



Buffalo County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Mark Your Calendar! District Discussion Meet and Policy Development Meeting

Join us for the District 4 YFA Discussion Meet and Policy Development Meeting on **Tuesday, July 24** beginning at 7 p.m. at Sand Creek Brewery, 320 Pierce Street, Black River Falls.

Any member ages 18-35 is eligible to compete in the Discussion Meet. The question to be discussed is, "As the Voice of Agriculture, how can Farm Bureau be more inclusive of all agriculture and production practices? This includes, but is not limited to, women



(From left) Jody Wilhelm, Rosli Bragger and Emily Herness discuss an agricultural topic during the 2017 District 4 Discussion Meet.

in agriculture, organic production, fresh produce, forestry and aquaculture."

The discussion meet handbook can be found at <https://wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/discussion-meet-2>.

Following the discussion meet will be the District Policy Development Meeting. Any individual or county wishing to propose a resolution to be considered during the 2018 policy development process is encouraged to attend.

The schedule for the evening includes:

**6:30 p.m. –
Discussion Meet Registration**

**7 p.m. –
District Discussion Meet**

**8 p.m. –
Policy Development Meeting**

For questions or if interested in competing in the discussion meet, please contact District 4 Coordinator, Cassie Olson, at colson@wfbf.com or 715.896.4526 or District 4 YFA Representative Rosli Bragger at rbragger7@gmail.com or 715.530.2526.



Be a part of the 2019 Leadership Institute by applying today!

The WFBF Leadership Institute is a year-long leadership development program to help you become a strong and effective leader. With six different sessions, you can network with Farm Bureau members and industry leaders and take your personal and professional leadership development to the next level. This program is open to ALL Wisconsin Farm Bureau voting members.

wfbf.com/programs/leadership-institute
APPLICATIONS DUE AUGUST 15



COUNTYnews

BUFFALO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



If You Make It, They Will Come



Buffalo County Farm Bureau makes shakes annually at the county fair.

Calling all milkshake lovers! If you love drinking milkshakes, you will love to make them! We need 5,000 milkshakes to be hand-mixed during the Buffalo County Fair and we need your help. This year the fair is August 2-5. If you are able to help us out, please contact Jan Schaffner at jan.schaffner@outlook.com or 608.606.9454 and let us know.

What do we do with the proceeds from the milkshakes? Different programs within Buffalo County benefit from the sales. Some of the proceeds are invested in educational materials for children through Ag in the Classroom. We also award scholarships to high school seniors, host the Fun on the Farm event, purchase animals at the fair auction and sponsor calf grants. The proceeds are not enough to cover all these activities, but we do reinvest those dollars wisely.

Please lend a hand so we can continue to support the mission of Farm Bureau: to lead the farm and rural community through legislative representation, education, public relations and leadership development.

4th Annual 'Fun on the Farm' in August

SAVE THE DATE! 2018 marks the 4th Annual Fun on the Farm event. This event is open to all Buffalo County Farm Bureau members.

This year's event will be held at **Together Farms in Mondovi on August 18**. Mark your calendars now, but a postcard will be mailed in late July for registration instructions. See you there!



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Please Welcome Rural Mutual Insurance Agent, Emily Kaltenberg



We are excited to introduce you to the newest Rural Mutual Insurance agent in Buffalo County. Emily (Pronschinske) Kaltenberg has an office just outside of Waumandee. Emily was born and raised in Waumandee on a dairy farm, which later turned into a poultry operation for Gold n' Plump. She continued working in the dairy industry through high school, milking cows for a neighboring farmer. Emily's agriculture background led her to obtain a degree in agriculture marketing communications from UW-River Falls. Her work experience includes a previous position with PiP Seeds out of Arlington. As a small family company, Emily was involved in everything from marketing to inventory management to working with seed dealers.

In 2016, Emily and her husband, AJ, decided to move back to the

Waumandee Valley before their son was born. This was when AJ and Lee Pronschinske purchased Affordable Septic out of Cochrane. Emily helps out with the business, as well.

Emily has been a customer of Rural Mutual ever since she bought her first car at the age of 16. Her experiences with Rural Mutual as a customer and her involvement with the Young Farmer and Agriculturist program is what drew Emily to pursue a career with Rural. It was Rural's commitment to the agriculture community and their customers as a whole that made Emily want to work for them. Emily is excited to be a new agent for Rural Mutual and would love the opportunity to work with anyone in the area. Her approach is based around servicing the customer and making sure they have the correct coverage in place. She hopes her agriculture background allows her to better serve the area farmers, while her understanding of owning a small business will help her to serve the businesses in the area and of course, everyone else in between! She will be happy to work on a free, no obligation quote for you, call 608.626.2500.

Buffalo County Comprehensive Ordinance Revision Update By Julie Lindstrom, Buffalo County Farm Bureau director

Information in this article was taken from Buffalo County meeting minutes from the Buffalo County website, the Zoning Ordinance Revision document and other public documents.

After almost three years of work, by the Zoning Department Staff/Zoning Committee and others, the Buffalo County Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Revision was approved by the Buffalo County Zoning Committee when they met on April 16. The ordinance will be presented to the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors for action and adoption at their July 23 regular meeting.

A town will have one year from the date of adoption of the Buffalo County Zoning Ordinance to decide whether they will be part of county-wide zoning. If a town decides to continue to be part of county-wide zoning, the 1965 ordinance will become ineffective and the new adopted ordinance shall replace it. If a town that is part of county-wide zoning at the time of adoption of the ordinance revision, fails to adopt the comprehensive revision on or before one year passes, neither the newly-adopted ordinance nor the 1965 Ordinance shall remain in effect in that town.

In an effort to keep all the towns in the county part of county-

wide zoning, a special meeting is scheduled to be held on July 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the County Board Room in Alma. Becky Roberts, Land Use Specialist with the Center for Land Use Education at UW-Stevens Point, will be the guest speaker. The local municipalities and their citizens are invited, and the purpose of this special meeting will be to help local communities understand zoning options for Buffalo County, as well as review the process for adopting the new county zoning ordinance, options for towns that wish to adopt and administer their own zoning ordinance and changes to expect if town decide to opt out of general zoning. The meeting will be a panel discussion with zoning administrators from Pepin, Trempealeau and Dunn County.

Just because the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance revision is much larger by page numbers, does not necessarily mean there are a lot of changes. One change that could be significant to Buffalo County farmers is the change in zoning districts. The Zoning Ordinance revision went from 1 Agricultural Zoning District in 1965 to 5 Agricultural Districts in 2018 based on allowable non-farm dwelling density. One new Agricultural District is the ANR-40. With the phasing out of the Farmland Preservation Program as it has been administered in Buffalo County in the past, the ANR-40 district was written to give Buffalo County Farmers an opportunity to participate in the

State Farmland Preservation Program and receive tax credits. The Farmland Preservation Program is a voluntary program.

Another chapter that I think is important as a staff member in the Buffalo County Zoning Department is Specific Uses. This chapter addresses and clarifies permitted and conditional uses included in each of the zoning districts. Twenty-five new specific uses were identified in the Zoning Ordinance Revision.

Did you know that if any use is not specifically listed as a permitted or conditional use, it is prohibited?

To paraphrase what one committee member said at the last Zoning Committee meeting, the 1965 Zoning Ordinance needed to have something done with it. It was not usable. The new Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Revision is a well written document; the Zoning Committee has made a lot of language changes recently and the Zoning Committee is moving in the right direction. The Zoning staff are hopeful the Zoning Ordinance revision will help to make better decisions on land use and structure development in Buffalo County.

A copy of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Revision is available on the Buffalo County website at: <http://bit.ly/BuffaloCountyZoning>.

WANTED: First Time Attendees

Join us for the 2018 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturists Conference
November 30-December 2 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Never attended the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference? Now is your chance to experience this conference for FREE! You will network, learn and have fun with engaging speakers, educational workshops, contests and more.

If you are a first-time attendee, Rural Mutual Insurance will pay the conference registration fee for you and a guest and two nights lodging at the Kalahari Resort. Registration fee includes registrant meals, workshop sessions and entertainment. BUT HURRY! This sponsorship is limited to 50 individuals/couples!

Complete the short application by August 15 at
<http://bit.ly/RuralSponsor18>

REWARD

Qualify for Cash - Refer A Friend

Any YFA member who refers a first-time attendee who is accepted for sponsorship and attends the event will qualify for a \$100 cash award.



District 4 Discussion Meet

Date: Tuesday, July 24

**Time: 6:30 p.m. Registration | 7 p.m. Discussion Meet
8 p.m. Policy Development Meeting**

**Location: Sand Creek Brewery, 320 Pierce Street,
Black River Falls**

For questions contact:

**District 4 Coordinator
Cassie Olson
colson@wfbf.com
715.896.4526**

**District 4 YFA Representative
Rosli Bragger
rbragger7@gmail.com
715.530.2526**

Question to be discussed:

**As the Voice of
Agriculture, how can Farm
Bureau be more inclusive
of all agriculture and
production practices? This
includes, but is not limited
to, women in agriculture,
organic production, fresh
produce, forestry and
aquaculture.**



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.

Farm Bureau – It's Time to IGNITE Your Fire! By Jan Schaffner

On April 5 and 6 members of Buffalo County Farm Bureau traveled to Stevens Point to network, learn, and to strengthen our county Farm Bureau. This event was kicked off with Matt Rush, an excellent speaker from Texas. Matt helped set the tone for the conference and for life with his sense of humor and hilarious impressions. You can find more on Matt on Facebook or online at mattrush.com.

The next 24 hours were filled with breakout sessions on a variety of topics. We could choose from legislative to consumer education to building Farm Bureau to a higher level.

One session that was particularly excellent focused on earning consumer trust through the farmer voice. It was a great opportunity for us to be reminded that each of us have a story to tell and we need to tell that story frequently.

One speaker, Johnna Miller, spoke about how we need to appeal to the emotional side of farming. Nowadays, many groups are targeting farmers for the negative and harmful practices and consumers are hearing that message loud and clear. We need to combat those negative stories and images with positive ones as much as possible. Consumers want to hear the stories about how we take care of our cattle or treat the land with respect. It sounds ludicrous to talk in those terms, but consumers do not want data and numbers and don't really care about 5th generation farmers. They are too often moved by emotional feelings and unfortunately, we do not talk enough about the love that we have for the land and for our animals.



Members from across District 4 participated in the IGNITE Conference April 5 and 6 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Stevens Point.

We need to do a better job at telling our story. The challenge that I leave with you is to look at the summer as an opportunity to be a walking billboard for farming. There are dairy breakfasts and county fairs that could provide an opening for you to make casual conversation with attendees about what is awesome right now for agriculture. You may want to avoid talking about prices, but you can tell them about the fruit of your labor and what makes it worthwhile to work so hard.

If you are interested in participating in this conference next time and want to experience this level of engagement, please talk with one of the Buffalo County Farm Bureau board members.

Another Arcadia Broiler Days Parade in the Books! By Jan Schaffner

May 27 marked the fourth time Buffalo and Trempealeau Farm Bureaus' Agriculture in the Classroom coordinators walked in the annual Arcadia Broiler Days Parade handing out string cheese. Crystal Johnson from Trempealeau County and I pleasantly surprised the parade watchers when they were handed the cheese and not candy.

This event helps bring a great snack to children (and children young at heart) and helps us to promote the dairy industry. Even with temperatures flirting with 100 degrees and high humidity, it was another successful year.

We wish to thank Fountain City Ford for the use of the truck and AMPI in Blair for their string cheese donation.



Buffalo and Trempealeau County Farm Bureau members worked together to hand out cheese during the 65th Arcadia Broiler Days parade.

Buffalo County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Joe Bragger	715.530.0466
Vice President, Chris Ellis	608.863.0007
Secretary/Treasurer, Taliah Danzinger	608.332.3889
Ag Promotions Chair, Jan Schaffner	608.687.3044
YFA Chair, Dustin Ellis	608.797.0380

Director, Patrick Danzinger	715.495.0450
Director, Mark Denk	715.577.3036
Director, Sharon Fernholz	608.863.1503
Director, Derek Leiffing	715.495.3686
Director, Julie Lindstrom	715.495.2679
Director, Doug Olson	715.495.7543
Director, Ed Rippley	608.626.3921
Director, LaVae Wantoch	608.687.6062

Buffalo County Farm Bureau	888.644.8315
WFBF Board Director, Joe Bragger	715.530.0466
District 4 Promotion and Education Chair, Darby Sampson	715.299.1409
District 4 YFA Chair, Rosli Bragger	715.530.2526
District 4 Coordinator, Cassie Olson	866.355.7344
RMIC District Manager, Laurie Peterson	608.347.0383

YFA Contests - Apply Now!

Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 are eligible for the Achievement Award, Discussion Meet and the Excellence in Agriculture Award.

Achievement Award

The Achievement Award recognizes participants on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations. Applicants must have derived a majority of their income from on-farm production for the past three years.

Excellence in Ag Award

The Excellence in Agriculture Award recognizes participants on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations. Applicants must not have derived a majority of their income from a farm (that they own) for the past three years.

Applications and resources can be found at <http://bit.ly/WIYFAContests>.
Deadline to apply is July 9.

WFBF Seeks Rural Route Photos

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members live and work in some of the most beautiful places. In Rural Route, WFBF wants to highlight those sights.



Please email your photos (high resolution jpgs, 4x6 inches at 300 dpi) to lsiekmann@wfbf.com.