

Door County Farm Bureau

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Rural Mutual Agents in Door County:

<p>Randy Pingel (920) 746-4017</p> <p>Pat Truttman (920) 746-4017</p>	<p>Nicholas Weldon (920) 743-9206</p> <p>John Quirk, District Manager (608) 957-5509</p>
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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Essay Topic and Book of the Year Announced



Maple syrup flows through this year's book of the year and essay contest from Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program.

Sugarbush Spring by Marsha Wilson

Chall is the 2016 Book of the Year. 'Tell us about producing maple syrup in Wisconsin' is the topic of the annual essay contest.

Third and fourth grade essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. All contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are located at wisagclassroom.org or by contacting airc@wfbf.com or 800.261.FARM.

Participating students and schools need to submit essays by **April 1** to the Door County Farm Bureau essay contest coordinator Trista Baxter.

In May, a state winner will be selected from nine

district winners by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Promotion and Education Committee. Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation in May for their homeroom or class.

The contest is sponsored by Insight FS, We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation. Last year, nearly 2,900 students participated in the contest.

In this year's Book of the Year selection, *Sugarbush Spring*, introduces young readers to the process of taking sap and making it into maple syrup.

The hardcover book comes with an activity and lesson plan packet that teachers, students and home school parents can use to enhance the reading experience. Book order forms are found at www.wisagclassroom.org under Order Forms.

Ag in the Classroom is designed to help students in kindergarten through high school to understand the importance of agriculture. It is coordinated by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.



Ag Day at the Capitol

Farm Bureau members from around the state attended Ag Day at the Capitol on January 27. They joined more than 500 members who were updated on legislative issues facing agriculture currently. Issues ranged from high capacity well legislation, piping of manure and raw milk.



Farm Bureau members walked to the Capitol to meet with legislators during Ag Day at the Capitol.



Wisconsin's Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Ben Brancel addressed the crowd.

YFA Green Bay Gamblers Game and Pizza Outing



The YFA Gamblers outing was on February 6. About 75 YFA members had a blast at the game, which went into double overtime and ended in a three-man shoot out. Many members enjoyed pizza after the game at the Green Bay Distillery. For more information about YFA events, please call Door County YFA chair Lauren Brey at 920.262.0797.



COUNTYnews

DOOR COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Delegates Set Policy for 2016

In December, delegates at the WFBF 96th Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells established new policy directives for the organization.

Farm Bureau delegates adopted the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization in 2016. Resolutions were submitted by delegates as part of a grass-roots policy development process.

Recognizing the need to increase funds to provide adequate roads and bridges in rural Wisconsin, delegates voted to consider a combination of gasoline taxes, vehicle registration fees, farm truck registration fees and environmental fees, as well as the establishment of local sales taxes, tolling and new vehicle taxes. Delegates support the continuation of the state fuel tax exemption for agricultural purposes.

Delegates supported certified third-party audits of farms for animal care practices and land conservation practices to ensure market access and instill consumer confidence. Delegates emphasized that third-party audit information collected becomes the sole proprietary property of the farmer and audit information should be released only as aggregated data.

In regards to labeling, delegates advised that the term 'milk' should not be used to label and describe food products that are derived from vegetative plants and trees.

Recognizing the importance of natural resources and the environment, delegates support farmer-led soil and water quality initiatives.

Delegates from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 61 county Farm Bureaus also voted to:

- Support classifying skid steers as agricultural equipment, as well as construction. We also support training and safety programs and certification for youth similar to All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and

Utility-Terrain Vehicle (UTV) Certification and Wisconsin Safe Operation of Tractor and Machinery Certification programs.

- Support maintaining the necropsy services and employing a state licensed veterinarian in the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Barron.
- Support using technology (i.e., UAVs and electronic trap monitors) in order to monitor wildlife abatement traps and to assess crop damage.
- Support the state's adverse possession law as it has historically existed.
- Oppose towns and counties imposing stricter requirements for nutrient management regulations than state standards without relevant scientific research.
- Propose that when engineering a road the state and local level of governments should install culverts to assist in transporting manure to reduce traffic on roads.
- Support the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's procedures for testing and license renewal of the pesticide certification and training program.

On the federal level, delegates oppose the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule to shorten the permit certification timeline for pesticide applicator licensing and increase testing standards to make it more difficult for a farmer to obtain a pesticide applicator license.

This resolution was forwarded to the American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration at its annual meeting in Orlando, Florida.



Delegates attended the Monday morning business meeting.



Delegates Nick Weldon and Steve Baxter attended the WFBF Annual Meeting.

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Lauren Brey Participates in WFBF Institute



The Farm Bureau Institute is a year-long premiere leadership training course at a graduate level whose mission is to produce strong and effective county Farm Bureau leaders.

The training focuses on personal growth and development, public speaking, working effectively with all forms of media, creativity training, understanding the role and functions of WFBF and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, training on working with government at the local, state and national levels, working to

bridge the generational divide among volunteers, consideration of current national and international agricultural issues and completion of a Farm Bureau Personal Development Leadership Plan.

Any voting member of WFBF may submit an application to participate in the program. Each year's class is limited to a maximum of 15.

Classes are selected based on building a team learning environment. WFBF expects Insti-

tute graduates to use the leadership skills and abilities they have developed in the program to become actively engaged and involved in their county Farm Bureau. Eventually, they may expand their leadership involvement in Farm Bureau and their community.

Interested in participating in the next WFBF Institute? For an application, please call District Coordinator Becky Salm at 920.253-5303.

Ag in the Classroom Program Offers Matching Grants

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation is offering matching grants of up to \$500 for groups sponsoring programs or projects that promote agricultural literacy.

Grants will be awarded for amounts up to \$500 to applicants that secure or provide equal matching funds for the proposed project. Grants may be awarded for less than the full amount requested, based upon discretion of the judges and the funds available. The budget section of this application provides space for detailing the amount requested and how it will be used.

Grant Selection Criteria

A judging committee will review all funding requests that are properly completed and postmarked by the **April 1** deadline. Completed applications must be typed or computer-generated, using a font size no smaller than 10-point.

The application may be reproduced using word-processing software only if line or page spacing is not altered. Please submit five copies of the application (the original can be signed and then four copies made from it). An editable form of this application is available at wisagclassroom.org.

The proposed project must be targeted to grades preK-12 and should enhance student knowledge of the contribution made by agriculture.



Projects that use funds toward an ongoing, sustainable education effort will receive preference over those that involve a 'one-time' program. Proposed projects or events designed to reach large groups of students will be given preference, as will those that



involve innovative approaches to promoting agricultural literacy. Continuing, annual or on-going projects should show plans for improvement, expansion of program or other changes the grant will help achieve.

Each funding request must include the following:

- Goals and objectives of project – 20 percent.
- Description of proposed project and how it enhances student awareness of agriculture – 40 percent.
- Itemized budget summary – 20 percent.
- Project timetable – 5 percent.
- Methods to be used to measure the success of the project – 5 percent.
- Listing of local groups, individuals or other partnering organizations involved in the proposed project – 10% percent.
- 100-word summary of the project for press releases and promotional purposes.
- Signature of applicant and matching group representative (required).

Application Information

Complete the attached form and return postmarked by **April 1** to: Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, Agriculture in the Classroom, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705.

Winning applicants will be notified by early May. All projects that receive funding must be completed by **May 31, 2017**. A final report of the project and how funds were used must be submitted to Ag in the Classroom by **June 30, 2017**.

For more information, please contact the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation at 608.836.5575 or visit wisagclassroom.org.

Preparing for National Agriculture Day

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 helps teach 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 pro-

mote 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/programmevents/nationalagday.

John Quirk Named Eastern Shore District Manager

John Quirk has been named the district manager for the Eastern Shore District.

Quirk has been with Rural Mutual Insurance since October of 1988. During his tenure he has held positions in personal and commercial lines underwriting, senior product specialist and director of marketing.

Prior to joining Rural Mutual Insurance, Quirk worked as a commercial lines underwriter with Sentry Insurance. He also served as an independent insurance agent for six years.



Quirk lives in Green Bay with his wife Nancy. The couple has two sons, Andrew and Michael.

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
 - 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.

Door County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Steve Baxter 920.559.0939
 Vice President, Mike Haberli 920.333.0009
 Secretary, Nicholas Weldon 920.495.1108
 Treasurer, Dale Cihlar 920.743.5287
 Women's Chair, Denise Plassmeyer 920.746.8741
 YFA Chair, Lauren Brey 920.392.1220

Director, Betsy Floor
 Director, Char Sullivan 920.743.9391
 Director, Dan Vandertie 920.825.7444

Door County Farm Bureau 877.483.3712
 WFBF Board Director, Rosie Lisowe 920.418.1966
 District 6 Coordinator, Becky Salm 920.693.8467
 RMIC District Manager, John Quirk 920.893.1811

District 6 YFA Bus Tour Planned for April



Join District 6 Farm Bureau members as we board the bus for three agricultural tours. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on **Friday, April 8**, the bus

will leave from Bondes Q-Mart in Cleveland.

The first stop is Eastern Wisconsin DHIC in Waldo. This modern milk testing laboratory runs milk samples from Brown, Manitowoc and Calumet counties.

The second stop is LaClare Farms in Pipe. Tour the state-of-the-art facility where they milk more than 400 goats twice a day. Tour the farm and the creamery that makes more than 10 different types of cheese using goat, sheep and cow milks. The LaClare Farms Café will provide lunch.

The final stop is Robinway Dairy LLC, in Kiel where they milk 1,150 dairy cows, raise 700 steers and grow crops on 1,400 acres.

Robinway Dairy is working with Livestock Water Recycling Systems to install the newest technology for converting manure to clean water.



Space is limited so reserve your space by contacting District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at bsalm@wfbf.com or 920.253.5303.



Scholarship Applications Available

The Door County Farm Bureau is accepting applications for \$500 scholarships that will be awarded to two graduating high school seniors from Door County.



- Applicants planning to pursue post-secondary education enrolling in any type of major or program (with preference given to those students intending to enroll in an agriculture or agriculturally related field) are encouraged to apply.
- The applicant or applicant's family must prove paid membership of the Door County Farm Bureau for at least one year prior to applying.
- Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their involvement in 4-H or FFA, community and school activities.
- The applicants must submit two letters of recommendation and a copy of their high school transcript.
- Completed applications must be postmarked by **April 1** and sent to: Door County Farm Bureau Scholarship, c/o Becky Salm, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705.

The final selection and awarding of the scholarships will be made by the Door County Farm Bureau scholarship selection committee. The scholarship funds will be paid directly to the school in two equal disbursements after recipient shows proof of completion of the first and second semesters.

For more information or to request an application, please contact Becky Salm at bsalm@wfbf.com or 866.355.7345.

Upcoming Events

March

- 4-5 Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit
- 15 White-Reinhardt mini-grant application due

April

- 1 Ag in the Classroom essay's due
- 1 Ag in the Classroom Matching Grant application due

July

- 1 YFA Achievement and Excellence in Ag Award application due

Be Social...



...With WIFarmBureau

Membership Incentives Announced

Do you know a friend who might be interested in joining Farm Bureau? Feel good about helping your organization grow and get a chance to win some great prizes, too.



Engage as many volunteers as possible in WFBF's 2016 membership recruitment efforts by asking them to pledge to personally contact two people they know and sign them up as new Farm Bureau members by **March 31**.