



# Crawford County Farm Bureau

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## Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

## Crawford County Farm Bureau Summer Picnic Scheduled

**When:** Thursday, July 21, at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Eastman Park

Join us for the annual Crawford County summer picnic! It will be a fun night full of food, policy development and a chance to visit with your neighbors and friends. Please bring a dish to pass and table service.



## Watch for Ag Transportation Tidbits on WFBF's Facebook Page

Now that the implements of husbandry (IOH) trilogy is complete, but so many questions still remain, there has been discussion of creating a Wisconsin agriculture transportation guide book. This book will encompass aspects of operating or transporting ag-related equipment and supplies within Wisconsin highlighting both state and federal laws.

WFBF Senior Director of Governmental Relations Rob Richard and Cheryl Skjolaas from the UW-Extension are working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to write this guide book with a goal of completing it by September 1.

In preparation for the guide book, WFBF is rolling out 'Today's Ag Transportation Tidbit' on social media. These posts are simple, yet important, transportation laws or rules that apply to ag-related equipment and its operation or transport on Wisconsin roads.

Even though you may know these laws, it's our hope that you share them via social media to reach and educate a much wider audience. More importantly, any feedback that you provide will help us prioritize specific issues for the guide book.

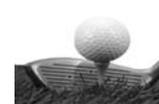


For example, did you know that it is not legal to pass an implement of husbandry or ag commercial motor vehicle (Ag-CMV) in a no-passing zone?

For other tidbits from WFBF's 'Today's Ag Transportation Tidbit', visit our Facebook page at [facebook.com/WIFarmBureau](http://facebook.com/WIFarmBureau).

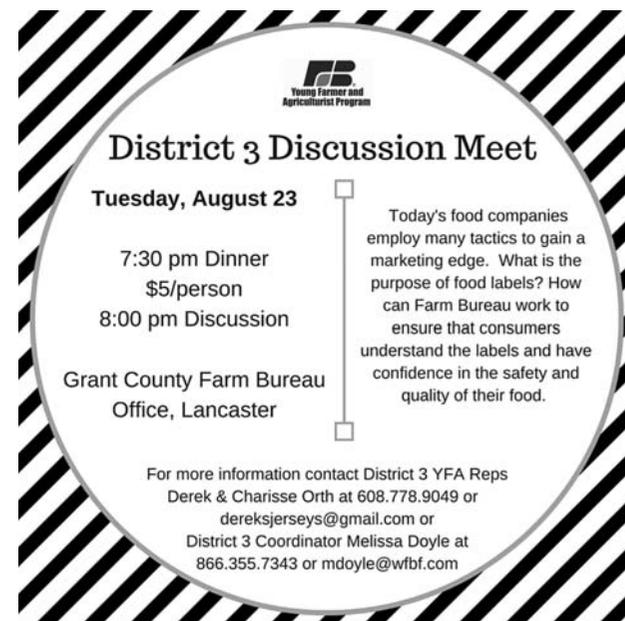
## Register For the Wisconsin Ag Open

The Wisconsin Ag Open is on **September 12** at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.



For more information, visit [wfbf.com/aboutwfbf/foundation/wisconsin-ag-open](http://wfbf.com/aboutwfbf/foundation/wisconsin-ag-open).

## Plant to Attend the Discussion Meet



**District 3 Discussion Meet**

**Tuesday, August 23**

7:30 pm Dinner  
\$5/person  
8:00 pm Discussion

Grant County Farm Bureau  
Office, Lancaster

Today's food companies employ many tactics to gain a marketing edge. What is the purpose of food labels? How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that consumers understand the labels and have confidence in the safety and quality of their food.

For more information contact District 3 YFA Reps  
Derek & Charisse Orth at 608.778.9049 or [dereksjerseys@gmail.com](mailto:dereksjerseys@gmail.com) or  
District 3 Coordinator Melissa Doyle at 866.355.7343 or [mdoyle@wfbf.com](mailto:mdoyle@wfbf.com)



# COUNTYnews

CRAWFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## Crawford County Farm Bureau in Action



Ag Day on Campus was hosted by the Collegiate Farm Bureau at UW-Platteville on April 21. Students who walked by the west lawn during the afternoon enjoyed a walking taco or other delicious Wisconsin-made snacks, participated in sheep shearing demonstrations, pet farm animals and learned more about agriculture. Students and organizations from the College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture joined together to promote and spread the word about agriculture.



District 3 members toured Darlington Ridge Farms. Managing partners Jim and wife Katie DiGangi shared the ins and outs of what is involved with the daily operations of milking 2,600 cows and harvesting feed for the dairy from 2,000 acres of corn and alfalfa.



The WFBF Promotion and Education Committee invited Districts 1, 2 and 3 to a 'meeting of the minds.' Members talked about county activities, shared their experiences, brainstormed ideas and discussed programs and resources available for counties to educate and promote agriculture.



Mary Jo Johnsrude, Lori Brown and Pat Dearth attended the 2016 Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit at the Madison Marriott West. The purpose of the event is to connect and inspire women involved in the diverse areas of agriculture. Evening entertainment included a casino night with games and prizes.



Ron and Janice Johnsrud were recognized for their dedication to Crawford County Farm Bureau and presented with a plaque to commemorate their many years of service.



The Collegiate Farm Bureau at UW-Platteville finished the school year with a celebration for the graduating members and elections of officers.

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In May, members visited the Seneca FFA Greenhouse. Students gave a tour and talked about agriculture classes, FFA involvement and roles in the greenhouse. Everyone left with flats of flowers and other plants.

## Save the Date – County Annual Meeting

The Crawford County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held at the Seneca Town Hall on **Thursday, September 15, at 7:30 p.m.** WFBF Executive Director of Governmental Relations Paul Zimmerman will be the guest speaker.



All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Please watch your mailbox for a postcard with more information.

## District Director Update



Yogi Berra once said, "It's like déjà vu all over again."

During the last year, I've been in Washington, D.C., four times advocating for issues that affect agriculture. The issues haven't changed much in the last year or for the last six years to be honest.

Waters of the United States (WOTUS) continues to potentially haunt agriculture. More than six years ago, Senator Russ Feingold, tried to change the definition of navigable waters in the Clean Water Act of Waters of the United States.

This action would have given the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corp of Engineers legal oversight and authority over all waters with broad interpretation.

Senator Feingold lost his bid for reelection and those of us in agriculture breathe a sigh of relief thinking maybe this onerous federal overreach of water jurisdiction was finished.

Without missing a beat, the current administration of the EPA took up the WOTUS rule (less a legislative directive) and made it even more restrictive, potentially needing permits for spraying, fertilizing and possible manure applications.

This past year, our Senators could not agree on the legislative fix to the EPA overreach, so the American Farm Bureau and other farm organizations filed suit against the agency for overstepping their authority.

Currently, the EPA's ability to enforce the rule has been

held up in the courts, as higher courts will ultimately decide whether the federal government (EPA and Army Corp of Engineers) can circumvent state governments jurisdiction.

Immigration and genetically modified organisms (GMO) labeling are issues that seem to be meeting the same fate. Congress can't seem to find common ground other than to agree not to agree on important issues that affect our everyday lives.

Yogi Berra also said, "You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might get there."

I will be going back out to Washington, D.C., in the near future. I will let you know when or if Congress figures out where they are going.

**Dick Gorder**  
WFBF District 3 Director

## A Family Away from Home

By **Tammy Weidenbeck**, WFBF Institute and Grant County Farm Bureau Member



Imagine meeting a shy, young high school girl with brown eyes, dark hair and the typical brace-face appearance.

She was a minority. The only real farm girl in her class who always felt the need to try and fit in with her classmates.

Although involved in school organizations, she was very quiet and would get nervous talking to strangers or anyone new. She was a girl that once got picked on for not having the 'in' look in middle school, being overweight and only having a couple pairs of pants that fit.

Flash forward 10 years and you are going to meet the same woman, but one that left her shell behind. Pursuing a secondary education and becoming a member of the Grant County and Wisconsin Farm Bureaus was a new beginning. She stated by practicing her public speaking, meeting others involved in agriculture who shared her dreams and not being afraid to grow and exhibit the kind of potential that she always had.

You never would have thought that this woman would meet new people almost every day, visiting farmers on a daily basis and assisting them with livestock marketing options.

This woman has learned how to find common ground in order to strike up a conversation with complete strangers and views new experiences as opportunities and she owes part of this to her involvement in Farm Bureau.

If you haven't figured it out yet, the woman I am writing about is me. I heard about the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Institute from a friend who said it was a good experience, both professionally and personally. Since this friend had never led me down the wrong path before, I thought, "Why not give it a try?"

Never did I imagine how great this experience would be and we have only made it through our third session. You might be thinking, "Everyone says that after participating in the Institute." I'm not saying it; I am living some of the best days of my life with the people who are in this group.

During the session in Madison, we met for the first time and to be honest, I thought it was going to be a long year since

everyone was very reserved. We had to come prepared with a three-minute speech to start the public speaking course. We shared these same speeches with each other so many times that by the end of the day, we had bypassed all possible embarrassing moments already and realized that we just wanted to see each other succeed and do well. It was overwhelming, and a relief at the same time as we continued our conversations and grew our friendships.

During our next session, we came prepared with presentations that focused on our leadership skills, as we worked together in groups. Our creativity capabilities were challenged as we participated in the, 'Why Looking Isn't Seeing' workshop.

The third session showed us how important it is that we share the truth and positive light about the agriculture industry through social media networks. We again, got time to socialize and it was then that I realized, we were more than just the WFBF Institute Class X. We were a family.

We have discussed a fun, summer outing so that we can see each other before our next class. Since I'm from a small family and our gatherings don't happen very often, this really gave me something to look forward to in the coming months.

Not only do you grow and improve as an individual as you participate in the WFBF Institute, but you also gain lifelong friendships with people who have your back no matter what. They are remarkable people, and as Craig Culver told us, "Surround yourself with people who are talented, but also have heart."

So I want to end with a question, "Why wouldn't you apply to be a part of your own Farm Bureau family?"



## District 3 Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Winner Announced



Cheyenne Johnson, a fifth grade student from Richland Center, is the District 3 winner of the Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest. She is the daughter of Marion and Elizabeth Johnson and her teacher is Mrs. Schroeder at Jefferson Elementary School.

Wisconsin fourth and fifth grade students were asked to write a 100- to 300-word essay with the theme, 'Tell us about producing maple syrup in Wisconsin.'

More than 3,000 Wisconsin students wrote essays for the competition sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, Insight FS and We Energies.

## Mark Your Calendars for the Crawford County Fair

The Crawford County Fair is **August 24-28** and the Dairy Bar will be back in action with PIE of course.

If you'd like to donate a pie or two, please contact a Crawford County Farm Bureau board member or deliver the pies to the Dairy Bar at the fair.

**Thank you!**



## There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

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- Protection** .....
- \$500 Reward Protection Program
  - Accidental Death Policy

For complete details visit [wfbf.com/benefits-membership](http://wfbf.com/benefits-membership).

## District Promotion and Education Update



The Ag Promotions and Education Committee is in full swing with many new activities.

When we met in January, we came up with four priority areas that we want to work on. They include: youth education, leadership development, consumer outreach and ag community development. Each one of these areas will have

goals and areas of work for the committee to focus on.

One of the projects that the committee is working on developing is called 'The Playbook.' This book will be a place for us to gather our successful ideas and display them for others to see. Other counties will be able to use the book when planning activities and events for the year.

We are asking counties to submit their activities to the book

for an upcoming launch party. Forms are electronic, making it easy to fill out and email back. To request a form, please contact me at [nickilynn\\_emt@hotmail.com](mailto:nickilynn_emt@hotmail.com). I am challenging each of the counties to submit at least five of your best activities.

On another note, the Ag in the Classroom essay contest recently wrapped up. District 3 had almost 200 essays and the district winner was from Richland County. Thank you to the Ag in the Classroom volunteers who promoted the contest and read essays. It is always fun to see what kids have learned about agriculture and the topic of choice.

Now that summer is here, Farm Bureau activities will be in full swing. If your county needs help at the fair or has another event that requires assistance, please let me know. I enjoy working with people of all ages and educating others about agriculture. Have a safe and fun summer!

**Nicole Adrian**  
District 3 Promotion & Education Committee Representative

## Meet UW-Platteville Collegiate Farm Bureau President: Lara Daentl



Hello! My name is Lara Daentl and I am honored to serve as the UW-Platteville Collegiate Farm Bureau President for 2016-2017.

I was raised on my family's farm in Edmund, and graduated in 2013 from Iowa-Grant

High School. This fall, I will be a senior at UW-Platteville, studying agricultural education and agribusiness.

I grew up in a very dedicated Farm Bureau family, and have been an active Collegiate Farm Bureau member since my freshman year. The organization's older members have been wonderful role models through my years of involvement and encourage me to take advantage of the many opportunities that Farm Bureau has to offer.

During the 2015-2016 school year, I served as the Ag in the Classroom coordinator and enjoyed it immensely. As an organization, we were able to reach more than 350 fourth grader students at four different District 3 elementary schools during April.

We taught a lesson on Wisconsin's leading dairy industry, facilitated a trivia game and helped the students make butter.

I am really looking forward to my new role within Collegiate Farm Bureau.

We have a great team of officers with many new ideas to help steer our organization towards success. I hope to be a positive role model to the younger members, striving to keep this organization active and involved on campus and in the community.

All in all, I am very excited to represent not only UW-Platteville and the Collegiate Farm Bureau, but also Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

The officer team and I appreciate the continued support and countless contributions given by the counties in District 3. We hope to strengthen our relationships and work even more with the District 3 Farm Bureau members.

If you need assistance with any events or activities, please contact me at [daentlla@uwplatt.edu](mailto:daentlla@uwplatt.edu). We want to help your county Farm Bureau in any way possible!

**Lara Daentl**  
UW-Platteville Collegiate Farm Bureau



## Crawford County Farm Bureau Contacts:

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, Mary Johnsrude 608.476.2351  
Director, Steve Johnsrude 608.476.2351  
Director, Marilyn Kvigne 608.734.3247  
Director, Stephen Kvigne 608.734.3247  
Director, Jim Meng 608.412.4687  
Director, Howard Roth 608.476.2377  
Director, Chad Sime 608.397.0468

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



Hello! As we wrap up our tenure as District 3 Representatives on the WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee, we want to update you on competitions and events that will be held during the next few months.

Just around the corner, **July 1** is the deadline for Achievement Award and Excellence in Agriculture applications. All YFA members are eligible for one of the awards. To find out which award best fits you, please ask us or attend our District 3 Mock Discussion Meet and YFA Awards Work Night at 7:30 p.m. on **June 15** at the Iowa County Farm Bureau building in Dodgeville. Come for a fun night of learning about the opportunities available!

Mark your calendar for the District 3 Discussion Meet on **August 23** at the Grant County Farm Bureau building in Lancaster. Do you like discussing agriculture with others? Please join us. We also welcome an audience to support our contestants and give feedback.

The district contest question is **Today's food companies employ many tactics to gain a marketing edge. What is the purpose of food labels? How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that consumers understand the labels and have confidence in the safety and quality of their food.**

In early June, I joined a group of YFA members as they traveled to Washington, D.C., to learn, meet with representatives and tour our nation's capital. The group was made up of state finalists from each of the three YFA contests along with YFA leaders from around the state. I encourage you to participate in a YFA contest if you're interested in attending this trip in the future.

Lastly, as we prepare to retire from the state committee, we are looking for an individual or a couple to be our successor. If you have a passion for agriculture and want to be active in the Wisconsin Farm Bureau at the state level, please ask how you can apply for this pristine position. Have a fantastic summer!

**Derek and Charisse Orth**  
District 3 YFA Representatives