Living the Land-Grant Mission

IT’S IN OUR DNA
It’s been about a year since I accepted the position of dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. November 1 was my official start date and I am pleased to share this, my inaugural issue, of Momentum with you. I was attracted to the University of Maryland (UMD) because it is the state’s Land Grant University and because of its excellent reputation established by my AGNR predecessors. I was also encouraged by the diversity of agriculture throughout the state and the blend between small and large scale enterprises. There is no other educational system in the U.S. or the world that has this same mandate. It was very easy to establish a theme to bring home the Land-Grant Mission through our feature stories. Selecting only five topics was a challenge for our editorial team, and I hope that you will find them engaging and enlightening. I also encourage you to visit AGNR’s website, www.agnr.umd.edu, where we post AGNR news in a more timely fashion. I’m looking forward to meeting more of our alumni, stakeholders and friends at the events mentioned on the inside back cover.

I am proud to be a part of the University of Maryland as one of the nation’s preeminent public research universities and a global leader in entrepreneurship and innovation. The value system of our university is based upon its Land Grant heritage. Our focus in AGNR is on improving the lives and livelihoods of Maryland citizens. Our faculty represents many of our nation’s premier scientists and educators in animal and plant agriculture, nutrition and food science, agriculture and resource economics, veterinary science, environmental sciences and natural resources, and entomology, to address some of the most challenging problems.

I continue to be impressed by the commitment of our faculty and staff to the citizens of Maryland, our state’s economic viability, the preservation and conservation of our valuable natural resources, and to the recruitment and education of our future leaders who share our passion. The Land Grant tradition is alive and well at the University of Maryland and I am honored serve as Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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Joseph Layton’s father was a farmer, sharecropping on the Eastern Shore until after World War II when he was able to pull together enough money for a farm of his own in Vienna. He grew corn, wheat, soybeans and a few steers. This was also where Joe fell in love with the farming life. “I never doubted that I wanted to be a farmer,” he says.

But when the next generation came along, opinions diverged. Daughter Susan Layton Connor followed in her father’s footsteps to the University of Maryland to major in agriculture and is now working for the Army Corps of Engineers on oyster restoration in Chesapeake, Va. For her brother, William, however, “I grew up working on the farm and honestly, I hated it … Like a lot of kids I thought it was just hard work. None of my other friends had to do what I did. I wanted to live in a city, get lost in a crowd and get with a big company.” So he majored in business at Maryland, moved to Los Angeles and worked for Toyota.

“I knew and he knew that he was not interested in agriculture. But we never put any pressure on him. It didn’t really bother me; I was happy with him going into business,” Joe Layton says.

Just as University of Maryland’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources provided what Joe and Susan needed in their agricultural careers, the university also made available to William what he needed for his job path.

In this one family is an example of how land-grant institutions like the University of Maryland work, meeting a call for agricultural education while also branching out into other academic disciplines such as business.
clue that would be the case; that he’d want to come back."

Six years went by as William and Jennifer waited for his father to get the farm to the point where William could join the operation. "In the meantime we saved money and had children while we were on corporate health insurance," William says with a laugh. His father attributes the children as part of the reason for his son’s change of heart. "Having kids, he realized the good experiences they have growing up on a farm."

William says, "When I came back in 2003, we began farming together on 1,200 acres. But for it to support two families we needed to expand and that meant more land, but there was a lot of competition; everybody wanted more land." The two generations sat down and started brainstorming about taking the farm into new territory. Would it be raising watermelons? Alpacas? Putting in ATV trails and corn mazes? Adding grapes and wine-making to the grain crops seemed like the best decision, "although we were not wine drinkers. I had probably had two bottles of wine my whole life up to that point," William says.

With a decision made, "the very first person I talked to was Joe Fiola, a University of Maryland Extension researcher who specializes in grapes and small fruit," William says. He signed up for the beginning grapes class which "I took three times just to make sure I knew what I was doing." In the years since, he still sees Fiola a few times a year or shoots him an email when he needs advice. "I believe the university hiring him made it possible for us to have a winery."

Fiola recommended the best grape varieties for the Eastern Shore terrain and climate and they installed tile drainage because grapes don’t take kindly to having wet feet. They planted a cover crop and plowed it back into the soil to enrich it with organic material. They visited other grape growers and William went to work for them pruning and harvesting so he would have the necessary skills. In 2007 they put in the first grapes, just two acres worth "because I knew that no matter how many times I had taken the classes, I knew that we would make some mistakes," William says.

The operation is now up to 14 acres and Layton’s Chance harvests from five varieties of grapes, two whites and three reds. Ultimately he went back to school for the wine-making portion of the business. "The best way to learn is by working with someone else; it’s like learning to cook," he says. And the winemakers are friendly and open to teaching their art. "It’s in everyone’s best interest for all of us to have good wine." He also tried out his wine-making skills at home and "every family dinner had wine, every single meeting had wine" as it was taste-tested and commented on. "We quickly became very good at appreciating wine."

His father continues to manage the grain side, they have a vineyard manager and William is in charge of the wine making. "The best way to learn is by working with someone else; it’s like learning to cook," he says. And the winemakers are friendly and open to teaching their art. "It’s in everyone’s best interest for all of us to have good wine." He also tried out his wine-making skills at home and "every family dinner had wine, every single meeting had wine" as it was taste-tested and commented on. "We quickly became very good at appreciating wine."

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Layton’s Chance was a name they came up with during their many brainstormings. An aunt who was a history professor uncovered a mention that property owned by the family in 1709 had the name. "I loved the historical significance and we were taking a big gamble, a big chance with a winery."

When I decided to come back, my father said he could teach me about farming," William says. "But farming is also a business and he and I together make a good team." Not unlike the land-grant model followed by the University of Maryland.
When Adel Shirmohammadi, professor of Environmental Science and Technology, came to the University of Maryland in 1986, some of Maryland’s agricultural water practices were starkly different from what he sees today. “If you drove on Route 50 east to the eastern coastal plain, you hardly saw any overhead irrigation systems,” he recalls. “Now on that drive, you see lots of sprinkler irrigation.”

That move in irrigation practices has come about because of climate change—not just warmer temperatures, but especially important to farmers, changes in the timing and amounts of rainfall that are critical to crops. Shirmohammadi, a water management expert and the College’s Associate Dean for Research, said “I looked at 100 years of national weather service data, and it shows that the temperatures on average for the last 100 years have gone up 1.9 degrees Fahrenheit. Average rainfall in Maryland is about the same annually—but the distribution of the rainfall is very non-uniform, and that’s what has caused most of our farmers who grow corn and soybeans to move to irrigation systems.”

Climate change has led to other big changes in water throughout Maryland—sea level rise, salt water intruding into the fresh water system, runoff that dumps nitrogen and phosphorus into the Chesapeake Bay. These impacts that affect Marylanders are becoming increasingly important in the College’s research.

Behind the Words
Shirmohammadi has organized national panels on climate change. He was invited to be one of six university representatives at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris (COP21). But, he says, on the local level, the term “climate change” can be controversial. To create a receptive response from Maryland stakeholders, college watershed research teams have surveyed stakeholders to understand what terms work best.

When Shirmohammadi and Robert Hill, professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology, surveyed Extension specialists and farmers in the Mid-Atlantic region to gather their views, they used the term climate variability rather than climate change and asked about their adaptation methods. The survey tool included questions like “What is the most uncertain thing in your cropping system? Is moisture uncertain? What do you do with it?”

Associate Professor Paul Leisnham,
Implications. "If winter temperatures are warmer than normal, you’re likely to see more mosquitoes surviving over winter, and there will probably be larger biting adult populations the following summer," he explained.

Leisnham says those surveys gave them good insights. ‘For example, ‘weather’ may be a better term to use. Farmers deal with weather change every single day, it is part of the normal routine of farming, and therefore this term may lead to more constructive discourse on this environmental challenge. We want to use that social information to determine which sort of best management practices people are most likely to implement voluntarily.”

Using the Research
Hubert Montas, associate professor of bioengineering in the Clark School, is an interdisciplinary member on a College study of best management practices (BMP) in watershed hotspots in Columbia and along the Anacostia River.

“We use measurements gathered by others to look at how we might solve some pollution issues related to watershed. We calibrate the models, then use the climate models to predict what will happen,” he explains. “Part of that is the social component, the surveys of attitudes and behaviors. We can develop whatever BMP allocation plan we want, but if people don’t implement them, then nothing happens.”

Leisnham is also researching how communication methods can influence people’s behavior in his work to manage mosquitoes in urban areas, which also has some climate change implications. "If winter temperatures are warmer than normal, you’re likely to see more mosquitoes surviving over winter, and there will probably be larger biting adult populations the following summer," he explained.

Leisnham is working with Maryland Extension to educate Baltimore city residents about the importance of removing anything that can hold the water where mosquitoes breed. "We found that just having print material didn’t work," Leisnham said. “So now we’re going into neighborhoods to distribute educational material. We’re partnering with community organizations such as churches and conducting workshops in summer youth camps.”

Vikki Chanse, assistant professor of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, has been working with Maryland Sea Grant and the Department of Natural Resources to help communities deal with sea level rise (she uses the term sea level change and stormwater. One of her projects is in Oxford, where Chanse says, "It floods so frequently, they actually have stakes in the ground on the only road in and out. They show how deep the water is to people can see whether or not they can drive their cars through.

Chanse has a special interest in civic engagement to watershed planning, an approach she has seen work well in helping Marylanders find solutions to climate change. Chanse says getting students into the mix with communities has been especially exciting. "The students come in without any kind of agenda; and they’re able to come up with such an impressive range of responses about what you might do.”

Land Grant Institution
Shirmohammadi is working on ways to gather all the College’s climate change research under one umbrella. The Land Grant mission and system will remain at the core.

“In the Land Grant system we are doing research to find solutions for pressing issues that affect our well-being, economically and everything health wise, for the citizens of the state of Maryland," he said. "If those solutions benefit mankind, nationally and internationally, that’s even better.”

“We asked farmers where they would like to get information on watershed science and water resources, and they cite Extension agents as a main source for that,” Leisnham said. "As a Land Grant institution, we really have an important role to play in educating Marylanders, and Marylanders are seeking us out for their information.”

Vikki Chanse, “What I’ve seen as a key contribution in shifting the conversation from ‘Oh no, this is terrible,’ to what might be possible is this terrific collaboration we’ve been able to have with Extension, with these communities. I think what’s so key here at the University of Maryland is how we bring what we do to the communities to make those places better, and more resilient. That’s our role as a Land Grant institution, especially our college. That really makes us distinctive.”
As buzz words go, STEM has become an acronym synonymous with innovation, not only in our daily lives but throughout Maryland’s education system. Focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, STEM immersion is blooming in after-school STEM clubs that offer students hands-on experiences with cutting-edge technology, 4-H clubs focusing on robotics design and programming, and in college classrooms with educators bringing STEM to life to ready the next generation for finding solutions to the problems that lie ahead.

As faculty of the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR) can attest, this concept is nothing out of the ordinary for Land-Grant institutions.

By Debra Spurrier

One such department charging forward with this model of learning is the Department of Environmental Science and Technology (ENST) in the College of AGNR, which offers a Capstone Program that brings together student experiences from the four areas of the major – ecological technology design, environmental health, soil and watershed science and natural resources management – to work on a single project in their senior year under a faculty mentor.

“The mission of the Land-Grant institution has always been to use science and technology to solve the world’s problems,” said Dr. William Bowerman, ENST department chairman and professor. “The Capstone program within ENST does just this by taking all a student has learned and putting it to work in a small-group setting to solve a current problem through research, or provide an innovative product design. The course work comes alive to solve real-world problems and help society.”

A relatively new major within AGNR, ENST prepares students for careers solving environmental problems through engineering and hands-on applied problem solving with focus on technology and science as it relates to ecosystems. Currently, 80 students divided into 16 groups are all in their final year and working on a Capstone project to benefit Marylanders. Some of the challenges include researching historically created by the federal Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890 to provide higher education opportunities for all people through innovative scientific research and community-minded programs, AGNR has grown this mission to include a full spectrum of educational opportunities that simulate real-life career experiences while solving societal problems.
The Capstone group, consisting of AGNR students Shane Kelly, Mark Gregory, Nihal Rajendran, Wendy Gutierrez and Nicole Embrett, began meeting with Felton in November 2015 to map out the project. “This is the time the students bring it together – all they’ve learned in their four years at UM is put on the table to solve a problem in a typical setting as they might find at a job,” explained Felton.

The innovative project this group created was so impressive to MDE officials that the group has been asked to present at the Food Waste Summit, hosted by MDE, on November 30, 2016. A first for an ENST Capstone program, this acknowledgement is a highlight for both the students and the ENST Capstone Program.

Side-by-side learning – faculty and students together – in a Capstone program will continue to be just one of the ways the University of Maryland and AGNR continues to live out the mission for the next generation of researchers, problem-solvers and STEM promoters.

WYE ANGUS FARM
PRACTICAL TEACHING AND RESEARCH IN A REAL WORLD SETTING

By Emily Yeiser Stepp

The DNA that runs through the Wye Angus Farm on the quiet peninsula in Queenstown, MD, is possibly one of the best examples of how the University of Maryland has fulfilled the Morrill Act and the land-grant mission throughout the decades.

The Wye Plantation has been farmed since the 17th century when William Paca, signer of the Declaration of Independence and first Governor of Maryland, owned the property. Upon Paca’s death, his heirs sold the property to a local family and then in 1937, Arthur A. Houghton purchased the Wye Plantation.

Houghton, the CEO of Steuben Glass, was interested in the business potential that the Wye could provide. He hired a cattleman, James B. Lingle, to manage the plantation. With the combination of Houghton’s business savvy and Lingle’s passion and knowledge of cattle, the pair created the foundation for the renowned Wye Angus herd that is recognized today.

Lingle and Houghton purchased 18 Angus heifers and a bull calf to raise on the plantation. To this day, those 18 heifers are the only females that the Wye has ever purchased with 12 of the original 18 lines still present in the herd.

The late 1930s and early 1940s was considered the “baby beef” era in the U.S. beef industry. The business was selecting for smaller statured, compact-type animals based upon dairy cattle background, had a desire to breed cattle with larger frames. These larger framed animals, he predicted, would allow for more overall meat generated, in the shortest amount of time the students bring it together – all they’ve learned in their four years at UM is put on the table to solve a problem in a typical setting as they might find at a job,” explained Felton.

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time, without sacrificing quality. At the time, the larger framed beef cattle were Scottish-bred, so the Wye purchased numerous bulls from Scotland, Ireland, England and Wales. The last purchased animals came to the plantation in 1959 and ever since, the herd has been closed to outside genetics.

With the unique genetic profiles established, the Wye began conducting feed trials to prove Lingle’s prediction of increasing meat production through the larger framed herd demographic. He approached the University of Maryland’s Dr. Willard Green in 1954 to serve as the independent third party to verify trial results. This introduction began the collaborative execution of the University’s land-grant mission of practical, applied research and teaching. Dr. Green supervised the first post-weaning daily gain trials of bulls on the farm which lead to one of the most comprehensive beef cattle performance evaluation programs in the country.

As Houghton was approaching retirement in 1979, he chose to gift the Wye Angus herd to the University of Maryland Foundation. The Foundation remains the legal owner of the herd today and the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station was charged with the day-to-day management of the herd. As a part of the Experiment Station, the Wye continues to fulfill the land-grant mission that has advanced not only the livestock industry but society as a whole.

Today, the Wye Angus Farm is home to 200 head of Angus cattle, who are all descendants of the 1959 herd. Wye program manager, Edward Draper, and his farm staff, maintain a herd of cattle with sustainable, profitable and functional genetics concentrated on the maternal side of the pedigree. The “genetic treasure,” that is the Wye, according to Draper, “has allowed for genetics from as far back as 30 years ago to be reintroduced to today’s herd.” The use of past genetics provides the opportunity to consistently create sound, functional animals that have become synonymous with the Wye Angus name.

The herd’s unique genetic profile, coupled with the farm’s forage-based system, has allowed for University research to be conducted on various cattle diets’ effect on meat quality and on human nutrition. “The grass-based system is a growing segment of today’s beef industry and we appreciate the ability to be industry leaders in this segment,” Draper said. In particular, Dr. Jiuzhou Song has utilized the Wye to identify many molecular and genetic characteristics of grass-fed beef production in his research.

Extension workshops and field days at the Wye have focused on demonstrating profitable, sustainable and environmentally sensitive beef production. The Wye has been recognized by the Certified Environmental Steward program through initiatives such as fencing cattle off from streams, using Bermuda grass in high traffic areas and the incorporation of clover for soil fertility.

Beyond the applied research, the Wye also instills the land-grant mission in the next generation of both bovines and humans alike. Since 1978, on the first Saturday in April, the Wye has held a public sale for any animals in the herd that are deemed excess to the immediate research needs; approximately 35-40 bulls and 10-15 females. The sale attracts buyers from all over the country and nearly 250 people attend, contending for animals that have excellent maternal traits, sound structure, longevity and temperament. These time-tested genetics impact the future of the beef industry, especially as the grass-fed segment increases.

Additionally, the Wye Farm acknowledges the importance of teaching practical agriculture by offering numerous internships to undergraduate and graduate level students. The internships provide hands-on learning related to beef cattle management and encompass herd health, pasture management, research data collection and preparing for the annual sale.

From the herd’s elite genetics to its offering of an ideal applied research and teaching classroom for students and researchers alike, the Wye exemplifies what the Morrill Acts envisioned in the late 1800s – the ability to teach agriculture in a real-world setting and to address and advance not only the livestock industry but greater society.
2016 AGNR Faculty & Staff Excellence Awards

Off-Campus Staff Excellence Awards

**Debby Dant**
Debby is an 18-year veteran of the University of Maryland Extension at the Wye Research and Education Center where she serves as administrative assistant to the LEAD Maryland Foundation and horticulture programs. She designs newsletters, tours, symposium and conference announcements as well as program booklets for many tours, events and educational activities held at the Wye. Debby also served as staff representative for the 2014 UME Conference Committee. Due to Debby’s perseverance, in 2015, AED units were installed in all AGRN research and education centers, and faculty and staff received training after much concern for farm employees’ safety. She is a faithful volunteer with The Maryland Food Bank’s Farm to Food Bank Program, gleaning produce from the fields and loading it into trucks for distribution to the hungry.

**Douglas Price**
As horticulture program manager at the Western Maryland Research & Education Center, Doug is responsible for the management of all horticultural and forestry plots and areas at WMREC. He also serves as a resource for other facilities and has improved the accuracy and outcomes of many cutting edge research projects. Doug willingly serves each year at the AGRN Open House. In the fall, Doug imparts agricultural knowledge to about 400 fourth graders that visit WMREC for the “Kids Growing with Grains” program and each summer, he teaches participants of the Project Explorations Day Camps. Doug’s responsibilities have increased a great deal through the years, which has enabled him to better understand the importance of even the smallest task for the sake of maintaining high quality research plots.

On-Campus Staff Excellence Award

**Melekte Tunteh**
Melekte has consistently demonstrated a commitment to excellence and loyalty to Agricultural & Resource Economics and AGNR. She is a highly skilled individual who sets the gold standard for staff excellence and has greatly enhanced AREC’s performance and transformed its budgeting activities into a smooth-functioning, efficient component of the overall administrative process. Throughout her time of service, she has given selflessly to AREC and AGNR.

Professional Track Faculty Award

**Ginny Rosenkrantz**
Ginny has been the commercial horticulture educator for the lower shore counties for 22 years, assisting a number of constituents with Total Plant Management and Integrated Pest Management. She has written numerous articles on plant cultivars in a variety of publications. Ginny also serves as the lower shore Master Gardener Coordinator and has created and taught programs for lawn care professionals. Over the years, Ginny has traveled throughout the U.S. presenting her research on cut flowers and organic edible flowers, and she continues to promote new cut flower varieties. She serves as vice director of the North East Region for the National Association of County Agriculture Agents. Ginny’s university and community collaborations, as well as her marketing efforts for University of Maryland Extension, are of significant value to University of Maryland and University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

Off-Campus Junior Faculty Award

**Jonathan Moyle**
Dr. Moyle provides the poultry industry and growers with general practical knowledge about poultry production practices so that they may develop, maintain and operate economically viable and environmentally responsible poultry operations. Jon maintains commercial poultry production and small flock production web pages, which collectively receive over 75,000 hits annually and provide Maryland’s poultry industry and small flock growers with general and practical information. He also maintains several programs, including poultry health & biosecurity and poultry farm management training & certification for new growers. Jon’s teaching and research is superb, and his service is exceptional in his short tenure.

On-Campus Junior Faculty Award

**Shirley Micallef**
Dr. Micallef was recruited to the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture in 2011, and holds a University of Maryland instructional appointment as well as an appointment in the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station. Shirley also shares a joint appointment with the Center for Food Safety, and Security Systems and an affiliation with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health in the School of Public Health. Her unique research program and approach to breaking new ground has placed her in the forefront of researchers working with human pathogens and vegetable crops. Shirley has mentored and advised a number of master’s and doctoral students, doctoral candidates, and post-doctoral researchers and has developed a course on fresh produce safety which has connected 161 students to food safety from the perspectives of science, policy, economics, and social system. Shirley’s program is an impressive example of a research program that is expanding our knowledge on the fundamental level while engaging with Maryland’s agriculture.

UME Extension Excellence Award

**Robert Kratochvil**
Dr. Kratochvil has established a distinguished Extension program which has significant recognition and has benefited the citizens of the state. This is evidenced by his extensive Extension publication record, the implementation of his recommendations by the farming community and regulatory agencies, the financial support he has received for his programs, the continuing demand for his presentations to stakeholder groups, and his record of receiving numerous awards. Bob has had a split Extension – Research appointment in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture since 2000, and is currently an associate professor. His duties are in agronomic crop production, with specific Extension responsibilities to Maryland farmers, industry professionals, and regulatory agencies in the areas of identifying, evaluating, and educating Maryland farmers about crop production practices that maximize profit; designing cropping systems that incorporate sound, economical nutrient and best management practices; and evaluating alternative and value added crop opportunities.
Integrated Research & Extension Excellence Award

The Health Insurance Literacy Initiative (HILI)

The HILI effort began in 2013, with Dr. Bonnie Braun, Lynn Little, Dr. Virginia Brown, and Mia Russell. This team of dedicated individuals believed that University of Maryland Extension could help consumers, many who had never had health insurance, acquire the knowledge and skills to make a smart choice about health insurance. The HILI team has developed Smart Choice Health Insurance™, a two-hour consumer workshop, Smart Choice Basics™, an information-based program, Smart Choice™ for Farm Families, and is working on Smart Choice™ programs for young adults and for senior adults. Currently, the Smart Use Health Insurance™ program is being tested in multiple states and is available in English and Spanish, written at the seventh grade level, and addresses barriers of reaching audiences with low rates of literacy and English fluency. An applied integrated research and outreach approach has contributed significantly to the success of the program. The core of the land-grant university mission has been and continues to be practiced by the HILI team. They have taken research, translated that research into education, and delivered education to meet consumers’ needs.

Faculty Research Award

Daniel Nelson

Dr. Nelson is an associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine. Since joining University of Maryland in 2007, Daniel has excelled in research scholarship, innovation, teaching, and mentorship. He is integral to his home department as well as to his second affiliation at the Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research. Daniel is an internationally recognized researcher specializing in the development of enzymes derived from bacterial viruses that possess inherent antimicrobial properties against both human and animal pathogens. Daniel has established an impressive track record as evidenced by more than $4.5M in funding awards. He has published research in more than 50 peer-reviewed journals, and is a sought-after speaker for international meetings. Daniel mentors and advises trainees, undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral associates, who have developed under his guidance with great success. He also teaches in veterinary medicine and lectures in biochemistry, animal and avian sciences, undergraduate Honors seminars, and the School of Pharmacy.

The Dean Gordon Cairns Award for Distinguished Creative Work and Teaching in Agriculture

James Hanson

Dr. James Hanson’s programs have created enduring institutions that continue to impact his target audiences. He has proven himself a leader in the state, regionally, nationally and internationally. Jim has received numerous national, regional and state awards, such as the Distinguished Service Award, National Association of County Agricultural Agents in 2008, and the Epsilon Sigma Phi Northeast Regional Visionary Leadership Award in 2006, and the Maryland Extension Specialist Junior Faculty Award of Honor. In 2011, he received the University of Maryland Landmark Award given for exceptional long-term achievements in support of international programs at the University of Maryland, the highest recognition bestowed by the University of Maryland for support of international programs. Over his career, Jim has obtained over $7.2M in grants as principal investigator which he has used to help farmers and educational efforts of Extension within Maryland and overseas. His international programs targeted at women in agriculture continue to impact individuals worldwide.

The Dean Craig Beyrouty, far right top row, welcomed students and staff and members of the newly re-organized AGNR MANRRS Chapter. Karl Bonts, second from left on top row, Director of Student Services at UMS serves as advisor at UMS and Dr. Evelyn Cooper, far left front row, AGNR chapter advisor, work together to provide opportunities for students at both campuses. MANRRS promotes academic and professional advancement by empowering minorities in agriculture, natural resources and related sciences and provides leadership opportunities for all students. The AGNR MANRRS Chapter won a Pepsi Grant to develop career development programs for AGNR students at College Park.

On a cool Saturday in April, hundreds turned out for the 18th annual Maryland Day and 91st annual Ag Day on the College Park campus. Student demonstrations and livestock shows, along with hands-on educational activities and games provided a fun-filled day.
Over 150 friends and colleagues gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Applied Agriculture at the University of Maryland on May 14, at the College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center. The IAA was established in 1965 to meet Maryland’s need for a post-secondary, career-oriented program that could be completed in two years. Today, more than 90 percent of IAA students receive job offers in their field of study by the time they graduate. Some students choose to enter the workforce, while others continue their education. The IAA recently formalized an accelerated dual-credential program called Agriculture Forward at Maryland, where IAA students can earn both a Certificate of Applied Agriculture and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland College Park. Graduates from the Turfgrass and Golf Course Management area of study took a class photo with program advisor Dr. Kevin Mathias (seated third from the left). Graduation years spanning 1967-2016 were represented.

2015 was a bountiful year for Terp Farm, the University of Maryland’s sustainable vegetable farm providing thousands of pounds of produce to select on-campus dining halls, the Green Tidings mobile food truck and food insecure members of the campus community. The collaborative project is a partnership between the university’s Dining Services, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Office of Sustainability.

To celebrate the first full year of production, the Terp Farm team invited the entire campus community to the inaugural Fall Harvest Festival held Friday, October 9th. More than 500 people attended the event held at the College of AGNR’s Upper Marlboro research facility located about 15 miles south of campus. Students, faculty and staff from the university were treated to free food prepared using ingredients grown on Terp Farm and got an up-close look at the farm’s operations.

AGNR alumni, students, faculty and friends joined their counterparts from other B1G schools at an Ag Alumni reception held at the National Press Club during the 2016 annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU). APLU’s 235 members span across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, four U.S. territories, Canada and Mexico. The association’s membership includes 24 university systems and 208 universities, of which 75 are U.S. land-grant institutions. Twenty-three historically black colleges and universities are members, of which 19 are land-grant institutions.

Dean Beyrouty brings greetings from UMD along with his B1G counterparts. AGNR Students Mazon Graham and Gabrielle Orry helped with registrations and enjoyed visiting with Dean Beyrouty and other B1G Deans.
Students win EPA Campus RainWorks Challenge

For the second consecutive year, a University of Maryland team won the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Campus RainWorks Challenge. The fourth annual national design competition was created to engage college and university students in reinventing our water infrastructure and developing green infrastructure systems to reduce storm water pollution, build resilience to climate change and develop sustainable communities. Seventy-seven schools from 29 states participated in the competition.

EPA invited student teams to compete in two design categories - the master plan category, which examined how green infrastructure could be integrated into a broad area of a school’s master plan and the demonstration project category, which examined how green infrastructure systems to reduce water infrastructure and developing green infrastructure research. “Our Campus RainWorks Challenge winners inspire the next generation of green infrastructure designers and planners,” said Joel Beauvais, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water. “All the submissions included innovative approaches to stormwater management. I want to congratulate the University of Maryland for their winning submission.”

Mary Fernandes is an Animal Science and Psychology double major from Silver Spring, Maryland. Throughout her time at the University of Maryland, she has worked as a laboratory animal technician, research assistant, teaching assistant and student employee at the Maryland Anderson Cancer Research Center. She is also a member of a South Asian Fusion a cappella group, Anokha, with whom she has performed privately for President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House. This year, Mary was selected as a senior marshal to represent her class, and also as an Outstanding PSYC Terp of the Psychology Department for 2016. After graduation, she will begin a competitive PhD program in Clinical Psychology at Georgia State University in Atlanta, where she will study cognitive and affective neuroscience with the goal of understanding the mechanisms that underlie developmental psychopathologies.

Additional student, faculty and staff advisors and contributors were Dr. Mitch Paavo-Zuckerman, Dennis Nola, Stephen Reid, Michael Carmichael, Dean David Conrath, Darwin Fuerstein, Diane Cameron, Dr. Peter Mag, Karen Petroff, Elisabeth Walker, Rick Scaffidi and Harris Trobman.

The students will split $2,000 in prize money. Faculty from PSLA will also receive money toward furthering green infrastructure research. “Our Campus RainWorks Challenge winners inspire the next generation of green infrastructure designers and planners,” said Joel Beauvais, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water. “All the submissions included innovative approaches to stormwater management. I want to congratulate the University of Maryland for their winning submission.”

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New Leadership for Harry Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology

Dr. Suzanne Dorsey is the new director of the Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc. Suzanne will begin part-time in August and full-time on September 4th. She is interested in connecting Center efforts with expertise at UM. Dr. Russ Brinsfield led the Center from its beginning in 1999 until his retirement last year.

Dorsey currently is the Executive Director of the Bald Head Island Conservancy and Smith Island Land Trust near Wilmington, NC. She has held this position since 2005 and has been responsible for managing a board of directors, overseeing all operations of the Trust and Conservancy and has raised endowment funds for the Conservancy including the completion of a capital campaign of $4.5 million.

A native Marylander, she earned her Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in Coastal Oceanography and obtained her Master of Science degree at the University of Maryland in Marine-Estuarine Environmental Science. She has had extensive experience in engaging with local, Federal and state agencies on various issues affecting land use and coastal zone management. She is pleased to be returning to Maryland and is familiar with the agricultural and environmental landscape in the state.

Tom Porter Chosen Interim Associate Dean and Director for University of Maryland Extension

Former Animal and Avian Sciences (ANSC) Department Chair, Dr. Tom Porter, assumed the role of Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director of University of Maryland Extension (UME) in April, 2016 as a national search is conducted for a permanent position.

Porter received his Ph.D. in Animal Physiology from the University of Minnesota in 1988. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Medical University of South Carolina and joined the Department of Poultry Science at Texas A&M University as an Assistant Professor in 1993. He joined the Department of Animal and Avian Sciences at the University of Maryland in 1997 and served as chair from 2007 to 2015.

During his service as ANSC Department Chair, Porter was responsible for leading the Extension and outreach efforts of his department. He reached out to the animal and poultry industries in the state as well as created a competitive grant program for Extension efforts in grass-fed beef, with support from the Jorgensen Foundation. Porter led an effort to preserve and renovate the Clarksville Dairy research and education facility. He hired staff coordinators for Equine and Poultry Extension and for Dairy and Beef Extension and also created faculty positions in Livestock Management and Poultry Research and Extension. He also led the effort to develop a master plan for the Campus Farm as a teaching and outreach facility.

Porter’s accomplishments have been recognized by our college with the Junior Faculty Excellence Award, Alumni Excellence in Instruction Award, and the Dean Gordon Cairns Award for Distinguished Creative Work and Teaching in Agriculture. His efforts have also been recognized nationally with the Poultry Science Research Award and the Embrex Fundamental Science Award from the Poultry Science Association. Tom currently serves as editor-in-chief of the journal Poultry Science and this year, he will be named Fellow of the Poultry Science Association.

Pradhan receives Chauncey Starr honor

Abani Pradhan, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition & Food Science and the Center for Food Safety and Security Systems, was awarded the 2015 Chauncey Starr Distinguished Young Risk Analyst. Pradhan was honored for his work addressing critical food safety issues such as the risk of foodborne pathogens in fresh produce, dairy products, meat and poultry. The award recognizes “any member age 40 years or younger for outstanding achievement in science or public policy relating to risk analysis and exceptional promise for continued contributions to risk analysis.” He was presented with the award at the SRA’s annual meeting in December in Arlington, Va.

The Society for Risk Analysis is a multidisciplinary international society that provides an open forum for all those interested in risk analysis. There are nearly 2,000 members from academia, government, industry, consulting and non-governmental organizations.

Pradhan and other members of his lab have been conducting interdisciplinary research addressing food safety issues related to foodborne pathogens such as E. coli, Salmonella, Listeria monocytogenes and Toxoplasma gondii. Some of his research projects include predictive modeling and risk assessments for harmful bacteria and parasites in produce, meat and dairy products, as well as antimicrobial resistance and dynamics of endemic infectious diseases on dairy farms.

Specialists in the field of agricultural law and water from the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AREC) in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources will play key roles in a new multidisciplinary effort to develop innovative, safe and sustainable ways to irrigate food crops in variable climates. The “CONSERVE” Center of Excellence, established with a $10 million, four-year award from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, will be led by Amy Sapkota from the University of Maryland’s School of Public Health.

Growing concerns about the reuse of water for irrigation of crops and the scarcity of water due to temperature variations created by climate change significantly affects decisions farmers and crop growers make when it comes to using water sources. Additionally, there is a lack of scientific facts and resources on which to base producer decisions regarding safe irrigation treatments. To address these con-
AGRICULTURE LEADS TO STABILITY IN AFGHANISTAN

According to Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, “Without effective agriculture, there’s no stability - political, social and economic - it is the most important issue in governance.” These statements were reiterated and expanded upon during the country’s 4th annual National Extension Conference held February 20-22, 2016. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) as well as the Directorates of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, with facilitation by the Afghanistan Agricultural Extension Project II (AAEP II) and the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). AAEP-II, now in its second phase, is funded by USAID and led by UC-Davis, with participation from four other U.S. Land Grant Universities.

The University of Maryland proudly leads the Women’s Programming for AAEP-II, as part of the Women in Agriculture Program in the Department of Agricultural and R"{e}cological Economics (AREC). Taryn Devereux, serves as the program’s coordinator in AREC.

The conference was by all accounts an enormous success and brought together 480 diverse participants from various sectors, including government, private, and non-profit, as well as small-scale and commercial farmers. For a full write-up of the conference proceedings: https://www.umm.umd.edu/sites/default/files/images/uploaded/2016%20MAIL%20National%20Extension%20Conference%20Proceedings%20%28WIA%29.pdf

Congratulations to the recipients of the AGNR Alumni chapter awards presented April 14, 2016 at the Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center. In front from left, are, Abhinav Mishra accepting for Dr. Mia Guo, Outstanding Graduate Student, who is the food safety manager for PepsiCo; Sofia D’Ambrosio, Outstanding Graduating Senior, an environmental science and technology major who will be attending graduate school at Washington State University with an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to research greenhouse gas emissions from reservoirs; Robert A. Borkowski, Outstanding Graduating Student from the Institute of Applied Agriculture, a sustainable agriculture major who plans to incorporate his passion for farmers markets with his family’s honey business; Carole Dinges, Honorary AGNR Alumni Member, business services specialist at the Institute of Applied Agriculture and longtime friend of students across AGNR, she is an integral member of the Maryland Egg Council, representing them at outreach events such as MDA Open Houses, Ag Day and Maryland State Fair; Dr. Angela Black, Excellence in Instruction, professor in the Department of Animal and Animal Sciences and serves as the Animal Research Facility’s veterinarian. In back from left, are, Dr. Craig Boyounty, Dean AGNR; B. Eric Almquist ’96, Outstanding Alumnus, Early Career, has been employed at Rummel, Klepper, and Khal since 2007, earning professional credentials from the American Institute of Certified Planners and Professional Wetland Scientist to add to his certification as a Certified Ecologist while working on three of the region’s largest environmental and transportation studies in the mid-Atlantic region; Paul Goeringer, Excellence in Extension, Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland Extension, Outstanding Extension Legal Specialist, has worked to develop an innovative program in legal outreach through the Agriculture Law Education Initiative (ALEI), a partnership between AGNR, UMES and the Carey School of Law; Nicholas Salvatore Millington, Outstanding Graduating Student, on Animal and Avian Sciences major and serves as the Animal Research Facility’s veterinarian. In back from left, are, Dr. Angela Black, Excellence in Instruction, professor in the Department of Animal and Animal Sciences and serves as the Animal Research Facility’s veterinarian. In back from left, are, Dr. Angela Black, Excellence in Instruction, professor in the Department of Animal and Animal Sciences and serves as the Animal Research Facility’s veterinarian.
**Butler family working on strawberry challenges**

Wade Butler ‘78, Tyler Butler ‘08 and Ben Butler ‘10 of Butler’s Orchard in Germantown, MD, have been working with Professor John Lea-Cox in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture in an effort among 12 land-grant universities to help farmers navigate challenges facing strawberry growers such as frost, disease, mold and bugs. The technologies developed to anticipate and beat those challenges were featured in a TerpVision video [http://terp.umd.edu/ripe-on-time/#.V0NQJ-ROlpk](http://terp.umd.edu/ripe-on-time/#.V0NQJ-ROlpk).

Through the National Strawberry Sustainability Initiative, funded by the Walmart Foundation, the UMD team has placed wireless sensor networks on three Maryland farms: alumni-owned Butler’s Orchard in Germantown, Shlagel Farms in Waldorf and the university’s Wye Research and Education Center in Queenstown.

Radio nodes with sensors have been installed in the soil, the plant canopy and weather stations, collecting precise data on environmental conditions, soil moisture and temperature and fertilizer concentration. Farmers can access this data from their fields in real time using a computer, smartphone or any other device connected to the Internet.

“Providing farmers with their own information is critical to them making good decisions and can save them a lot of time and effort where labor, frost protection, irrigation and nutrient management are involved,” Lea-Cox says. “We believe we can make a tremendous difference for strawberry producers in terms of conserving resources, reducing costs and improving sustainable production practices.”

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**The AGNR Alumni Chapter has been fortunate to have dedicated alumni who have served the chapter and college over the years. Many remain active on committees, as student mentors and the board over the years. A framed photograph of the “M” circle by Edwin Remsberg was presented to former board members attending the reunion and awards program on April 14. From left, are, Teresa Rice Stevens ’87, Jim Ferrant ’77 & ’86, Weida Stoecker widow of deceased board treasurer Chuck Stoecker ’71, John Wells ’76 & ’82, Kendra Buckel Wells ’76 & ’81, David Miller ’66 & ’72, Frank Allnutt ’77, Will Godwin ’63, Robert Fogle ’01 and Jessica Fritz Little ’00.”

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**Scott Angle takes position with IFDC**

Dr. J. Scott Angle ’75 & ’78 became president and chief executive officer of the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) based in Muscle Shoals, AL, in October 2015. Prior to this appointment, he was the dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia. Earlier in his career he held faculty and administrative positions at the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

An internationally known soil scientist and former Fulbright scholar, Angle combines knowledge with philanthropic passion to tackle issues like hunger, poverty and environmental protection. His solutions include teaching sound agricultural practices with efficient use of fertilizer at the smallholder level. Advocating informed, meaningful policy change and strengthening agricultural sectors are also critical components.

As a researcher, Angle authored or co-authored more than 300 scientific papers, reports, book chapters and abstracts. He is a leading authority on phytoremediation and risks/benefits of recycled waste products to improve soil and boost crop growth.

Throughout his career, Angle received several awards for his work. In addition to his Fulbright scholarship, he was an Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) Fellow at the University of Melbourne in Australia. He received the American Society of Agronomy’s Environmental Research Award in 1998 and the Education Award in 2003. He is a fellow in the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America. At the University of Maryland he was recognized as the inventor of the year for his work on phytoremediation and was a Distinguished Teacher-Scholar – the highest academic award at UMD.
Ed Fry inducted into MD Dairy Shrine

Edwin R. Fry ’69 was inducted into the Maryland Dairy Shrine in February 2016. He represents the 4th generation of his family to operate Fair Hill Farm. His parents, Edwin C. & Lorraine Fry, moved with their four children from Montgomery County to Kent County in 1960 to escape urban encroachment. By 1969, Ed was a UMD Dairy Science graduate working with “Pop” Fry on the family farm. He aggressively sought to improve genetics and type in the registered Holstein herd. By 1981, he had his own growing family and built a 500cow California style dairy facility near Kennedyville that included a flush system and methane digester for manure handling. In the mid-80s, Fair Hill milked 700 cows spread over three locations and participated in cattle partnerships which leveraged investor dollars as tax benefits for investors and added income for the farm. Always a family operation, Ed’s brothers Robert ‘74 and Ken ‘77 also made significant contributions to the farm through herd health veterinary services and crop management. Ed has served as president of the MD Holstein Association, president of MD DHIA, Director and secretary/treasurer of National DHIA. He has been 1st Lt. MD National Guard, president of Kent County Agricultural Center, president of UMD Alumni Association and College of Agriculture alumni president. Presently, Ed serves on the board of directors and chair of the finance committee for MD VA Milk Producers Cooperative and director of the Harry Hughes Agro-Ecology Center. He and his wife, Marian, were the 2006 Northeast winners of the Patrick Mad- den Award for Sustainable Agriculture, and in 2012, the family was inducted into the Governor’s Agriculture Hall of Fame. Ed is a past president of the AGNR Alumni Chapter and the University of Maryland Alumni Association.

Bernardo receives scholarship

Heather Bernardo ’12 was a recipient of the James David Small, DVM Scholarship, which is given to students interested in pursuing a career in laboratory animal medicine and is sponsored by the James David Small, DVM, Endowment Fund at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

College of Veterinary Medicine, Bernardo is philanthropy chair of the Illinois Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association, secretary of the Public Health Association, and the Class of 2018 representative for the Lab Animal Medicine Club, and lecturer and lab planning chair for the Illinois Student Chapter of the Wildlife Disease Association. She also works at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital as student help in the anesthesia department.

Energy use and climate change

Kimmel named memorial finalist

Landscape Architect Devin Kimmel ’03, who also earned his master’s degree in architecture at UMD, was a finalist in the WWI Memorial Contest in January 2016. The World War One Centennial Commission took over 350 memorial plan submissions last year, and Kimmel was named a finalist.

“To have had his design chosen from 350 international entries is huge,” Jack Sullivan, associate professor in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, explained. “There are few highly visible competitions like this, and the Pershing Park site in Washington, D.C. has been and will continue to be an important landmark for residents and visitors alike.”

Kimmel named his submission, “World War One Grotto of Remembrance” with the idea that visitors would walk down tree-lined paths into an elliptical space where three WWI scenes would be featured. In the monument’s center, lamps of “Liberty” and “Democracy” will reflect into a grotto and reflecting pool, adorned with smaller details reminiscent of the time period.

Landscape Architect Kimmel named memorial finalist

J. Robert “Bob” Frazee ’77 retired as president and chief executive officer at MidAtlantic Farm Credit, positions he held since 2000. He began his career with the Farm Credit System in 1977. Frazee provide leadership and direction toward the achievement of the organization’s philosophy, mission, strategy and its annual goals and objectives. His career highlights include successfully leading the consolidation of five Farm Credit associations in 2000; leading the merger of Valley Farm Credit into MidAtlantic Farm Credit in 2008; and advising Farm Credit Association management and boards during periods of management transition, loan portfolio weaknesses. He is known for his team building/problem solving approach to management as well as his broad based experience in banking, finance and agriculture, in the eastern United States and the Caribbean during his 32 year career.

Frazee is a past president of the Maryland 4-H Foundation Board of Directors and has served as AGNR’s representative to the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET). He has served on the AGNR Alumni Chapter Board of Directors and served as vice-president. He was the 1977 Outstanding Senior and was AGNR’s 2012 Outstanding Alumnus.

FRAZEE RETIRES FROM MIDAUTLANTIC FARM CREDIT

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Frazee is a past president of the Maryland 4-H Foundation Board of Directors and has served as AGNR’s representative to the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET). He has served on the AGNR Alumni Chapter Board of Directors and served as vice-president. He was the 1977 Outstanding Senior and was AGNR’s 2012 Outstanding Alumnus.

Bernardo receives scholarship

Heather Bernardo ’12 was a recipient of the James David Small, DVM Scholarship, which is given to students interested in pursuing a career in laboratory animal medicine and is sponsored by the James David Small, DVM, Endowment Fund at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.

College of Veterinary Medicine, Bernardo is philanthropy chair of the Illinois Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association, secretary of the Public Health Association, the Class of 2018 representative for the Lab Animal Medicine Club, and lecturer and lab planning chair for the Illinois Student Chapter of the Wildlife Disease Association. She also works at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital as student help in the anesthesia department.

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Landscape company founder retires

J. Landon Reeve IV ’63, founder of Chapel Valley Landscape Company based in Woodbine, MD, retired in January 2016. Reeve will continue to serve as chairman of the board and will continue to serve on the board of the National Horticulture Society and Friends of the National Arboretum.

In an interview in 2002, Reeve said, “One of my primary goals in life is to develop a company with a good reputation that could continue beyond myself.” His son, James Reeve, president and CEO, has done an excellent job of fulfilling his father’s goal by leading the company since 2003.

Reeve’s career in landscaping started in high school with a part-time summer job at Bluemont Nursery, a perennial wholesale nursery in Monkton. After graduating from UMD with a degree in ornamental horticulture, he and a partner founded a small garden center/landscape business. Four years later, Reeve opened his own business, Chapel Valley Landscape Company, and he was its sole employee. The company has grown to over 400 employees with seven locations. They are listed as one of the top 50 landscaping companies in the country.

He served as president of the Landscape Contractors Association of MD, D.C., VA, the Associated Landscape Contractors of America (now known as the National Association of Landscape Professionals), and the Maryland Nurserymen’s Association. Reeve’s commitment to performing great work, caring for his clients, employees and vendors and serving the community have led to a legacy to be proud of.

Landon is a past president of the AGNR Alumni Chapter and was recognized as AGNR’s Outstanding Alumnus in 2007.

Stabler honored as good steward

Maryland 4-H Foundation Board of Director and long-time Extension client and advocate, Drew Stabler, was recognized by the National Corn Growers Association for Good Stewardship at the 2016 National Commodity Classic convention and trade show. In a video prepared for the convention, Drew reflects that “my dad was the Extension agronomist for the University of Maryland, so he instilled in my brother and I the respect you had to have for the land and how you need to take care of it. That’s what we’ve always tried to do.” The video further describes his family’s history in Montgomery County and their commitment to best management practices and stewardship.


Twining wins achievement medal

Dr. Paul Twining ’65, ’71 & ’74 was presented with a Medal of Achievement from the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. (DPI) at their annual meeting in April 2016. Twining received Delmarva’s Distinguished Citizen Award in 1980 and over the last 28 years he has continued to make important contributions to DPI and Delmarva’s chicken industry.

A chicken grower from 1956 until 2002, he received his college degrees from the University of Maryland. He worked as a chemist and nutritionist at Perdue Farms for six years and since 1970 has been an international independent consultant in the poultry industry. He joined the DPI board of directors in 1976 and served until the end of 2015, making him at that time the longest serving current member of the board. He served as president in 1980. From 1981 until 1987, he served as a chicken industry representative on the Maryland Agricultural Commission and was chairman the last three years.

Dr. Paul Twining, left, received a DPI Medal of Achievement from the Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc. for contributions to the poultry industry. DPI Executive Director Bill Satterfield, right, presented the award.

Congratulations to the Class of 2016!
William Potter Anderson of Gaithersburg, MD, died January 17, 2014. He was 81 and the son of the late Mary Potter Anderson, the first public health nurse in Montgomery County, and the late Otto Watson Anderson, the first Montgomery County Farm Agent. He graduated from Gaithersburg High School and from the University of Maryland in 1954. During his service in the Army, Bill was stationed in Germany. After an honorable discharge in 1957 he began several entrepreneurships including Anderson & Kelly located in Boyds. Bill ran for Montgomery County Council and the House of Delegates. He participated in the Farmers Club, Farm Bureau, serving as president for five years, the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, the Monocacy Lion’s Club, Tax Payers League and was a former president of the Lion’s Club Eye Bank. He participated in many land use and agriculture committees and served on several bank boards. He obtained his pilot’s license around the age of 60 and enjoyed aviation.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 58 years, Sue S. Anderson; his three children, Pamela and husband Ron Spadin of Poolesville, and their son Gavin and his wife Kathryn, Andrew Cuga, Marjory, Logan and a host of grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister, Sally Hitchcock of Davis, CA. Memorial donations may be made to Kiwanis International Foundation, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268. http://www.kiwani.org/foundation

Filmore Edmund Bender, former associate dean and director of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, died on October 2, 2014. A native of Bakersfield, CA, he was 74. He graduated from Edison Elementary School, Bakersfield High School, UC Davis, and received his Ph.D. from North Carolina State University. He married the love of his life, his high school sweetheart, Christine Norton on January 31, 1958.

He served on the faculty of the University of Maryland, College Park, from 1964 to 1992. For eight years he served as an associate director of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station. He was Chief of Party for USAID project in Kenya from 1992 to 1994. In addition to teaching in Germany, El Salvador and Venezuela, he worked as an analyst in Korea, India, Venezuela, Egypt and parts of Africa. He retired as professor emeritus from the University of Maryland in 1992. During his time at the University of Maryland, he authored or co-authored three text books on statistical methods.

Among his many achievements, he was the Grant Administrator for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation funded display on biotechnology for the Smithsonian Institution, titled “The Search for Life.”

After returning to Bakersfield in 1994, he worked with the Adult Literacy Council and also worked with the Bill L. Williams School, introducing children to the benefits of reading through the classics. He was a longtime member of Kiwanis and a lifetime member of the American Agricultural Economics Association and the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia.

He is survived by his wife, his four children, Karl Alten Bender of Bakersfield, Frederick Jacob Bender of Alexandria, LA, Kurt Edmund Bender of Annapolis, MD, and Tonja Alyse Bender of Baltimore, MD, and five grandchildren. He is also survived by a sister, Marjorie Aichwalder of Davis, CA.

Memorial donations may be made to Kiwanis International Foundation, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268. http://www.kiwani.org/foundation

W. Chase Coale, passed away on October 11, 2015. Chase was born on the family farm in Churchville, Harford County, MD, on June 11, 1928, to the late William Chase Coale and Ruth Elizabeth (Cain) Coale. He was brother to Basil W. Coale, James S. Coale and the late J. Henry Coale. After graduating from Bel Air High School in 1945, Chase attended the University of Maryland and graduated from the College of Agriculture in 1954.

Chase met the love of his life, the late LeRoy Westley and Emma Mae Cromwell. He earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural education from the University of Maryland and served as the 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator in Frederick County until his retirement.

Larry was a beloved father, cherished friend and will be dearly missed. He is survived by his two sons, Lance W. Cromwell, Johnathan E. Cromwell and his daughter, Lindsay L. Cromwell; one brother, Roy Cromwell; two sisters, Lillian Ware (Melvin) and Betty Hill (Donald); three nephews, Brian Jackson (Barbara), Quentin Jackson (Shirley), Vincent Jackson (Melissa); as well as several great nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations may be made to the 4-H program of Frederick County, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, Maryland 21702.

Wayne “Brooks” Hamilton, Jr. of Oakland, MD, died January 17, 2016. A native of Philippi, WV, he was 72. He was a graduate of Southern Garrett High School and attended the University of Maryland at College Park. He invested his life in running Hamilton Farms and was a member of St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Oakland.

His many accomplishments include being a founding member of the Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad, serving as a president and a board member for Southern States, and was a member and held several offices in Farm Bureau for over 50 years. He was a director of the Garrett Soil Conservation District and a member of the Oakland Jaycees. He also spent many years actively involved in 4-H, FFA and Garrett College. Brooks was a faithful Red Cross blood donor. He dedicated his life to promoting agriculture. He is survived by three children, Karen Engel and husband Jeff of Keymar, MD, Patricia Hummel and husband Howard of Wood, MD, and Wayne Brooks Hamilton, III and wife Brittany of Nicholasville, KY; grand-children, Jacob Engel, Morgan Engel, Lauren Hummel and Brett Hummel; a sister, Rebecca Wilkerson and husband Charles of Pennsylvania; and a long-time companion, Sue Roberson.

Memorial donations may be made to the Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad, PO Box 378, Oakland, MD 21550.

Loyal C. Reger of Queen Anne, MD, formerly of Denton, MD, died Friday, April 15, 2016. A native of Selbyville, WV, he was 91. Loyal was a graduate of West Virginia University with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture and received his masters from the University of Maryland, College Park. He was a WWII US Navy veteran and served on the LST 242 in the Pacific Theater.

He moved to Denton in 1956 where served as the 4-H and Youth Development Extension Agent in Caroline County for 31 years, retiring 2015 at Frederick Memorial Hospital. He was 57 and the husband of the late Alberta Louise Cromwell.

Born in Frederick, Larry was the son of the late LeRoy Westley and Emma Mae Cromwell. He earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural education from the University of Maryland and served as the 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator in Frederick County until his retirement.

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in 1962 he joined their agricultural department covering the Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland. Fifteen years later, he joined Equitable Bank when they took over Truckers and Savings Bank where he stayed for nine years.

He became assistant executive director of the Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc. (DPI) and within a year, the Executive Director retired and he was hired for that position. After 15 years with DPI he worked part-time as Director of Public Information and Legislative Affairs before retiring.

Active in many agricultural organizations, he received numerous awards including the Schlofield Award in 1966 given by the Poultry Science Department at the University of Maryland for his work with the Maryland State Egg Council and DPI. He received the Frank Gordy Distinguished Citizen Award for his work with the Shore Poultry Industry. Jerry served on the Board of Directors of the Harry Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology and the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation until the time of his death.

Beside his parents he was preceded in death by four brothers, Waldo, Ernie, James Leedom of Los Angeles, CA; Robert Leedom of Glenwood, MD, and several cousins and many close friends.

Memorial donations may be made to the Choptank Ruritan Club for Youth Scholarships, PO Box 75, Denton MD 21629.