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## Delaware AG Week 2008



Delaware Agriculture Week consolidates farm-based educational meetings while recognizing and celebrating the industry's importance. **Kudos to everyone involved in making AG Week 2008 a success!**



"Buchanan: Ag has vital role to help fuel crisis" *The Delmarva Farmer* front page article January 15 features USDA undersecretary for research, education and economics **Gale Buchanan** who spoke at the January 11 breakfast to a crowd of nearly 150 in Harrington as a part of the Delaware Ag Week.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming dates of the Friends of Agriculture Breakfast series.

**March 14**, the speaker will be **Michael Scuse**, Delaware Secretary of Agriculture. Michael will present "State of Delaware Agriculture Update." 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



## Ag Issues Forum

Following the Ag Week Friends of Ag Breakfast, Ed Kee moderated a panel on Ag issues. Panel members were Gale Buchanan, USDA undersecretary of research, education and economics; Don Clifton, DE crop insurance specialist; Kevin Smith, aide to Sen. Joseph Biden, De-Del; Michael Scuse, DE agriculture secretary; Eddie Jestice, DE Farm Bureau president; Mike Brown, district operations administrator at the DE Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's soil and water conservation division; Rob Hedberg, science policy and legislative affairs advisor at Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service; and Bill Rohrer, DE nutrient management program administrator.

## Women in Ag Conference

Featured speakers at the conference held at Dover Downs Jan. 24-25 were Carolyn Cooksie, the USDA's deputy administrator for farm loan programs; Linda MacDonald, harness racing driver, trainer and breeder; and Sharon Yoder, motivational speaker. Workshops were presented on topics such as starting a commercial vineyard, direct marketing, organic agriculture, greenhouse production and hydroponic production and internet sales and marketing. The conference is co-sponsored by DE Cooperative Extension – DE State University and the University of DE, University of MD and Rutgers University.

## Longwood Graduate Symposium

"Powerful Exhibitions for Every Institution" 2008 symposium is to be held March 7 at Longwood Gardens. Online registration for the symposium is available at [www.udel.edu/longwoodgrad](http://www.udel.edu/longwoodgrad) and click on the Symposium link. Contact [longwoodgrad@udel.edu](mailto:longwoodgrad@udel.edu) or 302-831-2517 with questions.



## In The News

*Conferences on hay, pasture scheduled for early January* in the Delmarva Farmer January 1 as part of the DE Ag Week sessions schedule also appears in the 'Weeks Ahead' events calendar.



**Michele Walfred** (left) and her daughter, Kathleen Mack, both received bachelor's degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences. Michele is 4-H secretary Sussex County Cooperative Extension.

Front page of The Delmarva Farmer January 8 features a number of stories on the speakers and topics of the various sessions held during DE Ag Week January 7-12 including *'The feedback's been great;: Kee; an article quoting **Ed Kee***. In the same issue articles include: *Women in Ag Conference set for Jan. 24-25 in Dover and Vermeil shares his seven concepts of leadership* article by **Ed Kee**. *MCIA awards scholarship at 101<sup>st</sup> meeting – **Joanne Whalen***, quoted in the article during her presentation on management of insects in wheat at the MD Crop Improvement Association meeting. Weeks ahead lists Women in Ag Conference **Laurie Wolinski**, DE 4-H Leaders Association & Jr. Council, Kent Co. Crop Masters, Being a Master Irrigator – **Gordon Johnson**.



The Delmarva Farmer January 15 edition had the following articles featuring the work of DE Cooperative Extension:

*Market, supply and demand may produce another 'storm,'* article mentions grain marketing strategies conference at DE Ag Week; *Buchanan: Ag has vital role to help with fuel crisis;* Friends of Ag *Officials say poultry farms can take steps to avoid fines,* **Gary Van Wicklen, Bud Malone** are quoted on the poultry nutrient management session during Ag Week; *VGAD honors Kee, Lovett, Peveys at banquet,* **Ed Kee** received one of the Distinguished Service Awards for commitment to the state's vegetable industry. *Experts claim contribution of native bees may be underrated,* quotes **Dewey Caron** during the pollination workshop, *Control horse to human MRSA transmission,* article by David Marshall.

The Delmarva Farmer January 22 issue had the following articles featuring the work of DE Cooperative Extension:

**DE Ag Week** on front page with photo of DFB exhibit booth and article *AG Week speaker overcame injury to stay in farming* - Ryan Odens. The Next Generation January 22 section carried *4-Hers earn honors for volunteering Kent Co.* 4-hers **Natalie Carter and K'Anna Galloway** receiving the 2007 Prudential Spirit of Community Award. Additional 4-H members received Certificates of Merit for their outstanding community service volunteer efforts and are named in the article. *Del. 4-H Foundation recognizes 14 first-year members* article names the 4-Hers completing the Exploring 4-H Project Record Book their first year.

**Master Gardeners offer 'Keep it Green' workshops** article in the January 24 UDaily with notice on January 25 that the four-part series of environmental workshops for late January - February have been filled. To be added to the mailing list for future workshops, call 831-2667.

**Coastal Community Fellowship applicants sought** article in UDAILY January 28 undergraduate student summer experience for those interested in learning about coastal land-use issues. For more information contact **Bill McGowan**. [billmcg@udel.edu]



**Ed Kee receives the Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture** on Jan. 26 Delaware Secretary of Agriculture Michael Scuse presented the award in recognition of meritorious service for Delaware Agriculture. Pictured left are Ed and Debbie Kee with Michael Scuse.

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## 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>

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## Grants

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

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## 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](mailto:margomcd@udel.edu).