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Although the holidays always go by so fast, we hope you and your family enjoyed them. We sure had fun with our Lionel train family tradition, which was started by our Dad and is still going on four generations later!

Thank you to all our loyal customers for their patronage to our business in 2009. Best wishes to everyone for a healthy, prosperous New Year in 2010! From Britt, Marsha & Joe, our families and staff at Mr. Rooter, Codova.



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Ready for comfort food?

Let loose a long exhale. ... One more frenzied holiday season is over – and don't they seem to get more hectic each year? But here's your silver lining: January is National Soup Month. Now, there's a remedy to settle your nerves, huh? Make up a pot of your favorite, or try one of the ideas on pages 34 to 36.

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In this issue:

Deep Rooted: Chestertown Antiques & Furniture Center

John Woodfield has seen a lot of treasures make it to his business, but his biggest find helped foot the bill of the shop more than 30 years ago.
by Kevin George, Page 12



Fix it or chuck it?

To recover or to buy new? That's a decision many are being faced with after choosing to update their furniture. Area upholsters cover the basics on what to consider in a potential project?
by Sean Clougherty, Page 22

Departments

Editor's Notebook	— Page 6
Redesign of the Times	— Page 8
How Enlightening!	— Page 18
Green Scene	— Page 30
Events	— Page 37-39
A Dose of Realty	— Page 31
Game Room	— Page 42

Would you like to share?

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Making resolutions is two-faced

Now is the time-honored tradition when many of us decide to work on bettering ourselves with resolutions.

"Time-honored," indeed. ... Apparently, the practice goes back to ancient Rome.

The tradition appears to go all the way back to 153 B.C., when Janus, a mythical king of early Rome, was placed at the beginning of the calendar.

With two faces, Janus could look back on past events and forward to the future.

Janus became the ancient symbol for resolutions, and Romans of that day looked for forgiveness from their enemies and also exchanged gifts before

Editor's Notebook

By Kevin George



the beginning of each year.

The Romans named the first month of the year after Janus, who was the god of beginnings and the guardian of doors and entrances.

He was (and is) always depicted with two faces — one on the front of his head and one on the back. Thus, he could look backward and forward at the same time.

At midnight on Dec. 31, the Romans imagined Janus looking back at the old year and forward to the new.

Seems appropriate enough. It always fascinates me to wonder how people of many generations ago tried to explain what was unexplainable by that time's sciences and available knowledge.

Is the world round or flat? ... How did they try to reason what was happening with larger-than-life occurrences like monsoons, eclipses and droughts?

... Who exactly had the guts to first decide try to eat something as ugly as an oyster? There must have been lots of trial-and-error (PAGE 29)

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Improve your closet organization

Not everyone has the luxury of having more than one closet or a walk-in closet to house their clothing and accessories.

That is why small closets must be organized in order to function.

Winter is the perfect time of year to change your closet from disorganized to organized.

Even though it can be a dreaded task, the good news is that once your closet organization system is in place, you will never have to go through this process again.

A rule to follow when organizing a small closet is to use every bit of available space.



Redesign of the Times

By Marianne DeTar

Because it will most likely be impossible to house all your clothing and accessories in one small closet, your closet needs to function seasonally.

This means storing out-of-season clothing, shoes and accessories — and keeping only

in-season items in your closet.

If you find this process too much work four times per year, then only change it out twice a year (winter and summer).

After removing out-of-season items, evaluate your belongings with the “one year” rule.

This means to include in the closet removal any items that have not been used or worn in over a year.

If you have not worn or used these items within a year, the chances are you never will.

If they are items that no longer fit, consider giving to a charity or someone who could really use them.

In either (PAGE 26)

Advice from the Paint Experts at Annapolis Paint Eastern Shore



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