



Milwaukee County Farm Bureau

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RURAL MUTUAL AGENTS IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY

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Angela Burton	Bruce Sielen	Chris Whitlock
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877-590-9060

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Wisconsin House of Moo

District 1 members helped at the Wisconsin State Fair House of Moo on Saturday, August 12.

Members were stationed throughout the House of Moo educating fairgoers about dairy farming. Fairgoers could pet calves, milk a cow, see what cows eat, play games and look inside of a milk tank.



Charlie Oberhaus from Waukesha County taught fairgoers how to milk a cow.



Sam and Nicole Dempsey from Waukesha County interacted with fairgoers and educated them about calves.

A few fun facts that were shared with fairgoers:

- If people ate like cows, they would have to eat about 360 cheeseburgers and drink 400-800 glasses of water each day!
- Human hands never touch milk; it is carried through stainless steel pipes and then pumped into tanks and milk hauling trucks.
- A calf can stand and walk within one hour after being born.
- It takes 12.5 gallons of milk to make one gallon of ice cream.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation® presents:



Ignite
Innovate. Grow. Network. Inform. Train. Engage.

2018 Conference April 5-6

Holiday Inn Conference Center, Stevens Point

What:

A statewide information, training, and fun-filled member engagement meeting for county Farm Bureau leaders conducted by WFBF staff with assistance from AFBF staff and various outside speakers/presenters.

Register by March 23

Register and pay online at www.cvent.com/d/rtq9m1 or visit wfbf.com/programsevents/event-registration for the link.

Registration Fee: \$135

Purpose:

Strengthen county leaders and Farm Bureaus by providing them with program ideas, resources and new skills to carry out the mission of their county Farm Bureau.

20 Plus Workshop Topics Addressing 4 Training Workshop Tracks:

1. Governance and Organization (running a successful county Farm Bureau)
2. Building Farm Bureau (programs and membership)
3. Communicating for Agriculture and Farm Bureau
4. Policy, Issues and Advocacy



COUNTYnews

MILWAUKEE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

YFA Members Advance to State Competition

The District 1 YFA Discussion Meet was held on Tuesday, August 22 at Cozy Nook Farm in Waukesha after a tour of their farm.

This year's district topic was, "formation of family farm corporations is a common practice. How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that the public's positive perception of the family farm is not lost?"



We had four qualified contestants who participated in the Discussion Meet. The four contestants were Bob Nash from Ozaukee County, Sean Beres from Waukesha County and Scott Davel and Kallie Jo Kastenson both from Racine County. Three contestants were selected and will move on to compete at the YFA Conference, December 1-3 in Wisconsin Dells. The finalists are Bob, Sean and Kallie Jo.



Attendees enjoyed learning more about Cozy Nook Farm.



The four contestants were: (from left) Bob Nash, Sean Beres, Scott Davel and Kallie Jo Kastenson.

Milwaukee County Achieves Gain in Membership

The membership year-end was September 30 and Milwaukee County achieved a gain in total membership.

County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive **\$20 for every new voting or associate member** they sign between **October 1, 2017 and September 28, 2018**. Qualifying new members must (a) have no previous Farm Bureau membership, or (b) be more than 25 months past their due date.

County Farm Bureaus will receive \$1,000 cash award if the county Farm Bureau reaches its new voting goal by the **March 30, 2018** month-end cut-off.

Farm Bureau volunteers qualify as members of the *Farm Bureau Proud Club* by signing **five or more new Farm Bureau members during the membership year**. Members of the 2018 Farm Bureau Proud Club and their spouse/guest will receive exclusive recognition at the December, 2018 WFBF Annual Meeting. *Farm Bureau Proud Club* members also receive a commemorative pin and a special gift in recognition of their efforts.

Carry Farm Bureau Down the Field

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



Two-point Conversion - Volunteer membership workers that 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 prominently displayed at county and state-wide meetings and awarded by drawing to one of those who signed it at the end of the membership year.

Field Goal - Volunteer membership workers who sign up three or more new members by March 31 will receive a *Farm Bureau Proud Knit Cap*.

Touchdown - Volunteer membership workers that 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.

For membership applications or further information contact District 1 Coordinator Patti Roden at proden@wfbf.com or 262.689.1838.

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District 1 Board of Director Update



Congratulations on another successful Farm Bureau year!

I would like to touch on a few things that were very important to your organization and the accomplishments for this year.

First, two statewide committees were active this year. Obtaining information and deciding what is important to Wisconsin farmers in the upcoming 2018 Farm Bill was the focus of the Farm Bill Committee and the Dairy Committee. In September, members of these committees

and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Board of Directors went to Washington, D.C. We spoke to our legislators and their staff on what is important to Wisconsin farmers and urged them to include or change a few things in the 2018 Farm Bill based on our committee recommendations.

Secondly, our governmental relations teams, with members, conversed with our state legislators on how the State Budget affects their livelihoods. The budget passed and included items for how money is spent on Premise ID staffing and management, farmer-led watershed projects and others that will help agriculture in the future. A recap of the state budget was included in the October/November Rural Route available online at wfbf.com/newspublications/read.

Lastly, within the governmental relations division we have hired Steve Boe. His charge is to validate and process issues at the local level with counties; then help county Farm Bureaus with these local issues. Whether it is sand mines, water quality, urban sprawl or others that are important to your county organization, Wisconsin Farm Bureau has someone who can help.

Have a safe harvest and remember this is your organization. Use it and be an integral part of Wisconsin's largest farmer organization.

Dave Daniels
WFBF District 1 Director

Faith, Family, Farming, Farm Bureau



Agriculture has been challenged with low milk prices, low grain and commodity prices, high land rent prices and the never-ending battle with the weather, every time the weatherman predicts rain it seems that we get more than we bargain for. When you are caught in a bind with the struggles in agriculture, what do you lean on?

Looking at the struggles the past couple years, I have found I lean on the 4 Fs.

Faith – Praying for rain or praying the rain stops, it's a battle we face in agriculture. It seems that we can never be perfectly happy on the weather, either it's too wet or too dry, or there aren't enough heat days for the corn to grow. Dolly Parton says, "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow you gotta put up with the rain!" The next time it's raining, take some time to think about agriculture and the challenges you are facing, and enjoy the beauty that is being shown to us in the rainbow that follows. We won't be given more than we can handle, so take every rainstorm and challenge as it comes.

Family – In agriculture it seems that we lean on family a lot, to me family is a broad term. Yes, my immediate family is always there if needed, but I think of you as part of my Farm Bureau family. In the agriculture industry, we are one big family. There is no one who understands the daily struggles of agriculture better than those who are living it. This year's WFBF Annual Meeting theme was 'Rooted in Family.' I hope you, as part of my Farm Bureau family, were able to attend this year's WFBF Annual Meeting to connect with other farmers who are facing the same struggles.

Farming – Caring for animals and fieldwork is necessary to farming, and the farm is the reason we are all a part of Farm Bureau. As farmers, we care for not only our families, but for the world. We are proud to be part of such a great industry. Montgomery Gentry said it best in their song Something to Be Proud Of, they say "you don't need to make a million, just be thankful to be workin'." If you're doing what you're able and putting food there on the table, and providing for the family that you love, that's something to be proud of." We are proud to be part of a diverse industry that feeds the world.

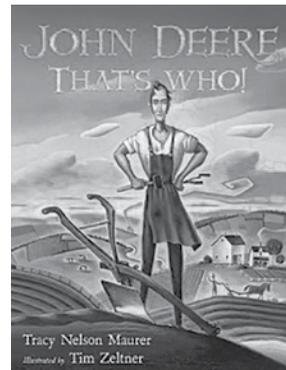
Farm Bureau – As an organization we are here to help you get through the challenges. We are a grassroots organization that's committed to serving you, our members. It's so important that you bring forth issues that you are having in agriculture so we can help. As a grassroots organization, the policies listed in our WFBF Policy Book came from you, the members. If you have an issue and need help, don't hesitate to reach out to myself or your local Farm Bureau, we are here to help you through the struggles in agriculture.

"Even though there are days I wish I could change some things that happened in the past, there's a reason the rear-view mirror is so small and the windshield is so big, where you're headed is much more important than what you've left behind."

Thank you for being a part of the Farm Bureau Family! I look forward to seeing where we are headed.

Patti Roden
District 1 Coordinator

Essay Topic Announced



Using the book of the year, "John Deere That's Who," the topic 'Inventions that have made agriculture great,' allows students to write about inventions that made agriculture advance in technology, efficiency and productivity.

The essay contest is open to fourth and fifth grade students in public, private and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs are also encouraged to participate. The essay must be between 100- to 300-words in length.

For contest rules, lesson plans and supporting documents, visit www.wisagclassroom.org. The essay contest deadline is **April 1, 2018**.

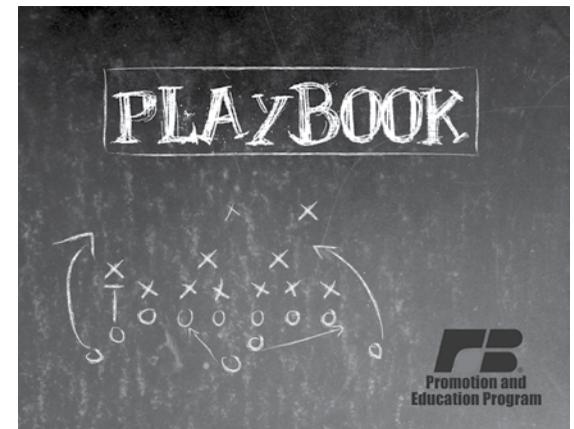
Playbook Available Online

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee has been busy collecting plays that happen at the local level. They compiled the plays and put them together in a Playbook. The purpose of the Playbook is to provide counties with ideas and resources for planning county activities and events.

Throughout the Playbook, you will find activities and events for all ages, timeframes and budgets.

Updates to the Playbook will be made quarterly. If you have events that you want included in the next update, submit a play submission sheet by December 15.

To check out the Playbook, visit wfbf.com/programsevents/promotion-and-education/playbook.



Share Your Agriculture Story

Are you passionate about sharing your agriculture story with the public? Wisconsin Farm Bureau is looking for members to share their story on social media. Here are some ways you can get involved:

- **Ask A Farmer Friday:** Film a short video (under 2 minutes) answering a common question about food or farming to be shared on Facebook.
- **Instagram or Snapchat Takeover:** You can choose one channel, or both! Give WFBF followers a glimpse into a typical day on your farm or at work.
- **Guest Blog:** If you are passionate about writing and telling stories, share your family, farm or cooking experiences on the WFBF blog.



If you are interested in getting involved, or want to learn more, contact Sarah Marketon at smarketon@wfbf.com or 608.828.5711.

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.

Milwaukee County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Scott Ninnemann	414.421.4604
Vice President, Henry Kiesow	414.732.7242
Secretary/Treasurer, John Napientek	414.529.0980
Director, Martin Hintz	414.352.1868
Director, Elroy Honadel	414.529.0196
Milwaukee County Farm Bureau	877.483.0728
WFBF Board Director, Dave Daniels	262.878.5035
WFBF Promotion and Education, George Mroch	262.661.4436
WFBF YFA, Charlie Oberhaus	262.337.2448
District 1 Coordinator, Patti Roden	866.355.7341
RMIC District Manager, Ken Bosman	414.416.7595

Raise Your Voice for Agriculture

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, January 24 and plan to attend Ag Day at the Capitol. It's important for all of us to raise our voice on issues. Take a few minutes to be familiar with an issue that is affecting you and call your legislators. Inform them how important agriculture is in Milwaukee County and share your views on issues and how they affect your farm. Remember when you talk to your legislators to be respectful and thank them for their support of agriculture.

If you are interested in attending, contact Patti Roden (262.689.1838 or proden@wfbf.com).



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:




Ag Today Readers

Agriculture is everywhere! From the time we wake up in the morning until we end our day at night, we have encountered agriculture through the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the fuel we use for transportation. Ag Today is a great reading supplement for third through fifth grade elementary students to learn about agriculture.



The six issues touch on the six themes of the National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes that can be integrated into science, social studies, and language arts curriculum. Each reader provides real-world connections to STEM and makes learning relevant for students in becoming agriculturally literate.

The issue titles are:

- Agriculture is Everywhere
- Food, Health & Lifestyle
- Agriculture and the Environment
- Culture, Society, Economy and Geography
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Plants and Animals for Food, Fiber and Energy

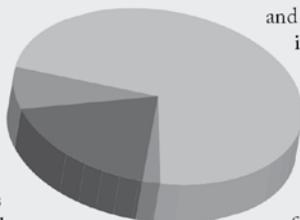
Ag Today Readers come in a set with one Educator Guide and 25 student guides. They are \$5 per packet. They may also be downloaded for free from www.agclassroom.org/student/agtoday.cfm.

How are my membership dues used?

When you join Farm Bureau, you not only become a member of your county Farm Bureau, but also the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau. Your membership dues are allocated as follows:

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation - \$36 of your dues are used to support state activities, conduct programs and provide staffing for those efforts throughout the state. Consumer and youth education, issue advocacy, leadership development and member publications are services that also are funded with state dues.

American Farm Bureau Federation - \$4 of your dues are forwarded to support Farm Bureau activities at a national level. These funds support agriculture's voice in our nation's capital as well as the many programs that AFBF has in place to educate consumers, share the message of agriculture and provide online resources to its members.



Accidental Death Policy - \$1 of your annual dues is applied toward an accidental death insurance policy that is a benefit of membership and covers you as a member, your spouse and eligible children. Coverage begins at \$500 and increases in value for the member and spouse with each consecutive year of membership up to \$3,500.

County Farm Bureau - The remaining portion of your dues (\$6-\$14 depending on the county) is used to fund local events and activities. This may include county meetings, scholarships and other programs for youth, consumer education activities and member service programs in that county.

Lunch and Learn Webinar Series

The first Wednesday of each month, Wisconsin Farm Bureau hosts an educational webinar starting at noon. Topics range from member benefits to Ag in the Classroom to policy development.

You can RSVP by watching social media channels for the link to register or email smarketon@wfbf.com or wkannel@wfbf.com.

