

NEWSLETTER



HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Volume 28, Issue 5

September 2018

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Message to Members

By: *Howie Feaga, President Howard County Farm Bureau*

I am hoping that by the time you all read this, we will have had a lot better weather than the hot humid days we have had a lot of this summer. We need to be thankful though that we are not on fire or in a drought like the people out west. We need to say a quick prayer for all those that are struggling with the misfortune's these past few months have brought to some.

I want to congratulate Makenzie Hereth on winning the Miss Ho. Co. Farm Bureau contest. She did a great job to be picked the winner out of four very good contestants. Her parents, Katie and Marc Hereth, are very proud I'm sure and we wish her luck in the Miss Maryland Agriculture contest. Kaitlyn Hill is the winner of the Little Miss Ho. Co. Farm Bureau contest, she is the daughter of Megan and Blair Hill. Jake Hereth is the winner of the Future Farmer, he is the son of Katie and Marc as well. I want to thank last year's winners Kendra Bower the Miss Ho. Co. Farm bureau, Kylee Bingham-Brendel the Little Miss and Hayden Brendel the Future Farmer, for all they did to promote Farm Bureau and Agriculture throughout the year. We want to wish them all the best of luck in the future. I also want to congratulate all the kids

that participated in the 73rd Ho. Co. Fair this year. It was a great week and all the kids worked hard and must have had fun.

We will be working on policy in the upcoming months to take to the Maryland Farm Bureau convention in December. We will be having our annual business meeting in October to pick out the top 3 policies for adding to or replacing the current language in the Maryland farm Bureau's policies. We will also be holding our Annual Dinner in November, and electing the new board member as well; so I look forward to seeing all of you there.

So, as the summer comes to an end, I hope you will all have a safe and prosperous harvest and like I always say "Keep your plow in the ground, we're all pulling for you"

Your President, Howie Feaga

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Junior Showmanship with Howard County Farm Bureau

By: *Rhonda Winkler*



I am starting right off with a humongous “WHOOOP WHOOP”!

Way to conquer the ring Junior Showmen, I truly loved watching each and every one of you in the ring.

As they say, TEAM WORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK! We truly fulfilled a lot of dreams today!

Thank you to our awesome youth volunteers. You all ROCK, thanking you for giving back to our future agriculture leaders. Remember you always get what you give and you all are on a superior path to greatness. I love you guys and I appreciate your commitment.

Thank you to our wonderful adult volunteers. Thanks for helping me stay organized and for keeping the show running smoothly. Lori Mellin and Charles Mellin (Pop) kept us on the straight path at the desk organizing all of the classes. Thank you to Margaret Johnson, she was our queen in the lamb and goat ring. Next we have Chris & Carole Murray, my awesome sister and brother-in-law. They picked up all of the dairy calves from our farm and brought them to the show. They both also worked the dairy ring and kept things moving right along. The queen of the dairy and lamb ring was the fire queen, Teresa Boswell. She kept all of the kids in order.

A special-heart felt thank you to our incredible judges. You all did a fantastic job and I received so many compliments on your caring ability to work with the kids.

Swine & Goat - Matthew Chaney

Dairy - Caitlin Patrick

Lamb - Mark Chaney

I hope you all enjoyed today as much as I did. I truly believe we fulfilled the reason for the program. Educating & Supporting our future agriculture leaders!

Continued Blessing to each and every one of you!

Hugs & Love Always,

Ms. [Rhonda Patrick Winkler](#)

Check out our Facebook Page!
Junior Showmanship with Howard County Farm Bureau

73rd Howard County Fair Contest Winners



Congratulations to all the members of the 2018 Howard County Farm Bureau court!

Little Miss HCFB: Kaitlyn Hill
Future Howard County Farmer: Jake Hereth
Miss HCFB: Makenzie Hereth

We are so proud of all our contestants and wish them the best of luck. Thank you to everyone who participated!



Howard County Farm Bureau Board Approved Ag Education Strategic Plan

By: Barb Glenn

Thank you to all who have participated in drafting and finalizing the Ag Education Strategic Plan. We met on March 22 and a final Plan was reviewed at the May meeting of the Board of Directors. The Plan was approved by the Board. This Ag Education Strategic Plan will assist us in prioritizing future work in partnership with many other organizations, and thereby strengthen our united voice. For use in meetings with county officials and others to explain our strategic mission and goals, an Ag Ed one pager has been created and will be posted on the web site:

www.mdfarmbureau.com/howard.

Please see the Ag Education Strategic Plan attached in this Newsletter after the Calendar of Events! (Pg. 8 & 9)

Thanks to **Maryland Farm Bureau's Emily Solis**

who designed the one -pager. We appreciate the support of Maryland Farm Bureau! **Please let Howie** (howie@merryacresfarm.com) know if you have any questions.

More --Update on the Ag Science Advisory Board

By: Barb Glenn

The **Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) Agriculture Science Advisory Board** met on April 9 at the Applications and Research Laboratory (ARL). We are well represented on the Board which includes **Howie Feaga, Danielle Bauer, Keith Ohlinger, and Barb Glenn**. **Mr. Joe Dymek, Maryland Ag Education Foundation (MAEF) president, and chair of the Advisory Board** provided us an update recently.

Superintendent Dr. Martirano was present for the meeting. Howie shared our strong support for the Agricultural Science program and offered that HCFB members are willing to help in any way that we can.

At that time, there are 20 students signed up for the first semester in September and HCPSS was still searching for an ag science teacher is ongoing.

We will continue to support the Agricultural Science Program and to advocate for the program and funding to make it happen. If you want more information, please contact Joe, joejdymek@gmail.com.

Howard County's First Ag Education Teacher is Ready to Go!

By: Barb Glenn

Kathy Wojcik has been hired as the **Howard County Agricultural Science Academy** teacher! Kathy has extensive agricultural experience and we

are very excited about her new role for the first ever Howard County Ag Education program.

Kathy grew up in Woodbine, Maryland on a livestock farm producing mostly Duroc and Poland China Swine which she exhibited at the county, state, and national levels. She completed my undergraduate work in Animal Science at the University of Maryland. Her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction was completed at McDaniel College.

Upon graduation from UMCP, she and her husband owned and operated a turf farm and landscape company in Harford County, MD. In 2004, she was hired by Carroll County Public Schools as an Agriscience teacher and FFA advisor. She worked at South Carroll High School for 10 years before moving to the Carroll County Career and Technology Center to teach Project Lead the Way Biomedical Science. She is certified in two CASE courses as well as four Project Lead the Way courses. She and her family are lifelong 4-H members and volunteers. Currently, Kathy resides in Woodbine, Howard County with her husband and two daughters. Her son is actively involved in the ag industry in Annawan, Illinois.

Kathy is very excited to begin her new position and even attended the State FFA Convention this summer where she had the opportunity to judge the Vet Science CDE and reconnect with other agricultural science teachers.

Please feel free to reach out to her during the summer and offer her your support as she begins her new role as the new Agricultural Science Academy teacher in Howard County.

The agriculture community has worked very hard over the last several years to bring this program to fruition, and without your support, the students of Howard County would not have this excellent opportunity to study Agricultural Science education.

We wish her the best as she begins to grow her new program!

Ag Education Bill Died

By: *Barb Glenn*

We learned at the HCFB Legislative Dinner from Senator Bates that the new and improved Ag Education Bill, House Bill 870, was not voted upon by the legislature. House Bill 870 was introduced by Delegates Shoemaker, Ghrist, Luedtke, Patterson, Rose, and Tarlau. While the bill passed in the House, the Senate did not take it up. Maryland Farm Bureau looks forward to strengthening the bill next year.

For more information contact **MFB Colby Ferguson**, cferguson@mdfarmbureau.com, or **HCFB Keith Ohlinger**, kohlinger05@verizon.net.

Conservationist's Corner

Howard County Farm Bureau is proud to introduce the newest member of our agricultural community, Charlotte Brewster! Charlotte is the new District Conservationist at NRCS. She took over for Jim Myers who retired in December after 30 years of service (Thank you for your years of commitment Jim, enjoy retirement!)

Charlotte was raised and worked on her parent's dairy farm on the Frederick County side of Union Bridge, MD. Along with her parents, Charlotte and her husband raise beef cattle and have a small hog operation. She understands and experiences the daily challenges farmers face as her family farm has made many transitions in the last ten years. She takes great pride in helping others and improving Howard County for future generations as she can help you reach your goals with the various programs NRCS has to offer.

Charlotte works out of the Howard Soil Conservation District Office at: 14735 Frederick Road, Cooksville, MD 21723

Her contact information:

Charlotte.brewster@md.usda.gov
410-313-0683

University of Maryland Extension **Offers Urban Farmer Field** **School**

Source: University of Maryland Extension
By: Neith Little

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



Published on: July 23, 2018

BALTIMORE, MD — University of Maryland Extension will host five farmer field school workshops to help urban farmers develop their agricultural enterprises for success. Held at farms across Prince George's County and Baltimore City, each Urban Farmer Field School in the series will cover a different topic and provide participants with the opportunity to learn in a hands-on setting, and set goals for improving the financial viability of their urban farms.

The series, developed as part of a grant from the Northeast Extension Risk Management Education Center, funded through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), will help current and aspiring commercial urban farmers in the Baltimore and Washington D.C. metro regions move from crisis-management to proactive risk management.

“Many urban farmers become overwhelmed by the daily challenges of farming, spending their time seeking short-term financial solutions to keep their urban farms afloat,” said Neith Little, urban agriculture Extension educator in Baltimore. “We want to help urban farmers use risk management strategies to move from survival mode to a more proactive understanding of what their farms need to thrive.”

In June, UMD Extension hosted focus groups in both Baltimore City and Prince George's Co. to collect feedback on current challenges, needs, and

opportunities for growth in urban agriculture in the region. The feedback determined the content of the farmer field schools, as a well as a future guidebook, to assist urban farmers.

"Achieving economic viability is an urgent concern for urban farmers," said Mariya Strauss, executive director of the Farm Alliance of Baltimore, a grassroots membership group of 16 urban farms in the city. "They face unique challenges such as having less land than rural farms do, and sometimes they struggle even to keep the little land they do have. The Urban Farmer Field School project will help them with business planning and other key pieces to support them in these unique struggles."

The Urban Farmer Field School series begins in August. Topics include marketing, self-care, business structure, insurance, and production techniques such as irrigation. Workshops are three hours, include light refreshments, and require a \$10 investment. For more information and to register, please visit go.umd.edu/UFFS.

The Urban Farmer Field School series is organized by UMD Extension, with support from the Northeast Extension Risk Management Education Center funded through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), EcoCity Farms, Farm Alliance of Baltimore, Prince George's County Soil Conservation District, MidAtlantic Farm Credit, The Greener Garden Urban Farm, and Real Food Farm.

How Can You Leave the Legacy **You Desire?**

By: John Dove, Edward Jones Investments

It's probably not on many calendars, but August is "What Will Be Your Legacy Month." So, it's a good time to think about the type of legacy you'd like to leave.

On a practical level, establishing your legacy means providing your family and the charitable organizations you support with the resources you'd

like them to have. So, you'll want to work with your legal professional to create the appropriate documents, such as a will, living trust, power of attorney and so on.

You'll also want to communicate your plans to your loved ones. You don't want anyone to be unpleasantly surprised when it's time to settle your estate.

And don't forget to review your plans as your life changes. For example, if you've remarried, you may want to change the beneficiary designations on your IRA, 401(k) and other retirement accounts – if left untouched, these designations may even supersede the instructions left in your will.

With careful planning, and by making the right moves, you can create the type of legacy you desire – one that can benefit your loved ones far into the future.

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Announcements

❖ Howard Soil Conservation District's Cooperators Dinner

Howard Soil Conservation District's (HSCD) Cooperators Dinner is a time for folks to come together, to catch up with old friends and make new ones. During the HSCD Cooperators Dinner a farmer is recognized for their outstanding conservation work.

This year's Cooperator Dinner will be held on **Thursday, September 13th at Colmont Farm.**

The event will include wagon rides, conservation award presentations, and an opportunity to try pumpkin chunkin'. The dinner will be catered by Beefalo Bobs, and will include beef BBQ, pit beef, ham, turkey, coleslaw, potato salad, green beans, and desserts.

To find out more information on the event or to sign up, visit the HSCD website, www.howardscd.org, or call the office, 410.313.0680.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Howard SCD's Annual Cooperator Dinner

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Colmont Farm

Glenwood, MD



❖ **HURRY! GET YOUR TICKETS!!**
Howard County Farm Bureau's
3rd Annual Farm to Table Dinner



Join us for an elegant four course dinner made from locally grown ingredients prepared by chefs from The Turn House, Riverside House Pizza, and Centre Park Grill. Salads will be provided by The Roving Radish. The meal will be accompanied by beer from Manor Hill Brewing, wine from Black Ankle Vineyards, and spirits from Lost Ark Distilling Company. To finish the evening dessert will be provided by Stone House Bakery. Local entertainment and silent auction will create a fun and friendly environment. Meet our local farmers and learn about farming in Howard County. Learn more about the Howard County Farm Bureau and all that we do to preserve, support and educate our farmers and our future agricultural leaders.

Support local farms and businesses!

Tuesday October 2nd, 2018
6:00 PM
Circle D Farm
15535 Carrs Mill Road

Tickets: \$80

Tickets by: [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/howard-county-farm-bureau-2018-farm-to-table-dinner-tickets-49084766859?aff=efbeventix)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/howard-county-farm-bureau-2018-farm-to-table-dinner-tickets-49084766859?aff=efbeventix>

❖ **The Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED**
THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade

Hosted By:



Scheduled for
Saturday, December 8, 2018
at 12:00 Noon



Calendar of Events

2018

SEP 11-14 LEAD MARYLAND CLASS X SEMINAR 9

Place Washington, DC
TIME ALL DAY

SEP 13 HOWARD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S COOPERATOR DINNER

Place Colmont Farm
*Visit www.howardscd.org for more details

SEP 26 LEAD MARYLAND FOUNDATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Place Wye Research and Education Center
TIME 11:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

OCT 1 DEADLINE: LEAD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS, SEEKING 25 NEW LEADERS

Place LEAD Maryland Program
TIME ALL DAY

OCT 2 FARM TO TABLE DINNER

Place Circle D Farm
15535 Carrs Mill Road
Woodbine, MD 21797
Time 6:00 p.m.
COST: \$80 - TICKETS ON SALE NOW

OCT 5 PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Place UMD Extension, Baltimore County
TIME 9:00 A.M.

NOV 7 LEAD MARYLAND FOUNDATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Place TBD
TIME 11:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

DEC 2-4 103RD MARYLAND FARM BUREAU ANNUAL CONVENTION

Place Ocean City, MD
The Clarion Resort Hotel

DEC 8 THE GREAT LISBON FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY CHRISTMAS PARADE

Place Lisbon, MD
TIME 12:00 P.M.

[NOTE]: Some programs require pre-registration and/or a fee. For programs sponsored by University of Maryland Extension, please contact the person indicated at least two weeks in advance of the event.

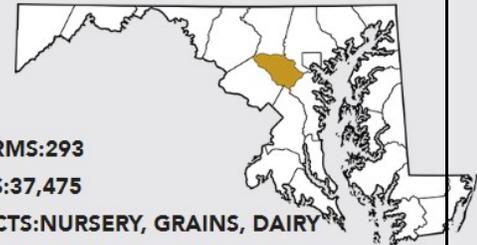
Agriculture Education

A top priority for farmers in Howard County

Market value of farm products in Howard County:

\$31,883,000

Source: 2012 USDA Ag Census



Our Mission

We want all youth to understand the importance of agriculture by learning about it in school and engaging in hand-on experiences. Our goal is to advance agricultural education through partnerships that will develop successful programs in our schools.



Join Us

You can support agriculture education and the future of our youth in Howard County schools by joining Farm Bureau - the voice of agriculture!

Visit MDFarmBureau.com to learn more.

Howard County Farm Bureau is working towards:

- Assuring that the new high school agriculture education program is successful
- Participating in the first steps to initiate agriculture education programs at the middle school level through supportive partnerships
- Advancing the Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation's (MAEF) effort to develop agriculture education programs in elementary schools



Agriculture is a vital part of Howard County's past, present, and future. Agriculture education in our schools will teach students about current

The Future is

BRIGHT

for Students in Agriculture and
Natural Resources!

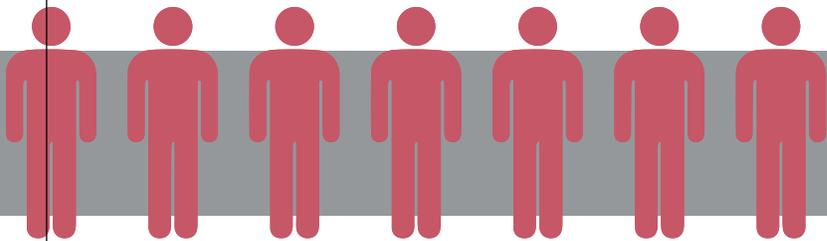


Agriculture is the largest employer in the U.S.

It's also the number

1

employer in Maryland!



23 million people work in
agriculture and related fields.

Of those involved in agriculture, only 2% of them are farmers.



Do you want to play a part in
feeding and clothing the
world? Start planning your
career with a future in
agriculture!

