**Meet Caleb Snyder**

UME Kent County welcomes **Caleb Snyder**! He will be performing the duties of Nutrient Management Advisor for our Kent producers. He is available in the Kent Ext. office, Mon.-Fri. Caleb moved here from Atlanta, Georgia. His wife and family dog will be joining him soon. Stop by, meet & welcome Caleb, Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

---

**Ag Leasing & Right to Farm Workshops**

Farm lease agreements are an important and common topic among farmers and landowners. As Maryland urbanizes, farmland becomes more competitive and land transfers to the next generation, there is an increasing need for resources and materials regarding written lease agreements and Maryland’s real property law.

This workshop will provide considerations for written leases, agriculture law information, property rights and sample leasing documents. Registration fee $10 per person. This fee includes the workshop materials, continental breakfast and lunch.

December 3 – Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD Higher Education Center, Room 110, 8:30 a.m. Registration 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Register online at [www.agleasingworkshop.eventbrite.com](http://www.agleasingworkshop.eventbrite.com) For more information or to register contact the Queen Anne’s County Extension at 410-758-0166 Registration is due November 28th for the Chesapeake College workshop. The conference is open to anyone. If you have any special needs for the conference please contact the Extension Office.

---

**Agricultural Policy and Outlook Conference**

**Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013 (All day)**

**Loews Hotel, Annapolis**

126 West Street

Annapolis, MD 21401

**Description/Notes:** Your registration fee will include lunch and self-parking at the hotel. Valet parking is not included in your registration fee, but the hotel has offered us discounted valet parking at $8 (compared to the normal $10) for those who choose to use valet parking on Dec. 4th.

Cost: $35  Link: [https://agoutlookpolicy.eventbrite.com/](https://agoutlookpolicy.eventbrite.com)

Contact: Lori Lynch, llynch@umd.edu Contact Phone: 301-405-1264 See more at: [http://extension.umd.edu/news/events/wed-2013-12-04-0000-agricultural-policy-and-outlook-conference#sthash.8Ch6HWiN.dpuf](http://extension.umd.edu/news/events/wed-2013-12-04-0000-agricultural-policy-and-outlook-conference#sthash.8Ch6HWiN.dpuf)

---

**Recertifications**

Take a look at your certifications, whether it be Pesticide or Nutrient Management. If it expires on Dec. 31, 2013, you have until March 15, 2014 to renew them. All you have to do is attend one of the Agronomy Days in Cecil, Queen Anne’s or Caroline County and sign up to be renewed. It’s pretty painless and they feed you a good meal to boot. So if yours expires this year or next, just find out when the meetings are and attend one. Contact your local Extension.

---

**Agriculture in MD ~ MD Public Broadcasting**

Maryland Public Television and the Maryland Department of Agriculture is hosting a series of programs about agriculture in Maryland that will premier on Maryland Public Television (HD) on Tuesday, November 19 at 7:00 p.m. All 13 segments of the series will air on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. and then be repeated on MPT2 as follows:

- **Thursdays, 11:30 p.m.**
- **Sundays, 6:00 a.m.**
- **Fridays, 6:00 p.m.**

The program will run for thirteen weeks, rest for thirteen weeks, repeat for thirteen weeks, rest and then possibly have a premiere for season 2 in November 2014. The Maryland Farm Bureau has posted a 3-minute promotion for the series on YouTube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?](http://www.youtube.com/watch?)
UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2013

Dec. 2, 2013
Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan Training, 5:30—9:00 p.m., UME, Howard County. Details enclosed.

Dec. 2, 2013
Smart Choice About Health Insurance program, 6:00—9:00 p.m., Q.A.’s Co., 104 Tighman Ave., Centreville, MD. Contact: Shannon Dill 410-822-1244.

Dec. 3, 2013
Ag Leasing Workshop, Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD. See information in this issue!

Dec. 4, 2013
Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan Exam, 5:30—9:00 p.m., UME, Howard County. Details enclosed.

Dec. 5, 2013
Smart Choice About Health Insurance program, 1:00—3:00 p.m., Talbot Co Senior Center, 400 Brookletts Ave., Easton, MD. Contact: Shannon Dill 410-822-1244.

Dec. 5, 2013
Smart Choice About Health Insurance program, 5:00—7:00 p.m., Caroline Co., Choptank Electric, 24820 Meeting House Rd., Denton, MD. Contact: Shannon Dill 410-822-1244.

Dec. 8, 2013
Maryland Farm Bureau Conference, Ocean City, MD

Dec. 9, 2013
Learning How to Heat With Wood & Pellets...Save Money and Be Warm, 7:00-9:00 p.m., UME Calvert Co., 30 Duke St., Prince Frederick MD. More info: www.smallflockpoultryexpo.eventbrite.com See details: http://extension.umd.edu/poultry/small-flock-production/mid-atlantic-small-flock-poultry-expo

Dec. 10, 2013
Grain Marketing, 6:30 a.m., Sudlersville Methodist Church Hall, 103 N. Church Street, Sudlersville, MD. $10 breakfast buffet.

Dec. 11, 2013
Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan Exam, 5:30—9:00 p.m., UME, Howard County. Details enclosed.

Dec. 15, 2013
Acreage Reporting DEADLINE to Farm Service Agency for Fall Seeded Small Grain, Cover Crop and Hay!

Dec. 16, 2013

Dec. 17, 2013
Profiting From a Few Acres Conference, 9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Delaware State University, Bank of America Bldg. Call Megan Pleasanton @ 1-302-857-6438.

Dec. 17, 2013
Private Pesticide Applicators Recertification, 6:00—8:00 p.m., Wicomico Co. Extension Office, Pre-register: 410-749-6141.

Dec. 24-25, 2014
UME Kent County office closed.

JANUARY 2014

Jan. 7, 2014
Grain Marketing, 6:30 a.m., Sudlersville Methodist Church Hall, 103 N. Church Street, Sudlersville, MD. $10 breakfast buffet.

Jan. 17-18, 2014
Future Harvest CASA’s 15th Annual Farming for Profit and Stewardship Conference, UMUC Inn/Conf. Ctr, College Park, MD.

Jan. 18, 2013

Jan. 21, 2014
Cecil County Agronomy Day, 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m., Calvert Grange, 2357 Telegraph Rd., Rising Sun, MD. Call 410-996-5280 and ask for Doris or Patty.

Jan. 23, 2014
Private Pesticide Applicators Recertification, 4:00—6:00 p.m., Kent Extension Office, Chestertown. Must register: 410-778-1661.

Jan. 29, 2014
Lower Shore Agronomy Day, 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Call Wicomico Co. Extension Office for details: 1-410-749-6141.

Jan. 30, 2013
AgrAbility Workshop, Cecil Co., Elkton, MD. Register by calling 410-996-5280 and ask for Doris or Patty.

FEBRUARY 2014

Feb. 20, 2014
Women In Ag Regional Conference, Dover Downs Hotel and Casino, Dover, DE. Details enclosed.

Feb. 28, 2014
Queen Anne’s Co. Agronomy Day, 8 a.m.—1 p.m. 410-758-0166.
If you are involved in an Ag Business, don’t miss this opportunity to take a good look at your business and plan for the future through our Annie’s Project or Managing for Today and Tomorrow business focused classes!

Join 413 other farm women from Delaware and Maryland since 2008 – Be an Annie’s Project Graduate!

2014 REGISTRATION Begins November 11, 2013

For class information and to register visit the website: www.extension.umd.edu/annies

Annie’s Project is designed to empower women in agriculture to manage information systems used in critical decision-making processes and to build local networks throughout the state. The target audience is women in agriculture with a passion for business and involvement in the farm operation.

Locations:
Anne Arundel County, MD
Baltimore County, MD
Cecil County, MD
Howard County, MD
Eastern Shore, MD
Washington County, MD

Cost: $75.00 per person - Includes lunch/dinner and all materials

Managing for Today and Tomorrow is designed to empower women to grow their agriculture business’ legacy into the future. The class will focus on succession, business, estate and retirement planning. Through this six session program, professionals and up to date resources will be available to all participants.

Locations:
Cecil County, MD, Elkton, MD, Feb. 5, 12, 26, Mar. 5, 12, 19, 2014, 6-9 p.m.
Eastern Shore, MD, Chesapeake College, Feb 5, 12, 26, Mar. 5, 12, 19, 6-9 p.m.
Georgetown, Delaware, Carvel R&EC, Feb. 5, 12, 26, Mar. 5, 12, 19,7-9 p.m.
Harford County, MD (Bel Air), Jan. 16—Feb. 7, 6-9 p.m.

Cost: $60.00 per person - Includes lunch/dinner and all materials
Check our website, as new classes are added often!

For further information contact:
Delaware’s Annie’s Project: Tracy Wootten
wootten@udel.edu; 302-856-7303

Maryland’s Annie’s Project: Shannon Dill sdill@umd.edu; 410-822-1244

~ HOPE TO SEE YOU IN OUR 2014 CLASS ~

Women Across the Region
coming together to grow their passion for Agriculture!

FEBRUARY 20, 2014 will mark our 13th Annual Mid-Atlantic Women In Agriculture Regional Conference

The conference goals are to offer women who are involved with agriculture an opportunity to come together to learn about current issues and topics so they can make informed decisions concerning their agri-businesses and family lives. Sessions will cover topics in marketing, financial, production and health insurance.

Location:
Dover Downs Hotel & Casino Dover, DE
*room rates available*
Cost of the conference is $45. Registration deadline is February 5, 2014. Cancellations made after February 5, 2014 will not be refunded.

2014 REGISTRATION Began October 15, 2013
For conference information and to register visit the website: www.extension.umd.edu/womeninag

For further information contact: Shannon Dill sdill@umd.edu; 410-822-1244

50% off
WIA Student Discount!
Organization Name
50% off the registration fee
By entering “student” in the Promotion code box

50% off
WIA Student Discount!
Organization Name
50% off the registration fee
By entering “student” in the Promotion code box

$5 off
Bring a Friend to WIA!
Organization Name
take $5 off the registration
By entering “friend” in the Promotion code box
MDA Collects 32 Tons of Empty Pesticide Containers

MDA Collects 32 Tons of Empty Pesticide Containers for Recycling This Year Program Celebrates 21 Years of Proper Disposal to Protect the Chesapeake Bay.

ANNAPOLIS, MD (Nov. 14, 2013) – The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has recycled nearly 800,000 plastic pesticide containers – 64,000 of them this year – through its pesticide container recycling programs for farmers, golf courses, government agencies and commercial applicators. This program, in its 21st year of operation, helps prevent pesticide residues from entering the soil and local waterways and saves valuable landfill space. This recycling service is free and paid for with money collected from licensing and certification fees and pesticide product registration fees.

“This beneficial pesticide recycling program helps to protect the Chesapeake Bay by removing potential contaminants from the environment through proper disposal and provides sources of recycled materials for vendors,” said Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance. “We are very pleased with the response of farmers, commercial pesticide applicators and other pesticide users.”

Each year since 1993, MDA has operated an empty pesticide plastic container inspection and collection program open to the public in at least six locations from June through September. In addition, 21 pesticide dealer sites participate in the program. The collected containers are chipped and processed by a contractor hired by the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC), which is fully funded by member companies and affiliates that formulate, produce, package and distribute crop protection and other pesticide products.

This year, 56,103 containers, weighing 32 tons, were collected from 128 participants. During the program’s 21 years, MDA has collected and recycled more than 799,000 empty pesticide containers weighing 351 tons. This year the program operated in 13 counties: Baltimore, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, Washington and Wicomico. CONTACT: Julie Oberg, 410-841-5888 or Vanessa Orlando, 410-841-5889 MDA regulates the use of pesticides and provides educational programs for private (farmer), public agency and commercial pesticide applicators that operate in Maryland to ensure that pesticide are used properly and that adverse effects from their use are avoided or minimized. For more information, visit: www.mda.maryland.gov. Follow MDA on Twitter @MdAgDept.

17-Year-Old Rodeo Champ from Queen Anne’s Co. Receives Touch of Class Award

ANNAPOLIS, MD (Nov. 18, 2013) – Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance presented the Maryland Horse Industry Board’s (MHIB) Touch of Class Award Saturday to Spencer Bramble, a 17-year-old senior at Queen Anne’s County High School and a World Champion rodeo rider during a special “Evening at the Harness Races” program at Rosecroft Raceway in Prince George’s County. “Spencer represents the next generation of equine professionals who will continue Maryland’s heritage of outstanding horsemanship,” said Secretary Hance. “We are pleased to recognize a young man who has already achieved so much in his sport.”

The MHIB, a program within the Maryland Department of Agriculture, presents the Touch of Class Award every month to Maryland horses and people who have achieved national and international recognition. In August, Bramble and his roan Quarter Horse gelding, Pure Blue Boon, won the American Quarter Horse Youth Association World Championship in tie-down roping in Oklahoma City. Boon accompanied Spencer to Rosecroft to accept the award. Bramble and his other mount, the buckskin gelding, W R Lynxalena, were the Reserve World Champions.

Also on hand to present the award will be MHIB Chairman Jim Steele, Maryland Horse Council president Jane Seigler and MHIB board members Erin Pittman, Eli Solomon, Kathleen Tabor and Dorothy Troutman. The Maryland Horse Council sponsored the “Evening at the Harness Races” event at Rosecroft to showcase Maryland’s harness racing industry. Even though Bramble specializes in rodeo events, his family has long been active as owner/trainers in harness racing. The Bramble family has operated Quail Covey Farm in Queen Anne for generations; however, Spencer and his family travel the rodeo circuit extensively during the year with their son and his horses.

“Spencer and his family have been involved in owning and training horses, as well as in other farming activities, for generations on Maryland’s Eastern Shore,” said MHIB Chair-Jim Steele. “They are a testament to the rich tradition of how superior horsemanship and agriculture are linked together in our state.”

NOVEMBER 30
Is SHOP LOCAL BUSINESS SATURDAY

Note
A New Castle County, DE Ag Extension Agent position is currently being advertised and is open for applications. It can be found on the UD jobs website www.udel.edu/udjobs; feel free to forward this information to interested candidates.

NEW!!!! “BEGINNING FARMER SUCCESS” NEWSLETTER!
Please visit the web address below. This is an exciting and interesting newsletter that has good information for the beginning farmer. Please go to the following web site. https://extension.umd.edu/newfarmer

DID YOU KNOW????
Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird of the United States.
### Winter Extension Agronomy Meeting

**January 21, 2013**

**Calvert Grange, 2357 Telegraph Road, Rising Sun, MD 21911**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Pesticide Topics</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott Rowe, Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Sorghum Production</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James Lewis - University of Maryland Extension (UME)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Kudzu Bug: The New Insect</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. William Lamp - University of Maryland, Dept. of Entomology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Using Cultural, Chemical and Biological Control Tactics for Managing Insects and Weeds in Corn and Soybeans</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Cerruti Hooks - University of Maryland, Dept. of Entomology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Nutrient Management Topics</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darren Alles - Maryland Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>P Index or P Management Tool?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Josh McGrath - University of Maryland, Dept. of Environmental Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>New Yield Improvement Products- Should You Use Them?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scab in Small Grains, and Aflatoxin Problems in Corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Robert Kratochvil, University of Maryland, Dept. Plant Science and Landscape Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Right to Farm issues, and Seed Saving Issues</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Goeringer, University of Maryland, Dept. of Ag and Resource Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Workshop Evaluation and Closing Comments</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doris Behnke – University of Maryland Extension, Cecil County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>First Time Nutrient Applicator Card Training</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darren Alles, Maryland Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 410-996-5280 and ASK FOR DORIS or PATTY.**

---

### MDA Withdraws Phosphorus Management Tool Regulations; Department to Consider Comments and Resubmit Regulations

**ANNAPOlis, MD** (Nov. 15, 2013) – The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) today announced it will withdraw its proposed regulations to implement the new Maryland Phosphorus Management Tool (PMT) from consideration by the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR). This action also cancels the AELR hearing on the regulation scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 20.

“The O'Malley-Brown Administration remains committed to adopting the PMT through rule making and developing an approach that further considers comments raised by policymakers and citizens alike,” said Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance. “MDA is confident that the PMT science is sound, based on 20 years of evolving federal and state research to better understand soil phosphorus and managing risk of loss to our rivers and streams.”

As a result of concerns identified in the public meetings and public comment process, MDA is withdrawing the regulations. The department will consider all comments and critical issues raised by stakeholders, develop an approach that addresses concerns raised to date, and resubmit a new proposal to AELR in 2014 that includes a phased implementation schedule for the new tool.

Secretary Hance added, “The Administration stands behind our commitment to EPA to implement a Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) that ultimately provides for a healthy Chesapeake Bay. We will meet our Chesapeake Bay restoration goals, taking every step possible to protect water quality and ensure the viability of our family farms in Maryland.”

The Phosphorus Management Tool replaces the Phosphorus Site Index to reflect the most current research by University of Maryland scientists in collaboration with regional and national experts. This environmental risk assessment tool is used to identify areas where excess phosphorus is present in the soil and where a high potential for phosphorus loss exists.

It allows users to evaluate management options that can reduce the risk of phosphorus losses from agricultural fields to nearby waterways. Revising and updating the tool is an element of Maryland's WIP, the federally mandated document that outlines specific steps the state will take to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay.

A News Release from the Maryland Department of Agriculture

---

### 2013 Maryland Corn Hybrid Performance Tests

*Agronomy Facts No. 54* is prepared by: R.J. Kratochvil, M. Islam P. Watkins, and L. Thorne is now available for your review/printing at the following web address. [http://www.mdcrops.umd.edu/](http://www.mdcrops.umd.edu/)
FARMER TRAINING & CERTIFICATION
Winter 2013-2014 “Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan”

The Farmer Training and Certification course provides an opportunity for farmers to learn how to write nutrient management plans for their own operations. As a producer, you have firsthand knowledge of your own crops, animals, and equipment. Who better to write your nutrient management plan than you? This course will teach you how to do it!

You will receive:
- A comprehensive training binder – the training binder will be used during the class, serve as a reference during the exam, and as a valuable resource when you write future plans for your operation.
- Certification – producers who pass the exam will be certified by MDA to write their own nutrient management plans.
- Voucher training credits – this class will fulfill the nutrient applicator voucher training requirements.

You will have the opportunity to:
- Complete a nutrient management plan for your operation that meets MDA regulations.
  In order to work on your own plan, you need to begin gathering information now. You will need a map or sketch of your operation, soil tests that are less than two years old, and a recent manure analysis (if manure is applied to your land). Contact your county Extension office if you need assistance with this.

Registration Information
- Space is limited and registrations are accepted on a first-come basis; therefore, register early. Paid registrations must be received 10 days before the first class. For more information, please call 410-541-8595. Classes will be cancelled if there is lack of interest.

Evening Classes 5:30–9 pm ($20) Day Classes 9:30 am–4:30 pm ($35, includes lunch on first day)

Keep this portion for your records ..................................................

Return this portion with your payment.

Please register me for class # ___________ . Enclosed find my payment for the class.

Name __________________________
Mailing Address ________________________________
County ___________ City ___________ State ______ Zip Code ___________

Telephone __________________________ E-mail __________________

| #1 | Operations with Pastured Animals | University of Maryland Extension - Howard County office | December 2 & 4 (training), 11 (exam) and 19 (plan writing) |
| #2 | Crop Operations using Manure and Fertilizer | University of Maryland Wye Research and Education Center | January 28 (snow date January 31) and February 10 (exam and plan writing) (snow date February 14) |
| #3 | Crop Operations using Manure and Fertilizer | University of Maryland Extension - Washington County Office | February 18 (snow date February 21) and March 3 (exam and plan writing) (snow date March 7) |

Special accommodations needed? _______________________________________________________

Submit a separate form for each person. Make check payable to Maryland Department of Agriculture. Mail completed form and payment to: Nutrient Management Program, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Mini Expo

The University of Maryland Extension will host a Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Mini Expo at 3 different locations from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on the following dates:

**January 18, 2014** - Chesapeake College
Eastern Shore Higher Education Center, Rm. 110, 1000 College Circle, Wye Mills, MD 21679

**February 8, 2014** - University of Maryland Extension—Montgomery County Office
18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855

**March 8, 2014** - North Harford High School
211 Pylesville Road, Pylesville, MD 21132

The mini expos will feature at least 10 educational seminars on urban poultry keeping, feeds & feeding, breed characteristics, rules and regulations, disease prevention and control, production basics, predator control, poultry first aid, poultry production for profit, breeding & incubation, egg grading and handling.

Door prizes will be awarded!
Extension Specialists and Educators will be available to answer technical questions about production practices.
Vendors will be available with poultry equipment and supplies.

Registration is required: Adults: $35 and Children under 18 years: $15. Registration fees include lunch. To register online go to: smallflockpoultryexpo.eventbrite.com

NO on-site registration is offered!
For additional information about the Mid-Atlantic Small Flock Poultry Mini Expo please e-mail Susan Barnes at sbarnes@umd.edu or visit the web site at http://extension.umd.edu/poultry/small-flock-production/mid-Atlantic-small-flock-poultry-expo

If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation at one of our expo locations, please contact the location you are attending at least two weeks prior to the program to receive assistance. Chesapeake College: (410) 758-0166
- University of Maryland Extension—Montgomery County Office: (301) 590-9638
- North Harford High School: (410) 698-3255
Extension Program Aims To Empower Americans To Make A Smart Choice About Health Insurance

Easton, MD -- Sweeping health care reform legislation means hundreds of millions of Americans will soon have more options than ever before when it comes to health insurance. Yet research shows the vast majority of people in this country are uncomfortable, overwhelmed and intimidated when it comes to making decisions about health insurance coverage.

That’s why a team of experts from across the nation, led by the University of Maryland Extension developed Smart Choice Health Insurance – a comprehensive, research-based, unbiased curriculum designed to equip people with the tools they need to make the best decision possible for their families when choosing health insurance. Participants will learn how to analyze what they need and want from health care providers, compare plans, calculate how health insurance will affect their financial budgets, and ultimately, apply the information and knowledge gained to make a smart choice.

For more information on Smart Choice, visit [www.extension.umd.edu/insure](http://www.extension.umd.edu/insure). Local workshops are scheduled on the mid shore and open to all interested in health insurance education. Registration is required and will accept the first 30 people in each session. The cost for the workshop is $5 and includes all materials and light refreshments. To register please contact sdill@umd.edu or call 410-822-1244.

Queen Anne's County
December 2nd, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
104 Tilghman Ave
Centreville, MD 21617-1237

Talbot County
December 5th, 1:00 -3:00 p.m.
Talbot Senior Center
400 Brookletts Avenue
Easton MD 21601

Caroline County
December 5th, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Choptank Electric, Denton District Bldg.
24820 Meeting House Road
Denton, MD 21629

This press release was developed by Sara Gavin, Coordinator, Communications, Office of External Relations, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources in consultation with the University of Maryland Extension Health Insurance Literacy Team.
Contact your local UME Agriculture Educator:
Cecil County ~ Doris Behnke at 410-996-5280 or dbehnke@umd.edu
Queen Anne’s County ~ Jennifer Rhodes at 410-758-0166 or jrhodes@umd.edu
Kent County ~ We are in the process of hiring a new Agriculture Educator. If you have Ag questions or Ag concerns, please do not hesitate to call our office. If we cannot provide you with the answer, then we will call on either Jenny Rhodes, the Queen Anne’s County Agriculture Educator or Jim Lewis, the Caroline County Agriculture Educator for assistance. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me in the Kent office: 410.778.1661 or email: valenta@umd.edu.
Thank you. Aly Valentine, Area Extension Director.

FUTURE HARVEST CASA’s 15th Annual Farming for Profit & Stewardship Conference
Our upcoming conference will once again offer two full days of educational workshops and seminars, with a variety of presenters sharing both cutting-edge research and real-field experience. The dynamic lineup will be anchored by keynote speaker Sam Calagione, founder and President of Dogfish Head Brewery. Our setting this year is the Marriott Inn & Conference Center at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC), “the country’s first environmentally friendly hotel and conference center” in College Park, MD, a beautiful, newly renovated, LEED certified facility, conveniently located equidistant between Baltimore, MD and Washington, DC. Mark your calendars now and plan to be in College Park for the educational and networking highlight of the coming season. Conference registration and hotel prices will remain comparable to previous years, with spacious room options great for sharing. College Park is accessible by public transportation and offers plenty of free parking. It’s also a great jumping off point for an extra day of sightseeing and cultural attractions in nearby Washington, DC.
TO REGISTER...
CALL 410-996-5280 and ask for Doris or Patty.