

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### November

- 12 - Anne Arundel County Farm Bureau Banquet  
12 - Harford County Farm Bureau Banquet and Annual Meeting, Level Fire Hall, Havre de Grace, 6:30 p.m.

### December

- 4-6 - Maryland Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and Convention

### January 2012

- 8-11 - American Farm Bureau Federation 93rd Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii

### February 2012

- 2 - Taste of Maryland Agriculture, Michael's Eighth Avenue, Glen Burnie  
3-5 - Maryland and Virginia Young Farmers Leadership Conference, Leesburg, VA  
14 - Day In Annapolis  
17-20 - AFBF Young Farmers and Ranchers Leadership Conference, Grand Rapids, MI

(To get your county's activities listed on the calendar, please send the date, event, place and time to Susan Summers at [ssummers@comcast.net](mailto:ssummers@comcast.net).)

Maryland Farm Bureau  
8930 Liberty Road  
Randallstown, MD 21133-4295

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# spotlight

DECEMBER 2011 • ISSUE 0007

A PUBLICATION FOR VOTING MEMBERS OF MARYLAND FARM BUREAU

## 96<sup>th</sup>

### ANNUAL MEETING

DECEMBER 4-6

*Members to gather in Ocean City*

Maryland Farm Bureau members will assemble for education, entertainment and policy making during the 96th Annual Meeting and Convention at the Clarion Resort Hotel in Ocean City. The event will be held December 4 to 6, 2011.

After last year's successful convention schedule changes, this year's event will continue with the same format. Young Farmers will arrive early on Sunday, December 4th for their annual business meeting and award interviews. County presidents and secretaries will also participate in Sunday afternoon leadership training before the convention officially begins. Opening ceremonies will take place early Monday morning, allowing for a full day of speakers and sessions and concluding with the annual awards banquet and auction Monday evening. Wrapping up the convention on Tuesday will be a day full of policy decisions.

Maryland Farm Bureau President Pat Langenfelder welcomes all members to attend and participate in the many activities planned at the convention, including interesting break-out sessions, a social media review and much fellowship.

*(continued on page 4)*

## Maryland farmers' innovation honored nationally Prince George's County Farm Bureau in spotlight

Prince George's County Farm Bureau is one of 25 county Farm Bureaus from across the country recognized by the American Farm Bureau Federation for innovative program ideas in this year's County Activities of Excellence program. The winners will be spotlighted during AFBF's 93rd annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii Jan. 8-11.

The purpose of the program is to recognize and share successful county Farm Bureau programs and activities. The awards honor innovative programs by county Farm Bureaus in five categories: Education & Agriculture Promotion; Leadership Development; Membership Services; Policy Implementation; and Public Relations & Information.

Prince George's County Farm Bureau President Yates Clagett, with the help of county secretary Jennifer Cross, entered the member services division of the competition with the group's meat freezer trailer and display case project under the title of "Small Meat Producers Find their Niche."

In their application, they say, "We obtained a grant from our regional agriculture development commission to purchase a freezer trailer and two display freezer cases. The trailer is shared by the farmers for transporting meats, and the display cases are in retail establish-

ments solely for branded meats. Our trailer and display cases were coordinated with another organization to establish cooperative branding with a logo, labeling and promotion of meats meeting defined expectations and quality standards."

Sharing the freezer trailer and display cases has made it possible for farmers to raise animals that can be processed and safely transported and sold as a "local" product. "We finally could help farmers market their product," Clagett said.

"It's become difficult for farmers to stay in business, especially in a state with pressures from development and regulation," the president said. "Farmers are trying desperately to diversify and get creative so that they can stay on the land and stay in business."

Clagett said the winning project was nothing more than following the mission of Farm Bureau - to promote and protect Maryland agriculture and rural life. "Farm Bureau is here to help its members and go the extra mile to find ways to work together and be profitable. Everybody wants these beautiful farms to stay in the area, but if they aren't making money, they won't be here long."

In the application, they said: "Our local meat producers have established a cooperative that identifies product

*(continued on page 8)*

## Get your winter citrus

Are you interested in citrus savings?

The Maryland Farm Bureau Citrus program is offering great prices on fruit, juice and nuts. Contact your local Farm Bureau for information on the December citrus sales.

## Maryland farmers' innovation honored nationally

*continued on page 1*

quality for raising their animals in a humane, natural and supplemental-free manner; and the processing needs to be at a USDA-inspected facility that is compliant with DHMH on-farm processor licensing. The branding process has established a product logo and packaging, a slogan and a website for communicating the information about the farms, the products, the producer quality standards and the retail locations."

"The freezer trailer became available to the producers at the beginning of June 2011. The trailer is averaging a weekly usage by producers for transporting their meats from the processor to the retail establishments," according to Mrs. Cross. "The trailer is being used repeatedly by the meat producers. We have received delivery of one of our freezers display cases, and it is in use at a retail establishment. Another one is expected for delivery soon. A launch campaign was held in July 2011 to promote locally grown meat.

"The program is new, but it is generating excitement for a niche market that seems quite profitable," she continued. "Overall, a small group of meat producers are working cooperatively as a result of the efforts of our Farm Bureau."

"Farm Bureau members attending AFBF's annual meeting in Hawaii in January will see first-hand how these 25 action-oriented programs do a great job in fulfilling Farm Bureau's mission," said AFBF President Bob Stallman. "The winning entries will be on display at the trade show where county Farm Bureau leaders from across America can discover what other county Farm Bureaus are doing to promote agriculture in their communities."

## SAVE THE DATE!

### WASHINGTON DRIVE-IN

The 2012 Washington Drive-In is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28th. You won't want to miss this great opportunity to hear from American Farm Bureau Federation policy specialists and the chance to visit with national lawmakers. Mark your calendar now and look for details in upcoming issues of *Spotlight* and at [www.mdfarmbureau.com](http://www.mdfarmbureau.com).

### Women's business

Members of the Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee met in October to cover issues leading up to its annual meeting and enjoy reports and speakers. Montgomery County Farm Bureau member Paula Linthicum shared her experience with the American Farm Bureau Federation's Women's Boot Camp. Also visiting with committee members was Lisa Caltabiano, pictured at right, independent sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics who spoke about skin care methods and color application.



MARYLAND FARM BUREAU

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 Chuck Fry, 1st VICE PRESIDENT  
 Jim Steele, VICE PRESIDENT  
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 James D. Powell, Worcester  
 Elaine Moreland, FB Women  
 Jennifer Cross, FB Women  
 Hannah Amoss, Young Farmers  
 Brian Johnson, Young Farmers

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU  
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YOUNG FARMERS

MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA FARM BUREAU  
 YOUNG FARMERS JOINT LEADERSHIP  
 CONFERENCE

February 3-5, 2012  
 National Conference Center, Leesburg, VA

Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers will hold its annual retreat in conjunction with Young Farmers in Virginia. In addition to the annual Discussion Meet competition, members will select from outstanding seminars and hear nationally acclaimed speakers.

For more information, contact Laura Ruhlman at Laurar.  
 mdfb@verizon.net.

2012 AMERICAN FARM BUREAU  
 FEDERATION  
 YOUNG FARMER AND RANCHER  
 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

February 17-20, 2012  
 Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, 187 Monroe Avenue NW,  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Payment MUST accompany registration  
 Regular registration due December 4, 2011

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
 DAY IN ANNAPOLIS



Maryland Farm Bureau members are encouraged to take a day to visit with state legislators as we gather in the state capital on Tuesday, February 14th. Billed as a day to "Lobby with a Loved One," the event will include a legislative briefing, session and office visits and luncheon with lawmakers. Look for more information on www.mdfarmbureau.com or call 1-800-248-9012.

Participation in  
 Doe Harvest Challenge  
 Climbing



Winners of the first contest cycle of the 2011 Doe Harvest Challenge (DHC) have been drawn. Charlie Richardson of LaPlata and Devan Holden of Federalsburg were the winning hunters in the drawing.

In the Southern Maryland region, Richardson donated his doe at Rick's Place in Charles County. He received a \$400 gift certificate to Fred's Sports in Waldorf and a commemorative Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) Buck Knife. On the Mid-Shore, Holden donated his doe at Preston Custom Butcher Shop in Caroline. He received a \$400 gift certificate to Shore Sportsman in Easton and the commemorative knife.

The 2011 DHC is a joint program of the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board, Maryland Farm Bureau and FHFH. The goal of the program is to incentivize the increased harvest of doe deer in participating counties, reduce agricultural crop damage and increase donations of high-quality protein to the less fortunate in the community. Both outdoor shops are also sponsors of the program.

Seventy-five doe were donated during the first cycle, with 56 taken in Southern Maryland 19 on the Mid-Shore. The second cycle ended October 29th. The third cycle picks up immediately and runs through November 19th.

As a result of last year's program, hunters in the participating regions donated nearly 40 percent more deer to local FHFH processors than in 2009. Those donations represented an additional 140,000 meals of high-quality, lean protein for the less fortunate in their local communities and a reduction in economic loss to our family farms!

For more information, contact Kurt Fuchs at 410-922-3426 or email kurtf.mdfb@verizon.net.

AFBF Heralds  
 President Obama's  
 Signing of Trade Pacts

American Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Stallman heralded President Barack Obama's signing of three bilateral free trade agreements between the United States and Korea, Colombia and Panama, but stressed that the job is not done until the pacts are implemented.

"This day was four years in the making and America's farmers and ranchers are now one step closer to realizing \$2.5 billion in projected new agriculture exports with the implementation of these free trade pacts," Stallman said. "Farm Bureau thanks the president for signing the agreements today, but we cannot rest on our laurels. U.S. officials must not delay in implementing the accords so that the U.S. economy and U.S. farmers and ranchers can reap the benefits of free and open markets with Colombia, Panama and South Korea."

Stallman said it is critical for the trade pacts to be implemented because of their projected ability to create American jobs.

"Farm Bureau estimates that these trade agreements will create more than 22,500 jobs when fully executed. This is reason alone to take action now to implement them," Stallman said. "Moreover, these accords will significantly improve our competitive positions in these three markets."

Once implemented, it is estimated the Korea agreement will bring a \$1.9 billion gain for U.S. agriculture exports and would eliminate two-thirds of tariffs immediately. The Colombia agreement will bring a \$370 million gain in agriculture exports and will eliminate 80 percent of tariffs immediately while the Panama agreement will bring a \$46 million gain in agriculture exports and will eliminate 50 percent of tariffs immediately.

"Implementation of these trade pacts will help give our economy a much needed shot in the arm," Stallman said.

County Farm Bureau Membership Report  
 (As of October 27, 2011)

County Farm Bureau Membership Goals are based upon regular members, represented in the first column. The second column reports the total members paid, including both regular and associates.

County	YTD Regular Members Paid	YTD All Members Paid
Allegany	23	72
Anne Arundel	133	1400
Baltimore	49	1841
Calvert	45	237
Caroline	72	214
Carroll	142	534
Cecil	53	246
Charles	16	355
Dorchester	31	205
Frederick	123	724
Garrett	36	87
Harford	83	577
Howard	40	480
Kent	32	80
Montgomery	67	1494
Prince George's	41	1177
Queen Anne's	46	161
St. Mary's	24	209
Somerset	27	115
Talbot	36	189
Washington	39	241
Wicomico	71	259
Worcester	33	177
<b>Maryland Totals</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>11,074</b>

Nationwide® Agribusiness Insurance & Maryland Farm Bureau  
 Working Together to Protect What Matters

(continued from page 1)

**SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**

**MFB PRESIDENT PATRICIA LANGENFELDER**  
8:50 A.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



Patricia Langenfelder is a partner in Grand View Farm LLC with her husband and three adult children. Their family farm, located in Kent County, consists of a 3,000 acre grain operation growing corn, soybeans, wheat and barley, and a farrow-to-finish swine operation. Since 2009, she has been president of Maryland Farm Bureau, leading over 37,000 member families in the largest general agriculture organization in the state. In 2011 she was elected to the American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors. She also serves on the LEAD Maryland Foundation Board and the Nationwide Board Council. She has served on the Kent County Planning Commission, the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board, the Maryland Agland Preservation Foundation Board and the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission. A graduate of Towson State College (now University) with a B.S. in history, she was a teacher in the Baltimore City school system. She married Conrad Langenfelder, a fifth generation farmer, and began farming full time with him. They have raised three children who now farm with them, and have seven grandchildren. She is an active member at Trinity Lutheran Church in Chestertown. Among her recognitions, she and her husband were inducted into the Governor's Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2001, were named Mid-Atlantic Master Farmers and were honored as Cooperators of the Year by Kent County Soil Conservation District.

**NATIONWIDE SPEAKER JEFFREY W. ZELLERS**  
9:15 A.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



Jeffrey W. Zellers is a director of Nationwide, one of the largest diversified insurance and financial services companies in the world. He was elected to the boards of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Nationwide Mutual Fire Insurance Company in April 2007. He is chairman and president of K.W. Zellers & Son, Inc., a seasonal grower-packer-shipper of Arrow brand fresh salad vegetables located in Hartville, Ohio. He is a former trustee and first vice president of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, and he previously served as treasurer and represented Ohio on many committees for the American Farm Bureau Federation. He serves on the Stark County YMCA Board of Trustees and is a past president of the Leafy Greens Council. Mr. Zellers is a leading advocate for food safety; he provided congressional testimony in support of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996. He earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from The Ohio State University.

**KEYNOTE AND WOMEN'S SPEAKER**  
**JANE JENKINS HERLONG**  
10:10 A.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH  
1:20 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



Jane Jenkins Herlong's life is a story of one simple phrase; "Oh, yes I can." She is a humorist, award-winning professional singer, recording artist and published author. Coming from a meager background she was literally the farmer's daughter and the classic ugly duckling. Early on she was informed that she was Dyslexic and would probably never accomplish much in life. Ironically, this may have been the best thing that ever happened to Jane, because she proved every label wrong. Winning the title of Miss South Carolina, Jane was a contestant in the Miss America Pageant, graduated from college with the highest honors voted by her peers and continued her studies in graduate school. As a professional singer and recording artist, she has performed at the legendary Radio City Music Hall, for professional basketball, baseball and numerous college bowl games. Along with speaking from coast to coast, Jane has also spoken in New Zealand and Germany sharing the stage with Colin Powell, Rudolph Giuliani, Dr. Charles Stanley and the late Charlton Heston. Her writing has appeared in *Guideposts* Magazine, *Successful Farming*, *Baby Boomer*, *Fit and Well* and was the featured cover story in *Today's American Woman* magazine. Her popular book, "Bare Feet to High Heels; You Don't Have to be a Beauty Queen to be a Beautiful Person," has entertained and inspired people of all ages. Jane, her husband and two children live on the family peach farm in Edgefield County, South Carolina.

**MISS MARYLAND AGRICULTURE CASEY MILLER**  
2:15 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



Casey Miller of Prince George's County was named Miss Maryland Agriculture during the Maryland State Fair in August. She is the daughter of Rick and Janet Miller. Her family farm is one of the oldest working farms close to Washington, D.C. On their 200 acres, the Millers raise fruits and vegetables as well as soybeans, wheat and straw. They sell their produce at their direct farm market, to Giant Food and to several local farmers' markets. The farm also includes a nursery with four greenhouses where they grow and sell flowers and fruit and vegetable plants. A bakery and soft-served ice cream sales round out the farm market. Among her many chores on the farm, Miss Miller manages all incoming cash sales, interacts with customers, plants, picks and boxes fruits and vegetables, operates farm equipment and feeds livestock. When she is not working on the farm, she is busy at St. Mary's Ryken High School, singing in the choir and performing with the theater club.

She also volunteers with Prince George's County Christmas in April and sings in the choir at St. John's Church. She is a junior and plans to attend college and major in fine arts.

**UNIVERSITY SPEAKER DR. CHENG-I WEI**  
2:45 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



Dr. Cheng-i Wei is the Dean and Director of University of Maryland's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from the Tunghai University of Taiwan in 1970, a Master's of Science in medical microbiology from National Taiwan University in 1972, and a Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of California, Davis, in 1979. Before heading to College Park, he was Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies of the College of Human Environmental Sciences at Oklahoma State University, a position he had held since August 2002. Dr. Wei also served as Interim Head of the Department of Nutritional Sciences, where he interacted regularly with the Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service. Dr. Wei's research interests are in nutritional safety, toxicology and immunotoxicology.

**MDA SPEAKER SECRETARY EARL "BUDDY" HANCE**  
3:10 P.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH



Governor Martin O'Malley appointed fourth generation Southern Maryland farmer, Earl F. Hance as secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture in May 2009. He served as deputy secretary of agriculture from February 2007 until May 2009. Prior to these appointments, Buddy Hance served as president of the Maryland Farm Bureau, chairman of the Maryland State Tobacco Authority and as chairman of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Commission among other farm and community activities. Hance also was active in numerous local, state and national farm and civic organizations. At the national level, he represented the Northeastern states on the American Farm Bureau Federation and was a member of the Nationwide Insurance Company Board Council. In Maryland, he served as a member of the Rural Maryland Council, the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department, the Patuxent River Commission, the Southern Maryland Tourism Council, the Maryland State Tobacco Authority, the Calvert Farmland Trust, the Board of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum and the Board of the Calvert County Farm Bureau. A former tobacco farmer, he and his family farm 400 acres of corn and soybeans and operate several commercial greenhouses. Buddy and his wife Robin live in Port Republic and have three children and one grandchild.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011**

- 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.** *Upper Lobby*  
Early Registration – for Young Farmers & County Presidents
- 11 a.m. – Noon** *Conference Room 6*  
Young Farmers' Committee Annual Business Meeting
- 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.** *Conference Room 4*  
Young Farmer Excellence in Ag and Achievement Awards Interviews - Closed Program
- 12:30 p.m.** *Crystal Hall 2A/2B*  
Lunch  
Advanced registration required  
*Sponsored by Rural Maryland Council*
- 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.** *Conference Room 6*  
2012 County Presidents & Secretaries Training Session (By invitation only)  
"Celebrate What's Right with the World"  
John Torres, Director, Leadership Development  
American Farm Bureau Federation
- 1:30 – 4 p.m.** *Conference Room 3*  
MFB Young Farmers Training Program
- 2:30 – 4 p.m.** *Conference Room 1*  
Social Media Review  
Susan Summers & Laurie Adelhardt  
This breakout will be offered again on Monday at 10:30 a.m.
- 2:45 – 4:15 p.m.** *Conference Room 6*  
2012 County Presidents Training  
"Leadership From the Inside Out"  
John Torres, AFBF
- 4 – 6 p.m.** *Upper Lobby*  
Registration for All Annual Meeting Participants
- 5 p.m.** *Rooms 302-304*  
Women's Hospitality Room Open House
- 5 p.m.** *Upper Lobby*  
Women's Leadership Committee Silent Auction  
Bidding open to all annual meeting participants
- 5-7 p.m.**  
Dinner on Your Own  
Reservations are recommended for dining at hotel's Horizons – call x7180
- 5:30 p.m.** *Conference Room 1*  
Dinner for Miss Maryland Agriculture Participants
- 7 p.m.** *Crystal Ballroom*  
Vespers  
Featuring: God's Country Crossroads  
Organized by the Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee

- 8 p.m.** *Crystal Hall 2A & 2B*  
Nationwide Luau-style Dessert Reception  
Celebrating the Relationship between MFB and Nationwide  
*Sponsored by Nationwide Insurance*  
WEAR YOUR HAWAIIAN SHIRT!
- 8:30 p.m.** *Crystal Hall 2A & 2B*  
Membership Recognition Program  
*Awards Sponsored by MARBIDCO*
- 9 p.m.** *Conference Room 1*  
Miss Maryland Agriculture Program
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011**
- 7 a.m.** *Upper Lobby*  
Registration Desk Opens  
Exhibits Hall Opens  
Continental Breakfast  
*Sponsored by Farm Credit*
- 7 a.m.** *Crystal Hall 2A*  
Women's County Chair Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m.** *Crystal Ballroom*  
Opening Ceremonies of the Maryland Farm Bureau's 96th Annual Meeting  
*Floral Arrangements sponsored by Bell Nursery*  
Delegate Seating Chart posted in lobby  
Call to Order & Roll Call of Delegates  
Credentials Committee Report
- 8:50 a.m.**  
President's Address - Patricia A. Langenfelder
- 9:15 a.m.**  
Nationwide Address  
Jeff Zellers, Nationwide Insurance Board of Directors
- 9:30 a.m.**  
Address from Lt. Governor Anthony Brown
- 9:45 a.m.**  
Audit Committee Report  
Auditor's Report
- 10 a.m.** *Grand Ballroom*  
Break  
*Sponsored by Custom HealthCare*
- 10:10 a.m.** *Conference Rooms 2 & 3*  
Women's Leadership Committee  
Annual Business Meeting & Program  
Featuring: Jane Jenkins Herlong  
"Bare Feet to High Heels and Flip Flops in Between"

**10:30 a.m.**  
Break Out Sessions  
Wildlife Issues – Q&A with DNR  
Includes presentation of the DNR Farmer of the Year Award *Conference Room 6*

Farm Theft and the MSP RAPID Program  
Lt. Dalaine Brady, MD State Police *Crystal Ballroom*

Social Media Review  
Susan Summers & Laurie Adelhardt *Conference Room 4*

**Noon**  
Lunch *Crystal Hall 2A, 2B*

**1:15 p.m.**  
Delegates Reconvene - Prize Drawings  
“Don’t Throw Tomatoes on My Field of Dreams”  
Keynote Speaker: Jane Jenkins Herlong *Crystal Ballroom*

**2:15 p.m.**  
Miss Maryland Agriculture Address  
Casey Miller of Prince George’s County  
MFB PAC Report - Pam Saul, Chairman  
Nominations Committee Report

**2:45 p.m.**  
Address by Dr. Cheng-i Wei  
Dean & Director of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UMCP

**3:10 p.m.**  
Address by the Honorable Earl F. Hance  
Maryland Secretary of Agriculture

**3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**  
District Farm Bureau Caucus Meetings  
District 1 – Allegany, Garrett, Frederick, Washington  
Chairman: Chuck Fry *Conference Room 1*  
District 2 – Howard, Carroll, Montgomery  
Chairman: Jim Steele *Conference Room 2*  
District 3 – Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George’s, St. Mary’s  
Chairman: Milly Welsh *Conference Room 3*  
District 4 – Baltimore, Cecil, Harford  
Chairman: Keith Wills *Conference Room 4*  
District 5 – Kent, Queen Anne’s, Talbot, Caroline  
Chairman: Harry Moreland *Conference Room 6*  
District 6 – Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, Worcester  
Chairman: Lee Richardson *Crystal Ballroom*

**5:30 p.m.**  
Reception  
*Sponsored by The Clarion Resort Hotel* *Grand Ballroom*

**7 p.m.** *Crystal Ballroom*  
Annual Dinner, Awards Banquet & Auction  
*Dinner sponsored by Nationwide Agribusiness*  
*Floral arrangements by Bell Nursery*  
Fundraising Auction  
Proceeds to benefit the Maryland Family Farmers Legal Defense Fund

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2011**

**7 a.m.** *Conference Rooms 1 & 2*  
Board of Directors Breakfast & Meeting  
*Sponsored by Southern States*  
2011 & 2012 MFB Board members invited

**7 a.m.** *Grand Ballroom*  
Exhibit Hall & Registration Open  
Continental Breakfast  
*Sponsored by Farm Credit*

**8:15 a.m.** *Crystal Ballroom*  
Delegates Reconvene – Prize Drawing for attendees

**8:20 a.m.**  
Call to Order  
Roll Call of Delegates  
TBA: Speaker or Video Presentation

**8:50 a.m.**  
MFB Bylaw Amendments & MFB Policy Resolutions

**10 a.m.** *Grand Ballroom*  
Ice Cream Break  
*Sponsored by Monsanto*

**10:30 a.m.** *Crystal Ballroom*  
LEAD Maryland Update

**10:45 a.m.**  
Policy Resolutions Continued

**Noon** *Crystal Hall 2A, 2B*  
Lunch  
*Sponsored by Delmarva Farmer*

**1 p.m.**  
Hotel Room Check-out

**1:15 p.m.** *Crystal Ballroom*  
Delegates Reconvene - Prize Drawings  
*Sponsored by Grainger*

**1:20 p.m.**  
Policy Resolutions Continued

**3:15 p.m.**  
Finalize National & State Policy  
Roll Call before Elections  
Election of Officers

**4 p.m.**  
Announcements  
Final Motions  
Adjournment

# Moving Your Farm Equipment?



Several weeks ago a farmer moving a combine on I-795 in Baltimore County during the night in an effort to avoid rush hour traffic was forced to “ground” the machine on the side of the highway and told to come get it in the day-time by Maryland State Police. The combine was equipped with all the required lighting, lamps, reflective tape and SMV emblem, was being escorted by another farm employee and was not driving in an unsafe manner. The trooper wrongly asserted that farm equipment is not allowed to be moved on any Maryland road after dark. This is completely false and has been confirmed by State Highway Administration (SHA) officials. Farm equipment may be moved at anytime, including nighttime, provided the machinery is equipped with all required lighting, lamps, etc.

It is not believed to be a widespread issue this harvest season, but in an effort to be proactive and help prevent roadside misunderstandings, the SHA is encouraging farmers to keep a copy of the section of Maryland Code which describes our exemption in tractors that are moving implements on-road as well as any trucks escorting them. If you are approached by a law enforcement official about this issue, politely show them the section of Maryland Code and explain to them that you are exempt from such travel restrictions. Here is the Code citation.

**MARYLAND CODE**

Transportation Article  
§ 24-102. Width of vehicles

**(a) How width to be measured. --**

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, for purposes of this section, the width of a vehicle includes any load that it carries and shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices, such as side mirrors, turn signal lamps, marker lamps, steps and handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender extensions, mudflaps and spray suppressant devices, and load-induced tire bulges; providing the equipment or device, other than mirrors, does not extend more than 3 inches on each side of the vehicle beyond the statutory width limitation.

(2) For purposes of this section, the width of a motor home or travel trailer shall be exclusive of retractable awnings installed by the vehicle manufacturer or dealer, provided that the awnings do not extend more than 6 inches from each side of the vehicle.

**(b) Exceptions. -- This section does not apply to any:**

- (1) Farm equipment;
- (2) Vehicle transporting farm equipment; or
- (3) Vehicle carrying a load of forage crops in connection with harvesting operations, if the distance traveled with the load on the highways in this State is less than 5 miles.

Additionally, please remember that Maryland Farm Bureau has copies of our Agricultural Trucking Guide available and we encourage you to keep it in your farm office, truck and even your tractors. Among many other useful references, in it you’ll also find the minimum lighting requirements needed to safely and legally move your farm equipment at night. If you would like a copy of the truck guide, call Kurt at 410-922-3426 or email him at kurtf.mdfb@verizon.net.