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School play acts as a reminder on what makes Catonsville great

I was reminded again, several times last week, why Catonsville was named one of the best places to live in the United States by Money Magazine.

On Saturday night, I attended the Catonsville High School production of "Pippin" and it was terrific.

If you live in the community and are not taking advantage of the musical programs offered at Catonsville High School, you are missing out on a wonderful entertainment opportunity.

Congratulations to all of the students and staff members who put this production together!

We are fortunate in having such an outstanding high school serving our community.

While attending the musical, I was also struck by advertisements for student art shows that hang in the main hallway, and realized that hundreds of other students spent the day trying out for spring sports teams.

Let's not forget that, earlier in the week, Catonsville was recognized as one of the premier schools in the entire region for student performance on Advanced Placement tests, the gold standard for academic achievement in the nation.

Catonsville's Advanced Placement performance is amazing. It is fourth best in Baltimore County; it exceeded every Carroll County high school, and topped all but two schools in both Howard and Anne Arundel counties.

What makes Catonsville's AP performance so impressive is the large number of students who take the test.

Catonsville High is truly one of the quality high schools in the nation, a rank that it regularly receives from Newsweek magazine.

Catonsville does it all: It strives to achieve world-class academic standards while, at the same time, recognizing the important role that the arts and athletics play in the development of young men and women.

I want to thank Principal Debbie Bittner and her staff for giving us such an outstanding high school.

And let's not forget the administrators and staff members at Catonsville, Westowne, Hillcrest and Westchester Elementary schools, along with Catonsville and Arbutus Middle. Without the

preparation that students receive at those schools, Catonsville High would not be able to reach the heights that it does.

A student who earns a five in Advanced Placement United States history, doesn't just magically appear in the 11th grade.

Money Magazine had it right. Catonsville is indeed one of the best places in the country to live.

Don Mohler

Catonsville