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AUGUST 2023

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Marinating with Jim High

JAKE THE WATER PERSON'S TAP DANCING MALLARD DUCK



So, Jake has a dancing mallard duck that he loves to bring to local Dock Bars! A circus owner walked into a dock bar somewhere in Rock Hall to see everyone crowded about a table watching a little show. On the table was an upside-down pot and a Jakes mallard duck tap dancing on it. The circus owner was so impressed that he offered to buy the duck from Jake. After some wheeling and dealing, they settled for \$10,000 for the duck and the pot. Three days later the circus owner runs back to the bar in anger, "Your duck is a ripoff! I put him on the pot before a whole audience, and he didn't dance a single step!" "So?" Said Jake the Water person. "You're doing it wrong, did you remember to light the candle under the pot?"



An Upper Bay Boating Crew over in Tolchester Marina

A Few Boating Rules to Enforce:

1. Don't Be Late to the boat. If the Captain said noon, he didn't mean 12:01!
2. Always room for more Boobs, more Beer and more money for gas.
3. Always room for more Boobs, more Beer and more money for gas.
4. If you have to ask when we are going back, you're on the wrong boat.
5. If the Captain is yelling at the crew, the captain is wrong.
6. If the crew is yelling at the Captain, the captain is wrong.
7. Boats don't run on Thank You, but they do like Fried Chicken
8. Don't bring Goldfish Crackers. (They tend to swim all over the carpet and deck)
9. Any docking you can walk away from, is a good docking.
10. If it is going to happen, its going to happen out there.

GREAT WOLF LODGE GRAND OPENING



Our editor Wendy Gilbert, wife Kisha, and I had the opportunity to attend the grand opening of the newest Great Wolf Lodge. Cecil County and Perryville hit the jackpot! It's a world class facility, water park, hotel and great family experience. Because the waterpark is heated to 84 degrees I am looking forward to recharging the batteries several times this winter! Great Wolf is going to be a great place to spend a cold winter weekend. When we don't have the ability to go boating!!!

A Jesuit was out for a drive and crashed into another car, only to discover that the other driver was a Franciscan. "It was my fault," each insisted as is only right and proper with religious men. Concerned, the Jesuit said, "You look badly shaken up, Father. You could probably use a good stiff drink right now to calm down." He produced a flask and the Franciscan drank from it and said, "Thank you, Father; I feel much better now. But you're probably shaken up too. Why don't you have a drink as well?" "I will," the Jesuit replied, "but I think I'll wait until after the police have come."



A U G U S T !

Hot August Nights and half way through the Summer already. That is the problem with Summer. All four seasons are the exact same size. They last exactly 3 months. It just seems like Summers fly on by. Winter doesn't seem to fly by, Winter moves like a sloth and Summer like a Cheetah! So here we are on a Cheetah, enjoying the ride. Summer might be fast but you have to pack it in. Make these Summers count, get up early, stay out late, enjoy those long waterfront lunches, stay a little late on Sunday Night and watch the last set of your favorite band. Summer doesn't have to end quickly when you have had a great Summertime Cruise and not the Summertime Blues! We do not know the answer to how many Summers we are going to have. That's what makes Summertime so special!





The Dirty Dozen

By Wendy Gilbert / *Contributing Editor*

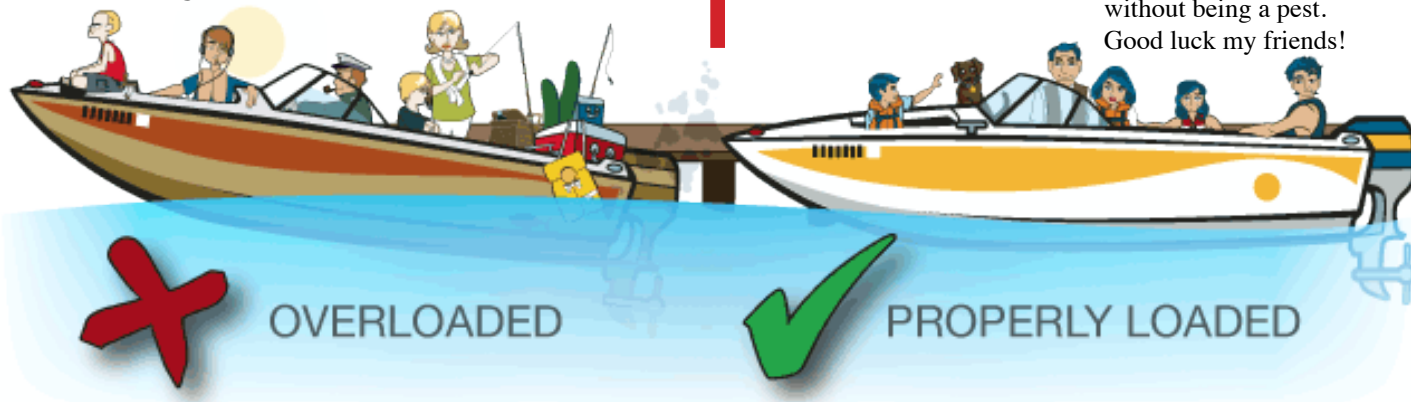
According to most boating safety experts there are a dozen common boating fails. And I've made them all at one time or another. There are lots of stories that go with them. Some reveal my stupidity, some my lack of planning and others well, they are pretty funny. Like the time I ...
Never mind that right now. Let's get down to what I call the DIRTY DOZEN.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Failing to check the marine weather forecast | 8. Getting lost |
| 2. Running aground | 9. Putting out insufficient anchor line |
| 3. Forgetting to keep up with regular maintenance | 10. Running the engine while dry |
| 4. Hitting the dock | 11. Improperly mooring the boat |
| 5. Running out of gas | 12. Trailering with the engine down/or top up |
| 6. Forgetting to put in the drain plug | |
| 7. Overloading the boat | |

When we leave the house in the morning, we check to ensure we have what we need for the day. Whether we go to work, to the store, or to an event, there's a list somewhere - on paper, on your phone, or in your head. My head's pretty full, so if I rely solely on it, something - the cell phone, wallet, purse, lunch, or travel mug is sure to be left behind. Somehow, I never do forget the coffee. Hmmm. Of course, there was that one time when it was on the roof of the car...

Even if you forget to look at your list or lost your list, modern psychology research indicates the act of writing one, really helps you remember items on it.

Sure, you checked Accu-weather last night, but did you look at it again this morning? These days, and in this bay, the weather can turn ugly quickly. I also have a bad habit of relying too heavily on my first mate or the captain of whatever boat I'm currently mooching a ride on. We are all in this together. The trick is double-checking without being a pest. Good luck my friends!



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GREAT WOLF LODGE OPENS WITH A SPLASH IN PERRYVILLE

By Wendy Gilbert

It was an “all hands-on deck” kind of day for state, county, and town officials on Thursday, June 28 when the largest, perhaps to become the greatest, Great Wolf Lodge celebrated its grand opening. Governor Wes Moore called the grand opening a “Great day for Maryland. Maryland is doing big things. To be clear this isn’t just the 20th Great Wolf Lodge, this is the best Great Wolf Lodge. This is about smiles, this is about fun, this is about family, this is about jobs, and economic growth.

“This is Maryland’s time. This is our decade.”

He pledged to return with his very eager 9 and 7-year-old children. Actor Anna Faris plans to bring her kids too. Faris joined GWL’s CEO John Murphy, Moore and other GWL executives to push the button releasing a cascade of water after sliding down one of 22 slides in a bright pink swimsuit. Her slide work (she tested all of the slides) earned a cool \$22,000 for the Make-a-Wish Foundation!

Town Mayor Matt Roath noted that the project was a “Profound undertaking for all involved. There was nothing small or simple about this project which will be the catalyst for the town’s future.” He anticipates a trickle-down effect that could come close to doubling the town of Perryville’s population. Work on expanding infrastructure, improving the community park and other projects are already underway.

This, the 20th Great Wolf Lodge has 700 family-friendly suites and 1,000 full and part-time employees, most of whom are from Cecil and Harford counties. “Great Wolf Lodge Maryland was built specifically for families and brings a



new level of immersive entertainment not only to our brand but to the entire region. Since we broke ground, we’ve had unprecedented levels of excitement from families throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, who are eager to enjoy a close, convenient and carefree family getaway at our newest resort,” said Murphy. “We’re excited to be a part of this community and help stimulate the local economy by attracting countless new visitors to the area. We greatly appreciate the support of the town of Perryville, Cecil County, and the state of Maryland, as well as our shareholders, Blackstone, and Centerbridge Partners, in helping make this resort a reality.”

Families have been enjoying the ropes course, waterpark and entertainment for a couple of weeks prior to the big opening day. Most of the entertainment takes place in the grand lobby, which is truly grand in scale. On grand opening day, a new interactive animated show called The Legend of Luna was shown for the first time. This Great Wolf Story uses innovative 3D projection mapping technology and LED screens to show how this young wolf struggles to find her place in the world.

Throughout any given day, families enjoy MagiQuest, an arcade, bowling, mini golf, mirror maze, Build-A-Bear workshops, dance parties, yoga, and multi-media movies. Characters like Violet Wolf, Sammy Squirrel, Wiley the Wolf, Oliver Raccoon, and Brinley Bear



appear and delight kids of all ages. Celebrity Chef Duff Goldman showcased new limited edition adventure cupcakes to benefit The Believe in Tomorrow Children’s House at Johns Hopkins, which will be available at the resort this summer. The 6 special cupcakes are \$6 each and 100 percent of the revenue generated will benefit critically ill children.

“This resort is a great addition to the state of Maryland, and we’re excited to bring a taste of Charm City Cakes to the families who visit, while also helping to support Children’s House at Johns Hopkins. It’s been so much fun collaborating with the Great Wolf Lodge on these Adventures cakes, and I hope the guests of the resort love them, as much as we loved making them.”

When it was time to reveal the special replica waterslide cake, Goldman was all smiles and the grand finale was a cascade of edible blue glitter, the perfect echo of the morning’s big splash. No ribbon cutting for these water-loving folks.

GWL Perryville is also home to a 7,000-square-foot conference center. A dedicated center entrance is off to the right of the lodge. Full-service menus and customizable room blocks are available. Parties and events of all kinds are held in spaces with advanced A/V technology.

For more information or to book a stay, visit greatwolf.com or call 888.983.WOLF (9653).



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PARKER YACHT SALES

North East, Maryland - June 30, 2023 - Parker Yacht Sales, a leading yacht and Boat brokerage firm with over 50 plus years in the boating industry, is pleased to announce the opening of its location in North East Maryland at Shelter Cove Yacht Basin. With its commitment to exceptional service and expertise in the boating industry, Parker Yacht Sales aim to cater to the growing demand for brokerage services in the Chesapeake Bay region.

Situated in the heart of North East, Maryland, Parker Yacht Sales boasts a prime location for boating enthusiasts and clients seeking professional assistance in buying or selling their boats. With its extensive network of industry contacts, Parker Yacht Sales provides comprehensive services, ensuring a seamless and rewarding experience for customers in the boating market.

Opening in North East, Maryland represents an essential milestone for Parker Yacht Sales. Leveraging their in-depth knowledge of the local market and the lat-

est industry trends, the experienced team at Parker Yacht Sales is well-positioned to deliver tailored solutions to clients looking to acquire or sell boats of all sizes, makes, and models.

At Parker Yacht Sales, our mission is to provide the highest level of service to our clients, helping them navigate the complexities of the boat buying and selling process, said Stephen K Parker, CEO of Parker Yacht Sales. "We are excited to open our location in North East, Maryland, and bring our expertise and passion for yachting to this vibrant community."

Parker Yacht Sales offer comprehensive services, including boat sales and marketing. Whether clients are searching for their dream boat or seeking professional assistance in selling their vessel, Parker Yacht Sales offers personalized guidance and support every step of the way.

With a reputation for integrity, transparency, and industry knowledge, Parker Yacht Sales has established itself as a trusted partner in the boating Industry. The

company's commitment to client satisfaction, combined with a deep understanding of the intricacies of yacht transactions, sets them apart as a leading brokerage firm.

For more information about Parker Yacht Sales and their services, please visit www.parkersellboats.com or contact their North East, Maryland office at (443) 553-2518.

About Parker Yacht Sales:

Parker Yacht Sales is a premier yacht and boat brokerage firm dedicated to providing exceptional service to clients in the boating market. With a team of experienced professionals and an extensive network of industry contacts, Parker Yacht Sales offers a comprehensive range of services, including boat sales and marketing. Headquartered in North East, Maryland, Parker Yacht Sales is committed to delivering personalized solutions and ensuring a seamless experience for boating enthusiasts throughout the Chesapeake Bay region.



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THE NOT-SO-ELUSIVE snakehead entrée

By Anne Sandbek

Originally native to parts of Africa and Asia, there are many species of snakehead. The Northern Snakehead in particular is native to east Asia, particularly China, Russia, North and South Korea. It was first found in Maryland in 2002 in a Crofton Pond in Anne Arundel County. Like many aquarium pets, when they get too big some people release them into local ponds or streams. While snakeheads have been introduced to non-native areas for over 100 years for food, that wasn't the case here.

Snakeheads aren't particularly sneaky, but they have an unusual adaptation that makes their invasions so widespread. They have a special adaptation that allows them to breathe air, not just water. When on land they gulp air and "army-crawl" to find new ponds. They are able to survive for four days on land. Making them keenly adapted to be an invasive species.

The northern snakeheads were well established in the Potomac River in 2004 and have since spread throughout the Chesapeake Bay. Many attempts to get their numbers under control. Have been undertaken. For example, fishing tour-



naments with prizes for the most fish caught, fish fries, laws against transporting live individuals, and commercial licenses to catch and sell. All of these are great ways to promote the demand for this invasive fish with the hopes of reducing their numbers.

So as a concerned environmentalist, I was keen to try one! While they are not particularly sly in the wild, snakeheads have found

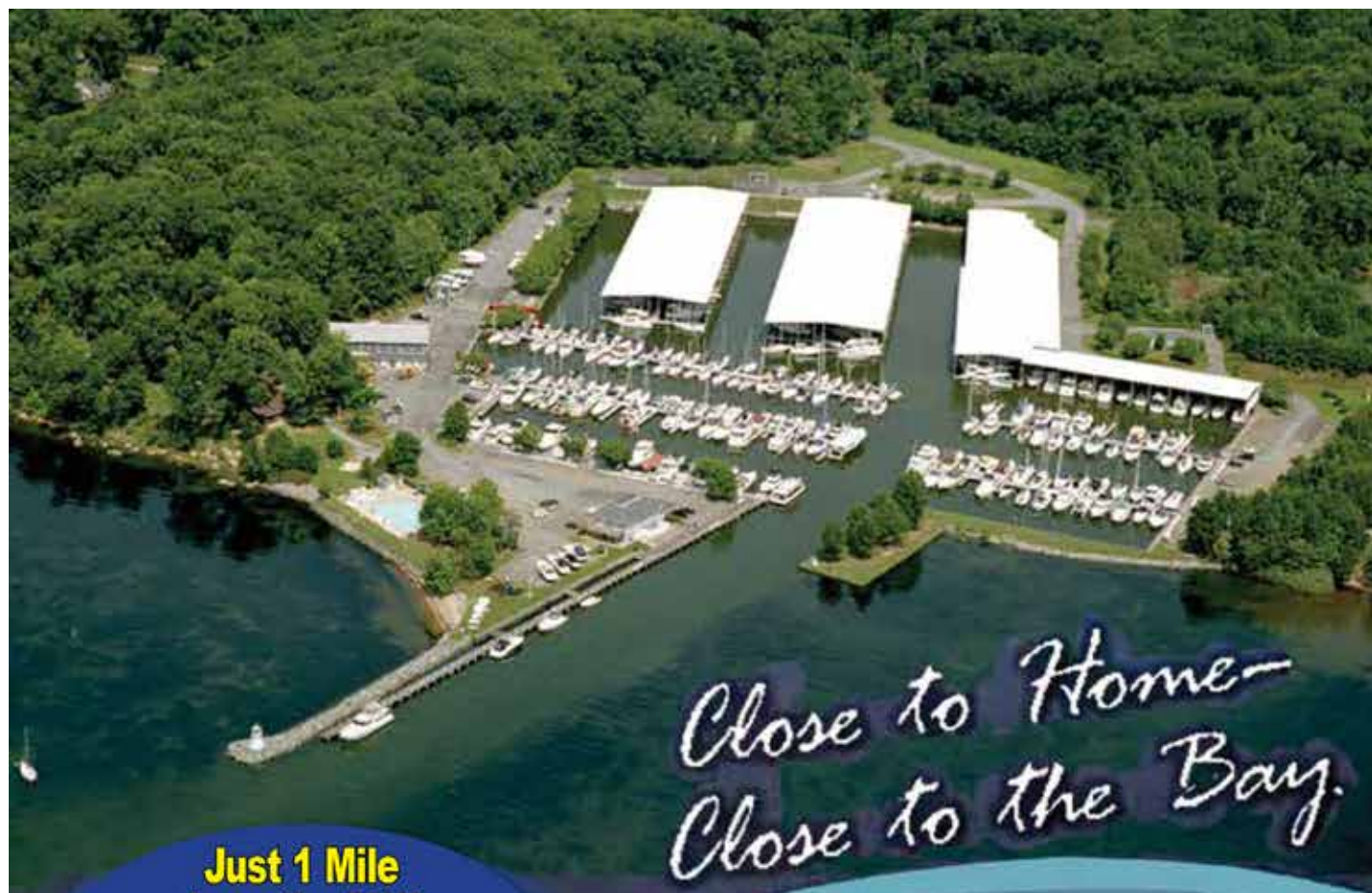
a way to avoid my plate. Over four years ago I was told that the annual company picnic would have food trucks including snakehead tacos. Since I'd been hearing about this fish for years I was beyond excited. Then a few days before the event, I got the terrible news that my grandfather had passed away. Now don't get me wrong, attending his funeral was way more important

than fish tacos, but I was bummed because afterward, all my coworkers mentioned how good those tacos tasted. I figured they'd be mainstream soon and I'd get my chance.

Fast forward a few years and insert a pandemic...

I'm at my second graduation party of the day. I walk up to the spread, and see a few serving trays with Sterno keeping something warm. Knowing my family, it was probably something delicious - and assuredly local! On the lid, written in Sharpie I see "Snakehead." Could I be that lucky? I lift the lid, steam rises... on an empty pan. I'm thwarted again!

A few days later my husband and I were in Bel Air looking for a new place to eat and found a restaurant (One Eleven Main) that uses local ingredients when possible. Lo and behold, one of the special appetizers listed was breaded snakehead! This not-so-elusive fish had finally found its way to a plate in front of me. It was a nice and juicy, flaky white fish that I was happy to eat every bite of. Supporting a local restaurant, sustainable fishing, and local waterman jobs - a meal can't get much better than that.



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CHILDHOOD FRIENDS

fishing for a cure

This August, six childhood friends will venture offshore, to fish in honor of women battling breast cancer. The "Reel Angels" have been fundraising within their community to raise money for breast cancer research and will represent their hometown during the 28th annual Poor Girls Open. The PGO is a ladies-only, billfish-release tournament that will be held at Bahia Marina in Ocean City, MD, August 17-19.

The Reel Angels will be represented by Gina Maxwell, Michele Koenig, Carla MacCord, Janell Rotella, Nicole Mills, and Kristi Neuschafer. "We have fished and crabbed the Chesapeake Bay and various rivers in Baltimore County for many years, so traveling 100 miles offshore as a team will be a real treat! In fact, three of our ladies have never been offshore. There is definitely a blend of nervousness, excitement, curiosity and determination. While every crew dreams of catching the 'big one' the true motivator is to support other women who are fighting a much bigger fight, says

Gina. Many of the team's loved ones have been affected by cancer. Sadly, Kristi's sister-in-law, Tonya Neuschafer, lost her battle with breast cancer in 2016. "I will be fishing in her honor and she will be forever missed," says Kristi.

It not only affects the lives of the patients but the lives of the families. "I have personally been called back for further mammography imaging, followed by nine breast biopsies...NINE!" Gina says. "Life can change in a split second and I naturally assumed the worst. After several very long days of awaiting the results, I was fortunate enough to receive good news."

The Reel Angels will represent the strength of those who have lost their battle with cancer, as well as those still undergoing treatment.

Each registered team is permitted to fish one day of the three. The tournament grows every year, with well over 100 boats. Entry fees are donated directly to the American Cancer Society. In addition, money is raised throughout the event with raffles, silent auctions, apparel sales, and other fun events. Spectators fill the venue at FishTales and Bahia Marina eagerly awaiting the return of each team and the lucky ladies who have fish worthy of a "weigh-in". Tuna, mahi-mahi, and wahoo hold their own sub-categories in the tournament. The heaviest of each species will place among the top 3 on the leader board. Any & billfish caught during the tournament (white marlin, blue marlin, swordfish, and sailfish) must be called in, recorded for points, and re-

leased. Length and weight are not taken in this category. Instead, the number of total releases is tallied, along with a point value for each species of billfish.

The Poor Girls Open will be broadcasted live. Viewers will have a front-row seat at the weigh-ins and will catch many interviews with the ladies. Many teams also participate in the best-dressed; contest, which inevitably fuels the excitement during the tournament! "Our team will share some highlights on social media. We will also acknowledge any sponsors that supported our team this year." The Reel Angels will graciously be accepting donations until August 19, 2023. Donations can be sent through Venmo, using the QR code below. No matter the outcome of the tournament, we have already won. Friends, fishing, fun, and fundraising to fight cancer.



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Pondering Pastimes

By L. Alan Keene

As we cut through the calm seas of the upper Bay several weeks back, the sails full with a warm late June breeze, I started thinking. Not necessarily an unusual activity for me, but one I do best, it seems, when I'm out on the water. "If I weren't out here enjoying this gorgeous early summer day," the process began, "then what would I be doing with my time?"

Now realize, this wasn't one of those guilt driven ruminations where I knew I should be at home painting the shutters or cutting the lawn. No, what I was wondering was, if sailing wasn't such a major part of our lives, then what would I be doing with myself at that moment. And carrying it one step further, "could there be any other recreational activity out there that could possibly come close to giving me what sailing does?"

"I could be standing on the 18th green, sizing up a ten-footer for birdie," the painful thought arrived, as I knew it would. You see, I've sized up plenty of those ten footers over the last fifty-some-odd years (some more odd than others), but, much to my disgust, have three puttied more than I've made.

I took up golf or, more accurately, golf took up me back during the Spring semester of my junior in college; 1966 I believe. I was so hooked on the game that instead of getting the "gentleman's C" I expected in an English lit course that semester, I took a less-than-gentlemanly grade several steps down the alphabet (funny how cutting class can affect your performance on the final!). But the 95 I shot in the intramural tournament that May made it all worthwhile....for me at least.

Golf is a wonderful pastime for patient men and women who can putt. For the impatient ones who can strike the ball pretty well but somehow can't seem to find the bottom of the hole,

it's a painful way to spend the afternoon. Believe me, I know. So do my good friends who have seen my ugly side too many times over the years. A pastime should be an enjoyable way to spend your free time... an activity that leaves you happy and refreshed. Golf wasn't that for me. In fact, it had just the opposite effect. But I must admit, if I had been able to sink a few more of those 10 footers instead of three putting them, I probably would never have considered sailing.

"Or," the thought process continued, "I could be spending the day down at the beach, stretched out shoulder to shoulder, hip to hip with that mass of humanity that evacuates the cities every summer weekend for their 'fun in the sun'." As a teenager, when I had a body, I didn't mind displaying and wasn't too embarrassed being caught appreciating some of the other bodies on display, the beach was a great place to pass the time.

In fact, it was the center of activity for our raging-hormone crowd. But the hormones stopped raging decades ago and, without that motivation, putting up with the crowds is more than I can bare.

"I might be involved in a hobby," I thought "like Fred." A hobby like woodworking or gardening, or maybe even biking or physical fitness, like Sam is." But the simple truth is that I've never been much of a hobby kinda guy. While I admire the skills of the woodworker and the gardener, and am in awe of the 60-year-old who works out 3 hours every day, I need a little more adventure in my pastime....a little more excitement. Not only does pedaling up and down hills lack the thrills I'm looking for, but it's too much like work! A pastime for me has to be fun.

"I could even be home in front of the TV watching the Phillies or NASCAR,

or the PGA." (Yep, I still love to watch golf and golfers who can putt....and boy can they putt!) But the problem with becoming a TV sports junkie is that it's all passive fun. It's all vicarious. I need to be an active participant in my pastime. I need to be involved physically in an activity that demands certain skills to be proficient.

Watching TV sports just doesn't do that.

"Aren't you going to tack now, Hon?", came Peg's anxious voice, shaking me from my reverie.

As we came about and headed off on a new tack, I began to summarize.

"My ideal pastime MUST:

- 1) LEAVE ME HAPPY AND REFRESHED...unlike golf.
- 2) BE AWAY FROM THE MADDENING CROWDS... unlike the beach.
- 3) OFFER THRILLS AND A SENSE OF ADVENTURE...unlike hobbies.
- 4) DEMAND PHYSICAL AND MENTAL SKILLS...unlike TV sports."

"Hmmm. Let's see. After a day of sailing out on the Bay, I'm relaxed and happy; the afterglow lasts for hours. Even though there are other boaters out here on the water, sailing gives me the feeling of being totally alone with the wind and the waves. And talk about thrills.... standing on the sides of the cockpit lockers as we sail to weather, the rail flirting with the seas? Can't beat that for excitement. And none of this could happen without having a certain level of proficiency with the tiller and the sheets."

And now that I think about it, there's one more thing sailing does for me that the others don't. It helps me forget all about those shutters that need painting and that front yard that needs cutting. What more could I ask from a pastime?

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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES CERTIFIES TWO NEW CLEAN MARINAS

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has awarded Clean Marina certification to **HILLTOP MARINA IN BALTIMORE COUNTY AND BOHEMIA BAY YACHT HARBOUR IN CECIL COUNTY.**

There are now 147 certified Clean Marinas in Maryland, representing about 30 percent of the marinas in the state. The Clean Marina designation is awarded to marinas that comply with all applicable regulatory requirements and voluntarily adopt a significant portion of recommended best practices in the Maryland Clean Marina Guidebook.

HILLTOP MARINA co-owner Gary Moler operates the small “slips only” marina on Hopkins Creek off the Middle River in Essex. With minimal amenities and no staff, this marina is considered a “Clean Marina Partner.” Moler has taken steps to prevent pollution such as preparing an emergency response plan, assembling a spill response kit, and sharing clean boating tips with his slip holders.

At **BOHEMIA BAY YACHT HARBOUR** in Chesapeake City, General Manager Ken Long and his team have voluntarily taken spill prevention and response training, they maintain a stormwater pond and berm system to capture stormwater and any sediment or debris, and they offer single-stream recycling as part of their Clean Marina efforts.

Marinas, boatyards, and yacht clubs of any size are encouraged to pursue Clean Marina certification to help reduce pollutants in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Clean Marina tools, including the guidebook and an award checklist, are available on the Department of Natural Resources website.

Free resources and technical assistance to marinas seeking the award are also available from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Questions can be sent to donna.morrow@maryland.gov.

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DOCKSHARE, the Airbnb of Boat Slips and Docks, Offers Wefunder Investment Opportunity to Open Access to Docks for Recreational Boaters Across the U.S.

Baltimore, MD – Dockshare, the innovative platform dubbed as the "Airbnb of boat slips and docks," a two-sided marketplace app and web platform that allows for boaters to rent private dock space, is excited to announce its partnership with Wefunder, enabling the community to invest in the company's vision and increase access to private docks for boaters across the United States from Florida to Washington State.

Co-founders husband and wife team, Gina and Nate Youngshare the tremendous momentum Dockshare has gained

this season, evidenced by a significant surge in website traffic, expanded listings in 25 states, and an increased number of booking requests. As Nate concludes their participation in the Washington Maritime Blue accelerator program in Seattle, Dockshare is now poised to enter its next phase of substantial growth.

With a mission to revolutionize the boating industry, Dockshare provides a user-friendly online platform that provides boat owners with convenient docking options. By leveraging the sharing economy model, Dockshare empowers dock

owners to monetize their assets by renting out available boat slips and docks, while providing a seamless booking process for boaters.

Recognizing the immense potential and the community's enthusiasm for Dockshare, the company has partnered with Wefunder to open an investment opportunity. This exclusive collaboration allows passionate individuals and boating enthusiasts to become part of the Dockshare journey by investing in the platform.

On June 1, Nate pitched Dockshare to potential investors, presenting the exciting opportunity to contribute to the

company's growth and expansion. By joining this remarkable venture, investors not only become part of the future success of Dockshare but also actively shape the boating industry by fostering innovation and accessibility.

Dockshare's successful completion of the Washington Maritime Blue accelerator program has equipped the team with invaluable expertise and they are now poised to soar to new heights in the coming months.

Now is the time to embark on the Dockshare journey and help it become the next big name in the boating industry.

For immediate release. For further information, please visit <https://dockshare.app/> or contact Laura at info@dockshare.app.

About Dockshare:

Dockshare is a pioneering platform, often referred to as the "Airbnb of boat slips and docks," that aims to revolutionize the boating industry. Through its user-friendly online platform, Dockshare connects boat owners with enthusiasts seeking unique and hassle-free boating experiences, providing a seamless booking process and unlocking the potential of unused boat slips and docks.

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Welcome to *North East*

By Kimberly Merriken



Cecil County is located at the northern end of the Chesapeake Bay and is home to a state park, five rivers, and several marinas. It is also home to a little town named North East. If you have never visited this town, you definitely should. You can easily access it via Interstate 95 (Exit 100), Route 40, or by boat. There are several places to dock for the day. This month I had the pleasure of speaking with Carolyn Crouch, who is a woman of many trades. She is a judge of the Orphans Court, runs a small publishing company, is the business manager for Woody's restaurant group, and has a shop in the antique mall. Carolyn is very proud of what North East has to offer.

After speaking with Carolyn, and taking a drive through North East, it is exactly what I picture in my head when I think of Main Street America. The eclectic gathering of shops has something for

everyone. Small businesses sell everything from candles and candy to gourmet dog treats and bait and tackle. Two coffee shops, including one that features on-site grinding of a variety of beans, are busy all day long. A two-story antique mall was originally a hotel and 5 & 10 cent store.

There are many restaurants and places to get a bite in town. You can tie up at the Nauti-Goose and eat there or walk a few blocks to Main Street. Snatchers Creekside, Steak and Main, Woody's Crab House, Tacos and Tequila, Woody's Ice Cream Shop, Stackers, Bella's Pizza, The Forge, and Pier 1 have recently been joined by Dimples Philly Cheesesteaks. There is something and someplace for every taste and budget. West Street Village is modeled after a London mall. North East is also home to the Upper Bay Museum on West Walnut Street. There

is a large collection of boating and fishing artifacts and you can see a timeline for the progression of fishing and boating throughout the years. You can learn about waterfowl hunting and about being a waterman. Boat-building classes are held in conjunction with Cecil Community College. While you are there, take a walk around the community park and enjoy the views or put your pole in the water. Notable annual events in North East include Salute to Veterans, which they have been hosting for over 20 years now. The event's finale is fireworks on the river. You've missed this year's event but you can mark your calendars for next July 3. The town's annual Unicorn Quest is slated for Aug. 12. The North East Triathlon is Aug. 20.

For additional events slated visit northeastmd.org. There is the big Christmas Parade on the first Satur-

day in December. My niece highly recommends it. And don't miss the Santa House, which is open during the holidays. You should be able to find something for even the hardest-to-shop-for person on your list in North East.

For visitors who would like to stay and spend another day of shopping and eating, there are some great Airbnb's and a nice Best Western right off I-95. There is also Elk Neck State Park right down the road for those adventurous folks who like to camp, hike, bike, boat, and swim.

Check out the North East Chamber of Commerce's website (<https://northeast-chamber.org/>) or Facebook page (North East MD Chamber of Commerce or West Street Village, LLC) and head on up north for an amazing day of shopping, food, and drinks. Watch the sunset from the dock and don't forget to tell them your friends at Upper Bay Boating Magazine sent you.



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Women on the Water

Spotlight on Jackie Wheeler

By Kimberly Merriken

This month I had the pleasure of speaking with Ms. Jackie Wheeler. Jackie grew up working for her parents at Miller's Island Propeller, Inc. Her parents bought the property in 1971 when Jackie was just 12 and her brother was 11. The property located at the Patapsco River and Chesapeake Bay junction was originally a tavern. Her father tore down the tavern to make way for a foundry.

What originally started as a foundry and propeller reconditioning shop has expanded throughout the years to include a machine shop and a distribution service. In 1999, the company purchased the historic Bethlehem Steel Wire Stranding Mill, which has rail service, and increased its manufacturing and warehouse space significantly.

Jackie has fond memories of watching her dad work in the foundry. She and her brother spent their summers working in the business when they weren't busy with sports or school. Jackie was a lacrosse player as a child. When she was old enough to drive, Jackie began picking up the propellers for repair. Jackie often ran up into Delaware and then worked her way down through Rock Hall and Tolchester. Jackie remembers spending four days a week meeting with marina owners and her fifth

day was spent working in the office, where she answered phones, and worked on processing invoices and payroll.

Jackie is proud that her family has been able to continue the business after her parents passing. Her brother owns the business, one nephew runs the foundry, and another does the accounting, while Jackie works mainly in the office. They have a staff of three full-time drivers and one part-time driver who do twice weekly pick-ups and deliveries to marinas and marine busi-

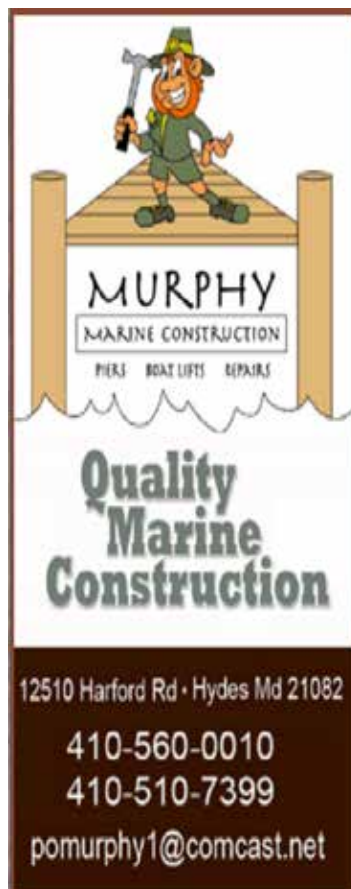
nesses. They have also expanded their pick-ups into New Jersey.

Millers Island offers state-of-the-art propellers from Michigan Wheel, VEEM, Volvo Penta, and Chesapeake propellers, as well as struts, rudders, couplings, packing boxes, and underwater hardware. They custom-build stainless-steel struts and rudders and cast reproductions of discontinued parts.

And after a long week working at the family business, what does this woman

on the water do in her free time? She loves to relax at home with her rescue animals. She has four dogs, three from Vietnam that were set for slaughter, and three cats.

Next time you are in need of repairs, reconditioning, or custom manufacturing of a prop or other underwater hardware head over to Miller's Island Propeller, 2200 Sparrows Point Road, or give Jackie a call at 410-477-4500, and let Jackie know you read about her in Upper Bay Boating Magazine.



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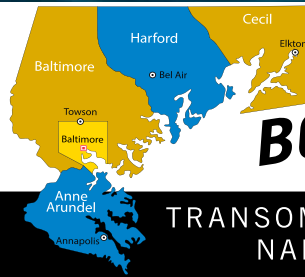
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CATCHING BLUE CRABS

By Montana Grant

Maryland steamed crabs are tasty and fun to catch. Marylanders love to feast and fish for these “beautiful swimmers”. There are many places and ways to catch these critters. Summertime is the best time to take some kids out to fill a bushel. Blue Crabs are known as “Callinectes Sapidus”. This

Greek word means hard shelled, bound, jointed and savory. Crabs are clawed and have pincers that need to be avoided. Fingers and toes are the most common targets. Every kid will figure that out when they pester a crab or get too close. Keep some Band-aids handy.

THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO CATCH MARYLAND BLUE CRABS.

TROT LINES Most trot liners use 100-yard lines that have a bait every 3-6 feet apart. Sturdy baits like eel and bull lips last longer when salted. The heavy cord is anchored at each end and marked with a buoy. The boat will need a roller attachment that lifts the line from the water. A long handled di net is used to scoop up the crabs as they come to the surface, hanging onto the bait. Speed and skill are important when netting crabs. Big crabs often drop off as they near the surface.

CRAB POTS Crab pots are made of chicken wire. These cube-shaped traps are a few feet wide.

There is a bait compartment and entry ports where crabs can enter but not exit. You leave a pot in a location for several hours and return to check it out. There can be a few dozen crabs in a single pot.

COLLAPSIBLE TRAPS The biggest crabs often drop off trotlines and hand lines. They didn't get big by being dumb. A trap will tackle the big Jimmies. Attach the bait in the center of the trap. Have a line from the trap to a milk jug for your float. You can use a small boat, canoe, or raft to run a line of traps. Check regulations for how many traps you can use. Approach the buoys stealthily and grab the lines.

A quick snap will close the trap and catch the crab inside.

HAND LINES Crab lines are simple. Chalk line or cord will do. Use a bolt or heavy fishing weight to hold a chicken neck to the bottom. Toss them off a pier, shore, or gunwale. When the line pulls tight, gradually drag the crab into netting range. A long-handled wire net works best for the final scoop. The higher the pier, the longer the net. An 8-foot net is a good length. 2 crabbers work best. One can slowly retrieve the line while the other dips the net. It takes practice. Place the net into the water before the crab is at the surface, then scoop away.

DIP NETS/ ROLLER NETS Wading in the shallows and hunting swimming crabs is great fun. Wear a closed-toe pair of old sneakers. Long pants will keep any jellyfish off your legs. If you have a roller net, roll it through submerged grass beds. When crabs molt or sluff their shells, they hide in the grasses. The roller net will help to find them. Hard crabs are also in the grass to prey on these vulnerable crabs. Scoop them up as you go. Use an inner float tube with a bushel basket inside to hold the hard crabs. Place the soft crabs into a wet canvas bag and lay them on top.

You may need a boat for some of these methods. You can also crab from shorelines, beaches, jetties, and piers near your boats. If you are using a boat, toss out two anchors to hold the boat in place. Now toss out your hand lines. If you beach your boat, toss lines into the shallows and mark each with an attached stake. If you have fish heads, tie them to your hand lies and hang on!

Baits vary with personal choice and availability. Chicken necks, razor clams, bull lips, eels, and fish heads will do the trick. These baits can be tied onto a string, placed in web bags, or into bait containers to attract hungry crabs. When the bait is no longer fresh, crabs will not eat so keep your bait fresh.

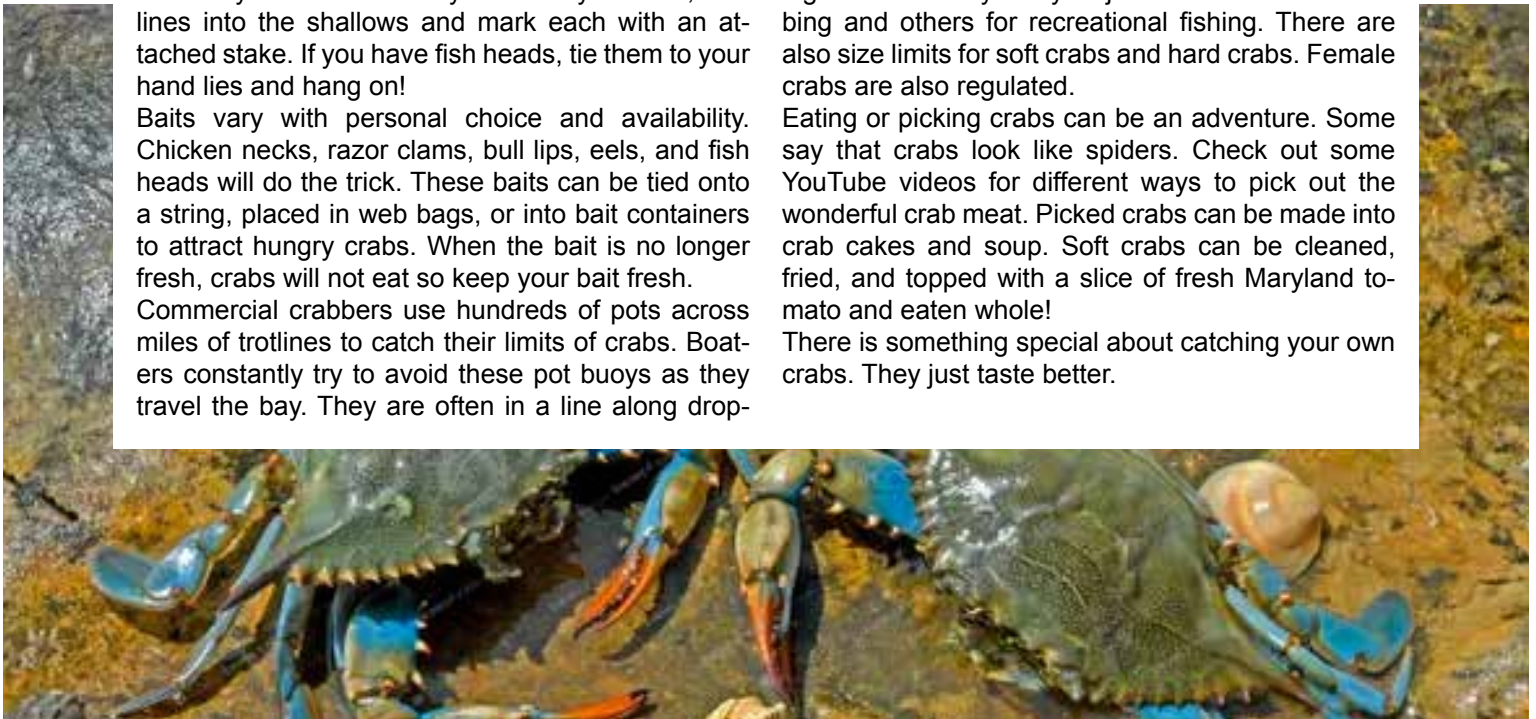
Commercial crabbers use hundreds of pots across miles of trotlines to catch their limits of crabs. Boaters constantly try to avoid these pot buoys as they travel the bay. They are often in a line along drop-

offs, channels, and weed beds.

Seasonal regulations change based on the weather and health of the crab population. Check for current regulations in the area you plan to fish before heading out. Some days may be just for commercial crabbing and others for recreational fishing. There are also size limits for soft crabs and hard crabs. Female crabs are also regulated.

Eating or picking crabs can be an adventure. Some say that crabs look like spiders. Check out some YouTube videos for different ways to pick out the wonderful crab meat. Picked crabs can be made into crab cakes and soup. Soft crabs can be cleaned, fried, and topped with a slice of fresh Maryland tomato and eaten whole!

There is something special about catching your own crabs. They just taste better.



DONATING YOUR BOAT

By TowBoatUS Captain Dale Plummer

I know you love her, but if she just isn't what you need anymore, maybe it's time to move on. You can choose to sell, demolish, or donate that old boat to clear the way to the new boat of your dreams. (What did you think I was talking about???)

For individuals who decide to make a boat donation, the IRS offers tax deductions at the fair market value for qualified gifts during a given tax year. This includes marine electronics such as fish finders, radar, autopilots, and other accessories. Because your boat donation is not monetary, the watercraft must be appraised at fair market value.

Charitable organizations are prohibited from assigning a value to donations, so identifying how much your boat is worth is very important. Find and compare the sales of similar boats in your area to determine current market value. Although not required it can also help to hire a professional, qualified marine surveyor for an appraisal.

Appraisal guides are available to determine the anticipated market value of vessel donations like boatvalue.com or boats.com/nada-guides. By keeping good records of the history of your boat, with the help of a professional tax advisor, you can evaluate if you would benefit from filing a noncash charitable contribution form.

There are plenty of worthy non-profits who may want your boat. Some organizations require the engine to be in working order while other organizations will take a boat in "as is" condition. Most specify that your donation will support their mission to help a charitable group like veterans, cancer patients or the disabled.

Whatever you choose, be sure to understand all of the requirements involved. For information about local organizations who accept boat donations go to <http://www.towboatusbaltimore.com/marinas.html>. As always, we are happy to help!

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Fun With WHITE PERCH

By Tim Sherman



I always contend that fishing is not about how big the fish is or how many you catch. Sure, we pride ourselves in catching quality and quantity, for it gives us a sense of accomplishment. The pleasure of fishing is just that. It's the joy we get from the day out in nature, setting the hook and fellowship with our fishing partner. That being said, one of my great joys in fishing is parking over big schools of white perch and jigging them up. I've had days when I have caught 100 fish and days where very few in school would cooperate. The tough days make me appreciate the great catches.

Summertime perch fishing is my favorite. The Patapsco River is my destination. In my years of fishing the P-taps, I have several spots that I can count to hold perch. These areas have several things in common. I am looking for hard bottom areas in 10 to 12 feet of water with tidal flow. White perch are as tide-dependent as most other species in the

bay. We don't think about it as such, but they do have a predatory instinct and feed on minnows, small crabs, and grass shrimp that come their way. This is the reason why I choose to jig for perch versus bottom fishing for them.

You don't need heavy tackle to catch white perch. I find it takes the fun out of catching them. I use lite and ultra-light spinning outfits spooled with 6-pound-test copolymer line. I don't use braided line because, for me, it's easier to dislodge jigs from snags found amongst the rocks and shells with copolymer line. This setup is more than adequate to hook and land perch. Should you hook to big black back perch, or two at a time, you will be challenged.

My tandem jig rig is tied with 10-pound-test fluorocarbon line so that one length is 18 inches and the other is 9 inches. I have found that if I use equal lengths, the rig will tangle on itself. I have 1/8-ounce ball head jigs tied on either end. I tie directly to

the surgeon's loop on the rig.

I'll tip the jig heads with any of an assortment of soft plastics. Sizes range from 2 1/2 to 3 3/4-inches. I'll use both small fluke-type plastics and paddle tail minnows. The fluke-style baits are typically the longer of the baits. I can switch between colors and styles to find out which is working best. If I'm looking to keep a few of the larger perch, I'll use the larger soft baits.

There are times when the vertical approach of jigging doesn't pan out. One of the biggest clues is that you get your strike as you reel your rig back to the boat. This is when I reach for my second rod which has a spinner tied on. I use both inline spinners and beetle spin-like rigs, choosing a small twister tail or paddle tail to give the action.

Being geared up is a big part of catching white perch. However, in order to catch them, you have to find them first. The spots I fish are not small in nature. They can be 50 to 200 yards long. I'll

start at one end and fan-cast my lure while keeping an eye on the electronics. The first bites will clue me in on which direction to go and the aggressive nature of the perch. The fish finder will show me the size and makeup of the school.

On a slack tide, the school will be flat along the bottom and the bites will be slow. Many times, letting the lure sit with barely a shake will get the bite. When the tidal current starts to flow, the school will stack up and the bite becomes more aggressive. This is when the fun begins. When a perch strikes my tandem rig, I'll set the hook and let it make a run. Often times a second perch will snatch the other jig while the first perch moves away.

Though it may be hot outside, white perch fishing should be as hot as the air temps. While the Patapsco River harbors my white perch spots, these tactics will work at similar spots on your favorite fishing grounds. Now is the time to have fun with white perch.

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Argo™ featured as “App of the Day” on Apple App Store

Argo built upon its recent momentum as Apple’s App Store featured the navigation and social boating app as their “App of the Day.” With thousands of five-star reviews, a viral TikTok video, and a major spike in downloads, Argo has quickly become the go-to app for boating enthusiasts everywhere. Here are just a few of the reviews boaters have given Argo:

“Best Navigation app!! Should be downloaded by every boater. By far the best marine app on the market.”

“I love everything about this app. Great for trip planning!”

“This app is just amazing and so easy to use! It’s like Waze but for boats. Love this app so much!”

Given the nickname “Waze for boaters” by users, Argo offers a comprehensive set of features designed to elevate marine adventures. The app offers auto-routing, local knowledge, customizable charts, Captain’s Log, and much more.

New features are also coming soon, including a new quick route feature (just added), importing/exporting GPX tracks/routes, multiple boats and waypoints, plus a new desktop version. To get even more out of the Argo experience, users can also sign up for Premium for just \$19.99/year.

About Argo

Argo is a free navigation and social boating app created by boaters, for boaters. Launched in 2019 in the Chesapeake Bay, it now offers boaters throughout the U.S, Canada, and the Caribbean a safer, easier, less costly way to navigate.

It incorporates unlimited NOAA/USACE charts, auto and manual routing, robust Captain’s Log, and social features to connect with friends and club members on the water. Argo is available for free on a phone or tablet from the App Store or Google Play, and a premium version with expanded features is also available for purchase.

More information can be found at www.argonav.io.

2023 Kent County Waterman’s Association Waterman’s Day & Boat Docking Dock it Like A Girl

From Local In Kent, MD 9 year old young lady Miss Peyton from Tilghman’s getting it done at 2023 Kent County Waterman’s Association Waterman’s Day & Boat Docking

This 9 year old young Lady Captained the May Worm at the Boat docking contest in Rock Hall on Sunday, July 2. She was sweet enough to come and visit with the Captain of the Big Worm. This girl is going to do great things. Big thanks to the Kent Island Waterman’s Association for a great day



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CULT CLASSIC Brewing Company

By Kimberly Merriken

BEER! HERE! GET YOUR COLD BEER HERE!

This month I took my chances and headed across the bridge to Stevensville and stopped at Cult Classic Brewing Company. It took just about one hour to get there but the experience was worth the drive.

My beer aficionado and I knew this was special when we first pulled into 1169 Shopping Center Road. The sign outside read, CULT CLASSIC BREWERY – TAPROOM “A BREWERY IN A GROCERY STORE”. And yes, the building was indeed once an Acme grocery store.

Cult Classic took over the space back in 2018 creating a family and dog-friendly tap room. The McNew brothers, Jesse and Brooks, had run a home brew shop for nearly 20 years before opening the Cult Classic Brewery and Taproom. They saw it as a way to offer a live venue for local music artists to perform and for the public to experience their very tasty beers.

So, let's talk beer. With all those taps there is something for everyone. I



prefer lighter beers and loved Attack of the Strawberry Blonde, as well as Love Point Light and Berliner Weisse. The Attack of the Strawberry Blonde had just enough of a strawberry hint to make it refreshing for summer. Love Point Light definitely receives a high ranking from me for a light beer. It was

also crisp and refreshing not heavy at all. The Berliner Weisse or “Champagne of the North” was WOW. It was refreshingly tart, and I did sample it with a splash of raspberry syrup. LOVED IT! My beer-snob travel partner was impressed with The Thirst, Equals Beer (blood orange IPA), but his favorite by far was UFOria Citra IPA.

In addition to their beers, they also have liquor and hard seltzer. The food was great, as well. My travel partner had a Chipotle Chicken Wrap, while I ordered the KI Pie. The hand-tossed crust was phenomenal. Fantastic service and fantastic taste. There are also wings, traditional pub food like fries, mozzarella sticks, burgers, and also desserts. And once you have fallen in love with the beer, atmosphere, and staff, you can get all your Cult Classic merchandise to commemorate your experience. There is a wide assortment of shirts, work shirts, and beanies.

So, check out the events listing, grab a few friends, and head over to Cult Classic Brewery and Taproom and whether you sit inside the movie-themed tap room, or outside on the patio, whether you sample a flight or already know which you like, make sure you let them know that your friends at Upper Bay Boating Magazine sent you.



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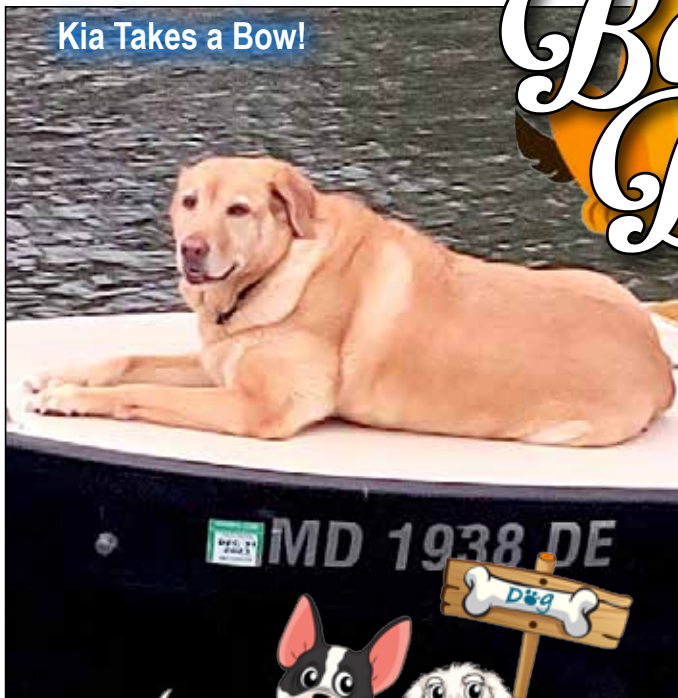
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Celebration of Communities



Volunteers and Interns walking the 89th Annual Dundalk Parade

Celebrating the 4th of July with parades and fireworks makes us think about and value our independence. It was great to see so many people on the parade route in Dundalk cheering all the floats as they passed, waving the American flag and celebrating together. We would like to thank our volunteers, communities and other organizations for working together to celebrate and value our freedom and independence and improve our environment.



Summer interns, Kira (CCBC), Cayla (UMBC) and Ivy (Towson Univ).

Our interns have been cleaning up & saving lives by pulling dangerous logs from Back River and returning a turtle to a safe place after finding it crossing the road. They could be seen on the parade route handing out keychain reusable straws, water bottles and wildflower seed packets.



Connect with your Community and Nature

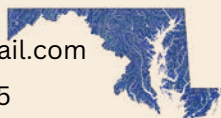
A Farmer's Market supports local businesses and help us connect with our neighbors and natural resources. Promoting better life habits, improving the environment are just a few of the benefits.

Maryland Waterways Foundation is working together with Leah Biddinger of the Sussex Community and Kevin McDonough from the Rockaway Beach/Turkey Point Improvement Association in Essex to bring you the All New Essex Farmer's Market. The market will offer fresh produce from *Martin Farms Harvest*, micro-greens from *Reap What You Sow*, local wine from *Boordy Vineyards** and many other local vendors and crafters. See our FB page for vendor updates. Check it out for yourself on the first and third Friday thru October (4-7 pm) at the 500 Block of Maryland Avenue.

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