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SHORE

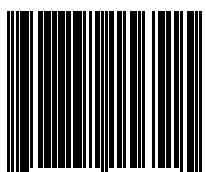
MONTHLY



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33rd Annual Festival of Trees



PREVIEW NOVEMBER 23 NOVEMBER 24-27

The Gold Ballroom of The Historic Tidewater Inn
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Presented by the Friends of Hospice to benefit Talbot Hospice.
Join your family and friends in a winter wonderland of
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Friday November 23
Saturday November 24
Sunday November 25
Monday November 26
Tuesday November 27

Admission To The Gold Ballroom
\$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors 62 and older, \$1 for children under 12
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For more info & tickets: 410-819-3378 (FEST)

Festival Events & Activities

LUNCH AT THE CRAB CLAW

All proceeds from your lunch at the Crab Claw in St. Michaels will benefit the Festival of Trees and Talbot Hospice. Call 410-745-2900 to make a reservation.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 12PM-4 PM

PREVIEW PARTY

The Festival of Trees begins on Friday with a celebratory party in the Gold Ballroom of The Tidewater Inn, cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres, music, and special raffles. Tickets are \$50 per person and include open bar from 6 to 7pm and lite-fare buffet. Cash bar available after 7pm.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 6-8 PM

HOMES TOUR

On this self-guided driving tour, you will visit unique and beautifully decorated homes in Talbot County. Requests for tickets by mail (\$25) must be received by Nov. 17. Advance in-person tickets (\$25) are available until November 23 at Talbot Hospice House, and The Tidewater Inn Gold Ballroom from November 19 until November 21 and November 23 until noon. Day-of tickets (\$30) are available only at The Tidewater Inn Gold Ballroom. Tickets are available for purchase online at www.festival-of-trees.org.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24 & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 10 AM-4 PM
Tickets may be used either day.

CANDY CANE LANE

Crafts, games, food, visits with Santa, and other fun activities. Easton Elementary School (Moton). Admission: Children \$5, includes lunch; Adults Free.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 10 AM-2 PM

MOTHER~SON DANCE

At the American Legion Post 70, in Easton, silent auction items, photo booth, light refreshments and dancing. Music by DJ Tim Burns. \$30 for Mothers; \$10 for each Son.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 6-8 PM

DADDY~DAUGHTER DANCE

Elk's Lodge Easton, American Girl Doll raffle, gift shop for daughters to shop for Christmas gifts. Light refreshments and dancing. Music by DJ Erik Higgins. \$30 for Daddies; \$10 for each Daughter.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 6-8 PM

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WWW.ROYALOKWATERFRONT.COM

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WWW.VILLAGEWATERFRONT.COM

Low maintenance, farmhouse style 4 bedroom, 3 bath home on Leed's Creek w/ sunset views, pier, & pool. This 4,000 sq. ft. home has a great room w/ fireplace, sunroom, large kitchen, game room, office/study & 2nd floor owner's suite. Elevator. 2 car garage. Mins to Easton & St. Michaels. **\$995,000**



WWW.HISTORICEASTONMD.COM

Fabulous in-town location! This gorgeous Victorian offers spacious rear yard with in-ground pool, wrap around front porch, grand entryway, high ceilings, 6 bedrooms and 4 1/2 bathrooms. Detached 2 car garage plus 3 off street parking spaces. This is a must see! **\$950,000**



WWW.RIVERFRONTBEAUTY.COM

Gorgeous big views of the Choptank River! Privately located, comfortable 3 bedroom home with waterside screened porch, adjoining waterside deck, wood floors through-out, great room with wood burning fireplace, first floor owner's suite and den / study. This is a must see! **\$574,900**



MOTIVATED SELLERS!

WWW.CAMBRIDGEWATERFRONT.COM

Beautiful waterfront Victorian on 5+ acres offers 4 bedrooms, breezy front and rear porches, large waterside deck, fabulous great room, formal dining, library, music room and family room with built-ins. Pier and outbuilding with workshop. Sunset views! Includes Jon boat! **\$449,900**



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DOG DAY'S

While most pets provide companionship and love, working pets provide services that seem almost magical. Guide dogs offer safe passage through busy streets for visually impaired owners. Sled dogs mush, transporting humans across the tundra. And hunting dogs work alongside their humans in an ancient relationship sparked somewhere between 10,000 and 25,000 years ago when wolves and humans began working together to hunt large prey.



My late father-in-law, Roger Griep, and his black Labrador retriever, Dutchess, were as close as human and canine could be. She was his hunting companion and his friend. She would jump into the back of his pickup truck with excitement to go hunting for geese and duck.

When Roger died, she looked for him for a long time. Because he was a trucker, she was used to him being gone for a couple days and returning. It seemed as though she thought he would come back. In the days, weeks, and months after his death, people would ask how the family was managing and also how Dutchess was doing.

Dutchess was listed among Roger's survivors in his obituary as his constant canine companion. She must miss him as much as his humans do.

In this issue, we explore our relationship with hunting dogs, what they do for us and what we can do for them.

Sarah Ensor
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EASY-LIVING, CASUAL ELEGANCE

SHORE MONTHLY

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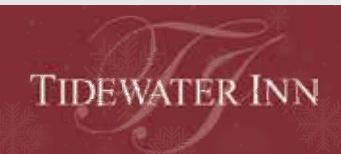


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Life OF A LABRADOR

Larry Hindman, owner of Yellowdog Retrievers, talks about raising pups and a love for the Shore's beloved breed

Story by Reen Waterman
Photos by Caroline J. Phillips



Labrador retrievers (black, chocolate, or yellow) are the most popular dog in both the United States and United Kingdom. Originating in Newfoundland in the 1700s, they were first known as a “St. John’s” or “lesser Newfoundland” dogs and are widely used for retrieving upland game birds and waterfowl, serving as guide dogs, and even saving lives as explosives detection dogs.

The Earl of Malmesbury first termed the phrase “Labrador” in a letter referring to his “Labrador dogs.” This hearty animal first served by retrieving fish and helping drag in fishing nets. In England, Labrador retrievers were recognized as a Kennel Club breed in 1903 and first registered in America in the AKC in 1917.

Larry Hindman, former chief biologist for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (retired after 42 years), helps run the retriever demonstrations at the Waterfowl Festival in Easton.

Owner of Yellowdog Retrievers, he sells AKC Labrador retriever puppies. He said is a naturalist first, then a hunter. At the same time, Hindman said, he has always had a passion

for dogs.

“When you get a puppy, you make memories for a lifetime. A dog gives nothing but unadulterated love, companionship, and understanding.”

Because of their gentle disposition and ability to sense the moods and health of their owners, dogs make superb companions.

Hindman said selling puppies is more a passion than a business. He said his father inspired his appreciation for the outdoors and credited the time he spent hunting with his father as most significant and the reason the dogs are so important to him.

As a result, he is particular when selling his puppies and is an advocate for keeping dogs healthy. He interviews purchasers and asks for references. Every weaned 8-week-old puppy comes with a 26-month guarantee on hips and elbows. (He can do this because he has the puppies’ parents genetically tested.)

Those considering acquiring a sporting dog should follow four tips:

- Find a quality breeder who produces healthy puppies.
- Establish a relationship with a good veterinarian.
- Take advantage of all the resources that abound for owners of sporting dogs.
- Get ready to experience the friendship of a lifetime.

“If you are going to invest in a sporting dog, it only makes sense to get a healthy pup with a good genetic background,” he said.

He adds that having a relationship with an exceptional veterinarian





is essential to a dog's ability to perform as a sporting dog. Hindman also is a firm advocate of not overfeeding.

"An overweight dog can get hurt, so I keep my dogs trim and feed them quality food twice a day. I feed my puppies 34 percent protein and the older dogs a mixture of 30 percent protein and 20 percent fat," he said. "Feeding dogs properly is the best thing you can do.

We also supplement our food with raw green beans. And my dogs are always raiding our tomato plants."

After decades of training dogs, Hindman smiled and said "patience" is most important.

"When running a dog and it makes a mistake, it is either confused or hasn't been properly trained," Hindman said. "I then go back and simplify, do drills,

and when the situation happens again, the dog will have the confidence to handle the situation better."

He also has learned persistence from watching his animals perform. When his oldest dog Teal (who has retrieved more than 4,000 birds) was only 6 months old, he doggedly chased, without giving up, a duck that dove nine times before finally Teal retrieved it.

"You would be better taking a puppy and training it than buying someone

else's dog with all its mistakes. By properly training a dog, even when it can't see the bird you are directing it to, the dog will keep after it and heed your directions because you have created trust," Hindman said.

A good relationship between a man and his sporting dog can be seen in how they work together. A well-trained dog is the result of considerate

“Owning a dog will make you live longer; dogs find a direct path to your heart without saying a word.”

In the 1970s and 1980s, the Canada goose population was in danger from overhunting and improper management. Under Hindman's leadership, Maryland Department of Natural Resources invested significant funding into breeding ground studies, banding birds, and instituting better conservation practices. Maryland's winter population of Canada geese became healthier, and other states quickly followed Maryland's best practices.

leadership, and this is obvious with Hindman. Safety is his paramount concern.

"I don't put my dogs into dangerous situations. I also do not let my dogs jump down off the truck; they use a ramp to prevent needless injuries," he said.

While he does not train his dogs with e-collars (previously called "shock collars"), he does use them to reinforce what he teaches, for example, stopping a dog from running out into the road and getting hurt. He finds more significant training advantage though in using verbal praise and treats.

As sporting dog competitions grow in popularity, knowledgeable trainers, good home care and trusted veterinarians will help new owners. Competitions

a r e f u n , social events with a spirit of camaraderie (versus ruthless competition) because the dogs compete against a standard, and not against one another. Watching dogs perform under different mock hunting scenarios can be exhilarating. Owners can consider numerous clubs, where they can meet other owners and make new friends.

Owning a sporting dog is a challenging endeavor. But, as noted trainer and breeder Steve Reider says, "Owning a dog will make you live longer; dogs find a direct path to your heart without saying a word." **S**

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The 2018 holiday season is just around the corner. Easton Business Alliance invites you to enjoy the holiday spirit by bringing the entire family to town during its annual holiday weekend. The festivities begin Friday, November 30 with Easton's Moonlight Madness Shopping Event. Stores and vendors in downtown Easton stay open late and welcome holiday shoppers throughout the evening and into the moonlight hours.

Moonlight Madness is a family-friendly event and includes pictures with Santa, raffle prizes, music, live entertainment, refreshments, and in-store events and giveaways. Raffle tickets for prizes worth over \$1,500 will be given out at participating stores throughout November. It all leads up to the grand prize drawings on November 30 at 10 p.m. Be sure to shop early and often for more chances to win.

Santa comes to town with a busy holiday weekend scheduled. Pictures with Santa take place at the historic Bullitt House across from The Tidewater Inn

during Moonlight Madness. The Art & Craft Marketplace will open all weekend long at the Waterfowl Building November 30 - December 2 with a special visit by Santa on Saturday, December 1. Finally, Santa is the guest of honor at The Tidewater Inn's Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 2, in the Gold Room from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Contact them for more details and to book your reservation.

The Easton Holiday Parade is Saturday, December 1, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. The parade begins after Santa lights the town Christmas tree and will loop around Downtown Easton. There will be over 60 holiday themed floats, classic cars, local bands, and of course Santa. Come early so you can shop, explore, and find a perfect place to watch the parade with your friends and family.

 Christmas in Easton
Art & Craft Marketplace
Nov 30 - Dec 2, 2018
The Waterfowl Building

For more information on Easton's holiday events visit
 www.DiscoverEaston.com 

LOCAL FLAVORS

Delicious Week & Tasty Tea

AT T AT THE GENERAL STORE

Story by Sarah Ensor | Photos by Jameson Harrington



For foodies and home cooks alike, late autumn ushers in new flavors. Gone are the tangy tomatoes and sweet watermelon of summer, replaced by hearty squash, sweet potatoes, and thanks to the opening of the hunting season in November, duck. A creative, knowledgeable chef can combine these November flavors to delight the palate.

At t at the General Store in Royal Oak, Chef Mark McGrogan prepares fresh, local, seasonal cuisine, and in the season of homecoming, hunting, and gratitude, he prepares a meal rich in fall flavors.

His pan-roasted duck is perfectly cooked, with a crispy skin and juicy meat. It is served sliced over mashed sweet potatoes prepared simply with butter, salt and pepper, the salty, savory and sweet flavors complementing one another. On the side are roasted Brussels sprouts in a bacon and balsamic glaze that offers some smoke and tang, while microgreens topping the dish add a fresh brightness.

Although the flavors on this plate are somehow both dramatic and well balanced and the aroma intoxicating, the textures are nuanced and complex. Consider the crunch of the microgreens, the crisp duck skin, and roasted Brussels sprouts (the best way to prepare Brussels sprouts — if you are still steaming or boiling your sprouts, change your ways). The smooth and buttery potatoes melt away in the mouth.

McGrogan recommends a Negroni made with ginger-tea-infused gin, Campari, sweet Vermouth, and an orange wedge. The bitter sipper is at once herbal and refreshing. It serves as a palate cleanser and as a lovely complement to the dish. The use of tea-infused gin is unique to t at the General Store, which has an extensive and interesting tea menu.

The Negroni is considered an aperitif, a dry beverage served before a meal, but ignore that suggestion and sip it with the meal — or even dessert. Order dessert.

McGrogan's apple Bundt cake is served with caramel ice cream from Scottish Highland Creamery in Oxford (all of the ice cream at t at the General Store is made by the creamery). The Bundt cake has a crunchy crust and soft cake center. The sugary apple makes the jaw tingle. Set off by the creamy ice cream, this simple-sounding dessert celebrates the sweetest part of autumn's bounty.

While the main course offers tastes of duck hunting season and autumn harvest, dessert hints at the pies and cookies to come during the holiday season. S



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SHORE

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Shore Monthly is a premier lifestyle magazine celebrating the unique and colorful way of life on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Readers are invited to discover the casual elegance of Chesapeake living and all that it has to offer. From exceptional architecture and cooking tips to lively art scenes and hidden spots to discover along the coast

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PEANUT BUTTER DOG TREATS

Recipe submitted by Jen
and Sean Matthews

Tested by Radar and Joe
Photos by Caroline J. Phillips

INGREDIENTS

2 cups whole wheat flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 cup peanut butter
1 cup milk
3 tablespoons coconut oil

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
Combine all ingredients in a bowl.
Using an electric mixer, mix at medium speed.
Place dough on floured surface, and knead dough.
Roll out dough and cut treats to desired shape.
Bake treats on cookie sheet for 20 to 25 minutes.



Jen & Sean Matthews live in Queenstown with their dogs, a fox red Labrador retriever named Radar and a Bernese mountain dog named Joe. They also have Tori, a rescue cat. Jen is the director of development and alumni relations at Kent School in Chestertown, where she also coaches field hockey. Sean is a senior decision support analyst with University of Maryland Shore Regional Health. Jen and Sean are avid travelers, and spend their time hiking, kayaking, trying out new craft breweries, and, of course, spending quality time with their fur-kids.

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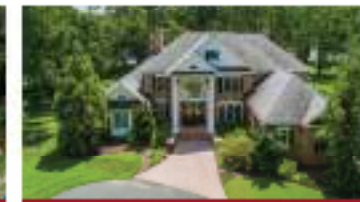
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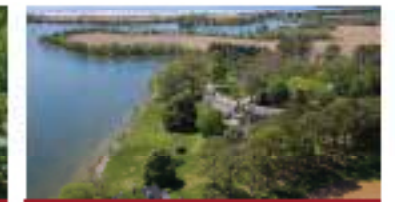
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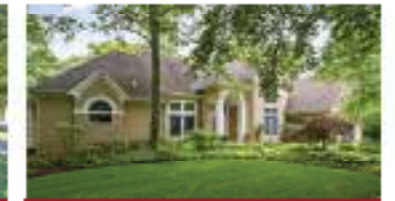
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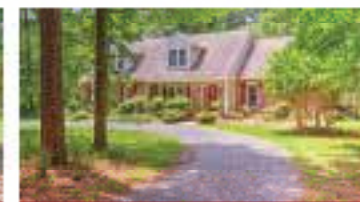
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Dogfish Head Brewery



HIGH SPIRITS

OUR LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE
COMPANY THAT BREWS "OFF-CENTERED"
ALES FOR OFF-CENTERED PEOPLE

Story by Samantha Facciolo | Photos by Caroline J. Phillips

D

ogfish Head's slogan, "off-centered ales for off-centered people," was inspired by a longer Ralph Waldo Emerson quote, although most of the 100,000 annual visitors to the brewery in Milton, Del., might be more familiar with Dogfish Head beer than the transcendental writer whose words grace the brewery's walls. Proprietor Sam Calagione is an artist at heart, albeit one who traded the craft of writing for the craft of beer brewing during his graduate school days, and Dogfish Head is, if nothing else, a collection of stories.

There's the story of how Calagione fell in love with Sierra Nevada and Chama Red during his time at Columbia University, a story that, when traced forward twenty-plus years, results in that same graduate student now owning the 13th largest craft brewery in the United States, a brewery that produces more than 300,000 barrels annually and brings millions in revenue to Delaware's coast.

Perhaps the most important detail of that story is the spur-of-the-moment decision Calagione made to toss a handful of bodega-bought cherries into the inaugural batch of beer he had brewing in his kitchen. Hence, a cherry pale ale, and a craft brewer, were born.

The brewers at Dogfish Head today use a similar, if more refined, process than the original one Calagione developed in



**"Whoso would be a man,
must be a nonconformist.
He who would gather
immortal palms must
not be hindered by the
name of goodness, but
must explore it if it
be goodness. Nothing
is at last sacred but
the integrity of your
own mind. Absolve
you to yourself, and
you shall have the
suffrage of the world."**

**— Ralph Waldo Emerson,
the quote that inspired
Dogfish Head's slogan**

the early 1990s. In many ways, the brewers are also chefs, and not just because the brand now offers a walk-up window of beer-infused menu offerings at the Milton location as well as the Chesapeake & Maine and more casual Brewings & Eats restaurants in Rehoboth.

Each beer, whether it is a classic 60- or 90-minute IPA, a fan favorite such as Namaste or Punkin Ale, or a rarer blend, is produced not only from a precise scientific method that sends batches crisscrossing the sprawling compound in an intricate network of shiny steel tubes, but also from a diverse combination of ingredients.

Dogfish Head beers have included such ingredients as peppercorns, blackened Persian limes, Paraguayan palo

santo wood, cucumbers, chili oils, and cinnamon chips. The company encourages visitors to actively participate in the research and development process and frequently partners with local orchards, academic institutions, and celebrity artists and musicians to develop specialty blends that quickly become classics.

One way in which Dogfish Head has developed its distinctive brewing tradition is by proudly disregarding the German purity law known as Reinheitsgebot, a tradition dating back to the 1500s that states only four ingredients can be used in beer — yeast, water, barley, and hops.

Instead, Dogfish Head derives inspiration from surprising sources, including traces of Muscat grapes, saffron and




honey found in King Midas' tomb, brought to life by biomolecular archaeologist Pat McGovern and infused into Midas Touch. Other recipes were recreated from ancient pottery shards unearthed in northern China, which resulted in Chateau Jiahu. The sea salt found in Sea-Quench Ale is a chemical replica of salt found in the Chesapeake Bay and on the coast of Maine, a nod to the families of both Calagione and his wife, Marcia.

The seasonal, or "sessionable," in Dogfish Head lingo, Pennsylvania Tuxedo ale takes flavor from spruce gathered from

forests in — where else? — Pennsylvania and around the corner in Georgetown, Delaware. Most recently, the brewery has turned its attention to spirits and is producing rums, wines, gins and soon-to-be launched whiskeys and cocktails.

These stories and rewritten rules have launched Dogfish Head to the top ranks of the craft beer industry. In the main, spotless brewing room, a line of bottles advertises each beer Dogfish Head has produced in its 23 years. That same room contains both the home-rigged brewing device Calagione used to create

his first IPA and today's 200-barrel vats.

The visual message couldn't be clearer. Sometimes, a great product comes from an individual willing to take a risk. For Dogfish Head, this means borrowing from a chef's toolkit to brew beer and developing a product line accessible to beer experts and novices alike. About 99 percent of brewers are good guys, paraphrases Tour & Tasting Room Manager Matt Fetherston. Beyond excelling in the production of beers and spirits, Dogfish Head employees promote a community atmosphere to ensure the brewery is at the top of that 99 percent. 

“

About 99 percent of brewers are good guys...Dogfish Head employees promote a community atmosphere to ensure the brewery is at the top of that 99 percent.



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DOGGY'S DAY OUT

Caroline's pup Phoebe gets treated to a luxurious spa day at The Pampered Puppy

Story and Photos by Caroline J. Phillips

Is there a more perfect way to spend a day than being pampered and well taken care of in a relaxing environment? Perhaps something typically reserved for humans would also serve other species, such as your best friend, your pal, your adventure buddy — your dog. Dogs deserve a day out too, and why not a spa day?

My English Cocker spaniel puppy, Phoebe, just celebrated her first birthday, and it's been a year of challenging puppy training, lots of energy and tons of fun.

Phoebe is an adventurous pup, and we take many walks around our home on Kent Island. While the walks are good for tiring out a very energetic puppy, it leaves Phoebe prone to dirt and outside elements that I don't love bringing back into my apartment.

As much as I can practice good hygiene with Phoebe at home, it's hard to stay on top of everything with my schedule, so I decided to treat Phoebe to a spa day to clean her up from the remnants from summer's adventures.





personality and quirks, which makes it fun. Both have many years of experience and know how best to groom and care for each dog.

After Phoebe got her nails done, it was time for her bath. Hooper took Phoebe into another room, where a fun purple tub was getting ready for her to dive into. My puppy is not the most well-behaved when it comes to baths. We are working on it, and Hooper was incredibly patient and kind to Phoebe, who just wanted to run around and get everyone wet.

“I wash each dog like they were my own,” Hooper said.

The bathing process is simple: one bath to get all the dirt and grime off, then a second bath to refresh the coat and leave your pup smelling clean. After Phoebe was scrubbed and dried, we gave her a little treat in a champagne glass.

I could already tell that Phoebe felt clean and ready to be active. I let her play around with some of her new friends in the day care as a reward. The pups kept smelling her recently bathed coat, and if they could talk I’m sure they were complimenting her.

Gosper and Hooper understand that your dog means a lot to you, and they will treat your doggies with care and love. Treat your best friend to a spa day. Your puppies are in good hands at The Pampered Puppy.

The Pampered Puppy posts photos of their adventures in grooming, pampering, and playtime on Facebook and Instagram. They are located at 1810 Main Street, Chester. [S](#)



The Pampered Puppy in Chester offers dog grooming and doggy day care.

Appropriately named, The Pampered Puppy in Chester was the perfect place to take Phoebe for a day of indulgence. Led by seasoned groomers, Stephanie Gosper and Gail Hooper, The Pampered Puppy is a full-service grooming and doggy day care center.

As we pulled up to the front door, several excited dog noses pressed up against the window. We were greeted by the sounds of dogs as we walked in, eagerly vocalizing their excitement to meet their new friend, Phoebe. At 8 a.m., we were followed by many other customers dropping their dogs off for the day care, a

convenient service for busy people and their dogs that love to socialize. The dogs are treated to a cozy inside space, with plenty of toys and friends to play with, as well as a new, fenced-in, outdoor space for a breath of fresh air.

After we got acquainted with the puppies (and Gosper and Hooper), it was Phoebe’s time to be spoiled. As Phoebe got on the table, and Gosper started brushing, I asked them what their favorite thing was about being dog groomers. Gosper said “playing with the puppies” was her favorite part, something I’m sure never gets old. Hooper said each dog has his or her own

You're going to **LOVE** Kent County_{MD}



Maryland's Upper Eastern Shore on the Chesapeake Bay is home to the smallest county in the state, per capita that is, but Kent County is vast when it comes to things to do and places to see. A charming peninsula, it's beyond compare when looking for small town, Main Street America, peaceful vistas, a bucolic landscape of rolling hills, farms, vineyards, and open space, which reminds us of a time past, when life was simpler. Enjoy the peace and beauty, but be ready to have fun.

This waterfront destination is home to historic Chestertown, one of the oldest mid-Atlantic port of entry. A beautiful colonial town resting along the banks of the Chester River, Chestertown has been named among the state's most significant arts communities by the Maryland State Arts Council. Kent County is also where you will find the working

waterman's town of Rock Hall, known for fresh Chesapeake Bay seafood, including the world-famous Chesapeake Bay Blue Crab, delicious Rockfish, mouth-watering oysters and more.

This waterfront haven offers visitors year-round experiences that showcase the depth and beauty of each season. With Fall fading away, the County of Kent would like to welcome you and yours into the warmth of small towns and big celebrations this holiday season. Join this historic and waterfront destination as it welcomes this special time of year with town-wide festivities and a nod toward the nostalgic during the month of December. Set the pace for your holiday season by joining the County of Kent Thanksgiving weekend. Friday November 24th, the community officially commences with seasonal celebrations. The 55th annual Antiques Show and Sale, running the 23rd through the 25th, offers guests the perfect opportunity to kick off






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their holiday shopping sprees, while the Chestertown Tree Lighting and arrival of Santa will fill everyone's hearts with the warmth of the season. After enjoying the Chestertown Farmers and Artisans Market in Fountain Park on Saturday morning, find your best viewing spot on High Street for the Kent County Christmas Parade at 10:00 a.m. Be sure to make time for the Country Crafts Guild Fall Arts & Craft Show on the 23rd and 24th, held at the Rock Hall Fire House. In fact, you will be able to complete your entire holiday gift list with these and the many offers during Small Business Saturday in the quaint shops throughout the County. After all of this holiday shopping, enjoy dinner at one of the many amazing restaurants throughout the County, and then head for the show. Tiny Tim's Christmas Carol runs Nov. 30th through Dec. 2nd at the Garfield Center for the Arts in Chestertown.

Find your inner child in Rock Hall. It is here, on the first Saturday in December that Santa will arrive for the season, in true Rock Hall fashion—by boat. Join the crowds along Rock Hall's harbor to meet Santa's boat coming in through the jetties at 6:00 p.m., bringing holiday cheer and spirit to the town with the lighted holiday boat parade, accompanied by the Kent County Community Band. Upon arrival, Santa will be transported to Main Street where he will take up shop in Santa's House. Children will be delighted to share their holiday wishes with the big guy himself, and you will be delighted to find extended shopping hours, discounts and specials throughout the community of Rock Hall. Round out your holiday visit

this weekend by attending the Galena Tree lighting on Sunday, Dec. 2nd. This small-town holiday tradition is certain to fill attendees with the warmth of the season as they join the Galena community in welcoming the sights and sounds of the holiday season to Maryland's Upper Eastern Shore. This event will be held at the Galena Town Office at 7:00 p.m.

The fun continues the next weekend, with the Kent County Historical Society's annual Winter Wassail on Friday, Dec. 7th. This is the a perfect opportunity to indulge in the history of this area as you immerse yourself in the winter festivities. This same weekend, and for three days, Dec. 7th through the 9th, Chestertown will transform into Victorian-era London and celebrate Charles Dickens and his famous novella, A Christmas Carol. During "A Dickens of a Christmas," your will enjoy carriage rides, family entertainment, street theater, live music, high tea, a decorated house tour, the "Run Like the Dickens" 5K race, children's games and crafts, lectures, authentic food and drink, and more!

No matter what time of year you choose to visit this beautiful and historic destination, Kent County is sure to provide you with experiences that exceed your expectations. For more information on lodging, dining, events, and attractions , please visit



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STRANGE TAILS

Sam Arrow, owner
of Walnut and
Wool, showcases
her babes and tells
about the joys of
pig ownership

Photos by
Caroline J. Phillips

BORN TO BE HOG WILD

BY JENNIE BURKE



**SAM CAUTIONS ANYONE
CONSIDERING PIG OWNERSHIP AND
PROFESSES THAT SHE IS A
"FULL-TIME PIG MOM."**

Behind her downtown Chestertown boutique, Walnut and Wool, business owner and artist Sam Arrow, 32, takes her babies outside for fresh air. Gus, 1½, works at pulling up blades of long, weedy, grass from inside a penned area. On sunny days, he is allowed to stay outside on his own. His little sister Tallulah does not have the same privilege. Although she's younger, she can already pull up the stakes that secure the pen, guaranteeing escape. Tallulah ambles across the small yard toward a parking lot.

"No, no, 'Lula, you know you can't go over there," Arrow coos.

"Aren't you afraid someone will take them?" I ask.

"Nah. Everyone around here knows them."

Sam says Tallulah would scream if someone tried to grab her. Her scream is, after all, her only natural defense. Sam demonstrates with a swift scoop of the round, wiggly bundle. Tallulah, on cue, begins to writhe, squonk and squeal like a pig. Because she is a pig.

As an animal lover and advocate, Arrow always dreamed of having a porcine pet. Her boyfriend, James Cook, had a friend with a pregnant pig. The couple went over to take a look at the piglets and returned home with Gus, who is half Vietnamese Potbelly, half Juliana.

Arrow shares her retail space with Chris Tilghman, owner of She She on High. When Sam adopted Gus,

Tilghman encouraged her to bring the pig to work.

"Other stores have dogs or cats around here. I thought, 'Why not have a pig?'" said Tilghman, who calls Gus a "minor celebrity." While she can't determine if he's raised profits in the shop, she admits that he "certainly brings people in."

Even though young Gus enjoyed a life of (minor) celebrity in Chestertown, he seemed lonely to Arrow and Cook. His "brothers," two rescue dogs, tolerated him, but pigs are smarter than dogs, Arrow said, and Gus needed an intellectual companion. One day Arrow saw a post on Facebook for a pig that had been surrendered to the Kent County Humane Society. Although she was one of the few qualified candidates among the frenzy of inquiries, the pig was awarded to someone higher on the waiting list. A few weeks later, the shelter called back to notify Arrow of a 4-month-old female pig to be surrendered the following day. The family was thrilled to welcome Tallulah, who was "so scared and tiny" when they met her.

Gus and Tallulah butted heads for their first few months as siblings. At one point Arrow feared the relationship was doomed for disaster, and the pigs would never get along. Finally one day, while running the vacuum, Arrow noticed the pigs walking around each other, grunting and "communicating." Mission accomplished. Gus finally had a friend to keep him entertained. The pigs live high on the hog at Arrow and Cook's Rock Hall home. The animals

cuddle on the couches during the day, and wedge into the family bed at night. Sam lovingly house-trained the pets with attention, routine and treats, "just like you would with a dog." They eat a vegetarian diet of pellets and scraps, and spend hours rooting in the yard, searching for tree roots and grubs. Every two weeks, they have a warm bath, then a post-tub massage of lotion and cocoa butter. They are as happy with Arrow and Cook as pigs in ... well, you know.

Sam cautions anyone considering pig ownership and professes that she is a "full-time pig mom." She said she is concerned about celebrities like reality starlet Paris Hilton promoting the myth of the "tea-cup" pig.

"That's a lie," Arrow said. Some breeders trick prospective pig owners into buying baby pigs that end up growing into 300-pound livestock. Comparatively, Gus is full grown at about 70 pounds. Pigs also can rack up veterinary bills, although Arrow is quick to recognize that her pigs cared for by an "amazing" vet in Easton. They have been spayed and neutered.

Finally, pigs are particular about the weather and don't like the cold. Gus and Tallulah grow bored during the winter months, when they spend less time outdoors. Lula is particularly sensitive to the cold and often borrows her big brother's clothes. So while you can't "put lipstick on a pig," you can, apparently, put one in a Christmas sweater. **S**

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PORTRAIT *of a* POOCH

Artist Dawn Tarr
offers a new take
on pet portraiture

By Amelia Blades Steward

Her artwork has been on the Ellen DeGeneres Show, Animal Planet, and the Bonnie Hunt Show. Among the celebrities who have her pet portraits are TV personalities Anderson Cooper, Conan O'Brien, Rachel Ray, and Shorty Rossi of Pit Boss.

Painter Dawn Tarr of Snow Hill has been painting her whole life and even shares a birthday with the famous painter Vincent Van Gogh. She calls herself an Impressionist painter and pop artist. Her style of pet portraiture is whimsical, capturing the pet's true personality. Sometimes she paints just the pet and sometimes



she paints the pet with its owner. Oftentimes, the pet is doing something human, like drinking a cup of coffee, playing cards, or dressing up in clothes.

Tarr recalls her big break. At the time, she was struggling painting workboats and putting her art in local restaurants on the lower Eastern Shore, hoping it would sell to the public. One day she sent Ellen DeGeneres a portrait she had painted of her dancing with a purse from a woman in her audience. Two years later, the portrait appeared on DeGeneres' show where she gave it to Kendall Jenner. That was just the beginning of Tarr's journey to fame. DeGeneres showed Tarr's pet portraits on the show a few times, and now her pet portraits are in homes across the globe.

"I remember saying to myself, 'Score!'" Tarr said. "I live here in the cornfield and don't get opportunities like this. When you put your energy out like that it starts coming your way."

Tarr is usually working on 20 pet portraits at a time. Sometimes she meets the dog and other times, she uses a photo and what people have told her about the pet to paint the portrait. She always asks what subject matter people would like included in the portrait of their pets, such as a favorite ball, an activity they

enjoyed, or a memory. Sometimes she mixes media to give the portraits dimension. Eighty percent of the portraits are for pets who have died.

"I am super honored to do this," she said.

Tarr, who graduated from Snow Hill High School and attended the Columbus College of Art & Design, has been painting her entire life.

"I think people have lost their creative spirit. They come in thinking they can't do the painting and they leave amazed at what they have created. I think it's a great way to escape from the burdens of real life."

While living on a farm in Snow Hill and taking care of the animals there, she developed a deep love for animals.

"My animal art comes from somewhere else and through me. It's been there my whole life."






To get herself out of the studio, where she spends most of her time, Tarr also offers painting classes one to two nights a month at which students have the chance to paint their own pets' portraits. Tarr first sketches the pet on an 8-inch-by-10-inch canvas from the pet photo a participant brings in and then the student paints the sketch with acrylic paint. She teaches both at The Globe in Berlin and at The Apothecary at 22 North Harrison Street in Easton.

"I am always amazed at how well the paintings turn out. People really get into it," she said. "I think people have lost their creative spirit. They come in thinking they can't do the painting and they leave amazed at what they have created. I think it's a great way to escape from the burdens of real life."

Tarr has expanded her painting classes to include making cutouts that people paint and decorate, including mermaids and crab basket flowers.

"I am trying to keep it fresh," she said.

She has a heart for area causes, often donating her work and classes to benefit local organizations. Shorty Rossi has several of her pit bull portraits which help him bring awareness to pit bull rescue, something he is passionate about.

"It is gratifying to be able to pay my bills and also have an impact on something positive," Tarr said. "I would like to eventually have my own building with a gallery to offer art classes to people of all ages, a place for ... kids to do art and to help the recovery community here in Snow Hill." 

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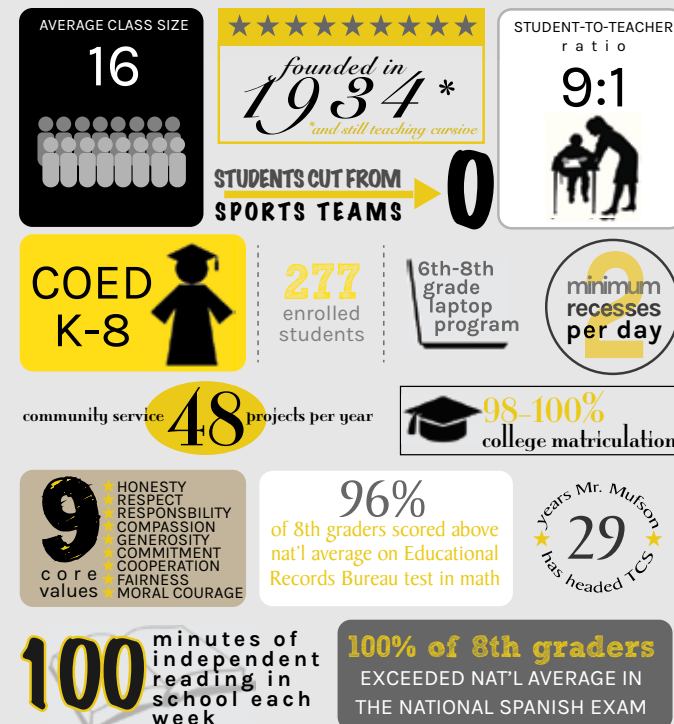
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Story by Michael Valliant
Photos by Arden Haley

Doris Day could have been speaking for K-9 Cart Company East clients when she said, “I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source.”

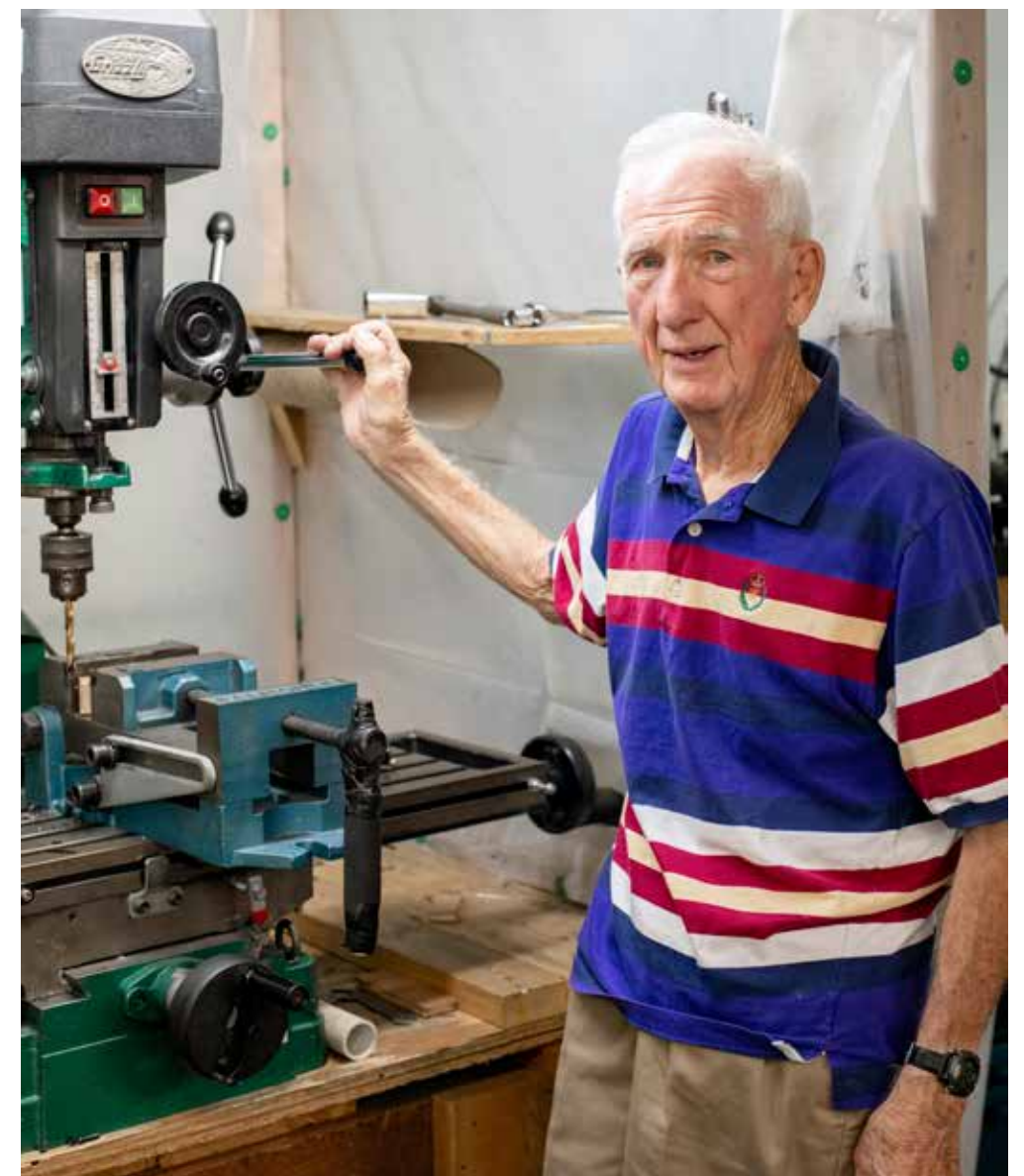
Knowing that dogs are family members guides a decision to do what you can to make sure they are happy, whatever hand life may deal them. Dr. Lincoln (Nick) Parkes, founder of K-9 Cart Company East in Oxford works with that type of client.

“The pet owners I work with are the kind of people who have their dog as a member of the family, and they will spend money on their dogs before themselves,” Parkes said. “I really love helping both the pets and the people. The first cart I ever made, I wasn’t asked; I was told, ‘Dr. Parkes, we aren’t going to put our dog down, so do something.’”

That was in the 1960s, when he patented a cart that helped disabled animals to walk. K-9 Carts are the original patented dog wheelchairs; Parkes used the term “cart” instead of “wheelchair,” because it looked to him like a cart pulled by work animals. He ran the business on the side while he worked as a veterinary surgeon with a sub-specialty in back surgery. He retired in 1991 and found Oxford from his love of boats. He has run a number of different cart companies, opening K-9 Cart Company East in 2004. He’s made more than 100,000 carts over the years.

These days, Parkes, who is 90, focuses more on the quality of the carts he makes than on the marketing of them. Even so, he has recently been featured in *The Washington Post* and in a story on CBS. At his Oxford shop, he shows design improvements he has made over the years and the new design he has in mind next. But he’s just as quick to talk about what happens when a pet gets fit with one of his carts.

“The dogs become different animals when you give them their freedom,” Parkes said. “The way they tear out of the shop when they realize they can move again.”






He is still blown away by a boxer he fit with a cart who would play Frisbee, leaping in the air, cart and all, to catch the Frisbee and bring it back. Testimonials from K-9 Cart's clients are full of stories of dogs and owners with a new lease on life due to mobility — including those who had no luck with other carts, but who Parkes was able to help. In one case, a

Corgi refused to use a cart from another company: "I went to Dr. Parkes and he kindly spent the day re-designing and fixing the unusable wheelchair. The dog is now able to walk and run again." At a time in his life when Parkes could consider retiring and spending more time on the water, he is not done improving his carts and helping more pets.



He doesn't like what he sees in some of the cheaply made carts on the market and has a design he feels could build on his life's work of improving quality of life for pets and their families. "I'm a designer at heart. I'd spend more time designing if I could, and I just really enjoy helping these kind families and seeing dogs feel like kids again," Parkes said. 

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by J. Robin Musiol, C-RNP, Bioidentical Hormone Specialist

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ABOUT THE COVER

Pepper, the cover puppy, is from Yellowdog Retrievers, breeder of quality fox red Labrador retrievers for performance events and hunting. Limited training of young dogs as hunting retrievers. Yellowdog Retrievers is located in Trappe and can be reached at 410-703-3204.

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November 3

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November 3

Waterfowl Festival, Easton
November 9-11

Festival of Trees, Easton
November 23-27

Moonlight Madness, Easton
November 30

Arts & Crafts Marketplace, Easton
November 30-December 2

Christmas on the Creek, Oxford
November 30-December 2

DECEMBER

Midnight Madness, St. Michaels
December 1

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