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For immediate release

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Note: Series Producer Joe Ligo is available for interviews. In addition, Feb. 23 episode photos and the series logo are available [at this link](#).

MPT series *Maryland Farm & Harvest* visits Baltimore, Caroline, and Queen Anne's counties during February 23 episode

OWINGS MILLS, MD – Maryland Public Television's (MPT) popular original series [Maryland Farm & Harvest](#), now in its eighth season, will feature farms and locations in Baltimore, Caroline and Queen Anne's counties during a new episode airing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23.

Maryland Farm & Harvest has been taking viewers on journeys across the state since 2013, telling hundreds of stories about the farms, people, and technology required to sustain and grow agriculture in Maryland, the state's number one commercial industry.

Maryland Farm & Harvest's February 23 episode features the following segments:

- **Horse Therapy Changes Lives (Baltimore County).** The episode starts with a visit to [Wellspring of Life Farm](#) in Monkton, where people of all ages come for healing. Founder Dawn Leung offers equine and canine therapeutic activities to help individuals dealing with physical, emotional, and cognitive challenges. Brain Silva has been coming to the farm for more than a year following a devastating car accident. He looks forward to the support and companionship that Magic, a four-year-old horse, provides. The farm serves all ages, and one of its eldest participants is 99-year-old veteran Orville Hughes, who enjoys grooming the horses.
- **The Environmental Benefit of Raising Oysters (Queen Anne's County).** At [Orchard Point Oyster Company](#) in Stevensville, founder Scott Budden and his team manage the roughly six million oysters they grow on a float lease on the Chester River. While the COVID-19 pandemic has hurt sales, there is good news for the industry. The new [Water Quality Trading Program](#) enables organizations to buy and sell nutrient credits. This means organizations who discharge nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, like a wastewater treatment plant, can trade credits with Orchard Point, whose oysters help remove these nutrients. This program helps improve the Chesapeake Bay's water quality and encourages the growth of oyster aquaculture.

- **Ask a Farmer: What's your favorite job on the farm?** In this new segment, *Maryland Farm & Harvest* producers interview farmers from across the state on a variety of topics -- this time it's about their favorite farm jobs. Viewers meet farmers from White Hall, Westminster, and Eden.
- **The Local Buy: From Dairy Farmer to Berry Farmer (Caroline County).** Prior to the pandemic, segment host Al Spoler visited Jack King at [Kings Organic Farm](#) in Ridgely. For 35 years Jack raised and bred cattle and he now works for the United States Department of Agriculture. But his retirement plan includes a six-acre farm filled with organic blackberries, raspberries, and blueberries. Al tours the farm and learns how Jack uses compost to fertilize his plants. Then, Al heads into the kitchen with Jack's wife Vicky King, who shares a delicious recipe for blackberry cobbler. The recipe will be available at mpt.org/farm.

New episodes of *Maryland Farm & Harvest* air on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on MPT-HD and livestream at mpt.org/anywhere/live-stream-mpt/. 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.

Series host Joanne Clendining, who recently earned her second Emmy® award from the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for her work on *Maryland Farm & Harvest*, returns for season eight. She is joined by Al Spoler who handles duties for each episode's *The Local Buy* segment.

Nearly 10 million viewers have tuned in to *Maryland Farm & Harvest* since its debut. The series has taken MPT viewers to more than 360 farms, fisheries, and other agriculture-related locations during its first seven 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.

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, Maryland Agricultural Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (Marbidco), MidAtlantic Farm Credit, Rural Maryland Council, Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF), Maryland Soybean Board, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Wegmans Food Markets, Maryland Nursery, Landscape & Greenhouse Association, Seafood Marketing Advisory Commission, Maryland Farm Bureau, and The Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment.

Other support comes from Mar-Del Watermelon Association, Eddie Mercer Agri-Services, Inc., and Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation.

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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 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. MPT's year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources on a wide range of topics. For more information visit mpt.org.