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New Ag Leader Named for UD Extension

Dave Hansen has been named the ag leader for University of Delaware Cooperative Extension. In this role, he will oversee Extension's agricultural programming and research efforts statewide. He replaces Ed Kee, who is retiring from Extension after a 30- year career.



Hansen, a nutrient management specialist, has been employed by UD Extension since 1999. He will continue his regular responsibilities, advising the agricultural community on nutrient management issues and teaching UD students, while serving as ag leader.

"Every one of Delaware's 555,000 acres of harvest cropland is influenced by the non-biased research base provided by Extension professionals," notes Jan Seitz, associate dean and director of UD Cooperative Extension. "Extension's ag programming is vital to the agricultural community. I can't think of a better person than Dave Hansen to lead this important program area."

Hansen says he has enjoyed building relationships with Delaware's agricultural producers during the past nine years and looks forward to further strengthening those ties as the new ag leader.

"It's great living and working in a small state," says the Iowa native. "When I'm at a meeting with 140 people, I've probably already spent many hours in the field with most of them," says Hansen. "Such ongoing relationships allow you to build a lot of credibility – I know that Extension is viewed as a trusted resource in the ag community."

Hansen and his wife, Susan White-Hansen, live in Georgetown. White-Hansen is a precision agriculture specialist at UD. In their spare time, the couple enjoys home and garden projects and their two dogs.

Article by Margo McDonough



2008 Governor's Conference on DE Agriculture "Global Leadership in Agriculture"

This year's Governor's Conference was held at the Dover Sheraton on February 29. The day began with the Friends of Agriculture Breakfast. County Executive Chris Coons presented the "Buy From Your Neighbor" Program in New Castle County.

Dr. Patrick T. Harker, President, University of Delaware addressed the conference with "The University of Delaware's Role in International Trade and Relations. LEAD Delaware and the Role of Leadership in Agriculture introduced the 2007-2008 LEAD Candidates. A Producer Panel on Delaware Agriculture followed.

Cowboy Poet and Humorist Baxter Black shared his humor and cowboy philosophy. Governor Ruth Ann Minner gave the luncheon keynote address on "Prospects for Agriculture in Delaware." For information visit <http://ag.udel.edu/govconf> or contact Vicki Taylor at 831-2512 or vtaylor@udel.edu.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Friends of Agriculture Breakfast series. The season finale **April 18** will be a "**Celebration of the Next Generation.**"

Members of **Delaware FFA** will present the current trends and opportunities for the Future Farmers of America.

For more information regarding the Friends of Agriculture Breakfast Series you may visit <http://ag.udel.edu/agfriends> or call Alice Moore at 302-831-2504.

Friends
OF
Agriculture



Longwood Graduate Symposium

"Powerful Exhibitions for Every Institution" 2008 symposium was held March 7 at Longwood Gardens.

www.udel.edu/longwoodgrad and click on the Symposium link. Contact longwoodgrad@udel.edu or 302-831-2517 with questions.



In The News

Master Gardener developed his green thumb during WWII article about **Fred Silva**, University of Delaware Master Gardener in Georgetown as featured in the Shorelife section of the January 20 The Daily Times.

Women in Ag get informed about loans at conference January 29 The Delmarva Farmer front page article

Arrange pastures to be horse-friendly with trees article by **Dot Abbott** The Delmarva Farmer January 29.

Taking the LEAD on a road trip... photograph of the inaugural LEAD DE class with Senator Tom Carper. Pictured are Marty Desmond, Will Carlisle, David Marvel Jr., **Ed Kee**, Robin Talley, Steve McCarron, Todd Davis, **Laurie Wolinski**, Brandon Bonk, Colleen Kitzmiller, James McCabe and Dennis Wilson. The Delmarva Farmer January 29.

Finding new fields article by Robin Talley in the January 29 The Delmarva Farmer features story of the history of potato growers moving to DE 60 years ago. **Gordon Johnson** moderator of the event and **Ed Kee** were mentioned in article.

Mary Sue Colaizzi named Sussex County's Master Gardener of the Year as shown on the front page of the Cape Gazette January 29.

UDAILY – UD in the News, Feb. 8 – **Bill McGowan** quoted in a Feb. 5 *American Farm* story about a meeting of forestry industry representatives. **Ed Kee** was featured in the same issue regarding his receipt of the Delaware Secretary of Agriculture's Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture.

Gordon Johnson was quoted in a Feb. 3 *News Journal* story about sticker shock at the supermarket with the rising cost of milk.

The Delmarva Farmer, Feb. 12 issue features articles by **Ed Kee** "Thirty Years" and **Gary Van Wicklen** "New equipment at Atlanta show." "Delaware NMP to offer Continuing Ed credits" for poultry growers through the Carvel Research and Education Center – for more information contact **Carrie Sterling**.

"Delaware 4-H Starts New 'Health Rocks' Teen Program" article in the Feb. Delaware Farm Bureau Leader contact **Karen Johnston** 831-8866.

"Stoops able to return to her roots as Ag agent" **Anna Stoops** featured in front page article of the Feb. 9 Delmarva Farmer.

"Marshall discusses basics of deworming, horse care at seminar" **David Marshall** featured in article Feb. 19 Horsin' Around.

The Delmarva Farmer Feb. 26 features the following articles: "Black to speak at Delaware Gov.'s Conference on Agriculture," "Hansen replaces Ed Kee at UD Extension," " Kent County holds public speaking contest," "Secretary of Ag Scuse to speak at breakfast."

On the Cutting Edge



February 2-3 Courtyard Marriott Hotel
University of Delaware Campus for 4-
Hers age 13-19 look for conference wrap
up on the on the State 4-H website.

<http://ag.udel.edu/extension/4h/index.php>

Grants

If you have applied for and received a Cooperative Extension program grant – send us the news to share with your colleagues!

NATIVE DELAWARE



Native Delaware is a weekly column in the Sunday News Journal that highlights University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Professionals' expertise on the plants, animals and land of the First State.

For more information or future story ideas regarding these articles please contact Margo McDonough at 831-1358, margomcd@udel.edu.

"4-H YOUTH HONORED BY NCC COUNCIL"

by **Sandy Peralta**

New Castle County Council presented resolutions to 4-H youth Kaitlin Klair, Emily Harvey, and Jordan Reardon during their meeting on January 22, 2008. The resolutions were presented to the youth as a result of their participation in the 2007 National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. These three students were chosen from New Castle County as part of the Delaware delegation that attended Congress based on their 4-H record books. Within each student's resolution, it acknowledges their outstanding commitment, leadership, and some of their project accomplishments they have achieved during their 4-H career. The resolutions were introduced by Councilman William Powers, Sixth District, and Councilman Joseph Reda, One District.

