

Avenel Living

A Social Publication for the Residents of Avenel

December 2020

Jean Bae Sam Seymour and Oscar

Photography by **Jane Love**



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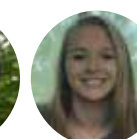
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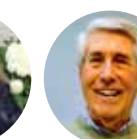
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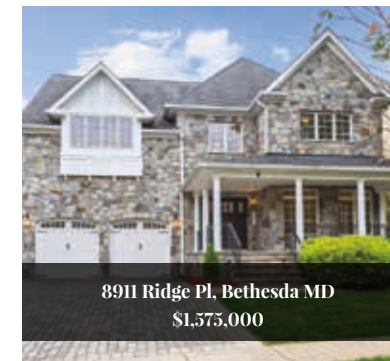
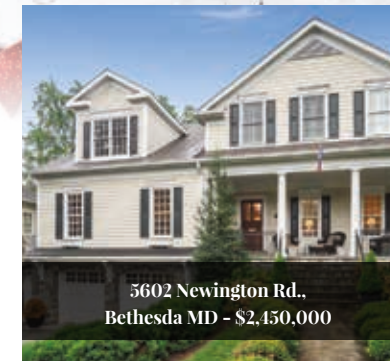
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Front Row: Brooke Bassin, Emily Moritt, Wendy Banner, Gail Gordon, Ilene Gordon, Julia Fortin, Sharyn Goldman. Back Row: Michelle Teichberg, Jody Aucamp, Pat Karta

BANNER TEAM

Faces of Avenel–Wendy Banner & The Banner Team #1 Agents in Avenel since 2011*!

Resting at the foundation of Wendy's success in the Avenel real estate market is a strong personal tie to the community — she and her husband raised their family in Avenel and have owned four different homes in their 25 years in the community. Ilene Gordon and Gail Gordon have also been Avenel neighbors. Wendy was directly involved with building the Swim and Tennis Club at Avenel which has been a sought-after amenity for many and an excellent enhancement for resale.

Full Street Address	List Price	Close Price	Close Date	DOM	Beds	Baths	ABV SQFT	Status
10005 Chartwell Manor Ct	\$1,399,000			101	4	4	4,237	ACTIVE
10016 Chartwell Manor Ct	\$1,425,000			54	5	4	5,800	ACTIVE
9852 Avenel Farm Dr	\$1,659,000			323	6	5	5,561	ACTIVE
8504 Pierce Point Ct	\$1,749,000			15	5	5	4,800	ACTIVE
5 Holly Leaf Ct	\$2,395,000			44	6	6	5,875	ACTIVE
10011 Avenel Farm Dr	\$2,499,000			162	6	6	7,916	ACTIVE
9719 Avenel Farm Dr	\$2,850,000			48	7	7	6,772	ACTIVE
10021 Avenel Farm Dr	\$2,900,000			239	7	7	7,678	ACTIVE
7019 Natelli Woods Ln	\$4,995,000			364	6	7	6,621	ACTIVE
9811 Avenel Farm Dr	\$5,295,000			263	6	6	13,900	ACTIVE
8404 Crimson Leaf Ct	\$1,485,000		12/18/2020	136	5	4	4,829	Active Under Contract
7200 Eagle Ridge Pl	\$1,595,000		12/9/2020	16	6	4	4,800	Active Under Contract
8401 Rapley Ridge Ln	\$2,750,000		10/27/2020	28	5	4	5,921	Active Under Contract
9720 Beman Woods Way	\$1,149,999		11/12/2020	101	5	4	3,746	PENDING
9633 Eagle Ridge Dr	\$1,450,000		11/3/2020	7	5	4	4,608	PENDING
9401 Crimson Leaf Ter	\$1,795,000		11/30/2020	5	5	4	4,785	PENDING
9705 Beman Woods Way	\$1,219,900	\$1,208,000	10/3/2020	2	3	3	4,102	CLOSED
8901 Abbey Ter	\$1,495,000	\$1,425,000	10/8/2020	78	5	4	3,623	CLOSED



Contact Wendy Banner for more info:

(c) 301-370-5076 | (e) Wendy@BannerTeam.com | www.BannerTeam.com

*Based on MRIS data of residential sales. Featured properties supplied by: Wendy Banner and The Banner Team. Information included is based on data supplied by MRIS and its member Association of Realtors. Single Family Detached Homes 10-1-20 to 10-23-20 from \$1,149,999 to \$5,295,000.



publisher's note

This year has not gone the way any of us envisioned it would and now it is time for our holidays where family and friends come together to share good cheer. It's still a time of faith, gift-giving, and love -- and during this challenging time, we need all three more than ever. Though we might be fatigued, it's important to share the rituals of the season by connecting by phone, online, or with a traditional card.

Thanks to Jean Bae of Salon Jean & Day Spa for sharing her family story with us. She's a long-time sponsor and a decade-long resident of Avenel. It's fun to read how she met her husband, Sam, and hear about their adventures. We also hear how Jean and other small businesses in MacArthur Plaza right around the corner in Cabin John have pivoted during the pandemic to continue serving you through instituting outdoor service -- even through the winter months. Avenel resident Stephanie McGovern, our sponsor from TTR Sotheby's International Realty, invites neighbors to donate to the Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive. And in the holiday spirit, we treat readers to some glorious lighting displays captured by our stellar photographer, Jane Love.

As always, special thanks to all the sponsors of *Avenel Living* for their support. Don't forget them when looking for Hanukkah and Christmas gifts! All are local sources of presents, and all have gift cards that friends and family would appreciate during this season. We are excited to welcome our newest sponsor. Established in 1805, Freeman's holds an esteemed place in American history as the nation's oldest auction house and as one of the

first family-owned businesses. With international experience and reach as well as a comprehensive knowledge of markets, Freeman's team of experts works closely with consignors and collectors to offer unparalleled service in the sale and purchase of fine art, antiques, jewelry, books, and more. It's a great time to have them value some of your belongings if you are considering downsizing. It's also a great time to discover what treasures they have available for the decoration of your own home.

This season requires us to think a little differently, a little more thoughtfully, as we can't rely on gathering to celebrate together exactly the same way we have in the past. Yet still, there's so much joy is to be had. Share your family recipes by dropping off a treat or dish for a neighbor. Become a maker, creating gifts, decorations, and memories that will last through generations. And, when counting your blessings this year, it's a holiday tradition to share those, too, as the charity of your choice is in need of your love and support more than ever.

Cheers to joyful traditions--new and old,

Rita McWilliams
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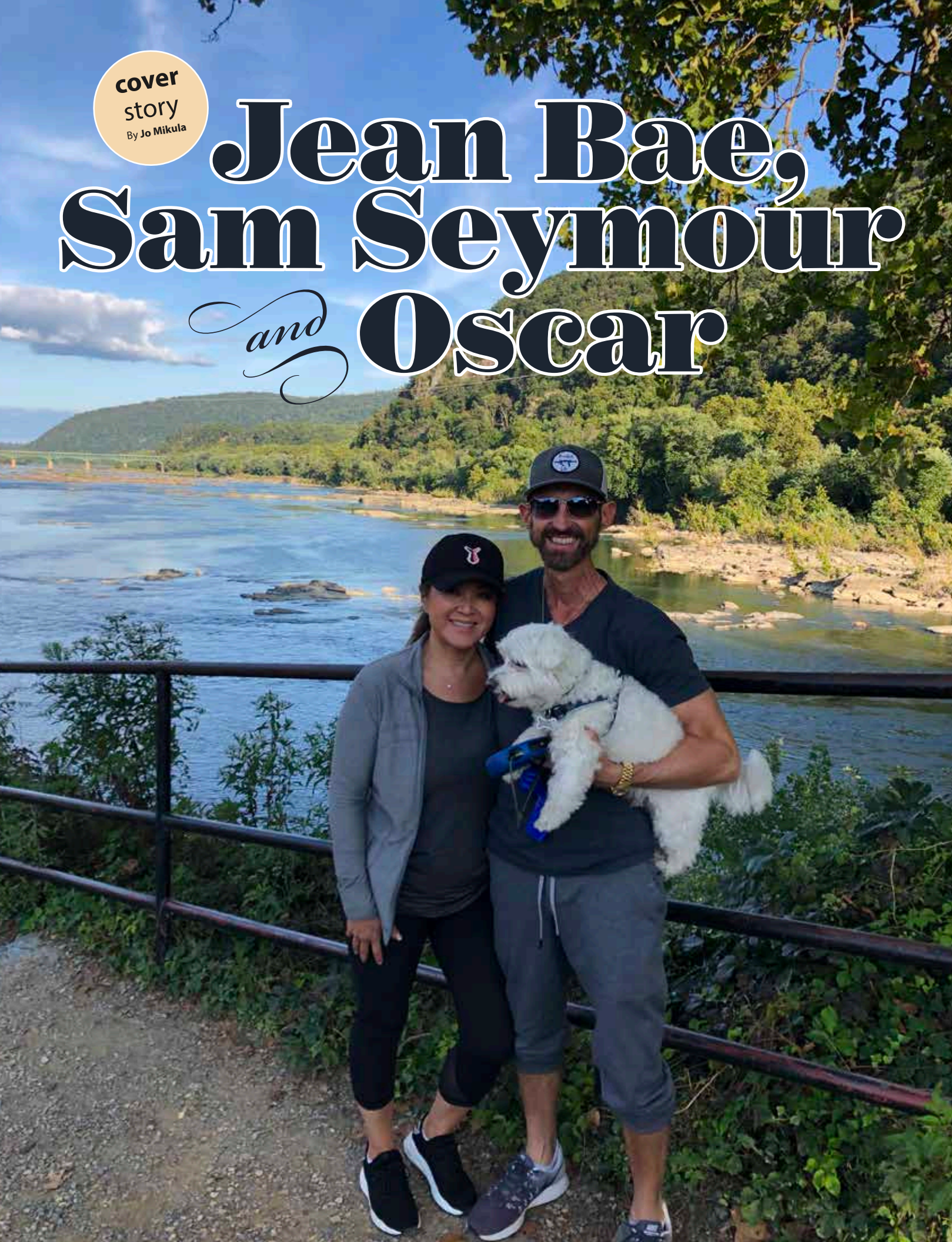
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cover
story
By Jo Mikula

Jean Bae, Sam Seymour and Oscar



For Jean and Sam, Avenel has always been about community. The two began dating in 2011 and were temporarily renting in Bethesda when they decided to look for a permanent home. When they visited Avenel in 2014, it was their established local relationships and the welcoming environment that drew them there and convinced them to become residents. “We were attracted to Avenel because it’s so close to Jean’s salon, a mile or so to the Village and Holy Child,” says Sam, “and because it’s a real community with walking paths, a park with ball fields, and plenty of safe space for dog walking and getting outside to meet people.”

Sam’s daughter Sophia attended Holy Child, and the proximity between Avenel and her school was a draw for the family. Now 21, Sophia is a senior at the University of Rhode Island. Avenel is also near McLean, Virginia, a plus for both Sam and his 19-year-old son Beau. Beau attended Langley High School in McLean before matriculating to Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, where he is now a sophomore. Sam, meanwhile, has long been familiar with McLean; he is president of Centrum Inc., an IT company headquartered there. Sam himself was born in Potomac and attended Gonzaga High School before earning his degree from the University of Maryland College Park in consumer economics and business.

Avenel has also proved a perfect location because of Jean’s business, Salon Jean & Day Spa, located at MacArthur Boulevard and Seven Locks Road in Cabin John. Born in Seoul Korea and raised in College Park, Maryland, from the age of 5, Jean has always loved experimenting with hair and makeup. At 14, she even started selling Avon cosmetics door to door.

But Jean’s work isn’t just about hair and makeup, it’s the daily client interactions and personal relationships that develop over time that attract her to the salon business, and in response, the clients to Jean. After working for a number of years at a Potomac salon, 14 years ago Jean decided to start her own business, a place where she could build her brand and implement her unique personalized customer service.

Since then, Salon Jean has quickly grown into a community establishment, one of the small businesses that are part of the soul of the local community. In fact, the salon is one of the accomplishments that Jean is most proud of in her life, in large part because she has successfully created a safe, nurturing place for individuals to develop their own careers. “For me, it’s about the personal satisfaction that comes along with life and career coaching while teaching technical skills,” says Jean. “And of course, helping people look and feel great.”

In fact, it is because of Salon Jean and a bit of serendipity about a detour from River Road one day that Sam found Jean. The two had known each other for about 20 years before they started dating — they had similar friends in the area but weren’t in touch except for occasionally running into each other in Potomac Village

while doing errands. One day almost 11 years ago, Sam had to detour on his way to work down MacArthur Boulevard. He said he saw the Salon Jean & Day Spa sign and I thought, “I wonder if that’s Jean? I haven’t seen her for years.” Shortly thereafter, he booked an appointment to say hello. They reacquainted themselves, and the two had their first date at a restaurant on Bethesda Row.

“We were attracted to Avenel because it’s so close to Jean’s salon, a mile or so to the Village and Holy Child.”

Jean says she’s forever grateful to her business advisor for insisting she name the salon for herself. She originally had decided and produced signage with another name, but her adviser recommended that she incorporate her own name as the title because she had developed a professional following in the area. He also teased that she needed to open her

...

own business and put her name out there to find her husband. “It’s amazing – I changed that sign, and that’s how I met Sam.” In 2016, the couple eloped in Maui.

Sam and Jean are now close friends with a number of Jean’s clients and their extended families as a result of the salon. “Our favorite memory from Avenel is the fun we had celebrating the salon’s 10-year anniversary by throwing a holiday disco-themed costume party at TPC Potomac for Jean’s employees, clients, and friends. It was a perfect party venue, and we all had a terrific evening with one another,” said Jean.

As a pet lover, Jean has even managed to incorporate these furry friends into the day-to-day business of her salon. She enjoys using her salon to engage the community in her efforts to raise money for the Montgomery County Humane Society and Pet Connect fostering program. For a number of years, the salon has been inviting clients to enter pictures of their dogs and cats for a pet calendar contest. The community then votes on their favorite photos, and the salon publishes the calendar every November, with 100% of the proceeds going to these animal rescue organizations. As you may be wondering, yes, Jean’s salon is absolutely pet-friendly. The calendars are available in mid-November and make perfect holiday gifts.

Sam and Jean have a dog of their own, an 8-year-old Maltipoo named Oscar. Oscar literally goes everywhere with the couple, and Jean gives him everything he could desire. “Sam says, if he returns to this planet again in another life form, he wants to come back as one of my dogs,” Jean quips.

The couple loves living nearby the C&O Canal and Great Falls so that they can take Oscar frequently on

long walks. For longer excursions, they have a place on the Chesapeake Bay over on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, where they like to spend as much time as possible. They are avid boaters, catching sunsets and an occasional fish. During the fall and spring, they enjoy riding their motorcycle in the country and mountains, often making trips to Shenandoah’s Skyline Drive, West Virginia’s Harpers Ferry, and Maryland’s northern rural belt.

Back in Avenel, Jean and Sam like to stay engaged in the community and support small local businesses as much as possible. In terms of restaurants, they particularly enjoy Raku, Wild Tomato, Fish Taco, and Renato’s at the village. Sam, meanwhile, has just started his second term on the Avenel Standards Committee.



They stay largely unplugged from mainstream media, especially news, watching only stand-up comedy, selective documentaries, and sports (these long time Marylanders love the Washington Nationals and the Washington Capitals.) In keeping with this unplugged relationship to most mainstream media is the couple’s love of long walks and hikes, reading, fitness, yoga, and meditation.

Since moving to Avenel in 2014, Jean and Sam have found that it is the perfect neighborhood for their community-oriented lifestyle. One moment, in particular, stands out for the couple, says Jean: “the last blizzard proved to be a moment in time that not only blanketed our community in deep snow but created a peaceful, neighborly atmosphere as we all dug out and helped one another.”

 We’d love to feature your family! Contact Rita. McWilliams@N2pub.com to find out more!

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in the neighborhood

Photography by Jane Love.

As can be seen from these photos from 2019, Avenel residents love to light up the night as we head into long winter nights. Enjoy your neighbors' spectacular decorations in these photos taken by our phenomenal photographer, Jane Love.



MacArthur Plaza

Embracing Safety Measures to Minimize Risk

Avenel Living was excited to see expanded outdoor dining and salon services offered around the corner in Cabin John at MacArthur Plaza this fall. The owners of several enterprises -- Jean Bae, owner of Salon Jean & Day Spa; Francis Namin, owner of Fish Taco, and Damian and Stephanie Salvatore, owners of Sal's Italian Kitchen and The Wild Tomato, in October shared their experiences since the pandemic began and as they looked forward to 2021.

Each business owner emphasized that client and community safety is their highest priority. MacArthur Plaza Property Manager Brad Klinedinst also detailed the many changes management has made to the shopping center and offices since the pandemic broke out, including following all Center for Disease Control and Prevention safety protocols and recommendations within the Montgomery County Health Department guidelines. Management steps include continued enhanced disinfection and cleaning, making a safe space for expanded outdoor dining, promoting mask wearing, and displaying safe distancing signage. It also has installed a new, state-of-the-art HVAC ventilation system that allows more fresh air to enter the buildings.

For those who may be working from home, but looking for an office outside the home, several private offices are available. MacArthur Plaza also is considering converting one larger suite into a properly distanced co-working area. Office floor plans



can be viewed at: www.garrett-smith.com/office-floorplans

Avenel Living: What has been your biggest challenge since COVID-19 broke out early this year.

***Jean Bae:** Our biggest challenge has been getting clients to come back to the salon and just getting the word out about all the protocols we are doing across the board to keep everyone safe – disinfecting, wearing masks and goggles, putting Plexiglas barriers between stations, temperature checks, hand washing, and setting up a heated tent outside to offer our services there.*

Francis Namin: Our biggest challenge was that everything was uncertain. We didn't know how strong business would be upon reopening, or if it would even be sustainable. Luckily, we received a warm welcome back from the community and we were able to gradually bring back all of our team. Another challenge was adjusting from doing 30% carryout to 90% carryout. We've had to staff heavier, as each carryout order takes more time to package, and costs more due to the containers. The cost of carryout containers and the amount we use has skyrocketed, compounded by trying to use eco-friendly products as much as possible. Another difficulty has been the added steps for sanitization, and personal safety due to COVID. All of our costs across the board, food and cleaning containers have gone up significantly.

Stephanie and Damian Salvatore: *The safety of our guests and employees has always been our top priority. Figuring out the best way to keep everyone healthy and continue doing business in a climate where the guidelines keep changing has been truly challenging. Closing in April was a terrifying decision but ultimately it gave us the time to navigate the crisis and ultimately open under protective and compliant protocols. This has been a team effort and we are grateful for all the advice and assistance from the other business owners in the mall as well as customers, friends, and our landlords.*

Avenel Living: Looking back on last spring and summer, what are you most proud of during this time.

***Jean Bae:** I am definitely proud that I have a great team who is keeping safe by following strict protocols, and proud that clients can come in knowing that we are doing the right things to keep everyone safe.*

Francis Namin: I am most proud of my team for pulling together and supporting me in facing this year's difficulties. The situation this spring and summer was obviously difficult for all of us, but we've learned and adjusted. I'm very proud of my managers and kitchen staff for all their hard work, and putting themselves at risk. Still, through all these difficulties, we've kept preparing fresh, high-quality food. I'd like to thank our customers for their understanding while enduring these difficult conditions.

Stephanie and Damian Salvatore: Damian is a local guy and my family has lived in Cabin John for over 30 years. This area is home to us and we are proud we were able to contribute to the community and create a gathering place where family, friends, and neighbors can come together.

Avenel Living: What positives, professionally and personally, have come out of this time for you?

***Jean Bae:** I think for me it's been coaching my staff to create a positive mindset and keeping our spirits high, and team building. I am proud that we are open right now. Keeping myself on a budget, working with a skeleton staff, but all working to help each other. We are all in this together and are making great efforts to be a good solid team while being careful to ensure we stay safe both in and outside the salon.*

Francis Namin: I've become more flexible. I'm also thankful to be in such a great community, which is so supportive.

***Stephanie and Damian Salvatore:** Both professionally and personally, we continue to evolve with the changing climate and continue to push forward, operating the restaurants within county health guidelines. Small businesses like ours are struggling, and we continue to persevere in a trying situation. We are staying the course and focused on doing what we do best -- Gather and Eat!*

...



Damian Salvatore, owner of Sal's Italian Kitchen and The Wild Tomato, prepares the patio heaters to keep diners warm at MacArthur Plaza in Cabin John.

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Tables and chairs have been moved to the side at Fish Taco. Here carryout orders are lined up for quick pickup.

• • •

Avenel Living: Looking forward into 2021, let us in on some of your current and future plans.

Jean Bae: *I think that the beginning of 2021 is going to be rocky, and if we don't have a vaccine, it will continue to be nerve-wracking for our clients and our stylists. We have a tent with space heaters and a lot of breeze coming in and having these options it's more of a positive. I'm trying to get ready for 2021 and look forward to March and April when we hope to be back to normal.*

Francis Namin: We are very excited for a return to normalcy. We are also looking forward to re-opening Fish Taco in Wildwood Shopping Center, as well as our new concept -- Piccoli Piatti Pizzeria.

Damian and Stephanie Salvatore: *We are feeling optimistic and hopeful. We continue to believe 2021 will bring a healthier year for our communities and economy. Our future plans are to continue operating under county guidelines to ensure safe, dependable, and courteous service. We will continue to offer dine-in or contactless pick-up. When this crisis is behind us we would love to celebrate with the community! How about music, dancing, and food?!!*

Avenel Living: Do you have any particular messages for the residents of Avenel?

Jean Bae: *Come into the salon! We are practicing and prioritizing safe space and sanitation. We take everyone's temperature and must turn away a client with a fever. We can also serve you outside.*

Francis Namin: Operating a restaurant during a pandemic is exhausting. On top of the actual production of food items, we must follow strict safety protocols for food and staff. We take many more steps as far as preventing the spread of COVID, as



Jean Bae styles a client in Salon Jean & Day Spa's outdoor tent.

well as protecting our staff and customers. We ask for customers to follow CDC guidelines, including usage of facemasks, social distancing, and hand washing.

Stephanie and Damian Salvatore: *Stay safe, stay connected to your family and friends and when you have time join us for a lunch or dinner out!*

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Modern Luxury

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home and garden

Photos courtesy of listing agent **Daniel Heider**,
TTR Sotheby's International Realty

Situated in Chartwell Village, this is modern luxury at its finest! The 5,800-square-foot residence sits on one-quarter of an acre of verdant land abutting the 6th hole of the TPC Potomac Golf Club.

The home's main level boasts a large elevated kitchen overlooking an even larger great room with 17-foot vaulted ceilings and stunning views of the golf course. A picturesque study with a wet bar flows seamlessly into the living and dining rooms, making it the quintessential space for any gathering.

Altogether, the home includes five bedrooms, four full and two half bathrooms. The owner's suite offers private access to a sweeping stone-laid terrace, his and hers walk-in closets, and master bathroom with a stand-alone bathtub, walk-in shower, dual vanity sinks, and water closet. Two-car garage parking completes the picture of this pristine, three-level home.

Listed by Daniel Heider of TTR Sotheby's International Realty



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Candace Ourisman and Ashley Bronczek



We are thrilled to present a completely local gift guide, featuring unique items made by local artists and makers. Now more than ever, we are focusing on supporting our DC area small businesses. It's hard to believe the holidays are around the corner but fear not! This gift guide will be sure to help you check some loved ones off of your list. Enjoy!



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making a difference

By Stephanie Burke McGovern



The Greg Gannon CANNED FOOD DRIVE

At a very young age, my parents started encouraging me to help others who were less fortunate. I learned from their wonderful example of getting involved by volunteering at soup kitchens for the homeless and delivering gifts to families at their homes who couldn't afford to buy them during the holidays.

When we were raising our two kids, my husband Jonathan and I looked for ways to involve them in programs to support others. The Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive had been around for years at our neighborhood parish in Washington, DC. We signed up to collect food for the drive that took place every December. We teamed up with another family who lived across the street from us and canvassed our streets dropping off an empty grocery bag to about 100 houses asking for donations. A few

days later, we went back out to collect the filled bags with non-perishable food items. We were one of about 80 who collected over 50,000 cans each year and donated them to food banks and shelters here in the Washington area.

This outreach program provides families the opportunity to work together in their own community collecting nonperishable food, which is then donated to local food pantries, like the Southern Maryland Food Bank, Mana Food Center, and The Capital Area Food Bank.

After a few years, I joined the leadership team helping to organize the drive and eventually, to recruit other parish neighborhoods to do their own food drives. Now, there are 14 separate food drives each December! Volunteering this way, and knowing my kids are involved, is very rewarding.

Over the last six months, during this very difficult pandemic, there has been an even greater need for food. Our Greg Gannon



www.ggcfd.org



Canned Food Drive team got together and wanted to figure out how we could help but also be safe and use COVID precautions. We held an online monetary donation collection through our website and raised over \$65,000! With those donations, we teamed up with the SHARE Food Network and each week purchase from them fresh and frozen food packs that support over 15 different organizations that serve the struggling families in our communities.

Every Wednesday since mid-April my teenagers Madison and Matthew help me pick up fresh and frozen food packs from the SHARE Food Network warehouse in Landover. We deliver them to different food distribution centers for the homeless and less fortunate. It only takes a few hours each week but the sense of providing help and some relief goes a long way.

We will still hold our 33rd Annual Greg Gannon Food Drives the first weekend in December. They will run a little differently but the energy and the mission will be the same: families helping families! There are many ways to become involved. Start a new drive, volunteer with an existing drive, donate food or money at any time. Our website is www.ggcf.org.

To help out, contact Stephanie at smcgovern@ttrsir.com or 202-368-7198.

Please send news of how you or your neighbors are making a difference to Rita.McWilliams@n2pub.com.





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Back row (left to right): Tony Magnolia, Christian Magnolia, John Magnolia, Matthew Magnolia, Dominic Magnolia

Front (left to right): Taylor Magnolia, Barbara Magnolia

MAGNOLIA COMPANIES

sponsor spotlight

By Amy Lindberg

Magnolia Companies is a fourth-generation family-owned local company here in DC. The Magnolia Companies, comprised of Joseph J. Magnolia Inc. and Magnolia Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling, have served Maryland, DC, and Virginia businesses and residents for over 70 years.

Joseph John (J.J.) Magnolia served in the Navy in World War II and after the war started working as a plumber.

Though he officially had only a sixth-grade education, when it came to plumbing, he could fix anything. He partnered with James Brincefield, who owned a local plumbing supply company, to found Joseph J. Magnolia Incorporated.

Over the years, the business has grown and expanded, and the company retains both its commitment to family and its reputation for being able to fix any plumbing, heating, or air conditioning problem. Founder J.J. was a master plumber and gas fitter;



his sons became master plumbers; two of his grandsons are master plumbers and master gas fitters.

...

Dominic Magnolia says, “We are a trade family, very much involved in the work that we do. All four of the business owners came from the field. We’re working on our fourth generation working for the company, and we still love it.”

Chris Magnolia adds, “We service the residential community as well as the commercial community. Residentially, you can get away with being an owner and not be a tradesperson. Commercially, you can’t. You have to really understand what you are doing.” Chris’s daughter, Taylor, also works for the business.

“Family means a lot to us,” Chris says. “We have a lot of pride in what we do. When you have a lot of trucks running around with your family name on it, you work hard to keep your name in good standing.”

That commitment to high standards means that when Magnolia comes to your home for a service appointment, the uniformed technician – wearing all appropriate safety and hygiene gear (including shoe covers and face masks) – will first talk with you about your plumbing, drain, or HVAC needs. After investigating your issue, the Magnolia technician will

give you an up-front cost before beginning any work and will discuss what options might be available.

A growing number of Magnolia’s technicians today are women. Dominic says, “We are a diverse company. We are seeing barriers being broken in our trade.” Chris adds that he appreciates having different voices offering new perspectives in the company. As more people are choosing trade schools and a career that allows them to work with their hands, the workforce has changed and grown. The Magnolia representative who comes to your home may be different from whatever stereotype you may have of a plumber or HVAC technician.

Both Chris and Dominic recommend that homeowners get a maintenance contract for their plumbing, heating, and air conditioning. Instead of calling for service only when you have a problem, with a maintenance contract

you will have a technician regularly looking at your HVAC system and correcting many problems before they happen. Chris says, “Every home has a lot of the equipment that we have to replace and service. A maintenance contract extends the life of the equipment and will strengthen the relationship between the homeowner and the contractor.” Dominic adds, “Also, we’re taking care of people’s safety. Your air quality and your plumbing are sanitary and health needs.”

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LOUIE and ROO - INSEPARABLE FRIENDS

celebrity pets

Roo, a Havanese, and Louie, a Maltese, are both 12 years old and are inseparable.

Carol Tomko adopted Louie from the Humane Rescue Alliance in 2012. Louie was rescued from a hoarder's home, where he had lived with about 50 other dogs. "He was in the worst shape of the lot when they found him, matted and diseased, poor thing," remembers Carole. She suspects that may be why he likes pizza. "I imagine he only got the scraps of what was around the house."

Roo came to the Recka household from a breeder in Annapolis who named each pup in the litter after a Disney character. Roo, of course, is Winnie the Pooh's dear young kangaroo friend and was based on a stuffed toy animal that

belonged to author A.A. Milne's son, Christopher Robin Milne.

Carole reports that her Roo makes a regular appearance on her daily Zoom yoga classes and that Roo and Louie consider the basement in their Eagle Ridge home a fine racetrack, running around and around as if they are champion greyhounds.

Louie and Roo are beloved members of the Recka family. Carole reports that although they are the biggest barkers when they are on a leash and see other dogs, they are super friendly and sweet off-leash. She notes she is working on training them and welcomes Avenel neighbors' recommendations for a great trainer.



Have a celebrity pet you'd like to celebrate? Please email Rita.McWilliams@n2pub.com.



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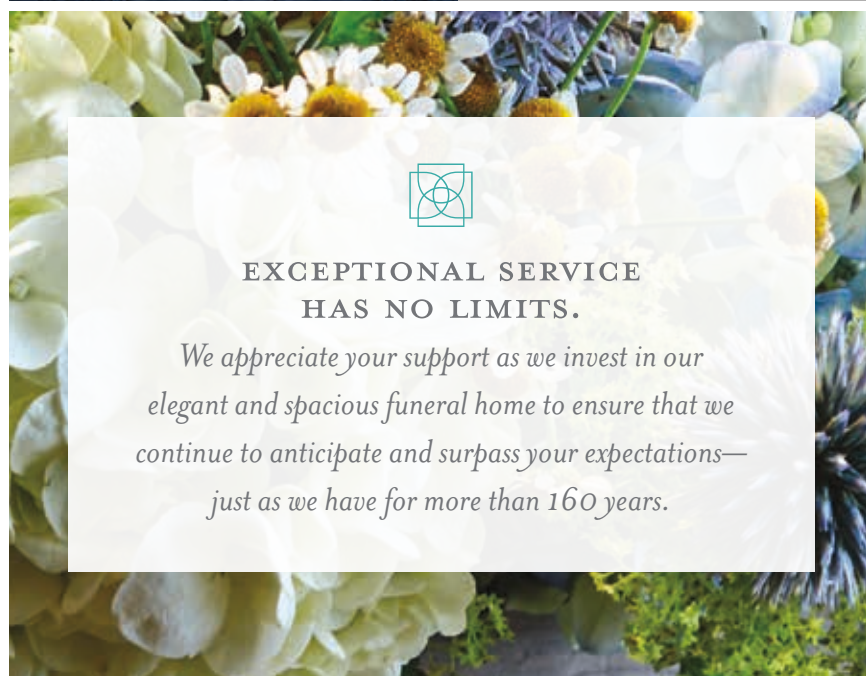
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Stephanie McGovern of TTR Sotheby's International Realty and Chris Smith, design-build project leader with BOWA, hosted Avenel's Shredding Day in late October.

Updates

Thank you!

Stephanie McGovern of TTR Sotheby's International Realty and Chris Smith, design-build project leader with BOWA, together sponsored Avenel's Shredding Day, where grateful residents were able to safely and environmentally-consciously eliminate tons of bank, investment, and other statements and papers as well as their outdated electronics.

Congratulations!

Nimi Trehan won the Award of Excellence for her painting, Unwavering, in an online exhibit, "The Spirit of Resilience," held by an initiative by the Manhattan Arts International entitled "The Healing Power of Art and Artists." Nimi says the painting was developed to convey the strength and incredible resilience of the Banyan tree. For more on the exhibit, see www.healing-power-of-art.org/the-spirit-of-resilience-exhibition/. For more on Nimi and her inspirational work, see *Avenel Living*, 2/2020.



Nimi Trehan's painting, "Unwavering"

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