck High School only four days earlier.

Part of the Apex Arts program at Broadneck, Newburger began learning to play the violin at just 5 years old. She continued taking lessons through high school and now teaches young students herself. Desiring to take on a new challenge in high school, she pursued the Apex Arts route to study playing the piano.

Newburger had the opportunity to perform with the NPO during her junior year in a side-by-side concert, and the following summer she was contacted about playing as a full-time musician with the NPO. She accepted and performed in concerts with the local orchestra throughout her senior year.

There were two aspects of performing with the NPO that she especially enjoyed. One, the music they played was far more diverse than what she was accustomed to in youth and school orchestras. “We play very varied music, like pieces from all different genres and time periods, and we get to work with dancers and singers from all over the world,” she explained.

Two, she admired how her youth did not alienate her from more seasoned musicians. “What really amazed me was how everyone was on the same level,” she said. “There wasn’t really a feeling of superiority between different-age people, and I just thought it was really cool how people, all different ages and places in life, could be friends and like equals in a community.”

While at Broadneck, Newburger was a member of the Math Honor Society, the Science National Honor Society and the Tri-M Music Honor Society. She joined the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra while still in elementary school and worked her way up to serving as concertmaster this past year.

This fall, she will begin her studies in applied mathematics at the University of St. Andrews in

Scotland and hopes to continue teaching violin lessons while there.

Fellow Bruin Gabe Noon met Binneweg at an Anne Arundel County Public Schools music camp several years ago and kept in touch, ultimately reaching out to ask if he could play with the NPO in any open spots they might have in upcoming concerts. That was during his sophomore year, and he was a member of the NPO from then on.

Noon’s primary instrument is the double bass, though he has also played bassoon and bass guitar. He began playing bass when he was in third grade and is now transitioning from taking private lessons to taking lessons with his college professor. Noon is headed to Miami University in Ohio to double-major in biochemistry and music performance.

While at Broadneck, he was a member of the marching band, concert orchestra, concert band, jazz band and chamber orchestra. Noon competed in track and field all four years of being a Bruin, and he was involved in environmental literacy clubs — he is considering a career in environmental science, along with continuing to play bass, of course.

Like Newburger, Noon enjoyed playing in the NPO with people from all throughout the community.

“You would play side by side with professional players, military members, retired teachers — just like every possible background of musician or community member was involved in the orchestra,” he said. “As a high-schooler, being a part of a group that has so much diversity and so many opportunities is really not taken for granted.”

In addition to rising to the challenge of playing more difficult music, Noon learned intangibles while performing with the NPO that he will carry with him.

“When I first started, I remember how different it was from my regular school orchestra rehearsals, because when the conductor is talking, everyone stops talking. It’s much more formal,” he explained, adding, “Being a part of a more professional group — obviously, your musicianship, you’re expected to come to rehearsal knowing your parts — but also when you’re at rehearsal, you’re expected to have etiquette and be respectful. And I feel like that’s very important.”

The NPO has announced its 2026-2027 season: “A Season of Song & Story...” will run September through June, with a February concert featuring Broadneck musicians playing side by side with the orchestra. To learn more about the NPO, go to www.naptownphil.org.

Theater In The Park Staff Members Take On New Roles

In just a few rehearsals, Theater in the Park takes young actors and trains them to perform a Broadway musical in their own community. Two of the talented performers and educators who make that possible are Kylie Sjolie and Atticus Boidy, who have been elevated to new positions with Theater in the Park.



Kylie Sjolie

Kylie Sjolie is the new artistic director of Theater in the Park. A director, performer, producer and theater educator, Sjolie has been directing for more than 13 years and has worked with numerous youth and community theater organizations throughout Maryland. In addition to her role with Theater in the

Park, Sjolie serves as the sales, marketing and event coordinator at the Severna Park Community Center.

She remains active as a performer throughout the region and has worked with organizations including Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre, Colonial Players, 2nd Star Productions and more. Sjolie has also received acting award nominations for her performances in musical theater productions.

As artistic director, Sjolie brings experience from both the educational and performance sides of theater and looks forward to helping Theater in the Park continue to grow and provide quality theatrical opportunities for young performers throughout the community.

“Because I’ve been involved with Theater in the Park since its founding, this role is especially meaningful to me,” Sjolie said. “I’ve had the opportunity to watch the organization grow from an idea into a thriving theater community for young performers. I’m honored to step into the role of artistic director and excited to continue building on that foundation while creating new opportunities for students throughout our community.”



Atticus Boidy

Atticus Boidy is a theater director, designer, technical director and teaching artist with more than a decade of experience in theater production and arts education. He was recognized with the 2025 Arts Education Annie Award for his innovation, mentorship and impact on student artists. He is now

the director of productions and theater operations for Theater in the Park.

His work spans professional theaters, educational institutions and youth arts programs throughout the region. His directing, lighting design and technical work have been seen with organizations including Children’s Theatre of Annapolis, Theater in the Park, Maryland Theatre Collective, 2nd Star Productions, Colonial Players of Annapolis, Silhouette Stages and Anne Arundel Community College.

“I am so excited to jump into this role and continue working with Theater in the Park,” Boidy said. “I have been with the company as a contractor since 2019 and have loved being a part of the community. Starting this new position opens up so many opportunities for me to grow as an artist, leader and educator.”

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Full Disclosure, Newest Spielberg Flick Mirrors His Classics



By James Buxton
Film Critic

"Disclosure Day," the latest from maybe our greatest modern storyteller, Steven Spielberg, is a good movie. It's not, however, the movie it was advertised to be. If you're looking for a sci-fi action flick about flying saucers and an alien invasion, as was implied by the trailers, then you may end up disappointed (although he does have at least four other movies that deliver on this). If his slower, more methodical political thrillers are more your thing, then rest assured, you're in safe hands.

When it hits, it's Spielberg at his best. The action is great. The camerawork, if a little ostentatious at times, is up there with his best work. There are moments of this, particularly toward the beginning, that channel "Indiana Jones" as much as "Close Encounters." If one were to score this on a grading of most-to-least-Spielbergian, it's an easy five stars. It's the kind of movie he was making around 20 years ago,

injected with the sincerity of his early work that made him a household name, while delivering on the clean, perfectionist aura of his late-stage career. Whatever your favorite Spielberg, you'll find an echo of it here.

John Williams is absolutely firing on all cylinders here, pulling the "it's also the notes he doesn't play" card to maximum effect. When isolated, his work here feels indistinguishable in quality to his "Raiders of the Lost Ark" or "Star Wars" efforts, and Spielberg knows exactly when to deploy him. For what could potentially be his swan song, it's an absolute home run.

The last 15 minutes or so is what it's all building toward, and it really sticks the landing. Everything from Emily Blunt's title drop is undeniable, but truthfully, it's pretty much perfect as soon as our heroes make it to their final location. Josh O'Connor's side of the game during the lead up is quietly rather breathtaking and essential to building the tone of that final explosion of emotion. The newscaster in that scene, with all of her five minutes of

Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment
(L-R) Colman Domingo is Hugo Wakefield, Tommy Martinez is Santiago, Emily Blunt is Margaret Fairchild, and Josh O'Connor is Dr. Daniel Kellner in "Disclosure Day," directed by Steven Spielberg.

screen time, provides perhaps the most emotionally riveting performance in the whole film.

Blunt and O'Connor are solid in this, both giving exactly the right amount of sauce to a pair of roles that need gallons of the stuff without going overboard.

The chase sequences, disjointed and excessive though they are, are basically the best version of themselves possible, to the point where I had what felt like an extremely long, extremely stressful, though ultimately enjoyable dream the following night in which I was constantly on the run. A compelling chase is very much Spielberg's bread and butter, and he pulls out all the stops for this one.

It's not without flaws; the CGI animals look generally bad, for one. There's an argument that this is intentional based on their role in the story, but given how good the rest of the film looks, it's not the easiest theory to get behind.

I'm loathe to say this is a return to form for Spielberg considering his last three movies have all been various shades of spectacular, but this feels like his first quintessential movie in a while. It's a testament to the length of his career that he's able to make what feels like an homage to what's largely considered to be his late career, but this really does feel like something he would have personally made circa 2005. Maybe it's the slightly outdated politics of the global background or the insistence on using flip phones, or maybe it's his unfailing commitment to sincerity in a world poisoned by irony and shame, but even when it's running a bit slow, "Disclosure Day" feels like an important, worthwhile movie.

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Annapolis Symphony Orchestra Announces 2026–2027 Season

The Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (ASO) announced its 2026–2027 season, marking the orchestra’s 65th anniversary with a thoughtfully curated lineup that pairs artistic ambition with a unifying vision.

Guided by the theme “In Nature’s Realm,” the season will explore the relationship between music and the natural world, inviting audiences to engage with live symphonic music as connection, reflection and renewal.

“Look closely at the titles of this year’s concerts and you will see how composers across centuries have drawn from elemental forces to craft works that are emotional, powerful and deeply moving — capturing both the heartbeat of the Earth and the depths of our shared human experience,” said Music Director José-Luis Novo.

At a time when modern life is increasingly shaped by digital noise and disconnection, the ASO’s 65th season offers a powerful counterpoint. Drawing artistic inspiration from iconic classical music and the bold works of emerging composers, the ASO will present programs that reflect the grandeur of the natural world and the complexity of the human experience.

A Season Inspired by the Natural World

Across five Signature Series programs, the 2026–2027 season draws on elemental pieces to shape a cohesive artistic journey.

“Our Signature Series reflects mae-

stro Novo’s artistic vision and showcases what the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra does best — bringing to life the brilliance of live orchestral music with passion and precision,” said ASO Executive Director Erica Bondarev Rapach.

Season highlights include:

Echoes of the Earth

October 2-3, 2026

The season will open with Jennifer Higdon’s cello concerto, performed by cellist Julian Schwarz, a rising star known for his “intense sincerity and refined virtuosity” (The New York Times).

Forces of Nature

November 6–7, 2026

This high-energy program will feature works by Dmitri Shostakovich, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Igor Stravinsky, with violinist Vadim Repin, one of the world’s most celebrated violinists, renowned for his technical brilliance and interpretive depth.

The Call of the Wild

March 5–7, 2027

Tan Dun’s “Passaglia: Secret of Wind and Birds” uses ancient Chinese instrumentation and modern audience interaction, and Richard Strauss’ monumental “An Alpine Symphony” depicts daybreak in the mountains and a momentous climb to an alpine peak.

Myths & Mountains

April 9–11, 2027

Max Bruch’s “Violin Concerto No. 1” will feature violinist Esther Yoo, ac-



“Live symphonic music reconnects us to the rhythms that sustain us,” said Music Director José-Luis Novo.

Photo courtesy of Annapolis Symphony Orchestra/Richard Brown

claimed for her lyrical sensitivity and commanding stage presence.

Shaped by Nature

May 7–9, 2027

Closing the season, Sergei Prokofiev’s “Piano Concerto No. 3” will be performed by pianist Stewart Goodyear, celebrated for his virtuosity, expressive range, and innovative programming.

New This Season: Sunday Matinee Series

New this year, the ASO will introduce Sunday matinee performances at 3:00pm at Maryland Hall, offering a flexible and accessible way to experience live orchestral music. These one-hour concerts are designed for audiences seeking a shorter program without an intermission, a lower ticket price, and an afternoon concert experience.

Extending the ASO Experience

The season begins with Pops in the Park at Downs Park and Quiet Waters Park over Labor Day weekend. The Annapolis Symphony will perform highlights from Season 65, light classics, and danceable tunes for the entire family at this annual event and celebrate the nation’s 250th birthday. The concerts are free, including parking.

Additional offerings include:

- Holiday Pops, a festive annual tradition held at Maryland Hall and Severna Park High School
- Family and education programs, including a Spanish bilin-

gual version of “Peter and the Wolf” presented with vaudeville performers Really Inventive Stuff.

- A collaboration with Maryland Hall and the Isidore String Quartet performing Felix Mendelssohn’s “Octet” alongside ASO principal musicians.
- Chamber concerts featuring ASO musicians.

Subscriptions and Ticket Information

Subscriptions for the 2026–2027 season are available now, including flexible package options and full Signature Series subscriptions. Single tickets will be released later in 2026. For more information, go to www.annapolissymphony.org.

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Are We In A Stock Market Bubble?

Jason LaBarge
Financial Advisor
and President
LaBarge Financial



A question I've been getting lately is whether the stock market's all-time highs can continue. They want to know, are we in a bubble?

There are a number of indicators that suggest we could be. One is net

margin debt. Margin is a Wall Street term that means borrowing money to buy and sell stocks. When times are good, this can be very lucrative. Margin traders are able to buy more stocks than they could otherwise, meaning more profit when those stocks increase in value.

However, when times aren't so good, it has the opposite impact: Margin traders lose money on their investments but still have to repay that borrowed money. If a trader borrows more than they can repay after losses, they quickly find themselves in trouble. If a lot of traders do this, the market itself can suffer.

At the end of May, net margin debt in the U.S. hit 1.25% — a level that hasn't been seen since the '90s. That's a sign that we could be in a market bubble.

When people ask me if we're in a bubble, what they usually mean is that they want to know when they should sell their investments to avoid losses when the bubble bursts.

The main problem with timing the market is that while we can generally observe that markets experience periods of gains and declines over time, we cannot say with any certainty when these changes will occur.

This suggests that successfully timing the market may rely more on luck or predicting the unpredictable, rather than on investment expertise alone.

People are often tempted to time the market because they've heard anecdotes about people who did and became fabulously wealthy. But less alluring are the anecdotes of people who timed it wrong and lost their shirts.

A solid financial plan built to take advantage of good times while being protected from bad times is going to give you a much better chance at building wealth over time than one that treats the stock market like a slot machine.

Investment plans are not a one-size-fits-all product. When one is built, an individual's unique financial situation and circumstances should be considered. When building your

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July Chamber Update

Liz League
CEO • GSPACC



Please give a warm welcome to our newest members and enjoy reading about all the businesses that make our community the best place to live!

Orion Tech Systems (bronze member)
www.getorionsecure.com

Orion provides innovative information technology infrastructure, security, audio and visual, cloud, networking, automation, and intelligent technology solutions for businesses of all sizes. Specializing in artificial intelligence-powered automation and intelligent systems, the company helps organizations improve efficiency, streamline operations, strengthen security, and support digital transformation through dependable, scalable and customized technology services. It even has an SOS hotline when you are under attack: 410-697-9100.

Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services (bronze member)
www.chesapeaketax.net

Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services provides personalized tax preparation, accounting, and financial consulting for individuals and small businesses. As a Maryland peer-reviewed firm, it delivers accurate, compliant services and can assist with estate and trust matters. The team focuses on minimizing tax liability, maintaining financial clarity, and supporting long-term financial success.

Citizens for Amy Leahy
www.citizensforamyleahy.com

Amy Leahy is a candidate for the District 33 Senate seat.

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Sweetbay Assisted Living

www.sweetbayassistedliving.com

Sweetbay Assisted Living is a boutique assisted living home in Severna Park offering personalized care in an intimate, residential setting. Designed for comfort and dignity, its all-inclusive approach includes 24/7 awake staff and private accommodation with ensuite powder rooms. Located just off Ritchie Highway, Sweetbay provides a refined alternative to traditional senior living — where residents feel truly at home.

Theater in the Park LLC

www.theaterinthepark.net

Theater in the Park is a program for kids ages 3-16 to learn and experience theater. It offers workshops for acting through the Youth Actors' Studio, vocal training through a Pitch Perfect for Kids program, and popular musical theater workshops, where students get to experience a Broadway production from beginning to end with costumes, sets, a sound system and a group of trained directors, where students learn to sing, dance and act. Theater in the Park offers camps and homeschool programs too.

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services Opens Millersville Office



Photo by Lauren Cowin

Pat (right) and Laura Svehla are the father-daughter CPA team behind Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services.

By Lauren Cowin

Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services, a longstanding accounting firm based in Catonsville, opened a Millersville location in the fall of 2025.

For father-daughter certified public accountant (CPA) duo Pat and Laura Svehla, the key to their successful business is in the intangibles.

"Everybody has a little bit of a personality beyond the stereotypical accountant in our office," Laura shared. "I think that helps set us

apart quite a bit."

Individual tax preparation makes up the lion's share of their work, but their services go well beyond tax season. For business clients, they offer tax planning, financial statement services, payroll, financial planning and consulting, and general accounting.

A fully licensed broker through Ameriprise, the business can also assist with investments and retirement planning.

Pat Svehla established Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services in 1991. As society has largely trended in a more corporate direction, he prides himself

on offering a more personal approach to his clients' needs.

"You're not calling getting an answering machine; you're getting a human being," Pat said. "And it's probably a human being you've talked to before."

Pat had to wait patiently for one of the voices answering those calls to be his daughter.

Following her graduation from the University of Maryland, Laura pursued a career with a corporate financial firm — one of the "high-rise firms" Pat's small business sought to counter.

She soon discovered that wasn't the right fit and joined Pat, just in time for the 2013 tax season.

"I threw out the red carpet," Pat recalled fondly. "It was something I was hoping for my entire life."

Laura found the warmer, more inviting work environment as motivation to expand her depth of knowledge in the field, to include obtaining her master's degree and eventually sitting for the CPA exam.

"The way that we approach tax and accounting, it comes from an educational perspective of working with the client to try and help them understand why certain outcomes occur and how we can manipulate things along the way to get the outcome that's best desired," Laura said. "I saw how what I was doing can help people."

As their flagship office in Catonsville has boomed over the years, expansion became an obvious next step. The decision to do so in Anne Arundel County came with a little lucky timing.

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Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services

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Laura, who lives in Severna Park with her husband and three young children, had been commuting to Catonsville daily when three houses on Veterans Highway were listed for sale as commercial property.

"We instantly saw the potential here," Laura said of the new office, which offers a strikingly similar vibe to what they have in Catonsville. "The next step is expanding our business into this area and building it up to the level that Catonsville is."

Growing the firm over three decades has required balancing the personalized approach and small-town

feel with keeping up with current trends, particularly in technology.

"I made the conscious decision years ago with the advent of (Laura's) employment that I have to surround myself with young people, or else this thing is going to go away," Pat said, jokingly referring to himself as the "old guy" of their team of 10.

This includes tracking developments in artificial intelligence that could benefit their industry, a charge taken up by Laura.

While she keeps a keen eye on advancements in the field, Laura is grateful for the ethical foundation to accounting laid by her father.

"You run into so many grey areas in the accounting world, so many people that want to push the limits on things," Laura said. "I always admired my dad's clear mind and the way he interprets the world and right and wrong."

For Pat, the opportunity to grow the business with his daughter is a lifelong dream come true.

"My heart just blows up. How proud could a father possibly be?" Pat said.

To learn more about Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services, go to www.chesapeaketax.net.

July Chamber Update

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Our Successful Women in Business mixer was held at **Mahe's Florist** in Pasadena. Not only does the business provide beautiful flowers for all occasions, but it also has a liquor license and can include spirits with the flower deliveries. The store also offers a shopping experience for jewelry, decorative plates and glassware, purses and more. Everyone left with a beautiful bouquet.

We held two Business "Bites" lunches in June. The first one showcased Susan Mahaffee, owner of **People Rise**, who spoke about the challenges facing employers today and human-resource strategies for business success.

The second lunch featured Melody Wukitch, owner of **Park Books and LitCo Lab**. She talked about building community and how her bookstore has brought people together through events.

Our Monthly Mingle was held at **Senor Chile Cantina Arnold**, where the staff serves delicious, authentic Mexican food.

Finally, our TGIF cookout was held at the chamber and sponsored by **Lovejoy Pets**. Lovejoy Pets is now in the Severna Park space located by **The Lovejoy Project**, which has moved to Millersville. The new business is a boutique pet supply and toy business.

Follow the chamber on Facebook, check out our website at www.gspacc.com, and join our email list to stay in the loop. Email me at ceo@gspacc.com. Remember to shop locally and support our small businesses!

Are We In A Market Bubble?

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plan, ask yourself:

- How far away from retirement are you?
- What is your risk tolerance?
- How can you diversify your investments?

The closer you are to retirement, the more conservative your investment strategy should likely become. Those who are further from retirement have additional time to possibly recover from losses before they need to tap into their accounts. However, if you're within five years of retiring, you may not have that luxury and could be forced to withdraw money from investments when they're bottomed out.

Risk tolerance is a vital consideration. A financial plan can look great on paper, but if you're the type who will "pan-

ic-sell" if you see the value of an investment dropping, it could unnecessarily risk your investment returns and delay, or even prevent, your retirement.

Finally, by diversifying your investments, you help shield your portfolio against losses from bad days. Proper diversification doesn't just mean owning stocks in different companies, as that only protects against individual asset losses, and not against the entire market suffering a downturn. By diversifying into many asset classes, such as stocks, bonds and real estate, your portfolio is better able to withstand a burst bubble in one market.

Investing is complicated, which is why it's a good idea to work with a financial professional who can help you determine the best plan for your unique situation.

Jason LaBarge, financial advisor and president of LaBarge Financial
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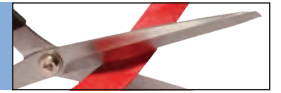
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RIBBON CUTTINGS



Restaurateurs Behind Señor Chile Open Market In Annapolis

At the end of May, the Salmoran family, owners of the popular local Señor Chile Mexican eateries, celebrated the grand opening of Señor's Market in Annapolis with a ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce. Located at 121 Hillsmere Drive, the market offers hot takeaway foods, a butcher shop, fresh seafood, a deli, produce, fresh baked breads and treats, international foods, local goods and more. For more information, look for Señor's Market on Facebook or visit the storefront.



Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services Celebrates New Millersville Office



Established over 30 years ago, Chesapeake Tax & Financial Services is operated by father-daughter duo Pat and Laura Svehla. Based in Catonsville, the firm recently opened a Millersville office and marked the occasion with an open house and a ribbon cutting hosted by the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce in late June. The full-service accounting firm offers services for business owners, executives and independent professionals. Learn more at www.chesapeaketax.net.

REPS Performance Opens Doors In Severna Park

Offering a higher standard for athlete training built on assessment, coaching and long-term development, REPS Performance recently opened at 139 Ritchie Highway, Suite C. REPS coaches train teams, athletes, adults, partners and other coaches. In mid-June, the REPS team held an all-day open house at the new 10,000-square-foot facility, and the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce welcomed the new business to Severna Park with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Learn about the REPS system at www.repsperformance.com.



Goddard School Celebrates Grand Opening Of New Millersville Facility



On June 5, the Goddard School of Millersville marked the opening of its new building located at 8537 Veterans Highway with a ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by the Greater Severna Park and Arnold Chamber of Commerce. The new 19,000-square-foot facility will enable the school to expand enrollment and serve more families. The private preschool offers child care for infants and toddlers through pre-K, with educational programming designed to ignite curiosity and fuel a love of learning. Discover more at www.goddardschool.com.

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