



# Grassroots

## District 9 News

### Your Voice Makes a Difference



**Peter Kimball**

WBFB District 9 Director

Recently, I traveled to Washington, D.C., with the WBFB Leadership Institute Class for their capstone trip.

While in D.C., we visited the American Farm Bureau home office to get briefings on topics ranging from dairy policy, immigration, economic outlook for the ag sector and much more. These briefings helped prepare us for the meetings with agencies, embassy visits and most importantly, Capitol Hill visits with our elected officials.

Each of us had the privilege of meeting with our House of Representatives and U.S. Senators. During these visits, institute class members thanked elected officials for support they had given on ag issues such as authoring the bill to delist the gray wolf from the endangered species list in the Western Great Lakes Region.

Our hope is that this bill will make it though the House and Senate providing each state with the means to manage and bring our wolf population closer to the original population goal.

The last Wisconsin DNR estimate was more than 1,300 wolves roaming the woods in Wisconsin, the original goal was 300 wolves statewide.

The over population of the gray wolf threatens the livelihood of farmers particularly in northern Wisconsin though attacks of livestock.

Our members also expressed how different bills and proposed regulations affect them on their farms with real world examples while working to further our WBFB policy.

It was very rewarding seeing the hard work of the institute class pay off as they advocated for our members.

You might be wondering what the WBFB Leadership Institute is. The institute is a one-year program that develops local leaders by refining their leadership skills, learning from experts in their fields, improving their public speaking and much more.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau's goal is to have our institute members become leaders in Farm Bureau and their communities as a whole. Any voting member can fill out an application to be a part of our next class that starts in 2023. The forms are on the WBFB website under the programs tab.

I encourage you to take advantage of this great opportunity that WBFB offers.

Want the picture perfect leadership experience?

## APPLY TODAY!

Applications are due August 15

Applications for the WBFB Leadership Institute are now available at <http://bit.ly/institute2023>

**Wisconsin Farm Bureau**

**DISTRICT 9**

# POLICY

**DEVELOPMENT MEETING**

**SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2022**  
**7:30 PM**

**ROLLING OAKS SUPPER CLUB & LOUNGE**  
**450 W DIVISION AVE, BARRON, WI**

Join us for the District 9 Policy Development (PD) for the opportunity to join the conversation and help to create future Farm Bureau policy.

The PD Meeting will be held in conjunction with the District 9 Young Farmer & Agriculturist (YFA) Discussion Meet.

RSVP for the event or submit a policy suggestion ahead of time:  
<https://bit.ly/2022PolicyResolutions>  
or scan the QR code.

**SCHEDULE:**

- 6:00 YFA DISCUSSION MEET
- REGISTRATION & HORS D'OEUVRES
- 6:30 YFA DISCUSSION MEET
- 7PM REGISTRATION FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT (PD) MEETING
- 7:30 MEAL & PD MEETING

**COST: \$10/PERSON**

*Sign up!*

## AG NEWswire AND POLICY PULSE

**Policy Pulse**

Stay up to date on the latest legislative news affecting you.  
<http://bit.ly/PolicyPulseSignUp>

**Ag Newswire**

Sign up to receive a weekly update with the latest Farm Bureau, political and agriculture news directly in your inbox every Friday.  
[wbfb.com/communication/ag-newswire](http://wbfb.com/communication/ag-newswire)

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

## Polk County Student Named District Winner in Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom essay contest brought in a lot of essays noteworthy of praise.

All entrants did a fantastic job with the topic, 'What's Popping in Wisconsin? The value of corn to our economy.'

The essay correlated with the book of the year "Popcorn Country: The Story of America's Favorite Snack" by Cris Peterson.

The District 9 winning entrant was Astrid Sommerfeld from Luck. She is a fifth-grade student in Carolyn Peterson and Kendra DeLong's classes at Luck Elementary School.

Astrid received prizes as well as recognition for her efforts on behalf of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation.

*Astrid's winning essay.*

### What's Popping in Wisconsin? The Value of Corn to Our Economy

When watching a movie with my family at home, no movie night is complete without a big bowl of popcorn straight out of the popcorn machine, especially when it has caramel poured on it. Everything except the old maids. Not only is popcorn important for snack time, but corn is extremely important to Wisconsin agriculture. In 2020, Wisconsin corn growers harvested over 516 million bushels of corn on 2.97 million acres.

Farming is deep within my family's roots as both my father and brother are dairy farmers. Our cows eat a lot of corn, which makes them produce milk to make many dairy products. Wisconsin corn is mainly used for livestock feed, ethanol production, exports and food. One of my favorite cereals is Frosted Flakes, because "they're gr-r-reat!". When writing this essay, I found out that Frosted Flakes are made out of corn. The sodas that I enjoy too also may include corn syrup from Wisconsin fields. Many of the things that I eat daily are made of corn, which means I can tell my classmates about how corn is important to them as well.

Wisconsin agriculture, which includes corn, brings in 104.8 billion dollars to our economy. As most of the corn that is exported from our state either leaves through the Milwaukee Port or travels down the Mississippi River, the importance of corn in our state is only going up. Corn makes over 4,000 different products that many people use in their daily lives. Not only is corn growing in "pop"-ularity with people, Wisconsin's farmers and corn producers grow a yummy product that has us grinning from ear to ear.

## 2022 COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANNUAL MEETING DATES

Save the date for your County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Watch your mailbox for more details to come as the dates get closer.

	<b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 28</b>
	<b>Barron County Farm Bureau</b>
<b>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1</b>	
<b>Rusk County Farm Bureau</b>	
	<b>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8</b>
	<b>Sawyer County Farm Bureau</b>
<b>SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11</b>	
<b>St Croix County Farm Bureau</b>	
	<b>TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20</b>
	<b>Chippewa County Farm Bureau</b>
<b>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22</b>	
<b>Pierce County Farm Bureau</b>	
	<b>FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23</b>
	<b>Superior Shores Farm Bureau</b>
<b>TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27</b>	
<b>Dunn County Farm Bureau</b>	
	<b>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29</b>
	<b>Polk Burnett Farm Bureau</b>



Do you have an issue, concern or potential policy topic? Attend your county annual meeting to bring it up or contact a County Farm Bureau board member. County Farm Bureau board members and contact information can be found at <https://wfbf.com/about/counties/>

\*Above dates are subject to change.



# District 9 News

## District YFA Happenings



**Haily and Benjamin Sand**

District 9 YFA Chair

The first of our series of Young Farmer and Agriculturist meetings went very well, as did our second meeting, talking about succession planning and structuring your business with Kelly Wilfert from Ruder Ware, L.L.S.C.

If you are interested in materials or have questions, please contact Ben Sand at 715.308.4633. Be on the lookout for the August meeting's postcard when we will be talking about government programs with NRCS and County Land and Water.

In June, we took a trip to Rice Lake for some networking with Barron County YFA Chair Mitch Hoff and attended the Terry Clark concert at Aqua Fest. On July 14, we networked with Chippewa County at the Leinie Lodge and then walked to the fairgrounds for the Chris Janson concert.

On **Monday, Aug. 1**, we are excited for a summer social with St. Croix County, when we will start by touring Basket of Flowers Farm and then make our way over to Hilltoppers for some pizza and trivia. On **Thursday, Aug. 18**, YFA members are welcome to join the picnic that Dunn County is hosting. We will tour Chippewa Valley Bean and then go to Grandpa Lloyd's Horse Barn for a potluck. If you want to attend, please contact Ben or Haily, so we can have a head count for the tour. Please bring a dish to pass.

Be on the lookout for an invitation to your county annual meetings. Please take part by attending and run for a board position, whether it's the YFA chair on the board of directors. If you have questions regarding responsibilities, give us a shout.



## YOUNG FARMER & AGRICULTURIST CONFERENCE

**DECEMBER 2-4, 2022**  
KALAHARI RESORT

**ARE YOU A FIRST TIME ATTENDEE? JOIN US FOR FREE!**

**ALREADY ATTENDED? REFER A FRIEND AND WIN CASH!**

**APPLICATION AND DETAILS NOW AVAILABLE AT:**  
<https://bit.ly/ruralsponsor22>





## Coming Soon: American Farm Trail App

Attention farmers and farm fans. An exciting new app from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is bringing together two wonderful groups of people who love fun-on-the-farm.

The American Farm Trail app presents an amazing opportunity for agritourism operators to connect with tourists to increase business and improve agricultural awareness.

For tourists, the app offers an easy way to connect with local farms and much more. The Farm Trail app also includes games and activities (for kids and adults) that highlight how agriculture serves an important role in the production of our food, fiber and fuel. Agritourism operators and tourists are encouraged to register to be part of this exciting initiative.

Visit [www.farmtrailapp.com](http://www.farmtrailapp.com) and enter your email address to receive a download link when it goes live.



## District 9 YFA Discussion Meet

**Sunday, July 10**

6:00 pm - Hors d'oeuvres

6:30 pm - Discussion Meet

7:30 pm - Dinner and Policy Development

**Rolling Oaks**  
450 W Division Avenue  
Barron

Topic to be discussed: Due to current economic demands, many farmers and ranchers spend a lot of time outside the "fence rows" on off-farm jobs. How can Farm Bureau become more accessible and welcoming to members who are working in related fields and juggling responsibilities on and off the farm?

For questions, to participate or to RSVP by July 6 contact:

District 9 YFA Representative -Haily Sand  
[haily.sand@agsource.com](mailto:haily.sand@agsource.com) | 608.397.0046

 Wisconsin Farm Bureau  
**Young Farmer and Agriculturist**  
Program

## Implements of Husbandry (IoH)

[www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov](http://www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov)

### Definition

The definition of implements of husbandry (IoH) is:

1. A self-propelled or towed vehicle that is manufactured, designed or reconstructed to be used and that is exclusively used in the conduct of agricultural operations. An "implement of husbandry" may include any of the following:

- a. A farm tractor (referred to as Category A).



*Example of IoH Category A*

- b. A self-propelled combine; a self-propelled forage harvester; self-propelled fertilizer or pesticide application equipment but not including manure application equipment; towed or attached tillage, planting, harvesting, and cultivation equipment and its towing farm tractor or other power unit or farm tractor or other power unit to which it is attached; or another self-propelled vehicle that directly engages in harvesting farm products, directly applies fertilizer, spray, or seeds but not manure, or distributes feed to livestock (referred to as Category B).



*Examples of IoH Category B*

- c. A farm wagon, grain cart, farm trailer, manure trailer, or trailer adapted to be towed by, or to tow or pull, another implement of husbandry (referred to as Category C).



*Examples of IoH Category C*

2. A combination of vehicles in which each vehicle in the vehicle combination is an implement of husbandry as described above or in which an IoH Category C is towed by a farm truck, farm truck tractor, motor truck or agricultural commercial motor vehicle.

"Implement of husbandry" does not include any of the following:

1. An agricultural commercial motor vehicle.
2. A vehicle that is a commercial motor vehicle under federal law (49 CFR 390.5).

s.340.01(24)(a) and (b), Wis. Stat.



Dimensions		Implements of Husbandry (IoH) <a href="http://www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov">www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov</a>
Width		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No width limitations. However, "wide" IoH have specific lighting and marking requirements.</li> <li>IoH over 8 feet, 6 inches wide being transported on interstate highways must have an oversize permit from the DOT.</li> </ul>
Height		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No height limitations.</li> <li>Operator of IoH remains responsible for ensuring safe clearance of any overhead obstructions.</li> </ul>
Length	Single Vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60 feet</li> <li>No-fee permit may be required over 60 feet</li> </ul>
	Two vehicle combination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 feet</li> <li>No-fee permit may be required over 100 feet</li> </ul>
	Three vehicle combination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No more than 100 feet with speed restriction of 25 mph or less OR 70 feet at a speed greater than 25 mph.</li> <li>No-fee permit may be required if exceeding 100 feet in length.</li> <li>Towed units being drawn by a motor truck, truck tractor, or Ag CMV must be empty. "Empty" means less than 20 percent full.</li> <li>Length limits also apply to IoH being operated or transported for delivery, service, repair by dealer or farmer within 75-mile radius of business or farm. Beyond these dimensions, standard commercial (single or annual) permits are required.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no length limit for an irrigation system being towed by a farm tractor, farm truck, farm truck tractor or motor truck temporarily operated upon a highway. (s. 348.07 (2)(e)3., Wis. Stats.)</li> </ul>
Weight		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum IoH/Ag CMV weight limits apply: Maximum single axle weight of 23,000 pounds and a gross vehicle weight of 92,000 pounds dependent on number of axles and axle spacing. These weight limits pertain for all IoH on state and US highways.</li> <li>View IoH/Ag CMV Maximum Weight Limits table for details.</li> <li>These higher IoH weight limits are not allowed on Interstate highways. (s. 348.15 (9)(c)2.(d), Wis. Stat.) However, IoH traveling on the I-41 corridor (s. 348.01 (2)(bd), Wis Stat.) are exempted from this provision.</li> <li>A no-fee permit may be required if gross vehicle weight or axle weight is greater than the IoH weight table.</li> <li>All operators must abide by seasonal or other special postings.</li> <li>Exemptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Empty potato harvester is exempt from axle weight limit. Also exempt from Class B road postings.</li> <li>*Category B is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Exempt from axle weight limits on local roads unless local government authority passes ordinance or resolution limiting self-propelled IoH axle weight.</li> <li>♦ Exempt from gross vehicle weight and axle weight limits when operating between fields and operated on the highway for a distance of 1/2 mile or less.</li> <li>♦ Exempt from Class B road postings.</li> </ul> </li> <li>*IoH traveling for delivery, service, repair by dealer or farmer within 75-mile radius of business or farm is exempt from gross vehicle weight and axle weight limits. They are also exempt from Class B road postings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Trailerage IoH		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operators are allowed to transport IoH on trailers or semi-trailers to or from a farm-related destinations under the same weight and dimension limits that are allowable if the IoH were being operated, except on interstate highways.</li> <li>If the 2-vehicle combination transporting an IoH exceeds the IoH length, axle weight or gross weight limit, the operator may apply for a no-fee permit.</li> <li>Trailerage IoH over 8.5 feet wide traveling on interstate highways must apply for an oversize permit from WisDOT.</li> </ul>
IoH with Tracks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IoH with rubber tracks are allowed to operate on the road as long as the tracks do not damage the highway.</li> </ul>
Also of note		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no limits on hours of operation. However, all IoH must meet lighting and marking requirements to ensure safety.</li> <li>Specific lighting and marking requirements apply to IoH that are 15 feet or wider or that extend over the center of the roadway.</li> </ul>
Contacts		<p>For questions and information on IoH and Ag CMV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wisconsin Department of Transportation P.O. Box 7980 Madison WI 53707-7980</li> </ul> <p><b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:AgVehicles@dot.wi.gov">AgVehicles@dot.wi.gov</a>  <b>Phone</b> (608) 266-7320  <b>Fax</b> (608) 264-7751</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For more detailed information on IoH and Ag CMV requirements, visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ <a href="http://www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov">www.AgVehicles.DOT.wi.gov</a></li> <li>⇒ <a href="https://datcpgis.wi.gov/IoH/">https://datcpgis.wi.gov/IoH/</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Statutory reference: Wis. Stat. chs. 340 &amp; 348</p>



## Sustainable Self

Taking care of yourself and going above and beyond for the community and employees.

### Examples include but are not limited to...

- Going above and beyond for others
- Taking care of yourself so you can take care of the land, resources and employees
- Giving back to the community and employees



## Sustainable Service

Helping farmers improve and meet their goals

### Examples include but are not limited to...

- Sales and/or technical support roles
- Advisory roles
- Promoting efficiency on farms
- Promoting cost savings products
- Supporting sustainable practices
- Supporting a sustainable labor supply
- Processing roles



### 35 Under 35

The program aims to recognize YFA members who are doing amazing work in different areas of sustainability.

Information can be found on the WFBF website here: <https://bit.ly/WFBF35Under35>

Here is the link to the nomination form: <https://bit.ly/35Under35Nomination>

**Nominations are open June 1—August 15**



## Sustainable Environment

Being a good steward of the land and resources

### Examples include but are not limited to...

- Trying new conservation practices
- Involvement in a watershed group
- Hosting or attending field days
- Using renewable energy sources
- Conducting on-farm research



## Sustainable Storytelling

Using a platform to share agriculture's sustainability successes

### Examples include but are not limited to...

- Agriculture media
- Agriculture communicators
- Social media influencers
- Speakers and presenters
- Leaders in policy advocacy



## Sustainable Future

Setting up the next generation for success - both on and off the farm

### Examples include but are not limited to...

- Hosting farm tours and/or events
- 4-H and/or FFA leaders
- Ag Teachers and FFA advisors
- Ag in the Classroom volunteers
- Farm ownership transitions
- Preserving on-farm profitability





## Barron County Farm Bureau President's Message



**Karyn Schauf**

Barron County Farm Bureau President

Greetings!

It has been impressed upon me over and over that Farm Bureau members are farmers who not only care about what's going on in our industry, but they are ones who are willing to put that care into action.

First, I want to say 'Hats Off' to the Wohlk family for hosting our Barron County June Dairy Month Breakfast. What a great family operation for folks to view and about 3,200 came out to do just that. We have a great Ag In The Classroom Coordinator in Theresa Marker and she and one of our YFA members (and UWRF-collegiate member) ran a scavenger hunt with lots of cool prizes for the kids. Thank you all.

On June 23rd, Barron County Farm Bureau hosted another informational meeting. This was geared to County Board of Supervisors, Town Board representatives, and Farm Bureau members in our county and any other county's Farm Bureau members who wanted to learn about local issues. We talked with our government officials and members about the serious anti-ag activity that has been threatening farmers in Polk and Burnett Counties over the past 4 years. Farming regulations are being enacted that are stricter than state standards and the activists behind the

push for these regulations are running for positions on town and county board. Sara Byl and Brad Olson, two Polk Burnett Farm Bureau members who have spent a great deal of their time and energy fighting this, shared with us what they are up against. Kim Bremmer, a Clark County Farm Bureau member, who has also been helping Polk and Burnett Counties with this issue, also presented. We had a good informational meeting that allowed our members and elected officials to learn from our neighbors in Polk and Burnett Counties about how we may head off such efforts in Barron County.

The good news is that we are very fortunate to have had two Farm Bureau members run for and win seats on our Barron County Board of supervisors. We are continuing to realize how important it is to maintain knowledgeable, capable ag representation on our governing bodies. Our thanks goes to Audrey Kuselik and Randy Cook for stepping up to serve in this way!

And of course, there's a need and opportunity for ALL our members to get involved at our County Fair food stand. Call any of the Barron County Farm Bureau board members to sign up to work a shift.

And be sure you put our annual meeting date on your calendar. This year George Busse has graciously agreed to host us at his business, First Choice, located at 2047 13-12 1/2 Ave., Cameron on **Sunday, August 28th**. Come, learn about his business, greet old friends, share a meal and conduct our annual business!

We hope to see you all soon at one of our upcoming events!

## Thank a Farmer

Recently, Barron County Farm Bureau partnered with Rural Mutual Insurance Company agents to launch a 'Thank a Farmer' program for 2022 to support local farmers working through the busy spring planting season.

On May 14, members spent time at local agronomy locations, handing out boxed lunches to farmers who were picking up seed, fertilizer, chemical and other inputs. In total, more than 150 meals were served to close to 100 different farmers.

Thank you to Rural Mutual Insurance agents: Greg Hayes, Christina Jacobsen, Tyler Holden and Eva Curtis for their continued support of the 'Thank a Farmer' program.



Kristi Sollman helped pass out 'Thank a Farmer' lunches in Almena.

## Volunteer at the Barron County Fair

The 2022 Barron County Fair will be **July 20-24**.

Barron County Farm Bureau will once again have its Farmers Café featuring local foods. We encourage you to volunteer to work a shift. It's a great place to see, as well as serve, friends and neighbors.

Plan now to volunteer to deep fry those curds and top those 'taters. If you are interested in helping, please contact Karyn Schauf at 715.790.7203 or kshauf@gmail.com.

Make sure to tell your friends and family to stop by and have a bite to eat. We will see you at the fair.



## Welcome to the Farm Bureau Family

Sam and Brittany Olson welcomed their son, Titus Knute Olson, on May 8 at 9:32 p.m. Titus weighed 7 pounds, 11.5 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Sam and Brittany dairy farm in Dallas.

Sam is the Barron County Farm Bureau vice president and is a recent graduate of the WFBF Leadership Institute.

Brittany is a freelance writer and photographer.





## Congratulations to the Barron County Farm Bureau Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following individuals who were chosen to receive \$250 scholarships from Barron County Farm Bureau.



Isabel Massie graduated from Barron High School. She is the daughter of Shane and Teri Massie. Her plan is to attend either UW-Madison or UW-Eau Claire for nursing.



Rylee Ladd graduated from Cameron Lake High School. She is the daughter of Jeff and Penny Ladd. Her plan is to attend either UW-Madison or University of Nebraska, to major in agriculture or conservation and environmental science.



Justyne Frisle graduated from Prairie Farm High School. She is the daughter of Dean and Leslie Frisle. Her plan is to attend either UW-Madison or University of Minnesota-Twin Cities for dairy science.

# Chippewa County

## Congratulations to the Chippewa County Farm Bureau Scholarship Recipients

Chippewa County Farm Bureau is excited to announce that they have chosen three recipients of 2022 Chippewa County Farm Bureau scholarships.

Congratulations to these individuals who have been chosen to receive scholarships in the amount of \$500.

We wish you the best of the luck in the future.



Sophie Koehler  
Chippewa Falls



Bowen Rothbauer  
Bloomer



Karissa Petska  
Bloomer

ATTN: Farmers in Chippewa County

Join us for a discussion on:

## STARTING UP A FARMER LED WATERSHED COUNCIL

**Date: Thursday, July 28, 2022**

**Time: 1:00-3:00pm**

**Location: Kamp Kenwood  
19161 79th Ave,  
Chippewa Falls**

- Connect and network with other farmers and agricultural professionals in the area.
- Hear about the benefits of conservation practices, and how to organize groups in the Chippewa River watershed.
- Ask questions and learn from others who have tried different conservation practices.
- This event is being brought to you by: Wisconsin Farmers Union, Chippewa County Farm Bureau, Chippewa County Land Conservation, and the Chippewa County Farmers Union.
- Snacks will be provided.
- RSVP at [bit.ly/ChippewaFarmerLed](https://bit.ly/ChippewaFarmerLed)



District 9 YFAs

## YFA Night at Leinie Lodge and Chris Janson Concert

Thursday, July 14  
5 p.m.

Leinie Lodge  
124 East Elm Street  
Chippewa Falls

Northern Wisconsin State  
Fair Grounds  
225 Edward Street  
Chippewa Falls

### Details

5 p.m.

Meet at the Leinie Lodge for a round or two ... on us.

6:30 p.m.

We will make our way to the fairgrounds.

8 p.m.

Chris Janson concert,  
grandstand seating.

**Note:** You need to purchase your own fair admission ticket and parking. The first 10 people to RSVP will get free tickets for the concert.



To RSVP by July 12, please contact District 9 YFA Chair Haily Sand at 608.397.0046 or Ben Sand at 715.308.4633.



## President's Message



**Kevin Gilbertson**

Dunn County Farm Bureau President

This summer has been, and will continue to be, very active for Dunn County Farm Bureau.

On June 11, members volunteered at the Dunn County Dairy Breakfast at Breezy Haven Farm located in the northeast corner of the county.

Later in the month, on June 24, Dunn County Farm Bureau joined forces with Dunn County Dairy Promotion to sponsor the Curd 25 at the Red Cedar Speedway. We handed out cheese and gave away some dairy-themed prizes. This was a great way to celebrate June Dairy Month and increase awareness of both groups to race fans in the county.

July also will be budding with activity. We will once again hold a fair food stand at the Dunn County Fair. This is our sole fundraiser for the year, which allows us to promote an array of opportunities including: youth sponsorship in the county, educational events for members and promotion of agriculture in a variety of ways. Please consider signing up to help in the food stand. This is a great way to meet other members. Take a peek at the food stand article in this newsletter to find detailed information about how to sign up.

Rounding out the busyness of summer, August will feature a social night. Join us on **Thursday, Aug. 18**, at Chippewa Valley Bean followed by a picnic gathering at Grandpa Lloyd's Horse Barn. The evening will begin at 5 p.m. For more information, watch social media and the mail as the date gets closer.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of Dunn County Farm Bureau.

## Wantoch Takes on Extension Farm Management Professor of Practice Position



The UW-Madison Division of Extension is pleased to announce Katie Wantoch as the new Extension Farm Management Professor of Practice.

This position is a new, exciting part of the Agriculture Institute's Farm Management Program and will emphasize financial and strategic business management for commodity and specialty crop farms across Wisconsin.

Wantoch will work to identify needs and provide outreach education to find solutions to the most critical issues facing Wisconsin agricultural producers in the areas of farm financial and risk management.

Financially viable, healthy farm businesses are essential to Wisconsin's \$100 billion agriculture economy. Farmers must continually identify and evaluate opportunities and challenges to meet their mission and goals and enhance their competitive position.

With this comes an increased need for effective business management skills for farm owners and managers. Whether beginning, early career or established operations looking to expand, transition or diversify their enterprises or invest in new ideas or technology – successful farm businesses use strategic business information, resources and tools to make informed decisions.

Wantoch has been integral to the Extension Farm Management Program since joining Extension in 2010 as a county-based agriculture agent in Dunn County.

Her contributions to the program have helped to build valuable programming in the area of farm financial and risk management and farm succession.

She will start her new role as a state outreach specialist in July after returning from presenting her research entitled, 'Motivational Interviewing as a Tool to Address Farm Stress, Farm Succession, and other difficult conversations,' at the International Farm Management Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark.

You can contact Katie at [katie.wantoch@wisc.edu](mailto:katie.wantoch@wisc.edu). Learn more about her work at <https://farms.extension.wisc.edu/author/kwantoch>.

## Farm Bureau Food Stand at the Dunn County Fair

By Haily Sand, YFA Chair

We are looking for volunteers for the Farm Bureau food stand at the Dunn County Fair, **Wednesday, July 27, through Sunday, July 31**. If you can help, we will greatly appreciate it.

This year, the theme is Country Nights and Carnival Lights. The Dunn County Fair is the place to see great entertainment.

If you are interested, feel free to follow the link: [bit.ly/2022DCFBfoodstand](https://bit.ly/2022DCFBfoodstand) and use access code 2022 to sign up for a time slot.

If you don't have access to internet or can't get the link to work, please contact Haily Sand at 608.397.0046.

We are looking for people to volunteer as supervisors (oversee making sure food is up to temperature and there are enough supplies on hand and is around a four-hour slot) and general volunteers (work a three-hour slot where you will be helping collect cash, keeping the stand clean and serving customers).

See you at the fair.



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

**DUNN COUNTY FAIR  
JULY 27-31, 2022**

**Please consider helping  
at the Dunn County Farm  
Bureau Food Stand.**

If interested in helping, sign up online at  
[bit.ly/DCFBfoodstand](https://bit.ly/DCFBfoodstand) or contact Haily  
Sand at 608.397.0046.



*Save the Date!*  
Thursday, August 18

## August 18th Schedule:

5:00pm Tour of  
Chippewa Valley Bean

- Meet in the parking lot at:
  - Chippewa Valley Bean,  
N2960 730th St,  
Menomonie

6:30pm Potluck and  
networking

- Grandpa Lloyd's Horse Barn  
N3287 730th Street Elk Mound
- Bring a dish to pass

## DUNN, PIERCE AND ST CROIX COUNTY FARM BUREAU PICNIC

Dunn, Pierce and St Croix County Farm Bureaus will once again be teaming up for the 5th Annual Summer Member Appreciation Picnic!

We will be starting out with a tour of Chippewa Valley Bean and then head just down the road to Grandpa Lloyd's Horse Barn for a potluck picnic and networking.

Dunn County Farm Bureau will provide the main meat and fixings, condiments, milk, lemonade, water and all utensils.

To RSVP by August 15th (appreciated but not required) or to receive more information, please contact Ben Sand at 715.308.4633 or Haily Sand at 608.397.0046

# FARMER'S OUT AT THE DUNN COUNTY FAIR

On behalf of Extension, Dunn County Farm Bureau, Dunn  
County Fair, Dunn County 4-H & Sponsors

**WE INVITE AREA FARMERS TO A  
WEEK OF FUN AT THE DUNN COUNTY FAIR!  
JULY 27-31, 2022**

Register at Extension Dunn County or  
[go.wisc.edu/7yOO8m](http://go.wisc.edu/7yOO8m) to receive:

- A season pass to the fair
- Dunn County Farm Bureau and Dunn County 4-H food stand gift certificates
- Entry in the prize drawing

\*passes and certificates limited to first 75 registrations



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**Dunn County  
Farm Bureau**



FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT  
EXTENSION DUNN COUNTY AT 715-232-1636 OR  
AGRICULTURE AGENT KATIE WANTOCH, [KATIE.WANTOCH@WISC.EDU](mailto:KATIE.WANTOCH@WISC.EDU)



## Pierce County Fair, Aug. 11-14



The Pierce County Farm Bureau will be operating its Little Red Barn where cookies, milk and Ellsworth cheese curds will be served. Please sign up for a shift. Shifts are flexible and every hour you can help is appreciated. Please contact a Pierce County Farm Bureau board member if you are able to volunteer to help.

Hope to see you at the fair.

## Attend the Farm Bureau Tri-County Picnic

This year, Dunn County Farm Bureau is hosting the Tri-County Picnic.

Find the details of the event in Dunn County's section of this newsletter.

Hope to see you there.



## Visit and Learn From Two Dairies

Join Dr. Nigel Cook of The Dairyland Initiative and Karl Burgi of the Save Cows Network on a tour of two dairy herds with a passion for cow comfort and lameness prevention on **Friday, Aug. 5.**

Bomaz Farms in St. Croix County and Fetzner Farms, Inc., in Pierce County are hosting. Herd owners will guide you through the decisions made that impact hoof health, resting behavior and productivity.

These herds have done it all from retrofitting old facilities and converting from mattress to deep sand stalls, to ventilation improvements and the construction of new facilities with mechanical ventilation to minimize heat stress.

The tour is from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$115 and includes lunch and transportation.

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/LIRFarmTour>.



For more information and registration for the full meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> International Symposium and 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Ruminant Lameness, visit <https://lamenessinruminants2022.com>.

## Prioritizing Mental Health on the Farm

Joy Kirkpatrick, a farm succession specialist with UW-Madison Division of Extension, offered tips for managing mental health during the busy spring season.

May was Mental Health Awareness Month, and although it's important to prioritize your well-being all year long, the busy spring season brings unique stressors for farmers and other ag professionals.

With springtime time pressures creating a high-stress working environment, research shows that there's a high prevalence of depression and suicide among farmers, says Kirkpatrick. Knowing how to recognize the signs that you or someone you know might be struggling, and where to go for help, is critical.

### Look for Signs and Symptoms

Signs that someone is dealing with mental health issues may be visible and there are symptoms people can recognize in themselves, says Kirkpatrick. However, mental distress can look different from person to person.

"When we think about signs, there's usually some sort of behavior occurring, like skipping social functions they'd normally attend," says Kirkpatrick. "Other signs to look for are fatigue or irritability. If a farmer notices that a neighbor or someone they're close to isn't quite himself or herself, that's when they need to think about how they can reach out."

Symptoms, on the other hand, are what someone feels inwardly. For example, mental distress could manifest as tightness in the chest, fatigue or nausea, says Kirkpatrick. "There are emotional and physical symptoms to look for. Someone might be easily angered, eat too much or too little, or feel depressed or tired all the time," she notes.

### Address the Problem

If you suspect mental health issues in yourself, Kirkpatrick recommends seeing your primary care provider to make sure there isn't a physical cause for any symptoms, stress or anxiety you're experiencing. Left unaddressed,

mental health issues can impact other areas of your farming operation.

"A chronic cycle of stress may affect a farmer's ability to make decisions,"

Kirkpatrick says. Other results of unmanaged stress can include poor communication with family members, employees or service providers, as well as compromised safety. "When you're stressed, you might not keep up with safety practices or you become distracted, which makes accidents a greater probability. Keeping safety top-of-mind is really important."



### Stay Healthy During Busy Times

Kirkpatrick shares ways to maintain your mental and physical well-being during the busy spring season.

- Eat right. Don't fuel yourself with soda and candy bars but instead try to eat regular healthy, balanced meals.
- Exercise. Take a walk on your property without it being in conjunction with work to help reduce stress hormones.
- Avoid unhealthy behaviors. Don't rely on alcohol or other substances to de-stress.

Reach out to your support network. Your community can be a great asset to help deal with mental distress. Connect with friends, neighbors and family members when you're feeling lonely or anxious.

For more information on mental health and well-being, visit the North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center website at [farmstress.org](http://farmstress.org).

## Byl Selected as Finalist for Heroes of Hope

Sara Byl was named a finalist in this year's Heroes of Hope campaign. When thinking of Sara one word comes to mind: Devoted. She is devoted to her faith, family, farm and community. She not only farms with her family but fights for their way of life both on and off the farm.

Sara does this not just for her family farm but for her community of farmers. Her tight knit family supports her on her mission to advocate for farmers.

She regularly attends town board meetings to keep up on what is going on, she is not only diligent about her note taking but sharing that information with community members. She maintains open doors of communication between farmers, community members and ag professionals in the area to make sure everyone is up to speed on what is happening locally. She has provided hope, perspective and a whole lot of energy in the fight to preserve farming for the next generation throughout Polk and Burnett counties.

When she is not out working the fields, or meeting with area farmers you can find her spending time with her son, at church or with her family.

She serves as a role model for many – especially those that have struggled to find their voice. She works with them, coaches them and encourages them to stand up and speak out. She has provided hope to many when facing adversity and continues to be the cheerleader for many as they face challenges navigating not only farming but activists who don't



understand their way of life.

Heroes of Hope, a subset of the #FarmNeighborsCare campaign, is focused on shedding light on rural heroes who have helped others through a tough time. Heroes of Hope aims to identify people who have helped bring hope to farmers or businesses, either in large or small ways. Members of the agriculture community were encouraged to nominate individuals who have made an impact on the way they conduct business, both ordinarily and extraordinarily.

## Polk Burnett Farm Bureau Awards \$250 Scholarships

Polk Burnett Farm Bureau awarded four, \$250 scholarships to graduating seniors.

Applicants were asked to complete an application that included their future education plans, community and school activities and write an

essay indicating how they will use their education to better the future of agriculture.

Congratulations, Scout, Blake, Jared and Courtney. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.



**Scout Dodds graduated from Frederic High School. She is the daughter of Ben and Angel Dodds. Her plan is to attend UW-Platteville for agriculture education.**



**Blake Frokjer graduated from Unity High School. He is the son of Ron and Tracy Frokjer. He plans to attend Minnesota State College Southeast and study electrical engineering technology.**



**Courtney Glenna graduated from Amery High School. She is the daughter of Randy and Charlotte Glenna. Her plan is to attend UW-River Falls for dairy science.**



**Jared Lundmark graduated from Cumberland High School. He is the son of Ron and Tracy Frokjer. He plans to attend St. Cloud Technical College and study land surveying or civil engineering.**

## Polk Burnett Farm Bureau Endorses Candidates in the Spring 2022 Election

Polk Burnett Farm Bureau has a vested interest in ensuring that local leaders represent agriculture's best interests and who are strong advocates of Polk County and Burnett County agriculture.

For those reasons, Polk Burnett Farm Bureau stepped up and made some local endorsements in the spring County Board of Supervisors election held on April 5. Candidate questionnaires were sent to registered County Board of Supervisor candidates within Polk and Burnett counties. A committee of Polk Burnett Farm Bureau members reviewed each of the questionnaires that were returned and made decisions on endorsements.

The committee chose to make endorsements in six districts. Postcards were then sent to current members in the selected districts indicating the

endorsed candidates.

Of the six endorsements that Polk Burnett Farm Bureau made, four supervisors were successful in winning their District seat.

The following are the Polk Burnett Farm Bureau endorsed candidates that won the April 5 election: District 1, Brad Olson; District 3, Steve Warndahl; District 6, Dan Ruck; and District 8, Sharon Kelly.

Congratulations to members of the Polk Burnett Farm Bureau on a fantastic engagement effort.





## 'Cookie Bill' Beneficial for Local Baker



There is a new business in town. Rusk County's own Janet Hetke has launched a new cottage industry called CloverKey Kitchen. She will be baking and selling pies and other baked goods from her home.

In October 2017, Wisconsin passed a bill called "The Cookie Bill" (Senate Bill 270). This new law allows for the sale of homemade baked and canned goods in Wisconsin without the requirements of a separate commercial kitchen.

This new law opened vast opportunities for individuals who love to bake, do what they love and make a little money at it. Now, bakers can

sell from their homes, at farmers' markets and other community events, and take orders directly from customers.

Janet has made pies and delivered them all over the state at the Northern Wisconsin State fair, the State Ayrshire Show and other events where she might meet friends.

Janet has loved making pies since she made them with her mother as a young girl. She has made pies for her family, potluck dinners and benefit auctions for all of her adult life. She makes them from scratch, rolling out the crusts with an heirloom rolling pin that she got from her aunt years ago. Her family loves her pies and wonders why there are suddenly so many pies in the house and they don't get to dig into them.

Janet feels fortunate to have this opportunity. Making pies is a way for her to show love.



## Farm Family of the Year Awarded to the Jacobs

On May 19, the 2022 Rusk Area Community Awards banquet was held at Tee Away Golf & Grill.

The 2022 Farm Family of the Year was presented to Bob and Tammy Jacobs and Jeff and Nicole Jacobs.

The family milks about 500 Holsteins and grows crops including corn and alfalfa on about 2,000 acres.

Dan Weiss said that the Jacobs were selected because, "They are a hard working family, they love what they do, they promote the good things in agriculture and they are great to work with."

Congratulations to the Jacobs family.



Dan Weiss presented Bob and Jeff Jacobs with the 2022 Farm Family of the Year award on behalf of Rusk County Farm Bureau.

## Farm Bureau Promotes Local Agriculture at the Spring Expo

The 2022 Rusk Area Spring Expo was held on April 2 in the Ladysmith Community Center (the former elementary school).

Businesses from around the area were set up to talk with fellow community members. Rusk County Farm Bureau handed out string cheese, raisins and milk, and talked about the importance of local agriculture. Thank you to Associated Milk Producers, Inc., Meadowbrook Cranberries and Federal Seed/Dan Weiss for donating some of Wisconsin's best agriculture products.

The Rusk Area Spring Expo is a great event that features businesses and organizations from all across the Rusk Area and beyond.

Businesses and organizations that attend included Rusk County Land & Water Conservation, Apex Insurance Group DBA Flambeau Valley Insurance, Care & Rehab, CCF Bank, Joe's Music & Sewing Center, Coldwell Banker Northern Escape, Complete Raingutter Service, Conrath Quality Meats, LLC, Nail Creek Cycles, Rusk Riders ATV Club, Westlake Enterprises Inc., Faith's Customs, Gibson Water Care Service, Culpitt Roofing Inc., Enbridge Energy, Imago Dei Academy, Ladysmith Federal Savings and Loan, Ladysmith Fresh Market, Lake Holcombe Sales & Service, Kicha Acres, Prevea Health, Rusk County 4-H, Rusk County Farm Bureau, Rusk County Historical Society, Rusk County Public Health, Security Financial Bank, Servpro of Barron, Dunn & Rusk Counties, Superior Choice, T. Lynn's, Handcrafted by Hannah, Tastefully Simple and Power House Youth Center.



Valerie Van De Voort, Terry DuSell and Dan Weiss represented Rusk County Farm Bureau at the 2022 Rusk Area Spring Expo.

*VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*

## ST CROIX COUNTY FAIR

*JULY 20-24, 2022*

*GLENWOOD CITY*

Volunteers are needed at the St Croix County Farm Bureau Food Stand to help serve up the County Fair favorites including deep-fried cheese curds and, **NEW THIS YEAR**, soft serve ice cream!

Contact Melanie Peterson at 715.505.1378 (call or text) to sign up to help.

★ SAINT CROIX COUNTY ★

# FAIR

## District 9 YFAs

### YFA Flower Farm Tour and Pizza Night

Monday, Aug. 1  
5:30 p.m.

Basket of Flowers Farm  
2681 110<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Woodville

Hilltop Bar &  
Grill Pizza Planet  
2508 U.S. Highway 12  
Woodville

#### Details

5:30 p.m.

Basket of Flowers Farm tour. Feel free to come ahead of time to pick a bouquet of flowers.

After the farm tour, we will travel to Hilltopers Pizza Planet for pizza and socializing.



To RSVP by July 31, please contact District 9 YFA Chair Haily Sand at 608.397.0046 or St. Croix County YFA Chair Lexi DuSell at 715.415.6701.

*Congratulations Class of 2022!*



**Sydney Traynor**



**Kiara Afdahl**

Sydney Traynor and Kiara Afdahl have been selected as the recipients of 2022 scholarships from St Croix County Farm Bureau in the amount of \$500.



## Farm Bureau Celebrates "Dairy on Us"

During June Dairy Month the dairy was on Superior Shores Farm Bureau and the Chequamegon Dairy Association along with the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin.

Those hungry for dairy stopped in at Tastes of Wisconsin in Ashland and Benoit Cheese Haus in Benoit and received \$2 off the purchase of any dairy products.

What a great partnership and fantastic way to celebrate June Dairy Month.

### Celebrate June Dairy Month with "Dairy on Us"

During June patrons at the following locations received \$2 off their dairy product purchase:

- Tastes of Wisconsin  
420 Lake Shore Dr W  
Ashland WI
- Benoit Cheese Haus  
23920 Co Hwy F  
Benoit WI

Sponsored by:  
Superior Shores Farm Bureau  
Chequamegon Dairy Association  
Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin



## Douglas & Burnett County 4-H Overnight Camp for Grades 3rd-5th



Save the date!  
**JULY  
12-14,  
2022**



Luther Park Camping  
and Retreat Center  
30376 Lakes Drive,  
Danbury, WI 54830



## 2022 Superior Shores Farm Bureau Scholarship Awardees

Superior Shores Farm Bureau is proud to announce that we have awarded 2 scholarships in the amount of \$500. Applicants were asked to complete an application that included their future education plans, community and school activities and a recommendation from teachers.



**Congratulations to Selah Swanson and Molly Marita!**  
**We wish you the best of the luck in the future!**



**County Farm Bureaus**  
PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

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Permit No. 124

## This Issue Contains Highlights for:

Barron County  
Chippewa County  
Dunn County  
Pierce County  
Polk Burnett  
Rusk County  
St. Croix County  
Sawyer County  
Superior Shores

# We Support Wisconsin Farmers

**\$2.5** **MILLION TO BE  
PAID OUT IN 2022**



For the sixth year in a row, we are rewarding our farm policyholders for their commitment to Wisconsin agriculture through our Farm Dividend Program.

Learn how you may qualify for up to a 5% dividend at [RuralMutual.com/farmdividend](https://RuralMutual.com/farmdividend)

 **Rural Mutual**  
Insurance Company