

NOVEMBER 21, 2010

WP

magazine

Holiday Fiction Issue

Short stories by Ron Carlson,
Julie Orringer and Ann Patchett

PAGE 22

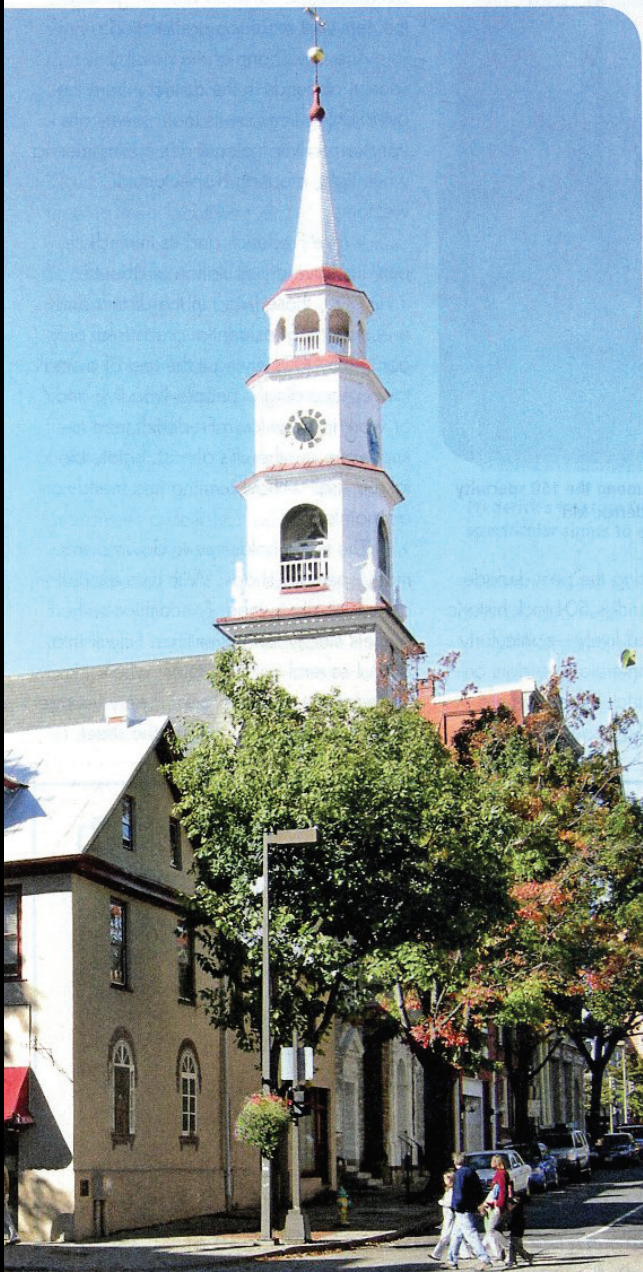


Gift Guide: Festive fodder for gift-giving from local shops BY HOLLY E. THOMAS | 17

BEST BETS: Can't-miss Washington holiday traditions | 38 **GENE WEINGARTEN:** The 773 lies eBay told me | 44

GROVE
PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC
301.663.4641 | www.grovepr.com

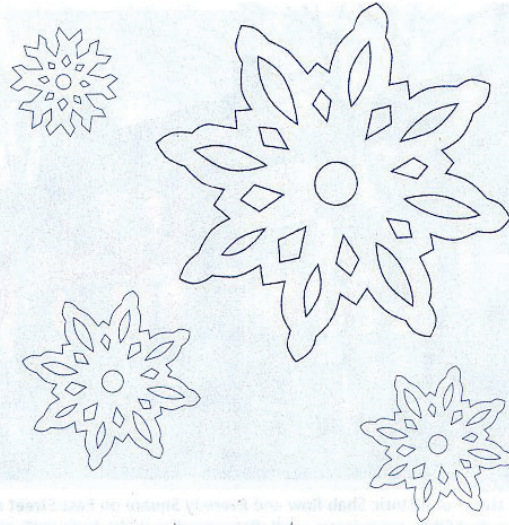
Historic Downtown Frederick, Md.



Trinity Chapel is just one of Frederick's famous "clustered spires," which command the city's skyline. (photo: GPR)

This special advertising section was written by **Scott R. Grove**, writer and owner of Grove Public Relations, in conjunction with the advertising department of the Washington Post and did not involve the editorial staff of this newspaper.

Magazine Account Manager: **Diane DuBois 202-334-5224**
 Advertising Account Manager: **Bob Horvath 301-377-4838**
 Special Sections Manager: **Julie Gunderson 202-334-6163**
 Section Designer: **Willie Joyner 202-334-5237**



Holiday Spirit, Shopping and Dining Abounds in This Historic City

Okay, I admit that I may have become a little jaded about the holiday season, but am I really the only one who averts his eyes from the "seasonal aisle" at the grocery store when plastic jack-o-lanterns and bags of bite-sized candy bars are replaced with Christmas wrap and candy canes on the day after Halloween? Doesn't anyone else shudder at the sudden appearance of inflatable snowmen lounging on lush, green front lawns when it's a sunny 63 degrees?

When the anxiety of my impending holiday "to do" list takes hold, I take to the streets of downtown Frederick, where I am always assured of finding the spirit of the season. ➔

Historic Downtown Frederick, Md.



The stores at historic Shab Row and Everedy Square on East Street are among the 150 specialty shops and 50 restaurants you will discover when visiting downtown Frederick, Md.

(photo: C. Kurt Holter / TCFC)

In less than six months, downtown Frederick has been the recipient of the "Great Places In America" and top "25 Small Arts Destination Cities" awards for its superb residential and cultural qualities—just two of many such national laurels the

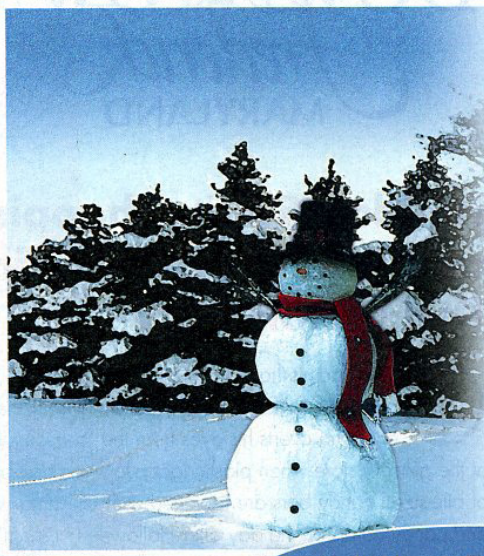
city has received during the past decade. It's no wonder. Frederick's 50-block historic district is beautiful and lively—particularly its three primary commercial corridors on East, Market and Patrick Streets, where most of the district's 150 specialty shops,

50 restaurants, antique and art galleries, theaters and museums are located.

The true charm of the holiday season abounds in the district where the overarching trees on its main streets are transformed into colonnades of shimmering white light, creating a spectacular welcome.

While Frederick and its immediate outskirts have a population of about 110,000, those living in the district and in surrounding residential areas total only about 15,000, giving it the feel of a small town. Accordingly, people who live and/or work in downtown Frederick tend to know one another. It's almost impossible to take a stroll without running into friends or acquaintances.

The same holds true in downtown's many specialty shops. With rare exception, all are locally owned. Friendships with owners simply form over time. I duck into one of several outfitter stores, where I know I'll find some camping gear for my younger brother, Matthew. Further up the street, I



The Joy of Winter Snow

Remember when you enjoyed the beauty of a quiet white snow? That joy can be renewed by living at Buckingham's Choice. Warm friendships, great food, and no snow worries... just the comfort of knowing that you have selected the best for your retirement.

Buckingham's Choice - experience an ***un-retiring attitude***. Call 301-874-5630 or toll-free 800-409-6111 for a detailed brochure or to schedule a personal tour.

Ask About Our Year-End
Move-In Specials



Belonging to the EMA Faith-Based Family of Retirement Communities and Resources

**BUCKINGHAM'S
CHOICE** 
A CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

3200 Baker Circle • Adamstown, MD 21710 • www.buckinghamchoice.org

GROVE
PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC
301.663.4641 | www.grovepr.com

Historic Downtown Frederick, Md.

stop in and see Whitney, whose shop just won a national award for its inventory of artisan-created merchandise. She's gearing up for the weekend, when some of the 1.4 million people who annually visit the historic district will cross her threshold. My sister, Carol, will love the scarf I select, created by a local weaver.

Further up the street, I pick up some hand-tied fishing flies for my brother, Steve, who would gladly take residency in a trout stream if given the option. I then cut down Church Street toward East and take note of the little Italian market that sells fresh mozzarella, certain to be a hit at our holiday dinner. Sure, online shopping may be easy, but downtown Frederick guarantees a delightful adventure that will make you want to point and click the old-fashioned way. Few downtowns in the mid-Atlantic region rival the district's picturesque architecture that spans the mid 1700s - 1930s. You'll also want to have a camera handy while enjoying city-sponsored special events, which include



Frederick's treasure trove of marvelous architecture spanning the late 1700s - 1930s offers spectacular sights to enjoy while shopping and dining. (photo: GPR)

an historic house tour, a parade, children's activities and more.

At Everedy Square, I visit one of the district's great toy stores, where I find cool games for my nieces and nephews. Because my sister, Laura, loves to cook

and entertain, I turn the corner onto Patrick Street and stop into Carol's shop to see her new lines of imported French serving ware.

Clearly, downtown Frederick is a shopper's niche heaven, where every piece of merchandise is hand-selected by the →



Isabella's taverna and tapas bar offers an exciting exploration of classic Spanish cuisine. The menu features more than 56 savory tapas (small dishes) which include shrimp, lamb, crab, scallops, and chorizo, as well as an array of vegetarian and seasonal items. Traditional sized entrees include salmon with baby clams, paella, sirloin steak, baked portobello and much more. Isabella's attractive bar area provides an alternative location to sample the menu, enjoy a daily happy hour that includes a buffet, or a delicious wine from the restaurant's extensive Spanish wine list. Monthly wine course dinners are available. Isabella's interior features exposed brick walls and sunny colors, creating a festive dining experience. Cooking classes are also available. Isabella's is open for breakfast Monday thru Friday, 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., Saturday from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., and for Sunday Brunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, open for breakfast from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m.; closed for lunch and dinner. Lunch menu: Tuesday thru Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dinner menu: Tuesday thru Thursday, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 noon to 8 p.m. Happy Hour: Tuesday thru Friday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. 44 North Market Street, Frederick, MD., 301.698.8922, www.isabellas-tavern.com

Acacia is an award-winning New American Cuisine restaurant with an exciting fusion of exotic specialties. Our menu items are prepared from the finest and freshest ingredients, using recipes to enhance their natural flavors and maximize their nutritional qualities. Our Chef emphasizes fresh, natural foods, prepared on site using whole grains and organic products whenever possible locally. In addition, our menu offers a wide selection of fresh food prepared with the best fresh local or nationwide seasonal and organic ingredients. Acacia is committed to supporting sustainable organic agriculture, local farms, producers and conservation efforts. Intimate and inviting decor creates a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, accented by a large wine list and homemade pastries. Hours: closed Mondays; Open Tuesday thru Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday & Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday, open for Brunch, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Dinner, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. 129 North Market Street, Frederick, MD., 301.694.3015, www.acacia129.com



Brewer's Alley is both a dining and social landmark in downtown Frederick. The restaurant specializes in Southern cooking that is uptown yet comfortably down-home. Little wonder it is so popular! Entrees include Citrus Salmon; Dorsey's All Natural Smoked Barbecued Babyback Ribs; Blackened Tilapia; Wood-fired Smokehouse Macaroni and Cheese; crunchy Fish & Chips; and a creative line-up of Wood Fired Oven Pizzas. Brewer's other draws include its impressive microbrewery, which produces both German and English-styled beers, delighting the locals who fill the restaurant's faux finish bar every afternoon and evening, and the beautiful 2nd floor banquet spaces overlooking Historic Downtown Frederick. They are perfect for Rehearsal Dinners, Wedding Receptions, Birthday or Retirement Parties or any other Special Occasion. Monday & Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Wednesday & Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to midnite; Friday & Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.; and Sunday, noon to midnite. 124 North Market Street, Frederick, MD., 301.631.0089, www.brewers-alley.com

Isabella's, Acacia and Brewer's Alley are all rated by the Zagat Survey 2009

Historic Downtown Frederick, Md.

owner, based on in-depth knowledge of the given retail genre. Whether you are shopping for home furnishings, clothing for all ages and tastes, jewelry, foreign food specialties, musical instruments, skateboards, snowboards, a bicycle, toys, trains, kitchen equipment, wine and spirits, pet-related products, stationery, antiques or original art, you'll find it here.

Heading home, laden with shopping bags and a shorter "to do" list, I approach the district's Square Corner at Market and Patrick and shake hands with Nezhil, who manages two of the district's many fine restaurants and has the ability to make everyone he encounters feel like royalty. We share a laugh and part ways. He, like everyone else I've encountered today, reminds me



More than 1,000 resident singers, dancers and costumed characters are recruited to perform in Frederick's nighttime "Kris Kringle Procession" to be held this year on Friday, Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m. (photo: Travis Pratt / Celebrate Frederick)

that the holidays are really about the delightful moments you spend with others.

Preparing to cross the street, I am met by a throng of giggling, elementary school-age girls who, based on their costumes, have just been dismissed from a Nutcracker rehearsal. Their sequined tutus cast sparkling reflections on the sidewalk that impossibly, but magically, fill my heart. ■

Visit Frederick

Four affordably priced garages located throughout the historic district make parking easy. Plan your excursion by visiting the following websites:

Celebrate Frederick

Holiday house tours, Kris Kringle Procession, children's activities and more.

301-600-2841

celebratefrederick.com

Downtown Frederick Partnership

Complete list of downtown stores and restaurants.

301-698-8118

downtownfrederick.org

Tourism Council of Frederick County

General visitor and event information.

fredericktourism.org

live!

at the Weinberg Center for the Arts

**GIVE THE GIFT OF STAGE
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

JANUARY

15 - 8 pm Maceo Parker
21 - 8 pm Art Fegan Entertainment presents Golden Dragon Acrobats
22 - 8 pm The Second City on Tour
28 - 8 pm 1964: The Tribute
29 - 8 pm Jeff Daniels

FEBRUARY

11 - 8 pm David Bromberg and his Big Band
13 - 2 pm Choo Choo Soul
20 - 2 pm & 7 pm Jim Brickman



WEINBERG
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

20 WEST PATRICK STREET
FREDERICK, MD. 21701

(301) 600-2828 www.weinbergcenter.org

Molly's Meanderings

Distinctive Style ~ Fabulous Gifts



17 N. Market St., Frederick, Md.
www.mollysmeanderings.com
Open Mon.-Thur., 10:30-6
Fri. & Sat., 10:30-9 and Sun. 12-5

MAKING A HOUSE A HOME



Follow Us On

facebook

UNIQUE GIFTS INCLUDING PET & BABY

38 East Patrick Street • Frederick, Maryland
301-696-9070 www.homeessentialsfrederick.com



Knives • Kitchen Cutlery
Darts & Supplies • Puzzles
Sharpening Service

200 N. Market St
Frederick, MD 800-520-0321

www.edgeworksonline.com

ONLY THE BEST FOR OVER 30 YEARS!

PRIME RIB,
LOBSTER TAIL,
KING CRAB LEGS,
FRESH NORWEGIAN
SALMON,
AND MUCH MORE!



"ONLY THE BEST FOR 30 YEARS"

**THE
FLAMING
PIT**

18701 N. FREDERICK AVE
GAITHERSBURG

301-977-0700

GROVE

PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC
301.663.4641 | www.grovepr.com