

Superior Shores 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**
Insurance Company
www.ruralins.com/farm-dividend

RURAL MUTUAL AGENTS IN YOUR AREA

Alan Schiefelbein
(715) 934-2400

Laurie Peterson, District Manager - (715) 514-4477
David Meihak, District Manager - (715) 630-4801

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Mark Your Calendars for Ag Day at the Capitol



 **AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL**
Wednesday, March 8 • Monona Terrace Convention Center,
1 John Nolen Drive, Madison

Join farmers and agriculturists from across Wisconsin in Madison and learn more about state issues affecting agriculture and meet with our state legislators.

Early Registration Deadline: March 1

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. Capitol Visits



Ride the Bus to Ag Day at the Capitol

Don't want to drive yourself or worry about parking?

Ride the bus to Ag Day at the Capitol!

Bus Schedule

Depart:

- 6:30 a.m. **Baldwin:** Park and Ride, south of McDonald's
- 7:05 a.m. **Menomonie:** Walmart parking lot, west side
- 7:45 a.m. **Eau Claire:** Walmart parking lot, off Highway 53 and Golf Road
- 8:15 a.m. **Osseo:** Osseo Inn parking lot
- 8:40 a.m. **Hixton:** Hixton Travel Plaza
- 9:40 a.m. **Tomah:** McDonald's by Greyhound pickup area,
There will be a 15-minute break.
- 11:15 a.m. Arrive at Monona Terrace Convention Center.
- 5:30 p.m. Load bus and return home.

Note: Superior Shores County Farm Bureaus have money available for sponsorship of members to attend.

To reserve your seat, please contact District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison at 866.355.7349 or kmattison@wfbf.com. Indicate which location you want to be picked up at.

Registrations are limited so reserve your seat today.



COUNTYnews

SUPERIOR SHORES FARM BUREAU EDITION

Highlights from the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference

Tradition

1,140 Young Farmer and Agriculturists and Farm Bureau members converged on the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells on December 2-5 for the WFBF Annual Meeting and Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference. More than 490 of the total attendees were young farmers and agriculturists.

Some of the best and brightest YFA members competed in a variety of contests, attendees had the opportunity to learn new things at by attending breakout sessions and listening to excellent keynote speakers, members were recognized and awarded for their hard work and member delegates made their voices heard by setting policy that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization during the next year.

Of the 1,140 members, more than 100 were from District 9 including members from the UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter.



District 9 was represented by Young Farmer and Agriculturist members.

District 9 highlights included:

- Representing District 9 in the YFA Discussion Meet were: Laura Benitz, Pierce County; Kirsten Konder, St. Croix County; and Isaac Christenson, Polk County.
- Representing District 9 in the Excellence in Ag Final Four were Leslie Svacina, St. Croix County; and Teresa Marker, Barron County.
- Teresa Marker won the Excellence in Ag Competition and represented Wisconsin at the AFBF Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona in January.
- Sally Albers, UW-River Falls, won the Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet.
- Dave Kruschke, St. Croix County, received the highest award that WFBF bestows on its members, the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau award.
- Leslie Svacina, St. Croix County, graduated from the WFBF Institute Class X.
- WFBF top 10 membership workers: Dean Bergsens, Pierce County, signing 10 new members; and John Krings, Pierce County, signing nine new members.
- Members who signed five or more new members enjoyed being part of the Farm Bureau Proud Club, (formerly Producer Club) where they received preferred seating for the Farm Bureau extravaganza and a special meal. Farm Bureau Proud Club members from District 9 were: Brian Douglas, Darryl Kovacik, Dean Bergsens, John Krings, Terry DuSell and Amber DuSell.
- WFBF District 9 Director Jim Holte was re-elected WFBF President.



Superior Shores Farm Bureau members Gregg Johnson and Linda Simmons attended the WFBF Annual Meeting.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 Are You Farm Bureau Proud?

Collegiate Farm Bureau Essay Contest
Classroom Resources
Tractor Rollbar Rebate

3 Meet Kay Gilbertson

Meet: Julie Wadzinski
Bar Area Show
YFA Conference
Board Contacts

Bay Area Farm and Garden Show and Dairy Breakfast Set for March 25



The 2017 Bay Area Farm and Garden Show and Dairy Breakfast will be on **Saturday, March 25**, at the Ashland Bay Area Civic Center in Ashland.

The dairy breakfast will start the show starting at 8 a.m. Proceeds will support Bayfield and Ashland County 4-H and Ashland FFA activities.

The 54-inch frying pan will be used to prepare an 'all Wisconsin scrambled omelet' that serves 100 people and weighs about 50 pounds. The omelets will be prepared in the exhibit area. It takes about 15 minutes to prepare each omelet, which contains one-half pound of butter, 6 pounds of cheddar cheese, 6 pounds of ham, 250 eggs, onions, mushrooms and salt and pepper.

In addition to the omelet, 4-H and FFA members will be serving fresh cold milk, juice, hot coffee, muffins, donuts and sliced cheese. To top off the breakfast, everyone will be treated to ice cream with strawberry or chocolate topping. Cost of this delicious breakfast is only \$7 for adults and \$3 for children ages 6 to 10.

In addition to the breakfast, participants can visit the Farm and Garden Show where area businesses will have booths promoting their products and services. This year's booths will represent farm and garden related businesses, conservation and environmental organizations and agencies, country crafters, educational displays and much more. There is no charge for the show, which is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Bay Area Farm and Garden Show and Dairy Breakfast are sponsored by the Bayfield and Ashland County 4-H, Ashland FFA, Superior Shores Farm Bureau and Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board.

Are You Farm Bureau Proud?



Farm Bureau's purpose is to promote, protect and represent the business, economic, leadership and educational interests of Wisconsin farmers.

Farm Bureau does this through: legislative involvement and political activity, public and media relations, education and training and leadership development. If you are proud of that, share it with your friends and neighbors by getting them signed up as members.

There are many incentives for signing new members to Farm Bureau:

- \$20 for each new member signed.
- **2x4:** Sign up two new members by **April 1** and you will be awarded with Farm Bureau work gloves.
- **5x5:** Sign up five new members by **May 1** and you will be awarded with a Farm Bureau Proud Carhartt vest.
- **8x8:** Sign up eight new members by **August 1** and you will be awarded with a Farm Bureau farm sign.

For more information, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wbf.com or 866.355.7349.

UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau



UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau members enjoyed the WFBF YFA Conference in Wisconsin Dells in December.



UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau member Sally Albers won the Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet. Albers will represent Wisconsin in the National Collegiate Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau's FUSION Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The first semester for the UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau was filled with events.

To kick off, we offered members free cheese curds from Ellsworth Creamery for attending the first meeting. We

volunteered at White Pine Berry Farm's Fall Family Day and ended the day with a barn dance. About 30 students attended.

The next event was the UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet with three contestants including: Matt Kortbein, Sally Albers and Makayla Klumphyan. Matt and Sally advanced and Sally will represent Wisconsin in the national collegiate Discussion Meet at the AFBF FUSION Conference.

We also held a showing of *Farmland* and plan another showing this spring. Members volunteered for Feed My Starving Children in Eagan, Minnesota. 105 people packed meals to feed 77 people for a year. YFA Conference rounded out the semester with 21 members attending. They enjoyed the conference and look forward to attending next year.

Ag Day will be on **April 18**. Agriculture-related clubs and businesses come together to teach people about agriculture. If you want to participate as business, educational stand or donate, please contact us at uwrfcfb@gmail.com. As a chapter, we look forward to volunteering more, welcoming speakers and more educational opportunities for members.

We appreciate the support from WFBF.

Tractor Rollbar Rebates Available

Tractor overturns are the leading cause of farm-related deaths. That's why it's so important that each tractor have a rollover protective structure (ROPS).

The Wisconsin ROPS Rebate Program reimburses owners up to 70 percent (maximum of \$865) toward the total cost of purchasing, shipping and installing individual ROPS. Wisconsin tractor owners can apply for a ROPS via the hotline, 877.767.7748 or visit www.ropsr4u.com.

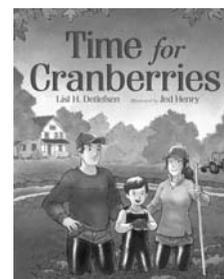
A ROPS, when used with a seatbelt, is 99 percent effective in preventing injury or death in the event of an overturn. More than one-half the tractors in Wisconsin do not have this protection.

The program is run by the National Farm Medicine Center at Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation, and is made possible through philanthropic support from the Auction of Champions. More than 180 ROPS have been installed since 2013.

For more information, contact Barbara Marlenga at 715.389.1519.



Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest



'Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons.'

Each year, Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students in public, private and home schools, including 4-H clubs, Farm Bureau families and other organizations.

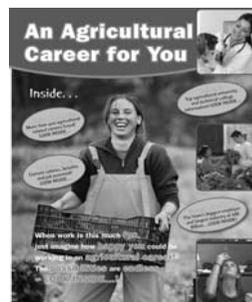
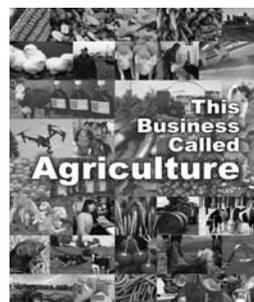
The 2017 topic is 'Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons.' This topic coincides with the 2017 book of the year, *Time for Cranberries* by Lisel Detlefsen.

Polk County contest entries are due by **April 1**. All rules, promotional materials, lessons and activities and other resources related to the essay contest and book program may be found at www.wisagclassroom.org or can be requested by contacting Superior Shores Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom coordinator Gregg Johnson at 715.413.1238.

Resources Available from Ag in the Classroom

The 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.

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



To order these resources and more visit wisagclassroom.org.

Meet: Kay Gilbertson, District 9 Promotion and Education Chair



Kay Gilbertson was elected to represent District 9 on the Promotion and Education Committee.

Kay lives in Elk Mound with her husband Kevin and their three children: Brandon, Bailey and Kaleb, who are involved in their farm, FFA, 4-H, church and school activities.

They are members of Dunn County Farm Bureau and Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin. The couple is in partnership with Kevin's family on the family farm, Gilbertson Farms. They milk 475 cows and grow crops on 1,900 acres.

Kay serves as the Dunn County Ag in the Classroom coordinator, general leader of Elk Meadow 4-H club and as Sunday school superintendent. She is an alumna of UW-River Falls, where she earned a bachelor's degree in animal science.

Meet: Julie Wadzinski, District 9 Young Farmer and Agriculturalist Chair



Hello District 9! I am Julie Wadzinski and I will represent District 9 on the YFA Committee for the next three years.

I am originally from Marathon County, where I grew up on my family's 400-cow Century dairy farm. In 2006, my family sold our dairy cows.

In May of 2016, I accepted a position with Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College as a farm business production management instructor. Currently, I reside in Barron County.

In my spare time, I enjoy creating memories with my son, Bryan. I also enjoy reading, crocheting, gardening and outdoor adventures.

One of my passions is agricultural advocacy and sharing the ag story with consumers in addition to advocating for fair policy. I sought out training opportunities for advocacy and hope to use and hone those skills and passion on the YFA committee.

I earned a bachelor's degree in dairy science from UW-River Falls and was hired as a livestock nutritionist at Crystal Creek.

Visit the Farm Bureau Booth at the Bay Area Farm and Garden Show



Visit the Farm Bureau booth, mention this article and win a Farm Bureau Proud cooler.

Superior Shores Farm Bureau will have a booth at the Bay Area Farm and Garden Show. Come and visit to go 'Snacking around Wisconsin!'

Make your own bag of trail mix using products that are raised and grown on the more than 76,000 farms in Wisconsin.

Superior Shores Farm Bureau also will be teaming up with Rural Mutual Insurance agent Alan Schiefelbein to give away door prizes during the show.



Go 'Snacking around Wisconsin' to make your own bag of trail mix.

District 9 Young Farmers Successful at YFA Conference



Teresa posed with Jim Holte with her Excellence in Agriculture Award.

Barron County's Teresa Marker was selected as the winner of the Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Excellence in Agriculture Award at the 97th WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells on December 4.

The Excellence in Agriculture Award is awarded to a Farm Bureau member between the ages of 18 and 35 who is actively engaged in agriculture, but

derives the majority of their income from an off-farm agricultural career. The winner is selected based on their knowledge of agriculture, leadership in Farm Bureau and other civic organizations.

Marker grew up on her family's dairy farm in Elk Mound. After high school, she earned a degree in agricultural education with a minor in animal science from UW-River Falls. She works as a livestock nutritionist for Crystal Creek Natural, LLC, based in Spooner.

Marker serves on the Barron County Farm Bureau board of directors and was recently elected the Ag in the Classroom chair. Marker has served on the state YFA committee and was the committee chair in 2013. She lives in Shell Lake with her husband Dustin and son Jared.

Marker competed in the national Excellence in Agriculture contest at the 98th AFBF Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona in January. She also will be a guest of the WFBF at the

next YFA Conference. Marker also received a \$250 FS Fast Stop gift card from GROW-MARK, Inc., and will be a guest at its annual meeting in Chicago in August. She also qualifies for the YFA Washington, D.C., trip in 2018.

Polk County's Isaac Christenson excelled in the Discussion Meet at the YFA Conference where he made it through three rounds of competition to compete in the final four on December 4.

The Discussion Meet contest is a panel discussion in which Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 are judged on their ability to express their ideas and opinions and reach a solution on current issues affecting agriculture.

Christenson is an agricultural business banker for Bremer Bank where he works with farmers on financial solutions. He earned a degree from the UW-River Falls. Christenson grew up showing sheep and pigs and he enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and kayaking.

Congratulations to Teresa and Isaac on a job well done!



Finalists in the Discussion Meet were: (L-R) Kallie Jo Kastenson, Racine County; Julie Sweney, Dodge County; Isaac Christenson, Polk County; and Kristi Fiedler, Shawano County. Kristi Fiedler was the winner of the Discussion Meet.

Superior Shores Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Gregg Johnson 715.681.0492
Vice President, Linda Simmons 715.682.2018
Secretary/Treasurer, Verne Gilles 715.682.4408
Promotion and Education Chair, Robyn Lulich 715.746.2444

Director, Perri Shuga 715.779.5756
Director, Ella Teague 715.682.9954

Superior Shores Farm Bureau 877.583.4509

WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte 715.835.6708
YFA Chair, Julie Wadzinski 715.432.8740

Promotion and Education Chair, Kay Gilbertson 715.271.8141

District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 866.355.7349
RMIC District Managers: Laurie Peterson 715.514.4477

(Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland) Dave Meihak (Iron) 715.344.6220



Visit the Superior Shores Facebook page at www.facebook.com/superiorshoresfarmbureau.

Farm Bureau Scholarships Available

Superior Shores Farm Bureau will be granting one (1) \$500 scholarship to a high school senior in Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas or Iron County. This scholarship is open to all students who will be pursuing a degree in the agriculture industry and entering a technical or 4-year program.

Examples of eligible majors include traditional production agriculture majors like dairy science, soil science and agronomy. Other majors may also qualify including: biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology, forestry, horticulture, environmental science and more. Preference will be given to students from Farm Bureau families.

This scholarship will be based on the student's past school and community activities, plans for future education, and recommendation.

Applications can be found on the Superior Shores Farm Bureau website by visiting wfbf.com/county-farm-bureaus/superior-shores/ or by contacting Katie Mattison at 866.355.7349 or kmattison@wfbf.com. Application deadline is **April 15**.

Attend the Ag Women's Summit

Plan to attend the Ag Women's Summit on March 10-11 at the Madison Marriott West sponsored by Badgerland Financial, the WFB Foundation and UW-Extension.



The registration fee for the Ag Women's Summit is \$155. One-Day registration is \$115. Final registration deadline is **March 3**.

For more information or to register, visit wiagwomenssummit.com or to view the agenda, visit wiagwomenssummit.com/agenda.

Welcome New Members



Daryl Johnson*, Joseph Jondreau*, Kelly Jondreau*, Leaf Mahoney* and Les Philaja.

* Denotes voting membership.