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## Around Annapolis: New 'green' market opens in West Annapolis

By [DIANE M. REY](#), For The Capital

Nancy Law Paredes and her husband, Mike, spent Sunday morning biking from market to market.

They left their Severn Grove home and peddled to the grand opening of the Neighborhood Green Market in West Annapolis. Then they planned to head downtown to take in the Annapolis FreshFarm Market.

"I think we need them all over the place - the more the better," said Mike of the outdoor markets that seem to be springing up all over town. The couple tries to live a green lifestyle: recycling, buying in bulk, and growing their own herbs and vegetables.

They're just the kind of eco-conscious consumer the new market is hoping to attract. A steady stream of the like-minded and the just plain curious took advantage of sunny skies and pleasant temperatures to stroll down Giddings Avenue in West Annapolis for the opening event.

Senior citizens browsed the antiques, while youngsters splashed in puddles left over from the previous night's thunderstorms. Young families parked their strollers to pick out vegetables with the kids. Current, former and would-be politicians circulated. Locals waved at neighbors. And dogs on leashes made their own social connections.



Diane M. Rey — For The Capital After getting her face painted, Rhianna Rebholz, 7, helped her parents pick out vegetables at a produce stand at the grand opening of the Neighborhood Green Market in West Annapolis on Sunday.

About 18 vendors have signed on so far, offering an eclectic mix of "green" products including farm produce, plants and flowers, crafts made from recycled items and vintage goods.

Market manager Marilyn Klompus explained to a shopper the niche that the new market hopes to fill. "One of the things we're looking for here are items that are individually made," she said. "This is about making the connection with the artist, the local business person."

Artist Randy Berry explained to passersby how she creates pottery "memory vessels" festooned with old pieces of jewelry, shells and other "found" objects. Other booths featured items re-purposed for new uses, including rain barrels that once held whiskey, key chains that started out as silver spoons, and earrings fashioned from typewriter keys. Even the giant scissors that Mayor Ellen Moyer and city Alderman Fred Paone used to cut the ceremonial ribbon were antique. The market donated them to the city.

Chrisa Rich of Eastport strolled the market after having breakfast with family members at Regina's across the street. "I'm thrilled that they're doing this," she said. "It's good to put people back in West Annapolis."

That was the impetus behind the market idea, said Carl Ihli, owner of Bon Vivant Antiques. He and Marilyn met with Bill Herald, president of the West Annapolis Business Association, to get the market off the ground. Organizers hope the monthly market day will have a spillover effect for local retailers.

Ruby Singleton Blakeney, director of small and minority business enterprise development for the city of Annapolis, said the market is a good example of a home-grown economic stimulus plan. "Businesses need to be proactive ... I hope this takes off," she said.

The Neighborhood Green Market will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month through Nov. 8. For more information, call 410-810-4898 or visit [www.homegrownandgreen.com](http://www.homegrownandgreen.com). For more market listings, visit [www.marylandsbest.net](http://www.marylandsbest.net).

How would the ideas and values of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, be important in today's political landscape?

Local students took on the question and two emerged as winners in the recent Carroll House Essay Contest.

Congratulations to St. Mary's students Taylor Cottle, 16, and Michael Hislop, 11. Taylor, a rising senior, is the daughter of David and Lynn Cottle of Edgewater. Michael, of Annapolis, will enter seventh grade in the fall and is the son of Raphaelle Hislop. Each received a \$500 prize from the Redemptorists who own the Carroll House on Duke of Gloucester Street.

Contest judges were state Sen. John Astle, D-Annapolis; Loretta Haring, managing editor of *The Capital*; Alicia Levi, communications director for the Chesapeake Bay Trust; Madeleine Hughes, Carroll House board member; and the Rev. George Blasick of the Redemptorist community.

The Four Rivers Heritage Association provided grant funding to help broaden the program.

The Kiwanis Club of Annapolis will hold its annual charity fundraiser from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 28 at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 1601 Pleasant Plains Road.

The red, white and blue-themed event will feature the Colin Lett Chorale from Morgan State University performing gospel and patriotic songs. A picnic dinner, dessert buffet, auction and door prizes are also planned.

Tickets are \$25 with a \$5 discount for seniors. Beneficiaries include the Stanton Center, Boys & Girls Clubs, Clay Street Computer Learning Center, Camp Amazing Grace, Arundel Habitat for Humanity, Light House Shelter, Winter Relief Program and Friends of Arundel Seniors.

For tickets, call Grant Harmon at 410-757-0187 or Jim Knorr at 410-757-4549.