

Upcoming Events Calendar

GCCA Annual Meeting Thursday, May 24, 2018

**Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration Parish
13925 New Hampshire Ave.**

Agenda

- 7:00 Refreshments and Socializing**
- 7:30 Election of Officers and Business Meeting**
- 7:35 Deer Mgmt, George Timko, Dept. of Natural Resources**
- 8:15 Experience with Tick control, Regina Spallone**
- 8:30 Development in the area, Dan Wilhelm**
- 9:00 Adjourn**

The nominating committee was headed by Dave Michaels and included Pat Corey, Bob Bartol, and Fred Pulliam. They present the slate of officers below for the next fiscal year, starting in June. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

President:	Dan Wilhelm*	
Vice President:	Marguerite Raaen	
Treasurer:	Mark Pankow	
Recording Sec'ty:	Dave Michaels*	
Clarion Editor:	Nancy Laich*	* Incumbent

We all have problems with the over population of deer eating everything in sight – plants in our yard and forests, and thus destroying the natural environment. The number of deer needs to be reduced to a level the environment can support. Our featured speaker, George Timko, will talk about this subject. George has worked for 25 years for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Since 2002, he has worked on deer management issues and currently is Assistant Leader for the Maryland Deer Project.

Related to the deer problem are the ticks that carry Lyme disease. Some in the community have been using tick tubes to reduce the number of ticks. Regina Spallone and others will share their experience.

Dan Wilhelm will provide information about ongoing projects that have been covered in recent Clarions and answer your questions.

GCCA Officers and Chairs: President Dan Wilhelm, Vice President Sharon Brown, Treasurer Marguerite Raaen, Recording Secretary David Michaels, Clarion Editor Nancy Laich

May

- 24 GCCA Annual Mtg., 7:30 pm**
(see directions below)
- 28 Memorial Day**
- 29 Paint Branch HS graduation**
2:30 pm, DAR Constitution Hall
- 30 BRT Overview Mtg., 6:30 pm.**
East Co. Reg. Svs. Ctr.,
330 Briggs Chaney Rd.
- 31 BRT Overview Mtg., 6:30 pm**
Silver Spring Meth. Church
33 University Blvd. East

June

- 5 Springbrook HS graduation**
10 am, DAR Constitution Hall
- 6 BRT Overview Mtg., 6:30 pm**
Silver Spring Civic Center
1 Veterans Place
- 7 JH Blake HS graduation**
2 pm, DAR Constitution Hall
- 12 GCCA Board Mtg., 7:30 pm**
(see directions below)
- 15 Last Day of School, MCPS**
- 26 Primary Election Day**

July

- 10 GCCA Board Mtg., 7:30 pm**
(see directions below)

Upcoming **GCCA Board meetings** will be held at 7:30 pm at the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, 13925 New Hampshire Ave. Meetings are in the room under the sanctuary and are open to the public. For information contact GCCA President Dan Wilhelm 301-384-2698 or email address djwilhelm@verizon.net

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President's Message

There are lots of good things happening in our part of the County such as the Viva White Oak development. And there is the encouraging news that the County is now starting to address some of our problem areas such as education, transportation and employment. Look at some of the projects that are currently in the works:

Jobs requiring various skills and education:

Visa White Oak, White Oak Medical Center (WOMC), Hilton Hotel, Hillandale Gateway, FDA, and three senior housing centers. Work Force Montgomery works to match jobs and workers, and getting foreign education accepted.

Restaurants and entertainment:

Viva White Oak.

Transportation:

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) initially on US29 but eventually adding New Hampshire Ave and Randolph Road. Improved local buses to take people between home, work, activity centers and BRT stations. Also coming are intersection improvements, new bikeways and better walking connections.

Improved healthcare, both locally and beyond:

WOMC, FDA and the effort to attract LifeSci companies to Viva White Oak

Improved education to help students be ready to learn and to help our dedicated teachers with students who are not ready:

MCPS pre-K and volunteer program (see separate article), ESOL and college classes for adults (Montgomery College), and Strathmore programs (see www.strathmore.org/bloom/fovconnect)

Services:

DHHS service coordinator (see two separate articles)

Our monthly GCCA meetings are open to everyone. They provide a means to learn what is going on, how you can help in our community, and express your opinion on issues we discuss. I encourage you to attend. Renewed membership now will be counted toward the fiscal year that starts in June. I urge you to renew!

Dan Wilhelm, President, GCCA



The next issue of the Clarion will be mailed in October 2018. The deadline for submitting news and photographs is Friday, September 14, 2018.

Contact Editor Nancy Laich at 301-412-5301, or nmkurgan@aol.com

For inquiries about advertising in the Clarion, please email Dave Michaels at emailbits@gmail.com

Improving Public School Student Performance

A number of students in the public schools are not ready to learn when they enter school. Our wonderful teachers are doing everything they can to overcome this limitation, but that takes time.

Countywide, only 48% of the students in third grade met or exceed standards in English, and 54% achieved that level in math. Of the 15 elementary schools in our area, only four exceeded the county average for English and the same four for math. The school with the lowest scores has 11% of the students that met or exceeds the standard for English, and another school has 21% for math. A large percentage of those that fail to meet the standard are at the lowest level, “do not meet the standards” as opposed to the other two levels “partially” or “approaching” the standards.

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and the county have been working to address this problem. One effort is to provide Pre-K education to students in low income areas in order to increase the number of students who are prepared to enter kindergarten. This requires funding and space necessary for the additional students, both of which are limited. The county, MCPS and state are working to increase funding. Eight of our elementary schools already offer full or half-day pre-K classes.

A group of concerned citizens from different parts of Eastern Montgomery County have formed a group called the East County Education Support Group (ECESG). This effort started two years ago when the Cannon Road School principal requested volunteers to assist teachers in grades K-3. Volunteers are also at Burnt Mills and Greencastle elementary schools (ES). The volunteers support the teacher as they determine best, often helping with students who need extra help with reading and basic math. The teachers who have used the volunteers are glad to have the help.

We would like to include more of our local schools in this volunteer effort and we are focusing on two efforts at this time. First, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has an existing volunteer program to support the K-12 Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teaching. If you have a STEM education and want to help out in this area, please contact AAAS. The AAAS program was introduced to school staff a year ago, and 130 of the 144 ESs across the county requested volunteers, but AAAS only had enough to support 38 schools. They are looking for more volunteers. Their program is described at <https://www.aaas.org/senior-scientists-and-engineers/programs-dc>.

The second volunteer effort is for non-STEM education. We have been working with MCPS to increase volunteers in this area and to create improved capabilities on the Montgomery County Volunteer Center web site for people to volunteer. We expect to be prepared to test the needed capabilities in September. We have principals at Burnt Mills, Page and Joann Leleck ES to test the pilot capability. The focus of the initial effort will be to provide help outside of the classroom. As this pilot develops and the school principals and teachers gain experience, we expect some volunteers will support the teachers directly – such as basic reading and math for those who need more individualized help.

Classroom help is not for everyone so volunteer efforts outside the classroom will always be available. MCPS will screen potential volunteers. Volunteers will need to go through a background check and take the online MCPS Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect Course.

If you are available to help in this area, we will provide more information in the fall, or you can let Dan Wilhelm know and he will keep in contact with you.

Welcome to Colesville and Eastern County

New Residential and Commercial Establishments

The Landing of Silver Spring: The Landing of Silver Spring is currently under construction at 13908 New Hampshire Avenue, on the north side of the Cambodian Buddhist Temple, and is projected to open in Oct/Nov 2018. It will have 79 assisted living apartments and 59 memory care apartments. At capacity, The Landing will have 194 residents, and a staff of approximately 100.

The Information/Sales Center will open in early June, and is located directly behind the Transfiguration Church at the corner of Hobbs Drive and New Hampshire Avenue. The Center will be open weekdays from 9 am. to 5 pm., and on weekends for visitors and information. You can learn more about it by visiting their website at www.leisurecare.com, or contact Suzanne Roos, sales manager at 301-388-7702, or email sroos@leisurecare.com.

Randolph Plaza: Duffie Inc. recently opened its Randolph Plaza in Colesville, next to Colesville Center where the Giant is located. Duffie moved its headquarters into the office space so they could build the Hilton Hotel at their prior location in Hillandale. They still have 4,700 sq. feet of office space and 4,005 sq. feet of retail space available to lease. They can be contacted at 301-434-3040.



Hilton Home2Suites under construction

Hilton Home2Suites Hotel: The construction of this new hotel on Elton Road just off of New Hampshire Ave and the Beltway is progressing rapidly. This 100 room extended stay hotel is slated to open in Nov. 2018. They will have a wide variety of room layouts, many of them more spacious than a typical Hilton Hotel.

The building is designed to the LEED Platinum standard, the highest level. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, which is a certification program. While it costs more to build, the cost to operate and maintain the

building will be lower. One of the many benefits is the reduction in outside noise, which is important for this location since it overlooks the beltway.

White Oak Medical Center: With some 500 construction workers on site, the new hospital on Plum Orchard Dr behind the Target store is progressing rapidly. Construction has started on the parking facility and central utility plant and will start soon on the medical office building. The projected opening is July 2019. Details about the plans for the facility, including real-time webcam pictures can be found at <http://ourcommunitytransformed.org/project-highlights>.



White Oak Medical Center construction

County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Provides Assistance

The Montgomery County DHHS provides public health and human services that help address the needs of our community's most vulnerable children, adults and seniors. They have more than 120 programs and deliver services. Probably the best way to access that large number of services is by using the DHHS Care Coordinator, who assists individuals and families to access those services. A care coordinator is located in the East County Regional Services Center.

The east county care coordinator, Danielle Alvarado-Davis, will create an action plan for each client and assist them in connecting to the resources potentially available to them. She also provides individualized care coordination immediately for those families who are in emergency need. Danielle can also help with the application submission process for social services including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Supplemental Security Income, Childcare Subsidies, and Emergency Assistance based on eligibility. Furthermore, she supports customers in applying for other State and Federal programs such as Social Security and Supplemental Security Insurance applications.

The East County Care Coordinator office is located at 3300 Briggs Chaney Rd in the MobileMed Suite. Please contact Danielle Alvarado-Davis, for more information, at 240-777-3496, or email her at Danielle.alvarado-davis@montgomerycountymd.gov.

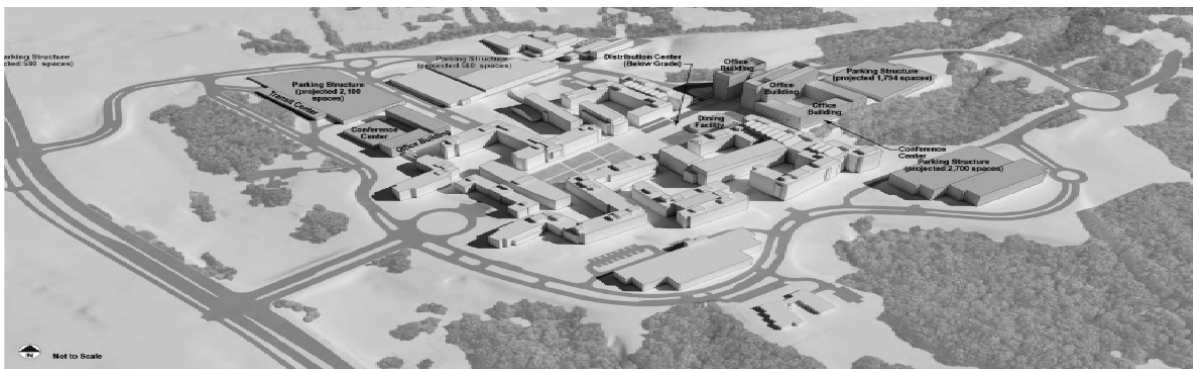
In a related update, Council Bill 14-18 Economic Development is a proposed bill that would require the DHHS to develop a Strategic Plan to Promote Prosperity and Increase Opportunity. The first area-specific plan must focus on Eastern Montgomery County and must be submitted by November 15, 2018. It would need to provide recommendations on how to increase the incomes of low-income households.

Federal Opportunity Zone

Two census tracts in Eastern Montgomery County have been nominated as an “opportunity zone” by Maryland for inclusion under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that was passed in December. Both Viva White Oak and the east side of New Hampshire Ave in Hillandale are covered (Hillandale Gateway is not included). If accepted by the U.S. Treasury Department, the Opportunity Zones would be eligible for tax breaks designed to help develop struggling neighborhoods. The \$1.5 billion “Opportunity Zone” program allows investors to take advantage of breaks on federal capital gains taxes by investing in small businesses and housing in lower-income communities.

This federal zone should not be confused with enterprise zones that have been established by the state for Burtonsville and Briggs Chaney. The EZ program provides real property and state income tax credits for businesses located in a Maryland enterprise zone in return for job creation and investments.

Alternative FDA Expansion Plan



General Services Administration (GSA) is considering other plans for expansion of the FDA campus. Below is option 3. Other options are in the same general area.

Wind Tunnel at the Federal Research Center

Do you know that a one of a kind wind tunnel exists at White Oak.? The facility is being updated to Mach 18 (18 times the speed of sound). The speed of sound varies but at sea level it is about 760 miles per hour.

The former Naval Facility received two German wind tunnels after World War II. The tunnels helped initiate a fledgling U.S. supersonic research program.

The White Oak wind tunnel complex has gone through many changes since World War II including the addition of tunnels 3, 4, 6, 7 8 and 8A, which were all eventually replaced. In the 60s and 70s, the Navy felt there was a need to develop hypersonics to support the re-entry phase of their Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile Program. When a re-entry body, for example, is coming in from space, it is moving at 17,000 mph. So they developed Tunnel 9 to model these re-entry systems.

Tunnel 9 was originally planned for closure with the rest of the Navy Base as a result of the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC). Through a coordinated effort between the Navy and the Air Force, the facility was saved and continued to operate as a remote site extension of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC), TN.

The Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel 9 Facility provides aerodynamic simulation in critical altitude regimes associated with strategic offensive missile systems, advanced defensive interceptor systems, reentry vehicles, and hypersonic vehicle technologies. This facility utilizes a unique storage heater which provides supply pressures up to 1430 atmospheres and supply temperatures up to 1649 degrees celsius and sustains long-duration, constant-condition runs. More information is available at http://www.wolaa.org/files/White_Oak_Wind_Tunnel_History.pdf.

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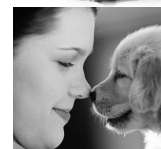
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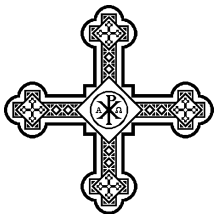


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All are welcome!

We are located at 13407 Roxbury Rd, off Midland Rd. We sing Saturday Vespers at 6pm. On Sundays we sing Matins at 9am and the Mass (the Divine Liturgy) is at 9:30am. More information about the Orthodox Faith and about our congregation may be found on our website: stgregoryoc.org or by contacting us at frnicholas@aol.com.



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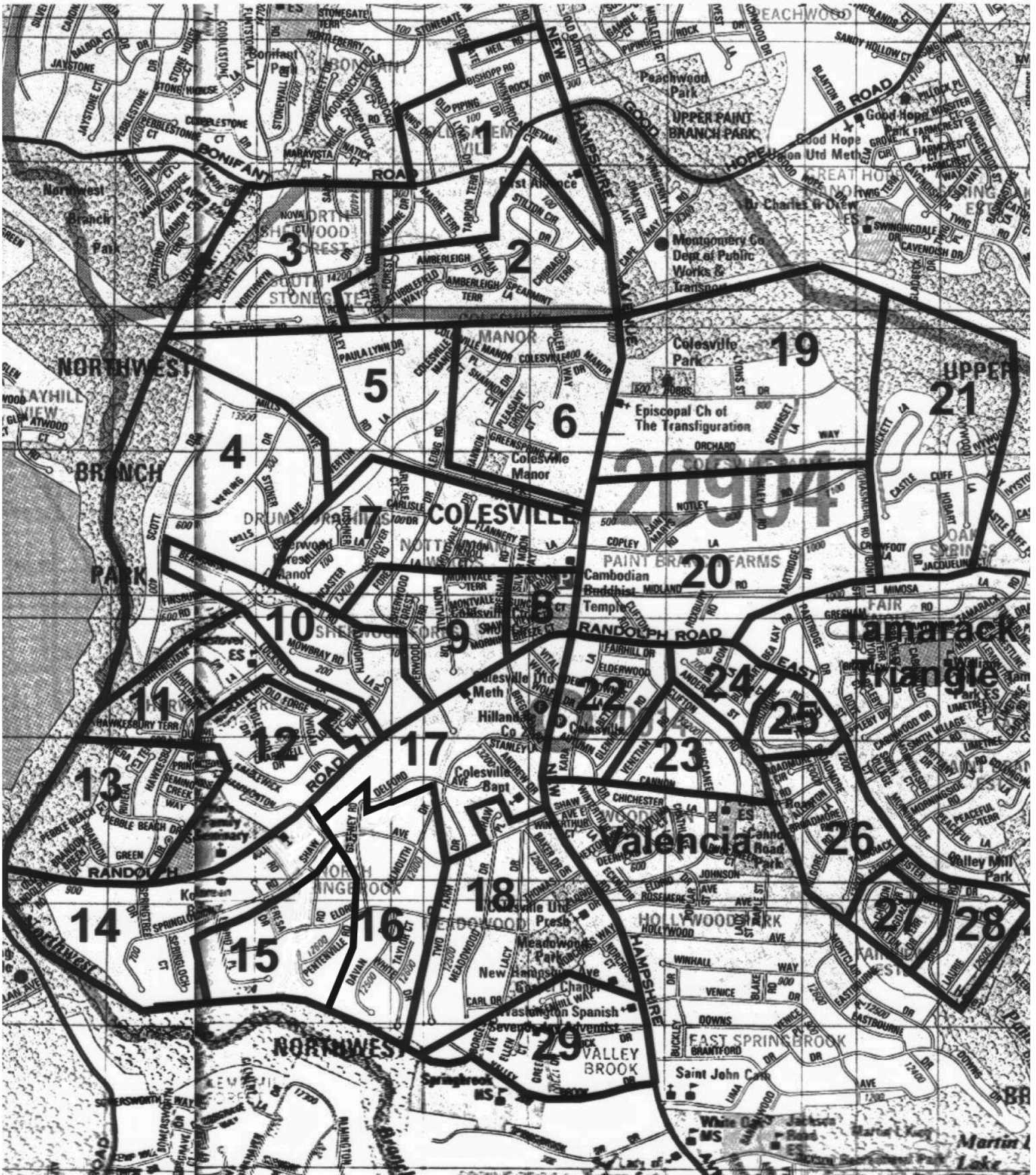
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(3 representatives per area)

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1 Deborah Pilliam	144 Bonifant Rd.	240-440-1758	20 Chris Naughten	800 Midland Rd	758-3633
2 Open			21 Jay Hagler	1325 Crockett Ln	240-994-8993
3 Marguerite Raaen	14404 Sandy Ridge Rd	384-3307	22 Open		
3 Fred Stichnoth	14105 Cricket Ln	706-6828	23 Dan Wilhelm	904 Cannon Rd.	384-2698
4 Henry Morrow	13812 Mills Avenue	384-0827	24 Open		
5 Paul Daisey	13910 Overton Ln	651-7148	25 Ed Weiler	1008 Mondrian Terr.	236-5956
6 Bill Backof	13814 Shannon Drive	384-7354	26 Beverly Roof	12928 Allerton Lane	384-7247
7 Open			26 Bob Peters	1010 Cannon Rd.	384-4410
8 Open			27 Open		
9 Michael Persh	208 Montvale Terr	879-4560	28 Otto E. Lewis	12617 Billington Rd.	384-0567
10 Open			28 George Ezikpe	1310 Leister Dr.	717-0625
11 David Michaels	508 Hawkesbury Lane	622-1805	29 Alcira Groomes	204 Valley Brook Dr.	625-8919
12 Open					
13 Open					
14 Robert Bartol	224 Springloch Road	622-5879			
15 Ken Himes	12704 Hammonton Rd.	622-3690			
16 Sharon Brown					
17 Pat Corey	41 Shaw Ave	622-5339			
18 Ray Rye	12820 Baker Dr.	622-2276			

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GCCA DUES PAYMENT TIME - MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT

PLEASE JOIN GCCA: The **annual dues** are **\$10.00** per person (June 2018 through May 2019). Contributions are vital to GCCA's mission of improving our Colesville community. **Make checks payable to GCCA and mail to P.O. Box 4087, Colesville, MD 20914.** Or, go to greatercolesville.org and pay online.

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