



Richland County Farm Bureau

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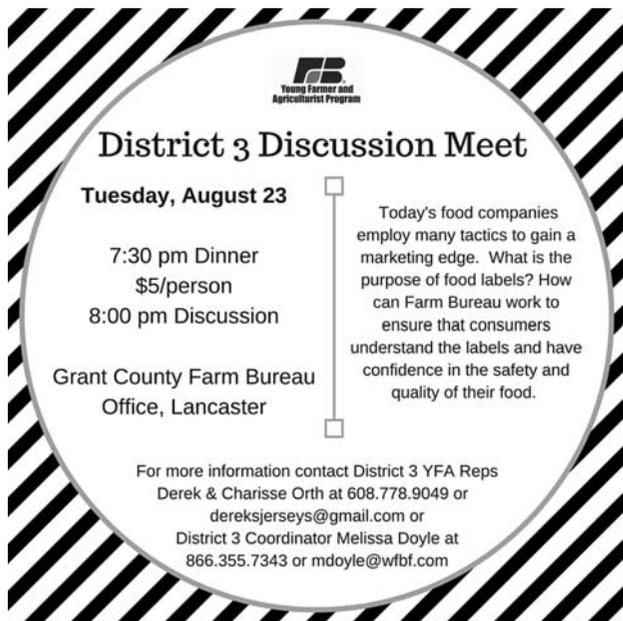
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Volunteer at the Richland County Fair

The Richland County Fair is September 7-11 and the Richland County Farm Bureau is proud to sponsor the educational tent for kids. We are looking for volunteers to answer agriculture related questions and care for the animals.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact District 3 Coordinator Melissa Doyle at 608.574.9884.

Plan to Attend 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
derekjsjerseys@gmail.com or
District 3 Coordinator Melissa Doyle at
866.355.7343 or mdoyle@wfbf.com

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.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau 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 pro-

Register Now for the Wisconsin Ag Open

This year's Wisconsin Ag Open will be held on September 12 at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells. The event supports the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's efforts to expand agricultural leadership, 4-H and FFA program, agricultural literacy efforts, and other education, youth and leadership programs.

For more information, visit wfbf.com/aboutwfbf/foundation/wisconsin-ag-open.



vide will help us prioritize specific issues for the guide book. For example, did you know that it is no longer 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 facebook.com/WIFarmBureau.





COUNTYnews

RICHLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

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.'

To celebrate Cheyenne's success, Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom intern Alison Wedig visited her class to teach the students more about maple syrup and Wisconsin agriculture. The class received an extra special treat of ice cream with pure maple syrup on top.

Richland County Farm Bureau president Dick Hauser and women's committee chair Germaine Hying joined in the fun and celebration.

Congratulations Cheyenne!



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.

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District 3 members toured Darlington Ridge Farms. Managing partners Jim and wife Katie DiGangi shared the ins and outs of all that 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 Collegiate Farm Bureau at UW-Platteville finished the school year with a celebration for the graduating members and elections of officers. Serving as the 2016-2017 officers: Lara Daentl, president; Sarah Shimshack, vice president; Ben Roys, secretary; Erin Marchant, treasurer; Amanda Stingle, Ag in the Classroom coordinator; Heidi Kaestner, Ag Day on Campus coordinator; Chad Bruss, director at large; and Dayna Anderson, historian.



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

President's Message



states makes sense so that promotion dollars are better used;

In the last few articles, I wrote about the importance of membership and being active in an organization that represents your interests beyond the end of your driveway.

While that is still important and we always welcome your input and participation, I want to address a few other subjects.

The change of Beef Month in Wisconsin from July to May so that it aligns with most other

however, it will take time and effort to get the recognition and action it needs and deserves. The focus of the farm and media in May seems to be June Dairy Month coming up. As with all traditions it takes time to implement change.

In the face of the anti-meat propaganda, it's great to see positive messages about our product (beef and dairy farmers contribute to the beef supply) just before the grilling seasons official kick-off. Now, that we have one year under our collective belts, hopefully we will be better prepared for next year and the focus will be on beef.

Speaking of June Dairy Month, I hope that you will enjoy the many activities and help when you can. The Richland County Farm Bureau is contributing to the Richland County Dairy Breakfast and also will provide workers. Thank you to those

who organize and coordinate a great event.

This is an election year and while I am sure some of you believe that you are already overloaded with propaganda, it is vitally important to ensure that we elect people who respect agriculture and understand its importance to the economic wellbeing of our state and nation. This means that there has to be legislation to help sustain the viability of farming.

I look forward to working with those who have constructive input during 2016 to grow our organization and bring in new leadership. If you have concerns, please contact me at 608.585.4808 and we will work on them together.

Dick Hauser
Richland County Farm Bureau President

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 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

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

- Auto**
- General Motors Discount
- Health**
- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
 - Life Line (NEW)
- 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.

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. 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. We want to help your county Farm Bureau in any way possible!

Lara Daentl
UW-Platteville Collegiate Farm Bureau



Richland County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Richard Hauser 608.585.4808
Secretary, Germaine Hying 608.739.3367
Treasurer, Byron Hillberry 608.537.2352
Women's Chair, Germaine Hying 608.739.3367

Richland County Farm Bureau 888.830.2576
District 3 Coordinator, Melissa Doyle 866.355.7343
WFBF Board Director, Richard Gorder 608.987.3424
RMIC District Manager, Dave Larson 608.935.9500

Save the Date: Annual Meeting

The Richland County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held at The White House Ramada in Richland Center on **Wednesday, October 12**, at 7 p.m.



All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Watch your mailbox for a postcard in late September.

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