



Buffalo County Farm Bureau

PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

Address Service Requested

Non Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Platteville, WI 53818
Permit No. 124

THE #1 INSURER OF FARMS IN WISCONSIN IS REWARDING POLICYHOLDERS
Introducing the Rural Mutual Farm Dividend Program



For more information about the farm dividend program and how you may qualify, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.



RURAL MUTUAL AGENTS IN BUFFALO COUNTY

Steve Berger
(715) 926-3871

Laurie Peterson, District Manager - (608) 347-0383

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

U.S. Secretary Perdue Visits Wisconsin

Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Jim Holte hosted U.S. Secretary Sonny Perdue on his farm for a private event on August 4. In attendance were more than 40 Farm Bureau members, Senator Ron Johnson, Congressman Sean Duffy and representatives from various commodity groups.

Holte released the following statement following the event: "Thank you to Secretary Perdue for taking time to talk with the people who are impacted most by Washington's decisions. His 'Back to Our Roots' tour gave many Wisconsin farmers a chance to explain the realities they are facing day-to-day.

During our time with Secretary Perdue we discussed Wisconsin's overall agricultural economy, dairy, trade, farm succession planning, immigration and rural broadband.

Our deepest appreciation goes to Secretary Perdue for meeting with us and representing rural America in D.C. The conversation we had truly was like sitting down with an old farming friend."

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members welcomed U.S. Secretary Sonny Perdue at various other events during his time spent in Wisconsin.



More than 40 Farm Bureau members met with the U.S. Secretary Sonny Perdue at WFBF President Jim Holte's farm on August 4.



District 4 Director and Buffalo County Farm Bureau President Joe Bragger sat with Secretary Perdue, addressing agricultural economy, dairy, trade, farm succession planning, immigration and rural broadband.

Rosli Bragger Advances to Wisconsin Farm Bureau YFA's State Discussion Meet

Congratulations to Buffalo County YFA member Rosli Bragger of Independence for advancing to the state YFA Discussion Meet. Bragger was one of five participants in the 2017 District Discussion Meet, which was held at the Sand Creek Brewery in Black River Falls on July 25.

Along with Rosli, Jody Wilhelm (Eau Claire County), Emily Herness (Trempealeau County), Savannah

Brown (Jackson County) and Brittany Herricks (Monroe County) competed in the district contest.

Jody Wilhelm and Emily Herness will join Rosli representing District 4 during the state YFA Discussion Meet in December.

Congratulations Rosli!



Jody Wilhelm (Eau Claire County), Emily Herness (Trempealeau County), Savannah Brown (Jackson County), Rosli Bragger (Buffalo County) and Brittany Herricks (Monroe County) participated in the 2017 District 4 YFA Discussion Meet. Jody, Emily and Rosli will advance to the state competition during the YFA Conference on December 1-3 in Wisconsin Dells.



Rosli Bragger delivers her opening statement during the District Discussion Meet on July 25.



COUNTYnews

BUFFALO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



A Successful Progressive Agriculture Safety Day®



One hundred twenty-four students participated in the 2017 Progressive Agriculture Safety Day®.



The 20th annual Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® was another success.

124 students and 40 parents and volunteers learned about safety on farms, in their homes and around their communities.

The mission of the

Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® is simple: To provide education and training to make farm and ranch life safer and healthier for children and their communities. At the heart of this effort is the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® program.

Founded by "The Progressive Farmer" magazine in 1995, the program trains and provides the resources that local communities need to conduct one-day safety programs that are age-appropriate, hands-on, fun and safe for children.

The basic program reaches children ages of 8 to 13. Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® are conducted in the U.S., Canada and the U.S. territories.

The safety day is organized and supported by Progressive Agriculture Foundation and a local committee including: Jan Schaffner; Carl Duley; Jon Zander; Chris Jumbeck; Dr. Sarah Slaby, DVM; Darin Gray; Annie Lisowski; Kayla Marsolek; Jamie Back and Jason Hovell.

National sponsors include: Bunge North America, Inc.; Crop Production Services, Inc.; Agrium, Inc.; Farm Credit; CHS; CHS Foundation; Enbridge; ADM; John Deere; Monsanto Company; and TransCanada.

Thank you to the local sponsors including:

Cash Donations

Our Platinum Sponsors (\$500 or more): Buffalo County Barley Society, Compeer Financial and Riverland Energy Cooperative.

Our Gold Sponsors (\$250 or more): Alliance Bank and Short Lane AG Supply LLC.

Our Bronze Sponsors (\$50 or more): American Family Insurance: Carol Wineski; Arcadia Motors Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram; Arcadia Credit Union; Buffalo County Farm Bureau, Dairyland Laboratories, Inc.; ProCountry Auction Service LLC; Scott Werlein, Prudential; Paul Sobotta; State Bank of Arcadia; Trempealeau Jackson County Bankers Association and Whitetails Unlimited: Mississippi Valley Chapter.

In-Kind Donations

AMPI; Bawek's Shoe Store; Buffalo County Ag Association; Buffalo County UW-Extension; Falls Meat Service, Inc.; Lions' Old Time Farm Fest; Arcadia FFA; Cochrane Fountain City FFA; Independence FFA; Organic Valley; Shots by Jos; Supreme Graphics and Tractor Central.

Also, thank you to our presenters including: Deputy Mike Osmond and Dog Riley with the assistance of Danielle Schalinske, Vong Xiong; DNR, Bill Kriese; Rural Mutual Insurance Company, Jon Zander; Compeer Financial, Carl Duley; UW-Cooperative Extension, West Central Wisconsin Ambulance Service; Billi Jo Steele, Mondovi Ambulance; Brian Gibbs, Rachel Hovey; UW Cooperative Extension, Stan Godfrey; Whitetails Unlimited; Mississippi Valley Chapter, Margaret Meier-Jones, Marie Ritscher; UW-Extension.

If you are interested in conducting a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day for your school or community, visit www.progressiveag.org/GetInvolved.cgi.

Applications are due on July 15 for Safety Day events to be held the following calendar year.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2** President's Message
- District 4 Resolutions
- District Director Report
- 3** Farm Bureau Supports
- County Fair Auction
- Fun on the Farm
- Shake Season Closes
- Scholarships
- Member Benefits
- Board Contacts

President's Message – Write it down! Save the Date!



Buffalo County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting
Danzinger Winery, Alma
October 12, 2017
Time: 7 p.m.

I am really looking forward to this year's annual meeting. We are fortunate to have Kim Bremmer, founder of Ag Inspirations, as our guest speaker.

Bremmer travels the nation advocating for agriculture and explaining some of the common misconceptions the public has about farming and food. Please visit her website, aginspirations.com. You also can go to the Buffalo County Facebook page to link to her website. Bremmer's insight is

sure to positively entertain and enlighten everyone.

Besides a great dinner and camaraderie, we also will celebrate some accomplishments as well as some of the people in our organization.

One of the most important aspects of our organization is the grassroots policy development. The policy that Farm Bureau uses as guidelines comes from its membership at a county level.

A copy of the proposed resolutions is included in this county newsletter. Resolutions that affect our members at the local, state and national levels also will be considered.

Members are encouraged to bring their proposed policy for discussion and possible ratification by the members in attendance. If there are issues that you want to have help word-

ing or get ready beforehand, please contact any of our board members or contact me at 715.530.0466. State and national resolutions go to the WFBF Annual Meeting for consideration by our delegates. Local issues become goals for Buffalo County Farm Bureau to work on.

We also encourage people with an interest in agriculture get involved with our board of directors, nominations for open seats and for delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting also will be voted on—so if you are interested or know of a good candidate, please contact one of the directors.

I truly wish everyone considers attending, you will not be disappointed, "believe me, it will be huuuuuge."

Joe Bragger
President Buffalo County Farm Bureau

2017 District 4 Resolutions

The following resolutions were discussed at the policy development meeting on July 25 at the Sand Creek Brewery in Black River Falls. These resolutions will be voted on for approval during the Buffalo County annual meeting at 7 p.m. on **Thursday, October 12**, at Danzinger Winery in Alma.

Please plan to attend the Buffalo County annual meeting on **October 12** to discuss these proposed resolutions or to present other resolutions that should be voted upon by the membership.

State Wineries

1. Support any legislation that allows wineries and craft brewers to be on an even playing field with taverns and restaurants for hours of operation.
2. Support current bill in Senate supporting Winery Class B closing from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.
3. Oppose any attempts by liquor distributors to change liquor license laws by attaching to 999 resolutions without having hearings in proper committees.

Cost Share

1. We recognize high end cost share, such as manure storage, should be managed for the life of the farm. However, smaller items, such as incentives for cover crops and no till, should not be required for the life of the farm as they are incentives for farmers to try new conservation practices.

Technical Service Providers

1. To encourage NRCS to open technical service providers to allow certified farmers to participate and complete conservation projects.
2. Stream bank damage following a storm should be allowed to be returned to pre-storm locations.

Noxious Weeds

1. We support the mandatory enforcement of noxious weed laws for farm and landowners.

Department of Natural Resources

1. In a time of disaster or emergency, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) should be counted on to assist and aid people with bridges and creek crossings, not hinder them, by waiving usual fees and providing timely service.
2. We support the development of preventative trainings, resources and certifications that allow farmers and landowners to repair storm damage in a timely fashion with quick approval from Land Conservation.
3. We support compensation for damages caused by wildlife introduced by government programs, such as elk and wolves.

Federal

Food Labelling

1. Support change to fat percentage labelling on bottled milk from "2% Fat" to "98% Fat Free," "1% Fat" to "99% Fat Free," etc.

CRP

1. We support the calculation of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) rental rates be re-examined annually at enrollment.
2. We advocate for waterways and sensitive areas to be eligible for CRP with the payments going to the individual operating the farm.

Farm Bill - Conservation

1. We support lowering of the conservation standard to *T* as long as we can receive increased technical assistance funding.

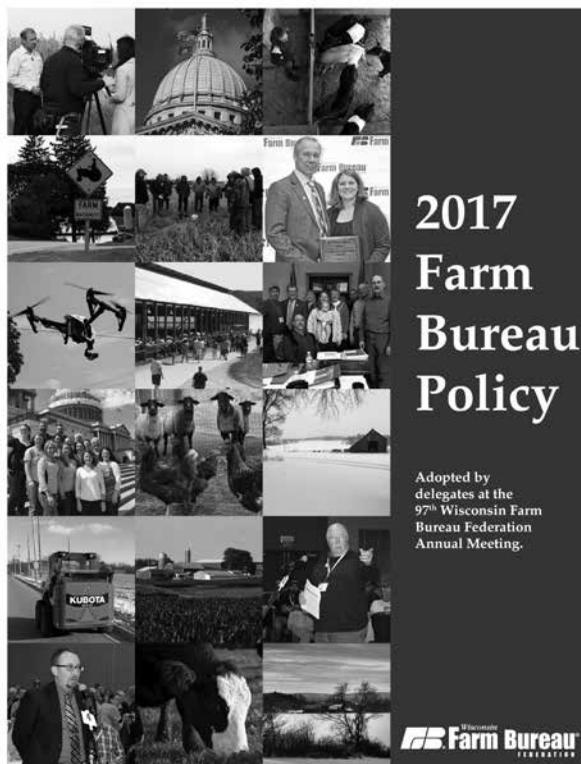
Affirmation

Right to Repair

1. We support AFBF's resolution 151 Farm Machinery.

Discovery Farms

1. We support UW-Discovery Farms.



District Director Report: Soon ... Coming to a Place Near You?

These words usually bring about positive excitement about some new business or other opportunity coming to your community.

In the case of a Brown County farm, something did come to them but the excitement didn't, what did was more regulation that may effectively stop them from growing their farm.

Recently, Ledgeview Farms looked to expand their farm by 170 cows; the farm has 550 milking and dry cows, 705 heifers of differing ages and 425 steers. They were planning on expanding their manure storage as a part of the expansion. Residents in the area got concerned, hearings were held and meetings were attended to get the town board to stop the expansion. At one point, a 300-foot setback was going to be expanded to 350 feet.

But why stop there? The town board then passed an ordinance requiring a 1,320-foot setback. This does not just apply to manure storage but facilities, as well.

Now, imagine if you owned a quarter section or 160 acres; you would not be able to build in the center of it. How would this affect your farm? Often rules set to limit larger farms are more detrimental to smaller farms, the ones that folks claim to love when they are in the country.

Ok ... now what? Farm Bureau has introduced an exciting new position: Director of Local Affairs. The Director of Local Affairs position has been set up to assist local Farm Bureaus to effectively weigh in on issues like the one I explained. If you have an issue or know of one that is brewing in your area, please don't hesitate to contact your Buffalo County Farm Bureau board members. They are setting up relationships with local agencies and officials and have access to the newly appointed Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe. I hope that many of you have met Steve as he has served District 4 Farm Bureau for six years as the District 4 Coordinator.

Coming to a place near you? Or maybe we can stop some of the madness.

As always, enough is too much.

Joe Bragger
WFBF District 4 Farm Bureau Director
715.530.0466
braggfam@triwest.net

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

Supplies and Products

- 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 wbf.com/benefits-membership.

Farm Bureau Purchases Livestock during Buffalo County Fair Auction



"Thank you Buffalo County Farm Bureau for purchasing my reserve champion lamb at the 2017 Buffalo County Fair."
- Billie Dittrich



"Thank you Buffalo County Farm Bureau for purchasing my market steer during the county fair." - Curtis Wieltzier



"Thank you to the Buffalo County Farm Bureau for purchasing my market hog this year. Your support is greatly appreciated."
- Jaden Gilreath

Annual Fun on the Farm a Great Success By Jan Schaffner

Buffalo County Farm Bureau members had another successful Fun on the Farm event held on August 17 at Suncrest Gardens Farm in Cochrane. There were about 100 guests that came to enjoy the delicious pizza and had a great time socializing with one another.

The pizza buffet had more than 30 pizzas with 15 different varieties of the farms' seasonal pizzas along with chips and salsa for guest to enjoy. The weather held out perfectly and the kids, both young and young at heart enjoyed a s'more to top the night off.

Fun on the Farm was started in 2015 with the intention of bringing together our members for a time of leisure without any formal agenda. The YFA and Ag Promotion Committees wanted to show their appreciation for the support of the activities that are carried on during the year.

Thank you to those who attended the event and we look forward to seeing you next August.



2017 Shake Season Comes to a Close By Jan Schaffner

As we celebrate the close of the 2017 shake/malt season, the committee can breathe a sigh of relief. Don't tell Loren Wolfe or LaVae Wantoch but it took five of us to replace them. Before we look to next year, we want to express our gratitude to those who make that stand a possibility.

We could not have accomplished another successful event without the volunteers who we count on to take money, scoop ice cream or mix and mix. I wouldn't want to miss anyone by listing everyone, but in all we asked about 100 volunteers to step in and help. The response almost is always a yes. We are grateful for that, especially when we called last minute.

What do we do with that money? Great ques-

tion and to sum it up is to take it back to educational purposes to our youth and to our members. We host different workshops during the year for farmers to help keep us informed and united. We get to go into the local schools and provide very informative and hands on learning opportunities for the youth. Money is used for calf grants, scholarships and tuition assistance to the WFBF Leadership Institute class.

So thank you to the workers in the 2017 shake/malt season; whether it was Arcadia Broiler Days or the Buffalo County Fair—Thank you! Oh, and one last thank you: Thank you to the milk shake and malt drinkers; for without you, we wouldn't be as successful.



Buffalo County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Joe Bragger	715.530.0466
Vice President, Chris Ellis	608.863.0007
Secretary/Treasurer, Taliah Danzinger	608.332.3889
Ag Promotions Chair, Jan Schaffner	608.687.3044
YFA Chair, Dustin Ellis	608.797.0380

Director, Patrick Danzinger	715.495.0450
Director, Mark Denk	715.577.3036
Director, LeeRoy Fernholz	608.863.1503
Director, Sharon Fernholz	608.863.1503
Director, Derek Leiffing	715.495.3686
Director, Julie Lindstrom	715.495.2679
Director, Ray Liska	608.606.2735
Director, Doug Olson	715.495.7543
Director, Charles Rippley	608.626.3511
Director, LaVae Wantoch	608.687.6062

Buffalo County Farm Bureau	888.644.8315
WFBF Board Director, Joe Bragger	715.530.0466
District 4 Promotion and Education Chair, Darby Sampson	715.299.1409
District 4 YFA Chair, Derek Husmoen	608.863.0105
District 4 Coordinator, Cassie Olson	866.355.7344
RMIC District Manager, Ken Truax	715.514.4477

American Farm Bureau Foundation Grants and Scholarships

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture has two important applications due **October 15**.



AMERICAN FARM BUREAU
FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE

The **White-Reinhardt Scholarship** provides opportunities to attend the 2018 National Ag in the Classroom Conference to full-time educators or volunteers who actively participate in classroom ag literacy programs or events are now available.

This scholarship program provides travel expense funds to attend the national conference and then use the information gained to expand their outreach to students regarding food, fiber and fuel. The 2018 National Ag in the Classroom Conference is in Portland, Maine, on **June 26-29, 2018**.

The **White-Reinhardt Mini-Grant Program** funds projects that will increase agricultural literacy. New this year, county and state Farm Bureaus may apply for \$1,000 grants for education programs for grades K-12 in order to initiate new ag literacy programs or expand existing programs. Grants are available on a competitive basis. The application deadline for the first cycle is **October 15** and **April 15** for the second.

For more information, visit www.agfoundation.org or contact foundation@fb.org.

Buffalo County Agriculture ...

More and more Buffalo County farmers sell directly to consumers from roadside stands, farmers' markets, auctions and pick-your-own farms, with 40 farms generating \$160,000 in local food sales.

