

FARMLAND, FOOD AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES
AMERICAN FARMLAND TRUST NATIONAL CONFERENCE
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY
OCTOBER 20 – 22, 2014

KEYNOTE AND FEATURED SPEAKERS

Mary Berry is the Executive Director of the Berry Center in New Castle, Kentucky. When she was six years old she moved with her brother, Den Berry, and her parents, Wendell and Tanya Berry, to Lanes Landing Farm in Henry County, Kentucky. She attended the University of Kentucky from which she graduated in 1981. She has spent her adult life farming for a living in Henry County starting out in dairy farming, growing Burley tobacco, and later diversifying to organic vegetables, pastured poultry and grass-fed beef. In addition to working on the farm and raising three children, she catered the events at her winery, both private and public, from 2002 until 2011. She is married to Trimble County, Kentucky, farmer Steve Smith, who started the first Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farming endeavor in the state of Kentucky.

If daughters Katie Johnson, Virginia Aguilar and Tanya Smith choose to stay in Henry County, they will be the ninth generation of their family to live and farm there.

Berry currently serves on the Board of Directors of United Citizens Bank in New Castle, was appointed by President Obama to serve on Kentucky's Farm Service Agency State Board and is on the board of directors of the Schumacher Center for a New Economics in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. She writes for the periodical *Edible Louisville* and speaks all over the country as a proponent of agriculture of the middle, in defense of small farmers and in the hope of restoring a culture that has been lost in rural America.

Toward these ends, in 2011 she established The Berry Center to serve as a repository for the study of small farm agriculture in Kentucky and for the purpose of archiving and preserving the work of her uncle, former State Senator John M. Berry, Jr.; her grandfather, the late John M. Berry, Sr.; and her father, Wendell Berry.

The Berry Center sponsored the 2013 conference, "From Unsettling to Resettling: What Will it Take to Resettle America?" to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the publication of her father's seminal work, *The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture*. The Center has collaborated with St. Catharine College in Springfield, Kentucky, to establish a 4-year degree in farming and agro-ecology – The Berry Farming and Ecological Agrarianism Program, which enrolled students for the first time in fall 2013.

The Berry Center exists to ensure a healthy countryside populated by prosperous farmers on well-tended farms. The focus of the work at the Center is on land use, farm policy, farmer education, urban education about farming and local food infrastructure. The goal is to establish within the Commonwealth of Kentucky a national model of urban-rural connectedness.

Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, USDA, oversees the Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service on a variety of natural resource issues, working closely with the Farm Service Agency. He also served as Senior Advisor to Secretary of Agriculture Tom

Vilsack for environment and climate change. Prior to joining USDA, Bonnie was vice president for land conservation for the Environmental Defense Fund where he focused on developing incentives to reward farmers, ranchers and forest owners for stewardship activities on private lands. He has master degrees in forestry and resource economics from Duke University. He grew up on a farm in Kentucky and now lives in Virginia.

Arthur Gen “A.G.” Kawamura is the former California Secretary of Agriculture where he served from 2003 to 2010. He is a third-generation fruit and vegetable grower and shipper from Orange County. Kawamura is the co-chair of Solutions From the Land, a project supported by UN Foundation, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy and the Farm Foundation that is developing a sustainable roadmap for 21st century agricultural systems. He serves as a Board Member of American Farmland Trust and is a national steering committee member of “25x25”, a renewable energy coalition of farm, forest, conservation and environmental leaders focused on the multiple benefits and contributions that can be delivered from the agricultural and rural sectors of America. He participates as a member of the National Native Pollinators Advisory Committee.

As a progressive urban farmer, Kawamura has a lifetime of experience working within the shrinking rural and urban boundaries of Southern California. He is a past chairman of Western Growers Association and a past president of Orange County Farm Bureau. He has stayed actively involved in policy areas of agriculture, education, hunger and nutrition, and recently was elected to serve as a member of the Board of Governors to the California State University Foundation and as a new board member of the Delta Vision Foundation. Through his company, Orange County Produce, LLC, he is currently engaged in building an exciting, interactive urban agricultural exhibit at the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California.

Jim Richardson is a photographer for *National Geographic* and a contributing editor for its sister publication, *TRAVELER*. Richardson has photographed more than 30 stories for *National Geographic*. His work has taken him around the world covering issues of food and the environment, cultures and travel, landscapes and perils to the night sky.

In recent years Richardson has focused on agriculture and the problems of feeding our planet, producing stories about our precious soil, mankind’s 10,000-year heritage of domesticated crops and livestock, and our most essential agricultural resource, the farmers who grow our food. These stories have taken him from a seed bank in the frozen Arctic, across the breadbasket of North America, through the rice-rich worlds of Asia, the struggling but potentially rich lands of Africa, the troubled Middle East, and on to the terraced heights of the Andes in South America. His agricultural coverage for *National Geographic* over the last 20 years has also included food safety, genetically modified foods, sustainable agriculture and the critical issue of water for agriculture.

Richardson is also known for his documentary photography of small towns and rural issues. CBS News Sunday Morning twice profiled his 35 year-long journal of Cuba, Kansas. ABC News Nightline chronicled Richardson’s coverage of the Columbia River and the process of assembling the resulting *National Geographic* story. *Martha Stewart Living* and a myriad of books and magazines have profiled his work. His 1979 study of adolescence, “High School USA,” is now considered a photo essay classic and is used in college classrooms.

Richardson lectures and teaches internationally and leads travel groups for National Geographic Expeditions. Known for his dogged research and devotion to craft, he lives in Lindsborg, Kansas, where his work is featured at his Main Street gallery, Small World.

James R. Comer, Kentucky Agricultural Commissioner, a native of Tompkinsville, was elected Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture on November 8, 2011, and was sworn in on January 2, 2012.

Comer's passion for agriculture is reflected in his vast amount of experience in the areas of agriculture and business. He is the founder and owner of James Comer, Jr., Farms, a 950-acre beef cattle, timber and hay farming operation located in Monroe County. He also co-owns Comer Land & Cattle Co., a family farming operation with his father and brother. Comer was a director of South Central Bank for 12 years. He was the 1999-2000 president of the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce. Comer is a Western Kentucky University graduate with a degree in Agriculture. While at WKU, he received the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Scholarship and was the Kentucky Future Farmers of America State President (1990-1991).

Elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 2000, at just 27 years old, Comer hit the ground running, passing a record of five bills into law—the most for a freshman member of the Republican caucus in Frankfort.

Recognized for his work on behalf of hard-working Kentuckians, Comer was named Guardian of Small Business and Kentucky Jaycees Outstanding Young Kentuckian in subsequent years of his tenure in the House.

Comer is married to Tamara Jo (T.J.). They have three children, Reagan, Harlan and Aniston.

Greg Fischer, Louisville Mayor, is an entrepreneur, businessman and philanthropist and was elected Louisville's 50th Mayor on November 2, 2010.

He graduated from Trinity High School and majored in Economics at Vanderbilt University. To help pay for his college education, and to finance a trip around the world, Fischer spent his summers in Kodiak, Alaska, as a crane operator helping unload salmon boats. His year abroad, most of it spent in Asia, gave him a global perspective on life and on business.

In 1980, he was a founder of SerVend International and co-invented the SerVend ice and beverage dispenser, just as fast-food restaurants and convenience stores were proliferating. Along with his brothers, he led the growth of SerVend into a worldwide corporation with more than 300 employees and \$70 million in annual sales. SerVend was nationally recognized for business and leadership excellence, being honored with a site visit by the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and as a recipient of the USA Today Quality Cup, among others. SerVend was sold in 1997 to Manitowoc, a Fortune 500 company.

In 1999, he founded Iceberg Ventures, a private investment firm, and later was a co-founder of bCatalyst, the first business accelerator in Louisville. Fischer has helped create more than 1,000 local jobs and has been an active investor and board member in numerous companies across multiple industries, ranging from MedVenture Technology to Vogt Ice to Stonestreet One. He is a former partner

and former CEO of Dant Clayton Corporation, which designs, manufactures and constructs sports stadiums around the country.

He is past chairman of the Young Presidents Organization as well as past chairman of the Louisville Science Center, where he helped raise \$25 million to modernize the facility. He was a co-founder of Louisville's Center for Quality of Management. He has served on numerous nonprofit boards with current roles on the University of Louisville Board of Overseers and the Waterfront Development Corp. He is married to Dr. Alexandra Gerassimides, the daughter of Greek immigrants who were uprooted during the Greek Civil War. Greg and Alex met in 1982 at a Valentine's Day party in Old Louisville. They have four children—Eleni, George, Nick and Mary.

Jim Gray, Lexington Mayor, is the former CEO of Gray Construction, an international construction firm. Gray brought his executive's approach to the Mayor's Office in 2011. He came into office with three priorities: Create Jobs, Run Government Efficiently and Build a Great American City.

In just three years, Mayor Gray and the city council have righted Lexington's financial ship by getting things done—big things, small things and everything in-between. Tens of millions have been saved by reforming employee health insurance and the local city's pension system, a reform that has become a national model.

Lexington has avoided the Detroit model. Instead it is on the Lexington path – one where city finances are in order, the local economy is strong and growing, and crime is low because public safety and quality of life are top priorities. Lexington is one of the safest cities of its size, anywhere in the country.

Gray is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and in 1996 was appointed a Loeb Fellow at Harvard University.

Andrew McElwaine, President of American Farmland Trust, has more than 30 years of senior nonprofit management experience in conservation, public policy and land protection. He joined American Farmland Trust after a seven-year term as President and CEO of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida.

McElwaine has an impressive track record in conservation, land protection, agriculture and public policy. As President and CEO of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida in Naples, Florida, he helped to acquire easements on farm and ranch land through donations to and purchases by the Conservancy. He supported a successful campaign for a state constitutional amendment to reduce property taxes on lands with agricultural easements, and sought solutions to Florida's long-term water and growth-management problems. He also successfully led coalitions at the local, state and federal level to restore the Everglades, improve water storage and management, and balance growth with land conservation. He acquired easements on farm and ranch land and oversaw more than 25,000 acres of easements held by the organization.

Prior to that, he was President and CEO of The Pennsylvania Environmental Council, where he worked to conserve land and water resources in the state, including farmland. He co-chaired two successful statewide bond initiatives that generated over \$1 billion in conservation financing, including substantial support for local and regional farmland protection. As a result, Pennsylvania became one of the nation's

leaders in farmland easement purchases. He also served as the lead contractor for the Susquehanna River nutrient trading program, which rewards farmers for implementing best management practices. Previous positions include Director of Environmental Programs at the Pittsburgh-based Heinz Endowments, staff member on President George H. W. Bush's Commission on Environmental Quality and Senior Legislative Assistant to the late U.S. Senator John Heinz (R-PA).

McElwaine earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Duke University, a master's degree in policy and history from Carnegie Mellon University and a master's degree in history from George Mason University. Though he was born in New York City, his parents moved to Washington, D.C., when he was a young boy, and he spent most of his boyhood years in the Tracy Place neighborhood near Rock Creek Park.

McElwaine's roots are not confined to the East. He spent most summers at his cousin's family cattle ranch in Dubois, Wyoming, where he experienced cattle-raising first-hand and rode horses on the lands along the Wind River. He has two college-aged sons with his wife, Barbara, an avid gardener of native fruits and vegetables.

PRESENTERS

After graduating college, **Ben Abell** managed the Organic farm and CSA for the University of Kentucky for six years, three of which he was also operating his own farm. After three years of doing both farms, he made the move to working at Abell Organics full time. He began searching for new land to lease and found a like-minded landowner in Louisville, Kentucky, who shared his interests in sustainable farming and rebuilding the soil. In 2013, he started Rootbound Farm, where he grows squash, sweet potatoes and slicing tomatoes for local food distributors, farmers markets and restaurants. He also serves as Vice President of the Community Farm Alliance Board.

Jack Algieri, Four Season Farm Director at the Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, New York, oversees the cultivation of over 200 varieties of produce year-round on 6.5 acres of outdoor fields and gardens and in a 22,000 square-foot minimally heated greenhouse as well as the Center's extensive landscape and compost operations. He experiments continually with innovative growing methods and seed varieties and is integrally involved in training beginning farmers. Algieri graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a degree in turf management and horticulture. Before Stone Barns, he worked as a greenhouse manager for a family-owned nursery in Rhode Island, a park ranger in Costa Rica, restored and managed olive orchards in California and developed an organic CSA program in Connecticut.

Blake Angelo is an organizational development consultant and trainer with specific experience in land trusts, direct market agriculture, food systems and economic development. He currently works for Conservation Impact, a consulting firm that has completed 1,010 projects with 700 nonprofits, public agencies and social enterprises over the past 18 years supporting their marketing, strategic business planning, fundraising, and capacity building projects.

Angelo's work has directly strengthened over 300 local food and agriculture enterprises and has included: conducting market analyses and strategic marketing plans for community development financial institutions (CDFI) healthy food lenders; developing business plans for cooperative food hubs; shaping statewide business development plans for the food and agriculture industry; facilitating regional

food policy councils; building small farm enterprise budgets; and creating a comprehensive beginning farmer business training program focused on small, urban, and direct market producers that has been replicated in eight states.

He has been interviewed for his work on Colorado Public Radio, featured on the front page of the Chronicle of Higher Education and recently published his work on food systems.

Prior to joining Conservation Impact, Angelo gained invaluable community, economic and organizational development experience as the Director for the Beanstalk Foundation and as the Urban Agriculture Specialist for Colorado State University Extension. He has a master's degree in Public Health and an undergraduate degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Carla Baumann, her husband, son, daughter-in-law and grandson operate Lazy Eight Stock Farm, a 430-acre diversified family-run farm in Madison County between Berea and Paint Lick, Kentucky. They have pasture-raised livestock, heirloom seeds, naturally raised bedding plants, conventional feeder calves and maintain a CSA. With a 35-year background in public health nursing, Carla integrates her coaching practice – Osage Nurse Coaching, PLLC – into the life of the farm by offering health and wellness coaching to individuals, groups and institutions in the natural healing environment of the farm. She has expertise in community leadership and a particular interest in advocating for building strong small farms that can be agents for changing the health of rural Kentucky communities. She is involved with several organizations with a mission to serve and address the health needs of all Kentuckians. Baumann's practice is guided by the words of Sir Albert Howard: "We must treat the whole problem of health in soil, plant, animal and man as one great subject."

Debbie Beehn is a Program Specialist with the USDA Farm Service Agency in charge of eligibility, conservation compliance, finality rule and equitable relief.

Beehn started working as a Program Technician for the Farm Service Agency in 1985. In 2001, she was hired as a County Operations Reviewer for the Farm Service Agency. She was hired in her current position as a Program Specialist in 2003.

Tim Biello is the New York Project Manager & Hudson Valley Farmlink Network Coordinator for American Farmland Trust. He coordinates the Hudson Valley Farmlink Network (HVFN), working with farmers, landowners, land trusts and other agricultural organizations on farm transfer planning, farmland conservation and improving access to farmland. Biello is also a beginning farmer with eight years of farming experience in the Hudson Valley, Central New York and the Adirondacks.

Aleta Botts is Executive Director of the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD). KCARD helps agricultural and rural businesses examine their operations, make plans for the future, consider their markets and grow. Botts grew up on a farm in Menifee County, Kentucky, and received her bachelor's and master's degrees in Agricultural Economics at the UK College of Agriculture. Prior to her work with KCARD, she served as Agricultural Policy Outreach Director for the University of Kentucky and worked for almost 10 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, including four years with the Committee on Agriculture.

Anne Bradley is the Agricultural Liaison and Land Preservation Administrator for the Frederick County Community Development Division in Maryland. She is responsible for developing and implementing agriculture policies and programs that lead to the economic viability of the agricultural industry as well as the administration of the Agricultural Land Preservation Program for the County. Bradley has a B.A. in Environmental Policy and Planning from Appalachian State University and M.S. in Environmental Biology from Hood College. She lives in Woodsboro, Maryland, with her husband, Zayn, her son, Harris, and her daughter, Rose.

Rick Chandler works for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR). He serves as Director of the Agricultural Business Training Program (ABTP), offering courses and technical assistance for new and established farmers. He is also Regional Planner for the Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program in western MA, closing an average of 10 new APRs per year and supporting 300+ existing APRs and municipal entities. He acts as liaison to the Department of Environmental Protection western region on agricultural issues and as regional contact for FSA, NRCS, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and many Land Trusts on land policy and acquisition projects.

Prior to joining MDAR in 2000, Chandler served as Director or Coordinator of three grower directed agricultural associations.

From 1976-1991, Chandler started and operated a diversified 160 acre farm in Ashfield, Massachusetts, where he and his family produced hay, maple products and timber.

Abby Joe Clark is a recent graduate of Berea College, majoring in Agriculture and Natural Resources with minors in Women and Gender Studies as well as Sustainability. She shares with her son, Avery, and her husband, John, a vision to empower women and children through organic agricultural practices. Born and raised in northern Kentucky, she spent the majority of her childhood on the family farm. She joined the US Coast Guard and served five years active duty and seven years in the Coast Guard Reserves. During her time in active duty, she was stationed on the Coast Guard Cutter Joshua Appleby out of St. Petersburg, Florida, and the Marine Science Detachment Humboldt Bay in northern California. In the Reserves, she worked at the Marine Safety Detachment Cincinnati. Throughout her career in the Coast Guard, she was a Marine Science Technician that specialized in Environmental Protection. Now back on the farm and with the support of her family, she is a beginner farmer with plans of operating a CSA and providing the local community with wholesome food and agricultural skill.

Jill Clark is an assistant professor of food policy at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs. Her research centers on community and state governance of food systems and policies developed to achieve community and state food system goals. Current funded research focuses on opportunities for connecting food security and agricultural economic development through local policy initiatives, healthy food access and policy to support the growth of small and mid-size farms engaged in the food system. Back in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Clark directed the Ohio office of American Farmland Trust.

Cris Coffin joined American Farmland Trust in 2001, where she leads efforts to promote farmland protection, farm viability and conservation practices in New England through research, outreach, advocacy and policy development at the local, state and national level.

Coffin brings a wealth of federal agricultural and conservation policy experience to the position, having worked on and off Capitol Hill for many years. Prior positions include research assistant with Resources for the Future, legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Jim Sasser, professional staff on the Senate Agriculture Committee, and legislative assistant and chief of staff to Senator Herb Kohl. Her policy specialties include conservation and forestry issues, and she is a veteran of several federal Farm Bill reauthorizations. She has also served as consultant to both the Vermont and Wisconsin Departments of Agriculture.

Coffin holds a B.A. in geography from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. She is a member of her local Agricultural Commission and raises pastured poultry with her family in Bernardston, Massachusetts.

Mel Coleman was raised on a cattle ranch in Colorado's San Luis Valley. In 1984 Coleman joined Coleman Natural Beef, a company founded by his father, Mel Coleman, Sr., the pioneer of the natural beef industry and the first to establish the standards and protocols necessary to garner the U.S. Department of Agriculture's first natural label designating beef produced from livestock raised without the use of antibiotics or growth hormones. Prior to working with Niman Ranch, Coleman served as chairman of Coleman Natural Foods, a conglomerate of leading natural meat and poultry companies and the largest producer and processor of fresh and processed natural and organic beef, chicken, pork and lamb products.

In addition to his roles with Coleman Natural Foods and Niman Ranch, Coleman played a key role in establishing the Organic Beef standards that became part of the National Organic Program in the 1990 Farm Bill.

Aidan Connolly graduated with a bachelor's degree in communications from University College Dublin and a master's degree in international marketing from the Smurfit School of Business, University College, Dublin, Ireland. He has been with Alltech for more than 20 years, initially in Ireland, and then in France, Brazil and the United States. From 2002 until 2008, Connolly held the position of vice president of Europe.

Now based in Lexington, Kentucky, Connolly is responsible for corporate account strategy within Alltech. His expertise is in branding, agriculture and international marketing. Connolly is an adjunct professor of marketing at University College Dublin and China Agricultural University. He is also a board member of the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF), the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (FAMA), the National Chicken Council, the National Turkey Federation, and a former board member of the European Union Association of Specialty Feed Ingredients and their Mixtures (FEFANA).

Sandra Corlett is the co-owner of Earth's Promise Farm, an organic livestock and produce farm in Shelby County, Kentucky. She is a current member of The Kentucky Farmers' Market Association and served as its president from 2012 to 2013. She continues to work on food security issues in Kentucky with various organizations.

In 2006 **Preston Correll**, inspired by the work of Joel Salatin and the writing of Wendell Berry, began a family business in multi-species, grass-based livestock farming. His St. Asaph Farm featured marketing pasture-raised meats direct to consumers and on-farm poultry processing. In 2010 Correll co-founded

Marksbury Farm Market, a venture that combined a small-scale livestock processing facility, a butcher-shop, and aggregation and distribution of pasture-based products. Correll is a founding board member of The Local Food Association and serves on the boards of First Southern National Bank and Friends of The Good Samaritans. Preston, Rachel and their children Gus and Annie continue to live on St. Asaph Farm in Stanford, Kentucky, where they raise livestock for Marksbury Farm Market.

Jerry Cosgrove is currently the Associate Director of the Local Economies Project (LEP) of the New World Foundation, launching LEP's Farm Hub initiative, working on its Food Hubs initiative and developing its land access programming.

He has consulted on agricultural, conservation, marketing and rural development issues ranging from farmland conservation to private capital development to farm estate planning. He has worked with the New York City Greenmarkets on its farmland retention survey and feasibility study, with Land for Good on a USDA funded Land Access Project for New England and with other conservation and agricultural organizations on farm transfer and estate planning issues.

Cosgrove was a Deputy Commissioner for the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets from 2007 to 2010, with program responsibility for food policy, food safety, dairy and agricultural protection and development. He worked for almost 15 years at American Farmland Trust, a national farmland conservation nonprofit. He directed AFT's policy development, technical assistance and advocacy activities in New York and New England as its Northeast Director. He served for 13 years as a member of the NYS Advisory Council on Agriculture as well as the CoBank Northeast Regional Council, the Cornell Agriculture and Life Sciences Advisory Committee, Senator Hillary Clinton's Agricultural Advisory Council, the Rural Resources Commission Land Use Advisory Committee and the Land Trust Alliance's New York Advisory Committee.

He has written a number of publications including, *Your Land is Your Legacy: An Estate Planning Guide for Farmers and Ranchers*, *Agricultural Economic Development for the Hudson Valley* and *Drafting Conservation Easements for Agriculture*. He has also presented on these topics across the country including at the Land Trust Alliance's national conference for many years.

Cosgrove grew up on his family's dairy farm in Clinton in central New York. He is part of a fourth generation farm family (his brother Mike owns and operates the family farm). Cosgrove graduated from Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with a degree in agriculture and also graduated from Cornell Law School. He lives with his wife, Judy Anderson and their daughter, Megan, in Kinderhook, New York.

Ed Cox is an attorney at Orsborn, Milani, Mitchell & Goedken, L.L.P. in Centerville, Iowa. His principle work involves estate and farm succession planning with a focus on the nexus between land tenure, sustainability and beginning farmers. Prior to private practice, he was a Fellow at the Drake University Agricultural Law Center working on the Sustainable Agricultural Land Tenure (SALT) Initiative. Cox has authored numerous journal articles, published "The Landowner's Guide to Sustainable Farm Leasing," developed SustainableFarmLease.org, and filmed and edited several mini-documentaries on land tenure. He currently serves as the Chair of the Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa. Cox received a B.S. from Missouri State University and his J.D. from Drake University Law School with a Certificate in Food and Agricultural Law. Prior to his academic and legal pursuits Cox was enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Katherine Daniels is the Farm and Forest Lands Specialist for the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. She has a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley in Conservation of Natural Resources and a master's degree from the U of O in Urban and Regional Planning. Daniels has 25 years experience as a land use planner with an emphasis on farmland and natural resources protection and has worked in several states around the country. She was an adjunct professor of planning for 10 years with the State University of New York at Albany and is the co-author of two books – *The Environmental Planning Handbook* and *The Small Town Planning Handbook*.

Paula Daniels is the founder of the Los Angeles Food Policy Council, a policy based collective impact initiative of food system leaders working toward an environmentally sustainable, equitable and regionally based food system (www.goodfoodla.org). The Council and its staff serve as the backbone of over 100 active and 500 connected individuals and organizations. Its key initiatives are: a coordinated healthy foods strategy, with a focus on neighborhood market conversions, and a Good Food Purchasing Policy, a multi-faceted and comprehensive policy with metrics and guidelines for large institutional food purchasers.

Daniels served for two years as a Senior Advisor to Mayor Villaraigosa of Los Angeles, on Food Policy and Special Projects in Water, a position she advanced to within the administration after six years as a Los Angeles Public Works Commissioner, a full-time executive position overseeing the Department of Public Works. While a commissioner she developed the original strategic plan and organizational foundation for the award winning MillionTreesLA program and led the development of a suite of green infrastructure policies, best practices and tools, including the Green Streets initiative, which includes the development of the nation's first standard plans for Green Streets.

An attorney, Daniels has been actively engaged in California environmental policy issues since 1989, when she first became involved with the environmental group Heal the Bay. Daniels was also commissioner with the California Coastal Commission and a gubernatorial appointee on the governing board of the California Bay-Delta Authority. She has a faculty affiliation at the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA, and was the 2013 Theodore B. and Doris Shoong Lee Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Law and Urban Planning at UC Berkeley.

She has served on several boards of environmental and Asian American non-profit organizations and bar associations, and is the recipient of a number of recognitions and awards, including: Heal the Bay's Superhealer Award (1991); the Environmental Leadership Award of the California League of Conservation Voters (2005); the Water Quality Leadership award from the State of California Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (2007); and the Stanton Fellowship of the Durfee Foundation (2012-2013 award). She was named by the *LA Weekly* as one of the top 10 people making Los Angeles a better place, in its People 2012 issue.

Poppy Davis is the former National Program Leader for Small Farms and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers at the USDA Office of Advocacy and Outreach. She co-founded the USDA 4 Veterans, Reservists & Military Families Working Group to coordinate program delivery targeted to service members and their families, and served on the management team for Secretary Vilsack's "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" initiative. Her not-for-profit experience includes a year as the Executive Director of the Ecological Farming Association and service on the boards of organizations including the

Farmer-Veteran Coalition, The Carrot Project New England, Red Tomato, The Center for Land Based Learning, and The Community Alliance with Family Farmers. Prior to working for the USDA Davis was a California Certified Public Accountant working in small accounting firms with an emphasis in family-scale farms and ranches and related estates, business, and not-for-profits. She is a past fellow of the California Agricultural Leadership Program with a B.S. in Agricultural and Managerial Economics from the University of California at Davis and a master's in Journalism from Georgetown University. She is currently pursuing a Juris Doctor with an emphasis in agriculture at Drake University Law School in Des Moines.

Jennifer Dempsey manages the Farmland Information Center for American Farmland Trust, a public/private partnership with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service that reaches 80,000 people annually with online literature, laws, sample documents and statistics on farmland protection.

Dempsey oversees the delivery of technical assistance to AFT staff, outside professionals and the public, and she provides research, policy and program analysis and technical reviews to support AFT programs. She has produced more than 20 fact sheets that serve as a core farmland protection curriculum and has created model ordinances on topics like farm labor, housing and direct marketing to support farm economic viability.

She has served on a local commission responsible for wetlands permitting and co-authored the first open space and recreation plan for Hadley, Massachusetts. She also helped develop the town's transfer of development rights program. Dempsey holds a B.A. in English from Mount Holyoke College and an M.S. in resource management and administration from Antioch New England Graduate School.

Paul Dengel is a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Sustainable Agriculture and a minor in Plant and Soil Science. Dengel has been involved with various forms of production agriculture and animal husbandry for the past four years—from Lexington to Louisville and even in the Basque region of France. Currently he is the assistant farm manager for one of the largest producers of organically grown produce in the state, Rootbound Farm. Also, as a side project, Dengel has started his own farming enterprise, Gravel Road Organics, on the land where he grew up and his parents still reside in Green County, Kentucky. Here he does high tunnel vegetable production and a wide variety of garlic, which is a big change from the cattle farming he grew up doing.

Dengel served in the Air Force for four years as a loadmaster on the C-17 cargo jet and is a veteran of both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He was stationed at Charleston Air Force Base, has deployed to Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, spent time learning Hebrew at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California, and has flown missions to over 30 different countries and on five continents. He believes that he wouldn't be half the farmer he is today if it weren't for his military service. When he isn't farming, Dengel enjoys engaging in his community and delving into all things food related.

Tony Dorn is currently the head of the Economics Section of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). He graduated from South Dakota State University with a Bachelors of Science in Economics and Journalism and a Masters in Economics. Currently, his Section is responsible for estimates of items including farm expenditures, cash rents, agricultural prices and land values. Previously, Dorn has been the NASS FSA Liaison and head of the Information Management

Group. He has also worked in the South Carolina, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Puerto Rico field offices of NASS.

Jean Eels is a founding member of the Women, Food and Agriculture Network. Following her dissertation research about women farmland owners and conservation she has developed conservation curricula, provided expert program evaluation and written successful grants for WFAN. The Women Caring for the Land program, part of WFAN, is unique in the United States for its emphasis on conservation issues. Jean is an independent contractor with WFAN and operates her own business, E Resources Group, from her home in Webster City, Iowa.

Dulanie Ellis has had a 30-year career in independent filmmaking. The first 15 were spent on sets of feature films as a Script Supervisor. The last 15 years, Ellis has been producing documentaries, including the Oscar-nominated “Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks.” She specializes in films about regenerative agriculture, with a passion for farmland protection and the people who produce our food. Her current film, “Ground Operations: Battlefields to Farmfields” is both a film and a national campaign of audience engagement events that strengthen the growing network of combat veterans transitioning into sustainable farming and ranching. Working with dozens of non-profits, the Ground Operations mission is to connect farmer-veterans with the training and resources they need to create healthy lives for themselves and food security for America.

Dick Esseks is an emeritus professor of public administration at Northern Illinois University, where he taught courses on program evaluation, data analysis and land use policy. Since 2001 he has been a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

His specialty has been survey studies of the owners of farm and ranchland, focusing on participants in programs for soil conservation and for protection against nonagricultural development. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College and a master’s degree and Ph.D. in political science from Harvard University. Esseks and his wife, Molly, reside in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Nancy Everhart is the Agricultural Director for the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board, a quasi-state agency established in 1987 with a broad mission to conserve farmland, natural and recreation areas, and historic buildings and to create perpetually affordable housing. Her work at VHCB is focused on farmland protection. She co-chairs the Farmland Access and Stewardship Workgroup of the VT Farm to Plate Network—a statewide food system planning network. Prior to joining VHCB in 2001, Everhart owned and operated a small-scale, organic-certified diversified dairy in Marshfield, Vermont. She continues to raise grass-fed beef on the farm in her spare time. She received a B.A. in American History from Harvard University in 1980.

Dr. Jerome Faulkner grew up in a small town in Western Kentucky. He attended Kentucky State University where he was a USDA 1890 Scholar and received a B.S. in Biology and a B.S. in Chemistry. He began working for the Natural Resources Conservation Service as a student intern. Dr. Faulkner has worked for NRCS in Kentucky as a biologist and as resource conservationist where he worked primarily on easement programs at the field and state office levels. He completed his doctorate in plant pathology from the University of Kentucky in 2011 while working for NRCS on the Natural Resources Planning Staff as a resource conservationist for planning. He currently is at NRCS national headquarters as a National

Easement Program Specialist and is the Grassland Reserve Program National Manager and responsible for ACEP Agricultural Land Easement Component Grasslands of Special Environmental Significance.

Jennifer Filipiak recently joined American Farmland Trust as Natural Resource Conservationist. Filipiak works directly with farmers and farmland owners, especially women landowners, to incorporate conservation practices in agricultural operations. These “best management practices” include cover crops, nutrient management and others to improve soil health and water quality while maintaining profitability. She works collaboratively with agricultural leaders, partner organizations, public agencies and state, local and federal government to overcome barriers to adoption and advance common ground solutions for agriculture and the environment.

Filipiak has more than 15 years of project management experience in conservation and sustainable agriculture. In her most recent position with the Illinois Stewardship Alliance, she was responsible for promoting sustainable agriculture, watershed partnerships and best management practices for field crops. Prior to her move to Illinois she worked for The Nature Conservancy, where she built the Iowa Chapter's freshwater program by working with farmers, landowners and agency partners on practices that achieve agricultural productivity and freshwater conservation at the watershed scale. Filipiak has also worked as a wildlife biologist for the Lake County Forest Preserve District north of Chicago, served as a volunteer scientist at the Tambopata Reserve Society in the Peruvian rainforest and provided wetland consulting services with Christopher B. Burke Engineering in the Chicagoland area. Filipiak holds a B.S. in Ecology from Northern Michigan University and an M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Kate Fitzgerald works on crafting federal policy that links family farms with consumers to achieve better public health and economic opportunity. She has worked at the local, state and national levels designing and implementing programs that increase access to affordable, nutritious food through efforts including establishing farmers markets authorized to accept SNAP and WIC benefits in low-income communities, developing comprehensive farm to school programs, studying the feasibility of different kinds of healthy food retailers for underserved areas, and creating food policy councils to coordinate public and private agencies to improve the food system in their regions. Fitzgerald initiated the Food Assistance Programs in the Texas Department of Agriculture in 1988 and founded the Sustainable Food Center. She is now based in Washington, D.C, and helps non-profit, educational and government groups inform and implement national food and farm policy.

Julia Freedgood is the Assistant Vice President of Programs at American Farmland Trust (AFT) and leads AFT's mission areas to protect farmland and keep farmers on the land. In this capacity, she oversees planning, policy and program efforts related to farmland protection and transition, land access, agricultural viability, food systems and the next generation of farmers. Freedgood has helped dozens of local, state and regional entities envision the future and include agriculture as a key part of the community planning process. Currently, she is a Principal Investigator in a project team that was awarded a five-year NIFA grant from USDA to help local governments create plans and policies to improve agricultural viability and address community food security.

Freedgood has extensive and wide-ranging experience in education and outreach. She has organized nine national conferences, 26 “train the trainer” programs delivered to more than 1,000 USDA personnel and others from 21 states as well as numerous roundtables, workshops, webinars, conference

sessions and other trainings. In 2011, she collaborated with the USDA and the Farm Foundation to organize a national Agricultural Landscapes Forum, which convened agricultural and conservation leaders from across the country to improve federal policies to support the health of the agricultural landscape and rural regions.

To help raise agriculture's profile in planning processes, Freedgood has produced several guides, webinars and other educational products, including a webinar series covering successful examples of food system planning. She also has written, edited and overseen the production of AFT's reports, guidebooks and other publications on numerous subjects, including planning for agriculture, the benefits of farmland, farmland protection, cost of community services, estate planning and farm transfer and landowner options. These have been distributed to tens of thousands of farmers and ranchers, agricultural and conservation professionals, professors and students, advocates and other stakeholders.

Sarah Fritschner worked as a food writer for the Daytona Beach *News Journal*, the *Florida Times-Union* and the *Washington Post* before returning to her home town to serve as food editor for the *Louisville Times* and *Courier-Journal*. During her 24-year tenure in Louisville, she often featured local farmers and agricultural products. Since 2009 she has served as the coordinator for Louisville Farm to Table, which was created that year to bring together area farmers and their locally grown foods with Louisville consumers in their homes, schools, restaurants and workplaces, bolstering the local food economy.

John-Mark Hack is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Local Food Association (LFA), a national trade group for those in the business of local food. The LFA provides business best practice exchange, continuing education and professional development, networking opportunities and public policy advocacy for sellers, buyers and other supportive businesses. Hack is a co-founder of Marksbury Farm Market, a USDA-inspected livestock processing business that slaughters, processes, markets and distributes grass-fed beef and lamb, pastured pork and poultry for the restaurant, grocery and institutional food service markets, and also provides custom livestock processing services. Hack has served since 2005 as an adjunct instructor for the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Hack is the founder of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy, established by Kentucky Governor Paul Patton in 1998. He was named the first President of the Kentucky Tobacco Settlement Trust Corporation in 1999, and in 2000 as the founding CEO of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, the Commonwealth's historic investment of national tobacco settlement revenue into its rural and agricultural business communities. Hack was a County Extension Agent from 1994–1997 and served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer in Costa Rica from 1992–1994. He attained his B.A. at Transylvania University and his M.A. in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Kentucky. He serves on the boards of Good Foods Co-op, God's Pantry Food Bank, Seed Capital Kentucky and Mission Behind Bars and Beyond. He lives with his wife and three children on a small farm in Woodford County, Kentucky.

David Haight has led American Farmland Trust's (AFT) programs in New York for 14 years and works regularly with political, farm, environmental and food leaders to promote the protection and stewardship of farmland. Haight has helped launch programs to secure access to land for the next generation of New York's farmers and expand economic opportunities for farmers, with an emphasis on expanding the volume of food produced in New York that is sold to institutions. He has helped

permanently conserve 4,000 acres of farmland in New York and launched initiatives to aid farmers in adopting conservation practices to protect water quality on Long Island and in the Great Lakes region. David is also the author of several AFT publications including: *Guide to Planning for Agriculture in New York: A Toolkit for Towns and Counties* and *New York Agricultural Landowner Guide to Tax, Conservation and Management Programs*.

Haight also helps his wife, Suzanne, manage a greenhouse business and flower farm that markets flowers and plants throughout the Saratoga region, including at the Saratoga Springs Farmers Market.

Susan Hamilton, after beginning her land conservation work as staff counsel with Vermont Land Trust, returned home to Louisville, Kentucky, in 1995 where she worked as a special assistant to the Jefferson County Judge/Executive on a variety of open space and community projects. Her ensuing 16 years with local government included staffing initiatives such as the creation of the Louisville and Jefferson County Environmental Trust and the Local Food Economy Work Group, which led to Louisville Farm to Table. Currently, she continues her work on land conservation issues through her consulting business, Windrow Land Resources. Hamilton is a Loeb Fellow with Harvard's Graduate School of Design and serves on the boards of Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest and Kentucky Natural Lands Trust.

Jane Hardisty has served as the State Conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Indiana for the past 14 years. In this position, she oversees the agency's technical assistance and programs available to agricultural landowners and urban residents that help protect the environment and conserve our natural resources through voluntary, private lands conservation.

Hardisty's career with NRCS has spanned 40 years starting at the field level and now in leading the agency in Indiana. From 1997 to 2000, she left Indiana to serve as the State Conservationist in Michigan. Over the years, she has completed numerous assignments in Washington, D.C., where she has served in a variety of leadership positions. Because of her expertise in administration, programs and policy development and implementation, she has also been appointed to lead many national work teams.

Hardisty is a graduate of Ball State University where she studied natural resources, geography and biology. She lives on the family farm in Hancock County, Indiana. In her spare time she loves to travel and spend time with her family and friends.

Alison Hastings is the Manager of the Office of Strategic Partnerships at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). DVRPC is the regional planning forum for the Greater Philadelphia region, with a focus on transportation, land use, the environment and economic growth. Hastings manages DVRPC's Regional Food System Planning and Healthy Communities Planning programs among other projects. These programs illustrate the Commission's commitment to combining innovative ideas with traditional planning processes. DVRPC's Regional Food System Planning work has received national attention. In October 2011, DVRPC's *Eating Here: Greater Philadelphia's Food System Plan* was recognized by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association with a planning excellence award.

Hastings became interested in preserving places and protecting open space while growing up in a rapidly developing community in Camden County, New Jersey. She became interested in city planning, committed to working on urban issues and gained advanced experience in meeting facilitation while attending college and enjoying a car-less lifestyle in Ithaca, New York. Over the last few years, she has

blended her interests of protecting the natural environment, creating or maintaining human-scale communities and working with people through regional planning.

Before joining DVRPC in 2003, Hastings explored various career paths, including student leadership development, environmental conflict resolution and place-making through public art. She currently serves on Philadelphia's Food Policy Advisory Council and is also a board member of the Neighborhood Gardens Trust, a Philadelphia land trust.

Hastings received a B.S. from Cornell University and a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.

Pamela Hess is the director of the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food & Agriculture, which is working to fix the local food system through practicing and teaching sustainable agriculture, food access for the under-served and farm and nutrition education. Hess came to Arcadia from a nearly 20-year career as a national security journalist. She covered the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan embedded with U.S. combat troops for United Press International, and as an intelligence correspondent for the Associated Press covering the CIA and the war on terrorism.

Janice Hill is an Executive Planner and Manager of the Kane County Farmland Protection Program, which is the only funded agricultural conservation easement program in Illinois. Janice writes, researches and presents on the topics of farmland protection, resource conservation and urban revitalization. Consulting clients include American Farmland Trust and Openlands.

Kimberley Hodgson, MURP, MS, AICP, RD is the founder and principal of Cultivating Healthy Places, an international consulting business specializing in community health, social equity and resilient food systems planning. As a certified planner and health professional, her work focuses on conducting policy-relevant research and providing technical assistance to the public and private sectors related to the design and development of healthy, sustainable places. Hodgson is a member of the Vancouver Food Policy Council (VFPC) and a steering committee member of the American Planning Association's Food Interest Group. She holds an undergraduate degree from New York University in pre-medicine, a Master of Science in food policy and applied nutrition from Tufts University, and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning with a specialization in community health and sustainability from Virginia Tech.

Michelle Howell is a wife, mother, writer, speaker and advocate helping women overcome the obstacles in their lives in order to have better birth experiences, make healthier habits and connect more deeply within their community. Howell offers a fresh perspective, having grown up in a home that depended on supplemental nutrition programs to becoming an unexpected local food advocate who now depends on local food to sustain her.

Today, Howell works alongside farmers and volunteers at Community Farmers Market (CFM) to promote local food access to a diverse group of consumers including, but not limited to: low income individuals, moms with young children, college students, single professionals and refugees. She is an active member of the BRADD area Community Health Planning Council, Barren River Food System Alliance, Kentucky Food Policy Council, Community Farm Alliance and BabyNet Kentucky Coalition. Howell publishes *EAT*, a local food magazine dedicated to representing a diverse group of farmers, consumers and community partners.

Howell farms at Need More Acres CSA Farm with her husband Nathan and four children. Together they have invented a means of sustainable production to support their family while sustaining the health and filling the plates of 25 neighbor families through a CSA. In addition, they have an on-farm small business incubator program that allows beginning farmers and entrepreneurs to take the next step in the local food system.

Shoshanah Inwood is a rural sociologist and an assistant professor at the University of Vermont's Department of Community Development and Applied Economics (CDAE). She holds degrees in rural sociology, environmental science and biology. Her career has focused on the intersection of agriculture, environment and society in the context of community and economic development. Inwood has maintained a dual focus studying both the role of communities in food system development and the socio-cultural household level processes that underlay the American food and agriculture system. Her research program is centered on two parallel themes: 1) The persistence of agriculture at the rural-urban interface, and 2) Community based economic development through food and agriculture. She generally utilizes a mixed methods design, combining qualitative and quantitative analysis and focuses on both basic research and applied outreach.

Outside of academia, Inwood worked for the Ohio Department of Agriculture as the Director of the Office of Sustainable Agriculture and as the state's first Farm to School Coordinator. Prior to joining CDAE, she was affiliated with the Center for Farmland Policy Innovation and the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Ohio State University. She was also a former beginning farmer in rural Ohio establishing a CSA and selling at farmers markets and restaurants.

Jim Johnson is the Land Use and Water Planning Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Agriculture. He has worked for the department for nearly 18 years. In this role, he is involved in a wide range of land use matters in both policy and implementation venues from the perspective of agriculture. Johnson is widely recognized as an expert on farmland protection matters.

His professional career has bridged local, state and regional perspectives including positions with Klickitat County, Washington; Wasco County, Oregon; the Columbia River Gorge Commission and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD); and the State of Oregon's land use planning agency. While at DLCD, Johnson was the lead planner for farm and forest planning. While at the Columbia River Gorge Commission, he was responsible for developing the agriculture and forest land elements of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Management Plan. Since his early days as a local government planner Johnson's focus has been on land use issues relating to agriculture and forest lands.

Johnson earned an M.A. in geography from the University of Nebraska-Omaha and a B.S. from Western Oregon University. He enjoys gardening with his wife, Cheryl, spending time with his two granddaughters, playing with his Welsh Pembroke Corgi and continuing his quest to break 80 on the golf course.

Maggie Keith is a Louisville native who has dedicated her life's work to food and farming. She is a fourth generation owner of Foxhollow Farm, a biodynamic Farm in Crestwood, Kentucky. In 2007, she worked with her mom to convert their 1,300-acre conventional three-crop rotation farm into a biodynamic grass fed beef and vegetable farm. Since 2011, Keith has grown a variety of vegetables, fruits and flowers for

special events, local restaurants and farmers markets. Keith serves as the treasurer of Slow Food Bluegrass, a local chapter of an international organization committed to good, clean, and fair food. She lives at Foxhollow Farm with her husband, Benton Keith, where they enjoy hiking, farming and cooking.

Marcinda Kester is currently the Farm Programs Chief for Farm Programs and Freedom of Information Officer for Kentucky Farm Service Agency. Kester previously served as the Agricultural Program Specialist for the 2008 Farm Bill Disaster Programs. Prior to moving to Kentucky, she lived in Florida where she served as the County Executive Director for 12 years and Program Technician for three years. During her tenure in Florida she was active with the State Agricultural Response Team and served on the Pigford-Glickman Consent Decree team in Washington, D.C., for four years.

While living in Florida, Kester lived and worked on a small livestock farm as well as participated in the planning and implementation of several local rodeos.

She is a graduate of Florida Southern College with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Personnel Management and a minor in Industrial Psychology. Kester was born and raised in Austin, Indiana.

Young Kim has been the executive director of Milwaukee's Fondy Food Center since 2003. Fondy Food Center's mission is to connect North Side Milwaukee to local, healthy food—from the farm to the table. It fulfills its mission by operating the city's largest farmers market, food stamp and produce consumption incentive programs, cooking education, and, most recently, an 80-acre vegetable farm in nearby Port Washington. Kim also is the founder of the Asian-Pacific Islander Unitarian Universalist Caucus and recipient of the 2006 Wisconsin Hunger Hero Award and the 2012 Doug Janssen Emerging Milwaukee Leader Award. He is the food systems columnist for Milwaukee's leading urbanist news website, UrbanMilwaukee.com.

Before moving to Milwaukee, Kim spent eight years in Seattle working with that city's homeless population. His corporate job experiences include stints as a custom bicycle wheel builder and racing bicycle component buyer with factories in the Far East.

A second generation Korean American who was born and raised in the American Deep South, Kim is always on the lookout for culturally significant recipes. When he's not thinking of food history and food justice, he likes to restore vintage fountain pens.

Fred Kirschenmann, a longtime national and international leader in sustainable agriculture, shares an appointment as Distinguished Fellow for the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University and as President of Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills, New York. He also continues to manage his family's 2,600-acre certified organic farm in south central North Dakota.

He is a professor in the ISU Department of Religion and Philosophy and holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Chicago. He has held numerous appointments, including the USDA's National Organic Standards Board and the National Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production operated by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and funded by Pew Charitable Trusts. He served as the Leopold Center's second director from July 2000 to November 2005, when he was named a Distinguished Fellow.

Kirschenmann joined the board of the Stone Barns Center in 2004 and was elected president in 2007. In January 2008, he assumed a half-time appointment at Stone Barns, dividing his time between Iowa and New York, to explore ways that rural and urban communities can work together to develop a more resilient, sustainable agriculture and food system.

Tristan Klesick is a local business owner and farmer from Stanwood, Washington. Klesick works with his best friend and wife of 25 years to raise local children on a local farm in their local community. What was a dream in 1994 and a 32-square-foot garden has become a diversified 40-acre farm with greenhouses, grass fed beef, tree fruit, berries and vegetables.

Klesick has been actively involved in the local food movement since 1997 and believes the future is brighter today than it has ever been for the local farms.

Kip Kolesinskas joined American Farmland Trust in January 2012 as a consulting Conservation Scientist for the New England Office. Kolesinskas spearheads conservation projects and identifies opportunities for collaboration on conservation and farmland initiatives across the region.

For 20 years, Kolesinskas served as USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Soil Scientist for Connecticut and Rhode Island, where he brought his scientific expertise and programmatic knowledge to numerous state, regional and national NRCS projects and initiatives. From 1995 to 2011, he managed the federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) in Connecticut, which contributed \$38.6 million to protect over 10,000 acres of farmland.

At NRCS, Kolesinskas worked closely on several projects with American Farmland Trust and other partners, including the *Farmland ConneCTions* project, the *Planning for Agriculture and Conservation Options* guides, and the Working Lands Alliance *Plowing Ahead* conference and white paper. In addition to this wealth of professional experience, Kolesinskas is an avid fisherman, cook, gardener and local foods advocate.

Upon receiving an A.A.S. in Plant Science from SUNY Cobleskill, Kolesinskas received a B.S. in Soil Science from Cornell University and completed additional coursework at Texas A&M and Lancaster University and Schumacher College in the United Kingdom.

Jessica Lehman grew up on a diversified agricultural operation in southern Indiana, where any given day on the farm could include a range of agricultural commodities from hogs to chickens and corn to hay. In addition to production agriculture, Lehman taught high school agriculture and served as a Future Farmers of America (FFA) advisor to one of the top chapters in the nation. Educating others about agriculture is her passion, and she has volunteered many hours for 4-H & FFA, including working for both the Indiana FFA Foundation and the National FFA Organization. Lehman has bachelor's degrees in Agricultural Education & Agricultural Economics from Purdue University.

After spending four years as a loan officer for Farm Credit Mid-America (FCMA), Lehman became the Associate Vice President of Business Segments at FCMA. Her business segment focuses specifically on young, beginning and emerging agriculture markets. She is responsible for leading the association in

developing strategies for effective and efficient delivery of quality sales and services to these customers. She also provides educational initiatives across the association for this market segment.

Michael Lewis served in the “Commander in Chiefs Guard” of the 3rd U.S. Infantry from 1992-1995. For the last five years, Michael has worked as a farm and community advocate in support of farmers across the country. Lewis was the first farmer certified for Homegrown by Heroes by the state of Kentucky and now has a contract to grow industrial hemp for the University. He helped found the Growing Warriors Project to train, assist and equip veteran families with the skills, tools and supplies needed to grow high quality, naturally grown produce for their families, their communities and their country.

Brian Luftman is the Founder and President of American Farm Investors (AFI), a firm that specializes in locating and managing grain-producing farmland. AFI invests individual and institutional capital into profitable grain land in the Midwestern Corn Belt. AFI provides investors with steady cash flows through direct ownership of the properties. Mr. Luftman’s background is in commodity trading. He spent 10 years trading livestock and grain options on the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, and in 2005 he founded his own proprietary trading firm, Luftrade LLC. He attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and graduated with a degree in Finance from the Farmer School of Business in 2001.

Krista Magaw has been the director of Tecumseh Land Trust (TLT) for 12 years. Her 25 years of non-profit organization and government experience complement the preservation project experience of the 24-year-old Southwestern Ohio land trust. Magaw’s time with the land trust has been packed with local government and landowner contacts on the Clean Ohio program and the federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection program. Through Clean Ohio, TLT has brought over \$15 million into Clark and Greene Counties for easement purchase and has protected an additional 15,000 acres. In total, the land trust has protected 131 properties, totaling over 24,000 acres.

With a master’s degree in Public Policy from Duke University, Magaw finds her work for the land trust a great fit with her values and interests, as well as skills. Preservation projects and monitoring of existing easements give her a chance to get out on the land and learn from landowners as well as TLT’s experienced board and staff. Historic preservation and restoration have long been an avocation for Magaw and her husband, who is a history professor. Collaboration with local governments on the easement purchase program and other planning efforts fit her policy and program development skills.

Art, photography, gardening and cooking are also interests of Magaw, interests that she shares with her husband and daughter. Her daughter is working on a CSA farm this summer and the family is eating well.

Originally from Vermont, **Jim Mansfield**’s first agricultural enterprise was making maple syrup. Since then he has had a multifaceted career in agriculture, including Extension work with produce farmers in North Carolina, owning a produce farm in Oklahoma, starting and managing a sweet potato farm for an investor and being a Division Director in the Office of Marketing with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Mansfield now owns and operates Four Hills Farm in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. The farm specializes in forage-based, gourmet-quality Katahdin lamb. In addition to raising their own lamb, Four Hills Farm contracts with other sheep farms for additional lamb production to maintain a year round supply of fresh lamb for sale to grocery stores, butcher shops and restaurants. Fresh lamb is marketed weekly to wholesale accounts in the Louisville–Lexington–Cincinnati–Columbus metro areas.

Caitlin Marquis is the Community Outreach Coordinator for Growing Food Connections at American Farmland Trust. She specializes in enhancing community health, justice and sustainability through food system change. She has an M.S. in Environment and Natural Resources from The Ohio State University and a B.A. in Sociology from The George Washington University.

Before coming to Growing Food Connections, Marquis managed Fresh Foods Here, a collaboratively run healthy corner store initiative in Columbus, Ohio. Her past experience includes consulting work with the Ohio Food Policy Network and Local Matters to strengthen policy and practice in food communities from the neighborhood to statewide levels. Prior to that, she was an intern with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and American Farmland Trust. In Ohio, Marquis was heavily involved with the Franklin County Local Food Council, where she served as chair of the council's Supply Chain & Economic Development Working Group. In 2012, she conducted the Franklin County Food Policy Audit, which now forms the backbone of the council's food policy agenda.

Kurt D. Mason serves as chair of the Louisville-Jefferson County Environmental Trust Oversight Board, a quasi-governmental land trust organization that provides conservation easement opportunities in Jefferson and counties with contributing watersheds to Jefferson County streams. As a natural resource planner, he has 39 years of experience working with private landowners in eastern, central and north-central Kentucky. His family owns a small farm in central Kentucky where he was raised. He also serves on the board of trustees for the Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest and other organizations that have land use and conservation interests.

Gary Matteson works for the Farm Credit System's trade association in Washington, D.C., as Vice President, Young, Beginning, Small Farmer Programs and Outreach. This includes policy work on local foods, sustainable agriculture and direct-to-consumer agriculture. Until recently, Matteson was a small farmer raising greenhouse wholesale cut flowers marketed in the Northeast and beef cattle for local sales. He has served on numerous boards of directors including Farm Credit, the Boston Flower Exchange and many non-profits.

Leigh Maynard is Professor and Chair of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Kentucky. The department employs 60 faculty and staff in 8 locations statewide, serves 300 undergraduate students and 55 graduate students, and provides an administrative home for Kentucky's 16 Small Business Development Centers. Before starting at the University in 1998, Maynard worked as a tax consultant for Ernst & Young and Price Waterhouse. Recent research includes new crop opportunities, agriculture's role in local economies, and dairy markets and policy.

Tim McNeilly joined USDA Rural Development in 1995 and has served in numerous leadership capacities in Michigan and in Washington, D.C. As Rural Development Coordinator in Kentucky, he works with the state director to support conversation and activism toward the development or expansion of local and regional food economies in Kentucky. Prior to joining USDA, McNeilly spent over a decade working for the United States Congress.

Dave Miller, rooted by heritage in Iroquois County, Illinois, returned to his native landscape in 2005 as a new farm owner. After a 30-year career in corporate finance and real estate, he purchased a small 10-acre heritage farmstead from a family estate. By keeping the farm in the family, he re-connected with local relatives and friends farming organically. In 2007, he co-founded Iroquois Valley Farms LLC,

a new food and farmland social enterprise connecting grass roots investors with local and organic food production.

The growing company owns over 2,500 acres of farmland in seven states, all committed to healthy food production. The unique corporate governance and commitment of Iroquois Valley Farms to triple bottom line impacts reflects a new vision of sustainable capital and economics. A committed and diverse investor base now spans 25 states. Knowing that the next generation holds the key to our future, Miller has supported young farmers and directed corporate investments exceeding \$10 million to provide land access for this group.

Prior to developing sustainable farmland ventures, Miller held executive positions at Bank of America, Santa Fe Southern Pacific and First Chicago Corporation. While with these institutions, he structured various real estate investment portfolios both large and small. In 2008 he formed Working Farms Capital, a management company fostering new ventures in sustainable agriculture while providing seed capital and transitional farm management services.

Miller is a 1975 graduate of Loyola University of Chicago and a 1978 graduate of Columbia University's Graduate School of Business. He views education as the primary key to changing the health and economics of our current food production systems. Miller is a founding member of the advisory board for Loyola University's Institute of Environmental Sustainability and is a recipient of the Institute's first Damen Award in recognition for leadership and services related to positive environmental change. Miller resides in Winnetka, Illinois, with his wife and has three children in college. He continues to develop the 10-acre organic farmstead in Iroquois County, where family members have resided since 1875, now being utilized for research and permaculture applications.

Harvey Mitchell is the owner of Ag. Services Inc., an Agriculture Consulting company that provides services related to business enterprise analysis and development, business plans, financial planning, staffing and marketing nationwide and internationally. He is also a Kentucky real estate broker, currently licensed with Kirkpatrick & Co. in Lexington, as well as a cattle producer of cow/calf and stocker operations.

Dru Montri has been the Director of the Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) since its inception in 2006. Together with a diverse group of stakeholders, she has led MIFMA's organizational development and strategic planning in support of its mission *to create a thriving marketplace for local food and farm products*. During this time, the number of Michigan farmers markets has grown from 150 to more than 300 today. Simultaneously, the number of farmers markets accepting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has grown from three to about 150 as MIFMA continues to focus on increasing access to healthy foods through farmers markets.

Roni Neff is Director of the Food System Sustainability and Public Health program at John Hopkins Center for a Livable Future. Her research and other activities focus on food and ecological concerns, particularly food waste. Additionally, she is developing a textbook on food systems and public health on behalf of the Center. She teaches the course, "Baltimore Food Systems: A Case Study in Urban Food Environments," and is planning a Food System Sustainability Practicum course. Both are service-learning courses, and Neff was a SOURCE Service-Learning faculty fellow in 2012-2013. She also manages the

Center's research programs. She is on the faculty of the school's Environmental Health Sciences and Health Policy and Management departments. Previously she was the Center's Director of Policy.

Neff grew up in New York City and obtained her AB from Brown University. She worked in community-based public health and other public health practice and policy for 10 years, pausing midway for a masters in Health and Social Behavior from the Harvard School of Public Health. She then obtained a PhD in Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health before joining the Center in 2006. While the topics of her public health work have varied, her commitment to social justice and environmental sustainability are threaded throughout. She eventually came to see food as the perfect vehicle to bring together these concerns (and others) for the long term.

Neff values working within an academic center because it allows her to focus on specific projects while feeling a part of the range of issues her colleagues are working on, and because it gives her the opportunity to work with so many wonderful students.

Outside of work, she can often be found playing with her sons or tending to her urban garden, five compost piles and thousands of pet worms. She loves sharing seedlings with others and inviting passersby to come over and taste things. She says that parenting and gardening have enhanced her work at the Center, and vice versa.

Aaron Newton is the Local Food System Program Coordinator for Cabarrus County, North Carolina, where he manages the Elma C. Lomax Incubator Farm, helping farmers-in-training learn the art and science of growing vegetables for a living. He also provides assistance to the Cabarrus County Food Policy Council. He is the coauthor of *A Nation of Farmers: Defeating the Food Crisis on American Soil* from New Society Publishers 2009. He is also a founding partner in the land planning firm Cultivatis, which is dedicated to the creation of agriculturally focused sustainable environments. He is married to Jennifer Newton who owns and operates Peachtree Market, a small local foods-focused grocery store in downtown Concord.

Newton earned a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from the College of Design at North Carolina State University. He lives with his wife and two daughters in Concord, North Carolina, where he and his wife grew up.

Newton serves on the Board of Directors of Piedmont Farmers Market, a 501c3 non-profit organization that operates farmers markets in Cabarrus County. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Piedmont Grown, a certification program helping to more clearly identify and promote farm-raised products from the Piedmont Region, and on the Board of Directors of Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, an advocacy organization for small and medium sized farms in the Carolinas.

Daniel O'Connell came to American Farmland Trust in 2012 from the Sequoia Riverlands Trust, where he launched the organization's farmland conservation program and later served as its associate director.

A native of Southern California, O'Connell is based in Tulare County. His duties include collaborating with public officials, farmers and residents to implement strategies that protect farmland; raising public awareness of the economic importance of agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley and emphasizing the significance of the region's agriculture to national food security.

O'Connell has a broad base of experience working with farmers. As a Peace Corps volunteer, he worked with subsistence farmers in Africa to improve agricultural practices and quality of life. He later worked with the University of California Cooperative Extension in rural, agricultural communities of Yolo County. Recently, he facilitated the completion of the first agricultural conservation easements with farmers in the four-county region of the southern San Joaquin Valley.

He has a master of science in international agricultural development from U.C. Davis and a doctoral degree in education from Cornell University.

Jim Oldham is Executive Director of Equity Trust in Massachusetts. He joined the organization in 2010, bringing with him close to 20 years of experience working for social and environmental justice nationally and internationally. Oldham is the founder of Las Lianas Resource Center, a bi-national US/Ecuadorian non-profit organization that partners with indigenous peoples for collective rights, environmental protection, sustainable development and cultural autonomy. He was executive director of Las Lianas from 2003 through 2009. Prior to that, he directed Las Lianas' predecessor, the Amazon Program of ISIS at Hampshire College. Between 2006 and 2008, Oldham also worked with inner city communities in Worcester, Massachusetts, as the environmental justice coordinator for the Regional Environmental Council. His got his start in non-profit organizations as a community organizer and then director of a small food bank in Seattle.

Pavel Ovechkin manages 3 acres as a Partner Grower at Foxhollow Farm in Oldham County, Kentucky. He leases his plot from the 1,300-acre farm and utilizes the same Biodynamic methods as the larger farm. He has a CSA and Market Garden and in 2014 is in his eighth growing season at the farm. Ovechkin's successful garden produces a wide variety of produce that thrives in Kentucky. He lives at the farm with his wife and young daughter.

Anne Palmer directs the Food Communities and Public Health program at the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future. She leads the Food Policy Networks project, which works with food policy councils and similar organizations to advance local and state food policies. Her research interests include food access, food environments, local and regional food systems, and community food security. She is currently studying the development and implementation of state and local food policy, and how changing store environments affects purchasing. In collaboration with seven other universities in the Northeast, Palmer is a co-investigator on a 5-year, USDA funded research project using regional food systems to improve food security.

Jeremy Peters joined American Farmland Trust in August 2012 as the Director of Federal Policy. Peters leads AFT's efforts on Capitol Hill, advocating for sound federal farm, conservation, farmland protection, tax and clean water policy, along with addressing other legislative issues that cross the areas of farming and environmental quality.

Prior to joining AFT, Peters previously managed climate, conservation and energy policy programs for the National Farmers Union and the National Association of Conservation Districts. He also worked on Capitol Hill for former Congressman Earl Pomeroy, D – N.D., who sat on the House Agriculture Committee and the Ways and Means Committee.

Peters grew up on a family farm raising beef cattle in rural southwest Virginia. Peters holds B.A. degrees in Political Science and History from Emory and Henry College, as well as a Masters in Public Administration from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Bill Peterson is a principal owner and operator of Peterson Farms in Loretto, Kentucky. Peterson Farms has been a direct producer of grain for the Kentucky bourbon distillery industry for over 40 years. Prior to returning to Peterson Farms, he served as the Director of Management and Operations for University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture. He holds both bachelors and masters degrees in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Kentucky.

Ashton Potter Wright, a Lexington native, has both local- and national-level public health experience. While working on her doctorate she did farm to school research in Eastern Kentucky on community-based prevention marketing research and programs aimed at improving healthy food access. She recently completed a fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where she managed operations for First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! Child Care campaign. She currently serves as the President of the Board of Directors of the Tweens Nutrition and Fitness Coalition.

Dr. Samina Raja's research, teaching and public service focus on the role of planning in building sustainable food systems and healthy communities. She is an Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, and the Principal Investigator at the Food Systems Planning and Healthy Communities Lab at the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York. Her research program is funded by local and national sponsors, including the Housing and Urban Development Agency, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and others. Her research is published in leading planning and health journals. She is the lead author of *The Planners Guide to Community and Regional Food Planning: Transforming Food Environments, Building Healthy Communities*, one of the earliest guidance reports on food systems planning published by the national American Planning Association. Dr. Raja serves on the steering committee of the Food Interest Group (FIG) of the American Planning Association, whose mission is to advance the practice of food systems planning within the profession of planning.

Jon Ramsay grew up on his family's dairy farm located in Greensboro, Vermont. He continues to manage the farm now raising pastured poultry and Black Angus cattle for both breeding stock and beef. Ramsay is the Director of the Farmland Access Program at the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) focusing on farm affordability for new and beginning farmers statewide. He has been the Director of the Farmland Access Program since 2009. Prior to that he worked in VLT's stewardship program as an intern in 1998 and was hired fulltime June of 1999. Ramsay continued to work in stewardship at VLT until 2001 when he became the Agricultural Project Manager for VLT in the Champlain Valley office. Between 2006 and 2009 he was VLT's Agricultural Stewardship Manager working statewide. Ramsay graduated from the University of Vermont in May 1999 with a B.S. degree in Natural Resources Ecology. He and his wife Selina and their son Jin live on the family farm where they enjoy gardening, walking trips to Long Pond and Caspian Lake during the summer.

Louie Rivers, Jr., earned his B.S. degree in Animal Husbandry from South Carolina State College in 1970 and an M.S. in dairy Science from the University of Florida in 1972. He subsequently graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

After completing his master's degree, Rivers served in the United States Army for over 20 years. He retired in 1992 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. During his time in the Army, Rivers served his country in many demanding assignments stateside and overseas. His final assignment was as the Professor of Military Science at North A&T State University. After his retirement from the military he served as a County Extension Agent in Georgia and South Carolina before coming to Kentucky to serve in his present position as Small Farm Outreach Project Manager for the College of Agriculture, Food Science and Sustainable Systems.

As Project Manager, Rivers developed and manages the Small Farmers Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Program for eligible farmers in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. His primary role as project manager entails supervision of staff and aiding in the development of educational and training materials. These materials are used by area and county staff to work with economically and socially disadvantaged farmers in Kentucky.

Beyond his immediate job responsibilities, Rivers has been involved in a number of synergistic activities and service to his field. He has served as a proposal reviewer for USDA-NIFA grant applications over the last five years. He has also given presentations at the county, state and national level. Rivers served on the Governor Commission on Family Farms. He serves on the National Advisory Committee for Growing Food Connections; the Southern Risk Management Education Center, Advisory Council; National Small Farm Conference Planning Committee; Kentucky Small Farm, Limited-Resource/Minority Farmers Conference Planning Committee; the Epsilon Sigma Phi-Alpha Kappa Chapter board of directors; the Community Farm Alliance board of directors, Kentucky Association of State Extension Specialists board of directors; and the Franklin County Habitat for Humanity board of directors.

Rivers and his wife, Sarah, own and operate a tree farm in his native state of Bamberg, South Carolina. They are the proud parents of two adult sons.

Steve Rutledge was raised on a farm in Central Kentucky diversified in raising livestock, row crops and truck gardening. After 10 years in Trust Real Estate Administration, he founded Professional Land Management, Inc. (PLM), providing real estate management, sales, appraisal services and land use plans with an emphasis on agricultural properties. Financial analysis, estate transition services, timber management, minerals and conservation easements are additional focus areas for PLM. Rutledge holds the Accredited Farm Manager (AFM) designation from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers (ASFMRA) and an M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics. He is a licensed real estate broker in Kentucky and Indiana.

Holly Rippon-Butler is the Land Access Campaign Manager with the National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC). Her work is focused on building awareness of the challenges young farmers face in accessing affordable land and partnering with policy makers and land trusts to develop tangible solutions to land access barriers. Prior to joining NYFC, Rippon-Butler worked with the Agricultural Stewardship Association and the New York office of American Farmland Trust. She also works with her parents on their third-generation dairy and beef farm in upstate New York.

Don Robinson is the current chair and a founding member of Fayette Alliance in Kentucky. He is best known publicly for his time as chair of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Planning Commission, where he made the motion for the change in A-R minimum acreage from 10 to 40 acres.

Since his time on the Planning Commission he has remained civically engaged as a board member of the Purchase of Development Rights Program.

Robinson is the owner of Winter Quarter Farm located southwest of Lexington. Winter Quarter Farm was established in 1948 and is now in its 4th generation of same family farm management. Over time, the farm has transitioned from tobacco and cattle production to an exclusively equine operation—breeding, raising, training and selling Thoroughbreds.

In recent years the farm has raised Grade I winners Golden Pheasant, Star of Cozzene, Matty G, Vicar, Balance, Overarching, Gabby's Golden Gal and Midnight Interlude in Winter Quarter's name or on behalf of an international clientele. Robinson foaled and raised multiple Eclipse award winner and 2010 "Horse of the Year" Zenyatta.

Additionally, Robinson is a two-term Breeders Cup member; former member of the Blue Grass Tomorrow Executive Committee; director and past President of the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association/Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders, Inc; past President of Fayette County Farm Bureau; and a Keeneland Life Member.

Prior to **Sandra Romero's** election to the Thurston County Board of Commissioners in 2009, she served for 12 years as a member of the Washington State House of Representatives. Romero now represents the county on a number of boards, councils and commissions. She began her work on increasing economic development in rural Thurston County in 2010 by forming a work group that developed the Agritourism Overlay District. Since then, her work with the community has expanded to the implementation of the Thurston Bountiful Byway, a tourism route that will draw visitors into the rural parts of the county to experience agritourism.

David Rouse is Managing Director of Research and Advisory Services for the American Planning Association in Washington, D.C. He is responsible for the overall design, direction and management of APA's research programs, including the National Centers for Planning (Green Communities, Hazards Planning, and Planning and Community Health), the Planning Advisory Service and other initiatives. Trained as both a planner and a landscape architect, Rouse has more than 30 years of private and public sector experience in community planning and design. Prior to joining APA, he was a principal at Wallace Roberts & Todd (WRT), a national practice based in Philadelphia. In this capacity, he led WRT's work on the award-winning Lancaster County, PA Growth Management Plan and Cultivating Community Comprehensive Plan for Union County, Pennsylvania, as well as other projects addressing food systems and the agricultural economy.

Kathy Ruhf is executive director of Land For Good, a New England nonprofit organization that specializes in farmland access, tenure and transfer. Ruhf has worked on land access, beginning farmer and food system issues for more than 25 years. She lives in Western Massachusetts.

Brian Schilling is Assistant Extension Specialist of Agricultural Policy within Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Assistant Professor of agricultural, food and resource economics at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University. During his 20 years at the school, much of Schilling's research has been focused on New Jersey farm viability, farmland preservation and agricultural economic development at the urban-rural fringe. Throughout his career Schilling has worked

closely with the agricultural and food industries and has served on a number of industry and government task forces and working groups, including New Jersey's farmland preservation committee.

Ben Shaffar is the current Division Director of Business Development for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture Office of Marketing. Ben's Division is chiefly responsible for spearheading new marketing initiatives and for overseeing market development as it relates to the Kentucky Proud program. Ben was the lead developer of the Department's Homegrown by Heroes, Farm to Campus, Farm to Table, and Eat to Win programs. Ben previously served the Department as Director of Agritourism from 2011–2012 and Special Projects Coordinator from 2009–2011.

Jonathan Shepherd is an Area Farm Business Management Extension with the Kentucky Farm Business Management Program at the University of Kentucky. He earned his B.S. and M.S. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Kentucky.

Jane Shey was raised on a family farm in northwestern Iowa and was active in 4-H raising cattle and showing horses.

Her agriculture policy background includes working for two Members of Congress on agricultural casework and legislation and serving as the Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Foreign Agriculture and Hunger for the House Committee on Agriculture, U.S. House of Representatives. After her stint as a congressional staffer, she started a lobbying practice representing various agricultural interests and has been an agriculture consultant for 20 years.

Her agriculture policy work includes agriculture development consulting in Croatia, Russia, Hungary and Bulgaria. She has also served on a team that conducted marketing activities and missions on behalf of USA Apple, which represents the East Coast and California apple producers.

Her most recent position was as a consultant to Homegrown Minneapolis, the local food program for the City of Minneapolis. Her work included interacting with community organizations, urban farmers and others interested in trying to achieve the goal of healthy, affordable food for all in the City of Minneapolis. She worked with local food entrepreneurs and urban farmers to improve the business and regulatory climate for the local food system, as well as improving food access through mobile farmers markets.

Austin Short joined the Delaware Department of Agriculture in 1992 and became State Forester in 1995. In April 2010, Short became Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and in July 2011 he began managing Delaware's Aglands Preservation Program, including the Young Farmer Loan Program.

Short has a B.S. in forestry and a M.S. in forest biometrics from Virginia Tech. He and his family have a farm near Georgetown (Delaware), including a 170-acre tree farm and a small sawmill. He and his wife Kelley live on their family farm with their sons, Eli and Henry.

Ann Sorensen provides academic research that underlies the policy work of American Farmland Trust. Since joining the staff in 1992, Sorensen has overseen research that has guided work on four farm bills and supported other legislative efforts by American Farmland Trust. She previously directed American Farmland Trust's Center for Agriculture in the Environment.

She has managed a series of assistance agreements for American Farmland Trust with the Environmental Protection Agency to promote adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and contributed to Farming on the Edge mapping projects that used geographic information systems analysis to document developmental sprawl. Sorensen is a member of the team that is designing and implementing a first-of-its-kind interstate water quality trading program aimed at protecting and improving water quality in the Ohio River basin. She has also conducted numerous listening sessions to collect farmers' viewpoints for use in improving agricultural policies. She was recently appointed to EPA's Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee.

Sorensen holds a B.A. from the University of California at Santa Cruz and a Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. She worked in IPM for the Texas Department of Agriculture and as assistant director, Natural Resources Division, for American Farm Bureau before joining American Farmland Trust.

Brian Standing has worked as a Senior Planner for the Dane County Department of Planning and Development since 1996. He works on county and town comprehensive planning, resource protection, floodplain, shoreland and wetland protection, farmland preservation and ordinance development. Prior to working for Dane County, he worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and was a zoning administrator for Price County, Wisconsin. Standing has a Masters of Planning with a graduate minor in Conservation Biology from the University of Minnesota.

Jeremy Stone manages the Agricultural Land Easement component of the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Agricultural Conservation Easement Program and the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP). He also served as a State FRPP manager and Realty Specialist supporting NRCS' other easement programs.

Stone grew up in New York's Adirondack Park and is a graduate of the College of William and Mary where he studied Anthropology and Archaeology. He has a law degree from Pace School of Law where he studied land use, real property and environmental law and is a member of the Virginia State Bar.

Mac Stone farms with his wife, Ann Bell Stone, and extended family at Elmwood Stock Farm, their Scott County farm located in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. The family produces certified organic beef, vegetables and small fruit, eggs, chicken, heritage turkeys and tobacco. On-farm composting and pasture rotation have helped to reduce off-farm inputs for the 550-acre operation. Primary markets include a CSA farm share program, farmers markets, local restaurants and retail store accounts.

Stone was the Executive Director of Marketing for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, administering the Kentucky Proud Program among many others. He was appointed by USDA Secretary Vilsack to serve on the National Organic Standards Board, which he chaired last year. Stone recently retired from Kentucky State University, administering a grant program for small-scale farmers in Kentucky. Now he focuses on farming and marketing wholesome organic foods for the family farm and working with non-profit agriculture and food organizations.

Don Stuart is the former Pacific Northwest Regional Director for American Farmland Trust and is the author of the new book, *Barnyards and Birkenstocks: Why Farmers and Environmentalists Need Each Other*. He is also the former Executive Director for the Washington Association of Conservation Districts

and was, before that, Executive Director for a commercial fisheries trade association. Stuart has also been a commercial salmon fisherman, a practicing Washington lawyer, a lobbyist, manager of a statewide initiative campaign, and ran for the U.S. Congress in Washington's first Congressional District in 1996.

Ed Thompson, Jr., is responsible for American Farmland Trust's California programs having served in multiple positions and helped initiate a wide variety of projects since joining AFT in 1981. He was instrumental in establishing Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements programs in Pennsylvania and Montgomery County, Maryland, and in publishing key reports such as *Alternatives for Future Urban Growth in California's Central Valley*; *The Future Is Now: Central Valley Farmland at the Tipping Point*; and *Think Globally, Eat Locally: San Francisco Foodshed Assessment*.

Thompson's career before joining AFT includes serving as Washington counsel for the Environmental Defense Fund and director of the Agricultural Lands Project for the National Association of Counties. He holds a B.A. from Cornell University and a J.D. from George Washington University, and has published extensively on farmland preservation issues.

Knox van Nagell is Executive Director of Fayette Alliance. Her family has been farming cattle and row crops in Eastern Fayette County, Kentucky, for more than 200 years. She is passionate about her work with Fayette Alliance because of her unique connection to the rural landscape of Fayette County, her personal interest in urban revitalization, and her professional experience in the legal field.

Billy Van Pelt was raised on his grandparents' general agriculture farm in Woodford County, Kentucky. He is a graduate of Lexington Catholic High School and Transylvania University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. After graduation from Transylvania, he worked in banking and the Thoroughbred industry.

Van Pelt also graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture. He is a registered landscape architect and is licensed to practice landscape architecture in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He has worked in both the private and public sectors. His private practice specialized in equine, institutional, health care and criminal justice projects.

In 2010, he completed his Masters of Business Administration at Midway College. In the public sector, Van Pelt was the Director of Lexington-Fayette County's Purchase of Development Rights farmland preservation program, where he worked for more than 10 years. During his tenure with PDR, he worked to conserve 27,571 acres of this world renowned, productive rural landscape, which is Lexington's global brand identity.

Van Pelt serves on the Transylvania University Board of Regents where he is Chairman of the Friends Relations Committee and the Committee on Regents. In addition, he serves on the Commerce Lexington Central Kentucky Regional Public Policy Group, a regional voice for state and federal public policy issues that advance economic development, job creation and quality of life in eight counties in Central Kentucky.

In October 2013, he formed his own government relations firm, Billy Van Pelt Consulting. His firm specializes in economic development; the agriculture, equine and health care industries; higher

education; and land use regulations. In the summer of 2014, he and community leaders in general agriculture, equine and business, formed Woodford Forward, Inc, a land use advocacy organization in Woodford County, Kentucky, where he serves as the CEO.

Alison Volk is the program manager for the Land Management Section at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. She works with six other staff members to implement the state's farmland preservation program, helping local governments utilize different land use tools to protect agriculture. She joined the department in 2009 after graduating from the University of Wisconsin Law School. She lives in Madison.

Severine von Tscharner Fleming is a farmer, activist and organizer based in the Champlain Valley of New York. She is director of Greenhorns, a grassroots organization with the mission to recruit, promote and support the rising generation of new farmers in America. Von Tscharner Fleming has spent the last seven years gathering, bundling and broadcasting the voices and vision of young agrarians. Greenhorns runs a weekly radio show on Heritage Radio Network, a popular blog and produces many kinds of media, from documentary films to almanacs, anthologies, mix-tapes, posters, guidebooks and digital maps. It is perhaps best known for the documentary film "The Greenhorns" and the raucous young farmer mixers thrown in 37 states and 14 grange halls. Von Tscharner Fleming is co-founder and board secretary of Farm Hack, an online, open-source platform for appropriate and affordable farm tools and technologies, as well as National Young Farmers Coalition, which now boasts 23 state and regional coalitions. She serves on the board of the Schumacher Center for New Economics, which hosts Agrarian Trust, her latest startup, focused on land access for beginning farmers, and permanent protection of affordable organic farmland. She attended Pomona College and University of California at Berkeley, where she graduated with a B.S. in Conservation/Agroecology.

Bob Wagner has been with American Farmland Trust since 1985 and has worked in the field of farmland protection since 1981. Through his work with AFT, and earlier as a legislative assistant to then-Congressman James Jeffords of Vermont and as consultant to the Vermont Department of Agriculture, Wagner has played an active role in the promotion and development of state and local farmland protection strategies and programs throughout the country.

Wagner has made presentations across the country at local, state, regional and national forums, meetings and conferences on the importance of local agriculture and the variety of tools and techniques used by communities to protect agricultural resources and promote farming. He has represented AFT in the development of farm and ranch land protection programs and legislation in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Vermont, Kentucky, New York, Hawaii, Texas, Wisconsin and Ohio. Wagner has co-authored a number of publications and studies including *Investing in the Future of Agriculture: The Massachusetts Farmland Protection Program and the Permanence Syndrome* and he was a contributing writer to AFT's national guidebook, *Saving American Farmland: What Works*.

He holds a B.A. in Biology from Bucknell University and an M.S. in Natural Resources Planning from the University of Vermont. He lives with his family in Hatfield, Massachusetts, where he is the Chair of the Hatfield Agricultural Advisory Commission and the Hatfield Community Preservation Committee.

Deena Wheby is a native of Princeton, West Virginia, and a graduate of University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture where she majored in agronomy and minored in agricultural economics.

She began her career with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) in 1980 and during her career has served in numerous positions at the field, state and national levels. She is currently Kentucky's Assistant State Conservationist for Programs and is responsible for many NRCS programs including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program and the Agricultural Lands Easement component of the new Agricultural Conservation Easements Program.

Cynthia Wilson is the Long Range Planning Manager in the Thurston County Resource Stewardship Department. She has spent the past 21 years with Thurston County in both Current and Long Range Planning, focusing on development and implementation of land-use and environmental policies and regulations. Wilson is currently the lead staff member on the Thurston County Voluntary Stewardship Program and has more than 30 years of experience in Natural Resource Management working with federal, state and local entities. She has a broad background in zoology, wetland science, fisheries and wildlife habitat assessment, and water resource issues.

Wayne Woodward manages Sunny Valley Preserve for The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut. Spanning both sides of western Connecticut's Housatonic River Valley, the Conservancy's Sunny Valley Preserve consists of 1,850 acres of farmland, forests, wetlands and meadows on 19 parcels of land in the towns of New Milford and Bridgewater. Recognizing the need to balance conservation priorities with the region's agricultural heritage, the Conservancy has returned the preserve's five primary farms and more than 450 acres to productive agriculture by leasing them to farmers after making significant capital improvements. In turn, farmers are sustainably managing and harvesting their lands, providing a variety of organically grown vegetables, seasonal crops, eggs, natural beef and other products to local consumers and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs.

In addition to managing Sunny Valley Preserve, Woodward assists the Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter with other preserves that have agricultural lands, buildings and associated structures. He has more than 30 years' experience managing farm and conservation lands, as well as developed properties.

Karen Woodrich grew up in north central Wisconsin on a dairy farm and later a Christmas tree farm. She graduated from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, with a B.S. in Soil Science. After working in the private sector for an environmental engineering company, Karen began her career with NRCS in Kalamazoo, Michigan, as a Soil Conservationist. She has also worked in Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and Vermont in various NRCS positions. She recently served as the Acting Regional Conservationist for the Central Region of NRCS in Washington D.C. In 2011 she became the State Conservationist in Kentucky, where she serves on the KY Ag Water Quality Authority and represents NRCS on the KY Ag Council.

Andrea Wright coordinates farm-to-school and school garden projects for Jefferson County, Kentucky. This includes monitoring nutrition services programs, implementing food service nutrition education/awareness efforts, and coordinating professional development for teachers related to Farm to School initiatives as well as in-services for School and Community Nutrition Services staff. She also developed a program to grow edibles in school gardens to serve at the schools or to sell at farmers markets, coordinated the creation of gardens in 27 schools and wrote a School Gardens Policy and Procedure Manual.

Theresa Zawacki has been with the Louisville Metro Department of Economic Growth and Innovation since September 2011. She is the city's Food Policy Advisor, and coordinates Louisville's Brownfields Program.

Previously, Zawacki was an Assistant County Attorney with the Jefferson County Attorney's Office where she represented the Louisville Metro Planning Commission, the Louisville Metro Board of Zoning Adjustment, the Louisville Metro Landmarks Commission, and the Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust, as well as all Louisville Metro staff involved with land use, planning and zoning. She also advised and represented the Louisville Metro Council in planning and zoning matters. Zawacki began her legal career as an associate at Greenebaum Doll & McDonald (now Bingham Greenebaum Doll), where she practiced in both the land use and environmental practice groups. She received her B.A. from Transylvania University and both her J.D. and Masters of Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati. Zawacki serves as Chair of the Green Convene of Louisville and the Vice-Chair of the Louisville Bar Association Environmental Law Section. She is also a member of the Kentucky Bar Association.