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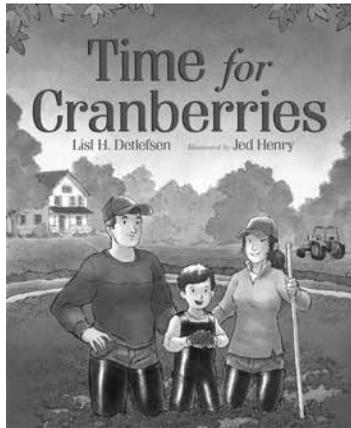
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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

2017 Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest



This year's essay contest topic is "Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons."

The 2017 book of the year

is "Time for Cranberries" by Wisconsin author Lisl H. Detlefsen. The book and essay topic allow us to educate students about the production of cranberries in the nation's number one producing state—Wisconsin.

For rules, promotional materials, county Farm Bureau contacts, lessons and activities and other resources related to the essay contest and book program, visit www.wisagclassroom.org.

Contest Rules

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.

1. Essays must be handwritten in ink or be computer generated. They must be single-sided and fit on one sheet of paper. The essay must be between 100- to 300-words in length (using common MS Word 'word count' methods for counting words, numbers and abbreviations).
2. Essays will be judged on content (25 points), grammar and spelling (15 points) and neatness (10 points).
3. Essays must include: student's name, grade level, parents' names, teacher's name, email address, school name and address and phone number and county on the back of the essay. Please do not identify the student on the front side.
4. Entry deadline: Postmarked by **April 1**.



WFBF Hosts FFA Farm Forum



Nearly 200 high school juniors from across Wisconsin attended WFBF'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.



Medford FFA chapter members Tia and Tara Weber attended FFA Farm Forum and were sponsored by the Taylor County Farm Bureau.

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.



COUNTYnews

PRICE COUNTY FARM BUREAU | TAYLOR COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference Highlights



On December 2-4, more than 500 YFA members from across the state attended the YFA Conference. This annual conference is held each year in conjunction with the WFBF Annual Meeting and was another huge success.

Young Farmer and Agriculturist members were able to take part in breakout sessions covering everything from the social media, financial planning and about the opportunities available through Farm Bureau. YFA members were also able to compete in state wide contests such as Excellence in Agriculture, Achievement Award and Discussion Meet.

On December 3-5, Farm Bureau members from across the state of Wisconsin gathered at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells to take part in the 97th WFBF Annual Meeting.



Price County YFA members Dan and Ashley Berg attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference.

Members took part in breakout sessions including a panel on water quality, membership and farm succession. Delegates discussed and voted on hard hitting issues for agriculture.



Ryan Klussendorf addressed the District 8 caucus.



The delegate body at the WFBF Annual Meeting on Monday.



George served as the Price County Farm Bureau delegate and was also recognized for his outstanding membership work and acceptance into the Farm Bureau Proud Club.



(L-R) Brittany and Melvin 'MJ' Zenner, Rob Klussendorf and Cheri and Ryan Klussendorf. MJ Zenner and Rob Klussendorf served as Taylor County Farm Bureau delegates. Rob Klussendorf was recognized for his outstanding membership work and acceptance into the Farm Bureau Proud Club. Ryan Klussendorf was recognized for his completion of the WFBF Leadership Institute program. Ryan also participated in the Discussion Meet.

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Price County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Sally Denzine 715.339.2092
Vice President and YFA Chair, Dan Berg 715.657.0112
Secretary-Treasurer, George Blomberg 715.767.5579
Family & Education Chair, Karen Kerner 715.550.6156

Director, David Ames 715.767.5388
Director, Kenneth Denzine 715.339.2092
Director, Lance Meier 715.564.2230

Price County Farm Bureau 877.583.5911
District 8 Coordinator, Ashleigh Calaway 866.355.7348
WFBF Board Director, Donald Radtke 715.539.2892
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak 715.344.6220

Price County Farm Bureau Offers Scholarship

Price County Farm Bureau is again offering Price County high school seniors financial help to attend college.

If you are a high school senior or know of one or to request an application, please contact George Blomberg at 715.767.5579

or homesteadacres@centurytel.net.



Attention Price County Dairy Farmers

Attention Price County dairy farmers, the Price County Farm Bureau board of directors want to hear from you.

For 35 years, the Price County June Dairy Breakfast has been run by a dedicated team of Farm Bureau members. After 35 years of organizing this free event the committee is bowing out and looking for new blood to take over.

The committee wants to know if there is anyone interested in taking it over or if you want to see something new happen in the county to show support of the dairy industry.

If you are interested in learning more or want to help, please contact Price County Farm Bureau president Sally Denzine at 715.820.1064 or sallydenzine@gmail.com.



District 8 YFA Update

By Beth Schafer, District 8 YFA Committee Chair



Are you between the ages of 18 and 35? Did you know there is a whole set of programs, events and opportunities just for YOU?

The Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Committee is JUST for younger members and caters to YOUR unique situation in the agriculture industry.

Hi! My name is Beth

Schafer, and I have the absolute privilege of representing District 8 on the Wisconsin Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Committee.

Each county has a YFA county chair and District 8 is proud to have a full slate of enthusiastic faces to serve YFA members:

Clark County: Max Malm
Lincoln County: Kyle Kudick
Marathon County: Katie Zoromski
Portage County: John Kosmalski
Price County: Dan Berg
Taylor County: MJ Zenner
Wood County: Jason Behrend

These folks are here to help you make the most out of your Farm Bureau membership, so please contact them. They have planned some great social and educational events for your county so watch for postcard invites or to learn about upcoming YFA opportunities and see the latest events happening in your county and District 8, visit wfbf.com/programsevents/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program.

You may have heard the old adage, "You get what you give." This is true for almost all situations in life; except for Farm Bureau. The many opportunities to travel, network and promote the agriculture industry that I have been afforded during my nine years of Farm Bureau membership has far surpassed what I have paid in membership dues.

How can you capitalize on your membership you ask? Choose to attend an upcoming YFA event, volunteer for a committee in your county or attend a county board meeting to learn what your county Farm Bureau is doing with YOUR dues and to serve YOU.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming YFA events and activities:

Friday, March 24, 10 a.m. -3 p.m.

District 8 YFA Ag Tour. This year we will tour Marathon County to explore Country Fresh Meats, a dairy farm and the Bull Falls Brewery. Watch Facebook and your mailbox for the official postcard invite.

Sunday, May 21, 7 p.m.

District 8 YFA Contest Prep Night. Want to learn more about Farm Bureau contests for YFA members? Bring your laptop and questions to this year's YFA Contest Prep Night. We will have past participants and winners share their secrets to competing in Excellence in Agriculture, Achievement in Agriculture and Discussion Meet. This workshop also will be available to join via Zoom, an online meeting forum.

I am looking forward to meeting YOU soon at one of the many upcoming YFA events. For any questions, please contact me at eaporior.schafer@gmail.com.

Don't forget to enjoy National Agriculture Week on **March 19-25**. Be proud of all YOU do for American agriculture.

Taylor County Young Farmer and Agriculturist Hosts Fun Tubing Day

On February 12, YFA members gathered at Perkinstown Winter Sports area for an afternoon of family-friendly tubing. This annual event has grown as more farmers and agriculturist join their parents on the hill.

If you are interested in joining the Taylor County Farm Bureau YFA committee, please contact Melvin 'MJ' Zenner at 7145.965.7840.



(L-R) Cheri, Max, Kale, Owen and Ryan Klussendorf, Melvin 'MJ' and Mason Zenner enjoyed the club house.



Brad Weber (Wood County), Carmen Kirsch (Marathon County) and their niece and nephews joined Taylor County YFA members for a day on the hill.

Farmers Take the Hill



WFBF Leadership Institute Class X graduate and Taylor County Farm Bureau president Ryan Klussendorf, other Institute members and members of the Board of Directors met with staff from the office of Congressman Sean Duffy. They talked about issues impacting farming in Wisconsin, including regulation reform, the Farm Bill, wolves, dairy labeling, trade and UW Extension.

Earlier this month farmers, ranchers and agriculturist from across the nation attended a three-day AFBF Advocacy Conference. This four-day conference offered Farm Bureau members interactive workshops and in-depth training sessions, while networking with Farm Bureau leaders from across the country who share a passion for agricultural advocacy.

Workshops included: The Dos and Don'ts When Visiting Lawmakers, Congress 101: An Insider's View of Capitol Hill, Farm Bill Outlook, Economic Outlook, How to Hug a Porcupine: Relationship Building with Lawmakers and Why It's Important and 365 Advocate. Issue breakout sessions included regulatory reform, immigration reform and tax reform.

AFBF President Zippy Duvall was a keynote speaker and Scott Pruitt, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, also made an appearance.

Members of the Partners in Advocacy Leadership class including WFBF member Chris Pollock presented workshops.

On Wednesday, attendees visited Capitol Hill and visited with representatives to discuss issues impacting Wisconsin agriculture.

Taylor County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Ryan Klussendorf	715.965.7997
Vice President, Dick Wesle	715.678.2407
Secretary-Treasurer, Rob Klussendorf	715.785.5092
YFA Chair, Melvin Zenner	715.965.7840
Director, Jack Johnson	715.785.7777
Director, Cheri Klussendorf	715.748.2101
Director, Gary Kohn	715.748.2792
Director, Matthew Winnie	715.427.0227
Director, John Zuleger	715.560.8397
Taylor County Farm Bureau	866.583.7597
WFBF Board Director, Don Radtke	715.573.7208
District 8 Coordinator, Ashleigh Calaway	866.355.7348
RMIC District Manager, Laurie Peterson	715.514.4477

Taylor County Farm Bureau Presents 4-H Key Award

For the 40th consecutive year the 4-H Key Award is sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and Rural Mutual Insurance Company.

The Key Award, the highest award given to 4-H members, recognizes those who have shown consistent growth in their 4-H program, who have developed their citizenship and leadership abilities and who have been helpful members in their club and community.

Although it is a state award, Key Award recipients are determined by the county 4-H leader's organization, which evaluates a member's total record in making its decision.



Taylor County Farm Bureau president Ryan Klussendorf presented the 4-H Key Award to Kara Rudolph.

Beef Round-Up, Stock Sale and Taylor County Farm Bureau Steak and Egg Breakfast Set for May 13



The North Central Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association invites the public and those raising beef or wanting to learn about beef production to the Beef Round-up on **Saturday, May 13**, at Brecke Rodeo Arena, W7939 Highway 64, in Medford.

The Round-up is from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. New this year, the NCWCA Beef Preview Show will be held in conjunction with the annual Round-up. All students within or out of Wisconsin planning for upcoming fairs and shows are invited.

The NCWCA Preview consists of Jackpot Showmanship for students ages 8 to 22, a Junior Market Steer Show and an Open Heifer Show (for youth and adults). \$200 grand champion steer and heifer and \$100 reserve grand champion steer and heifer will be awarded. The NCWCA Preview will be an



Matt Winnie and MJ Zenner grilling up amazing steaks at last year's breakfast.

excellent event for the exhibitor and their animal(s) to gain experience for the 2017 fair and show season.

Take this opportunity to visit with area cattlemen and their cattle while learning about the beef industry and enjoying good food, an auction and preview show.



The Round-up begins with a steak and egg breakfast provided by Taylor County Farm Bureau served from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.

A Beef Showmanship Clinic for youth participating in fair and beef shows begins at 9 a.m. All youth are invited to participate. The Preview Show begins following the NCWCA Seed Stock Auction.

The NCWCA Seed Stock Auction starts at 10 a.m. Breeding stock of all breeds, both commercial and registered: cow-calf pairs, yearling heifers, bred heifers, cows and bulls are available for sale.

The NCWCA kitchen will be serving plate lunches from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The menu showcases the association's famous grilled ribeye sandwiches, along with hamburgers and hot dogs.

Gates to the NCWCA Preview will open at 7 a.m.; check-in and weigh-in closes at 9:30 a.m. A showmanship clinic begins at 9 a.m. The preview begins at approximately 12:30 p.m., with Jackpot Showmanship immediately following the conclusion of the NCWCA Seed stock Sale.

For more information, visit nwcattlemen.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

Taylor County sales of Christmas trees, fruits and vegetables, greenhouse, nursery and floriculture products total \$1.0 million.

Landscape and grounds maintenance businesses create additional full time jobs and many seasonal jobs.