Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in University of Maryland Extension, Prince George's County. Don't forget to add kdyson1@umd.edu and kimrush@umd.edu to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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Fresh. Local. Fun. PGC

April 2018

Your Guide to Farm Fresh Tours, Markets & More!

Greetings, Kim!

Spring is officially here (although it may not feel like it)!

Several of the county's farmers markets open this month. They have some amazing locally grown food and value-added products as well as a wonderful atmosphere for socializing. Please support them when you can as they are bringing fresh, high-quality foods to many Prince George's County communities.

In other news, several of our Prince George’s County farmers were featured in the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission's newsletter last month. Be sure to check it out!

Other Prince Georgians are highlighted on "The Menu" this month including youth 'agvocating' for agriculture education funding before the Maryland General Assembly, as well as, farmers speaking at the recent FoodTank Summit and on The Kojo Nnamdi Show. Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission hosted a wonderful panel discussion focused on black farmers (featured in the image above) in Prince George's County. The video link is below.

Finally, be sure to join our Fresh. Local. Fun. PGC Farms & Food Community on Facebook to stay up to date on the latest news and events, and invite your friends.

Think FRESH. Eat LOCAL. Have FUN!

Follow Us!
Fresh Farm & Local Food Events

Weekend Wine Tastings!
- Gemeny Winery & Vineyards (Fri, 4-8pm, Sat & Sun, 10am - 6pm)
- Janemark Winery & Vineyard (Sat, 12 - 5pm, Sun by appt.)
- Robin Hill Farm & Vineyards (Sat, 11am - 5pm)
- Romano Vineyards & Winery (Fri, 1 - 6pm & Sat, 12 - 6pm)

Romano’s Music in the Vinedyard (April)
Romano’s Vineyard & Winery invites you to enjoy music and wine in their tasting room and vineyard!

Sustainable Agriculture Tuesdays (April - May)
A weekly guest lecture on topics of Ag and sustainability with the Institute of Applied Agriculture

Volunteering in the Garden with the Alice Ferguson Foundation (April - August)
Enjoy the great outdoors and the beauty of nature? Come on out to Hard Bargain Farm.

Forested Tours (April - November)
Come out and explore the garden of Forested Creative Ecology!

4-H Craft Night Fundraiser (April 6)
The Patuxent River 4-H Center invites you to join them for a night of sign making.
Spring Fling & Small Business Showcase (April 7)
Join Robin Hill Farm & Vineyard in welcoming the spring season with their Spring Fling & Small Business Showcase celebration.

Genetics & 'AI' Breeding Program Workshop Series (April 7)
Are you interested in beef genetics? Here’s a workshop series for you!

Lattes with Lambs (April 7)
Come out to National Colonial Farm to meet the lambs, enjoy lattes, and more!

Wine, Jazz & Eats @ Gemeny Winery & Vineyard (April 7)
Join us at Gemeny Winery & Vineyard for an evening of music, wine, food, and more!

Ready to Take Root: Getting Started with Small Fruits (April 9)
The workshop series will provide in-depth comprehensive training and resources for the commercial production of small fruits and hops specific to the unique climate and characteristics of the Southern Maryland region, including establishment, growing, sales and marketing.

Urban Trees: Creating a More Beautiful Community (April 11)
Enjoy trees and all they have to offer? Here’s a workshop for you!

Design & Wine with Janemark Winery & Vineyard (April 13)
Come out for a night of painting, wine, and relaxation!

2018 Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup (April 14)
Celebrate 30 years of hard work and dedication! The largest regional event of its kind, the Cleanup provides a transforming experience that engages citizens and community leaders and generates momentum for change.

Frost & Sip - Cupcake Decorating (April 14)
Cupcakes, wine, and friends...what an amazing combination!

Pet Portrait Paint Party! (April 14)
Want a fun photo of your pet? Join the Calvert Brewing Company for a paint night!

The Greatest Legends of Rock N' Soul Show! (April 14)
Enjoy an evening of music, wine, and more at Robin Hill Farm & Vineyards!

Paint Night at Romano Winery (April 20)
Bring your friends for an evening of painting and wine sipping

Anacostia Watershed Society's 2018 Earth Day Cleanup (April 21)
Looking to get involved and help keep our rivers clean?

International Raw Milk Cheese Appreciation Day (April 21)
Celebrate raw milk cheese!

Behnke Nurseries: The Beauty & Benefits of Using Native Plants (April 21)
Want to add something new to your garden this season? Go Native!

Paint in the Woods: Wine & Design (April 22)
Enjoy an evening of paint, wine, and the great outdoors!

Mixolo Breakfast & Private Farm Tour (April 22)
Join us on the farm for breakfast and a tour!

Prince George's Soil Conservation District: Annual Dinner (April 27)
Enjoy an evening of fun, food, and more! Learn about the Cooperator of the Year.

22nd Annual Montpelier Fesival of Herbs, Tea and the Arts (April 28)
Enjoy a day of shopping, music, tea, and more!

Shearing and Fiber Day (April 28)
Come out and see the animals, and enjoy a hay ride!

Maryland Day 2018 (April 28)
Enjoy a day of fun, learning, and excitement at the University of Maryland in College Park!

Marietta Spring Flea & Farmers Market (April 28)
Wondering what to do with that certain item you found when spring cleaning?

Vino 301 Wine & Cheese Tour (April 28)
Join Vino 301 on a tour of some of wineries right here in Prince George's County.

Tavern Night at Riversdale House (April 28)
Looking for night out ideas? Here's one you may enjoy.

Black Swamp's 9th Annual Plant Sale & Swap (April 28)
Have some plants you’d like to sell or swap while supporting the Brandywine community?

Piscataway Park Rx Day (April 29)
Celebrate the power of nature at the National Colonial Farm.

Healing/Energy Medicine with Geoffrey Morell (April 29)
Join P.A. Bowen Farmstead for a new workshop on the healing arts.

Behnke Nurseries: Creating a Rain Garden (April 29)
Is trying something new one of your resolutions? Learn about rain gardens to see how you may be able to check this off your list!

Unicorn Fest 2018 (April 29)
Celebrate magic and mystery of unicorns with The Big Purple Barn.

Villa de Alpacas Mother’s Day Open House (May 4)
Check out our unique, artistic, and one-of-a-kind alpaca clothing and textiles make the very best gifts for Mother’s Day or any special occasion.

Cinco De Vino at Janemark Winery & Vineyard (May 5)
We’re having a fiesta - Maryland style! Join us on May 5, 2018 from 12-5 PM for our first Vendor Saturday: Cinco de Vino at Janemark Winery & Vineyard!

Alice Ferguson Foundation’s Spring Farm Festival 2018 (May 5)
Join Alice Ferguson Foundation for a plant sale, value-added products, live music, arts & crafts, hay rides to the Potomac River, barnyard demonstrations, kids activities, and more!

Spring Craft & Vendor Fair at Romano’s (May 6)
Join us for our annual Spring Craft & Vendor Fair! Sip, shop and relax the afternoon away.

View Local Events

Support Your Local Farmers Markets
Spring has sprung and it's time to kick off the new farmers market season! Visit our website for details!

Riverdale Park Farmers Market (Thursdays, January - December)

Downtown College Park Farmers Market (Sundays, April - November)

Hollywood Farmers Market (Saturdays, April 21 - November 17)

The Farmers Market at Maryland (Wednesdays, April 4 - November 14)

Hyattsville Farmers Market Announces New Schedule & Location!!

What's Fun on the Menu?

New Market Looking for Farm Partners
Looking to expand to a farmer's market? Oakcrest Farmers Market is looking for small to mid-size farmers with seasonal produce, eggs, cheese, breads, jams, preserves, and more for the upcoming market season.

Volunteering with PETS
Do you enjoy working with horses, and others? PETS (Progressive Equestrian Therapeutic Services, Inc.) invites you to join them as a volunteer.

Gwynn Park HS Students Celebrate National Ag Day on The Hill
Student leaders from National MANRRS, State FFA associations, National 4-H, and American Farm Association traveled to Washington DC to celebrate youth's voice in agriculture.

Local Farmer Featured on Radio
Prince George's County farmer, Carrie Vaughn of Clagett Farm, talks about how climate change is impacting local farmers and the crops they grow on the Kojo Nnamdi Show.

Prince George's Soil Conservation District featured in NASCD Promo
Our local Prince George's Soil Conservation District was featured in the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts promotional video highlighting the impacts and vast array of services provided by our local soil conservation districts.

Prince George's County Planning Committee Celebrates Black History Month
The Prince George's County Planning Department recently held a panel discussion as part of their celebration of Black History Month. At this event The African American Farmers' Panel provided "some history of black-owned farms in Prince George's County".
Meredith Epstein Encourages and Educates the Next Generation of Farmers
In a recent Food Tank interview, Training the Next Generation of Sustainable Farmers, you can read about Meredith Epstein and her work teaching the next generation of sustainable agriculture advocates.

ECO City Farms: Help from the Windstorm
ECO City needs your help! ECO City Farms' nursery and largest hoophouse incurred great damage due to last week's windstorm. The plastic was completely ripped off both structures during a time in the season when it is critical to keep our crops protected from the freezing temps.

Two 'Agvocates' from Prince George's County Speak at 2018 FoodTank Summit
Liz Whitehurst from Owl's Nest Farm in Upper Marlboro and Meredith Epstein with the Institute of Applied Agriculture in College Park and the Maryland chapter of the National Young Farmers Coalition were featured at this year's FoodTank Summit!