



# NEWSLETTER

## FCFB 2021 Calendar

### Upcoming Events

#### February 13

Legislative Day  
10-12pm  
Virtual

#### June 27

Frederick County Farm  
Bureau Ambassador Contest  
Johnsville Ruritan

#### August 27-September 6

Maryland State Fair  
Timonium

#### September 17-25

The Great Frederick Fair

#### October 22

Annual Meeting  
New Midway Fire Hall

#### November 19

Women's Leadership Bingo  
New Midway Fire Hall

#### December 4-7

Maryland State Farm Bureau  
Convention  
Ocean City, MD

Please note all event dates  
and formats are subject to  
change

## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

SAM ROOP

Three years ago, I wrote my first President's message in the Frederick County Farm Bureau newsletter. I had reported 2018 was a challenging year in agriculture.

Frederick County received more than 70 inches of rain that year— twice the normal annual rain fall. The agriculture industry was affected from small community gardens to large generational operations. It affected all components of Frederick County's diverse agriculture. Farmer's livelihoods have always been affected by the weather, each and every day through multiple generations.

Weather, or "climate" is a topic of discussion every day. At the local farm supply store, or every morning between a father and son as they plan the day. Have you ever been to the County Farm Bureau picnic and not talked to a fellow Farm Bureau member about weather?

Three years later the issue is not just about the weather, it's about **how** the weather is affected by climate. Are we part of the problem or part of the solution? The media today has lead the consumer to believe agriculture is a large part of the problem.

The Environmental Protection Agency publishes annual estimates of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The greenhouse gases which are believed to lead to global warming are carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. In 2018 agriculture and forestry together are estimated to account for 10.5% of U.S. greenhouse emissions. U.S. Industry contributes the most at 28.9% and transportation follows closely behind at 28.3%.

*Report Continued on Page 2...*

## FARM BUREAU SAFETY CAMP

AMY JO POFFENBERGER

It is with great regret the Safety Camp Committee has decided to cancel the 2021 Frederick County Farm Bureau Safety Camp. Safety is our top priority, and we feel it is in the best interest of our campers, staff and volunteers to postpone the 25th anniversary of camp until 2022. Donations previously made are being held until we are able to apply those funds to a successful and safe camp.

Stay safe and be healthy!

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED...

So if you eat, use anything produced in the U.S., or ride in a vehicle you contribute to the climate problem. At 10.5% we cannot fix the entire problem, but we can all contribute to the solution. Carbon sequestration, regenerative/sustainable agriculture, and greenhouse gases are all words new to most of our vocabularies in the last decade. We must educate ourselves so in turn we can educate the consumer about all the farmer does to improve the environment.

Agriculture has led the way in several best management practices (BMPs). These practices include no-till farming, planting cover crops, crop rotation, rotational grazing, nutrient management guidelines, and soil conservation practices. New technology such as precision agriculture allows farmers to maximize yield with the least amount of inputs.

Today the American public is generations removed from agriculture. Fifty years ago most families had a relative who farmed, but it is not the case today. Today's consumer wants to know where their food comes from and how it was produced. It is our responsibility to provide healthy safe food and educate the consumer. We must tell our story.

Currently Frederick County Farm Bureau is represented on the Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup. This workgroup was established in 2020 by a resolution passed by local government officials. Matt Morris and Ross Bradley are our Farm Bureau representatives on this workgroup. They are a vital link in educating this workgroup about all agriculture has been doing about reducing their 10.5% of the greenhouse gas emissions.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States of America said "The nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself." Let's make sure we realize that we are all in this together. We must keep this nation strong, our environment safe, our food system reliable, and our farms profitable.

## WOMEN'S COMMITTEE REPORT

CONNIE PALMER

The Women's Leadership Committee held an in person meeting on September 20th with nine members present wearing face masks and social distancing. Committee reports were given. Plans for 2021 were reviewed, and it was decided to wait until January to see how COVID-19 virus is doing before finalizing the 2021 programs. Our annual Bingo and Christmas volunteer luncheon were cancelled.

On October 13th several Women's Leadership members attended the 99th Annual Drive-In meeting of the Frederick County Farm Bureau held at the fairgrounds. October 17th and November 21st we attended the Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Zoom meeting. Topics discussed were the state election, budget, policy and resolutions, Women in Ag, and 2021 Maryland Ag Ambassador Program.

On December 6th, Maryland Farm Bureau Women's Leadership held their Annual meeting by Zoom. Several Frederick County members were in attendance. The election was held and gift card fundraiser winners were announced. The 2020 Maryland Agri-Women of the Year is Chris Griffith of Anne Arundel County.

Several ladies attended the American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Northeast Caucus and annual virtual meeting held from January 8-9, 2021. The theme was Stronger Together. Reports were given and it was announced \$217,329 was collected over the year for the Ronald McDonald House. Nominations were held and our new American Farm Bureau Northeast representative is Lisa Wherry of Pennsylvania. Sherry Saylor, Chair of the National Women's Leadership announced her retirement, and Isabella Chism will serve as the new Women's Leadership Chair. 2020 is now behind us, looking forward to a much improved 2021.

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## FREDERICK COUNTY FARM BUREAU AMBASSADOR CONTEST

BETH AHALT

The Ambassador contest (formally the Miss contest) will be held on June 27th at 7pm at the Johnsville Ruritan. Further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

## 2021 Officers & Directors

President: Sam Roop  
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1st Vice President: Denny Remsburg  
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Treasurer: Larry Howard  
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Frederick, MD 21702  
301-662-8547  
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Young Farmers Chair: Tyler Hipkins  
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Women's Committee Chair:  
Connie Palmer  
301-629-4668  
palmercj3@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Kelsey Maslen  
kmaslen@mafc.com

### 2021 Directors

Scott Hipkins	240-674-1443
Wayne Rhoderick	240-674-6091
Barbara Crum	301-898-5726
Brandon Eaves	240-285-0863

### 2022 Directors

Benjamin Sowers	240-409-0675
Katlyn Robertson	240-626-5951
Eric Aellen	240-793-8059
Emily Snyder	240-405-4365

### 2023 Directors

Matt Morris	301-502-5893
Taylor Huffman	240-315-8133
Denny Ramsburg	301-639-2740
David Burrier	443-340-9591

### Past President:

Robert Ramsburg	240-446-4163
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## LEGISLATIVE DAY

DENNY REMSBERG

To meet the needs of today's environment, Legislative Day will look a little different than in years past. We are tentatively planning on hosting two virtual sessions to better cover the breadth of issues important to Farm Bureau members. The sessions will be conducted through Zoom.

### Session 1– Confirmed Saturday, February 13th 10am-12pm

This session will feature the County Council, County Executive and the School Board. This session is **confirmed**.

### Session 2– Tentative Saturday, February 20th 10am-12pm

The second session will be with our state delegation and congressional representatives. This session is still tentative at this time and confirmation for the session will be provided in subsequent electronic communication.

**Reservations are required for both events.** Please use the links below to register online. Note there is a separate registration for each session. If you do not have computer access, but would still like to participate, please call Lindsay Stine at 240-397-3568. She can register you and provide you with a phone number to call into the session.

### Registration for Session 1– County Council, County Executive, School Board

<https://mdfarmbureau.zoom.us/meeting/register/JctcOugqj4tE9xIJhx52LtmLt5SmbpcVJAg>

### Registration for Session 2– State Delegation, Congressional Representatives

<https://mdfarmbureau.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvccuqpz8jGtI5QR0F-po8LhTTh8EY6JH>

Please contact Denny for any additional questions at 301-695-2803 (extension 3).

## SCHOLARSHIPS

BETH AHALT

Attention college bound students (both ag and non-ag majors)! Frederick County Farm Bureau is again offering scholarships to qualifying students. There are ten \$1,000 scholarships available. For more information and applications please go to our website. Beth is available for questions at 240-694-8135 or bethahalt@gmail.com. Applications are due by **April 30th**.



Frederick County Farm Bureau, Inc.  
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Frederick, MD 21705

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MARYLAND FARM BUREAU PRESENTS

# Winter/Spring Webinar Series



To adapt to the COVID-19 environment, Maryland Farm Bureau has put together this series to address hot topics for Maryland farmers and provide more benefits for members.

All webinars will start at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 27: Board Member Roles  
Wednesday, February 3: Legislative Update  
Wednesday, February 10: Membership  
Wednesday, February 17: Ag Crime Prevention  
Wednesday, February 24: SILO Screening  
Wednesday, March 3: Simplify Social Security  
Wednesday, March 10: FB Healthcare\*  
Wednesday, March 17: Financing\*  
Wednesday, March 24: Stone X\*  
Wednesday, March 31: Family Communications

\*Topics to be announced



All webinars are free to members.

For non-members, all webinars are included for a one-time fee of \$70. This fee will also provide you with a one year membership to your local county Farm Bureau.



Register at [www.mdfarmbureau.com/maryland-farm-bureaus-winter-webinar-series/](http://www.mdfarmbureau.com/maryland-farm-bureaus-winter-webinar-series/)

**\*Please note you will need your Farm Bureau membership number to sign-in\***