

Langlade County Farm Bureau

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For information about our farm safety campaign, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

Rural Mutual Agents in Langlade County:

Russ Van Lanen (715) 627-7594

David Meihak - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Langlade County Farm Bureau Sponsors Fair Trophies



The Langlade County Farm Bureau is again sponsoring four trophies for the Langlade County Fair youth in 2015. The trophies being sponsored are:

- Reserve Champion, beef breeding, pure bred
- Reserve Champion, beef breeding, class cross

- Champion, market beef
- Reserve Champion, market beef

Langlade County Farm Bureau has been sponsoring trophies for the fair for a number of years now and is honored to be able to help support youth leadership in our community.

Langlade County Farm Bureau board of directors



Ag in the Classroom Introduces New Farm Facts Brochure

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is proud to introduce the newly revised and designed 2015 Wisconsin Farm Facts brochure. The brochure highlights Wisconsin's diverse agriculture industry and is now interactive.

Using a free app called, Aurasma, users can make the brochure come to life with additional facts and videos related to Wisconsin agriculture.

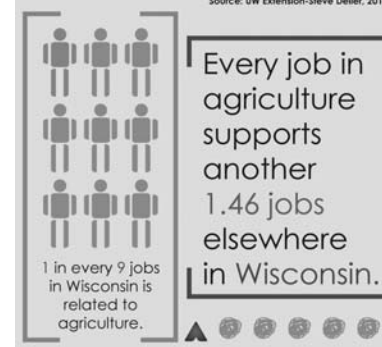
To download the app, visit the app store on your tablet or smart phone and find Aurasma. Download the app and make sure to follow WIAITC.

Copies of the brochure are available by visiting wisag-classroom.org and using the resource order form.



Agriculture Provides Jobs

Agriculture contributes 354,000 jobs to Wisconsin's economy or 10% of total employment.
Source: UW Extension-Steve Deller, 2014



Wisconsin ranks ...



WFBF Seeks Photos for Rural Route

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members live and work on some of the most beautiful pieces of land.

WFBF would like to highlight those sights and special moments with your families and friends in the *Rural Route* magazine.

Please email your photos (high resolution jpgs, 4x6 inches at 300 dpi) to lsiekmann@wfbf.com.





COUNTYnews

LANGLADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

95th WFBF Annual Meeting Highlights *By Darlene Eckerman*



Darlene Eckerman addressed the 95th WFBF Annual Meeting delegates to explain a Langlade County Farm Bureau policy proposal.

Tom Houdek, Richard Bolen and Darlene Eckerman attended the 95th Wisconsin Farm Bureau Annual Meeting as Langlade County delegates along with their respective spouses Janice, Judy and Steve.

Held at the Kahlahari Resort and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells on December 6, 7 and 8, they joined approximately 1,100 other members.

The theme was Innovate, Educate and Motivate and it opened with dinner, presentations and speaker Roger Radley, who called himself the “funniest former farmer,” originally from Wisconsin.

Foundation. Workshops included “Estate and Succession Planning,” “Writing Your Stories,” “The ABCs of Social Media” and “Farming with Technology.”

Ideas were gathered to take back to our local Farm Bureaus.

New this year was the Fun’d the Foundation trivia contest.

A banquet honoring The Leopold Conservation Award winners, Jack and Pat Herricks from Cashton, culminated with an inspirational guest speaker, Chad Hymas.

Chad talked about overcoming enormous odds after a farm accident left him paralyzed. His story touched everyone and helped us realize what is possible.

Monday’s business meeting included voting on topics to be worked on throughout the year by Farm Bureau members and legislature committees. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Strategic Plan for 2015–2020 was introduced and the meeting adjourned at noon.



The Langlade County Farm Bureau’s Fun’d the Foundation trivia contest team put their heads together to come up with the answers.

At the same time, the trade show was open with displays from the winning programs from the county Farm Bureau groups and non-profits such as 4-H, college youth, FFA, etc.

Other booths presented information and door prizes from Chevy, John Deere, AAA, Rural Mutual Insurance and more. Items available for silent auction were donated by county Farm Bureaus with the proceeds donated to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau

95th WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference *By Jake Bula*

On December 5-7 I attended the Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Conference at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Friday night we had the YFA welcome dinner and program with our district meetings to follow. It was a great experience talking with fellow District 7 YFA members and discussing possible activities that we can do as a district. Then we enjoyed the Mantz Brothers Band.

Saturday was fun and informative listening to the speakers and attending breakout sessions about making meetings productive, hot topics in ag, threats to the ag sector, rural leadership, ag advocacy and farm safety.

Then at the Saturday evening extravaganza it was a fun time enjoying the comedy of Roger Radley.

Sunday the speaker, Chad Hymas, told us a very inspirational story of his life after he was injured when a square bale fell on him. His

message was about overcoming adversity. He was a great speaker. Then it was time for the YFA conference to come to a close.

All in all it was a great experience learning new things while meeting new friends and reconnecting with old friends.

It was a great time and I hope I can attend again. Thank you to all who made it possible for me to attend.



Jake Bula (right) interacted with other YFA members during the District 7 YFA meeting icebreaker at the 95th WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference in December.



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Joint Langlade Farm Bureau Board and Antigo FFA Meeting and Pizza Party Grows Possibilities By Dick Bolen

The Langlade County Farm Bureau board meeting on December 17 was held at the Antigo High School Ag Room. The meeting was attended by some of the FFA members and their teacher, Jolynne Schroepfer.

Langlade County Farm Bureau furnished pizza and soda for the noon meeting.

Wes Raddatz, Farm Bureau District 7 Coordinator explained to the FFA members what Farm Bureau is and who we represent. FFA members explained some of the projects that they are working on.

During the Langlade County Farm Bureau board of directors meeting we met with the FFA officer team and we reviewed projects to see if we could partner with them.

We toured the green house and Ms. Schroepfer explained what was going to be planted this spring.

The experience was good for all who attended and we are excited to see how we can partner with the FFA.



The board of directors meets with the Antigo FFA officers in the Antigo High School Ag Department.

Estate Planning and Farm Succession Workshop Held

By Dale Fronck and Mary Fronck



The organizers of the Estate and Succession Planning Workshop made sure no one was hungry.

The Succession Planning Workshop on November 17, was held at the Knights of Columbus in Antigo. Richard Bollenbeck an attorney from Appleton, spoke about different type of trusts and the benefits of passing your assets on to

children or an organization that you choose.

Bollenbeck also mentioned drafting a power of attorney document. This allows a single person to make decisions for you while you are living but unable or unavailable to do so.

Jared Nelson, a consultant from Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, explained different insurance policies that will aid the beneficiary of the trust(s). The event was sponsored by Rural Mutual Insurance



Russ Van Lanen (left) discussed concerns with attendees who also were offered a consultation.



Attorney Rick Bollenbeck from Appleton addressed legal issues to consider as they get involved in the estate planning process.

and Langlade County Farm Bureau, lunch was provided by Dave Meihak and Russ Van Lanen.

The meeting was very informative, beneficial and motivational. It started everyone thinking about their estate and doing something before they pass so that heirs are not burdened by probate and regulation, or do something against someone's wishes.



Jared Nelson, senior regional financial consultant with Farm Bureau Life Insurance, helped attendees understand the options that are available to make successful business transitions.

What is Farm Bureau? By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

Farm Bureau is NOT an "end" in itself. Farm Bureau IS the "means" by which you may be able to achieve the "end" you have in mind.

Farm Bureau is the vehicle that can empower you through its resources to achieve the ideas you wouldn't be able to or would find it much harder to accomplish on your own.

Farm Bureau's "Voice of Agriculture" slogan really means YOUR voice amplified by more than 24,000 other farmer and agriculturist member's voices statewide, and by more than five and a half million nationwide.

There is an old ag policy saying, "Put 10 farmers in a room together and they'll never agree on anything."

There may be a little truth in that, but Farm Bureau provides the means through which farmers and agriculturists can find the com-

mon ground they need, no pun intended, to be able to make things better for their farms and agri-businesses in the nation, this state, this county and their local area.

The keynote speaker at the last 95th WFBF Annual Meeting, was Chad Hymas, who was severely injured at age 27 when a square bale of hay fell on him and broke his neck. His address was entitled, "Who needs legs, when you have wings." Those of you reading this probably have the use of your arms and legs, and by becoming actively involved in Farm Bureau you also can take wing.

New people, new ideas and new challenges are welcome in Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau's published vision statement is to "lead a growing and dynamic agriculture."

You can help!



Five dollars cannot buy much anymore.

That is, unless we're talking about the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation; then \$5 can make a huge impact.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation provides the funding for the Ag in the Classroom program, collegiate Farm Bureau chapters at three Wisconsin universities, Farm Bureau's leadership Institute, as well as the Women's and Young Farmer and Agriculturist programs.

Keeping these programs financially viable is critical to growing future farm leaders and educating consumers about agriculture. To help fund the Foundation, in 2015 you will notice a \$5 voluntary contribution line-item for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation on your Farm Bureau dues renewal statement or Rural Mutual Insurance bill. We hope you'll view this as an investment in farming's future and choose to make a contribution.

Why is this necessary?

Aside from contributions from generous

supporters, the Foundation has traditionally relied on two annual fundraisers: the Wisconsin Ag Open golf outing and a silent auction at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting. Programs like Ag in the Classroom and the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program were moved under the Foundation's umbrella a few years ago.

While this has provided a tremendous cost savings to our bottom line, it also means that additional funds are needed to keep these programs sustainable.

Moving forward, we want young students to know that farmers grow their food. We want college students from all backgrounds to see agriculture's opportunities. We need to help grow the next crop of agricultural leaders and help Farm Bureau members find their voice.

The Foundation and this \$5 contribution is our vehicle to make these things happen.

In closing, we are asking you to:

GIVE to a way of life you love.

ENRICH the education of young people through agricultural education.

PLEDGE to get young people started in agriculture.

COMMIT to tomorrow's leaders.

INVEST in the future of farming.

Humor Corner By Wes Raddatz

Two blondes were going to Disneyland. They were driving on the Interstate when they saw a sign that said DISNEYLAND LEFT. They started crying and went home.

A blonde was playing Trivial Pursuit one night. At her turn she rolled the dice and landed on Science and Nature. Her question was, "If you are in a vacuum and someone calls your name, can you hear it?" She thought for a time and then asked, "Is it on or off?"

In the winter the dog wears his coat.
In the summer he wears his coat and pants.



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
 - 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.

2014 Langlade County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Held By Tom Houdek, President



President Tom Houdek conducted the 2014 LCFB annual meeting.

The 2014 annual meeting of Langlade County Farm Bureau was held on October 15 at the Ackley Town Hall.

There was an excellent turnout with forty-seven members and guests attending. The meeting started

with a delicious chicken dinner provided by Frontier-Servco FS and prepared at FS Fast Stop.

Reporting on Wisconsin Farm Bureau topics were Steve Freese, who is just completing his first year as CAO of Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, and Bob Leege director of member relations division for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. Also attending were Brian Koenig new general



Wisconsin Senator Tom Tiffany told the group about his experiences representing Langlade County in the legislature.

manager of Frontier-Servco FS and Sam Skemp, retiring manager. They provided an update on business at Frontier-Servco FS.

Marie Graupner from the Langlade County Land Conservation Department and Stephanie Plaster, a Langlade County agricultural agent, gave updates on local issues. Senator Tom Tiffany talked about his activities. Dave Meihak, the area manager for Rural Mutual Insurance reported on growth and strength in the company.

Jolynne Schroepfer, Antigo High School ag instructor, was accompanied by the Antigo FFA officers and spoke about the Ag in the Classroom project along with some FFA activities.

Elections were held for local directors. Winning three-year terms were Jake Bula, Jim Jansen and Tom Houdek. Elected as delegates to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting were Dick Bolen, Darlene Eckerman and Tom Houdek, with Jake Bula as alternate.

Our next annual meeting is already being planned for October 21 so try to join us if you can.



Antigo High School Ag Instructor, Jolynne Schroepfer and Antigo FFA members highlighted their use of Ag in the Classroom resource books.

District 7 Women's Fall Summit Hosted

The District 7 Women's Fall Summit was hosted by the Shawano County Farm Bureau Women's Committee last October at the CRI Resource Center in Shawano.

Jay Moynihan, Shawano County UW Extension Community Resource Development Agent, who addressed the topic of



Jay Moynihan, Shawano County UW Extension Community Resource Development Agent, addressed homelessness and hunger versus ag production and distribution in the future.

homelessness and hunger versus ag production and world-wide distribution in the future.

After lunch, Tim Ewing, Director of the Navarino Nature

Center and Wildlife Area, talked about the nature Center's and the Navarino area's past development and highlighted the Center's present programs for both school age students and adults.



Tim Ewing, Director of the Navarino Nature Center and Wildlife Area, talks about the Center's past development and present programs.

Langlade County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Tom Houdek	715.627.2156
Vice President, Robert Fronek	715.623.2416
Secretary/Treasurer, Christy Sveda-Schreiber	715.623.7097
Women's Chair, Beverly Brecklin	715.623.4153
YFA Chair, Mary Fronek	715.623.2416
Director, Richard Bolen	715.623.6974
Director, Jake Bula	715.623.6779
Director, Darlene Eckerman	715.623.2520
Director, James Jansen	715.623.6261
Director, Lee Parsons	715.623.6618
Director, Jolynne Schroepfer	715.627.2539
WFBF Board Director, Wayne Staidl	715.582.3671
District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz	866.355.7346
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.344.6220

District 7 YFA Report

2014 was another great year for the YFA program!



Once again we nearly had 500 attendees at the YFA Conference at the Kalahari! District 7 only had 37 members attend so our goal is to have 50 attendees in 2015.

New this year was a corn hole (bean bag toss) tournament and for the entertainment we had the Mantz Brothers Band perform. Both were a big hit!

If you know someone who is involved in the agriculture industry and should be interested in Farm Bureau encourage them to join.

Remember, if they would like to attend the YFA Conference, and if they haven't attended before, they can apply for a Rural Mutual Insurance sponsorship to the event. This year it will take place December 4-6 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

The District 7 YFA Gamblers hockey game event at their dairy night in Green Bay February 28 was a huge success with 46 YFA members attending.

Have a wonderful 2015!
Brian and Kristi Fiedler
District 7 YFA Representatives

Wisconsin Ag Open set for Sept. 14

The 18th Annual Wisconsin Ag Open hosted by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation will be held on Monday, September 14 at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.

For sponsorship and registration details, contact Wendy Kannel at wkannel@wfbf.com, 608.828.5719, or download a form from the Foundation website.

