Ensuring the Wellness & Success of our Veterans
Fall is here, and with it comes the start of a new academic year and a sense of anticipation and promise within our college. As you may know by now, we are fully immersed in our strategic visioning implementation process, having mobilized faculty and staff co-chairs to help lead action and impact around each of our five new strategic initiatives. We look forward to educating you further and chatting with you personally at a celebratory launch event in the New Year.

Our college serves a broad spectrum of citizenry within the state of Maryland. One group that we interact with closely are our military veterans. They are our neighbors, our co-workers and our friends. They are often silent about what they have experienced, embodying an incredible selflessness in their sacrifices for and commitment to the democracy of our country. For this, we owe them a great deal.

This edition of MomentUM Magazine is timed to be released surrounding Veteran’s Day week, and within these pages we are pleased to share multiple stories of our immersive work with Maryland’s honored veterans. You’ll become familiar with some of our college’s valuable partnerships with veteran’s organizations throughout the state, including Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the DC Bowl Committee, and the Baltimore Station. Many of our partnerships are quite grand in ambition, as you’ll learn after reading of Dr. Jack Sullivan’s role as principal landscape architect for a highly publicized garden-style healing environment at Walter Reed, where service members and their families seek to find respite within the tranquility of forest, wildlife and water.

The following pages are a tribute to our service members and hopefully will serve as a remembrance of their dedication to our country. With these stories, we hope to impart a sense of renewed interest and awareness for this highly revered community. They are valued, contributing members of our society and it is an important component of our land-grant mission to support their health, workforce development, and economic viability. We are committed to improving their overall quality of life.

I hope you enjoy this uniquely focused edition of MomentUM, and I look forward to seeing you on campus and throughout the state very soon.
momentUM is published by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland, College Park, for alumni, friends, faculty and staff. Comments and alumni notes are welcome and should be addressed to Gail Yeiser, email at gailpyeiser@gmail.com.

DEAN AND DIRECTOR, Dr. Craig Beyrouty
EDITOR: AgriVisions, Susan G. Summers, ssummers@comcast.net
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: HDI Corporation, Jennifer C. Hankey, jhankey@hdicorporation.net
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Graham Binder, Nancy Luse, Ellen Ternes, Samantha Watters, Gail Yeiser
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: Edwin Remsberg, remsberg@umd.edu
http://www.agnr.umd.edu

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It’s time to go home. Sounds heavenly doesn’t it. For the vast majority of us, heading home evokes a sense of comfort, relaxation and refreshment. It’s where fond memories remain, your most valued possessions are kept and stresses melt away.

Try to imagine a situation in which returning home creates anxiety. You’ve been sequestered in a relatively isolated environment for months or even years, and have a difficult time conceptualizing how to re-establish, and in some cases, rebuild a life you haven’t led in quite a long while. It can be difficult to fathom, but for a healthy portion of U.S. veterans, this is an unfortunate outcome of their commitment to protecting the red, white and blue.

According to data compiled by the U.S. Department of Defense, over 132,000 service members have returned home suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. More than 344,000 others return with a traumatic brain injury. In total, it is estimated that 400,000 to 600,000 Iraq and Afghanistan vet-
Veterans suffer from some form of psychological injury. In these veteran’s cases, home has taken on a much different meaning. It may be viewed as a place of unfamiliarity or displacement, far away from the world they’ve built with fellow service members in a tightly knit environment of routine, regimen and purpose. 

On a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay there is a secluded, idyllic waterfront retreat that is being designed to welcome recovering service members, their families and caregivers. Aply named Patriot Point, the mission is simple - foster an environment in which veterans can decompress, rejuvenate and engage in therapeutic recreation. It is a beautiful location, with 2.3 miles of shoreline situated on 290 acres of woods, fields and wetlands adjoining the 28,000-acre Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge in Dorchester County on the Eastern Shore. On-site activities and amenities include fishing, hunting, boating, archery, swimming and an art studio. In the works are extensive plans to update and replace existing buildings, to feature a multi-year campaign focused around four key areas: recreation, operations, lodging and conservation.

Don Webster and Reggie Harrell, University of Maryland Extension (UME) specialists with decades of experience in marine science, aquaculture, pond management and fisheries have been engaged with the project managers as the site is developed. With several ponds on-site, Patriot Point leadership is investing heavily in providing a high quality fishing experience for its guests, and this cannot be realized without scientific advice and analysis of water-quality, aquatic weed control and safety improvements for the various impoundments. Webster and Harrell hope to make the fishing experiences for veterans and their families as varied and rewarding as the hunting and shooting activities on the property, which up to this point have been the primary attractions.

“The DC Bowl Committee purchased the property now known as Patriot Point in the spring of 2016. Upon purchase, there were many areas where we wanted to make improvements, including to some of the ponds on the property,” said Steve Beck, president and executive director of the DC Bowl Committee. “One of the people working with our team is Geoff Gonella, a Maryland alum and member of the UMCP Foundation Board,” Beck said. “Geoff suggested that we could use the expertise of people at the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources in creating a plan for these ponds so they can be aestheti-
cally pleasing and also raise fish for catch and release by our wounded, ill and injured guests.

“With the help of Don and Reggie, we will transform the ponds into a valuable resource that provides a relaxing activity for recovering service members who visit Patriot Point.”

Thus far, their contributions have been extensive. They have visited the retreat to conduct water quality analysis and make stocking recommendations. Good water quality is essential for the survival and growth of fish populations, and before stocking, pond water must be in optimal condition. Webster and Harrell provided recommendations for renovating a currently shallow horseshoe shaped pond that could support excellent fishing conditions, but was in need of deepening and reconfiguration to support healthy fish stocks and ensure safety standards for families and children who might use the facility. Several meetings have been held with Tim Mitchell, Patriot Point’s property and wildlife manager, to discuss methods of removing unwanted fish populations that have become established in one of the ponds. As part of these visits, each also offered game management recommendations for current and future upland game and waterfowl hunting plans, as well as consultations on future planned impoundments.

Extension’s contributions to this project extend beyond aquaculture. In its development plan, Patriot Point wants to feature alternative crops to help diversify its operation and make it attractive to wildlife. Webster and Harrell recruited Emily Zobel, the Dorchester Agriculture Faculty Extension Assistant, who advised on terrestrial weed control to help
stimulate growth of select crops. Zobel will also help Mitchell and his staff work towards optimal crop choices and management practices to promote the best possible yield.

“This project came to me from the dean of our college and the associate dean/associate director for Extension, and shows that they, as college leaders, are very committed to projects designed to assist our veterans,” said Webster. “I am a Vietnam vet and my oldest son was in Desert Storm. Patriot Point’s farm manager is a Vietnam vet as well. Reggie and I want to provide the best for them - especially wounded veterans - and places like Patriot Point are a great asset in helping them adjust and manage physical and emotional problems.”

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources plans to consistently seek out opportunities to help veterans succeed in transitioning back to their lives at home, according to Webster. “I have also been in conversation with a disabled Vietnam vet who is interested in finding a location to obtain a shellfish lease and teach vets how to raise oysters,” he said.

Webster currently heads UME’s Oyster Aquaculture Education and Training Program, which conducts a series of programs annually to rebuild the industry. Governor Larry Hogan’s administration is also involved in a new workforce development project that will include veterans as a priority group.

While coming home may be a difficult reality for some veterans, Patriot Point offers a place for them to heal, adapt and rebuild the necessary confidence to move forward and lead successful lives. The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is proud to play a role in helping provide the best possible environment and experience to facilitate this transition.

“Through our work with Patriot Point and beyond, we will keep working on veterans initiatives to explore how the college can best participate and assist in helping this group of selfless individuals lead better lives,” Webster said.

“We feel this is just a small way in which the college can give back to a few individuals who sacrificed so much for us to enjoy the freedom we experience in this country,” Harrell concluded.
A quiet stream runs through a ravine within the campus of Naval Support Activity Bethesda, home of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Beneath the trees rises the sweet smell of nature, not car fumes, and a chance to hear birds and other wildlife rustle through the bushes. In this place, called the Green Road, recovering wounded service members, their caregivers and families are able to momentarily escape dwelling on the tragedy of what has happened and the uncertainty that lies ahead.
Before starting the project Sullivan said he tended to take nature for granted.

“I don’t think I appreciated what it has done for me. I mean I have always lived in a leafy neighborhood. I work on a campus that’s an arboretum,” he said. But this project “made me aware of how lucky I am. It has made me calm, it allows me to rest. I’m a landscape architect, I should be thinking this all the time. Until working on this I don’t think I got into the spiritual part. It takes me out of myself but also feeds me.”

The $4 million project is two-pronged in its mission. First is the actual park, the quiet place for respite. Secondly, researchers will be studying 50 service member patients over a two-year period to determine if nature has a positive effect on speeding recovery. “They will be monitoring heart rate, checking on changes in enzymes and recording blood pressure,” Sullivan said.

Project administrator for the Green Road Project is Dr. Frederick Foote, a retired U.S. Navy physician who was also a driving force in Walter Reed’s “Healing through the Arts” program started in 2000. Foote used visual, musical and language arts to supplement the traditional medical treatment of post traumatic stress and brain injured patients in a holistic approach, not un-
like the garden project.

The lead organization was The Institute for Integrative Health, a nonprofit founded by Dr. Brian Ber- man, who spent 20 years as a re- searcher and director of the University of Maryland Center for Integrative Medicine. A mission of the group is to shift the focus from “managing disease to promoting lifelong health,” as well as understanding factors that influence health—like the Green Road Project.

Sullivan said the university’s role in the project came in 2012 when they were invited to participate in a grant proposal through the TKF Foundation in Annapolis. TKF, a nonprofit that has been funding small parks in the mid-Atlantic for the past 20 years,

seeks to bring “more nature closer to the people who need it,” Sullivan said. So far they’ve funded 120 gardens, including on the University’s campus. That garden was created after the terrorist attacks on 9/11 and gives students a place to sit and be reflective. “That garden gets used a lot, it’s really beautiful,” particularly the labyrinth, he said. “In a way because of the campus project I was recommended at Walter Reed.” Sullivan and his people received the grant in 2013, “I jumped at the chance to work on this proj-

ect. I’ve been interested in the idea of healing gardens, of moving the healing process more quickly.”

They started working on the design, beginning with focus groups of long-term patients, nurses, doctors, physical therapist and psychologists. Since they would be responsible for maintaining the park, U.S. Navy representatives also participated. “The group was incredibly helpful. These were people who knew the grounds,” Sullivan said, adding that “even the USO got involved,” a group perhaps better known for Bob Hope shows.

‘Nature to Ease their Struggles’

According to one of several published stories about the project,

service members suggested the most important parts of the park should be “water, stones, trees and animals.”

Sullivan agreed that there “was a desire to have access to the water. People asked, ‘could you make it so that you can actually touch the water?’ And kids, too, were taken into account. “This would not just be a place” for service members, “but also their kids
and families and the people treating them. Those people also would go there with a lot of stress and we wanted a way for nature to ease their struggle."

The focus group pointed out other considerations, Sullivan said. "It's a long way down to the stream. It would be nice to have a rest room. And what about a shelter in case of rain?" Two structures were built, on the high and low elevations and there's a council ring with eight to ten flat stones in a circle for people to sit—a nod to a tradition from Native Americans.

Visiting the area gives the feeling of "being tucked away" shielded from the outside urban area. Deer, fox and other wildlife share the space and planners purposely chose plants that would feed the birds. Woodland smells are also noticeable, whether it's the decomposition of fall leaves, fragrant springtime flowers or the distinctive smell of soil after a summer rain. "It's very subtle but it puts you in a whole different frame of mind," Sullivan said.

However, "we always assume it will trigger good memories, but you have to think that for some people, especially those with PTS, some of what (they encounter in the park) my get their guard up. You just don’t know, but we’re going to find out through the research," Sullivan said.

To that point, the garden is a setting unlike the deserts of Iraq or the rugged, rocky terrain of Afghanistan where troops served. Here there is "open structure. There are no tight enclosures, no dead-end pathways, no feeling of being trapped," he said.

He was able to use two graduate students on the project’s early research, with one of them using the project for her thesis. Sullivan also used some of the funds to hire students to work on drawings. Now that the project has been completed (dedicated in September, 2016) Sullivan takes his students there for learning and inspiration. Additionally, the professor has talked about The Green Road at various conferences including last May in China.

The project “was always in the back of my head” even during his time away from the construction, he recalled. His vigilance proved fortunate when he happened to get wind of the U.S. Navy wanting to take out 50 trees to build a bridge. ‘I said, ‘whoa!’ The Navy said ‘we agree’ so it worked out. We didn’t do a lot of clearing although we did lose some trees that were damaged in the construction...where trees came down we left the logs there. It was rather symbolic, those are our fallen comrades; they are part of the rebuilding.”

Trees in the space include tulip poplars, beech, hickory and oaks. "Fifty years ago it was cultivated as farmland so this is second growth trees. Some are three-feet in diameter," he said. There’s a high canopy, but also areas where the sun can pour through, bathing the landscape in light. The idea is not to have a well-manicured park, but space just as nature intended. Hope is that just as equally intended, the troubled and injured people who come to this place will find peace and healing.
Serving Those Who Serve
4-H Lego Robotics Challenge Theme

By Ellen Ternes

At the 2017 Maryland State Fair, 14 teams from around the state competed in the annual 4-H Lego Robotics Challenge in the Cow Palace. The Challenge is built around a theme that has youth learning about a social or environmental issue while they create a robot that can execute assignments that fit the theme.

With this year’s theme ‘Honoring Military Service: Serving Those Serving Us,’ the 4-H teams did more than apply their technical creativity. They connected with veterans in ways that will go on long after the competition.

Working with the nation’s military members and families is not new to Maryland 4-H members. Maryland 4-H Military Projects runs camps for children of enlisted military and provides training to bases around the world. But the Lego Robotics Challenge made it personal for this year’s teams. In preparing for the challenge, they talked to veterans in their communities about their service and came up with projects to directly help some of those veterans.

The competition requires teams to complete several major assignments. First is the robot. The teams of three to eight 4-H members design a robot out of Legos that can remotely perform tasks on a game board-style mat. The military theme required the robots to do things like deliver food and ammunition to a remote base, rescue soldiers, and land aircraft on a Navy carrier. The team then had to make a presentation...
Each team also has to perform a service project around the theme. This year’s teams were to come up with a project to assist active military families or veterans. For the Garrett County teams, who called themselves the Steel Legos and Steel Legos ReBooted, the requirements went hand-in-hand.

“Each team member interviewed a family member or friend who had served in the military,” explained parent coach Melinda Lewis. “The team was so excited to talk to such a variety of veterans from Vietnam veterans to active duty service members who work with robots to disarm underwater explosives.”

“Team members visited each elderly veteran at their house, spending time to get to know each veteran. The veterans we met held jobs from driving tanks to being a photographer. This helped the team members learn more about serving in the military and the sacrifices they make.”

Getting to know the veterans inspired the youth to help their community’s veterans. “The team contacted the Veterans Affairs department at Garrett College and found out about five veterans who would be attending in the fall and who needed
supplies,” Lewis said. “They also contacted the Meals on Wheels coordinator in Garrett County to find out about elderly veterans in need.”

The result was Project Appreciation. The team came up with a plan to raise money to fund 18 gift baskets. They raised more than $1500 at the local farmers’ market, with bake sales, from parents and friends and with donations from area businesses.

“Several team members met two of the veterans at Garrett College and personally gave them their backpacks,” she said. “For the elderly veterans, the team provided individualized baskets.

It was so rewarding when the team was shopping for the baskets to see how much we could buy for each veteran.”

The Garrett County teams won first place in the Lego Challenge Senior and Intermediate divisions, but their work isn’t done. Just before the fair, they got donations for four more baskets. They’re also planning to get firewood to one of the veterans before cold weather sets in.

“As a coach, it was a wonderful experience to see the kids not only raise the money, but to be excited about what we could give to the veterans and then to get to visit with each veteran and get to know them,” Lewis explained.

Ann Sherrard, Garrett County Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development, said the 4-H Lego Robotics Challenge and this year’s theme fit well with the 4-H goals. “Four-H is about youth development, about giving them life skills and workforce readiness. Engineering and technical skills are in growing demand. At the same time they still do the basics of making decisions, public speaking, teamwork and community service. The topic is new, but it’s classic 4-H.”
Sadly, many veterans deal with disabilities, undiagnosed and untreated mental illness, or other transitional issues that can lead to addiction and homelessness. It is a devastating commentary, given the service these men and women provided for the country. This is why the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources’ University of Maryland Extension (UME) partnered with The Baltimore Station to improve the health and well-being of veterans and their loved ones.

The Baltimore Station is one of the few rehabilitation centers and shelters specifically for homeless veterans, designed to transition them back to their families and into a home of their own. It is a unique therapeutic residential treatment center supporting veterans on the path to self-sufficiency. However, this population can face unique health and nutritional challenges once they are home. Many veterans haven’t had to make their own food choices or cook for themselves or their families for years, if ever. This is where UME enters the picture.

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is implemented across all states and gives guidance to low-income families on how to be more active and make healthier food choices on a budget. EFNEP at UME is funded by both the Department of Nutrition and Food Science within the college and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture. UME has been facilitating and teaching EFNEP’s hands-on curriculum for almost 30 years. It is an evidence-based program that has been proven to improve eating habits.

Throughout March and April of 2016, UME’s EFNEP coordinator Mari-bet Brute and nutrition educator Barbara Fisher worked with The Baltimore Station for the first time to bring the program to this distinctive homeless veteran population.

“The program consisted of eight separate sessions, totaling 13 hours of education and outreach,” according to Fisher. “Twenty veterans, mostly fathers, completed the entire program.”

The program is always customized to meet the needs of the class. In this case, it meant teaching the essentials necessary to change their lifestyles and improve their nutrition practices once they are reunited with their families. Issues of transportation are particularly important in Baltimore City, which is full of food swamps and food deserts, characterized by a distinct lack of access to truly healthy food, including fresh fruits and vegetables.

“Many participants aren’t even sure what certain vegetables are, let alone how to cook them. There is also a lack of knowledge around food safety issues,” Fisher explained. The program covers all of this to meet the needs of the Baltimore community.

In addition to teaching the course, Fisher tailored physical activity exercises to the class, which was a challenge for this population. Some participants were disabled or in wheelchairs. “We stuck to upper body exercises to get their heart rates up and keep people moving,” said Fisher. “This helps show participants that exercising is possible, even with certain limitations.”

Fisher was incredibly pleased that the veterans were engaged in the program. She received positive responses and was encouraged by how truly
grateful the class was to be learning and to have access to this type of information.

“One father who was visiting with his family came back to class with pictures of him and his child preparing the meal we taught them to make in our cooking demo together. It was wonderful to see,” said Fisher. UME provides a chef to teach simple and affordable recipes with few ingredients. Participants then get the opportunity to be involved in the cooking process and learn firsthand.

Fisher believes this type of educational program is helpful for the homeless veteran population transitioning back to their families. “Giving them the opportunity to learn how to cook for themselves and their families in a healthy way is truly critical to their overall health and well-being, both personally and for the whole family,” she said. “By teaching parents what to feed their children and how to cook these recipes, EFNEP is not only encouraging bonding between veterans and their children as they are being reintegrated into their families, but their children are learning habits that they will hopefully carry throughout their lives. In this way, EFNEP is educating the next generation of healthy eaters.”

UME plans to continue working with this population as much as possible. Fisher is working with the Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training (MCVET) and planning another fall workshop. She and UME hope to work with The Baltimore Station again in the coming year as well. “Through this work, the college and UME is giving back to veterans who have done so much for the country, and promoting the health and well-being of veterans and their families,” Fisher said.
Governor Hogan Visits Upper Marlboro Research Facility

It’s always an exciting and productive day when AGNR faculty and staff can visit with governmental partners about the projects conducted at any of the five off-campus research facilities that support the Central Maryland Research and Education Center.

On an August morning, Governor Larry Hogan and Secretary Joe Bartenfelder of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, joined Dean Craig Beyrouty and AGNR faculty and staff for a tour to see firsthand some of the projects being conducted at the facility.

One of the newer projects is a partnership for AGNR with the University of Maryland College Park’s Dining Services and Office of Sustainability – the Terp Farm, growing fresh produce for meals by 251 North, Green Tidings mobile dining food truck, South Campus Dining Hall, and The Diner. Two acres are utilized at the Upper Marlboro Facility to grow peppers, tomatoes, lettuce, squash, broccoli, kale, collards and other produce. A high tunnel allows for production year-round. Five to 10 percent of the harvest is shared with a local food bank. Students from several campus departments work at the farm, making a connection to the land and learning where their food comes from. Classes and interns from the Plant Science & Landscape Architecture Department and the Institute of Applied Agriculture learn about agriculture through hands-on training.

One of the primary emphases of the Upper Marlboro facility over the past few years is to provide support for research and Extension initiatives investigating alternative agricultural opportunities for Southern Maryland, especially those offering an alternative to tobacco production. A total of 32 AGNR faculty members use the 202-acre facility at Upper Marlboro for their research, instructional, and/or Extension programs. They represent the Department of Plant Sciences and Landscape Architecture, Department of Entomology, Department of Animal and Avian Sciences, Department of Environmental Science and Technology, and University of Maryland Extension. In addition, two or three USDA-BARC researchers use the facility annually.

Convocation
AGNR Faculty & Staff Excellence Awards

Faculty and staff excellence was celebrated at the AGNR Annual Staff Awards program on May 23rd at the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center. Prior to lunch and the award presentations, Dean Beyrouty presented a “state of the college,” sharing programmatic highlights and statistics of interest to those attending and external audiences. With a combined 475 years of dedication and service to AGNR, 37 employees were recognized for their years of service to conclude the day.

The Dean Gordon M. Cairns Award for Distinguished Creative Work and Teaching in Agriculture

Dr. Ray Weil is Professor of Soil Science in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology where he has taught over 6,500 undergraduate and graduate students, addressed over 6,000 farmers at meetings and field days, and helped train hundreds of researchers and managers in numerous companies and organizations, including the World Bank. He has been the major advisor for 42 MS and PhD students in the U.S. and has

Gov. Larry Hogan tours the University of Maryland Upper Marlboro CMREC Research Farm and Terp Farm operation.
co-advised numerous others at African universities. He is a Fellow of both the Soil Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy and has twice been awarded Fulbright Fellowships to support his work in Africa. He is best known for his ecological approach to soil science in writing the 11th-15th editions of the most widely adopted, translated and cited textbook in the field, The Nature and Properties of Soils. Commonly known as the “Bible of Soil Science,” this textbook has over 17,000 citations in the scientific literature. Ray has worked to improve food production by village farmer fields in a dozen African countries. At the same time, he has found practical solutions that allow U.S. farmers to do well by doing right by our land and water. As one of the leaders of the current soil health-cover crop revolution, Ray has helped change the face of agriculture in North America.

Dr. Cairns joined the faculty in 1945 and was appointed dean in 1950. In that role, he also supervised the State Board of Agriculture, prior to the establishment of the Maryland Department of Agriculture in 1972. This award was established upon his retirement in 1978. He continued working with the Wye Angus herd until 1981. The first award was presented prior to his death in 1992.

**The Paul R. Poffenberger Excellence in Teaching & Advising Award**

A lifelong Terp, Dr. Kevin Mathias has taught over 15 different courses, advised more than 1,000 students, and advanced the Golf and Turfgrass Management program at the Institute of Applied Agriculture (IAA). He has coached 42 teams in national turf competitions and continues to guide hundreds of alumni. He expanded IAA’s teaching reach with regional training programs, workshops and conference presentations, guest lectures and online courses. He also does exceptional work in mentoring and placing students at internships and jobs nationwide. Kevin is a champion fundraiser for IAA student scholarships and activities. He has organized the Shields Memorial Golf Tournament for 33 years which brings alumni and industry supporters out in force to raise funds for student scholarships and program enhancements. The tournament has raised $400,000 providing 119 student scholarships and travel funds to over 40 competitions and industry events.

Dr. Poffenberger served as Assistant and Associate Dean for undergraduate instruction from 1961 until his retirement in 1981. A member of the class of 1935, he earned his MS in 1937 from UMD and served as department chair of agricultural economics from 1955 to 1961. His commitment to undergraduate scholarships, teaching and faculty based advising is celebrated in this award established by his family following his death in 1996.

**On-Campus Staff Excellence Award**

Diana Cortez is coordinator of Academic Programs, Department of Plant Science & Landscape Architecture. She manages all three degree programs (PLSC, LARC and AGST) and supports students, faculty and other staff. Her accomplishments in the last five years include: implementation of new advising procedures, new marketing and recruiting for undergraduate programs and implementation of many new systems that have been adopted by the university.

**Tim Hammond** is a system analyst in AGNR’s Information and Education Technologies unit. He has made significant contributions to AGNR through his sophisticated and innovative approach to problem-solving, and the design, development and implementation of technology-based solutions. He and his team manage and maintain the college’s 100+ Windows and Linux servers and 500+ desktops and laptops throughout the state. Tim also enjoys teaching college faculty and staff on the latest trends in technology.

**Off-Campus Staff Excellence Award**

Nancy Nunn served as the Education, Outreach and Advancement Coordinator of the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology. She regularly interfaces with agricultural and forestry industry leaders as well as state, local and federal government leaders. Her work with Maryland Department of Energy and Maryland Department of Agriculture resulted in the recommendations to the Bay Program. The Delmarva Land and Litter Challenge recently presented recommendations to state agencies regarding regional manure transport and will be promoting a nutrient mass balance report. Nancy plays a leadership role representing the college and the center in this influential collaborative group.
**On-Campus Professional Track Faculty Excellence Award**

Sophia Wilcox is a professional track faculty member in Agricultural and Resource Economics serving as the regional site manager (RSM) for the Afghanistan Agricultural Extension Project. Sophia lives full-time in Afghanistan, managing the project. She has an extensive technical background in veterinary/animal science, working and managing farms, and experience with dryland irrigation. As RSM, she managed a team of 20 local Afghans and led the development of UMD’s international Women in Agriculture approach, which centers around women-led demonstration farms and farmer field schools.

**Off-Campus Professional Track Faculty Excellence Award**

Kristin Spiker is the Food Supplement Nutrition Education project leader and nutrition educator for Garrett County. Her excellent teaching abilities, innovative programming, willingness to pilot and engage in new and novel projects, superb collaboration skills, and a passion for community-based nutrition education help her target individual, family, and community-level variables in an effort make improvements in health behaviors among low-income audiences. Kristin was an early adopter of novel interventions such as Text2BHealthy, a nationally recognized program that reaches parents of children receiving direct nutrition education in her schools.

**Faculty Research Award**

Dr. Qin Wang is an Associate Professor in NFSC, with 75 research articles in scientific journals, along with seven book chapters, one U.S. patent and three invention disclosures. She has co-edited a book on “Nanotechnology Research Methods for Foods and Bioproducts” and given 11 invited talks at national and international conferences. She is an editorial board member for several peer-reviewed journals. Qin’s group has established a pioneer research program in microgreens, developing platforms for evaluating the quality, safety and nutritional value of as well as discovering desirable storage conditions to improve their shelf-life and health components.

**On-Campus Junior Faculty Award**

Dr. Bhanu Telugu is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal and Avian Sciences who has spearheaded efforts to establish genome editing technology in large animal models, such as pigs, and in mice for agricultural and biomedical applications. He has attracted more than $5 million in external funding, started a biotech start-up company (RenOVate Biosciences, Inc.), was published extensively in prestigious peer-reviewed journals, and positioned himself as one of the global leaders in animal genome editing/genetic engineering field. He is consistently rated as one of the top teachers in the department and has provided outstanding service to the department and the college.

**Integrated Research & Extension Excellence Award**

Dave Newburn is a leader in the areas of stormwater management and land-use, developing an Extension and research program that brings together key regional and national players in addressing problems relevant to Maryland agriculture. He identifies practical problems and marshals the applied research tools. His research is being published in top professional outlets and he has assumed leadership positions in important regional and national-level working groups on stormwater management and land use.
CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS

2017 Years of Service Awards

5 YEARS
Christopher L. Behnke
Pamela K. Biery
April E. Brohawn
Amy R. Brueckmann
Marsha Jo Dicus
Jamie L. Fleming
Yi Yao Gina Hsu
Judy M. Knight
Elma Ruth Koster
Maria L. Liberati
Demetrius L. Lovejoy
Melekte Y. Truneh
Aly J. Valentine

10 YEARS
Laurie C. Brown
Amanda Brown Clougherty
Theodor Conover
Libby C. Dufour
Michael E. Dwyer
Raymond Thomas Harrison III
Brett D. Kinnamon
Ann J. Leger
Tam Nhut Ong

15 YEARS
Dee Dee Allen
Pamela Sue Chollet
Kriss Cocoros
Judy K. Cooper
Richard W. Gomez
Nancy W. McIntee
Fred Adolph Senkbeil

20 YEARS
John W. Dulin
Rubie Gonzales Mize
Pamela A. Moffett

25 YEARS
Evelyn E. Cooper
Barbara Fisher

30 YEARS
Carole A. Dingess
Robin S. Wigley

45 YEARS
Janet M. Carroll

AGNR lives the Land-Grant Mission during 136th Maryland State Fair

The Maryland State Fair provides the perfect venue for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to feature the extracurricular opportunities afforded to our students, faculty, and staff. The fair is also the concluding event for 4-H members and their families as they complete their projects by entering exhibits, participating in contests, and sharing their project knowledge stories through demonstrations.

Governor Larry Hogan had the opportunity to meet some AGNR students and 4-H members in action as he toured the fair on Governor’s Day.

For the second year, the fair hosted a University of Maryland Day where AGNR faculty and staff joined campus staff to share information about programs and activities. The “Terp-mobile” bus was parked in State Fair Park near the 4-H/FFA Home Arts building providing a perfect location for conversations and transition to exhibit areas.
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For the 92nd year, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources opened its doors to the community as Maryland Day was celebrated for the 19th time across campus on the last Saturday in April. Traditional Ag Day events, including livestock and horse shows along with University of Maryland ice cream sampling, were supplemented with the “Make Your Own Omelet” for AGNR’s alumni and partners from the MD Egg Council providing an opportunity for Dean Beyrouty to thank scholarship donors and visit with agricultural leaders and supporters of AGNR. AGNR student clubs out-did themselves with activities ranging from insect petting to global poverty jeopardy. Maryland FFA conducted their Science Fair Career Development Event and research posters were available for visitors to review throughout the day. University of MD Extension faculty and staff conducted plant clinics and the MD 4-H program held its state public speaking contest. Mark your calendars for the last Saturday in April 2018 and join in the fun and learning at Maryland Day - Ag Day!
May 2017 found the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources graduating a record number of students! Reckord Armory was filled to capacity with family and friends of the graduates. Continuing a long-standing tradition, graduating students Anna Wooten, Nutrition and Food Science, and Samuel Norris, Agricultural Resource Economics, were the featured speakers, sharing experiences and expectations with their fellow classmates, faculty, staff, family and friends. AGNR Alumni Chapter president Robert Morris ’75, encouraged graduates to visit campus and keep in touch with their fellow graduates and mentors.

Community members welcomed to Open House at Clarksville

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources faculty, staff and students from across the state converged at the Clarksville Research Facility on October 14 to share their expertise at the AGNR Open House. Over 2,000 visitors experienced all aspects of academics, research and Extension programs shared via more than 30 demonstrations, activities’ and exhibits. New offerings this year included cider pressing and visiting with goats owned by local 4-H club members. Workshops were offered by Extension educators and college staff related to current projects such as the “Hops and Crops” collaborative project with the Brewers Association of Maryland, and Composting with 30 composting bins offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Dean Craig Beyrouty noted that “this was a wonderful showcase of our people and programs for the citizens of Maryland. I also was very impressed with the interactive displays. Folks really enjoyed themselves and were fully engaged with the presenters. Our college is at the forefront of solving the most pressing agricultural and environmental challenges to create a more sustainable planet for future generations, and we’re thrilled to share our programs with the community.” Visitors were able to paint pumpkins, make “seed bombs” at the butterfly garden exhibit, take a wagon tour of the facility, pet a chicken and help name the 2017 Open House Calf!
Global Leadership Council meets

Dean Beyrouty welcomed members of his Global Leadership Council to campus in September for an interactive information session on the college. Esteemed members, including Secretary Mark Belton and Senator Adelaide Eckardt, enjoyed mingling with students, receiving key updates on the college’s strategic priorities and contributing their ideas to ensure the college’s future success.

Partnership leads to high quality local beer

Maryland’s largest brewery and the University of Maryland (UMD) are committed to developing the highest quality ingredients for Maryland beer. Flying Dog has engaged with UMD’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources in a partnership that will allow them to work side-by-side on the future of beer-centric agriculture in the region. To start, the focus is on hops.

“Hop farming in the state of Maryland continues to grow, and what we appreciate most about the program is the practical approach to the business of beer agriculture,” said Matt Brophy, chief operating officer for Flying Dog. “It’s equal parts commitment to the development of our existing farms and providing local breweries with the highest quality ingredients.”

Hops used in craft beer production need to meet the same quality standards that are achieved in traditional hop growing regions of the world. Understanding this dynamic, UMD established a replicated variety trial using 24 varieties of hops at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center (WMREC) in Keedysville. The trials will collect critical information on how Maryland’s unique climate affects harvest date, levels of acids and oil in the hops, and any special aspects of profile.

“I am thrilled to be part of a partnership with a business leader in the state that has the foresight to help an entire industry grow using research-based information,” said Bryan Butler ’84, Extension educator for UMD.

The current planting consists of 24 varieties of hops with each variety replicated three times. The first 12 varieties, planted in 2016, were selected from discussions with academic and industry experts on what might perform well in the area and what was being used by brewers. The second 12 varieties were selected based on what might be most marketable in the region.
New Associate Dean for UME

**DR. JAMES C. HANSON** has been named Associate Dean/Associate Director of University of Maryland Extension effective October 13, 2017. Jim earned his BS degree in Agronomy in 1972 from the University of Maryland and his MS from the University Minnesota in 1974 in Plant Breeding and Genetics. He completed his PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics in 1983 from the University of Maryland.

Jim has been a valued member of the college since the 1980s, when he joined the faculty of the Institute of Applied Agriculture. He taught farm management courses and advised students in the farm management program. He joined the faculty of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics in 1988 as Extension Farm Management Specialist, teaching courses related to futures and options, and farm management. His Extension portfolio expanded into the international arena in the early 2000s. He received the University of Maryland’s Distinguished International Service Award in 2011 and the 2016 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Gordon Cairns Award for Distinguished Creative Work and Teaching in Agriculture.

Jim has held a variety of leadership positions including Acting Associate Dean for Extension from 2005-2006 and Chair of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics from 2015 to the present.

“As an alumnus of the University and College, I am honored to take on the leadership of University of Maryland Extension,” he said. “The Land-Grant Mission resonates with Marylanders as they enjoy our local bounty and strive to protect our valued resources. Extension has always played a key role as the face of the University in local communities. I look forward to working in the state and helping UME faculty and staff develop relevant educational programs for producers, youth, consumers, industry, and governmental partners.”

Jim and his wife, Liz Lavine, live in Glenwood on Piper’s Run Farm, a small horse farm. They enjoy spending time with their grown children, Jimmy and Colleen Hanson who live in Brookeville and Courtney and Bill Betts who live in the Boston, MA area, along with their five granddaughters.

As a land grant institution, the University of Maryland aims to provide information to producers on the viability and marketability of these varieties, as producers will need research-based details on not only varieties, but also disease, insect and fertility management specific to the mid-Atlantic, quality analysis of harvested hops and economic viability of hops as a crop. Flying Dog will help fund hop processing equipment for UMD and provide resources to analyze and evaluate each test crop the program harvests. Flying Dog will also develop beers using those hops, eliciting feedback from and exposing craft beer fans to the full potential of local hops.

A culmination of these hop trials will be an annual guide that both UMD and Flying Dog will produce on growing hops in the mid-Atlantic, which will summarize best management practices specific to this region, something Brophy thinks is crucial to the continued growth and development of local hop farms.
**Dr. Robert (Bob) Tjaden** is the Acting Assistant Director/Program Leader for Environment and Natural Resources for UME, effective Oct. 1, 2017. This is a full-time position with all administrative responsibilities of the position. Bob’s home office will be at the Wye Research and Education Center.

**Dr. Nia Fields** is serving as the Publications Editor for UME, effective Oct. 1, 2017. During this one-year appointment, Nia’s primary responsibility will be to provide leadership of the UME publications process and serve as the decision maker for manuscript acceptance, author credits, photograph/graphic suitability, formatting and final approval.

**Nancy K. Nunn**, long-time Communications and Outreach Coordinator for the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, has been named Assistant Director after a nationwide search. “Nancy Nunn is the right person to move the Hughes Center to the next level,” said Executive Director Suzanne E. Dorsey, PhD. “Nancy’s professional relationships and collaborative work, coupled with her agricultural experience, made her stand out.”

Nancy has played a key role since 2007, shaping the center’s engagement with state and local governments as they created Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) for the Chesapeake Bay clean-up. Nancy built relationships with stakeholders and articulated the needs and concerns of communities in implementing nutrient management plans to the Governor and appropriate Secretaries. As a result, the organization was recently cited by the Bay Program as a “model for local engagement.”

Nancy steps into a role held by Dr. Sarah Taylor-Rogers, who retired in 2017 after serving 15 years. Nancy was recognized at the 2017 AGNR Convocation with the Off-Campus Staff Excellence Award.

**Aly Valentine** has been selected to serve as the Assistant Director of Operations for University of Maryland Extension. She started in this position on Aug. 7, 2017, and brings six years of experience within UME. Aly served as Area Extension Director for two different clusters, and for a period of time, two clusters simultaneously. For the past five months she has been assisting Tom Porter, Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director of UME, with many responsibilities overseeing operations and fiscal and personnel management. Her home office will be in College Park, Symons Hall room 1212.
In April, a team from UMD’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources took first place in the 57th National Soils Competition hosted by the Northern Illinois University. Contestants from 24 universities from seven regions around the country inspected various soil pits and worked to identify, evaluate and describe five soil profiles. The Terps finished fourth in the group portion, followed by a dominant showing in the individual portion with all four UMD contestants finishing in the top 11 (among a field of 93). This marked the fourth time a Terp team has won the national title.

AGNR team members were Kristi Persing, first place, Philip Schwartz, fifth place, Shelley Porter, ninth place, and Daniel Smith, of the A. James Clark School of Engineering, 11th place. The Terp team finished ahead of Kansas State, University of WI Platteville, Purdue University and University of WI Stephens Point, second through fifth, respectively.

“This is a highly prestigious competition with a long, storied history, and it is a tremendous point of pride for our students, our college and the University as a whole to bring home the win,” said Coach Martin Rabenhorst, PhD. “These events provide outstanding educational opportunities for our students – and a chance to study soils, landscapes, geology and agriculture in areas they may never have seen. And while these trips are a lot of work, they also are a lot of fun. Many of our graduates consider soil judging the highlight of their college experiences.”

The Terps won the 1972 National Championship in Blacksburg, VA (Rabenhorst was a team member), in 1984 in San Luis Obispo, CA (Coach Rabenhorst) and most recently in Platteville, WI, in 2013 (Coach Brian Needelman). Terp Judger Chenlin Zhu began an MS program in Environmental Science and Technology within the college this semester, and five of the other team members will be graduating this May (Porter, Smith, Persing, Agee, and Kramer.)
The Global Poverty Student Advisory Board hosted a career panel to inform students about the impact nonprofit organizations have on the developing world. Agricultural and Resource Economics senior and Global Poverty Ambassador, Carrie Lewey, organized the event with the assistance of fellow ambassadors.

"The Global Poverty Ambassadors were looking for a way to spread the word about how fantastic and diverse the (Global Poverty) minor is," said Lewey. "We were all also interested in learning how we can impact the world using the minor since many of us would love for it to be our major."

Speakers at the event included Melanie Sany of the Education Development Center, Geroldine Sicot of Millennium Challenge Corporation, Diether Beuermann of Inter-American Development Bank, Pat Corrigan of Deloitte and Maggie McDonough of Souktel.

The team led by Mark Dennis, Dylan Reilly and Vince Yi, all in the college’s Plant Sciences and Landscape Architecture department, includes Emma Giese, Tuana Phillips (Environmental Science and Technology); Michael Van Wie (Mechanical Engineering); and Christiane Machado (Architecture), all of whom will split $1,000 for the win.

RainWorks project captures second at National EPA Contest

For the third consecutive year, a UMD team took high honors in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) fifth annual Campus RainWorks Challenge. The 2016 finish punctuates a remarkable multi-year showing in the national competition where student teams collaborate to design an innovative green infrastructure project for their respective campus. AGNR students received second place in the demonstration project category for their (Un)Loading Nutrients submission, a design that aims to transform a strategic loading dock facility into a reimagined green infrastructure campus amenity.

Under the guidance of and recommendation from UMD Facilities Management, the team set out to retrofit a .97-acre lot that is 96% impervious and lacks stormwater management best practices. Much of the polluted runoff is conveyed to the nearby creek of Guilford Run, causing significant environmental stress. The design proposal serves as a future model for University-wide stormwater BMPs that reverse the negative impact on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

"I’m immensely proud of our students and continue to marvel at their commitment to improving the University experience for staff, faculty and students while also solving important stormwater challenges that affect our precious local waterways," said Victoria Chanse, PhD of UMD’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and advisor to the project. "In our college, we are fully committed to preserving the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, and the development and installation of green infrastructure to mitigate stormwater impacts is a very important step."

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Hannah Dewey, a spring 2017 Agricultural and Resource Economics (AREC) graduate received the Big Ten Outstanding Sportsmanship award in July. Presented by the Big Ten, it recognizes one male and one female athlete from each school for their sportsmanship and competitiveness.

Dewey was a team captain of the softball team and played all four years, primarily as a pitcher. She was also president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee from 2016 to 2017. She plans to play professional softball for the Mannheim Tornados in Germany. “During this time I’m also gaining some work experience remotely in college athletics working with LEAD1, an up-and-coming Political Action Committee focused on improving current policy for the NCAA,” said Dewey.

Dewey chose AREC as her major because it combined her passion for economics and data analysis with environmental sustainability. “AREC has definitely prepared me for my future in many different ways,” she said. “It has allowed me to research and come up with new ways to look at various economic models in our ever-changing society. I’ve been able to work on group projects about key economic agreements involving all kinds of policies from all over the world, and how we could implement them into our own legislation.” She plans to apply for graduate schools after returning from Germany.

Food Science students from the college placed third in the mid-Atlantic Institute of Food Technologists Student Association College Bowl Competition held at Pennsylvania State University during the 2017 spring semester. Undergraduate and graduate students from participating universities competed in an “It’s Academic” style trivia contest, answering food science related toss-up and bonus questions.

In the first round, UMD beat North Carolina State, the team with the most wins in college bowl history. The six-member team included Kaitlyn Davey, Angela Ferelli, Kristi Kan, Xingchen Liu and David Shaya. Graduate student Andrea Gilbert, a four-time College Bowl veteran, served as team captain. UMD Coach Govindaraj Dev Kumar, PhD was proud of the team’s performance and sportsmanship.
AGNR Alumni Rising to New Heights

Food Science alumna Sheila Jones ’99, Director of Product Development - Private Brands for Walmart, returned to campus to visit with Food Science Club members during the Spring 2017 semester. Since graduation, Sheila has worked for Nestle, Campbell’s and Walmart. She was named 2013 Health and Wellness Partner of the Quarter and won 2013 Private Label Manufacturers Association Store Brands Decision Innovation Award.

Jones works in collaboration with seven business divisions representing a range of categories to drive brand and product innovation for capturing new markets, revenue and market share. This entails managing product development budgeting, suppliers, process scheduling and full product lifecycles. She also makes recommendations to executive leadership on product opportunities, and oversees talent management across multiple divisions.

Jones held a product development workshop, delving into the technical aspects of Campbell’s chicken noodle soup. Students learned about the manufacturing processes for four styles of chicken noodle soup. Keqin He, an NFSC senior, noted that “I was amazed at how every detail in a product was repeatedly modified to target the market, such as the star shape of noodles in a microwaveable soup product! I’ve learned a lot and will definitely pay more attention to details in my future interactions with food.”

Following the product development workshop, Jones shared professional development advice and encouraged students to expand their network. She also offered interview techniques to highlight involvement in student clubs.

Katherine Mackey ’02, the Clare Boothe Luce Assistant Professor of Earth System Science at the University of California Irvine since 2014, has been awarded a 2017 Sloan Research Fellowship in ocean sciences for her pioneering work in marine biogeochemistry.

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation awards two-year fellowships to 126 promising early-career scientists in the U.S. and Canada. Nominated by their peers, fellows receive $60,000 to further their work. In her lab, Mackey studies the role of biological and chemical cycles and climate dynamics in the Earth’s oceans. Her approach merges modern oceanographic disciplines with new insights about how phytoplankton ecology and biogeochemical conditions respond to environmental change. “Marine phytoplankton do half of all photosynthesis on Earth and directly influence global biogeochemical cycles and climate, but there are still many fundamental unanswered questions about how they will respond to global change,” Mackey said.

The Clare Boothe Luce endowed professorship supports exceptional female researchers in STEM fields. Mackey has also received fellowships from the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Before joining UCI, Mackey was a postdoctoral researcher at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the Marine Biological Laboratory, where she used proteomics to study the effect of iron limitation on marine phytoplankton. Mackey completed her Bachelor’s degrees in Biological Engineering and Botany at the University of Maryland, and earned her Masters and PhD in Environmental Engineering at Stanford University. She has been an NSF Graduate Research Fellow, a Fellow in the Department of Energy Global Change Research Program, and an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow in Biology. She recently received the inaugural Marion Milligan Mason Award for women in the chemical sciences from the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Boyd J. Michael III ’79, ’82, & ’14, was named Superintendent of Washington County Public Schools (WCPS) in Maryland, following three months as the Interim Superintendent.

At the time of his appointment, Dr. Michael was the WCPS Deputy Superintendent, a position he had held since 2008. He is in his 38th year with WCPS, beginning a teaching career in 1979 at Clear Spring High School, and later serving the school system as an assistant principal, principal, Executive Director of Secondary Education and Assistant Superintendent for School Operations.

“Dr. Michael is very knowledgeable about our school system, he has the trust of the community and he has made a long-term commitment to Washington County,” said Board of Education President Melissa Williams. “There is no learning curve, and our students, parents, employees and the community can be assured that the transition will be smooth and seamless.”

Dr. Michael earned all of his advanced degrees from the University of Maryland. He earned his BS from the College of Agriculture and Natural
Mark Schnebly ’01, has been promoted to Senior Vice President for Loan Operations with MidAtlantic Farm Credit. He is located in the association’s Martinsburg, WV, office.

“I am excited for the opportunity to add to the strategic focus of the loan operations department,” says Schnebly. “It’s a rewarding challenge to meet the needs of our lending staff, and ultimately provide best-in-class service to our members.”

Schnebly has been with Farm Credit since 2002, starting in the sales department. He transitioned to underwriting manager in 2009, and has served as the interim operations manager since October 2016. He assumed his new role on January 1.

“We’re excited to have Mark as part of our senior management team,” says Tom Truitt, CEO of MidAtlantic Farm Credit. “He has already provided important leadership and insight to many of our strategic initiatives, and we’re looking forward to the impact he will have in this new role.”
Julia Thomé ’14, has been selected as one of five fellows in Longwood Gardens’ inaugural Longwood Fellows Program. The program focuses on building the leadership capacity of high-potential public horticulture and cultural professionals, thereby increasing the pipeline of talent available to the industry in the coming years.

Thomé is the Assistant Manager of Gardens and Grounds at the Chevy Chase Club, a private and distinctive social institution in Maryland. She holds a certificate in Ornamental Horticulture from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources’ Institute of Applied Agriculture (IAA) at the University of Maryland, a Master of Science in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maine, and a Bachelor of Science in Geography from the University of Massachusetts where she graduated with honors. She was named the IAA’s Outstanding Graduating Student in 2014.

During the 13-month, fully funded, cohort-based residency at Longwood, Thomé will delve into topical issues relevant to public horticulture today such as leadership, board relations and governance, communication skills, change management, innovation, and human resources management. A two-month international field placement provides a deeper understanding of these issues, equipping Fellows to lead organizations into a vibrant and sustainable future.

Nearly 200 alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of AGNR gathered at the Samuel Riggs Alumni Center for the 50th AGNR Alumni Banquet. Highlights included presentations of student achievements and alumni stories, recognition of the department’s 50th anniversary, and the announcement of the AGNR Alumni Scholarships. The evening concluded with a silent auction to support AGNR student clubs and scholarships. In front from left, are, Jeffrey Moore ‘07, Nutrition and Food Science, Outstanding Alumnus – 4 year program who found that Agricultural and Resource Economics was a perfect fit for his interests; Danielle (Dani) Weissman, Plant Sciences and Landscape Architecture - Outstanding Graduate Student – MS for investigating the effects of salt-water intrusion on the release of phosphorus from coastal farmland as an often overlooked issue to the health of the Chesapeake Bay while maintaining a high grade point average and receiving multiple scholarships; Maso Economics - Outstanding Student – 4 year program who found that Agricultural and Resource Economics was a perfect fit for his interests; Lance Yonkos, Environmental Science and Technology - Excellence in Instruction known as the architect in the rapid and sustainable growth of ENST including designing the Environmental Health undergraduate specialization, creating two of the five required courses and participating in the evolution of the other three. In back from left, are, J. Robert Morris ’75, Agribusiness – Outstanding Alumnus in recognition of his career with MidAtlantic Farm Credit in legislative relations, his exceptional service to the poultry industry, passion for alumni engagement and programs; Chris Johnson, Director of Campus Relations, University of Maryland Alumni Association, shared highlights for alumni engagement and programs; Dean Beyrouty, shared the work being done to shape the Strategic Vision for AGNR; and in his inaugural year as associate dean for academic programs, Danielle (Dani) Weissman, Animal and Avian Sciences - Outstanding Graduate Student – PhD whose work related to controlling foodborne bacterial pathogens with natural antimicrobial compounds and cross-contamination and colonization of foodborne bacterial pathogens with natural antimicrobial components such as pomace extracts of berry fruit.
Our lives have been touched by so many who have passed in recent months. While we grieve with their families, we are grateful that they have served as mentors by their examples. It is our hope that their legacies are honored with our work as students, faculty, staff, Extension clients, industry and governmental partners in our pursuit of the Land Grant Mission.

Ina Jean Anderson, long-time staff member in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology, died on July 14, 2017. She was 74.

Ina resided in Berwyn Heights and was very involved at Holy Redeemer Church. She received her BS in Information Systems from the UMD and worked her entire 35-year career at UMD. She was a nature loving, artistic, equestrian, who was exceptionally knowledgeable on a wide range of topics from art, current events, nature and history, with a demented sense of humor who left behind many good loving friends who cared for her until the end.

She is survived by her children Thomas (Holli) Brew and Charles (Jennifer) Brew; seven grandchildren, Jack, Lea Jean, Dr. Thomas (Sharlyn), Jr., Jake, Jason, Zachary and Joshua Brew and eight great grandchildren, Nicholas, Jake Jr., Paige, Braydin, Anabelle-Marrei, Xander-Colt, Niko and Alexander. She is also survived by her sisters, Hattie Anderson, Barbera Simons, Mary Davis and Estella Mae Arnold. Her parents, Garnett Anderson and Mary Angle and family. Teresa was preceded in death by her father, Demetrio Aloi.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Scott and Teresa Angle Scholarship that supports agricultural students that desire to attend law school. Gifts should be made payable to the UGA Foundation and mailed to the Office of External Relations at 117 Four Towers, Athens, GA 30602.

“When you love someone, caring for that person is more of a privilege than an obligation.” - Jay Scott Angle

Irvin O. Bauer Jr., ’50, a retired Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. arborist and long-time American Red Cross volunteer, died February 11, 2017, at the Mercy Ridge retirement community in Timonium. He was 92.
The son of Irvin O. Bauer Sr., a florist, and Minerva Koch, a homemaker, Irvin was born in Baltimore and raised in Pinehurst. After graduating from Polytechnic Institute in 1943, he joined the Army Air Forces and later was a member of the Aviation Cadet program. After that program was canceled, he was trained as an aviation mechanic. Mr. Bauer was assigned to the Ryukyu Islands, where bombing runs to Japan originated, as an air crew chief. He was discharged in 1946 as a sergeant.

During his college years, he worked with the family florist business, Fred C. Bauer, on Gittings Avenue in Pinehurst, and also on the family farm on Providence Road in Baltimore County. He earned a BS in 1950 from the University of Maryland, College Park, where he was a member of the National Agriculture Honor Society.

He began his career with BGE in 1950 as supervisor of ground maintenance, where he was in charge of landscaping the grounds of BGE’s substations, power plants and service centers. One of his major projects was the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant, where he was involved in planning, clearing, grading, and sediment and erosion control for the plant. Some of his professional memberships included the Maryland Environmental Trust and the board of the Maryland Nurserymen’s Association. He was a member of the board and president of the Southern Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Utility Arborist Association. He retired in 1990.

A former resident of the Chatterleigh neighborhood of Baltimore County, he spent more than 20 years as a first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation instructor for the American Red Cross. He also was involved with the Boy Scouts for three decades. A resident of Mercy Ridge since 2010, Mr. Bauer enjoyed traveling, golf, hunting and snorkeling. He was a communicant of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Baynesville.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 70 years, the former Rita Lochte; three sons, Irvin O. Bauer III of Arnold, Robert J. Bauer of Abingdon and DeWitt C. Bauer of Lutherville; a daughter, Michele Bauer Distler of Lutherville; a sister, Alma Hudson of Cedarcroft; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Joan Toms Derrick of Ashton passed away on August 28, 2017. She was the daughter of Beatrice Clingan Toms and the late Clark Toms. She was 83.

The Derrick family is an institution in Ashton/Sandy Spring community. Joan was a member of the Women’s Board for more than 35 years and served president. She was also a member of the Foundation Board for the community hospital. The impact of her volunteerism and philanthropic investments in the community cannot be overstated. She was known as a “feisty, honest, funny, brave, loving and generous person.”

Joan was elected to the Maryland 4-H Foundation Board of Directors and enjoyed serving on the scholarship committee. She especially enjoyed meeting the scholarship recipients at the annual awards gala. The Donald C. Scholarship at the foundation was established by Joan in memory of her brother.

She was the wife of the late Willard H. Derrick and is survived by two daughters, Deborah Derrick Bissell of Olney and Diane Derrick Kimble of Ashton. She is also survived by nine grandchildren and her sister, Patricia T. Ferrell of Bethesda.

Memorial donations may be made to Oakdale Church, 3425 Emory Church Rd., Olney, MD 20832 or Ashton United Methodist Church, 17314 New Hampshire Ave., Ashton, MD 20861.

Sara Ann Godwin died December 19, 2016, after a brief hospitalization for a rare disease, Wegener’s, a condition that causes inflammation of the blood vessels that targets the respiratory tract. She was the wife of William D. Godwin.

Sara was a 1959 graduate of Shippensburg (PA) Area High School and a 1962 graduate of Harrisburg Hospital School of Nursing. She earned her Bachelor of Nursing degree from Lebanon Valley College.

She retired on October 1, 2003, as the Manager of Adult Evaluation and Review Services, Washington County Health Department. She had also worked for the Home Health Department. Prior to that, she was part of the evening nursing staffs located in the Waynesboro Hospital, Waynesboro, PA, and the City Hospital in Martinsburg, WV.

After she married William in 1993, Sara Ann embraced Will’s love and passion for AGNR and the University of Maryland. She accompanied him to events and reminded others of Will’s heritage, being the grandson of Thomas B. Symons, past president of the University of Maryland, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service.

She was a member of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Hagerstown, Daughters of American Revolution- An-
Eugene N. Gogel ‘54 & ’56, former co-owner of Pikesville Hardware Store and Garden Center, died March 6, 2017. He was the husband of the former Jean Frank for 58 years. He was 84.

The son of Louis Gogel, an insurance salesman, and Irene Gogel, a U.S. Census Bureau worker, Eugene was born in Baltimore and raised on Garrison Boulevard in Forest Park. After graduating in 1950 from Forest Park High School, he earned his BS in food technology from the University of Maryland in 1954. He had a grant to study the canning industry in Maryland and earned his MS from Maryland in 1956.

From 1956 to 1958, he served aboard the destroyer USS Kenneth M. Willett as a lieutenant junior-grade and navigator. He then went to work for Crosse & Blackwell, a food-processing plant on Eastern Avenue, eventually becoming a vice president and plant manager. After corporate owner, Nestle USA, closed the plant in 1972, he purchased Pikesville Hardware with a business partner, Abe Fox. They eventually added a garden center and renamed the Reisterstown Road business the Pikesville Hardware and Garden Center. In 1984, they sold the business.

In 1990, Eugene became an owner of Strasburger and Siegel Inc., a food laboratory that was located on Eutaw Place and later moved to Dorsey Road in Linthicum, with business partners Alan D. Parker and Supat Sirivicha. He served as director of administration and marketing. After the business sold in 1996, he worked for several years for QC Laboratory, a Philadelphia food laboratory, before retiring.

Eugene was dedicated to Pikesville, serving as president of the Pikesville Chamber of Commerce from 1977 to 1978, and was founder and first president of the Pikesville Community Growth Corporation. He also chaired the Pikesville Revitalization Task Force and had been a longtime member and treasurer of First Step Youth Services, which worked with troubled youth and their families. He was honored by the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce from 1977 to 1986, he ran unsuccessfully as a Democrat for a seat in the House of Delegates from District 11. He played the ukulele in college and liked the Kingston Trio, Burl Ives and folk music. He was also a fan of Broadway show tunes and film musicals. He was a member of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Barry L. Gogel of Homeland, and two daughters, Debra Gogel Chado of Pikesville, and Linda Perline of Glenelg; and five grandchildren.

Kelvin Grandy Grant ’01, of Alma, MI, passed away September 14, 2016 at his home.

Born in Windsor, NC, on September 8, 1958, he was the son of Harold Wendell Grant and Kertrina (Grandy) Watson. He was a self-described lifelong learner. He earned his BS from the University of Maryland in plant breeding, specializing in corn and earned his PhD in plant genetics from Cornell University.

Dr. Grant worked at DuPont Pioneer for over 10 years, acquiring nine patents and taking every opportunity to share his passion for agriculture through teaching. An active member of the Omega Psi Phi he was also a community leader serving in the Farm Bureau and the Boys and Girls Club. He loved to give back and would donate to libraries in the county every month as well as setting up scholarship funds for minority students interested in agriculture.

He was very active, biking a leisurely 20-25 miles a day and becoming a certified personal trainer with the plan to help others achieve their fitness goals.

He is survived by his daughter, Nisaa Grant of Mt. Pleasant, MI; brother, George Watson of Brooklyn, NY; sister, Sheri Grant of Virginia Beach, VA; brother, Eric Grant of Windsor, NC; and aunt, Gloria Grant of Ahoskie, NC; and several other cousins. He is preceded in death by his grandma, Cornelia Grandy; parents; and aunt and uncle, Gladys and Karl Grandy.

Memorial donations may be made to one of the three Kelvin G. Grant Endowed Scholarship Funds established at the University of Maryland; Cornell University, or Michigan State University. http://advancement.umd.edu/celebration/showScholarship.
Raised on his mother’s family farm in Woodstock, Dr. Hill always had a passion for farming. His mother knew how challenging it was to farm and encouraged him to find a profession that would afford him the opportunity to farm. He graduated from St. Paul’s School for Boys in 1959. He received a BA in Sociology in 1964 and a BS degree in Chemistry in 1965 from the University of Maryland. He received his Doctorate of Dental Science from the University of Maryland Dental School in 1968.

He bought into a dental practice in Catonsville after graduation and opened a second office in Lisbon years later. He practiced dentistry from June of 1968 until he retired in November of 2005. He was a member of the American Dental Association, a member and past treasurer of the Maryland State Dental Association and member and executive of the Psi Omega Dental Fraternity. He was elected a member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy and an elected member of the International College of Dentist.

Grant achieved his dream of purchasing a farm in 1980 with 125 acres in Lisbon and was a part-time farmer for 25 years. He achieved his retirement dream in 2005 when he retired from dentistry and became a full-time farmer. He was the definition of a “gentlemen farmer.” He was equally comfortable in the farming community as he was in the dental. He was a member from 1982-2002 and past president of the Howard County Fair Board, charter member of Maryland Two Cylinder Tractor Club, charter member of the Howard County Antique Farm Machinery Club, and member of both the Maryland and Howard County Farm Bureaus. He was elected to the board of directors of the Maryland 4-H Foundation in 2009 and elected treasurer in 2010.

Surviving in addition to his wife are sons, Robert S. Maupin of Finksburg, Blair G. Hill and his wife Megan of Woodbine, Russell G. Hill of Mt. Airy, Matthew P. Risty and his wife Courtney of Eldersburg, daughter Megan Risty Parlett and her husband Robbie of Prince Frederick, and grandchildren Andrew and Lily Maupin, Mason and Kaitlyn Hill, and Alyssa and Kylie Risty.

Memorial donations may be made to the Maryland 4-H Foundation, 8020 Greenmead Dr., College Park, MD 20740.

James (Jim) Robert Moxley, Jr. ’51, was born in his parent’s home on July 24, 1930 to his mother Ruth (Hemp) Moxley and his father James Moxley Sr. He passed in the same home on February 11, 2017 at the age of 86.

Jim graduated from Lisbon High School in 1947. He pursued his agriculture degree in dairy science at the University of Maryland and graduated in 1951. After completing college, Jim came back to his family farm where his father had established a dairy herd and he immediately assumed the farming operation responsibilities. Eventually he and his four children established a prominent Angus beef herd known as Dawn Acres Angus. Although Jim’s career took him in many different directions, he never lost his love for agriculture and the 4-H program.

In 1948 he was a member of the U.S. Dairy Judging Team that traveled by ship to England and Scotland for the international competition. That experience, along with hosting guests through the International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE) program as well as educational exchange students heightened Jim’s interest in international travel which led him to every continent in the world.

In 1959 he married Dessie M. Buser. They had a remarkable and loving marriage for 58 years. She was outgoing and creative, and he was reserved and competent. They both were energetic and hard working and valued their family, friends and achievements.

He was a champion for education, becoming involved in the growth and development of Glenelg Country School, serving as its vice chair, and then later serving on the Garrison Forest School Board. He was a generous donor to many scholarship funds.

The University of Maryland, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Maryland 4-H Foundation were beneficiaries of his and Dessie’s philanthropy. The Dessie M. Moxley Gardens at the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center was designed and donated by Jim to honor Dessie’s love of flowers and gardens. Jim was recognized in 2003 as AGNR’s outstanding alum for his role in the development of the planned city of Columbia, while preserving rural and agricultural heritage as well as his work with the Maryland 4-H Foundation, and his extensive community service and philanthropic efforts in Howard County.

His first real estate development ventures were Normandy Heights and Normandy Shopping Center on farm-land formerly owned by his grand-
father. These were developed with his father, James Moxley Sr, Norman Moxley and Robert Moxley.

When the Baltimore-Washington area was being considered by Disney for a theme park, Jim persuaded his father to put their farm on Cedar Lane in a package to be offered for sale. Disney passed on the package but shortly thereafter another entrepreneur, Jim Rouse, was looking for land to begin the planned community known as Columbia. From there his real estate development career began, and he sold his dairy cow herd in 1965. Jim also served as a founding member of the board of directors of The Columbia Bank and as its chairman. He continued his business career with success until his retirement in 2000, at the age of 70.

He served as chairman of the Board of Trustees for Howard County General Hospital, president of the Howard County Fair Association and president of the Maryland 4-H Foundation. He served on the boards of Horizon Foundation, the Montgomery Mutual Insurance Company, and The Columbia Foundation, from which he received the James Rouse Award for Leadership.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, James Robert Moxley III, Lori D. Moxley, Dr. Susan D. Moxley, Mark G. Moxley and their spouses. He was an adoring grandfather to his seven grandchildren, James IV, Ellen, Christopher, Stewart, Thomas, Lincoln and Dessie. He was dedicated to his nieces, nephews, godchildren and a circle of close friends and their families from his beloved community of Howard County.

To honor Jim, memorial donations may be made to St James United Methodist Church, the Maryland 4-H Foundation, and Howard County General Hospital.

Lynne Dallas Sharp Reeve lost her battle with cancer on January 23, 2017. Born on June 5, 1941, in Washington, DC, she was the daughter of the late Robert J. Sharp and Cora Pauline Knop Sharp.

She and her sister, Antonia Sharp, grew up in White Hall where Dallas learned to sew and cook and became an accomplished seamstress at 8 years old. Throughout her life, she was known as an artist, seamstress, historian and paralegal who loved to travel, cook and research genealogy. She graduated from Hereford High School in 1959 with honors, joined the Navy and started a family. She later moved to Austin, Texas, where she earned her BA from the University of Texas in 1972. She had a successful career as a paralegal with Gardere Wynn in Dallas.

On December 2, 1995, Dallas married her childhood friend, John Landon Reeve IV. They resided in Woodbine. Dallas blossomed through her creativity and eye for detail. She became involved in many groups including Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society Colonial Dames, Dames of the Court of Honor, Cat Tail Garden Club, Women’s Issues, and held offices in most of these groups.

After her marriage to Landon she embraced his love and passion for the University of Maryland and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Landon’s company, Chapel Valley Landscape Company, was on hand to re-landscape parts of campus when a tornado struck in 2001. She and Landon shared their philanthropic philosophy in generous gifts to the Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts Center, providing landscaping at the Jim Henson statue in front of the Stamp Student Union and through Landon’s professional associations related to his horticultural roots in AGNR. They were regular attendees at campus and AGNR events such as the alumni reunions and awards program, Maryland Day/AG Day, homecoming and events related to the arts.

Dallas loved to paint and many friends and family display her artwork in their homes and galleries. Her most treasured times were spent with her husband as they traveled the globe with family and friends. Dallas was “a beautiful dream” Landon would say; she was smart, thoughtful, caring and very loving.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her aunt, Marilyn Knop Doyle and her descendants; her niece, Lynn and descendants; her children, Bryan Noble, Colin Noble and wife Connie, Holly Park and husband Dan; step children, James Reeve and wife Casey, Deonne Wollman and husband Harold; and nine grandchildren, Holden and Hadley Park; Morgan and Mackenzie Noble, Bradley, Justine, and Samantha Wollman; Landy and Caroline Reeve.

Andrew Theodore “Ted” Ridgely ’60, passed peacefully at his home on September 16, 2017, surrounded by his family. He was 85.

Born on February 22, 1933, on the family farm in West Friendship, Ted was the son of the late Charles Wilbur and Charlotte Wagner Ridgely.

Ted attended Lisbon High School and graduated from Franklin High School as a star basketball player. While in high school he developed his passion for the dairy industry working at Logwood Farms. There he took great pride traveling to state and national cattle shows and fitting a champion cow, Fobes, which spawned his ambition to pursue his education
at the University of Maryland. There he won honors on dairy judging teams, achieved Alpha Zeta academic awards and earned his degree in dairy science in 1960. While at college, he met his wife, Ruth Ensor ’57, whom he married August 25, 1957.

Following graduation, Ted managed the UMD Research Farm near Ellicott City before moving to West Virginia in 1964 to manage the Kingwood Cattle Company. In 1970 they moved to Ruth’s family’s farm, Traveler’s Rest Farm, in New Windsor. He worked for North American Breeders until 1980. He finished his professional career as the MD and WV Sales Division Manager for the Maryland Artificial Breeders Cooperative which later became Sire Power. In 2008, he was inducted into the Maryland Dairy Shrine in recognition for his contributions to the dairy industry.

After retiring in 1994, he filled his time enjoying his most cherished blessings - his children, their families, especially his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He also enjoyed raising Black Angus cattle, sheep and gardening. His annual goals were growing a ripe tomato prior to Ruth’s June 24th birthday, finding the best variety of sweet corn, and sharing God’s bounty with anyone who visited. He was a huge sports fan, cheering on his Terps and watching horse races. He was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Surviving in addition to his beloved Ruth, are son, Andrew Jay Ridgely and wife Jayne (Parks) of Frederick; daughter, Christine F. Bennett of New Windsor; son, Dean Alan Ridgely and wife Debbie (Yedinak) of Mt. Airy; brother, O. Lee Ridgely and wife Lynne (Collins) of Beverly Hills, FL; grandchildren Joshua Ridgely and wife Lisa (Rill), Justin Ridgely and wife Shin (Ho), Abigail Ridgely, Colton Ridgely, Jessica (Bennett) Arbab and husband Paul, Keith Bennett, Delanie Ridgely, and Ashley Ridgely; great grandchildren Madilyn, Ronin, Joshua, Leilani, Mason and Chase. He was predeceased by his brother Charles Ridgely and son-in-law Kevin Bennett.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 250, New Windsor, MD 21776, or the Maryland Dairy Shrine, c/o Matt Iager, DVM, 20608 Mill Point Road, Boonsboro, MD 21713.

Donor Profile

It is no surprise that Eileen Barnett has established a scholarship to benefit the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. “I feel fortunate for my 30 years at the University of Maryland,” she said. “It was a wonderful experience in every way, not only for my career but also in the excitement of seeing the students grow and learn.”

Eileen and her husband, Doug, established the Eileen Barnett Endowed Scholarship in 2008. “Money was an issue growing up on a farm and especially in pursuing an education. It was hard to watch my two nieces struggle at the same time to find money to go to college. I asked myself what I could do to help give rural kids the opportunity to further their education.”

The couple moved to Maryland in 1976, when Doug was hired by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, APHIS. Eileen worked in several departments and finally landed in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources where she worked in the dean’s office for 13 years. “The work in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources impacts every aspect of our lives – food, family, the environment, economics; there are so many ways it impacts our everyday lives.”

As a staff member, she took many of the university courses which were formative in her outlook on the importance of higher education. “It’s very important that everyone knows they can assist – not just alumni, faculty, or administrators – but staff too,” she said. “Think about how you were touched by the University and what you can do to better the lives of the next generation of students.”

When asked for her motivations behind her gift, Eileen emphasized that young people are our future in every way. “If you’re thinking about giving, don’t just think about, do it.”

If you’re interested in making a bequest like Eileen, contact the planned giving team or visit our website at giftplanning.umd.edu.
Come and Connect with AGNR

April 28, 2018
AG Day/Maryland Day,
Animal Sciences Complex/Campus Farm/Campus

January 14, 2018
Maryland 4-H Awards Gala

April 12, 2018
AGNR Alumni Awards Celebration,
Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center

February 1, 2018
Glen Burie, MD