



NEWSLETTER

FCFB 2024 Calendar

Upcoming Events

February 7
Day in Annapolis

February 10
Legislative Day
9am at New Midway Fire Hall

March 21
Spring Banquet
6:45pm at Jefferson
Ruritan Hall

April 17
Spring Luncheon
12pm at New Midway
Fire Hall

June 29-30
Farm Safety Camp
Camp Round Meadow

July 17
Summer Picnic
6pm at Mount Tabor Park

August 22-September 8
Maryland State Fair
Timonium

September 13-21
The Great Frederick Fair

October 18
Annual Meeting
New Midway Fire Hall

November 15
Women's Leadership Bingo
New Midway Fire Hall

December 7-10
Maryland Farm Bureau
Annual Meeting
Cambridge, MD

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

DENNY REMSBURG

This past year has been a very successful one for Frederick County Farm Bureau capped by recognition received at the 2023 Maryland Farm Bureau Convention held in December at the Chesapeake Hyatt Resort. Once again Frederick County was judged as excelling in all six program areas submitted to the Maryland Farm Bureau for evaluation. However, this year Frederick County Farm Bureau was selected as the Outstanding Large Membership County in the state and received the Silver Bowl award. Thanks go out to all the committee chairs and committee members for putting together another outstanding program year that keeps our county active and our membership informed and involved.

Congratulations to David and Belinda Burrier for being selected as the winners of the Leopold Conservation award for Maryland in 2023. This award was presented during the state convention and recognizes the Burriers' longstanding commitment to conservation practices and their continuing efforts to improve water quality, increase soil organic matter, and reduce erosion. David and Belinda also have hosted numerous tours at their farm

for both ag and non-ag groups and help get the word out about modern agriculture practices and intensified management. Belinda was also elected to serve out the unexpired term of Matt Schnebly representing District 1 on the Maryland Farm Bureau board. In addition, Frederick County Farm Bureau's past Ambassador, Cheyenne Van Echo competed in the collegiate discussion meet and was selected to represent Maryland at the American Farm Bureau Federation convention. Congratulations go out to Cheyenne for all the hard work and preparation.

Some of the county highlights of the past year include a successful Legislative Day in February with a great turnout from our delegation to Annapolis as well as our county government and Board of Education. In addition, another well attended Soil Smart Farm Tour gave our elected officials a chance to see and hear about the success of our Frederick County farmers as well as the obstacles they face in their day-to-day operations. Our tour hosts were also able to demonstrate the positives that ag is contributing toward improving our environment.

Following our October annual meeting, new directors were elected to serve on our board who will help provide leadership, new insight, and fresh ideas to our board in the coming year. Please do not hesitate to contact your board member or anyone on the board with any questions or issues you may have and would like to be addressed. We are a grassroots organization, and our members are our strength.

And speaking of membership, a reminder to make sure you renew your membership during the coming year and encourage family, friends, and neighbors to join if they are not already members. Our numbers are slowly eroding, and we need members to keep our voice strong. Your Frederick County Farm Bureau board made the decision to keep our county dues at the same rate as previous years even when faced with an increase on the state level. It is a great investment in the future of agriculture with additional benefits to our members. We need to keep the Voice of Agriculture strong!

SPRING BANQUET

LAURA RAMSBURG

The Spring Meeting for Frederick County Farm Bureau will be held on Thursday, March 21st at the Jefferson Ruritan Hall at 6:45pm. The evening's dinner will be turkey and shrimp. For questions regarding reservations please contact Laura Ramsburg at 301-712-7499 or jdlar@aol.com. Registration deadline is March 7th. The RSVP form is available below.

ROBERT S. RAMSBURG MEMORIAL

LARRY HOWARD

Our friend and fellow Farm Bureau member, Robert S. Ramsburg, passed away on November 28, 2023. Robert lived his entire life in Frederick County and developed a lifelong love of agriculture. In this perspective, he was a member of the Frederick County Farm Bureau for 60 years. A very active member, he served as President for 3 years, 1st Vice-President for three years, 2nd Vice-President for 3 years, Director for 7 years, as well as serving on numerous committees during his membership tenure. He was fondly known as a membership warrior! At the state level, he served on the Dairy Committee, had a position on the state board of directors and chaired the MD State Young Farmer Committee for two years.

His wife Cookie and the family have suggested those who wish, can make memorial donations in Robert's name to the scholarship fund of the Frederick County Farm Bureau c/o Larry Howard, 6010 Keyser Lane, Frederick, MD 21702. Thank you for your consideration.

LEGISLATIVE DAY

DENNY REMSBURG

Legislative Day will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024 from 9:00am – 3:00pm at the New Midway Fire Hall.

Sponsors are the Frederick County Farm Bureau, Frederick County Pomona Grange and the Catocin and Frederick Soil Conservation Districts. Representatives will be available from the local, state and national level to discuss issues pertinent to Farm Bureau members. Doughnuts and coffee will be available for breakfast and soup and sandwiches will be available for lunch.

Please contact Denny Rensburg for any additional questions at 240-675-6378 or dremsburg52@gmail.com.

DAY IN ANNAPOLIS

KENDALL ABRUZZESE

The Young Farmers' and the Women's Leadership Committee are jointly sponsoring our Day in Annapolis. The Day in Annapolis will be on Wednesday, February 7th. The day begins at 8:15am with a morning reception. The cost is \$50/person. This event is critically important as it brings farmer representation directly to our state capital.

The deadline to register is January 26th. Register online at www.mdfarmbureau.com/day-in-annapolis

Reservation for Frederick County Farm Bureau Annual Spring Banquet

Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 6:45pm

Jefferson Ruritan Hall

Name _____

Number Attending _____ x \$20.00/person = _____

Send to: Laura Ramsburg at 9400B Dublin Road, Walkersville, MD 21793

Deadline March 7, 2024– Please make check payable to **Frederick County Farm Bureau**

If you would like to pay by Venmo see link to right

<https://account.venmo.com/u/Laura-Ramsburg-1>

Please include in the comment section on Venmo: Name and Number Attending

Laura Ramsburg

@Laura-Ramsburg-1



venmo

2024 Officers & Directors

President: Denny Remsburg
PO Box 577
Jefferson, MD 21755
240-675-6378
dremsburg52@gmail.com

1st Vice President: David Burrier
9005 Clemsonville Road
Union Bridge, MD 21791
443-340-9591
burrierfarmsred@gmail.com

2nd Vice President: Eric Aellen
10200 Buckmeadow Lane
Damascus, MD 20872
240-793-8059
eric@linganorewines.com

Secretary: Kelli Wilson
925 N East Street
Frederick, MD 21705
301-514-0139
kwilson@horizonfc.com

Treasurer: Larry Howard
6010 Keyser Lane
Frederick, MD 21702
301-662-8547
HowardDandL@aol.com

Young Farmers Chair: Shelby Green
240-818-5383
hahnshelby@yahoo.com

Women's Committee Chair:
Connie Palmer
301-639-4668
palmercj3@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Kelsey Maslen
kmaslen@horizonfc.com

2024 Directors

Brian Sweeney 240-446-5146
Lisa Gaver 301-305-2800
John Zimmerman 240-439-9309
Amy Jo Poffenberger 301-676-6732

2025 Directors

Matt Ahalt 240-674-8031
Brady Topper 301-788-9870
Jarrod Burall 443-277-0089
Denny Ogg 301-748-6559

2026 Directors

Bill Allen 240-674-8031
Tom Ripley 240-674-6447
Denny Ramsburg 301-639-2740
Tom Barse 240-401-1517

Past President:

Sam Roop 301-639-7374

MD Farm Bureau Western Region

Field Manager: Kendall Abruzzese
240-405-6988
kabruzzo@marylandfb.org

SAVE THE DATE- FARM BUREAU SAFETY CAMP

AMY JO POFFENBERGER

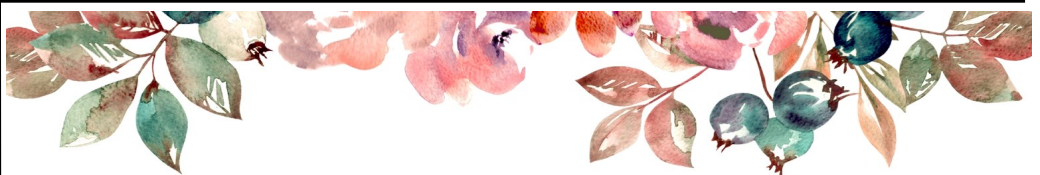
Safety Camp - June 29-30, 2024 at Camp Round Meadow
Safety Fair - TBD

More information will be coming out in a few weeks. Make sure you follow us on social media. Like and follow our Facebook page at Frederick County Farm Bureau Safety Camp

SCHOLARSHIPS

BETH AHALT

Frederick County Farm Bureau is awarding several \$1,000 scholarships to Farm Bureau members or their dependents. Applications may be found on the county website. Applications are due to Beth Ahalt by April 30th via email at bethahalt@gmail.com.



**Frederick County Farm Bureau
Women's Leadership Committee**

SPRING
Luncheon

WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2024 12:00 PM

\$17.00 PER PERSON

New Midway Fire Hall

For Reservations Call or email Mary Sue Grossnickle:

mmsgrossnickle@comcast.net

301-662-8951



Make checks payable to Frederick County Farm

Bureau Women's Leadership and mail to:

Mary Sue Grossnickle
11020 Keymar Road
Woodsboro, MD 21798





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WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP REPORT

CONNIE PALMER

Welcome to the New Year! As I prepare the first Frederick County Farm Bureau Women's Leadership newsletter of 2024, I want to reflect on some of our fall accomplishments. On November 17th, Women's Leadership held their 26th annual bingo fundraiser at New Midway Fire Hall with approximately 125 players in attendance. Twenty games and three specials of bingo were played, along with 50/50, tip jars, a basket raffle and door prizes. We had a lot of new sponsors this year plus a wonderful group of volunteers who worked the bingo tables and floor. This has been our most profitable year yet! Money will be used for three \$1,000 scholarships, nine food banks, the Ronald McDonald House, Farm Safety Camp and the Ambassador Contest. The Women's Leadership Christmas volunteer luncheon was held at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant on November 27, thanking all who volunteered throughout the year. Our program included the blessing by Gracie Stephens our Frederick County Ambassador, a song by Little Farmerette, Ella Eaves, a Christmas reading from Audrey Wolfe, games from Leslie Lenhart and Christmas music by Mike Kuster.

The Maryland Farm Bureau Ambassador Contest was held December 2nd and our county Ambassador Gracie Stephens was one of eight young ladies plus two young men who competed. She participated in the roundtable discussion and her final speech was outstanding. Thank you Gracie for representing Frederick County Farm Bureau! On December 3rd the Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership annual meeting was held in Cambridge. The all-day event began with a regular business meeting. Richard "Farmer Chippy" Francis of Plantation Park Heights Urban Farm was a funny, upbeat speaker who presented about urban farming. For our community project, ladies made pillows with a pocket that held an ag related book to be given to Hurlock Elementary School and daycare center. Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership presented their All-Star Spring Fashion Show designer line. The welcome was by Belinda Burrier. Six ladies from Frederick County Women's Leadership participated by wearing the Ivy League suit, Newest print, Bag dress, Duct tape, pinstripe suit and cap sleeve dress. There was a craft event with Sheila Hancock to "Paint a Sign" to end our Women's Leadership day. Our county Women's Leadership purchased food to help fill the Ford truck at our state convention. There were a total 301 pounds of food items collected to benefit the Maryland Food Bank. The Christmas centerpiece decoration for the Silent Auction to benefit Ag Education was also donated.

For upcoming events we look forward to the Day in Annapolis sponsored by Young Farmers and Women's Leadership. This event is February 7th in which several ladies plan to attend, meet and talk with our legislators. On February 10th, Women's Leadership will be attending the Frederick County Farm Bureau Legislative Day at New Midway Fire Hall.