Photo by: Jon Shriner, the BQ Drone Guy

# ANNAPOLIS POWERBOAT SHOW OCTOBER 5TH-8TH 2023

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MAGAZINE

JIMMY BUFFET EDITION THANK YOU JIMMY!



**FALL 2023** 



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Mike and Holly Markette, The Mayor of Huntington Beach CA Kieth Bohr, plus Kisha and yours Truly hanging in Key West at Jimmy Buffets Shrimp Boat Record Studio. Jimmy was in town playing the Key West Amphitheatre and we were hoping to say THANK YOU JIMMY!!! February 3rd 2023

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### **Upper Bay Boating Magazine**

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# Marinating with Jim High

### THE DASH

by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning... to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears,

but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that they spent alive on earth.

And now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own -- the cars...the house...the cash.

What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard. Are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real,

and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more, and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile,

remembering this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash, would you be proud of the things they say 9about how you spent YOUR dash?



Buffet Jimmy wrote my soundtrack. Back in Overlea High School I smoked a lot of marijuana, sold a bunch also. At the time I was intent on being a young drug entrepreneur and semi-juvenile delinquent. Later I attended Chesapeake High School with the same philosophy. I "retired" at 18 from that life. My nickname at the time was Spicolli, very much for good reason. Jimmy Buffet wrote Spicolli's Theme. A song from the movie Fast Times at Ridgemont High. Over the years Upper Bay Boating has devoted a lot of pages to Fast Times at Summertime High. It just so happens another Overlea High School grad wrote and sang another song from that movie... Raised on the

Radio by Rob Fahey. Rob, to this day, knows my nickname is currently Ridgemont High. So, back in the '90s, I saw Jimmy at least three times that I remember. We watched Jimmy Buffet concerts at the Baltimore Boat Show at least 500 times. My son J.C. and I drove to Chicago to see him at Wrigley Field. Kisha and I saw him twice. Once more at Merriweather Post with Brenda Wilmoth and crew. I enjoyed all the great times, memories, smiles, and Margaritas JWB brought to this world. God blessed Jimmy Buffet and God blessed all of us for his music. I wish I had a Natural Light for every time I heard the song Margaritaville! So, from Middleritaville, Key Wessex, Merryland RIP JWB!

### **BACK TO SCHOOL!**

A teacher is teaching a class and she sees that Jimmy isn't paying attention, so she asks him, "If there are three ducks sitting on a fence, and you shoot one, how many are left?" Jimmy says, "None." The teacher asks, "Why?" Jimmy says, "Because the shot scared them all off." The teacher says, "No, two, but I like how you're thinking." Jimmy asks the teacher, "If you see three women walking out of an ice cream parlor, one is licking her ice cream, one is sucking her ice cream, and one is biting her ice cream, which one is married?" The teacher says, "The one sucking her ice cream." Jimmy says, "No, the one with the wedding

ring, but I like how you're thinking!" Teacher: "If I gave you 2 cats and another 2 cats and another 2, how many would you have?" Jimmy: "Seven." Teacher: "No, listen carefully ... If I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?" Jimmy: "Seven." Teacher: "Let me put it to you differently. If I gave you two apples, and another two apples and another two, how many would you have?" Jimmy: "Six." Teacher: "Good. Now if I gave you two cats, and another two cats and another two, how many would you have?" Jimmy: "Seven!" Teacher: "Jimmy, where in the heck do you get seven from ?!" Jimmy: "Because I've already got a freaking cat!"



PUSSER PAINKILLER SEASON! Now... A Pusser's Painkiller can be enjoyed anywhere and everywhere and whenever of course of course! However, having worked the Annapolis Powerboat Show for 30 some years and having purchased a Pusser's Painkiller at pretty much all of them, Autumn has become Painkiller season.

I also have a Painkiller Tin Cup Collection and so from the Annapolis Powerboat Show clear through Christmas, it is game on! Maybe it's nutmeg? Fresh cracked nutmeg or maybe all four fingers of delicious Pusser's Rum. So... any who!!! Here is the recipe:

### INGREDIENTS

2-ounces Pusser's Rum 4-ounces pineapple juice

- 1-ounce orange juice
- 1-ounce cream of coconut
- Freshly grated nutmeg

### DIRECTIONS

Add liquid ingredients to a cocktail shaker and shake vigorously. Pour into a big glass or goblet filled with ice. Grate fresh nutmeg on top.

Garnish with an orange slice and cherry.

Be careful-this is a smooth and sneaky drink. Enjoy!

A delightful blend of Pusser's Rum, pineapple juice, orange juice, and cream of coconut, served on the rocks with an orange slice and a cherry, then topped off with freshly grated nutmeg.

Be Careful -This is a very smooth drink.

Up to Four Ounces of Four Fingers Pussers Painkiller - Tin Cups are recommended.

Whole Nutmeg in a Grinder can be purchased at Wholefoods, MOMS, Wegmans or from Amazon.



By Wendy Gilbert Contributing Editor

I came of age during the '70s and listening to the radio wasn't just a passive entertainment. We actively listened to the radio. Some of those songs were terrible and silly and wildly popular. We sang along to everything back then – pop, country, soul, funk, disco, and folk were all on a single station. WPGC in my case.

Sometimes we'd put our brush/ microphone down and dance and it wasn't unusual for my sister and

# THE POWER OF A GOOD BALLAD

I to choreograph an entire routine. We were way ahead of TikTok, but will forever be grateful we were also way ahead of cell phones and YouTube videos.

In addition to pop songs, we listened to ballads -- some were tragic and they plucked our heartstrings like the guitars they were soulfully played upon. We mourned the loss of Viet Nam War soldiers, sailors onboard the Edmund Fitzgerald and suicidal homosexThey were tough times.

uals.

Over the years my taste in music has wandered through the spectrum, but like so many boaters, Jimmy Buffet's songs earned a permanent place in my heart. His songs helped me through some hard times, eased me into adulthood and celebrated all that it means to be fully alive in this world. Life can be all of the things Jimmy wrote about – drunken mistakes, sorrowful moments, fantastic and wonderful times and sad, meaningful stories.

We'll toast his passing with our favorite boat drinks and if we're in recovery, we'll just sparkle up a little something fizzy just for fun.



# **JIMMY BUFFETT** (December 25, 1946 - September 1, 2023)

The beloved singer-songwriter Jimmy Buffett passed away at his home in Sag Harbor, Long Island on Friday, Sept. 1, 2023 surrounded by family and friends. Buffett, 76, had been fighting Merkel Cell Skin Cancer for four years. He continued to perform during treatment, playing his last show, a surprise appearance in Rhode Island, in early July.

With a recording career that spanned more than fifty years and included hits such as "Margaritaville," "Come Monday," and "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere," Buffett was one of the most successful performers in popular music. He filled arenas with fans who called themselves "Parrot Heads," and popularized a signature blend of folk, country and Caribbean music with lyrics that often reflected Buffett's world travels. A pilot and a sailor, Buffett wrote songs about his plane being shot at by Jamaican police ("Jamaica Mistaica"), getting lost in the Sahara Desert ("Buffet Hotel") and smugglers he had known around the Florida Gulf Coast ("A Pirate Looks at 40").

Although he was best known for upbeat party songs (others include "Cheeseburger in Paradise," and "Fins") Buffett first achieved notoriety for thoughtful ballads that showed the influence of Texas songwriters such as Jerry Jeff Walker and Canadian Gordon Lightfoot.

Bob Dylan praised lesser-known Buffett compositions "He Went to Paris" and "Death of an Unpopular Poet" - songs that reflected the observational, storytelling skills Buffett developed in his early career as a journalist for Billboard magazine.

Buffett had a second career as a successful author. He was one of a handful of writers who had number one best-sellers on both the fiction and non-fiction lists of the New York Times Book Review.

He had a third career as an entrepreneur, building a diversified lifestyle brand business, including Margaritaville hotels, restaurants, and retirement communities, along with sidelines such as Land Shark beer. Buffett's branding and business acumen made him one



of the most financially successful musicians of all time.

James William Buffett was born on Christmas, 1946 in Pascagoula, Mississippi and grew up in Alabama. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1969. He credited early years playing and singing in the streets and bars of New Orleans with shaping his dedication to connecting with his audience and giving the customers a good show. Buffett had little patience with performers who took themselves too seriously. He liked to say that the job of singing for a living was descended from the profession of court jester.

Buffett is survived by his wife of 46 years, Jane (Slagsvol) Buffett, his daughters Savannah Jane (Joshua) and Sarah Delaney, his son Cameron Marley (Lara), his grandson Marley Ray and devoted pack of dogs Lola, Kingston, Pepper, Rosie, Ajax and Kody. Also survived by his Montana sister, Laurie Buffett McGuane (Tom), their children Heather Hume, Anne Buffett McGuane, Maggie McGuane and Thomas McGuane IV; his Alabama sister, Lucy Buffett and daughters Mara Delaney Buffett O'Dwyer and Melanie Leigh Buffett; and many more wonderful cousins, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Jimmy Buffett's Foundation Singing for Change, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana Farber Cancer Institute or MD Anderson Cancer Center.

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# Where are the Blue Crabs in the Blue Zones? WELCOME TO ANOTHER ODD OCTOBER.

By Wendy Gilbert

As the daylight hours shorten and the evenings cool, our leisure time on the couch lengthens. For many years in my household that has meant tuning into major (and minor) network dramas on the television, which is now more like a Jetsons-era wall computer.

But not this year, oh no. Even if the actors and writers' strike is over as of the printing of this article, it will take months to catch up. What a time to enter into semi-retirement!

We've perused a few of foreign language movies and some of them have been quite interesting and entertaining. We've also watched a lot more tennis and baseball than usual.

While we waited for the NFL season to begin, my first mate and I watched a series on Netflix about the Blue Zones. Nothing new there really, as Dan Buettner has made the rounds! There was literally nothing new under the sun in this series, but as in most sound health-promoting adventures, there is nothing new about eating well, not too much and taking some exercise. Hard to sell that line over and over again, but folks like Buettner do try.

There are Blue Zone challenges afloat, so that sparks a little energy into the idea and I discovered that blue crabs fit into the Blue Zone plan in a way that suits my wallet, if not my appetite. Sure, you can enjoy blue crabs,





but not too much and not too often.

In a "nutshell" here are the basics of a Blue Zone diet:

Eat a handful of nuts every day. Nut-eaters live about two years longer than non-nut-eaters.

Learn to like beans. Beans are a common food in all the Blue Zones, and eating about a cup a day could add four years to your life expectancy.

Keep a bowl of fresh fruit on the counter. Seeing it will nudge you toward a healthy snack.

If you drink alcohol, make it wine. Specifically, cannonau wine. That's a wine made from the grenache grape that the people of Sardinia, Italy, drink — it has three times the healthy polyphenols you'll find in other wines.

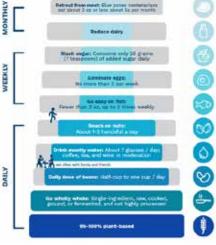
Get the toaster off your kitchen counter. Most of what we put in toasters is unhealthy. Plan your meals. It makes grocery shopping

— and healthy eating— easier.

I'm not too sure about the toaster as the smell of freshly toasted bread is almost as en-

ticing as my morning brew. I will have to ask Wally at Weaver's for cannonau wine, but in the meantime couldn't I just drink 3 glasses of Sauvignon blanc and achieve the same amount of polyphenols? No? No, no and no!





Check out some simple guidelines reflect how the world's longest-lived people ate for most of their lives. Eat like the healthiest people in the world with the Blue Zones Meal Planner, where you'll find thousands of recipes that follow these guidelines while making plant-slant food delicious and accessible. By adopting some of the healthy eating principles into your daily life, you too can Live Better, Longer. Visit https://www.bluezones.com/recipes/food-guidelines/ to download a free printable of the Blue Zones Food Guidelines.

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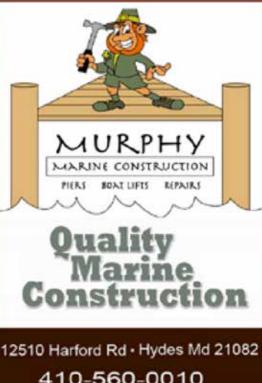
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# OLDER and WISER

By Captain Mark Galasso Tuna the Tide Charter Service Grasonville, Maryland

Through every phase of my life I keep hearing a lot of the same phrases. Ones like "Wait until you're my age." Or "Treat others like you would want them to treat you." And one of my favorites "As you get older you get wiser." This last bit of advice gives me hope. The problem now is I'm 65 years old and don't seem to be getting any wiser. Sure, I'm a lot more experienced but the jury's still out on the wiser part. Take the other day for example.

I was on a busman's holiday offshore fishing on a friend's 35 Everglades. Our guarry was Tuna but we hoped to also catch some bottom fish like Triggers and Snapper. We had a threeday weather window so we took a shot. The wind wasn't overly strong but if you do a lot of offshore fishing, you know it's always blowing in the wrong direction when you're going out, sometimes in the dark. Experience tells you to find a dry soft ride until the sun comes up and you know what you are dealing with. Usually on a center console boat that is the steering wheel back to the engines. So, I decided to sit in the bow. First mistake. I turned my baseball cap backward so it wouldn't blow off. But when I turned to sneak into the back the wind caught it and blew it off. Gone. The Captain, my buddy asked if we should turn around and retrieve it. "Nah I'll be fine." I replied. So, on we went.

I did find some sunscreen though and coated my nose and ears. I'm prone to sun poisoning on my nose and didn't want to deal with a nose the size of Jimmy Durante's when I got back. Been there done that. And the fact is I've been careful for over 30 years since I spend over 150 days on the water and skin cancer runs in my family.

Well, to make a long story short we fished three full days offshore. I never put on a hat even though they sell them at the bait shop for 30 bucks. Thought I'd save a few dollars even though I spent 135 bucks on bait and ice and actually picked up a nice hat to look at it! We also had an extra in the truck but I didn't want to be a bother and use someone else's hat. I did keep sunscreen on my nose and ears. I even put it on my forehead which is usually hidden from the sun under a visor. So, there you go I wasn't being a complete idiot. What I failed to take into account though was when I used to live and work outdoors 40 years ago, I had a lot of long thick hair. And even then I almost always wore a hat.

The fact is now I still have long hair but it's a LOT thinner and adds less protection than ever. My dermatologist even tried to sell me some hair grower. Maybe that wasn't such a bad idea. And it never dawned on me to put sunscreen on my scalp. You'd think after I burned the first day I'd make other arrangements. You'd think. But you'd be wrong. I toughed it out for three days. On the way back to Maryland I realized I had sun poisoning. I felt fine from the nose down. But not so much from the nose up. No big deal I'd get home and get a good night's sleep and be at work the next day. We have a bunch of rods to wrap at the shop and really need to get them done.

I started wrapping rods the next morning at 10:30. Had a set of six to get done. Simple wrap. All the same color thread. I was rolling. But as the day progressed the Edema (fluids) from my scalp were pooling around my right eye. I was losing depth perception and wrapping was getting harder. Well, there's always tomorrow.

The next day was even worse. One eye was completely shut and the other was just starting to swell. I had a cruise trip at 8:30 a.m., but I canceled it. Not sure how I was going to explain getting out in the middle of the Chesapeake and going blind. Instead of going in and wrapping rods, I went to the hospital. I looked like Rocky after he went 12 rounds with Apollo Creed. I took my sunglasses off to show the attending Doctor. She asked me the obvious. "Do you feel safe at home?" My wife was sitting right there! Ouch. I made a comment but the Doctor didn't even smile. I guess it's like saying the word bomb on a plane. Not good. I got some steroids.

I got home and tried to think of things I could do with my new steroid energy and one eye. Wrote this article for one. Cleaned the pool for another though I almost fell in twice. I was going to trim the dogs' nails but I think she sensed my purpose and must have hidden in a closet or something. Haven't seen her all day. (Seems she got wiser with age.)

As all the fluids settled down my face I went from Carrot Top in the morning to Herman Munster in the afternoon to Rocky Balbo in the evening. Quite a transition! Tomorrow morning I'll probably look like the Godfather with the cotton ball cheeks. I'll be able to see fine but talking might be a challenge. I am Italian though so I can express myself with my hands!

So, what have I learned from this? Probably not much. But what you should take away from this experience is the sun is nothing to take lightly. It doesn't take massive exposure to create real problems. In fact, it rained for part of the time we fished so I wasn't exposed ALL the time. Wear and use protection! I even spent a fair amount of time in the shade under the canopy. Didn't help. Also, I learned to spend money or don't be shy. If you need a hat GET ONE. I'm sure that Steroid I got at the hospital is going to cost me more than the 30-dollar hat. Not to mention the cruise I lost and the day from work.

Be safe out there and be smart. Hopefully, the wiser part for me will kick in soon.

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Keep On Boating

By L. Alan Keene

Well, that dreaded weekend has come and gone. Labor Day weekend has passed and, in the minds of many upper bay boaters, it's time to get the boat ready for the long winter ahead. With the kids going back to school and the Ravens, Eagles, and Commanders fighting for respectability on Sunday afternoons, our weekend activities suddenly changed. Not that we want them to, necessarily, but in the minds of many, the boating season is over.

Even though summer didn't officially end until September

21st, many boaters still go by the school calendar that was ingrained in us when we were kids. Summertime runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and that's that. When it's time for the kids to go back to school, it's time to put away the bathing suits and pull the boat for the season.

Well, if you're a member of this group, you're cheating yourself. Early fall boating on the upper bay is often the best there is. Why not extend your boating season this year?

### HERE ARE 5 GOOD REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD

1. THE WEATHER IS FAN-TASTIC! Late September days are almost as warm as August's but usually not as humid. While it's still bikini weather for most of the month, the evenings are cooler and the sleeping is great on those nautical overnights. October weather, though, can be the best of all. Warm pleasant days, cool evenings, and a steady breeze make for great sailing and powerboating. And surprisingly, water temperatures are still high enough to enjoy a late-season swim!

2. WHERE IS EVERYBODY? They're home doing what you do. They're home washing the car or painting the shed or just sitting in front of the boob tube watching mind-numbing programs, just passing the time until kick-off. Meanwhile, there are boaters out there motoring or sailing on flat seas! The number of boats on the upper bay after Labor Day decreases by more than half, so those churned-up seas that dominate summer weekends won't be seen again until next Memorial Day weekend. And that busy fuel dock isn't nearly so busy, either!

3. THE SCENERY IS GOR-GEOUS! There are few sights more beautiful than fall foliage along the shores of the upper bay. With the reds and yellows and oranges reflecting off the water, there are photo opportunities around every bend. As early as late September, hardwoods along the Elk, the Bohemia, the Northeast, the Sassafras, and the Susquehanna rivers are beginning to show their colors. Some years, by mid-October the shorelines from the Patapsco north are alive with fall's beauty!

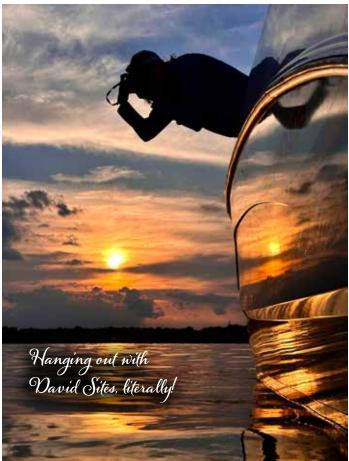
4. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF

YOUR INVESTMENT! Let's be honest. Boating ain't cheap! So why not enjoy your investment for as many months of the year as you can? If you keep your boat in a slip, you've already paid for 8 months or more of slip rental, so why not use it? If your boat is on a trailer, it's tagged for the whole year, whether sitting in the driveway or on the road to the Bay. And that insurance policy that seems to get more expensive every year probably provides coverage 12 months a year (check with your agent), so why not use what vou've paid for!

5. HELP SHORTEN THAT LONG WINTER LAYOFF! It stands to reason that if you lengthen your boating season by taking advantage of September and October's great boating conditions, then you've already shortened your winter layoff by two months. If you usually splash your boat in early May, then it'll be just 6 months (half the year) off the water as compared to 8 months (two-thirds of the year). Those 2 extra months can make a big difference in getting through those cold February days, when all you can think about is skimming the wave tops out on Middle River or heeling in a stiff summer breeze off of Turkey Point.

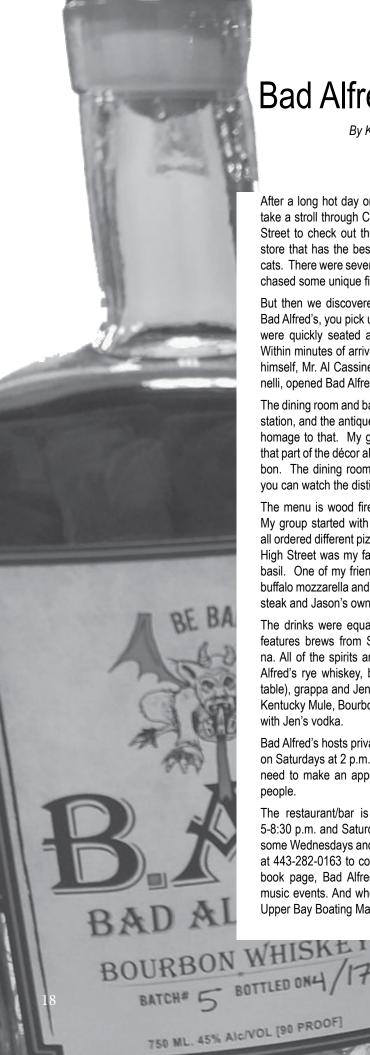
A few things to keep in mind if you decide to extend your season: a) the days get shorter so plan on an earlier return to the ramp or the marina, b) with fewer boaters on the water, many fuel docks close, so top off your tank when and where you can, and c) the water can get cold quickly in October, making hypothermia a legitimate concern if you go overboard. So why don't you and your crew don your PFDs at the dock and start enjoying the wonderful fall boating season worry-free?







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# **Bad Alfred's Distilling**

By Kimberly Merriken

After a long hot day on the Chester River, we decided to take a stroll through Chestertown and headed down High Street to check out the shops. There is a cute little pet store that has the best homemade cookies for dogs and cats. There were several clothing boutiques where we purchased some unique finds.

But then we discovered Bad Alfred's Distilling. Entering Bad Alfred's, you pick up on a relaxed vibe right away. We were quickly seated and began looking over the menu. Within minutes of arriving, we were greeted by Bad Alfred himself, Mr. Al Cassinelli, who, along with Jennifer Cassinelli, opened Bad Alfred's in 2018.

The dining room and bar are located in an old garage/filling station, and the antique gas pump in the dining room pays homage to that. My gas station maintenance tech loved that part of the décor almost as much as he loved the bourbon. The dining room and bar also face the distillery so you can watch the distilling process while eating.

The menu is wood fire-inspired and absolutely delicious. My group started with the creamy crab dip, and then we all ordered different pizzas and sampled each other's. The High Street was my favorite with lots of cheese and Thai basil. One of my friends loved the Chester River with its buffalo mozzarella and another loved the Water Street with steak and Jason's own BBQ sauce.

The drinks were equally impressive. The craft beer list features brews from Salisbury, St. Michaels, and Smyrna. All of the spirits are distilled on-site and include Bad Alfred's rye whiskey, bourbon whiskey (a favorite at our table), grappa and Jen's gin. The table favorites were the Kentucky Mule, Bourbon Manhattan, and the martini made with Jen's vodka.

Bad Alfred's hosts private distillery tours and spirit tastings on Saturdays at 2 p.m. or 3 p.m., for one hour, but you will need to make an appointment and limit your group to 6 people.

The restaurant/bar is open Thursday and Friday from 5-8:30 p.m. and Saturday noon-8:30 p.m. They are open some Wednesdays and Sundays, but it is best to call them at 443-282-0163 to confirm. Also, check out their Facebook page, Bad Alfred's Distilling, for specials and live music events. And when you go tell them your friends at Upper Bay Boating Magazine recommended them.







# THE DEEPEST BONDS START AT THE SURFACE

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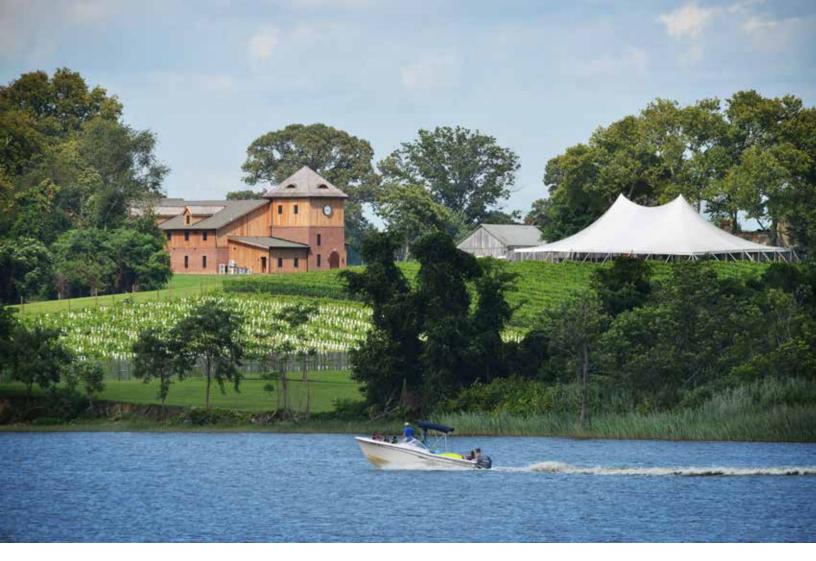
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# Chateau Bu De

### By Kimberly Merriken

nk wines.

Let's talk about Boh. Not Natty Boh like most Baltimoreans think but The Boh. The Bohemia River, which takes us right to our destination, The Bohemia Manor Farm - home of Chateau Bu-De Winery. Located up yonder in Cecil County, you can take scenic Rt 213 right to 237 Bohemia Manor Farm Lane, where you will enter from the South Driveway near the Bohemia River Bridge. Once on the property it will take your breath away.

This 440-acre gem was once the property of Augustine Herman, a Bohemian explorer, merchant and cartographer who created maps of the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays in exchange for being able to establish this plantation. The views are incredible both from the land side and the river side.

Chateau Bu De also offers itself as a wedding venue and Really you could spend all day just sitting and enjoying the view, but we came here to sample wine so let's do it.

Attention to detail is key in growing and managing the best fruit, as well as managing the fermentation process at Chateau Bu De. The main goal at Chateau Bu De is to make the best local wine around. And my partner and I agreed they have some really good We grabbed a charcuterie tray and a few glasses and headed outside to sip and eat and enjoy the view and listen to some live music. You can find their event schedule on their website at www. chateaubude.com/events-calendar so you can plan your visit. Early closings are also noted on the schedule.

The Pinot Noir was dry and sweet. An overall refreshing wine for this hot day. The Blanc de Noir was excellent and paired well with the cheese from the charcuterie tray. We also both liked the chardonnay. I was also very impressed with the Augustine Herman Rose. This delightful blend had hints of strawberry, raspberry and sour cherry.

After such a relaxing day my partner and I stocked up on bottles of our favorites and headed home. If you are not able to get to the vineyard yourself, you can purchase your favorites online through their online wine shop. www.chateaubude.com/wineshop

If you do get a chance to head on over, please let them know your friends at Upper Bay Boating Magazine sent you.



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# **Atlantic Sturgeon**

By Anne Sandbek

Imagine you're in a canoe paddling down a river a few hundred years ago. What you would see is worlds away from today. With clear water from massive oyster reefs, to 10-foot Atlantic Sturgeon below you, it really was another world. These so-called "living fossils" have been around since the dinosaurs - 120 million years ago -- in almost the same form. They sport long snouts and armor-like scales, or scutes, making it easy to see their form would serve them well through millions of years of change.

These long-lived creatures reach maturity at 20 years for females, 10 for males and stay in protected brackish waters, like the Bay for their first 6 years. Then they head to the ocean to finish growing. Females return upstream to lay between 800,000 and 3.75 million eggs every 2 to 5 years. Males remain upstream until the changing seasons and cold water force them back to the ocean. Atlantic Sturgeon typically reaches 6-8 feet in length and weighs less than 300 pounds. The record was caught in Canada weighing in at 811 pounds and 14 feet in length.

When settlers first came to the Bay sturgeon were numerous and numbers have dropped significantly over the last few hundred years from overfishing, pollution, and dams inhibiting their ability to reach appropriate spawning grounds. Their high-quality caviar, "black gold" made them a particularly popular catch for 19th-century watermen.

Sadly, these ancient creatures are now endangered and even extinct in parts of their old range. Projects like "Sturgeon in the Classroom" a program based in Michigan are trying to do something about it while teaching kids at the same time. School children learn how to grow-out sturgeon throughout a school year. In September the classroom receives fingerling Lake Sturgeon from the group Sturgeon for Tomorrow and Michigan's DNR. The students are responsible for the care of the fish until the end of the school year when the fish are tagged and released.

So, add the Atlantic Sturgeon to your checklist for the grandkids. Along with the clean water we're working towards, hopefully, one day in the notso-distant future there will be numerous mighty Sturgeon swimming with us once again.



https://www.sturgeonfortomorrow.org/sturgeon-in-the-classroom.php



# **Falling Overboard!**





Now that autumn is here, the days are shorter and there are fewer boaters on the water which means that no one else may be nearby to assist if there is an crew overboard emergency. Be prepared to resolve the situation yourself. Drill! Drill! Drill!

Turning a vessel around quickly and heading back in the right direction to retrieve a person isn't always easy when you've been taken by surprise, particularly at night. As a navigator, you need to practice, so you can get back to retrieve your crew mate swiftly and efficiently. Start with these basic rescue steps but do your homework online to get fully trained.

- Call out to alert everyone on board.
- Locate the person in the water and keep an eye on them at all times. Point at them constantly, so the helmsman can see you. With waves, tide and movement of the vessel, it is very easy to lose track of your victim.
- Toss a flotation device into the water for the victim to latch on to. Remember Throw- Don't Go!
- At night, throw a floating light to mark the location.

- Press the overboard button on your chart plotter, smart watch or VHF. Use all of your technology. Your emergency call for help can be canceled if you end up not needing assistance.
- Assign a crew member to notify the Coast Guard on VHF channel 16 with location and description.
- Turn the vessel back toward the victim to pick them up. There are several different types of turns used to quickly return to a point of origin. Do your home work and practice maneuvering your boat. Be a hero and do it right the first time in an emergency.
- Once the boat is at the victim's side, toss a lifeline and tow them in and then pull the victim into the boat.

The best plan is to be aware and try to avoid going overboard in the first place but if it does happen, make sure you have a practiced plan in place.

There are tons of educational videos on YouTube. Plus the BoatUS Foundation has additional information at boatus.org/crew-overboard/tips.

Have a great autumn, but try not to fall! (I just couldn't resist) As always, happy to help.

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# Patapsco Time

When the all-encompassing Chesapeake striped bass season opened up on June 1, the Patapsco River guickly became the premier location for fishing. One theory on what made the river so good was that schools of dolphins that had made their way north of the bay bridge had forced stripers and their forage into the river. Seeminally every charter boat crew, commercial and recreational angler north of the Bay Bridge could be found live-lining bait to the commercial piers throughout the river. For those who have been fishing the river for decades, there was no surprise abaouat the river's bounty.

After the two-week season closure at the end of July, things changed. Stripers that were used to being hand-fed live bait, were missing their daily feedbag amongst the manmade structures and spread out through the river. After the fish spread out, the fishing pressure from the armada slacked off. I, for one, don't give up on the river. Especially in the fall. To me, this is when it's Patapsco time!

I've always found that the bite gets active as we turn in to October. Days become cooler and water temperature starts a steady decline. While you can find stripers on the commercial docks and deep structure, I prefer to target them in shallower water. At this time of year, I am looking for structure and cover in 10 feet of water and less. This includes rocky banks from Fort McHenry out to Sparrows Point and White Rocks, and structural break lines close to shore throughout the river.

I am the guy who is out on the water looking for the bite at first light. Some of my best outings have come as the sun is rising over the eastern shore horizon. This early in the morning I start by looking for the topwater bite. I don't need to see surface activity. As long as there is good tidal movement, and baitfish showing on the depth finder, I feel I have a chance to draw stripers to the surface with a popping plug.

If the surface bite slows or fails to materialize, my backup plan involves soft lures and jig heads. I start with a 4-inch paddle tail swimbait on a 3/8-ounce jig head. If I am working right up against the bank, I'll use a ¼-ounce head. I fan-cast the area looking to find the concentration of bites. I will also use a soft jerkbait on the same weight jig heads. My presentation, though, is different. I will jig and swim the fluke-style lure along the bottom searching for a strike.

I do reserve another rod for a rattle trap. I haven't figured out why, but I don't seem to get bites on a trap in the Patapsco that I get in other upper bay rivers. However, there are a few select shorelines that are fairly predictable. In early fall, the rattle trap is a fairly simple lure to use. A simple cast and retrieve at a moderate pace will usually get the job done. Yet sometimes the strike doesn't come until we pick up the pace to reel in and start another cast. That is your big clue on how fast you should be reeling.

While I am pursuing stripers in the shallow water, I do keep an eye out in the middle of the river for the pop-up feeding frenzy. Hovering and diving seagulls are the big giveaway for the action. I work a topwater lure on the outer edges of the fray. If small stripers are causing the surface commotion, I will switch to a swim bait or rattle trap and allow it to sink for a few seconds. The bite often comes as the lure falls through the fracas to the larger, and lazier, stripers that wait for the crippled bait to fall to them.

I know I won't have the Patapsco to myself this fall. There are other anglers working the river both shallow and deep. I've got my game plan for waters 10 feet and less, and hope that tide and baitfish will grace the shallows to provide my perfect striper fishing scenario.

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Tito Glamour shot on the C&D Canal









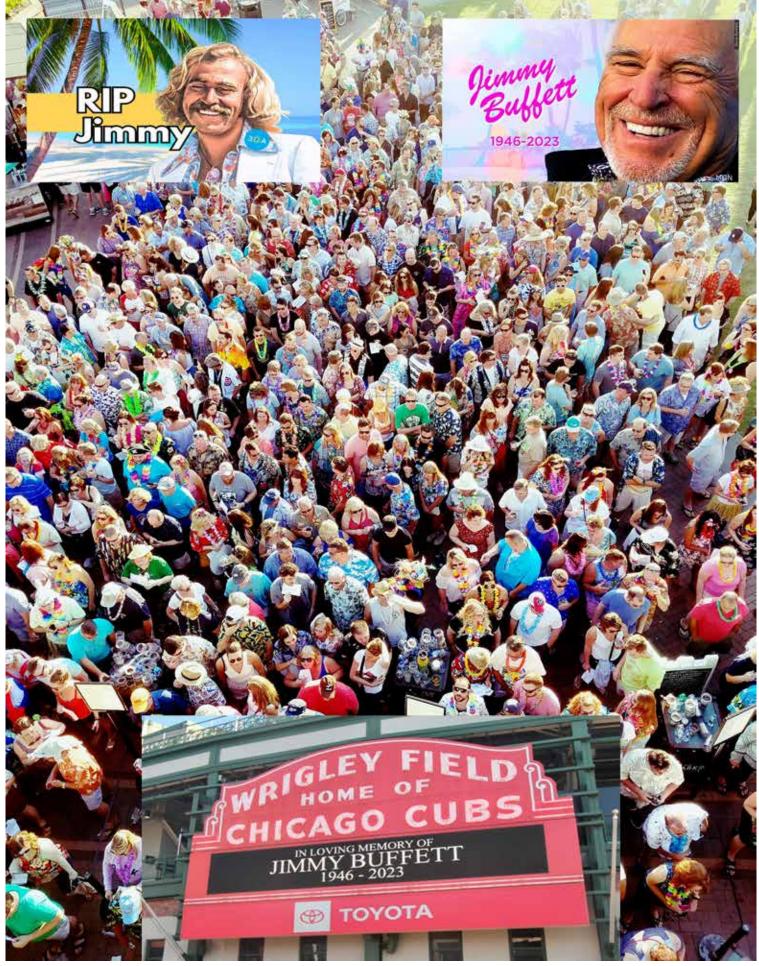
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Towboat Captain storm says

October is breat cancer awareness month... GET THOSE PUPPIES CHECKED!!!











# Bohemia River Boaters Lighted Boat Parade in Chesapeake City December 2nd from 5Pm to 11PM

Welcome to the Second Annual Bohemia River Boaters Lighted Boat Parade. Good places to watch it from will be from Pells Garden, Bayard House, Schaefer's Canal House, and of course the Chesapeake Inn. Boats will be running down the C&D Canal headed into the basin at approximately 5:30pm. Don't miss the party downstairs in the heated tent at the Chesapeake Inn where all the boat participates will see if they placed for 1st and 2nd Prize!!! Come join the fun, and please bring a few can goods to donate towards the local churches food cupboard.



### Bringing Economics, Education and Environment Together to Restore and Build Habitats

As part of the Maryland Waterways Foundation Internship program, we want to educate our students about resources that abound the area, partnerships working to improve our environment and waterways and opportunities when they graduate.

We want our students to come away with resources and contacts to aid in their education and future. It is important that they have an understanding of their importance to our future and the variety of job opportunities in the environmental field that may be available.

If you are a boater in the Upper Bay, chances are that you have anchored up or fished around Hart-Miller Island. It's a great spot to spend the weekend taking in the sun, swimming and spending quality time with your family but many are unfamiliar with the history of the island and all the amenities it has to offer. If you wade onto the beach and head up the ramps to the Rangers station, you will likely be greeted by Park Ranger Robin Reed, a retired school teacher who has created a small nature center at

this MD State Park, will offer to make you a snowball, set you up on a bicycle to explore the south cell or let you know about the upcoming "Sunday Funday" activities. She and her staff will also tell you about the history of this island that was once a chain of three islands and after enduring severe erosion would be no longer without the partnership with the Port of Baltimore in 1970. The project was the first

of its kind in the Chesapeake Bay, which concerned many. The islands would be restored as one using dredged material from contaminated sites in the shipping channels of the Baltimore Harbor. This project would serve the economy to remove sediment from the Harbor Shipping Channels and allow large ships to enter while also serving the environment in restoring the eroding islands. There were many unknowns, including how water quality and wildlife would be affected and the Hart-Miller Island Citizens Oversight Committee was formed in 1981 to help put the concerns of surrounding communities at ease. The island was diked and dredge material received from 1984 to 2009, creating more than 1,100 acres of habitat. In 2016, the South Cell of the island was opened to the public as HMI State Park and is managed by the Maryland DNR, offering ponds, 5.3 miles of trails, campsites and a habitat to migrating birds, deer, fox and more.



RYLAN

Other restoration projects that our interns were able to visit this summer included Poplar Island and Masonville Cove. These islands, along with Cox Creek are being restored and improved and offer many opportunities for the environment to thrive in partnership with the Army Corp of Engineers, Maryland Department of Transportation/Maryland Port Admin., Maryland Environmental Services, Living Classrooms, Maryland DNR, the National Aquarium, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Friends of

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Poplar Island , pumping in dredge material



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