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PASADENA VOICE

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY

PASADENA, MD

FEBRUARY 19, 2020

A1

Health Concerns Dominate Cell Tower Meeting

By Zach Sparks

Milestone Communications plans to build a 135-foot monopole on the Chesapeake High School campus later this year. Verizon would be the first wireless carrier to use the proposed tower for improved network coverage. The service would cover a half-mile radius and an estimated 900 homes.

Milestone has built seven towers on Anne Arundel County Public Schools property since 2012. This would be the first in Pasadena.

If the opinions of Pasadena residents have any impact on the decision — which will ultimately be made by the Anne Arundel County Board of Education — the tower won't get built without facing fierce opposition.

About 40 people attended a community meeting at Our Lady of the Chesapeake on February 13 to learn about the proposal. All but two said they were against having a cell tower on the Chesapeake High School campus.

According to Milestone Communications, the tower would bring improved Internet connectiv-



>> Continued on A6

STATE CHAMPS



Photo courtesy of Connie Thompson Raynor

Chesapeake won the winter county championship at Broadneck High School on January 23 and captured the region title on February 5 before putting the finishing touch on the year with a state title on February 12. Read the full story on page A11.

Pasadena Church Takes Charge In Human Trafficking Awareness

By Judy Tacyn

Two years ago, Paula Gentile attended a Catholic Relief Services talk at Our Lady of the Chesapeake Catholic Church (OLC) on the topic of human trafficking. Before attending, Gentile said she didn't know anything about human trafficking, which includes both sex and labor exploitation, and certainly not about its prevalence in Anne Arundel County. The discussion was riveting; the causes and effects of human trafficking, shocking.

To spread awareness of human trafficking, and to provide parents and guardians information to help keep their children safe from entrapment in this insidious crime, OLC, in coordination with the Maryland Catholic Conference and Aglow International, will host, "Human Trafficking in Anne Arundel County — Protect Our Children," on Wednesday, April 22, at 7:00pm at OLC, located at 8325 Ventnor Road in Pasadena.

Gentile, the Respect Life ministry leader at OLC, said she was moved to highlight the issue with parishioners. Pope Francis has said of human trafficking, "Trafficking seriously damages

humanity as a whole, tearing apart the human family as well as the body of Christ."

Gentile said, "This quote by Pope Francis is a mandate not just to the Catholic church, but to everyone, that we must become aware of the evils of human trafficking."

In January, Human Trafficking Awareness Month, OLC members highlighted the issue over a five-week period in their bulletin. The next step, Gentile said, would be to do more.

In a 2017 Baltimore Magazine article by Ron Cassie entitled "Children of the Night," the author wrote, "sex trafficking is Maryland's dirty open secret." He further contended that the ongoing crisis is "hidden in plain sight."

The belief that people are trafficked only in poor countries, or in large and dangerous U.S. cities, is not supported by data provided by the Maryland agencies assigned to the issue. According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, Maryland consistently ranks in the top four states per capita in trafficking cases, trailing only Nevada, California and Ohio. Based on reports of suspected child sex trafficking data, the University of Maryland's School of Social Work ranks



Paula Gentile and Ed Thomas will lead a conversation about human trafficking on April 22 at Our Lady of the Chesapeake.

Anne Arundel County fifth in terms of reports statewide (2013-2018), as reported by the school's Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative.

In the Cassie article, Maryland State Police Sergeant Deborah Flory of the state's Child Recovery Unit said that Maryland's proximity to I-95,

I-70 and BWI airport, as well as the state's mix of wealth and poverty, makes people — primarily young women — especially vulnerable to traffickers.

As recently as January 31, Anne Arundel County police arrested a man in Linthicum on sex trafficking charges,

and in December 2019, news outlets reported that more than 20 people had been arrested throughout 2019 in Anne Arundel County on trafficking charges. At least one person listed Pasadena as a permanent address. A Severna Park man was arrested in Montgomery County on trafficking charges last May.

Like Gentile, Ed Thomas is also a Pasadena resident who was introduced to human trafficking at a conference held several years ago. "I went to a conference as a guest of my wife. I didn't know what human trafficking was, but it was a free workshop, so I sat in," said Thomas, who is now the Aglow International mid-Atlantic region's anti-human trafficking coordinator.

"The public is unaware that human trafficking, sex and labor exploitation occurs in their communities and that there are steps they can take to prevent and stop trafficking," said Thomas.

Thomas added that most of the trafficked children are not undocumented immi-

grants, nor are they addicted to drugs or alcohol. They come from wealthy families and poor families. They do not need to be runaways to be trafficked, nor do they need to be living on their own.

"Trafficking is the second most profitable crime in the United States," said Thomas. "Unlike drugs, which need to be remanufactured, humans can be exploited over and over again in a single day. Traffickers can make hundreds of thousands of dollars by reselling the same product."

In addition to Thomas, the event will feature Anne Zmuda Wallerstedt, esquire, the associate director of social and economic justice at the Maryland Catholic Conference. Wallerstedt is the co-chair of the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force Legislative Committee, of which Thomas is also a member. Representatives of the Anne Arundel County Police Department and Maryland state government will be in attendance.

It's Time To Vote For The Best Of Pasadena

The Voice wants to know which businesses, restaurants, services and venues in Pasadena have become your favorites over the past year. Votes can be cast online at www.pasadenavoice.com/bestofpasadena.

Nominees must be located within the Pasadena Voice distribution area zip codes — 21122 (Pasadena), 21056 (Gibson Island) and 21226 (Curtis Bay). Deadline for entry is Friday, April 3. Winners will be announced online.

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Remember When? Guess This Landmark

Look around Pasadena and you might not notice any monumental changes, but longtime residents may remember a different way of life.

In the 1940s and 1950s, James Brown sang for families who brought their children to ride the Ferris wheel at Beachwood Park. From 1954 to 1978, Pasadena had a drive-in movie theater, and a cinema occupied Jumpers Hole Road from 1974 to 2005. Over the years, the peninsula grew, reaching a total of 12 public schools, four fire companies, and many local businesses and civic groups that are entrenched in the community.

Join us in a walk down memory lane. Even if you weren't born during the years when some of these photos were snapped,

chances are that you can still spot these local landmarks.

This month's photos were taken at one site (but two venues) where rock bands performed. Sleeveless T-shirts and frizzy hair were all the rage. Pictured here are Kix lead singer Steve Whiteman and Madam X guitarist Maxine Petrucci.



Photos courtesy of Steven C. Di Pietro

Where were these photos taken? See page A2 for the answer.

Margueritte Mills
Volunteer Of
The Month

Northeast PTSA President Is
Dedicated To Student Experience



Michele Williams was presented the Margueritte Mills Volunteer of the Month award for her work with the Northeast High School PTSA.

By Haley Weisgerber

Every parent wants his or her child to have the best high school experience, but for Northeast High School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) president Michele Williams, every student's experience is a top priority.

Williams, a mother of three who works part-time with the Maryland State Highway Administration, has also been involved with the PTSA programs at Solley Elementary School and George Fox Middle School. "I went part-time after I had my third kid, and what else was I going to do?" said Williams, who has been a member of the Northeast PTSA for four years. "You have to be involved with your kids and your community. You should know what's happening in your community."

The biggest PTSA event is the famed after-prom party. In an effort to keep students from getting into

trouble after prom, the PTSA works throughout the year to plan an event that provides games, food and prizes to seniors.

"I've already reserved a game truck, a photo booth, we get Chick-fil-A, we get pizza from a parent, Glory Days donated food, Bella Napoli asked to donate food," said Williams. "The kids have wanted doughnuts the last couple years. I'm out there asking for donations right now."

All of the money to support the after-prom party comes from community and parent donations, sponsors and fundraising. The April lottery ticket sale earns \$3,800 annually.

"We do some restaurant nights," said Williams. "Most of our money comes from the \$5 lottery tickets."

The 328 graduating seniors are all invited to the after-prom party, regardless of whether or not they attend prom. The PTSA purchases gift

cards, refrigerators, televisions and laptops to give away to seniors.

The PTSA also works on senior send-offs, senior walks at local elementary schools, staff and faculty appreciation luncheons and more.

For Williams, working with the PTSA is about keeping students safe and happy.

"You do get students who are unhappy, but I focus on the students who have a good time," said Williams. "I focus on the kids who are having a good time and staying off the streets and not drinking."

Williams credits her fellow board members and friends for making all of the PTSA events so successful.

"I don't do all this alone and there is a team, and because I was at the other school, I have contacts with parents that aren't necessarily on the PTSA that I can reach out to," said Williams. "It's my village of other moms that step out and help."

Williams' youngest son is currently a junior at Northeast, so she has one year left with the PTSA.

"I would hope that we leave it in good hands," said Williams. "We try to leave it better than we received it."

Remember
When

The photos were taken at The Sandbar and The Network. The venue was also known as A.L. Gators, Daytona's, and Act 3 at various times.

Bunnie Clark Warms Hearts
With Handmade Afghans



(L-R) Jennie Banner, PearTree House Assisted Living manager; Rotarian Bunnie Clark; Heather Hall, resident care manager; and resident Jeanne Beere (seated) all reflected on the afghan donation.

By Judy Tacyn

More than three decades ago, Bunnie Clark's sister-in-law shared an important parenting tip: crocheting is a great way to relax. Then a mother to teenagers, Clark jumped at the advice, picked up the hobby and began crocheting things for her family.

Over the years, she's made afghans, Christmas stockings, hats, scarves, baby afghans and even sweaters for her beloved Pomeranian pets. Her family has grown to include 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, all of whom have multiple afghans.

Six years ago, Clark, a longtime Lake Shore-Severna Park Rotary Club member, was visiting an elderly Rotarian and decided to take her an afghan. After seeing her friend's reaction to the gift, Clark felt she could, and should, live the Rotarian motto, "Service Above Self," by sharing her love of crocheting with others.

On January 27, Clark packed up several afghans and lap blankets and delivered them to PearTree House Assisted Living on Middlebury Road in Pasadena. Clark's creations were so numerous that every resident at

the facility, and even those at PearTree's second location on Shadow Oak Lane, received a special handmade gift.

"Bunnie showed up on a cold winter's day to spread warmth and love to our residents," said Jennie Banner, assisted living manager at PearTree. "We were, of course, surprised and very thankful for the afghans and especially for her kindness."

For the residents, many of whom used to crochet themselves, handmade afghans are a touch of home.

"I put a lot of time and love into making something that I know others will use and keep close to themselves," said Clark. "Crocheting brings me great joy."

Banner said, "Bunnie does such quality work. The patterns and colors are just beautiful."

Today, Clark's daughter crochets with her. Clark is already working on afghans and lap blankets for another assisted living facility in Severna Park. With the weather still crisp outside, Clark stays warm inside with her hook and yarn close by.

"I never feel guilty watching television because I am crocheting!" said Clark. "I'm being productive!"



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DOUGLAS REALTY

A Year In Review

If you ask anyone who has experience with Douglas Realty to describe the atmosphere, the first word that usually comes to mind is "family". Twenty years ago, Doug Smith had a vision to build a business in which he could help others. He saw how difficult, yet momentous, the home buying and selling processes could be and discovered his passion. Doug knew that if he could build a brokerage that offered the industry's best support and technology, agents would not only find their clients houses, but they'd find their home in the company as well.

In 2008, Pasadena officially became home to Douglas Realty, LLC. It was very much a family-run business: the staff consisted of immediate family members only. Douglas Realty quickly grew to what is now a cohesive team of twelve employees in addition to those within its two sister companies. 2019 alone saw a doubling in staff size, helping to serve over 400 agents and countless members of the community with the same enthusiasm and compassion that Doug envisioned. They had the honor of being voted one of Baltimore's 2019 Best Places to Work, as well as being ranked in INC. Magazine as one of the fastest growing, privately-owned companies for the fourth year in a row.

With its home base in Pasadena thriving, Douglas Realty opened two new offices in Annapolis and Canton, upgraded the established Rockville office, and saw the total number of Maryland locations grow to six. Douglas Realty also formed an exclusive partnership with DC's premier co-working space, MakeOffices, to offer spaces in Washington, D.C., Virginia, and Bethesda. However, Doug has proven to be a dreamer and doesn't think the expansion will stop there. While the options for others are endless, Doug identified a true need for a location in the Towson/Lutherville area and set the wheels in motion. With an office space acquired and the build out underway, Douglas Realty has sched-

uled the Grand Opening for its newest office to take place in April 2020.

When Doug developed his business model for the brokerage, he appreciated the importance of education. He understood that the real estate profession as a whole would benefit greatly if agents had access to constant training and methods to stay current in their quickly evolving industry. He was dedicated to offering his time and experience to



Doug Smith, Broker, with "Traffic Jam Jimmy" at Breakfast With Santa.

training, but also recognized the need for offering classes from experts and professionals in and around the industry. 2019 saw that dream coming to fruition in an incredible way with Douglas Realty hosting numerous classes free of charge, with a majority open to all licensed real estate agents, regardless of their brokerage affiliation. One of the major highlights was the REALTOR® Success Summit Series - an array of six seminars spread out over the span of three months. The presenters and topics covered were varied to give agents a well-rounded foundation: a panel of top-producing agents who offered key insights leading to their successes, a nationally-recognized business coach who gave sales and communication advice to help motivate agents, a panel of agents from different brokerages who helped attendees get more comfortable in front of the camera, a tax expert, Dave Thurston of Crown Title on "red flags

of title", and Corporal Jim Shiloh of the Anne Arundel County Police Department giving his final presentation on safety and situational awareness before his retirement.

2019 saw the realization of Doug's dream of having a one-stop shop for both agents and consumers when it comes to their real estate needs. Brian Kocur, the Executive VP of Coastline Mortgage, started the year off right and earned a spot in the top 1% of

mortgage brokers nationwide according to UWM, for providing his clients with some of the fastest closing turnaround times in the industry. In addition, Coastline Mortgage experienced unprecedented growth with the number of loan officers more than doubling. This created a



Staff of Douglas Realty, Coastline Mortgage, & Admiral Title with some of the collected toy drive donations.

need for both an additional processor and new operations manager. Keeping the accolades coming, Coastline earned the honor of being voted The Best Mortgage Company in the Pasadena Voice's "Best Of" for 2019. Holding true to

Doug's high standards for customer service, Coastline Mortgage earned the only 5-star rating for a Mortgage Brokerage in the area.

With Coastline Mortgage established and growing, Doug set his sights on the last piece of the one-stop shop puzzle: an in-house title company. To successfully launch this endeavor, Doug knew he had to find a business partner who would provide the necessary expertise as well as share his values. He found his partner in Dave Thurston of Crown Title, an attorney with over 26 years of experience in the business. With Dave's overarching knowledge of various property and asset types combined with Doug's original vision, Douglas Realty's newest sister company was created. Admiral Title officially opened for business in early 2019. Even though the company was open less than a year, it was able to close nearly 300 transactions. Agents now have the option to connect clients with allied mortgage and title professionals to better have their clients' needs met.

Not only does Douglas Realty help those who walk through its doors; the company also strives to give back to the community as much as possible. Every year, the staff raises money to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association, a cause that is very near and dear to the Smith family's heart. In

2019, through the efforts of the staff, agents, and members of the community, Douglas Realty was able to donate over \$25,000 to the MDA. In addition, they were able to send a child with muscular skeletal impairments

to a specially equipped summer camp, which is able to adapt activities to each child's specific needs to provide them with a wonderful summer camp experience. Douglas Realty also became a Mission Drive Sponsor for the MDA's Black & Blue Ball, an event dedicated to individuals and families who are fighting muscular dystrophy and ALS, in hopes of finding a way to help them live longer and grow stronger.

Not only did Douglas Realty get out into the community to try and give back, the staff also opened up their doors to welcome community members into their offices. For Halloween, they coordinated with all of the businesses in the Pine Grove Shopping Center to provide another safe option for trick or treaters and their families. The staff handed out candy to dozens of children who visited the office in



Staff Halloween Contest

their costumes and were excited to see all the staff members dressed in theirs.

As the leaves changed and fall appeared, Douglas Realty focused its efforts on collecting canned goods to support Harvest for the Hungry. Agents went door to door, getting out into the communities they work with, and left paper bags to be filled with canned goods. Doug also took the opportunity for some workplace fun and sponsored a Halloween Costume contest for his employees, where each vote on social media meant a \$1 donation for this cause. Thanks to the generosity of those neighborhoods and the spirit that Doug Smith fosters, Douglas Realty collected over 10,000 pounds of food which helped to fill the Anne Arundel County Food Bank, providing

meals for those in need throughout the year.

The first weekend in December also brought Douglas Realty's second annual Breakfast with Santa. The entire event was offered to members of the community, through the help of Traffic Jam Jimmy from Fox45 News as Santa, and Deep Treble from Northeast High School singing Christmas carols, with only an encouragement of a toy donation to benefit the Kamryn Lambert Foundation. This free event invited community families to meet and take pictures with Santa, to enjoy food and beverages, and to make a variety of holiday-themed crafts which they could then take home to enjoy. By the end of the event, not only had Douglas Realty spread holiday cheer to the community, it also collected an exceptional number of toy donations for the Kamryn Lambert Foundation and the children it benefits.

Doug has always asked "how can I help?" and it is immediately apparent to anyone who has met him that he lives and breathes this motto. Whether it is fostering a family environment for his employees and agents, enforcing his open-door policy, or contributing to the community he was raised in, Doug is always looking for ways to build up those around him. He embodies the golden rule, treating each person who walks through Douglas Realty's door with kindness and respect and inspiring others to do so as well. This focus on helping anyone and everyone he meets is contagious - after working with any one of Douglas Realty's agents or sister companies, you'll find yourself feeling the same.



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MILITARY SPOTLIGHT

Paul Baumgardner Proudly Reflects On WWII Service

Raised in West Virginia, Paul Baumgardner was drafted into the Navy as an 18-year-old during World War II. His first assignment was on the USS Bunker Hill CV-17, an aircraft carrier, which assisted in the battles of both Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

The USS Bunker Hill departed from Bremerton, Washington, in January 1945, and on May 11, 1945, with the ship off the coast of Okinawa, the crew was attacked by two Japanese kamikaze planes. Baumgardner was in the gunpowder room at the time, under the guns, port side. His job on the ship was to pass up the gunpowder when under attack, but he never got the chance. They did not see the attack coming. The first kamikaze pilot hit the ship but then slid into the ocean. Thirty seconds later, the second kamikaze dropped a bomb and the plane hit the flight deck near the No. 3 elevator.

Amazingly, Baumgardner didn't have a scratch on him. Some started yelling that he needed to leave the gunpowder room. He was the last one out, and walked the catwalk, taking in the damage. But many men weren't so lucky. Those near the fires had no choice but to jump ship. One of the guys Baumgardner drafted with — Hugh Harris, a gunner — jumped and survived. He was told there were



has no idea where it is today.

Several ships, including the USS Wilkes Barre, helped extinguish the fires. An admiral was aboard the Bunker Hill, but he transferred to another ship the next day.

The ship, under its own power, made it to Ulithi, and eventually back to the Bremerton shipyard for repairs. The war ended before the ship was redeployed. There

about 20 men trapped inside the galley; they never made it out.

The attack resulted in more than 600 casualties, both wounded and dead. Some went missing and were never found. One of Baumgardner's jobs was to tie weights to the feet of the dead and give them a burial at sea.

One kamikaze pilot, Kiyoshi Ogawa, either fell out of his plane or jumped but was found dead on the deck. Men were taking souvenirs from his body; Baumgardner took a piece of his head scarf, but

was USS Bunker Hill reunions, but Baumgardner never went.

After the war, he became a bricklayer, enjoyed fishing and hunting, and grew tomatoes. "When it comes to that, you need good soil and you have to take care of them," he said.

Baumgardner has two sons and a daughter. A third son passed away, as did Baumgardner's wife of 69 years, Ellen.

Today, the 93-year-old veteran lives at PearTree House Assisted Living in Pasadena.

Martha Barr Turns 100



Longtime Pasadena resident Martha Barr (middle, bottom row) celebrated her 100th birthday on January 29 at her current home at Severna Park Center, a Genesis HealthCare facility.

Notes From Stoney Beach

FROM THE COMMUNITY

The community of Stoney Beach is forever grateful for the efforts of the Anne Arundel County Police Department, SWAT, crisis response team, Coast Guard, Department of Natural Resources, Anne Arundel County Fire Department and all those who assisted in protecting us during the incident that occurred in our neighborhood on February 5 and 6. Their professionalism, dedication and concern for the community knows no bounds. Thank you for all of your hard work and continued support. We appreciate you!

Stoney Beach residents

like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their assistance during the February 6 search for a suspect who shot two detectives.

- **Mission BBQ** - Glen Burnie
 - **Adam's Taphouse and Grille** - Edgewater
 - **Champs Pizza** - Pasadena
 - **McDonald's** - Riviera Beach
 - **Texas Roadhouse** - Pasadena
 - **Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Company** - Pasadena
 - **Douglas Realty** - Pasadena
 - **The 98 Rock morning show** with Justin, Scott and Spiegel
 - **Costco** - Arundel Mills
- Numerous citizens provided shelter, heat, food, water and coffee.

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Pasadena's Best Love Stories

Congratulations to the two winners of the Best Love Story contest: David Liddle and Geraldine Weisgerber.

LIFE WITH JULIA

By David Liddle

It was 1962 and I was on a Baltic cruise of youth group leaders. The very non-luxury ancient ship the M.S. Dunera was to be our home for 10 days, but to a 20-year-old British boy on his first adventure, it was a fine vessel.

My first view of Julia was on our second day. She was dancing on deck, her mouth formed an "O," her red hair piled on top of her head and tumbling untidily down all around her beautiful face and shoulders. As we romantics say, she was "the girl of my dreams" and obviously out of my league.

She was having a ball, dancing up a storm. I couldn't dance. I would have to learn to dance *today*.

The next day we were in Leningrad at the Kirov ballet. And seated in front of me was Julia! I leaned forward and said, "Excuse me, can you

tell me where the program seller is?" The pickup line of the century! As she said later, "Like you'd be able to read it."

The next day I was sitting on the deck talking to Julia in the hot sun. At 2:00, the bar on the deck opened for an hour to sell beer and I said to Julia, "Wow it is really hot, I'd love to have a cold beer but I'm not going to stand in line for half an hour when I could be talking to you." She got up, walked to the front of the line and asked the first guy in line to buy her a beer. He must have thought his luck had changed, with the most beautiful girl on the ship asking him to buy her a beer. She thanked him and brought me the beer.

I remember thinking, "This is the girl for me. Free beer and I don't even have to get up."

Julia had been traveling all over Europe with her parents since she was 4 years old. She showed me around Oslo, Stockholm, and four days later, Copenhagen, where I asked her, in front of "The Little Mermaid," to marry me. Being a well-brought-up



David and Julia Liddle

young lady, she of course said "no" that time.

Meanwhile, even before I had asked her to marry me, I had sent a postcard to my parents in England informing them that, "I have met the girl I am going to marry." Goodness knows what they thought when they got that postcard!

When I met Julia's mother for the time, Julia introduced me, saying, "Mummy, this is David." Her mother said, "Not another David." Julia had a lot of boyfriends.

When I asked her again, two month later, to marry me, she said, "Yes. I thought you were never going to ask me again. A well-brought-up young lady never says yes the first time, especially after only four days." She then



Geraldine and Henry Weisgerber

admitted that she had been tempted to say yes the first time I had asked her.

We were happily married for 55 years before Julia died last year. We spent four years fighting her cancer. But we spent 55 years indulging our hobby of traveling. We visited 90 countries, taking our daughter Sarah with us to many of the places we visited and lived in, and having lots of adventures and near escapes in exotic places.

But those are stories for another time.

OUR LOVE STORY

By Geraldine Weisgerber

He was 22, so handsome in his fuchsia bathing suit and dark suntan. I was 14, watching him from the

large screened-in porch at my grandmother's shore. He was staying at the house next door for the weekend. Something inside of me was saying, "One day is going to mean something to you."

The only thing I knew about him was his name, Henry. I watched as he sat under a tree and talked with the man next door. They talked of horses. "Thomas Pepper," "Sweet Naomi," etc. It was obvious that they visited the track often. Just to get a reaction, I put the record "Dance With Me Henry" on our small, red record player. He completely ignored that, probably thinking it was one of the brats next door.

Time passed. I was 18. My sister, her friend and I were going on a triple date. When I found out that one of the guys was Henry, I splurged and bought a classy black and white dress and matching shoes. We were going out Saturday night and meeting at

our house. When my sister's friend arrived, I was horrified. She was wearing a dress almost identical to mine, only hers fit tighter. That night, Henry took her home. Heartbroken, I threw my shoes across the room, thinking, "Well if that's the girl he wants, he can have her."

Time passed and the company I worked for was having a midnight cruise. OK, one last try. Nervously, I called Henry's house. His mother answered. I asked if I could speak to Henry. She called him and when he said "hello," I asked if he would be interested in going on the cruise with me. He said, "I think you've got the wrong Henry." Dear God, it was his father and I had just asked him for a date. How was I to know that he was a junior? When Henry Jr. answered, he said he would like to go.

The best night ever. Three dates later — our first kiss. One year later we were married and had 60 wonderful years together. Two years ago, he was called to heaven. I miss him very much, but I enjoyed remembering.

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Briefs

Blood Drive At St. Jane Frances

St. Jane Frances Church is having a blood drive on Sunday, February 23, from 8:00am to 1:30pm. The church hall is located at 8513 St. Jane Drive in Pasadena. Those who give blood will get breakfast (pancakes/sausage) or lunch (barbecue compliments of Beefalo Bob's). Contact Maureen (410-980-2926) to make an appointment or just walk in. The Red Cross is in critical shortage of blood.

All-You-Can-Eat Feast At Galilee

Galilee Lutheran Church will have its Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 25 from 4:30pm to 7:00pm. Join the church for all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage and dessert. Eat-in and takeout options are available.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$3 for children 10 and under, or \$20 for two adults and two or more children. Proceeds benefit North County Emergency Outreach Network (NCEON) in Glen Burnie and Galilee's ministry, which serves Pasadena and beyond. Galilee Lutheran Church is located at 4652 Mountain Road. For more information, call 410-255-8236.

Green Haven Monthly Meeting Set For Feb. 25

The Green Haven Improvement Association invites the community to

its monthly meeting on February 25 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the George Fox Middle School cafeteria. The guest speaker is Tina Simmons, cemetery committee chair for the Anne Arundel Genealogical Society. During the meeting, residents will also discuss the neighborhood watch program.

Bingo To Benefit Firefighters

Come to Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company on March 1 for a designer purse and cash bingo from 2:00pm-5:00pm. Doors open at noon. The cost is \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the Ladies Auxiliary to the Anne Arundel County Volunteer Firefighters Association. For more details, contact Jerry Burton (410-647-2389) or Pat Sohn (410-437-6013 or psohn12@comcast.net).

PBA Hoedown At Kurtz's Beach

Ready for a good ole-fashioned hoedown? The Pasadena Business Association is again raising money to provide high school seniors with scholarships, and this year's fundraiser is set for Saturday, March 7, from 7:00pm-11:00pm at Kurtz's Beach. Attendees can look forward to music by DJ Marcus, a silent auction, and a menu that includes a country buffet and oyster bar, draft beer, wine, soda, coffee and tea. Tickets are \$40 each if purchased by February 28 and \$50 after that date. For tickets, to donate a silent auction item or to volunteer, contact Jerry

Nicklow (jerry@huffinsurance.com) or Heather Frees (hffreesrealtor@gmail.com). Tickets are also online at www.pbafundraiser.com.

Northeast Prom Dress Drive

Are you interested in donating a dress to a student who may not be able to afford a dress? Northeast High School is hosting the Princess Project Prom Dress Drive. To help, donate any lightly used prom, formal, or bridesmaid dress. Accessories such as purses, shoes and jewelry are also in need. The donations can be dropped off at Northeast (1121 Duvall Highway) from 8:00am-3:00pm Monday through Friday or at Dancer's Dreams (8679 Fort Smallwood Road) 5:00pm-9:00pm Monday through Friday, or 9:00am-noon on Saturday. For more information, contact Tammy Littleton at tlittleton@aacps.org or Ellie Hermann at nhsprincessproject@gmail.com.

Hancock's Volunteers

Anne Arundel County residents are invited to join the ranks of the dedicated volunteers who support Historic Hancock's Resolution Farm and Friends of Hancock's Resolution (FOHR). FOHR's mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the unique aspects of Hancock's Resolution for historical and educational purposes. For more information about Hancock's Resolution, contact FOHR secretary Dianne Feeney at 410-255-5913 or FOHR vice president Nancy Allred at 410-437-8776.

Health Concerns Dominate Tower Meeting

» Continued from A1
ity speed and voice connectivity. The tower would be located approximately 485 feet from Chesapeake High School, 1,300 feet from Chesapeake Bay Middle School and 1,980 feet from Bodkin Elementary School. Matt Penning, project manager for Milestone Communications, explained that Milestone was obligated to look at commercial properties first. No commercial properties near Chesapeake High School met the setback requirements. The tower must be 250 feet from any road.

The 132-acre space at Chesapeake High School is 530 feet from Mountain Road and 725 feet from the nearest residence.

"Verizon scrubs the area, and per the zoning, we have to look at commercial options first," Penning said. "It is much easier for Verizon to collocate on an existing tower or build on a commercial property."

Building on commercial property is cheaper and usually removes the need for a community meeting, he said.

"They were looking to fix this coverage gap in and around Chesapeake High School," he added. "If Verizon is coming, that means other carriers ... are also looking to offload their capacity."

Under a 2012 agreement between Milestone and Anne Arundel County Public Schools, AACPS receives 40% of all revenue made on the towers. AACPS also gets \$25,000 after the tower is built and \$5,000 for each carrier added to the tower.

That didn't comfort the crowd. One audience member submitted a card that

said, "This amateur amount of money is not enough to cover even one cancer case."

Penning said Milestone Communications contracts an independent third-party consultant to conduct radiofrequency emission evaluations that go beyond safety regulations imposed by the Federal Communications Commission.

"We're routinely 100 to 1,000 times below the safety limits," Penning said. Penning said FCC standards are looked at "on an almost annual basis." But, as some parents noted, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 serves as the last set of guidelines introduced by the FCC.

Do cell towers increase cancer risk? Research is inconclusive. The American Cancer Society has said there is no evidence showing that cell towers increase the risk of cancer. The National Toxicology Program had a different conclusion after it spent \$30 million over 10 years to conduct studies. In 2018, NTP announced its findings: exposure to high levels of radiofrequency radiation, like that used with 2G and 3G cellphones, is associated with tumors in male rats.

Penning said he would have to "agree to disagree" with audience members. "It's coming from the antennas, not beaming down onto the ground or base," he said. "We don't see anything to believe this causes harm."

Dan Ogle, president of the Cedarwood Cove Community Association, said 328 kids from his community attend one of the three schools near the proposed site.

"Our community wants

to know why we're even subjecting kids to this," Ogle said. "There are areas of Downs Park not even being used."

According to Greg Stewart, AACPS' senior manager for planning, that option was not considered because parks are restricted from commercial uses due to Program Open Space.

The cell tower project was reviewed by the Anne Arundel County Board of Education on January 8. Board members will review a summary of the February 13 meeting in Pasadena, and discuss any changes to the proposal. Without changes, Milestone will apply for site plan and permit approvals, and coordinate leases through the school board and AACPS staff. Once the building permit and leases are secured, construction will be scheduled and completed.

Only one Milestone tower plan on AACPS property has withdrawn: Piney Orchard Elementary. A Shady Side proposal is on hold.

To the crowd's chagrin, Stewart revealed that a school board member — later revealed as Terry Gilleland — received a campaign contribution from Milestone.

Comments and questions can be sent to Matt Penning, project manager for Milestone Communications, at matt@milestonecorp.com or 703-865-4697. To learn more, visit www.chesapeakehsvireless.com.

As for those who have children in Chesapeake High, Chesapeake Bay Middle or Bodkin Elementary schools, their minds are set.

"No clear evidence of harm does not prove safety," said Rena Vasquez, a mother of three.



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Pasadena-Inspired Crossword — By Tana Soffa

ACROSS

- 1. Granny Smith and Golden Delicious
- 7. Lista's _____; famous for their funny signs
- 12. Recently closed Pasadena grocery store
- 13. Little Orphan _____
- 14. "Would you like that well done, medium, _____?" Question that might be asked at Texas Roadhouse (2 words)
- 15. Walked back and forth nervously
- 16. Belonging to that woman
- 17. Card game involving matching colors and numbers
- 18. Evaluate, as the county does for property taxes
- 21. Paul McCartney and Alec Guinness, among others in England
- 23. Was obligated (2 words)
- 25. Two ____ Fish and Steak House
- 26. The one in Baltimore is named after Royal Farms

- 27. Kick in a football game (Former Northeast player Josh Krcik returned an 85-yard one in the 2018 Dena Bowl)
- 29. Thinly scattered
- 34. Bottle you might pick up at 177 Liquors
- 35. A word that a baby doll might cry
- 36. _____ Armour Factory Store on Ft. Smallwood Rd.
- 39. Calls, or devices for calling
- 41. "_____ kidding!" I don't believe it!
- 42. Bracelet usually worn in multiples
- 43. Rising sharply, as a climb
- 44. Pasadena grocery store

DOWN

- 1. Hawaiian greeting or send-off
- 2. Cuts off the skin of fruits
- 3. Sounds of happy cats at Pasadena Animal Hospital
- 4. Rent
- 5. To do this is human, so they say
- 6. Direction opposite NNW
- 7. An opening
- 8. Genetic messenger (abbrev)
- 9. Rack up, as charges
- 10. Claims on property
- 11. _____ Pizza, where they never cut corners
- 19. A top
- 20. What you might do at Arundel Federal
- 21. Band used to fasten something
- 22. Software on some 39 across
- 24. TV rooms
- 25. Tried for public office
- 27. _____ Noir; bottle you might pick up at Plaza Liquors
- 28. Excessive, as force
- 30. In the middle of

- 31. Stove
- 32. Odor
- 33. Makes less difficult
- 34. Five _____ burgers
- 37. Before, in a poem
- 38. One bicep curl at the YMCA
- 39. Sandi Parrish is executive director of this org. that supports local commerce
- 40. Chewbacca is his co-pilot

Find the answers at www.pasadenavoice.com

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POLITICS & OPINION

Maryland Is In A Violent Crime Crisis

Nic Kipke
Delegate
District 31B



Our community recently experienced a shocking incident when two Anne Arundel police detectives were shot by a criminal they were investigating for a recent murder. Detectives Scott Ballard and Ian Preece are both recovering from their injuries, and our entire community is so grateful to them for ensuring that this violent criminal is no longer on the streets.

Maryland is in the midst of a violent crime crisis. While Baltimore City is, in many ways, ground zero for this crisis, it impacts all parts of our state. With all that has transpired in Pasadena over the last few weeks, our community certainly is not immune.

With my colleagues in the House minority caucus, I am moving forward with a multifaceted and serious plan to combat violent crime in our communities and in our state as a whole.

The plan is divided into two parts; the first focuses on getting violent criminals who commit heinous acts out of our communities. These bills include:

House Bill 1411 - Protecting Marylanders from Violent Crime Act of 2020 would require state and local corrections agencies to cooperate with ICE detainees for those convicted of violent crimes, terrorism, and participating in criminal street gangs.

HB 1325 - Stopping Dangerous and Violent Offenders Act of 2020 will require violent criminals to serve at least 90% of their sentence before they are eligible for parole, instead of the required 50% that is current law.

HB 914 - Gun Theft Felony Act of 2012 makes the crime of stealing a gun a felony.

The second part of our plan to combat the crisis of violent crime focuses on the judicial branch; specifically on transparency in sentencing and plea deals, shining light on a branch of government that often operates outside the view of its citizens. Those bills include:

HB 1289 - Victim Empowerment in Plea Deals Act of 2020 provides an

opportunity for victims to certify that they have been notified of the plea agreement and, should they choose, gives them an opportunity to have their opinion and feedback on the plea agreement entered into the court record.

HB 1376 - Cameras in the Courtroom Act of 2020 will, upon request, allow media outlets to film the sentencing portion of a criminal trial. The judge must consider the privacy and safety of jurors and victims when deciding to grant the request. Victims have the right to opt out of being filmed and also have the right to ask the judge not to allow the filming at all.

HB 1485 - Truth in Plea Deals Act of 2020 will shed light on which state prosecutors are bad actors in allowing for short sentences of violent crimes.

We are a little over one-third of the way through the 90-day legislative session and, so far, there does not seem to be a strong desire on the part of the majority party to pass legislation that will have a meaningful impact on crime in this state. Instead, members of the majority party have already moved forward to pass House Bill 4, a bill that targets lawful gun owners and will make life harder for hunters and sportsmen and women instead of focusing on illegal guns and those who use them to commit violent crimes. Crime data shows that the vast majority of homicides in our state are committed with handguns, not long guns. In fact, more people were murdered by assailants simply using their hands, fists and feet than were murdered using a shotgun or rifle. Every loss of life is tragic, but if you are truly looking to keep communities safe on a large scale, you have to focus on the people who commit horrendous violent crimes and the illegal weapons they use. Further restricting the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens does little to keep our communities safer.

I am hopeful that by the time the 2020 legislative session ends, the Maryland General Assembly will come together in a bipartisan way and move forward with legislation that will truly keep our children, our families, and our communities safe; it is a fundamental duty of government.

Establishing Hunting And Fishing Rights

Bryan Simonaire
Senator
District 31



Some of the most memorable moments with my dad were during our annual fishing trips on the Magothy River. As a child, I can remember looking forward to it all week long as I was tasked to create the packed dinner menu with no limitations. I would request my favorite foods and snacks. Then there was the actual fishing for primarily white perch and croakers. My dad would make it fun by creating a competition that awarded a quarter for the first fish caught, another quarter for the most, the biggest and so on.

Back when I was a kid, a quarter meant something! As a Marylander, I know our state has a rich heritage of hunting and fishing. Even our state seal has a picture of a fisherman and farmer on it.

These days, many across the nation are concerned about groups trying to chip away at these time-honored activities.

We have seen serious direct and indirect threats to hunting and fishing throughout America. We even had a more humorous back-and-forth attempt to stop catching and eating crabs here in Maryland. An anti-hunting and anti-fishing organization purchased a billboard location in Baltimore to demand that Marylanders stop looking at crabs as meat, and instead look at them as individuals, and become vegan. Afterward, opposing advertisements promoted steamed crabs in a similar-style billboard.

We must realize that simply allowing something is completely different than acknowledging someone has the right to do something.

Therefore, I have submitted legislation to establish that all Marylanders have the right to hunt and fish.

For example, independent of where you stand on the issue of fracking in Maryland, it was allowed, until it was banned. Fracking was not a right but an allowance until it wasn't.

Millions across America have the right to hunt and fish, but Marylanders do not.

Jim Fredericks
Sheriff
Anne Arundel County
Sheriff's Office



"You're just a sheriff's deputy" is a phrase often heard by Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office deputies, and often used by people who either do not pay attention to, or do not understand, the structure of our county law enforcement. In fact, your sheriff's office is steeped with history and tradition as the second-oldest law enforcement agency in Maryland, one of the oldest in the country, and the first law enforcement agency in our wonderful county. During 2020, we will celebrate 370 years of existence as a sheriff's office.

What might surprise some people is that a deputy in the sheriff's office has the same certification as a county police officer, but with additional constitutional authority. Deputies can make

traffic stops, write reports and respond to crimes like any other sworn law enforcement officer; however, deputies are also enforcers of the courts.

The office of the sheriff is responsible for service of criminal warrants and summons, child support enforcement, domestic violence orders, protective orders, peace orders, notices for late rent, and evictions. There are approximately 32 deputies on the street each weekday, but that is just part of the agency. The office is also empowered to protect the circuit court, where the county's worst offenders are prosecuted. Deputies protect the hundreds of thousands of citizens who enter the building annually, as well as employees of the Clerk of the Court, State's Attorney Office, Orphan's Court, register of wills, and county judges and magistrates. In the lower level of the courthouse is a detention facility run by the sheriff's office, where deputies also

ensure the safe transport and temporary housing of about 5,000 prisoners and detainees annually.

Yes, deputies are fully sworn law enforcement officers with a great deal of authority but with little public notoriety. However, the lack of notoriety should not diminish the critical community need for this constitutional office. Recognition of the office, though, begins at the elected official level.

As a retired county police officer with enormous respect for our county workforce, I certainly do not begrudge great agencies like our police, fire, and correctional departments their much needed increases in personnel. Nearly 100 new officers and firefighters, and almost 50 new correctional officers, were added in the last year. In the same year, the sheriff's office added only two positions. Sadly, county administrations in the past 20 years have added only seven deputy positions to the office. Take a few

seconds to let that sink in. Twenty years, most of them in a post 9/11 America, and only seven new positions.

As the county has grown in the last two decades, so have the levels of service it requires, yet deputies have languished under a lack of attention from county administrations.

The county executive recently gave a "State of the County" speech, in which he touted successes in public safety agencies, but once again failed to mention the sheriff's office. However, I don't blame this county executive, since many before him failed to give the office proper attention, staffing and budget. Anne Arundel County will not be the safest place for all, not until all public safety agencies in county government are treated equally and given the proper tools with which to carry out their duties. Sheriff's office deputies are of great importance to law enforcement in Anne Arundel County. And no,

they are not "just a sheriff's deputy," they are your hardworking law enforcement officers, performing dangerous tasks every day. Let us hope this is the "Year of the Sheriff's Office" so it can be staffed to properly support the courts, serve the citizens of the county, and play its part in making our communities as safe as possible.

Ready Or Not, It's Tax Time

Peter Franchot
Comptroller of
Maryland



The 2020 tax season officially started on January 27 and our agency is ready to assist taxpayers with the high level of customer service they deserve.

As public servants, we focus on three R's when dealing with the people who pay our salary — respect the taxpayers, respond to the taxpayers and get results for the taxpayers.

Last year, we processed 3.2 million individual state tax returns with refunds totaling more than \$2.8 billion. More than 2.7 million Marylanders — roughly 86% of taxpayers — filed their taxes electronically, which helps us process your returns faster and issue refunds in an average of 2.1 business days.

It's your money and that's why I emphasize returning it as soon as possible.

At the same time, we also continue to make sure that taxpayers are protected against fraudulent preparers and other tax schemes. Our office's state-of-the-art and highly-innovative fraud detection system has been nationally recognized and

is a model for other states. Last year, our agency blocked 24 tax preparers who had attempted to file suspicious returns, and we work closely with Attorney General Brian Frosh to hold tax cheats accountable.

"We know taxes can be a complicated and frustrating process, so we tried to make it easy to find what you're looking for."

The landmark and unanimous passage of the Taxpayer Protection Act of 2018 has given our agency additional statutory tools to enforce tax laws and more efficiently and effectively investigate potentially fraudulent preparers. Providing results-focused customer service to taxpayers remains our priority — and we are constantly trying to im-

prove the taxpayer experience.

For instance, our agency's newly-redesigned website — www.marylandtaxes.gov — is designed to be more user-friendly and functional. We know taxes can be a complicated and frustrating process, so we tried to make it easy to find what you're looking for, regardless of what device you're using.

You also can call our taxpayer services hotline at 1-800-MD-TAXES or stop by one of our 12 regional branch offices located across Maryland. Our knowledgeable, professional staff can even help file your state taxes for free with your completed federal return.

Remember, this year's tax filing deadline is Wednesday, April 15.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your comptroller. I am as focused as ever on serving taxpayers and our agency staff remains committed to delivering respectful, responsive results.

The Dream Continues...

Anne Colt Leitess
State's Attorney



Every January, communities across the nation gather to celebrate the life and legacy of a civil rights icon and champion against injustices, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This year, I had the pleasure of attending the 39th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast co-hosted by Anne Arundel Community College and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Committee. The event showcased the community leaders who remain committed to furthering the vision of Dr. King and who serve as a voice for the most vulnerable in our county. In addition to celebrating the honorees, attendees received an amazing keynote address from the Honorable Elizabeth Morris, who is the first African American woman to serve as a judge on the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County. Judge Morris's poignant remarks highlighted the many times in her life that she was confronted with challenges and how she found inspiration from the words of Dr. King to speak up in spite of fear.

In the State's Attorney Office, we've remained committed to the contributions

of Dr. King and the many African American trailblazers — both past and present — who selflessly sacrificed their lives by challenging the status quo to create a more fair and inclusive society. Our office strives to hire a more diverse workforce to represent the community we serve; with fellow Anne Arundel County agencies, we've worked diligently in creating the Anne Arundel County Gun Violence Task Force, which is a collaborative effort aimed to reduce the gun-related deaths and injuries by identifying gun violence as a significant threat to public health.

Additionally, I've been a vocal advocate of legislation that would strengthen hate crimes in Anne Arundel County. House Bill 5, sponsored by Delegate Mark Chang, would make it illegal to use a noose or swastika to intimidate an individual or group. While so much has been done, we have more to do.

I encourage everyone to remember those who worked tirelessly to ensure the many liberties we enjoy today as we welcome February, which is Black History Month. We remember the long strides we've taken together on the road to fairness, equality and justice, and how we must continue to uphold the dream of Dr. King.

Together, we can!

Letter To The Editor

In Response To "Pittman On The State Of Anne Arundel County"

It is stated in this column that County Executive Steuart Pittman commented at his December 2019 State of the County address on the tax increases in this fiscal year budget. He is quoted as follows: "Had we been allowed to tax progressively like the state and feds do, that figure would have been higher. Stay tuned on that front, as we work to shift the burden away from our lowest-paid residents."

I've lived in Anne Arundel County all of my adult life. I cannot recall any county executive ever making such a brazen statement. Anne Arundel County has been a county of growth for decades because of the many attractions offered. Fair and just taxation for residents and businesses has been one of the top attractions of the county.

We now have a county executive that plans on elimination of that attraction by changing the tax methods of the county so we can tax more — just like the rest of the state.

Personally, my preference would be to have a county executive that is fiscally astute. One that recognizes what has worked in the past. One that works to develop an annual budget plan that meets current needs as well as plans for the future. One that does so with the understanding that attracting new businesses and new residents will increase the overall county income. Thus, allowing the potential needs of increased spending to be met.

Higher taxes will only have a negative impact. Is that really what is best for the county?

RICK SCHIMPF
PASADENA, MD

Sick And Tired Of Confusing Retirement Jargon? Read This

Jason LaBarge
NSSA Managing Partner
Premier Planning Group



I've been helping people make their retirement income strategies for over 12 years and have met with thousands of individuals in that time. One thing I've learned is that the entire process can often be overwhelming and confusing. They feel like there are so many variables (pensions, IRAs, SEPs, Social Security, and more) and a complete set of new jargon to go along with each option. No wonder it can feel confusing!

While the government, investment companies, and plan sponsors have tried to make things simpler, confusion still prevails. I'd like to give you a reference sheet of sorts that you can use the next time you sit down to evaluate your situation and come across a term that stumps you.

Although we can't cover all terms here, I've compiled some of the terms I feel are most important. We used notable sources like www.investopedia.com, www.thebalance.com, Social Security's website (www.ssa.gov), and www.dictionaries.com to help us create the definitions.

BASIC RETIREMENT INVESTING TERMS

Annuity – An insurance product that offers a fixed sum of money paid to someone each year, typically for the rest of his or her life. There are fixed and variable annuities.

Defined Benefit Plan – A retirement plan that provides workers with a fixed amount upon retirement, regardless of their contribution. Examples include pensions and annuities. These plans have become less common outside of the government and military.

Defined Contribution Plan – This is the most common type of a qualified retirement plan and is based on employer and/or employee contributions.

Full Retirement Age – This is a Social Security term for the age in which a person is fully entitled to his or her Social Security benefits without any penalty or reduction. Your full retirement age is based on your date of birth.

Non-Qualified Retirement Plan – A retirement plan that does not meet the requirements set by the U.S. tax code to make the contributions tax-deductible. Examples of a non-qualified retirement plan include deferred-compensation plans, executive bonus plans and more.

Pension – A regular payment made during a person's retirement from an investment fund that the person or their employer contributed to during their working life.

PIA (Primary Insurance Amount) – This is a Social Security term for the benefit a person will receive when he or she decides to begin receiving the Social Security benefit at full retirement age.

Qualified Retirement Plan – A retirement plan that meets the requirements set out in the Section 401(a) of the U.S. tax code, making the contributions tax-deductible. Examples of a qualified retirement plan include 401(k), 403(b), 457(b), IRAs, profit sharing plans, defined benefit plans and more.

Rollover – Although a rollover can involve several actions, when talking about retirement savings, it usually refers to transferring the holdings of one retirement plan to another without creating a taxable event.

BASIC INVESTING TERMS

Bear Market – A sustained period of time when stocks generally decline, with the threshold being typically a

20% decline.

Benchmark – This is a standard or point of reference against which things are compared or assessed. In investing conversations, the benchmark is often a market index (see "Index" below).

Bull Market – A sustained period of time when stocks generally rise at least 20% without a subsequent decline. We are currently in a bull market.

Fiduciary – A fiduciary is a person or organization acting on the behalf of another investor to manage assets in a way that is in the best interest of the investor without regard to the personal gain of the fiduciary.

Index – A group of stocks that have something in common that serves to represent the overall market. An example is the S&P 500, which tracks the stocks of 500 of the largest publicly traded companies in the United States.

Mutual Funds – This is a financial vehicle made up of a pool of money from individuals to invest in diversified holdings and is professionally managed. You will often buy mutual funds within your retirement plans.

Sector – This is a group of companies that represent a segment of the overall economy. Sectors include things such as communication services, health care, and utilities.

Stock Market – Where traders buy and sell shares of companies on a public exchange. The three major U.S. stock exchanges are the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System (Nasdaq), and the American Stock Exchange (AMEX).

Valuation – An estimate of what a company is worth.

Volatility – The amount and frequency that an investment fluctuates in value.

There is a saying that a confused mind does nothing, so I hope that this list will help you continue on your path of saving for retirement with a bit more clarity.

Jason LaBarge, Managing Partner and Financial Consultant at Premier Planning Group 115 West Street, Suite 400 Annapolis, MD 21401 443-837-2520

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Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. Investing in mutual funds is subject to risk and loss of principal. There is no assurance or certainty that any investment strategy will be successful in meeting its objectives.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

Sign Central Points People In The Right Direction

By Zach Sparks

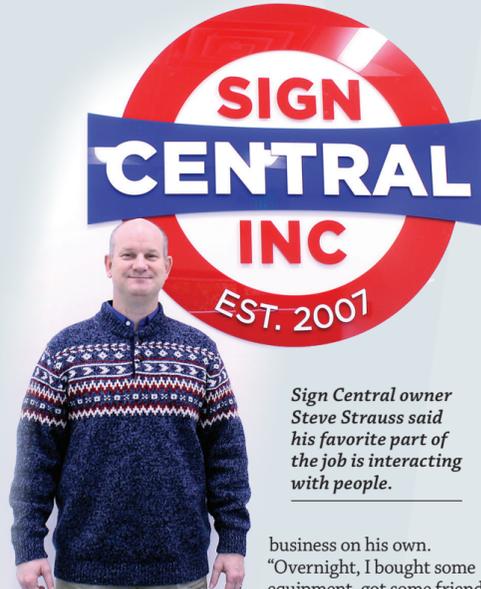
Long before the days of GPS and navigation apps, drivers relied on signs to direct them to areas of interest.

But signage is just as important as ever, as demonstrated by Sign Central, which has thrived by catering to a variety of needs, from event banners to real estate signs.

"I like interacting with people," said Steve Strauss, a Pasadena native who started Sign Central in 2007. "Whether they need birthday banners or they represent a national builder selling residential homes, I get to see what happens before it happens."

Although he often gets the chance to learn of new developments before buildings are constructed and new tenants are moved into their new homes, Strauss didn't have a crystal ball when it originally came to his occupation.

After earning a finance degree, he was working as a settlement officer for a company in Towson, looking for ways to make extra money, when he was offered a directional sign route to lead potential buyers to new home



Sign Central owner Steve Strauss said his favorite part of the job is interacting with people.

construction sites. About a year later, he was installing and removing thousands of roadside signs each weekend and had a chance to buy into the company.

"I was putting up signs, digging holes, whatever hours I needed to do to get it done," he said.

After mistakenly seeing a materials cost list, he decided that he could go into

business on his own. "Overnight, I bought some equipment, got some friends and got to work," he said.

Nearly 13 years later, Sign Central has four designers and a staff of 16, which includes Strauss' brother and avid supporter, Fred.

"The main focus is being customer-oriented," Strauss said. "We're not a chain, so we have the flexibility to work within budgets. We don't need to hit a home run on every job as long as it's a

good product at a solid price."

Those jobs consist of interior and exterior graphics, banners and flags, oftentimes for property management companies, apartment complexes and new home construction, Strauss said. But the company also enjoys the challenges associated with monuments, vehicle graphics and wraps, dimensional logos, cards and flyers.

Sign Central also supports the Pasadena Business Association, Pasadena United Methodist Church, and local sports clubs, including Pasadena Soccer Club and Lake Shore Baseball. Steve and his wife, Kristina, recently sponsored a midshipman from the Naval Academy, and applied to sponsor another one this year, to be an example for their young sons.

"Krissy grew up in a small town and I grew up in Pasadena, so it's important for us to show them how to support others, especially those serving our community and our country," Strauss said.

Sign Central is located at 7500 Energy Court, Suite 7, in Curtis Bay. To learn more about Sign Central's services or its role in the community, call 410-360-3777 or visit www.signcent.com.

Partners In Care Is Dedicated To Senior Community

By Haley Weisgerber

For many seniors, becoming dependent on others is the hardest part about growing old. That is why Barbara Huston, Maureen Cavaiola and Sandy Jackson founded Partners In Care in 1993.

Partners In Care is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the independence of aging adults and seniors within the community. With offices in Anne Arundel County, Frederick County and Easton, Partners In Care strives to improve senior care on a state level.

"It is so important for seniors to age in place and in their own homes," said Mandy Arnold, Partners In Care president and chief executive officer (CEO).

The volunteer-based organization offers handyman services, non-emergency transportation, advocacy and resource assistance, and more. Every week, Partners In Care sponsors more than 559 senior interactions. Members help with everything from a leaky faucet to friendly visits, friendly phone calls that reduce social isolations, and transitioning from a hospital visit. Seniors receive the care they need without having to leave their home or count on a stranger.

"Partners In Care is a volunteer-based, time-exchange system where all members are asked to share their gifts and talents to take care of one another," said Arnold.

"We are unique and no other organization is like Partners In Care."

An extension of their community service to assist with their financial sustainability is the famous Partners In Care Upscale Resale Boutique. The boutique provides 40% of the unrestricted revenue needed for the senior care programs. Everything that is sold in the boutique is donated by the community. The Anne Arundel County location is currently expanding to include a year-round fine jewelry section.

Arnold, who has been with the organization for four years, said she knew from a young age that senior care was important to her.

"I've had a passion for the care of seniors ever since I was a child from being around my grandmother and her friends," said Arnold. "I love hearing the history and their stories."

Arnold went into nursing to care for seniors, but after seeing the way they were treated by some health care professionals, she decided to work in health care administration, where she had more of an impact in changing to respectful and dignified care.



In recognition of its top-notch care, Partners In Care was awarded the Maryland Nonprofit's Standard of Excellence Award, displayed here by president and CEO Mandy Arnold.

"It's extremely difficult to find funding to provide for seniors," said Arnold. "I am constantly competing with all the other organizations that support the homeless,

children (our future), and the opioid crisis, which I fully understand — I am a mother and my child is my world. I had a sister that died of an overdose. So, I get it. But what I have to ask the county, businesses, agencies and our community is, 'Why do they think it's OK to disregard and disrespect the individuals that paved the way for you and I to be here today?' They didn't have technology, they worked hard. They earned their dignity and respect. Just because we start to move a little slower doesn't mean we no longer matter."

In her time at Partners In Care, Arnold said she is most proud of the organization's impact and growth throughout the community.

"I am truly blessed and honored to have been chosen as the president and CEO to take Partners In Care into the next generation," said Arnold. "I love what I am doing and how we are making a difference every day."

Partners In Care is always looking for volunteers and donations. To learn more, visit www.partnersincare.org, call 410-544-4800 or stop by 8151-C Ritchie Highway in Pasadena.

Huff Insurance Marks 60 Years

Six decades ago, W. Ray Huff started an insurance company with an important set of values.

"Ray was always big on integrity and doing the right thing even when no one is looking," said his daughter, Nancy Nicklow. "It's not about doing what's best for our pocketbook, but it's about doing what's best for the client."

Ray died in 2007, but Nancy and her husband, Jerry Nicklow, have continued his work while providing area residents with insurance for automobiles, their businesses and homes, and many other items.

"Being able to keep his legacy and core values going is important to us," Nancy said. "Even though we have changed the technology, we haven't changed why we do things. The customers are still the No. 1 priority."

When Ray died, the agency lost its best salesman. The family regrouped by taking advantage of their other strengths. Jerry, for example, has excelled with digital



Nancy and Jerry Nicklow are carrying on the legacy started by W. Ray Huff.

marketing. "We have almost doubled in the last 13 years," Jerry said. "The more we grow, the more we're able to help the community."

The Nicklows help the community in several ways. A past president of the Pasadena Business Association, Jerry is involved with events like the annual scholarship fundraiser, which provides funds to high school seniors. He also serves on the board of directors for the Anne Arundel Community College Foundation. Nancy is currently serving as the president of the Northern

once held by Nancy.

Jerry and Nancy's daughter, a soon-to-be college graduate, plans to join the family business. That will mark the third generation of family members at Huff Insurance. Reflecting on that, and the business' initial move to Pasadena from Glen Burnie in 1968, Nancy said, "It's a milestone. It's 60 years, but it's also 13 years since Dad passed. For me, it shows how much the community values us for how we have supported them over the years."

Read the full story at www.pasadenavoices.com.

PBA Update

Sandi Parrish
Executive Director



Join us for dinner, drinks, dancing, silent auction items, and more at PBA's annual scholarship fundraiser dinner. This event is always a good time. We have given out over \$215,000 in scholarships to students in Pasadena and we'd like to give out more this year.

We are having a good ole-fashioned country hoedown

on March 7 at Kurtz's Beach from 7:00pm-11:00pm. DJ Marcus will spin the records for dancing. We will have a country buffet and oyster bar with draft beer, wine, and soda included.

Tickets are \$40 each if purchased by February 28 and \$50 each if purchased after February 28. For tickets, to donate an auction item or to volunteer, contact Jerry Nicklow (Huff Insurance; jerry@huffinsurance.com) or Heather Fees (Keller Williams Realty; hffreesreal@gmail.com). Read more at www.pasadenavoices.com.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Tech Talk With Dr. Cranska



Modern dentistry is dynamic. Changes to improve patient comfort and quality of care are always being developed. The use of improved dental materials, modern delivery systems, lasers, computer-generated imaging, and computer management software systems are just some of the changes.

In upcoming months, I will answer questions on high-technology dentistry. Please direct inquiries to my website at www.cranska.com or email me at familylaserdentistry@outlook.com.

NEW PRODUCTS FOR DRY MOUTH

Dry mouth, also known as xerostomia, is not a disease. This medical disorder is simply the decrease in flow of saliva in the mouth. Saliva is 98% water plus needed enzymes, electrolytes and agents to fight germs. Causes of xerostomia include radiation during head and neck cancer therapy; diseases

such as Sjogren's syndrome, scleroderma, lupus and diabetes; and the No. 1 cause, medications. Without saliva to help fight oral bacteria, there can be extensive tooth decay. You need to maximize salivary flow, keeping your mouth wet to increase comfort and prevent tooth decay.

Q: How can I treat and prevent my dry mouth condition?

A: Dry mouth is common. Here are five important ways to treat xerostomia:

1. Chew sugar-free gum and candies to stimulate saliva, and use no sugar products, because they lead to tooth decay.
2. Lifestyle changes:

limit alcohol and caffeine consumption, and eliminate tobacco use. Drink more water.

3. Don't use alcohol-based mouthwashes. Alcohol in mouthwashes kills bacteria but dries out the mouth.
4. When possible, stop, change or limit dosage of medicines that have the side effect of dry mouth. These include antihistamines, decongestants and diuretics.
5. Use over-the-counter sprays, gels, rinses and saliva substitute products to lubricate and moisturize.

There is a prescription-only saliva substitute available from dentists, and it's called 3M Xerostomia Relief Spray. Available in a spray vial, it requires no rinsing, and it lasts up to four hours. It can be applied at any time of the day, no matter where you are.

One dose equals two sprays. Use three to four times daily as needed to relieve the symptoms of dry mouth. The relief spray lubricates the tissues of the mouth, tongue and throat us-

ing a new lipid-based formulation for rapid, long-lasting effect.

See your dentist and ask for an evaluation of your dry mouth, address the cause, and discuss treatment alternatives.

Get your 3M Xerostomia Relief Spray prescription filled through a direct-to-patient pharmacy. Ask your dental office for help in processing your prescription and refills.

Dry mouth is not completely preventable or treatable. When present, the best long-term treatment is to address the cause, not to only use products that help relieve the symptoms.

Utilize modern dental products for maximum comfort and limit dental decay.

UM BWMC February Calendar

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

5:30pm-8:00pm: UM BWMC offers a free CPR Anytime community class at 301 Hospital Drive in the Dr. Constantine Padussis Conference Center, 301 Hospital Drive, third floor. Learn basic CPR, AED skills and choking relief. **Infant skills class is offered at 5:30pm, followed by adult skills at 7:00pm.** Preregistration is requested by calling 410-553-8103.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

10:00am-1:00pm: Heartbeat for Health at Northeast High School ("new location"). This free event will feature exercise and dance demonstrations, health screenings, education and lunch. Learn simple ways to stay healthy and get motivated for the year ahead. Reservations are not requested. For more information, call 410-553-8103. (1121 Duvall Highway, Pasadena).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:00pm-8:30pm: Smoking Cessation. A seven-week class for those wanting to quit smoking. (Radiology conference room, lower level, 301 Hospital Drive). Class size is limited to 14 and participants will be registered on a first come, first serve basis. To register, call 410-553-8103.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

8:30am-noon: Free blood pressure screenings at Harundale Presbyterian Church. No registration needed. (Eastway and Guilford Road, Glen Burnie).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:00am-12:30pm: American Red Cross blood drive sponsored by UM BWMC. To schedule an appointment to make a life-saving donation, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or UM BWMC's community outreach department at 410-553-8103. (Dr. Constantine Padussis Conference Center, 301 Hospital Drive, third floor).

For 35 Years, UM BWMC Cardiac Program Has Given Patients A New Lease On Life



Above: Joan Graham, a member of the program since 1999, works out three days per week at UM BWMC as part of the cardiac rehabilitation program. **Below:** Don Grempler, who initially experienced the program when his wife had lung cancer, came to rely on its services when he was diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in 2003.



By Zach Sparks
zach@pasadenavoice.com

Heart problems are no laughing matter, but at University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC), patients in the cardiac rehabilitation program have plenty of reasons to joke and be happy.

Some of them battled life-threatening conditions to survive and are now healthy. Most of them get to experience the benefits of not only rehabilitation but also an atmosphere with a thriving social support network.

"We had 10 or 11 people in a group when I first started, and we would go out to breakfast together," said Jim Southworth a 20-year veteran of the cardiac rehabilitation program. "It becomes your second family."

HOW IT STARTED

Cardiac rehabilitation is designed to reduce cardiovascular risk, foster long-term healthy behaviors, reduce disability and promote an active lifestyle for patients with cardiovascular disease.

Severna Park resident Debbie Lund was the program's first employee in 1985. She recalls the program being owned by another company, and ultimately moving to UM BWMC in 1994.

The program now has two focuses: cardiac rehab and pulmonary rehab.

Cardiac patients start with a supervised program that usually includes about 36 sessions over 12 weeks. They use treadmills, arm bikes, and other machines and equipment. After finishing the supervised program, patients can enter the main program.

In addition to exercise training, they receive nutritional counseling, and psychosocial interventions and referrals.

Currently, there are about 120 people in the maintenance portion and another 100 in the monitored segment. Overseeing them are six full-time staff members.

"For patients, there's a big difference between here and going to a gym," Lund explained. "Here, they get EKG (electrocardiogram) monitoring while they're exercising."

People enroll in rehab after recovering from heart attacks or coronary artery bypass graft surgery, or after valve repair or replacement, certain types of congestive heart failure, or after getting stents or having heart transplants.

The pulmonary program assists patients with fibrosis and lung cancer.

Patients are young and old. "We've had people in their 20s in the program," Lund said. "We've had people who have heart attacks after having children. The oldest person is probably 93."

"WITHOUT THE PROGRAM, WE WOULDN'T BE HERE"

Southworth weighed about 250 pounds when he started experiencing chest pains while cutting the grass, and he ultimately needed quintuple bypass surgery. He joined the program at UM BWMC, and now 20 years later, soon to be 84 years old, he still reaps the benefits.

"Every time I drive by the gym and I see an ambulance, that reminds me why I'm here," he said.

Joan Graham, a member of the program since 1999, has 12 coronary stents, which help widen clogged arteries to restore blood flow to the heart and treat coronary artery disease. Graham said UM BWMC's care has saved her several times.

"One time, my heart rate shot up to 177 on the treadmill ... and they helped me pull through that," she said. "If I was at a gym, that wouldn't have happened."

Graham works out three days per week and aspires to

live to 100 years old. When she heard whispers of the program potentially closing years ago, she voiced her support for it to stay.

"There would be a patient revolt [if it was closed]," she said. "Without the program, we wouldn't be here."

Don Grempler initially came to UM BWMC because his wife had lung cancer, but he later had to rely on the hospital for his needs when he was diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in 2003. Grempler is also a 20-year survivor of prostate cancer.

Lung issues present challenges that are separate from heart issues.

"With lung disease, patients get short of breath, so they stop doing their exercise," Lund said. "By the time we see the patients, a lot of them are debilitated. When you are so deconditioned, it's hard to break the spiral of inactivity."

Lund said patients are "pretty independent, but if something does happen, we are there."

When the program started in the '80s, there were problems with coverage, but physicians are now doing a better job referring patients, Lund said.

"Exercise was not accepted for every disease," she said. "Now we exercise all those patients."

The exercise is good for patients, extending their lives, and UM BWMC gives them a safe space full of comradery.

"We come here three times a week, and for one hour, everybody relates to what we've been through," Graham said.

UM BWMC Appoints David Hunt

University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center (UM BWMC) has named David Hunt, RN, MSN, MBA, as the medical center's new senior vice president and chief nursing officer.

Read the full story at www.pasadenavoice.com.

Don't Go Breaking My Heart

Dr. Christine Calvert
Medical Director
VCA Calvert
Veterinary Center



Recently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has been investigating the possible link between grain-free diets and dilated cardiomyopathy.

BUT WHAT IS DILATED CARDIOMYOPATHY OR DCM?

DCM is a type of canine heart disease that leads to enlargement of the left ventricle, which is the main pumping chamber of the heart. It becomes weakened and decreases the ability of the heart to pump blood, which often results in congestive heart failure. Typical symptoms include increased respiratory rate, coughing, weakness, tiring easily when exercising, or collapsing episodes. Routine physical examinations with your primary care veterinarian can also help find underlying cardiac issues such as a heart murmur, other abnormal heart sounds, or the presence of an irregular heart rhythm. If signs of heart disease are noted and are related to nutritional issues, some dogs will have a reversal of their cardiac changes with

adjustments in the diet and taurine supplementation.

Some breeds, especially large and giant breeds, are predisposed to DCM. These are mostly large breeds including Doberman pinschers, great Danes, Newfoundlands, Irish wolfhounds and Saint Bernards. While DCM is less common in medium and small breeds of dogs, cocker spaniels are also predisposed to this condition. When atypical cases were noted in breeds like golden retrievers, Labrador retrievers, whippets, bulldogs, shih tzus, and mixed-breed dogs that all consistently ate grain alternatives in their diets, the FDA started to investigate.

In July 2019, the FDA studied the possible link between DCM and dog foods that were labeled as "grain-free" (defined as no corn, soy, wheat, rice, barley or other grains) and whether the foods contained peas, lentils, chickpeas, beans or

potatoes (including sweet potatoes). The report states that more than 90% of foods reported in DCM cases were grain-free, 93% of reported foods contained peas and/or lentils, and 42% contained potatoes/sweet potatoes. There are multiple grain-free diets that are being linked to the possible rise in dilated cardiomyopathy as shown in the table below this story.

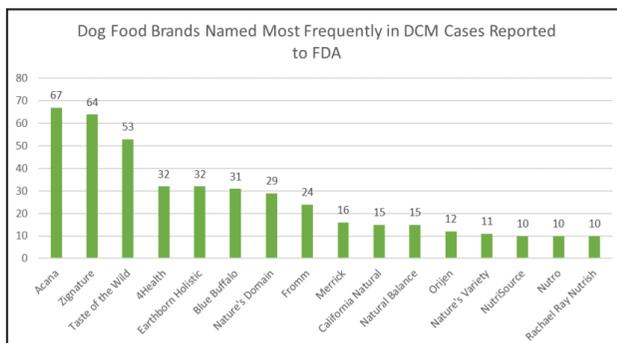
So what pet foods are best? The first step is to make sure that your pet's food has gone through Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) testing to confirm nutritional adequacy. One of the concerns with grain-free diets is that there may not be the proper nutrients for you dog to formulate taurine, which is an essential amino acid linked to heart health. In most well-balanced foods, taurine supplementation is not needed as dogs can synthesize taurine

from proteins in a good-quality food.

WHAT DO PET OWNERS NEED TO KNOW?

If a dog is showing possible signs of DCM or other heart conditions, including decreased energy, cough, difficulty breathing and episodes of collapse, you should contact your veterinarian as soon as possible. If the symptoms are severe and your veterinarian is not available, you may need to seek emergency veterinary care. Your veterinarian may ask you for a thorough dietary history, including all the foods (including treats) the dog has eaten. Your veterinarian can be a good resource for recommendations on a proper diet to meet all of your pet's unique nutritional needs. For more information on the study, visit www.fda.gov.

The veterinarians of VCA Calvert Veterinary Center have more than 35 years of combined experience helping pets stay healthy and happy. Call today for an appointment at 410-360-PAWS (7297) or schedule online at www.vacalvertvet.com. VCA Calvert Veterinary Center is conveniently located at 4100 Mountain Road and has been proudly serving the Pasadena community for over 15 years.



Cougar, Eagle Swimmers Excel At Counties



The Chesapeake (top) and Northeast (bottom) swim teams were all smiles after returning to campus following the February 7 county championship meet in Annapolis.

By Colin Murphy
colin@pasadenavoice.com

The Northeast and Chesapeake swim teams concluded proud in-county seasons with strong performances at the county championship meet at Arundel Olympic Swim Center in Annapolis on February 7.

The teams did not enter the meet with ambitions of contending for team victories against the likes of Severna Park and Broadneck; Chesapeake finished in seventh place on both the girls and boys sides, while the Northeast girls placed 11th and the boys placed 12th (Broadneck's boys and Severna Park's girls won the team crowns).

The primary goals of the season were to improve personal times and grow as athletes, and in that regard, both the Eagles and Cougars claimed successful winter campaigns.

For Northeast, senior **Grace Whiteman** improved her 50 freestyle time in helping to lead the team; she placed ninth at counties. Freshmen **Makenzie Boyd** and **Dominick Hunt** started swimming this past year, and coach **Anne-Marie Kreitzer** said they "have

the drive to really make some waves over their high school career." Sophomore **Joshua Kreitzer** and junior **Robert Price** improved their times repeatedly throughout the course of the season in freestyle and breaststroke, respectively. **Zoe Pantoja, Juliana Beall, Lauren Westcott, Bailey Hermann, Avery Stratton, Mikaela Mettle, Shelby Frashure, Allison Stieritz, Madison Farrelly, Jimmy Maatouk, Colby Frashure, Teirney Metzler** and **David Fish** also competed for Northeast at counties.

"I am very proud of all of their hard work and commitment they have put into their season," said coach Kreitzer. "I am excited that most of my team is full of freshmen. Each one of them are incredible and have made huge improvements and show dedication in practice. I am glad that I had the privilege of coaching the team this year and hope I get to continue next season."

Chesapeake's county showing was highlighted by the standout performances of **Tyler Downing**, who placed second in both the 200 individual medley and 100 breaststroke, breaking

» Continued on A12

CHS Cheerleaders Fly To Winter Trifecta With County, Region And State Titles

By Colin Murphy
colin@pasadenavoice.com

On February 12, the Chesapeake cheerleading team completed a sweep of the winter season by winning the state championship at Harford Community College.

The Cougars' routine garnered a score of 125.8 points to capture the program's 14th state championship overall.

Chesapeake won the winter county championship at Broadneck High School on January 23 and captured the region title on February 5 before putting the finishing touch on the year with a state title.

In the fall season, Chesapeake won county and region championships before narrowly missing out on a state title. That loss became a motivator for the Cougars, who went on to sweep every meet this season, beginning with the county championships.

"Counties I feel like was a super energetic performance. Coming off of fall states where we lost by 0.4 points, that was still stinging a little bit, so I felt

like we had something to regain and prove a little bit to ourselves," said head coach **Lisa Elliott**. "It started at counties and just built from there. We are super big on celebrating our wins for that weekend or a couple days, then we forget about it and move on to the next one like we're a second-place team." Elliott noted that the

routines from fall to winter changed, as did the personnel. The team used two new flyers from the fall season, eschewing the kind of continuity they've enjoyed in recent years and seeing new athletes in different roles rise to the challenges they faced this winter.

"That was a little bit different for us going into the winter," Elliott said. "It's

usually pretty much the same team unless we pull a couple kids up from JV. So we have two people in the air, and they are stepping up phenomenally."

The winter county championship was the 19th all-time for the Cougars program, and the state championship was Chesapeake's 14th, both records.

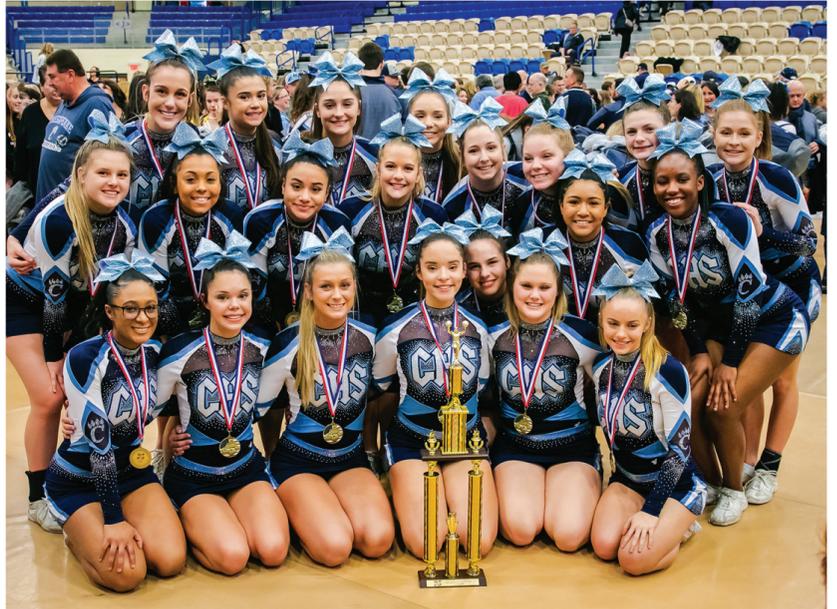


Photo courtesy of Connie Thompson Raynor

The Chesapeake cheerleading team earned a score of 125.8 to win the state championship at Harford Community College on February 12.

Win Streak Has Northeast Boys Back In County Contention, Leading Region

By Colin Murphy
@c.murphy.photo

In early February, after an overtime loss to Broadneck, the Northeast boys basketball team needed to go on a run to have a chance at making the county championship game.

The Eagles have delivered. A three-game win streak with impressive victories over North County, Arundel and a road demolition of Old Mill have vaulted Northeast (16-4 overall, 13-3 in county) back into second place in Anne Arundel County behind league-leading Annapolis as of February 17. Northeast can clinch a county-championship showdown with the Panthers with a win over Severna Park on February 19.

The Eagles' most recent victory came in historic fashion: on Friday, February 14, Northeast trounced Old Mill in Millersville, 95-58. **Darrell Sheppard** poured in a career-high 40 points for the Eagles, setting a new single-game record for points and eclipsing **Rick Anderczyk's** 38-year-old record of 38 points from 1972.

Sheppard, a versatile 6-foot-4 senior, has the combination of size and speed that gives larger defenders trouble. All of his points against the Patriots came from inside 14 feet as he was able to repeatedly get to the basket.

"I can play anywhere on the court, and because of that, it's hard to find a

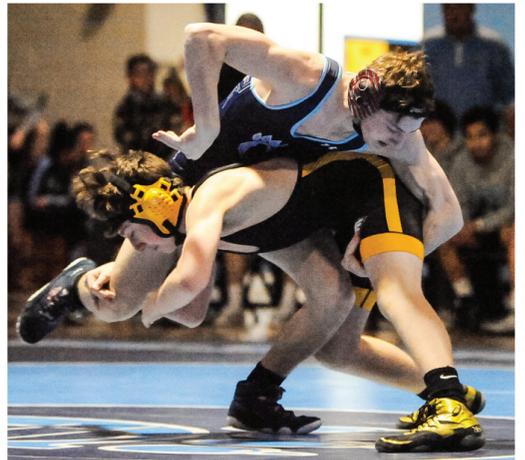
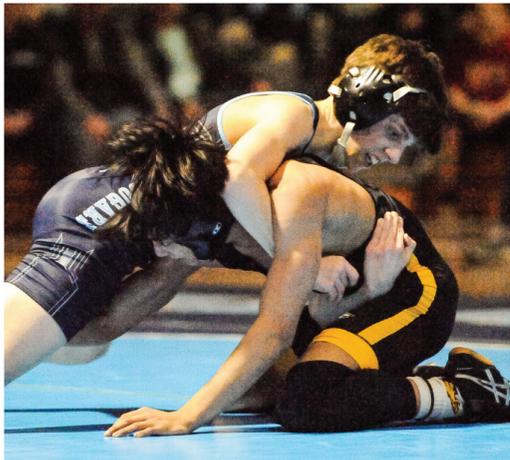
» Continued on A15



Photos by Colin Murphy

Travis Smoot (23) slashed to the hoop for a basket on February 7. Darrell Sheppard (right) had a school-record 40 points in Northeast's win over Old Mill on February 14.

Chesapeake Wrestling Edges Northeast In Rivalry Thriller



Photos by Colin Murphy

Left: Chesapeake's Dylan Ritter battled with Northeast's Victor Umali at 106 lbs. Center: The Cougars' Dion Ambrose scored points on a takedown of Northeast's Myles Macon and earned a critical major decision victory. Right: Chesapeake's Chase Listorti evaded the shot of Northeast's Caleb Jacobs before winning by fall at 126 lbs.

By Colin Murphy
@c.murphy.photo

The Chesapeake-Northeast wrestling match on January 29 had everything: natural rivals, an electric atmosphere in Chesapeake's packed gym on the Cougars' senior night, great competition in all weight classes and an outcome that went right down to the final seconds of the final bout.

When it was all over, the Cougars emerged by the slimmest of margins, winning 34-32 in an all-time classic.

"What an exciting match," said Chesapeake head coach **Randy Curtin**. "This is my sixth year in the program, and I've never seen a crowd this size, and the energy is just contagious. It's amazing. It's awesome to be a part of."

The lively crowd — which athletic director **Chip**

Snyder said was the biggest he's ever seen for a wrestling dual in 28 years — generated an exciting environment for the showdown. With dimmed lights in the gym and a spotlight on the mat creating a dramatic stage, a memorable back-and-forth battle unfolded.

Chesapeake's **Zak Hardin** and Northeast's **Devin Wagner** began the dual in the 220-lbs weight class. Hardin almost put Wagner

on his back in the opening round, but Wagner reversed to tie the bout. The pair grinded until Hardin led 8-3 late in the third round, and Wagner scored key points to avoid a major decision; Hardin took an 8-5 decision to put Chesapeake up 3-0.

Heavyweights **Ron McDuffie** for Chesapeake and **Damien DeVoter** for Northeast battled next, and the duo were locked in a stalemate for almost

six minutes, with neither wrestler getting an opening for a shot. Still tied 0-0 with eight seconds left, DeVoter came from down position to escape McDuffie and beat the buzzer for a 1-0 decision, tying the match at 3-3.

The Eagles and their fans roared in celebration. The tone was set: neither side was going to give anything away easy.

"I was just trying to get my base," said DeVoter.

"The time was right, and I got up and got the escape. It felt great to get points for my team."

At 106, Chesapeake's **Dylan Ritter** built an early 6-3 lead in his high-scoring match with Northeast's **Victor Umali**. Umali broke free from two potential pins in the second round, and Ritter took him the distance to earn a 16-7 major decision. Ritter improved to 32-5 on

» Continued on A13

Northeast JV Wrestlers Top Chesapeake, 30-18

Story and photos
by Colin Murphy
@c.murphy.photo

In a precursor to the Cougars-Eagles varsity wrestling matchup on January 29, the Northeast and Chesapeake JV wrestling teams squared off, with Northeast winning over its rival, 30-18.

Eagle heavyweight **Eric Zheng** opened the match with a second-round pin of **Aiden Rivas** to give Northeast a 6-0 lead.

At 160, Chesapeake's **Kevin Skipper** and Northeast's **Denis Steinhelm** faced one another in a competitive bout. They traded shots and takedowns in the first round, and then both scored reversals in the second. Skipper led 10-8 in the third round when he came up with a pin to take the bout and tie that match at 6-6.

Tyler Brown regained control for Northeast in his 113 bout with Chesapeake's **Zack Downey**. Brown built a lead through the first round and led 7-0 when he caught Downey for a pin and a 12-6 Northeast lead.

Chesapeake's **Dawson Hoover** brought the Cougars back level with a pin of Northeast's **Sarah Underwood** at 103.

Next came an exciting bout at 120 between Chesapeake's **Kennen Kopf** and Northeast's **Max Uptograph**. Kopf built a 7-2 lead by the end of the first round and seemed to be on his way to a relatively comfortable victory. But Uptograph came charging back, controlling the second round to get to within 8-5. He kept scoring and taking chances in the third round, and the wrestlers were knotted at 12-12 after six minutes. Kopf managed an overtime takedown to

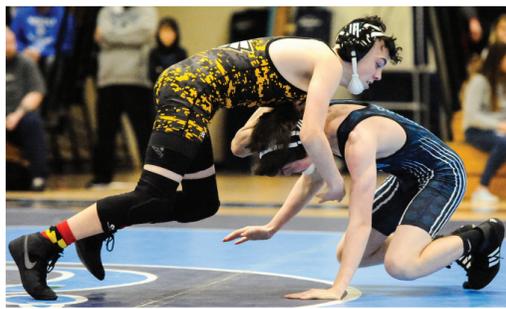


The Northeast-Chesapeake JV matchup featured competitive bouts in all weight classes.

reclaim the lead once and for all with a 14-12 decision that gave Chesapeake a 15-12 advantage.

Northeast's **Wyatt Newman** did his part to get the Eagles back in front in a separate 120 match with Chesapeake's **Scotty Githens**. The pair were tied 2-2 after one round, and Githens held a 4-2 advantage after two rounds. Newman led 6-4 in the third round when he forced Githens onto his back for a pin and an 18-15 Northeast lead.

Chesapeake's **Blake Jarmer** and Northeast's **Trevor Poole** staged a great battle at 126. Poole nearly caught Jarmer for a pin in the first round, but Jarmer burst out of the hold. Jarmer fought from 4-1 down to tie the match at 4-4, but Poole regained a 6-4 lead in the third round with a takedown. Down to the closing seconds, Jarmer got an escape and a takedown to pull out a 7-6 decision and tie the match at 18-18.



In an exhibition heavyweight match, Northeast's **Austin Lane** pinned Rivas in the second round.

Northeast seized control of the match in the final two bouts. At 160, Steinhelm returned to the mat to

face Chesapeake's **Sean Thompson**. Steinhelm earned a first-round pin to put the Eagles ahead 24-18.

At 114, the Eagles' **Aiden Dyke** wrangled Downey for a first-round pin to close out the match and secure Northeast's 30-18 victory.

"Truly Special" PSC U12 Dortmund Win Futsal League



The PSC Dortmund U12 boys scored 59 goals and allowed only nine in going unbeaten at 8-0.

By Colin Murphy
colin@pasadenavoice.com

The Pasadena Soccer Club U12 Dortmund boys soccer team participated in the first session of Futsal at the Benfield Sportscenter in Millersville this winter and went undefeated at 8-0 to win the Boys 2008 Blue Division.

The team of **Bryce Ramos, Gianfranco Gonzalez, Evan Miller, Logan Weaver, Jacob Katona, Bennett Servinsky, Camryn Roe, Drew William** and **Ben Haughton** scored 59 goals

and allowed only nine in running the league table.

"What is truly special about the group is the diversity of the players," said coach Scott Weaver. "There are three young men on the team who had never played futsal before. Another three of the players were 2009 age group players who were playing up a year. The remaining players were outstanding leaders helping to guide the younger and less experienced players. Unlike many organizations, all of these young men are from Pasadena."

Cougar, Eagle Swimmers Excel At Counties

» Continued from A11 his own school record in the latter with a time of 2:00.56. **Natasha Paciello** was another individual standout, placing third in the 100 butterfly with a personal-record 1:01.92, and she also placed fourth in the 100 breaststroke.

Aiden Linehan placed eighth in the 200 free. The 200 medley relay team of Linehan, Downing, **Malachi Newsom** and **Dan Bedingfield** placed eighth. **Jacob Leonard, Ian Chaplin, Tyler Stone** and Newsom placed seventh in the

400 free relay.

Allison Kunes, Paciello, Emily Meister and **Kaitlyn Newsom** placed fourth in the 200 medley relay.

Stephanie Brown, Madison Whitmore, Holly Freeman, Savannah Mulvey, Evan Whitley, Seren Norton and **Dylan Leonard** also competed at counties for Chesapeake. Brown dropped three seconds off her best 200 free time. Jacob Leonard dropped four second off his 100 free time to qualify for regionals as a freshman. Bedingfield achieved lifetime best times

in all his events and held off an Old Mill swimmer in the 200 medley relay with a 25.5-second split. Chaplin shaved 15 seconds off his 500 to break the seven-minute barrier. Malachi Newsom, Kunes, Norton and Whitley all achieved personal-record times in their events at the county championship.

"Overall I was very proud of all the swimmers," said Chesapeake head coach Brian Nelson. "Eighteen of the 24 swimmers on the team are either freshmen or sophomores, and most have never swum before. We

have worked extremely hard to improve throughout the season. There are swimmers who are now parts of potentially state-qualifying relays who I had to have my assistant last year get in the water to essentially give them a swim lesson. To see new swimmers find a love for the sport I love so much makes my job enjoyable. Our motto this season was stolen from Lamar Jackson: "Nobody cares, work harder," and I think the kids bought in and are now reaping the benefits with massive time drops."



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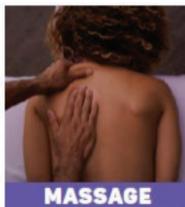
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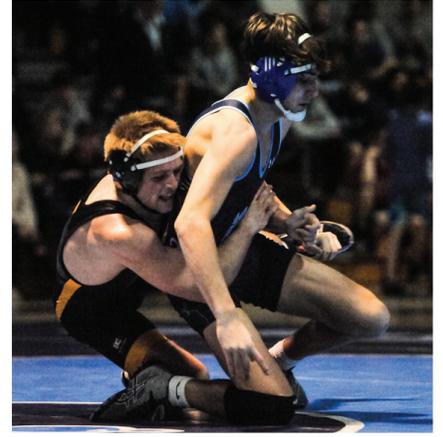
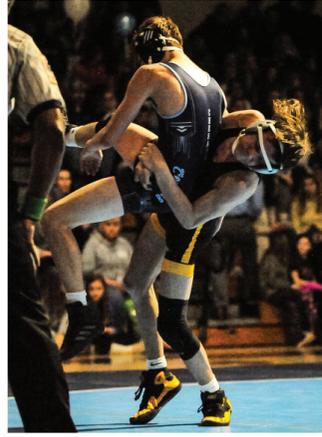
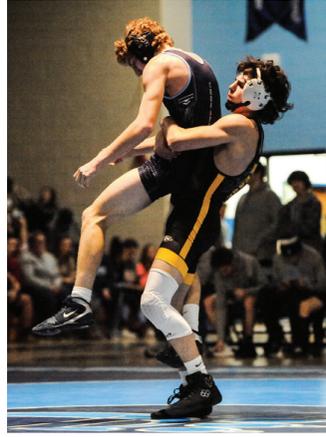
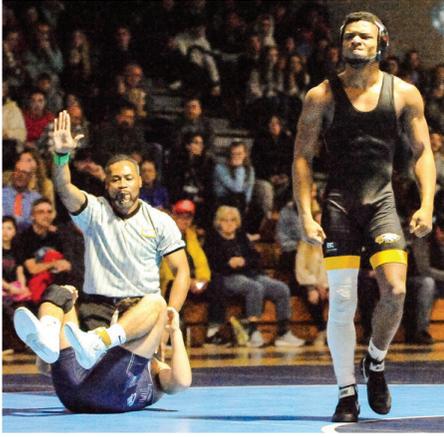
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Chesapeake Wrestling Edges Northeast 34-32 In Rivalry Thriller



Photos by Colin Murphy

Northeast wrestlers (l-r) Jayden Mason, Billy Katzenberger, Michael Carnes and Caleb Zaruba all recoded victories for the Eagles, but the Cougars managed to hold on for the match win.

» Continued from A11 the year; Umali is 21-9.

With Chesapeake ahead 7-3, Northeast's **Colin Cook** sought to get his team some points in his 113 bout with Chesapeake's **Adam Taifouri**. Cook wrangled Taifouri into a hold at the end of the first round and beat the first-round buzzer with a pin with one second remaining, and Northeast regained a 9-7 lead. Cook moved to 25-5 on the year.

Michael Carnes kept Northeast's momentum going at 120 in his match with Chesapeake's **Justin Shifflett**. Carnes built a 6-0 lead by the third round, then got a crucial takedown in the closing seconds of the bout to take an extra point with an 8-0 major decision. The Eagles led 13-7 as Carnes improved to 22-10.

At 126, Northeast's **Caleb Jacobs** resisted Chesapeake's **Chase Listorti** into the second round, but Listorti (32-5) got a pin to tie the match at 13-13.

Chesapeake's **Aiden Yost** improved to 30-7 on the season with a pin of Northeast's **Scott Czyz** at 132, giving Chesapeake a

19-13 lead.

Northeast's **Billy Katzenberger** led 6-0 in the second round of his 138-lbs match with **Owen Schmidt** when he managed to pin Schmidt and bring the Eagles back level at 19-19.

That kicked off a stretch of Eagle momentum, as teammate **Jayden Mason** followed suit with a first-round pin of **Dean Laumann** at 145, pushing Northeast back in front, 25-19.

Caleb Zaruba continued the trend for Northeast at 152. He took a 4-2 lead over Chesapeake's **Jacob Rosenbloom** after one round, led 6-2 after two rounds and ended up winning, 9-2. Rosenbloom's endurance to not surrender a pin or a major decision was key for Chesapeake, though Northeast held the momentum with a 28-19 lead.

Katzenberger (24-3), Mason (24-8) and Zaruba (19-8) have been a strong trio in the middleweights all season for Northeast, and the Eagles were fired up with a double-digit advantage at that point in the dual.

"I almost expect it every

time, 38, 45, 52, it's like that back-to-back-to-back thing," said Katzenberger, who could potentially rematch with Schmidt at the county championships; Schmidt is a top contender for the county at 31-6 overall. "Every time I come off the mat I expect two more wins right after. It's always great," Katzenberger said. "The crowd was into it. It was awesome. It was a good match. Everybody wrestled good. A couple people got caught on a couple little things. But we fought. It was a great match, came right down to the last one. I was happy with our team, definitely."

Chesapeake had ground to make up, and **Victor Listorti** gave the Cougars a spark at 160. He shot early and wrapped up Northeast's **Timar Hatcher** for a first-round pin, pulling Chesapeake within three points at 25-28. It was the 101st career win for Listorti, who is 35-2 on the year.

Chesapeake's **DJ Hoover** eyed a pin against Northeast's **Brayden Young** at 170 but instead managed a 16-1 technical fall to regain the lead for the

Cougars, 30-28.

"Coach said, 'You gotta pull something out here. We need bonus points,'" said Hoover, who improved to 33-4. "So I went out there and did what I had to do. I was gassed pretty much the whole time, and I just grinded through it."

The outcome hung in the balance during the final two bouts, which were evenly matched. At 182, Chesapeake's **Dion Ambrose** had a tough challenge in Northeast first-year wrestler **Myles Macon**. Ambrose was able to outmaneuver Macon's speed and strength and use his technique for point-scoring moves in the first and second round. Ambrose brought the crowd to its feet with a pair of forceful takedowns in the third round to claim an 11-1 major decision and push Chesapeake's lead to 34-28.

"I was just going out, I kept a positive mindset, I just had the mindset of winning the whole time," said Ambrose. "It was scary at first because I was thinking he was going to out-strength me. I just kept it close, tried not to tie up

with him, but I ended up tying up with him a lot. I tried taking shots as much as I could, but he was fast. We were pumped. We were ready. We knew it was going to be a close match."

Northeast's **Jason Arnold** could have brought Northeast level at 34-34, but he had to pin Chandler Booker at 195 in the night's final bout. Arnold almost caught Booker for a pin in the second round, but Booker fought it off and escaped. Arnold took every shot he could in the third frame and built up a large lead, but Booker kept his endurance and fought to the end. Arnold (21-10) won a 15-5 decision, but Booker's efforts to resist a pin sealed the match victory for Chesapeake, 34-32.

Northeast coach **Chris Dyke** has seen his Eagles alternate victories with the Cougars in the rivalry matchup over the last five years. He had charted out where Northeast would get its points prior to the matchup, but the Eagles fell just shy of projections.

Still, Dyke expressed pride for their output. "It was a good match,"

said Dyke. "Everybody wrestled tough."

Curtin said the Cougars knew it would be close, and they were thrilled to come up big over the last several bouts to win.

"Northeast is a tough team, and we came in respecting them, but we didn't want to get pinned as much as we did," Curtin said. "At the same time, we weren't getting the bonus points we were hoping to get. Going into the last two matches, we were sweating bullets. Dion still wrestled a tough match. We're happy with what he did, and he almost did pin [Macon]. And then Chandler not getting pinned was just enough to squeak out the win."

Hoover said the Cougars were excited for the showdown and had a team-first mentality that allowed them to secure the win in a tremendous rivalry atmosphere.

"Northeast is the biggest rival, Northeast-Chesapeake in anything, and as you can see it's just wild," Hoover said. "Just everyone working together, and nobody gave up. Everybody just wrestled their hardest."

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Win Streak Has Northeast Boys Back In County Contention

» **Continued from A11** defender who can guard me on the block and on the perimeter,” said Sheppard, who credited guards **Jaylin Albury** and **Trent McNeill** with getting the ball into his hands. “It feels good to know that I make a big impact to the team and everyone around me is happy. We are all a family and whenever someone gets hot, no matter who it is, we are happy for them.”

Sheppard added 11 rebounds to post his 10th double-double of the season, and he was far from the only Eagle to have a big game. **Stephen Haley** also notched a double-double with 13 points and 13 rebounds. **Travis Smoot** added 11 points and 5 rebounds. Albury had 9 points, 11 assists and 4 steals, and McNeill scored 6 points to go with 5 assists and 4 steals. **Jordan Williams** (5 points), **Olamide Ajayi** (4), **Dylan Johnson** (3), **Mason Kanipe** and **Brandon Jordan** all contributed points in the victory.

While Sheppard’s record-breaking point total was an extreme example, Eagles coach **Roger O’Dea** has seen contributions from throughout the roster all season long, and anyone is capable of taking his turn in the spotlight.

“We have a different player step up every game,” O’Dea said. “We have four players who get majority of the time but always have a player get in the game and get hot, and [his] playing time increases for that game. It has happened several times this season. The best part is no one complains about playing time and has bought into ‘Team above me.’ Everyone



cheers each other on and is happy to see them achieve.”

The Eagles have needed to come together as a team since falling 67-64 in overtime at Broadneck on February 4, and they responded with a pair of close victories in their next two games. On February 7 the Eagles came back from a halftime deficit to top North County at home, 65-55. Trailing 30-28 at halftime, the Eagles went on a 20-6 run in the third quarter en route to winning behind a game-high 19 points by McNeill and a great off-the-bench performance by **Richard Stowe III**, who provided excellent defense against North County’s big men and finished the game with 10 points and 8 rebounds.

On February 12, the Eagles celebrated senior night against Arundel. The Wildcats dealt the Eagles one of their four losses this season back in tournament play over the holidays in a game that didn’t count



With one more win, Jaylin Albury (0), Stephen Haley (25), Trent McNeill (10) and the Northeast Eagles will secure a spot in the February 22 county championship game.

toward county standing. Still, the Eagles gained revenge. They downed the Wildcats 61-58, getting a boost from senior **Brendan Heptner**, who scored 11 points in his senior-night start. Sheppard (15 points and 10 rebounds) and McNeill (14 points, 5 assists and 6 rebounds) also had big games in the victory, as did

Albury (10 points, 8 assists and 6 rebounds) and Haley (7 points and 7 rebounds).

The Eagles will look to clinch a rematch with Annapolis in the county title game on February 22 with a win over Severna Park on February 19. The Panthers defeated Northeast 67-58 on January 14. Perhaps more importantly, at 16-4 overall,



Photos by Colin Murphy

Northeast also has a hold on the No. 1 seed for the region playoffs beginning late this month.

Independent of outcomes, O’Dea sees an Eagle team with great character and the mentality to contribute positively to their team and school community.

“Character-wise, we just have a great group of guys,

one through 13,” said O’Dea. “We have shown some real toughness, mental and physical. The team has bought into drawing charges, diving for loose balls and sacrificing their bodies to make plays. ... I am very proud of how hard these young men have worked doing the offseason and during the season, on and off the court. This group has been very involved with the school, participating in many activities and clubs outside of basketball. They have become role models for the younger kids in the community, especially through the relationships they have made from camp and visiting the elementary schools to read to them. This group has really bought into everything our staff has asked for. It starts with my captains, Trent McNeill and Jaylin Albury. Everyone on the team believes in each other and is always there to pick each other up. The cohesion by far is what I think I am the most proud of.”

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Be sure to pick up a copy of the home and garden edition of the Pasadena Voice on March 20. This magazine will highlight industry-specific information, tips and ideas from local experts.

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SCHOOL & YOUTH



Freezin' For A Reason

Pasadena was well represented during the Cool Schools Plunge at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis on January 23. **Northeast High School** (left) exceeded its \$10,000 goal by collecting \$10,969. **George Fox Middle School** (\$7,211) and **Chesapeake High School** (\$6,074) also had high totals. Maybe even more impressive, **Riviera Beach Elementary** (below), with significantly fewer students, raked in \$6,000. Riviera Beach was the only Pasadena elementary school listed among participants.



In Pasadena, Italian Exchange Student Finds La Dolce Vita

By Zach Sparks

From the mountains and villas of Varese, Italy, to the hills of Pasadena, Maryland, Chesapeake High School student Sveva Campigotto has come a long way — literally — since fall 2019.

Campigotto is studying abroad this school year, adding the United States to her list of places traveled. Also on that list are Dubai, France, England and Switzerland.

"I wanted to have a different experience, see a different culture and make my own friends," Campigotto said.

She is staying with a host family that includes one teenage girl, two teenage boys, two "very sweet" parents and two big dogs. In Italy, she would be in her fourth of five high school years, but in the U.S., she's a senior.

"In Italy, you have classes for math and language, but here you can choose your classes," Campigotto said in flawless English. "There are classes for forensic science and criminal justice. We don't have [those classes] in Italy."

Campigotto is taking Spanish and French with teacher



Sveva Campigotto, pictured with CHS Principal John Yore, has experienced kindness and hospitality from students and community members during her time in Pasadena.

Grant Yinger, who also coaches the tennis team she expects to play on.

"Sveva is an especially strong language student ... and we are able to contrast the language learning she experienced in Italy with how we teach in Anne Arundel County," Yinger said. "She has been able to weigh in on everything from handwriting styles, to the size of vehicles here and even her thoughts on our version of pizza. What's more, Sveva has been an outstanding addition to the Chesapeake family and I think the world of this young lady."

In Italy, Campigotto's classes were usually led by one older instructor who kept the same class of students all day, from 8:00am to 1:00pm, with no lunch period.

In school and beyond the classroom, she has been pleasantly surprised by the welcome she has received.

"People here are nice," she said. "For example, people ask, 'How is your day?' I'm not used to that in Italy." When asked about the common greeting back home, she said it is, "Hi, how can I help you?"

Before leaving home, Sveva had the blessing of her parents, Athos and Rosy, as well as her brother, Alessio.

"We have always been convinced that knowledge makes people stronger and that the comparison with boys and girls of the same age with different cultures and backgrounds is an invaluable treasure that will follow Sveva throughout all her life," Athos and Rosy wrote in an email.

"Of course, not everything has been easy. Solving the various problems in a little-known

language, without Italian friends or relatives, thousands of miles away from home, must not have been simple for Sveva. Even in small, negative situations, as parents we have always tried to interfere as little as possible. The goal was not only to learn a new language, but above all, to grow and mature."

Yinger said Chesapeake High School has hosted exchange students before. Last year, a student from Mexico enrolled at the Pasadena school.

"We've had a number of students studying abroad here at Chesapeake and I think that the school and the community provides a good cross section of what American life and culture is all about," Yinger said. "I'm proud to serve as a teacher in this community and I feel that, yes, the school does offer a realistic and positive experience for these students."

While Campigotto's future is yet to be determined, her top choice is to study medicine in France.

"I feel like I've grown up a lot here," Campigotto said. "I was shy in Italy. When I go home, I'm going to be more fluent in other languages and I am going to have this experience making new friends."

In their email, Athos and Rosy also thanked the International Student Exchange Programs, the host family and Chesapeake teachers for making the transition a smooth one.

"Our daughter could have gone to any destination on the East Coast. We have been lucky. Maryland and Pasadena are fabulous places, after Italy of course," they joked.

Just Dance: CHS Students Notch All-State Honors

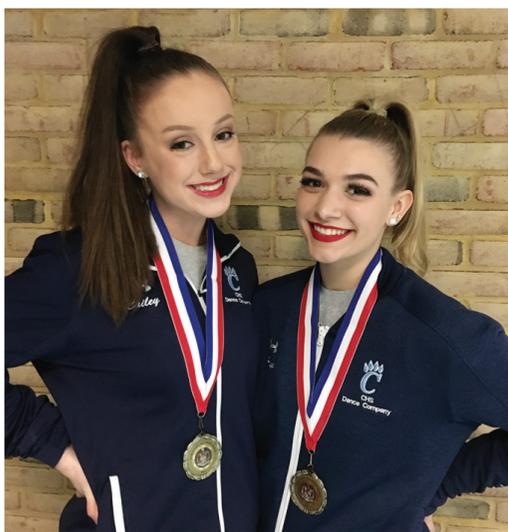
By Vanessa Reis

Two dancers from Chesapeake High School, Paige Gibson and Cailey Solano, earned All-State honors in late January, ranking them among the 26 best in the state. Earlier in January, the dancers were honored at the Maryland Public High School Dance Showcase evening concert at Goucher College.

The dancers were judged on technique, musicality, professionalism, performance, attitude and likelihood of future success in dance. They were selected via audition by a panel of professional dancers and college/university dance faculty.

Gibson and Solano spoke about their experiences starting out as young dancers and now earning All-State honors. Solano, a junior at Chesapeake High School, started dancing at 4 years old. She loved ballet the most when she first started, she said, because she "loved ballerinas and wanted to be a ballerina."

Today, she loves all types of dance, but ballet remains one of her favorites, as well



Chesapeake High students Cailey Solano and Paige Gibson were recently named All-State dancers.

as modern dance. Ultimately, she said, "just the feeling of dancing, especially when you're onstage, is incomparable to anything else."

In the All-State audition, dancers performed ballet and modern dance at an advanced level. "It really challenges you, both physically and mentally, to keep going," Solano said of the audition.

She said it gave her a taste of college-level dancing, which she plans to pursue as a dance major at a four-year college.

Gibson, who is a sophomore at Chesapeake High School, also wants to pursue dance in college. She began dancing at age 5, after seeing the Rockettes, which inspired her to take dance classes.

"I started out doing tap and ballet, and then as I got older I started experimenting with acrobatics and jazz, contemporary, musical theater," Gibson said. Then she began doing point, which is her favorite, along with contemporary dance.

As for the All-State audition, Gibson said, "it was an amazing experience," and an opportunity to learn from dancers from all over the state. Beyond her experience with the Chesapeake High School Dance Company, Gibson dances at a studio called Power Up Dance Center. Both Gibson and Solano are on the competition dance team Power Up.

Gibson said she is also a part of Anne Arundel County Public Schools' dance ensemble team. The ensemble performs in Anne Arundel County dance festivals, various other dance concerts, and by invitation throughout the school year. Dancers who qualify for ensemble via auditions must be a member in good standing with their high school's dance company, and maintain good academic standing as well.

CBMS Student Takes The Eighth-Grade "Crown" In Young Authors Contest

By Kamryn Schissler
Sixth-grade Chesapeake Bay Middle School student

Bella Blickenstaff, a 13-year-old Chesapeake Bay Middle School student with a passion for writing, was recently crowned a winner in the Anne Arundel County Reading Council's Young Authors Contest with her poem, "Fake Crown."

The council selected one winner from each grade for poetry and another winner from each grade for short story.

Bella's poem was about a girl who covers herself up to be popular. "I know a lot of people in middle school and high school who don't feel like they fit in," said Bella of her inspiration. "So they try to be someone they're not."



Photo by Kamryn Schissler

Bella Blickenstaff's winning poem was about a girl who covers herself up to be popular.

She hopes her poem will explain that people don't have to wear makeup and fake their personality to make friends.

Bella went to Lake Shore Elementary and is now an eighth-grader at Chesapeake Bay Middle School. Her English teacher, Judy

Davidson, had made participating in the contest a requirement, although Bella said she would have entered anyway.

"I've been very passionate about writing since fourth grade," she said.

Bella does not know if she will receive a prize, but she was surprised when she found out that she had won. She is also involved in drama and chorus activities at Chesapeake and is planning to perform in the school play, "Aladdin Jr."

What's in store for Bella in the future? Who knows, but she will continue to spread positivity to anyone who will listen.

"You don't have to be someone you're not," Bella said. "There's always going to be someone who appreciates you for who you are."

RBES Boy Honored During Jump Rope For Heart



Bentley Campbell

Kindergartener Bentley Campbell has had anything but an easy childhood. Now, Riviera Beach Elementary is using his story to spread awareness about heart issues.

Born with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS), Bentley was left with an underdeveloped left ventricle, which carries oxygen through the blood. He went through three open-heart surgeries, at the ages of 2 days old, 9 months old, and 4 years old. Bentley also had

two heart catheterizations. "After his first surgery, he got what they call vocal cord paralysis," explained Bentley's mom, Ora Campbell. "Basically, from the breathing tube, it did some damage and paralyzed the left side of his throat. Due to that, he couldn't swallow anything and had to get a feeding tube put in his stomach, which he had until he was almost 3 years old."

Calling Bentley her biggest hero, Ora was thrilled to learn that a gym teacher nominated Bentley to be recognized during Riviera Beach Elementary's Jump Rope For Heart event on February 19.

"Him being nominated by his school for this is a special honor for him and my family," Ora said, "especially since I was told to abort my child and that he wouldn't even make it to be a year old. This child is my miracle child and my biggest hero. He does not let this disability slow him down and take over him."

Fort Smallwood Elementary School

Q. Question of the month

Each month, the *Pasadena Voice* poses a question to a local fifth-grade class. This month, students from Ms. McQuinn's class at Bodkin Elementary answered the question:

What do you think it means to be in love?

My dog loves me; I know that because he always wants attention from me, he does not want any attention from anybody else.

Michah Aptaker

Love is when you have a feeling for someone and you want to be around them. You also would be happy and enjoy them being there. You would be there to support them when they are sad.

Natalie Bates

Love means that someone in your life cares for you and also is very important to you. It can be shown by you and also all of your family.

Jackson Drenning

My lizard is nice. He doesn't judge me by feeding him. He makes me happy.

Colten Dumsha

You have emotional feelings with that person and you care about that person deep down in your heart.

Ifeoluwa Fadele

Love is when you appreciate someone that did something important in your life and is very important to you. The person who I love the most is my mom because she takes care of everyone in my family and won't stop.

Brandon Fitzpatrick

To be in love means you have a strong relationship with a person. For example, some parents are in love and they care for you.

Violet Harris

You feel a very loving connection when you are around this person. For example, the



For the month of February, the *Voice* asked Ms. McQuinn's fifth-grade class, "What do you think it means to be in love?"

person I love the most is my mom. Whenever I am going through something, she helps me to get through.

Arianna Haskell

I think I love it when someone cares about you. That's what love is. People might think love is hearts, but that's not what love is. You can symbolize love in many ways.

Benjamin Houghton

I think that love means you will do anything for them. It's a great feeling that you feel when you see someone that you care for.

Luciana Heilman Matysek

You'll do anything for them. You'll want to see them, and if they are gone, you feel sad. You'll be happy for them when they win something, and you like spending time together and you always have fun.

Ryan Jubb

Real love is unconditional. Love is that feeling that you get when you see that special person. You care about them. Love can be a really special friendship, or it could be as simple as giving someone a hug. As an example, I love my dad, but he will always have a special place in my heart.

Jacob Katona

I think it means how somebody treats you, like your mom, dad and siblings all care for you. That is what love means: how you are cared for. It is something that

humans should have. They should be loved.

Logan Kendall

Love means you have a feeling that you can't control. You are happy and happy to be with everyone you're around. My family makes me feel loved because of the way they treat me.

Brooks Klug

I think that love could be a small act of kindness or something big for someone. Anything you do for someone is showing some love.

Bennett Kobrin

I think that love means you care for the person you love and each of you trust each other with everything.

Zavian McCain

Love means when you see someone, it just makes you so happy. You see them and you just want to give them a big hug.

Anna McGinn

I think love means you care for a person and you will do anything for them. Also, love means you always want to be with that person and you would risk your life for that person!

Ella McGinn

I think love means to stick together. Staying with your friend is the best thing ever! I also think love is when you help your family or friend when they are

struggling.

Ian Nollette

I think that love means to be happy with another person and to like what they are doing for you. For example, whenever I get off the bus, I hug my mom. Another thing that would be loving is if you are a parent and you stay home to take care of your sick kid.

Eric Permisohn

To be in love means that you care for a person or pet; they are important to you and you will do anything you possibly can in your power to always help them. For example, I always come home and say hi to my dog to make sure he is OK and loved. I will always also make sure he has food, water, toys and always try to make

sure he comes with us on a road trip no matter what.

Gracie Phann

To be in love means that you care and appreciate the person that is passionate about you. When in love, you feel a powerful connection of support and kindness that cannot be broken. However, when you lose a loved one, you miss them dearly in grief and sorrow.

Haley Razmus

To be in love means that you have found somebody you truly care about. Also, you have found somebody you have feelings for and who fills your heart with joy.

Nathan Reil

I think love is when you are happy around the person who always wants to be with you,

and you are happy to be with them too. That is called love. Another thing that love can be is when they have true feelings for you, and you have true feelings for them back. Love can be when you always stick together with a good friend that you love. All of these are love!

Bartram Shaeffer

I think love means that you care about someone and they care about you too. Also, you have feelings for someone and they truly love you too, so you stick together as a team.

Landon Sheetz

Love makes the world special. It gives you a purpose in life. It makes you happy if it's true. It happens because of you. You can make it happen.

Brandt Widmer

I think love is wanting the best for someone else while expecting nothing in return, or always wanting to be around that person because it excites you.

Jocelyn Wolfe

Love is when you care for someone and animals, like friendships, or your mom and dad or your brother and sister or maybe someone next door.

Nelson Riviera Larin

I think love is when someone in your life that is important is caring. It also means someone that would do whatever they can to help you. You appreciate someone you love because of all that they do for you. To show someone that you love them, you can give them something like a hug or maybe even a high-five.

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Photo by Judy Tacyn

Ebony Bowser's series of 10 books and accompanying novellas follows two friends, Taria Cross and LaToya Grey, as they become embroiled in a world they never knew existed.

By Judy Tacyn

Thanks to smash hits like "Twilight," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and "Charmed," just to name a few, it seems just about everyone is in love with passionate vampires, werewolves and other paranormal creatures. Pasadena writer Ebony Bowser has been fascinated with the paranormal since she was a tween, which is also as long as she's been writing.

"I have always loved to write since I was young. I was a voracious reader as a child, and I loved coming up with different stories to keep the book going," said Bowser. "I would write my versions

of stories that I would read. That is when I knew that I liked to write and that I was good at telling a story."

Her latest book, "Deadly Secrets: Brothers That Bite," is a paranormal romance series of 10 books. The series and accompanying novellas follow two friends, Taria Cross and LaToya Grey, college students finishing their last year. On the surface, they seem like nothing more than typical 22-year-olds balancing college work, social circles and their plans for the future. Their love lives are on track, too. Taria has Michael, and LaToya has Quinn.

Life is typical for the two until Taria's missing per-
» **Continued on A19**

Area Native Follows His Hollywood Dreams

By Haley Weisgerber



Jeff Howard

Every child dreams of being a part of Hollywood magic. For one Pasadena native, this dream became a reality.

Jeff Howard is a writer and producer based in Los Angeles, California. He worked as a supervising producer and writer on the hit Netflix series "The Haunting of Hill House."

A 1987 Northeast High School graduate, Howard knew he wanted to be a writer from a young age.

"I wrote a silly underground magazine when I was in high school," said Howard. "It was just a lot of fun and a lot of dumb jokes. I have no idea what made me brave enough to hand it out to people."

This was Howard's first writing experience. He

would print anywhere from 50 to 100 copies of his magazine and distribute them every few weeks.

"It was very strange, but it was fun and the teachers were really encouraging about that," said Howard. "They gave me like a journalism scholarship that I didn't know was coming

Photo courtesy of Steve Dietl/Netflix

Howard worked as a supervising producer and writer on the hit Netflix series "The Haunting of Hill House."

"It was a really long learning curve about writing screenplays," said Howard of his early years in California. "You have to be pretty good and you have to be persistent and lucky all at the same time. It took a long time. I sold my first script seven years after I graduated college."

Howard had sold screenplays for a biopic and a few comedies when he met Mike Flanagan.

Another Marylander, Flanagan introduced Howard

to horror. "He is just a horror master," Howard said of Flanagan. "He was like, 'Let's try horror,' and it turned out to be really good for us and me. And I really like it."

With the help of Flanagan, Howard dove into
» **Continued on A19**

Local Mom Combines Love Of Art And Children

By Laura McElwain Colquhoun

While growing up in Eastern Russia, Svetlana Holt developed and fostered a love of art. However, it was only recently that the Pasadena mom has been able to turn that passion for art into a small enterprise.

Her business pursuits did not take shape until after meeting her American Army husband, Apollo, as a young adult and later mov-

ing around the world with him and raising a family.

In May 2019, Holt launched Doodles & Arts, an art-based family entertainment business. Holt offers face painting, temporary tattoos and balloon twisting, though face painting is the most requested service. She works at children's birthday parties in addition to school, company and community events.

Holt said friends who
» **Continued on A19**



Svetlana Holt specializes in face painting, temporary tattoos and balloon twisting. Holt cited face painting as her most popular service. "Kids like glitter like adults like Old Bay," she said.

Annapolis Restaurant Week Returns February 29

Annapolis Restaurant Week will celebrate its 12th year from February 29 to March 8. This year, the event has been extended to nine days, allowing everyone to enjoy dining specials on both weekends as well as the weekdays.

"With 40 dining options, we wanted to make sure people had the opportunity to try their favorite restaurants and try new restaurants," said Erik Evans, the executive director of the Down-

town Annapolis Partnership.

Forty restaurants in both downtown Annapolis and the greater Annapolis area will offer two-course, price-fixed meal selections for just \$12.95 for breakfast and \$15.95 for lunch. A three-course dinner for \$34.95 will be the main attraction. Select locations will also offer additional bonus items and specials. Those wishing to give Annapolis Restaurant Week as a gift can purchase gift cards to participating

restaurants at their location and online for some locations at www.annapolisrestaurantweek.com.

"Annapolis Restaurant Week is popular with both locals and tourists," said Matt Schatzle, chairman of the Downtown Annapolis Partnership. "With so many dining options and specials, you will want to go out to eat every night this week."

Many restaurants have added gluten-free and vegetarian options to their

menus. Others will highlight chef specials available only during Restaurant Week.

For those who want to add to the experience, Annapolis has a wide range of offerings including shopping at boutiques and galleries, museums, local bands and performing arts events. Annapolis also has many hotels, inns, and bed and breakfast options. Need help planning your trip to Annapolis? Visit www.visitannapolis.org.

Dining Out

Twain's Tavern Proves Why It's A Pasadena Favorite

By Mary Cobbler

Twain's Tavern is a happening place. If you doubt that, ride by and check out the packed parking lot on the weekends. Local folks love the vibe — a modern, airy, fun place to hang out, listen to music, play pool, grab a drink, and enjoy some seriously good food.

On a late Tuesday afternoon, Twain's Tavern was already lively. The tavern is larger inside than it looks. About 20 patrons sat at the bar while eating, drinking and relaxing — some laughing out loud, others whispering. With a multigenerational clientele, Twain's is a place where anyone can feel at home.

Once I was seated in a cozy booth, my waitress, Leticia, arrived smiling and was genuinely friendly and helpful. My son said the tavern's french onion soup was "banging." So, I thought it would be a good start on a cold day. The small crock of soup was hot and hearty, with seasoned beef broth, an abundance of sautéed onions, and soft and plump croutons,



Photos by Mary Cobbler

Above: The small crock of French onion soup was hot and hearty, with savory beef broth, an abundance of sautéed onions, and soft croutons, all topped with melted cheese. Below: Beautifully presented, the cheesecake was covered in chocolate sauce with mounds of whipped cream. It was a tasty treat to perfectly end the meal.



all topped with chewy melted cheese. It was a classic, satisfying dish.

There were many tempting appetizers I filed in my brain

for another time, like French dip spring rolls (shaved prime rib with caramelized onions and provolone cheese, fried in a crispy spring roll and served

with a sweet chili dipping sauce). Snake bites, Cajun filet tips with buffalo sauce, and blue cheese and celery also looked interesting.

Asked about customers' favorite entrees, Leticia said she takes lots of orders for the burgers, and, pointing to my menu, the sirloin with asparagus, with the option of shrimp carget — jumbo shrimp sautéed in a garlic sauce topped with Havarti cheese. I picked the sirloin, and of course, for you readers, I chose the shrimp and cheese option.

I know many steak lovers will gasp, but I sometimes prefer mine well done, and sometimes that means eating seasoned cardboard, but not here. The chef cooked the lean meat perfectly for my taste, and it was still tender and well-seasoned though rather on the small side. Mild but flavorful and creamy, the cheese sauce and shrimp complemented the steak well. The shrimp were tender and tasty, but a few more of them would have added a lot.

Now, I'm not a huge asparagus fan, primarily because asparagus is usually

undercooked and flavorless or mush, but Twain's did an excellent job on this "love it or hate it" vegetable. The chef hit it right, preparing the veggie with just a touch of seasoning and cooking it to that perfect fork-tender stage.

Leticia said the customer dessert favorites were cheesecake and chocolate cake with caramel sauce. Faced with a tough choice, I asked for her personal preference. She gave me a conspiratorial grin and said, "Cheesecake, of course."

Beautifully presented, the cheesecake was covered in chocolate sauce with mounds of whipped cream. Isolating the cheesecake for a taste, I'd give it a C. It was a bit bland, not really the dense, rich taste of a superb cheesecake, but I didn't expect a superb cheesecake at a local tavern. C for cheesecake still

outranks most desserts, and covered with chocolate sauce, it was a pleasing end to a nice meal. The chocolate, whipped cream and cheesecake blended to make a sweet after-dinner delight.

Prices were reasonable — less than \$40. There are always specials. Wine Wednesdays feature 99-cent red or white wines and acoustic music; Thursdays are free music trivia nights with prizes. Food and drink specials include surf-and-turf Tuesdays for \$13.99, prime rib night on Wednesdays, \$2 domestic drafts all day Thursday, and half-price bottles of wine.

Check out the website, www.twainstavern.com, for all of the specials, sporting events, bands and more.

Twain's does a good job balancing the bar/restaurant experience. It's a fun place.

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Author Brings Paranormal, Mystery And Passion

» **Continued from A18**
son's investigation leads them to uncover something mysterious. Suddenly, Taria and LaToya find themselves embroiled in a world they never knew existed. Familiar faces around campus emerge as the victims of two of the most shocking kidnapping and murder cases in history. Clue after clue brings one dead end after another. It becomes apparent to the young ladies that their loves are hiding a secret. Who are allies, who are enemies, and can we ever tell the difference?

For her plot twists and turns, Bowser said she draws inspiration from movies or books that she has seen or read, but mostly it's her own imagination that takes over and wants to create a story worth getting lost in reading, and naturally, the story must include paranormal elements.

"I may use some mainstream ideas of what people know about vampires, werewolves, etc., but my ideas come from whatever my imagination can come up with," Bowser added. "I don't like being stuck inside a box with my writing. I want all my designs to be unique from other authors in this genre. I think of things that I haven't read about and turn those thoughts into a story. I let my ideas flow until I have a completed novel."

Combining paranormal, romance, mystery and suspense means the reader should be ready for a fast-paced adventure. Bowser's characters are well-thought-out with deep, rich histories rife with mystery.

"If you have a paranormal story, you will always have mystery and suspense surrounding each character. That is the easy part of writing paranormal for me," said Bowser. "It's combining the

romance in the middle of all the action [that] is the hard part. When do you insert a love scene ... in the middle of fighting for your life? What is easy about the romance part of paranormal is that my characters always have the soulmate that is just for them; romance is inevitable."

Based on online reviews and correspondence she receives from readers, fans of the series are anxious to read more from this author. Although "Deadly Secrets: Brothers That Bite" is complete, Bowser said there are many characters in the 10-book series that are begging her for their own books. "There are so many stories that can be told ... I have no idea how I will keep up!" exclaimed Bowser.

"Deadly Secrets: Brothers That Bite Book I," is sold on Barnes & Noble, eBooks, Google Play Books, and Amazon as eBooks. The first book is now in print and can be purchased on Amazon. The rest of the series is being prepared for print and will be available soon.

Bowser said that she has published a few novellas to the "Brothers That Bite" series: "A Vampire and His Alpha Mate," "A Hunter Touched My Soul" and a book entitled "Brothers That Bite Chronicles Volume I," a collection of short stories.

She is fast at work on a new series entitled "Deadly Secrets: The Crown Series." The first book in this series, "Deadly Secrets Hunters Reign: The Crown Series Book I," has been released, bringing the four main characters from "Brothers That Bite" in a whole new series with more mystery, suspense and romance.

For more information on Ebony Bowser and her books, visit www.ebrowsersbooks.com and www.deadlysecretsbooks.com.

Area Native Follows His Hollywood Dreams

» **Continued from A18**
horror head on.

"It's very emotional," said Howard. "They give you a chance to deal with some really weird emotions that you would think you deal with in a drama. With horror, you get to not only do it but have some real fun with it. The more mainstream they are getting, the more they are just movies like everything else."

The duo has partnered on projects such as "Oculus" in 2013, "Before I Wake" in 2016 and "Gerald's Game" in 2017. Flanagan is the creator of "The Haunting of Hill House."

"I love Hill House," said Howard. "Hill House was the first time I was walking around and heard people talking about something that I had done, which was really strange."

Though the road was not always easy, and

Howard worked as a pastry chef for many years before his career took off, he is living his childhood dream.

"I just always loved movies and television," said Howard. "Now is like a golden age of television, so to be participating in that is really fun. There's more opportunity and you can do different stuff."

Howard said he learned quickly that although Los Angeles is often romanticized as a "dream factory," success comes when you treat it like any other industry town. He credits his Pasadena upbringing for his work ethic.

"The biggest thing that came from Pasadena was just to maintain the blue-collar work ethic of just keeping your head down and don't let it get big," said Howard. "I've never been able to shake that blue-collar work ethic and I think that's probably a good thing."

Local Mom Combines Love Of Art And Children

» **Continued from A18**
own their own businesses were inspirations for her to start Doodles & Arts.

"I saw others doing it and thought, 'Why can't I?'" she said. Choosing to return to her artistic roots was a natural choice, and Holt was excited she could combine her love of art with another love, working with children.

Before Holt embarked on her business venture, she volunteered her time by face painting at family events at Fort Meade, where her husband was posted until his retirement last year. "That's when I realized how much I enjoyed the work and it could be a job," she said.

Holt enjoys the flexibility the business affords. As most of the events are on weekends, she can be home with her children during the week.

Holt loves that the job allows her to express herself creatively. Moreover, she said the most rewarding part of her job is seeing the faces of children light up

when they see their faces in the mirror after she finishes painting.

Each of Holt's face paintings take anywhere from three to seven minutes. She provides templates of images for children to choose from, or she is able to paint images from pictures she is shown. She said everyone likes glitter on their face painting. "Kids like glitter like adults like Old Bay," she said with a smile.

Doodles & Arts has expanded quickly, through referrals, word-of-mouth and online job postings. Most of Holt's clients have been local, though she has also traveled to Washington, D.C. and Virginia.

"The business has given me all I have wanted," Holt said. "It's the best job I have ever had."

Holt lives in the Green Haven area of Pasadena with Apollo and their four children.

More information on Doodles & Arts can be found at www.facepaintingmd.com.



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