



Trempealeau County Farm Bureau

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Ken Truax - District Manager
(715) 514-4477

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Help Needed at the Trempealeau County Fair Milk Shake Stand

We are looking for volunteers to help out during the Trempealeau County Fair in the famous Trempealeau County Farm Bureau Milkshake Stand. Please contact the board director for that day to sign up.

Wednesday Shane Goplin 715.533.4218
 Annaliese Wegner 608.386.7820

Thursday Chuck Johnson 608.863.2530
 Broc Kensmoe 715.533.2355

Friday Amber Radatz 608.317.0001
 Brian Maliszewski 715.530.1107
 Callie Herron 828.320.2485

Saturday Crystal Johnson 715.597.2411
 Todd Quarne 608.484.1105
 Derek Husmoen 608.863.0105

Sunday Bruce Prudlick 715.695.3446
 Jamie Goplin 715.530.0875



www.trempealeaucountyfair.com

	Wednesday - 22	Thursday - 23	Friday - 24	Saturday - 25	Sunday - 26
	5 p.m. - ?	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.			
	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
		1 - 4 p.m.			
		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
		4 - 7 p.m.			
		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
		7 p.m. - ?	7 p.m. - ?	7 p.m. - ?	
		1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	





COUNTYnews

TREMPEALEAU COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Winner Announced

This year fourth and fifth grade students were asked to write essays about the Farm Bureau topic, 'Tell us about producing maple syrup in Wisconsin.'

Trempealeau County had six entrants. The winner was Cody Dooley from Ettrick Elementary School in Ettrick. He is the son of Jeanette Dooley.

Congratulations Cody!

How do you make Maple Syrup?

Have you ever wondered when you drive down the road why there are buckets hanging from trees in the spring time? Well I will tell you why; it's because someone is making maple syrup and I will tell you how to do this. The first thing that you need to do is identify maple trees and make sure that your night and day time temperatures are just right to let the sap run.

Night time temperatures need to get below freezing and day time temperatures need to get above freezing for the sap to run, these trees that you tap need to be twelve inches in diameter. Then you need to gather your materials. You will need a hammer, drill and bit to put the spouts in the trees, pails that you can hang on the spouts to catch the sap.

Once you have identified your trees and gathered your materi-

als you then need to go ahead and start the process of making maple syrup. Once the sap starts to run, you have to gather that sap and bring it back to start the boil down process, which can be time consuming.

When you get the process started it can boil over in a hurry, but to stop it from happening you can simply use a few drops of milk or rub butter on the edge of the pan. You need to bring it to a temperature of 219 degrees and once this temperature is reached you remove it from the heat and filter it into jars and seal them.

Sealing them will happen on their own as the heat of the syrup will cause this to happen. The last step is to enjoy the fruits of your labor!

Growing, Sharing our Voices

By Cassie Olson, Jackson County Farm Bureau member and *Dairy Star* columnist



Just short of a year ago, I submitted a membership application to join the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (WFBF). As a new Farm Bureau member, my understanding of the organization was limited, but in the 10 months of my membership, I have come to better understand the vast spectrum of opportunity this organization has to offer.

With active sites in all 50 states, the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) mission is: AFBF is the unified national voice of agriculture, working through our grassroots organizations to enhance and strengthen the lives of rural Americans and to build strong, prosperous agricultural communities. With the slogan: The Voice of Agriculture, AFBF has a positive reputation to live up to.

As my membership has evolved, I am fortunate to experience a great array of opportunities. From an agricultural tour of Trempealeau County with other women in my district, to the state Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Conference or visiting with state legislators during Ag Day at the Capitol in Madison, if there is one thing that this organization has taught me, it's that, as farmers and agriculturists, we have a voice and it is vital that we share it.

If you turn on the market report or look at your milk check, it is no

secret that we are in some tight times. During my travels with *Dairy Star*, I often receive off-record remarks about this particular challenge among others. While I practice discretion by keeping these individual thoughts and concerns confidential, they often resonate with me and help me shape my own vision of the industry that we work in. Farm Bureau is the way I have shared my vision for dairy and agriculture with others.

Recently, I was in Washington, D.C., with fellow YFA members to share our stories and voices on national and international levels. We were briefed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, visited with the New Zealand Embassy and met with members of Congress. To say that I was honored to have this opportunity is a great understatement.

It's not just about sharing our farm stories with consumers or promoting the consumption of our product, it's about sharing our livelihood with those who represent us. Get to know your government officials whether at the local, state or national level, and share your story with them, too.

Just as importantly, get involved in an activity or organization that connects you to others in your profession. For me, Farm Bureau is where I found that connection, but there are many other groups that can give you similar opportunities. While it isn't feasible for every farmer to take a week off the farm to meet with members of Congress, it is important to tell your story. You never know who might hear your story during a meeting and have an impact on.

The successes, struggles, concerns and beliefs of the farmers who I am fortunate to work with are always on my mind. They continue to shape my view of agriculture in the world and motivate me to share my voice when I am able. I have been blessed to find an outlet to share my voice; never be afraid to grow and share yours.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2** President's Report
- District Board Report
- Leadership Institute
- Ag Open

- 3** John Deere Factory Tour
- Environmental Quality
- Annual Meeting Date
- District 4 Meetings
- Board Contacts

President's Report



"For me, success is, during this early pilgrimage, to leave the woodpile a little higher than I found it." - Paul Harvey

At the conclusion of last year's Trempealeau County Farm Bureau annual meeting I informed the board that I would be stepping down as president this year, and serve my remaining year in my term as a director.

Doing this will provide for a smooth transition for the organization while being on the board for a year so I can offer any guidance if needed. I can't help but look back at my time on the Trempealeau County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

In that time, we've experienced a tremendous amount of change. As a county, we enrolled in the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's County Services Program (CSP) where a Wisconsin Farm Bureau staff member helps our county with some secretarial duties and responsibilities.

Our county has taken the initiative to rebrand our women's committee to the Ag Promotions Committee to encompass a growing broad spectrum of members interested in promoting agriculture.

The board also changed; a new, and younger, generation of Farm Bureau members stepped up to the plate to take on leadership roles, and recently the board members made the leap to paperless meetings. These are big changes, but they are changes that will make our county a stronger organization.

It has been a true honor to serve as president, and an even greater privilege to lead a great group of directors.

As I wind down my time as president, Paul Harvey's words seem to ring even more true, 'Success is, during this early pilgrimage, to leave the woodpile a little higher than I found it.'

Trempealeau County Farm Bureau has been very successful, but we must continue to build on that success; 'to leave the woodpile a little higher than we found it.'

Best Regards,

Todd Quarne

Trempealeau County Farm Bureau President

District Board Report



Where will it stop? Let me once again say, "the consumer is not always right, someone just does a better job convincing them what is good or bad."

My wife Noel loves to watch the hit TV series *Mad Men*, a show that followed the lead character through the evolution of advertising in

the decades following World War II. Watching this show with Noel gave me a real appreciation for the power of advertising and its ability to influence mass numbers of people.

Recently, those of us who have dairy farms have been notified that we will lose two management tools, tail docking and the use of Posilac. Both of these are on the way out because the consumer demands it.

Recently, I was visiting with another farmer who queried, "The price of milk should go up when guys can't use Posilac?" Well, perhaps the price might go up a little when the average 8 to 10 pounds of milk gained by Posilac is gone; however, rest assured when I asked if there would be a premium for Posilac-free milk the consumer demands the answer was no.

Now, the interesting part after my friend, who has several hundred cows in a robot system, mentioned the price increase through loss of Posilac. I asked, "what's next, when someone can no longer advertise *bst*-free what will they use to distinguish their product while inadvertently disparaging others? Will they now add antibiotic free, pasture fed, hand rubbed, snuggled, raised in the family home with the family? What's next?"

I continued and asked what he would do if the consumer demanded pasture fed dairy cows? My friend said, "I can't graze with my robot system." Then I decided to consume a large amount of beer, not get excited and have fun at the party.

The next morning my headaches started not just from the beer but unbelievably I received a Facebook post from another friend who grew up on a dairy farm but hasn't had contact with dairy cows for more than 30 or 40 years and remembered the 'good old days.' She posted a photo of some cattle on pasture with the tag 'look at these happy cows grazing.' Now, she had no idea about the conversation that I had the night before so I found it ironic that this happened and I was left wondering if I was one of the prophets.

In the case of tail docking, I keep hearing that there is no science to support the practice, on the other hand with *bst* there is science to show that there is no difference in the milk produced. Science or not, I guess we have a new manager on our farms called the consumer whether knowledgeable or not will now be able to dictate how we farm unless we stop the madness and figure this out.

Well, I think that I will start to market my own arsenic-free milk so that I can differentiate and capture market share. Good news, if the thing takes off everyone will have to be arsenic free, which will be fine as there is no such thing as arsenic milk.

I don't have the answers but invite you to share your thoughts at braggfam@triwest.net.

As always, 'enough is too much.'

Joe Bragger
District 4 WFBF Director

Farm Bureau Awards Scholarship

The Trempealeau County Farm Bureau revamped the scholarship program this year. With a new application, including a scoring rubric, children of Farm Bureau members applied.

We had four quality applications and the scholarship review committee was pleased to have the rubric in place to help make judging easier.

The \$500 scholarship was awarded to Mariah Filla who

By Crystal Johnson

is the daughter of Henry and Noel Filla from Osseo. She was the valedictorian at Osseo-Fairchild High School and will be pursuing a degree in nuclear engineering at UW-Madison.

Our scholarship committee enjoyed reading about her involvement, educational goals and future plans.

Best wishes to Mariah as she continues her education!



Seeking Applicants for WFB Foundation's Leadership Institute

By Derek Husmoen



Do you have a desire to become a stronger leader? Do you want to be more involved in Farm Bureau? If so, you should consider applying for the 2017 WFB Foundation's Institute.

I am participating in the 2016 Institute class and is a great experience so far. I have quickly become friends with the other 13 members from around the state.

During the first three weekend sessions, we had orientation, learned about personal development and Farm Bureau, participated in creativity training, put together a group project presentation, had an etiquette dinner and participated in media training so that we become better advocates.

At our last two sessions this fall, we will learn about Wisconsin government at the Capitol as well as national and international agricultural topics when we travel to the Indiana Farm Bureau Center in Indianapolis. The class will end with a trip to Washington, D.C., in June of 2017.

The class is a great way to meet fellow Farm Bureau members who have a similar passion for agriculture. You will meet new friends, improve your communication skills, learn from expert trainers, step outside of your comfort zone and grow as a leader.

The deadline to apply for the 2017 Institute class is **August 15**. Applications can be found online at www.wfbf.com. Simply click the 'Programs and Events' tab, then select 'Leadership Training Institute.'

For more information or if you have questions, please contact me at 608.863.0105 or dhusmoen@gmail.com.

Farm Facts Brochure is Available

Did you know that agriculture contributes 413,000 jobs to Wisconsin's economy or 11.9 percent of total employment?



Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is proud to introduce the newly-revised 2016 Wisconsin Farm Facts brochure. The brochure highlights Wisconsin's diverse agriculture industry and it's interactive.

To order the brochure, visit wisagclassroom.org and use the resource form.

