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# Shore HOME & GARDEN

May 2026



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# Whiplash comes with a change of pace

Spring didn't just arrive — it came in like Miley and her proverbial wrecking ball, like it had something to prove.

After what felt like one of the longest, coldest, snowiest winters in recent memory, we've finally made it.

You can almost hear the collective exhale. The windows are open, the days are longer, the sun is sticking around past dinner-time, and everything feels a little lighter.

Sort of.

Because right alongside that fresh-air, open-window energy comes a pace that can feel ... a little aggressive. One minute you're fully leaning into winter mode — cozy nights, slower schedules, nowhere to be — and

Sweet  
Simplicity



By Kristine George

the next you're staring at a calendar that somehow filled itself overnight.

And if you're feeling a bit thrown off by it all, you're definitely not alone.

One of the trickiest parts of this seasonal shift isn't the weather — it's the whiplash that comes

with the change of pace.

Winter, by nature, gives us permission to slow down. Nights are quieter, schedules are lighter, and no one questions you being in your pajamas before 8 p.m.

But spring? Spring hits fast. And while we are absolutely here for it, we're also trying to catch up to it.

Suddenly the calendar fills up with practices, games, concerts, events, and obligations — especially if you have kids. It can feel like going from hibernation to a full sprint overnight, with very little time to stretch in between.

So how do you keep it all together without burning out by May?

Here are a few of my tried-and-true strategies (PAGE 50)

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As evening settles in, we'll gather for a full farm-to-table meal, created by Garden and Garnish, celebrating the flavors of the land that surrounds you. A toast to the sun marks the turning of the season, dessert will follow by a glowing bonfire where you'll release and burn old burdens and welcome new light.

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There is no reason you can't have a small vegetable patch or container garden somewhere to produce fresh tomatoes, lettuce and cucumbers for your salad.

## There's no reason to not have a garden

Interest in home-grown fruit and vegetable gardening is continuing to grow.

Customers are asking more questions about starting seeds and how and where to grow vegetables.

Interest in raised bed gardening, growing vegetables in containers, and even how to use pallets, in growing vegetables is becoming more and more popular.

The rising costs of food, the use of chemicals in the growing of fresh fruits and vegetables, the lack of enough water and climate change in vegetable growing regions are some of the reasons for this trend, not to mention the joy of growing your own!

"Growing your own" is a trend that will only continue to expand.

### Ken-Do Attitude



By Ken Morgan

There is no reason you can't have a small vegetable patch or container garden somewhere to produce fresh tomatoes, lettuce and cucumbers for your salad.

May is the most active month for beginning to plant vegetables.

The soil is warming up and the last frost date normally has past.

Begin by planting seeds for green beans, lima beans, cucumbers, squash and sweet corn.

Transplants of tomatoes, eggplants and peppers, okra, and sweet potatoes all should be planted this month.

Plant in well-drained soil, enriched with Leafgro or some other compost, use a liquid starter fertilizer for both seeds and transplants.

I also recommend an organic fertilizer be worked in the soil next to the transplants.

Use a high calcium fertilizer such as Espoma's Tomato tone to prevent blossom-end-rot, for tomatoes and peppers.

Remember to check (PAGE 44)

STIHL

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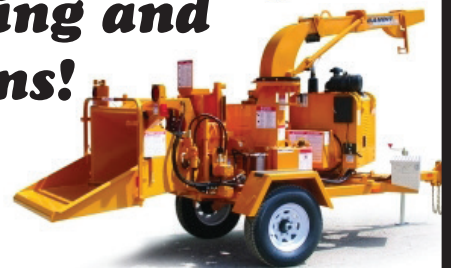
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# Tall Bearded Iris offers a rainbow of colors

## Gardening Tips



By Ginny Rosenkranz

May is when the temperatures are finally starting to stay warm without the chance of a cold frost during the evening.

It is also the month that Tall Bearded Iris plants, also called “common flag,” begins to open their colorful flowers that bloom in a rainbow of colors.

Most bloom in May while there are a few that rebloom in the cooler months in the autumn.

These beautiful perennial plants thrive in full sun and rich, well drained soils.

Iris has strong, above ground rhizomes that need to be planted about an inch above the soil line and lightly mulched without covering the rhizome.

Colorful fragrant flowers grow on 2- to 3-foot-tall stems that rise above the sword shaped green leaves.

Each stalk will produce up to 6 flowers. The flowers have three inner petals that stand erect and are called ‘standards’ and three outer petals that spread then arch downwards called “fall.”

The petals come in many colors ranging from soft light purples to dark rich purples that are often thought black.

Other colors include all shades of blue, soft pale pink through



**Most Tall Bearded Iris plants, like this Grand Canyon Sunset, bloom in May while there are a few that will later rebloom in the cooler months in the autumn.**

*(Photo by Ginny Rosenkranz)*

reds, all shades of yellow to orange and pure white.

The standards and the falls can be the same colors or contrasting colors while some have a white blotch on the “falls.”

Some have colorful veins that contrast to the bright blooms. The petals can have a smooth margin while others are ruffled or lightly wavy.

Only the “fall” petals have the bright orange or yellow (sometimes white) stamens which give the flowers their common name of Bearded Iris.

There are thousands of colorful Irises but only hundreds that are re-blooming, and every catalog that sells Iris will present a colorful list with interesting names.

“Immortality” is probably the

most famous re-blooming Iris, with pure white, softly ruffled petals while “Grand Canyon” sunset has soft yellow orange ruffled standards and purple falls that are edged in light orange with orange veins and bright orange fluffy stamens.

The plants spread by creeping rhizomes that grow in clumps over the ground and should be divided with the oldest part of the rhizome removed before replanting.

These colorful, easy to grow flowers are deer and drought tolerant, thriving on the sandy, well drained soils of the Shore. 🐾

*(Editor’s Note: Ginny Rosenkranz is a commercial horticulture specialist with the University of Maryland Extension.)*

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# Strawberry pots aren't just for the fruit

'Windows' make for efficient displays

Story by Jessica Damiano  
Photos courtesy Associated Press

**Y**ou've seen them — those odd planters that look like buildings with windows and balconies on their sides. Maybe you've planted strawberries in them. Or maybe you've just never understood them

Typically made of terracotta, the pots are usually tall and urn-shaped, but shorter, wider options are also available.

They are, in fact, strawberry pots, and those windows are intended to hold soil and strawberries, keeping them off the ground as they grow and, therefore, protecting them from rotting.

But think outside the pot, and you'll find they make lovely (and efficient) displays for other plants, too.

## *Striking yet practical displays*

The fenestrated containers can be planted with succulents like hens and chicks.

Consider the orange and yellow "Gold Nugget" or the silver-haired "Cobweb" varieties for an eye-catching display.

In colder areas, the whole pot can be brought indoors for winter; just ensure the succulents get ample sunlight, and avoid overwatering.



A lushly planted strawberry pot can serve as a focal point in a succulent garden.



Or create a space-saving culinary herb garden by filling the “balcony” pockets with cooking essentials such as parsley, sage, thyme, mint and oregano, placing the smaller species at the bottom of the pot and larger ones higher up.

Then plant a tall herb like rosemary or basil in the opening at the top and — voila! — you’ve created an instant centerpiece.

You might even incorporate a few dwarf marigolds for color.

Herbs, too, can be brought indoors and grown (and used!) in the kitchen over winter.

### ***Colorful trailing florals and vines***

Trailing flowers and vines make a statement as they spill from the containers’ openings. Keep it monochrome, or plant a rainbow of colors for a dazzling display.

Trailing geraniums, petunias, and chartreuse or purple sweet potato vines can be alternated around the sides of the pot.

A dramatic grass, like Cordyline “Festival,” can be planted at the top of larger planters, black mondo grass in smaller ones.

Nasturtiums, million bells, trailing verbena and sweet alyssum also lend themselves nicely to the pots.

Green ivies provide a more understated aesthetic.

If you don’t have a lot of sunlight, consider combining different varieties of caladium and coleus for a colorful display.

### ***Keeping it sufficiently watered***

Regardless of what you’re planting, ensuring water reaches the roots of every plant in a strawberry pot can pose a bit of a challenge — but there’s an easy solution.



**Everbearing strawberries grow in an aptly-named strawberry pot, a vertical pot with side openings.**

Cut a piece of PVC piping slightly longer than the pot’s height, then drill holes 2 inches apart along its sides.

At planting time, add potting mix up to the pot’s bottom openings, then position the pipe vertically in the center.

Insert plants through the holes (from the inside out), add more potting mix to reach the next level of openings and add more plants.

Repeat until you reach the top of the pot, packing the soil tightly as you go.

Water and fertilize through the pipe, which will be hidden as the

centerpiece plant grows.

Strawberry pots are available in various materials, but the traditional versions are made of clay, which can crack in freezing temperatures.

If your area experiences cold winters, bring them indoors in autumn, either emptied of their annuals, cleaned and stored, or still housing tropicals, evergreens or herbs, and treat them as houseplants over winter. ➡

*(Editor’s note: Jessica Damiano writes weekly gardening columns for the AP and publishes the award-winning Weekly Dirt Newsletter.)*

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As with traditional golf, to win at disc golf, you are aiming for the lowest amount of throws per hole and ultimately for the whole round. A round of disc golf, typically has nine or 18 holes per course, with players starting at a tee. The hole is completed when the disc is either in the outside tray or within the chains of the basket.

## Disc-cover golf another way

Story by Leslie Milby

**T**here's the crack of the bat in baseball, the swoosh of the net in basketball, ... and for disc golf? It is the jangle of the chains when the disc hits the cup.

You may have seen disc golf and its chain link baskets when visiting parks or recreation areas, and it may even be parked on your bucket list for "one day."

With the weather getting nice, you may be surprised how easy it is to give disc golf a try.

Disc golf is a great way to get active without a lot of investment, financially or otherwise.

"Disc golf is an ideal activity for all ages," said Matthew Provencher, owner of Off Course Disc Golf. "It is a 'low-impact, high-engagement' sport — meaning it has a minimal footprint on the environment but provides a great outdoor experience. It's also incredibly accessible; a high-quality disc costs about \$20, and most courses are free to play."

The game in one form or another has been around since the 1960s, starting on multiple college campuses. Loved by many already, it is also experiencing a resurgence as a great option for those looking to get social and get outside.

You won't even need to break into a run - unless you have your kids chase down the discs to wear them down.

Since 2020, more than 6,000 courses have been established worldwide, according to UDisc's annual Disc Golf Growth Report, and 89 percent of courses are free to use. Annual disc golf participation has grown 86 percent since 2020, as measured in rounds, according to the report.

Disc golf has many similarities to traditional golf, but also some differences, of "course."

The prices for starters, from the equipment being more affordable

to the courses themselves often being free, or at most, entry fee to a park.

Like ball golf, to win at disc golf, you are aiming for the lowest amount of throws per hole and ultimately for the whole round.

A round of disc golf, typically has 9 or 18 holes per course, with players starting at a tee. The hole is completed when the disc is either in the outside tray or within the chains of the basket.

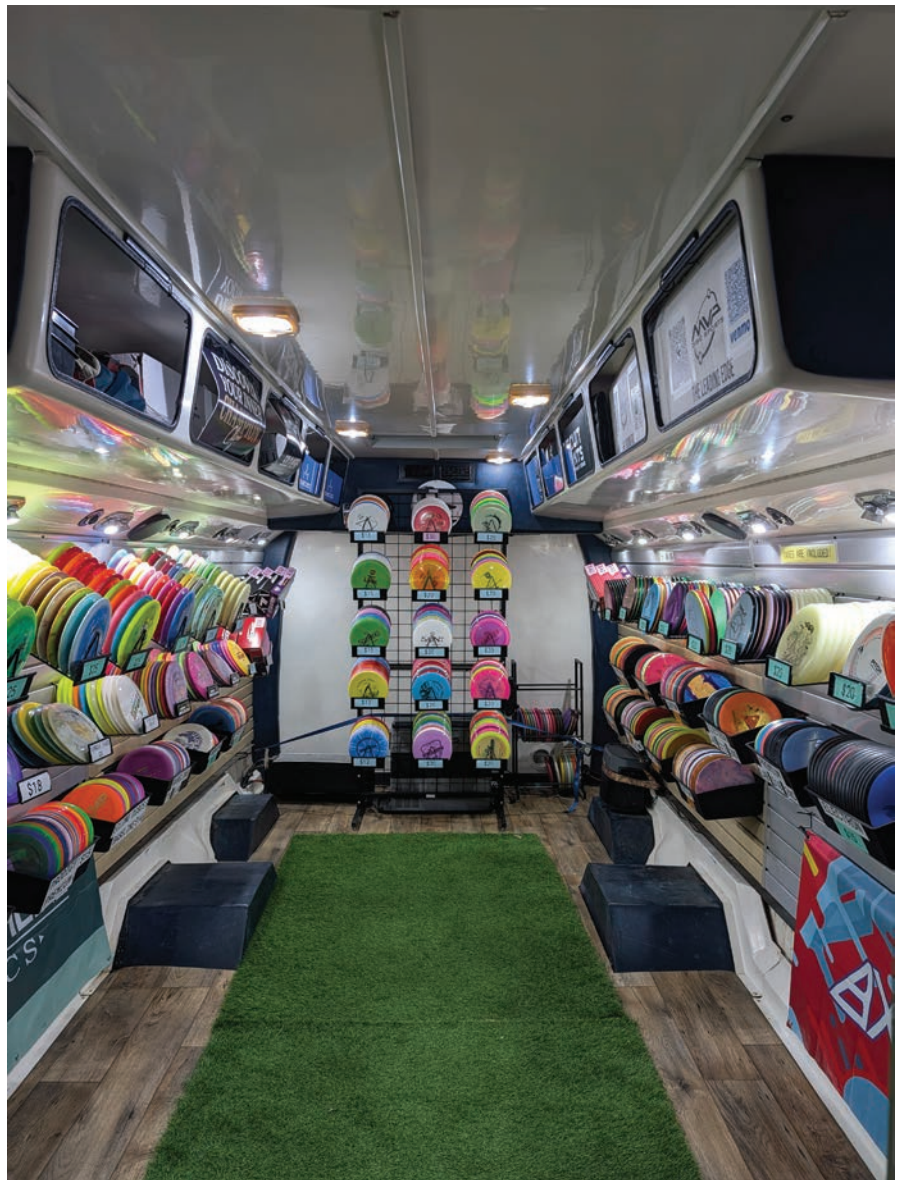
To play locally, there is a course at Tuckahoe State Park in Ridgely, Schumacher Pond in Salisbury and Trap Pond and Killens Pond State Parks in Delaware. If you get hooked, check out the UDisc website or app to find new spots on the go or vacation. As the discs are easy to pack, carry them with you when traveling to find courses nearby. Several resort style hotels are starting to be put in courses, including the Chesapeake Hyatt and Resort in Cambridge.

Provencher's mobile Off Course Disc Golf shop, which often pops up at tournaments and local gatherings, offers everything needed to ease in, even lessons. His top tip is to start with a lower-speed, lightweight disc.

"They are much easier to control when you're finding your rhythm," he said.

Discs feature a series of four numbers that denote the speed, glide, turn and fade. For a beginner, his recommendation is to start with putters and midrange discs to develop proper form. A starter pack typically includes a putter, midrange and driver discs.

Sporting goods stores and online retailers are other options for equipment.



**Matthew Provencher's mobile Off Course Disc Golf shop, which often pops up at tournaments and local gatherings, offers equipment and lessons to get started in the sport.**

*(Photo courtesy Matthew Provencher)*

It's easy to feel overwhelmed with the types, or go for a more advanced style to try to go faster before you get accurate, but Provencher cautions new players to try to set themselves up for success.

Like regular golf, there are different shots and distances need different discs.

There are great tutorials online for learning the rules and when to

use which disc.

You could also consider reaching out in social media groups to find a local pro.

From backhands to putts, and yes, there are faults and penalties as well, you can ease in learning the rules before taking on a more competitive or serious game.

If your crowd is over the playground and cornholed out, a disc golf basket to your backyard

could be their next outdoor obsession.

“A portable backyard basket is a great investment for those looking to improve,” Provencher said. “They are surprisingly affordable, often costing around \$100.”

Provencher is also part of the enthusiast team working on getting a disc golf course at Talbot County’s John F. Ford Park.

Unlike a regular high maintenance golf course, disc golf easily assimilates to an established recreation area at an investment and upkeep costs lower than many recreational endeavors. Catering to several groups in our community, it would offer an outlet for those who may not have another way of recreation or stress relief.

A fundraising tournament is scheduled for May 2 and 3 at the



Annual disc golf participation has grown 86 percent since 2020, as measured in rounds, according to UDisc’s annual Disc Golf Growth Report. Most courses are free to play.

*(Photo courtesy Matthew Provencher)*

park, located at 629 Diamond Street in Easton. Provencher said he hopes these events will be “key

to showing the positive impact a permanent course could have on the park.”

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# Bus trip scheduled to visit Mount Vernon

**DENTON** — The Caroline County Garden Club is inviting members of the public to join them on a bus trip to Mount Vernon to explore George Washington's home and gardens, and to experience activities celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States.

The cost is \$125 and includes

coach bus transportation, a private, docent-led tour of the recently renovated mansion, admission to the grounds, gardens and outbuildings, Visitor and Education Center, and access to "Patriots Path," a Revolutionary War encampment.

Lunch is on your own on the site, but snacks will be provided.

The bus departs the Denton Food Lion parking lot at 8:15 a.m., and the Route 50/404 Park and Ride at 8:40 a.m..

The trip will go, rain or shine, and tickets are non-refundable.

For more information and to reserve tickets, call 240-419-9177.



## Talbot County Master Gardeners announce spring native plant sale, open house on May 14

**EASTON** — Master Gardeners and the University of Maryland Extension office in Talbot County are hosting a spring native plant sale and program open-house on Thursday, May 14 at the UMD-Extension office at 28577 Mary's Ct., from 2-6 p.m., rain or shine.

In addition to mingling with a group of passionate and knowledgeable gardeners, you can purchase native plants, ask questions about your landscape, or learn more

about our "Bay-Wise" landscapes program. Visitors can seek advice about growing plants and providing friendly habitats for local wildlife like songbirds, butterflies, and bees. Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by the University of Maryland Extension, who will provide recommendations to help you make the right plant selections for your growing conditions.

The native plant sale will feature six wonderful plants that improve

landscapes and are adaptable to local conditions: bee balm, little blue-stem grass, swamp milkweed, nodding onion, garden phlox "Jeana," and narrow leaf mountain mint.

With limited number of each species, availability of plants is first come, first serve.

The proceeds from this event will help support the many community projects and educational programs maintained by the Master Gardeners in Talbot County.



# Senior Resource Fair slated for May 20

**EASTON** — Seniors, caregivers and their families get ready for the annual Senior Resource Fair.

It is organized by Talbot County Commission on the Aging.

The event is Wednesday, May 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

It will take place, rain or shine.

Attendees will have the opportunity

to speak directly with service providers and to learn more about the support systems in our community.

There will be health screenings, raffle prizes, giveaways, exercise classes and a chorus!

Food will be available for purchase from Catering by Jamie.

Free transportation to the fair is provided by Delmarva Community Transit. To schedule a ride, call 410-822-4155.

The Fair is located at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department, 315 Leonard Rick Drive, Easton.

Admission and parking are free.



# Garden Club hosts spring flower show on May 9

**DENTON** — The Caroline County Garden Club is inviting members of the public to its “Through The Garden Gate,” a spring flower show on May 9.

The event will take place from 1-4 p.m., at the Caroline County Public

Library, 100 Market Street.

Admission is free.

The show will feature six floral design categories, 16 horticulture categories, and a special exhibit category, “America the Beautiful: Celebrating 250 Years.”

Members of the public may place entries in the horticulture division and special exhibit category.

For more information about the show e-mail [ccgardenclubinfo@gmail.com](mailto:ccgardenclubinfo@gmail.com) or call 410-253-9540.



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# Bayshore Iris Society hosting 'Happy birthday America'

**EASTON** — The Bayshore Iris Society, affiliated with the American Iris Society, is excited to mark America's 250th Birthday with a special Iris Show titled "Happy Birthday America" Join us at the Talbot County Free Library, 100 West Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601, on Friday, May 8.

The show will be open for public viewing from 1pm to 3pm and is officially accredited by the AIS, judged by their certified judges, and features ribbon awards. We warmly invite everyone to enjoy the stunning irises thriving on our Eastern Shore.

The Iris Show welcomes public participation! If you're unsure how to enter your blooms, attend our informative program at the Talbot County Free Library on Wednesday, April 29 at 2:30 p.m.

Local iris hybridizer Pat McNeal will demonstrate how to select, cut, groom, and display your iris for the show.

Entry tags and schedules will also be provided for entering your flowering iris on Friday, May 8 between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Arriving at 9 a.m. gives BIS members ample time to assist with your entries.

Featured Sections include flowering Iris stalks, individual Iris blossoms, container-grown flowering Irises, and floral designs in this accredited event.

With thousands of different Irises registered with the AIS — and



around 1,000 new introductions annually — there's plenty of variety to showcase.

If you plan to compete, please arrive promptly at 9am on Friday, May 8 so BIS members can help with entries; all flowers must be checked in by 10am.

To select a quality specimen, choose a stalk with well-balanced branching and at least one fresh, open flower.

Cut the stalk just above ground level with a sharp, clean knife, place it in water, and bring it to the library.

Containers will be available if needed, but we recommend using cleaned wine bottles for your iris stems.

Soak empty bottles overnight in hot water with oxygen based stain

remover, like Oxyclean, to remove all labels, scrub off any residue, rinse, and fill with clean water.

Event attendees may also join the Bayshore Iris Society for \$10 per year. BIS meets most months on the third Wednesday in Easton.

Members learn to grow and show Irises, to maintain display gardens, tour Iris gardens, and participate in our fun events.

For more information, e-mail Pat McNeal at [irisladypat@yahoo.com](mailto:irisladypat@yahoo.com) or Terry Holman at [thereseholman@gmail.com](mailto:thereseholman@gmail.com).

The Bayshore Iris Society is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and a member of the American Iris Society, Region 4. Visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BayshoreIrisSociety/>. 🐾

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Soil is not just “dirt.” It’s a living ecosystem teeming with nutrients, organic matter and billions of organisms like bacteria, fungi, insects and invertebrates like worms.

## Soil is the foundation of your garden. Keep it healthy!

Story by Jessica Damiano  
Photos courtesy Associated Press

**W**e all dream of it: A breathtaking, lush, verdant garden that nourishes our souls and makes us the envy of the neighborhood.

But the garden is a structure, and like any structure, it requires a good foundation.

That’s where soil health comes in.

Soil is not just “dirt.” It’s a living ecosystem teeming with nutrients, organic matter and billions of organisms like bacteria, fungi, insects and invertebrates like worms.

That ecosystem is estimated to be home to 59 percent of all life, “making it the singular most biodiverse habitat on Earth,” according to a 2023 research article published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sci-

ences.

Soil organisms keep harmful organisms in check, break down organic matter into natural fertilizer, distribute oxygen and aerate the soil to optimize water drainage.

Keeping it healthy is paramount to your garden’s success.

***Make sure your soil meets plants’ moisture needs***

Before planting, assess your soil’s structure.

Sand drains too quickly, while

heavy clay retains too much water. Neither will properly meet most plants' moisture requirements.

Improve either soil type by spreading 3-4 inches of compost, leaf mold or well-rotted manure over the area, then use a broad fork to gently turn it in 6-12 inches deep.

Don't overdo it; the end result should be lumpy, not powdery.

Aggressive turning or tilling harms microorganisms, kills beneficial insects and earthworms, increases erosion, removes air pockets, releases carbon into the atmosphere and brings dormant weed seeds to the surface, where conditions are perfect for their growth.

It also moves nutrient-rich topsoil down, replacing it with less-fertile soil from below.

In subsequent years, simply spread the organic matter over the soil and allow it to work its way down naturally as it decomposes.

#### *Check your soil pH*

What is your soil's pH level? Each plant type thrives only within a specific pH range.

Learn your plants' target range, then check your soil's value with a home test kit.

If its level is outside the ideal range, raise it by incorporating garden lime or lower it with elemental sulfur, following the dosing directions on the package label.

While you're at it, check nutrient levels to ensure the soil is rich in nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium — the three essential macronutrients for plant health. The results will guide your fertilizer strategy.

You can buy a separate test kit



**Aggressive turning or tilling harms microorganisms, kills beneficial insects and earthworms, increases erosion, removes air pockets, releases carbon into the atmosphere and brings dormant weed seeds to the surface, where conditions are perfect for their growth. It also moves nutrient-rich topsoil down, replacing it with less-fertile soil from below.**

or look for a combination pH-nutrient kit.

Both are inexpensive and widely available.

Alternately, call your local cooperative extension office; many provide soil tests and guidance for

a nominal fee.

#### *Healthy soil doesn't happen overnight*

For the best results, focus on building soil health slowly rather than relying on quick fixes, which are typically short-lived.



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Learn your plants' target range, then check your soil's value with a home test kit. If its level is outside the ideal range, raise it by incorporating garden lime or lower it with elemental sulfur, following the dosing directions on the package label.

This means opting for slow-release fertilizers and organic matter, such as compost, rather than using fast-release synthetic fertilizers. Save fast-release options for emergencies when you need to resolve a nutrient deficiency quickly to save a plant.

Avoid walking on soil in beds, borders and the lawn.

Doing so risks compacting the soil, which closes vital air pockets, inhibits water flow and makes it difficult for roots to grow through.

Most plants growing in compacted soil will be stunted or otherwise fail to thrive.

Bare soil leads to erosion, nutrient deficiencies, moisture loss and the death of microorganisms. It also rolls out the welcome mat for weeds.

Plant something or cover the soil with a thick layer of undyed organic mulch like shredded bark, wood chips, straw or dry leaves.

Spread 2-3 inches of mulch around plants in beds and borders, too.

It will retain moisture, keep soil temperature even and discourage weeds.

Just keep it a couple of inches away from plant crowns and stems to avoid rotting. 🍷

*(Editor's note: Jessica Damiano writes weekly gardening columns for the AP and publishes the award-winning Weekly Dirt Newsletter.)*



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By Ron Ketter

# Baltimore Oriole

*(Editor's note: Ron Ketter is a member of the Talbot Bird Club and a Maryland Ornithological Society board member.)*

Perhaps no bird is more closely associated with Maryland than the Baltimore Oriole.

Whether identified as the State Bird of Maryland or associated with Baltimore's major-league baseball team, the Baltimore Oriole has long been tied to the history of Maryland.

In 1698, a shipment of "Birds & beasts of Curiosity" sent from Maryland to England included several "Baltimore Birds." In 1731, Mark Catesby described and illustrated the "Baltimore Bird" in his Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands. He noted how the plumage resembled the coat of arms colors of Sir George Calvert, 1st Lord of Baltimore.

Based on Catesby's documentation, Carl Linnaeus included the species in his 1758 scientific publication Systema Naturae, noting its similarity to old world (Europe and



Asia) orioles belonging to the family Oriolidae. That's how it became known as the Baltimore Oriole.

Despite their similarities, New World Orioles (those found in the Americas) are not closely related to Oriolidae species. Instead, they belong to a family of birds called Icteridae, which include species commonly referred to as "blackbirds."

Baltimore Orioles are summer residents of the Eastern Shore, typically arriving during the last half of April. They prefer deciduous trees, mainly open woodlands, forest edges, orchards, parks, river or creek edges, and backyards. Their

breed throughout the United States east of the Rockies, extending into the southern parts of Canada. They overwinter from Mexico, through Central America, and into the northern parts of South America.

Baltimore Orioles are medium sized songbirds, slightly smaller and more slender than American Robins. They have long, thick-based bills that come to a sharp point. Adult males are bright orange with mostly black wings and a solid black head.

They have a single, broad white wing-bar, with white edges on their wing feathers. Females and im-



Baltimore Orioles are medium sized songbirds, slightly smaller and more slender than American Robins. They have long, thick-based bills that come to a sharp point.

(Photo by Ron Ketter)

## *Feeders can welcome Orioles on deck*

Story by Leslie Milby

**H**ummingbirds and their feeders may be one of the more popular bird niches, but if you are looking to cater to another fun-to-watch bird, try attracting orioles.

In Maryland, two main types of orioles return from the winter for breeding season.

The most popular is the Baltimore Oriole.

Their trademark black and orange feathers are named for the First Lord of Baltimore, Sir George Calvert, whose coat of arms were of the same color.

The second type found locally are the Orchard Orioles, who have a darker copper orange coloring.

There are several other Oriole species, but many such as the Bullock's Oriole or Audubon Oriole prefer the drier temperatures of the western United States.

With both varieties, the males are more vibrantly colored with the females having more dull hues, though with every molt, the ladies get brighter and brighter. The males are also known for their singing, which resembles a flute type tone.

Where female (PAGE 49)

matures are yellow-orange on the breast, with a grayish head and back, and two white wing bars.

The musical song of a Baltimore Oriole is a series of clear whistling notes, flute-like in quality, tied together in brief phrases. Some of the mnemonics used to describe the song include whistling “*chitty chitty bang bang*”, “Here, here, come right here, dear”, and “Here I am! Look at me!”

While the male is the primary songster, females sometimes sing, although their songs mostly consist of a few descending, whistling notes rather than the more complex

songs performed by males.

As soon as they arrive on their breeding grounds, male Baltimore Orioles claim territory and try to attract a mate.

Males enthusiastically court females by singing, hopping in front of her, and bowing while lowering his wings and fanning his tail. While some females ignore these displays, others will sing back and give a wing-quiver display by fanning her tail and fluttering her wings.

Once a pair bond is established, nest building begins. Oriole nests resemble an enclosed basket woven from plant material (PAGE 48)

# Trappe museum hosting annual plant sale

**TRAPPE** — The Rural Life Museum of Trappe will host its annual plant sale on May 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will be held at 29241 Backtown Rd.

The plant sale features the same great quality as in prior year with flowers, vegetables and herbs, organizers said.

The event is strategically scheduled to happen, just in time for

Mother's Day and spring planting. Preorders are welcome by calling 410-476-4857 or by e-mailing them to [rurallifemuseum@gmail.com](mailto:rurallifemuseum@gmail.com)

The event is slated to happen rain or shine. 🌧️➡️☀️

## Pop-up retail shop, seeks community donations

**EASTON** — The Neighborhood Service Center of Talbot County is preparing to open a new retail shop in downtown Easton.

The new pop-up shop, The Neighborhood Exchange, is located downtown, across the street from the Avalon Theatre in the former Lu-Ev Framing Shop & Gallery space.

The shop is planned to open on May 1 for Easton's First Friday Gallery Walk and May Day festivities, with the store's hours to be announced on NSC's Facebook page.

The organization is currently seeking donations of furniture, home décor, artwork, lamps, and hardcover books in good to excellent condition.

Donations will help furnish the store and ensure a diverse, affordable inventory.

More information about the organization and its programs is available at [nsctalbotmd.org/about](http://nsctalbotmd.org/about).

For donation details or inquiries, e-mail [donations@nsctalbotmd.org](mailto:donations@nsctalbotmd.org). 🗉



**Neighborhood Service Center volunteer Judy Burke brings out a display table at the new Neighborhood Exchange charity thrift shop opening May 1 in Easton.**

*(Photo courtesy Neighborhood Service Center)*

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# This May just ring a bell

*Lily of the valley, this month's birth flower, sprouts delicate bell-like blossoms*

- A member of the plant family *Asteraceae*, Lily of the Valley is related to *asparagus*, hosta, yucca, agave, snake plant and spider plant.

- Lily of the valley has many *symbolic* meanings—from serenity, purity and innocence, to humility, humbleness and freshness.

- They are often favored for *bridal bouquets* because of their symbolism of joy, good fortune, purity, innocence, and other qualities associated with young love and weddings.

- All parts of the plant are heavily *toxic* for humans and a number of animals to consume, especially cats, dogs and horses.

- Despite the toxicity of all parts of the plant, it is *perfectly safe* to smell lily of the valley, and its beautiful scent has been used in aromatherapy to treat depression, relieve anxiety and reduce stress.

Information courtesy [farmersalmanac.com](http://farmersalmanac.com)



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(FROM PAGE 8)

the pH for your soil which should be between 6.0 and 6.8 for most vegetables.

Be sure to water after planting and provide enough soil moisture (rain or irrigation) for the first three weeks for root establishment.

Watch for early spring pests which also begin to become active now.

Aphids, cabbage worms, cucumber beetles, Colorado potato beetles are just a few of the pest to check for. Use organic pesticides to prevent chemical residues on your vegetables.

To prevent weeds, put down a weed barrier landscape fabric. For a more organic method consider using layers of newspaper or even cardboard boxes with straw on top to prevent weeds from growing in between plants and plant rows.

Mowing the lawn is now in full force. Keep your blades sharp as not to pull or tear the grass blades.

Mow often enough so you never have to cut off more than a third of the grass in order to maintain the recommended height of 3 to 4 inches. Remember to irrigate the lawn to give your lawn at least an inch of moisture a week.

If weeds are a problem, I recommend Bonide's Weed Beater Ultra. It will kill more than 200 varieties of lawn weeds including, dandelions, plantain, chickweed, ground ivy, clover and many more, without harming the lawn.

As the tulips finish blooming, consider applying Espoma's Bulb-tone or Bonemeal at the recommend rate of 4-6 pounds per 100 square feet. This will help perennialize any newly planted bulbs, as well as feeding established bulbs to help with bigger and more blooms for next year.

Don't be tempted to cut back the foliage until it becomes completely



**Mowing the lawn is now in full force. Keep your blades sharp as not to pull or tear the grass blades. Mow often enough so you never have to cut off more than a third of the grass in order to maintain the recommended height of 3 to 4 inches.**

yellow. The sun will feed the bulb as long as the leaves are green.

Fill in the gaps left by the passing of spring flowering bulbs by planting annual flowers that will bloom all summer long.

Prune back the branches of your forsythia and other just finished spring woody plants.

Prune out any thin or diseased branches and never take more than a third of the total plant mass when pruning. This will insure new healthy growth for the plant.

May is also the time when many tropical blooming plants become available for use around your deck or pool.

Hibiscus, Mandevilla and many other tropical blooming varieties are available and all need a full sun

location to insure proper blooming.

Pick a day of the week and do weekly feeding with Super Bloom by Scotts the first and third week of the month and a tablespoon of Epsom Salt to one gallon of water the second and fourth week of the month.

This will insure continued blooming the entire growing season.

This method works well also for annual hanging baskets and container plants.

Remember flowers for Mom and have a Happy May, a Happy Mother's Day, and of course, Happy Gardening! ➡

*(Editor's Note: Ken Morgan is the owner of Robin's Nest Floral and Garden Center in Easton, Md. This column originally ran in the May 2025 issue.)*

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## What's behind the name?



# Ridgely carries name of preacher, railroad owner

*(Editor's note: When it comes to historical significance, Maryland's Eastern Shore can stand with just about any other area of the United States. It's carried through today in the names given to towns, rivers, streets and creeks, but more than 200 years later, their origins may not be so widely known. Drawing from "Discover Why It's Called ...," a 1990 booklet by John Dexter Nilsson, here is one of those stories.)*

**R**idgely is a fully-planned city. In 1867, several business-

men under the name Maryland and Baltimore Land Association planned a city on a site along the Maryland and Delaware Railroad near land owned by Rev. Greenbury W. Ridgely, who held several thousand acres in the area.

Rev. Ridgely already had interests in the construction of a Queenstown and Harrington Railroad, and to assure his cooperation, the businessmen agreed to name their town after him.

It was surveyed, mapped and

promoted but under-financed, so that by 1868 the effort failed.

But the town continued to exist, and its borders are still square and its main street wide as originally laid out.

Rev. Ridgely was from Lexington, Ky., educated as a lawyer and a one-time law partner of Henry Clay, a U.S. Senator celebrated as the "Great Compromiser."

Ridgely later joined the ministry and held services at several churches. He's buried at Hillsboro. 🗡️



Male orioles are more vibrantly colored with the females having more dull hues, though with every molt, the ladies get brighter and brighter. Where female orioles shine is the nest building. The nest they create hangs and droops down from the branches like a pouch.

*(Photo by Ron Ketter)*

*(FROM PAGE 37)*

and hanging below a slender tree branch.

The female builds the nest with the male sometimes helping by providing nesting material.

The female builds the nest in 3 stages. She first crafts an outer bowl using flexible plant, animal, or human-made fibers that provide the main support for the nest.

Springy fibers are used for the second stage by making an inner bowl to maintain the nest's shape. Finally, downy feathers are used to create the nest lining.

The female works with one fiber

at time, often clinging upside down from the main twig or branch to weave the fiber into the nest.

This painstaking work can take from seven to 15 days to complete.

A typical nest has four or five eggs.


Only the female incubates for around two weeks until the eggs hatch.

Both parents then feed the nestlings by bringing caterpillars and soft parts of other insects (from grasshoppers and dragonflies) to the nest.

The young fledge after 12 or 13 days. Parents continue to feed the fledglings for another two weeks, at

which time the young are on their own. By late summer, Baltimore Orioles begin migrating to parts south.

Currently, there are estimated to be 12 million Baltimore Orioles. They have been declining steadily at an average rate of about 1.5% per year over the last 50 years. Dutch elm disease devastated American Elm habitat, and with it the preferred nesting trees of Baltimore Orioles.

This spring, keep watch for an orange and black bird and listen for a lively tune. You might be fortunate to see our state bird, the Baltimore Oriole. 

(FROM PAGE 37)

orioles shine is the nest building. Choosing to nest up high, they are terrific weavers using whatever they can grab — grasses, stray string, horse hair, etc.

The nest they create hangs and droops down from the branches like a pouch. To help them out, leave some short pieces of yarn or twine, under 4 inches or so in length, outside for them to incorporate into their nests.

How can you attract and feed an oriole family in your own backyard? If you are already a bird enthusiast with a bright and colorful garden, you are in good shape.

Orioles are also tempted by bright colors and love any trumpet shaped flowers you may already have for the pollinators and hummingbirds.

Orioles also have more slender and pointed beaks that are great at nibbling on fruits, and they'll feed on apples, berries and even bananas that may be out.

The bulk of their diet is a large variety of insects including caterpillars.

If you'd really like to attract Orioles in particular, it's no different than bribing your children or husband, simply offer their favorite foods.

Orioles have a particular love for both oranges and dark grape jelly.

You can certainly invest in a feeder from a nature or garden shop.

Most oriole feeders are trimmed in orange, their favorite color.

Many also look like a little bird patio or gazebo, with a cover-



**Bird enthusiasts may choose to invest in a feeder from a nature or garden shop. Many oriole feeders are trimmed in orange, their favorite color.**

*(Photo by Leslie Milby)*

ing to protect the orange or jelly from rain and to help keep a bit of shade.

Some also offer space for a nectar as well as a spot to skewer an orange and fill with grape jelly, making it a bit easier to keep up with all your dinner guests.

If you are lucky enough to land both orioles and hummingbirds though, you may need to watch out for one group becoming territorial or blocking out the other.

Like with any bird feeder, keep nectar and fruits fresh and un-

spoiled. As the temperatures rise, your offerings will spoil quicker but that is also the time when the birds need the nectar the most.

Should you choose to offer jelly, make sure you select a natural variety with as little added ingredients as possible.

If you're eager to feed orioles before getting a feeder, drop a halved orange in a suet feeder or even just dangle one by a string.

A small pot of jelly can also be stuck amongst your bright flowers.



(FROM PAGE 6)

to help May be what it's supposed to be — a season of recharge and refresh, not total exhaustion.

### *Baby Steps*

The first thing to remember is that you don't have to match spring's energy right away. It's okay to ease in — in fact, it's better that way. There's a lot of pressure to say yes to everything this time of year: every sport, every gathering, every opportunity to be outside.

But a packed schedule doesn't automatically mean a happy one. Choosing a few priorities that really matter to your family — and letting the rest go without guilt — can make the whole season feel more manageable and actually enjoyable.

### *Visual Schedules Are Your Friend*

As someone who works with

little ones by day, I can't overstate the power of a visual schedule. There's something about seeing it all laid out that makes life feel instantly more manageable. It helps you not only stay organized, but also anticipate what's coming instead of constantly reacting.

I keep it simple: A giant whiteboard where I map out the month.

I start with our non-negotiables — meetings, church, youth group — and then fill in the extras. It doesn't have to be fancy. A planner, a shared app, or even a piece of paper works just as well.

The goal is to get everything out of your head and into one place so you're not carrying it around mentally all the time.

When schedules start overlapping (and they will), having that visual can be the difference between feeling in control and

completely overwhelmed.

### *Stick to the Routines that Matter*

When everything else feels busy, routines become your anchor.

Building in a few predictable moments during the week — things that don't change — can help keep everyone grounded.

For me, Sunday night dinners are non-negotiable. My boys have so much going on between school, work, and their own social lives that it can feel like we're all ships passing in the night.

That one consistent time together gives us a reset. It's something I can count on, plan for, and look forward to, even in the busiest weeks.

Whether it's a weekly family dinner, a standing workout, or a slow weekend morning, those small routines create breathing room in an otherwise full schedule. Protect them.

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***Be Prepared (Even If You're Not a "Prep Person")***

I've never been someone who loves meal prepping, but there's something about spring that makes it feel ... necessary — and oddly satisfying.

Maybe it's the return of grilling season or just the reality of being

on the go more, but having a few things ready ahead of time makes a huge difference.

Think simple: Cut fruit, prepped snacks, a pasta salad in the fridge, or something you can throw on the grill quickly.

Beyond food, even small things like laying out sports gear the

night before or keeping a grab-and-go bin in the car can save you from those last-minute scrambles.

When evenings start to feel like a race from one thing to the next, a little preparation goes a long way in keeping things calm(ish).

Most importantly, give yourself some grace during this transition.

Shifting out of winter mode takes time. You're not just adjusting your schedule — you're adjusting your energy, your routines, and your expectations.

Spring is meant to feel joyful, not overwhelming.

And finding a pace that works for your family — even if it looks different from everyone else's — is what actually makes the season feel as good as we've all been waiting for. ➡

*(Editor's Note: Kristine George is a freelance journalist who resides in Easton.)*

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By DeeDee Wood

# Gifts for Mother's Day

*(Editor's note: DeeDee Wood is the owner of Black Cat Curiosities, an online antiques research and sales venue.)*

**M**other's Day was established in the United States in 1914. Ann Jarvis, a social activist, conceived the holiday to honor her mother, and all women who served in that role.

President Woodrow Wilson made it a national holiday, declaring the second Sunday in May as officially Mother's Day. Gift giving followed suit after the holiday was declared, to celebrate all mothers on the holiday. Antiques are now a great way to still celebrate the woman who holds a central role in so many lives.

Ideas for antique gift giving for mom, of course, follow the taste of an individual. Mother has to like historic objects, things that tell a history, or useful items that can still be used today, but are beautiful to regard and at the same time utilize. Antiques are often thought of as a



perfect gift for the central female in anyone's life, because they tell a story, and celebrate, perhaps, her childhood or past as well.

Sterling or silverplated objects give a nod to yesterday, and have a classy, timeless appearance when unwrapped. A useful fruit bowl, spoon, flatware set or chalice for flowers would certainly receive an approving nod from the matriarch, as a thoughtful, tasteful gift.

Ideas range from silver tea sets, spoons, cups, vessels of many kinds

for kitchen service, or a simple silver flower vase. Remember to add the silver polishing crème to a silver gift, as some polishing will be required down the road.

Objects that fit onto a vanity or bedroom dresser top are a feminine gift with much appeal.

Objects that can be procured in an antique store for Mom in this genre would include brush and comb sets, perfume bottles that spray with an atomizer, antique handheld mirrors, compacts, gilded



**Vintage and antique dolls and doll accessories, such as a dollhouse or dollhouse items and furniture, toy tea sets and porcelain European dolls are a great reminder to a mother's childhood.**

picture frames with a picture of her children inserted, and a variety of other objects, such as jewelry boxes, cosmetic containers and statuary, just to name a few.

Vanity sets are always a beautiful addition to this area of the home, and can often have multiple parts to them, such as bottles with lids, sitting on a mirrored stand on the vanity.

Antique jewelry, of course, is a great gift for Mother, and there is such a wide variety of types, they

are impossible to completely list. One could go high end with gold, sterling, gemstones and diamonds, or more conventional and sentimental, such as vintage jewelry from the 1940s and 50s,

Mid-century to modern designs of atomic clusters, clip on earrings, statements necklaces and other beautiful rhinestone creations. Mom unwrapping a beautiful piece of historic or vintage jewelry always brings joy to the eyes of all involved.

Vintage or antique household objects are always a hit for a Mother's Day gift. Decoration of the home is still important, no matter what time period, and even in modern times, a touch of the old can tie everything together in a decoration scheme.

Ideas for mom in this genre include tasteful antique vases that can be utilized for flowers or just to decorate. Paintings and wall art are always a hit, if tasteful and matching to the existing décor.

Small antique clocks that tick time away through the day, kitchen antiques like old kitchen cooking tools, antique mixers, copper molds for the wall-they all add a touch of elegance and interest, even in a modern home.

Observing what is already in mother's home helps dictate how to find a matching antique for usefulness or beautiful décor.

Last but not least, vintage and antique dolls and doll accessories, such as a dollhouse or dollhouse items and furniture, toy tea sets and porcelain European dolls are a great reminder to a mother's childhood, or her mother's journey, and she might already have a few to add her new addition to on a guest bed.

They could be tucked away on a shelf, dresser, or perhaps even on the mantel, along with other mementos of memory.

Mother's Day is a day to celebrate the central matriarchal figure in the lives of those who celebrate her. Giving the gift of antiques, along with a tasteful vintage card, tells her that her family cares about her past, as well as her sentiments of childhood, youth and memories.

Wrapping a stunning antique that was hand selected by the giver is always a way to make Mother feel special on her special day. ➤



By Deborah Walker

# Homemade strawberry shortcake is a can't-miss

*(Editor's note: Deborah Walker is the author of "An Eastern Shore Special: Recipes from the Heart." She has written about food and recipes for 15 years, She resides in Ocean City.)*

**S**pring is finally upon us and fresh strawberries are ruby red and drenched with sweetness.

There are many ways to serve America's favorite fruit, but homemade shortcake is show-stopper and rich in tradition.

But somewhere through the process of modernism and the fast pace of society, shortcuts have changed the structure and experience of a good old-fashioned shortcake.

We will take a detailed look at how to bring this dessert back to its original deliciousness and add a few twists for the ultimate strawberry shortcake.

## Strawberry Shortcake with Vanilla Ice Cream and Strawberries and Strawberry Sauce

### Biscuits

- 1 small container (5-count) of your favorite Grand biscuits
- Cook the biscuits according to the instructions on the package. Allow to cool. Using a serrated knife, cut the biscuits in half (horizontally).

### Strawberries

- 1 quart strawberries
- Wash the strawberries and strain in a mesh strainer. Slice most of them, but leave five whole strawberries to top each individual shortcake as a garnish.

### Whipped Cream

- 1 Extra Creamy Reddi-wip Whipped Dairy Cream Topping
- Place the whipped dairy cream canister in the freezer 15 minutes before using.

### Strawberry Pie Filling

- 21 ounces of favorite strawberry pie filling.
- Place filling in a pan and heat over medium-low heat for 2 minutes.

### Vanilla Ice Cream

- 1 container of favorite Ice Cream.

### Preparation

1. Remove some of the center of each top and bottom half of the cooked biscuit.
2. Place a dollop of whipped cream on the serving plate.
3. Then place the bottom half of the biscuit on top of the whipped cream. Add a layer of sliced strawberries. Gently press the strawberries into the indentation of the biscuit. Add a big scoop of vanilla ice cream.
4. Crown the shortcake with the top half of the biscuit. Drizzle the strawberry pie filling directly on top of the biscuit. Add another dollop of whipped cream and top with a whole strawberry. Repeat this process for the remaining shortcakes. (Recipe makes five strawberry shortcakes.)

Shortcake originated in 16th century Britain as a crumbly, biscuit-like cake.

It became popular in the U.S. by the mid-1800s, evolving into a popular summer dessert featuring split biscuits, fresh strawberries, and cream.

Eventually the biscuit-like cake was replaced with sponge cake and whipped cream. Let us deconstruct this dish so clarity and adjustments come to the forefront.

When a recipe calls for only a few ingredients, it is imperative that each component takes the dish to another level so cohesion and tastiness is at its finest.

That being said, contrast in texture is a must, and crunchy biscuits contribute more than soft sponge cake. Also, the biscuits will hold up better and prevent sogginess.

The following recipe includes

strawberries, ice cream, whipped cream, and strawberry sauce. Therefore, grand biscuits are highly suggested.

Removing some of the cooked biscuit filling to form an indentation in each half allows you to pack the shortcake with more ingredients and keeps the fixings of the shortcake in place for a more stackable dessert.

Place the whipped cream in the freezer for 15 minutes before assembling the dessert.

Otherwise, the whipped cream will melt and not hold its shape when piping which is not attractive to the eye.

Now that we have covered important tips to follow, let us review the exact order when plating the strawberry shortcake.

Place a dollop of whipped cream on the serving plate. This will act



as a glue for the bottom half of the biscuit.

Load up the bottom half of the biscuit with sliced strawberries.

Then gently press down, leaving a slight indentation in the center for the big scoop of ice cream. An ice cream scoop makes the presentation much more impressive and allows one to pack more ice cream in each scoop.

Then crown it with the top half of the biscuit. Again, the indentation in the top half will help secure the ice cream.

The dessert needs a drizzle of sauce to reinforce the theme of

### Secret Ingredient: 'Beauty.'

*"Through simplicity comes great beauty."*

— Anonymous

strawberries and give it a wow factor. There is no need for fuss, simply warm strawberry jam or strawberry pie filling slightly for a finished look.

The sauce should be drizzled on top of the biscuit.

The piece de resistance is a big dollop of whipped cream and a whole strawberry as a garnish.

As you can see this dessert is simple but is well thought out for the perfect bite.

Fresh strawberries and strawberry sauce highlight the essence of the dessert. Biscuits give it the much-needed contrast in consistency which is a must in every dish.

Ice cream gives it height and richness, and who does not adore a big squirt of fluffy whipped cream?

Strawberry shortcake with vanilla ice cream smothered in strawberries and strawberry sauce is yummy, fun, and easy to make.

Children and adults will give this dessert thumbs up. Enjoy! 🍓

Now we're cooking!

## || Flavor Meets Function ||



Rainbow Tuna Bowls

## How Busy Families Can Balance Time, Taste and Nutrition

### FEATURE IMPACT

In those precious few minutes between waking up and heading out the door or arriving home from school pickup, the pantry is a common destination. Seeking a grab-and-go lunch, sending your student off with a bite of protein or searching for an afternoon snack can leave you scanning the shelves for a go-to solution.

With snackers increasingly mindful about what they put in their bodies, you're not alone if you're looking for a snacking shakeup – in fact, in a recent survey conducted by Bumble Bee Seafoods and FleishmanHillard's TRUE Global Intelligence, 50% of Americans agreed it's hard to find snacks that meet all their needs. According to the survey, people are looking for foods that offer:

- "Bang for their buck" (78%)
- Affordability (61%)
- Protein packed (51%)
- Meet specific dietary goals (48%)
- Easy to eat on the go (35%)

Among all factors, however, 70% said great taste is most important, proving flavor remains the single biggest driver of snacking decisions.

In response to demand for powerhouse snacks that do it all while tasting amazing, Bumble Bee Snackers easy-open, single-serve cans are shaking up snack time with a variety of bold flavors that are perfect for any time, place, budget or craving.

The various unique flavors can be eaten right from the can and are perfect for snacking occasions, from zesty Lemon Pepper to bold and

savory Hickory Smoke, tastebud-tingling Sweet Heat, spicy Thai Chili and nostalgic Tuna Salad while traditionalists can opt for classic Chunk Light Tuna.

"Snacking has evolved," said Dana Kowal, senior director brand marketing and corporate affairs at Bumble Bee Seafoods. "People want it all: bold flavor, real protein and grab-and-go simplicity – and they want it at a price that makes sense."

The 3-ounce cans are premixed and can be enjoyed straight from the can, paired with crackers or veggies, or tossed in salads, sandwiches or wraps. To turn them into quick, family-friendly dinners or make-ahead lunches, consider these adorably colorful and crave-worthy Rainbow Tuna Bowls balanced with sweet mango, creamy avocado, crisp radish and spicy tuna.

For a perfect addition to your game day spread, these Bang Bang Tuna Sliders are spicy, creamy, crunchy and easier to make than they look with just a few ingredients and fun flavor. Tuna is topped with a layer of coleslaw and spicy mayo to solve those afternoon hunger pangs whether you're in the office or enjoying the comforts of home.

When dinnertime calls for a busy-season meal that's light yet filling, Garden Farro Tuna Salad is a must-save recipe to add to your rotation. It's bright, herbaceous and offers easy experimentation – simply swap similar ingredients based on what's fresh and in-season or make it all your own with your family's favorite produce.

To find more snacking solutions that are packed with flavor while saving time and money, visit [BumbleBee.com](http://BumbleBee.com).

## Rainbow Tuna Bowls

Servings: 2

- 2 cups cooked sushi rice
- 2 radishes, sliced
- 1 can Bumble Bee Snackers Sweet Heat Tuna
- 1 mango, cubed
- 3 tablespoons shelled edamame
- 1 avocado, sliced
- 1/4 cup shredded red cabbage
- 2 tablespoons thinly sliced scallion
- furikake, for serving
- Sriracha, for serving

In two shallow bowls, layer rice on bottom then evenly divide radish, tuna, mango, edamame, avocado, cabbage and scallion. Sprinkle with furikake and Sriracha.



Bang Bang Tuna Sliders

## Garden Farro Tuna Salad

Servings: 4

- 2 quarts salted water
- 1 cup pearled farro
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice (1 lemon)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill, basil or mint
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 can Bumble Bee Snackers Tuna Salad
- 6 small radishes or 1 cucumber, sliced
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 cup roasted hazelnuts
- freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- crumbled feta or goat cheese, for serving (optional)

In medium pot over high heat, bring water to boil. Add farro, reduce heat and simmer uncovered until tender, 20-30 minutes. Drain; do not rinse.

In large bowl, whisk oil, lemon juice, herbs, honey and salt. Stir in cooked farro to evenly coat; set aside or refrigerate to cool.

Once farro is chilled or at room temperature, fold in tuna, radish or cucumber and tomato. Sprinkle with nuts and black pepper, to taste. Serve with cheese, if desired.

## Bang Bang Tuna Sliders

Servings: 2

- 8 ounces tri-color shredded cabbage (coleslaw mix)
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice (1 lime)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/4 cup mayo
- 2 tablespoons sweet Thai chili sauce

- 1 can Bumble Bee Snackers Thai Chili Tuna, included whole chili minced and reserved
- 4 slider buns

In small bowl, mix cabbage, lime juice, oil and salt.

In another small bowl, mix mayo, chili sauce and minced chili from tuna can.

On bottom of each bun, evenly divide layer of coleslaw followed by tuna. Drizzle sauce over top, to taste. Cap with top bun and serve.



Garden Farro Tuna Salad

# 'She shed' sale to benefit local students

**EASTON** — Since 1999, the Garden Club of the Eastern Shore has awarded an annual merit-based scholarship to a graduating high school senior who attends school in Talbot County or who is home schooled.

The award is given at Awards Night to a senior who expects to major in horticulture, landscape architecture or design, botany, environmental science or a related field in college, community college, or a certified program.

More than 29 scholarships have been awarded totaling approximately \$70,000 dollars since the award was established 27 years ago.

The GCES holds a major bi-annual fundraising event to raise money for its merit-based scholar-

ships. This year's fund raiser is the return of the exciting "She Shed" Sale event which will be held this time on May 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and May 31 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in an historic home at 133 Washington Street in Easton, with plenty of parking next door in the old Safeway parking lot. .

The She Shed Sale committee has been collecting wonderful like-new items for the sale for several months and hopes that shoppers will arrive ready to buy the assorted eclectic items. Mark your calendar for fun and amazing bargains!

The quality of candidates in 2025 made it possible for the GCES to select a total of three scholarship winners.

St. Michaels High School gradu-

ate Madelynne Plog received \$6,000 to pursue studies in shoreline sustainability and marine sciences at UNC Wilmington. Receiving a \$3,000 scholarship, Easton High School graduate Olivia Orrell hoped to pursue the agriculture program at Chesapeake College. Kiera Bertrand, a St. Michaels High School graduate, received a \$3,000 scholarship and planned to study wildlife biology at Salisbury University. Proceeds from the GCES fundraisers make it possible to award generous scholarships each year.

For more information about GCES programs, how to apply for a scholarship, or to make a contribution to the scholarship fund, write to GCES, P.O. Box 1924, Easton MD, 21601. ➔

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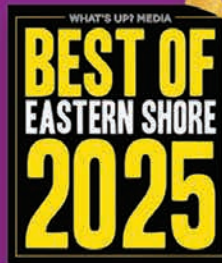
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