

NEWSLETTER

HOWARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU

VOL. 16, NO. 1

JANUARY, 2007

PHILIP JONES, PRESIDENT, (410) 442-2679; HOWIE FEAGA, VICE-PRESIDENT, (410) 531-1872;

MERHLYN BARNES, SECRETARY, (410) 489-4465;

TIMOTHY BARKLEY, TREASURER (301) 829-3778;

ALLAN BANDEL, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, (410) 489-7875

WEB SITE - www.howardfarmbureau.org

William P. Brendel

June 19, 1914 to November 28, 2006

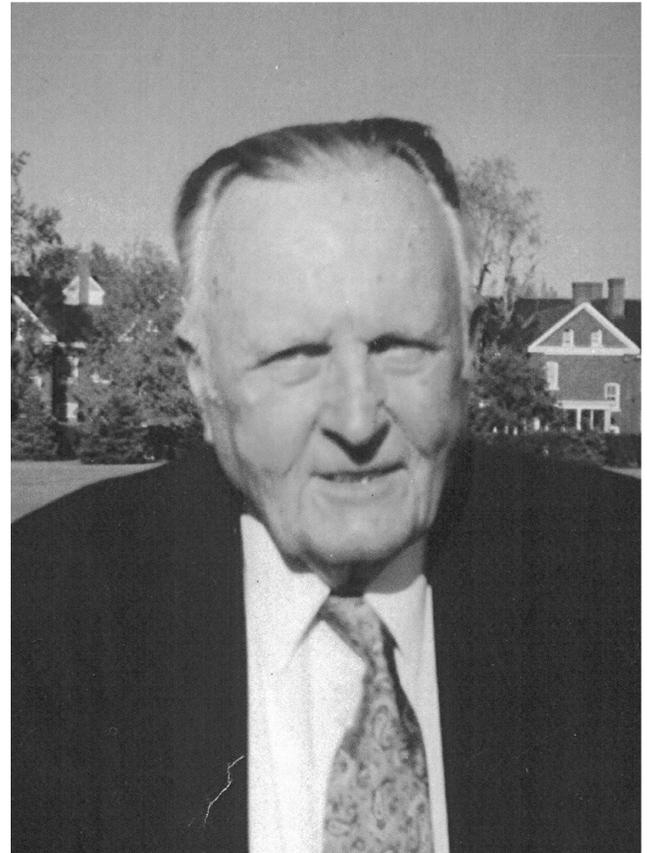
William Philip "Bill" Brendel, a long-time active member of the Howard County Farm Bureau, a prominent, well-known Howard County farmer and highly respected civic leader, passed away on Tuesday, November 28, 2006 due to pneumonia at Howard County General Hospital in Columbia. Born on June 19, 1914 in Catonsville, MD, he was 92 at the time of his death.

As a youth, Mr. Brendel studied at the Strayer Bryant College in Baltimore where he majored in business administration. Following business school, he enrolled at the University of Maryland College of Agriculture where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in animal husbandry. He moved to Ellicott City in 1935 where he began his long farming career with a herd of Ayrshire dairy cows.

Mr. Brendel with his father, the late William J. Brendel, built and operated the popular Brendel's Manor Park for many years. The Park, located on what is now MD Route 144 on the site of the Old St. Charles College and adjacent to historic Doughregan Manor, was a favorite gathering place for family picnics.

Mr. Brendel and his family's namesake park played a very important role in Howard County history by frequently hosting the Annual Howard County Farm Bureau Picnic, an event that in 1946 became the First Annual Howard County Fair.

Through the mid-20th century, when Howard County was still a largely rural agricultural community, Mr. Brendel willingly assumed leadership roles in such organizations as the Patapsco Grange 403, the Howard County Farm Bureau, the Howard County Fair Association, the Howard County Soil Conservation District and the Howard County Farmers' Coop. Just a few years ago, he was recognized by the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts for serving an impressive 45 years on the Board of



Supervisors of the Howard Soil Conservation District, many of them as its Treasurer.

Because of his keen mind and shrewd thinking about the future of a rapidly changing Howard County, he envisioned the need for the important role that these innovative organizations would render and for the important benefits that they might provide to county residents. He was one of the founders who laid the groundwork for launching these organizations and for subsequently assuring that they achieved their goals. By willingly and unselfishly volunteering many hours of his time and talents to such civic efforts, he helped to guide a once very rural Howard County into the faster moving dynamics of the 21st century.

During the latter part of the 20th century, when it became apparent that Howard County was destined to grow very rapidly and change quickly from a mostly all rural atmosphere to a more urban environment, especially in the eastern part of the jurisdiction, he offered his considerable expertise and wealth of practical knowledge by serving honorably for 20 years on the Howard County Planning Board. With his passing, Howard County has lost one of its truly great treasures. But, his legacy will surely live on.

Although unofficially retired from farming, and experiencing some health problems in recent years, he never lost his love for the land and his devotion to agriculture. Even until just a few days before his last illness, he continued to be happily involved with the daily activities around his family's home farm headquarters located on Union Chapel Road near Glenwood. On a more personal note, he especially enjoyed horses, tending his expansive garden and, often with friends invited along for the ride, checking on his crops and fields while driving his faithful John Deere Gator ATV.

Pre-deceased by his parents, the late William John and Dorothea H. Fishbach Brendel, he is survived by his wife of 67 years, Martha Baker Brendel of Woodbine; two sons and daughters-in-law, W. Philip Brendel, Jr. and wife Kathy of Bellflower, Ill, and Bruce B. Brendel and wife Jan of Woodbine; daughter Carol B. Galloway and husband Archie of Olney; and three grandchildren, B. Justin Brendel and wife Amy of Woodbine, J. Zachary Brendel of Woodbine and Joseph A. Brendel of Richmond, Va.

Services were held on Saturday, December 2, 2006 at 11 a.m. at Lisbon United Methodist Church in Lisbon. Interment followed at Oak Grove Cemetery in Glenwood. The Rev. Dr. Lisa Bandel-Sparks officiated.

Memorial donations may be made to: Trustees of Union Chapel c/o Coover & Barr Attys, attn: Frederick Coover, 10500 Little Patuxent Pkwy., Suite 420, Columbia, MD 21044, or to Lisbon United Methodist Church, 15875 Frederick Road, Lisbon, MD 21765.

Online condolences may be left at www.slackfuneralhome.com.

Farm Bureau President's Message

by **J. Phillip Jones**
Howard County Farm Bureau

The Maryland Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held in Ocean City, MD, December 3-6, 2006. Attending from Howard County were Bill and Merhlyn Barnes, Bucky and Martha Clark, Jim and Ruthie Welling, and Phil and Sharon Jones.

We were entertained as well as informed by several excellent speakers. The Farm Bureau Women were impressed by Chris Fesko's presentation on educating the non-farm public. She sees around 10,000 school children in the six weeks her family opens their Discovery Center each year (turning away 15,000). Chris teaches far more people, adults and children, through her Video/DVD series, ON THE FARM, explaining how a farm works. For more information, call 1-800-747-6470, or go to the web site at www.fesko.com

Kim Coble, the Executive Director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, gave an excellent speech where she acknowledged agriculture's importance to the health of the bay. The C.B.F. and the Farm Bureau seem to be getting along well at present.

Grain farmers we spoke with were very happy with the current prices (thanks to ethanol). Let's hope that our other products catch up with them.

While there were many good and informative sessions, the Dairy Committee felt that the industry was in financial crisis.

Tuesday afternoon, the Honorable Lewis Riley, Maryland Department of Agriculture, addressed the assembly. He spoke about the accomplishments made while he was in office, and to say good-bye and thanks for the opportunity to serve agriculture. Our industry will sorely miss him. Good-bye, friend, and Thanks!

These were four very full days. From the Vesper Services on Sunday evening to the discussion, Preventing Identity Theft, we were given much needed information. Hope that more of you will avail yourselves of this opportunity next year. It's well worth it.

In closing, I would like to wish for each of you a happy, holy holiday, and a safe and prosperous 2007.

Howard County Agri-Business Breakfast. The next Howard County Agri-Business Breakfast is scheduled for **8:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2007** in the Dining Hall at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Please join us.

Our guest speaker will be **Ms. Lynn Hoot** of the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board. Ms. Hoot will discuss "Biofuels — Energy Balance and Other Issues". She plans to focus on ethanol and biodiesel, as well as review some of the concerns about energy balance and availability of grains for non-energy uses.

Considering the steeply escalating price of fuel in recent months, this would seem to be a very timely topic. There continues to be controversy over the amount of energy a bushel of grain might yield compared to the amount of energy required to produce a gallon of biofuel. This is an especially important issue in the Mid-Atlantic region, already a corn deficit area.

This promises to be another very interesting, and timely, program. Bring your spouse, and/or a friend. Enjoy the food, the fellowship and what is always a lively and friendly exchange of information. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 AM and the program will begin at 8:30 AM.

The formal part of the program normally concludes by 9:00 AM, but you may stay longer if you wish. We are looking forward to seeing you on **January 11** at the next Howard County Agri-Business Breakfast.

Please RSVP by noon, Tuesday, January 9, by calling either Charlotte Mullinix, at (410) 489-4510 or Martha Clark at (410) 531-3455. The cost of the breakfast is \$8.00 per person, payable at the door.

Howard County Farm Bureau
Officers and Directors

President	Philip Jones	410-442-2679
Vice Pres.	Howie Feaga	410-531-2360
Secretary	Merhlyn Barnes	410-489-4465
Treasurer	Tim Barkley	301-829-3778

Directors
Term Expires 2007

Ricky Bauer	410-531-6261
Justin Brendel	443-677-0627
Mickey Day	410-442-2947
Sherri Smith	410-489-5048
Bryan Streaker	301-829-0250

Term Expires 2008

Susan Baker	410-442-4064
Jack Hartner	410-489-2946
Jay Rhine	410-442-2445
Brice Ridgely	410-549-2488

Term Expires 2009

Bucky Clark	410-531-3455
Tim Dowd	301-854-6651
Charles Feaga	410-531-5100
Lynn Moore	410-489-4470
Charlotte Mullinix	410-489-4510

Howard County Farm Bureau Women
Officers and Directors

Chairman	Merhlyn Barnes	410-489-4465
Secretary	Annette Fleishell	410-795-6119
Treasurer	Ruthie Welling	410-489-4102

Directors
Term Expires 2007

Ann Horner	410-489-5023
Janette Knill	301-829-1443
Karen Fleishell	410-795-6119
Joanne Hamilton	410-489-6258
Kristal Lull	410-489-7987

Term Expires 2008

Mary Jean Coles	410-489-4717
Annette Fleishell	410-795-6119
Veronica Hartner	410-489-2946
Mitzie Jones	410-489-1348
Ruthie Welling	410-489-4102

Food Check-Out Day

In 2007, the Food Check-Out celebrations across the U.S. will run for an entire week – Sunday, February 4 to Saturday February 10. Food Check-Out Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 6th.

Food Check-Out Day represents the 37th day in the year - the day by which the average American has earned enough money to pay for all of their food for an entire year.

For more information on how this day will be celebrated here in Howard County, and how you might take part, please contact Merhlyn Barnes at (410) 489-4465.

Maryland Farm Bureau's Day-in-Annapolis by **Merhlyn Barnes**

On **Wednesday, February 7, 2007**, the MFB Young Farmers and the MFB Women will jointly sponsor our annual Day-in-Annapolis. The day of briefings and lobbying will give you the opportunity to weigh-in on important issues that may impact your farm for years to come.

The Day-in-Annapolis is timed to bring you to our state capitol at a very critical time during the 90-day session - a time when Committees are beginning to make decisions on pending bills.

The day will begin with a legislative briefing by the MFB Government Relations Staff., followed by a chance to sit in on the legislative session. A hot luncheon at the Governor Calvert House at 58 State Circle will bring together farmers and legislators from across the state. All legislators will be invited to attend. In the past, more than half of the General Assembly has stopped by during the lunch.

So, let your representatives know that you would like to see them there. This is a great opportunity to visit with our Senators and Delegates from Howard County, as well as from other jurisdictions, and to help folks, especially from the city districts, to better understand your farming business.

Please join us for a very valuable day in our state's capitol. We look forward to seeing you in Annapolis on **Wednesday, February 7, 2007**.

For more information and a registration form, please refer to the November/December, 2006 issue of the *MFB Spotlight*. The Maryland Farm Bureau offices are located at, 8930 Liberty Road, Randallstown, MD 21133. Phone (410) 922-3426; FAX (410) 922-6871. There is a registration fee of \$20 per person which partially covers the cost of the lunch. Payment should be included with your registration.

For information on registration and carpooling, contact Merhlyn Barnes at (410) 489-4465.

MFB 2007 Scholarships Offered Application Deadline March 1, 2007

In 2007, the Maryland Farm Bureau will offer ten \$1,000.00 scholarships to qualified applicants. Applicants must be high school seniors starting college in the fall of 2007 or full-time college students at any community college or four-year institution. Applicants or their parents/guardians **MUST** be members of Maryland Farm Bureau. Seven of the scholarships will be offered to agricultural curriculum majors and three scholarships will be offered to non-agricultural or agricultural curriculum majors.

Selection of the successful recipients will be made by a committee designated by the Maryland Farm Bureau Board of Directors. To apply, students must return their completed application form **and** an unsigned (**NO personal information**) essay on the following topic:

“WHAT IS THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF AGRICULTURE IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND AND WHAT ROLE DOES FARM BUREAU PLAY IN THIS FUTURE?”

The essay should not exceed two pages using minimum of a 12 point font size. The selection committee will evaluate each essay anonymously. No student can receive this scholarship more than four times.

To obtain an application, please contact Ms. Laura Ruhlman at the address or telephone number found at the end of this announcement.

The Maryland Farm Bureau office **MUST** receive the applications by March 1, 2007. Scholarships will be awarded to winning applicants in conjunction with High School graduation programs or prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Winners or their parents will also be recognized at the Maryland Farm Bureau Annual Banquet in December. The winner's scholarship check will be made out to the student **and** the college. The committee reserves the right to interview scholarship applicants if they feel it is necessary for determination of winners. Any personal information appearing in the essay would disqualify the application. Family members of MFB Staff and Officers are ineligible.

Direct completed applications and any questions to: Maryland Farm Bureau, Attn: Laura Ruhlman 8930 Liberty Road, Randallstown, Maryland 21133, phone: 410-922-3426 or fax 410-922-6871 email laurar.mdfb@erols.com.

Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmer 2007 Annual Meeting and Retreat

The 2007 Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmer Annual Meeting and Retreat will be held at the Turf Valley Resort, Ellicott City, Maryland on March 2-4, 2007. The event will be hosted by the Carroll County Young Farmers.

Maryland's young agricultural leaders are encouraged to gather for a weekend of productivity and fun. Activities will include the discussion meet, tours of county facilities and the annual banquet on Saturday night. A children's program will be offered during the business meeting.

Reservations and payment are due by January 5, 2007. For more information and a reservation form, contact: Maryland Farm Bureau, Attn: Field Services, 8930 Liberty Road, Randallstown, MD 21133, or email: laurar.mdfb@erols.com , or telephone: 1-800-248-9012.

Rock Fishing Trip Raffle to Benefit Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers

Win an enjoyable rockfishing trip next spring on the Chesapeake Bay and at the same time, help benefit the Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers.

What could be more exciting than to win an opportunity for up to six anglers to spend the day, April 28, 2007, on the Chesapeake Bay aboard "JJ's Rock", a 48-foot ocean yacht out of Deale Marina.

Get your raffle tickets soon. They can be obtained from members of the Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers group for a donation of \$5.00 each. The grand drawing will take place on March 2, 2007.

Farm Estate Planning Workshop by **Caragh Fitzgerald **Extension Educator** **Agriculture and Natural Resources****

Come join Maryland Cooperative Extension and the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education on **Wednesday, January 17, 2007** for a Farm Estate Planning Workshop.

The workshop will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds and will begin at **9:00 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.** Some of the topics to be discussed are: estate planning objectives, developing and implementing a plan, federal and state estate and gift taxes, wills, property ownership, use of trusts and special provision for farms and small businesses.

The program would be interest to farmers and owners of farm and other rural land. Individuals involved in farm estate planning, other businesses serving farmers, and state and local governments may also find these workshops helpful. The general public is also welcome.

Lunch will be provided. The event is free but registration is requested by **January 12, 2007**. To register, call 410-313-2707. If you need special assistance to participate in this program,

please contact Mrs. Carolyn Kulp at 410-313-2707 by **January 8, 2007**.

It is the policy of the University of Maryland, Agricultural Experiment Station, and Maryland Cooperative Extension, that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or disability.

**Farming for Profit
and Stewardship Conference**

January 12-13, 2007
Hagerstown, MD *

Don't miss the chance to learn from area farmers and agricultural educators with expertise and insight into new, profitable farm enterprises! Future Harvest-CASA brings together outstanding farmers, regionally known researchers and experienced educators in the field of sustainable agriculture in its popular annual gathering.

North Carolina farmer Alex Hitt will deliver the conference keynote address. Since 1981, Alex and his wife, Betsy, have worked to turn their five-acre farm in Graham, N.C., into an environmental gem and profit center. Over the years, the Hitts have reduced acreage and labor by improving their soil with cover crops, and concentrating on high-value crops that grow well in the area. What they haven't reduced is profits, thanks to direct marketing through the Carrboro Farmers Market and Weaver Street Market, a cooperative grocery store. Each acre returns a minimum of \$20,000 annually, while four high-tunnel greenhouses bring in \$1,000 per crop.

The Hitts embrace their small scale, growing 80 varieties of 23 vegetables along with 164 varieties of cut flowers on just three acres. In 2006, they won the Patrick Madden Award for Sustainable Agriculture from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program.

Pre-Conference Seminars

Going Grazing: Real-life economics and production methods of management-intensive grazing for dairy featuring speakers ...

Dale Johnson, University of Maryland extension educator, and dairy farmers Glenn Shirley and Ron Holter.

This in-depth workshop focuses on the economics of grass-based dairying. Participants will estimate the profit they will realize after transitioning to grazing and learn about best production methods. All participants receive a worksheet to estimate profits on their farms.

Vegetable Production 101: A How-To Class for Beginners lead by ...

Jerry Brust and Caragh Fitzgerald, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension

For people who have no, or very little, experience with growing vegetable crops but really want to learn! This comprehensive course covers crop selection, soil management, land preparation, fertility and pH, equipment, irrigation, pest management, harvesting and more.

Getting Started with Small Fruits and Berries with...

Bryan Butler, director of Carroll County, Md., Extension

In response to surveys from those attending the 2006 Farming for Profit and Stewardship conference who asked for more on small fruits and berries, we offer this short course on the ins and outs of berry production. Bryan's session last year had so many people wanting to learn how to get started they were lining up in the hallway. This year's session, at three hours, allows plenty of time for growers to learn from an expert and ask questions.

Conference Highlights

- * Community supported agriculture - a model that works even in remote areas
- * The ecology of weed management - understanding a farmer's worst pest
- * Predator control in livestock
- * Extending the growing season with high-tunnel technology
- * Estate planning
- * Getting started with cut flowers
- * Selling beef at farmers markets
- * On-farm diesel production

New Year's Planning
by **Timothy S. Barkley, Sr.**
JD, CFP, CSA
Attorney at Law

With a new year comes a new opportunity to reconsider your estate and financial plan and make sure it is up-to-date – or to make one if you don't have one already! Because we are time-bound mortals, the change of seasons reminds us of changes in our lives and of their fragility.

As I sat down recently to draft updated estate planning documents for myself and my family, I remember that dread feeling of "someone walking on my grave." It was not pleasant, but, then again, neither are many things we all faithfully undertake on a regular basis. So, despite the discomfort, press on!

Have you ever drafted documents at all? If not, you should know that the State's choices on your behalf are not usually the best ones for you. That should not come as a surprise, but if you fail to plan, you have made those choices your own.

Can you find the originals of your documents? Could your family find them? If the originals of your documents cannot be found after your death, your plan will be for naught, and your affairs will proceed as if you had no plan – using the State's plan, with all of its flaws.

Have you reviewed your documents recently? Are your fiduciaries – the people you named to serve your family and your estate in the event of a tragedy – still alive? Do you still know them? Would they still be willing to serve?

Are your beneficiary designations up-to-date on wills, trusts, insurance, and retirement assets? Do you know where to find your beneficiaries? Could your fiduciaries find your beneficiaries? It's a shame to waste money trying to find people after the death of the only person who knew how to locate them. It's an even greater shame to have money going to the wrong people when it's too late to do anything about it.

Consider your choice of guardian for children or others under your care – disabled spouse, parents, minor grandchildren. Are the persons you have named still the best for the situation? In this most crucial of areas of responsibility, be sure you have discharged it well.

Review amounts of insurance. Do you remember what the amount of insurance was to cover? Is that amount still adequate? Is it too much? As our lives change, so do our responsibilities. The amount projected to pay off the mortgage, raise and educate the kids, and supplement the surviving spouse's retirement may not be needed as you approach retirement with the house mostly paid off, the kids finishing college and retirement income your pressing need.

Review your retirement plan. Are you investing enough? Are the assumptions still correct? You might need to save more, to invest differently, or to work longer or take a part-time job upon retirement. Better to determine that now, as unpleasant as it might seem, than to find out only after bad assumptions lead to a bankrupt retirement.

If your planning needs updating, make it happen this year. Consult with your professional advisors, and make sure that your planning meets your reality.

Attention Weather Enthusiasts

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer observer for the fastest growing rainfall network in the U.S.? If so, consider joining CoCoRaHS, the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network! All that is required is a CoCoRaHS standard rain gauge (cost is \$22 and it's yours to keep, or one can be loaned to you), a little training, a good place for the gauge and internet access to send in your reports. Your valuable rain and snow reports will be used by meteorologists in the area who will use your information to verify their forecasts, make decisions regarding potential flooding the next day and for agricultural crop assessments. Rainfall can be highly variable over short distances and a dense rain gauge network is needed to supplement what exists today.

If you are interested, please contact your local CoCoRaHS coordinator, Ralph Ferraro, at Ralph.R.Ferraro@noaa.gov or 301-405-0893. For more information, go to <http://cocoahs.org>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2007

- Jan 10 **Carroll County Winter Wednesday Series**. What's New, What's Old, What Works for Weed Control? Dr. Ron Ritter. Carroll County Extension Office. Westminster, MD. *
- Jan 12-13 **Farming for Profit and Stewardship**. Sustainable agriculture. Hagerstown, MD. *
- Jan 16 **New Private Applicator Training**. 10:00 AM to noon. Rooms K, A&B, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster, MD. *
- Jan 17 **Estate Planning Workshop**. Refer to notice elsewhere in this newsletter. Howard County Fairgrounds. West Friendship, MD. *
- Jan 17 **Carroll County Winter Wednesday Series - Real World Crop Fertility, When is Enough, Enough?** Dr. Frank Coale & Dr. Josh McGrath.
- Jan 22 **Delmarva Hay & Pasture Conference**. Harrington, Delaware Fairgrounds. *
- Jan 23 **New Private Pesticide Applicator Exam**. Westminster, MD. *
- Jan 23 **Tri-State Hay and Pasture Conference**. Somerset, PA. *
- Jan 24 **Carroll County Winter Wednesday Series - Crop Production System Trends for the Future**. Dr. Bob Kratochvil. *
- Jan 24 **Southern Maryland Hay & Pasture Conference**. Isaac Walton League, Waldorf, MD. *
- Jan 26 **Central Maryland Vegetable Growers Conference**. Private pesticide applicator re-certification offered. Upperco, MD. *
- Jan 31 **Private Pesticide Applicator Re-certification**. 10:00 AM - Noon. Rooms K, A&B, Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster, MD. *
- Jan 31 **Carroll County Winter Wednesday Series - Why Diseases Infect Crops**. Dr. Arv Grybauskas. *
- Jan 31 **Maryland Grain Marketing Workshop (Pre-Harvest)**. Upperco, MD. *
- Feb ? **Grape Pruning Clinic**. (Date to be announced.) Upper Marlboro, MD. *
- Feb 6 **Food Check-Out Day**. For information, contact: Merhlyn Barnes at (410) 489-4465.
- Feb 7 **Maryland Farm Bureau's Day-in-Annapolis**. Contact: Merhlyn Barnes at (410) 489-4465.
- Feb 7 **Southern Maryland Vegetable and Fruit Production Meeting**. Pesticide and nutrient management re-certification offered. Clements, MD. Information: (301) 475-4481.
- Feb 17 **Maryland Dairy Industry Association Annual Meeting**. Lynfield Event Complex. Frederick, MD. *
- Feb 21 **Montgomery/Howard County Agronomy Update**. Montgomery County Extension Office, Derwood, MD. *
- Feb 21-24 **Mid-Atlantic Direct Marketing Conference (MADMC)**. Solomons, MD. Information: (410) 822-1244, sdill@umd.edu, or www.madmc.com
- Feb 22 **Nutrient Applicator Voucher Training**. Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD. *
- Feb 27 **Hay & Forage Conference**. Grantville, PA. Contact: Dr. Marvin Hall at (814) 863-1019 or mhh2@psu.edu

- Feb 28-Mar 2 **National Grass-Fed Beef Conference.** Grantville, PA. Contact: Dr. John Comerford at (814) 863-3661 or jxc16@psu.edu
- Feb 28 **Grazing & Forage Conference.** Grantville, PA. Contact: Dr. Marvin Hall at (814) 863-1019 or mhh2@psu.edu
- Mar 4 **New Private Pesticide Applicator Training.** Ellicott City, MD. *
- Mar 12 **New Private Pesticide Applicator Exam.** Ellicott city, MD. *
- Mar 12 **Pasture and Field Crop IPM Workshop.** Davidsonville. MD. *
- Mar 14 **Private Pesticide Applicator Re-certification.** Ellicott City, MD. *

***[NOTE: When an asterisk follows an event]** When there is an asterisk, unless otherwise indicated, please contact Caragh Fitzgerald, Maryland Cooperative Extension — Howard County, (410) 313-2707 for more information. **Many programs require pre-registration and/or a fee.** For programs sponsored by Maryland Cooperative Extension, if you need special assistance to participate, please contact

the person indicated at least two weeks in advance of the event.

Something to Smile About

Two farmers who hadn't seen each other since their poverty-stricken childhood, met at the fair. One of the men smugly began to remind the other about his humble origin.

"Remember when you only had one pair of shoes to your name, Harry?" the first one asked, laughing.

"I sure do," the second man replied. "You asked me what they were used for."

* * * * *

And here are a few "silly" definitions that might apply to a modern farmer...

Recession: When your neighbor loses his farm.

Depression: When you lose your farm.

Panic: When your wife loses her job in town.

— from: Country Chuckles, Cracks & Knee-Slappers

Edited by Mike Lessiter

In the Spirit of the Holiday Season, the Officers and Directors of the Howard County Farm Bureau and the Howard County Farm Bureau Women wish each and every one a very happy, safe, peaceful, and prosperous New Year!