

# BEST of the BAY 2019

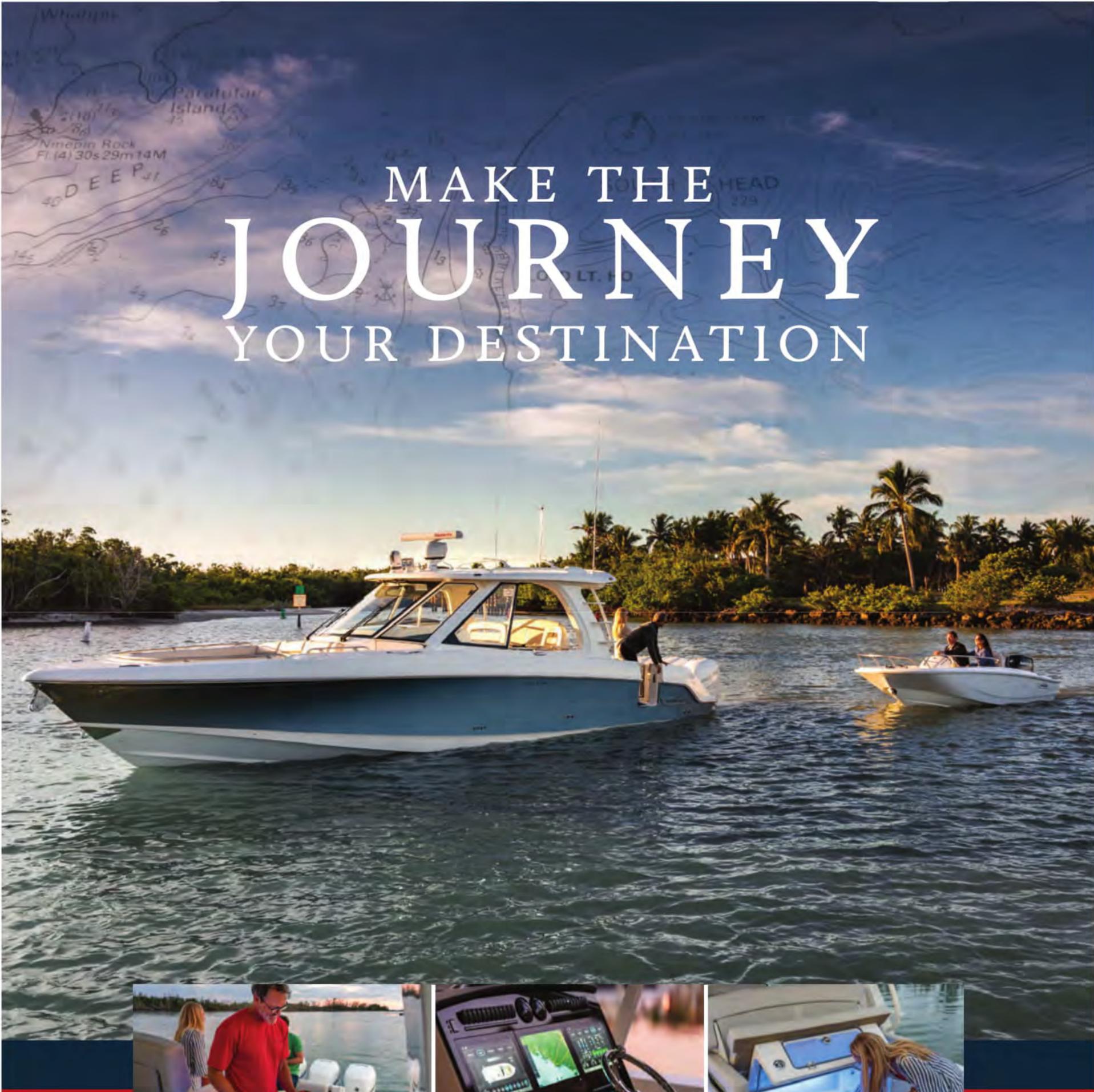
# Chesapeake Bay



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Nov. 10  
Feb. 22

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Feb. 15-16
- Celestial Navigation  
Feb. 22-23

### Weather Basics

Feb. 29 - Mar. 1

### Marine Diesel Engines

- Diesel Basics:  
Jan. 11-12  
Feb. 1-2  
Mar. 7-8
- Diesel Level II:  
Jan. 13-14  
Feb. 3-4  
Mar. 9-10

### Electrical Systems

- Electrical Basics:  
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Feb. 8-9
- Electrical Level II:  
Jan. 20-21  
Feb. 10-11



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# Chesapeake Bay

MAGAZINE

Volume 49



Number 8

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The best gift is a Summer full of Memories

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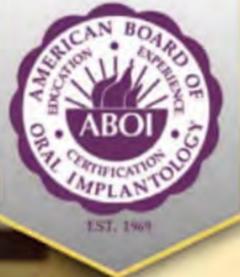
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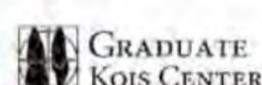


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# BEST of the BAY

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**25 BOATING** In the market for a marina? Looking for a new place to cruise? You'll find it all here.



**37 LIVING** Amusement parks to music festivals, here's where to go for a good time.



**44 PHOTO CONTEST** Our readers aren't just smart, they're talented! See some of their best shots.

## The Best Guide to the BEST OF THE BAY

We asked, you voted!

### Best Guide to Living, Dining, and Boating Chesapeake Bay

Right here!

*Readers voting in our annual and highly unscientific Best of the Bay poll chose their favorites in dozens of categories, from fishing boats to festivals, crabcakes to campgrounds. Here you'll find enough restaurants, destinations, and activities to fill your 2020 with the best the Chesapeake has to offer.*

What's so great about it?

Also very good!

**RUNNER-UP** Bay Bulletin, Annapolis, Md.

From our experts!

**CBM STAFF PICK** A subscription to Chesapeake Bay Magazine.

Capt. Jody has her own opinions.

### JODY'S PICK

#### Best Place to Get Advice From a Pro

Also here.

*Cruising Editor Jody Argo Schroath sails the bay and beyond, like a modern Magellan, bringing back the choicest picks for what to do, where to go, and what to eat while you're there. She'll chime in with her own recommendations from time to time, and you'd do well to listen.*

**On the Cover:** Photo by Glenn Miller  
Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster menaces downtown Annapolis as part of the Eastport Yacht Club's annual parade of lights.



# Visit the Soul of the Shore

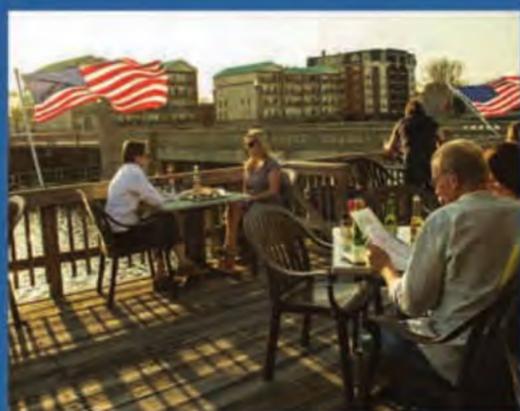


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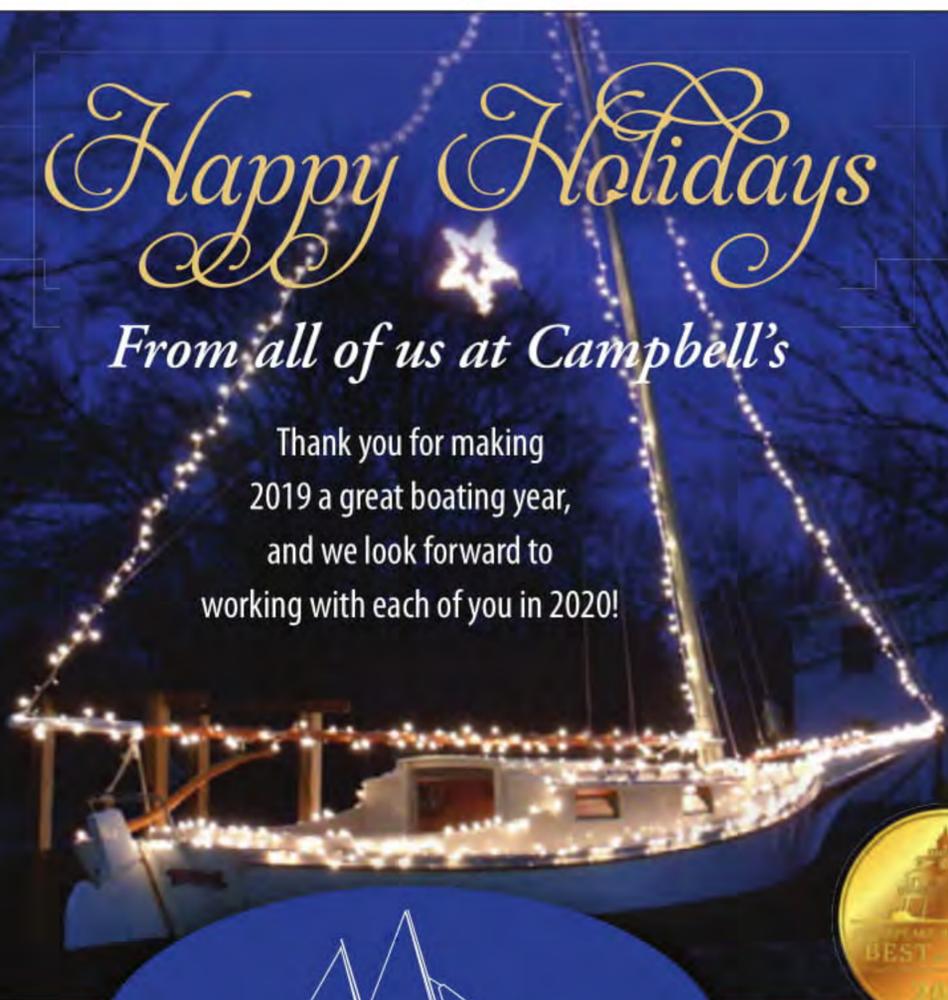
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*From all of us at Campbell's*

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working with each of you in 2020!



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**W**e asked and you voted: More than 100 winners made our Best of the Bay list, so many that some of our stories had to go online.

To see the rest, head to *chesapeakebaymagazine.com* for more of the Best of the Bay, along with our events calendar and Bay Bulletin news service. ↴

▶ Check out the rest of the Best of the Bay at [chesapeakebaymagazine.com/BOB2019](http://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/BOB2019).

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## BOB Online Exclusives from Your Favorite Columnists



### Wild Chesapeake Best Public Lands

We forced Capt. Chris Dollar to pick just one place on the Bay for fishing, hunting, and general outdoorsmanship. To our surprise, he did it!

by Capt. Chris Dollar



### On Boats The Deadrise

What's the quintessential Chesapeake Bay boat? Move over skipjack, Capt. John Page Williams says it's the humble deadrise workboat.

by John Page Williams



### Chesapeake Almanac Exploring Rivers

Looking to tour the hidden waters of the Chesapeake? Get some tips from the author of *Exploring the Chesapeake in Small Boats*.

by John Page Williams



### Jody's Log Jody's Picks

Capt. Jody Argo Schroath cannot be contained, at least not in the pages of this magazine. See the rest of Jody's best online.

by Capt. Jody Argo Schroath

► Read these Best of the Bay columns and more this month at [chesapeakebaymagazine.com/BOB2019](http://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/BOB2019)

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# The Best

by Joe Evans

**I**n the U.S. election process, there are strict measures to ensure legitimate results including secret ballots, one vote per person, certified results, and no foolin' around under penalty of law. None of that applies to our Best of the Bay Awards. It's not a scientific survey, and we pretty much expect some enthusiastic canvassing, self-promotion, and minimal ballot-stuffing to determine the winners. It's legit to argue that the people who rally their followers, customers, and family members deserve the accolades. You can argue that some other crab soup is better than the winner's (and we know you will and so will we.) We encourage those arguments. Arguing about crabs is part of the spice of life on the Chesapeake. But, in the end, they didn't rally their fans to the win. So, better luck next year.

Meanwhile, with the hair-raising growth in our digital engagement and subscriber base over the last three years (last month we reached over two million people via social media alone),

we are able to quickly gauge what people care about the most, and we are adjusting our content and the survey to suit. Still, we feel it's incumbent on us to do the work and taste those crab cakes, experience the destinations, hike those trails, cruise the waters, paddle the creeks, tour the museums, shuck the oysters, sample local distilled spirits over-and-over, slurp crab soups, fish even more, quaff the local brews, sail forth and back, and chart the course to the elements that define living along Chesapeake Bay. We are so fortunate to be able to do this, every day, all year long. You'll see some of those results in our staff picks added to this year's best-of lists. It's not that we necessarily disagree with the voters. We are simply weighing-in where we think something is missing.

Throughout the year, we depend on our contributors, followers, and you to provide tips and reviews on where to go, what to do, and what not to miss. Thereby, we have uncovered

such #madeontheBay treasures as Woodberry Kitchen's Snake Oil Fish Pepper Sauce (the Bay's best seafood pepper sauce); Sister's Canvas waxed cotton shucking aprons, Lyon Rum, Butter Pat cast iron skillets, Blackwater Rye Whiskey, Dreamer Forge Knives, JLS and Shore Tackle custom fishing rods, Eastport 32 boats, Coach Jigheads ("Cheaper and Better Than Most"), Composite Yachts, Paul Beard Dobro Guitars (played by Jerry Douglas), SEIGLER Fishing Reels, Specialized Baits, Thelma Peterson music & art, The Eastport Oyster Boys, and Barrier Islands Sea Salt—just a few in our box of exceptional homegrown things.

We seek out these things, and with your help, we'll add new categories and continue to pump up the fun in pursuit what's the Best of the Bay in 2020.

Thanks for playing. 🍷

JOE EVANS

joe@chesapeakebaymagazine.com

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Courtesy of the Talbot Historical Society, Easton, Maryland



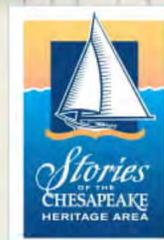
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Cookbooks can be purchased online at [storiesofthechesapeake.org](http://storiesofthechesapeake.org) or at the Talbot County Visitors Center, 11 S. Harrison Street, Easton, MD 21601



# FOOD & DRINK

*Got a craving for crabs? A hankerin' for oysters? CBM readers voted on their faves for those Bay classics and more. CBM staff added our two cents with staff picks, with special shout-outs from our well-traveled cruising editor Capt. Jody Argo Schroath.*



**BEST CRAB HOUSE** Waterman's Crab House

## **Best Restaurant**

The Kitchen at the Imperial, Chestertown, Md.

*Head Chef Steve Quigg made the move to Chestertown from Rock Hall five years ago, and has made a home in the historic Imperial Hotel, where the Kitchen's casual fine dining and locally-sourced ingredients have made it a favorite among locals and travelers alike.*

**RUNNER-UP** Osprey Point, Rock Hall, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Boatyard Bar & Grill, Annapolis, Md.

## **Best Bay-to-Table Restaurant**

White Dog Bistro, Mathews, Va.

*Chef Walter Wilke mixes Italian, Creole, and Chilean influences into his "cuisine without borders," seeking out the best local watermen and farmers have to offer on Virginia's Middle Peninsula.*

**RUNNER-UP** Adrift, White Stone, Va.

## **Best Oyster Bar**

Merroir, Topping, Va.

*This "tasting room" for the Rappahannock Oyster Co. has taken on a life of its own, with small-plate raw and grilled offerings on the banks of the eponymous river. The menu is heavy on the oysters, obviously, but stretches to include other seafood dishes, paired with craft beers and an extensive wine list.*

**RUNNER-UP** Sailor Oyster Bar, Annapolis, Md.

## **Best Crab House**

Waterman's Crab House, Rock Hall, Md.

*Everyone on the Bay has their go-to crab house, and judging from the way the votes poured in, Waterman's is the top of the list for a lot of folks. Featuring all the expected Chesapeake fare, Waterman's overlooks Rock Hall Harbor and offers live entertainment most nights to go with your crab feast.*

**RUNNER-UP** Crab Claw, St. Michaels, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICK** Cantler's Riverside Inn, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Brunch

Pearl on Main, Rock Hall, Md.

*Let other meals hurry past, Sunday brunch is for relaxing, and Pearl on Main offers great Bay-centric options, including four types of eggs benedict and a brunch buffet.*

**RUNNER-UP** Willaby's Café, White Stone, Va.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Miss Shirley's Cafe, Multiple Locations

### Best Burger Joint

NN Burgers, Tappahannock & Kilmarnock, Va.

*NN Burger's menu is exactly as big as it needs to be, dominated by mouthwatering burgers from the classic cheeseburger (American, lettuce, tomato) to the Top Notch (wagyu beef, black pepper bacon jam, aged*

*swiss, sautéed portobello mushroom, roasted garlic truffle aioli). There's even a lump crab-topped burger.*

**RUNNER-UP** Hole In the Wall Waterfront Grill, Gwynns Island Va.

### Best Breakfast

Smithfield Station, Smithfield, Va.

*Smithfield Station is great for lunch and dinner anytime, but on Sunday mornings they offer omelet and waffle stations and a rotating menu of breakfast favorites at their spot overlooking the Pagan River.*

**RUNNER-UP** Iron Rooster, Annapolis, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Woolford General Store, Woolford, Md.

### Best Local Coffee Shop

Java Rock, Rock Hall, Md.

*A terrific place to grab a cup of joe (or a glass of wine) and enjoy a light lunch and free wifi. Their paninis and pastries get raves, as*

## JODY'S PICK

### Best Place to Eat Like Your Ancestors

Something Different Restaurant, Urbanna, Va., Rappahannock River

*Here's your chance to enjoy fine Neanderthal cuisine—and I mean fine—in a small colonial-Virginia-tobacco-town setting. Something Different serves smoked meats and barbecues to die for, as well as homemade ice cream and desserts, in-house roasted coffee and peanuts (not together, of course). Choose a marina on Urbanna Creek and you'll be in the middle of Urbanna, which of course offers much more than meat.*

*does the outdoor, dog-friendly seating area.*

**RUNNER-UP** Oxford Social, Oxford, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Rise Up, Multiple Maryland Locations

### Best Bar

Hole In the Wall Waterfront Grill, Gwynns Island, Va.

*Don't be fooled, the Hole in the Wall is actually pretty nice, with a view that makes the most of its waterfront location. It's a lovely spot to pull up a stool and watch the world go by.*

**RUNNER-UP** Dredge, Irvington, Va.

### Best Bartender

Patricia "Pat" Brown at Smithfield Station, Smithfield, Va.

*Pat Brown is a returning champion to these pages, having won "Best Dockside Bartender" in 2018. Smithfield says everyone knows and loves this veteran mixologist of more than 20 years.*

**RUNNER-UP** Nikki Everitt at The Pearl on Main, Rock Hall, Md.

### Best Brewpub

Kilmarnock Brewhaus, Kilmarnock, Va.

*Kilmarnock's first brewery is only open Thursday through Sunday*

*because they spend the rest of the week brewing such Euro-centric favorites as*

*Edelweiss IPA and Escape from Cologne Kolsch.*

**RUNNER-UP** Wharf Hill Brewing Co., Smithfield, Va.

### Best Brew

RAR, Cambridge, Md.

*In the six years since they took over a former pool hall and bowling alley in Cambridge, RAR (it stands for Real Ale Revival) has spread far and wide across Bay Country. Nanticoke Nectar and Country Ride have become standard go-to brews, and their special releases are always interesting and tasty.*

**RUNNER-UP** Bold Mariner Brewing Co., Norfolk, Va.

### Best Winery

Good Luck Cellars, Kilmarnock, Va.

*Paul and Katie Krop took a Northern Neck sand and gravel mine and built a vineyard and winery that now spans nearly 25 acres of vines and won six Virginia Governor's Cup-winners in 2019 alone.*

**RUNNER-UP** Chateau Bu De, Chesapeake City, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Chatham Vineyard, Machipongo, Va.



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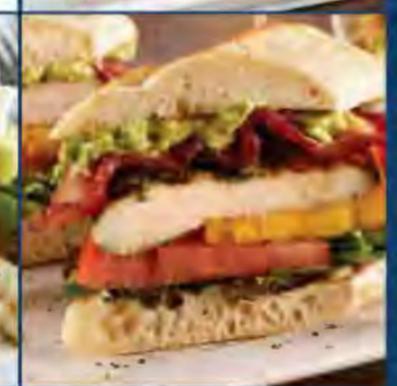
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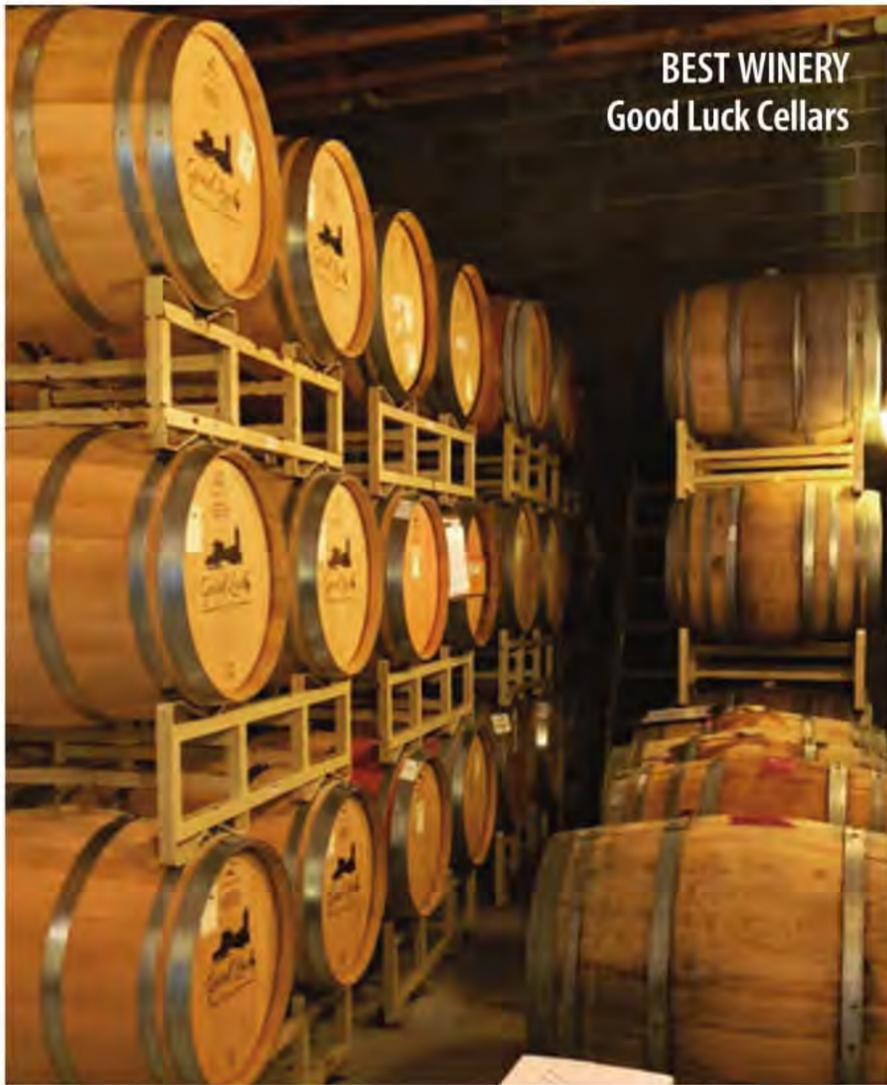
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**BEST WINERY**  
Good Luck Cellars

### Best Distillery

Lyon Distilling Co.,  
St Michaels, Md.

Before Lyon came along, we had no idea there were so many kinds of rum. The self-described “micro distillery” in Saint Michaels produces seven flavors year-round, with an additional three seasonal releases, and that’s not even counting their ultra-small batch rye and malt whiskeys.

**RUNNER-UP** Blackwater Distilling, Stevensville, Md.

### Best Cocktail

Orange Crush

From its humble beginnings at the Harborside Bar & Grill in West Ocean City circa 1995, the Orange Crush is now available Bay-wide, with countless variations on the theme, but they all have one thing in common: they are the perfect summertime complement to a Chesapeake sunset.

**RUNNER-UP** Pain in de Ass, Chesapeake Inn  
**CBM STAFF PICK** Dark & Stormy, Boatyard Bar & Grill

### Best Outdoor Dining

Hole in the Wall Waterfront Grill, Gwynns Island Va.

Not to burst any bubbles, but this Mathews, Virginia eatery is not, in fact, a hole in the wall. The picturesque casual dining favorite takes its name from a spot in the bay near Sandy Point, and you can tie your boat up at the dock outside and keep an eye on it from the deck while you eat.

**RUNNER-UP** Waterman’s Crab House, Rock Hall, Md.

### Best Maryland Crab Soup

Pearl On Main,  
Rock Hall, Md.

Pearl on Main is a fairly new addition to Rock Hall’s dining scene, but they’ve clearly gained a following. Executive chef Paul Brinkley grew up in the area, and his knowledge of local farms and suppliers might be what propels his traditional Maryland crab soup to the top of our poll.

**RUNNER-UP** Ketch 22, North Beach, Md.

### Best Cream of Crab Soup

Skipper’s Pier, Deale, Md.

Skipper’s has long been a popular spot for crab- and oyster-based delicacies (or both—“crab-crusting oysters”) and their cream of crab soup has obviously won them some fans in this crowded field.

**RUNNER-UP** Smithfield Station, Smithfield, Va.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Carrol’s Creek, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Crab Cake

The Kitchen at the Imperial, Chestertown, Md.

This is always a hotly contested category, but The Kitchen has been taking home Best Crab Cake Awards since they were located in Rock Hall. Jumbo lump, no filler, and served with a roasted tomato tarragon remoulade.

**RUNNER-UP** Hole in the Wall Waterfront Grill, Gwynns Island, Va.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Boatyard Bar & Grill, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Seafood Market

J & W Seafood Gourmet Market, Deltaville, Va.

Whether you’re looking for prepared crab cakes, a bushel of

oysters, or something more exotic, this family-owned seafood processor and wholesaler has been selling direct to the public at their market for nearly 40 years.

**RUNNER-UP** Chester River Seafood, Rock Hall, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Annapolis Seafood Market, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Farmers Market

Chestertown Farmer’s Market, Chestertown, Md.

Let’s face it, all farmers markets are great and the best one is the closest. But should you be in the Chestertown area, this Saturday morning mainstay has dozens of local producers bringing the goods, and it runs from mid-March to just before Christmas.

**RUNNER-UP** Mathews Farmers Market, Mathews, Va.

### Best Ice Cream

Scottish Highland Creamery, Oxford, Md.

The Creamery has a pretty good origin story, as these things go—the founder grew up in Scotland, above an ancient Italian ice cream parlor, and learned the esoteric arts of ice cream-making there before



**BEST OUTDOOR DINING**  
Hole in the Wall Waterfront Grill

bringing his secret knowledge to Oxford, where you too can reap the rewards.

**RUNNER-UP** Get the Scoop, Rock Hall, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Annapolis Ice Cream Co., Annapolis, Md.

### Best Food Truck

Byrd's Seafood Co., Irvington, Va.

Irvington native (and Dredge chef) Bryan Byrd serves up seafood from the Rappahannock and environs out of his mobile food truck, and his shrimp tacos, oyster po boys, and fried sugar toads have won raves wherever he travels.

### Best Oyster Stew

Dredge, Irvington, Va.

Bryan Byrd's less mobile venture, Dredge was a natural outgrowth of his food truck and their famous oyster tacos. His cream-based oyster stew stars wild-caught Rappahannock oysters with collard greens, country ham, and sweet onion.

**RUNNER-UP** Steak & Main, North East, Md.

### Best Oyster Festival

Urbanna Oyster Fest, Urbanna, Va.

Urbanna draws some 60,000 people every year to its oyster festival—120 times its regular population—and they get to sample every dish and aspect of the humble shellfish that keeps the Bay humming along.

**RUNNER-UP** U.S. Oyster Festival, St. Mary's, Md.

### Best Seafood Festival

Maryland Seafood Fest, Annapolis, Md.

An Annapolis tradition for more than 50 years, the Maryland Seafood Festival presents a robust row of seafood and beer offerings, live music, cooking demos, a crab-picking contest, and the landmark Crab Soup Cookoff.

**RUNNER-UP** Deltaville Seafood Festival, Deltaville, Va.



**BEST ICE CREAM**  
Scottish Highland Creamery

### Best Community Oyster Roast

Chesapeake Academy, Irvington, Va.

This pre-kindergarten through 8th grade private school is consistently ranked one of the best in Virginia, as is its annual fundraiser, which sells out well in advance every year.

**RUNNER-UP** Waterman's Museum Oyster Roast, Williamsburg, Va.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Barrier Islands Center Oyster Roast, Machipongo, Va.

### Best Community Crab Feast

Tilghman Island Crab Fest, Tilghman Island, Md.

Tilghman Islanders know crabs, and your choice for community crab feast boasts a seafood smorgasbord: steamed crabs (of course), but also crab cakes, clams, chicken, fries, beer, and sodas. And it's all to benefit the Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department.

**RUNNER-UP** National Hard Crab Derby, Crisfield, Md.

### Best Chef

Steve Quigg, The Kitchen at the Imperial, Chestertown, Md.

The Imperial Hotel scored big five years ago when they lured Steve Quigg and his wife, fellow chef Monica, away from their successful Rock Hall restaurant. Specializing in upscale comfort foods, The Kitchen has been attracting foodies to Chestertown ever since.

**RUNNER-UP** Walter Wilkes, White Dog Bistro, Mathews, Va.

### Best Local Delicacy

Smith Island Cake

These many-layered cakes have been made on the island since the 1800s as gifts for outgoing watermen who would remain on the Bay for months at a time. Today, it's easier to order them from Smith Island Bakery on-island or the Smith Island Baking Co. in Crisfield. (No hard labor required.)

**RUNNER-UP** Southern Maryland Stuffed Ham

## JODY'S PICK

### Best Crabcake Sandwich at the Place You've Never Heard Of

Quade's Store, Bushwood Wharf, Wicomico River

Another sentimental favorite. Quade's Store has been at Bushwood Wharf since the steamships delivered goods and people up and down the Bay. The family recipe has now been passed down to the latest Quade generation, so when you bite into one of their crabcake sandwiches you are tasting the history of the Chesapeake. It's simplicity itself... with a kick.

**RUNNER-UP** Drum Point Market, Tylerton, Smith Island

If you have a draft of less than 4 feet, you can follow the west channel from the Bay to Tylerton Town Dock. Otherwise, stop in Ewell at Smith Island Marina and dinghy down to Tylerton. Whichever way you get there, get there for lunch and order the crabcakes at Drum Point Market. You're welcome.



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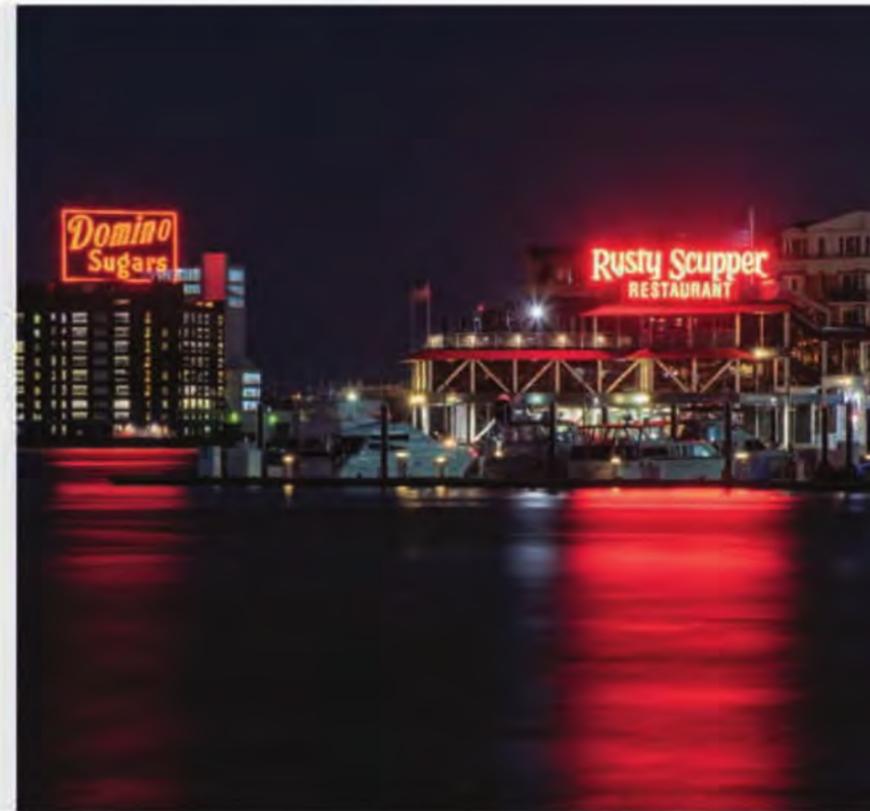
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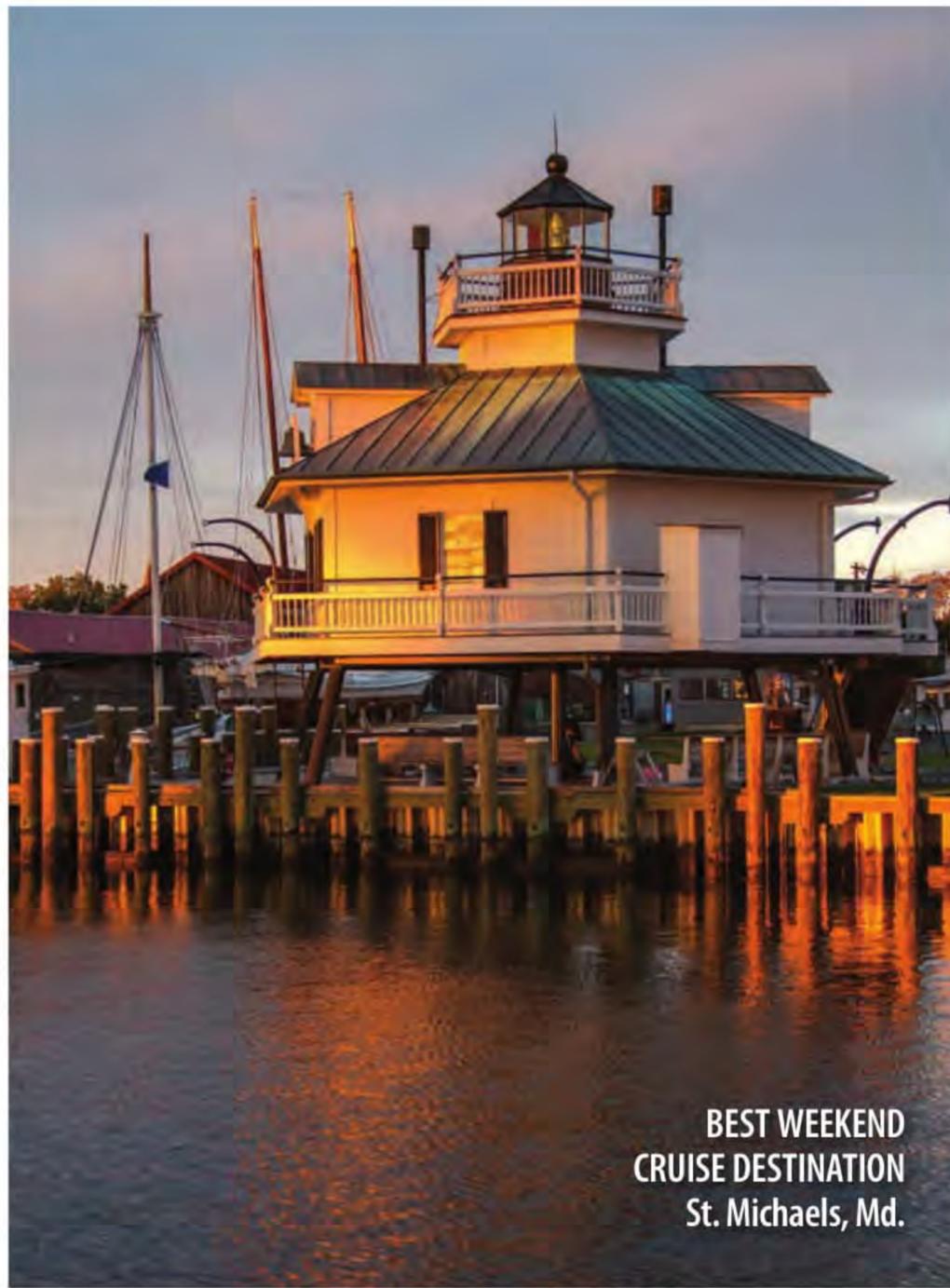
### INNER HARBOR WEST MARINA

This is an exclusive marina that offers annual and seasonal slips for rent, with great amenities including a pool and fitness center.



# BOATING

*Sure, you can live by the Bay without a boat, but should you? Here, courtesy of our readers, are some of the reasons the Chesapeake looks better from the water, with our staff picks and the sage advice of our cruising editor, Capt. Jody Argo Schroath.*



**BEST WEEKEND  
CRUISE DESTINATION**  
St. Michaels, Md.

## **Best Cruising Grounds**

**Choptank River, Md.**

*With easy access to Knapps Narrows, Cambridge, Oxford, and St. Michaels, the Choptank*

*Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, shops, a winery, and some great restaurants.*

**RUNNER-UP** Cape Charles, Va.

## **Best Place to Trailer Your Boat**

**Deltaville, Va.**

*Located at the tip of Virginia's Middle Peninsula, Deltaville is bounded by the Rappahannock to the north and the Piankatank to the south, making it the perfect launch point to explore some of the best Chesapeake cruising waters.*

**RUNNER-UP** Havre De Grace, Md.

*provides plenty to explore from the water. It's also home to anchorages aplenty, if you want to spend the night on the hook.*

**RUNNER-UP** Herring Bay, Md.

## **Best Weekend Cruise Destination**

**St. Michaels, Md.**

*St. Mikes is without a doubt the most popular destination on the middle Bay, a quaint Chesapeake town home to the world-class*

## **Best Raft-up Spot**

**Shaw Bay, Md.**

*This spot near the mouth of the Wye River is perfect for getting together with a few friendly boats and, if you time it right, you may even enjoy an*



**BEST PLACE TO PADDLE**  
Mallows Bay

on-the-water concert at the annual Shaw Bay Raft-Up & Party in September.

**RUNNER-UP** Swan Creek, Md.

**Best Place to Paddle**  
Mallow's Bay, Md.

There's a lot to explore on this 18-mile stretch of the Potomac River, designated a National Marine Sanctuary this year. It contains the wrecks of 118 WWI-era steamships and home to Native American and Civil War historic sites.

**RUNNER-UP** Pagan River, Va.

**Best Place to Sail**  
Herring Bay

Seven substantial marinas and Skipper's Pier Dockbar anchor the support system for Herring Bay cruisers, and it's located on the Western Shore within easy driving distance from the metro areas. From there you have deep-water access into Herring and Chesapeake bays far from the maddening crowds up north where the Bay pinches down at the Bay Bridge, Annapolis, and Baltimore.

**RUNNER-UP** Hampton, Va.

**Best Place to Show Off**  
Ego Alley, Annapolis, Md.

The winner by a landslide. Ego Alley, the longtime nickname of the channel running down to Market Square, has the advantages of being crowded with yachts, narrow, and in full view of a couple of waterfront bars, making any miscalculations costly and embarrassing. All of which adds up to a perfect spot to show off your new paint job, just don't scratch it!

**RUNNER-UP** Kent Narrows, Md.

**Best Place to Fish**  
Susquehanna Flats

The Flats, up at the top of the Bay, hold largemouth bass and catfish, but the place is most famous for rockfish, particularly in the Spring catch-and-release season as they stage before spawning in the fresher water fed by the Susquehanna.

**RUNNER-UP** Eastern Bay, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Lynnhaven, Va.

**Best Place to Rent a Boat**  
Baysail, Havre de Grace, Md.

Baysail offers captained and bare boat charters (with competency references) so you can explore the

Bay for a day or longer. Offerings range from 22-foot daysailers all the way up to a Beneteau Oceanis 41 for longer trips.

**RUNNER-UP** Haven Charters, Rock Hall, Md.

**Best Sightseeing Boat**  
Blue Crab Chesapeake Charters, Island Girl

Take a sunset cruise from Rock

Hall or one of their other daily cruises (five a day) aboard the 43-foot Morgan center-cockpit sailboat Island Girl with up to six guests and explore Swan Creek or the open Bay.

**RUNNER-UP** Summer Breeze, Havre de Grace, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Chesapeake Breeze, Tangier Island Cruises, Reedville, Va.

**Best Spot to Anchor**  
Still Pond, Md.

Beautiful forested shorelines surround the mouth of Still Pond Creek, a popular anchorage that can get crowded on weekends in the summer. For better wind protection, a narrow entrance leads to a protected area of the creek with plenty of room to drop the hook.

**RUNNER-UP** Swan Creek, Md.

**Best Resort Marina**  
Herrington Harbour North, Tracys Landing, Md.

Herrington North covers all the marina basics—water, electric, restrooms, laundry—

**JODY'S PICK**

**Best "Are you sure we're still on the Chesapeake?" River**

Pocomoke River

I highly recommend you make a trip up the beautiful Pocomoke. After a little tediously narrow and shallowish section at the entrance, the river becomes deep, winding and about as beautiful as it gets. Stop at Pocomoke City and then, if you can clear a 35-foot bridge, go on up to Snow Hill. Dock the boat and then go across the road to the canoe livery to take a jim-dandy kayak trip back into town.

**RUNNER-UP** Chickahominy River off the James River

The James River is a terrific trip in itself, but if you can clear the 50-foot fixed bridge at its entrance, make a side-trip up the hauntingly beautiful Chickahominy River. It twists and turns its way north, side-stepping stands of knobby-kneed cypress trees. It's unlike anywhere else on the Bay.

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**RUNNER-UP** Safe Harbor Zahnisers, Solomons, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICK** Tides Inn, Irvington, Va.

### Best Clean Marina

Herrington Harbour South, North Beach, Md.

Maryland and Virginia started their "Clean Marina" programs about 20 years ago to encourage marinas to adopt environment-friendly measures. When they made the first list in 1999, Herrington South was on it, and it remains so today, not a bad record.

**RUNNER-UP (TIE)** Rhode River Marina, Edgewater, Md.  
Deltaville Yachting Center, Deltaville, Va.

### Best Marina for Liveaboards

Port Annapolis, Annapolis, Md.  
If you've made the plunge to live aboard, you'll want to keep

your boat somewhere with great shore facilities. Port Annapolis has everything you need, from laundry to workout rooms and the extremely important bath-house close to the water, to make your liveaboard-life comfortable.

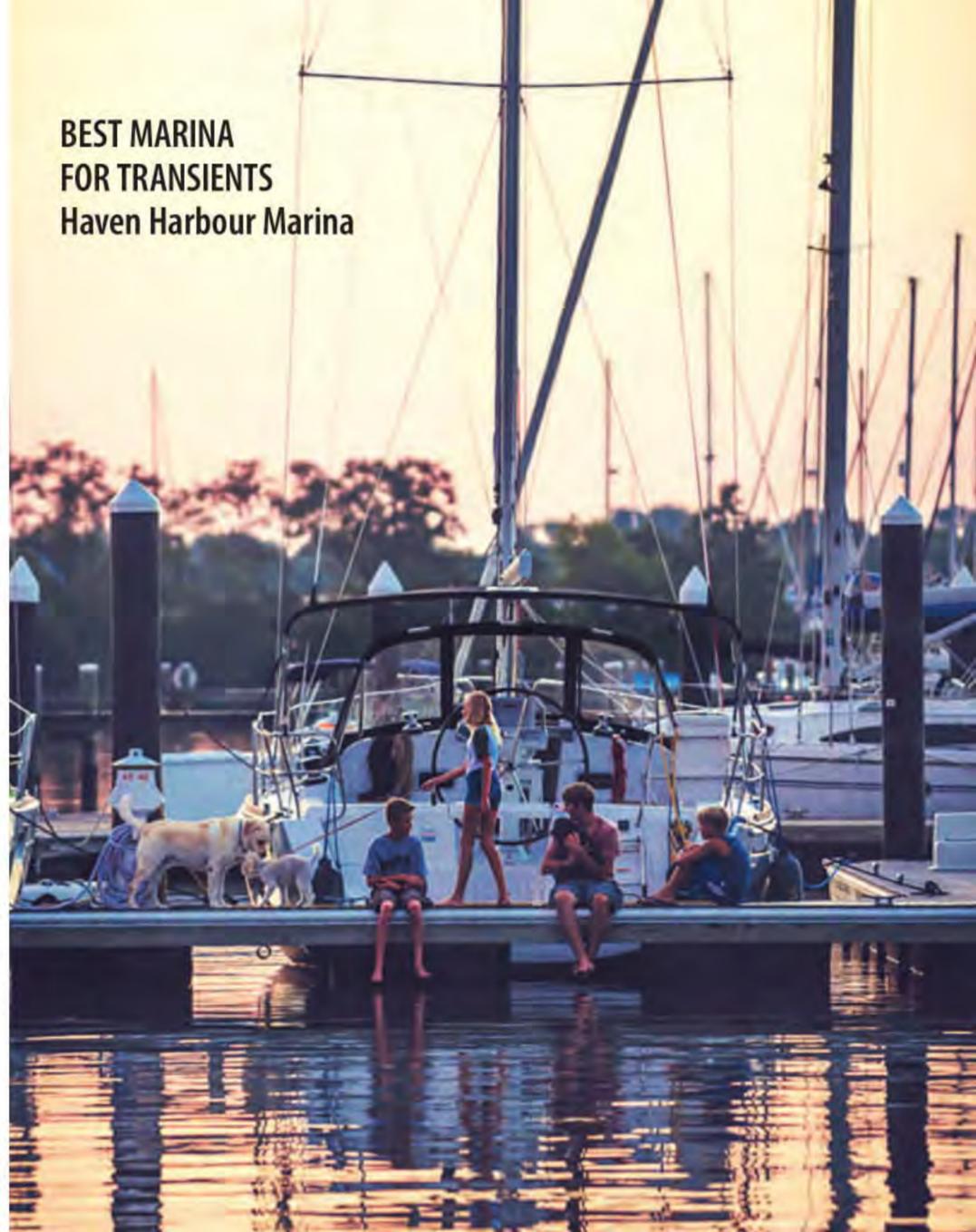
**RUNNER-UP** Haven Harbour Marina, Rock Hall, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICK** Fishing Bay Marina, Deltaville, Md.

### Best Marina for Transients

Haven Harbour Marina, Rock Hall, Md.  
Located at scenic Rock Hall, there's plenty to get out and see if you're just passing through, including the Waterman's Museum just steps away, and if you're looking for serious luxury, dock the boat and rent a room at the Inn at Haven Harbour's collection of five buildings close by.

**RUNNER-UP** Oasis Marina at Lighthouse Point, Baltimore, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICKS** Regatta Point Marina, Deltaville, Va., Harbor East Marina, Baltimore, Md.

### BEST MARINA FOR TRANSIENTS Haven Harbour Marina



**Best Overall Marina** Herrington Harbour North, Tracys Landing, Md.  
Herrington North, on the Western Shore, gets rave reviews for its staff and facilities (they

also won Best Resort Marina), and it's a clean and friendly place, with stuff to do for the kids and the adults, and on-site contractors to take care of the boat as well.

**RUNNER-UP** Mears Great Oak Landing Marina, Fairlee Creek, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICK** Stingray Point Marina, Deltaville, Md.

### Best Small Marina Harbour Cove Marina, Deale, Md.

Located on Rockhold Creek above the fixed bridge that connects Deale to Tracys Landing, this no-nonsense powerboat marina offers the essential swimming pool, clubhouse, fish-cleaning station, 64 slips, covered dry-stack storage, Travellift and fork-lift launching, and full engine and general boat maintenance and repair capabilities.

### BEST OVERALL MARINA Herrington Harbour North



**RUNNER-UP** Gratitude Marina, Rock Hall, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Yankee Point Marina, Lancaster, Va.

### Best Dockmaster

Scott Berman, Shipwright Harbor Marina, Deale Md.

*A trusted reader sums it up with, "Scott is a wealth of boating knowledge, and he's always eager to lend a helping hand. He works tirelessly with a genuine passion to make boating easy and convenient for slip-holders. Scott lives the lifestyle. He's the best."*

**RUNNER-UP** Lee Fisher, Stingray Point Marina, Deltaville, Va.

### Best Fuel Dock

Annapolis City Marina

*According to folks in the know, this busy fuel stop on Spa Creek*

### BEST FUEL DOCK Annapolis City Marina



*in Annapolis has, "the friendliest, most efficient staff around," The management team has been steadfast and constant for more than a decade.*

**RUNNER-UP** Tidewater Marina, Havre de Grace, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICKS** Knapps Narrows Marina, Tilghman, Md.; Norview Marina, Deltaville, Va.

### Best Boatyard

Bert Jabin Yacht Yard, Annapolis, Md.

*An Annapolis favorite on a protected spot on Back Creek, Jabin opened his yard in 1959, and today, two generations of Jabins are running this full-service facility.*

**RUNNER-UP** Deltaville Yachting Center, Deltaville, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Campbell's Boatyards, Oxford, Md.

*since 1982. He took over from the original owners at age 20 and has owned and run it ever since. Mike learned his skills on the job beginning at age 14 and has accumulated certified gas and diesel expertise including Yamaha, Volvo and ABYC standards. Marine engine work is in his DNA.*

**RUNNER-UP** Saltworks Marine Services, Annapolis, Md.  
**CBM STAFF PICK** Scott Segal, A.R. Marine Diesel, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Marine Engine Mechanic

Mike Conner, Rhode River Marina, Edgewater, Md.

*Mike Conner has been, "coming home to the marina since he was born." His family has always lived next door. His dad Brian has been the chief mechanic at the place*

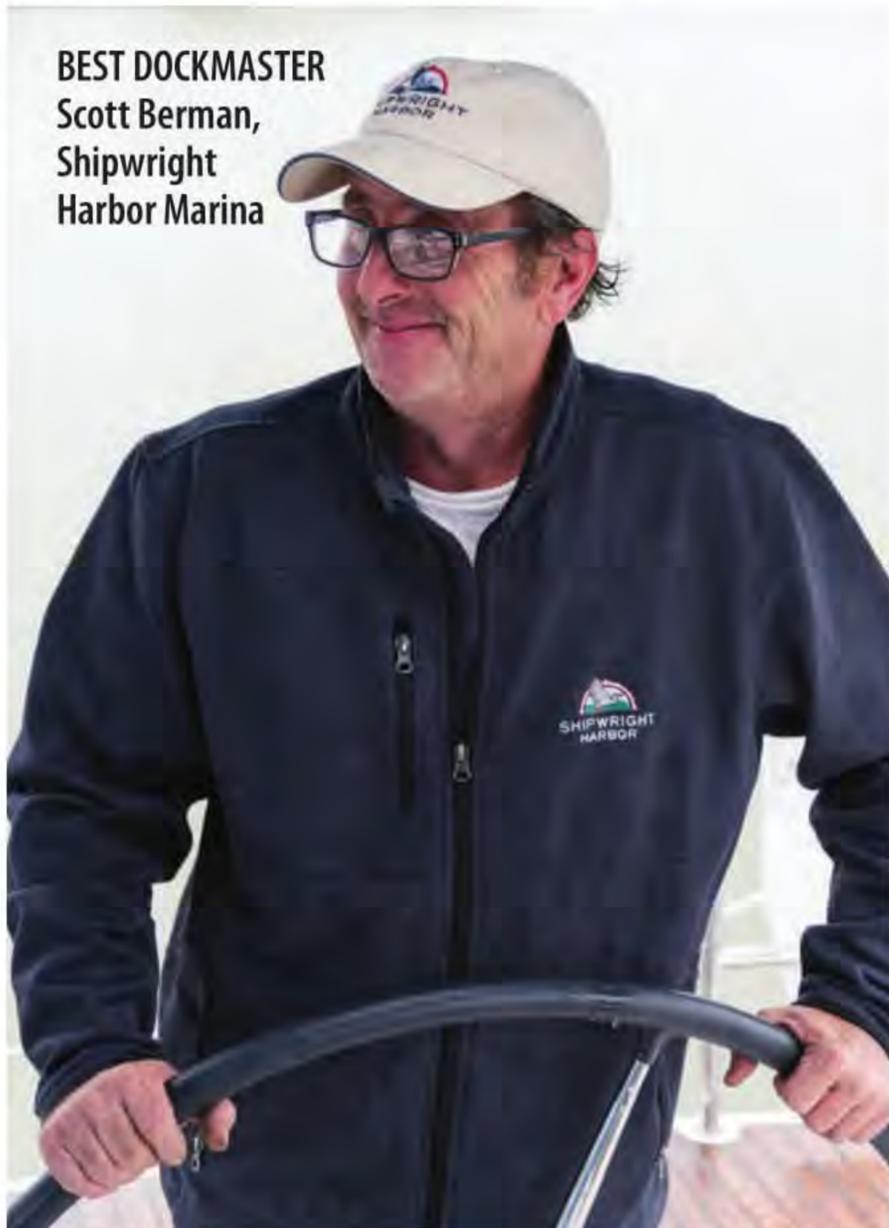
### Best Marine Electrician

Marine Technical Services, Tracey's Landing, Md.

*ABYC-certified, Ryan McQueeney and his crew, based at Herrington Harbor North, has become a significant player*

### BEST DOCKMASTER

Scott Berman,  
Shipwright  
Harbor Marina



## JODY'S PICK

### Best Place to Slip Through Time

Little Wicomico River

*Enter the breakwater at the Little Wicomico River and you'll soon find yourself cruising the Chesapeake Bay of the 1950s: work boats offload at plants, crops ripen in a checkerboard of farm fields, quiet country roads dead-end at the water, white frame homes dot the banks and the Sunnybank-Ophelia cable-drawn ferry, which has been operating since 1906, connects Sunnybank with Ophelia. Choose any of a variety of anchorages or tie up at either Smith Point Marina (call for the best route in) or Cockrell's Marine Railway. Both have fuel.*

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## JODY'S PICK

### Best Place to See Classic Bay Workboats in Their Natural Habitat

Poquoson River

*The Poquoson is a great place to visit for its austere marshland and variety of wildlife. It is also the only place on the Bay where you can take an airboat ride. Beyond all that, it's the place to come to see dozens and dozens of classic Bay-built workboats. This is the kind of place where people don't tell you what kind of boat they have but rather who built it. Stop by York Haven Marina on Bennett Creek (home of the air-boat ride) and Smith's Marine Railway on Chisman Creek. The Smith family has been operating the marine railway since 1842, making it the oldest on the East Coast.*

around the big and little game-fishing, sailing, and cruising boat world. His bread and butter business is represented by the voters with Chesapeake-based boats of any size and make. Meanwhile, major national and international programs have him on speed dial.

**RUNNER-UP** Scott Hyland, Hyland Marine Services, Worton, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Andy Fegley, Yacht Electrical Systems, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Canvas Shop

Annapolis Custom Yacht Canvas, Annapolis, Md.

Owners Dan Oldale and Donna Milliman are no strangers to our Best of the Bay polls—they took the top slot last year—and with more than 50 years of combined experience, they can handle everything from Bimini tops to cushions for your boat.

**RUNNER-UP**

Charlton's Marine Canvas, Yorktown, Va.

**CBM STAFF PICK**

Ship's Tailor, Deltaville, Va.

### Best Sailmaker

Evolution Sails  
Chesapeake, Deltaville, Va.

Formerly Ullman Sails (the name changed while this issue was coming together), Jerry Latell's loft in Deltaville has been cranking out quality canvas for more than 30 years.

**RUNNER-UP** North Sails, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Learn-to-Sail Program

The Sailing Academy, Tracys Landing, Md.

This Tracys Landing-based school offers advanced courses too, but its beginner sailing courses range from theory to proficient sailing in good conditions. They also offer a chance to try it out before you commit to a full course with a few hours on the water.

**RUNNER-UP** North East River Yacht Club, Northeast, Md.

### Best Beginner's Powerboating Program

Annapolis School of Seamanship, Annapolis, Md.

The venerable school for mariners (and CBM sister-company) offers two levels of their Jr. Captains Course and a Women at the Wheel program to build on-the-water skill and confidence for beginners.

### Best Boat Race

Leo Wardrup Memorial Cape Charles Cup, Virginia Beach, Va.

This is a charitable sailboat race

across the mouth of the Bay from Norfolk (Little Creek) to Plantation Light at Cape Charles and on to a grand party at the Oyster Farm and a cruise back the following day. It's huge.

**RUNNER-UP** St. Mary's College of Maryland Governor's Cup, St. Mary's City, Md.

### Best SUP/Kayak Business

Chesapeake Paddle Sports, Deale, Md.

Chesapeake Paddle Sports offers a way to dip your oar in the water without fully taking the plunge into a major purchase by renting kayaks and stand-up paddleboards and offering lessons and tours ranging from an eco-tour of the creeks around their Deale location to paddle board yoga lessons.

**RUNNER-UP** Capital SUP, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Fishing Captain

Wayne Gatling Guide Service, Rock Hall, Md.

Gatling has more than 40 years of experience fishing the Bay and

### BEST BEGINNER'S POWERBOAT PROGRAM Annapolis School of Seamanship



offers trips aboard his 46-foot semi-deadrise Lara Lynn VI. Depending on the season, he goes for rockfish and bluefish, or bottom fishes for white perch and catfish.

**RUNNER-UP** Charlie Sisson, Backdraft Charters, North Beach, Md.

### Best Light Tackle/ Fly Fishing Guide

MoreFins Light Tackle Fishing Charters, Kent Island, Md.

Tony Moreira travels light in his 20-foot, Jones Brothers center console, but packs all the gear you'll need (plus coolers) to chase stripers, bluefish, Spanish mackerel, speckled trout and more.

**RUNNER-UP** Captain Tom Weaver, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Tall Ship

*Pride of Baltimore II*, Baltimore, Md.

Baltimore's *Pride II* went through some rocky financial seas recently, so it's good to see them sailing to the top of the Best of the Bay and heading out to explore the Bay and beyond.

**RUNNER-UP** *Sultana*, Chestertown, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Schooner *Woodwind*, Annapolis, Md.

### Best Boaters' Meetup

Boatyard Bar and Grill, Annapolis, Md.

It's been about 18 years since Dick Franyo created BYB&G and his plan to create a family-friendly haven for sailors, anglers, movers, and shakers has succeeded far beyond the dream, and is now heralded as one of the top ten sailor bars in the world thanks to the bright maritime ambiance, excellent food, pint drinks, award-winning crabcakes, and a calendar full of fun and philanthropic community events.

**RUNNER-UP** Goody's, Hampton, Va.

### Best Boat Show

Annapolis Boat Shows, Annapolis, Md.

The U.S. Sail & Powerboat shows hit the historic docks of Annapolis every Fall and draw people and boats from as far away as Australia to see the latest and greatest boats and products.

**RUNNER-UP** Baltimore Boat Show, Baltimore, Md.



**BEST TALL SHIP**  
*Pride of Baltimore II*



**BEST BOATING FESTIVAL**  
Antique & Classic Boat Festival

### Best Boating Festival

Antique & Classic Boat Festival, St. Michaels, Md.

Father's Day weekend at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is the best time and place to drool over classic boats on the Bay. The event includes meticulously restored boats, a nautical flea market, and the "Field of Dreams"—boats you can buy and take home to fix up and eventually show.

**RUNNER-UP** Deale Christmas Boat Light Parade, Deale, Md.

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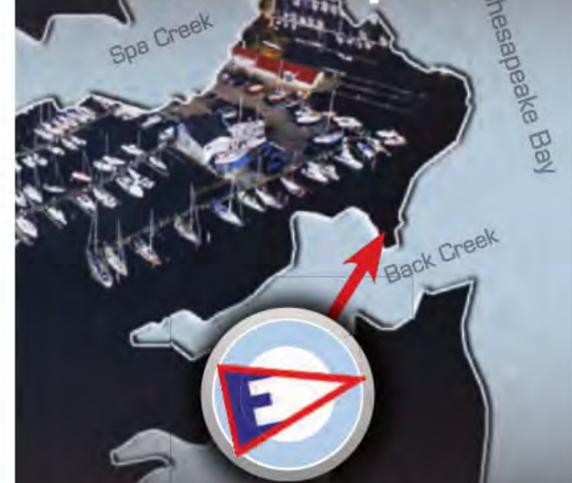
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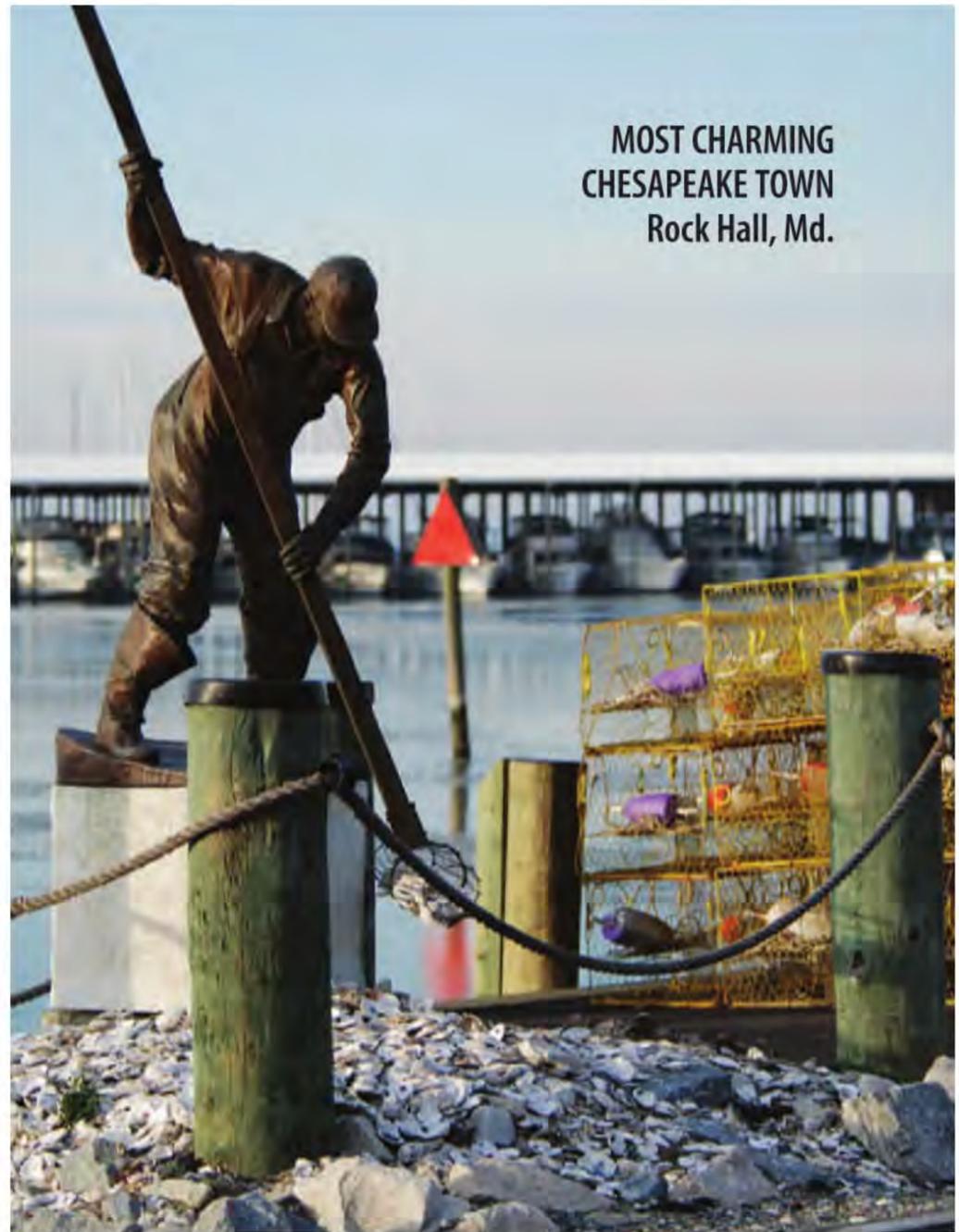
*Where do you go to get away from it all?*

*What's the best place to go camping or*

*see a show? Let our Best of Bay living survey*

*guide you to the best things to see and do*

*on the Bay.*



**MOST CHARMING  
CHESAPEAKE TOWN**  
Rock Hall, Md.

## **Most Charming Chesapeake Town** Rock Hall, Md.

*You have to admit, their “Nice People Live Here” welcome sign is pretty darn charming. This historic watermen’s town on Maryland’s Eastern Shore has a population of just 1,300 or so but fills up a bit on the weekends with visitors drawn by the water, the shops, or maybe just the nice people.*

**RUNNER-UP** St. Michaels, Md.

## **Best Maritime Museum** Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, St. Michaels, Md.

*CBMM is midway through its fifth decade at its waterfront perch on Navy Point, and it has grown its collection of Chesapeake vessels into the largest in the world. In addition to preserving this Bay heritage for generations to come, the museum is also preserving the*

*skills to maintain them, through apprenticeship programs and visiting master craftsmen.*

**RUNNER-UP** Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** The Mariners’ Museum and Park, Newport News, Va.

## **Best Small Museum**

Rock Hall Waterman’s  
Museum, Rock Hall, Md.

*Rock Hall has a long history as a watermen’s town, and this museum pays them homage even as the life they led is fast disappearing. Check out exhibits on oystering and crabbing, a reproduction of a waterborne shanty, and preserved workboats.*

**RUNNER-UP** Tangier History Museum, Tangier Island, Va.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor’s Center, Church Creek, Md.

## Best Art Gallery

**Nancy Hammond Editions, Annapolis, Md.**  
*Hammond captures the Chesapeake through her inimitable style and florid passion for water-life, boatyards, black labs, blue crabs, blue herons, and life along the marshes. Since 1997, collectors and fans line up before dawn on a certain October day at her Annapolis gallery door to secure a copy of her limited-edition Chesapeake poster of the year. Her distinctive originals hang in the finer homes and businesses around the watershed.*

## Best Amusement Park

**Chesapeake Beach Water Park, Chesapeake Beach, Md.**  
*Does your town own a water park? No? Well get yourself to Chesapeake Beach, then, where this seasonal splash parlor has been in operation since 1995. They've got slides, waterfalls, a lazy river, and an outdoor grill, and the season runs from*

*Memorial Day to Labor Day. Cannonball!*  
**RUNNER-UP** Six Flags America, Upper Marlboro, Md.

## Best Beach

**Betterton Beach, Betterton, Md.**  
*Once a thriving stop for big city tourists arriving by steamer, the beaches of Betterton rivaled Ocean City, with hotels, a casino, even a dance hall. It's a little more peaceful now that the dance hall is closed, but locals and tourists still come for a day at the beach.*

**RUNNER-UP** Ferry Park, Rock Hall, Md.

## Best Getaway

**St. Michaels, Md.**  
*Whether you head to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum or the many restaurants in town, or all that plus shopping, kayaking, and the many annual events held at St. Mikes, it's a quintessential Eastern Shore town and one of the*

## JODY'S PICK

### Best Beach

**Cape Charles, Eastern Shore of Virginia**  
*This is an easy one. A long, beautiful, white beach conveniently located near an excellent ice cream shop (Brown Dog) in a charming, walkable town with a good marina, good shopping and good restaurants. Located at the tail-end of the Eastern Shore, you can practically hear the Atlantic splashing ashore a few miles to the east.*

**RUNNER-UP** Colonial Beach, Potomac River  
*Here you'll find a nice white-sand beach with an old-fashioned boardwalk and a cute boater-friendly town.*

*biggest draws on that side of the Bay Bridge.*

**RUNNER-UP** Assateague Island  
**CBM STAFF PICKS** Cape Charles, Va.; Chincoteague, Va.

### Best Bay Town for Dogs

**Rock Hall, Md.**  
*Planning on checking out some of the other Rock Hall-based places on this list? For a lot of them—Bayshore Campgrounds, Waterman's Crab House, and*

*Java Rock (outside seating for those last two)—you can bring your dog along. Rock Hall is also home to a number of pet-friendly accommodations, so check before you go.*

**RUNNER-UP** Annapolis, Md.

### Best Large Music Venue

**Wolftrap National Park for the Performing Arts, Vienna, Va.**

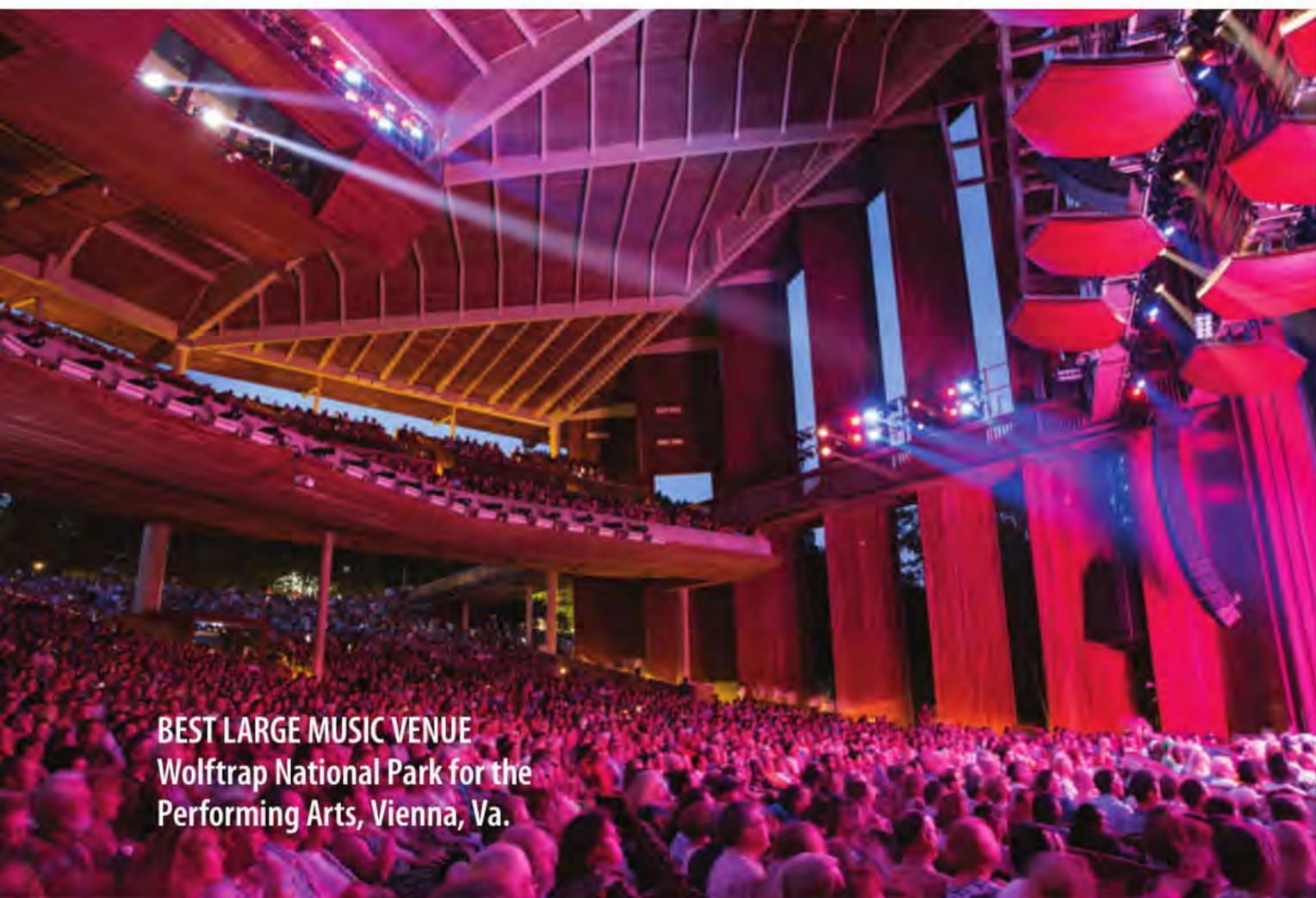
*Living near Wolftrap, it's easy to take it for granted, but it's not just a great regional place to see concerts, it's a unique, world-class venue that draws international acts to an amazing setting in the woods, and we're lucky to have it.*

**RUNNER-UP** Pier Six, Baltimore, Md.

### Best Intimate Music Venue

**The Mainstay, Rock Hall, Md.**  
*Rock Hall (also our readers' pick for Most Charming) may be a small town, but they draw nationally and internationally known acts to town, courtesy of the 100-year-old Mainstay. It may be small, but its value can't be overstated.*

**RUNNER-UP** Ram's Head On Stage, Annapolis, Md.



**BEST LARGE MUSIC VENUE**  
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Upscale shopping til Midnight, refreshments, and prizes galore.

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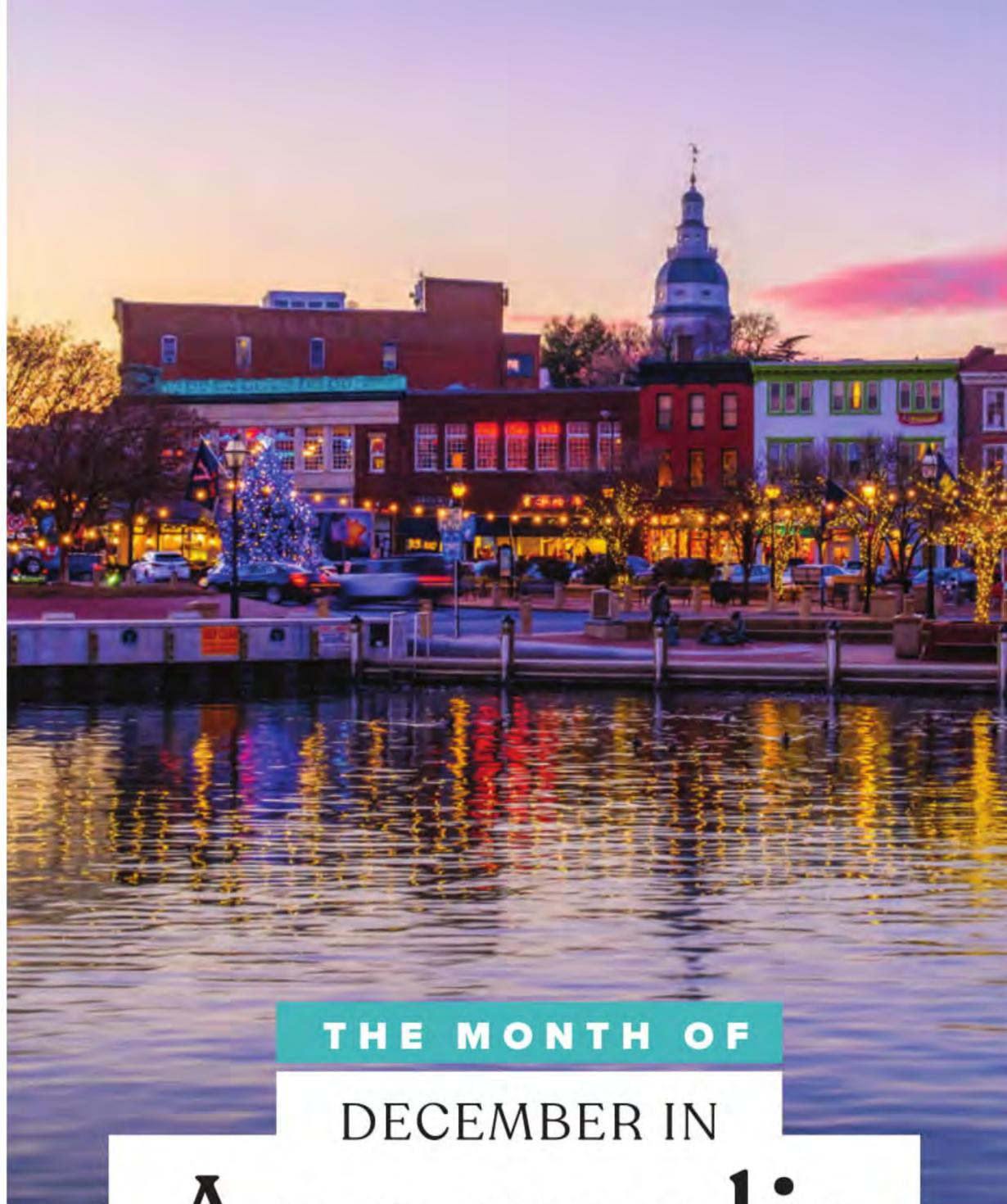
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**DEC**  
5, 12,  
19

Midnight Madness



**DEC**  
8

Chocolate Binge Festival



**DEC**  
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Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade



**DEC**  
27

Military Bowl



**DEC**  
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New Year's Eve Celebration

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**BEST HOLIDAY DISPLAY**  
Light Up the Town,  
Chesapeake Beach, Md.

**RUNNER-UP** Elk Neck State Park, North East, Md.

### Best Scenic Drive

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Dorchester County, Md.

*There are many ways to see Blackwater—hiking, kayaking, biking—but one of the easiest is in the comfort of your own car. The four-mile wildlife drive along the Blackwater River gives visitors a chance to see osprey, bald eagles, and all kinds of land-based critters.*

**RUNNER-UP** Colonial Parkway, Yorktown to Jamestown, Va.

### Best Music Festival

DelFest, Cumberland, Md.  
*A surprise pick from the western reaches of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, DelFest is held annually in Cumberland, Md. Bluegrass legend Del McCoury started the festival in 2008, and his band continues to play alongside top bluegrass acts each night of the three-day festival.*

**RUNNER-UP** National Music Festival, Chestertown, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICKS** Charm City Bluegrass Festival, Baltimore, Md.; American Music Festival, Virginia Beach, Va.

### Best Lighted Boat Parade

Eastport Yacht Club Lights Parade, Annapolis, Md.

*At 6 p.m. on the second Saturday in December every year, the Annapolis harbor bursts into light as the fleet goes into action. This two-hour tradition has spectators braving the winter night to catch a glimpse of Santa and the rest as they float past.*

**RUNNER-UP** Solomons Lighted Boat Parade, Solomons, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Middle River Lighted Boat Parade, Middle River, Md.

### Best Holiday Display

Light Up the Town, Chesapeake Beach, Md.  
*See hundreds of homes, businesses and boats lit up for the holidays as part of Chesapeake Beach's annual holiday light contest. For a great view, take the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum's Holiday Lights Trolley tour of the area.*

**RUNNER-UP** Cambridge Crab Basket Tree, Cambridge, Md.

### Best Local Festival

Deltaville Seafood Festival  
*Seafood may be the reason for the festival (and it's a good one), but Deltaville's two-day celebration also encompasses art, vendors, live music, and even a boat show with local and regional dealers showing off their wares.*

**RUNNER-UP** Pirates & Wenches, Rock Hall, Md.

### Best Campground

Bayshore Campground, Rock Hall, Md.  
*Bayshore is a family-owned campground right on the Bay, with tent and RV sites offering beautiful sunset views. It's close*

*to plenty of Kent County sight-seeing, as well as the restaurants and attractions of Rock Hall, if you get sick of campfire hotdogs.*

### Most Bike-friendly Town

Rock Hall, Md.  
*The flat geography of Maryland's Eastern Shore, combined with the lightly traveled roadways*

## JODY'S PICK

### Best Place to Step Off Your Boat and Into History

Fort Monroe, Hampton Roads

*Visits to historical cities like Alexandria, Yorktown, and Hampton are all better by boat, but if you want to go full immersion, visit Fort Monroe and Mount Vernon. No traffic, no extraneous bustle of modern life, just two very different places steeped in American history. At Fort Monroe, you can dock at Old Point Comfort Marina or anchor in Mill Creek. I don't have room here even to gloss over the very long and utterly fascinating history of Fort Monroe and Old Point Comfort. I will just say that access to it all is just outside your boat. It's all walkable. A new visitor center is under construction, and you will want to try the new seafood restaurant above the marina office.*

### RUNNER-UP Mount Vernon, Potomac River

*This stop needs no introduction. It sits majestically on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River. The view looking up at it is beautiful; the view looking down from it onto the river is even more so. At Mount Vernon, you can day-dock at the pier or anchor nearby. From the dock area you can take a shuttle up to the entrance to pay the fee, or you can stroll up, admiring the woods and gardens as you go. Use a lot of fenders at the dock; the tour boats throw a good wake.*

around Rock Hall and its proximity to the Bay and to the Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge make it a great place to explore by bicycle, cycling through farm and marshland to view the soaring eagles at the mouth of the Chester River.

**RUNNER-UP** Oxford, Md.

### Best Hiking Trail

Patapsco Valley State Park, Ellicott City, Md.

Just to the west and southwest of Baltimore, the Patapsco Valley State Park stretches along 32 miles of its namesake river, with 200 miles of trails of varying degrees of difficulty. The upper cascade falls loop, complete with waterfalls and stream crossings is a particularly popular moderate 2.5-mile hike.

**RUNNER-UP** Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, Rock Hall, Md.

**CBM STAFF PICK** Savage Neck Dunes Natural Area Preserve, Cape Charles, Va.



**BEST HIKING TRAIL**  
Patapsco Valley State Park,  
Ellicott City, Md.

### Best Historical Site

Williamsburg, Va.

It's tough to hold a (hand-dipped) candle to this full-immersion living history site. An 18th-century city frozen in time, Williamsburg captures the dawn of America and doesn't shy away from the less laudable parts of our shared history.

**RUNNER-UP** Historic St. Mary's City, Md.

### Best Public Garden

Annemarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, Solomons, Md.

Since 1991, when the land was donated to Calvert County, the Annemarie garden has been adding to its displays of outdoor sculpture. In addition to their own collection, the garden is now home to more than two dozen sculptures on loan from the Smithsonian.

**RUNNER-UP** Holly Point Nature Park, Deltaville, Va.

### Best Local Author

Earl Swift

Chesapeake Requiem is a remarkable work of empathetic reportage about one of the Bay's most iconic communities, and Earl Swift (a past CBM contributor) continues to raise awareness of the past, present, and possible future of Tangier Island.

**RUNNER-UP** Shawn Kimbro, Chesapeake Light Tackle, The Right Stuff, Chesapeake Panfish

**CBM STAFF PICK** Wendy Mitman Clarke, Still Water Bending

### Best Place to See Wildlife

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, Kent County, Md.

Eastern Neck provides temporary comforts for thousands of migratory birds, including osprey and tundra swans, as well as year-round home to bald eagles and other species. In addition to the 240 species of birds, you may spot the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel, and the (less endangered) white-tailed deer.

**RUNNER-UP** Blackwater Wildlife Refuge, Dorchester County, Md.

### Best Golf Course

Piankatank River Golf Club, Hartfield, Va.

Don't let the "club" in the name put you off, this course is open (and affordable) to the public. Sitting on the banks of the scenic Piankatank, it's also a past winner of Golf Digest's "Best Places to Play."

### Best Reason to Live Here

TIE: Seafood/The Bay

This seems self-evident. Our readers are wise.

## JODY'S PICK

### Best Place to Step Into Your Boat and Into History

Mallows Bay, Potomac River

Here you are going to want a kayak or canoe, because you are going to be paddling through a ghost fleet of ships. And these ghosts have a lot of sharp edges. For hundreds of years, this bay has been used as a dumping ground for unwanted federal vessels of all varieties. Among the most recent and most famous are one hundred wooden steamships ordered during World War I to carry supplies to Europe. Most, however, were not completed until after the war, when they were no longer needed. A long and complicated story of plunder and broken contracts ensued, concluding in a final "burial" in Mallows Bay. The site recently became a National Marine Sanctuary. You can put in at Mallows Bay Park on Wilson Landing Road in Nanjemoy, Md., or anchor your yacht just outside the bay and paddle in from there.

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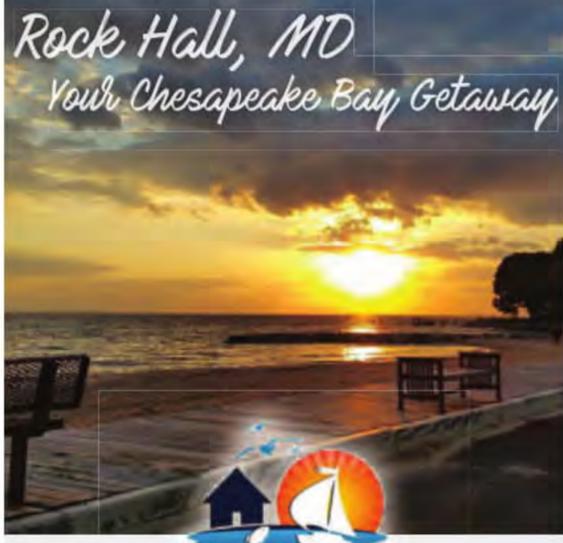
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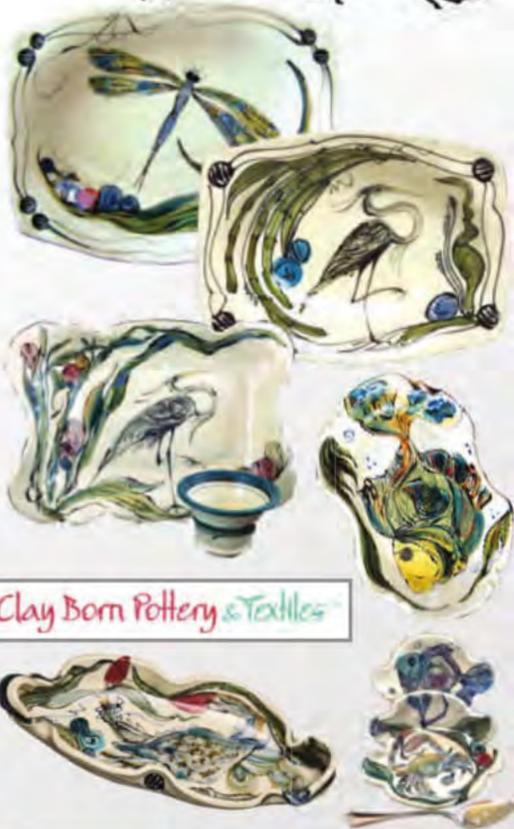


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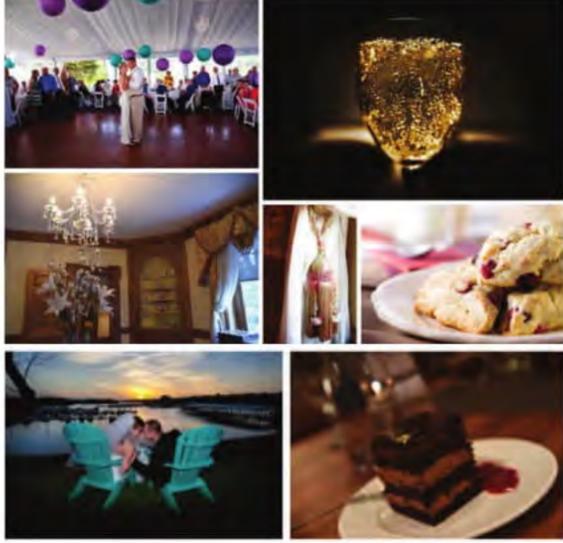



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## Your Best Shots

**H**undreds of our readers responded to our Best of the Bay photo contest this year, and the results are stunning. These are the best shots from this year's crop, chosen to cover the beauty and range of life on the Chesapeake Bay. From the tranquil tradition of Craig Hasting's shot of a crab shack to Kathy Mongold's hopeful look at a full nest of baby pelicans, to Mark Hergan's tugboat *Lynne Moran* steaming through a flock of seagulls, they are all aspects of life on the Bay and a reflection of why we live here.

► To see a gallery of our favorites, visit us online at [chesapeakebaymagazine.com/photos2019](http://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/photos2019).



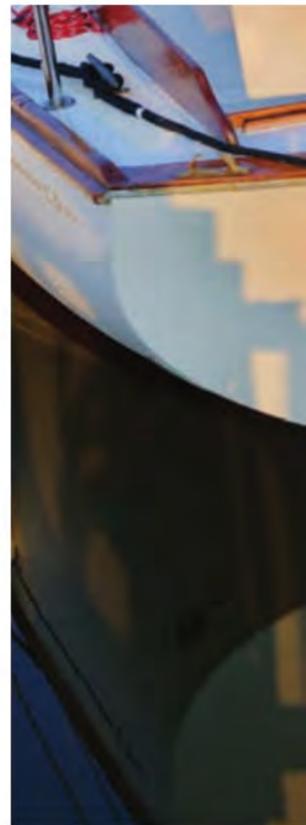
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:  
**The Crab Shack** by Craig Hastings;  
**Racers** by Mark Hergan; **Sunset** by Heather Orkis;  
**Bull Frog in Cromwell Valley Park**  
by Robert Reynolds.







LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM:  
**Full moon over Sparrows Point** by Mark Hergan;  
**Beautiful Babies** by Kathy Mongold;  
**Waterman heading out of Sunrise Hawk Cove** by Robert Reynolds; **Dog** by Danielle W Press; **Sailboat transom and reflection in St. Michaels** by Steven Waltrich; **Young boy crabbing** by Christine Edwards; **Trotlining in St. Michaels, Md.** by Tracey Johns.





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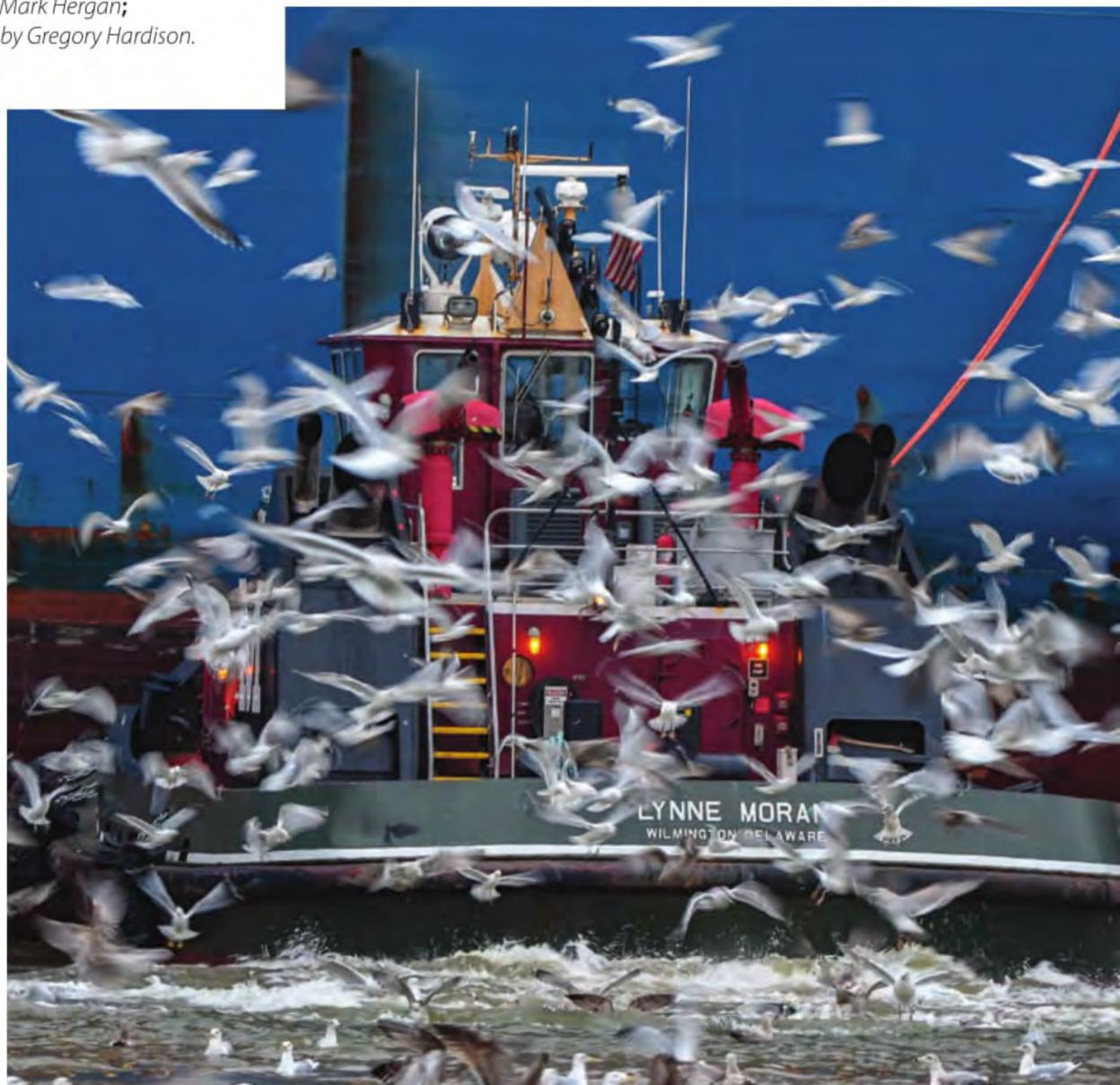


CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:  
**Geniuship Mirrored at Dusk** by Dale Hall;  
**McQueen on the Boat** by Michael Strotz;  
**Docking Contest** by Dale Hall.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:  
**Watermen's Day** by Tracey Munson;  
**Lynne Moran** by Mark Hergan;  
**Landing or Taking Off** by Gregory Hardison.



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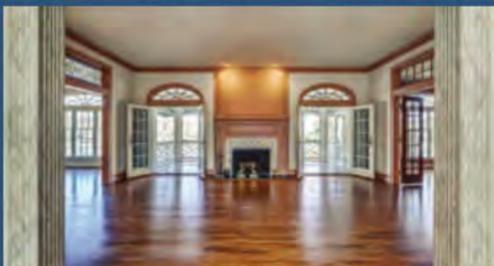
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### 38969 Hodges Road, Avenue, MD 20609

Beautiful 6200+ SF home is surrounded by 7+ acres. Master bedroom with FP and walk-in closet, leads out to deck overlooking in-ground pool, gazebo, and Deep Creek. Gourmet kitchen with Sub-Zero refrigerator has butler's pantry & wet bar. Family room has window seat and views to the water. Loft can become game room, and den a 5th bedroom. 2 sheds, storage.

**\$998,000 | Contact: Helen M Wernecke**



### 9880 Marsh Lane, Lusby, MD 20657

Contemporary 3BR/3BA home on 6 acres with complete privacy and big hardwoods. Two brick FPs, in-ground pool with massive decking, media room, and private auto/equipment fueling station, 2 car garage. Main level owner's wing has a large private screened porch. Vaulted breakfast room off the open kitchen. 2 lower level bedrooms. 2nd living area has enclosed porch with access to pool and pier.

**\$895,000 | Contact: Chris McNelis**



### 2975 Cove Point Road, Lusby, MD 20657

Incredible Opportunity for Bayfront Living! This level 2.01 acre riparian rights beachfront lot on the Chesapeake Bay has mound system already installed, electric to site and building permits in hand! Impact fees are paid as well - just needs you! Building approved for 2 years through 5/2021 for 79' x 60' 2-story home with 32' x 26' garage AND inground pool. Enjoy the beauty of the sunrise from your own sandy beach.

**\$649,900 | Contact: Chris McNelis**



### 170 Ball Rd, Saint Leonard, MD 20685

Private 6BR/5BA country estate with on 27 acres with convenient commute to DC/NoVA. 3 levels, HW floors, new carpet, gourmet kitchen, family room, formal living space, sunroom. Oversized garage, with built-ins, HVAC zone. Owner's suite with gym & office. Lower level apartment with bed/bath, second kitchen, family room, game space, home theater. Outdoor spaces, kitchen & bar, in-ground pool. Acreage for the hunter or nature-lover. Subject to future planning.

**\$999,900 | Contact: Chris McNelis**



### 10750 Sawpit Cove Road, Lusby, MD 20657

Exceptional St. Leonard Creek offering. The point of St. Leonard Creek and Sawpit Cove never ceases to amaze. Creek vistas, sunsets, deep water, multiple slip dock. Grounds carefully designed w/stone walls, lighted stone walks, outdoor living spaces tucked away, beautiful. Main house and guest house, pool house and in-ground pool, boathouse at water's edge with private ramp to St. Leonard Creek.

**\$1,689,000 | Contact: Chris McNelis**



### 2385 Park Chesapeake Dr, Lusby, MD 20657

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**\$875,000 | Contact: Chris McNelis**



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## Helen Mattingly Wernecke REALTOR<sup>®</sup>

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## Chris McNelis

Broker | Owner

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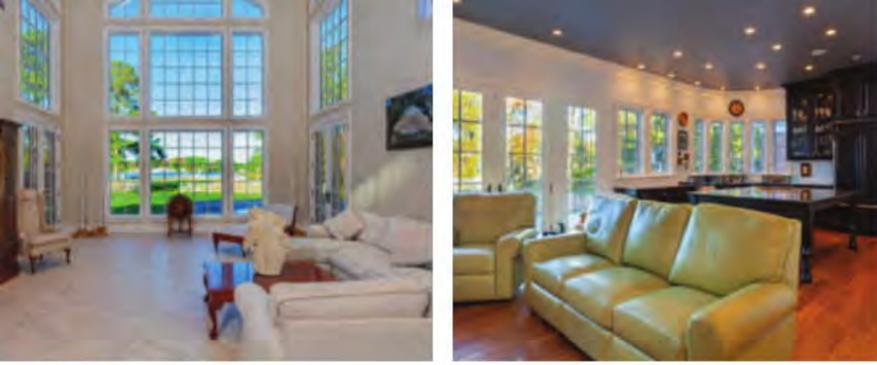
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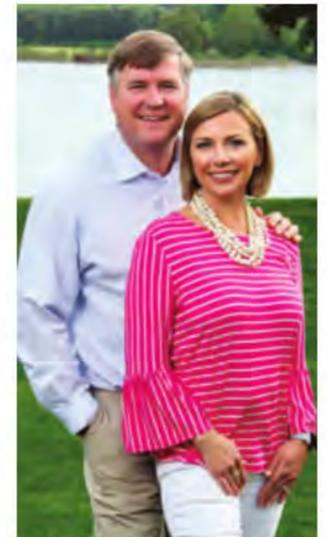
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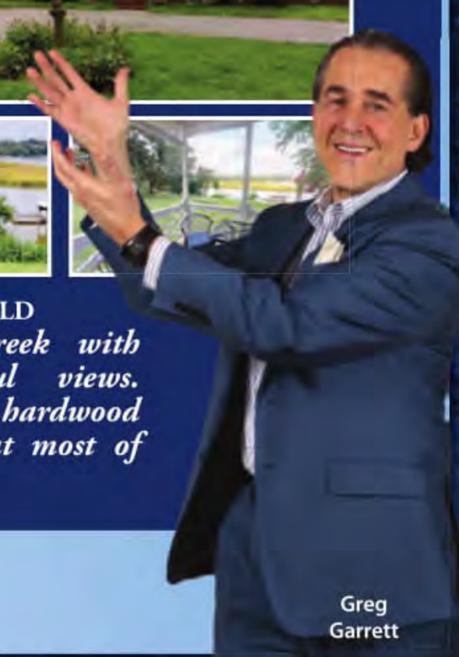
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44' 1982 Cape Cod Mercer 44.....	\$ 85,000	37' 1994 Pacific Seacraft Crealock 37 - Sablier	\$114,000	34' 2020 Tartan 345 Order - January .....	CALL
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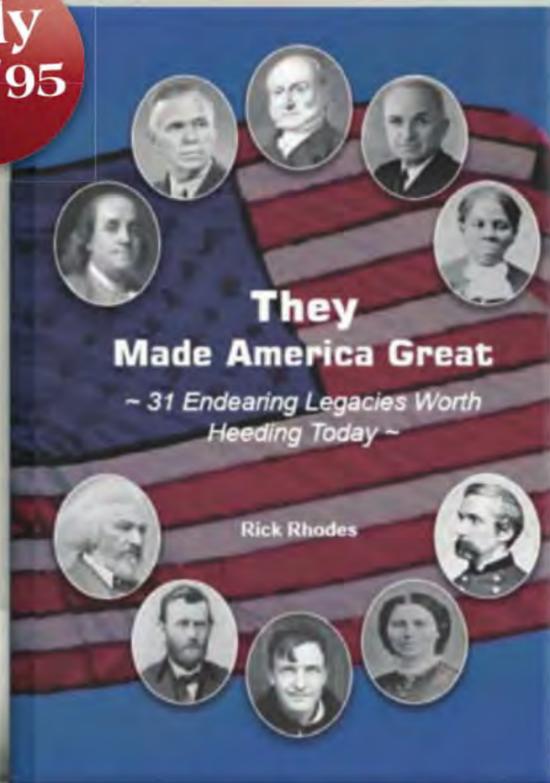
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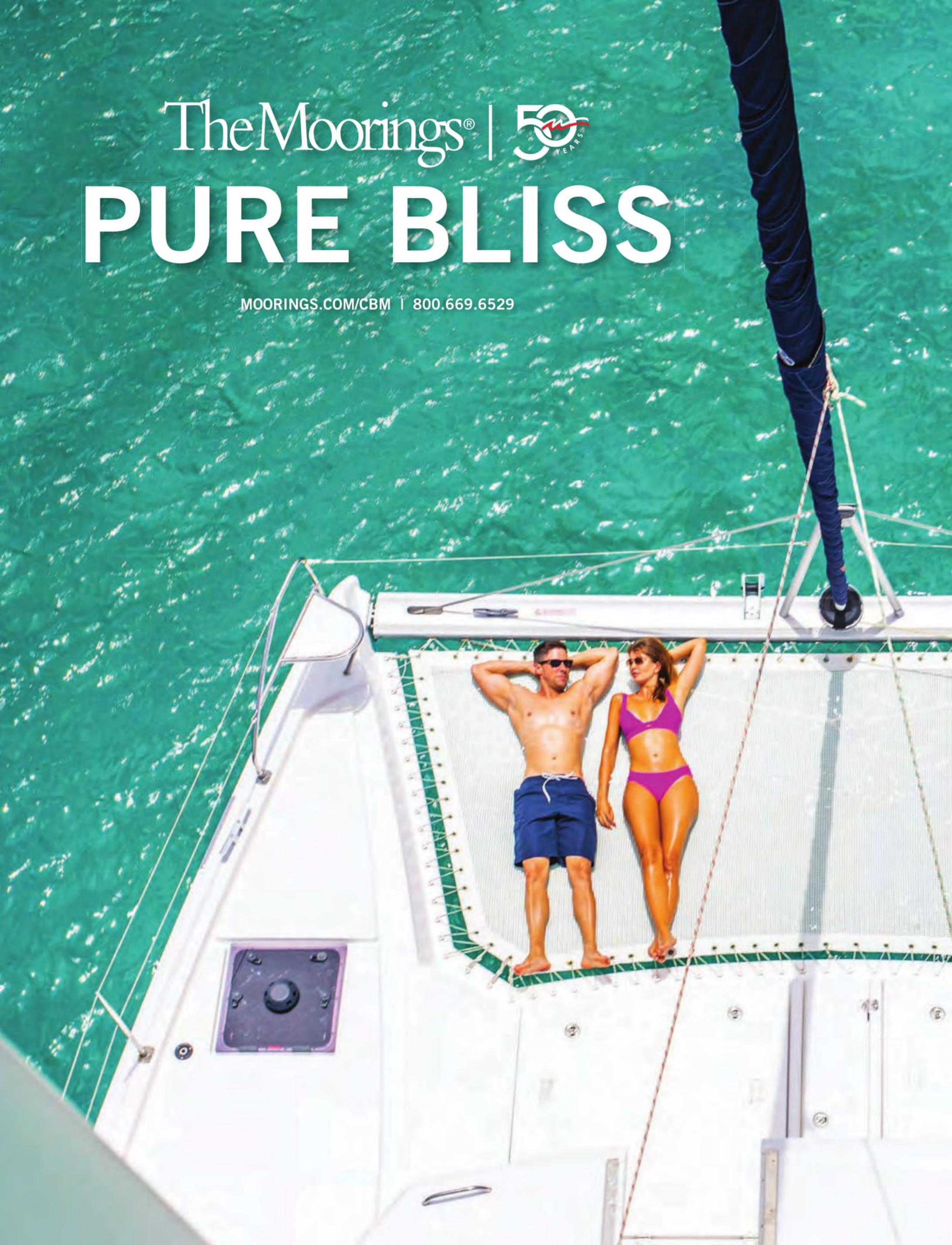
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