



**ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT    COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY**  
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**NEWS RELEASE** *for Immediate Release*

**No. 2017 – 49**

**March 31, 2017 4:45 p.m.**

**Aspiring Entrepreneurs can Cash In at Crab Pot Contest**

**Leonardtown, MD** - PaxSpace, Inc. ([www.paxspace.org](http://www.paxspace.org)) and the Southern Maryland Innovation and Technology (SMIT) Initiative (<https://www.meetup.com/Southern-Maryland-Innovation-and-Tech/>) will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Crab Pot Business Pitch Competition.

Crab Pot is a pitch contest for individuals living or working in Southern Maryland or businesses that have a presence in Southern Maryland. Made popular by television shows like ABC's "Shark Tank," pitch contests provide an opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs to present their ideas to a panel of judges or investors in front of a live audience.

The competition kicks off with a Speed Round to be held on April 13 starting at 6 p.m. at Elements and Mixology, 46540 Three Notch Road, Lexington Park, MD. Contestants will have 90 seconds to present their innovative idea or product. Audience members will select five finalists. The finalists will compete at the Crab Pot Business Pitch Competition on at 6 p.m. on May 11 at the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum, 22156 Three Notch Road, Lexington Park. There is no cost to enter the contest but advanced registration and participation in the Speed Round are required. Winners of the competition receive cash prizes, business consulting services and of course, a bushel of crabs! Visit [www.paxspace.org/crabpot](http://www.paxspace.org/crabpot) to learn more.

Crab Pot creates a wonderful opportunity for the community to recognize and celebrate the region's growing entrepreneurial ecosystem. Past contestants have pitched 3-D printed prosthetics, commercialization of U.S. Navy technologies, new mobile apps and many other innovative ideas. Both the Crab Pot Speed Round and Competition are open to the public and free of charge. Registration to watch the Speed Round or the Competition is requested at [SMIT Meetup](http://SMIT Meetup), but not required. The Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties Departments of Economic Development, Energetics Technology Center's (ETC) Techfire Incubator, Maryland Technology Economic Development Corporation and the Technology Transfer Offices at Naval Air Station Patuxent River and the Naval Surface Warfare Center - Indian Head as well as other sponsors have made Crab Pot possible.

MORE

PaxSpace is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) makerspace located in Hollywood, MD. PaxSpace provides training and resources for community members to collaborate and create innovative projects. SMIT is a regional initiative designed to ignite and fuel technology entrepreneurship by fostering an inclusive and collaborative ecosystem in Southern Maryland.

For more information visit [www.crabpot.org/crabpot](http://www.crabpot.org/crabpot) or email [crabpot@paxspace.org](mailto:crabpot@paxspace.org).

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