



## Price | Taylor County Farm Bureaus

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**Rural Mutual Insurance Company**



For information about crop hail insurance, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

**Rural Mutual Agents in Taylor & Price County:**

Laurie Peterson (715) 748-6688   Sam Scott (715) 748-6464   Ray Milewski (715) 718-4340

David Meihak, District Manager - (715) 630-4801

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

# March 4-5

Madison Marriott West, Middleton

**Badgerland FINANCIAL**   **University of Wisconsin-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

For more information, visit [wiagwomenssummit.com](http://wiagwomenssummit.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

### Celebrate National Ag Day March 15

Did you know that it can take up to 500 years to make an inch of **soil**?

Farmers use conservation practices to protect this resource.





# COUNTYnews

PRICE COUNTY FARM BUREAU | TAYLOR COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



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## 2015 YFA Conference Wrap-Up

On December 4-6, more than 500 YFA members from around the state attended the YFA Conference. Each year, this conference is held in conjunction with the WFBF Annual Meeting.

YFA members attended breakout sessions including the Peterson Farm Brothers talking about how to advocate for agriculture.

YFA members also were compete in state-wide contests such as Excellence in Agriculture, Achievement Award and the Discussion Meet.

This year Taylor County's Ryan Klussendorf made it to the final four of the state discussion meet competition.

### Congratulations Ryan!



YFA members from Clark, Portage, Price, Taylor, Marathon and Wood counties attended the WFBF Annual Meeting.

## 96<sup>th</sup> WFBF Annual Meeting Highlights

On December 5-7, Farm Bureau members from across Wisconsin gathered at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells to take part in the 96<sup>th</sup> WFBF Annual Meeting. Members attended breakout sessions including a panel of county food stand chairs, Ag in the Classroom training and social media and advocating training.

Delegates discussed and voted on issues for agriculture and passed the proposed bylaw change, changing the name of the Women's Committee to the Promotion and Education Committee.



## Farm Bureau Members Attend Ag Day at the Capitol

Ag Day at the Capitol is the largest gathering of farmers from around the state representing a variety of farm groups who want to learn more about state issues and meet with their state legislators.



The Rural Mutual Insurance Company and GROWMARK, Inc., are major sponsors of the event. Cosponsors of the event with the Wisconsin Farm Bureau include a variety of other dairy, beef, pork, horse, corn, soybean, cranberry, potato and vegetable groups.

## Price County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Sally Denzine	715.339.2092
Vice President, George Bloomberg	715.767.5579
Secretary-Treasurer, Dave Kivela	715.564.2415
YFA Chair, Dan Berg	715.657.0112
Family & Education Chair, Karen Kerner	715.550.6156
Director, David Ames	715.767.5388
Director, Kenneth Denzine	715.339.2092
Director, Lance Meier	715.564.2230
Price County Farm Bureau	877.583.5911
District 8 Coordinator, Ashleigh Calaway	866.355.7348
WFBF Board Director, Donald Radtke	715.539.2892
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.344.6220

## 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 effort helps teach 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!](http://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](http://wfbf.com/programsevents/nationalagday).



## Meet Lauren McCann, District 8 Promotions and Education Committee



In December, Don Radke and Ashleigh Calaway met an energetic and passionate individual - Lauren McCann.

Lauren shared how she loved educating the public about where their food comes from and how important agriculture is. Don knew that he had found the right person to fill the district vacancy. Lauren is originally from the Fort Atkinson area. She earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from

UW-River Falls and is working as a reproduction technician for North Star Cooperative>Select Sires.

Lauren is excited to build connections throughout the district as well as with area farms. Her excitement for what Farm Bureau has to offer is contagious.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Promotion and Education Committee, please contact Lauren at [lauren.l.mccann@outlook.com](mailto:lauren.l.mccann@outlook.com) or 920.728.4948.

## Let's Talk Membership

*The key to membership work is to go after potential members who you believe will leave a impact or help the organization make a difference for agriculture. Also, share the experiences that you have been through and what impact they had on you. – Brad Weber*

*Membership is important because a healthy organization needs to maintain or increase its membership numbers. The keys to membership work are showing your passion for Farm Bureau. Also being prepared with information and knowing your perspective member as much as possible. – Randy Wokatsch*



District 8 Producer Club members included: (L-R) Brad Weber, George Bloomberg, Melissa Yates, Lyle Weden, Randy Wokatsch and Don Radtke, WFBF District 8 Director.

### I'll Get 2!

**April 1:** Take the 'I'll get 2' pledge and you are entered into a drawing for a \$50 Kwik Trip card and a \$50 Fleet Farm card (total \$100 prize).

*\*One entry for the first two members you sign and for every additional one after that. Starting now until April 1.*

### 5x5

**May 5:** Sign five members by May 5 and receive a Farm Bureau Proud jacket, that will be presented at your county Farm Bureau annual meeting and entry into the Farm Bureau Proud Club! Plus members of the 2016 Farm Bureau Proud Club and their spouse or guest will receive exclusive recognition at the 2016 WFBF Annual Meeting. Farm Bureau Proud Club members also receive a commemorative pin and a special gift in recognition of their efforts.



### I'm a Rock Star

**September 30:** Sign five members between now and September 30 and you are entered into a drawing for a \$250 Visa gift card. Along with your entry into the Farm Bureau Proud Club.

*\*One entry for the first five memberships and then one entry for each membership after.*

For more membership information or if you want to go on a membership drive, please contact District 8 Coordinator Ashleigh Calaway at 866.355.7348 or [acalaway@wfbf.com](mailto:acalaway@wfbf.com).

Be Social...



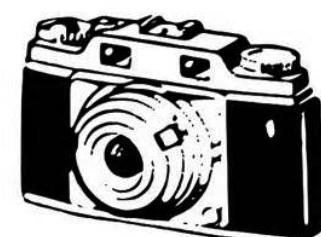
...With WIFarmBureau

### Picture This County Photos Wanted

Do you have a great photo that you have taken around your farm or somewhere in the county? We want to see them!

Submit your photos to Lynn Siekmann at [lsiekmann@wfbf.com](mailto:lsiekmann@wfbf.com) or post it on social media with #WFBFPictureThis.

Your photo could be featured in the next edition of the Price-Taylor Farm Bureau newsletter...or maybe even the *Rural Route!*



## From the District 8 Director's Desk



2016 marks a critical year in the world of all things water.

This year alone we have seen more news reports, social media coverage and general discussion on the topic than ever before.

In order to help address the concerns of others it is important for you, our members and those involved

in agriculture, to take the time to educate yourself on what is going on not only in your county but also your state and nationally.

It is important to attend your township and county board meetings and let them know what you are doing to make a positive impact on the environment and to address the water

concerns of those around you.

Your elected officials need to know where you stand in regards to the Wisconsin River total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or phosphorus levels in the river.

It is important that those involved in agriculture start working with municipalities and look at farmer-led initiatives to help address the concerns.

If you don't take the time to make your voice heard the other side will. So, I ask yourself, who do you prefer to have tell your story, those involved in the industry or environmental groups?

As always, if you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please call me.

**Don Radtke**  
District 8 Director

## Take a Bite, But Not More Than You Can Chew



My mama always said, "pick your battles, and win the war." When I was younger, I never really understood what she meant; however, as our children get older, I have learned exactly what she meant by that phrase. Kale is almost 12 and we have started 'the struggle' when eating out.

He almost always asks, "Can I order off the adult menu?" There are restaurants that he can order from the regular menu, because a happy meal just won't cut it for this growing boy.

Other restaurants like Olive Garden, for example, he takes food home from the kids menu because the salad and breadsticks are the best.

Recently, while in the Wisconsin Dells we continued our family tradition of eating at Buffalo Phil's. As soon as the menus were placed in front of us, Kale asked, "Can I order off the adult menu?" I said no, the kid's menu would be fine. He immediately sprang into a speech, "I am older now... there is never enough food on the kids' menu. MOM! I am starving! I promise I will eat it all."

I knew the portions were large at this restaurant and I thought that he would never be able to finish the food. I also thought that this might be a good teaching moment. So I gave in. He ordered a Buffalo Phil burger and fries. Owen and Max ordered off the kids' menu, never asking about the regular menu. Ryan and I ordered everything was good.

When the food came, Kale was the happiest person in the room. He had a big smile and he was sure that he could finish this large plate of food. While I was eating, I asked Kale how he was doing. The answers ranged from "great" to "this is the

best food ever" to "I'm still just so hungry." As the eating pace slowed, I asked again, he responded, "This is where the eating stops and the I think I am going to die starts." We took enough food home from the restaurant to eat supper that night.

Kale has yet to ask to order from the regular menu, but he does ask if the kids' menu will be enough. After the chicken salad sandwich ordeal, he now also asks if I think he will like it. These were great battles that were fought hard on his end, but I'm still winning the war.

I thought about how this blog could possibly relate to anything outside of a story about our son. But, I think it does have a message that relates to Farm Bureau.

Our county Farm Bureau continues to become more active, which is a great thing; however, as we grow our involvement, we have to make sure that we don't bite off more than we can chew.

Moral of the story is that we can 'clean our plate' if we work together. Even more blunt: volunteer to take on some of the work, so the rest of us aren't left with a belly ache and too many leftovers.



## Taylor County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Cheri Klussendorf	715.748.2101
Vice President, Robert Klussendorf	715.785.5092
Secretary-Treasurer, Matthew Winnie	715.427.0227
YFA Chair, Melvin Zenner	715.965.7840

Director, Karyn Eckert	715.748.4816
Director, Jack Johnson	715.785.7777
Director, Gary Kohn	715.748.2792
Director, Timothy Wese	715.678.2716

Taylor County Farm Bureau	866.583.7597
WFBF Board Director, Don Radtke	715.573.7208
District 8 Coordinator, Ashleigh Calaway	866.355.7348
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.344.6220

## 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 up to \$500 to applicants who secure 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](http://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.

### 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](http://wisagclassroom.org).