



Door County Farm Bureau

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RURAL MUTUAL AGENTS IN DOOR COUNTY

Randy Pingel	Nicholas Weldon
Pat Truttman	(920) 743-9206
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John Quirk, District Manager - (608) 957-5509

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Brey Graduates from WFBF Leadership Institute



Lauren Brey from Sturgeon Bay poses with President Jim Holte during her graduation ceremony on Sunday evening of the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Lauren Brey from Sturgeon Bay participated in her graduation ceremony from Class X of the WFBF Leadership Institute.

The WFBF Institute is a year-long premiere leadership training course at a graduate level whose mission is to produce strong and effective county Farm Bureau leaders.

The training focuses on personal growth and development, public speaking, working effectively with all forms of media, creativity training, understanding the role and functions of WFBF and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, training on working with government at the local, state and national levels, working to bridge the generational

divide among volunteers, consideration of current national and international agricultural issues and completion of a Personal Development Leadership Plan.

District Membership Incentives

Do 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! Sign up a voting member before April 1 and receive a chance to win a \$75 Fleet Farm gift card, a \$50 gas card or one of 5-\$10 Culvers gift cards. (One new entry for every new member between now and March 31)

Also, for each voting member you sign up before May 1, you will receive an entry for the grand prize of \$300 towards Packer tickets. Drawings will be held at the first county board meeting in the district after each deadline.

Welcome New Door County Farm Bureau Members

Mary Collar, Julie Kroll and Brandon Schopf*. *Denotes voting membership.

District YFA Green Bay Gamblers Game and Pizza Outing

This year's YFA Gamblers outing took place on February 18. About 120 YFA members had a blast at the game and enjoyed pizza after at the Green Bay Distillery.

The Green Bay Gamblers became the Green Bay Cheese complete with a cheese eating contest between periods.

Are you interested in more YFA events? To find out what is coming next in Door County, please call Door County YFA chair Lauren Brey at 920.262.0797.





COUNTYnews

DOOR COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Door County Farm Bureau Members Attend WFBF Annual Meeting

Tradition

Delegates at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's 97th Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells established new policy directives for the organization on December 5.

Recognizing the importance of natural resources and the environment, delegates opposed any type of blanket regulation that would encompass the entire state because of the variations in karst types throughout Wisconsin. Regulations should be specific to the unique areas affected.

Delegates displayed frustration with the current federal Dairy Margin Protection Program. After considerable in-depth discussion, they concluded the need for an improved program leading up to the 2018 Farm Bill.

Delegates supported an increase in the overall appropriation for the broadband grant program. They supported improving and upgrading the strength and reliability of coverage to enable efficient use of technology in farming practices in rural areas.

In regards to livestock and animal welfare, delegates supported farmers in consultation with their veterinarians deciding and administering husbandry practices that are appropriate for their farm.

They also supported more education for consumers on the merits of common animal husbandry practices. In addition, delegates supported the use of scientifically proven technologies for agricultural production practices.

Delegates from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 61 county Farm Bureaus also voted to:

- Support the state's livestock premise registration program.
- Support the state's fence law.
- Support a process by which atrazine restricted areas can be repealed.
- Support the inclusion of wild parsnip on the state's noxious weed list.
- Support funding for the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board.

On the federal level, delegates supported:

- Improving milk quality by lowering the somatic cell count limit to 400,000.
- The use of scientifically proven technologies for agricultural production practices.
- Farmers in consultation with their veterinarians deciding and administering husbandry practices that are appropriate for the farm.
- Requiring Congressional approval of any new federal regulation before final implementation.

The federal resolutions were forwarded to the American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration at its annual meeting.



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Door County Farm Bureau delegates Steve Baxter and Nick Weldon attended the WFBF Annual Meeting.



Steve Baxter shook hands with YFA Chair Derek Orth after winning the 50/50 Raffle on Sunday afternoon.

Rural Mutual Insurance Announces New Farm Dividend Program

Rural Mutual Insurance Company, premier insurance provider for Wisconsin families, businesses and farms, announces a new dividend program that enables the company to use its financial success to reward farm policyholders for their loyalty to Rural Mutual and commitment to Wisconsin agriculture.

The Rural Mutual Farm Dividend Program is the first of its kind in the area and will return up to 5 percent of farm policyholders' annual earned premium.

Starting in 2017, Rural Mutual farm policyholders may qualify for the Dividend Program if their farm policy has been in force with Rural Mutual for more than one year and is in effect at the end of the year for which the dividend is declared.

Dividend calculations will be based on the financial results of Rural Mutual Insurance Company and its farm product during a three-year period.

If dividends are earned, a check will be mailed or delivered by your Rural Mutual agent shortly after the farm policy renews in the subsequent calendar year. Dividends are not guaranteed

and are authorized solely at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

To learn more about Rural Mutual Insurance Company's Farm Dividend Program, contact your local Rural Mutual agent or visit www.ruralins.com/farm-dividend.



District 6 YFA Plans Bus Tour



Join us for our second bus tour around the fantastic agricultural stops in District 6.

Join District 6 Farm Bureau members as we board the bus for three spectacular agricultural tours on **Friday, April 21**, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The bus will leave from the park and ride on Highway 151 in Manitowoc.

First stop: Natural Beauty Greenhouse in Denmark. Natural Beauty is a socially and environmentally conscious greenhouse, leading the way to a greener and more colorful world. They grow a wide range of plants, including young plants for other greenhouses and finished plants for retailers, locally and across the country. Natural Beauty produces more than 100 million finished and young plants annually for customers throughout the U.S.

Second stop: Pagel's Ponderosa in Kewaunee. Under the care of 100 employees, they milk 5,000 cows in two barns and 8,300 acres are cropped annually. They put up 100,000 tons of feed for silage. Pagel's bed with Bio Solids from their Methane Digester. Other comforts include foot wash, shower areas just before milking and a special birthing area. Lunch will be provided.

Third stop: VonStiehl Winery in Algoma. The Schmiling brothers who grew up in von Stiehl Winery, now own and operate it. The older brother, Aric, uses the most modern equipment known to winemaking as he artfully crafts fine wines. The younger brother Brad, likes romance and history and manages the business. The Civil War-era building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features a tasting room, a 10,000-square foot production facility, three Civil war era underground limestone tunnels and a spacious outdoor terrace with Lake Michigan views. Von Stiehl's 30 plus grape and fruit wine recipes use top quality ingredients from local fruit (Door County cherries), as well as West Coast-grown grapes (Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon). Tasting will conclude our tour.

Space is limited so reserve your space today by contacting or texting District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at 920.253.5303 or bsalm@wfbf.com.

Scholarship Applications Available

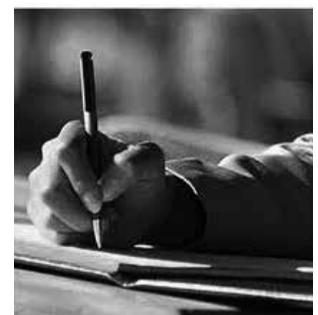


The Door County Farm Bureau is now accepting applications for two, \$500 scholarships that will be awarded to two graduating high school seniors from Door County.

Scholarship requirements

- Applicants planning to pursue post-secondary education enrolling in any type of major or program (with preference given to those students intending to enroll in an agriculture or agriculturally related field) are encouraged to apply.
- The applicant or applicant's family must prove paid membership of the Door County Farm Bureau for at least one year prior to applying.
- Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their involvement in 4-H and/or FFA, community and school activities.
- The applicants must submit two letters of recommendation and a copy of their high school transcript.
- Completed applications must be postmarked by **April 1**, and sent to: **Door County Farm Bureau Scholarship, c/o Becky Salm, PO Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705.**
- The final selection and awarding of the scholarships will be made by the Door County Farm Bureau scholarship selection committee.
- The scholarship funds will be paid directly to the school in two equal disbursements after recipient shows proof of completion of the first and second semesters.

For more information, or to obtain a copy of the application, please contact District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at bsalm@wfbf.com or 866.355.7345.



Celebrate National Ag Day, March 21

Join Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and celebrate National Ag Day on **March 21**.

- Celebrate by joining farmers, volunteers, teachers, FFA and 4-H members, college students, agri-business employees and others by reading books about agriculture to students, home school families, nursing home residents, day cares and others. Resources can be found on the Ag in the Classroom website.
- Share agriculture facts from the Ag in the Classroom Facebook and Twitter page that will be given on the hour. When posting on social media, use the hashtags **#WiReadsAg2017** and **#agday2017**.
- Have students in your county participate in an National Ag Day coloring contest. This image can be found on the Ag in the Classroom website. We will promote this design on our Facebook page for children to send in but you could also make it a county contest. Want it to say: 'Brought to you by ABC County Farm Bureau?'

- Organize a pizza party on a farm, in a classroom or at a mall. Explain how ingredients from kids' favorite food come from farms and ranches and how each is processed and delivered to the grocery store or restaurant.
- Host a classroom field trip to a local farm or ranch or to a university's agricultural research farm. Or, bring the farm to the classroom. This provides a great opportunity for children to learn about career opportunities in agriculture.
- Distribute information about agriculture through local stores. Ask your grocer to feature the Ag Day logo or other positive messages about agriculture on grocery bags or signs used during Ag Week. You might also set up a farm-to-your-table display in your local grocery store.



Share your photos from National Ag Day with us. We are happy to share what you have been up to. Photos can be emailed to darneson@wfbf.com.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Auto

- General Motors Discount

Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Life Line

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

Travel

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

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program

Protection

- Farm Bureau Bank
- \$500 Reward Protection Program
- Accidental Death Policy

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

FFA Farm Forum held in Wisconsin Rapids



High school juniors attended the Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids.

Nearly 200 high school juniors from across Wisconsin attended the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids on February 17-18.

"Wisconsin Farm Bureau takes pride in hosting this special event with the FFA to help develop our next generation of

agriculture leaders," said Jim Holte, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation President.

During the two-day event at Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids, FFA members attended workshops on post-high school agricultural opportunities, social media, agricultural advocacy and leadership.

Joining Holte as keynote speakers at the event were Mark Holley, Sunrise 7 Meteorologist and Chris and Amy Blakeney, owners of Amazing Grace Family Farm.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation sponsors the FFA Farm Forum in cooperation with the Wisconsin Association of FFA.

This year's FFA Farm Forum marks the 45th year the Farm Bureau family of affiliates has sponsored the event for Wisconsin youth.

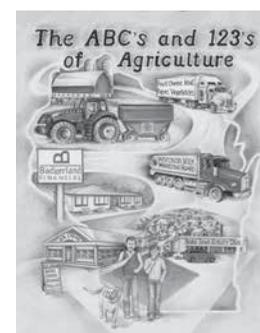
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 District 6 Coordinator, Becky Salm 920.693.8467
 RMIC District Manager, John Quirk 920.893.1811

Attention Teachers

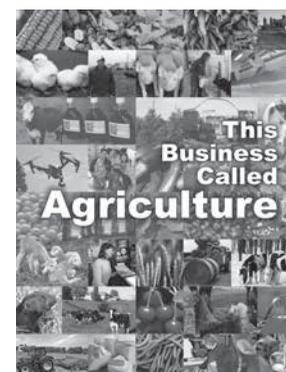


Ag in the Classroom has FREE resources available that you may find beneficial in your classrooms.

- Pre K-K students: "ABC's and 123's of Agriculture."
- Fourth grade students: "This Business Called Agriculture."
- Middle-high school students: "An Agricultural Career for You."

You can order any of these resources, and more, at wisagclassroom.org.

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom program has a lot of free online and printed resources available, we hope you will be able to use them in your classroom.



Upcoming Events

March

15 White-Reinhardt Mini-Grant applications due

April

1 Ag in the Classroom essay's due
 1 Ag in the Classroom matching grant forms due
 21 YFA Ag Bus Tour

May

5 5x5 Membership Rally deadline

July

1 YFA Achievement and Excellence in Ag applications due

Are You Farm Bureau Proud?

If you are Farm Bureau Proud, you want to share that excitement with your friends and neighbors.



- **2x4:** Sign up 2 new members by April 1 and you will be awarded with Farm Bureau work gloves.
- **5x5:** Sign up 5 new members by May 1 and you will be awarded with a Farm Bureau Proud Carhartt vest.
- **8x8:** Sign up 8 new members by August 1 and you will be awarded with a Farm Bureau farm sign.

For more information, please contact District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at 866.355.7345 or bsalm@wfbf.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

Door County cherries account for more than 95 percent of all tart cherries produced in Wisconsin. In 2005, Wisconsin produced about 7.2 million pounds of tart cherries.

