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MFBF Annual Meeting Food Drive

Franklin and Hampshire Counties, co-hosts of the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on November 30 and December 1, 2006, invite you to participate in a rewarding and meaningful event. We are planning a food drive donation to a service organization in the Pioneer Valley. Donations of vegetables – potatoes, onions, carrots,

cabbage, parsnips, turnips, etc. – and fruits, such as apples, pears, or other items are requested. We are looking for all types of food including maple syrup and honey. Plans are that the produce will be delivered by horse drawn wagon from the Clarion Hotel, site of the annual meeting, to the service agency in downtown Northampton.



Anyone interested in donating items for this worthy cause are encouraged to contact Pat Wagner at 413-253-3392 or 413-549-0948 (feel free to leave a message); or by email at pwagner362@hotmail.com With your help we can make a real difference!

America’s Heartland Comes to Massachusetts Public Television!

America’s Heartland begins its second season celebrating our nation’s agriculture with all new stories captured from locations throughout the U.S. As before, our series profiles the places and processes of today’s agribusiness in all its forms. And, as before, the program will focus on the many and diverse people who love the land and make it their living and their home.

was both the quality of the storytelling and the great variety of subjects. That continues in season 2: you’ll meet everyone from an extended Wyoming cattle ranching family to a solitary yak farmer; from watermelon growers in New Mexico to Florida family farms raising alligators and tropical fish. We’ll learn more about how big farms undertake the major tasks of planting, nurturing and harvesting their crops; but we’ll also



honor the small farmer seeking new and innovative ways to survive and succeed in an increasingly competitive ag marketplace.

Season 2 also reprise our popular “themed” programs, like the season 1 episodes that focused on farming in Hawaii or celebrated our farming heritage in Virginia. This sea-

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Among the strengths of the first season, we feel,

Crop Shoot!



You can roll the dice ...

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- * **Do You Want to Learn About Agriculture in Other Countries?**
- * **Do You Want to Help Others Learn About Farming in Massachusetts?**
- * **Would You Like to Mentor Refugee Farmers?**

The Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants (MORI) and the United States Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency (USDA/RMA) are partnering in a project that will provide mentorship opportunities for refugee farmers. MORI is looking for farm, greenhouse, and other agriculture entrepreneurs in the Springfield and Worcester areas that are interested in mentoring refugees, many of whom have agricultural experience in their native lands.

The Commonwealth receives about 2000 refugees through the US Refugee Resettlement Program each year. About half of them worked in agriculture in their home countries. The project aims to train those interested in learning about agriculture in Massachusetts and develop mentor relationships so they can learn agriculture firsthand from successful farmers here.

But we need your help and want to hear from you! How do you define mentoring? What would you like to see in the project? How would you like to participate in the project? This is your chance to help develop this new initiative from the beginning!

MORI will coordinate, develop basic agriculture and language training based on mentor farmer input and needs, work closely with refugees and farm mentors to solve problems as they arise, and facilitate the relationships. We hope to pilot the project on 1-4 farms near Springfield and Worcester with up to 30 refugees. Possibilities may also exist in the Merrimack Valley. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Larry Dixon at 617.727.7888, x330 or larry.dixon@state.ma.us. In the coming months, we will hold meetings to hear your ideas and build the project.

(AMERICAS HEARTLAND Continued from page 1)

son, entire programs will profile the iconic American cowboy; follow America's "ag highway" down the mighty Mississippi River; even travel to Alaska to discover that state's surprising agriculture and aquaculture.

"We're so gratified by the positive response generated in the first season," said Mike Sanford, executive

producer. "The Heartland has so many compelling stories, and we're incredibly excited about bringing those stories to our viewers for another season."

America's Heartland is a magazine-style, half-hour series produced by [KVIE](#), Sacramento, in digital wide-screen format. Sponsors are the Monsanto Company and the American Farm Bureau Federation. The



GREEN TOMATOES: RUBBISH OR RELISH?

*A one-day seminar
on value-added products.*

Now's the time to learn if value-added could equal added profits for your business. Join us for this one-day seminar to get answers to all your questions, including:

- Will a value-added product make money for my business?
- Will I be able to sell the product?
- How will I grow it, market it, sell it?

Presenters:

Farm business consultants: Gene Gouthier,
Rick Hermonot and Jon Jaffe

Moderator:

Joanna Samuelson

Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Location: Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, Mass.

Time: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Registration: Contact your local First Pioneer Farm Credit branch office or Brenda Emrick at 800.562.2235 or brenda.emrick@firstpioneer.com

A business improvement program sponsored by:



First Pioneer Farm Credit

series is a national evolution of [California Heartland](#), a popular and critically acclaimed series KVIE produced for eight years.

In eastern Massachusetts the show is available on WGBH, and in western Massachusetts it can be seen on WGBY. Check your local listings for exact times!

AFBF Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN

Farm Bureau members attending the convention will be offered a broad range of sessions, special events and entertainment. This includes the annual address from AFBF President Bob Stallman, a Texas rice and cattle producer; general session speaker Fred Thompson, actor, former US Senator and Assistant US Attorney; and entertainment by country singer Michael Martin Murphy and Baxter Black.. For more detailed information, please go the www.fb.org and follow the

links.

MFBB still has a *limited* number of rooms reserved for our members, so don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to visit Salt Lake City and to learn about the forces shaping today's agriculture. Please contact John Conners at MFBB for additional information and to be registered.

Below you will find a *tentative* itinerary of events and estimated expenses for the 2007 American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting, January 5-10, 2007.

Friday, January 5th:

- Flight Reservations to be made by member *
- Arrive at Salt Lake Marriot Courtyard Downtown *
- Registration Opens
- Dinner on your own

Saturday, January 6th:

- Hardware Ranch Wildlife Management Area (10am-3pm)
- Pro Bull Rider Rodeo and Cowboy Cookout Dinner (5pm-10pm)

Sunday, January 7th:

- Attend AFBF Annual Meeting Conference which includes (7am-8pm)
General Session
Seminars
- Dinner on your own
- OR free day to do what you wish

Monday, January 8th:

- Attend AFBF Annual Meeting Conference which includes (7am-8pm)
Conferences
Closing Sessions
State Awards
- OR free day to do what you wish
- Entertainment

Tuesday, January 9th:

- Antelope Island State Park & Wade Dairy (10am-3pm)
- Free Time

Wednesday, January 10th

- Transportation from hotel to airport *
- Flight home, Time to be determined *

Total Cost per person/couple is: \$950.00 / \$1050.00

***Flights and Transportation to and from hotel are to be arranged by individual member, but you may contact us for assistance if you need suggestions.**

***A non-refundable deposit of \$475 will be required by December 5th, 2006 and the final payment is due by December 22nd, 2006**

We will be offering the following tours:

Pro Bull Rider Rodeo and Cowboy Cookout Dinner (Farm Bureau Members Only): Saturday, January 6th - Tour Time: 5:00pm-10:00pm

Held at the cozy Desert Peak Stampede Complex, attendees of this year's convention will be treated to a dose of bull riding and excitement that's sure to kick start your convention experience. The excitement will be deliciously complimented with an authentic cowboy cookout, featuring some of the regions' most appetizing recipes.

Hardware Ranch Wildlife Management Area Saturday, January 6th - Tour Time 10:00am-3:00pm

Hardware Ranch provides visitors with an up close opportunity to learn about wildlife. With approximately 19,000 acres, the ranch operates a winter feeding program for Rocky Mountain Elk, and home to many other species of wildlife. Tour includes a horse drawn sleigh to view the wintering elk and a country cooked meal.

Antelope Island State Park- Wade Dairy Tuesday, January 9th - Tour Time 10:00am-3:00pm

Antelope Island – Rich in scenic beauty and natural features the island is the perfect place to view the Great Salt Lake and experience the vast solitude of the Great Basin. Famous for the American Bison introduced to the island in 1893, and now numbering some 600 animals, visitors can get a close up look at the bison and techniques used on the buffalo ranch. Tour includes lunch while enjoying the scenic view of the Great Salt Lake.

Wade Dairy – See first hand a Utah Dairy Farmer's process of converting energy contained in cow manure into clean, methane fuel. Methane is used to power an internal combustion engine that drives a generator producing electricity that is being purchased by the power company. In addition, methane can be compressed and used as fuel to run any natural gas vehicle.

MFBF ANNUAL MEETING—NORTHAMPTON, NOV 30-DEC 1

Seminar Schedule for November 30th

| Session I - 10AM-11:15AM | Session II - 3:30PM-4:45PM |
|---|--|
| <p>Wetlands and Agricultural Restrictions Panel Discussion <i>Emphasis will be on the times when a "Conservation Plan" is used in conjunction with the Mass Wetlands Protection Act, as well as the regulatory oversight and role of Mass-DEP in providing guidance to farmers and conservation commission.</i></p> <p>Robert McCollum (DEP), Daniel Lenthall (NRCS) & Frank Diluna (Murtha Culina)</p> | <p>Crop Risk Management <i>The workshop will include a brief explanation of crop insurance programs that are available to Mass. agricultural producers. Producers will learn how to maximize their program benefits by optimizing their participation in available crop insurance programs.</i></p> <p>John Mangus (Custom Ag Solutions)</p> |
| <p>Mass Ag Commission Training <i>This Ag Commission workshop will provide information and resources to answer the questions "Now what?" and "How do we...?"</i></p> <p>Cheryl Lekstrom</p> | <p>61/61A/61B/APR/Changes <i>Learn about Farm Bureau's latest efforts to reform the chapter lands, and learn their implications to your operation.</i></p> <p>Nathan L'Etoile (MFBF), James Slattery (MFBF), Frank Diluna (Murtha Culina)</p> |
| <p>Woodlot/Forestry Management <i>Are you making good use of all your land? Find out what your options are for performing forestry on your farm woodlots.</i></p> <p>Fred Heyes (Heyes Forest) & Nathan L'Etoile (MFBF)</p> | <p>Pesticide Credit Workshop <i>This workshop will present the findings of the study that focus on pesticide exposure and health effects of pesticide exposure.</i></p> <p>Ag Health Study-Natalia Clifton (UMass Extension)</p> |

Spouses' Tour - Dec. 1, 2006

9:00am – 3:30pm \$35 per person

- 09:00 Leave Clarion Hotel
- 09:30 Arrive at Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory (with gift shop)
- 11:00 Arrive at Mapleline Farm – view milk bottling plant/store
- 12:00 Leave Mapleline Farm
- 12:30 Arrive at Flayvors for lunch – viability farm stand in operation
- 01:30 Leave Flayvors
- 01:45 Arrive Atkins Fruit Bowl – great produce/bakery/gift section
- 03:00 Leave Atkins Fruit Bowl
- 03:30 Arrive back at Clarion Hotel



The Annual Meeting will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Northampton. Make your reservations now! To find them on the web, visit www.clarionhotels.com or you can just call Toll-Free: (800) 582-2929. We have secured a room rate of just \$89.95, simply mention that you are with the Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

MA Agriculture in the Classroom Fundraiser

Once again Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom Inc. is holding a fundraiser at the MFBF Annual Meeting. We are looking for donations of whatever you would like to bring for our Silent Auction. Your participation is what makes this event a worthwhile, effective one for our organization. With your help we can continue to assist in the agricultural education of the children of Massachusetts. We appreciate the Farm Bureau staff's effort in providing us a room at their event, and we can't wait to see you there! Bring items with you on Thursday, November 30th or contact Marjorie Cooper at 508.892.3720 or email at marjoriechf@charter.net for pickup.



Come help set Farm Bureau policy, hear knowledgeable speakers, and participate in informative, effective seminars.

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*Farm Bureau members
receive a 10% discount off all packages*



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1ST CUT HAY, 4'X5' Round Bales stored inside, picked up or delivered, call 508-821-0149 or 508-947-0495, Lakeville, MA

HORSE HAY FOR SALE: 1st & 2nd cut. Wholesale lots delivered by the ton, retail by the bale. Homestead Farms 508-252-9029

WANTED: Repsonsible, experienced farm hand to work at a riding stable in Marlborough, MA A semi-retired farmer would be ideal. 20 hourse or more pw \$11.00 to \$14.00 ph depending on experience. Responsibilities could include tractor work in fields and rings, field maintenance, fincing, basic carpentry. Som horse handling and occasional help with barn work. Contact Mel Litter @ 508-653-8617 or info@jordanstableusa.com

FOR SALE:Greenhouse & vegetable equipment. Old Mill seeder, Monosan seeder, germination chambers, Hobbs water reel, 3 self tracking wagons, Benchmaster display benches, large pallet boxes. Call 508-763-4763 Achinbac Farm, Freetown, MA

OBRIEN BOILERS, LLC, OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACES: Visit us at obrienboilers.4t.com, Jeff, 1277 Calkins Road Palmer, MA 01069, 413-283-3340 or 25 W. Central St, Natick, MA 01760 508-655-3934, obts@juno.com, Low cost heat, your domestic hot water too! Stainless steel, Best overall cost, heat your home, shop, and/or barn. Financing options available.

TIRES, GREAT PRICES: All sizes, Tire repairs, Road Service, Calcium Chloride Service, Hoey Tire, Pullman Street, Worcester, 508-755-6666, 30 yrs. Experience.

FARM MAINTENANCE: All types arena work, construction & renewal. Paddock areas built, fencing new & repairs, hydrant work, brush work, field fertilization & Care. CRF Maintenance Services. www.cringfarm.com 508-234-9824.

MASSEY FERGUSON TRACTORS: 22.5 hp W/ LOADERS AND BACKOES, 1500 SERIES 30-52 hp-Tractor, loader, backhoes, factory cab, 400 Series Farm Tractors 50-100 HP. Also in stock, hay and manure handling equipment. Easy Financing-Take Advantage of Low Rates. Lots more to see at Big Boy's Toys, LLC Pomfret, CT 860-928-9778-bigboystoysllc.net

FOR SALE: Millcreek Model 57P, PTO Drive manure Spreader, PTO Drive (18HP), 56 cu ft urethane lining, end gate, pto rest new July 2005, used 4 months, like new \$2,750/OBRO (508) 888-8238

FOR SALE: Amer. Paint, mare, good fast horse, for a good experienced rider!! \$1500/BO 413-568-3783

FOR SALE: Dump wagon 14 ft high, good cond. MFG McConnell, Plattsburg NY, \$7000.00 firm 413-568-3783

FOR SALE HAY: 1st cutting: \$4.00/bale, 2nd cutting \$5.00/bale, at barn in Westford, MA Telephone 978-692-8881

WANTED: Looking to purchase 6+ acres of Ag Land in Worcester or Middlesex county for growing Beekeeping business. Contact Andy@ Reseska Apiaries, Inc. (508) 429-6872

Welcome New Members

Jon E. Kaiser, Pepperell, MA
Sarah Westbock & Troy Hamel, Northfield, MA
Stony Hill Farm, West Tisbury, MA
Jose Creador, Dighton, MA
Joyce K. Rosinha, South Dartmouth, MA
Cornelius V. Harrington, Rehoboth, MA
Stephen Shimkus, Dighton, MA
Donna Crandall, Bristol, CT



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Mailbox overflowing? Don't want to wait the extra time for the newsletter to come? Well, we are doing our part to help with all that!



News & Views Has Arrived on the Internet! In fact it was there almost a week before you got this. And see all this great color? The

online version has it on every page, along with links to websites with relevant information. If you want to receive your copy of News & Views online, here is what you need to do:

1. Turn this page over and find the name your membership is under and your membership number. (It's above your name in the address area.)
2. Send an e-mail to newsandviews@massfb.org with those two items, and the e-mail address at which you would like to receive your newsletter, or you can call our office and ask for Mary Ellen at (508)881-4766 and give her the same information.
3. Just sit back and wait. We will send you an e-mail with the front page of the newsletter as soon as it has cleared the editor's desk and even before it is at the printer's. Just click on the link in the e-mail, and your enhanced, online newsletter will be available to you whenever you would like.

Annual Meetings!

Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation:

November 30 & December 1



Hosted by Franklin & Hampshire Counties at the Clarion Hotel in Northampton.

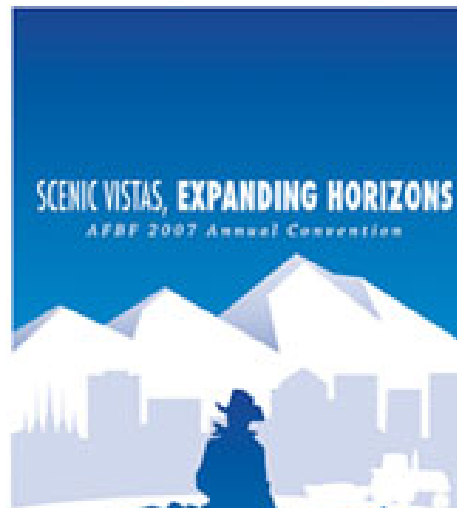
Room rates:
king 79.95
2 queens 89.95
call before October 30th to get rate 1.800.582.2929

- Key note speaker: Barry Bushue- President, Oregon FB, runs a family nursery, berry, and flowering basket operation near Boring. Per the request of MFBF Board of Directors will speak on Land Use and Guest Worker programs
- Pesticide credit workshop, APR and Wetlands restrictions panel discussion.

If you are from Hampshire or Franklin County and would like to participate in the Taste of the County contact John Conners at 508.881.4766 or jconners@massfarmbureau.com



American Farm Bureau Federation:



Jan. 7-10, 2007
Salt Lake City, Utah

Last Year was a blast, come and join us this year!

Stay tuned for more information, or

Call our office for more information—
(508)881—4766

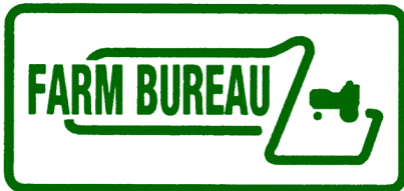


Farm Bureau Agricultural Preservation Corporation

Land Preservation—“By Farmers, For Farmers”

The Farm Bureau Agricultural Preservation Corporation believes in more than just Land Preservation. We believe first and foremost in Agricultural Preservation, and feel that if land is preserved properly, it can go a long way in keeping our agricultural heritage here in Massachusetts alive and vibrant. Help keep Massachusetts a wonderful place for our future generations to live and work by supporting us in our efforts to preserve agriculture and its most valuable asset—farmland!

Please consider supporting Farm Bureau’s Land Preservation Corporation with your donation. Any amount helps. Because the corporation is administered by Massachusetts Farm Bureau, 100% of your donation can go to capital purchases of either easements, or fee simple land. If you know of anyone considering donating land or easements on their land to a non-profit organization, please have them contact us. We are non profit organization and 100% of any donations are tax deductible. We consider all types of arrangements including life rights, lease back programs, trusts, and other such estate planning vehicles. Contact the Farm Bureau office for more information. (508)881-4766



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We Hope You Enjoy Your Newest Issue of Farm Bureau’s “News & Views”