

Howard Ag



Howard County
Department of
Planning and Zoning



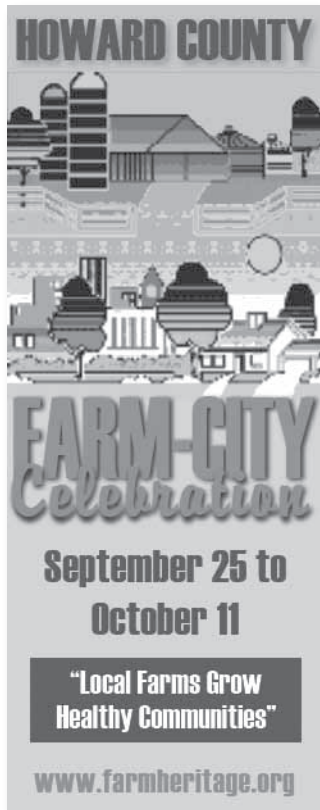
A multi-agency newsletter serving the agricultural community

2009 Farm-City Celebration

With more events than ever this year's Farm-City Celebration will be a show stopper. Running from September 25 – October 11, 2009 you will still find such events as the County Executive-Farmer Job Exchange, the Living Farm Heritage Fall Festival, University of Maryland Research Farm Open House and the many farm festivals.

For the second time there will be a "Student Day on the Farm" with students from Murray Hill Middle School and Days End Farm Horse Rescue. A brand new event this year will be the 1st Annual Farm-City Golf Shootout. This event will be held at Willow Springs Golf Course and there is still time to register as an individual or a team. (Please see registration in the back of this newsletter).

This is a way for the agriculture community to come together and educate our urban neighbors about the importance of agriculture to Howard County. There are many enjoyable activities for the whole family, so come out and pick some apples, go through the corn or pine tree mazes and don't forget your pumpkins!



Thirteen Property Owners Apply In "Batch 14"

The Agricultural Land Preservation Program (ALPP) is very pleased to announce that during the recent application period, thirteen property owners applied to sell an agricultural easement to the County. Referred to as "Batch 14", the application period ran from June 1 through July 31, 2009.

Several of the properties are over 100 acres, with over 1,400 acres total applied for in the Batch. Most of the properties are being actively farmed and are adjacent to land already in preservation. Encumbering these farms with agricultural easements will help further the County's goal of protecting significant concentrations of preserved farmland.

The ALPP will present the properties to the Howard County Agricultural Land Preservation Board over the course of three public hearings this fall. The hearings are listed on page 3 of this newsletter and will be advertised in the local papers and on the County's web site at www.howardcountymd.gov.

Information may be obtained from Joy Levy, Administrator, Agricultural Land Preservation Program, Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 410-313-5407, or e-mail jlevy@howardcountymd.gov.

In This Issue

<i>HCC's Grand Prix</i>	2
<i>Permaculture Workshop</i>	3
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	3
<i>Golf Tournament Registration</i>	5

HCC's Grand Prix Makes the Leap to a New Location

By Sandy Alexander

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After 21 years of raising tents, grandstands, fences and walls on a grassy patch of the campus alongside the Little Patuxent Parkway, Howard Community College (HCC) is moving its Columbia Classic Grand Prix equestrian show jumping fundraiser to someone else's lawn.

Fortunately for the college, George and Marilyn Doetsch have 100 acres of rolling fields on their Marama Farm in Clarksville, and they are excited to see skilled equestrians on horseback leap over obstacles, thrill spectators and help raise money for student scholarships.

HCC President Kate Hetherington said moving the event, scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 20, "is a win/win." The college will use its campus space for badly-needed student parking to accommodate growing enrollment and the event will have a larger setting that is ideal for equestrian activities.

Along with the logistical considerations, Hetherington said, "after 20 years, it is probably a good idea to reflect upon the event and see how we can make things better."

Marilyn Doetsch has been a supporter of the Grand Prix for many years with her husband, George Doetsch, owner of Apple Ford Lincoln Mercury in Columbia. She said she did not expect the college to select her farm among several options because she and her husband have only owned it for a year.

However, during that time, she has made numerous improvements and started a thoroughbred breeding operation there; so after seeing the farm with its open spaces, miles of white fence and fresh new barns, "there was no contest," said Michael Drummond, co-chair of the Grand Prix board of directors. "It is truly going to make this a horse event. ... the farm is absolutely beautiful."

"We loved our site on the campus ... but we were pretty constrained in how we could arrange the venue," said Drummond. "This finally gives us room to expand."

With more space, Drummond believes the social and family activities that are available with general admission will grow significantly during the coming years. "That will become a real festival environment," he said.

This year, the Grand Prix committee is working with Clyde's Restaurant Group to offer a new wine and beer garden. Organizers are also planning to add more activities for children, such as a moon bounce and a photo booth, and they are partnering with prominent Baltimore and Washington radio stations to bring more music and entertainment to the event.

Lawn seats cost \$10 for adults and are free for children ages 10 and under. Grandstand seats are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children.

The new location will allow for changes in the set-up of the sponsor tent, which includes seats for \$200 and opportunities to sponsor a full table, Drummond said. The site will also have more room for vendors and could offer future opportunities for tailgating activities.

Marilyn Doetsch, who has ridden horses and worked on horse farms throughout her life, said she is excited by the ability to expand the jump area and offer some variety in the setup of

the course.

"I think it is exciting," she said, "because we have so much more land to offer that we can expand and grow [upon]." She said she hopes the new features will attract people who might have been unfamiliar with the Grand Prix and the college, and that it will help spread the message that the horse industry is "alive and well" in Maryland.

The farm, which is about nine miles from the campus off Route 32 (just north of Route 108) "is perfectly suited to this event," said Hetherington. "We are so grateful that they were so gracious and stepped forward. ... hopefully we will continue to have the support we usually have from the community."



Continued on page 3

Calendar of Events



September

- 21 Ag Preservation Board public hearing, 7:30 in the 4-H Building at Fairgrounds, Contact Joy Levy, 410-313-5407
- 24 WMREC Fruit and Vegetable Twilight Meeting, Keedysville, MD, Cindy Mason, 301-432-2767, x 350
- 25-Oct. 11 Farm-City Celebration

October

- 1 Phosphorus Site Index Classroom Training, Annapolis, MD, Jo Mercer, 410-841-5953
- 2 Farm-City 1st Annual Golf Challenge, Willow Springs Golf Course, Kathy Zimmerman 410-313-6500
- 3 Buck and Doe Sale and Meat Goat Field Day, Boonsboro, MD, Susan Schoenian, 301-432-2767, x 343
- 5 Ag Preservation Board public hearing, 7:30 in the Dining Hall at Fairgrounds.
- 10 AGNR Open House, Clarksville, MD, Gail Yeiser, 301-405-2434
- 11 Maryland Horsemen's Party, Clarksville, MD, Kristen Wilson, 301-596-9478
- 14 PSI Field Session, Clarksville, MD, Lief Eriksen, 301-432-2767, x342
- 19 Ag Preservation Board public hearing, 7:30 in the Board Room at Fairgrounds.

Permaculture Workshop

The Howard County Conservancy, in conjunction with The Green Building Institute, will host a Permaculture workshop on Saturday, September 26, 2009, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Permaculture is an ecological design method that includes topics such as observation and patterns in nature, and strategies to improve soil, grow food, harvest water, utilize renewable energy and regenerative building techniques, and build sustainable communities. This workshop will focus on fundamental permaculture ethics, principle and strategies to live more sustainably in your home, neighborhood or community. Participants will leave the workshop energized and with ideas that can be implemented in their home or community.

Christine Gyovai, who is Principal of Dialogue and Design Associates, a plant lover, and an avid permaculture designer, will conduct the workshop. She is an environmental planner and educator with over twelve years of experience in facilitation and training with a focus on increasing community and environmental sustainability. Christine holds a M.P. in Urban and Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia and a B.S. in Environmental Studies from Burlington College, and is certified in mediation and permaculture design. A native of West Virginia, Christine was an environmental education teacher and sustainability consultant in California before returning East. She is currently living in the straw bale house that she and her husband Reed designed at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains with their one year old son, Elijah.

For more information and to register, please contact The Green Building Institute at 443-733-1234 or visit their website, www.greenbuildinginstitute.org. The Green Building Institute is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster sustainable building practices through education and example.

Continued from page 2

The goal each year is to raise \$200,000 for student scholarships, Drummond said. Over two decades, the event has raised \$2.5 million to help students pay their educational expenses.

"By refreshing the event, we hope we can energize the community to step up more," he said. "I'd like the [amount raised] to go up because there is such a huge challenge for students to attend the college. ... they need help more than ever."

Information on the Columbia Classic Grand Prix is available by calling 410-772-4450 or via www.hccgrandprix.com.

Mike Scrivener
Public Relations and Marketing
Howard Community College
www.howardcc.edu



Eat healthy and buy local from one of three Howard County Farmers' Markets!

Visit howardcountyag.org for locations and times!

**FIRST ANNUAL
FARM-CITY
GOLF CHALLENGE**

Friday — October 2, 2009

Time: 9 a.m. Shotgun Start

- Four Person Scramble
- Willow Springs Golf Course
- \$75/player or \$300/foursome
- Includes: Greens Fees, Cart, Range Balls, Goody Bag
- Continental Breakfast
- Picnic Lunch
- Putting Contest
- Farm/City Quiz at each hole

**The Howard
County Farm-
City Celebration**

Located in Western Howard County
in West Friendship, MD

Links Style Course, Par 3 & 4.

Contact : Linda Martinak

C/O Kathy Zimmerman
Agriculture Marketing Specialist
Howard County
Economic Development Authority
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive,
Suite 500
Columbia, MD 21046

Phone: 410-313-6500



**Howard County Farm-City Celebration
Farm-City Golf Challenge
Willow Springs Golf Course
October 2, 2009
9:00 am**

Registration/Sponsorship/Lunch Reservation Form

Golfers' Registration Information

Foursome and Other Registrations (names and e-mail addresses)

Golfer One _____
Golfer Two _____
Golfer Three _____
Golfer Four _____

Mail Check to address on front for \$300.00 for foursomes/\$75 per golfer for others
(made out to: Howard County Antique Farm Machinery Club).

Hole and Tee Sponsors Information (\$50 each) – see check information above

Name of Individual or Company: _____
e-mail: _____
phone: _____

Lunch Reservations for Nongolfers (\$15.00) – immediately after golf

Approximately 1:30 pm – see check information above

Name(s): _____
e-mail: _____
phone: _____



Show Your Pride in Preservation

This is a reminder that the "Farmland Forever" signs are now available to any property owner whose land is in the Howard County Agricultural Land Preservation Program (ALPP). All you need to do to let others know that you've made the commitment to preserve your farm is fill out the form below. There will be no cost to program participants for the sign or its installation. The sign is made of aluminum and is 24" x 30" in size, and a sample of what it will look like is to the right. The County will construct the sign post and do the installation.

If you would like to show your pride in preservation, please complete and return the form below to Joy Levy, ALPP Administrator, at 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043. Joy can also be reached at 410-313-5407 or jlevy@howardcountymd.gov.



APPLICATION: Agriculture Land Preservation Sign

NAME: _____

COMPANY/ORGANIZATION: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____ WEBSITE: _____

Return completed form to:
Joy Levy, ALPP Administrator
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043



SUPPORT LOCAL AGRICULTURE

Howard County Agriculture Logo Promotion Program Partner Application

— \$35 Annual Registration Fee must accompany this application. Checks should be made payable to: Howard County Economic Development Authority.

Promotion Partner Application for 2009

NAME: _____

COMPANY/ORGNIZATION: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____ WEBSITE: _____

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES OFFERED:

Your participation makes this program possible. You can make a difference.

Promotion Partners:

- Have use of the Howard County Agriculture logo, logo stickers, and promotional poster.
- Are featured in publications, web promotions, and Howard County Fair promotion
- Participate in the Agricultural Marketing Program database listed on our web site and available to buyers
- Support Youth Ag Entrepreneur Grant
- Have access to joint advertising opportunities
- Receive marketing support
- Receive announcements of upcoming marketing events and industry news

Thank you for your support

Return completed application and membership fee to:
Howard County Economic Development Authority, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 500
Columbia, Maryland 21046 410-313-6500

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