



Langlade County Farm Bureau

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FROM THE **# 1 FARM INSURER**
IN WISCONSIN, WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND LOYALTY!



Rural Mutual Agents in Langlade Co:

Russ Van Lanen
(715) 627-7594

David Meihak, District Manager - (715) 630-4801

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

YFA Report By Joe Markgraf

The YFA committee went to see Colt Ford in concert during the month of March. It was short notice, but we had a ton of interest from people who wanted to attend.

In the future, we plan on holding another event similar to this. YFA members and people interested in becoming a YFA member are encouraged to come along. The Q and Z Expo Center is in Ringle, so it's not a far drive and they have a variety of concerts throughout the year.

We had an awesome time enjoying the music and networking with other young farmers and agriculturists at the event.

The Langlade County Farm Bureau YFA Committee is about engaging our members and



A member of the Colt Ford Band (center) with Joe Markgraf and Jake Bula at the latest Langlade County Farm Bureau YFA event.

expanding points of view on agriculture and the presence of agriculture in our community.

If you want to know when the next event is or want to recommend an event, please contact Joe Markgraf at 715.216.3868.

Ag in the Classroom Report By Christy Sveda-Schreiber



A few months back, we had materials sent throughout the Antigo School District for fourth and fifth grade students. The students were asked to write an

essay based on this year's Ag in the Classroom resource book, "John Deere, That's Who!" by Tracy Nelson and illustrated by Tim Zeltner.

Unfortunately, I did not receive any essays to review and select a county winner from.

As we move further into spring Mrs. Domke and the Antigo FFA students will host another Feeding America tour at the Meyer Dairy Farm. They want to make it an all-day event for multiple school classes to come, learn and get some hands-on knowledge. Thanks for reading and have a wonderful growing season.



FREE FARMER RESOURCES

WISCONSIN FARM CENTER

farmcenter@wisconsin.gov | 1-800-942-2474

Free, confidential assistance is available to all farmers in areas including:
financial planning, farm transition, conflict mediation, herd-based diagnostics, counseling services and more.



COUNTYnews

LANGLADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Langlade County Farm Bureau Board Member Produces World Champion Cheese



Steve and Darlene Eckerman of Phlox Farms were awarded first place for their Lacey Lamb sheep's milk cheese at the 2018 World Champion Cheese Contest in Madison.

Lacey Lamb scored well above the second place entry from Spain in the hard sheep's milk cheese, nine months or longer class. The 25 entries in the class, included several from Spain and Croatia, as well as others from around Wisconsin and the U.S.

Phlox Farms is located on South Rollwood Road in the town of Norwood. Steve and Darlene are the third generation in the family to make cheese, and their son, Chris, recently earned his cheesemaker's license to hopefully carry

on the tradition.

The actual cheese-making process takes place at LaClare Farms in Malone, with the Eckerman's herd of several dozen sheep supplying the milk. The Eckermans developed the recipe, with assistance from Katie Fuhrmann of LaClare Farms.

The Eckerman's herd produces about 10,000 pounds of milk annually, which is turned into about 1,200 pounds of cheese. Now that they've won the world championship they hope to expand production and locate a distributor to sell their product. Currently it is only available at the Eckerman's farm and at LaClare Farms.

Spring Farm Visit

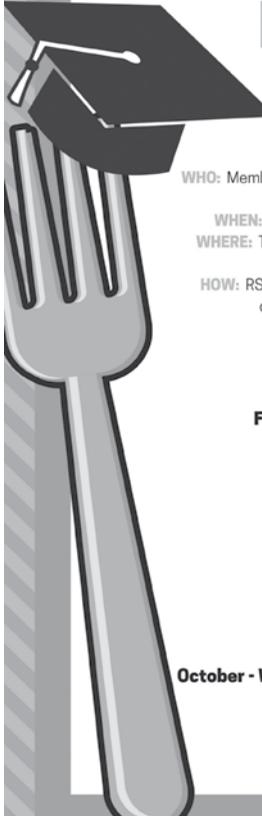
By Christy Sveda-Schreiber

Once again, I've started to plan a farm tour. It will be a little different this year because we are putting out two invitations. One to the Pleasant View Elementary School and another to the Antigo Independently Motivated Students class.

There will be a morning and an afternoon tour. We will go over the care of our dairy cows, milking procedures, feeding the animals, and I'm sure there will be a visit from a calf or two to entertain. Both tours will end with dairy inspired treats!



Students who toured Sveda Farms got some special dairy treats.



Lunch & Learn

with 

WHO: Members who want to learn more about Farm Bureau & agriculture
WHAT: Educational Webinars
WHEN: First Wednesday of every month from noon-12:30 p.m.
WHERE: The comfort of your own home or business. Tune in on your computer or any handheld device.
HOW: RSVP at <http://bit.ly/WFBFLunchLearn> and we will send you a confirmation and directions on how to participate

2018 Lunch & Learn Topics

- January - AITC Essay Contest**
- February - WFBF's Local Affairs Program**
- March - Discovery Farms**
- April - Agrability**
- May - DATCP Farm Center**
- June - WFBF Leadership Institute**
- July - Election Update**
- August - What's happening in Policy**
- September - Farm Safety**
- October - WFBF Annual Meeting & YFA Conference Preview**
- November - Policy Topic Discussion**
- December - No Lunch and Learn**

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I hope spring is going better than when I'm writing this. With record snow fall for April and temperatures running 15 to 20 degrees below normal, it's off to a rough start.

As usual there are a lot of activities going on this summer. Langlade County Farm Bureau will be active in quite a few. The Langlade County Breakfast on the Farm will be **Sunday, June 10**, at Maly Farms. The My American Farm educational kiosks will be there and the Langlade County Farm Bureau made a donation to help cover expenses of the breakfast.

Shortly after that on **Thursday, June 14**, we will be doing a fundraiser at Music in the Park selling Judy Bolen's amazing barbeque along with pie and ice cream.

We are donating trophies for the beef class at the Langlade County Fair in July. We'll be sponsoring the trophies for the Reserve Champion, Beef Breeding Pure Bred; Reserve Champion, Beef Breeding Cross Bred; Champion, Market Beef; and Reserve Champion, Market Beef.

Christy Sveda-Schreiber will host a fun day for some elementary school classes at her farm in May.

Langlade County Farm Bureau will be sponsoring fun and educational items from the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin for the kids who attend her event.

Don't forget the County Farm Bureau annual meeting on **October 10**. The location this year will be the Insight FS Fertilizer Plant Office at 1922 Edison Street, Antigo. Our key note speaker will be Beth Schaefer from Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin.

Have a great summer.

Tom Houdek
Langlade County Farm Bureau president

District 7 Director's Report



Politics are alive and well in D.C. Heidi Pettis from the WFBF Leadership Institute class XI did a great job meeting with legislators.

The conversations were relevant to the agriculture commodity prices. We have a lot to get done with the farm bill. This is the time to put our best foot forward and tell our story of agriculture to everyone. We are the voice of the industry and it needs to be heard now more than ever.

This is a new environment now with tariffs from President Trump on steel, NAFTA renegotiations and China's backlash on

U.S. agriculture. We are a general farm organization and it's time for our grassroots membership to bring the commodity groups together to find that unified voice for agriculture.

The District 7 leaders training was great. Thank you to the new and seasoned board members who showed up. A special thanks to Director of Training and Leadership Wendy Kannel and District 7 Coordinator Wes Raddatz for a job well done.

It has been a busy beginning to 2018 for me with WFBF, I am continuing to stay in contact with the counties in District 7. So please stay in contact with me if you need anything.

Adam Kuczer
WFBF District 7 Board of Director

Music in the Park Fundraiser Planned By Dick Bolen

Please mark the evening of **Thursday, June 14**, down on your calendar to attend Music in the Park in Antigo. The Langlade County Farm Bureau will serve barbeque sandwiches, potato chips, pie, ice cream and beverages. The music for the evening will be provided by Red Eagle Tuttle, a new band to our area. You will definitely want to come and check them out.

Remember this is our annual fundraiser, so if you can join us, we'd be happy to see you there. The funds raised at the event will give extra support to our Ag in the Classroom efforts, FFA and 4-H support and many other ag product promo-



Langlade County Farm Bureau will have the dinner table ready again for this year's Music in the Park on Thursday, June 14.

tions in the area. If you are interested in donating a pie or two, please contact Tom Houdek at 715.627.2156 or Dick Bolen at 715.623.6974.

Farm Bureau Member Sign Sales Ending in 2018

Are you looking for ways to spruce up your farm yard or display your Farm Bureau membership? These single-sided 18" by 24" heavy aluminum all-weather signs are ideal for indoor or outdoor use and can be personalized with up to 14 characters per line.

The cost is \$45 per sign and orders received will be processed by group at the

end of each month. With each sign purchased, \$5 is contributed to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation to support agricultural education and agricultural leadership programs in Wisconsin.

Order forms can be found at wfbf.com/foundation/farm-signs or contact Darlene Arneson at 608.828.5644 or darneson@wfbf.com.

Breakfast on the Farm By Judy Bolen

Save the date for the June Dairy Month Breakfast on the Farm event. It will be held **Sunday, June 10**, starting at 8 a.m. at Maly Farms, Inc., W7880 Highway O, Bryant, WI 54418.

They will serve scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, cheesy hash browns, cheese, milk and ice cream. The Langlade County Farm Bureau will be furnishing video kiosks with farm facts and video games. There will be many other activities for children and adults.



Wisconsin Ag Open Offers Something for Everyone

The 21st annual Wisconsin Ag Open hosted by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation will be held on **Monday, September 10**. The event will be held at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.

All proceeds from the golf outing support the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation. The Foundation funds education and leadership programs such as Ag in the Classroom, Young Farmer and Agriculturists, Women's Leadership and Education Program and WFBF Leadership Institute.

The event welcomes golfers of all skill levels to participate. We have some experienced golfers, the recreational golfer and those who golf once a year. It's a scramble and is a fun, social and networking event vs. a competitive event. Mulligans are sold each year that helps to even the playing field.

The Wisconsin Ag Open begins with a shotgun

start at 10:30 a.m. An awards program, appetizers and prizes will follow the golfing. Registration is \$125 and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, box lunch, appetizers, contests and door prizes. The field is limited to 144 golfers to insure a pleasant golfing experience and pace on the course.

Sponsorships ranging from \$50 to \$1,500 are available. For sponsorship and registration details, please contact Darlene Arneson at 608.828.5644 or darneson@wfbf.com. The registration deadline is **August 10**.



Promotion and Education Report

I am writing this before Easter and we still have snow on the ground. You will receive this newsletter in the mail in the middle of May and I hope, by then, the weather will be warmer and nice for fieldwork and spring planting. Amidst the busy season, I hope you find a few minutes to look at our Langlade County Farm Bureau newsletter, even if it is on a rainy day or evening.

May is Beef Month, but I still plan on doing a beef promotion in July like I always do. Not to rush summer, but our county annual Farm Bureau meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 10**. It has been moved up a week from previous years and this year it will be held at the Insight FS Fertilizer Plant meeting room.

Along with Molly McKay, I am pleased to announce that I have contacted Beth Schaefer from the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board who said she will be happy to speak at our county meeting in October.

So, mark your calendars for October 10. Meanwhile, let's see what the spring and summer seasons have in store for us. Hopefully, we will have a nice growing season without any bad storms. Until next time,

Bev Brecklin
Promotion and education committee chair

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.

Come Fly with Ag in the Classroom this Summer

Annual bus tour will make stops in western Wisconsin

Do you know someone who would benefit from a tour of farms and agribusinesses? Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom encourages you to share the Summer Bus Trip information with teachers, educators, volunteers and home school parents in your area.

This year's tour will be held **July 24-25** and will be based out of Arcadia. The cost is \$50 and opportunities for credit will be offered.

This annual tour is perfect for teachers of all grade levels and subject areas, volunteers who work with their Ag in the Classroom program, extension and 4-H staff and leaders and others who want to learn about Wisconsin agriculture.

The bus tour is limited to 50 participants so don't delay in getting registered.

Tour stops include:

- Pilgrim's Pride
- Compeer Financial
- Buck Country Grain
- Arcadia High School Agriculture Department
- Ecker's Apple Orchard
- Suncrest Gardens Farm
- Northern Family Farms, LLP
- Superior Fish/Freshwater Family Farm
- Harvest Home Farm
- AMPI

To register

wisagclassroom.org/whats-new

Other Training Opportunities

Science-Focused Training

Tuesday, June 19

UW-Madison Biotechnology Center

Join Ag in the Classroom and UW-Madison Biotechnology Outreach Director Tom Zinnen as we explore the strong connections of science and agriculture. The day will include a science lab at UW Biotrek and various stops on the agriculture campus.

One-Day Training

Wednesday, June 20

West Madison Research Station, Madison

This summer, several classroom opportunities will be offered for teachers and volunteers. At this one-day training you will get an overview of the resources available through Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom, National Ag in the Classroom, American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture and our commodity partners.

Soybean Science Kit Training

Monday, July 16

Comfort Suites, Portage

At this training you will learn how to organize, manage, promote and use the Soybean Science Kits. Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board has sponsored 74 kits for teachers, volunteers and county programs to use. Attend this session to learn more about this popular activity.

Further details and registration materials for summer trainings can be found under 'What's New' at wisagclassroom.org.

Langlade County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Tom Houdek	715.627.2156
Vice President, Robert Fronck	715.623.2416
Secretary/Treasurer, Christy Sveda-Schreiber	715.623.7097
Promotion and Education Chair Beverly Brecklin	715.623.4153
YFA Chair, Joe Markgraf	715.216.3868
Director, Richard Bolen	715.623.6974
Director, Jake Bula	715.623.6779
Director, Darlene Eckerman	715.623.2520
Director, Mary Fronck	715.623.2416
Director, James Jansen	715.623.6261

WFBF Board Director, Adam Kuczer	920.609.0718
WFBF Promotion and Education Chair, Katelin Steege	715.2105384
WFBF YFA Chair, Brian Preder	920.851.5776
District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz	866.355.7346
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.630.4801

Langlade County Farm Bureau Is Now on Facebook

Search for 'Langlade County Farm Bureau on Facebook and you will find the latest information and notices about events going on in Langlade County Farm Bureau.



Please 'Like' us!

Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Location: Insight FS Fertilizer Plant Office,
1922 Edison Street, Antigo

Time: Registration at 6:30 p.m. with meal served at 7 p.m.

Key Note Speaker: Beth Schaefer from the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin

Humor Corner

By **Wes Raddatz**, District 7 Coordinator

What do bees do with their honey? They cell it.

There's a difference between knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing you shouldn't include it in a fruit salad.

What's the most popular name for lawyers to name their daughter? Sue

Don't read this Humor Corner article to one of your cows. She might laugh so hard that milk would come out of her nose!

