



Grassroots

District 2 News

I Am a Farm Bureau Proud Club Member



Arch Morton Jr.

WFBF District 2 Director

Hello again fellow District 2 Farm Bureau members. I hope you are doing well.

We hope that spring will be here soon.

As a Farm Bureau Proud Club member, I want to tell you what that means. To qualify, a member needs to recruit five or more new members to join Wisconsin Farm Bureau, during the membership

year (Oct. 1 through Sept. 30).

It's not that hard to do because there are so many great reasons to join. By signing new members, you help them, Wisconsin Farm Bureau and yourself.

New members have opportunities to meet and network with many people who they have a lot in common with. There are events and activities that they will be interested in and enjoy. The more a member gets involved, the more the member gains from their membership, including the satisfaction of knowing that they are a part of all of the important and interesting things we do. Members qualify for our many member benefits. These include discounts from Case IH, Ford, John Deere, Caterpillar and Yamaha. Members can save money on hotel stays, car rentals and other discounts, too.

You will help Wisconsin Farm Bureau in many ways. As the largest general farm organization in the state, we need to keep increasing our membership. When Wisconsin Farm Bureau speaks, people listen. Whether at the state capital, Washington, D.C., or through education, advocacy, promotion or other public relations, WFB is very well represented and respected. The members you sign might get very involved,

a tremendous opportunity for them and for our organization.

There also are benefits to you, the member who signs others. You receive a \$20 rebate for each new member signed. You also get honored at the WFBF Annual Meeting as a member of the Farm Bureau Proud Club. Most importantly, you will be helping our great organization grow, and do even more to help with many things for Farm Bureau and for Wisconsin agriculture.

The most important benefit to being a member of Farm Bureau is knowing that we

are doing so many important things to preserve, promote and protect agriculture. I emphasize that when I meet with potential new members. I am very proud and happy to be a member of the Farm Bureau Proud Club. I hope you will consider bringing more people into our Farm Bureau family to allow them to have the great opportunities and experiences that we share.

Stay safe and warm. Hope to see you soon.

I am a Farm Bureau Proud Club member because ...

Farm Bureau is doing so many important things to preserve, promote and protect agriculture.

-Arch Morton Jr.



Farm Bureau Proud Club members are those who sign at least five new members within Farm Bureau's membership year.



Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference Goes Virtual



Emily Johnson

District 2 YFA Representative

The WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference was held virtually through our Facebook page Nov. 4 through Dec. 5.

We hosted two contests this year, the Discussion Meet and Excellence in Agriculture.

Fourteen members participated in the three rounds of the Discussion Meet. Our very own District 2 member, Julie Sweney from Dodge County, won the Discussion Meet. She competed during the AFBF Young Farmer and Rancher Discussion Meet and made it to the Sweet16 Round.

Natasha Paris from Green Lake

County was the winner of the Excellence in Agriculture and competed during the AFBF YF&R Excellence in Agriculture competition. She made it to the Top 10.

Please join me in congratulating these ladies.

During the YFA Conference, we featured farm tours of YF&R members from California, Oregon, Georgia and Indiana, and we hosted the 'Be the Babe' contest with Pam Jahnke.

During the virtual conference, our event page reached 5,500 people and received 670 views.

If you attended the conference, please provide feedback.

The 2021 YFA Conference is scheduled for Dec. 3-5.



AFBF: Convention Success, Elected Vice-Chair of Promotion and Education Committee



Andrea Brossard

WFBF and AFBF Promotion and Education Committee

The virtual AFBF Annual Convention kicked off with an opening address by AFBF President Zippy Duvall from his farm in Georgia.

“When we started planning this year’s convention in February, we chose the theme: Stronger Together,” Duvall said. “Little did we know how appropriate it would be. The past year has shown us just how true that theme is.”

“Clearly, 2020 was a year of challenges,” Duvall continued. “Farmers and ranchers faced high expectations to keep America – and much of the world – fed during a global pandemic.”

Farmers and ranchers rose to meet those expectations, Duvall noted.

“We also took steps to keep our employees and families safe, while still working to grow the food our nation depends on. We managed unprecedented changes in food demand and wild swings in farm prices,” he said.

Duvall touched briefly on wins for agriculture in 2020 in his remarks, including relationships built with Congress and the administration that helped deliver \$38 billion to help the nation’s farms survive and continue producing the nation’s food supply; replacement of the Waters of the U.S. rule with a new Navigable Waters Protection Rule that complies with the law; tax reforms enacted in 2017 that have helped farmers keep more of what they work so hard to earn, so they can reinvest in their farms and ranches; and new trade agreements that promise brighter days ahead for exports of farm goods.

#StillFarming Merchandise Line

Also on Sunday, Duvall announced the launch of AFBF’s new effort to address food insecurity while celebrating America’s farmers and ranchers’ commitment to keeping the U.S. food supply strong. The #StillFarming campaign, which began on social media and has reached nearly 100 million people across the digital landscape, is now expanding to include a merchandise line that will benefit food banks and agricultural education.

The hashtag has been so wildly popular that AFBF is offering #StillFarming T-shirts for sale. Profits will go to Feeding America, the

nation’s largest network of food banks and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, which is committed to building awareness and a positive public perception of agriculture through education.

The T-shirts are sold through AFBF’s online store at www.dmsfulfillment.com/FarmBureau/DMSStore/Product/Products and will be available through June.

Convention Highlights

Monday through Wednesday (Jan. 11-13), attendees heard from industry leaders, farmers and policy experts during live featured workshops and on-demand sessions.

Monday’s live programming featured a discussion with AFBF President Zippy Duvall and Land O’ Lakes President and CEO Beth Ford exploring the challenges and opportunities for agriculture and the food chain in 2021.

The day’s events wrapped with a special Foundation Night In, featuring performances by Sara Evans and Phil Vassar, and the unveiling of the Foundation Book of the Year and the 2021 Farm Dog of the Year.

Tuesday’s general session featured an engaging and inspiring keynote address from Navy SEAL Commander Rorke Denver, who has run every phase of training for the U.S. Navy SEALs and led special-forces missions in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America.

Wednesday’s highlights included the Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet Final Four and Mike Rowe for a fireside chat.

As the country’s leading advocate for skilled labor and the CEO of the mikeroweWORKS Foundation, Rowe seeks to debunk myths and misperceptions about blue-collar jobs.

AFBF Promotion and Education Highlights

The AFBF Promotion and Education Committee held our committee and reorganization meeting prior to the virtual Annual Convention.

We discussed and set goals for the coming year, moved forward with plans set in place for virtual learning opportunities for our members and laid plans for the virtual FUSION Conference to be held in March 2021.

During our reorganization meeting, I was elected to the vice chair role for the next two years.

I am very excited about this opportunity and look forward to leading the national committee.

Leadership Boot Camp Goes Virtual and Discusses Legislative Advocacy



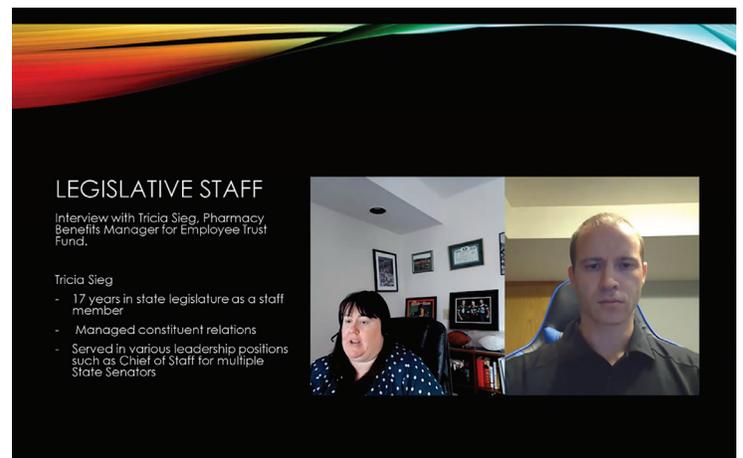
The WFBF Promotion and Education Committee’s annual Leadership Boot Camp was held virtually on Nov. 14.

Farm Bureau

members participated from the comfort of their own homes.

The topic focused on engaging in legislative advocacy at the local level with WFBF’s Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe and Director of Governmental Relations Tyler Wenzlaff leading the training with assistance from members of the Promotion and Education Committee.

Tim Wellnitz, Rock County Farm Bureau participant, said, “For someone who is new to this, I found it helpful to know where I can find more information on our legislators, and how to contact them with any questions or concerns I might have.”



WFBF’s Director of Governmental Relations Tyler Wenzlaff helped lead the virtual Leadership Boot Camp training.

In-Person or Virtual: AFBF Discussion Meet, An Experience of a Lifetime



By Julie Sweney, WFBF YFA Discussion Meet Winner

The past year has been anything but how we originally imagined it would go, yet we have been doing our best to maintain some sort of normalcy and continue to participate in as many activities, albeit virtually, as possible.

So when the Wisconsin Farm Bureau announced that the Discussion Meet would be held this year, I thought to myself, why not? I'll give it another go. Sure it's not at all the same experience of reconnecting with Farm Bureau friends from across the state, but the anxiety that I used to once experience participating in the Discussion Meet has since been replaced with eagerness towards the challenge. I also thought, this year might just be my year.

The organization and structure of the virtual contest Wisconsin Farm Bureau hosted was well done, with competitors joining via a zoom video link and then directed to individual 'rooms' with the contestants for our room with a set of judges that we could not see or hardly knew were there at all. Technology has come so far, hasn't it?

Instead of contestants sitting as a panel in front of a room and looking at each other from side to side, we now only saw each other through a computer screen, straight ahead, praying that our internet connection would remain stable and our microphone would continue to work.

Reading body language to anticipate a pause in someone's discussion was much more difficult; however, the virtual format probably provided for a much more courteous experience. Other than that, the experience was much the same, just without an audience. The five discussion questions focused on rural broadband, big data, trade, rural community development and climate change, all important policy issues to Farm Bureau.

Winning the state competition was a goal of mine, ever since I made the final four in 2016. Upon winning the state competition, I set my sights for AFBF. I had been competing in the Discussion Meet for more



than 10 years, since I participated as a senior in college in the collegiate competition. Now was the time to put my experience to work.

The virtual format at the AFBF Annual Convention was nearly identical to the way WFBF's competition was run, and I was ready. At this point, I was truly enjoying the experience of participating in the Discussion Meet and was eager to do my best. Every state competitor participated in two rounds, and I was fortunate to move on to the Sweet 16.

During this round, I also felt like I had done well, but only one moves on and you never know how the judges will cast their votes. I was disappointed to not make it to the Final Four Round, but I believe I had given it my all and appreciate the experience. While the virtual format wasn't ideal compared with what an in-person experience would offer, I do believe the virtual format catered to my discussion style and that it was a wonderful way for me to compete.

I'm grateful for the experience to have won the WFBF Discussion Meet and to have participated at the AFBF level. Not only was the experience memorable, but the support from the board members, WFBF staff and other Farm Bureau members has been incredibly uplifting.

For anyone still considering their participation in the Discussion Meet, my experience would say that only good things can come from it. New friends, new experiences and renewed confidence will surely come from your choice to give it a try.

Save the Date! Farm Bureau District 2 Golf Outing Fundraiser

Back by Popular Demand
Tuesday, August 10, 2021
The Oaks Golf Course, Cottage Grove

Enjoy 18 holes of golf (includes cart/GPS), lunch, contests, 50/50 raffle, auction and awards banquet!
Registration and sponsorship information available soon.



Brought to you by:
Columbia, Dane, Dodge,
Green, Rock and Sauk
County Farm Bureaus

Sign up! AG NEWSWIRE



- Political updates
- Farm Bureau news
- Ag events
- Weekly updates

Sign up to receive a weekly update with the latest Farm Bureau, political and agriculture news directly in your inbox every Friday.

wfbf.com/communication/ag-newswire

WFBF Leadership Institute First Session Went Virtual

By Tess Zettle, Green County participant

The WFBF Leadership Institute had its first virtual session on January 21-22. Fourteen individuals have been selected to partake in this year's course.

Our first session was about focusing on ourselves. We started the morning with introducing ourselves and understanding how important it is to have a good, short introduction. After going through the agenda for the day, we started to discuss our individual strengths.

By understanding our personal strengths, it gives us the opportunity to then focus and be able to grow as an individual. We hear the saying, "You grow the most when you are at your weakest point." We came to learn that phrase isn't true.

What is true is we grow the most in the things we are good at. When we are passionate about or have a great interest in something, that is when we flourish.

That afternoon, we had a presentation from Elise Stoddard-Cruse from the American Farm Bureau Federation. Her presentation was based on public speaking and how to present a good message to the people you are talking to. By being relatable when giving a presentation, your audience will be more willing to pay attention and absorb what you are talking about.

The next morning, we discussed Emotional Intelligence with Elise and how that applies to our lives at different stages. Emotional Intelligence is the capacity for recognizing our own feelings and those of others, for motivating ourselves and for managing emotions well in ourselves and in

our relationships.

As we get older, the more Emotional Intelligence we have.

As we wrapped up the morning, we discussed our assignments.

The first was to put together a three-minute speech on an agricultural topic.

Once it is written, we then have to record ourselves so that later, it can be critiqued.

Our other assignment is to read a book that has been assigned. Once we have the book read, we will get together with our groups to work on putting together a presentation about the book.

I had many takeaways from this first session. I think the best one for me is recognizing strengths and really applying them to your daily life.

There are things that will not be a strong point, and that is okay. But by realizing your strengths and continuing to work on them, that is where you will grow.



Tess Zettle (top row, center) is one of five District 2 Farm Bureau members who are participating in the current WFBF Leadership Institute.



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend **AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL**

Make plans to attend the 2021 Virtual Ag Day at the Capitol
Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Join farmers and agriculturists from across Wisconsin virtually and learn more about state issues effecting agriculture and meet with your state representatives.

Tentative Agenda: 9 - 11 a.m. – Briefings
11:30 a.m. – Legislative visits

Prerecorded welcome messages from Gov. Tony Evers and Secretary-designee of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Randy Romanski

Registration Information:

Cost: Free
Link: bit.ly/2021AgDayReg
Deadline: March 17

For more information, visit wfbf.com/events/ag-day-at-the-capitol

Presented by: Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Thank You to Our Sponsors: Rural Mutual Insurance Company FS GROWMARK

Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Entries Due April 1

Encourage your fourth and fifth grade students to participate in this year's essay contest! The essay contest is open to students in public schools, private schools and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs are also encouraged to participate. Essays must be handwritten in ink or be computer generated, single-sided and fit on one sheet of paper. The essay must be between 100 to 300 words in length. Essay will be judged on content (50 points), grammar and spelling (25 points) and originality and creativity (25 points). Essay entry deadline is postmarked by April 1, 2021.

Essays should be sent to the county contact listed or on the website. Each county will have one winner that will move on to the district contest. Among the county winners, the district 2 promotion and education representative will select one district winner that will be forward to the state contest. Each district winner will receive a presentation from Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom in May. The state winner that is selected will also receive a special presentation and award.

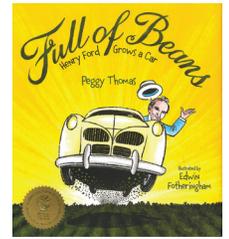
This year's topic is "How have Wisconsin soybean farmers fueled Wisconsin's economy?" The topic is based off of the Book of the Year "Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car," written by Peggy Thomas and illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham.

The book looks at how Henry Ford grew up on a farm and searched for ways to use soybeans in the car plant, in his diet and in other ways. The essay contest focuses on how soybeans continue to be used and how they impact Wisconsin's economy.

Teachers – We have information for you! On the website we have a teacher's handbook, lessons, and activities, along with the essay contest information sheet.

Volunteers – We have information for you too! Check out the website for the volunteer handbook and any other information you may need.

For the most up-to-date list of essay contest information, visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website www.wisagclassroom.org. Essay contest information can be found in the events and activities tab.



Dane County
 Alissa Grenawalt
 Dane County Extension
 5201 Fen Oak Drive
 Madison, WI 53718
 608.224.3728
Grenawalt.alissa@countyofdane.com

Rock County
 Sheila Everhart
 4618 W. County Road A
 Janesville, WI 53548
 608.774.1354
Sheilageverhart@gmail.com

Green County
 Tess Zettle
 W2814 Shanghei Road
 Juda, WI 53550
 608.214.8207
tesszettle92@gmail.com

Sauk County
 Nancy Liegel
 E11197 Sauk Prairie Road
 Prairie du Sac, WI 53578
 608.963.2511
gliegel52@gmail.com

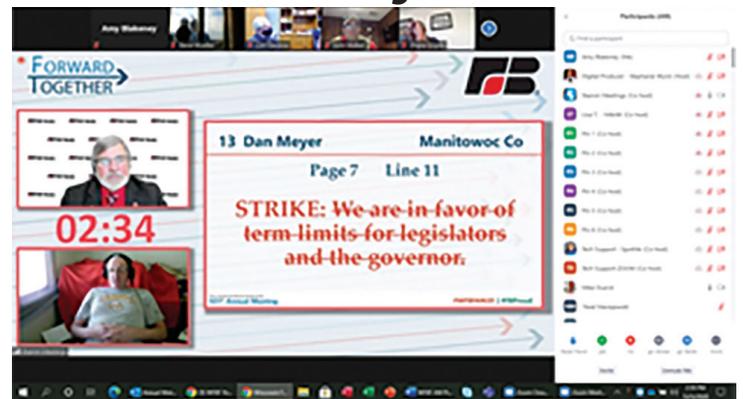
Farm Bureau Members Set Policy During Virtual WFBF Annual Meeting



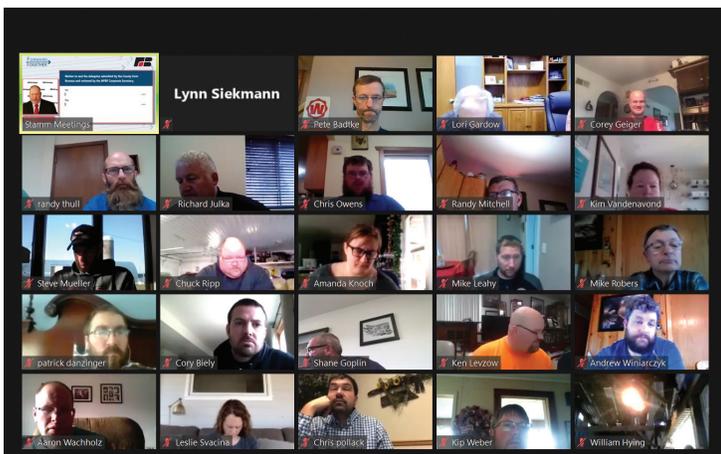
Joshua Schenk
 District 2 Policy Development Representative

On December 5, Wisconsin Farm Bureau held its first ever virtual annual delegate meeting. The technology platforms used allowed individuals to speak to the delegation, discuss and vote on policy resolutions. There was much discussion on the topics of milk supply management, meat processing, internet connectivity in rural areas, water quality and farm data rights.

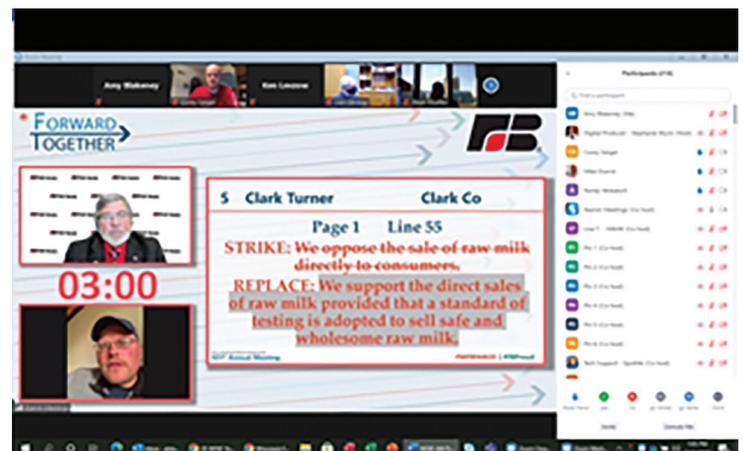
The 2021 Wisconsin Farm Bureau policy book can be found online at wfbf.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021-Policy-Book_web.pdf.



Mike Duerst, Dane County Farm Bureau delegate.



Farm Bureau delegates discuss policy during the virtual 101st WFBF Annual Meeting on Dec. 5, 2020.



Jamie Haag, Sauk County Farm Bureau delegate.

Student Scholarship Deadline July 1

Are you a Dane County Farm Bureau member currently attending college and looking for a \$1,000 scholarship opportunity to help with your fall courses?

Please review application criteria and deadline date:

1. Applicants or their parent(s)/guardian(s) must be a member of Dane County Farm Bureau.
2. Applicants must have completed one year of advanced education after high school before they apply. High school seniors are not eligible.
3. Preference will be given to applicants enrolled in an agriculture program.
4. Applications must be completed in full and submitted by JULY 1. Incomplete or applications submitted after July 1, may be disqualified. Scholarship presentations will take place at the Dane County Farm Bureau annual meeting in September.

5. Applicants will need to submit proof of fall registration with this scholarship application.
6. Previous scholarship recipients cannot apply again for the scholarship.
7. Judges will use the following criteria for evaluation: Academics 50 percent; activities and awards 30 percent; and need 20 percent.
8. \$1,000 scholarship.

Please return completed form by July 1 to:
Nicole Hibbard
W3249 Blazer Road, Apartment A
Belleville, WI 53508
hibbardnm@gmail.com



For the Dane County Farm Bureau scholarship application and more information, please visit wfbf.com/about/counties/dane.

Follow Us to Celebrate Agriculture

As we continue to build the Dane County Ag in the Classroom program, here are some great opportunities for your child(ren) or classroom to get involved.

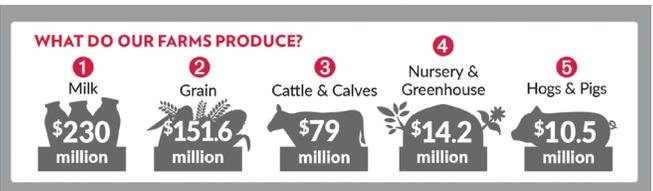
Celebrate National Ag Day with us on March 23.

Follow Dane County Ag in the Classroom on social media: Facebook: @dcaitc; Instagram: @danecoaitc; and Twitter: @daneprogram.

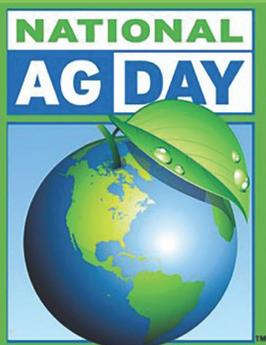
To learn more about the Dane County Ag in the Classroom program or to schedule a visit for your school or event, please contact Alissa Grenawalt, Ag in the Classroom program coordinator, Dane County Extension, 5201 Fen Oak Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53718; Grenawalt.Alicia@countyofdane.com, 608.224.3728.



**AGRICULTURE WORKS HARD FOR
▶ DANE COUNTY**



SAVE THE DATE



March 23, 2021

Learn more about the activity at
www.wisagclassroom.org/events-activities/national-ag-day-2

For more information, contact
Alissa Grenawalt
Dane County Ag in the Classroom
Program Coordinator
Grenawalt.Alicia@countyofdane.com
608.224.3728

Open to youth in grades:
Pre-K-Third
Fourth-Eighth
Ninth-12th




I am a Farm Bureau Proud Club member because...

I found out, over the 5 years I've been a member, the importance that Farm Bureau has for agriculture. What most people don't know is you need Farm Bureau more when times are bad than when times are good because they do so many things behind the scenes to help out all different kinds of agriculture when times are really bad.



-Mike Duerst

Farm Bureau Proud Club members are those who sign at least 5 new members within Farm Bureau's membership year.



A Message From The President



Josh Schenk
Green County Farm Bureau President

As the winter season turns to another renewing Wisconsin spring, I wish this newsletter to find you healthy and in good spirit.

The events of a new Presidential administration and Congress and happening discussions across the country provide assurance of the dynamic ever-changing world in which we live. Thankfully, we are members of a great collaboration working for the common good of farmers, ranchers and rural America known as Farm Bureau.

As Wisconsin Farm Bureau we have put in place an excellent government relations team to stay abreast of issues that affect our livelihood. It is most common that ideas of change originate in our communities and we are some of the first to hear.

As a grassroots organization, I ask that you share your views on issues with others and with local, state and national spokespersons. To better inform each other I ask you to share insight on emerging issues with myself and fellow Green County Farm Bureau directors.

WFBF Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe is a resource to aid in conversations with local governing committees on topics affecting our communities.

If you or someone you know serves on a local board and you hear of important agriculture-related issues, please share. This is a great way to ensure agriculture is being represented in the decision-making processes that have the most influence.

Change is to be expected and being part of influential conversation is the best way to understand and negotiate the who, what, where, when, why and how of change.

As the Farm Bureau vision states, "Lead a growing and dynamic agriculture."

Participate in the National Ag Week Photo Contest on Facebook

In celebration of National Ag Week, Green County Farm Bureau will sponsor a daily photo contest on its Facebook page on March 22-26.

From a beautiful sunset in a wheat field to a cute cow in a barn, we look forward to receiving your photos.

More details will be posted on the county's Facebook page.



Last year, a similar contest was held, check out one of the winning photos that was captured by Allison Quick of Albany.

Meet: The McNeely Family

Do you want to get to know our Green County Farm Bureau members a little better? Starting with this issue, we will be highlighting members from across our county.

First up is ... Jeff and Nicole McNeely of Brooklyn who actively dairy farm with their families. Jeff is a partner of Rollin' Green Dairy Farm where he farms with his parents and brother. In addition to the dairy, they raise Holstein steers, corn, soybeans, wheat alfalfa. Nicole takes an active role feeding calves on her family's dairy farm outside of Belleville as well as working for DFA.

Their favorite part about farming is the multiple caps they wear on the farm from milking cows to driving tractors - not one day is the same. Being able to work on a family farm, also means raising their kids around agriculture and having them be little helpers. They enjoy being able to check the cows and feed calves with their daughter, Maysen, who is two years old and is ready to help on the farm! Not far behind is their newest addition to their family, Charlie, who was welcomed in September.

They appreciate Farm Bureau as it's been a great networking tool for them and a fun way to meet others involved in the agricultural industry. Jeff's most memorable Farm Bureau experience on the state level includes attending the YFA Conference and WFBF Annual Meetings in Wisconsin Dells. In 2012, Jeff won the Achievement Award through the Young Farm and Agriculturalist Program where he later competed nationally at AFBF in Nashville. On a local level he enjoyed industry tours specifically when District 2 toured Kuhn and CNH in Racine.

If you would like to nominate someone to be featured in an upcoming issue, please contact Amy Silver at amysilver@gmail.com or 608.214.9994.



Nicole and Jeff McNeely of Brooklyn farm with their families.



A Message From The President



Jill Uhe
Rock County Farm Bureau President

Greetings, Rock County Farm Bureau members. Like many of you, a new year means a fresh focus, new goals and a sense of optimism.

The same can be said about Rock County Farm Bureau. The pandemic put a lot of our usual activities on hold last year.

I am proud to say that will not happen again. Recently, the board met for a planning session for 2021 and beyond. We reviewed our focus areas of legislative and local affairs, Ag in the Classroom and fundraising to name a few. Each of these areas had great activities in the past that are worth continuing.

Our goal for 2021 and beyond is to bring back activities like Focus on Ag in a way that can be done if there is a pandemic or not.

With the use of technology, we feel optimistic we can be just as effective virtually as we can in-person.

We will look for input from our members. Watch the newsletters, our Facebook page and your emails for ways you can contribute.



Wanted: Food Stand Coordinator

Rock County Farm Bureau is looking for a food stand coordinator. Position details include:

- Work with the food stand committee to coordinate up to two events per year.
- Order food.
- Coordinate scheduling.
- Make sure health codes are followed.
- Time commitment: primary duties will be June through the beginning of August.

For more information or to express interest in the position, please contact Jill Uhe at 608.370.9672.



Listen to Ag in the Classroom Leaders on Radio Station WCLO

By Sheila Everhart, chair



Darlene Arneson, Ag in the Classroom Director.

On National Ag Day, March 23, join Darlene Arneson, Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Director and Sheila Everhart, Rock County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Chair from 9:15 to 10 a.m. on WCLO AM 1230, Your Talk Show with Tim Bremel. Southern Wisconsin's locally produced talk show.



The show is available to listen to on demand on our site or via podcasting.

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is encouraging students in preK-12th grade to submit an entry for National Ag Day.

National Ag Day is celebrated nationwide but due to COVID-19 and possible restrictions, in-person events may not happen as usual.

The 2021 National Ag Day theme is, 'Food brings everyone to the table.'

Entries can portray different kinds of foods the students like; show what farmers, processors and others do to bring food from the farm to table; share fun facts about food; or show things they want to share about food.



Sheila Everhart, Rock County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Chair.

The national group also has student contests, downloadable materials and ideas of how to celebrate National Ag Day. For more information, visit agday.org.

The Wisconsin activity has a page that is designed so the images can be printed on Avery 5126 Rectangular Labels (5 1/2" H x 11" W) and two per sheet. The stickers can be used on carry-out bags, folders, pizza boxes, grocery store bags, take-home packets for students and other uses to help promote National Ag Day, agriculture or other activities.

Entries are due postmarked March 31.

There are three grade-level groups: PreK-third grade; fourth-eighth grade; and ninth-12th grade. Through a random drawing, 10 entries from each grade level group will receive a \$10 Culver's card. All entries will be sent Ag in the Classroom resources.



FOOD Brings Everyone to the Table.
Thanks to American Ag.

NATIONAL AG DAY



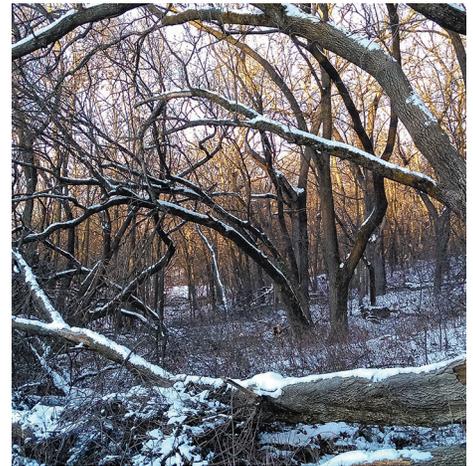
FOOD
Brings
Everyone
to the
Table

March 23, 2021

Calling All Members to Share Ag and Rural Community Issues

Kirk Leach, Legislative and Local Affairs Chair

On alternating years, your Farm Bureau has hosted an event called Focus on Ag. During this event, we invite local and state level office holders to attend a program to discuss issues affecting the farming and rural communities. We encourage members to take this opportunity to let your politicians know what is affecting your farms and communities. Constant refrains that one often hears from our office holders is, "We want to know what your concerns are?" and "What issues are you dealing with?" This event is intended to be a listening session for our public servants. An exact date and format is still to be determined. Rock County Farm Bureau plans to host this event in June. Please let us know what issues you want covered by emailing us at rockcofb@gmail.com or messaging us on Facebook at Rock County Farm Bureau.



Ag in the Classroom Hosts Externship Adventure

By Sheila Everhart, Ag in the Classroom Chair

Rock County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom initiative is accepting applications from educators, counselors, librarians or curriculum specialists for the July 13-14 hands-on Agriculture Summer Bus Externship Program to be held in Green and Rock counties.

Rock County Ag in the Classroom agricultural education program provides free, hands-on and interactive agricultural information, following current curriculum standards, that make learning about food, farming and careers in agriculture fun.

Rock County Ag in the Classroom initiative has received a grant to work in collaboration with Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Program during this exciting two-day externship adventure visiting Wisconsin farms, processors and agricultural businesses.

The externship stops include; Wegmueller Dairy Farm, tours and farm stay; Emmi Roth Kase Cheese Processor; GC Seeds /Industrial Hemp grower; Hawks Mill Winery; National Historic Cheesemaking Center;

Larson Acres, Inc.; Dairy Farm, Blackhawk Technical College; and Kuhn North America Farm Implement Manufacturer.

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom program provides agricultural information through teaching resources and lesson plans to help K-12 students develop an understanding of how food is grown and raised. The program works within existing curricula to provide basic information on the nation's largest industry: agriculture.

This Externship Program is limited to ten Rock County educators, librarians, counselors or curriculum specialists. A commitment to attending both days and riding on the bus is required. The bus will depart/return from the Monroe Blackhawk Technical College each day. Graduate credits are available through Concordia University Wisconsin.

For more information contact Sheila Everhart, Ag in the Classroom Coordinator at 608.774.1354 or sheilageverhart@gmail.com.

The deadline for application is March 15.



Farm Bureau Sponsors Farm Safety Training For Students



Students of St. Anthony College of Nursing completed a farm safety training. Pictured is the grain bin entrapment part of the training. Rock County Farm Bureau was a sponsor of this event.



Ag Matters Show



Jill Uhe and Mary Hookham joined Jim Raymond on the Ag Matters show to talk about Rock County Farm Bureau.

Rock County Farm Bureau Offers \$500 Scholarships

The Rock County Farm Bureau will offer student scholarship applications for members and member's children who are at least in their second year of college or technical school.

Scholarship funds are raised through sales at the Rock County Farm Bureau food stand at the Rock County 4-H Fair.

The applicant, or a member of the applicant's family, must work in the Rock County Farm Bureau food

stand at the 2021 Rock County 4-H Fair in order to be eligible for scholarship.

Scholarship applications will be available at wfbf.com/about/counties/rock or by request to rockcofb@gmail.com.

Applications must be submitted by Aug. 15.

For more information or questions, please message us on Facebook at Rock County Farm Bureau.



Sauk County

A Message From The President



Mike Turner

Sauk County Farm Bureau President

Hello Sauk County Farm Bureau.

2020 was a challenging year to say the least, but it looks like 2021 will be just as or more challenging than last year.

We have a new administration in the White House, and it has been a busy couple weeks for the new cabinet members.

We will have to wait and see what happens with policy.

Remember to spend time with family and friends during these challenging times.

I wish everyone a safe spring and the hopes to a better year.



**AGRICULTURE WORKS HARD FOR
▶ SAUK COUNTY**

HOW MANY PEOPLE DOES AGRICULTURE EMPLOY?

4,312
jobs
in the county

WHAT IS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT?

\$743
million
in economic activity

HOW MUCH TAX DOES AGRICULTURE CONTRIBUTE?

Farms pay \$19 million
in sales tax, property tax & income tax

I am a Farm Bureau Proud Club member because...

I enjoy people and get to know so many people. If I go someplace and I don't know somebody, I have to find out who they are. I enjoy working with people.

-Eunice Yanke



Farm Bureau Proud Club members are those who sign at least 5 new members within Farm Bureau's membership year.



Scholarship Applications Due April 1

The Sauk County Farm Bureau scholarship application is now available online as an editable pdf at wfbf.com/about/counties/sauk or by request from Karen Reisinger at kjsreisinger@yahoo.com.

Scholarship Qualifications

1. Applicant must be a Sauk County resident or attend a school in Sauk County.
2. Applicant must be one of the following: 1) a high school senior pursuing a post-secondary institution in the fall, or 2) a post-secondary institution student.
3. Applicant must submit a letter of recommendation with this application.
4. Selected recipients must submit his/her fall semester transcript of grades, following selection, in order to receive scholarship money.
5. Preference will be given to those applicants pursuing an agriculture related field.
6. Preference will be given to those families with a Sauk County Farm Bureau membership.
7. Application deadline is April 1. Recipients will be notified by June 1. Scholarship money will be mailed to recipient after submitting his/her fall semester transcript to Sauk County Farm Bureau, as early as January the following year.
8. Up to \$500 scholarship

Scholarship applications must be submitted or postmarked by April 1. Please send or email to Karen Reisinger, E8613 County Road B, Sauk City, WI 53583.

Volunteers Wanted for Fair Food Stand

The Sauk County Fair is scheduled for July 14-18. Put on an apron and help grill our famous burgers or deep fry the best cheese curds on the grounds.

Help also is needed taking orders with a smile or helping with other tasks to help the food stand run smoothly. Say yes when approached by a shift leader.

Proceeds go toward scholarships, FFA Farm Forum and other worthwhile events.

July 19 is cleanup after the fact and help is appreciated. Start time is 7 a.m.

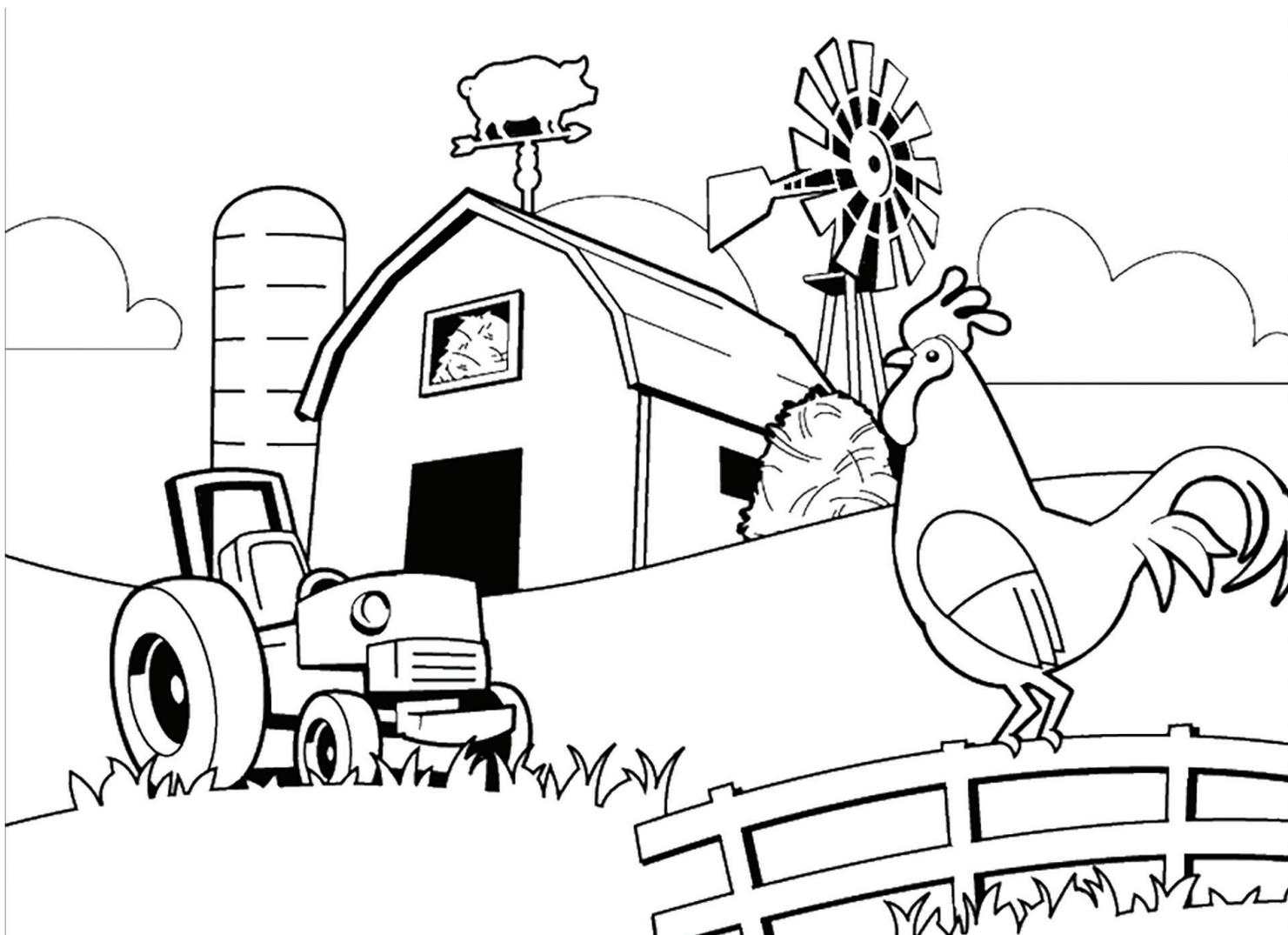


Hey Kids,

It's time to CELEBRATE! National Ag Day is on Tuesday, March 23.

We want you to enjoy your favorite agriculture product (ice cream, bacon and eggs or cheese and crackers) and color this photo.

Happy National Ag Day from Sauk County Farm Bureau!





County Farm Bureaus
 PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

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**This Issue Contains
 Highlights for:**

**Dane County
 Green County
 Rock County
 Sauk County**

Strong Wisconsin Reputation

Rural Mutual is ranked as one of the top Property & Casualty insurance companies in the Nation and has the financial stability to be there when our policyholders need us most.



Rural Mutual has earned a Financial Strength Rating of A+ (Superior).



For twelve consecutive years, Rural Mutual has earned a spot on the WARD'S Top 50 list.

Thank you for trusting in us. Visit RuralMutual.com to contact a local agent.

