

July

4 Joel Dunn, President, The Chesapeake Conservancy

Joel Dunn is President and CEO of Chesapeake Conservancy, a non-profit organization based in Annapolis, MD dedicated to protecting Chesapeake landscapes that are vital to the health of the Bay and its cultural heritage. With a regional population approaching 18 million and growing and with tens of thousands of acres of open space vanishing each year, the Conservancy strives to restore the health of the Bay and its rivers by preserving working farms and forests and protecting the region's rich history and character, ensuring a brighter future for the Bay for generations to come. Dunn leads the Conservancy's efforts to strengthen the connection between people and the Chesapeake Bay watershed as a way to promote a greater appreciation for the need to conserve the landscapes and special places that sustain the Chesapeake's unique natural and cultural resources. Under Dunn's leadership, the Conservancy has focused on using technology to practice precision conservation and building successful partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, private foundations, and corporations to advance conservation. Prior to joining the Conservancy, Dunn spearheaded government relations and project management in the Chesapeake region for The Conservation Fund. His work helped establish protection for National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges and National Trails, including the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Dunn has also worked on Capitol Hill and in conservation science. Dunn earned a Master of Public Policy from the Terry Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University and a Master of Environmental Management from the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences from Duke University, where he was a Doris Duke Conservation Fellow. He holds a Bachelor of Science from The Evergreen State College. In 2019, Dunn completed Harvard Business School's Executive Education Course, "Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management." Maryland Governor Larry Hogan named Dunn "Chesapeake Bay Ambassador" in 2020. This is one of the highest and most prestigious awards that the state confers upon citizens who are active leaders in the fight for the Chesapeake Bay. In 2010, Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment gave him their Rising Star Award for his work in conservation.

11 Wendy O'Sullivan, Superintendent, Nat Park Serv: Chesapeake Office

National Park Service (NPS) Northeast Regional Director Gay Vietzke has named Wendy O'Sullivan as the superintendent of the Chesapeake Bay Office, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland. There she will oversee the NPS effort to manage and develop the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network and support the protection and restoration of the bay. O'Sullivan currently serves as associate regional director for Partnerships, Visitor Experience, and Outdoor Recreation for the National Capital Region in Washington, D.C, overseeing six regional programs and a \$3.8 million budget. She will begin her new assignment later this summer. "Wendy brings extensive experience creating and sustaining partnerships to her new role," Vietzke said. "Her background in strategic partnerships will bring a steady hand and a wealth of knowledge to managing the National Park Service's role in preserving the largest estuary in North America." "I am truly excited to join the federal, state and local efforts to restore, protect and promote the Chesapeake Bay and its vast watershed," O'Sullivan said. "I look forward to collaborating across the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network to honor and highlight the bay's maritime, farming and cultural heritage, while also advancing watershed stewardship, coastal resilience and recreational access." Over O'Sullivan's 20-year NPS career, she has served in three NPS regions and its national headquarters, gaining extensive experience in park partnerships, community engagement, stewardship, and program management. She started her career as the management

(cont.) assistant at Biscayne National Park in South Florida where she advised NPS leadership on policy issues associated with adjacent land use and large landscape conservation efforts. O’Sullivan later worked in the NPS headquarters in the Partnerships and Philanthropic Stewardship Office, managing corporate and philanthropic relations for the agency. In the early 2000s, O’Sullivan worked with the Virginia Congressional delegation and local communities to create Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park located in the Shenandoah Valley. Most recently, she served in a detail assignment as acting superintendent for Fire Island National Seashore in New York. O’Sullivan has a Bachelor of Arts degree in marine affairs and business from the University of Miami and completed master’s work in marine affairs, ocean law and marine policy at the University of Miami’s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science in Key Biscayne, Florida. O’Sullivan grew up on a large farm in rural Tewksbury, New Jersey, and spent her summers sailing and fishing along the Long Island Sound in Fairfield, Connecticut. O’Sullivan’s connection to the land and her coastal heritage is what drew her and her husband, Andrew, to set their own roots in Davidsonville, Maryland. Today, they enjoy time on the Chesapeake Bay with their Portuguese water dog, Rudder.

18 Alice Estrada, President/CEO, Annapolis Maritime Museum

Alice Estrada joined the Annapolis Maritime Museum as Executive Director in February 2013. Estrada has been credited with turning around multiple non-profit organizations by implementing her strategic management experience to maximize revenue streams and improve overall productivity. In addition to her work with non-profits, Estrada has extensive experience in the private sector including marketing Disney’s Town of Celebration, FL, and as Vice President and Director of Marketing for two commercial developers. An inspired community leader, Estrada served on the Town Council for the historic town of Gettysburg, PA, as well as multiple Boards including Journey through Hallowed Ground, United Way and the Chamber of Commerce. Estrada is a Certified Marketing Director, a designation from the International Council of Shopping Centers and a recent graduate of Leadership Anne Arundel. She received the national Non-profit Executive of the Year award in 2017 from Non-Profit Pro Magazine. A native Annapolitan, she earned her degree in Business from the University of Maryland, College Park.

25 Kate Fritz, Exec Dir/CEO, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay 50th Anniversary

Kate has lived in 5 of the 7 Chesapeake Bay watershed jurisdictions, and now calls Annapolis, MD her home. Her first introduction to the tidal portion of the Chesapeake Bay was through her undergraduate work at St. Mary’s College of Maryland, where she majored in Biology with a concentration in Environmental Studies. She spent her summers on and in the St. Mary’s River studying SAV and helping collect water quality data with the St. Mary’s River Project. As a life-long learner, Kate earned an Executive Master of Natural Resources focused on Leadership in Sustainability from Virginia Tech, as well as a master’s degree in environmental management from the University of Maryland University College. She is also a Maryland Qualified Professional Forester (QPF) and a LEED Green Associate certified professional. Kate has held positions in both the private and public sectors, starting her career as a Field Biologist with the Annapolis firm, Environmental Systems Analysis. After spending two years collecting water quality data related to land development, Kate wanted to help improve water quality through better land use policy and moved her career to the Planning Department in Prince George’s County. There she spent seven years researching and writing water-related land use policies to help (cont.) guide where, and how the county should grow over the next few decades. Most recently, Kate served as the Chief Executive Officer of the South River Federation (SRF) located in Edgewater, MD. For

the three plus years she led SRF, she grew the organization into a well-respected advocate for local restoration efforts and helped build a multimillion-dollar stream restoration and stormwater reduction program that is informed by data collected from a highly regarded monitoring program that tracks the health of the South River. Kate's interest in the Chesapeake Bay extends beyond her love of kayaking and fishing and has led her to many volunteer opportunities locally. She is a certified Master Watershed Steward and was a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Anne Arundel County Watershed Stewards Academy (WAS). As a believer in the linked nature of the environment and social issues, Kate has been an active leader with Anne Arundel Women's Giving Together, a women's giving circle, focused on women and female issues locally. Kate and her husband Stefan live in Annapolis, where they enjoy playing volleyball year-round, hosting backyard BBQ's with friends, and traveling near and far. If you stop by the office, you might get to meet Kate's dog, Natty Beau!

August

1 Kim Coble, Exec Dir, MD League of Conservation Voters

From Ed Hatcher, Maryland LCV Board Chair: I am thrilled to announce that Kim Coble, one of Maryland's most respected environmentalists, will be the new executive director of the Maryland League of Conservation Voters. She will assume her new duties on October 15th. Kim was the unanimous choice of our selection committee which has spent the last few weeks vetting and interviewing an amazing selection of outstanding candidates. In the end, we felt that Kim's breadth of experience, significant management skills and inspiring vision for the organization made her an ideal candidate. We are thrilled to have her lead the organization as we seek to build on recent legislative triumphs and elevate Maryland to being a top-tier state in the effort to combat the climate crisis. Many of you are very familiar with Kim's important work in the environment space. Most recently, Kim served as the Chief Operating Officer at US SIF: The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment. US SIF is a non-profit whose mission is to rapidly shift investment practices towards sustainability, focusing on long term investment and the generation of positive social and environmental impacts. In her role as COO, she oversaw the organization's operations and helped develop its three-year strategic plan. Prior to her role at US SIF, Kim worked at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, including eight years as the Maryland Executive Director and then six years as Vice President of Environmental Protection and Restoration where she oversaw CBF's policy, outreach, and restoration work throughout the watershed. Kim was selected as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women in 2015, appointed as an Admiral of the Chesapeake Bay, served as the Valedictorian of her Leadership Maryland class and has been a member of the State Ethics Commission since 2015.

8 Linda Harris, Harriet Tubman Museum, Cambridge, MD

The Mid-Shore has benefited greatly over the centuries in having folks from the Western Shore not only adopt this rural region as their own but actively engage in the life of the community. From helping local churches to mentoring children, these "Come-Here's" have played critical roles in the development of some of the Eastern Shore's most important institutions. But the story of Cambridge's Linda Harris is a special one indeed. Raised in DC, and someone who would grow up to be very successful in property management, Linda's real vocation, her first passion, was actually music. While she was a consummate professional and delighted in raising a family, she never let go of the absolute love of her life: singing jazz and playing classical piano. And at 60 years old, she began performing in places like the Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival, Mr. Henry's in DC, the Stateside in New Orleans, and abroad in Paris and Goteborg. In fact, (cont.) she had a full schedule set for 2020 with gigs in Tokyo and Africa planned, but then COVID hit. Like many performing artists, Linda was staring at an empty calendar when she remembered that her

father gave her a book about Harriet Tubman and her life and perseverance. That memory led to gathering a small group of women who all agreed to walk the Underground Railroad trail from Cambridge to Freedom House in Philadelphia last September. That seven-day trip tested Linda and her middle-aged body far more than she had predicted. On day three, she retreated to a washroom and wondered if she could make it all the way. And it was at that moment, as she was looking exhausted into the bathroom mirror, that Harriet Tubman's image seemed to appear to push Linda to get back on the road. Linda had decided before the walk that any money she raised would go to the Harriet Tubman Museum and Mural in Cambridge. Still, it was after the hike that she made the bold decision to move to Cambridge full-time and devote her time and energy to help the small education center. Since then, she has brought together her love of music and added it to museum's programming in the form of a concert series, entitled "Jazz at the Mural," which is designed to raise funds but also use her substantial network to bring some of the best names in jazz to town to perform in front of the now famous Tubman mural in downtown Cambridge Saturdays from 6 to 8 pm every other week. The Spy sat down with her yesterday to discuss the importance of keeping Harriet Tubman's legacy alive and the role of music in celebrating her lasting impact on American history. From *The Talbot Spy*

15 Randy Loftus, Wildlife Photographer, US Fish & Wildlife Service

22 Randy Loftus

"I grew up & was educated near Bethesda, MD, says Randy Loftus. "I majored in Biology and graduated from Cornell College with a BA degree. I went to sea on the research vessel *Ridgely Warfield* operated by the Johns Hopkins' Chesapeake Bay Institute for 18 years. During that time I organized and conducted over 500 research cruises which represented about 3200 research days in the coastal mid-Atlantic and the Chesapeake, Delaware, New York estuaries. I was thanked in 100 scientific research papers for my technical assistance. After Chesapeake Bay Institute (CBI) was 'downsized' I worked for the University of Maryland's Chesapeake Biological Lab in Solomons, MD (2 yrs.) and became the Campus' IT Specialist. I then joined the US Fish & Wildlife Service's Chesapeake Bay Field Office as a Computer Specialist and was later promoted to Regional IT Specialist and then I retired after 25 years. My hobby is wildlife photography."

29 Jim MacNicholl, Master Gardeners of Anne Arundel County

Active Master Gardener with the University of Maryland Extension in Anne Arundel County, MD, serving as a Co-Lead for the *Bay-Wise* committee in the County. Serve as a consortium member of for the Watershed Stewards Academy in Anne Arundel County. Experience in designing community gardens and conservation landscapes. Provide sustainable landscaping consultation services for residents of County through the Extension program and as a volunteer for community organizations.

Sept

5 Christine Lasser, Exec Dir, Hospice Cup Sailing Regatta

For more than 36 years, Hospice of the Chesapeake has cared for those in our community who are experiencing serious illness and loss. Together, we have ensured more than 30,000 patients and nearly 100,000 family members have been cared for by our hospice team which includes Physicians, Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Social Workers, Chaplains, Counselors and Volunteers when they needed us (cont.) the most. Hospice and palliative care organizations across the country and right here in our community are well-positioned to help our health care system create a new model of compassionate

and comprehensive care. Given our strong local partnerships, renowned expertise, and holistic approach we are uniquely prepared to care for those living with and impacted by life-limiting illnesses. The warmth, skill and experience of our teams ensure patients' physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are at the forefront of the care we provide. "My father was under Hospice care in 2010 and my family and I were so impressed with the services that Hospice provided for our entire family, I knew I had to give back! Also, as my husband is an avid racer and as a family we are cruisers, Hospice Cup was the perfect combo to give back to something I was passionate about!" *Christine Lasser*

12 Jeff Huntington/Julia Gibb, co-founders, Future History Now

19 Jeff Huntington/Julia Gibb, Annapolis youth mural painting projects

Julia Gibb and Jeff Huntington have a combined 60 years of experience studying and practicing fine art. Both have earned Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in 1995 from the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, DC. Huntington earned a Master of Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1997. Together, they collaborate on large-scale murals through their art business, Jahru Studio, LLC. Their work can be seen in France, India, Philippines, Colombia, Panama, Brazil, Hawai'i, and throughout the continental U.S. Gibb is a contributing writer for the local arts & culture magazine, Up.St.Art Annapolis, focusing primarily on feature articles about visual artists. Since 2004, she has taught Hawaiian dance, having traveled to Oahu nine times in that span to study the art form, language and culture under a Kumu Hula (master/teacher of dance), in order to bring some of the tradition, practice and cultural values back to her students in Maryland. Huntington has lived and worked as an artist in Washington DC, Chicago, and New York before moving to Annapolis, Maryland in 2003. His work has been exhibited in over ninety gallery and museum exhibitions throughout the world. He was an adjunct professor in the Fine Arts department at the Corcoran School of Arts + Design and George Washington University from 2013 until 2016, when the duo founded the nonprofit arts organization, Future History Now. Since its inception, Future History Now has collaborated with more than 535 youth on 47 mural projects in underserved communities in five countries throughout the world.

26 Jenifer Dolde, Assoc Curator of Collections, CBMM

Jenifer Dolde is the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum's Associate Curator of Collections, originally from Dorchester County, with family roots in the area tracing back to the late 1600s. She earned a bachelor's degree in English and History from Washington College, and a Master of Arts in History with a certificate in Museum Studies from the University of Delaware. Before coming to CBMM, Jen worked as a curator at the Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village, and spent 20 years as a museum consultant, working with small cultural institutions throughout the Delmarva Peninsula on projects focused on exhibitions, oral histories, and collections care. She is the author of *Trumpington: Three Centuries of Family and Farming in Kent County, MD*, which traces one family's connections to boatbuilding and farming.