

DAR chapter honors CMW's Marsha Brooks

The Governor William Paca Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has selected a local high school teacher for one of its awards this year.

Marsha Brooks, American History teacher at C. Milton Wright High School and veteran teacher of 27 years, has received the Chapter's Outstanding American History Teacher of the Year Award. She says that, in her career she has taught a variety of history, government and geography classes but U. S. history is her favorite.

Brooks, by means of her hands-on approach, motivates her students to become actively involved in history and brings history to life. Her appearances as a docent in her classroom, by dressing in the clothing and costume of each era and by assuming the character of the person and the time period, are memorable. She has provided numerous field trip opportunities abroad and in the United States. She has encouraged her students to participate in living history by supporting members of the Peace Corps and writing letters to troops, among other activities.

Professionally she serves on committees and has helped to design the county's secondary social studies curriculum. She has mentored beginning teachers, sponsored her school's Future Teachers Club and provided professional development opportunities for veteran teachers as well.

The DAR Outstanding Teacher of American History Contest honors notable full-time teachers of American history in public, private, and parochial schools, grades 6-12. These teachers have demonstrated excellence in readily sharing an incisive knowledge of American History, being committed



Marsha Brooks

to their students, fostering a spirit of patriotism and loyal support of our country and relating history to modern life and events.

The Governor William Paca Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, is based primarily in the Bel Air area of Harford County. This patriotic organization has 58 members. Membership is open to any woman who can document participation by her direct ancestor in the American Revolution, either as a combat person or in some other capacity. Information on the Chapter is available from Chapter Registrar Virginia Carlin at 410-879-9503 or Chapter Regent Emily Andrews at 410-838-2087.



Laurie Miller and Fiodor Zhukov, of Swingtime Ballroom in Fallston, swept the podium in the Pro/Am International Latin Championships at the 2011 Maryland Dancesport Championships.



Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Harford County Sales Associates, from left, Cecil Hill, Lisa Sparr, LouAnn Conway, Jeanne Shaw and Meredith Leroy and Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Greater Baltimore President Dean Cottrill, load bags of food collected during the Harford County office's Food for the Hungry food drive onto a truck for delivery to the Maryland Food Bank Feb. 18.



The Jarrettsville Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the ARC Northern Chesapeake Region. Lions Club President Dave Endres, right, congratulates Torri Dietrich, left, executive director of the ARC Foundation. Accepting the check from Lion Dave is Sharon Neary, a young lady who benefits from services of the ARC. The ARC provides services and resources to people in the community with developmental disabilities.



Four generations of the Plott Family gathered recently for a quick photograph, from left: granddaughter Lindsey Plott and great-granddaughter Zalia Plott-Edwards, both of Fallston, great-grandmother Nellie Plott, of Abingdon, and son Charles Plott, of Fallston.

John Carroll grad leads charity in Pa.

On Feb. 19, the Inaugural Blue Ribbon Gala for the benefit of Marley's Mission was held at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Center in Scranton, Pa. Marley's Mission is a nonprofit outside of Scranton, Pa., that provides Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy to children who have been traumatized. Marley's Mission was born out of a case in which a five-year-old was brutally attacked by a stranger in her own home in Taylor, Pa., in July 2009.

Rebecca Haggerty, who is a Board Member of Marley's Mission and is from Harford County, was the Co-Chair of the event. As guests entered the second floor cocktail area of the Hilton, they were greeted by young people from local

schools. They were greeters, they played instruments, they helped raise money but, most importantly, they certainly raised awareness in a new generation of volunteers.

Throughout the evening, a wonderfully talented local artist, Trinka Ravaoli, directed guests to an easel with the Blue Ribbon Gala logo stenciled on it. Guests were asked to leave their mark, in paint, on the logo as an expression of the importance of community in the success of Marley's Mission. By night's end, a piece of art was created.

Gene Talerico, the First Assistant District Attorney of Lackawanna County, Pa., and President of Marley's Mission, said: "the Inaugural Blue Ribbon Gala

was an amazing night; a testament to the tremendous work by a dedicated committee led by Co-Chairs Rebecca Haggerty (Board Member) and Jeanne Giallorenzi."

The success of the event can be measured in numbers. The event sold out almost immediately extending the total capacity at the Hilton to just over 455 guests and the proceeds raised for this eight month old nonprofit are astounding. The organization expects to net more than \$105,000. Haggerty commented: "We started in a barn, we hoped for 200 people and expected to raise \$10,000... and here we are 455 strong!"

A number of organizations made substantial donations to the organization,

including The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc. The event was well attended by many local and state elected officials, including current Mayor of Scranton Christopher Doherty, former Mayor of Scranton Jones Barrett McNulty, Commissioner Mike Washo, Honorable Corey O'Brien, Pennsylvania Representative Kevin Murphy, and US Congressman Lou Barletta.

Rebecca Haggerty is a former resident of Harford County and a graduate of John Carroll High School (Class of 1986). She resides in Clarks Green, Pa., with her husband and their three daughters.

For more information on Marley's Mission or to see pictures of the Gala, go to www.marleysmission.com