



Crawford County Farm Bureau

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(608) 326-6479

Dave Larson, District Manager - (608) 935-9500

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

March 4-5
Madison Marriott West, Middleton

Badgerland FINANCIAL **Extension** **Wisconsin Farm Bureau FOUNDATION**



Women from the Wisconsin agriculture community are encouraged to attend the Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit presented by Badgerland Financial, Wisconsin Farm Bureau and University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Agenda Highlights

Friday, March 4

- 9-10 a.m. Registration
- 10-10:30 a.m. AgVocate of the Year Award Presentation
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. Keynote Panel: Women In Ag: Understanding Where We've Been and Where We're Heading; Moderator: Amy Pflugshaupt, Anchor and Reporter, NBC 15 Madison
- 1-4:30 Breakout Sessions
- 7:30-10 p.m. Casino Night

Register by **February 26**. For more information, visit wiagwomensummit.com.

Saturday, March 5

- 6:30-7:30 a.m. Workout: Water aerobics or boxing and cardio
- 8:30-9 a.m. Meet the 2016 AgVocate of the Year
- 9-10 a.m. Breakout Sessions
- 10:15-11 a.m. Brunch
- 11 a.m. Closing Keynote by Jerry Apps: The Importance of Writing Your Own Story
- 12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Wanted: Young Farmer and Agriculturist Chair

Have you been looking for an opportunity to get more involved? Do you have an interest in agricultural promotion and enjoy working with other young farmers?



Then we have a volunteer position for you. If you're interested in serving as the Crawford County Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair, please contact President Don Brown or another board member.

For more information or if you want to discuss this opportunity, please attend a board meeting on the third Thursday of each month.

Be Social...



...With WIFarmBureau



COUNTYnews

CRAWFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Farm Bureau in Action



The District 3 Fall Women's Summit was hosted by Iowa County this year. Those in attendance learned more about Ag in the Classroom activities and shared ideas across counties. The day concluded with a fun and creative craft project.



The 96th WFBF Annual Meeting was held December 5-7 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Crawford County Farm Bureau delegates Don and Lori Brown, Pat Dearth and Leroy Peterson participated in the policy adoption process. About 45 YFA members from District 3 also attended the YFA Conference that is held in conjunction.



District 3 was well represented in the Producer Club. Membership workers who signed up five or more new members were recognized during the Producer Club luncheon held during the 2015 WFBF Annual Meeting. Crawford County Farm Bureau's Pat Dearth was recognized.



The Crawford County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on Thursday, September 17 at the Seneca Town Hall. Members discussed resolutions, elected county board directors, and selected delegates to attend the WFBF Annual Meeting. Crawford County had six resolutions that were discussed, voted on, and forwarded to the state Policy Development Committee for consideration at the WFBF Annual Meeting.



We are fortunate to have a Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter at UW-Platteville, which is the home of some of our Crawford County residents. One of the activities was a trip to Vesperman Farms near Lancaster. The students enjoyed the corn maze, other activities around the farm and enjoyed a meal. Activities like this are how we engage potential members at UW-Platteville. We hope that they return to their home counties and continue to be involved in Farm Bureau.



The UW-Platteville Collegiate Farm Bureau will host Brag About Ag on Thursday, March 10, at the University Farm's Agriculture Technology Center. The farm tour starts at 4 p.m., followed by a light supper at 5 p.m. and speakers from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. This event is open to the public. For more information, please contact District 3 Coordinator Melissa Doyle.

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Perspective.

Heading to Orlando for the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention, I became acutely aware of perspective. The perspective of both time and space.

As I left Wisconsin it was very foggy and visibility was less than a half of a mile. In a matter of a few minutes of flight we were above the fog and the sun was shining brightly. A few hours later I landed in Florida and the dreary weather of Wisconsin was quickly becoming a distant memory.

While I flew above the clouds and the sun streaming in the windows I realized how, in a manner of time and space, my perspective changed.

Some days it is difficult to see through the fog.

I realize going into this coming year there is a lot of uncertainty and questions about markets and margins. I know the profitability of corn, soybeans and milk this next year is not going to be what we have been fortunate to experience over the past couple of years.

I know that government oversight and regulations continue to challenge us. Furthermore, I know there is a continuing and concerted effort by those who do not understand agriculture wanting to dictate how we farm.

Some days it seems to be more than I can manage and yet I know that's why I'm a Farm Bureau member. On any given day Farm Bureau is working on the very issues that challenge my farm's livelihood, thus allowing me to focus on my farm's needs.

It is important to keep things in perspective and have a profound understanding of what I can and cannot control. For almost a century now, Farm Bureau has been around in good times and challenging times as the voice of agriculture.

As the fog of uncertainty confronts us, don't overlook the importance and value of your Farm Bureau membership.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Dick Gorder

WFBF District 3 Director

Meet Your New District Coordinator: Melissa Doyle



Hi! I'm excited to be serving as the District 3 Coordinator and am looking forward to meeting and working with you.

I want to share a little bit about

myself and provide some insight on my diverse agricultural story. I grew up on a beef farm near Mineral Point and was an active member of 4-H and FFA.

I attended UW-Madison where I earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural and applied economics and life sciences communication, as well as a master's degree in life sciences communication.

My previous work experience includes serving as the 4-H youth development advisor for Iowa County UW-Extension and as the out-

reach coordinator for UW-Platteville Pioneer Farm. I also play a role in my family's auction business, On Point Auction Service, serving as the marketing and communications manager.

My Farm Bureau involvement started when I joined the Collegiate Farm Bureau at UW-Madison. After graduating, I was recruited by my home county and appointed to serve as the Iowa County Farm Bureau ag promotions chair.

In this role, I coordinated events and activities that helped spread the word and educate others about agriculture. It also gave me the opportunity to build effective networks and relationships with other agriculturalists and members of the community.

I truly have a passion for agriculture, and I am proud to represent an organization that takes great pride in its rural roots just like me. I can't wait to get to know more of you as I start my new adventure serving as the WFBF District 3 Coordinator!

New Member Benefit: Caterpillar, Inc.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau and Caterpillar, Inc., announced a new partnership that will provide members up to \$2,000 in purchase incentives on Cat machines. In addition, Caterpillar plans to support Farm Bureau programs in 2016 and coordinate with Farm Bureau on other efforts.

Eligible equipment includes Cat skid steer loaders, compact and multi-terrain loaders, wheel loaders, telehandlers, backhoe loaders, hydraulic excavators and track-type tractors.

A range of incentives are offered:

- Small Wheel Loaders: \$2,000
- Compact Wheel Loaders: \$1,000
- Small Dozers: \$1,000
- Backhoe Loaders: \$500-\$1,000
- Compact Track Loaders: \$500-\$1,000
- Multi Terrain Loaders: \$500-\$1,000
- Skid Steer Loaders: \$500-\$1,000
- Telehandlers: \$500-\$1,000
- Mini Hydraulic Excavators: \$250-\$500

The Farm Bureau Member benefit discount on Cat machines can be combined with any



retail discounts, promotions, rebates or offers available through Caterpillar or its dealers, with the exception of other membership purchase incentives. All Wisconsin Farm Bureau members are eligible.

Discounts cannot be applied to past purchases. Members must provide a member verification certificate to the Cat dealer at the time of purchase to receive the discount. Certificates may be downloaded at www.fbadvantage.com/cat.

For more information, call Farm Bureau at 800.261.3276.

'All About Beef' App Has New Games

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture released a new educational app, 'All About Beef,' funded in part by the Beef Checkoff.

App versions of 'The Steaks are High' and 'Grocery Grab' are STEM-based games funded by the Beef Checkoff Program and geared toward students in grades third through fifth.

The My American Farm games, including 'The Steaks are High' and 'Grocery Grab' are available on the iTunes store for iPhone and iPad, at Google Play for Android devices, on Amazon for the Kindle Fire and www.MyAmericanFarm.org.

The Beef Checkoff Program funded development of the game and supporting resources.

The Beef Checkoff Program was established as part of the 1985 Farm Bill and assesses

\$1 per head on the sale of live domestic and imported cattle, in addition to a comparable assessment on imported beef and beef products.



The My American Farm resource is a project of the Foundation and the site and resources are made possible through the generous support of title sponsor, DuPont Pioneer.

For more information and My American Farm resources, please visit www.MyAmericanFarm.org.

Soybean Science Kits for Ag in the Classroom Projects

Thanks to the support of the Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board, Ag in the Classroom volunteers placed another soybean science kit into a classroom!

The soybean science kit has several hands-on activities for students that help show students the many uses of soybeans.

Kally Bockenhauer, the agriculture instructor at Seneca High School, accepted the kit to help enhance her middle and high school classes.

Having the kit with lessons and activities set up for 25 students provides the ideal setting for a classroom experience. We look forward

to hearing more about Kally's use of the kit.

If you or your organization are interested in using the soybean science kit, there is another kit in Crawford County that can be used. Please contact women's committee chair, Pat Dearth, at 608.279.2417.



There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

- Auto**
 - General Motors Discount
- Health**
 - ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
 - Stroke Detection Plus
- Supplies and Products**
 - Case IH
 - Caterpillar (NEW)
 - FS-GROWMARK Patronage
 - Grainger
 - Polaris
 - Office Depot

- Communication**
 - AgriVisor
 - The Country Today
- Insurance**
 - Rural Mutual Insurance Company
 - Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Travel**
 - AAA
 - AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
 - Choice Hotels International, Inc.
 - Wyndham Hotel Group

- Financial**
 - AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
 - Farm Bureau Bank
- Protection**
 - \$500 Reward Protection Program
 - Accidental Death Policy

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

District Promotion and Education Update



As we start a new year, we are reminded of all the new things that are happening around us. One new and exciting adventure is the Agriculture Promotion and Education Committee.

The long time Woman's Leadership Committee has recently changed to the Agriculture Promotion and Education Committee. With this change,

there are so many new ideas and opportunities being brought forward. I know some counties still have the woman's program, and we are not asking you to change it.

This will give county Farm Bureaus more tools to use to strengthen your programs. When new information arrives I will be sure to pass it along.

Thank you to those who came to the District 3 Fall Women's Summit. We had a great turnout and a lot of fun painting and learning more about Ag in the Classroom. This year's essay contest topic is 'Tell us about making maple syrup in Wisconsin.' If you know of a fourth or fifth grader that would like to participate in the contest, more information can be found at www.wisagclassroom.org.

Lastly, I'd like to remind you that the 2016 Wisconsin Woman's Ag Summit is fast approaching. If you have never attended, I encourage you do to so. It is a wonderful networking event for women who share the same passion for agriculture.

I hope everyone has a great year and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming Farm Bureau event!

Nicole Adrian
District 3 Promotion and Education Committee
Representative

Preparing for National Agriculture Day, March 15

Celebrate National Ag Day March 15

Wisconsin is a leading agriculture producer and ranks #1 in the production of cheese.



March 15 is National Ag Day, a time when producers, agricultural associations, corporations, universities, government agencies and countless others across America gather to recognize and celebrate the abundance provided by American agriculture.

As the world population soars, there is even greater demand for the food, fiber and renewable resources produced in the U.S. The National Ag Day program

believes that every American should:

- Understand how food, fiber and renewable resource products are produced.
- Value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy.
- Appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products.
- Acknowledge and consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food, fiber and renewable resource industries.

Agriculture provides almost everything we eat, use and wear on a daily basis and is increasingly contributing to fuel and

other bio-products. Each year, members of the agricultural industry gather to promote American agriculture. This effort helps educate millions of consumers.

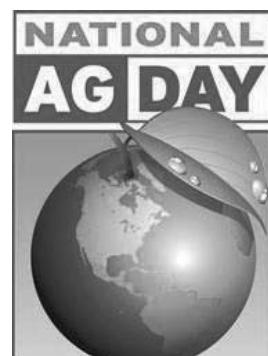
By far, the most effective part of this program is the role you play in helping spread the word. A few generations ago, most Americans were directly involved in—or had relatives or friends involved in—agricultural-related endeavors.

Today, that is no longer the case. That is why it is so important that we join together at the community level...our voices, in concert, become a shout that carries our message a great deal further than any one of us can do alone! We are pleased that you have joined this effort to promote American agriculture.

Download more helpful tools at www.agday.org! You'll find:

- Talking points about the importance of agriculture.
- Ag Day logos.
- Sample presentation speech.
- Press release (to download and modify for your event).
- PSAs (to download and modify for your event).
- Print advertisements.

For more information, please visit wfbf.com/programsevents/nationalagday.



Crawford County Farm Bureau Contacts:

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| President, Donald Brown | 608.872.2331 |
| Vice President, Craig Hromadka | 608.326.8944 |
| Secretary/Treasurer, Leroy Peterson | 608.734.3218 |
| Women's Chair, Pat Dearth | 608.576.8282 |
| Director, Mike Dearth | 608.576.8282 |
| Director, Pat Dearth | 608.576.8282 |
| Director, Mary Johnsruude | 608.476.2351 |
| Director, Steve Johnsruude | 608.476.2351 |
| Director, Marilyn Kvigne | 608.734.3247 |
| Director, Stephen Kvigne | 608.734.3247 |
| Director, Howard Roth | 608.476.2377 |
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|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Crawford County Farm Bureau | 888.644.8374 |
| District 3 Coordinator, Melissa Doyle | 866.355.7343 |
| WFBF Board Director, Richard Gorder | 608.987.3424 |
| RMIC District Manager, Dave Larson | 608.935.9500 |

District YFA Update



We are thankful for another year of opportunities that Farm Bureau has opened doors for us and hope you are too! This past year provided us with many major successes and an opportunity to meet many of

you. We had a wonderful time at the WFBF Annual Meeting cheering on the District 3 YFA Discussion Meet and award finalists and networking with other Young Farmer and Agriculturalist members.

We are looking forward to what 2016 has in store for us and for Farm Bureau. The Chili and Grilled Cheese Cook-Off started off the year for District 3 YFA events. Participants brought their best pots of chili and original grilled cheese recipes to compete in the fun and competitive cook-off. Prizes were awarded to winning entries.

If you have any questions or suggestions for YFA events, feel free to contact us anytime. We hope to see many of you at a YFA event or activity soon!

Derek and Charisse Orth
District 3 YFA Representatives

Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

Each year Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students in all public, private, and home schools, including 4-H clubs, Farm Bureau families and other organizations.



The 2015-2016 topic is 'Tell us about making maple syrup in Wisconsin.' Crawford County contest entries are due by April 1.

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness.

For more information, please contact 608.828.5644 or visit www.wisagclassroom.org.