

# NEWS RELEASE



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For immediate release

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**Note: Series Producer Robert Ferrier is available for interviews. In addition, January 24 episode photos and the series logo are available at this [LINK](#).**

## MPT series *Maryland Farm & Harvest* visits Carroll, Harford, and Washington counties during January 24 episode

**OWINGS MILLS, MD** – Maryland Public Television’s (MPT) original series [Maryland Farm & Harvest](#), now in its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, will feature farms and locations in Carroll, Harford, and Washington counties during an animal-themed episode premiering on Tuesday, January 24.

*Maryland Farm & Harvest* airs on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on MPT-HD and online at [mpt.org/livestream](http://mpt.org/livestream). Encore broadcasts are available on MPT-HD Thursdays at 11 p.m. and Sundays at 6 a.m. Each episode also airs on MPT2/Create® on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. Episodes are also available to watch on demand using [MPT’s online video player](#) and the [PBS Video App](#).



The popular weekly series takes viewers on a journey across the Free State, telling engaging and enlightening stories about the farms, people, and technology required to sustain and grow agriculture in Maryland, the state’s number one commercial industry. During its 10<sup>th</sup> season, the series revisits some favorite farms and farmers from past episodes.

Joanne Clendining, who has earned two Emmy® awards from the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for her work on *Maryland Farm & Harvest*, returns as host. She is joined by Al Spoler, who handles duties for each episode’s *The Local Buy* segment.

The January 24 episode features the following segments:

- **Lumina Honey Products (Harford County).** Retired scientists Jane Kuhl and Drew Denton live by the philosophy of “Learn as if you were to live forever; live as if you were going to die tomorrow”

– inspired by Mahatma Gandhi. Upon retirement, the married couple had both time and resources to pursue their dream of owning a farm. They purchased Lost Acre Farm in Bel Air, a produce farm on a property located near where Jane grew up. After responding to an ad from a beekeeper looking for a farm to keep his honeybee hives, they became fascinated by the bees and took a beekeeping class at Harford Community College. Jane and Drew show their hives and how they collect honey, discuss the lifecycle of the honeybee, and talk about challenges they have faced during the past 10 years. Then the couple show the barn where the honeycombs are spun and the honey extracted and strained. They use the honey to make and sell beeswax soaps, candles, and jarred honey as part of their [Lumina Honey & Hives products line](#).

- **10th Anniversary Revisit, Season Five – “Mack, the Bee Dog” (Washington County).** The [Maryland Department of Agriculture](#) is the only government agency of its kind in the country to employ a “bee dog” — that is, a dog trained to sniff hives to check for a contagious, colony killing bacteria known as American Foulbrood. In this segment, viewers follow a yellow lab, Mack, and his handler, Cybil Preston, Maryland Department of Agriculture chief apiary inspector, as they inspect hundreds of hives in Freeland before they are sent to California to pollinate an almond crop. Ora Hays of Hays Apiary in Smithsburg explains why almond growers across the country are willing to pay beekeepers to ship millions of bees to them each winter.
- ***The Local Buy: Maryland Sheep Dairy (Carroll County).*** [Shepherds Manor Creamery](#) in New Windsor, operated by husband and wife Michael and Colleen Histon, is the first and only sheep dairy in Maryland. *The Local Buy* segment host Al Spoler visits the milking room, where Michael explains the unique nature of a sheep dairy in Maryland and the benefit of sheep milk when compared to other forms of dairy. Al gets a tutorial on cleaning and milking the sheep before visiting the cheese room where Colleen shows the cheese making process, starting with culturing the cheese, heating it, cutting the curd, additional heating, and molding. Colleen then shares with Al her savory quiche, made with fresh vegetable and two kinds of sheep cheese. The recipe will be available at [mpt.org/farm](#).

More than 15 million viewers have watched *Maryland Farm & Harvest* on MPT since its fall 2013 debut. The series has traveled to more than 430 farms, fisheries, and other agriculture-related locations during its first nine seasons, covering every Maryland county, as well as Baltimore City, and Washington, D.C.

Past episodes can be viewed at [video.mpt.tv/show/maryland-farm-harvest/](#), while episode segments are available on the series’ YouTube channel at [youtube.com/c/MarylandFarmHarvest/featured](#). Engage with the show on social media [@MarylandFarmHarvest on Facebook](#) and [@mdfarmtv on Twitter](#).

The Maryland Department of Agriculture is MPT's co-production partner for *Maryland Farm & Harvest*. Major funding is provided by the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board.

Additional funding is provided by Maryland's Best, Rural Maryland Council, Maryland Agricultural Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (Marbidco), a grant from the Maryland Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Program, Farm Credit, Maryland Soybean Board, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Wegmans Food Markets, Maryland Nursery, Landscape & Greenhouse Association, Maryland Seafood Marketing Fund, Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Maryland Farm Bureau, and The Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment.

Other support comes from Mar-Del Watermelon Association.

## **SYNOPSIS OF JAN. 23 EPISODE**

During the next episode of *Maryland Farm & Harvest*, series host Joanne Clendining introduces viewers to Jane Kuhl and Drew Denton, who chose to continue life following retirement by pursuing their dream of owning their own bee farm. Then the show revisits the season five story of Mack, the Bee Dog, the unlikely “paw-tector” of our favorite pollinators. Plus, Al Spoler isn’t sheepish when it comes to cheese during the episode’s *The Local Buy* segment.

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## **About Maryland Public Television**

Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service member offering entertaining, educational, and inspiring content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices. A state agency, it operates under the auspices of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission. MPT creates and distributes local, regional, and national content and is a frequent winner of regional Emmy® awards. MPT’s commitment to educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through instructional events and [Thinkport.org](http://Thinkport.org). MPT’s year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources on a wide range of topics. For more information visit [mpt.org](http://mpt.org).