



Rusk | Sawyer County Farm Bureaus

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Laurie Peterson - District Manager
(608) 347-0383

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation



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: **Rural Mutual Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation**

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



Ride the Bus to Ag Day at the Capitol

Join farmers and agriculturists from around Wisconsin for an important day in Madison. Learn more about state issues affecting agriculture and meet with your state legislators to speak up for agriculture. Don't want to drive yourself or worry about parking ... ride the bus!

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 of Highway 53 and Golf Road

8:15 a.m. **Osseo:** Osseo Inn parking lot

*There will be a 15-minute break at the Tomah pickup.

9:40 a.m. **Tomah:** McDonald's by Greyhound pickup area

Arrive at Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center at about 11:15 a.m.

The bus will depart Madison to return home at 5:30 p.m.

The bus trip is limited to the first 40 people who register and pay. Reserve your spot today.

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

Registrations are limited so reserve your seat today.



COUNTYnews

RUSK | SAWYER COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Outstanding Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet



Seven contestants participated in the District 9 Discussion Meet: Cindy Bourget, Dunn County; Andrew Winiarczyk, Sawyer County; Nate Kringle, Polk County; Isaac Christenson, Polk County; Lexi Dusell and Kirsten Konder, St. Croix County; and Laura Benitz, Pierce County.

The District 9 Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet was on August 3 at the Stout Ale House in Menomonie. The question that participants discussed was: **Formation of family farm corporations is common practice. How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that the public's positive perception of the family farm is not lost?**

Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The Discussion Meet is an activity designed to build these crucial skills in young farmers and agriculturists. By participating, members build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding



Congratulations to Isaac Christenson, Nate Kringle and Laura Benitz who will be competing at the WFBF Discussion Meet in December.

of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems.

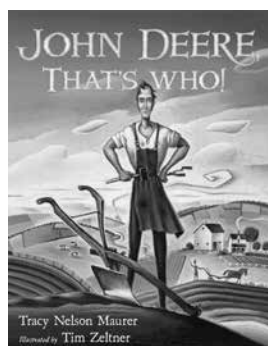
The YFA Discussion Meet gives young members a chance to demonstrate their speaking skills on agricultural-related topics. Contestants are judged on their problem-solving skills as they discuss timely topics with their colleagues.

Each of WFBF's nine districts holds a District Meet late summer or fall. Three contestants from each district move on to the state competition at the YFA Conference in the Wisconsin Dells in December.

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Ag in the Classroom Program Announces Essay Topic and Book of the Year



The 2018 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom book of the year is "John Deere, That's Who!" by Tracy Nelson Maurer and illustrated by Tim Zeltner.

In the 1830s, a young blacksmith from Vermont was about to make his mark on American history. This is the story of a young man who moved to Illinois, where farmers were struggling to plow through the thick, rich soil they called gumbo and tinkered and tweaked and tested until he invented a steel plow that sliced into the prairie.

This year's essay topic 'Inventions that have made agriculture great,' is linked with the book and students will be using the book as one resource. The topic will allow students to write about inventions that have made agriculture advance in technology, efficiency and productivity.

This will tie into science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), connect with careers in agriculture, look at the stories

behind some of the inventions and their inventors and offer opportunities to learn about technology and equipment related to agriculture. Sponsors are being secured and lesson plans developed.

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 also are encouraged to participate.

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. All contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are accessible at wisagclassroom.org or by contacting Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom at 800.261.3276 or aitc@wfbf.com.

Participating students need to submit essays by **April 1, 2018**, to their county Farm Bureau essay coordinator. For questions or to obtain materials, contact:

- Rusk County Ag in the Classroom coordinator: Betsy DuSell at missbetsydu@gmail.com or 715.415.0124
- Sawyer County Ag in the Classroom coordinators: Dale Beissel at mbeissel000@centurytel.net or 715.661.1294 or Sherrie Mataczynski at tsmata86@gmail.com or 715.563.2886.

Rusk County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Terry DuSell 715.828.1617
Vice President, Amber DuSell 715.418.2138
Secretary-Treasurer, Paul Hetke 715.532.7707
Promotion and Education Chair,
Betsy DuSell 715.415.0124
YFA Chair, Austin Stanley

Director, Tim Bandli 715.532.3674
Director, Bruce Nelson 715.532.3819
Director, Aaron Nicholson 715.314.0414

Rusk County Farm Bureau Office 888.393.3253

WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte 715.835.6708
District 9 YFA Chair, Julie Wadzinski 715.432.8740
District 9 Promotion and Education Chair
Kay Gilbertson 715.271.8141
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 715.505.7676
RMIC District Manager, Laurie Peterson 715.514.4477



Like us on Facebook: Rusk County Farm Bureau and Sawyer County Farm Bureau Young Farmer & Agriculturist Program.

Young Farmer and Agriculturist Tour Owens Farms

On September 30, District 9 YFA members socializes and toured the newly updated calf barn facilities at Owens Farms in Frederic. Members learned about the Owens' new calf barn ventilation and watched a smoke bomb demonstration by the system designer, Crystal Creek Natural LLC. Attendees also watched the calf feeding with a milk shuttle.

In addition to farm tours, YFA members enjoyed a cookout.



A representative from Crystal Creek Natural LLC, gave a demonstration on how the ventilation in the calf barn worked using smoke bombs.

Welcome New Members: Rusk

Sheila Aldrich*, Ben Baye*, Taylor Bergmann*, Cody Bunkelman*, Darrel Eggers, Joan Fosvedt*, Scott Gudis*, Casey Gudis*, Alexis Hause*, Kathryn Henk*, Adam Hitts*, John Jiskra*, James Kronstad*, Jeffrey Sauer*, Nathan Schultz*, Edward Stanger*, Austin Stanley*, Donna Wall*, James West, Mike Yeske* and Tanner Zwiefelhofer*.

*Denotes voting member.

Rusk County Farm Bureau Celebrates Success during Annual Meeting



The 2017-2018 Rusk County board of directors: (from left) Amber DuSell, Terry DuSell, Betsy DuSell, Aaron Nicholson, Austin Stanley, Paul Hetke and Bruce Nelson. Not included: Tim Bandli.

Members of the Rusk County Farm Bureau held the annual meeting on September 21 at the Rusk Senior and Youth Center in Ladysmith. We welcome Austin Stanley of Sheldon to the Rusk County Farm Bureau Board of Directors as the new Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair. Delegates elected to represent Rusk County at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December are: Terry DuSell, Paul Hetke and Amber DuSell.

Attendees to the Rusk County Farm Bureau annual meeting also heard from WFBF Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe, who shared that ordinary people are capable of doing extraordinary things.

As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members on the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization. Often WFBF is asked to get involved in issues affecting production agriculture and rural Wisconsin in Madison and Washington, D.C.

During the meeting, members discussed a range of issues including transportation funding, wildlife abatement and rural broadband. The following resolutions passed and were forwarded on for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

1. We encourage school districts to offer students a choice of 2 percent and whole milk in both white and chocolate flavors.
2. Amend page 7, line 47-48, to "Shooting and Nuisance Permits – We support continuing the shooting permit program to allow the additional harvest of deer, bear, wild turkeys and Canadian Geese."
3. We are in favor of a minimum notice to dairy producers of 90 days before they can be dropped by their milk procurer.
4. We support increasing the educational incentive to entice large animal veterinarians to rural areas.
5. We support an incentive program to encourage students to obtain their ag education degree and to become a certified ag instructor in Wisconsin.
6. We in Rusk County Farm Bureau believe that drivers over the age of 75 should be required to renew their driver's license every four years instead of every eight years as the law now states.
7. We support Farm Bureau members of affiliate companies and employees competing in the WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturist and AFBF Young Farmer and Rancher contests.

For more information on the Rusk County Farm Bureau, contact 888.393.3253 or visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/rusk.

District Coordinator Message: Life is a Marathon, Not a Sprint ...



We have probably heard the saying, "Life is a marathon, not a sprint." What does that really mean?

This year, I found out. On June 17, I ran my first marathon, Grandma's Marathon in Duluth. That's right, I ran 26.2 miles.

Running for 26.2 miles allows for a lot of thinking and reflecting. Looking back on the past year, there are many points that are similar when trying to complete a marathon and navigating through life, especially in agriculture.

Perseverance: Farming, running a marathon ... anything that we do has its diffi-

culties. Sometimes it seems hard to push through the difficulties, but you know you must, and want to, keep going. Agriculture is turbulent, and always has been, but we are where we are because we have persevered.

Dedication: Whatever it is that you do, you do it because you are committed. Many of you have been doing what you do for years and you are dedicated to continuing the tradition of agriculture. There are even some young farmers who are dedicated to starting a farm from scratch.

Heart: When you no longer have anything left, it's heart that gets you through. In a marathon, as in life, there are times when there is nothing left except heart. We have that heart to keep going. Especially in agriculture, we do what we do for the LOVE of agriculture.

Support: Always have someone to turn to, to lean on and to push you. I never even thought about running a marathon if it weren't for the support of my running group, my family and my friends. Wisconsin Farm Bureau is here to support you and what you do.

Training: I seriously trained for a marathon for six months. The desire to farm starts practically at birth ... you have trained for what you do your whole life. You got this!

This past year in agriculture has been turbulent, to say the least. For those of you who have been in agriculture your whole lives, you have seen turbulent times before and you will see it again.

In agriculture, and in life, there are ups and downs, we can expect that. There are times when it would be easier to quit than to keep going. But we just need to push through, it will be worth it. Just as for me, running a marathon was challenging, but it was worth it.

Before I ever began running, the idea of running a mile seemed impossible. And of course, it was, until I ran a mile. But I did it! I ran, and finished, my first marathon. That is something that I am proud of.

You should be proud of what you do as well. It is no small feat to be involved in agriculture. The fact that you do what you do and continue to do it despite the challenges. Know that you are part of a great organization that will support you, and is dedicated to helping you, your farm and your family in any way that we can. Wisconsin Farm Bureau is proud to have you as members.

If you have any questions or comments, or if you want to chat, please contact me. I would love to hear from you.

Katie Mattison
WFBF District 9 Coordinator

Sawyer County Farm Bureau Celebrates Success during Annual Meeting



The 2017-2018 Sawyer County Farm Bureau board of directors posed for a picture with some additional guests at the annual meeting: (from left) District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison, Andrew Winiarczyk, Sherrie Mataczynski, Ted Mataczynski, State Representative James Edming, District 9 Director Jim Holte, Dale Beissel, District 9 YFA Chair Julie Wadzinski and Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe. No in the photo: Mike Robers and Jon Winiarczyk.

The 2017 Sawyer County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held September 9 at the Wannigan in Winer. WFBF Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe was the guest speaker.

Members enjoyed a chicken dinner prepared by the Wannigan staff and then voted on policy, board of directors and delegates to the 2017 WFBF Annual Meeting.

Sawyer County Farm Bureau 2017 resolutions are:

1. Each county should have a minimum of one person staffed to assist with FSA/NRCS questions.
2. We support increasing the educational incentive to entice large animal veterinarians to rural areas.
3. We support online payments for new and renewal Farm Bureau memberships as well as an option for auto renewal.
4. We support developing a database where farmers interested in retiring can be connected to young farmers interested in farming. This database should be housed at Farm Bureau.

For more information on Sawyer County Farm Bureau, visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/sawyer or contact 866.355.7347.

Sawyer County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Dale Beissel	715.266.3414
Vice President, Andrew Winiarczyk	715.558.2562
Secretary-Treasurer, Sherrie Mataczynski	715.943.2353
Director, Marty Ewert	715.558.3524
Director, Ted Mataczynski	715.943.2353
Director, Mike Robers	715.643.2645
Director, Jon Winiarczyk	715.415.2830
Sawyer County Farm Bureau Office	866.355.7347

Welcome New Members: Sawyer

Corey Andrews*, Dona Brandner*, Marilyn Dawson, Martin Ewert*, Thomas Fischer, Tony Jilek, Anthony Martin*, Jeff Mika, Kerryan Rothgeb*, Raymond Visocky and Josiah Young*.

*Denotes voting member.

Congratulations: Farm Bureau Proud Club

Congratulations to Terry DeSell and Paul Hetke for qualifying for the Farm Bureau Proud Club. Terry and Paul signed more than five NEW Farm Bureau members. For their efforts, they received Farm Bureau Proud Carhartt vests and will enjoy a steak dinner celebration at the WFBF Annual Meeting at the Kalahari Resorts in December.

Thank you both for your hard work and dedication.

You Could Win a Gun for Signing New Farm Bureau Members

Agriculture is a major driver of Wisconsin's economy. We have a vested interest in helping to maintain a safe, affordable and abundant food supply. As a member of Farm Bureau, you help support programs and policies that ensure that farmers can continue to feed and clothe us, while helping keep Wisconsin's economy strong.

Farm Bureau is a membership organization that relies on membership dues as a primary source of revenue. By joining Farm Bureau, you become part of an organization that provides numerous member benefits while helping to support Wisconsin's #1 industry.

YOU can get involved with membership and earn great rewards at the same time.

- For every NEW member you sign, you get \$20.
 - For every two new members you sign, you will get an entry to win a gun.
- If you have any questions, please contact WFBF District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 715.418.0975.

2017-18
DISTRICT 9

'AIM FOR 2'

MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES

- **Prize:** Savage Axis II XP .25-06 with scope (winner has a choice between .25-06; .30-06; 270; 243; 308; 7mm08)
- **Dates:** October 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018
Drawing will be held at the District 9 Policy Development meeting on Wednesday, August 1.
- Members get **1 entry for every 2 new members** they sign up and **1 entry for every 2 past due members** renewed (a form must be completed and given to the District Coordinator to receive credit for the past due members).



Do You Know Someone Who Should Be a Farm Bureau Member?

To the right is a membership application for Wisconsin Farm Bureau. The dues in Polk County are \$55 per membership. Below are a couple of quick hints for you as you go through the membership application. Membership applications can be found at www.wfbf.com or by contacting District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 715.418.0975.

1. Can my spouse and I share a membership? Yes. Each membership is one vote for the county Farm Bureau. If you and your spouse feel you can have a shared opinion on county happenings, then you can have a shared membership. If you'd rather have two votes, you would each have to buy a membership.
2. Why do you need my date of birth? Your birthday is used for the accidental death benefit that comes with your county Farm Bureau membership. It also helps us target our Young Farmer and Agriculturalist members so that we can be sure to include them in activities that are specific to them. We won't sell it to anyone, it helps us.
3. What is the Ag Newswire? Ag Newswire is produced by Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation each Friday and it is a summary of agriculture news for the past week.
4. How do I know what my membership type is? Polk County Farm Bureaus have established that a voting member is someone engaged in agricultural purposes, actively engaged in the business of producing agricultural products, or owners of property where such business is conducted and that an associate member is other persons, partnerships, unincorporated associations and corporations interested in the philosophy and objectives of this association can be a member, but without the right to vote or serve as a director. Typically, associate members are those without direct ties to agriculture, but carry a Rural Mutual Insurance policy.
5. Who is the membership worker? At Farm Bureau, we like to reward those who help us grow our membership. So, if you are giving this membership newsletter to someone in hopes that they will also join, please write your name in the membership worker blank. We will send you \$20 for each new member who you sign up. It's a great way to be rewarded for taking time out of your day to make the visits and help us grow our membership.
6. Where do I mail my application? You can drop it in the mail to WFBF, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705, or you can drop it off at the Rural Mutual Insurance office in Balsam Lake.

7. When should I send in my payment, when is it due? Your membership starts on the day we receive your membership application and that will remain your renewal date. So, if you know that your cash is a little tight in the summer, but you could manage the renewal in September, send it in September. We'd be glad to have your membership anytime.

Welcome to the Farm Bureau Family

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Would you like to receive WFBF's weekly email newsletter, Ag Newswire? Yes No

Would you like a Rural Mutual Insurance agent to contact you? Yes No

Membership Type: Associate Voting

County of Membership: _____

Membership Worker: _____

Make checks payable to
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation



A Voice for Farmers.
A Vision for Agriculture.®