

# NEWSLETTER



## HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Volume 33, Issue 2

March 2023

### ~Contacts~

Leslie Bauer, President (443) 812-1662  
 Barb Glenn, Vice-President (202) 577-6660  
 Katie Hereth, Secretary (301) 580-6029  
 Kerry Brendel, Treasurer (301) 606-2341  
 Mandy Dalglish, Newsletter Editor (240) 638-6174

WEBSITE: [www.mdfarmbureau.com/howard](http://www.mdfarmbureau.com/howard)

### Message to Members

By: *Leslie Bauer, President, Howard County Farm Bureau*

I hope 2023 has started off well on your farm! The weather has certainly left us something to talk about. While some years bring record snow or cold temperatures, it seems we have not seen much of either this winter. While I certainly enjoy the warmer days, and not having to shovel snow or deal with ice, I hope it won't be something we pay for later when trying to get crops planted and growing.

At the beginning of February, myself and many other members of the Howard County agricultural community attended the Taste of Maryland Agriculture event at Live! Casino in Arundel Mills. Over 800 people were in attendance at this event, where legislative leaders were able to meet with farmers and talk about the business of farming. Governor Wes Moore, along Lt. Governor Aruna Miller, were both in attendance and shared an exciting and hopeful message with the farming community. It will be interesting to see what the next four years will bring, but I am hopeful that we have an administration that is open to continue supporting the business of agriculture in Maryland.

As I sit down to write my March message to members, we are not quite halfway through the 2023 legislative session in Annapolis. There were some who believed the current legislative session would be uneventful, with the start of a new administration and the turnover that brought some new legislators, however it has continued to be an interesting year in Annapolis, and many have kept a watchful eye on some of the new bills that have been introduced.

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, Maryland Farm Bureau hosted their annual Day in Annapolis event. This year had record attendance, both by farm bureau members, as well as legislators. Howard County was well represented. Along with myself, I would

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like to thank the following who took the time away from their busy schedules to visit with our local legislators and talk about issues that impact agriculture: Zack Brendel, Mickey Day, Danielle Farace, Howie Feaga, Barbara Glenn, Kathy Johnson, and Jake Moore. While in Annapolis, we were able to personally visit with Senator Katie Hester and Senator Clarence Lam, Delegate Jessica Feldmark, Delegate Chao Wu and Delegate Natalie Ziegler. We also met with aides from offices of Senator Guy Guzzone, and Delegates Vanessa Atterbeary, Pam Lanman Guzzone and Jen Terrasa. Overall, it was a successful day full of good conversations about agriculture.

Highlights of some of the bills that were discussed include:

- The addition of a state specialist within Maryland Department of Agriculture for value-added agriculture
- An increase for on-farm composting to 40,000 square feet (currently 5,000 square feet), and to allow the incorporation of food scraps to the feedstock used in the compost pile
- Requirements for the sale of new zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles within the State
- For Howard County – a reduced setback for the archery hunting zone (already in effect in other counties in the state)

To follow along with the 2023 Maryland General Assembly session, be sure to check your e-mail inbox for the MD Farm Bureau Hotline, sent weekly with legislative highlights. Also be sure to attend the Howard County Farm Bureau's Legislative Dinner on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Howard County Fairgrounds. We look forward to getting final updates from our local legislators on this evening. Additional details regarding the dinner can be found later in this newsletter.

The Howard County Farm Bureau Board of Directors continue to also work hard behind the

scenes. In the past two months, there have been discussions about budget requests to the county for FY2023-2024, and well as some county farm bureau policy initiatives we would like to pursue on a local level. All of this information has been shared with representatives of the county. We hope that together we are able to accomplish some of these requests and goals to help promote and support agriculture in Howard County throughout the coming years.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Howie Feaga, who was the winner of the MD Farm Bureau Ford pick-up truck raffle. The announcement was made during our attendance at Day in Annapolis, and it made for a little more excitement during the day.

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## Howard County Farm Bureau Scholarship

The Howard County Farm Bureau will offer one \$1,000.00 scholarship for someone in the 14 to 16 age range and another \$2,000.00 scholarship to someone in the 17 to 19 age range. The 17-19 scholarship will be partially funded by Farm Bureau and partially funded by the Jackie Bauer Memorial Scholarship fund. To be eligible for the 17 to 19 scholarship, they would either need to be a current HCFB member OR a current or former 4-H or FFA member. The 14 to 16 scholarship is open to HCFB members only.

To apply, students must return the attached application form (on page #11) and write an essay. The essay is to be written on:

**"Plant based protein brands such as Beyond or Impossible are now commonplace in major fast-food restaurants and grocery stores. How can the agricultural industry embrace a growing plant-based protein market and traditional meat sources at the same time?"**

We would guide the winners to use the money for school and or 4H/FFA projects. The deadline for applications and essays is April 1, 2023

The Scholarships will be awarded at our annual Legislative Dinner

All decisions on the winner will be made by the Howard County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Essays are to be written in number 12 font and be no longer than 2 pages with one inch margins.

Entries or questions can be sent to Taylor Rhodes at [taylorrhodes67@yahoo.com](mailto:taylorrhodes67@yahoo.com). If you would like to send a hard copy please send to the attention of:

Taylor Rhodes, 1525 Daisy Rd Woodbine 21797

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## Maryland Farm Bureau Scholarships



Deadline March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*Agricultural and other students eligible for five \$2,000 scholarships*

Maryland Farm Bureau (MDFB) is giving back to its members and students of the community by offering five \$2,000 scholarships for the 2023-2024 academic year. Applicants must be high-school seniors starting college in the fall of 2023 or full-time college students at any accredited community college or four-year institution. Applicants, or their parents/guardians, must be members of Maryland Farm Bureau.

Three of the scholarships will be awarded to students pursuing academic disciplines in food, agriculture, and/or natural resources. The

remaining two scholarships are open to students in any academic discipline.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by a designated committee of the Maryland Farm Bureau. Students must apply online via the official application website. The application includes the following essay question to be answered by each applicant:

***How can Farm Bureau effectively support young farmers and ranchers to successfully prepare for an ever-changing economy and increasing infrastructure challenges?***

Provide two examples, including one local program or initiative you have been a part of or been made aware of.

Online applications must be submitted by March 24 at 10:59 p.m.

For more information or to apply, visit the official application website:

<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/MFBScholarship2023>

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## What's Happening – HCFB Education & Outreach Committee

By: **Barb Glenn, Chair, HCFB Education and Outreach Committee**

**February 2023**

**The committee is focused on 2023 priorities as approved by the Board.** The Committee members are Joe Dymek, John Dove, Danielle Farace, Mandy Dalgliesh, Leslie Bauer, and Barb Glenn, chair.

**Agricultural Seminar Series:**

The seminar series for students of the Ag Science Academy/FFA at the ARL is highly successful. We have brought many experts to speak. The

students ask lots of questions! Topics have included production agriculture-crops and livestock, environment, climate, veterinary sciences, conservation, biotechnology ag policy, land use, food systems and more. The program kicked off last September with President Bauer and Past President Howie Feaga speaking about farming. Speakers will continue up to May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Other work is on-going:**

- Initial planning for a future Howard County Ag Awareness Day for 7<sup>th</sup> graders
- Ag education materials, like the MAEF Ag Literacy Book of the Year, and the MAEF Mobile Science Labs, for county elementary schools
- Continuing active advocacy with the County officials in government, HCPSS, FFA, and others to push for new ag education initiatives

**We welcome you to join us and get involved.**  
Please let Barb Glenn ([glennbarb6@gmail.com](mailto:glennbarb6@gmail.com)) know you are interested in volunteering!

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## Howard County Mid-Winter Ag Meeting

*By: Kristal McCormick, Education Outreach/Conservation Planner, Howard Soil Conservation District*



**Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

The Howard Soil Conservation District, Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), University of

Maryland Extension, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will sponsor the annual Howard County Mid-Winter Ag Meeting on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Registration and a light meal will be at 6:00 PM, with the meeting beginning at 6:30 PM. Topics include Mental Health, Urban Ag Grants, Soil Lime Requirement Test Methods, Soil Health, and a Nutrient Management Update.

This year's meeting will be held in-person at the **Howard County Fairgrounds** in the **Annex Building**, as well as have a virtual option for attending. There is no cost but attendees should **pre-register by Friday, 3/10/23**. A link, for those attending virtually, will be sent the morning of the meeting. If you are unable to attend please pre-register and you will receive a link to the recording. Call the Howard Soil Conservation District, 410.313.0680, or email [kmccormick@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:kmccormick@howardcountymd.gov), to pre-register or with any questions.

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## And the Sun Shined on the 2022 Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade!

*By: Alice Settle-Raskin*



The 2022 Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade was a resounding success! From the glorious sunshine gifted by Mother Nature and the thousands of faces

beaming with anticipation, the spirit of the season was definitely alive in the historic town of Lisbon, Maryland!

The parade brought out the community, families, friends, and neighbors from nearby towns and big cities! The size of the crowd lining the route was often 10 to 12 people deep! You see, they came to shop at the nearby Santa's Village and get a "reindeer ride", they came to see tractors, they came to see the horses, they came to see the hounds and, they came to feed the hungry!

They were all there in the historic town of Lisbon, Maryland on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the annual Lisbon Christmas Parade that has been feeding the hungry since 2011.

### The Parade



In keeping with the spirit of the season, Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus led the tractor parade on their red Farmall, then leading with their BIG GREEN John Deere with the cherished farm-dog riding atop the fender, was the Carroll County Farm Bureau. They proudly displayed their banner, Carroll County Farm Bureau, the Voice of Agriculture. Not far behind was Howard County Farm Bureau's BIG GREEN pulling the wagon with the Little Miss Farm Bureau and youth ambassadors. Whether the tractors were painted with the season's traditional Red or Green, or any other color of the rainbow – Blue New Hollands and Fords, Orange Kubotas and Allis-Chalmers, and others! The tractors pulling wagons were fully loaded, filled with festive smiles. Not to be forgotten, mixed in were antique farm trucks, antique cars, and fire trucks!



The Howard County Iron Bridge Hounds, plus the Goshen Hounds from nearby Montgomery County brought their lively yelps and made patrons smile! With their noses to the ground, following the scents, to calls of the hunting horn, the hounds from both groups are definitely an annual hit!



Over a hundred seasonally-adorned horses – driven, under saddle, and led by side-walkers – made their way down the parade route! From draft horses, to saddle horses, to ponies and minis, groups such as the Saddle Gals and Guys Drill Team with their flags flowing high, Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue, Days End Farm Horse Rescue, and fun riding groups: Huzzies on Hooves.



## Feeding The Hungry

Thanks to you – our amazing community sponsors, and tractor and equine participants, the parade has raised over **\$27,000!** Our beneficiaries – Howard County Food Bank, Carroll County Food Sunday, Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry, and the Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company will be presented checks at the Annual Howard County Farm Bureau Legislative Dinner held on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, over 3,400 pounds of nonperishable canned foods was collected and donated to feed the local food banks in Howard and Carroll Counties! Thank you to all those who participated in the food drives this parade season!

Since the parade's inception in 2011, over \$177,000 has been raised to feed the hungry! With the generous support of the community, in 2023 the Parade hopes to raise well over \$30,000, bringing that total to over \$200,000!

## What's to Come in 2023?

Mark your calendars! The Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade presented by the Howard County Farm Bureau is scheduled to kick off on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Town of Lisbon, Maryland, will be abuzz with activity including Day's End Farm Horse Rescue's Santa Village. Stay tuned and learn more by visiting: [www. \*\*LisbonChristmasParade.org\*\*](http://www.LisbonChristmasParade.org).



**The Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade** presented by The

Howard County Farm Bureau, benefits The Howard County Food Bank, Carroll County Food Sunday, Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry, and Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company. Since its inception in 2011, the parade has raised more than \$177,000 to date for the parade's beneficiaries and collected many thousands of pounds of nonperishable canned food donated to our local food banks in Howard and Carroll counties.

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## **MAEF's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Ag Literacy Week**

*Source: **Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation***



**Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation announces March 20-24, 2023 as the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Maryland Ag Literacy Week.**

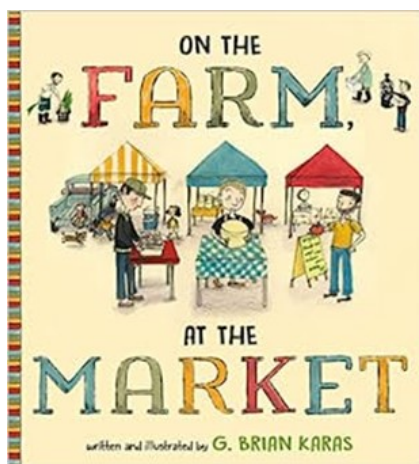
With the majority of children today being 3 to 4 generations removed from living and working on farms, we believe that it is crucial to the future success of agriculture for children and adults to recognize and appreciate the importance of agriculture in their daily lives.

MAEF's Ag Literacy Week program focuses on connecting volunteers from the agricultural community to local classrooms with the purpose of increasing student knowledge about agriculture. Each year a new agriculturally-themed book is chosen and an activity developed that reinforces the message of the book. This program educates Maryland youth through the support of volunteers who purchase the agriculturally-themed Ag Literacy Week book to read to elementary students, complete a provided activity with the class and share their personal experiences in agriculture. The book is then donated to the classroom library and the

classroom teacher is given additional lessons to expand the student learning.

Participating in MAEF's Ag Literacy Week is an opportunity for any group or individual wishing to promote and support agriculture to be the face of agriculture in a kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom across the state.

"*On the Farm, At the Market*" has been selected as the 2023 Maryland Ag Literacy book. Students will join the Cat in the Hat on a trip to the farm, where they learn about the work that is done from dusk to dawn and spring to fall to ensure we have food on the table.



We invite YOU – Farm Bureau members, farmers, ranchers, FFA students, Young Farmers, Commodity group leaders, industry representatives, and other supportive of agriculture to be the face of agriculture in your local classroom!

To find out more about this exciting and engaging program and how you can become a Volunteer Reader, visit the link below.

<https://maefonline.com/home/teacher-center/elementary-education-mobile-science/#1638201022194-16a88997-d04c>

## Tax Assessment Help

By: *Howie Feaga*

### Appeal or Not?

You may want to appeal your assessment, it's not that hard, it's more paperwork, but it may be worth it. Here is a quick look at what I did with the help of a neighbor.

My assessment went from 717,800 to 1,640,000, that was an increase of 923,000, almost double. There is not much you can do about the land, but the buildings are what the biggest increase for us was. They went from 394,200 to 1,187,900.

First, on the back of your assessment is the APPEAL PROCEDURE; follow the directions and get a copy of your Property Worksheet and Sales Listing. Study them and you will be able to see where the increase may be.

Second, make a map of your farmstead buildings, number them and make a description of each one and take a few pictures to match each building for clarity. These buildings are not commercial buildings, they are farm buildings. Some open sided and not heated with running water; all things that would add value but in your case are not. This helps you when you talk to the appeal person.

Third, let them know how old your farm is and the age of the buildings, they are looking at them from the air and don't see the age of the walls or the fact that they are open sided. Also correct any misinformation they may have like decks, porch, stone walls or in my case they thought my house was a two story dwelling.

I have included some info below, as an example that I provided. I know we like to think our farms are really valuable, but this is not the time for that argument.

Thanks!!! HOWIE

----- Example Appeal-----

January 17, 2022

Ellicott City, MD. 21042

I am appealing the TOTAL NEW MARKET VALUE because,

- 1) The assessment that has been assigned to our property is over double what it was. I feel the property values have not doubled in 3 years.
- 2) There are no 100-acre properties within several miles of our property for comparison.
- 3) The "Main House" Is over 50 years old, with no where near the value of neighboring residences. The "Barns" and "Out Buildings" are in constant need of repair and up-keep, due to just normal use.
- 4) The fact that we are in "Ag land Preservation", the Zoning Regulations only allow traditional farming practices on the land and that must be something that keeps the value down.
- 5) When the property went into the "Ag Land Preservation Program", we were paid quite a bit less than other properties, because we were on the east side of Rt. 32, for that reason we should be considered less valuable during our assessment process.
- 6) One last fact is that we have no timber to harvest on the property.

Thank you for these Considerations

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## Announcements

### ❖ Annual Howard County Farm Bureau Legislative Dinner

The annual Howard County Farm Bureau Legislative Banquet will be held **Thursday, April 20, 2023**, 7:00 p.m., at the Howard County Fairgrounds Dining Hall, West Friendship, MD. A dinner will be catered by Mission BBQ at a cost of \$25.00 per person.

We have invited the County Executive, the County Council members, as well as our State Senators, Delegates and Congressman to discuss with us current matters relating to legislation and government on a local, state, and national level. This meeting provides Farm Bureau members with an excellent opportunity to meet their legislators and discuss issues of importance to them.

If you would like to RSVP by email, please email Katie Hereth at [kwhit1014@aol.com](mailto:kwhit1014@aol.com).

Please detach the reservation form on page #10, and mail it no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>, along with your check for the number of dinners desired. Checks made payable to Howard County Farm Bureau to PO BOX 282, Glenelg, MD 21737

We hope you will make an effort to attend on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### ❖ MDFB & MES Tire Recycling Program Returns in 2023

The Maryland Department of the Environment, in conjunction with Maryland Environmental Service (MES), and the Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc., has hosted several Scrap Tire Drop-Off Day events which allowed farmers to deliver agricultural scrap tires to approved collection locations free of charge. These events have been



extremely popular and successful among the agricultural community. This year we are happy to announce additional participating counties across the state. The website will have the most accurate and up to date information:

<https://www.mdfarmbureau.com/tire-recycling/> .

**(Information will be updated as confirmations are provided by County Governments)**

\*this information is as of February 20<sup>th</sup>

Dates and hours are subject to change based on scheduling conflicts with haulers, that will be county a decision, and all dates are subject to end early based on volume and budget. We suggest calling the landfill before you attend to check their availability and if they are requiring any verifying documents.

### **❖ New United Effort on a Blueprint for Agriculture Education**

*Please consider signing on to this MDFB letter in support of agriculture education.*

We need you, your farm, and(or) your business to support Ag Ed! Ensuring an educated workforce is ready for the state's largest commercial industry is a top priority for Maryland's future. Maryland Farm Bureau, Maryland Ag Education Foundation, and Maryland Ag Teachers Association are united around a new proposal for Ag Education in Maryland, as The Blueprint for Maryland's Future is being implemented. The proposal recommends a new structure to support Ag Education under the Career Technical and Education Pillar of the state's program.

To sign on, complete the online form here.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/MarylandFarmBureau/SignOnToTheMarylandFarmBureauAgEdSupportLetter>

The mission of the letter is to show Blueprint Leadership the vast support for agricultural education, including employers such as you, other organizations, allied businesses, and more. We have accumulated over 50 groups including several farm operations, private sector & association groups. But we need to continue to grow our list of supporters. Our three groups are excited to join together and have the Maryland Ag industry support a strong proposal for the future of Ag education. If you have questions, please email Barb, [glennbarb6@gmail.com](mailto:glennbarb6@gmail.com). Thank you for considering.

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## **Calendar of Events**

**\*\*\* 2023 \*\*\***

### **MAR 14 HOWARD COUNTY MID-WINTER AG MEETING**

Place Howard County Fairgrounds  
Annex Building

Time 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

\*Virtual attendance option – Pre-register by 3/10/23

### **MAR 20-24 MAEF'S 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MARYLAND AG LITERACY WEEK**

### **MAR 24 MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE**

### **APR 1 HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE**

\*SEE APPLICATION ON PAGE #11

### **APR 20 HCFB ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE DINNER**

Place Howard County Fairgrounds  
Dining Hall

Time 7:00 p.m.

\*SEE RESERVATION FORM ON PAGE #10

HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU, INC.

PO BOX 282

GLENELG, MD 21737

443-812-1662

www.mdfarmbureau.com/howard

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Please detach the reservation form at the bottom of the page and mail it no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>, along with your check for the number of dinners desired. We hope you will make an effort to attend on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

*Leslie Bauer*

Leslie Bauer

President

443-812-1662

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Detach and Mail **BEFORE March 31** to: Howard County Farm Bureau  
PO BOX 282  
Glenelg, MD 21737

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$25.00 each for the Legislative Banquet on April 20.

Enclosed is my check made payable to Howard County Farm Bureau.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

# Howard County Farm Bureau Scholarship Application

Deadline: April 1, 2023

Name:

Home Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Date of Birth:

Parents/Guardians:

High School:

Date of Graduation:

High School GPA:

College of Choice/Trade School:

Major/Trade:

List Three References:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

# Thank You Sponsors!!!



The Brian  
Musgrove Family



William Harrison  
& Sons  
Run Of The Mill  
Farm