



Langlade County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Antigo Student Attends FFA Farm Forum



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

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

Joining WFBF president Jim Holte as keynote speakers at the event were Sunrise 7 meteorologist Mark Holley 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.



Langlade County Farm Bureau sponsored Antigo FFA student Marcus Schroeffer to the FFA Farm Forum.

Investing in our Community's Youth

By Joe Markgraf

As a community, we realize we need to invest in ourselves for the future and that starts with the youth around us.

We promote that the businesses in Langlade County reach out their hand to advocate the young adult going off to college to come back to their home town.

One way they will come back is if they have ties to a prospective job after they graduate. We also recognize that there are several businesses in our area that strive to find quality employees.

If these businesses could start getting to know these people while they are in high school and have summer internships through college, it would be a huge help with people bringing their knowledge and perspective back to Langlade County.

If any local Businesses are interested in getting to know the students in high school and trying to find summer interns, please contact me at 715.216.3868 and I can get you the right contact names for what your business is looking to do.

Music in the Park Fundraiser Planned

By Joe Markgraf

We will be hosting Music in the Park on **Thursday, June 8.**

There is a polka band scheduled to be performing that evening, so bring your lawn chairs and enjoy some great music from the Spotlight Polka Band and delicious food from the Langlade County Farm Bureau. The event is from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Antigo City Park West, 230 Aurora Street.

We will be serving BBQ sandwiches, ice cream and a variety of pies. For beverages there will be water, soda and root beer floats.

We are looking for volunteers to help set up, take down and serve that day. If you're interested in joining in the fun and energy of this event, please contact Tom Houdek at 715.627.2156. We need to have things set up by 5 p.m. that day.





COUNTYnews

LANGLADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Spring Ag in the Classroom Farm Tour Planned By Christy Sveda-Schreiber

Welcome to another spring Langlade County Farm Bureau members. It is hard to believe another spring is here. This means we will enjoy another farm tour, with another kindergarten class.

This year my two daughters, Gwyneth and Cadence will be planning and presenting the tour. They said it will run quite the same as previous years.

The tour will start in the milking barn to visit our cows and learn how we milk, feed and care for them. Next will be a 'meet and greet' with a newborn calf that we will have them name. They also will learn how we plant and harvest the crops that our cattle eat through out the year. Then we will finish the event with all dairy inspired treats: ice cream, whole milk, different types of cheese and homemade chocolate chip cookies.

After all of this we hope they will have positive and lasting memories of a dairy farm, and enjoy the gifts that we send with them. Thanks to the Langlade County Farm Bureau for their donation to help purchase the educational and promotional items the students will be able to take home.



Kindergarten students will get a chance to be farm kids for a day at Sveda Farm's tour.

District 7 YFA Report By Brian Preder



Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program

The annual Gambler's game is always a great time for members to socialize and gather with members from around this district.

Following the game, we met with District 6 YFA members at the Green Bay Distillery for pizza and the chance to meet fellow YFA members from our neighboring district. We had over 100 people attend this year's game and can't wait until next year.

With spring upon us, we are looking forward to the upcoming year. This means it is never too early to be thinking about the chance for a free trip to the Kalahari Resorts for the YFA Conference.

How do you get a free trip to the YFA Conference? Be sure to participate in one of the YFA contests. You can find information about the Achievement Award, Excellence in Ag, and Discussion Meet on the YFA page of the WFBF website.

If you have questions about the contests, we have you covered. We will have a contest training session on **May 23** starting at 7 p.m. at the CRI Resource Center in Shawano. It will be a great opportunity to answer questions about the applications and discussion meet. There also will be the chance to get tips from past applicants and winners. The district will provide food and beverages. For more information, please contact me or your county YFA chair.

I can't wait to work with the talented group of YFA members in our district throughout the upcoming year. Have a safe and early planting season.



After a delicious meal at the River Rail in Shiocton last fall, District 7 YFA members participated in the District level of the YFA Discussion Meet. Kristy Fiedler (left at head table) went on to win the state contest.

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President's Column



Hello. We didn't achieve our goal of signing 20 new voting Farm Bureau members by March 31. Therefore, we will not be getting the early bird membership bonus from Wisconsin Farm Bureau this year.

This would have been a great way of getting some membership incentive funds from the state Farm Bureau into the Langlade County Farm Bureau.

Instead, we will be selling pie, sandwiches and

refreshments at Antigo's Music in The Park on **Thursday, June 8**, as our fund raiser. (See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.)

This fundraising event will help us keep our dues low

and still give us extra funds for additional ag promotion and advocacy.

Tom Houdek
Langlade County Farm Bureau President



District 7 Director's Report

It has been a very busy few months. The Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C., was a great experience with the members of the WFBF Leadership Institute Class X. It was great getting to know the Institute class members.

District 7 representative Kristy Erickson did an excellent job speaking up for agriculture when we visited with legislators. AFBF President Zippy Duvall was with President Trump when he signed the Presidential Order to repeal WOTUS. We had a director from EPA that said his agency would follow suit.

There is lots of talk regarding the 2018 farm bill so please voice your concerns to your legislators.

The WFBF Council of Presidents was very well attended, lots of talk on membership and there was a friendly reminder about the \$5 dues increase coming this fall. This was approved at the WFBF Annual Meeting a few years ago.

Ag Day at the Capitol was the highlight after the Council of Presidents. We had a great group of people from District 7 to walk to the Capitol and speak with their legislators.

This year, hot topics were high capacity wells, transportation funding for roads, rural broadband internet accessibility and a few more.

It is great to see how well agriculture is represented by our Farm Bureau members. It was also nice to see the amount of time that legislators and their staff took to listen to us.

I am on my way to visit all of the counties in District 7 to take time and listen to your concerns.

Please take time out of your busy schedule to come to District 7 meetings as they come up this year. Feel free to contact me anytime.

Adam Kuczer
District 7 Board of Director



Senator Tammy Baldwin discussed issues with the WFBF Leadership Institute Class X members who attended the Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.



Members of the WFBF Leadership Institute and Board members from Districts 6 and 7 met with Representative Mike Gallagher in his Washington, D.C., office to discuss ag issues.



The WFBF Leadership Institute Class X and some of the WFBF Board of Directors met with Senator Ron Johnson in Washington, D.C., in March.

Check Your Tax Returns By Darlene Eckerman



TAX SEASON IS OVER and the tax returns are put away ... but wait, you might want to pull them out and see if you filed for the following credits.

Rarely should Wisconsin farmers ever have tax left on the table. Between the WI Farmland Preservation Credit, WI FC, which is available in certain townships and counties based on farmland acreage and the WI MA-A, these credits should

give you back most, if not all, of your Wisconsin tax obligation.

WI MA-A, is based on ownership of Wisconsin farmland, whether farmed or rented for farming and is a credit against your state tax. This credit can be carried forward if not all used in the year it is generated. This credit started in 2013.

Another Wisconsin credit some may qualify for is MA-M for manufacturing, such as a cabinet maker, etc. And back in 2013 were you receiving credits from WI DI, Dairy and Livestock Farm Investment Credit, a wonderful way to receive dollars back for new equipment and expansion? 2013 was the last year for the WI DI.

Amend now to receive those dollars back. And these are credits carried forward so amend so they can be carried forward to be used in the upcoming tax years.

Check your 1040, on page 1 near the bottom. Did you receive a credit for Form 8903? You might have received a patronage form, listing this amount but if your farm or manufacturing business paid W-2 wages, you are also eligible for further monies against your taxes, which reduces the money owed or increases your refund. If your 2016 tax return does not list these credits, the good news is, you can still check this out and amend for them.

The better news is for the 8903 federal credit, 2014-2016 is still an open year. And even better news for Wisconsin, you can go back to 2013 and receive credit for the WI DI, WI FC and WI MA-A if you qualify.

That is your money better put to use in your pocket rather than left in the governments. For more information, please ask your tax preparer or contact me. Now, you have until March 1, 2018, for that 2013 year but don't delay, time flies by fast, doesn't it?

If you have questions you can contact me at 715.623.2520 or deckermantax@gmail.com.

Ag in the Classroom Summer Classroom Training Scheduled

Ag in the Classroom summer classroom training is scheduled for 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on **Thursday, July 6** at West Madison Research Station and Gardens in Madison.



Join us for a day of learning about educational agricultural resources for all grade levels. We welcome classroom teachers, home school parents, 4-H and extension staff and volunteers and others involved in agricultural literacy to participate.

The registration deadline is **June 20** and for registration materials visit www.wisagclassroom.org. Cost is \$20 which includes lunch, refreshments and materials.

For more information, please contact Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com or 608.828.5644. Space is limited so register today.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

<p>Auto</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Motors Discount <p>Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card • Life Line (NEW) <p>Supplies and Products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case IH • Caterpillar • FS-GROWMARK Patronage • Grainger • Office Depot 	<p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AgriVisor • The Country Today <p>Insurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Mutual Insurance Company • Farm Bureau Financial Services <p>Travel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAA • AVIS Car Rental Discount Program • Budget (NEW) • Choice Hotels International, Inc. • Wyndham Hotel Group 	<p>Financial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program • Farm Bureau Bank <p>Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$500 Reward Protection Program • Accidental Death Policy
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For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

YFA Trip to the Edgar Steam Show By Joe Markgraf



A few Langlade County YFA members enjoyed an evening at the Northstar Lanes in Antigo in February.

The Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) committee is planning a trip to the Edgar Steam Show this August.

It is the 44th annual show and there are always more things to look at every year. The show has a variety of things to do there such as: live music, antique equipment demonstrations and a flea market.

The show is **August 25-27**. The exact day that the group will be going will be determined later this summer.

If you are interested in joining the group, please contact me at 715.216.3868.



Langlade County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Tom Houdek	715.627.2156
Vice President, Robert Fronck	715.623.2416
Secretary/Treasurer, Christy Sveda-Schreiber	715.623.7097
Promotion and Education Chair Beverly Brecklin	715.623.4153
YFA Chair, Joe Markgraf	715.216.3868
Director, Richard Bolen	715.623.6974
Director, Jake Bula	715.623.6779
Director, Darlene Eckerman	715.623.2520
Director, Mary Fronck	715.623.2416
Director, James Jansen	715.623.6261
Director, Samantha Schuessler	715.219.3854
WFBF Board Director, Adam Kuczer	920.609.0718
District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz	866.355.7346
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.630.4801

Langlade County Farm Bureau is now on Facebook

Search for 'Langlade County Farm Bureau' on Facebook and you will find the latest information and notices about events going on in the County Farm Bureau.



Please 'Like' us.

Langlade County Fair Plans

By Christy Sveda-Schreiber

While you are enjoying all that the Langlade County Fair has to offer this **July 25-30**, please don't forget to stop at the Insight FS booth to visit with us, too.

Yes, Insight FS graciously has given the Langlade County Farm Bureau room to showcase our information and fun pictures of the interesting things we have done this year.



Langlade County Farm Bureau displayed their activities at the fair last year.

Hope to see you there.

Humor Corner

By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

“Well Doctor, what did the x-rays of my head show?”
“Absolutely nothing.”

What is the center of gravity?

The letter V.

Dad, can you help me find the lowest common denominator?

Haven't they found that thing yet? I remember looking for that when I was in school, too!

If a frog parks illegally, does it get toad?



Promotion and Education Report By Bev Brecklin

When you receive this issue of the Langlade County Farm Bureau newsletter, I sure hope we have sunny skies and warmer weather.

Then, of course you may be too busy to even look at this. I am writing this on a day in March with snow and fog, but somehow, spring as we know it will arrive.

With that, it gets me thinking about this year's beef promotion. Beef month was changed to May, but I will keep it in July.

I will get hold of Angie Horkan from the Wisconsin Beef Counsel or she will contact me. Then, I will order my beef promotion materials from her. The recipes, nutritional facts, the banner and apron all help make the promotion successful.

I always try to get the tourists interested and educated. Hopefully, I will have it at an area grocery store like Copps. Also, I will try to do it right after the Fourth of July holiday and before the Langlade County Fair.

Let's not rush the seasons though. Stay safe and let's all hope for a nice spring and summer. Keep in mind that after June Dairy Month comes the 'original July Beef Month.'

Until next time.

ASIAN BEEF LETTUCE WRAPS

- 1 pound ground beef (93% or leaner)
- 1/2 cup hoisin sauce
- 1/2 cup Asian peanut sauce
- 1 medium cucumber, seeded, chopped
- 1/2 cup shredded carrot
- 1/4 cup torn fresh mint leaves
- Salt and pepper
- 12 large Boston lettuce leaves
- Fresh mint leaves

Instructions: Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add ground beef; cook 8 to 10 minutes, breaking into small crumbles and stirring occasionally. Pour off drippings. Stir in hoisin sauce and peanut sauce; heat through. Just before serving, add cucumber, carrots and torn mint; toss gently. Season with salt and pepper. Serve beef mixture in lettuce leaves. Garnish with mint.



Bev Brecklin is planning another successful beef promotion event for this July