

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September

- 8 - Caroline County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Denton
- 13 - Maryland Farm Bureau Board of Directors Meeting, Randallstown
- 21 - Carroll County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

October

- 3 - Anne Arundel County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- 6 - Frederick County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, New Midway Fire Hall, 7 p.m.
- 6 - Howard County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Howard County Fairgrounds
- 10 - Washington County Farm Bureau Banquet
- 11 - Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee Meeting, Randallstown
- 12 - Queen Anne's County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- 12 - Somerset County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- 13 - Kent County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
- 20 - Garrett County Farm Bureau Banquet
- 25 - Carroll County Farm Bureau Banquet
- 25 - Allegany County Farm Bureau Banquet

November

- 4 - Calvert County Farm Bureau Banquet
- 7 - Baltimore County Farm Bureau Estate Planning Seminar
- 8 - Maryland Farm Bureau Board of Directors Meeting, Randallstown
- 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

February 2012

- 3-5 - Maryland and Virginia Young Farmers Leadership Conference, Leesburg, VA
- 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.)

All are invited to



Hudson fundraiser

Worcester County Farm Bureau is sponsoring a fundraiser for Alan and Kristin Hudson Farm Legal Affairs. The young family has been fighting a lawsuit brought by the Water-keeper Alliance in 2009 with issues that could affect every farmer in the state. Their story can be found in the upcoming fall My Maryland magazine.

The fundraiser will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at Hooper's Crab House in West Ocean City. The dinner will include all-you-can-eat steamed crabs, shrimp, fried chicken, corn on the cob, hush puppies, soda, coffee and a dessert. Cash bar will be available.

Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased by calling the Worcester County Farm Bureau at (410) 632-3329 or (410) 430-2016. All proceeds will go to Alan and Kristin Hudson Farm Legal Affairs.



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

The Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers Dairy Bar would not be a successful venture without the help of many. Thanks to all of those that volunteered their time by selling tickets, taking orders and dipping.

Special thanks go to our Corporate and Patron Sponsors. Please give these people, organizations and businesses your thanks for making this fund-raiser such a success.

Platinum Level

Atlantic Tractor - Whiteford
Eco Products
Harford County Ag Marketing Cooperative
Harford County Division of Agriculture
HDI Corporation - Jennifer Hankey
Maryland Soybean Board
Maryland Grain Producers
Stastny Insurance Agency
Richardson Farms
Willow Tree Press

Gold Level

Anne Arundel County Farm Bureau
Choice Hotels International
Farm Credit
J. Lee Bishop Insurance
MidAtlantic Farm Credit - Keith Wills
MidAtlantic Farm Credit - Jessica Cruise

Silver Level

Rochelle Creighton - Tompa Nationwide Insurance Agency

Bronze Level

Rice Farms - Billy & Melinda Rice

Thank you for your generous donations!
All proceeds benefit the Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers

spotlight

SEPTEMBER 2011 • ISSUE 0006

A PUBLICATION FOR VOTING MEMBERS OF MARYLAND FARM BUREAU



Casey Miller of Prince George's County captured the state agriculture spokesperson title when she was named the 2011 Miss Maryland Agriculture.

Miss Maryland Agriculture title goes to Prince George's County Casey Miller is the winner

Casey Miller became the 2011 Miss Maryland Agriculture during opening night festivities at the Maryland State Fair in Timonium. Sponsored by the Maryland Farm Bureau and Maryland State Fair, the two-day competition culminated with an on-stage contest Friday, August 26th.

Twenty-two county Farm Bureaus were represented during the annual event. Taking the top agriculture spokesperson title, 16-year-old Miss Miller lives on Miller Farms in Clinton. She is the daughter of Rick and Janet Miller. Her sister, Rachel, won the state title in 2007.

Four contestants were named to a court to assist the state winner throughout the fair and during the year ahead. Judges selected Kelsey Kimmell of Allegany County as first runner up; Samantha Anthony of Carroll County as second runner up; Tessa Wiles of Washington County as third runner up; and Payton Brown of Anne Arundel County as fourth runner up.

Miss Miller's 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, the new state spokesperson 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

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A Symposium on septic Systems and Future Growth in Maryland



About 200 attended the all-day symposium on septic systems and future growth at Chesapeake College in Easton.



Maryland Farm Bureau Assistant Government Relations Director Kurt Fuchs, left, visits with Caroline County's George Schnoor.



Caroline County Farm Bureau members Elaine and Harry Moreland chat with Frederick County's Tom Browning during a break at the symposium.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU

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 Chuck Fry, 1st VICE PRESIDENT
 Jim Steele, VICE PRESIDENT
 Mel Hollingsworth, ADMINISTRATOR

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Record Cover Crop Enrollment Announced

Surrounded by fields of soybeans, Governor Martin O'Malley recently joined Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance, agricultural leaders, local farmers and elected officials to announce record cover crop acreage by Maryland farmers.

"We are working with Maryland's farmers to protect family farms and agriculture jobs, and to keep family farming profitable," said Governor O'Malley. "Today's announcement is great news for our farmers who continue to take strong conservation actions to diversify their farming operations and use new and innovative ways to protect the Chesapeake Bay. Together, we are creating jobs and supporting rural economies, improving our quality of life, and securing the future of Maryland agriculture and our environment for generations to come."

Maryland has approved a record 550,000 acres of winter grains to date in the cover crop program, which were requested by a record 1,767 farmers – 206 of which were new to the program this year. This record acreage represents 155 percent of the Phase I Watershed Implementation Plan goals for cover crops. Cover crops are one of the most cost-effective means of helping to restore the Chesapeake Bay.

Cover crops are planted in the fall after the autumn harvest to help farmers control soil erosion and reduce the amount of nutrients washing into the bay over the winter. Once established, cover crops recycle unused plant nutrients remaining in the soil from the previous summer crop, protect fields against wind and water erosion and help improve the soil for the next year's crop.

TOP COUNTIES RANKED BY THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF ELIGIBLE FARM- LAND ENROLLED:

- ALLEGANY 702/800 acres – 88 percent
- CALVERT 5,616/6,600 acres – 85 percent
- MONTGOMERY 21,167/26,000 – 81 percent
- SOMERSET 25,144/31,500 – 80 percent

TOP COUNTIES RANKED BY MOST ACRES ENROLLED:

- QUEEN ANNE'S – 63,838
- KENT – 57,799
- TALBOT – 55,322
- FREDERICK – 43,434
- DORCHESTER – 40,991

The announcement was made at Lazy Day Farms/Layton's Chance Vineyard & Winery in Dorchester County. The Layton family manages more than 1,800 acres, including 1,250 acres of grain, 12 acres of grapes and owns/operates the winery. The Laytons are Maryland Farm Bureau members and Governor's Hall of Fame inductees.



YOUNG FARMERS

THE MARYLAND FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMERS ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, December 4, 2011
 Maryland Farm Bureau Convention Clarion Hotel,
 Ocean City, Maryland
 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

All reservations to attend the meeting must be made through your county Farm Bureau secretary.

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

Early bird registration due October 1, 2011
 Payment MUST accompany registration
 Regular registration due December 4, 2011

Touring from Texas



Leaders from the Texas Farm Bureau visit at Alan Hudson's farm.



The visit included a tour of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences at Horn Point with Dr. Don Merritt.



The Texans listen as Kenny Bounds of MidAtlantic Farm Credit discusses the economic impact of Bay cleanup measures.



Robert Murphy, poultry grower from Rhodesdale in Dorchester County, details the additional costs and delays associated with new stormwater regulations.



Dutch and Pat Langenfelder hosted the Texas delegation on their Kent County family farm.



Maryland Farm Bureau President Pat Langenfelder describes the best management practices used on her family farm. Pictured with her are Dale Murden, Kenneth Dierschke, Texas Farm Bureau President, and Regan Beck.

M

Maryland Farm Bureau recently hosted the Texas Farm Bureau Board of Directors during their trip to the Chesapeake Bay region to learn about our environmental challenges. Fourteen board members and staff travelled from Texas to Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania to become prepared for what EPA may take to their state next. During their visit to Maryland, the delegation visited with Alan Hudson of Worcester County to hear about the Waterkeeper Alliance poultry litter lawsuit. They also toured the Horn Point Oyster Restoration lab, Robert Murphy's poultry operation in Rhodesdale to discuss new stormwater management requirements and the Langenfelder's Grand View Farm in Kent County.

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

Miss Maryland Agriculture title goes to Prince George's County

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in April and sings in the choir at St. John's Church.

The new Miss Maryland Agriculture will be a junior in high school and plans to attend college and major in fine arts. "I enjoy performing and entertaining a crowd," she said.

In addition to Miss Miller and the four runners up, other county representatives participating in the Miss Maryland Agriculture contest were:

- Baltimore ~ Deedra Suchting
- Caroline ~ Sarah Holt
- Cecil ~ Katlynn Larrimore
- Charles ~ Megan Hall
- Dorchester ~ Ashley Brown
- Frederick ~ Hannah Hood
- Garrett ~ Kara Savage
- Harford ~ Katie D'Anna
- Howard ~ Katie Loveless
- Kent ~ Haleigh Baxter
- Montgomery ~ Abbey Linthicum
- Queen Anne's ~ Sarah Branham
- St. Mary's ~ Shelby Sasscer
- Somerset ~ Courtney Clogg
- Talbot ~ Catherine Pearson
- Wicomico ~ Shelby Hurley
- Worcester ~ Sarah Dorey



Twenty-two county Farm Bureaus were represented in the 2011 Miss Maryland Agriculture Contest, kicking off the Maryland State Fair.



Maryland Farm Bureau First Vice President Chuck Fry, right, welcomed the new Miss Maryland Agriculture Casey Miller to the family of agricultural advocates.

2011 Friends of Miss Maryland Agriculture

Many thanks to the sponsors of our Miss Maryland Agriculture program!

- Maryland State Fair
- Maryland Farm Bureau
- Maryland Farm Bureau Women
- Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmers
- Baltimore County Farm Bureau
- Nationwide Insurance
- Amoss Family
- Baltimore Orioles
- Calvert County Farm Bureau
- Frederick County Farm Bureau
- Harford County Soil Conservation District
- Kent County Farm Bureau
- Mary Kay
- MidAtlantic Farm Credit
- Harry & Elaine Moreland
- Queen Anne's County Farm Bureau
- Rensberg Photography
- Richardson Farms
- St. Mary's County Farm Bureau
- Talbot County Farm Bureau
- Wegman's

Columnist Dave Barry to Keynote AFBF Annual Meeting

Pulitzer Prize-winning humor columnist Dave Barry will deliver the keynote address at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 93rd annual meeting, Jan. 9, 2012, in Honolulu.

More than 10,000 Farm Bureau members from across the nation are expected to gather in Hawaii Jan. 8-10 to hear from distinguished leaders and participate in a grassroots policy setting process that will guide the American Farm Bureau Federation through 2012.

Barry, a 25-year journalism veteran, is best known for his syndicated work that appeared in more than 500 newspapers in the U.S. and abroad. In 1988 he won the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary.

"We are excited to have Dave Barry as our keynote speaker," said AFBF President Bob Stallman. "We will be working through some very important policy issues during our time in Hawaii, so it will be nice to take a break from our business at hand and share a lighter moment with Dave Barry."

Barry is the author of 30 books, two of which were used as the basis for the CBS TV sitcom Dave's World, which aired 1993-1997. In his spare time, Barry plays lead guitar in a literary rock band called the Rock Bottom Remainders, whose other members include authors Stephen King, Amy Tan, Ridley Pearson and Mitch Albom.



ALOHA! MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE AFBF 93RD ANNUAL MEETING IN HONOLULU, HAWAII

The 2012 American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting will take place on the beautiful and diverse island of Oahu from January 8 to 11, 2012. Oahu is home to historic Honolulu, the seat of Hawaii's government and famous Waikiki.

Geraci Travel is offering Maryland Farm Bureau the following packages to Hawaii:

THE BASICS: 5-NIGHT HONOLULU CONVENTION PACKAGE

- Five-night stay at AFBF's headquarter hotel, the Hilton Hawaiian Village located on Waikiki beach, January 6-11, 2012
- AFBF registration fee
- Hotel taxes
- Luau on January 7th

RATES PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

- \$ 795 Garden View
- \$ 953 Ocean View

RATES PER PERSON BASED ON SINGLE OCCUPANCY

- \$1,405 Garden View
- \$1,720 Ocean View

STAY LATE: 3 NIGHT MAUI EXTENSION

- Airfare from Honolulu to Maui (one way only)
- Round trip transfers between the Maui Airport and

Sheraton Maui

3-night deluxe accommodations at the Sheraton Maui Resort and Spa located on Kaanapali Beach

- All hotel taxes
- Agricultural Tour on January 12th

RATES PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY:

- \$899 Run of House room
- \$959 Run of Ocean room

RATES PER PERSON BASED ON SINGLE OCCUPANCY:

- \$1,464 Run of House room
- \$1,564 Run of Ocean room

DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- Deposit of \$200 per person is due at time of booking
- Full payment is due by September 30, 2011

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION AND BROCHURES, CONTACT THE MARYLAND FARM BUREAU OFFICE AT 1-800-248-9012

Your comments were heard

By Kurt Fuchs

MFB Assistant Government Relations Director

As a result of strong farmer opposition, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) recently announced that it would not propose new burdensome regulations governing the transport of agricultural products. Further, the agency will release guidance to states to ensure their understanding of the common sense exemptions allowing farmers and their employees to conduct their operations efficiently and transport their products to market safely. One can only hope that this new-found appreciation for a common sense approach to regulating agriculture will spread throughout all agencies and levels of government.

On May 31, 2011, the agency published a request for guidance on the applicability of federal motor carrier safety standards to general everyday farming activities, in particular, seeking comments on the following questions:

- 1) How should FMCSA distinguish between intra- and interstate commerce when a Commercial Motor Vehicle is operated within the boundaries of a single state?
- 2) Should FMCSA treat farmers with crop-share lease

agreements as "for-hire" carriers in new entrant safety audits?

3) Should implements of husbandry and other farm equipment be considered CMVs?

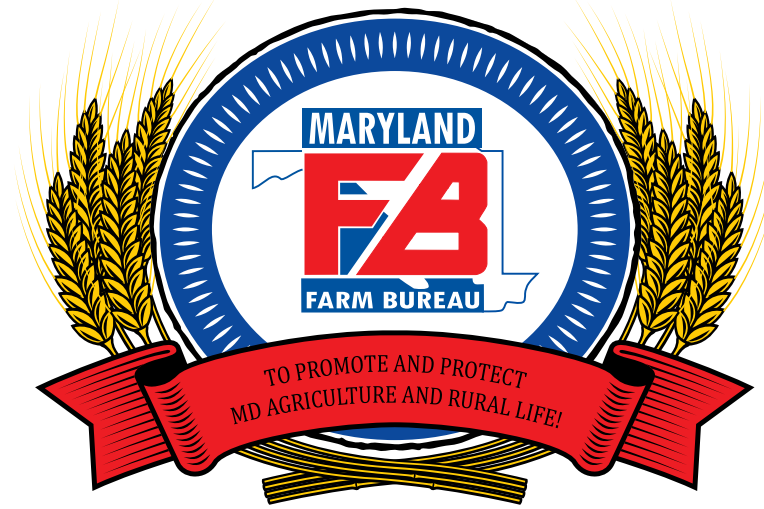
Many states have tried to categorize agricultural products as interstate commerce by simply assuming the crop's ultimate destination is out-of-state even if the farmer delivers his corn to the local elevator down the road. Requiring federal uniformity under this interpretation would result in Maryland farmers losing any exemptions they currently enjoy for intrastate commerce. Furthermore, the ramifications of requiring operators of farm tractors to hold commercial driver's licenses would be immense. For example, a farmer's child under 18 years of age would essentially be prohibited from operating or moving any machinery from one parcel to the next if it meant having to cross a public road. If farm labor was not already hard to come by before, applying CMV status to farm equipment would certainly make it so.

The agency reportedly received about 1700 comments

from individual farmers, state Farm Bureaus and the American Farm Bureau Federation with the vast majority calling for a continuation of the guidance that allows states to carry out their own farm exemptions. MFB President Pat Langenfelder submitted comments in response to the request and, while attending county picnics throughout the summer, urged farmers to send their comments as well.

"We want to make it absolutely clear that farmers will not be subjected to new and impractical safety regulations," said U.S. Transportation Deputy Secretary John Porcari. "The farm community can be confident that states will continue to follow the regulatory exemptions for farmers that have always worked so well."

With busy schedules, trying weather and never enough hours in the day, it is not easy to take the time to file comments on the myriad issues that you face as agricultural producers. Because so many of you were able to file comments and let them know how your operations would be impacted, the government received the message loud and clear.



The Maryland Farm Bureau – 96th Annual Meeting
December 4-6, 2011
The Clarion Resort Hotel
101st Street, Ocean City, Maryland

Tentative Agenda

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011

10:30am – 3:00pm Early Registration – for Young Farmers & County Presidents

11:00am – 12:00pm Young Farmers’ Committee Annual Business Meeting

11:00am – 4:30pm Young Farmer Excellence in Ag and Achievement Awards Interviews
(closed program)

12:00pm Exhibitors begin setting up displays

12:30pm General Luncheon – open to all who make advanced reservations

1:30pm – 4:00pm County Presidents & Secretaries Training session *(by invitation only)*

2:30pm – 4:00pm Breakout Session
Topic: Social Media Review
For interested MFB members in attendance on Sunday

4:00pm – 6:00pm Registration

5:00pm Women’s Hospitality Room Opens

5:00pm Women’s Leadership Committee Silent Auction - Bidding open to all MFB convention participants

5:00pm to 7:00pm Dinner on Your Own
Reservations are recommended for dining at Horizons – call x7180

7:00pm Vespers
Organized by the Maryland Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership Committee

8:00pm Nationwide Luau-style Dessert Reception – Celebrating the Relationship between MFB and Nationwide
Sponsored by Nationwide Insurance

8:30pm Nationwide Appreciation & Membership Recognition Program

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011

7:00am Exhibits Open, Registration Desk Opens, Continental Breakfast
Sponsored by Farm Credit

7:00am Women’s County Chair Breakfast

8:30am Opening Ceremonies of Annual Meeting

8:30am Call to Order & Roll Call of Delegates

8:45am Credential Committee Report

8:50am Maryland Farm Bureau President’s Address, Patricia A. Langenfelder

9:15am Address by Jeff Zellers, Nationwide Insurance Board of Directors

9:45am Audit Committee Report

9:50am Auditor’s Report

10:00am Break

10:10am Women’s Leadership Committee Annual Business Meeting & Program Featuring: Jane Jenkins Herlong *“Bare Feet to High Heels and Flip Flops in Between”*

10:30am Break Out Sessions
Break Out 1: Wildlife Issues – Q&A with DNR
Break Out 2: Septic Task Force Report or other public policy issue
Break Out 3: Social Media Review

12:00pm General Lunch

1:15pm Delegates Reconvene

1:20pm Keynote Speaker: Jane Jenkins Herlong, *“Don’t Throw Tomatoes on My Field of Dreams”*

2:15pm Address by Miss Maryland Agriculture

2:25pm MFB PAC Report – Pam Saul, Chairman

2:35pm Nominations Committee Report

2:45pm Address by Dr. Cheng-I Wei, Dean and Director of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UMD - Invited

3:10pm Address by the Honorable Earl F. Hance – Secretary, Maryland Department of Agriculture – Invited

3:30pm – 4:30pm District Farm Bureau Caucus Meeting –
District 1 – Allegany, Garrett, Frederick, Washington
Chairman: Chuck Fry
District 2 – Howard, Carroll, Montgomery
Chairman: Jim Steele
District 3 – AA, Calvert, Charles, PG, St. Mary’s
Chairman: Milly Welsh
District 4 – Baltimore, Cecil, Harford
Chairman: Keith Wills
District 5 – Kent, QA, Talbot, Caroline
Chairman: Harry Moreland
District 6 – Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, Worcester
Chairman: Lee Richardson

5:30pm Reception
Sponsored by The Clarion Resort Hotel

7:00pm Annual Dinner, Awards Banquet & Auction

8:15pm Fundraising Auction

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011

7:00am Board of Directors Breakfast & Meeting - Newly elected 2012 and 2011 Board members

7:00am Exhibits & Registration Open & Continental Breakfast
Sponsored by Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit

8:15am Delegates Reconvene

8:20am Call to Order
Roll Call of Delegates

8:30am TBA: Speaker or Video Presentation

8:50am – 10:00am MFB Policy Resolutions & Bylaws Amendment Session

10:00am Break

10:30am LEAD Maryland Update

10:45am – 11:55am Policy Resolutions Session Continued

Noon General Lunch – available to all who register in advance

1:00pm Hotel room checkout for all Farm Bureau conference attendees

1:15pm Delegates Reconvene

1:15pm Drawing for Grainger Prizes

1:20pm – 3:15pm Policy Resolutions Session Continued

3:15pm Finalize National & State Policy

3:30pm or earlier Roll Call before Elections

3:35pm or earlier if Policy is completed

Election of Officers
1.Election of President
2.Election of 1st Vice President
3.Election of 2nd Vice President

4:00pm Adjourn



What Can You Get for \$2 Today?

By Pam Saul
MFB PAC Chairperson

In these very tough economic times, especially in agriculture, we are all watching our spending to make sure we are getting the most value for our money. I’m here to tell you that contributing \$2 to the Maryland Farm Bureau PAC, when you pay your annual dues, is one of the best ways to utilize your resources.

The Political Action Committee (PAC) is an independent committee that meets to encourage a healthy interaction between the agricultural community and legislators, promote involvement in the electoral process and to encourage favorable government response to the needs of the citizens of Maryland.

To do this, the PAC works to provide:

- Candidate Evaluation Committee Training Sessions for County CEC’s
- Produce a Planning Guide in Election Years
- Provide Candidate Evaluation Review Forms
- Hold Candidate Training Schools
- Compile County Results for the Election Cycle
- Produce a Voting Record on Legislators
- Endorse Ag-Friendly Legislators
- Make contributions to candidates who support the farm community and good government

In the last election, with your support, we were able to endorse and make contributions to 116 candidates in the primary election and had a 91 percent success rate. In the general election, we endorsed and contributed to 110 candidates and had a success rate of 90 percent. Maryland Farm Bureau has become a power in Annapolis and legislators covet the MFB PAC endorsement. Many of them use the endorsement in their campaign. The PAC will continue to build on the relationships from the last election cycle and work to be ready for the next election.

Not bad for two bucks.