

**DAY SPAS FOR
EVERY TASTE**

**WHAT VIPS GET
AT RESTAURANTS**

**50 GREAT PLACES
TO WORK**

WASHINGTONIAN

Our Favorite Parks

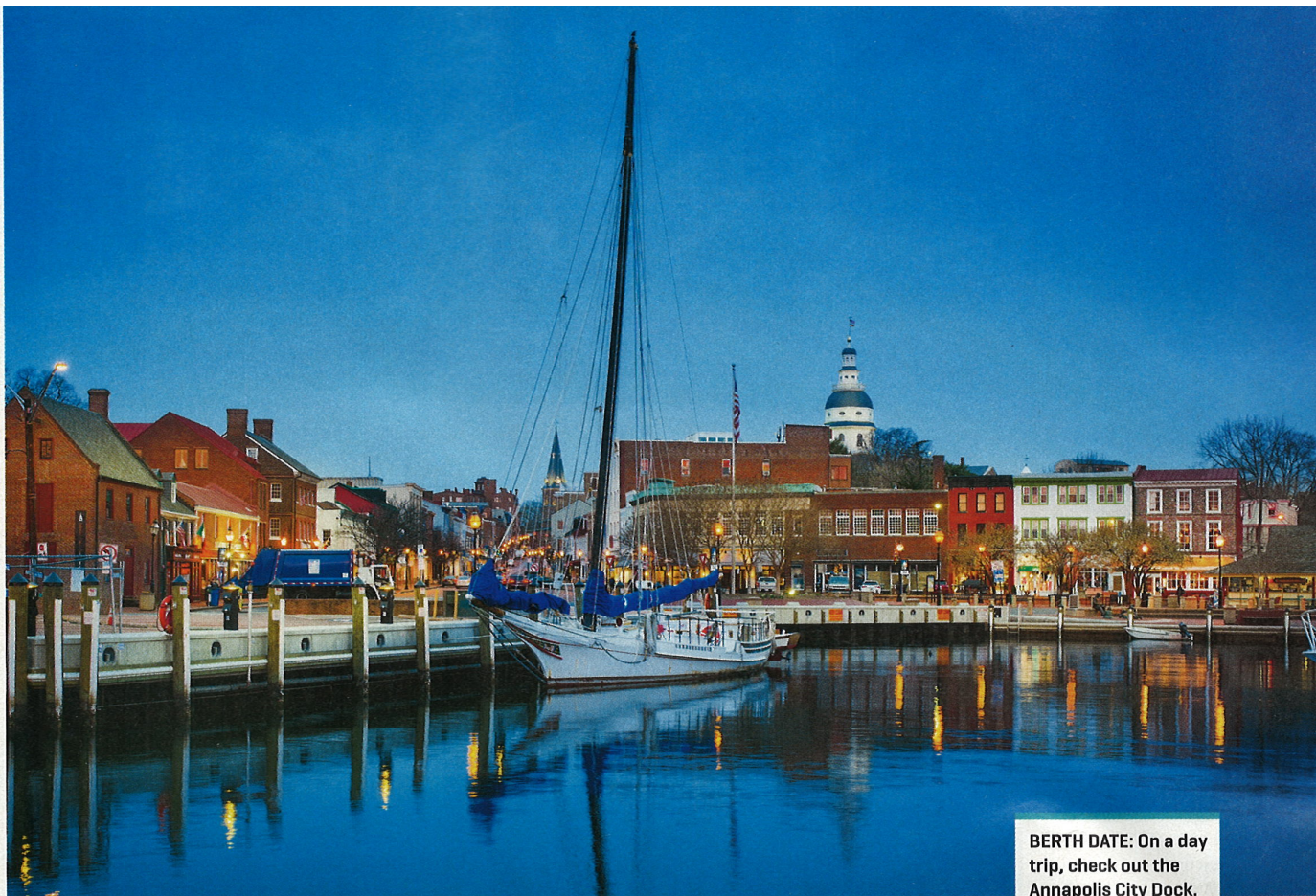
**WHERE TO TAKE A WALK,
HAVE A PICNIC, RENT A
BOAT, PLAY WITH THE
KIDS, AND ENJOY THE
GREAT OUTDOORS**



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BERTH DATE: On a day trip, check out the Annapolis City Dock.

SHORE LEAVE

Feast on fresh crabs. Take a sunset sail on a skipjack. Stay in a waterview room. Our visitor's guide to some memorable Eastern Shore experiences.

By Andrea Poe

ANNAPOLIS: EXPLORE NAVAL HISTORY AND SLEEP ON A BOAT

This waterfront town is all about historic streetscapes and bustling marinas. You can tap into the spirit of the town at the **United States Naval Academy** (52 King George St.; 410-293-8687), the training ground for America's midshipmen, which offers tours of "The Yard" that include a visit to the crypt of Revolutionary War hero John Paul Jones.

SOAK IN AMERICAN HISTORY

The **William Paca House** (186 Prince George St.; 410-990-4543), a Georgian mansion that was home to one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, holds a trove of 18th-century furnishings and has a superb walled garden.

BEST SPOT TO OGLE YACHTS

Grab a charcuterie platter from **Annapolis Market House** (City Dock; 443-949-0024) and stake out a spot on a bench across the street along Ego Alley, the narrow channel where yachters come to see and be seen.

A SIDE OF POLITICS WITH YOUR EGGS

Chick & Ruth's Delly (165 Main St.; 410-269-6737), a bi-level downtown diner steps from the State House, is an Annapolis institution. Breakfast includes the Pledge of Allegiance—recited weekday mornings at 8:30 and weekends at 9:30—crab omelets served three ways, and plenty of political gossip.

GREAT WATERFRONT DINNER

Enjoy phyllo-topped scallops served with a twirl of shrimp cream sauce on the shad-

ed deck overlooking the marina at **Carrol's Creek** (410 Severn Ave.; 410-263-8102). Hit the restaurant on a Wednesday evening for the best view of the summer sailing races.

WHERE TO CATCH A BUZZ

Like any proper sailing town, Annapolis has its fair share of great bars, among them **Galway Bay** (63 Maryland Ave.; 410-263-8333), where you can pair a pint with tasty fish and chips, and **Boatyard Bar & Grill** (400 4th St.; 410-216-6206), which has been serving thirsty sailors since 2001.

NOVEL WAYS OF GETTING AROUND

Explore Annapolis by tapping into its new **bike-share** program. Racks are stationed throughout the city (ridepace.com/annapolis). Or hail a **water taxi** for as little as \$3 a person and get ferried along the harbor. On weekends, the taxi runs until midnight (410-263-0033).

SLEEP TIGHT ON THE WATER

When you book a cabin on **Woodwind** (410-263-1981), a 74-foot schooner, you not only get breakfast onboard but also a sunset cruise on the Chesapeake Bay.



TALBOT COUNTY: CRABS AND CULTURE

This county's towns, such as St. Michaels and Easton, are well known for their art, history, and culture. For example, you can catch big-name acts like Arlo Guthrie in the intimate 380-seat **Avalon Theatre** (40 E. Dover St., Easton; 410-822-0345) and see great works of art without the crowds at the **Academy Art Museum** (106 South St., Easton; 410-822-2787).

HEALTHY START

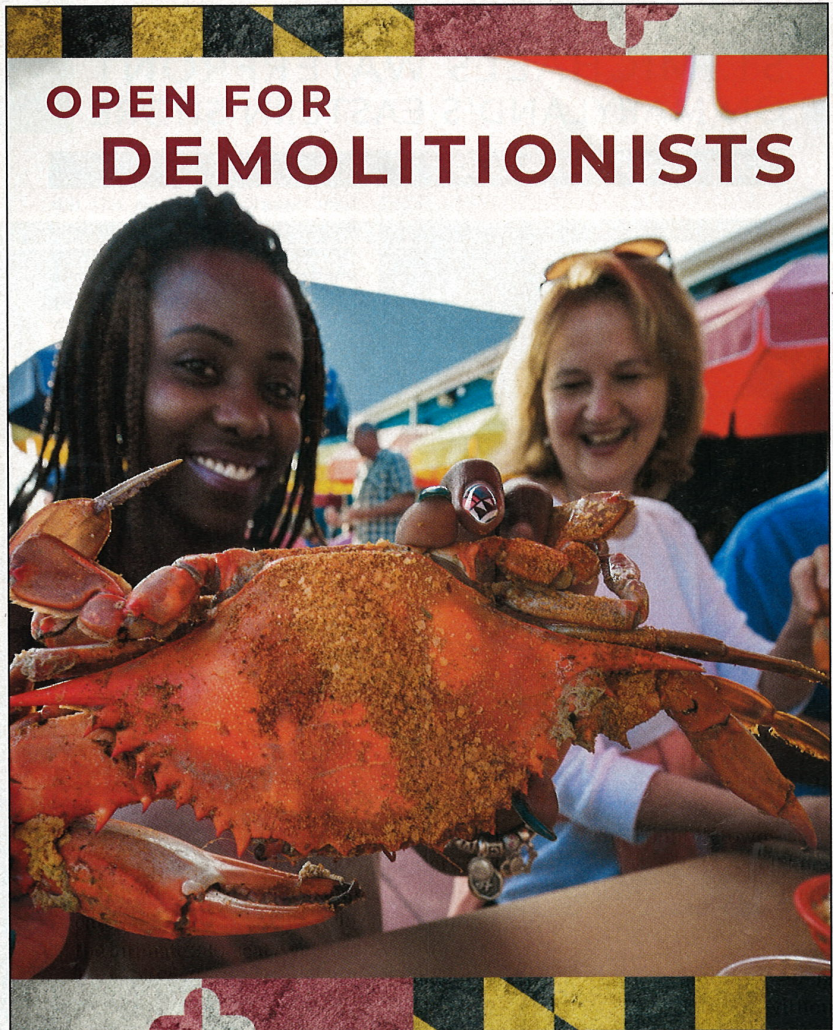
Kick off your morning with locally sourced eggs at **Hill's Café and Juice Bar** (30 E. Dover St., Easton; 410-822-9751), an old-school lunch counter in the back of a pharmacy. Word has it that the signature JMX juice wards off colds and may just cure hangovers.

WATERFRONT CRAB-CRACKING

Whether you arrive by boat, car, or foot, the harborfront deck at the **Crab Claw** (304 Burns St., St. Michaels; 410-745-2900) is a prime location for a traditional crab feast.

CATCH A CHEAP BOAT RIDE

Hop aboard the **Oxford-Bellevue Ferry** (101 E. Strand Rd., Oxford; 410-745-9023), which navigates the wide, placid Tred Avon River from the town of Oxford to the tiny hamlet of Bellevue. The fare is \$3 for walk-ons and \$12 for cars, and the deck is one of the best places to glimpse ospreys diving for fish and herons stalking the shores.



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ST. MICHAELS WATERFRONT ON MARYLAND'S EASTERN SHORE

CLEAR WATERS AT TURKEY NECK POINT



Near historic St. Michaels, MD, this magnificent 36-acre point of land w/over 1/2 mile of shoreline is improved with a classic "Tidewater Colonial" main house (7,400+ sq. ft.), 2-bedroom guest cottage, 3-bay garage w/studio above, 150' dock, English greenhouse and waterside pool. The SW/sunset views are simply, "The Best!" \$5,500,000

MARTINGHAM



Facing WSW across a scenic Miles River tributary, the sunset views from this attractive 4,600+ sq. ft. home are outstanding. It is sited on a premier 3.4 acre point lot, with the new "Links at Perry Cabin Golf Course" across the street. The 4-bedroom, 3.5 bath house is a "Must See." It is a gracious home, designed for relaxed "Eastern Shore Living!" \$1,395,000

WATERFRONT COTTAGE



A delightful cedar-sided home, sited on a private 4-acre, 50% wooded lot near St. Michaels. Facing south across a peaceful tributary of San Domingo Creek, the house is in move-in condition, with updated kitchen & baths, three (or 4) bedrooms, beautiful maple floors and 2 large waterside porches w/blue-stone floors. Deep water dock. \$899,000

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TRAVEL



GET THE SCOOP: Dip into exotic homemade flavors at **Scottish Highland Creamery**.

CELEBRATE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Take a self-guided walking tour of the Hill neighborhood in Easton, home to the oldest community of free blacks in the nation, dating to the 1790s. A map that identifies key buildings along the route is available at the **Talbot County Visitors Center** (11 S. Harrison St.; Easton; 410-770-8000).

DATE NIGHT PERFECTED

A romantic evening begins at chic **Bas Rouge** (19 Federal St., Easton; 410-822-1637), where you can dine on osetra caviar capping pillowy blinis, followed by an after-dinner drink steps away at the **Stewart** (3 Federal St., Easton; 410-793-4128), a sophisticated bar with 117 types of Scotch plus vintage Champagne served in Baccarat crystal.

SATISFY YOUR SWEET TOOTH

Order a vertiginous towering sundae at **Justine's** (106 N. Talbot St., St. Michaels; 410-745-0404) or an exotic homemade ice-cream cone—dill pickle, anyone?—at **Scottish Highland Creamery** (314 Tilghman St., Oxford; 410-924-6298).

WAKE UP WITH A WATER VIEW

The upscale **Inn at Perry Cabin** (308 Watkins Ln., St. Michaels; 410-745-2200), with waterfront suites, a cozy spa, and new tennis courts, also has an ambitious sailing program. The year-old **Wylder Hotel** (21551 Chesapeake House Dr., Tilghman Island; 877-818-1922), with retro-chic rooms facing a marina, snagged *Condé Nast Traveler's* Readers' Choice Award for the Mid-Atlantic. **W**

Andrea Poe (@ravenseyepoe on Instagram) is a longtime contributor to *Washingtonian*.