

Friday, June 22 - 8 PM Saturday, June 23 - 8 PM Sunday, June 24 - 2 PM Wicomico High School 245th 80th Production Year

Community Players of Salisbury, Inc. presents

The Drowsy Chaperone

Music & Lyrics by
Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison
Book by
Bob Martin and Don McKellar
Directed by
Kel Nagel

Wicomico High School

Friday, June 22 at 8:00 PM Saturday, June 23 at 8:00 PM Sunday, June 24 at 2:00 PM

The Drowsy Chaperone
is presented through special arrangement with
Music Theater International (MTI)
423 W. 55th Street, New York, NY 10019

This production was made possible, in part, by a grant from the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council, awarded by the Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Community Players' President's Message

Welcome to Community Players' fourth and final production of the 2017-18 season, *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

A winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Original Score and Best Book, *The Drowsy Chaperone* is a great musical comedy. As the musical opens, you will be introduced to a theatre fan playing his favorite cast album on his turntable, the fictitious 1928 hit *The Drowsy Chaperone*. As he listens to the record, the characters come to life in his apartment and the fun begins. We know you will enjoy this funny performance!

We look forward to seeing you in the audience for the shows of the 2018-19 season. Tickets will be available soon.

I have enjoyed my time as president. I think we have accomplished a lot this past year. We have a really great group of officers and board members that will start July 1. Please support them.

If you have interest in being part of Community Players, please send me an e-mail at tomchicken@aol.com.

Tom Robinson

Community Players Officers (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)

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Vice-President	Megan Davis
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David Allen	Sammy Barnes	Sharon Benchoff
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Matt Hatfield	Darrell Mullins	Alanna Phillips

Please turn all cell phones off or to vibrate.

The use of devices with lighted screens, including texting, is prohibited.

Director's Message

The Drowsy Chaperone, a musical within a comedy, is a show that is written, staged and performed just for fun. The show opens with our narrator, known only as Man in Chair, a frumpy, and a little bit grumpy middle-aged bachelor, telling the audience why he loves musical theater. As he plays his favorite recording, the 1928 hit The Drowsy Chaperone, it comes to life, in his mind and in his apartment. The apartment is transformed into an art deco estate, the setting for a society wedding. Guests arrive and the musical within the comedy begins. Man in Chair narrates the play for us, with much humorous commentary about musicals, the actors on stage, and his own life. A silly plot and sub-plot are resolved

Every show is about something; this show is about why we love musical comedies, or escapist entertainment in general. As Man says, it gives us relief when we are feeling a little blue. We hope that you will feel that our effort has helped you avoid feeling blue, as we all stumble along in the twenty-first century.

On a personal note, I have directed six plays in the past. This is my first attempt at a musical — all theatre is collaborative, musicals even more so. If you wish to know whom I need to thank for their help with this show, look at the entire list of cast and crew. I do have to single out a few though.

First are Robin Finley, choreographer, and Jeff Baer, music director. These are positions that don't exist in plays, but indispensable in doing a musical.

David Allen and Bill Zlakowski worked an incredible number of hours designing and building the set. Judy Hearn did all the fancy painting you will see.

Melissa Dasher is a life saver of a stage manager. Thanks to Jean and Jim King for the special props.

And, as always, thanks to Debby Nagel, for everything.

Kel Nagel



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Synopsis

It is a parody of American musical comedy of the 1920s. The story concerns a middle-aged, asocial musical theatre fan; as he plays the record of his favorite musical, the (fictional) 1928 hit *The Drowsy Chaperone*, the show comes to life onstage as he wryly comments on the music, story, and actors.

Prologue

Scene 1: Tottendale's Entrance Hall - Morning
Scene 2: Robert's Room - Morning
Scene 3: Tottendale's Pool - Early Afternoon
Scene 4: Entrance Hall - Afternoon
Scene 5: Janet's Bridal Suite - Afternoon
Scene 6: Tottendale's Garden - Afternoon
Scene 8: Tottendale's Salon - Afternoon
Scene 9: Intermission Monologue
Scene 10: Oriental Palace - Day
Scene 11: Intro Monologue
Scene 12: Courtyard - Afternoon
Scene 13: Hallway - Late Afternoon
Scene 14: Janet's Bridal Suite - Late Afternoon
Scene 15: Tottendale's Garden - Sunset
Scene 16: Wrap Up

There is no intermission

Musical Numbers

Overture	Orchestra
Fancy Dress	Company
Cold Feets	Robert, George
Show Off	Janet, Ensemble
As We Stumble Along	Drowsy
I Am Aldolpho	Aldolpho, Drowsy
Accident Waiting To Happen	Robert, Janet
Toledo Surprise	Company
Message From A Nightingale	. Kitty, Gangsters, Aldolpho, Drowsy
Bride's Lament	Janet
Love Is Always Lovely In the End	Tottendale, Underling
I Do, I Do In The Sky	Trix and Company
As We Stumble Along (Reprise)	Company

Cast (in order of appearance)

Man In Chair	Steve Culver
Mrs. Tottendale	Susan Upton
Underling	Pete Evans
Robert	Matt Hatfield
George	Nate Drehmer
Feldzieg	Matt Bogdan
Kitty	Alana Troxell
Gangster #1	Pete Cuesta
Gangster #2	Antonio Nastasi
Aldolpho	Kenneth Johnson
Janet	Shelbie Thompson
The Drowsy Chaperon	eHeather McHenry
Trix	Alexa Nastasi
Superintendent	Ben Reavis
Ensemble	Dan Drehmer, Britni Ilczuk, Bella Nastasi, Chris Pali, Cheryl Phillips, Kim Szentesi, Charlotte Szentesi-Thomas

Orchestra

Conductor - Dr. Jeffery Baer

Woodwinds	Jon Adams, Lisa Adams,
Kel	lie Harvey, Stephen Harvey, Frank Mahoney
Trumpet	Ron Davis, Bill Williams
Trombone	Michael C. Devine, Jr.
Keyboard	Greg Arment, Aimee Faulkner
Bass	Mike Bireley
Percussion	Tom Clark, Jane Mahoney
Rehearsal Accompa	nist: Aimee Faulkner

Video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Production Staff

DirectorKel Nagel
Musical Director
ProducerDebby Nagel
ChoreographerRobin Finley
Assistant Choreographer Britni Ilczuk
Stage Manager Melissa Dasher
Stage CrewHunter Adkins, Kate Adkins, Cass Dasher, Chloe Dasher, Ken Dasher, Megan Davis, Nichole Martin
Wigs, Hair, Makeup Michele Clauser
Costume Designer Jenny Tusing
Costume CoordinatorsLynne Bratten
Costume Committee
Lighting DesignSharon Benchoff, Tony Broadbent
Lighting Crew David Allen, Sharon Benchoff, Tony Broadbent, Abby Cuesta, Joseph Fox, Mike Murphy
Follow Spot Operator
Sound Design
Sound TeamJoe Benamati, Kim Cuesta, Tom Robinson
Set Design David Allen, Bill Zlakowski
Construction Supervisors David Allen, Bill Zlakowski
Set Construction/Painting
PropsMelissa Dasher, Jean King, Jim King, Debby Nagel
Specialty Painting Judy Hearn
Publicity Pete Cuesta, Cass Dasher, Melissa Dasher
Program Cover/Poster Design
Program Advertising/Design Tom Robinson

Who's Who in the Cast

Matt Bogdan (Feldzieg) is a director, producer, and actor. He has directed and produced children's theater, high school theater, and community theater. His directing credits include *Death of a Salesman, The Odd Couple, My Fair Lady, The Music Man* and *Twelve Angry Men*. Past president of Players. Matt played Thenardier in Players' *Les Misérables*, George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe*, the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*, Bill Sykes in *Oliver!*, Jud in *Oklahoma!* and Thomas Jefferson in *1776*. He taught high school English and drama for over 35 years, and he is presently a realtor with Century 21 New Horizon. Matt thanks Kel Nagel for the opportunity to "show off" again, and he thanks his wife for all of her support.

Pete Cuesta (Gangster # 1) is thrilled to be given this opportunity to be in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Past performances includes: *Into The Woods* (Steward), *Deathtrap* (Director), *Mary Poppins* (Bank President), *Beauty and the Beast* (bookseller), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Avram), *Les Misérables* (Chorus), *They're Playing Our Song* (Chorus) and The Salisbury Chamber Singers (Tenor 2). A podiatrist by day, he has enjoyed the theatre for most of his life. His favorite role, however, is husband to Kim and father to Maddi and Abby - love you guys!

Steve Culver (Man in the Chair) has been seen in the following Players' shows: Oliver! (Artful Dodger-1979)/(Fagin-2012), The Odd Couple (Vinnie), On Golden Pond (Charlie Martin), The Wizard of Oz (Professor Marvel/The Wizard), The Foreigner (Charlie Baker), Blithe Spirit (Dr. Bradman), Mary Poppins (Admiral Boom), Beauty and the Beast (Cogsworth), Something's Afoot (Dr. Grayburn), Arsenic and Old Lace (Teddy Brewster), and Into the Woods (Cinderella's Father).

Dan Drehmer (Ensemble) has been involved in dramatic and choral productions since his youth, including *Sneaky Fitch*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *Once Upon a Mattress*. He's been sound man for Eastern Shore Ballet Theatre and Power Production Ministries. He has been a worship leader for 19 years and co-director of many Christmas plays and youth dramas with his wife, Jodi. With Players Dan has performed in *Wizard of Oz*, *Les Misérables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Addams Family*.



Nate Drehmer (George) is honored to be doing what a best man ought in Players' Production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He's had a great time learning new skills for this show and spending time with the cast and crew. Shout out to Britni for all the extra time spent to make me look good in tap shoes.

Pete Evans (Underling) is proud to cap off a complete season with Players in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He appeared in *Calendar Girls* (Liam), *Into The Woods, The Addams Family, Blithe Spirit, Beauty and the Beast,* and *Moon Over Buffalo*. After this performance, he will welcome what he hopes to be a short break. He would like to dedicate his performance to his dear friend Kim E., who always encouraged his foray into theatre.

Matt Hatfield (Robert) is very happy to be in another Players' production! Matt has appeared in every show this season: Calendar Girls (Lawrence), Death of a Salesman (Happy Loman) and Into the Woods (Cinderella's Prince). Other favorite shows were The Addams Family, Les Misérables, The Foreigner, and Brighton Beach Memoirs. Matt would like to thank Kel and Jeff and a special shout out to Robin and Britni for working very hard teaching him how to tap. He will be making his directorial debut with The Last Five Years in April. When Matt is not doing theatre, he is spending time with his wonderful, wonderful girlfriend Kate and imagining a world where dinosaurs still lived but were smaller and friendly.



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Britni Ilczuk (Assistant Choreographer, Ensemble) has been seen onstage in many Players' productions and has served as choreographer for two. She is an instructor at Salisbury Dance Academy and has enjoyed teaching dance and music at Stepping Stones Learning Academy this year. In her spare time she enjoys homeschooling her children, spending time promoting the Arts, and playing the piano at her church. She also has a small obsession for coffee and adult coloring books. She would like to thank her family for their love and support through the late nights and busy weekends. To God be the glory.

Ken Johnson (Aldopho) began his "career" with Players over 35 years ago, running a follow spot for *Don't Drink The Water*. We haven't been able to get rid of him since! He is currently President-elect of Players. Ken directed several productions for Players, recently *The Addams Family* and *Into The Woods*. Recently he appeared as Bert in *Mary Poppins* and Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*. Ken is also very active backstage, having designed and built the sets for over 50 Players' productions. He'd like to thank his friends in Players for allowing him to continue this "hobby" and especially Kel Nagel for allowing him to "Chew the Scenery" as much as he'd like!

Heather McHenry (The Drowsy Chaperone) is thrilled to be in her fourth Players' production! Heather most recently played Cinderella's Step-Mother in *Into the Woods*, Elaine Harper in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and Mrs. Potts in *Beauty and the Beast*. Other acting credits include *Murder on the Nile*, 1776, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Murder at the Mansion & Murder Under the Marquee, and The Sound of Music. Heather currently presides as Vice President of the Lower Shore Performing Arts Company and when not on stage, she is the Director of Bands and Musical Theater Education at Crisfield Academy & High School. She would like to thank her family for their constant support in allowing her to live her dream.

Alexa Nastasi (Trix) is queen of the sky! She circles through the stratus in her modern apparatus and is beyond thrilled to be in her fifth Community Players' production! When she isn't playing an Aviatrix or a monkey, she can be seen in the Parkside High School Concert Choir and Drama Club, or watching The Office for hours. She was recently seen as Little Red Riding Hood in Players' Production of Into the Woods and as Sour Kangaroo in the first All-County Musical, Seussical! She would like to give a huge thanks to the cast and crew of the show and everyone else, for making this such an unforgettable experience! Hi, Mom!



Mason Little

Senior Vice President, Investments

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Antonio Nastasi (Gangster # 2) is excited to be on stage one more time with Players. His passion for music has been passed down to his children, with whom he shares the stage. He has performed with Players in *Into The Woods* as Rapunzel's Prince and *Beauty & the Beast* as the Baker and Spoon. He loves learning about the Revolutionary War, traveling with his wife and family, and being part of his worship team at church. He's grateful for another opportunity o make more memories with his friends and family.

Isabella Nastasi (Ensemble) cannot be more excited to make her debut on the Community Players' stage! When she isn't playing a monkey or a cloud, she has previously been involved in Salisbury Middle School's Concert Choir, Show Choir and Drama Club. In prior Players' shows, she has helped backstage and with costumes. Her favorite part of being involved in shows is that she gets McDonald's for dinner (when her mom isn't stealing her French fries) before every rehearsal! She would like to thank her family and friends for loving and supporting her through this wonderful experience!

Chris Pali (Ensemble) is thrilled to perform in his second Players' production. He helped build sets for *Death of a Salesman*, *Calendar Girls* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* and also directs Rockawalkin UMC's live play and short video productions dealing with modern spiritual themes. He thanks Kel and cast for this opportunity and gives a loving thanks to his wife, Nancy, and family for their patience.

Cheryl Phillips (Ensemble) is excited to be performing in her second show with Players. Her theater journey started in high school performing in various roles either on stage or behind the scenes. Her most notable roles were Ghost of Christmas Future in *A Christmas Carol* and Mrs. Sowerberry in *Oliver!* She performed in a couple of children's plays in college and was ensemble for two musical productions with Liberty Showcase Theatre in Baltimore County. She started in Players as Marie in Calendar Girls. Cheryl wishes to thank Kel for giving her a chance in her first musical with Players.



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Ben Reavis (Superintendent) is retired after 47 years in the classroom. Seven years ago he joined the Players in his first musical, *Chicago*. Since then he has been in most every musical including *Oliver, Fiddler on the Roof, Les Misérables,* and *Mary Poppins*. He is so pleased to be joining his fellow thespians in this rousing production.

Kim Szentesi (Ensemble) has been involved with Players since her daughter, Charlotte, was cast in *Oliver!* and has been enjoying it ever since. She appeared on stage in *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. She has worked backstage in many capacities including set building, crew, stage manager, and assistant director. She is pleased to be in another show directed by Kel Nagel and to share the stage again with Charlotte.

Charlotte Szentesi-Thomas (Ensemble) has performed in 20 shows since the age of eight and is pleased to be participating in her fifth production with Players. Some of her favorite roles include *A Laura Ingalls Wilder Christmas* (Carrie Ingalls), *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Beth Bradley), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Fruma-Sarah), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Childcatcher), and *Blithe Spirit* (Edith). Charlotte is a member of a student improv group at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, where she is studying marine biology and English.



Shelbie Thompson (Janet) is thrilled to "show off" in *The Drowsy Chaperone*! She recently performed in *Calendar Girls* and *Into the Woods* this season with Community Players. Shelbie would like to thank the behind the scenes crew for all their hard work putting this show together. We couldn't do it without you!

Alana Troxell (Kitty) is excited to have the opportunity to play Kitty in her second performance with Players. She has been on stage since she was 5 years old. Some of her performances include the lead in *Annie* and Christina in *Murder on the Nile* with LSPAC. She performed in an episode of the USA reality show, *It Takes a Choir* and portrayed Lynne in stage readings of Michael O'Leary's *Breathing Under Dirt*, under the direction of Larry Moss. Alana will be a junior next year at Pocomoke High School.

Susan Upton (Mrs. Tottendale) has appeared in several Players' musicals, most recently *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Mother/Giant), *Beauty & the Beast* (Mme. Wardrobe) and *Mary Poppins* (Miss Lark). She also performs with the Salisbury Chamber Singers and Power Productions. She is involved in the music ministry at Christ UMC and teaches Middle School Music at The Salisbury School. She is owner/instructor at Boone's Tunes of Delmarva and has enjoyed sharing the stage this season with her former and current students: Leah, Chloe, and Alana! Susan would like to thank her husband, Jim, for supporting and cheering her on in her theater pursuits!



FDIC

Who's Who Behind the Scenes

David Allen (Set Design, Construction Supervision, Lighting, Special Effects) joined Players in the Fall of 1993. He has worked on every show in some capacity, backstage, set construction, stage manager, or lighting. He has also been president and is currently a board member. He thanks his family for putting up with his crazy hours. He also thanks you, the community, for supporting the local arts.

Jeffrey Baer (Music Director) currently serves as the Supervisor of Fine Arts for Wicomico County Schools. He has taught choral music for 28 years. He appeared on stage for Players' productions of *Beauty and the Beast, Jekyll and Hyde,* and *Godspell.* He was the music director for Players and local high school productions such as *Into the Woods, Fiddler on the Roof, Guys and Dolls,* and *Oliver!* Jeff is the music director and organist at Bethesda UM Church. He lives in Salisbury with his wife, Trish, who is a Disney fanatic (HDNMKY) and geometry teacher. They have four children and two grandchildren.

Joe Benamati (Sound) joined Players as Mr. Bumble in *Oliver!* ('95) then reprised that role for Players in 2013. He has been on stage as The Cowardly Lion (*The Wizard of Oz*), Moonface Martin (*Anything Goes*) and a personality splitting five rolls in *Annie*. He's also been a stage manager and lighting and sound director for various productions. He was the director for *A Christmas Carol* (2000) and *Mary Poppins* (2015). He is also an active "Techie" at Christ UM Church. "Of all the parts in all the shows I've ever done, my favorite is the part of *Dad* to my wonderful daughter Sarah, and *husband* to my all-too-forgiving wife Janet. I love you both!!"

Sharon Benchoff (Light Design) is happy to be working again as lighting designer. Sharon has worked for over 35 years with Community Players. She has designed lighting for numerous productions including Jekyll & Hyde, Chicago, The Wizard of Oz and most recently Into the Woods. Directing credits include Wait Until Dark, Laughing Stock, Tom, Dick & Harry, Moon Over Buffalo, Les Misérables and Calendar Girls. She has served as both board member and officer for Community Players. Sharon wants to express her gratitude to her lighting team, David, Tony, Abby, Joseph and Mike. There would be no productions without talented crews.





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Lynne Bratten (Costume Coordinator) has created and coordinated costumes for Players since 1984. Recent productions include *Into the Woods, Calendar Girls, Beauty and the Beast, Mary Poppins, Moon over Buffalo, Addams Family, Fiddler on the Roof, Blithe Spirit, The Man Who Came to Dinner,* and *Death Trap.* She is thrilled to be collaborating with her daughter on historically accurate costume creations and to be able to manage the ever expanding costume collection for Players.

Tony Broadbent (Lighting) got involved with technical theater by being on the tech crew in high school, getting a Communication Arts degree at Salisbury University, and running their Event Services Department for 19 years. He recently moved back from California were he worked for Sacramento Theatrical Lighting, managed two high school theaters, ran productions at Fresno State and most proudly motivated the renovation of a closed up 1930s theater. Tony currently tries to pay his mortgage by doing freelance sound and lighting. The belief that the technical side of productions helps create a foundation for performers and audience members to share many things in life, is what keeps Tony involved.

Michele Clauser (Wigs, Hair, Makeup) has been working behind the scenes with Players since 2017 when she did wigs, hair, and makeup for *Into the Woods*. She splits her time between several local theatrical groups, lending her services with hair, wigs and makeup, as well as assisting in costumes and production for adult and youth theater alike. Never in the spotlight, but making the stars shine.



Kim Cuesta (Sound) recently appeared on stage in *Calendar Girls* (Annie). She has been a member of the Sound Team for Players' *Beauty and the Beast* and *Mary Poppins* and The Salisbury School's *Cinderella, Shrek, the Musical* and *Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang.* Kim would like to thank her husband, Pete, and daughters, Maddi and Abby, for their constant encouragement.

Melissa Dasher (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back stage once again for her 10th show with Players. She has worked behind the scenes since 2013, building, painting and moving sets and props; she was most recently props coordinator for *Death of a Salesman* and back stage manager for *Something's Afoot*. She was also seen on stage as Nurse Preen in *The Man Who Came To Dinner*. Melissa wants to thank her family for supporting her and the cast and her crew for keeping it fun. The curtain is going up! Enjoy.

Robin Finley (Choreographer) is ecstatic to be working on this production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. She has been with Players since 2001 when Cindy Gore cast her in *Little Women*. Robin loves being a part of Players because of the wonderful friends she has made. Her previous choreography experience with Players was on the production of *Les Misérables* She wants to thank the audiences for their gracious support, her family for their patience, and Kel and Debby Nagel for allowing her to be a part of the fun.



Judy Hearn (Specialty Painting) has been painting and performing with Players since 2010. Previous setwork includes *Into the Woods, Arsenic and Old Lace, Steel Magnolias, Mary Poppins, The Addams Family, On Golden Pond, The Odd Couple, The Mousetrap, Les Misérables, and Wizard of Oz. Theatre is life!*

Debby Nagel (Producer) has worked behind the scenes on numerous shows as producer, set decorator, and props coordinator. She notably was set decorator for *Brighton Beach Memories*, *Don't Drink the Water* and *The Man Who Came To Dinner* among others.





Kel Nagel (Director) has appeared in more than 20 Players' musicals and plays, starting with *Guys and Dolls* in 1995. He last appeared on stage in *Beauty and the Beast*. He has directed six shows, most recently *The Man Who Came To Dinner*. He greatly appreciates the opportunity to direct this musical.

Tom Robinson (Sound Design) has been part of Players' Sound Team for 26 shows and is the current Community Players' President. He has also been the Technical Director of all 17 musicals at The Salisbury School. He is the Director of Technical Ministries at Christ UM Church.

Jenny Tusing (Costume Design) is a longtime member of Players, Jenny only recently began designing costumes. It has been a whirlwind ever since with involvement in nine productions since 2014. Select credits include *The Addams Family, Blythe Spirit,* and *Into the Woods*. She has also shared her time costuming for The Salisbury School and the All-Wicomico County Musical. Costuming allows Jenny the flexibility to participate in theater while raising a young family. Jenny's performance credits include *Little Women, Harvey, Charley's Aunt,* and various musicals.

Bill Zlakowski (Set Design, Construction Supervision) Bill has helped build sets for several shows. He appeared briefly on stage in *The Man Who Came To Dinner*.



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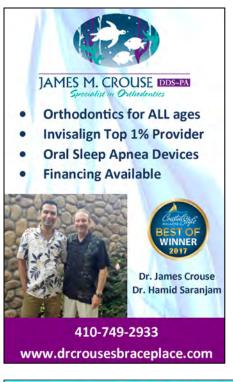


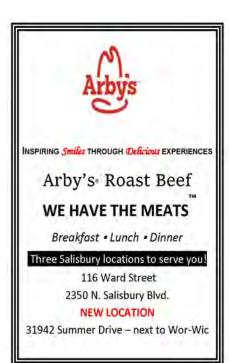
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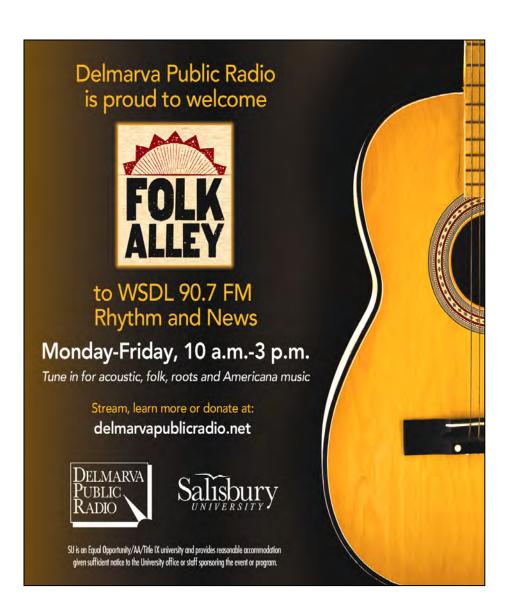
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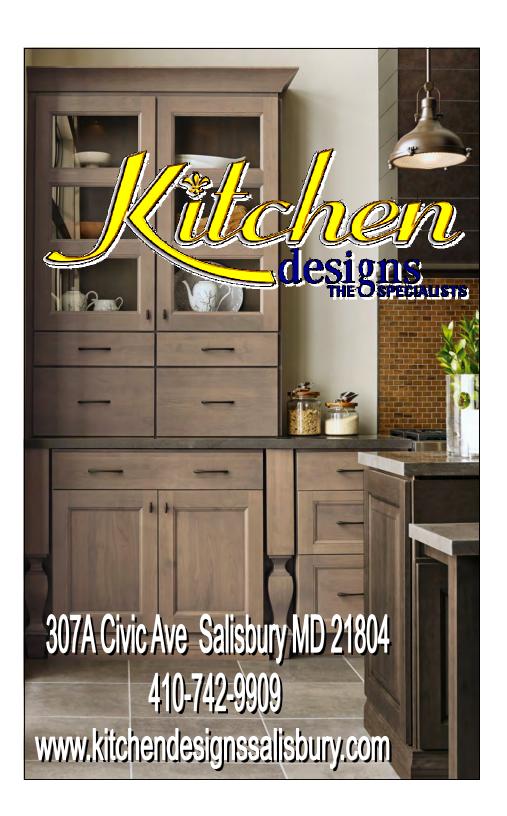
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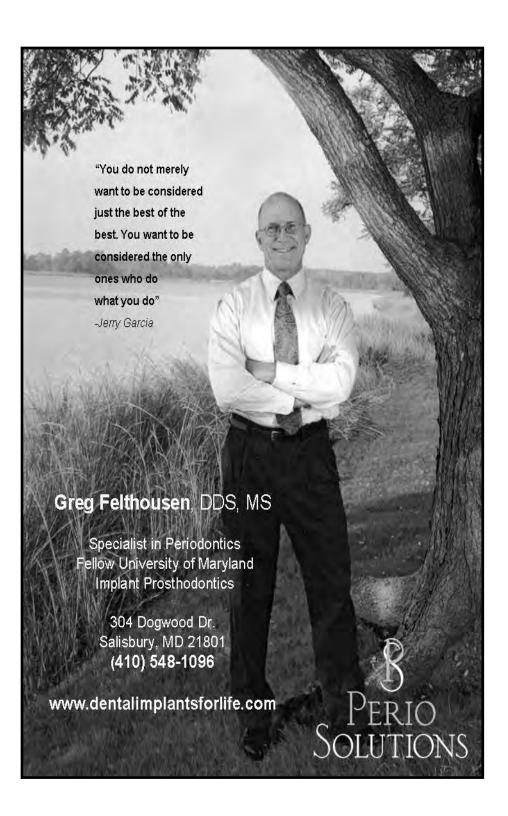
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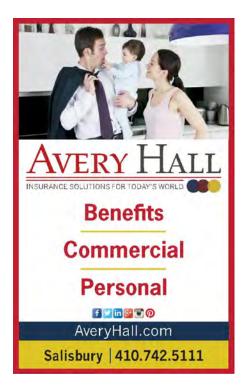
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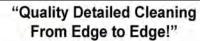
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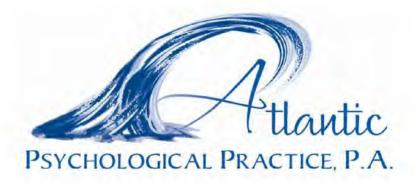
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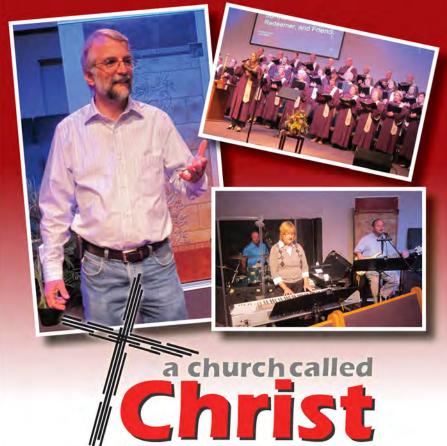
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