



Brown County Farm Bureau

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RURAL MUTUAL AGENTS IN BROWN COUNTY

Frank Ellefson (920) 347-4896	Kevin Schommer (920) 532-0138	Tina Mickelson (920) 347-4899
Chris Stewart (920) 737-0083	Pat Truttmann (920) 338-9756	Carmel Duffy (920) 680-3407

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

January 24, 2018

Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

Early Registration Deadline: January 18

Cost: \$25 per person by registration deadline.

\$30 after deadline and at the door.

Schedule of Events:

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 a.m. Opening Program
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Legislative Briefing
- 3:00 p.m. Leave for Capitol Visits

Presented by: 

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



Save the Date: Ag Day at the Capitol

Join us for Ag Day at the Capitol on **Wednesday, January 24, 2018**. Open to all Farm Bureau members at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison.

Early registration deadline is **January 18, 2018**, at the cost of \$25 per person, \$30 after deadline and at the door.

Your county Farm Bureau will sponsor any registration for any active voting member. Don't miss your opportunity to speak with your local legislators about issues affecting you and your farm.

For information or to register, please contact District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at 866.355.7345.





COUNTYnews

BROWN COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Brown County Farm Bureau Celebrates Success during Annual Meeting

There were about 50 members and guests who attended this year's Brown County Farm Bureau annual meeting to create policy resolutions and vote for county board directors. Also selected was the county's voting delegates for the WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells.

The county passed four state resolutions and three federal resolutions that were shared with the WFBF Policy Development Committee for consideration and then the delegates.

State

1. We support being allowed to implement drainage and tiling on agricultural lands. *Natural Resources: Drainage and Water Law*
2. NRCS, DNR and Army Corp of Engineers need to have the same interpretation of the rules in regards to wetlands. *Natural Resources: Wetlands*

3. We oppose any new well drilled within 250 feet of any lot line, or within 250 feet of any mound/septic system. *Natural Resources: Groundwater*
4. We support the ability to have the technology to diagnose and repair new high technology farm equipment without the permission from manufacturer.

Federal

1. We support fair regional pricing within the PLC and ARC programs. *National Farm Policy: Commodity Programs*
2. We support being able to update base on farms without any by using five-year averages of previous crop history. *National Farm Policy: Commodity Programs*
3. We support updating Roll over Protection standards to meet safety standards for today.



Ashley Prue presented the Ag in the Classroom report.



Diederich Farm was awarded the Brown County Farm Bureau Conservation Award at the 2017 Brown County Farm Bureau annual meeting at Graystone Ale House in De Pere.

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Membership Year End: Welcome New Members

Please welcome these individuals/businesses to the Farm Bureau family: Binsfield Farms LLC*, Gregory Diny, Taylor Vandenzelen, Erin Comer, Brian Freeburg, Vanessa Yang, Lynette Bastian, Jason Vander Linden*, Joseph Linskens, Cory Sotka, Anthony Elfe, Jane Mleziva, Judith Spang, Keith Mckay, Molly Bushmaker, Paige Andrist, Carrie Woulf, Christy Yang, Chad Fameree, Lance Davister, Brian Smits, Kaitlyn Nieman, Whitney Barnes*, Daniel Koseck, Wayne Phillips, Joey Nowak, Taylor Goldoski, Gary Grygiel, Jill Pansier, Douglas Allen, John Fritsch, Alyssa Moore, Natalie Killion*, Michael Coppens, William Peters, Breanna Everetts, Randy Johnson, Jeff Everetts, Hunter Everetts, Janelle Klubertanz, Nicholas Conrad, Brooke Slaby, Leah Heindel, Amy Fulton, Christopher Stewart, Marc Minani*, Chris Vega, Bryan Glime, Matthew Diederichs, Rick Hamacher, Tasha Mendoza, Conner Trudell, Timothy Perkins, Keagan Swanson, Autumn Lemirande, Matthew Kiekhaefer, Nicholas Vance, Brandon Robaidek, Brian Waskowiak, Caryn Frazier, James Eichhorst, Grant Glodoski, Cody Akerboom, Samantha Jacobs, Kellen Truttman, Robert Green, Dillon Voltz, Benjamin Borchardt, Steven Matuszewski, Wendy Karabush, Danielle Bertrand, Kerry Denil, Alyssa Bloechl, Ledgeview Farms LLC* and Justin Lenz. *Denotes voting member.

Brown County Farm Bureau signed six new voting members and 72 new associate members. Thank you to the membership workers who encouraged those to become Farm Bureau members.

Brown County Farm Bureau Presents Conservation Award

The 2017 Brown County Farm Bureau Conservation Award was presented to the owners of Diederich Farm. The farm was first purchased in 1913 and today it is owned by Ray Diederich and his son Dan Diederich and daughter-in-law Sarah Diederich.

Ray's son Matthew Diederich works full-time on the farm. Matthew is married to Jera, and their children Levi and Reilly also help on the farm.

Liz Binversie and Phil Ulmer took a trip to Diederich Farm to visit with Ray and Dan, and to make a video about their family, their farm, and their conservation practices that can be seen on the Brown County Farm Bureau Facebook page.

Congratulations to the Diederich family!

From the President

Another annual meeting has come and gone and before we know it, 2018 will be here so it brings me to a pass on a few things, Ag Day at the Capitol is **January 24, 2018**. It's a day that the ag sector comes in and talks to the legislators about current ag issues and upcoming issues that will affect us in the agriculture sector. I encourage you come to Madison that day if your schedule allows.

Secondly as write this article, I see the news of fatal farm accident involving a combine and SUV, the details of the accident

have not been released yet it brings me another point. When Wisconsin Act 377 was signed law in April 2014 we in the farming sector had until November 2015 to comply with the lighting and marking requirements for IOH and related equipment.

Thanks to the farmers who upgraded your older equipment to the new lighting standards. For those who have not, what are you waiting for? It gives farmers a bad image if you are involved in an accident.

Lastly, I want to mention that in October 2019 we are having 75th annual meeting of the Brown County Farm Bureau.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year from the Brown County Farm Bureau board of directors.

Stan Kaczmarek
Brown County Farm Bureau president

District 6 YFA Discussion Meet



The District 6 YFA Discussion Meet was on August 8 at the Rural Mutual office in St. Nazianz. We had five very qualified contestants who participated in the discussion meet.

This year's district topic was: **Formation of family farm corporations is common practice. How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that the public's posi-**

tive perception of the family farm is not lost?

The five contestants were Mikayla Kuehl and Ryan Schulz from Kewaunee County and Jamie Propson, David Propson and Kelly Wilfert from Manitowoc county. The three contestants who competed at the YFA Conference were Jamie, David and Kelly.

Brown County Farm Bureau Offers Scholarship

The Brown County Farm Bureau will award one \$500 scholarship to a student pursuing an agriculture-related degree.

Eligible applicants must be taking post high school agriculture related training or long- or short-course within the UW System or Wisconsin Technical College System. This includes the study of genetics, landscape, architecture, biochemistry, bacteriology, food industry, horticulture, environmental sciences, agriculture journalism and other agriculture-related fields of study.

Candidates for the scholarship must be a Brown County resident or student at a Brown County school, and they must be enrolled or planning to enter their first year of college at the time of application. Candidates need not be a Farm Bureau member.

To obtain a scholarship application, please contact District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at bsalm@wbf.com or 866.355.7345. Applications are due **April 1, 2018**.

Plan to Attend the IGNITE Conference in April

Plan to attend the 2018 IGNITE Conference at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Stevens Point on **April 5-6, 2018**.

Innovate, Grow, Network, Inform, Train, Engage or IGNITE is a statewide information, training and fun-filled member engagement meeting for county Farm Bureau members.

The purpose is the strengthen county leaders and Farm Bureau by providing them with program ideas, resources and new skills to carry out the mission of their county Farm Bureau.

More than 20 workshops are available following four training tracks including: governance and organization, building Farm Bureau, communicating for agriculture and Farm Bureau and policy, issues and advocacy.

Mark your calendars now.



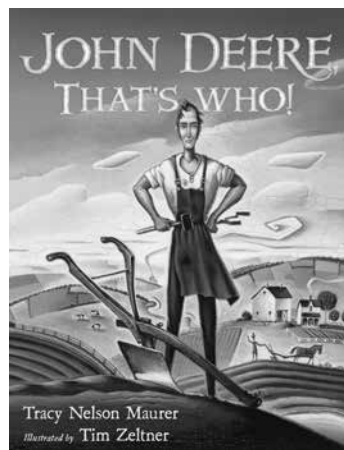
Ag in the Classroom Announces Essay Topic and Book of the Year

The 2018 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Book of the Year is written by Wisconsin native Tracy Nelson Maurer. "John Deere, That's Who!" educates students about agricultural advancements in technology, efficiency and productivity.

Each year, the Ag in the Classroom program holds an essay contest in conjunction with the book of the year for fourth and fifth grade students throughout the state. This year's essay contest topic is, "Inventions that have made agriculture great". Accompanying lessons aligned to state standards and various Wisconsin educational resources are available online for teachers, students and volunteers to use in promoting and preparing essays.

"Technology is something that many students don't associate with agriculture," said Darlene Arneson, Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Coordinator. "This year's book and essay contest will give students the opportunity to explore how technology is helping produce food, fuel and fiber and for teachers to incorporate ag into their STEM curriculum."

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words



in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. The essay contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are located at wisagclassroom.org/whats-new. Essays are due **April 2, 2018**.

Nine district winners will be selected with one being chosen as the state winner in May by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Promotion and Education Committee. Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation for their class. The essay contest is sponsored by We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation. Last year, more than 2,800 students participated in the contest.

Questions about the book or how to place an order can be directed to aitc@wbf.com.

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.

WFBF Membership Incentives

So 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.

Carry it Forward

First Down: Volunteer membership workers who sign up at least one new member by January 31 will receive Farm Bureau popcorn.

Two-point Conversion: Volunteer membership workers who sign up two or more new members by February 28 will have the opportunity to autograph their district's commemorative Farm Bureau Proud Football, which will be awarded by drawing at the end of the membership year to one of those who autographed it.

Field Goal: Volunteer membership workers who sign up three or more new members by March 30 will receive a Farm Bureau Proud Knit Cap.

Touchdown: Volunteer membership workers who sign up seven or more new members by July 31 will receive a Farm Bureau Proud Fleece to be presented at their county annual meeting.

Don't forget this is in addition to the \$20 volunteer membership workers receive for signing new members throughout the year.

Watch for more district incentives coming soon.



There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

Supplies and Products

- John Deere's GreenFleet™ Loyalty Rewards Program (NEW)
- Case IH
- Caterpillar
- FS-GROWMARK Patronage
- Grainger
- Office Depot

Communication

- AgriVisor
- The Country Today

Insurance

- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
- Farm Bureau Financial Services

Protection

- \$500 Reward Protection Program
- Accidental Death Policy

Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Life Line (NEW)

Travel

- AAA
- AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
- Budget (NEW)
- Choice Hotels International, Inc.
- Wyndham Hotel Group

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

District 6 Coordinator Update

"Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care." - Theodore Roosevelt

Greetings Farm Bureau members,

No one ever said farming was easy. I knew that when I started farming with my husband, now 10 years ago. Our size, location, and much more has changed since we started but we keep going. This year started off particularly tough in losing our hay ground to winterkill. We prayed for dry days to complete planting. We hoped the hail would miss our corn when storm after storm rolled in. Now, we try to wait patiently as the corn dries to start harvest. Farmers endure. We farm knowing in the blink of an eye it could be gone. We manage risk, we pray for good times to come.

Why? We care. We care about agriculture, providing for our animals, growing a safe and nutritious product for our consumers. We care about the heritage and legacy of those who farmed before us and try to provide a pathway for those to farm after we are gone. We care about the land, the water, our environment around us.

As a member of Farm Bureau, the state's largest and most influential farm organization, you are a part of an organization that cares. Our members show they care in taking part of the policy development process that empowers our members into positive action. In addition, programs like Young Farmers and Agriculturists, Promotion and Education Committee and Ag in the Classroom provide members opportunities to connect and share their stories of caring with consumers young and old.

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau member, caring for the future of agriculture and for participating in this annual meeting. I am amazed by the accomplishments of our members and am very pleased to be a part of the Farm Bureau team. Farm Bureau is the strong organization that it is because of how much you care. Agriculture is abundant here and together we will continue to be A Voice for Farmers and A Vision for Agriculture.

Kind regards,

Becky Salm

District 6 Coordinator
920.253.5303, bsalm@wfbf.com

Upcoming Events

December

1-4 98th WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference, Wisconsin Dells

January

5-10 98th AFBF Annual Convention, Nashville, Tennessee
19 FFA Farm Forum early registration deadline
23 Council of Presidents
24 Ag Day at the Capitol

February

1 FFA Farm Forum final registration deadline
16-17 FFA Farm Forum, Wisconsin Rapids

March

1 Ag in the Classroom Matching Grant applications due
30 County early bird bonanza membership cut-off

April

1 Ag in the Classroom essays due to county essay coordinators
5-6 IGNITE Conference, Stevens Point
6 Second round of White-Reinhardt Mini-Grant applications due to AFBFA

Brown County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Stan Kaczmarek	920.660.1938
Vice President, Raymond Diederich	920.336.0942
Secretary, Treasurer and Promotion and Education Chair, Kim VandenAvond	920.246.2361
YFA Chair, Ashley Claussen	715.281.9265
Director, Josh Claussen	715.281.1810
Director, Nicole Nohl	920.980.4291
Director, Ray Tauscher	920.327.1973
Director, Phil Ullmer	920.660.0652
Director, Don Van Deurzen	920.336.6265
Director, Nicki Van Deurzen	920.336.3519

Brown County Farm Bureau	888.644.8359
WFBF Board Director, Rosie Lisowe	920.849.4413
WFBF Promotion and Education, Rosalie Geiger	920.901.3249
WFBF YFA, Carley Blado	920.418.2226
District 6 Coordinator, Becky Salm	920.693.8467
RMIC District Manager, Harv Eckrote	608.828.5594

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Thanks to Our Rural Mutual Agent



Thank you to our Rural Mutual agent Pat Truttman who signed 46.5 new members this year.

Thank you Pat!

New Board Members



Hey Farm Bureau world! We are Josh and Ashley Claussen, Dairy Farmers from Denmark. We are first generation farmers, we bought our farm and cows on April 1, 2016. We milk 90 cows in a double-six parallel parlor.

New board member Josh Claussen, and his wife, new YFA chair Ashley Claussen.

Josh graduated from Lakeshore Technical College with a degree in business and herd management. He has worked in the dairy industry since age 12. I on the other hand, had no previous dairy experience, until that catchy pick up line, "it's the smell of money!"

We have four beautiful children, ages 5 to 9, who double as our hired farm help. Recently, I filled the seat for the Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) chair for Brown County.

Josh is a leader for the Denmark Red Lightning 4-H Club. As well we both sit on the Farm Bureau board.

Though our lives seem pretty chaotic sometimes, we wouldn't have it any other way. We look forward to serving and getting to know our local Farm Bureau members.